

1920.  
NEW ZEALAND.

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# COOK AND OTHER ISLANDS.

[In continuation of Parliamentary Paper A.—3, 1919.]

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

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## MEMORANDUM.

THE annual reports of the Resident Commissioners at Rarotonga and Niue are attached hereto.

The reports show that the finances of the respective Administrations are satisfactory, and that trade and general conditions are steadily improving after the dislocation of shipping caused by the war. The prosperity of the Islands is entirely dependent on the shipping facilities. Given adequate and regular means of getting their produce away there would be no cause of complaint as to want of production. This question of shipping is, however, beyond the control of the Cook Islands, and is one in which New Zealand can best help them.

It has been stated that the Islands Administrations should be entirely self-supporting, and so no doubt they might be under certain conditions. It is easy to make these statements with only a superficial knowledge of the matter, and it is desirable to make some remarks in order to remove any misapprehension that may arise.

The Islands revenue could not stand the whole cost of the services, administrative, educational, and medical, which in their interests it has been necessary to impose upon the Administrations. The amount provided on the New Zealand estimates for the current year for salaries of officials at Rarotonga is £7,030, the salaries of the following Administration officers being provided for:—Resident Commissioner, £800; Land Court Judge, £650; Medical Officers, £1,300; Collector of Customs, £260; Fruit Inspector, £220; Police Officer, £250; salaries of school-teachers, £3,550; total, £7,030. The Administration pays the salaries of all other officials (European and Native) amounting to £4,882. It also provides for the maintenance of all services such as schools, medical, experimental farm, &c. It should be stated here that New Zealand has not contributed anything towards the cost of public works or improvements, these being all carried out by the local Administration out of its own funds. The works include roads and bridges, public buildings, schools, hospitals, water-supply, and other services.

The main sources of revenue are Customs duties, the export duty on copra of £1 per ton, fruit-inspection fee of 2d. per case, and sale of stamps. The staple and only industries are the growing and export of tropical fruits and copra, and this indicates how dependent the Islands are on the shipping for their income. The Resident Commissioner in his report states that if shipping-space had been available three times the quantity of oranges could have been exported, with a corresponding increase of direct fruit revenue and indirect Customs revenue.

The proposal that a differential export tax should be imposed against foreign countries is no doubt a perfectly proper one, but no mention is made of the reason why the copra was exported to the United States, which was because export to Great Britain was not allowed at all during the war, while the United States of America would take all they could get. After the Armistice space was refused for copra for Great Britain, notwithstanding that the Cook Islands are a part of New Zealand and the British Empire, and had done their share in the war. The imposition of a differential tariff would, under these circumstances, appear to be rather superfluous. It is necessary to mention these matters because the imputation in reports and references to these Islands is that the Administration has not done all it could in the matter of fostering trade. The true position is that the circumstances of the last five years have been such as to prevent even the normal development that might have been expected, and the only thing to do is to try and make up for lost time. The trade is not going away to the United States of America. It has increased with the States because the States took so large an amount of copra. If Britain will take the copra the trade will revert again.

It is quite clear that if the educational and medical services are to be carried on as they should be the Administration will require financial assistance.

Niue Island is in a somewhat similar position. The amount provided on the consolidated estimates (New Zealand) for this year is £1,975—viz., Resident Commissioner, £500; Medical Officer, £600; Assistant to Commissioner and Police Officer, £265; school-teachers, £610; total, £1,975. In addition a subsidy up to £1,100 is paid for a schooner service. This is essential owing to the isolated position of Niue, which would otherwise be dependent on casual visits of vessels.

In the case of Niue, as at Rarotonga, the local Administration carries out its own public works without assistance, except that on this occasion a grant of £1,000 is being made towards the local hospital as a subsidy on the donation of £1,000 contributed by the Red Cross Society through His Excellency Lord Liverpool, who took a keen interest in the matter, and whose action has been deeply appreciated by the Niue-Islanders.

The proposal made by the Trade Commissioners in regard to the control of the output of copra at Niue is one that appears worthy of consideration, and the matter will be thoroughly inquired into.

The cost of the Administration in New Zealand is about £250—Salary of Secretary, £100; and clerical and office expenses, £150.

Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Liverpool paid a farewell visit to the Islands in June of last year, and were received with great cordiality, genuine regret being expressed at their departure from New Zealand.

M. POMARE,  
Minister for the Cook Islands.

Cook Islands Department, Wellington, 31st July, 1920.

## COOK ISLANDS.

### REPORT OF THE RESIDENT COMMISSIONER OF RAROTONGA FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1920.

SIR,—

Rarotonga, 20th June, 1920.

I have the honour to submit the following report :—

#### FINANCE.

We have had an exceedingly prosperous year. Our revenue of £22,880 is a record. For the previous year the revenue was £13,846. The chief sources of income are—Customs duties, £11,290; export duties on copra and pearl-shell, £2,492; stamps, £4,672; High Court fees and fines, £755; and the wireless station, £662.

The expenditure was £17,060. Our credit balance for the year, £5,200, is also a record.

#### TRADE.

With exports valued at £127,729 and imports £142,925, the volume of trade for the year reached the large sum of £270,645, an amount considerably in advance of that of any previous year.

Whilst the value of the imports was in part due to increased prices, it is satisfactory to note a substantial advance in the export of copra and pearl-shell, our most valuable commodities. Copra this year reached 2,145 tons, as against 1,750 tons last year and 700 tons in 1917; whilst 162 tons of pearl-shell, valued at £14,480 (£90 per ton), were exported, as against 35 tons (£2,450) last year. In tomatoes also there was an increase of 13,000 cases over last year's export, whilst pineapples this year show an increase of nearly 1,000 cases over 1918, in spite of the fact that the greater part of the crop was lost because of inability to ship the fruit to a market. Only bananas and oranges show a reduced export; 70,000 cases of oranges were exported, as against 84,000 cases in 1918, a deficiency of 14,000 cases. This was the result of insufficient shipping-space. With adequate space three times the quantity of oranges could have been exported.

Another element that has helped trade in the prosperous year that has passed is the fact that to a much larger extent than ever before the true value of the produce of the islands, hitherto reaped by the middleman in New Zealand, was received and spent in Rarotonga.

