

1907.
NEW ZEALAND.

COOK AND OTHER ISLANDS.

[In continuation of Parliamentary Paper A.—3, 1906.]

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

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MEMORANDUM.

On the reconstruction of the Ministry in August, 1906, the administration of the Cook and other Islands was placed under my control; and to facilitate the transaction of business I have appointed Mr. Waldegrave, Under-Secretary for Justice, to have charge of the Island departmental affairs.

The annual reports of the Resident Commissioners at Rarotonga and Niue, together with a selection from the correspondence, are attached hereto.

During the recess I have had the advantage of conferring personally with the Resident Commissioners, and of discussing with them many matters of interest to the Islands.

1. CENSUS.—A census of the population of the Islands was taken last year, and particulars thereof are given in the annexed Table A. As this is the first occasion on which the figures have been compiled with any measure of accuracy, no true comparison can be made with the returns of previous years.

The returns of a census taken in 1902 are given in Table B.

TABLE A.—POPULATION OF COOK AND OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDS NOW INCLUDED WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE COLONY.—1906.

	Whites, and Half-castes living as Whites.	Natives, and Half-castes living as Natives.	Total.	Absentees.*
Rarotonga	107 ^(a)	2,334	2,441	..
Mangaia	8 ^(b)	1,523	1,531	..
Atiu	4 ^(c)	914	918	..
Aitutaki	8 ^(d)	1,154	1,162	82
Mauke (or Parry Island)	2 ^(e)	444	446	10
Mitiaro	2 ^(f)	208	210	..
Total Cook Group	131	6,577	6,708	92*
Niue (or Savage Island)	21 ^(g)	3,801	3,822	580
Palmerston .. .. .	..	82	82	..
Penrhyn (or Tongareva)	6 ^(h)	414	420	..
Manihiki	2 ⁽ⁱ⁾	519	521	22
Rakahanga	1 ^(k)	351	352	50
Danger (or Pukapuka) .. .. .	..	435	435	32
Total other islands	30	5,602	5,632	684*
Total population of Pacific islands	161	12,179	12,340	776*

* Absent in ships or at the guano islands, &c.

(^a) Birthplaces.—United Kingdom, 28; New Zealand, 23; Australia, 6; Tasmania, 3; Rarotonga, 10; France, 8; Germany, 5; Sweden, 1; Cape Verde Islands, 2; United States America, 8; Holland, 1; Portugal, 2; Society Group, 1; Hong Kong, 6; Jamaica, 2; Manila, 1.

(^b) Birthplaces.—United Kingdom, 5; New Zealand, 2; Rarotonga, 1.

(^c) Birthplaces.—Australia, 1; Hong Kong, 2; Austria, 1.

(^d) Birthplaces.—United Kingdom, 4; New Zealand, 1; Jamaica, 1; Norway, 1; Aitutaki, 1.

(^e) Birthplaces.—France, 1; Germany, 1.

(^f) Birthplaces.—Cape Verde Islands, 1; Hong Kong, 1.

(^g) Birthplaces not stated.

(^h) Birthplaces.—United Kingdom, 5; United States America, 1.

(ⁱ) Birthplaces.—United Kingdom, 1; Australia, 1.

(^k) Birthplaces.—United Kingdom, 1.

SUMMARY OF BIRTHPLACES.—United Kingdom, 44; New Zealand, 26; Australia, 8; Tasmania, 3; Rarotonga, 11; France, 9; Germany, 6; Sweden, 1; Cape Verde Islands, 3; United States America, 9; Holland, 1; Portugal, 2; Society Group, 1; Hong Kong, 9; Jamaica, 3; Manila, 1; Norway, 1; Aitutaki, 1; Austria, 1; not stated, 21 (on Niue Island): Total, 161.

TABLE B.—POPULATION OF COOK AND OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDS RECENTLY INCLUDED WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE COLONY.—[1902.]

	Persons.
Rarotonga	2,060
Mangaia	1,541
Atiu	918
Aitutaki	1,170
Mauke (or Parry Island)	370
Mitiaro	165
Hervey Islands	10
Total Cook Group	6,234
Niue (or Savage Island)	4,079
Palmerston	115
Penrhyn (or Tongareva)	445
Manihiki	484
Rakahanga	400
Danger (or Pukapuka)	505
Suvarrow	30
Total other islands	6,058
Total population of islands included within the extended boundaries of the colony	12,292

2. FINANCE.—The revenue of the Cook and Northern Islands for the year 1906-7, including the balance brought forward, amounted to £9,840 7s. 4d., while the expenditure amounted to £6,416 6s. 6d., leaving a balance to carry forward of £3,424 0s. 10d.

The revenue of Niue, including the balance brought forward, amounted to £3,238 10s. 11d., and the expenditure was £1,238 14s. 5d., leaving a balance to carry forward of £1,999 16s. 6d.

Full details of the revenue and expenditure are given in the annual reports of the Resident Commissioners.

3. IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.—The import and export returns of the Cook and Northern Islands continue to be satisfactory, and display a substantial increase for the year 1906-7. The returns for the two years are as follow:—

	1906-7.	1905-6.
	£	£
Imports	41,437	36,993
Exports	45,925	34,890

The bulk of the trade was done with New Zealand.

The imports and exports of Niue are as follow:—

	1906-7.	1905-6.
	£	£
Imports	5,580	5,674
Exports	7,958	7,545

4. PUBLIC WORKS.—A considerable number of public works have been completed during the year. In the Cook Group, the principal of these are—concrete bridges at Ngatangia and Avatiu; mountain water-supply, Avarua; reservoir and bathing-place, wharf and shed, Aitutaki; and planting cocoanuts, Takutea. I have sent two hand-drills to Mangaia, and I hope that the much-needed boat-passage through the reef there will be put in hand at once.

At Niue the principal works undertaken have been the construction of reservoirs for the storage of water.

5. EDUCATION.—The educational requirements of the Islands are met by missionary effort. The London Missionary Society has established village schools in the various islands, and the Roman Catholic Mission and the Seventh-day Adventists are also maintaining schools, though to a less extent. The London Mission has six schools in Rarotonga, three in Mangaia, four in Aitutaki, one in Atiu, two in Mauke, one in Mitiaro, two in Penrhyn, two in Manihiki, one in Rakahanga, one in Pukapuka, and one in Palmerston. There is also a boarding-school at Tereora, which has between sixty and seventy boarders. The teaching in this institution is more advanced than that in the village schools, and it may be considered in the light of a secondary school for the Islands.

I have not yet received particulars showing the number and location of the schools under the control of the Roman Catholic Mission and the Seventh-day Adventists.

I am satisfied that the New Zealand education system is not suitable to the Islands. The existing system should be strengthened and maintained, but no radical change should be made at present. The most pressing need appears to be in connection with the training of teachers, and I hope, with the assistance of the Resident Commissioners and the Mission authorities, to concert such measures as will enable the teachers to receive a thorough training before they are placed in charge of the village schools.

6. THE SCHOONER "COUNTESS OF RANFURLY."—The Government has decided to sell the schooner "Countess of Ranfurly," as she is running at an annual loss, and does not meet the trade requirements of the Islands. It was anticipated that the experiment of running a vessel owned by the Government would prove more successful than results have shown; but, nevertheless, it must be conceded that the schooner has been of much service to the Group by keeping freights down and collecting the produce of the outlying islands. The Island Administration both at Rarotonga and

Niue are now desirous of being relieved of the annual charge imposed upon their revenues on account of the schooner, and it has therefore been decided to sell her on the first suitable opportunity.

7. THE FRUIT TRADE.—I regret that up to the present no satisfactory method of affording assistance to the fruit industry has been devised. The late Government declined to propose a duty on fruit imported into New Zealand from foreign possessions in the Pacific, and the present Government has not seen its way to reverse the decision of its predecessor. The question of affording assistance by means of a bonus is under consideration, but personally I am not in favour of any such proposal. To my mind, the solution of the difficulty lies in improved means of communication; and it is worthy of the consideration of Parliament whether a subsidy should not be granted for a direct service between Rarotonga and New Zealand. The present service runs monthly from Auckland to Tahiti and back, touching at Rarotonga on the way. The Resident Commissioner, however, states in his annual report that the steam service of the Union Company has been satisfactory during the past year.

JAMES MCGOWAN.

COOK AND OTHER ISLANDS.

No. 1.

SIR,—

Rarotonga, Cook Islands, 21st April, 1907.

I have the honour to forward per separate enclosure my yearly report on the state of the Cook and Northern Islands.

I have not on this occasion thought it necessary to write at any length on the Islands, as my previous report was exhaustive.

I may, however, add that the steam service of the Union Company to these Islands has been most satisfactory during the past year, and leaves but little to be desired.

I have, &c.,

W. E. GUDGEON.

Resident Commissioner.

The Hon. James McGowan, Minister administering the Islands.

Enclosure.

COOK AND NORTHERN ISLANDS.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH, 1907.

REFERENCE to Schedules A and B attached to this report will disclose that the trade of the Cook and Northern Islands has developed in a very satisfactory manner during the past year, the imports having reached the sum of £41,437, and the exports £45,925, as against £36,993 and £34,890 respectively for the preceding year.

The increase in bananas has been very steady, and has been pushed to the outside limit of safety, with the natural result that prices have been low, and in some instances unremunerative.

In the matter of coffee the export has been 104,300 lb., as against 12,656 lb. for the year 1905. But this favourable result is not in any way due to the planters: it is merely the result of a good season following a rather bad one. The price of coffee is so low that the industry has fallen into the hands of the women and children; the men consider it unworthy of their attention.

Our export of copra has been 948 tons, against 687 tons for the previous year. This is most satisfactory, inasmuch as the returns from Aitutaki show that the abnormally dry season has reduced the crop from that island to less than half the usual return. At Rarotonga, Aitutaki, and Manuae a large number of young trees have been planted, and will shortly become a factor in our

exports; and there is really nothing to prevent our producing 9,000 tons per annum from these islands, if once the people realise that the cocoanut-palm is the true source of wealth. Even though the present excessive price of copra should not be maintained, and we should revert to the old rates, the cocoanut will still be the most valuable of tropical products.

My report for 1905-6 dealt so exhaustively with all matters connected with this Group that it is not necessary that I should refer at any length to the trade prospects thereof; but I may say that the Islands will never be satisfied with anything less than the protection against foreign competition, which would seem to be the right of every one within New Zealand proper.

In Schedule C the comparative exporting-power of each of the thirteen islands is set forth, and this return will, I submit, be of very great value as a record of development.

THE GOVERNMENT SCHOONER.

I have the honour to attach hereto a report by Mr. Blaine on the working of the schooner for the year ending the 31st March, 1907. By reference to this report it will be seen that the loss for the year has been £436 13s., and I submit that this in itself is a good and sufficient reason why the boat should be sold as soon as possible after she has fulfilled her engagements by the July trip to Malden Island. I propose to lay the vessel up after this trip, pending her sale. I would point out that for the last four years we have imported large quantities of building-material, water-pipes, &c., for the local Administration, and have saved a good deal of money thereon by reason of the reduced rates charged by the schooner. It is therefore a fact that the local Government have not always lost the money shown as lost on the running of the schooner, for had we been required to pay the £2 per ton which is the regular charge of the Union Steamship Company the importation of cement, pipes, timber, and furniture would have cost a much larger sum than is now shown on the Treasury books. Most of the heavy and urgent work has now been finished, and for the future our imports will be but small; there is therefore the less reason why the boat should be retained on this trade.

PUBLIC WORKS.

During the past year many useful pieces of work have been taken in hand and finished. At Aitutaki £272 5s. 9d. has been expended on the following urgent works—viz., binding floor of concrete to the stone jetty, water-tank and bathing-place at Arutanga, repairs and improvements to the quarters of the Resident Agent, and a large concrete tank at Vaipae. At all times the water of Aitutaki is of bad quality, but during the past dry year it has been dangerous to the health of the people. It is therefore a work of necessity that large tanks should be erected for the people at each village. During the present year I propose to build another tank at Nikaupara, at a cost of £75, and this will, I hope, provide the water necessary to insure the health of the people of Aitutaki.

At Mangaia the old Courthouse has been reroofed and repaired, a platform for perishable cargo erected in cargo-shed, and the walls round the Government grounds repaired. The really urgent work of this island is a boat-passage through the reef; but this is a work that cannot be undertaken with any prospect of success until we can obtain a hand-drill that will bore a hole at least 10 ft. or perhaps 12 ft. deep, and can be used where there may be a foot of water on the reef. Several attempts have already been made to blast passages through the reefs with ordinary appliances, and in every instance they have failed, the shots not being deep enough to obtain a safe passage. If, however, we can obtain suitable hand-drills so as to blow out a fairly deep passage, I intend to commence the work this year, and have placed £200 on the estimates for that purpose.

The very large amount of fruit that is now shipped from Rarotonga has necessitated a large expenditure on bridges, in order to facilitate the transport of the produce. At Avatiu a ferro-concrete bridge has been erected of the most permanent character, and this has necessitated the purchase of a piece of land in order to straighten the channel of the creek. It will therefore be seen that the cost of the structure includes also the land purchased and the digging of the channel.

Over the Avana Creek at Ngatangiia a ferro-concrete bridge of two 20 ft. arches has been erected, involving very heavy work in the matter of approaches and causeway on the northern side. In accordance, however, with the old custom of the Islands, most of the earthwork has been done by the Ngatangiia Tribe, aided by a substantial subsidy from the local Government and another from the European settlers. Three small wooden bridges have, as a temporary measure, been built over the worst creeks in the district lying between Arorangi and Titikaveka.

Most important of the public works we have undertaken is, however, the water-supply for the villages of Avarua and Avatiu. The main pipes of this line are 6 in. in diameter, of spiral steel, manufactured in New Zealand. The length of the main pipe is 6,347 ft. from the inlet to the Government buildings on the coast, delivering at that point, if required, 19,000 gallons per hour, with a pressure of 58 lb. to the square inch. From the Government buildings 2 in. pipes lead east and west along the beach for a few hundred yards, and are fitted with standpipes at intervals for the accommodation of the public. The total cost to date has been about £1,350, of which only £500 was voted last year, and the balance will be provided for in this year's estimates. To complete the work and connect with all the houses will cost about £2,000, and I submit that it will be money well spent, and will probably save many lives.

Of the 227 acres of Takutea, 116 have already been planted with young cocoa-palms, leaving only 111 acres, which I propose to plant with as little delay as possible, for it cannot be doubted that this is a most valuable property.

The following is a schedule of the moneys actually expended on public or remunerative works during the year ending the 31st March, 1907:—

	£	s.	d.
Rarotonga—			
Mountain water-supply	499	12	11
Compensation for land taken—Sections 10, 2, and 3...	754	0	0
Avana Bridge, Ngatangia	387	14	6
Avatiu Bridge	342	17	0
Creek retaining-walls, Avarua	176	11	1
Iron reinforcements for Avarua concrete bridge ...	40	18	0
Fencing Government lands	25	19	4
Furniture, Government buildings	8	6	9
Additions to printing-office	4	11	3
Material and labour, three wooden bridges	84	0	0
Carting and labour, metalling roads	54	0	0
Mangaia—Roofing Courthouse, &c.	20	8	0
Mauke—Blasting reef-passage	10	16	0
Takutea—Planting island with cocoa-palms	109	17	6
Aitutaki—			
Arutanga bathing and water tanks	40	0	0
Repairs and additions to quarters	19	19	0
Concrete flooring to stone jetty	131	10	0
Vaipae tank	80	16	9
Total	2,791	18	1

Of the above expenditure, £84 14s. 9d. is derived from rates.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

The health of the people during the past year has been normal, as will be seen by reference to the following return from the leading islands of the Group, the births exceeding the deaths by a small percentage.

Vital Statistics for 1906.

Island.	Births.	Deaths.	Marriages.
Mangaia	61	51	...
Rarotonga	93	88	33
Aitutaki	39	38	18
Mauke	24	11	7
Palmerston	8	3	1
Manihiki	14	17	3
Rakahanga	12	19	1
Penrhyn	11	9	1
Total	262	236	64

I regret that I am unable to give complete returns for the whole Group, but they have been delayed by reason of the want of communication with all the Northern Islands during the hurricane season. The remaining returns will, however, be forwarded immediately after receipt.

The return of births, deaths, and marriages is instructive by reason of its showing the potency of an admixture of European blood. The population of Palmerston is as nearly as possible one hundred—men, women, and children—and they are all descendants of the European sailor William Masters. Had the birth-rate of Mangaia—the healthiest of the islands—been in the same ratio, 120 births would have been recorded instead of 61. Under the same circumstances, Rarotonga would have had 170; and the deaths at Mangaia and Rarotonga respectively would have been 45 and 64.

The excessive death-rate of these islands is due for the most part to the existence of a rascally lot of tohungas, who are encouraged and supported by the chiefs. One of these men, by a most barbarous and unnecessary surgical operation, killed the finest young chief on this island; and any one with Maori experience would know that the man would not have dared to perform this operation unless he had been supported by Tavita's Ariki relatives. The young man was murdered by his own people while Dr. Gatley was in actual attendance on him.

Very efficient supervision is now exercised over the lepers of the Northern Islands by the Resident Agents, Williams and Nagle: but here also it is done in spite of the opposition of the people. They must have known that Ioane, the Native missionary at Tukao, had for years been a leper, but they reported Mr. Williams both to me and to Mr. Hutchin when that officer placed Ioane and his family in isolation. At Aitutaki Mr. Cameron has placed a man and woman on an island in the lagoon, in order to isolate them from the people of the island. This is, of course, a wise precaution only: it may be found that these people are not lepers, but merely sufferers from some little known skin-disease: but the isolation does not hurt them, and it saves the people generally from possible contagion.

SURVEY AND LAND TITLES COURT.

During the year ending the 31st March, 1907, the survey of Rarotonga has been nearly finished, and the small remaining section of Matavera is now in hand, so that by the month of June

next the title to every inch of this fertile island will have been defined. Early in July it is my intention to visit Mauke and probably remain there until all of that island is surveyed and has passed the Court. I further hope that during the year 1907–8 I may be able to do much towards the survey of Atiu.

During the past year the Court has held sittings on 27 days—viz., 24 days at Rarotonga, 2 days at Mangaia, and 1 day at Aitutaki—and during this period has made 154 original orders on investigation of title, and thirty other orders in connection with the lands.

The fees for the year have been as follows:—

Island.	Court Fees.			Survey Fees.			Total.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Rarotonga	210	10	0	277	10	0	488	0	0
Mangaia	3	0	0	4	0	0	7	0	0
Aitutaki	5	14	0	...	...	...	5	14	0
Total	£219	4	0	£281	10	0	£500	14	0

The total amount of fees collected and paid into the Treasury during the year has been £451 16s. 9d., and the following fees were outstanding on the 31st March:—

	£	s.	d.
Rarotonga	827	1	3
Mauke	36	5	0
Atiu	5	5	0
Rakahanga	21	3	6
Aitutaki	144	19	0
Mangaia	2	5	0
Mitiaro	6	5	0
Manihiki	0	15	6
Total	£1,043	19	3

The total value of the fees collected and paid into the Treasury since the inception of the Court has been £1,237 14s. 11d.

Lest there should be any misconception as to the extent of the European settlement on the Island of Rarotonga, I submit a nominal roll of the lessees and of the acreage held by each man.

	Acre.		Acre.
Wigmore	350	Connal	280
Gatley	250	Brown	135
Davis	126	Large	33
Engelke	130	Blaine	21
McAlister	12	Shearman	12
Mathews	20	Smith	18
Morell	10	Hill	10
Myers	9	Wong Soon	7
Donald and Edenborough, Maungaroa	40		

Thus it will be seen that there are seventeen foreigners interested in the land of Rarotonga to the extent of 1463 acres, of which 500 is mountain-side. The larger estates of 20 acres and upwards have been planted in cocoanuts, and in the first six years each plantation has cost about £16 per acre. It may fairly be said that these plantations have given remunerative work to from fifty to a hundred Maoris each and every year since the land was leased, and are almost entirely responsible for the present prosperity of the Natives.

The thoroughness of the methods employed by the lessees has also been an object-lesson of the greatest possible value to the shiftless Polynesians of this island, who are now alive to the fact not only that the European lessees will shortly increase the exports by some £6,000 per annum, but also that they themselves might have been in the same position. Fortunately there are still thousands of acres of land open to the Maori owners on which they can try the experiment of a little work with the absolute certainty of a large return within ten years.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The departmental estimates for 1907–8, as also the public works for the same year, are attached hereto in Schedules E and F, and amount respectively to £3,902 15s. and £1,648, or a total of £5,550 15s. By Schedule G it will be seen that the expenditure for 1906–7 was £6,416 6s. 6d., and the revenue, as per Form H, was £5,246 14s. 11d., involving a loss of £1,169 11s. 7d. drawn from the surplus of last year. My estimate of revenue for the year 1907–8 is as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Customs	3,300	0	0
Trade licenses	350	0	0
Stamps	200	0	0
High Court fees	140	0	0
Resident Magistrate's fees	150	0	0
Land Titles Court and Surveys	500	0	0
Arikis' Courts	50	0	0
Rents	75	0	0
Miscellaneous	200	0	0
Total	£4,965	0	0

Schedule I discloses the receipts and expenditure on the *whare manuhiri*, which has now been leased to Mrs. Kohn at £40 per annum, a rate that will keep the buildings and furniture in repair. Schedule J deals with the sale of liquor under the Licensing Act of 1904, and demonstrates the sobriety of the people of these Islands so far as imported liquors are concerned. Schedules K and L explain all payments made under the contingent votes for general purposes and Land Titles Court.

