

1940.
NEW ZEALAND.

NIUE ISLAND ADMINISTRATION.

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly by Command of His Excellency.

REPORT ON THE NIUE ISLAND ADMINISTRATION, 1939-40.

VISIT.

ACCOMPANIED by Lady Galway, His Excellency the Governor-General paid a visit to Niue in August, 1939.

FINANCE.

The revenue for the financial year ended 31st March, 1940, was £7,341 12s. 2d. and the expenditure £13,429 10s. 9d., leaving a deficit of £6,087 18s. 7d., which was met from the Reserve Fund.
The Revenue Account and Balance-sheet are printed on page 4.

TRADE.

Imports for the calendar year 1939 totalled £15,459 and exports £11,554, a total trade value of £27,013, as compared with £31,425 for the previous year. The fall is accounted for by the decreased shipping facilities during the year.

Bananas.—A total of 16,481 cases, valued at £6,579, was shipped, the figures for 1938 being 18,656 cases and £6,503 respectively.

Copra.—Owing to the low price, the production was small and for the first time no copra was shipped.

Kumeras.—One hundred and twenty-three tons, valued at £2,529, were shipped.

Baskets.—The sale of baskets has increased considerably, 1,736 dozen, valued at £1,510, being shipped, compared with 436 dozen, valued at £100, in 1938.

Hats.—Altogether 1,012 dozen, valued at £568, were shipped, as compared with 1,043 dozen, valued at £483, last year.

The following table shows the quantities and values of the principal exports for the last ten years.

Year.	Copra.		Bananas.		Kumeras.		Baskets.		Hats.		Fungus.	
	Quan- tity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quan- tity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Tons.	£	Cases.	£	Tons.	£	Dozens.	£	Dozens.	£	Lb.	£
1930 ..	335	3,382	21,456	9,787	..	..	1,012	660	1,214	810	5,694	183
1931 ..	204	2,269	8,703	3,590	15	278	801	480	271	185	3,789	151
1932 ..	366	3,815	22,828	8,384	31	348	682	270	775	467	13,104	315
1933 ..	190	1,760	24,596	8,542	4	41	670	320	1,222	729	384	5
1934 ..	125	961	28,393	10,006	13	273	308	130	920	492	5,137	81
1935 ..	316	2,031	22,714	8,620	40	360	162	78	1,769	756	7,593	77
1936 ..	662	7,077	35,701	13,744	94	1,464	93	80	880	384	3,583	35
1937 ..	728	10,825	26,709	10,283	123	1,451	167	92	694	254	261	4
1938 ..	395	3,500	18,656	6,503	318	3,371	436	400	1,043	483	3,679	53
1939 ..	Nil	Nil	16,481	6,579	123	2,529	1,736	1,510	1,042	568	652	3

The principal items of imports for the year 1939 were as follow : —

Article.	Value.	Article.	Value.
	£		£
Arms, ammunition, &c.	188	Paints and varnishes	247
Bags and sacks	257	Provisions	
Cement	496	Biscuits	895
Confectionery	201	Fish, preserved	143
Drapery—		Flour	175
Apparel n.e.i.	499	Meats, preserved and salted	1,081
Cotton piece-goods	1,017	Milk, preserved	220
Drapery n.e.i.	75	Provisions n.e.i.	610
Drugs n.e.i.	488	Rice	182
Fancy goods n.e.i.	159	Sugar	194
Hardware	271	Soap	342
Instruments, musical	11	Timber, sawn	604
Iron, galvanized, corrugated, roofing, &c.	424	Timber, shooks	1,132
Iron pipes	44	Tobacco	1,338
Motor-vehicles and bicycles	602	Miscellaneous	2,871
Oil, benzine, and kerosene	602		
N.e.i.	91	Total	15,459

Summary.