It is worth noting, too, that the valuation of our exports is on a very conservative basis. For example, our copra exported last year, 2,145 tons, is valued at £45,235—i.e., only £21 per ton. Practically the whole of this copra went to the United States, only one small shipment of 50 tons being made to Great Britain. The Administration is doing what it can to encourage a trade in copra with New Zealand, whence it will naturally find its way to the Home market.

#### FRUIT EXPORTS.

The Treasurer draws attention to the serious falling-off in the export of bananas—from 108,520 cases and 11,814 bunches in 1911 to 31,494 cases in 1919. The committee of the Native Fruitgrowers' Association (representing six hundred planters), to whom this matter was referred, explains that, after the war broke out, the smaller and diminishing shipping facilities and the poor prices obtained by the Native growers so discouraged the planters that replanting (necessary every year for bananas) was gradually abandoned until it almost ceased. Last year, however, under the new system by which they now reach a competitive market, they obtained prices that have served as a great stimulus to planting, and they are now making up for lost time. The Inspectors under the Planting Ordinance confirm this. They report the planting during the six months ending 31st March, 1920, of not less than 150,000 banana-plants.

At Mangaia, where the Natives, discouraged by the impossibility of getting their fruit to a market, had also ceased planting, the Resident Agent also reports a very gratifying revival.

At Rarotonga a co-operative credit bank has been established to assist the Natives by making advances to them for such purposes as improving their plantations by clearing and planting, the purchase of agricultural implements, stock, wagons, &c. The idea has been taken up so heartily that a second bank is being formed.

## SHIPPING FACILITIES.

Both imports and exports show that our shipping facilities were worse last year than they were in 1918, but it is gratifying to be able to report an improvement in this respect this year. The "Talune," a larger and better vessel, has replaced the "Flora" on the Auckland run. She is already proving of great advantage in getting the orange crop away. Thanks to her large carrying-capacity we have already passed last year's total export of oranges (70,000 cases), although the season is little more than half over.

The "Talune," however, lands all her fruit at Auckland; and, as the Fiji fruit is also shipped to that port, the market there becomes glutted, and prices fall. On the other hand, the Wellington and the southern markets are often bare; but our planters cannot reach them to any satisfactory extent, as the mail-boats that make Wellington their destination have very little space available for island fruit. It is suggested, in the interests of the planters, that a very valuable alteration in the itinerary of the "Talune" would be effected by making Auckland and Wellington alternately her destination. In that way our island fruit would be more evenly distributed, to the mutual advantage of the growers and of the people of the Dominion.

## ALLOTMENT OF SPACE.

A new method of allotting fruit-space at Rarotonga on the New Zealand boats is just now the cause of much dissatisfaction amongst the Natives. Half the available space is reserved for the five fruit-dealing firms and the European settlers, some fifteen in number; the other half is divided amongst the six hundred to seven hundred Native planters, who produce seven-eighths of the fruit exported. As their freight is guaranteed they cannot understand a system that places them at such a disadvantage.

## PACKING-SHEDS.

A series of interesting experiments is now being made by the Fruit Department (Mr. E. A. Reid, Officer in Charge) in the packing of oranges. The most valuable discovery so far is that by picking the fruit at least six days before it is packed it is possible to detect and discard fruit infected by the fruit-fly. It has further been demonstrated that, instead of one large central packing-shed at Avarua, it will be necessary to have a shed for each district. That will mean seven or eight for the whole island. When it is demonstrated that these improved methods eliminate the danger of fly-infected fruit reaching New Zealand from these islands, the rigid inspection of our fruit at present insisted upon in the New Zealand ports will become unnecessary and will no doubt cease. This will mean a great saving in time and labour in getting the fruit from the ship to the warehouse.

## TOBACCO AND CHILLIES.

Encouraged by the high price of tobacco, and with the help of the New Zealand Tobacco Company (of Napier), which has generously supplied seed, a trial is being given to the cultivation of tobacco for commercial purposes in Rarotonga. A chemical analysis of soil from various parts of the island proved that much of it is well adapted for this purpose, and the result is awaited with a great deal of interest.

A useful experiment by Mr. Reid at the Pua-au Nursery has shown that chillies can be grown and supplied to the New Zealand market with success.

## POST AND TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

The work of the Post Office has so increased that it was found necessary to separate the positions of Treasurer and Postmaster. Mr. H. G. Stainton, an experienced New Zealand Postal officer, has been appointed Postmaster. Mr. W. J. Stevenson, who has satisfactorily borne the burden of all three offices for many years, will now be enabled to devote all his time to the important duties of the Customs Department and the Treasury.

The wireless station continues to prove itself a great boon to the Group, and especially to the business portion of the community. The problem of establishing substations at Aitutaki and Mangaia is not yet solved.

Recent developments afford the hope that the wireless telephone will prove the best means of communication between Rarotonga and the other islands.

The telephone system installed in Rarotonga is being extended practically round the island.

A very serious drawback to the work of the Administration is the entire lack of anything like regular communication between the islands of the Group. This disadvantage is felt by all our Departments, but especially by the Medical Officers. In the past the London Missionary Society—to whom we are so greatly indebted in many ways—carried our officials round the Group every year on its steamer the "John Williams." Unfortunately, that vessel has now been withdrawn, and our officers must depend for transportation upon the casual trips of two trading schooners. The result is that many islands cannot be reached. It is quite clear that the only remedy is for the Administration to have its own vessel.

## PUBLIC WORKS.

Atiu: Early in the year we were fortunately able to obtain supplies of material that enabled our Engineer (Mr. H. M. Connal) to carry out the works for the improvement of the water-supply of Atiu. At the same time a great improvement was effected by the construction of a new road to the beach, and the blasting of a new entrance to this road from the reef through the cliff.

At Avarua a permanent addition to the Government buildings has been built to provide new offices for the Treasurer. The following public works were stopped owing to our inability to obtain timber or cement from New Zealand: Waterworks improvement, hospital alterations, and

quarantine buildings, Rarotonga; new cargo-shed and repairs, and teacher's residence, Mangaia; teacher's residence, Mauke.

At Aitutaki considerable improvement was effected during the year in the waterworks in several of the villages, but that work is also delayed by the difficulty of obtaining material.

#### EDUCATION.

The reports of last year's work of the schools established by the Administration are satisfactory.

The industrial classes—agriculture, carpentry, mat and basket weaving, and cookery—which the Administration makes a special feature of in its scheme of education, continue to do excellent work.

