FRIDAY, 8TH FEBRUARY 1974

BY THE QUEEN

A PROCLAMATION

FOR DISSOLVING THE PRESENT PARLIAMENT, AND
DECLARING THE CALLING OF ANOTHER

ELIZABETH R.
MARGARET

Whereas Her Majesty, in pursuance of the Regency Acts 1937 to 1953, was pleased, by Letters Patent dated the 24th day of January 1974, to delegate to the six Counsellors of State therein named or any two or more of them full power and authority during the period of Her Majesty's absence from the United Kingdom to summon and hold on Her Majesty's behalf Her Privy Council, to approve and sign on Her Majesty's behalf any proclamation relating to the affairs of the United Kingdom, to do on Her Majesty's behalf anything required to be done in relation to any such proclamation, and further to do on Her Majesty's behalf anything which, by virtue of Her Majesty's Royal Prerogative or of any statutory or other power, Her Majesty is authorised to do for the safety or good government of the United Kingdom, subject to the exceptions therein mentioned which included a saving that they the said Counsellors of State should not have power to dissolve Parliament otherwise than on Her Majesty's express instructions: And whereas We, Elizabeth The Queen Mother and Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, by and with the advice of Her Majesty's Privy Council and having received the express instructions of Her Majesty in that behalf, have thought fit to dissolve this present Parliament which stands prorogued to Tuesday, the twelfth day of February instant: We do, for that End, publish this Royal Proclamation, and do hereby dissolve the said Parliament accordingly: And the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and the Members of the House of Commons, are discharged from their Meeting and Attendance on the said Tuesday, the twelfth day of February instant: And Her Majesty being desirous and resolved, as soon as may be, to meet Her People, and to have their Advice in Parliament We do hereby on Her behalf make known to all Her loving Subjects Her Royal Will and Pleasure to call a new Parliament: And do hereby further declare, that by and with the advice of Her Majesty's Privy Council, We have given Order that Her Chancellor of Great Britain and Her Secretary of State for Northern
Ireland do respectively, upon Notice thereof, forthwith issue out Writs, in due Form and according to Law, for calling a new Parliament: And We do hereby also, by this Royal Proclamation under the Great Seal of the Realm, require Writs forthwith to be issued accordingly by the said Chancellor and Secretary of State respectively, for causing the Lords Spiritual and Temporal and Commons who are to serve in the said Parliament to be duly returned to, and give their Attendance in, the said Parliament on Wednesday the sixth day of March next, which Writs are to be returnable in due course of Law.

Given at the Court of Saint James, this eighth day of February, in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and seventy-four, and in the twenty-third year of Her Majesty's Reign.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN

AT THE COURT OF SAINT JAMES

THE 8th DAY OF FEBRUARY 1974

PRESENT,

The Counsellors of State in Council

Whereas Her Majesty, in pursuance of the Regency Acts 1937 to 1953, was pleased, by Letters Patent dated the 24th day of January 1974, to delegate to the six Counsellors of State therein named or any two or more of them full power and authority during the period of Her Majesty's absence from the United Kingdom to summon and hold on Her Majesty's behalf Her Privy Council and to signify thereat Her Majesty's approval for anything for which Her Majesty's approval in Council is required:

And whereas Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother and Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, have on Her Majesty's behalf this day been pleased to dissolve the present Parliament and to declare the calling of another:

Now, therefore, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother and Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, being authorised thereto by the said Letters Patent, do hereby, by and with the advice of Her Majesty's Privy Council, on Her Majesty's behalf, further order that the Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain, and the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, do respectively, upon notice of this Order, forthwith cause Writs to be issued in due form and according to Law for the calling of a new Parliament, to meet at the City of Westminster on Wednesday the sixth day of March 1974; which Writs are to be returnable in due course of Law.

N. E. Leigh