	£		£
New Zealand	12,531	New Hebrides	1
Western Samoa	205	Germany	12
United Kingdom	806	Japan	222
Australia	310	Portugal	3
Canada	157	Spain	4
Ceylon	5	United States of America	792
Fiji	191	American Samoa	4
Hong Kong	2	India	100
Tonga	2		
China	68	Total	£15,459
France	41		

The total trade of the Island for the last ten years is set out in the following table : —

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total Trade.
	£	£	£
1930	18,630	15,877	34,507
1931	11,507	7,191	18,698
1932	14,756	13,987	28,743
1933	13,123	11,542	24,665
1934	13,372	12,341	25,713
1935	15,288	12,076	27,364
1936	24,662	22,992	47,654
1937	29,309	23,321	52,630
1938	16,380	15,045	31,425
1939	15,459	11,554	27,013

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

The Natives have many difficulties in maintaining their food-supply owing to the lack of soil, their primitive agricultural methods, and the many periods of very dry weather. This last not only affects their food stocks, but also causes a shortage in water-supplies.

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

The health of the Natives has been good, and the medical services have functioned in a very satisfactory manner.

The following is a summary of the work performed at the hospital:—

(1) Infectious Diseases—				(3) Hospital and Dispensary— <i>continued</i> .			
(a) Tuberculosis	..	..	3	Daily average bed state	..	7.21	
(b) Gonorrhœa	..	..	8	District out-patients	..	10,287	
(c) Yaws	..	..	1,485	Dispensary out-patients	..	3,533	
(d) Pneumonia and broncho-				Special visits	..	1,034	
pneumonia	..	..	3	Special district visits	..	816	
(e) Conjunctivitis	..	..	187	In-patient dressings	..	3,503	
(f) Ringworm	..	..	109	Out-patient dressings	..	15,564	
(g) Varicella	..	..	3	Operations—			
(2) Endemic Diseases—				Major	..	..	..
(a) Filariasis	..	..	69	Minor	..	..	30
(b) Myositis tropica	..	..	7	Dental extractions	..	..	123
(3) Hospital and Dispensary—				Injections—			
Remaining in hospital, 31st				NAB, Bisoxyl, Myosalvarsan			
December, 1938	..	..	5	and Kharsulphan	..	4,165	
Admitted during year	..	..	105	Mixed staphylococcal and			
Discharged during year	..	..	98	common cold vaccines	..	33	
Died in hospital during year	..	..	3	Confinements	..	..	5
Remaining in hospital, 31st				Anæsthetics—			
December, 1939	..	..	9	General	..	..	9
Average number of days in hospital				Local	..	..	13
per patient	..	..	27.92				

During the year the schools were visited by the Chief Medical Officer and his staff and NAB injections were given.

A house-to-house inspection in all villages was carried out during the year with excellent results.

EDUCATION.

The Department has functioned very satisfactorily.

The most important event during the year was the opening of an Administration school at Mutalau, where there are now 170 pupils.

The Natives have asked for Administration schools in other villages, and it is hoped that when funds permit their wishes will be granted.

The average roll strength of the three Administration schools is 550, with an average attendance of 94 per cent. The technical school, handicraft, and sewing classes have shown good results during the year.

The London Missionary Society has nine schools in villages where there are no Administration schools and is a very great help in the educational work. These schools have a roll strength of 440 pupils.

PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORT.

The training of Niue youths in these Departments is now showing results, and the knowledge they have gained will be of great advantage to the Administration in future years.

Roads.—These are now in a fairly satisfactory state, and as a consequence breakdowns in motor-vehicles are not so frequent as formerly. Roadwork is still being carried on as funds permit.

Water-supply. As there are no rivers or creeks, the only water-supply is from rain, which is directed into concrete tanks, the number of which has been considerably increased during the year.

AGRICULTURE.

Gradual improvements are observed in the methods employed by the Natives in cultivating their plantations and raising pigs and poultry, which are their main meat-supply.

HIGH COURT AND NATIVE LAND COURT.

No serious offences have occurred during the year. The High Court has dealt with 717 cases, the Civil Court with 13, the Juvenile Court with 12, and the Native Land Court with 24 cases. There are still very many land disputes to be settled.

ISLAND COUNCIL.