Three more scholarships at St. Stephen's School, Auckland, have been awarded. Four lads have been chosen for apprenticeship to useful trades in Wellington. Like those already serving their apprenticeship there, these lads are under a bond to return to the islands. From them will be drawn the skilled artisans required in the Group. They are in charge of the Y.M.C.A., to whom the Administration is very much indebted for the great care it devotes to their welfare.

This year we hope to open a school at Atiu, where it is very urgently required, and where one has been promised for several years. Mitiaro, a beautiful little island, with a population of about one hundred and forty Natives, is also crying out for a teacher; and several teachers are required for Mangaia and for Aitutaki.

At Ngatangia, Pa Ariki and some of her leading mataiapos have very generously presented the Administration with an excellent site and a large playground for the new school. This building, designed by our architect, Mr. H. M. Connal, C.E., on the latest open-air principles, will provide accommodation for two hundred pupils. Its erection is now being proceeded with.

We experience great difficulty in securing teachers, even for Rarotonga, where two of our principal schools are still understaffed. For the outer islands it seems impossible to obtain them. The teacher with a missionary spirit has a great opportunity here. The members of Parliament recently with us saw how eagerly the people take advantage of the facilities for the education of their children. They saw some of the results, and they seemed to be unanimous in the opinion that in education lies the hope of the future for the people of these islands. Whilst there are undoubtedly privations and hardships in the outer islands where communication is infrequent and where many of the comforts of civilization are lacking, nowhere in the world can the school-master do more noble work or earn more lasting gratitude.

#### THE COURTS.

The Registrar's report shows that 609 criminal cases and sixty-nine civil cases were dealt with in the High Court.

The vital statistics disclose a higher percentage of births over deaths than usual, but infant mortality is still very heavy, and there is no doubt that the universal practice of adoption is largely responsible for it.

The Native Land Court (Judge H. F. Ayson) held a sitting at Atiu last year, and dealt with a considerable volume of business, including 126 freehold orders and eleven adoption orders. The fees amounted to £390 4s.

Fees and fines received: Criminal, £295 4s.; civil, £30 18s.; miscellaneous, £18 16s.: total, £344 18s.

#### PUBLIC LIBRARY.

A library has at last been established in Rarotonga. The Administration has provided the nucleus of a collection of books, the book-cases, &c., and has handed the control to a committee of residents, with a promise of further assistance until the library is able to pay its way. It is housed in the Courtroom. Arrangements have been made by which the Resident Agents and other Europeans living in the outer islands will be able to join the library, and so secure a monthly supply of books.

#### VISIT OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Liverpool, accompanied by the Hon. Dr. Pomare and Mrs. Pomare, made their farewell visit to the Group in June last. Everywhere the viceregal party received a most loyal and hospitable welcome. The Arikis and members of the Island Council of Rarotonga, in bidding them good-bye, thanked the Governor-General and Lady Liverpool for the great interest shown by them in the welfare of the Native race.

#### VISIT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY PARTY.

In February last a large and representative party of members of both Houses of Parliament, under the leadership of Sir James Allen, Minister of External Affairs, visited Rarotonga, Mangaia, and Aitutaki on their way to Samoa. The party was enabled to see something of the work of the Administration and of its great responsibilities in regard to the welfare of the people of these islands; and, although their stay was all too short, we may express the hope that it proved as interesting and entertaining to the visitors as it was agreeable to the residents, both Maori and European.

A Trade Commission comprising Mr. George Elliot (Chairman) and Messrs. T. Wilson and W. R. Pearson accompanied the parliamentary party. The Commission's order of reference charged it to inquire into and report upon the best means of improving trade between the Cook Islands and New Zealand. The very short time at their disposal and the preoccupation of the people in the reception of the parliamentary party militated against the work of the Commission, but by assiduously sticking to its task it secured a considerable amount of evidence.

I have, &c.,

F. W. PLATTS, Resident Commissioner.

The Hon. the Minister in Charge of the Cook Islands, Wellington.

## EXTRACT FROM REPORT OF DR. R. S. TROTTER, CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER, RAROTONGA.

During the year ended 31st March, 1920, 307 visits were paid to Europeans upon the Island of Rarotonga, and there were 519 attendances by Europeans at the Hospital; the corresponding figures for Maoris were 1,838 and 8,994. This gives a total of 11,658 visits and attendances for the year.

The only outstanding feature as regards sickness was an outbreak of hemicranial neuralgia in the month of May. The nerves chiefly affected were the facial, supra-orbital, great auricular, and occipital. I am unable to account for this unless the cold winds prevalent at the time had something to do with it. It did not seem to be associated with anæmia, rheumatism, gout, any specific fever, or other disease. It attacked men, women, and children of varied types.

The in-patients at the Hospital during the year numbered seventy-three, with an average stay of twenty-three days.

The number of operations performed was 163, mostly of a minor surgical nature.

Forty-two confinements were attended during the year. The Matron of the Hospital, Miss L'Amie, very kindly assisted at several cases. She also carried on the work during the illness of the Assistant Medical Officer in my absence, and did the work in a very satisfactory manner.

The inspection of vessels coming to and leaving the port involved a considerable expenditure of time and trouble, as at times the arrangements for inspection made aboard the vessels were faulty. Sixty-three vessels were inspected. There is considerable inconvenience attached to this work, too, as the steamers rarely arrive at the time stated in the wireless messages, and other work has to be put back or rearranged so that vessels may not be unduly delayed. It seems strange that time and distance are not calculated accurately when a vessel is within a day or two of the island.

In only one instance was it found necessary to quarantine people after the arrival of a vessel. This was fortunate as our facilities for quarantine at present are limited.

Sanatorium: A site for a sanatorium for tubercular cases near Black Rock on a ridge over 200 ft. above sea-level has been tentatively chosen; nothing has been definitely settled until it can be decided by boring whether a sufficiency of water is obtainable.

Quarantine station: There is none. An island at Ngatangia, opposite Muri, would be as suitable a place as any, all things being considered.