Month.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	Average.
	In.	In.	In.	In.	In.	In.	In.	In.	In.
January ..	12·07	8·51	20·15	14·09	3·05	8·85	4·80	9·54	10·13
February ..	14·01	6·30	6·00	14·02	8·10	9·19	11·06	8·42	9·64
March ..	6·87	5·96	5·41	13·67	6·15	10·73	6·02	9·42	8·03
April ..	11·02	3·30	11·17	5·33	11·14	10·34	14·86	10·08	9·66
May ..	15·73	3·60	7·77	3·58	6·02	5·21	3·82	6·29	6·50
June ..	5·81	2·47	5·52	3·60	1·15	4·18	1·85	1·74	3·29
July ..	1·55	1·23	1·24	1·84	3·11	5·90	5·81	1·72	2·80
August ..	2·77	7·46	6·96	1·77	0·31	3·37	3·39	4·95	3·87
September ..	9·32	5·57	3·29	0·78	5·19	5·07	1·34	1·61	4·02
October ..	2·33	2·86	1·21	2·85	7·95	4·84	4·25	3·90	3·85
November ..	2·26	3·47	4·30	8·48	10·83	1·42	6·62	2·37	4·89
December ..	7·46	10·81	13·11	2·47	2·38	5·35	0·91	8·89	6·42

A.

Port of Rarotonga.—Return of Imports for Year ended 31st December, 1906.

Article.	Whence imported.	Value.	Total.
Agricultural produce, not otherwise enumerated ..	New Zealand	£ 159	2
" " " " " "	United States America ..	2	
Animals, living—Birds	Tahiti .. ..	..	161
" Fowls	New Zealand .. ..	..	6
" Horses	"	20	2
" " " " " "	Tahiti	11	
" Sheep	New Zealand .. ..	..	31
Arms, ammunition, and explosives	"	105	26
" " " " " "	Germany	13	
" " " " " "	United States America ..	3	
Apparel and slops	New Zealand	1,231	121
" " " " " "	Niue	4	
" " " " " "	United Kingdom	19	
" " " " " "	New South Wales	61	
" " " " " "	Malden Island	4	
" " " " " "	Tahiti	281	
Arrowroot	Tahiti .. ..	..	1,600
Bacon and hams	New Zealand	60	23
" " " " " "	New South Wales	2	
Bags and sacks	New Zealand	510	62
" " " " " "	Niue	8	
" " " " " "	Tahiti	1	
			519

COOK AND OTHER ISLANDS ADMINISTRATION—*continued.**Port of Rarotonga.—Return of Imports for Year ended 31st December, 1906—continued.*

Article.	Whence imported.	Value.	Total
		£	£
Bamboo (for hat-making)	Tahiti .. .. .	..	100
Beer and stout	New Zealand	72	
"	New South Wales	11	
			83
Beverages, non-alcoholic	New Zealand	45	
"	New South Wales	2	
			47
Bicycles, and parts of same	New Zealand	53	
"	Niue	22	
"	New South Wales	8	
"	United States America	23	
			106
Biscuits	New Zealand	2,067	
"	New South Wales	114	
"	United States America	50	
			2,231
Blue	New Zealand .. .. .	..	10
Boots and shoes	"	478	
"	New South Wales	19	
"	United States America	27	
"	Tahiti	12	
			536
Building-materials, not otherwise enumerated	New Zealand	159	
"	New South Wales	34	
"	United States America	2	
			195
Butter	New Zealand	408	
"	Niue	3	
"	New South Wales	9	
"	Tahiti	8	
			428
Carriages, carts, and materials for	New Zealand	291	
"	Niue	9	
"	New South Wales	1	
"	United States America	186	
"	Tahiti	7	
			494
Casks, empty	New Zealand .. .. .	..	23
Cement	"	578	
"	New South Wales	6	
			584
Coal	New Zealand .. .. .	..	1
Confectionery	"	115	
"	New South Wales	2	
"	Tahiti	2	
			119
Cordage and twine	New Zealand	189	
"	Niue	6	
"	New South Wales	53	
"	United States America	33	
"	Tahiti	17	
			298
Cotton piece-goods	New Zealand	2,479	
"	United Kingdom	1,089	
"	India	5	
"	New South Wales	149	
"	Germany	43	
"	Tahiti	792	
"	Samoa	4	
"	United States America	699	
			5,260
Drapery	New Zealand	3,799	
"	Niue	156	
"	United Kingdom	10	
"	New South Wales	58	
"	Tahiti	19	
"	Malden Island	25	
			4,067

COOK AND OTHER ISLANDS ADMINISTRATION—*continued.**Port of Rarotonga.—Return of Imports for Year ended 31st December, 1906—continued.*

Article.	Whence imported.	Value.	Total.
		£	£
Drugs and chemicals	New Zealand	174	
"	New South Wales	10	
"	United States America	6	
"	Tahiti	2	192
Earthenware and glassware	New Zealand	99	
"	New South Wales	7	
"	Germany	2	
"	United States America	10	118
Fancy goods	New Zealand	101	
"	Victoria	2	
"	United Kingdom	24	
"	New South Wales	55	
"	Germany	20	
"	Tahiti	15	217
Fish, preserved	New Zealand	265	
"	Niue	9	
"	New South Wales	64	
"	British Columbia	30	
"	United States America	85	
"	Tahiti	11	464
Flour	New Zealand	1,549	
"	New South Wales	39	
"	United States America	437	
"	Tahiti	458	2,483
Fruits, preserved	New Zealand	34	
"	New South Wales	14	
"	United States America	2	50
Furniture	New Zealand	198	
"	New South Wales	15	
"	United States America	3	
"	Tahiti	12	228
Hardware	New Zealand	764	
"	New South Wales	147	
"	Germany	1	
"	United States America	26	
"	Tahiti	28	966
Hats	New Zealand	21	
"	Niue	79	
"	New South Wales	6	
"	Tahiti	1	107
Hops	New Zealand	90	8
Hosiery	New South Wales	6	
"	Tahiti	85	181
Instruments, Musical	New Zealand	78	
"	New South Wales	1	
"	Tahiti	15	94
Iron, bar, bolt, and rod	New Zealand	169	
"	Niue	6	
"	New South Wales	2	177
Iron, galvanised, corrugated	New Zealand	769	
"	New South Wales	38	807

COOK AND OTHER ISLANDS ADMINISTRATION—*continued.**Port of Rarotonga.—Return of Imports for Year ended 31st December, 1906—continued.*

Article.	Whence imported.	Value.	Total.
		£	£
Iron, wire	New Zealand	64	
" "	United States America ..	2	
" "	Tahiti	1	
			67
Jams	New Zealand	33	
"	New South Wales	28	
			61
Jewellery	New Zealand	40	
"	New South Wales	1	
"	Tahiti	1	
			42
Machines, Sewing-	New Zealand	170	
" "	New South Wales	13	
" "	United States America ..	153	
" "	Tahiti	101	
			437
Machinery	New Zealand	299	
"	New South Wales	52	
			351
Matches	New Zealand	126	
"	New South Wales	6	
"	Germany	95	
"	Tahiti	1	
			228
Meats, fresh	New Zealand .. .. .	..	224
" preserved	"	3,016	
" "	Niue	2	
" "	New South Wales	236	
			3,254
" salted	New Zealand	568	
" "	New South Wales	8	
			576
Milk, preserved	New Zealand	145	
" "	New South Wales	4	
			149
Nails	New Zealand	481	
"	Niue	3	
"	New South Wales	9	
"	Tahiti	4	
			497
Oars	New Zealand	33	
"	New South Wales	12	
			45
Oil, kerosene, and benzine	New Zealand	613	
" " "	New South Wales	45	
			658
" not otherwise enumerated	New Zealand	123	
" "	New South Wales	5	
" "	United States America ..	1	
" "	Tahiti	5	
			134
Onions	New Zealand	25	
"	New South Wales	2	
"	Tahiti	1	
			28
Paints and varnish	New Zealand	161	
"	New South Wales	21	
"	United States America ..	4	
"	Tahiti	19	
			205
Paper	New Zealand	169	
"	Tahiti	3	
			172
Perfumery, not otherwise enumerated	New Zealand	57	
" "	Niue	4	
" "	United Kingdom	36	
" "	France	8	
			105

COOK AND OTHER ISLANDS ADMINISTRATION—*continued.**Port of Rarotonga.—Return of Imports for Year ended 31st December, 1906—continued.*

Article.					Whence imported.	Value.	Total.
						£	£
Photographic goods					New Zealand	26	53
"					New South Wales	27	
Potatoes					New Zealand	94	100
"					New South Wales	4	
"					Tahiti	2	
Provisions, not otherwise enumerated					New Zealand	702	820
"					Niue	3	
"					New South Wales	57	
"					Victoria	21	
"					United States America	2	
"					Tahiti	35	
Rice					New Zealand	435	726
"					New South Wales	96	
"					United States America	81	
"					Tahiti	114	
Saddlery and harness					New Zealand	99	129
"					New South Wales	2	
"					United States America	16	
"					Tahiti	12	
Salt					New Zealand	19	26
"					Tahiti	7	
Silks					New Zealand	165	299
"					United Kingdom	77	
"					New South Wales	29	
"					Tahiti	28	
Soap					New Zealand	590	616
"					New South Wales	24	
"					Tahiti	2	
Specie—Gold					New Zealand	300
" Silver					New Zealand	325
Spirits—Brandy					New Zealand	8	11
"					New South Wales	1	
"					Tahiti	2	
" Geneva					New Zealand	10	12
"					New South Wales	2	
" Rum					New Zealand	3
" Whisky					"	175	
"					New South Wales	1	176
" methylated					New Zealand .. .. .	..
" perfumed					New Zealand	44	
"					United Kingdom	50	
"					New South Wales	5	
"					Tahiti	1	
Stationery and books					New Zealand	114	148
"					New South Wales	14	
"					United States America	4	
"					Tahiti	16	
Sugar					New Zealand	1,280	1,395
"					Niue	1	
"					New South Wales	38	
"					Tahiti	76	

COOK AND OTHER ISLANDS ADMINISTRATION—*continued.**Port of Rarotonga.—Return of Imports for Year ended 31st December, 1906—continued.*

Article.	Whence imported.	Value.	Total.
		£	£
Tanks, iron	New Zealand	26	
" "	New South Wales	12	38
Tea	New Zealand	76	
"	Niue	2	
"	New South Wales	6	
"	Tahiti	5	89
Timber—Fruit-box	New Zealand .. .. .	..	3,881
" sawn, dressed, and undressed	"	600	
" " " "	New South Wales	19	
" " " "	United States America	210	
" " " "	Tahiti	1	830
Tobacco	New Zealand	134	
"	New South Wales	27	
"	Tahiti	2	163
Cigars and cigarettes	New Zealand	24	
"	Tahiti	4	28
Tools	New Zealand	121	
"	New South Wales	41	
"	United States America	22	
"	Tahiti	20	204
Trunks	New Zealand	19	
"	Tahiti	7	
"	China	52	78
Wine—Claret	United States America	60	
" "	Tahiti	41	101
" Port	New Zealand	31	
" "	New South Wales	1	32
" Sparkling .. .. .	" .. .. .	..	1
Woodenware	New Zealand	6	
"	New South Wales	77	
"	Tahiti	1	84
Miscellaneous, not otherwise enumerated	New Zealand	202	
" "	Malden	8	210
			£41,437

	Total Values.	1906.	1905.
New Zealand	33,056	...
Tahiti	2,418	...
United States of America	2,149	...
New South Wales	1,859	...
United Kingdom	1,305	...
Niue	317	...
Germany	174	...
China	52	...
British Columbia	30	...
Malden Island	37	...
Victoria	23	...
France	8	...
India	5	...
Samoa	4	...
Total	£41,437	£36,993

Rarotonga, Cook Islands, 18th January, 1907.

W. J. STEVENSON,
Collector of Customs.

B.

COOK AND OTHER ISLANDS ADMINISTRATION.

Port of Rarotonga.—Return of Exports for Year ended 31st December, 1906.

Article.	Where exported.	Quantity.	Value.	Total.
Bananas	New Zealand ..	72,430 cases 13,954 bunches	£ 9,050 1,395	£ 10,445
Oranges.. .. .	„ ..	86,220 cases	10,975	10,975
Pines	„ ..	4,777 „	590	590
Limes	„ ..	65 „	6	6
Fresh fruit not otherwise enumerated	„ ..	304 „	40	40
Cocoanuts	„ ..	61,440 No.	192	192
Coffee	Tahiti	94,100 lb. 10,200 „	1,960 215	2,175
		104,300 „	..	
Copra	New Zealand ..	386 tons	5,695	13,387
	New South Wales ..	315 „	4,579	
	United States America	51 „	663	
	Tahiti	196 „	2,450	
		948 „	..	
Candlenuts	New Zealand ..	200 cwt.	65	390
	New South Wales ..	1,000 „	325	
		1,200 „	..	
Limejuice	New Zealand ..	6,580 gallons	325	355
	New South Wales ..	600 „	30	
		7,180 „	..	
Pearl-shell	New Zealand ..	100 tons	5,000	5,000
Kumeras and taro	„ ..	10,168 cases	2,030	2,030
Hats	Tahiti .. ..	..	98	98
Mats	Tahiti .. ..	..	33	33
Cotton piece-goods	New Zealand ..	..	123	209
	Tahiti .. ..	..	86	
		..	..	£45,925

<i>Total Values.</i>				£
New Zealand .. .. .	..	..	..	37,446
New South Wales .. .. .	..	..	..	4,934
Tahiti .. .. .	..	..	..	2,882
United States of America .. .. .	..	..	..	663
				£45,925

Rarotonga, 12th March, 1907.

W. J. STEVENSON,
Collector of Customs.

C.

COOK AND OTHER ISLANDS ADMINISTRATION.

Return showing Exports from each Island of Cook and Northern Islands during 1906.

	Bananas.		Oranges.	Pines.	Limes.	N.O.E.	Kumera and Taro.	Cocoanuts	Coffee.	Beche-de- mer.	Candle- nuts.	Copra.	Limejuice	Hats.	Mats.	Pearlshell
	Cases.	Bches.	Cases.	Cases.	Cases.	Cases.	Cases.	Number	Lb.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Tons.	Galls.	£	£	Tons.
Rarotonga ..	60,262	13,954	39,546	1,835	..	299	146	55,040	54,000	1	660	200	100	..	..	..
Aitutaki ..	140	..	16,015	1,246	..	5	9	8,500	8,400	..	..	138	..	..	..	..
Mangaia ..	12,028	..	11,690	1,681	65	..	10,013	2,900	30,000	..	160	51	3,300	..	..	..
Atiu ..	..	..	9,333	..	..	..	..	..	10,900	..	380	30	3,780	..	..	..
Mauke ..	..	..	8,877	15	..	..	..	..	1,000	..	..	58	..	..	..	..
Mitiaro ..	..	..	759	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	37	..	..	..	..
Manuae ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	62	..	..	..	..
Penrhyn ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14	..	..	..	57
Manihiki ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	112	..	..	..	..
Rakahanga ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	134	..	..	..	..
Pukapuka ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22	..	98	33	..
Palmerston ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	89	..	..	..	..
Suvarrow ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	..	..	..	6
Totals 1906	72,430	13,954	86,220	4,777	65	304	10,168	61,440	104,300	1	1200	948	7,180	98	33	63
Totals 1905	46,358	10,768	76,080	4,378	257	..	..	76,900	24,063	75	310	1,212	4,950	28	7	47

Rarotonga, 12th March, 1907.

W. J. STEVENSON,
Collector of Customs.

E.

COOK AND OTHER ISLANDS ADMINISTRATION.

Estimate of Expenditure for Year ending 31st March, 1908

Vote.	Service.	1906-7.			1907-8.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1	Medical and Health Officer	350	0	0	350	0	0
2	Hospital supplies and attendance	150	0	0	150	0	0
3	Island allowance to Collector of Customs	50	0	0	50	0	0
4	Contingent expenditure, High Court, including prisoners	100	0	0	100	0	0
5	Registrar Land Titles and High Court	300	0	0	300	0	0
6	Civil Engineer and Surveyor	300	0	0	300	0	0
7	Draughtsman, Survey Department	60	0	0	60	0	0
8	Two cadets at £40	80	0	0	80	0	0
9	Secretary, Interpreter, and Government Printer	140	0	0	140	0	0
10	Chief of the Federal Government and Judge of Arikis' Court	100	0	0	100	0	0
11	Vice-President, Federal Council	20	0	0	20	0	0
12	Subsidy, Tereora School	200	0	0	200	0	0
13	Subsidy, Aitutaki Council	50	0	0	50	0	0
14	Subsidy in aid of cool-chamber	75	0	0	75	0	0
15	Police, Rarotonga, £30; High Court policeman, £24	30	0	0	54	0	0
16	Clerks of Arikis' Courts, Rarotonga, £10 and £5	15	0	0	15	0	0
17	Rent—Wharf, £5; Section 10, £14; Post-office, £8 15s.; Sections 2 and 3, £10	21	5	0	37	15	0
18	General contingent expenditure	250	0	0	250	0	0
19	Resident Agent, Penrhyn	175	0	0	175	0	0
20	„ Aitutaki	200	0	0	200	0	0
21	„ Mangaia	200	0	0	200	0	0
22	„ Manihiki and Rakahanga	20	0	0	20	0	0
23	Subsidy—Pilot-boat, Aitutaki, £10; canoe, Mangaia, £5	15	0	0	15	0	0
24	Three Native Assessors, Aitutaki	15	0	0	15	0	0
25	Police, Aitutaki	29	0	0	29	0	0
26	Two Assessors, Mangaia, £16; police, £25	41	0	0	41	0	0
27	Postmaster, Atiu, £6; Mauke, £4; Mitiaro, £4	22	0	0	14	0	0
28	Clerks of Court, Atiu, Mauke, and Mitiaro	10	0	0	10	0	0
29	Assessors, Atiu, Mauke, Mitiaro, £8, £5, £5	18	0	0	18	0	0
30	Police, Atiu, £6; Mauke, £4; Mitiaro, £4	14	0	0	14	0	0
31	Bonus for destruction of flying-fox	50	0	0	50	0	0
32	Travelling-expenses, Land Titles Court	200	0	0	200	0	0
33	Auditor's fee, 1906-7 and 1907-8	20	0	0	20	0	0
34	Subsidy in aid of schooner	700	0	0	400	0	0
35	Upkeep of <i>whare manuhiri</i>	140	0	0	50	0	0
36	Subsidy to annual Tarekareka	100	0	0	100	0	0
		4,260	5	0	3,902	15	0

Passed this 30th day of March, 1907.

W. E. GUDGEON,
Resident Commissioner.S. SAVAGE,
Clerk to Council

F.

COOK AND NORTHERN ISLANDS.

Public Works Estimates for Year ending 31st March, 1908.

Vote.	Island.	Service.	Amount.
			£ s. d.
1	Rarotonga ..	Water-supply, pipes, and labour	900 0 0
2	„ ..	Iron reinforcements, Avana Bridge	83 12 0
3	„ ..	Creek-wall, Avarua	80 0 0
4	„ ..	New kitchen, <i>whare*manuhiri</i>	100 0 0
5	Aitutaki ..	Concrete tank at Nikaupara	75 0 0
6	Takutea ..	Planting 111 acres with cocoanuts	110 0 0
7	Mangaia ..	Reef-passage	200 0 0
			1,548 12 0
7	Rarotonga ..	Land payments under section 3, Act of 1904	100 0 0
		Total	£1,648 12 0

30th March, 1907.

W. E. GUDGEON,
Resident Commissioner.

G.

COOK AND OTHER ISLANDS ADMINISTRATION.

Expenditure for Year ended 31st March, 1907.

Service.	Voted.	Expended.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Salary, Medical and Health Officer	350 0 0	350 0 0
2. Hospital supplies and attendance	150 0 0	139 16 5
3. Island allowance, Collector of Customs	50 0 0	50 0 0
4. Salary, Registrar Land Titles and High Court	300 0 0	300 0 0
5. Contingent expenditure, High Court, including prisoners' food	100 0 0	67 8 1
6. Salary, Civil Engineer and Surveyor	300 0 0	300 0 0
7. „ Draughtsman, Survey Department	60 0 0	60 0 0
8. „ Cadets (2), Survey Department	80 0 0	80 0 0
9. „ Secretary, Interpreter, and Government Printer	140 0 0	140 0 0
10. „ Chief of Federal Government and Judge of Arikis' Court	100 0 0	100 0 0
11. „ Vice-President, Federal Council	20 0 0	20 0 0
12. Subsidy, Tereora School	200 0 0	200 0 0
13. „ Aitutaki School	50 0 0	50 0 0
14. „ in aid of cool-chamber	75 0 0	75 0 0
15. Salaries, police, Rarotonga	30 0 0	30 0 0
16. „ Clerks, Arikis' Courts, Rarotonga	15 0 0	15 0 0
17. Rents of sites—Wharf, £5; Hospital, £7 10s.; Post-office, £8 15s.	21 5 0	13 15 0
18. Contingent expenditure	250 0 0	307 12 1
19. Salary, Resident Agent, Penrhyn	175 0 0	175 0 0
20. „ „ Aitutaki	200 0 0	200 0 0
21. „ „ Mangaia	200 0 0	200 0 0
22. „ „ Manihiki and Rakahanga	20 0 0	20 0 0
23. Subsidy—Pilot-boat, Aitutaki, £10; canoe, Mangaia, £5	15 0 0	15 0 0
24. Salaries, Native Assessors (3), Aitutaki	15 0 0	15 0 0
25. „ police, Aitutaki	29 0 0	29 0 0
26. „ Native Assessors, Mangaia	16 0 0	7 10 0
27. „ police, Mangaia	25 0 0	25 0 0
28. „ Postmasters—Mangaia, £10; Atiu, £6; Mauke, £3; Mitiaro, £3	22 0 0	18 0 0
29. „ Clerks of Court—Atiu, £4; Mauke, £3; Mitiaro, £3	10 0 0	10 0 0
30. „ Native Assessors—Atiu, £8; Mauke, £5; Mitiaro, £5	18 0 0	18 0 0
31. „ police—Atiu, £6; Mauke, £4; Mitiaro, £4	14 0 0	14 0 0
32. Subsidy in aid of Government schooner	600 0 0	436 13 0
33. „ destruction of flying-fox	50 0 0	57 11 6
34. Travelling and other expenses, Land Titles Court	140 0 0	188 0 3

COOK AND OTHER ISLANDS ADMINISTRATION—*continued*.
Expenditure for Year ended 31st March, 1907.—continued.

