

(B.)

The High Court of the Cook Islands,

Registrar's Office, Rarotonga, 3rd April, 1909.

SIR,—

I have the honour to report on the work of the Court for the year ending 31st December, 1908, as follows:—

The number of cases heard by the Court in its criminal jurisdiction was 233, as set out hereunder.

Adultery and illegal cohabitation	..	..	..	..	..	46
Drunkenness and bush-beer drinking	..	..	..	..	..	66
Assault	..	..	..	..	..	30
Theft	..	..	..	..	..	28
Trespass	..	..	..	..	..	20
Wandering animals	..	..	..	..	..	15
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	28
						233

The sixty-six cases of drunkenness and bush-beer drinking involved the appearance of 324 defendants before the Court.

The total fines imposed amounted to £170 12s.

In its civil jurisdiction the Court heard sixty-five cases, viz.:—

Divorce	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	47
Debt	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
								<hr/> 65

The total Court fees imposed amounted to £53 16s.

In addition to holding sittings of the Court once a week at Rarotonga, the Chief Judge also held sittings at Aitutaki, Mangaia, Mauke, Atiu, Mitiaro, Manihiki, Rakahanga, Pukapuka, and Palmerston. During the absence of the Chief Judge from Rarotonga the Registrar of the Court filled the position of Acting-Judge.

It may be mentioned that, as Arikis' Courts have now ceased to be held in Rarotonga, the work of the High Court has consequently increased.

The amount of Court fees and fines collected for the financial year ending 31st March, 1909, and paid into the Treasury, was £263 13s.

I have, &c.,

The Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga.

E. BLAINE, Registrar.

(C.)

COOK ISLANDS ADMINISTRATION.

Statement of Expenditure for Year ended 31st March, 1909.

Service.	Voted.			Expended.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1. Medical and Health Officer	350	0	0	350	0	0
2. Hospital supplies and attendance	175	0	0	330	3	6
3. Island allowance, Collector of Customs	50	0	0	50	0	0
4. Contingent expenditure, High Court, including prisoners' food	100	0	0	159	13	7
5. Registrar Land Titles and High Court	300	0	0	300	0	0
6. Civil Engineer and Surveyor (half-time)	150	0	0	150	0	0
7. Draughtsman, Survey Department	75	0	0	75	0	0
8. Surveyor (Native boy)	70	0	0	52	10	0
9. Cadets (2)—one £60, one £35	95	0	0	95	0	0
10. Secretary, Interpreter, and Government Printer	175	0	0	175	0	0
11. Chief of the Federal Government	100	0	0	100	0	0
12. Vice-President of the Federal Council	20	0	0	5	0	0
13. Subsidy in aid of food for children, Araura School	50	0	0	50	0	0
14. „ „ cool-chamber	100	0	0	100	0	0
15. Police, Rarotonga, £30; High Court police, £24	54	0	0	54	0	0
16. Clerks, Arikis' Court, Rarotonga—one £10, one £5	15	0	0	15	0	0
17. Subsidy for food, Tereora School	200	0	0	200	0	0
18. Rents—Wharf, £5; Section 10, £14; Post-office site, £8 15s.	27	15	0	20	15	0
19. General contingent expenditure	250	0	0	427	9	3
20. Resident Agent, Penrhyn	200	0	0	172	4	4
21. „ „ Aitutaki	200	0	0	200	0	0
22. „ „ Mangaia	200	0	0	200	0	0
23. „ „ Manihiki and Rakahanga	50	0	0	50	0	0
24. Subsidy—Pilot, Aitutaki, £10; canoe, Mangaia, £5	15	0	0	15	0	0
25. Native Assessors (3), Aitutaki	15	0	0	15	0	0