Outer islands: These islands have not had the medical attention they should have had during the past year. I visited Mangaia in April. The Assistant Medical Officer visited Aitutaki, and was there from the 27th April until the 24th May. I visited Mangaia, Mauke, Mitiaro, and Atiu in June, July, and August, but had to return earlier than anticipated owing to the illness of the Assistant Medical Officer. Since then no island was visited by the Medical Officers until I was able, through the courtesy of the parliamentary party, to pay a flying visit to Mangaia on the 24th February. The time spent on the islands was—Mangaia, thirteen days; Mauke, two days; Mitiaro, eight days; Atiu, forty-four days; Aitutaki, twenty-seven days. The total number of visits and attendances was 949, split up as follows: Mangaia, 223; Mauke, 17; Mitiaro, 66; Atiu, 378; Aitutaki, 265. The following islands were not visited at all by the Medical Officers during the year: Manuae, Palmerston, Pukapuka, Nassau, Rakahanga, Manihiki, Penrhyn, and Suvarrow. This was unfortunate, but it could not be helped, as for various reasons the journeys could not be fitted in. With one Medical Officer travelling from island to island and staying as long as he can in each it is difficult to give the outer islands anything like their fair share of medical attention. When one Medical Officer is off duty or unable to travel this difficulty is accentuated, as was the case this last year. It is to be hoped that better provision for the visiting of these outer islands will soon be made.

Aitutaki: The District Nurse (Miss La Fontaine) reports from time to time in regard to her work on the island. These reports indicate that there has been little sickness of a serious nature on the island during the year beyond a number of cases of chronic illness.

Other islands: From reports received from the Resident Agents there has been no serious outbreak of disease on any of them. The Rev. Father Joachim very kindly attends to the needs of the sick in Manihiki, and the Rev. Mr. Wicks was good enough to help the sick at Pukapuka during an extended stay there this last year. Mrs. Wicks helped at Aitutaki during the absence of the Resident Nurse.

Lepers: None of these were seen by me during the year except one local case. The Assistant Medical Officer saw those on Aitutaki. There is no increase in the numbers reported from any of the islands where lepers are segregated.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

*Return of Births, Deaths, and Marriages.*

Island	Births.		Deaths.		Marriages.		Period.
	Maoris.	Europeans.	Maoris.	Europeans.	Maoris.	Europeans.	
Rarotonga ..	155	5	88	1	78	2	To 31st March, 1920.
Aitutaki ..	60	..	43	..	43	..	To 31st December, 1919.
Mangaia ..	63	..	40	..	14	..	1st January, 1919, to 31st March, 1920.
Atiu ..	46	..	29	..	9	..	To 31st March, 1920.
Mauke ..	19	..	10	..	8	..	To December, 1919.
Mitiaro ..	5	..	2	..	5	..	To October, 1919.
Manihiki ..	14	..	10	..	1	..	To December, 1919.
Rakahanga ..	..	..	10	..	1	..	
Penrhyn ..	4	..	2	..	..	..	..
Pukapuka* ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	366	5	234	1	159	2	

\* No returns to hand.

S. SAVAGE, Registrar.

## STATISTICS.

## COOK ISLANDS ADMINISTRATION.

*Revenue for the Year ended 31st March, 1920.*

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Balance, 1st April, 1919 .. ..	2,765	8	8	Water rates—continued.			
Customs duties—				Titikaveka .. ..	54	4	0
Rarotonga .. ..	9,508	1	9	Muri .. ..	28	18	0
New Zealand .. ..	1,782	0	5	Shipping fees .. ..	13	19	7
Export duties—				Hall licenses .. ..	3	15	0
Copra .. ..	1,842	2	4	Interest .. ..	35	0	0
Pearl-shell .. ..	650	7	5	Rents .. ..	216	0	0
Traders' license fees .. ..	611	10	0	Motor-vehicle fees .. ..	49	5	0
Stamp-sales .. ..	4,672	2	6	Road rates .. ..	88	6	6
Fees and fines—				Marriage fees .. ..	52	15	7
High Court, Rarotonga .. ..	380	2	0	Fruit Inspection Account, Cash Cr. ..	434	11	8
High Court, Aitutaki .. ..	85	13	6	Ammunition Account, Cash Cr. ..	49	16	11
High Court, Mangaia .. ..	137	17	0	Liquor Account, Cash Cr. ..	497	16	4
High Court, Mauke .. ..	70	19	0	Truck Account, Cash Cr. ..	110	6	0
High Court, Penrhyn .. ..	14	3	0	Dog-tax .. ..	33	14	6
High Court, Manihiki .. ..	84	7	0	Post-office boxes .. ..	7	1	0
High Court, Atiu .. ..	8	6	0	Wireless revenue .. ..	662	0	0
Land Court .. ..	240	19	3	Post-card sales .. ..	6	11	9
Water rates—				Aitutaki Wharf Account, Cash Cr. ..	35	4	0
Avarua .. ..	198	8	0	Diving licenses, Manihiki .. ..	55	0	0
Arorangi .. ..	74	0	0	Miscellaneous .. ..	6	14	11
Ngatangia .. ..	39	5	0				
Matavera .. ..	39	11	0				
					£25,646	4	7