Service.	Voted.			Expended.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
35. Auditor's fee (two years)	40	0	0	20	0	0
36. Subsidy, Government accommodation-house	140	0	0	46	12	10
37. Fumigating-shed, Rarotonga	500	0	0	..	..	..
38. Concrete bridge, Ngatangia	200	0	0	387	14	6
39. " Avatiu, including certain creek-rights	180	0	0	342	17	0
40. Bathing-place, Avarua	150	0	0	..	..	..
41. Creek retaining-walls, Avarua	200	0	0	176	11	1
42. Mountain water-supply, Avarua	500	0	0	499	12	11
43. Fresh-water reservoir and bathing-place, Aitutaki	150	0	0	132	1	5
44. Wharf and shed, Aitutaki	200	0	0	139	12	11
45. Mangaia reef-passage, and Makatea Road	200	0	0	..	..	..
46. Takatea, planting cocoanuts	100	0	0	109	17	6
47. Compensation on resumption of land	600	0	0	754	0	0
48. Subsidy, Tarekareka	80	0	0	80	0	0
	7,080	5	0	6,416	6	6
Balance, being investments, cash on hand, &c. .. .. .	..	..	..	3,424	0	10
	7,080	5	0	9,840	7	4

Rarotonga, Cook Islands, 10th April, 1907.

W. J. STEVENSON, Treasurer.

Audited and found correct.—PERCY BROWN, Auditor, 12th April, 1907.

H.

COOK AND OTHER ISLANDS ADMINISTRATION.
Revenue for Year ended 31st March, 1907.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance, 1st April, 1906	1,993	7	7	4,793	12	5
Customs duties	348	10	0	..	..	..
Traders' licenses	203	12	0	..	..	..
Sale of stamps	146	5	2	..	..	..
Fees and fines, High Court	451	16	9	..	..	..
„ Land Titles Court	88	7	3	..	..	..
„ Resident Magistrate's Court, Aitutaki	65	13	6	..	..	..
„ „ Mangaia	48	10	6	..	..	..
„ Arikis' Courts	2	0	6	..	..	..
Shipping fees and sale of forms	154	19	0	..	..	..
Rents	75	0	0	..	..	..
Interest on fixed deposits and debentures	0	12	0	..	..	..
Miscellaneous .. .. .	..	..	..	3,578	14	3
Cash profit from sale of wines and spirits .. .. .	..	..	..	31	3	10
Sale of old building and material .. .. .	..	..	..	41	16	6
Refund of New Zealand Exhibition expenditure, 1905-6 .. .. .	..	..	..	3	0	0
„ Census expenditure, 1905-6 .. .. .	..	..	..	0	7	6
Received from Government of New Zealand—Duties collected in that colony during year ended 31st March, 1906 .. .. .	..	..	..	1,311	12	10
Received from Niue Administration—Subsidy in aid of Government schooner, 1905-6 .. .. .	..	..	..	30	0	0
Received from Niue Administration, Government Schooner Insurance Reserve Fund, 1906-7 .. .. .	..	..	..	50	0	0
Total .. .. .	..	..	..	£9,840	7	4

Rarotonga, 10th April, 1907.

W. J. STEVENSON, Treasurer.

Audited and found correct.—PERCY BROWN, Auditor, 12th April, 1907.

I.

COOK AND OTHER ISLANDS ADMINISTRATION.

Statement showing Receipts and Expenditure, Government Accommodation-house (Whare Manuhiri) during Year ended 31st March, 1907.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Stores	432	15	6	By Cash receipts	614	10	5
Salary, manager	100	0	0	Subsidy from Cook Islands Administration	46	12	10
Wages, servants	87	10	2				
Fuel	13	5	0				
Furniture	8	3	3				
Repairs	17	9	4				
Passage, cook	2	0	0				
	£661	3	3		£661	3	3

Rarotonga, 10th April, 1907.

Audited and found correct.—PERCY BROWN, Auditor.

W. J. STEVENSON, Treasurer.

J.

COOK AND OTHER ISLANDS ADMINISTRATION.

Statement of Liquor Account for Year ended 31st March, 1907.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Stock on hand, 1st April, 1906	20	19	11	By Sales	306	18	6
Supplies	141	9	4	Stock on hand, 30th March, 1907	38	12	11
Bottling	23	7	0				
Freight	14	3	0				
Duty	96	15	4				
	275	14	8				
Balance	48	16	10				
	£345	11	5		£345	11	5

Profit and Loss Account.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Stock	38	12	11	By Balance, 1st April, 1906	20	19	11
Profit, transferred to general revenue	31	3	10	„ 30th March, 1907	48	16	10
	£69	16	9		£69	16	9

Rarotonga, Cook Islands, 10th April, 1907.

Audited and found correct.—PERCY BROWN, Auditor.

W. J. STEVENSON, Treasurer.

K.

COOK AND OTHER ISLANDS ADMINISTRATION.

Details of Item 5, Contingent Expenditure, High Court, 1906-7.

	£	s.	d.
Travelling-expenses	8	6	0
Salary, bailiff and constable, Rarotonga	33	0	0
„ constable, Mangaia	3	0	0
„ Judge, Mangaia	10	0	0
Buggy-hire	0	4	0
Passage, prisoner	0	10	0
Food for prisoners	11	13	7
Refund of damages awarded, paid in as revenue in error	0	14	6
	£67	8	1

Details of Item 34, Travelling and other Expenses, Land Titles Court, 1906-7.

	£	s.	d.
Travelling-expenses	7	19	6
„ allowance, Chief Judge	100	0	0
Stationery	10	15	7
Labour for surveyors	47	7	3
Buggy-hire	12	10	0
Material for surveys	7	5	11
Assessors' fee (Government compensation cases)	2	2	0
	£188	0	3

Rarotonga, Cook Islands, 9th April, 1907.

W. J. STEVENSON, Treasurer.

L.

COOK AND OTHER ISLANDS ADMINISTRATION.

Details of Item 18, Contingent Expenditure, 1906-7.

	£	s.	d.
Iron rails, Makea Bridge, Avarua	40	18	0
Chronometer-repairs	2	10	0
Customs Tidewaiter, wages	11	12	0
Boatman for Health Officer	2	19	0
Printing-office, labour and material	35	7	1
Stationery	34	11	11
Furniture	8	6	9
Government Buildings, painting and repairs	22	5	3
Travelling-expenses	10	10	0
Ngatipa repairs and labour	9	5	3
Fencing Government grounds	25	19	4
Typewriting	4	4	0
Typewriter-repairs	5	10	0
Blasting reef, Mauke, labour	10	16	0
Printing-office, additions	6	1	3
Repairs, Government Buildings, Mangaia	20	19	2
Benevolent assistance—J. Snow	3	3	0
„ T. Short	10	0	0
Thermometer-screen	1	12	0
Rents	16	0	0
Cost of collecting Customs duties paid in New Zealand	17	14	2
Harbour moorings	0	12	0
Repairs, Government Buildings, Aitutaki	3	2	0
Purchase of tools, and repairs to same	2	18	11
Bank charges	0	3	0
Freight on explosives	0	10	0
„ poison to Penrhyn	0	2	0

£307 12 1

Rarotonga, Cook Islands, 12th April, 1907.

W. J. STEVENSON, Treasurer.

Cook Islands Administration,

SIR,—

Government Schooner Department, Rarotonga, 3rd April, 1907.

I have the honour to forward you herewith statement of the accounts in connection with the working of the schooner "Countess of Ranfurly" for the year ending the 31st March, 1907, duly certified to by the Government Auditor.

It will be observed that the working of the schooner for the past year has resulted in a loss of £463 2s. 11d., as compared with a loss of £187 8s. 5d. for the previous year. The expenses of the past year are £68 less than the previous year, but the earnings of the past year show a diminution of £344 as compared with the previous year. The chief diminution has been in the matter of freights, which show a falling-off of about £300.

The following is a comparative statement of the earnings and expenses for the past two years:—

Expenses—				1906-7.			1905-6.		
				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Benzine	...	...	...	132	18	5	146	6	0
Wages	...	...	...	921	10	8	850	8	1
Outfit and repairs	...	...	...	404	5	3	446	19	8
Provisions	...	...	...	368	5	3	383	13	6
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	105	1	2	125	12	5
Office expenses	...	...	...	71	8	9	108	13	11
Claims	...	...	...	7	5	1	17	3	0
				<hr/>			<hr/>		
				£2,010	14	7	£2,078	16	7
<hr/>									
Earnings—									
Passenger-fares	...	...	...	250	14	6	308	8	6
Special charters	...	...	...	568	0	0	573	0	0
Freights	...	...	...	712	3	0	1,006	4	11
Commission	...	...	...	16	14	2	3	14	9
				<hr/>			<hr/>		
				£1,547	11	8	£1,891	8	2
<hr/>									
Loss	...	...	...	£463	2	11	£187	8	5

During the year the schooner has made the following trips, aggregating about 16,500 miles: Rarotonga to Auckland, 2; Auckland to Rarotonga, 2; Rarotonga to Niue, 3; Niue to Auckland, 2; Auckland to Niue, 1; Rarotonga to Northern Islands and Malden Island, 2; Northern Islands and Malden Island to Rarotonga, 2; round Cook Group, 6.

No. 4.

SIR,—

Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 27th August, 1906.

Referring to your letter of the 20th June on the subject of the Order in Council defining your powers and duties as Resident Commissioner, I think the difficulty you have pointed out will be fully covered by the provisions of clause 6, which states that "The Resident Commissioner shall in all matters act in accordance with the instructions of the Governor or the Minister, as the case may be."

As I see no object in your referring all minor appointments to me, I hereby authorise you to make such appointments yourself, and submit names and all particulars to me afterwards for confirmation. In view, however, of the provisions of the Act and the Order in Council, I wish you to exercise this power as little as possible.

I have, &c.,

The Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga.

JAMES MCGOWAN.

STRAIGHTENING CHANNEL OF AVATIU STREAM.

No. 5.

SIR,—

Cook and other Islands Administration, Rarotonga, 30th June, 1906.

I have the honour to submit for your information a plan of the proposed deviation in the channel of the Avatiu Stream. Hitherto the shingle has been deposited in the small harbour, as shown on the plan, and valuable land in the valley has been subject to floods by reason of the bend of the creek. For these reasons Mr. Connal has recommended that previous to the building of the new concrete bridge we should, in the interests of all the people of the island, straighten the course of the stream and make a permanent job of the work. The landowners of Sections 31 and 82 were inclined to be obstructive, but I finally succeeded in purchasing the right to take the creek through the two sections for £30. Digging the channel will cost about £100, and in this way double the estimated cost of the bridge; but I think you will agree with me that the benefit we shall derive from doing the work thoroughly will justify the increased expenditure.

I have, &c.,

W. E. GUDGEON,

Resident Commissioner.

The Hon. C. H. Mills, Minister administering Islands.

No. 6.

SIR,—

Cook and other Islands Administration, Rarotonga, 18th July, 1906.

I have the honour to forward enclosed a Proclamation for the signature of His Excellency the Governor, taking the strip of land shown on plan attached, in order to straighten the course of the Avatiu Stream, and save the inlet of that name from filling up with the shingle from the mountains.

I have already agreed with the owners that the price to be paid for land so taken shall be £30.

I have, &c.,

W. E. GUDGEON,

Resident Commissioner.

The Hon. C. H. Mills, Minister administering Islands.

No. 7.

SIR,—

Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 15th August, 1906.

I have received your letter of the 18th July, forwarding a draft notice taking a strip of land in Avarua for the purpose of straightening the course of the Avatiu Stream. A copy of the notice is being forwarded to His Excellency the Governor for his signature.

I note that you have already agreed with the owners to pay £30 for the land.

I have, &c.,

The Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga.

JAMES MCGOWAN.

No. 8.

SIR,—

Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 15th August, 1906.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th June, forwarding a plan of the proposed deviation in the channel of the Avatiu Stream to prevent the deposit of shingle in the harbour and the flooding of the valley lands. I approve of the work being undertaken, and have no doubt that you will find that the proposed expenditure will be fully justified by the results.

I have, &c.,

The Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga.

JAMES MCGOWAN.

No. 9.

SIR, — Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 27th August, 1906.

Referring to my letter of the 15th instant, I now beg to forward a notice taking land for drainage purposes at Avarua, Rarotonga (straightening the course of the Avatiu Stream), duly signed by His Excellency the Governor.

The plan you have forwarded showing the land taken is very useful, and I hope you will be able to similarly illustrate all subsequent dealings with lands under section 3 of the Act of 1904.

I have, &c.,

The Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga.

JAMES MCGOWAN.

Enclosure.

LAND TAKEN FOR DRAINAGE PURPOSES AT AVARUA, RAROTONGA.
PLUNKET, Governor.

WHEREAS the land mentioned in the Schedule hereto is required to be taken under "The Cook and other Islands Government Act Amendment Act, 1904," for certain public works, to wit, for drainage purposes at Avarua, Rarotonga:

Now, therefore, I, William Lee, Baron Plunket, the Governor of the Colony of New Zealand, in exercise and pursuance of the powers and authorities in me vested by the said Act, and of every other power and authority in anywise enabling me in this behalf, do hereby notify that on the date of the publication hereof, in the *Cook Islands Gazette* the land mentioned in the Schedule hereto is hereby taken for drainage purposes at Avarua, Rarotonga.

SCHEDULE.

All that piece of land, being part of Sections 31 and 82, Tapere of Ruatonga, District of Avarua, Island of Rarotonga, starting from a peg in the centre-line of the drain and on the southern side of the main road, which peg is 85° 32' and 66.6 meters from concrete block 6: thence along the centre-line of the drain 201⁰, 113 meters, to the bank of the Avatiu Creek. The land for the drain is reserved 5 meters wide on each side of the centre-line. Area, 11.3 acres, more or less.

As witness the hand of His Excellency the Governor this eighteenth day of August, one thousand nine hundred and six.

JAMES MCGOWAN.

No. 10.

SIR, —

Rarotonga, Cook Islands, 10th September, 1906.

I have the honour to note receipt of the notice taking the land for the purpose of straightening the Avatiu Creek. The work admitted of no delay, and I was therefore compelled to arrange a price with the Native owners without submitting the affair to you for your instructions. I may say that there is nothing more dangerous to touch than Native lands, and when it is necessary to do so it is at all times advisable to obtain the concurrence of the owners and pay reasonable compensation to them before entering into the land.

I have, &c.,

W. E. GUDGEON,

Resident Commissioner.

The Hon. James McGowan, Minister administering Islands.

FEDERAL COUNCIL AND ISLAND COUNCIL ORDINANCES.

No. 11.

SIR, —

Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 30th June, 1906.

I forward herewith "The Unimproved-land Tax Ordinance, 1906," "The Rakahanga Ordinance No. 1," and "The Mangaia Regulations Ordinance, 1906," duly assented to by His Excellency the Governor [A.-3, 1906, Nos. 125, 168, and 152].

I am writing separately with reference to Mangaia Local Ordinance No. 1.

I have, &c.,

The Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga.

C. H. MILLS.

No. 12.

SIR, —

Eastern Pacific, Rarotonga, 24th July, 1906.

I have the honour to forward herewith Federal Ordinance No. 18, providing for the inspection and fumigation of fruit within the Island of Rarotonga, and request that His Excellency may be pleased to approve of the same.

I have, &c.,

W. E. GUDGEON,

Resident Commissioner.

The Hon. C. H. Mills, Minister administering Islands, Wellington.

No. 13.

SIR,— Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 15th August, 1906.
I am in receipt of your letter of the 24th July, forwarding Federal Ordinance No. 18, "The Fruit Inspection and Fumigation Ordinance, 1906."

As indicated in the Hon. Mr. Mills's letter of the 4th instant, it is probable that the question of fumigating fruit for export from the Islands will be allowed to stand over for the present. I propose, therefore, to hold the Ordinance in abeyance until the question is finally settled.

I have, &c.,
The Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga. JAMES MCGOWAN.

No. 14.

SIR,— Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 28th September, 1906.
I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letters, dated respectively the 16th and 21st August last.

As previously stated in my letter of the 15th August, I propose to hold the Fruit Inspection and Fumigation Ordinance in abeyance for the present.

I am anxious to see how the present arrangements for the inspection of fruit work out before taking any further steps, and I shall be obliged if you will furnish me with a report on the matter a little later on.

I have, &c.,
The Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga. JAMES MCGOWAN.

No. 15.

SIR,— Rarotonga, Cook Islands, 25th July, 1906.
I have the honour to forward for the assent of His Excellency the amended form of the Manganian Local Ordinance No. 1.

I have, &c.,
W. E. GUDGEON,
Resident Commissioner.

The Hon. C. H. Mills, Minister administering Islands.

No. 16.

SIR,— Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 15th August, 1906.
I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25th July, forwarding the Manganian Local Ordinance No. 1 ("Mangaia Village Regulation Ordinance, 1905"), approved by the Council in the printed form in which it was returned to you.

I now beg to forward this Ordinance duly assented to by His Excellency the Governor.

I have, &c.,
The Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga. JAMES MCGOWAN.

No. 17.

SIR,— Rarotonga, Cook Islands, 29th April, 1907.
I have the honour to forward enclosed three Ordinances passed by Island and Federal Councils respectively—viz., Federal Ordinance No. 20, extending jurisdiction of Resident Agents' Courts; Local Ordinance No. 6, water-supply; Federal Ordinance No. 19, immigrants restriction.

No. 20 defines the duties of the most important Courts in the Islands, and confers powers that were hitherto wanting.

No. 6 enables the local Government to fix a water rate and carry out the scheme to its natural limit.

No. 19 is probably of greater importance than the other two Ordinances, since it provides machinery to aid in insuring the health and well-being of the people of these Islands, and will enable us to prevent the spread of loathsome and contagious diseases from Tahiti.

I have therefore the honour to request the approval of His Excellency the Governor.

I have, &c.,
The Hon. the Minister administering the Islands. W. E. GUDGEON,
Resident Commissioner.

Enclosures.

FEDERAL ORDINANCE No. 19.—IMMIGRANTS RESTRICTION ORDINANCE, 1907.

AN ORDINANCE to prevent the landing in the Cook and Northern Islands of Persons suffering from Diseases.

BE IT ENACTED by the Federal Council of the Cook and Northern Islands as follows:—

1. The Short Title of this Ordinance shall be "The Immigrants Restriction Ordinance, 1907."
2. It shall not be lawful for any person suffering from a contagious or infectious disease which is loathsome or dangerous to be brought to or to land in the said Islands.

3. In any case where any person prohibited as aforesaid unlawfully lands in the said Islands such persons shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding fifty pounds (£50), and shall also be liable to be removed from the said Islands, and pending such removal to be detained in prison, quarantine, or other safe custody.

4. The master and owner of the vessel by which such person was brought to the said Islands shall be jointly and severally liable to a penalty not exceeding fifty pounds (£50) in respect of each such person, and shall also be liable to take away such person from the said Islands, and to defray the expenses incurred by the Government in respect of such person's removal from the said Islands, and of his detention and maintenance in the said Islands pending such removal: Provided that no proceedings shall be taken against such master or owner after the expiration of three calendar months from the date of such person so unlawfully landing as aforesaid.

5. The Collector of Customs or other officer shall not be bound to give any vessel a clearance until the master or owner thereof has duly complied with the provisions of this Ordinance, nor until all penalties and other moneys payable by such master or owner hereunder have been fully paid or secured.

6. The Resident Commissioner or a Resident European Magistrate may take all steps necessary to secure the removal from the said Islands of any person so unlawfully landing as aforesaid, and for that purpose may authorise any constable of police to take such person into custody, and afterwards to place him on board ship, and the master of such ship shall keep such person on board and (if necessary) under custody until the ship sails.

7. The Resident Commissioner may from time to time as he thinks fit—

(1.) Declare any disease to be a contagious or infectious disease which is loathsome or dangerous within the meaning of the Ordinance:

(2.) Make such regulations as he deems necessary for inspecting vessels, their passengers, crews, and papers, in order to enforce the provisions of this Ordinance, including the imposition of penalties not exceeding fifty pounds (£50) for the breach of such regulations. Such regulations shall be published in the *Cook Islands Gazette*.

8. All complaints under this Ordinance shall be heard before a European Judge of the High Court of the Cook Islands, or before a European Resident Magistrate.

Passed this 27th day of April, 1907.

G. SAVAGE,

Clerk to Council.

[Assented to by the Governor, 6th June, 1907.]

FEDERAL ORDINANCE NO. 20.—RESIDENT AGENTS' COURTS JURISDICTION ORDINANCE, 1907.

AN ORDINANCE to extend the Jurisdiction of Resident Agents' Courts.

BE IT ENACTED by the Federal Council of the Cook and Northern Islands as follows:—

1. The Short Title of this Ordinance is "The Resident Agents' Courts Jurisdiction Ordinance, 1907."

2. It shall be lawful for any European Resident Agent exercising jurisdiction by virtue of section 5 of "The Cook and other Islands Government Act Amendment Act, 1904," to hear and determine any of the following matters:—

(1.) Any offence against the laws now or hereafter in force within the said Cook and Northern Islands committed in the island within which the Resident Agent thereof has jurisdiction: Provided that such offence be not murder or assault with intent to commit murder or manslaughter.