The thirteen Native Councillors advise the Resident Commissioner on Native matters and meet in Council quarterly. They also maintain continuous contact with the Resident Commissioner in all matters concerning their villages.

LEGISLATION.

No new laws have been enacted in Niue during the year.

WIRELESS.

During the year 362 inward messages, containing 6,408 words, were received, and 399 outward messages, containing 7,892 words, were despatched.

METEOROLOGICAL.

The total rainfall for the year was 90.33 in.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The resident Native population was 4,281 at the end of 1939, a net increase of 5 on the previous year's total.

Births, 148 ; deaths, 77.

The natural increase was 71, but the excess of departures—66—over arrivals has reduced the net total increase to 5.

Population Table.

Population at 1st January, 1939.			Births during 1939.			Deaths during 1939.			Arrivals during 1939.			Departures during 1939.			Population at 31st December, 1939.		
M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
2,098	2,178	4,276	89	59	148	41	36	77	14	14	28	54	40	94	2,106	2,175	4,281

ADMINISTRATION OF NIUE.

REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1940.

Expenditure.				Revenue.			
		£	s. d.			£	s. d.
Administration .. .. .	.. .. .	1,089	4 6	Administration .. .. .	.. .. .	903	13 4
Agriculture .. .. .	.. .. .	319	11 1	Agriculture .. .. .	.. .. .	93	1 1
Education .. .. .	.. .. .	2,009	9 5	Education .. .. .	.. .. .	167	3 6
Health .. .. .	.. .. .	2,751	13 10	Justice .. .. .	.. .. .	393	17 1
Justice (including Police) .. .. .	.. .. .	738	0 11	Post-office, &c. .. .. .	.. .. .	507	4 11
Post-office, Wireless, &c. .. .. .	.. .. .	786	8 8	Public Works Department stock .. .. .	.. .. .	1,502	13 5
Public Works Department .. .. .	.. .. .	2,645	4 7	Transport .. .. .	.. .. .	3,773	18 5
Transport .. .. .	.. .. .	907	5 8				
Treasury .. .. .	.. .. .	745	13 8				
		11,992	12 4			7,341	12 2
Depreciation .. .. .	.. .. .	1,436	18 5	Excess of expenditure over revenue .. .. .	.. .. .	6,087	18 7
		£13,429	10 9			£13,429	10 9

BALANCE-SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH, 1940.

Liabilities.				Assets.			
		£	s. d.			£	s. d.
Accumulated funds .. .. .	.. .. .	22,991	1 11	Boats .. .. .	.. .. .	237	10 4
Less excess of expenditure over income .. .. .	.. .. .	6,087	18 7	Buildings .. .. .	.. .. .	10,669	10 6
		16,903	3 4	Equipment, medical .. .. .	.. .. .	255	17 5
Reserve funds .. .. .	.. .. .	13,206	0 0	Furniture, household .. .. .	.. .. .	1,493	16 6
Sundry creditors .. .. .	.. .. .	29	8 0	Land .. .. .	.. .. .	1,361	0 0
				Motor-vehicles .. .. .	.. .. .	894	3 7
				Office furniture, &c. .. .. .	.. .. .	610	14 9
				Plant and tools .. .. .	.. .. .	951	6 3
				Plant, &c., wireless .. .. .	.. .. .	1,720	9 4
				Jetty .. .. .	.. .. .	256	1 11
				Reservoirs .. .. .	.. .. .	2,411	18 11
						20,862	9 6
				Suspense Account : "Maui .. .. .	.. .. .	245	11 4
				Pomare " .. .. .	.. .. .	159	19 11
				Sundry debtors .. .. .	.. .. .	5,621	13 8
				Stock on hand .. .. .	.. .. .	2,430	14 6
				Reserve Bank, Wellington .. .. .	.. .. .	818	2 5
				Treasury, Niue : Cash .. .. .	.. .. .	
		£30,138	11 4			£30,138	11 4

Approximate Cost of Paper.—Preparation, not given : printing (510 copies), £6.