*Expenditure for the Year ended 31st March, 1920.*

Service.	Voted.	Expended.	Service.	Voted.	Expended.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Engineer and Surveyor ..	370 0 0	370 0 0	42. Subsidy, boatman, Atiu ..	3 0 0	3 0 0
2. Registrar, Interpreter, and Printer ..	150 0 0	450 0 0	43. Subsidy, boatman, Mauke ..	6 0 0	6 0 0
3. Hospital Nurse, Rarotonga ..	175 0 0	175 0 0	44. Subsidy, carrying mails in Group ..	30 0 0	30 0 0
4. Hospital Nurse, Aitutaki (half-salary) ..	100 0 0	100 0 0	45. Subsidy, wireless station ..	500 0 0	..
5. Foreman of Works ..	210 0 0	210 0 0	46. Subsidy, destruction of flying-foxes and rats ..	800 0 0	659 18 4
6. Draughtsman ..	175 0 0	175 0 0	47. Subsidy, Assistant Printer ..	108 0 0	110 18 4
7. Island allowance, Collector of Customs, Treasurer, and Licensing Officer ..	125 0 0	240 0 0	48. Allowances to Registrars of Births, Deaths, and Marriages, Mitiaro, Palmerston, and Pukapuka ..	11 0 0	7 10 0
8. Island allowance, Sergeant of Police ..	25 0 0	26 8 3	49. Postal and telegraph service, Rarotonga ..	200 0 0	610 0 7
9. Clerk, Land Office ..	100 0 0	104 3 4	50. School buildings ..	500 0 0	717 5 8
10. Clerk, Registrar's Office ..	120 0 0	124 3 4	51. Experimental farm ..	350 0 0	320 5 3
11. Clerk, Post Office ..	120 0 0	124 3 4	52. Upkeep of Government buildings ..	150 0 0	455 10 7
12. Clerk, Treasurer's Office ..	110 0 0	114 3 4	53. Roads and bridges ..	800 0 0	1,507 0 3
13. Cadet, Registrar's Office ..	52 0 0	62 6 8	54. Atiu water-supply ..	250 0 0	385 18 10
14. Clerk, Commissioner's Office ..	100 0 0	40 1 8	55. Atiu residence ..	600 0 0	..
15. Resident Agent, Mangaia ..	300 0 0	308 6 8	56. Atiu school - teacher's residence ..	500 0 0	..
16. Resident Agent, Atiu ..	220 0 0	250 0 0	57. Aitutaki road subsidy ..	50 0 0	..
17. Resident Agent, Aitutaki ..	300 0 0	300 0 0	Rarotonga Water Account, Dr. ..	..	198 10 1
18. Resident Agent, Penrhyn ..	220 0 0	250 0 0	Titikaveka cottage ..	..	32 7 2
19. Resident Agent, Manihiki and Rakahanga ..	200 0 0	200 0 0	Whare Manuiri ..	..	188 13 2
20. Resident Agent, Pukapuka ..	220 0 0	..	Expenses in connection with visit of His Excellency the Governor-General ..	..	114 14 0
21. Resident Agent, Mauke ..	300 0 0	300 0 0	Expenses in connection with visit of N.Z. parliamentary party ..	..	187 9 4
22. Native Agent, Mitiaro ..	60 0 0	60 0 0	Freezer plant ..	..	454 11 10
23. Native police, Rarotonga ..	218 0 0	255 0 0	Allowance, Collector of Rates, 1918-19 ..	..	25 0 0
24. Native police, Aitutaki ..	60 0 0	46 0 0	Atiu reef ..	..	132 7 1
25. Native police, Mauke ..	30 0 0	30 6 8	Library ..	..	47 9 8
26. Native police, Mitiaro ..	15 0 0	15 0 0	Atiu bathing-pool ..	..	32 6 1
27. Native police, Penrhyn ..	21 0 0	17 0 0	Cook Islands Act: Interpretation ..	..	107 0 0
28. Native police, Mangaia ..	41 0 0	41 0 0	Water-tanks, Aitutaki ..	..	91 6 11
29. Native police, Manihiki and Rakahanga ..	30 0 0	30 0 0	Water-tanks, Mauke ..	..	28 15 8
30. Native police, Atiu ..	30 0 0	25 0 0	Cadets ..	..	28 15 9
31. Native Assessor, Rakahanga ..	20 0 0	21 13 4	Fruit-packing shed ..	..	40 1 7
32. Maintenance of lunatics ..	180 0 0	126 9 1	Compensation for land ..	..	40 0 0
33. Maintenance of lepers ..	270 0 0	481 0 4	Salary, Postal officer ..	..	114 11 11
34. Hospital supplies and attendance ..	1,000 0 0	1,320 3 11	Fruit-trees Account, Dr. ..	..	36 18 2
35. Rents (wharf-site, £5; post-office site, £8 15s.; Registrar's house, £12) ..	25 15 0	35 2 6	Boat, Aitutaki ..	..	11 16 3
36. Contingent expenditure—General ..	500 0 0	823 18 6	Customhouse and Treasury ..	..	780 15 3
37. Contingent expenditure—High Court ..	300 0 0	682 6 11	Wireless station ..	..	51 19 4
38. Contingent expenditure—Land Court ..	300 0 0	715 14 5			
39. Contingent expenditure—Education ..	500 0 0	834 14 8			
40. Subsidy, boatman, Mangaia ..	10 0 0	10 0 0	Total expenditure ..	..	17,060 16 0
41. Subsidy, boatman, Aitutaki ..	15 0 0	7 12 0	Balance, Cr... ..	..	8,585 8 7
			Total .. ..	..	25,646 4 7

## COOK ISLANDS ADMINISTRATION.

*Estimated Expenditure for the Year ending 31st March, 1921.*

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
1. Engineer and Surveyor .. ..	370	0	0	33. Maintenance of lunatics .. ..	180	0	0
2. Interpreter and Printer .. ..	150	0	0	34. Maintenance of lepers .. ..	270	0	0
3. Postmaster and Assistant Treasurer .. ..	350	0	0	35. Hospital supplies and attendance .. ..	1,000	0	0
4. Hospital Nurse, Rarotonga .. ..	175	0	0	36. Rent, wharf-site .. ..	5	0	0
5. Hospital Nurse, Aitutaki .. ..	200	0	0	Rent, post-office site .. ..	8	15	0
6. Foreman of Works .. ..	210	0	0	Rent, Postmaster's house .. ..	12	0	0
7. Draughtsman .. ..	200	0	0	37. Contingent expenditure—General .. ..	500	0	0
8. Island allowance, Collector of Customs .. ..	125	0	0	38. Contingent expenditure—High Court .. ..	300	0	0
9. Island allowance, Sergeant of Police .. ..	25	0	0	39. Contingent expenditure—Land Court .. ..	300	0	0
10. Clerk, Land Office .. ..	100	0	0	40. Contingent expenditure—Education .. ..	500	0	0
11. Clerk, Registrar's Office .. ..	130	0	0	41. Subsidy, boatman, Mangaia .. ..	10	0	0
12. Clerk, Post Office .. ..	130	0	0	42. Subsidy, boatman, Aitutaki .. ..	15	0	0
13. Clerk, Commissioner's Office .. ..	52	0	0	43. Subsidy, boatman, Atiu .. ..	3	0	0
14. Clerk, Treasury, and Collector of Customs .. ..	130	0	0	44. Subsidy, boatman, Mauke .. ..	6	0	0
15. Cadet, Registrar's Office .. ..	62	0	0	45. Subsidy, carrying mails in Group .. ..	30	0	0
16. Resident Agent, Mangaia .. ..	300	0	0	46. Subsidy, wireless station, Rarotonga .. ..	500	0	0
17. Resident Agent, Atiu .. ..	250	0	0	47. Subsidy, destruction of flying-foxes and rats .. ..	800	0	0
18. Resident Agent, Aitutaki .. ..	300	0	0	48. Assistant Printer .. ..	108	0	0
19. Resident Agent, Penrhyn .. ..	250	0	0	49. Allowance to Registrars of Births and Deaths at Mitiaro, Palmerston, and Pukapuka .. ..	11	0	0
20. Resident Agent, Manihiki and Rakahanga .. ..	220	0	0	50. Postal and telephone service, Rarotonga .. ..	200	0	0
21. Resident Agent, Pukapuka .. ..	220	0	0	51. Experimental farm .. ..	350	0	0
22. Resident Agent, Mauke .. ..	300	0	0	52. Upkeep of Government buildings .. ..	150	0	0
23. Native Agent, Mitiaro .. ..	60	0	0	53. Roads and bridges .. ..	800	0	0
24. Native police, Rarotonga .. ..	218	0	0	54. Atiu Residency .. ..	600	0	0
25. Native police, Aitutaki .. ..	60	0	0	55. Aitutaki road subsidy .. ..	50	0	0
26. Native police, Mauke .. ..	30	0	0	56. Ngatangia School .. ..	800	0	0
27. Native police, Mitiaro .. ..	15	0	0				
28. Native police, Penrhyn .. ..	21	0	0				
29. Native police, Mangaia .. ..	41	0	0				
30. Native police, Manihiki and Rakahanga .. ..	30	0	0				
31. Native police, Atiu .. ..	30	0	0				
32. Native Assessor, Rakahanga .. ..	20	0	0				
					£12,282	15	0