(2.) Any civil case or dispute (other than divorce proceedings) between Maoris, Europeans, or Europeans and Maoris, where the matter at issue shall not exceed in value fifty pounds.

3. A European Resident Agent exercising jurisdiction as aforesaid shall in all cases of murder or assault with intent to commit murder or manslaughter, and may in his discretion in any other offence, or in any civil case or dispute as aforesaid, remit the same to be heard before the High Court of the Cook Islands or a European Judge thereof.

4. It shall be lawful for any person aggrieved by any decision of a European Resident Agent in which the amount of fine or money ordered to be paid shall exceed one pound to appeal therefrom to the High Court of the Cook Islands: Provided that notice in writing of such appeal be given to such Resident Agent within fourteen days from the date of such decision, and that the person appealing deposit with such Resident Agent the amount of any fine or other money ordered to be paid, and also the sum of ten shillings fee for such appeal.

5. In all matters within the jurisdiction of a European Resident Agent by virtue of this Ordinance such European Resident Agent shall have the like power for enforcing his decision as is possessed by the High Court of the Cook Islands.

6. The Chief Judge of the Cook and other Islands Land Titles Court may by writing authorise a European Resident Agent to take evidence in any matter concerning land in the island within which such European Resident Agent has jurisdiction, and such evidence shall be taken in writing, and when completed shall be forwarded to the Registrar of the said Cook and other Islands Land Titles Court, and shall form part of the records thereof.

7. The following are hereby repealed: Sections 24, 39, and 40 of "The Statute of Rarotonga, 1899"; sections 24, 41, and 42 of "The Statute of Aitutaki, 1899"; sections 21, 38, and 39 of "The Statute of Mangaia, 1899"; sections 49, 50, and 51 of "The Statute of Aitutaki, 1899"; and section 6 of "The Islands Statutes Amendment Act, 1900."

Passed this 27th day of April, 1907.

G. SAVAGE,

Clerk to Council.

[Assented to by the Governor, 6th June, 1907.]

RAROTONGA LOCAL ORDINANCE NO. 6.—WATER-SUPPLY REGULATIONS ORDINANCE, 1907.

AN ORDINANCE in reference to Water-supply at Rarotonga.

BE IT ENACTED by the Island Council of Rarotonga as follows:—

1. The Short Title of this Ordinance shall be "The Water-supply Regulations Ordinance, 1907."

2. It shall be lawful for the Resident Commissioner to make, alter, or repeal regulations in connection with the water-supply at Rarotonga, and by such regulations to fix such rates, charges, and penalties as may be deemed necessary. Such regulations shall be published in the *Cook Islands Gazette*, and when so published shall be deemed part of this Ordinance, and shall have the force of law. No rate or tax for the supply of water shall exceed one pound per annum for each dwelling supplied with water (exclusive of the charges for the supply of pipes and accessories and for fitting the same).

3. All rates, taxes, charges, and other moneys payable by virtue of any such regulations shall form part of the general revenue of the Cook Islands Administration.

Passed this 27th day of April, 1907.

[Assented to by the Governor, 6th June, 1907.]

G. SAVAGE,
Clerk to Council.

No. 18.

SIR,— Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 7th June, 1907.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th April last, forwarding Federal Ordinances Nos. 19 and 20, relating respectively to the landing in the Islands of persons suffering from contagious diseases, and the jurisdiction of Resident Agents' Courts; and also Rarotonga Island Council Ordinance No. 6, relating to water-supply, for the assent of His Excellency the Governor.

In reply I beg to return herewith the Ordinances duly assented to by His Excellency.

I have, &c.,

The Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga.

JAMES MCGOWAN.

BOAT-PASSAGES THROUGH REEFS.

No. 19.

SIR,— Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 2nd July, 1906.

I am in receipt of your letter of the 27th May with reference to boat-passages through the reefs at Mangaia, Atiu, and Mauke, and note the difficulty you anticipate in having this work done effectively. As Mr. Connal purposes visiting Mauke to report on the work there, I think the whole question had better stand over until his recommendations are before me.

The petition on this subject from residents at Mangaia, which was forwarded with your letter of the 6th March, was duly forwarded to the late Premier, to whom it was addressed; but apparently he was not able to deal with it before leaving for Australia, and the papers have now been returned to this office. Under the circumstances you had better inform the petitioners accordingly, and say that the question will be considered when the Government Engineer has reported on it.

I have, &c.,

The Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga.

C. H. MILLS.

No. 20.

SIR,— Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 30th October, 1906.

I have the honour to forward copy of a letter received from Mangaia with reference to the boat-passage through the reef; also copy of my reply thereto.

I shall be glad to be informed whether anything further has been done since your last letter on the subject.

I have, &c.,

The Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga.

JAMES MCGOWAN.

No. 21.

DEAR SIR,—

Mangaia, 18th October, 1906.

We, the undersigned residents of Mangaia, beg to lay before you the many difficulties we labour under in shipping produce off this island, and hope that you will take steps to have matters made easier for the shippers in the future.

Owing to the boat-passage being still uncut, and the great increase of exports by each steamer—from 150 tons a year formerly to 150 to 250 tons per month at the present time—it is a risky undertaking to get all this cargo on board with only canoes to work with, when with a passage cut in the reef we could work with boats without the risk of loss of life and damage to cargo. Now the fruit arrives on board more or less wet, and being put in the hold in this state it spoils in a very short time, consequently a great loss to the producers. All the cargo has to be carried across the reef in canoes and taken alongside the steamer, where they run great risk of being capsized or swamped getting off. We may also state that it is a heavy drain on the Natives to keep a sufficient number of suitable canoes on hand to work the cargo, as owing to the hurry and bustle at steamer-

time they are always getting smashed, sometimes as many as six in one day, and as they cost between £8 and £10 apiece it means a big lot of money. There being no timber on the island large enough for canoes, they have to get them from the other islands.

The late Hon. R. J. Seddon promised that a passage would be cut in the reef, as it could be done at no very great cost. H.M.S. "Clio" was here two years ago and fired several mines; but it was too rough to do anything, and she sailed away. The reef is dry at times for a week and ten days at one time.

Hoping that a passage will be cut soon, we remain,

Yours, &c.,

GEORGE BROWN,
S. C. BUCKELEY.
J. CRAIG.
C. F. PROCTER.

T. GLOVER,
G. GLOVER,
JOHN GLOVER.

The Hon. J. McGowan, Minister in Charge of the Cook Islands.

No. 22.

GENTLEMEN,— Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 30th October, 1906.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th instant, with reference to the cutting of a boat-passageway through the reef at Mangaia.

In reply, I am directed by the Hon. Mr. McGowan, the Minister in Charge of the Islands Administration, to inform you that the Resident Commissioner is fully alive to the necessity of the boat-passageway referred to, but that there are practical difficulties in the way which it has not yet been possible to overcome.

I have sent a copy of your letter to Colonel Gudgeon.

I have, &c.,

F. WALDEGRAVE.

Mr. George Brown and the other gentlemen signing the letter, Mangaia.

No. 23.

SIR,—

Rarotonga, Cook Islands, 5th December, 1906.

In reply to your letter of the 30th October with reference to the boat-passageway through the Mangaian reef, I have the honour to inform you that nothing has been done as yet, and nothing can well be done unless we can insure a deep boat-passageway through the reefs.

With the present appliances this seems to be well-nigh impossible, for there are but few days in the year when the sea is calm enough to allow the drill to be used on the outer rocks. We have but one man here (Mr. Connal) who is fit to superintend such work, and before I bring an experienced miner from New Zealand I wish to know that there is some prospect of success.

My intention is to interview the Chief Engineer in New Zealand, with your approval, and take his advice.

I have, &c.,

W. E. GUDGEON,

Resident Commissioner.

The Hon. the Minister administering Islands.

No. 24.

SIR,—

Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 10th May, 1907.

Referring to my letter of the 10th April last, I have now the pleasure to advise you that I have shipped to you, per s.s. "Manapouri," two sets of drilling apparatus for use in making a boat-passageway through the reef at Mangaia.

The shipping-note is enclosed herewith. I also enclose full descriptions of and directions for the use of the drills, and I hope that the operations will prove successful.

I have, &c.,

JAMES MCGOWAN.

The Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga.

MONEY-ORDER OFFICES AT MANGAIA AND AITUTAKI.

No. 25.

SIR,—

Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 4th July, 1906.

In connection with the proposal to open a money-order office at Mangaia, the Postal Department asked Mr. Large to furnish the usual fidelity bond for £100, but he has declined to do so, thinking probably that he was or should be covered by "The Civil Service Officers Guarantee Act, 1893." I have referred the matter to the Solicitor-General, who advises me that, as none of the Acts affecting members of the Civil Service have been brought into operation in the Islands, the

officers of the Islands Administrations are not governed by them. Mr. Large must therefore comply with the requirements of the Postal Department, and I think the simplest way will be to take out a policy with the Ocean Accident and Guarantee Corporation, the premiums under which will be paid by this office.

As Mr. Cameron, at Aitutaki, is in the same position, a policy will also be required in his case. I enclose herewith the necessary forms, and shall be glad if you will have them filled up and returned to me as early as possible.

The Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga.

I have, &c.,
C. H. MILLS.

No. 26.

SIR,—

Cook Islands Administration, Rarotonga, 18th July, 1906.

In reply to your letter No. 225, of the 4th instant, I have the honour to inform you that I have forwarded on the form of application for policy in the Ocean Accident and Guarantee Corporation to both Mr. Cameron and Mr. Large, and have requested those officers to fill in the forms and return to me as speedily as possible.

I think that the objection felt to providing a guarantee on part of Mr. Large was due to the fact that Mr. Cameron had not been asked to do this; he therefore resented the fact of being singled out.

I have, &c.,

W. E. GUDGEON,

Resident Commissioner.

The Hon. C. H. Mills, Minister administering Islands.

No. 27.

SIR,—

Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 8th October, 1906.

Referring to your letter No. 91, of the 18th July last, I have the honour to inform you that arrangements have been completed in connection with the money-order office at Māngaia; and that the office will be opened on the 16th instant.

Guarantee policies in the names of Mr. Large and Mr. Cameron have been taken out with the Ocean Accident and Guarantee Corporation (Limited).

I have, &c.,

JAMES MCGOWAN.

The Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga.

COMPENSATION COURT PROCEEDINGS.

No. 28.

SIR,—

Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 4th July, 1906.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22nd May reporting on the proceedings of the Compensation Court, held at Rarotonga, to deal with the claims under section 3, subsection (8), of "The Cook and other Islands Government Act Amendment Act, 1904" [A.—3, 1906, No. 213]. I am glad you have been successful in settling the claims of both owners and lessees satisfactorily.

I have, &c.,

C. H. MILLS.

The Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga.

PUBLIC PEARL-SHELL FISHING RESERVES.

No. 29.

SIR,—

Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 7th July, 1906.

As the notices taking the lagoons at Penrhyn and Manihiki, under section 3 of "The Cook and other Islands Government Act, 1904," have now been published in the *Cook Islands Gazette*, a Proclamation setting aside the lagoons as reserves for pearl-shell fishing, &c., may be issued at once. I propose, therefore, to have this done, and shall be glad if you will consider what regulations should be issued under section 4 of the Act.

I have, &c.,

C. H. MILLS.

The Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga.

No. 30.

SIR,—

Rarotonga, Cook Islands, 8th August, 1906.

In accordance with the instructions contained in your letter No. 231, of the 7th ultimo, I have the honour to forward draft regulations for the working of the Penrhyn and Manihiki shell lagoons.

I have also the honour to draw your attention to a memo. by Mr. Blaine on the situation. It is clear that the lagoons must be administered from here, but as no person has been appointed to administer the lagoons I have by the regulations placed more power in the hands of the Councils than is altogether wise.

I would also point out that any regulations made as to fees must be frequently altered to accord with the market price of shell, and that any such alteration should be made here to prevent the delay which must attend references to New Zealand.

I have, &c.,

W. E. GUDGEON,
Resident Commissioner.

The Hon. C. H. Mills, Minister administering Islands.

Enclosure.

Memorandum for the Resident Commissioner.

With reference to regulations for the Penrhyn and Manihiki Islands Lagoon Reserves, I may point out that, so far as I am aware, these lagoons have not been proclaimed by the Governor under section 15 of "The Cook and other Islands Government Act, 1901," consequently there are no persons administering the reserves capable of making regulations under section 4 of "The Cook and other Islands Government Act Amendment Act, 1904."

These reserves have been the subject of notices in accordance with section 3 of the Act of 1904, and such notices have been duly gazetted in the *Cook Islands Gazette* of the 22nd May, 1906. Query as to whether the Governor can make the required regulations under subsection (8) of section 3 of the Act of 1904.

Draft regulations herewith in accordance with your instructions.
Rarotonga, 7th August, 1906.

E. BLAINE.

No. 31.

SIR,— Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 20th September, 1906.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th August last, forwarding draft regulations for the working of the Penrhyn and Manihiki shell lagoons, together with a memorandum by Mr. Blaine.

In reply, I have to inform you that the matter is now under reference to the Crown Law Office, for the preparation of Proclamations under section 15 of "The Cook and other Islands Government Act, 1901": and that on the issue of these Proclamations you will be appointed to administer these reserves, and can then make regulations under section 4 of the Act of 1904.

I will communicate with you again on the subject at a later date.

I have, &c.,

The Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga.

JAMES MCGOWAN.

No. 32.

SIR,— Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 5th October, 1906.

Referring to previous correspondence, I have the honour to transmit to you the accompanying copies of Proclamations making certain reserves for public pearl-shell fishing at the Islands of Penrhyn and Manihiki.

I see no objection to the proposed regulations forwarded with your letter of the 8th August, and if you will make them under section 4 of the Act of 1904, they will be submitted to His Excellency the Governor for his approval.

I have, &c.,

The Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga.

JAMES MCGOWAN.

Enclosures.

RESERVE PROCLAIMED FOR PUBLIC PEARL-SHELL FISHING AT MANIHIKI.

(L.S.)

PLUNKET, Governor.

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS by "The Cook and other Islands Government Act, 1901" (hereinafter termed "the said Act"), it is provided that the Governor may from time to time, by Proclamation, set aside Crown lands within the said Islands (as in the said Act defined) to be reserves for the purpose of naval or military defence, or any other specified public purpose: And whereas it is desirable to establish a reserve for public pearl-shell fishing at the Island of Manihiki upon the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth:

Now, therefore, I, William Lee, Baron Plunket, the Governor of the Colony of New Zealand, in pursuance and exercise of the power and authority conferred on me by the said Act and by "The Cook and other Islands Government Act Amendment Act, 1904," and in exercise of every other power and authority in anywise enabling me in this behalf, do hereby proclaim and declare that the Crown lands described in the Schedule hereto are set aside as a reserve for the purpose of public pearl-shell fishing: and do hereby declare that the said reserve shall be held and administered by the Resident Commissioner, subject to such conditions and regulations as may from time to time be made or prescribed in respect thereof under section four of "The Cook and other Islands Government Act Amendment Act, 1904," or any amendment thereof.

Schedule.

All the inland sea enclosed by the reef and islands known as Manihiki. Commencing at the Village of Tauhunu; thence by the shores of the lagoon to the Village of Tukao; and thence by the reef and islands along the shore of the lagoon to the point of commencement: excluding, however, all the islands within the lagoon.

Given under the hand of His Excellency the Right Honourable William Lee, Baron Plunket, Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Knight Commander of the Royal Victorian Order, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over His Majesty's Colony of New Zealand and its Dependencies; and issued under the Seal of the said Colony, at the Government House, at Wellington, this fourth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and six.

JAMES MCGOWAN.

GOD SAVE THE KING!

RESERVE PROCLAIMED FOR PUBLIC PEARL-SHELL FISHING AT PENRHYN.

(L.S.)

PLUNKET, Governor.

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS by "The Cook and other Islands Government Act, 1901" (hereinafter termed "the said Act"), it is provided that the Governor may from time to time, by Proclamation, set aside Crown lands within the said Islands (as in the said Act defined) to be reserves for the purpose of naval or military defence, or any other specified public purpose: And whereas it is desirable to establish a reserve for public pearl-shell fishing at the Island of Penrhyn upon the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth:

Now, therefore, I, William Lee, Baron Plunket, the Governor of the Colony of New Zealand, in pursuance and exercise of the power and authority conferred on me by the said Act and by "The Cook and other Islands Government Act Amendment Act, 1904," and in exercise of every other power and authority in anywise enabling me in this behalf, do hereby proclaim and declare that the Crown lands described in the Schedule hereto are set aside as a reserve for the purpose of public pearl-shell fishing; and do hereby declare that the said reserve shall be held and administered by the Resident Commissioner, subject to such conditions and regulations as may from time to time be made or prescribed in respect thereof under section four of "The Cook and other Islands Government Act Amendment Act, 1904," or any amendment thereof.

Schedule.

All of the inland sea or lagoon enclosed by the reef and islands of the Penrhyn Atoll, excluding only the islands within the reef. Commencing on the south side of the Taruia entrance; thence south-east and east to the Omoka Village; thence by the shores of the lagoon east, north, and west to the Village of Te Tautua; and thence west and south by the island known as Morokai to the point of commencement.

Given under the hand of His Excellency the Right Honourable William Lee, Baron Plunket, Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Knight Commander of the Royal Victorian Order, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over His Majesty's Colony of New Zealand and its Dependencies; and issued under the Seal of the said Colony, at the Government House, at Wellington, this fourth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and six.

JAMES MCGOWAN.

GOD SAVE THE KING!

No. 33.

SIR,—

Rarotonga, Cook Islands, 10th December, 1906.

I have the honour to forward herewith for the approval of His Excellency the Governor of New Zealand the regulations for pearl-shell diving at the Islands of Manihiki and Penrhyn made under the authority of section 4 of "The Cook and other Islands Government Act, 1904."

I have, &c.,

W. E. GUDGEON,

Resident Commissioner.

The Hon. James McGowan, Minister administering Islands, Wellington.

Enclosures.

MANIHIKI ISLAND LAGOON RESERVE REGULATIONS.

WHEREAS by Proclamation of His Excellency the Governor of the Colony of New Zealand, dated the fourth day of October, one thousand nine hundred and six, it was proclaimed and declared that all that the inland sea enclosed by the reef and islands known as Manihiki (more particularly described in the Schedule to the said Proclamation) should be set aside as a reserve for public

pearl-shell fishing, and it was declared that the said reserve should be held and administered by the Resident Commissioner, subject to such conditions and regulations as might from time to time be made or prescribed in respect thereof under section four of "The Cook and other Islands Government Act Amendment Act, 1904," or any amendment thereof:

Now, therefore, I, Walter Edward Gudgeon, Resident Commissioner, in pursuance and exercise of the power and authority conferred on me by the said Act, and in exercise of every other power and authority in anywise enabling me in this behalf, do hereby make the following regulations in respect of the said reserve:—

1. Diving-machines shall be used for such period in each year and at such portion or portions of the reserve as may from time to time be respectively appointed by the Manihiki Island Council, with the approval of the Resident Agent. All licenses for the use of diving-machines shall be subject to the regulations for the time being in force in respect of such machines, and to the regulations as to fishing and diving for pearl-shell within the said reserve. Every diving-machine shall be numbered.

2. The Manihiki Island Council, with the approval of the Resident Agent, may from time to time fix a close season for the whole or any portion of the reserve, during which it shall not be lawful for any person to fish or dive for pearl-shell over the reserve or any such portion so closed as aforesaid.

3. No person shall fish or dive for pearl-shell unless such person is the holder of a license granted under these regulations.

4. The license for the use of a diving-machine or for fishing or diving for pearl-shell shall be in the form in the Schedule hereto. All licenses shall be in force up to the 31st day of March in each year. All applications for a license shall be made in writing to the Resident Agent, who shall submit same to the Island Council. On approval of the same by the Island Council the Resident Agent shall issue a license in respect of each approved application on payment of the prescribed fee. It may be lawful for the Island Council to refuse any application for a diving-machine license where the owner or any one of the owners is not a British subject, or to refuse any application for a diving or fishing license where the applicant is a person other than a Native of the Cook or Northern Islands.

5. The following fees shall be payable on the issue of a license:—

	£	s.	d.
1. Diving-machine license, per annum	10	0	0
2. Diving and fishing license for a person other than a Native of the Cook or Northern Islands, per annum	1	0	0
3. Diving and fishing license for a person Native of the Cook or Northern Islands other than a Native of Manihiki, per annum	0	10	0
4. Diving and fishing license for a Native of Manihiki			Free.

The fee for a diving-machine license may from time to time be altered by the Island Council with the approval of the Resident Agent. All fees received by the Resident Agent shall be paid to the Island Council for the benefit of the local Administration. The Resident Agent shall from time to time forward to the Treasurer at Rarotonga a full statement of all moneys received and paid by him under these regulations.

6. Any person acting in contravention of these regulations is liable to a fine not exceeding five pounds, recoverable before the Resident Agent's Court: Provided always that any person aggrieved by any decision of the Resident Agent's Court may appeal therefrom to the High Court of the Cook Islands upon giving notice of appeal in writing within fourteen days from the date of such decision, and upon depositing with the Resident Agent the amount of any fine imposed by the Resident Agent's Court.

7. The Island Council, with the approval of the Resident Agent, may cancel the license of any person who shall have been convicted of any breach of the regulations for the time being in force.

8. Anything done by the Island Council in pursuance of these regulations shall be subject to disallowance or otherwise by the Resident Commissioner.

Dated this third day of December, one thousand nine hundred and six.

W. E. GUDGEON,
Resident Commissioner.

SCHEDULE.

License for Diving-machine.—Manihiki Island Lagoon Reserve.