Rarotonga, 26th June, 1920.

F. W. PLATTS,  
Resident Commissioner.

## COOK ISLANDS ADMINISTRATION.

*Return showing Value of Imports for the Year ended 31st December, 1919.*

Article.	Country whence imported.	Value.	Total Value.	Article.	Country whence imported.	Value.	Total Value.
		£	£			£	£
Agricultural produce n.o.e.	N.Z. ..	1,219	1,455	Building-material n.o.e. ..	N.Z. ..	315	353
	U.S.A. ..	235			U.S.A. ..	38	
	Tahiti ..	1		Butter and cheese ..	N.Z. ..	..	2,216
Animals, living ..	N.Z. ..	..	5,492	Carriages and parts of same ..	N.Z. ..	39	
Apparel and slops ..	N.Z. ..	3,517			U.S.A. ..	1,467	
	U.K. ..	413			Samoa ..	20	
	N.S.W. ..	19		Cement ..	N.Z. ..	..	1,526
	U.S.A. ..	1,543		Brushware and brooms ..	N.Z. ..	149	
Arms, ammunition, and explosives	N.Z. ..	..	2,656		N.S.W. ..	1	
Bacon and hams ..	N.Z. ..	..			U.S.A. ..	12	
Bags and sacks ..	N.Z. ..	1,939		Cinematographs and parts, also hire of films ..	N.Z. ..	203	625
	U.S.A. ..	692			U.K. ..	60	
	Tahiti ..	25			N.S.W. ..	18	
Bamboo for hatmaking ..	Tahiti ..	..	463		Tahiti ..	344	
Beer and stout ..	N.Z. ..	..		Coal ..	N.Z. ..	..	62
Beverages, non-alcoholic ..	N.Z. ..	218		Confectionery ..	N.Z. ..	733	
	U.K. ..	9			U.S.A. ..	37	
	U.S.A. ..	3		Cordage and twine ..	N.Z. ..	653	1,137
Bicycles, tricycles, motor-cars, including parts of same	N.Z. ..	1,235	5,380		N.S.W. ..	8	
	U.K. ..	1,356			U.S.A. ..	418	
	N.S.W. ..	71			Tahiti ..	58	
	U.S.A. ..	2,718		Cotton piece-goods ..	N.Z. ..	2,432	17,589
Biscuits and cabin-bread ..	N.Z. ..	5,095	5,644		U.K. ..	9,996	
	N.S.W. ..	1			N.S.W. ..	121	
	U.S.A. ..	501			U.S.A. ..	4,715	
	Tahiti ..	47			Tahiti ..	325	
Boots and shoes ..	N.Z. ..	960	1,977	Drapery n.o.e. ..	N.Z. ..	4,863	7,742
	U.S.A. ..	1			U.K. ..	2,137	
	N.S.W. ..	2			N.S.W. ..	14	
	U.S.A. ..	1,012			U.S.A. ..	563	
	Tahiti ..	2			Japan ..	73	
					Tahiti ..	92	

## Return showing Value of Imports for the Year ended 31st December, 1919—continued.

Article.	Country whence imported.	Value.	Total Value.	Article.	Country whence imported.	Value.	Total Value.
		£	£			£	£
Drugs and chemicals ..	N.Z. ..	738	1,052	Matches .. ..	N.Z. ..	638	1,250
	U.K. ..	23			Sweden ..	612	
	N.S.W. ..	118		Meats—			9,904
	U.S.A. ..	171		Frozen .. ..	N.Z. ..	..	
	Tahiti ..	2		Potted and preserved ..	N.Z. ..	..	
Earthenware and glassware	N.Z. ..	613	784	Salted .. ..	N.Z. ..	776	
	U.K. ..	43			U.S.A. ..	9	785
	N.S.W. ..	6		Milk, preserved .. ..	N.Z. ..	744	
	U.S.A. ..	122			U.S.A. ..	5	749
Fancy goods and toys ..	N.Z. ..	347	960	Nails .. ..	N.Z. ..	356	
	U.K. ..	44			U.S.A. ..	300	656
	N.S.W. ..	18		Oils—			
	U.S.A. ..	551		Kerosene, benzine, and distillate	N.Z. ..	65	3,322
Fertilizers .. ..	N.Z. ..	..			U.S.A. ..	3,085	
Fish, preserved .. ..	N.Z. ..	974	3,773		Tahiti ..	172	
	U.S.A. ..	2,776		Other kinds .. ..	N.Z. ..	265	
	Tahiti ..	23			U.K. ..	42	765
Flour .. ..	N.Z. ..	7,602	8,997		U.S.A. ..	432	
	Victoria ..	727			Tahiti ..	26	
	Tahiti ..	668		Paints and varnish ..	N.Z. ..	360	669
Furniture .. ..	N.Z. ..	1,332	1,414		U.S.A. ..	306	
	U.K. ..	3			Tahiti ..	3	
	N.S.W. ..	51		Perfumery and toilet preparations	N.Z. ..	45	
	New Guin. ..	5			U.S.A. ..	98	239
	U.S.A. ..	17			U.K. ..	53	
	Tahiti ..	6	3,781		N.S.W. ..	22	
Hardware .. ..	N.Z. ..	2,443			France ..	4	
	U.K. ..	239		Photographic goods ..	Tahiti ..	17	87
	N.S.W. ..	97			N.Z. ..	45	
	U.S.A. ..	995			U.S.A. ..	38	
	Tahiti ..	7	879		Tahiti ..	4	
Hats .. ..	N.Z. ..	682		Plants, trees, shrubs, and seeds	N.Z. ..	83	173
	U.K. ..	135			U.K. ..	63	
	N.S.W. ..	13			Queensland ..	27	
	U.S.A. ..	39		Provisions n.o.e... ..	N.Z. ..	2,727	3,577
	Tahiti ..	10			U.K. ..	100	
Hosiery .. ..	N.Z. ..	171	1,654		N.S.W. ..	10	
	U.K. ..	376			U.S.A. ..	740	
	N.S.W. ..	85		Rice .. ..	N.Z. ..	1,235	2,135
	U.S.A. ..	710			N.S.W. ..	6	
	Japan ..	312			U.S.A. ..	659	
Hops .. ..	N.Z. ..	..	43		Tahiti ..	235	
Instruments—				Saddlery and harness ..	N.Z. ..	127	384
Musical .. ..	U.S.A. ..	10	11		U.K. ..	5	
	Tahiti ..	1			U.S.A. ..	252	
Survey .. ..	N.S.W. ..	..	43	Silks .. ..	N.Z. ..	132	245
Iron—					U.S.A. ..	110	
Bar, bolt, and rod ..	N.Z. ..	117	152		Tahiti ..	3	
	U.S.A. ..	35		Soap .. ..	N.Z. ..	3,302	
Galvanized, corrugated ..	N.Z. ..	..			N.S.W. ..	23	3,429
Pipes .. ..	N.Z. ..	..			U.S.A. ..	25	
Wire .. ..	N.Z. ..	223	368		Tahiti ..	79	
	U.S.A. ..	145		Specie, silver .. ..	N.Z. ..	..	
Jewellery .. ..	N.Z. ..	365	555	Spirits—			14
	U.K. ..	13		Brandy .. ..	N.S.W. ..	..	
	U.S.A. ..	36		Geneva and gin .. ..	N.Z. ..	..	
	Tahiti ..	141		Methylated .. ..	N.Z. ..	9	
Machinery—					U.S.A. ..	5	325
Electric .. ..	N.Z. ..	14	107	Perfumed .. ..	N.Z. ..	28	
	U.S.A. ..	93			N.S.W. ..	48	
Mineral water .. ..	N.Z. ..	..			U.K. ..	178	
Printing .. ..	N.Z. ..	34			U.S.A. ..	55	28
	N.S.W. ..	59	93		Tahiti ..	16	
Machines, sewing ..	N.Z. ..	16		Rum .. ..	N.Z. ..	..	
	N.S.W. ..	173			N.Z. ..	624	
	U.S.A. ..	347	570	Whisky .. ..	U.S.A. ..	246	870
	Tahiti ..	34					



*Return showing Value of Imports for the Year ended 31st December, 1919—continued.*

Article.	Country whence imported.	Value.	Total Value.	Article.	Country whence imported.	Value.	Total Value.	
Stationery, books, and paper	N.Z. ..	£ 1,435	2,190	Tools .. ..	N.Z. ..	£ 56	414	
	U.K. ..	6			U.K. ..	115		
	N.S.W. ..	93			U.S.A. ..	243		
	France ..	6			Wines— Claret .. ..	N.Z. ..		7
	U.S.A. ..	650		N.S.W. ..		128		
Sugar .. ..	N.Z. ..	4,624	4,986	U.S.A. ..		111	246	
	N.S.W. ..	1		Port and sherry ..		N.Z. ..		8
	Tahiti ..	359				N.S.W. ..		89
	U.S.A. ..	2			U.S.A. ..	27		
Tea, coffee, and cocoa ..	N.Z. ..	565	578	Woodenware .. ..	N.Z. ..	115	124	
	Tahiti ..	6			U.S.A. ..	30		
	U.S.A. ..	7			Tahiti ..	2		
Timber— Sawn .. ..	N.Z. ..	1,691	2,485	Miscellaneous .. ..	N.Z. ..	498	738	
	Tahiti ..	695			U.K. ..	91		
	U.S.A. ..	99			N.S.W. ..	53		
Fruit-case .. ..	N.Z. ..	..	13,550		U.S.A. ..	69		
	Tobacco, cigars, and cigar- ettes	N.Z. ..			2,579	Tahiti ..		27
	N.S.W. ..	803		Total .. ..				
	S. Africa ..	2						
	Tahiti ..	10	3,394				142925	

*Return of Imports and Exports for Seven Years, 1913 to 1919 inclusive.*

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total Value.	Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total Value.
	£	£	£		£	£	£
1913 ..	110,283	109,926	220,209	1917 ..	80,061	60,190	140,251
1914 ..	91,132	77,512	168,644	1918 ..	99,632	82,708	182,340
1915 ..	65,560	63,957	128,617	1919 ..	142,925	127,729	270,654
1916 ..	58,478	68,146	126,624				

These returns show the gradual recovery of the Cook Islands trade from the effects of the war.