No. _____, of _____, having paid the prescribed fee, is hereby licensed to use diving-machine within the Manihiki Island Lagoon Reserve up to the _____ day of _____, 190____, subject to the regulations for the time being in force in respect of the use of diving-machines and in respect of diving and fishing for pearl-shell within the said Manihiki Island Lagoon Reserve.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 190____.

_____, Resident Agent.

Fee, £ _____

License for Diving and Fishing for Pearl-shell.—Manihiki Island Lagoon Reserve.

_____, a Native of _____, having paid the prescribed fee, is hereby licensed to fish and dive for pearl-shell within the Manihiki Island Lagoon Reserve up to the _____ day of _____, 190____, subject to the regulations for the time being in force in respect of diving and fishing for pearl-shell within the said Manihiki Island Lagoon Reserve.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 190____.

_____, Resident Agent.

Fee, £ _____

[Approved by the Governor, 9th January, 1907.]

PENRHYN ISLAND LAGOON RESERVE REGULATIONS.

WHEREAS by Proclamation of His Excellency the Governor of the Colony of New Zealand, dated the fourth day of October, one thousand nine hundred and six, it was proclaimed and declared that all of the inland sea or lagoon enclosed by the reef or islands of the Penrhyn Atoll (more particularly described in the Schedule to the said Proclamation) should be set aside as a reserve for public pearl-shell fishing, and it was declared that the said reserve should be held and administered by the Resident Commissioner, subject to such conditions and regulations as might from time to time be made or prescribed in respect thereof under section four of "The Cook and other Islands Government Act Amendment Act, 1904," or any amendment thereof:

Now, therefore, I, Walter Edward Gudgeon, Resident Commissioner, in pursuance and exercise of the power and authority conferred on me by the said Act, and in exercise of every other power and authority in anywise enabling me in this behalf, do hereby make the following regulations in respect of the said reserve:—

1. Diving-machines shall be used for such period in each year and at such portion or portions of the reserve as may from time to time be respectively appointed by the Penrhyn Island Council, with the approval of the Resident Agent. All licenses for the use of diving-machines shall be subject to the regulations for the time being in force in respect of such machines, and to the regulations as to fishing and diving for pearl-shell within the said reserve. Every diving-machine shall be numbered.

2. The Penrhyn Island Council, with the approval of the Resident Agent, may from time to time fix a close season for the whole or any portion of the reserve, during which it shall not be lawful for any person to fish or dive for pearl-shell over the reserve or any such portion so closed as aforesaid.

3. No person shall fish or dive for pearl-shell unless such person is the holder of a license granted under these regulations.

4. The license for the use of a diving-machine or for fishing or diving for pearl-shell shall be in the form in the Schedule hereto. All licenses shall be in force up to the 31st day of March in each year. All applications for a license shall be made in writing to the Resident Agent, who shall submit same to the Island Council. On approval of the same by the Island Council the Resident Agent shall issue a license in respect of each approved application on payment of the prescribed fee. It may be lawful for the Island Council to refuse any application for a diving-machine license where the owner or one of the owners is not a British subject, or to refuse any application for a diving or fishing license where the applicant is a person other than a Native of the Cook or Northern Islands.

5. The following fees shall be payable on the issue of a license:—

	£	s.	d.
1. Diving-machine license, per annum	10	0	0
2. Diving and fishing license for a person other than a Native of the Cook or Northern Islands, per annum	1	0	0
3. Diving and fishing license for a person a Native of the Cook or Northern Islands other than a Native of Penrhyn, per annum	0	10	0
4. Diving and fishing license for a Native of Penrhyn			Free.

The fee for a diving-machine license may from time to time be altered by the Island Council, with the approval of the Resident Agent. All fees received by the Resident Agent shall be paid to the Island Council for the benefit of the local Administration. The Resident Agent shall from time to time forward to the Treasurer at Rarotonga a full statement of all moneys received and paid by him under these regulations.

6. Any person acting in contravention of these regulations is liable to a fine not exceeding five pounds, recoverable before the Resident Agent's Court: Provided always that any person aggrieved by any decision of the Resident Agent's Court may appeal therefrom to the High Court of the Cook Islands upon giving notice of appeal in writing within fourteen days from the date of such decision, and upon depositing with the Resident Agent the amount of any fine imposed by the Resident Agent's Court.

7. The Island Council, with the approval of the Resident Agent, may cancel the license of any person who shall have been convicted of any breach of the regulations for the time being in force.

8. Anything done by the Island Council in pursuance of these regulations shall be subject to disallowance or otherwise by the Resident Commissioner.

Dated this third day of December, one thousand nine hundred and six.

W. E. GUDGEON,
Resident Commissioner.

SCHEDULE.

License for Diving-machine.—Penrhyn Island Lagoon Reserve.

No. , of , having paid the prescribed fee, is hereby licensed to use diving-machine within the Penrhyn Island Lagoon Reserve up to the day of , 190 , subject to the regulations for the time being in force in respect of the use of diving-machines and in respect of diving and fishing for pearl-shell within the said Penrhyn Island Lagoon Reserve.
Dated this day of , 190 ,

, Resident Agent.

Fee, £ .

License for Diving and Fishing for Pearl-shell.—Penrhyn Island Lagoon Reserve.

, a Native of , having paid the prescribed fee, is hereby licensed to fish and dive for pearl-shell within the Penrhyn Island Lagoon Reserve up to the day of ,

190 , subject to the regulations for the time being in force in respect of diving and fishing for pearl-shell within the said Penrhyn Island Lagoon Reserve.

Dated this day of , 190 .

, Resident Agent.

Fee, £

[Approved by the Governor, 9th January, 1907.]

No. 34.

SIR,— Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 9th January, 1907.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th December last, forwarding for the approval of His Excellency the Governor regulations for public pearl-shell fishing at the Islands of Manihiki and Penrhyn.

I now return the regulations with His Excellency's approval noted thereon.

I have, &c.,

The Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga.

JAMES MCGOWAN.

CONTINGENT EXPENDITURE—HIGH COURT, LAND TITLES COURT, AND WHARE MANUHIRI.

No. 35.

SIR,— Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 2nd August, 1906.

Referring to the financial returns forwarded with your report for the year 1905–6, I should like you to supplement the particulars supplied by furnishing a statement showing details of the amounts of £53 14s. 11d. and £260 3s. 6d., shown as High Court contingent expenditure and Land Titles Court contingent expenditure respectively. Please also let me have a statement showing the receipts and expenditure for the year in connection with the *whare manuhiri*. It is desirable that I should have full particulars regarding all these items, and I should be glad if in the statements for future years you will have the details furnished.

The returns showing the exports from each island during the year will prove very useful, and I shall be glad if you will have this also repeated in future reports.

I have, &c.,

The Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga.

C. H. MILLS.

No. 36.

SIR,— Rarotonga, 16th August, 1906.

In pursuance of your instructions contained in your telegram of the 6th August, I have the honour to forward, for your information, the details of contingent expenditure for 1905–6, as follows: (1) *Whare manuhiri*; (2) High Court and Land Titles Court; (3) general contingencies.

I am under the impression that the last-named has already been forwarded to you.

I have, &c.,

The Hon. the Minister administering Islands.

W. E. GUDGEON,

Resident Commissioner.

Enclosure.

COOK AND OTHER ISLANDS ADMINISTRATION.

Return showing Revenue and Expenditure, Whare Manuhiri, from 1st September, 1905, to 31st March, 1906.

Revenue.			£	s.	d.	Expenditure.			£	s.	d.
Receipts, per patrons	..	..	240	10	1	Salary, manager	..	..	61	5	10
Government subsidy	..	..	44	13	9	Wages, servants	..	..	46	5	8
						Stores	..	..	177	12	4
			£285	3	10				£285	3	10

Rarotonga, Cook Islands, 16th August, 1906.

W. J. STEVENSON, Treasurer.

COOK AND OTHER ISLANDS ADMINISTRATION.

Details of Item 5, Contingent Expenditure, High Court, 1906–6.

	£	s.	d.
Travelling-expenses	9	14	0
Salary, bailiff	5	0	0
„ constable	4	0	0
Bonus to bailiff	11	0	0
Interpreters' fees	2	1	0
Passage of prisoner	0	10	0
Food for prisoners	20	9	11
Refund Teonga, damages awarded, but paid in as revenue in error	1	0	0
	£53	14	11

Details of Item 6, Contingent Expenditure, Land Titles Court, 1905-6.

	£	s.	d.
Travelling-expenses	26	19	7
„ allowance, Chief Judge	100	0	0
Salary, Native Judge	26	5	0
Stationery	17	16	3
Chainman (wages)	6	0	0
Labour (wages)	42	17	0
Materials for survey	9	9	8
Buggy-hire	9	11	0
Interpreting fees	2	10	0
Assistant cadet	18	15	0
	£260	3	6

Rarotonga, 9th April, 1906.

W. J. STEVENSON, Treasurer.

No. 37.

SIR,— Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 21st September, 1906.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th August, forwarding, as requested details of contingent expenditure for the *whare manuhiri*, High Court, and Land Titles Court for the year 1905-6.

The details of general contingencies were received with your annual report and statement.

I have, &c.,

The Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga.

JAMES MCGOWAN.

No. 38.

SIR,— Rarotonga, Cook Islands, 2nd November, 1906.

I have the honour to report, for your information, that during the first year's existence of the *whare manuhiri* at Rarotonga the total expenditure has been £541 8s. 9d., and the receipts for the same period £519 16s. The loss, therefore, has only been £21 12s. 9d.—at least £80 less than I had anticipated.

I attach a schedule showing the actual receipts and expenditure for each month, from which it will be seen that during the visitors' season, from June to September, the house will pay very well. It must, however, be run at a small loss when there are only the local boarders.

The value of the *whare* cannot, however, be estimated at a money-value only. The island, during the months of May to November inclusive, has one of the finest climates in the world, but no one could enjoy the benefit of the climate without this *whare*.

I have, &c.,

The Hon. the Minister administering Islands.

W. E. GUDGEON,
Resident Commissioner.**No. 39.**

SIR,— Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 27th November, 1906.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2nd instant, forwarding schedule of receipts and expenditure at *whare manuhiri*, Rarotonga, for the year ended the 31st August, 1906.

I have, &c.,

The Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga.

JAMES MCGOWAN.

APPOINTMENT OF NATIVE MAGISTRATES, ETC.**No. 40.**

SIR,— Eastern Pacific, Rarotonga, 11th September, 1906.

I have the honour to inform you that I have appointed Pokino, of Tamarua, and Puroku, of Ivirua, the Native Magistrates of their respective districts in the Island of Mangaia, to succeed Oruru, dismissed for misconduct, and Kiripaoa, deceased. These men have no jurisdiction except when sitting with the European Magistrate; but the fact of their sitting with the Magistrate is sufficient to show that the *mana Maori* is not altogether a thing of the past.

As I shall be absent from these Islands for three weeks, I have exercised the powers conferred on me by subsection (2) of section 3 of "Powers of Resident Commissioners," and have appointed the Collector of Customs to act for me as Resident Commissioner, and Mr. Blaine, Registrar of High Court, to act as Magistrate during my absence.

I have, &c.,

W. E. GUDGEON,
Resident Commissioner.

• The Hon. James McGowan, Minister administering Islands.

No. 41.

SIR,— Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 3rd October, 1906.
I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th September, reporting that you have appointed Pokino and Puroku Native Magistrates for Tamarua and Ivirua respectively, and, in reply, to inform you that your action meets with my approval.

I have, &c.

The Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga

JAMES MCGOWAN.

No. 42.

SIR,— Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 3rd October, 1906.
I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th September, reporting that you have appointed the Collector of Customs to act for you as Resident Commissioner, and Mr. Blaine, Registrar of High Court, to act as Magistrate, during your absence from Cook Islands, and, in reply, to inform you that your action meets with my approval.

I have, &c.,

The Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga.

JAMES MCGOWAN.

DUTY ON BLACK-TWIST TOBACCO.

No. 43.

SIR,— Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 23rd September, 1906.
I have the honour to inform you that representations have been made to me by merchants that the price of black-twist tobacco has now advanced to a figure beyond 1s. per pound, and that consequently it will not reap the advantage of the reduced rate of duty fixed by Order in Council.

From inquiries I have made it appears that the current quotations for this class of tobacco are—Black Swan twist, 1s. 2d. per pound; Lion twist, 1s. to 1s. 1d. per pound. It is suggested that the limit of price might be raised to 1s. 3d. per pound, and I propose to recommend the issue of an Order in Council fixing that limit; but before doing so I shall be glad to have your views on the subject.

Kindly let me have your reply by return mail.
The Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga.

I have, &c.,

JAMES MCGOWAN.

No. 44.

SIR,— Rarotonga, Cook Islands, 10th October, 1906.
In reply to your letter of the 23rd September on the subject of the duty now imposed on tobacco known as Beaconsfield twist, I am informed by the traders of this island that only those who import direct from America can obtain the black-twist tobacco at 1s., and therefore the smaller traders who purchase from Auckland merchants have to pay more than 1s., and are seriously handicapped by that fact.

I think that if the price was fixed at 1s. 2d. per pound it might perhaps meet the difficulty; but I do not make a point of this, as any price would suit that would keep the superior class tobacco (like Derby) from coming in under 1s. per pound duty.

I have, &c.,

The Hon. the Minister administering Islands

W. E. GUDGEON,

Resident Commissioner.

No. 45.

SIR,— Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 7th November, 1906.
Referring to previous correspondence, I have the honour to transmit to you the accompanying copy of an Order in Council revoking the Order in Council of the 2nd August, 1905, reducing to 1s. the pound the duty on certain tobacco imported into the Cook and other Islands, and fixing the duty on black-twist tobacco imported into the said Islands at 1s. the pound where the genuine invoice value at the time of importation does not exceed 1s. 3d. per pound.

The Order in Council will be published in this week's issue of the *New Zealand Gazette*.

I have, &c.,

The Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga.

JAMES MCGOWAN.

Enclosure.

DUTY ON CERTAIN TOBACCO IMPORTED INTO THE COOK AND OTHER ISLANDS REDUCED.

PLUNKET, Governor.

ORDER IN COUNCIL.

At the Government House, at Christchurch, this sixth day of November, 1906.

Present:

His Excellency the Governor in Council.

In exercise of the powers conferred upon him by "The Cook and other Islands Government Act Amendment Act, 1902," and "The Cook and other Islands Government Act Amendment Act, 1903," and of all other powers and authorities enabling him in this behalf, His Excellency the

Governor of the Colony of New Zealand, acting by and with the advice and consent of the Executive Council of the said colony, doth hereby modify the New Zealand Customs tariff in its application to goods imported into the Cook and other Islands aforesaid by declaring and directing as follows:—

1. On the first day of December, one thousand nine hundred and six, the Order in Council of the second day of August, one thousand nine hundred and five (reducing to one shilling the pound the duty on certain tobacco imported into the said Islands), shall be and be deemed to be revoked.

2. The duty on black-twist tobacco imported into the said Islands on and after the said first day of December, one thousand nine hundred and six, shall be one shilling the pound (in lieu of three shillings and sixpence the pound as fixed by "The Customs and Excise Duties Act, 1888") where the Collector is satisfied that the genuine invoice value at the time of importation does not exceed one shilling and threepence the pound.

J. F. ANDREWS,
Acting Clerk of the Executive Council.

AUDITOR'S REPORT.

No. 46.

SIR,— Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 27th September, 1906.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th August last, forwarding the Auditor's reports for the year ended the 31st March, 1906.

The notes affixed by the Auditor to the balance-sheets were referred to during the passage of the departmental estimates through Committee of Supply; but I declined to produce the reports on the grounds that they were marked "Confidential," and that they contained references to persons which I did not feel justified in making public. I think that, in future, reports by the Auditor should not be marked "Confidential," and I shall be glad if you will so inform Mr. Brown.

I am glad that the principal matters referred to by the Auditor—namely, the payment of all accounts direct from the Treasury, the *whare manuhiri*, and the schooner accounts—have already received your attention.

On the whole the position appears to be quite satisfactory.

The Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga.

I have, &c.,
JAMES MCGOWAN.

REPORT ON VISIT MANGAIA, ETC.

No. 47.

SIR,— Rarotonga, Cook Islands, 10th October, 1906.

I have the honour to report that I returned to this island on the 8th instant per mission steamer "John Williams," having visited each of the following islands on the dates named: Mangaia, 17th September; Mauke, 18th September; Mitiaro, 19th September; Atiu, 20th September; Takutea, 20th September; Aitutaki, 21st September; Rarotonga, 24th September, and left same day; Penrhyn, 28th September; Rakahanga, 30th September; Manihiki, 1st October; Pukapuka, 4th October; Rarotonga, 8th October, at 8 a.m.

With a few exceptions I found everything in a satisfactory condition, and I am in a position to report that the Natives of the most backward islands are now beginning to understand the system of government by Council. Hitherto there has been a certain element of dissatisfaction among some of the rangatiras for whom there was no place in the Council, but now they see the futility of fighting against the law.

At Mangaia I appointed Daniela Tangitoru (a most reliable man) High Court policeman, at a salary of £6 per annum.

At Mauke there is still a certain element of opposition to the Resident Agent, Tararo, not that the latter has committed any fault, but simply because there are other Arikis who think they should be Resident Agents. I have, however, made it very clear to these malcontents that they must not allow this feeling to extend to breaches of the law. The people of Mauke are the least satisfactory of all Polynesians; they have a most fertile island, but grow little if any food, and are the most notorious of all bush-beer drinkers.

At Atiu the people are still savage, but of a very good type. The administration of the law is not quite what it should be, but we cannot afford to keep a paid Resident Agent at this island, and for the present must submit to Native ideas of justice. A Chinese trader has lately been fined £5 for speaking evil of Arikis, and very foolishly paid the money instead of appealing to me. On inquiry I found that he had not spoken evil of the Arikis, but he had charged excessive prices for his goods, and the simple (?) Natives had adopted this device to get even with him. I ordered the £5 to be returned to him.

At Penrhyn I found the island suffering from a plague of rats, who are eating the young cocoanuts as fast as they form on the trees. I will, however, deal with this matter in another letter.

At Rakahanga a very beautiful canoe inlaid with pearl-shell was handed over to me for exhibition at Christchurch, but at the other islands the people would seem to have been unable or unwilling to do anything. From Mangaia there may be a few articles, and Makea is making a few things; but for the most part the people have forgotten their old arts and industries, and they cannot now make the old head-dress of the Arikis.

I have, &c.,

W. E. GUDGEON,

Resident Commissioner.

The Hon. the Minister administering Islands.

No 48.

SIR,—

Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 31st October, 1906.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th instant, reporting your visit to Mangaia and other islands.

I have, &c.,

JAMES MCGOWAN.

The Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga.

GIFT OF LAND AT ATIU TO HIS MAJESTY.

No. 49.

SIR,—

Eastern Pacific, Rarotonga, 12th October, 1906.

I have the honour to report that on the 20th September I visited Atiu, and met all of the Arikis and Mataiapos of the island. After a very satisfactory meeting, Rongomatane, the chief Ariki of the island, presented me with the attached deed of gift in duplicate, conveying to His Majesty a small piece of land to be used as occasion may require.

The land is probably not worth more than £1, but the gift may be useful, and is evidently intended to be taken in the kindest spirit. I would therefore suggest that it be accepted.

I have, &c.,

W. E. GUDGEON,

Resident Commissioner.

The Hon. the Minister administering Islands.

Enclosure.

(TRANSLATION.)

A DEED of gift of land made this twelfth day of September, in the year one thousand nine hundred and six, at seven o'clock a.m.

The Mataiapos met in the Ariki house "Temaeva," in the presence of Rongomatane Ariki, to hear what the said Rongomatane had to say, and for them to publicly hear Rongomatane make a gift of a portion of her land, "Enua Manu," to His Majesty King Edward VII, King of the British Empire, the said piece of land to be a place whereon to erect a house or houses wherein His Majesty's laws and all his work may be conducted.

The Mataiapos, in the presence of the Resident Agent of Atiu, confirmed the gift of this piece of land. They had no objections, because the said land was and is the sole property of Rongomatane, and has been the Rongomatane from the ancestors now dead.

This is a description of the land given: A portion of Enua Manu commencing from a fixed point, thence easterly 66 ft.; from the same point westerly to the boundary of the section given to the London Missionary Society, 200 ft.; from same point northerly to boundary of the land known as Vaikakaia, 90 ft.; from same point south to side of public road leading to settlement of Tengtangi, 91 ft.

I, Rongomatane, do by this deed give absolutely to His Majesty the King of Great Britain all this piece of land described above, as a sign of my loyalty to that great Empire.

The Aronga Mana and the Aronga Taonga order that the gift be supported, and that it be supported in truth and without trouble.

This deed is executed in duplicate in the year and date first written.

her

RONGOMATANE X ARIKI.

mark

TUIA, Kavana.

KEA TETUPIA, Mataiapo.

TARE, Mataiapo (his X mark).

TERE, Mataiapo (his X mark).

UMA, Mataiapo (his X mark).

MAEVARUA, Ui-rangatira (his X mark).

TARA, Mataiapo.

A. VON NAGEL, Resident Agent.

I certify that the foregoing is a true and correct translation of the deed of gift of land from Rongomatane to His Majesty.

S. SAVAGE,

Government Interpreter.

Rarotonga, 11/10/06.

No. 50.

SIR,— Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 30th October, 1906.
 I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th instant, transmitting deed of gift of a piece of land in the Island of Atiu.
 The gift is accepted as an emblem of the sovereignty of the King, and of the loyalty of the Ariki Rongomatane and the people of Atiu.
 If it is necessary to enrol the title of His Majesty, will you please take such steps as may be required.
 The Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga.

I have, &c.,

JAMES MCGOWAN.

COCOANUT-PLANTING ON TAKUTEA ISLAND.

No. 51.

SIR,— Rarotonga, Cook Islands, 1st November, 1906.
 I have the honour to forward enclosed a tracing of Takutea, showing the work actually done on this island during the year by a boy in the Survey Office—Howard Greg—and a small party of eight men. By reference to the plan it will be seen that last year 20 acres were planted at a cost of £53 11s. 1d.; this year 96 acres have been planted at a cost of £109 17s. 6d., leaving 111 acres to be planted next year.
 The work has been well and cheaply done, and will be most remunerative, for in ten or twelve years the island will readily bring a rental of from £300 to £500 per annum.

I have, &c.,

W. E. GUDGEON,

Resident Commissioner.

The Hon. James McGowan, Minister administering Islands.

No. 52.

SIR,— Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 28th November, 1906.
 I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st instant, forwarding a tracing of Takutea Island, and reporting on the cocoanut-planting on the island during the year.
 The Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga.

I have, &c.,

JAMES MCGOWAN.

EUROPEAN REPRESENTATION ON ISLAND COUNCIL.

No. 53.

SIR,— Rarotonga, Cook Islands, 2nd May, 1907.
 I have the honour to enclose a petition received from the European residents of Rarotonga, asking for representation on the Island Council. The request is not unreasonable, though any one elected to such a position must of necessity be more or less a cipher, since it cannot be doubted that the European member will be an object of jealousy or suspicion to the Natives.
 If this petition should be approved by the Government of New Zealand, I would suggest that he should be elected by the adult males of European extraction who are subjects of His Majesty either by birth or naturalisation.

I have, &c.,

W. E. GUDGEON,

Resident Commissioner.

The Hon. James McGowan, Minister administering Islands.

Enclosure.

SIR;— We, European residents in Rarotonga, have the honour to suggest that the time has come when it is advisable to amend "The Cook and other Islands Government Amendment Act, 1904," by adding a clause giving Europeans a right to elect a representative to the Council, and request that, if Cook Islands legislation is before the coming session of Parliament, the New Zealand Government will give the matter consideration.

We would point out in support of our request that the Native Council enacts Ordinances which may vitally affect us, and we have no knowledge of such Acts until they are gazetted.

As we represent a considerable amount of capital invested both in business and agriculture, and our interests are one with the welfare of the island, we trust that you will readily concede the reasonableness of our request and accede to it during the coming session.

We have, &c.,

Charles Smith.
 Sydney Davis.
 H. Shearman.
 W. F. Bonar.
 Wm. Taylor.
 Thos. Shearman.
 Tom Shearman.
 H. R. Gatley.
 D. Morrison.
 A. F. Ambridge.
 Thos. Harries.

Geo. R. Crummer.
 C. Carlson.
 C. Bates.
 E. Blaine.
 Peyrouse.
 P. K. M. Cowan.
 J. H. Sharpe.
 — Taylor.
 E. Mathews.
 R. T. T. Davis.
 B. T. Hamilton.

A. E. Woodforth.
 Charles W. Banks.
 A. von Hoff.
 A. H. Brown.
 C. Kohn.
 E. L. Greening.
 S. Savage.
 H. M. Connal.
 T. Engetke.
 A. W. Taylor.
 W. J. Wigmore.

To the Minister in Charge, Administration of Cook Islands.

No. 54.

SIR,—

Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 22nd May, 1907.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2nd instant, forwarding a petition from European residents of Rarotonga, asking for representation upon the Island Council.

I sympathize very deeply with the desire of British residents in the Islands to acquire some share in the government thereof; but I am not aware that they suffer under any special disabilities under the present system, nor, indeed, do they allege that they are labouring under any grievances.

As you are aware, when the Cook Group was ceded to Great Britain one of the conditions of the cession was that the then existing Parliament should be abolished, and should be replaced by a Council of Arikis. It must be evident that the introduction into the Council of a European representative would materially affect the condition laid down at the time of the cession. For these and other reasons I regret that the Government is unable at the present time to comply with the request of the petitioners.

I have, &c.,

The Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga.

JAMES MCGOWAN.

NIUE ISLAND.

No. 55.

SIR,—

Niue Island Administration, Niue, 25th May, 1907.

I have the honour to forward herewith my report for the year 1906-7, together with Niue Island Revenue Statement, and account current with the Bank of New Zealand at Auckland, to the 31st March, 1907.

A return of births, deaths, and marriages for Niue has already been forwarded to you with letter No. 43, dated the 16th April, 1907. A census of this island was also forwarded to you with covering-letter No. 207, dated the 7th June, 1906.

The first-mentioned returns should have been sent forward earlier, but I was absent on leave.

I have, &c.,

C. F. MAXWELL,

Resident Commissioner.

The Hon. the Minister in Charge, Cook and other Islands, Wellington.

REPORT ON NIUE FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH, 1907.

Population.

The census which was taken in June, 1906, showed the total population of Niue as 3,801, comprised of 1,758 males and 2,043 females; 521 males and 59 females being absent from the island at the time the census was taken. Comparing these figures with those for the census taken in June, 1902, there is a decrease of 115 females and 135 males, or 250 in all. Five hundred and eighty Natives were absent in 1906, compared with 418 in 1902, an increase of absentees of 162; this number deducted from the 250 mentioned above leaves 88 as the net decrease in four years. In my covering-letter No. 207, dated the 7th June, 1906, I have endeavoured to explain the cause of this decrease, which seems to be common to many of these Islands, and in this case is not due to any apparent reason, as there have been no epidemics of any kind, nor have the physical conditions been adverse to the well-being of the Natives. At the same time there is a good deal of sickness amongst the Natives, constitutional diseases being prevalent. The services of a medical man would be of great value to this island. It appears remarkable that so large a community should be absolutely without medical aid. Only a few days ago I assisted to set a fractured bone in a European.

Reservoirs.

Two reservoirs were completed last year, one at Tuapa and another at Avatele. The Avatele reservoir has a capacity of 12,900 gallons, and cost for labour £36 14s., and material £39 5s. 5d.; total, £75 19s. 5d. The Tuapa reservoir contains 11,728 gallons, and cost £43 12s. for labour and £29 14s. 6d. for material; total cost, £73 6s. 6d.

These reservoirs are fitted with pumps, so that water may be drawn without possibility of polluting it. Two more reservoirs are in process of construction at Hakupu and Liku respectively. The Hakupu reservoir is almost completed, and that at Liku should be finished in a month or two.

The eight reservoirs now in use are well filled with water, and prove a great boon to the villagers.

Jetty.

The sum of £30 14s. was spent in completing the jetty at Alofi. It is now serviceable, but an extension of the outer tee and the erection of a more powerful derrick is needed. A crab-winch has been obtained and awaits erection.

Boat-channel.

A passage has been blasted through the reef at Avatele to allow the approach of boats to the beach, at a cost of £17 1s. 6d. for labour. It requires widening. A similar passage should be cut at Tuapa, and a platform built to receive goods.

Roads.

The sum of £234 6s. 9d. has been spent on roads during the year, distributed as follows:—

	Total Cost.		
	£	s.	d.
Alofi-Hakupu Road, 65 chains, width 14 ft., cost per chain 12s. 7·4d.	41	0	0
" day-labour	24	16	0
Alofi-Avatele Road, 101 chains, width 16 ft., cost per chain 18s. 3·5d.	92	7	3
" day-labour	16	18	0
Alofi-Tuapa Road, 43 chains, width 16 ft., cost per chain 11s. 10·3d.	25	10	6
Avatele Village Road, day-labour	33	15	0
	<hr/> £234 6 9		

The Avatele-Alofi Road, $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles; the Alofi-Tuapa Road, $5\frac{1}{4}$ miles; and the Alofi-Hakupu Road, $7\frac{3}{4}$ miles, are now completed throughout and suitable for wheeled traffic. The Alofi-Liku Road is still very stony in places, and the main road from beyond Tuapa to Mutalau, also the road from Hakupu to Avatele requires attention.

Emigration.

Two hundred and thirty-five persons are recorded as having left Niue for other islands during the year, and probably a score of others left surreptitiously to avoid payment of the registration fee, and for reasons of their own. Their destinations were as follows:—

New Zealand	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Tonga	...	...	...	...	...	...	95
Malden Island	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
German Samoa	...	...	...	...	...	...	75
New Guinea	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Cook Islands	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
							<hr/> 235

The Malden-Islanders are sent back to their homes at the expiration of their term of service, but those who go to other islands for their own purposes remain absent for long periods, and many of them never return to Niue, heartlessly deserting their wives and families in many instances.

The excessively rocky nature of the land on this island renders it difficult for the Natives to cultivate the soil, and engenders a desire to go to more fertile islands, where the surroundings are more attractive, and better remuneration may be obtained for their labour. The Niue Native has been a wanderer since the first advent of the trading-vessel to his shores. There is no doubt that this island suffers greatly from the continual exodus of its able-bodied men; but if they elect to go to look for work in other islands it would be interfering with their liberty as British subjects to attempt to restrain them. Little colonies of Niue people are to be found in Tonga and German Samoa, where they have acquired plots of land to live upon while working for Europeans.

Communications.

After nearly six years of New Zealand control Niue is now in a more unsettled position as regards communication with the outside world than at any other time probably since traders have been established here. This is not as it should be. Despite the efforts of those in authority to institute a more reliable system of communication by steam-vessels, which would be more in accordance with the times we live in, nothing has yet been achieved in this direction; and as the Government schooner "Countess of Ranfurly" will in all probability be laid up or sold shortly, the traders here are obliged to charter a vessel to supply their requirements. Until regular means of communication with the centres of commerce are provided, Niue can never develop to the full extent of her resources. As it seems hopeless to think of obtaining regular steam communication, the next best plan will be for the Administration to charter a schooner of about 140 tons to make four trips direct from Auckland to Niue, sailing at the end of March for the first trip, and thereafter at intervals of three months, excepting the last trip of the year, which should leave Auckland early in December, to finish before the hurricane season. An alternative scheme is to subsidise the steamer "Maori," of Pango Pango, to run several trips per year from Samoa to Niue. Correspondence on this latter subject has already taken place. It is not known, however, how the cessation of the Frisco mail-service may affect this vessel.

Future Prospects.

It will be as well to make a few remarks on the outlook for Niue from an economic point of view. It is useless to expect any great progress to be made unless outside capital is introduced to develop the resources of this island. Before capital can be attracted land must be available for plantations, &c. There is a large quantity of land in Niue which, although very stony and at present covered with dense vegetation, is well suited for growing cocoanuts, the most valuable crop in the Islands. There is no doubt whatever that in time all this land will be utilised by Europeans; the present owners will never do more than cultivate barely sufficient to supply their actual necessities.

Great difficulties exist at present in the way of leasing areas of this land. Although individual owners have expressed to me their willingness to lease portions of their waste land, nothing is likely to be done so long as the present King of Niue lives. He is imbued with the doctrine, sedulously instilled by the missionaries, that "all the land is required by the Natives for their

NIUE ISLAND ACCOUNT CURRENT with Bank of New Zealand, Auckland, for Year ended 31st March, 1907.

1906.		£	s.	d.	1906.		£	s.	d.
April 1	To Balance brought forward ..	983	7	5	April 3	By Cheque, D. Wallace ..	28	0	0
July	Lodgment (stamp-sales in New Zealand) ..	56	7	4	" 13	" J. Wilson and Co. ..	10	0	0
	Interest on Deposit Account ..	15	0	0	" 13	" Bycroft and Co. ..	2	8	0
Aug. 23	Remittance from Niue ..	86	0	0	" 13	" Wingate and Co. ..	5	10	0
Nov. 16	Lodgment (stamp-sales in New Zealand) ..	19	15	5	" 23	" J. Wilson and Co. ..	9	6	0
Dec. 15	Lodgment, Collector of Customs ..	3	16	6	June 5	" Government Printer ..	1	15	0
1907.					" 6	" Wingate and Co. ..	1	0	0
Jan. 13	" Treasury, New Zealand ..	21	3	6	" 6	" D. Wallace ..	18	0	0
" 18	" Grice, Sumner, and Co. ..	16	13	5	July 13	" Wilsons and Horton ..	1	6	0
					Aug. 8	" Upton and Co. ..	9	14	0
					" 8	" Colledge and Sons ..	1	0	0
					" 14	" Fixed Deposit Account ..	500	0	0
					Sept. 10	" A. H. Nathan and Co. ..	18	6	0
					" 11	" Government Printer ..	2	0	0
					" 11	" E. Porter and Co. ..	24	11	8
					" 12	" Treasurer, Cook Islands ..	50	0	0
					Oct. 11	" J. Wilson and Co. ..	30	5	10
					" 11	" Bycroft and Co. ..	2	4	11
					" 11	" D. Goldie ..	7	1	0
					" 11	" R. and W. Hellaby ..	2	12	0
					" 11	" Wingate and Co. ..	30	0	0
					" 11	" Cook Islands ..	30	0	0
					" 11	" Cousins and Co. ..	9	16	0
					" 11	" A. H. Nathan ..	10	6	6
					Nov. 1	" Collector of Customs, Auckland ..	25	0	0
					" 2	" Upton and Co. ..	2	13	2
					" 30	" Wingate and Co. ..	10	11	6
					Dec. 4	" D. Wallace ..	28	0	0
					" 11	" Government Printer ..	1	5	0
					1907.				
					Jan. 1	" Vines, Utting, and Perston ..	3	16	6
					" 1	" A. H. Nathan ..	3	0	9
						Overcredit on Treasury lodgment, 20th February, 1906 ..	0	0	1
							879	10	5
					1907.				
					Mar. 31	Balance to credit ..	272	13	2
							£1,152	3	7

Niue, 25th May, 1907.

C. F. MAXWELL,
Resident Commissioner.

TOTAL FUNDS to Credit of NIUE ISLAND ADMINISTRATION as on 31st March, 1907.

	£	s.	d.
On fixed deposit, Bank of New Zealand ..	1,000	0	0
At Post-Office Savings-Bank ..	232	3	10
Balance to credit of Current Account, Bank of New Zealand ..	272	13	2
Cash balance in hand at Niue ..	561	19	6
	£2,066	16	6

Niue, 25th May, 1907.

C. F. MAXWELL,
Resident Commissioner.

No. 56.

SIR,—
Niue Island Administration, Niue, 4th April, 1907.
I have the honour to forward herewith the returns of imports and exports for Niue Island for the quarter ended the 31st March last, also returns of imports and exports for Niue Island for the last financial year.

IMPORTS.

From the import return you will observe that the total value of the imports into Niue for the last financial year amounted to £5,580, as compared with £5,674 for the preceding financial year, a decrease of £94. The various items do not call for any special comment, as there has been little appreciable fluctuation during the past two years.

Following is a comparison of the value of the imports for the years 1905-6 and 1906-7, and the value and proportion to the total imported from each country:—

Country.	1905-6.		1906-7.	
	Value.	Proportion, per cent. to Total.	Value.	Proportion, per cent. to Total.
New Zealand	£ 4,155	73.23	£ 4,029	72.20
Samoa	591	10.42	339	6.08
New Guinea .. .. .	..	..	4	0.07
New South Wales	318	5.60	649	11.63
England	248	4.37	151	2.71
Malden Island	166	2.92	85	1.52
Tonga	145	2.56	202	3.62
Germany	29	0.51	..	..
Rarotonga	21	0.37	26	0.47
Tasmania	1	0.02	..	..
United States .. .. .	..	..	95	1.70
	5,674	100.00	5,580	100.00

EXPORTS.

The exports for the financial year just ended, compared with those for the corresponding previous year, show that the value of the exports of Niue produce increased from £7,545 to £7,958, or £413. Turning to the principal items, copra shows an increase of 103 tons, and £1,873 in value; fungus an increase of 7,336 lb., and £129 in value; while hats show a decline of 1,981 dozen, and £1,491 in value. The decrease in hats is due, as you have already been informed, to overproduction in previous years, but there are signs that the market is recovering somewhat, and a slight improvement may be looked for during the current year. The increase in copra is very satisfactory, more especially as the output for the past year realised, on the average, £2 per ton in excess of the price for the previous year's product. The indications for the current year's crop of copra are extremely good, and provided there is an absence of severe weather during the next few months, it is anticipated that the output will probably approach a record for the island. As the prices now being realised for copra are far in excess of anything hitherto known, the prospects for the coming season are unusually bright.

The following figures show the value of exports of Niue produce for the past two years, and the value and proportion to the total shipped to the various countries:—

Country.	1905-6.		1906-7.	
	Value.	Proportion, per cent. to Total.	Value.	Proportion, per cent. to Total.
New Zealand	£ 3,601	47.73	£ 4,863	61.11
Tonga	1,499	19.87	1,118	14.05
New South Wales	1,287	17.06	59	0.74
Samoa	815	10.80	1,918	24.10
Rarotonga	343	4.54	..	..
	7,545	100.00	7,958	100.00

I have, &c.,

H. CORNWALL,

Acting Resident Commissioner.

The Minister in Charge, Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington.

Enclosures.

NIUE ISLAND.

Return of Imports for the Financial Year ended 31st March, 1907.

Articles.	Country whence imported.	Quantity.	Value.	Totals.	Customs Duty received, including Preferential Duty.
			£ s.	£ s.	£ s. d.
Apparel	New Zealand ..	..	234 0	..	4 3 11
	Malden Island ..	..	24 0	..	6 0 3
	New Guinea ..	..	4 0	..	0 19 3
	New South Wales ..	..	83 0	..	20 5 0
	Samoa ..	..	67 0	..	17 7 4
	Tonga ..	..	14 0	..	3 6 0
	United States..	..	33 0	..	8 18 10
				459 0	
Axes	New Zealand ..	..	..	9 0	..
Axe-handles .. .. .	" ..	..	..	6 0	..
Biscuits, plain.. .. .	" ..	19,035 lb.	175 0	..	..
	New South Wales ..	7,083 lb.	81 0	..	9 14 11
	United States..	200 lb.	2 0	..	0 5 5
		26,318 lb.		258 0	
Biscuits, other kinds	New Zealand ..	799 lb.	..	19 0	..
Bicycles	Samoa ..	3	..	17 0	4 14 0
Barometers	New Zealand ..	..	..	5 0	..
Beer	" ..	28 gal.	6 0	..	..
	Samoa ..	140 gal.	40 0	..	14 0 0
		168 gal.		46 0	
Blue	New Zealand ..	..	..	1 0	..
Books, printed	New South Wales ..	..	..	42 0	..
Boots and shoes	New Zealand ..	..	37 0	..	..
	New South Wales ..	..	20 0	..	5 0 6
	Samoa ..	..	0 4	..	0 1 7
	United States..	..	5 0	..	1 11 10
				62 4	
Brandy	New Zealand ..	2 gal.	3 0	..	..
	Samoa ..	6 gal.	6 0	..	4 16 0
		8 gal.		9 0	
Brushware	New Zealand ..	..	..	4 0	..
Butter	" ..	372 lb.	24 0	..	..
	New South Wales ..	24 lb.	2 0	..	0 6 0
		396 lb.		26 0	
Calico	New Zealand ..	..	91 0	..	..
	New South Wales ..	..	12 0	..	..
	Samoa ..	..	2 0	..	0 3 10
				105 0	
Cards, Playing	New Zealand ..	..	..	2 0	..
Caps, Percussion .. .. .	" ..	..	..	15 0	..
Carriages .. .. .	" ..	..	53 0	..	..
	United States..	..	24 0	..	7 2 0
				77 0	
Cartridges (shot)	New Zealand ..	..	..	9 0	..
Cement	" ..	15 tons	..	47 0	..
Cereals .. .. .	" ..	..	..	3 0	..
Cigars	" ..	200	..	2 0	..
Confectionery	" ..	224 lb.	..	4 0	..
Cornsacks	" ..	642	..	17 0	..
Cambric .. .. .	" ..	..	19 0	..	..
	England ..	..	18 0	..	2 0 1
	New South Wales ..	..	40 0	..	4 10 10
				77 0	
Cotton, Sewing-	New Zealand ..	..	39 0	..	..
	England ..	..	5 0	..	0 18 0
	New South Wales ..	..	73 0	..	8 1 6
				117 0	
Cutlery	New Zealand ..	..	17 0	..	0 9 3
	New South Wales ..	..	7 0	..	1 1 0
				24 0	
Detonators	New Zealand ..	3,000	..	6 0	..
Drapery .. .. .	" ..	..	140 0	..	..
	New South Wales ..	..	22 0	..	4 14 6
	United States..	..	1 0	..	0 5 5
	Samoa ..	..	43 0	..	8 11 5
				206 0	
Drugs	New Zealand ..	..	20 0	..	..
	New South Wales ..	..	11 0	..	..
				31 0	

NIUE ISLAND—continued.

Return of Imports for the Financial Year ended 31st March 1907—continued.

Articles.	Country whence imported.	Quantity.	Value:	Totals.	Customs Duty received, including Preferential Duty.
			£ s.	£ s.	£ s. d.
Earthenware	New Zealand ..	..	..	4 0	..
Explosives, Blasting .. .. .	" ..	..	..	20 0	..
Fancy goods .. .. .	" ..	..	25 0	..	..
	Malden Island ..	..	2 0	..	0 8 0
	New South Wales ..	..	9 0	..	1 19 3
	Samoa ..	..	5 0	..	1 3 2
				41 0	
Fish-hooks	New Zealand ..	..	..	16 0	..
Fish-lines and rods .. .. .	" ..	..	..	13 0	..
Fish, preserved	" ..	4,031 lb.	140 0	..	1 4 0
	Samoa ..	108 lb.	3 0	..	0 18 0
		4,139 lb.		143 0	
Fruit, preserved	New Zealand ..	156 lb.	5 0	..	..
	New South Wales ..	48 lb.	2 0	..	0 8 11
	Samoa ..	12 lb.	0 5	..	0 1 3
		216 lb.		7 5	
Flour	New Zealand ..	2,800 lb.	15 0	..	..
	New South Wales ..	800 lb.	6 0	..	0 8 0
	Samoa ..	200 lb.	1 0	..	0 3 6
		3,800 lb.		22 0	
Furniture	New Zealand ..	..	9 0	..	..
	Malden Island ..	..	5 0	..	1 5 0
				14 0	
Fuse	New Zealand ..	..	..	6 0	..
Gin	" ..	2 gals.	..	1 0	..
Glassware .. .. .	" ..	..	4 0	..	..
	Samoa ..	..	6 0	..	1 11 4
				10 0	
Gramophones	New South Wales ..	1	14 0	..	3 1 7
	Rarotonga ..	1	10 0	..	..
		2		24 0	
Gramophone-records	Samoa ..	..	..	4 0	0 15 10
Guns, sporting	New Zealand ..	13	..	15 0	..
Hams and bacon	" ..	182 lb.	..	7 0	..
Hardware .. .. .	" ..	..	104 0	..	..
	Malden Island ..	..	10 0	..	2 0 0
	New South Wales ..	..	1 0	..	0 2 2
	Samoa ..	..	1 0	..	0 0 10
				116 0	
Horses	Rarotonga ..	2	16 0	..	..
	Tonga ..	27	169 0	..	13 10 0
		29		185 0	
Hosiery	New Zealand ..	..	..	10 0	..
Iron, galvanised, corrugated	" ..	308½ cwt.	337 0	..	..
	New South Wales ..	11½ cwt.	12 0	..	1 4 8
		320½ cwt.		349 0	
Iron, galvanised—ridging, &c.	New Zealand ..	..	27 0	..	..
	New South Wales ..	..	1 0	..	0 1 6
				28 0	
Iron, galvanised, manufactures	New Zealand ..	..	..	3 0	..
Jam .. .. .	" ..	..	..	7 0	..
Kerosene	" ..	105 cases	40 0	..	..
	Malden Island ..	6 "	5 0	..	..
	New South Wales ..	4 "	2 0	..	..
	Samoa ..	6 "	3 0	..	..
				50 0	
		121 "			
Lace	New Zealand ..	..	46 0	..	..
	New South Wales ..	..	14 0	..	4 1 11
				60 0	
Lard	New Zealand ..	144 lb.	..	5 0	..
Lime	" ..	8 tons	..	16 0	..
Matches	" ..	500 gross	64 0	..	2 10 0
	Samoa ..	200 "	26 0	..	5 0 0
	Tonga ..	50 "	6 0	..	2 10 0
		750 "		96 0	

NIUE ISLAND—continued.

Return of Imports for the Financial Year ended 31st March, 1907—continued.

Articles.	Country whence imported.	Quantity.	Value.	Totals.	Customs Duty received, including Preferential Duty.
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Meat, preserved	New Zealand ..	15,070 lb.	394 0	..	..
	Malden Island ..	338 lb.	9 3	..	1 14 0
	United States ..	144 lb.	4 0	..	0 14 5
	New South Wales ..	882 lb.	19 0	..	4 5 8
		16,434 lb.		426 0	
Meat, salted	New Zealand ..	2,700 lb.	..	47 0	..
	" ..	71 doz.	24 0	..	0 6 0
	New South Wales ..	4 "	1 0	..	0 8 7
	United States ..	8 "	2 0	..	0 10 6
		83 "		27 0	
Musical instruments	New Zealand ..	..	32 0	..	..
	Samoa ..	..	1 0	..	1 0
				33 0	
Muslin	New Zealand ..	..	38 0	..	..
	New South Wales ..	..	16 0	..	1 16 0
				54 0	
Oils, perfumed	New Zealand ..	..	35 0	..	0 3 8
	New South Wales ..	..	2 0	..	0 12 6
	Samoa ..	..	2 0	..	0 9 2
				39 0	
Oils, Linseed	New Zealand ..	42 gal.	..	8 0	..
Oils, Machine .. .. .	" ..	..	..	1 0	..
Paint	" ..	488 lb.	8 0	..	..
	New South Wales ..	500 lb.	9 0	..	1 2 6
	United States ..	56 lb.	1 0	..	0 1 4
		1,044 lb.		18 0	
Paper, Wrapping	New Zealand ..	..	3 0	..	..
	New Zealand ..	..	4 0	..	..
	New South Wales ..	..	1 0	..	0 1 9
	United States ..	..	10 0	..	1 10 6
				15 0	
Perfume	New Zealand ..	..	28 0	..	6 3 9
Photographic material .. .. .	" ..	..	..	3 0	..
Pipeclay .. .. .	" ..	..	..	5 0	..
Pipes, Tobacco-	" ..	496 doz.	12 0	..	..
	New South Wales ..	24 "	2 0	..	0 8 2
				14 0	
Potatoes	New Zealand ..	100 lb.	..	0 10	..
Powder, sporting	" ..	150 lb.	..	13 0	1 17 6
Prints, Cotton	New Zealand ..	..	266 0	..	..
	England ..	..	76 0	..	7 13 5
	New South Wales ..	..	41 0	..	4 19 2
	Samoa ..	..	33 0	..	3 12 9
				416 0	
Provisions	New Zealand ..	..	79 0	..	..
	New South Wales ..	..	15 0	..	2 8 10
	Samoa ..	..	4 0	..	0 15 0
	United States ..	..	12 0	..	2 12 2
				110 0	
Rice	New Zealand ..	54½ cwt.	36 0	..	..
	Malden Island ..	9 "	10 0	..	..
	New South Wales ..	1 "	1 0	..	..
		64½ cwt.		47 0	
Rope	New Zealand ..	2½ cwt.	..	5 0	..
	" ..	..	26 0	..	..
Saddlery	Samoa ..	..	10 0	..	2 1 11
				36 0	
Salt, Table-	New Zealand ..	..	..	1 0	..
	" ..	6	17 0	..	..
	Malden Island ..	7	20 0	..	..
	Samoa ..	9	28 0	..	..
		22		65 0	
Shirting	New Zealand ..	..	..	15 0	..
	" ..	10 cwt.	..	22 0	..
	New South Wales ..	..	4 0	..	1 2 3
Silk	Samoa ..	..	21 0	..	6 5 9
				25 0	

NIUE ISLAND—continued.

Return of Imports for the Financial Year ended 31st March, 1907—continued.

Articles.	Country whence imported.	Quantity.	Value.	Totals.	Customs Duty received, including Preferential Duty.
Soap, common	New Zealand ..	61 cwt.	£ s. 113 0	£ s. ..	£ s. d. ..
	New South Wales	2 „	2 0	..	0 9 9
		63 cwt.		115 0	
Soap, other kinds	New Zealand ..	..	..	2 0	..
Stationery .. .. .	„ ..	..	12 0	..	..
	New South Wales	..	8 0	..	0 18 8
				20 0	
Sugar	New Zealand ..	26½ cwt.	..	26 0	1 7 4
Tanks	„ ..	6	..	13 0	1 0 0
Tea	„ ..	208 lb.	..	13 0	..
Timber .. .. .	„ ..	..	..	207 0	..
Tobacco	„ ..	8,161 lb.	422 0	..	406 12 0
	New South Wales	62½ lb.	3 0	..	3 2 6
	Tonga ..	263 lb.	14 0	..	13 3 0
		8,486½ lb.		439 0	
Toilet requisites	New Zealand ..	..	2 0	..	..
	New South Wales	..	2 0	..	0 8 7
				4 0	
Tools	New Zealand ..	..	10 0	..	..
	United States	..	1 0	..	..
				11 0	
Trunks	New South Wales	..	..	10 0	2 11 7
Twine	New Zealand ..	72 lb.	..	6 0	0 1 7
Varnish .. .. .	„ ..	..	..	1 0	..
Watches .. .. .	„ ..	..	..	3 0	..
Waters, Aerated	„ ..	30 gal.	..	4 0	..
Whisky	„ ..	6 „	4 0	..	3 19 6
	Samoa ..	19½ „	17 0	..	12 16 9
		25½ gal.		21 0	
Woodware	New Zealand ..	..	35 0	..	..
	New South Wales	..	3 0	..	0 9 11
				38 0	
Zephyrs	New Zealand ..	..	83 0	..	..
	England ..	..	52 0	..	7 5 7
	New South Wales	..	58 0	..	6 0 5
				193 0	
Sundries (Native luggage) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1 8 9
				5,580 0	699 12 9

Total Values.

New Zealand	£	4,029
England	151	
Malden Island	85	
New Guinea	4	
New South Wales	649	
Rarotonga	26	
Samoa	339	
Tonga	202	
United States	95	
	<u>£5,580</u>	

Niue, 4th April, 1907.

H. CORNWALL,
Acting Resident Commissioner.

NIEU ISLAND.

Return of Exports for the Financial Year ended the 31st March, 1907.

Articles.	Country exported to.	Quantities.	Values.		
			Nieu Produce.	Foreign.	Totals.
Arrowroot	Samoa ..	521 lb.	£ 7	£ ..	} 17
	New South Wales ..	900 „	10	..	
Copra	New Zealand ..	216 11 0 0	2,529	..	} 5,161
	Samoa ..	143 14 1 0	1,724	..	
	Tonga ..	75 9 1 8	908	..	
		435 14 2 8	..	..
Curios	New Zealand	38	..	} 71
	Samoa ..	..	15	..
	Tonga ..	..	18	..
Fungus	New Zealand ..	15,783 lb.	231	..	} 331
	Tonga ..	4,548 „	67	..	
	Samoa ..	2,205 „	33	..	
		22,536 lb.	..	..
Hats	New Zealand ..	2,933 doz.	2,001	..	} 2,201
	Tonga ..	132 „	83	..	
	Samoa ..	190 „	117	..	
		3,255 doz.	..	..
Kits	New Zealand ..	312 doz.	50	..	} 96
	Tonga ..	234 „	42	..	
	Samoa ..	22 „	4	..	
		568 doz.	..	..
Lime	Samoa ..	300 lb.	2	..	2
Specie	New South Wales	286	} 316
	Tonga ..	..	..	30
Yams	New Zealand ..	1 11 3 4	14	..	} 79
	New South Wales ..	10 0 0 0	49	..	
	Samoa ..	3 6 1 16	16	..	
Goods reshipped—					
Books	New South Wales	5	5
Hardware	New Zealand	15	15
Tobacco	Samoa ..	20 lb.	..	2	2
Totals	7,958	338	8,296

Summary, Total Values.

		£	£	£
New Zealand ..	..	4,863	15	4,878
New South Wales ..	..	59	291	350
Samoa ..	..	1,918	2	1,920
Tonga ..	..	1,118	30	1,148
Grand totals..	..	7,958	338	8,296

2nd April, 1907.

H. CORNWALL,
Acting Resident Commissioner.

ISLAND ORDINANCES.

No. 57.

SIR,— Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 30th June, 1906.
I forward herewith “The Nieu Island Public Roads and Landing Reserves Dedication Ordinance, 1906” (No. 17) and “The Nieu Island Maintenance of Public Roads Ordinance, 1905” (No. 18), duly assented to by His Excellency.

As these Ordinances are now in type for the annual parliamentary paper, I am having 100 copies of each printed for you. The Nieu version can be printed later on when received from you.

The Resident Commissioner, Nieu.

I have, &c.,
C. H. MILLS.

No. 58.

Sir,—

Niue Island Administration, Niue, 3rd July, 1906.

I beg to submit the following matter for your consideration.

I am not certain as to the position of this Administration with regard to quarantine regulations.

I understand that my appointment as Resident Agent and Collector of Customs carried with it the functions and powers of Health Officer, but have no formal appointment to that office.

Will you please cause me to be informed whether the quarantine laws in force in New Zealand proper apply here; if so, kindly direct that a copy of such laws be sent to me.

I have been guided hitherto by regulations formulated by Mr. Basil Thompson at the time the British protectorate was established in Niue; but they are now invalid, and if the New Zealand quarantine laws do not apply here, it will be necessary to pass a local Ordinance to meet the case.

I have, &c.,

C. F. MAXWELL,

Resident Commissioner.

The Hon. C. H. Mills, Minister in Charge, Cook and other Islands, Wellington.

No. 59.

Sir,—

Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 6th September, 1906.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3rd July, and, in reply, have to say that the law respecting quarantine in this colony is contained in the Public Health Act of 1900, which is not in operation in the Islands. It may be possible under section 3 of "The Cook and other Islands Government Act Amendment Act, 1902," to apply to the Islands that portion of the Health Act having reference to quarantine; but on the whole I think it would be more satisfactory for your Island Council to pass an Ordinance dealing with the matter.

I enclose a copy of the New Zealand Act and regulations for your information.

I have, &c.,

The Resident Commissioner, Niue.

JAMES MCGOWAN.

No. 60.

Sir,—

Niue Island Administration, Niue, 10th November, 1906.

I have the honour to enclose to you herewith, for transmission to His Excellency the Governor, Niue Ordinance No. 19, "The Niue Island Quarantine Regulations Ordinance, 1906," which was passed by the Niue Island Council on the 9th instant.

The provisions of this Ordinance will be, I think, sufficient to meet any contingency that may arise.

I have, &c.,

C. F. MAXWELL,

Resident Commissioner.

The Hon. James McGowan, Minister in Charge, Cook and other Islands, Wellington.

Enclosure.

ORDINANCE NO. 19.—NIUE ISLAND QUARANTINE REGULATIONS ORDINANCE, 1906.

WHEREAS it is expedient to provide quarantine regulations for the Island of Niue, to prevent the introduction of infectious or contagious diseases from places beyond the sea:

BE IT ENACTED by the Niue Island Council as follows:—

1. The Short Title of this Ordinance is "The Niue Island Quarantine Regulations Ordinance, 1906."

2. In this Ordinance, unless inconsistent with the context,—

"Master" includes the commander, master, or other person in charge of a ship;

"Passenger" means any person on board a ship arriving from beyond sea, and includes the officers and crew;

"Ship" includes a ship or vessel of whatever size or kind;

"Signal" means a yellow flag by day and green lantern at night.

3. Every vessel arriving at Niue shall hoist a yellow flag by day and a green light by night, at the maintopmast-head, until the vessel is admitted to pratique.

4. (1.) Immediately on the arrival of a ship from beyond sea at any port in Niue, the master shall give to the Health Officer, or to any person appointed by him to board the ship, a written paper containing a true account of the names of the place and country at which she loaded, and also of all the places at which she touched during the voyage, and shall truly answer all such questions as are put to him by such officer touching the health of the passengers during the voyage, and the cause of death of any person if any death has occurred on board.

(2.) It shall not be necessary for such officer actually to board the ship, but it shall be sufficient if he only goes alongside and demands such paper, or puts such questions as aforesaid without actual boarding.

5. Any master of any such ship who—

- (1.) Neglects or refuses to give such written paper; or
- (2.) Delivers such written paper with any false statement contained therein; or
- (3.) Omits to make in such written paper any statement required by this Ordinance; or
- (4.) Makes any false answer to any such question;

shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding one hundred pounds.

6. (1.) The surgeon, dispenser, or other medical officer of every ship arriving at Niue as aforesaid shall truly answer all such questions as are put to him by the Health Officer or appointed person touching the health of the passengers during the voyage, and the cause of death of any person who may have died on board, or of any of the passengers who may have died on shore in the course of the voyage, and touching the existence of any infectious disease at any place or port from which the ship has come or at which she has touched.

(2.) Any such surgeon, dispenser, or other medical officer who refuses to answer any such question so put to him, or makes any false answer to any such question, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding one hundred pounds.

7. (1.) No master whose vessel has not been admitted to pratique shall approach to within one hundred yards of any other vessel, and no person from such vessel shall go on shore or to any other vessel in the anchorage.

(2.) Every person violating this provision is liable to a penalty not exceeding fifty pounds.

8. (1.) No person shall, with a boat or otherwise, except officers of the Niue Administration, go alongside of any ship arriving in Niue from beyond sea until such ship has been granted pratique by the Health Officer and the yellow flag has been hauled down; and no person otherwise than the Port Health Officer or a pilot shall go on board the ship from any boat until such time as aforesaid.

(2.) Every person violating this provision is liable to a penalty of not exceeding fifty pounds.

9. His Majesty's mails may be landed from any ship in the boat of the Health Officer, who shall cause such mails to be properly fumigated if he shall deem it necessary.

10. No leper shall be allowed to land in Niue.

11. Whenever it shall appear to the Health Officer that any of the diseases set forth in the Schedule herein were prevalent at the vessel's last port of call at the time of sailing, he shall declare such a ship to be in quarantine for the period set forth in the Schedule for each disease respectively, counting as part of the period the number of days the vessel has been at sea. Whenever the period of quarantine in the Schedule is less than the time occupied by the voyage to Niue, the vessel shall be admitted to pratique. But if the Health Officer thinks that any of the diseases named in the Schedule have occurred in the vessel during the voyage to Niue, the period of quarantine shall date from the convalescence of the last case.

Disease.	Period.	Disease.	Period.
Cholera ...	10 days.	Typhus fever ...	10 days.
Small-pox ...	12 "	Yellow fever ...	10 "
Scarlet fever ...	10 "	Dengue fever ...	10 "
Scarlatina ...	10 "	Measles ...	14 "
Diphtheria ...	14 "	Bubonic plague ...	14 "

12. When a ship arrives from, or after having touched at, an infected place, and is therefore liable to quarantine, or is otherwise liable to quarantine, the Health Officer shall immediately give notice of such liability to the master of the ship, and if he neglects to do so he shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding one hundred pounds.

13. (1.) The master of any ship, upon being ordered into quarantine, shall keep the yellow flag hoisted at the maintopmast-head by day, and a green lantern by night, as a signal until such ship is discharged from quarantine.

(2.) Any such master who fails to hoist or keep hoisted such signal shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding one hundred pounds.

The foregoing "Niue Island Quarantine Regulations Ordinance, 1906," was passed by the Niue Island Council, at Alofi, this ninth day of November, one thousand nine hundred and six.

Approved.

C. F. MAXWELL,

Resident Commissioner, Niue.

[Assented to by the Governor, 22nd January, 1907.]

TAGAVAITOA,

Acting President of Niue Island Council.

No. 61.

SIR,— Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 30th January, 1907.

Referring to previous correspondence, I am directed by the Hon. Mr. McGowan to return to you Niue Island Ordinance No. 19, "The Niue Island Quarantine Regulations Ordinance, 1906," duly assented to by His Excellency the Governor.

The Resident Commissioner, Niue.

I have, &c.,

F. WALDEGRAVE.

REPORTS RE ROAD-WORK.

No. 62.

SIR,—

Niue Island Administration, Niue, 2nd July, 1906.

I have the honour to forward to you herewith a schedule of road-work executed in Niue during the quarter ended the 30th June, 1906.

One hundred and forty-two chains in all have been completed, at an average cost of 13s. 1d. per chain; 82 chains of the Alofi-Avatele Road have been widened to 16 ft., and much rock removed, at a cost of £78 3s. 9d., or 19s. 1d. (nearly) per chain; 60 chains of the Alofi-Hakupu Road, which had been roughly formed by the Alofi Natives, without pay, has been completed, at a cost of £14 15s., or 4s. 11d. per chain. A good deal remains to be done on this road, which will be taken in hand as funds become available.

The Alofi-Avatele Road is now in fairly good condition for wheeled traffic: 10 chains of road have been made through the village of Avatele where no road previously existed; this is included in the 82 chains given above.

I have, &c.,

C. F. MAXWELL,

Resident Commissioner.

The Hon. C. H. Mills, Minister in Charge, Cook and other Islands, Wellington.

Enclosure.

SCHEDULE OF ROAD-WORK EXECUTED DURING THE QUARTER ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1906.

Alofi-Hakupu Road.

	£	s.	d.
60 chains at 4s. 11d. per chain, widening and forming	14	15	0

Alofi-Avatele Road.

56 chains at £1 2s. 2d. per chain, widening to 16 ft.	62	1	9
16 chains at 9s., removing rocks and forming	7	4	6

Avatele Village Road.

10 chains at 17s. 9d., forming to 16 ft.	8	17	6
142 chains, average cost per chain 13s. 1d.	£92	18	9

No. 63.

SIR,—

Niue Island Administration, Niue, 4th October, 1906.

I have the honour to report to you that the sum of £38 12s. 6d. has been expended during the quarter ended 30th September ultimo on road-works in Niue.

This expenditure has been distributed as under :—

	£	s.	d.
Alofi-Tuapa Road	25	10	0
Alofi-Hakupu Road	7	17	6
Alofi-Avatele Road	5	5	0
	38	12	6

The work consisted of removing rocks with explosives and filling the cavities with soil. The men were employed by day-labour—foreman 3s., and labourers 2s. per diem. The Alofi-Tuapa Road is now in good condition throughout. Two gangs of men are now at work on the Alofi-Avatele Road, which is very stony in places. When this road is completed the Alofi-Hakupu Road will be taken in hand.

I have three reservoirs in course of construction, and am awaiting the arrival of the "Countess of Ranfurly" to obtain supplies of material.

I have, &c.,

C. F. MAXWELL,

Resident Commissioner.

The Hon. James McGowan, Minister in Charge, Cook and other Islands, Wellington.

VITAL STATISTICS.

No. 64.

SIR,—

Niue Island Administration, Niue, 2nd July, 1906.

I have the honour to enclose to you herewith, for your information, the following figures taken from the statistics of births, marriages, and deaths in Niue for the year ending the 31st March, 1906, which I have just received from the Registrar, the Rev. F. E. Lawes :—

7—A. 3.

Marriages	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	90
Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	95
<hr/>							
Male children born	...	...	...	...	...	...	52
Female children born	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
<hr/>							
Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	90
<hr/>							
Males died	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
Females died	...	...	...	...	...	..	42
<hr/>							
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	95
<hr/>							

I have, &c.,

C. F. MAXWELL,

Resident Commissioner.

The Hon. C. H. Mills, Minister in Charge, Cook and other Islands, Wellington.

No. 65.

SIR,— Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 28th August, 1906.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2nd July, forwarding statistics of births, marriages, and deaths for Niue for the year ending 31st March, 1906.

I have, &c.,

JAMES MCGOWAN.

The Resident Commissioner, Niue.

No. 66.

SIR,— Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 4th July, 1906.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th March, enclosing a letter addressed to the late Right Hon. the Premier from the King and chiefs of Niue, acknowledging the gun forwarded to the island for saluting and signalling. The letter was duly forwarded to the late Mr. Seddon for his perusal, but apparently he was not able to deal with the matter before leaving for Australia, and the file has now been returned to this office. I am sure, however, that Mr. Seddon was very much gratified to know that the King and members of the Council so greatly appreciated the gift, and that they regarded it as a symbol of their participation in the benefits of the union with the great British Empire.

I have, &c.,

C. H. MILLS.

The Resident Commissioner, Niue.

DUTY ON BLACK-TWIST TOBACCO.

No. 67.

SIR,— Niue Island Administration, Niue, 10th September, 1906.

I have the honour to submit the following matter for your consideration, and request that you will be so good as to refer it to the Hon. the Commissioner for Trade and Customs, in the hope that action may be taken. By Order in Council dated the 2nd August, 1905 (copy herewith) the duty on black-twist tobacco imported into the Cook and other Islands shall be 1s. the pound, in lieu of 3s. 6d. the pound, where the Collector is satisfied that the genuine invoice value at the time of importation does not exceed 1s. the pound.

It appears that, through the operation of a tobacco trust, the price of black-twist tobacco has been raised to over 1s. the pound. The Collector of Customs here must therefore charge 3s. 6d. the pound on this tobacco if invoiced at more than 1s. the pound, and the effect would be that a mere market fluctuation in the price of this article penalises the Natives here (who are the only consumers of this class of tobacco) to the extent of 2s. 6d. the pound.

I do not think this result was intended when the Order in Council was made, and respectfully suggest that the Order in Council be amended by deleting the last three lines—i.e., "where the Collector is satisfied that the genuine invoice value at the time of importation does not exceed 1s. the pound."

A duty of 3s. 6d. the pound would press heavily upon the Natives of this Island, and dislocate trade considerably. The term "black-twist tobacco" is a sufficient guarantee that no other tobacco may be admitted at the lower rate of duty.

I have, &c.,

C. F. MAXWELL,

Resident Commissioner.

The Hon. James McGowan, Wellington.

No. 68.

SIR,—

Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 15th October, 1906.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 235, of the 10th September last, with reference to the duty on black-twist tobacco imported into the Island of Niue.

The matter has already been brought to my notice, and I propose to recommend the issue of an Order in Council raising the limit of price to 1s. 3d. per pound; but before doing so I have asked Colonel Gudgeon for his opinion, and expect his reply by next mail.

The Resident Commissioner, Niue.

I have, &c.,

JAMES MCGOWAN.

No. 69.

SIR,—

Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 7th November, 1906.

Referring to previous correspondence, I have the honour to transmit to you the accompanying copy of an Order in Council revoking the Order in Council of the 2nd August, 1905, reducing to 1s. the pound the duty on certain tobacco imported into the Cook and other Islands, and fixing the duty on black-twist tobacco imported into the said Islands at 1s. the pound where the genuine invoice value at the time of importation does not exceed 1s. 3d. per pound.

The Order in Council will be published in this week's issue of the *New Zealand Gazette*.

The Resident Commissioner, Niue.

I have, &c.,

JAMES MCGOWAN.

COMPLAINT OF ISLAND COUNCIL *RE* CERTAIN MATTERS.

No. 70.

SIR,—

Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 29th January, 1907.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th December last, forwarding a letter from the President of the Niue Island Council with reference to certain matters affecting the island.

I have carefully considered the various matters referred to in the President's letter, and I shall be obliged if you will convey my reply to the Council.

1. *The Schooner "Countess of Ranfurly."*—When the schooner was built it was hoped that she would have been of more benefit to the Islands than has turned out to be the case. I think, however, that the fact that a Government schooner was running among the Islands has had a good effect in keeping down freights, and by this means the Islanders have reaped some advantage. I do not, however, wish to force the schooner upon the Islands, and, having fully discussed the whole matter with Colonel Gudgeon and yourself, I intend to propose to the Government that the schooner be sold. This is also the reply to the resolution of the Council forwarded with your letter of the 15th November last.

2. *Education.*—If a teacher were sent to Niue, he would have to be paid by the Niue Administration, and the cost to the island would be much greater than at present. I think that for the present the schools should be left in the hands of the mission; but I also think that the mission schools should teach English. This view should be impressed upon the mission authorities by the Council and yourself, and I have no doubt that the mission, which has done and is doing such good work, will readily agree to extend its usefulness by undertaking to include English in its teaching.

3. *Medical Attendance.*—The expense of stationing a doctor at Niue permanently would be too great for the island revenue to bear. Perhaps an arrangement might be made for a doctor to visit the island once or twice a year. Further inquiry will be made.

4. *Resident Commissioner's Office.*—It is better that the Commissioner should have a separate office for the transaction of his business. In New Zealand and in other countries the officers of the Government do not transact their work at the houses in which they live, but have separate offices, where the people who want to see them can always find them.

5. *The Traders' License Fee.*—I understand that before the Island of Niue was handed over to Queen Victoria the traders paid a license fee to the King. It is right that persons who trade in the Islands should pay a small fee for the privilege of doing so. By this means a certain amount of revenue is raised for the purposes of the Island Government, and the Government is able to prevent any undesirable persons from coming to the Islands and trading there. Any man from Niue who wishes to trade should also take out a license; but if the Council thinks it right to do so, it can pass an Ordinance providing that the men of Niue Island shall pay a reduced fee—say, £2 or £2 10s. a year.

6. *Fruit Trade.*—This matter will be considered, but the fruit-export of Niue is not enough for vessels to go there very often.

7. *Women leaving the Island.*—I have discussed this question with the Resident Commissioner, and he will talk it over with the Council on his return.

8. *Statements of Revenue and Export.*—The accounts for the year are printed and laid before the New Zealand Parliament every year, and copies of the printed papers are sent to Niue. The Commissioner states that he has explained the various items to the Council; but he has undertaken to have the accounts translated in future and laid before the Council, so that each man may see for himself.

9. *Rate of Wages.*—The rate of wages must be fixed locally, according to the ruling rate and the nature of the work to be done. Therefore I am not able to give the Resident Commissioner any instructions on this point.

The Resident Commissioner, Niue.

I have, &c.,

JAMES MCGOWAN.

Enclosure.

[TRANSLATION.]

Niue, 3rd December, 1906.

To the Administration of this part of our Empire.
GREETINGS to you.

We, the chiefs of this island, have complaints to make known to you of things that are not pleasing to us or our people.

1. This island has to subsidise the schooner "Countess of Ranfurly." This vessel is no use to Niue, and we ask you to withdraw the subsidy.

2. We ask that a school-teacher be sent to Niue to teach our children. What country where His Majesty King Edward VII rules is without a public-school teacher?

3. Send us a doctor to attend to those of our people who are afflicted with various diseases.

4. Let the laws be administered in the house that the people of this island built as the residence of the Resident Commissioner, and in which he could do his work. Why should the revenue pay rent for another house (as an office) when we with much difficulty built a house in which the Commissioner could reside and administer the laws of the island?

5. The traders' tax at Niue: If shopkeepers in New Zealand pay a trading tax, then it is right that it should be paid here, but the tax should not be too great. If a Niue man trades, he should not pay a trading tax, because he lives on his own land and in his own house.

6. We ask that His Excellency the Governor of New Zealand would open a way whereby the bananas and other things at Niue may be sent to market. We are told that other islands have this advantage.

7. We object to unmarried women being allowed to leave the island.

8. The chiefs of Niue do not know the amount of revenue collected at Niue per annum, or the amount of expenditure of the same, or the balance, if any, that remains to the credit of the island. On this account we think that a Niue man should be appointed to assist the Treasurer.

9. We ask that the people who are employed on Government work be paid 4s. per day, as they work from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Ko au,

Ko Tongia,

President of Niue Island Council.

REPRESENTATION OF EUROPEANS ON ISLAND COUNCIL, AND OTHER MATTERS.

No. 71.

Sir,—

Alofi, Niue, 13th December, 1906.

We, the undersigned Europeans of Niue, have the honour to bring the following matters under your notice.

A considerable amount of dissatisfaction prevailing, owing to certain actions of the Resident Commissioner, it was decided by some of the residents to convene a meeting, which was duly held at Alofi on Wednesday, the 21st day of November last, at which, after due consideration, it was unanimously decided that a protest be sent to the Hon. the Minister in Charge.

Amongst others, the following resolution was passed:—

Schooner "Countess of Ranfurly."

"That this meeting unanimously protests against the waste of the revenue of this island in subsidising and purchasing one-sixth interest in the schooner (at a cost of £1,000, and interest thereon at the rate of £4 per centum per annum), the vessel being practically of no use or benefit to the island, but a very severe drain on its revenue; and that the Hon. the Minister for the Cook and other Islands be immediately made aware thereof, with a view to disposing of Niue's share in the purchase of the vessel and the discontinuance of the subsidy."

We respectfully beg to point out to you, Sir, that this island has already paid over £1,000 towards the maintenance of and purchase of one-sixth interest in the schooner, and this money has been paid by the Resident Commissioner without consulting the wishes of the community in any way; and he must know that the vessel is not, and has never been, and, under the present system of running her, never will be, of any advantage to Niue, but, on the contrary, a severe drain on its revenue. Moreover, we only have her here twice in the year from Auckland, and we do not know when to expect her, consequently it is necessary for us to give what freight we may have to vessels we can rely upon. Again, when the "Countess of Ranfurly" leaves here for Rarotonga the Resident Commissioner can never give us the slightest idea as to when she will return *en route* to Auckland. The reason no doubt is that she may or may not on arrival at Rarotonga be wanted by a Melbourne firm to carry labour to Malden Island. The fact remains that the Niue Administration is paying some hundreds per annum for what is valueless to them and unnecessary, and on that account, Sir, we beg you to take steps to prevent the revenue of our island being so thrown away.

It was also resolved,—

"That the Europeans of the island from whom almost the whole of the revenue is obtained should have representation on the Niue Council, and that the Hon. the Minister be requested to advise Cabinet to allow same, with power to the Europeans to appoint their own representatives, and that Mr. Mills's reference, contained in letter No. 83 of the Cook and other Islands Parliamentary Paper, 1905, that it might be argued that the Europeans are represented sufficiently on

the Council by the Resident Commissioner, does not meet with the approval of this meeting, as the Europeans have not sufficient confidence in the Resident Commissioner to appoint him as their representative."

We beg to point out to you, Sir, that so far we have not had a say in the internal management of the island, and we consider that, as it is from us that at least 90 per cent. of the revenue is derived, it is only fair that we should have a representative on the Council. It might be argued that it is the Native who indirectly is taxed, but such is not the case, as since New Zealand took over the island and imposed Customs duties on goods the prices of same have not in any instance been raised to the Natives. We would refer you to letter No. 83 of the above paper, dated the 20th day of October, 1905, from the Hon. C. H. Mills, to the Resident Commissioner of Niue, in which, *inter alia*, it is stated "that the European residents in Niue have no vested interest in the island in any way, and might close their business at any time and leave, and it might be argued that they are sufficiently represented in you"; also, to the reply thereto contained in letter No. 106 of the same paper, bearing date the 4th day of January, 1906, stating as follows: "Your view of the position that the European residents in Niue have no vested interest is perfectly correct, and I doubt whether they can reasonably claim representation on the Council."

Now, Sir, Mr. Mills's view of the position may or may not be correct, but we would respectfully point out to you that, as the law of Niue debars a European purchasing the lands of the Natives, we could not obtain the freehold, consequently those of us in business have been compelled to lease land for a term of years, upon which at our own expense we have each and severally laid out a deal of money in buildings necessary for dwellinghouse and trading stations. The Resident Commissioner is perfectly aware of this, and his reply to Mr. Mills, in which he states definitely that we have no vested interest in the island, is correct, if it is necessary to become a freeholder first; but we hold that it is no bar to us being represented, and we consider that as all our interests are in Niue we can justly claim representation, and would ask you to take the necessary steps for us to obtain same. We would also refer you to letter No. 129, contained in the same paper, from the Hon. C. H. Mills to the Resident Commissioner of Niue, dated the 30th day of January, 1906, in which the Minister practically instructs the Resident Commissioner to take steps to ascertain the feelings of the European residents regarding any local legislation that is likely to affect them. This up to the present has not been done, and we have been completely ignored by the Resident Commissioner, and on that account unanimously protest against the high-handed position he has adopted, and we consider that any instructions from the Minister should be immediately carried out by the Resident Commissioner.

It was at the above-mentioned meeting also resolved,—

"That Cabinet be requested to order that, in all cases where it is necessary for the advancement of the island to execute any public works, the Resident Commissioner shall first submit the matters to a committee of Europeans and Natives, who with the Commissioner shall discuss the advisability or otherwise of the suggested works, and before appropriating any of the revenue of the island for the purposes thereof the approval of the majority be first had and obtained, and it is suggested that three Europeans at least be on the Committee. At the present time the Resident Commissioner deals with all matters in whatever manner seems to him fit and proper, without consulting any one."

We are of opinion that there has been a deal of public money expended uselessly, and on that account deem it advisable that a committee as suggested in our resolution would be of benefit, and respectfully trust that Cabinet will allow same.

Tobacco.

The Resident Commissioner, acting on behalf of the Niue Administration, has for some time imported black-twist tobacco. About 400 lb. was recently imported, and portion of this tobacco was sold to a trader and passed by the purchaser at 1s. per pound duty, which means that it was invoiced to the importer at 1s. per pound or under. This tobacco is sold by the Niue Administration at 1s. 8d. per pound, or at a profit of 66½ per cent. We consider that the Resident Commissioner by selling at all to a trader is acting wrongly and quite contrary to "The Traders' License Act, 1905," which states that the Act is for the protection of legitimate traders, &c. At the same time as the above 400 lb. was imported a trader imported a like quantity of the same brand—viz., Beaconsfield Twist Tobacco. The Collector of Customs decided that the trader could not pass his tobacco at less than 3s. 6d. per pound duty, although bought in the same market—viz., Auckland—as that purchased by the Niue Administration. Owing to this, two traders have been forced to bond all their tobacco and purchase from the Niue Administration in order to meet the wants of their regular customers, although they have in bond over 1,000 lb. We request, Sir, that you will correct this evident maladministration.

The meeting above referred to, after discussing the tobacco question, resolved,—

"That the Hon. the Minister be informed that the Resident Commissioner has been in the habit of importing tobacco for sale at an exorbitant profit, and that he be instructed to in future cease importing goods of any description for sale, the same interfering with the legitimate traders who have to pay licenses."

We most respectfully place all the above-mentioned matters before you for your kind consideration and attention.

We have, &c.,

LESLIE L. R. REX.

R. H. HEAD, J.P.

ROBERT D. HEAD.

H. WORSLEY.

GEORGE H. NICHOLS.

A. O. HEAD.

R. T. JESSOP.

L. H. GULLIVER.

G. J. JACKSON.

The Hon. James McGowan, Minister for Cook and other Islands, Wellington.

No. 72.

Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington,
25th January, 1907.

GENTLEMEN,—

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th December, forwarding resolutions passed at a meeting held at Alofi on the 21st November last.

Your representations have received the careful consideration of the Hon. the Minister in Charge of the Islands Administration, and I am now directed to reply, *seriatim*, as follows:—

1. *The Schooner "Countess of Ranfurly."*—The Government is now considering a proposal to sell the schooner, in which case the Niue Administration will be relieved of its contribution.

2. *European Representation on Council.*—The Minister regrets that this proposal cannot be sanctioned, as the European population is so small that it is not as yet entitled to representation on the Council. The Minister is assured that it is the desire of the Resident Commissioner to work in harmony with the European residents, and to give every consideration to their reasonable requests. As regards the instruction sent to the Resident Commissioner to ascertain the feelings of the Europeans in respect of any proposed legislation likely to affect them, I am informed that since the instruction was given no legislation of importance has been brought forward. One or two minor Ordinances have been enacted, and circulars were sent to the Europeans inviting them to confer with the Commissioner, but no response was elicited.

3. *Appointment of Public Works Committee.*—This proposal cannot be acceded to. The Resident Commissioner and the Council are the recognised administrators of the Government, and the Minister cannot sanction the interference of any irresponsible advisory body.

4. *Tobacco.*—The Islands Administration imports a limited quantity of tobacco for its own purposes, and not for trade. It appears that on the occasion referred to in your letter the Commissioner, to oblige a trader who had no tobacco immediately available, sold him a supply from the Government stock. It is somewhat remarkable that the trader who was so obliged should join in complaining of the action of the Commissioner. The remedy, however, is entirely in the hands of the traders themselves. They have only to make up their minds not to apply to the Commissioner to sell tobacco to them and their cause of complaint will be removed.

I have, &c.,

F. WALDEGRAVE.

L. L. R. Rex, Esq., and the other gentlemen signing the letter, Alofi, Niue.

CLAIM OF GOVERNOR OF TAHITI FOR EXPENSES OF TREATMENT OF AN INSANE NIUE NATIVE AT PAPEETE.

No. 73.

SIR,—

British Consulate, Tahiti, 20th June, 1906.

On the 14th of last month a man named Ranioro, a Native of Niue Island, who has resided at Tahiti for the past eighteen months, suddenly developed symptoms of insanity, and, as a matter of precaution and in accordance with law, was placed in the Government Hospital at Papeete for observation and for treatment. The Governor of this colony has recently requested me to undertake to reimburse the Hospital authorities for the expenses incurred on the man's behalf, and I have been obliged to explain to His Excellency that, as there are no funds at my disposal for the relief of indigent British subjects residing in this consular district, I am quite unable to meet his request. Monsieur Jullien, however, is not satisfied at the nature of my reply; and as the man referred to is a New Zealand South-Sea Islander I venture to bring the question to your notice, with the request that you will be so kind as to cause me to be informed of the methods adopted in your country for the relief of indigent sick foreigners; for if it should appear that destitute French citizens residing in New Zealand are relieved by the local authorities, or that they receive parochial aid, there is no apparent reason why I should not be able to secure, on the ground of reciprocity, similar treatment for distressed British subjects or British South-Sea Islanders residing in these possessions.

Finally, I would mention that, unlike the Cook-Islanders inhabiting Tahiti, the man Ranioro is the sole representative of his island in this country, and therefore is without compatriots to fall back upon for succour in his distress.

I have, &c.,

R. T. SIMONS,

His Majesty's Consul for the Society Islands.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary, &c., Wellington.

No. 74.

SIR,—

Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 4th August, 1906.

Your letter of the 20th June, addressed to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary, and having reference to the case of a Niue-Islander named Ranioro, resident in Tahiti, has been referred to me for reply.

It is the practice in New Zealand to afford relief and medical treatment to sick foreigners without distinction, and there is no doubt that many French subjects have been cared for in this colony in this way. Restrictions are placed on the landing of sick or insane persons in the colony,

but if any person resident in New Zealand becomes afflicted, either mentally or physically, he is entitled to the care and treatment of our mental and other hospitals; and the Government or Hospital Boards, while glad to receive any contributions that friends or others may be able to make, do not claim any right to demand payment. I think, therefore, that you have good grounds for repudiating the claim made by the Governor of Tahiti for a refund of the expense incurred on behalf of Ranioro.

If Ranioro has friends in Niue I could, if necessary, communicate with them through the Resident Commissioner there; but I trust that the French authorities at Papeete will see their way, on the ground of reciprocity, to render this unfortunate Niuean such assistance as he requires without insisting on payment of the expense involved. I shall feel obliged if you will let me know how the matter stands, and advise me whether any further action is necessary to insure that the patient is properly cared for.

I have, &c.,

C. H. MILLS.

R. T. Simons, Esq., British Consul for the Society Islands, Papeete, Tahiti.

No. 75.

SIR,—

British Consulate, Tahiti, 6th September, 1906.

In acknowledging with thanks the receipt of your communication of the 4th ultimo, I have the honour to report for your information that, in consequence of the facts therein disclosed, the Governor of this colony has courteously decided to reciprocate by succouring gratuitously any indigent Natives of the various islands under the administration of the New Zealand Government who may become either mentally or physically afflicted whilst residing in these possessions.

Accordingly, His Excellency has withdrawn his application for reimbursement of the expenses incurred by the Papeete Hospital authorities on behalf of the Niue-Islander, Ranioro, who, I regret to state, died from the effects of his malady on the 22nd of last month.

With reference to the concluding paragraph of my letter No. 6, of the 20th June, I have since ascertained that a few Niue-Islanders are residing on this island in the district of Papara.

I have, &c.,

R. T. SIMONS.

The Hon. the Minister in Charge of Cook and other Islands
Administration, &c., New Zealand.

No. 76.

SIR,—

Cook and other Islands Administration, Wellington, 2nd October, 1906.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th September, reporting that the Governor of Tahiti has withdrawn his application for reimbursement of the expenses incurred by the Papeete Hospital authorities on behalf of a Native of Niue Island named Ranioro.

I have to thank you for your good offices in the matter, and I shall be obliged if you will inform His Excellency that the Government of New Zealand fully appreciates his courtesy, and desires to thank him for deciding to gratuitously succour any indigent Natives of the various islands under our administration whilst residing in the French possessions.

I have, &c.,

JAMES MCGOWAN,

Minister in Charge of the Cook Islands.

R. T. Simons, Esq., British Consul for the Society Islands, Papeete, Tahiti.

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