*Return showing Revenue for Seven Years, 1913 to 1919.*

Year.	Amount.	Year.	Amount.
	£		£
1913 .. ..	9,420	1917 .. ..	11,068
1914 .. ..	11,722	1918 .. ..	13,846
1915 .. ..	7,672	1919 .. ..	22,880
1916 .. ..	9,710		

*Return showing Value of Exports for the Year ended 31st December, 1919.*

Article.	Where exported.	Quantity.	Value.	Total.
Fruit, fresh— Bananas .. .. Lemons .. .. Mandarins .. .. Oranges .. .. Pineapples .. .. Tomatoes .. .. N.o.e. .. .. Coconuts .. .. Coffee, raw .. ..	New Zealand .. ..	31,494 cases	£ 18,300	£ 18,300
	New Zealand .. ..	285 ..	215	215
	New Zealand .. ..	70½ bushels	25	25
	New Zealand .. ..	70,087 cases	36,030	36,030
	New Zealand .. ..	1,057 ..	580	580
	New Zealand .. ..	19,473 ..	9,820	9,820
	New Zealand .. ..	59 ..	30	30
	New Zealand .. ..	2,780 sacks	1,490	1,490
	New Zealand .. ..	20 tons	1,400	1,400
	United Kingdom .. ..	55 tons	1,770	
Copra .. ..	United States of America ..	2,090 ..	43,465	
				45,235
Kumeras and taro .. ..	New Zealand .. ..	2,145 tons		
	New Zealand .. ..	167 cases	92	92
Lime-juice .. ..	New Zealand .. ..	420 gallons	32	32
Pearl-shell .. ..	United Kingdom .. ..	82 tons	7,280	
	United States of America ..	80 ..	7,200	
		162 tons		14,480
Total .. ..				127,729

Return showing Total Values of Imports and Exports for the Year ended 31st December, 1919.

IMPORTS.				EXPORTS.			
		£				£	
New Zealand .. .. .	..	91,973		New Zealand .. .. .	..	68,014	
United Kingdom .. .. .	..	15,500		United Kingdom .. .. .	..	9,050	
New South Wales .. .. .	..	2,251		United States of America .. .. .	..	50,665	
Victoria .. .. .	..	727					
Queensland .. .. .	..	27					
Samoa .. .. .	..	20					
New Guinea .. .. .	..	5					
South Africa .. .. .	..	2					
France .. .. .	..	10					
Sweden .. .. .	..	612					
Tahiti .. .. .	..	3,808					
Japan .. .. .	..	385					
United States of America .. .. .	..	27,605					
Total .. .. .	..	£142,925		Total .. .. .	..	£127,729	

Return showing Trend of Trade for the Years 1914 to 1919 inclusive.

IMPORTS.						
From	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
New Zealand .. .. .	64,852	52,003	43,557	61,931	70,773	91,973
United Kingdom .. .. .	10,994	5,105	3,787	3,748	8,474	15,500
New South Wales .. .. .	1,792	1,463	740	1,596	1,331	2,251
Victoria .. .. .	184	166	174	38	323	727
Queensland .. .. .	..	..	..	80	28	27
British New Guinea .. .. .	..	..	..	31	..	5
Fiji .. .. .	2	1	..	11	..	..
Ocean Island .. .. .	..	..	44	4	..	..
United States of America .. .. .	10,586	5,073	8,241	11,092	15,324	27,605
Tahiti .. .. .	1,490	1,333	1,569	1,110	2,504	3,808
Japan .. .. .	245	126	2	237	5	385
Sweden .. .. .	157	244	260	183	223	612
Canada .. .. .	92	16	35	..	137	..
British Columbia .. .. .	629	..	..	..	316	..
France .. .. .	43	8	..	..	194	10
South Africa .. .. .	1	1	1	..	..	2
Germany .. .. .	65	..	..	..	..	..
Hong Kong .. .. .	..	15	..	..	..	..
Tonga .. .. .	..	28	60	..	..	..
Samoa .. .. .	..	3	..	..	..	20
Switzerland .. .. .	..	5	..	..	..	..
Fanning Island .. .. .	..	..	8	..	..	..
Totals .. .. .	91,132	65,590	58,478	80,061	99,632	142,925

EXPORTS.						
To	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
New Zealand .. .. .	60,820	53,919	38,647	40,401	42,919	68,014
Nine .. .. .	15	10	..	..	..	..
Tahiti .. .. .	307	291	1,920	2,643	5,445	..
United Kingdom .. .. .	8,875	..	9,958	..	..	9,050
United States of America .. .. .	7,495	8,837	17,621	17,146	34,344	50,665*
Totals .. .. .	77,512	63,057	68,146	60,190	82,708	127,729

\* Copra and pearl-shell.

Total Values of Imports and Exports from the Year 1902 to the 31st December, 1919.

Year.	Imports.			Year.	Exports.		
	Amount.	Increase.	Decrease.		Amount.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£		£	£	£
1902 .. .. .	27,623	..	..	1902 .. .. .	34,821	..	..
1903 .. .. .	34,866	7,263	..	1903 .. .. .	34,740	..	81
1904 .. .. .	33,399	..	1,487	1904 .. .. .	38,248	3,508	..
1905 .. .. .	36,993	3,594	..	1905 .. .. .	34,890	..	3,358
1906 .. .. .	41,437	4,444	..	1906 .. .. .	45,925	11,035	..
1907 .. .. .	50,756	9,314	..	1907 .. .. .	51,578	5,653	..
1908 .. .. .	55,021	4,265	..	1908 .. .. .	60,652	9,024	..
1909 .. .. .	67,739	12,716	..	1909 .. .. .	73,653	13,001	..
1910 .. .. .	83,759	16,058	..	1910 .. .. .	90,749	17,096	..
1911 .. .. .	89,623	5,828	..	1911 .. .. .	91,078	327	..
1912 .. .. .	93,812	4,189	..	1912 .. .. .	101,708	10,632	..
1913 .. .. .	110,283	16,421	..	1913 .. .. .	109,926	8,218	..
1914 .. .. .	91,132	..	19,151	1914 .. .. .	77,512	..	32,414
1915 .. .. .	65,590	..	25,542	1915 .. .. .	63,057	..	14,455
1916 .. .. .	58,478	..	7,112	1916 .. .. .	68,146	5,089	..
1917 .. .. .	80,061	21,583	..	1917 .. .. .	60,190	..	7,956
1918 .. .. .	99,632	19,571	..	1918 .. .. .	82,708	22,518	..
1919 .. .. .	142,925	43,293	..	1919 .. .. .	127,729	45,021	..

## NIUE ISLAND.

### REPORT OF RESIDENT COMMISSIONER.

SIR,—

Niue, 1st April, 1920.

I have the honour to enclose herewith my annual report, together with the reports of the Medical Officer and the acting head teacher at Tufukia School, and the usual returns.

I have, &amp;c.,

GUY N. MORRIS,

Resident Commissioner.

The Hon. the Minister in Charge, Cook Islands Department, Wellington.

SIR,—

Alofi, Niue, 1st April, 1920.

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my report on the work of the Niue Island Administration for the year ended 31st March, 1920.

#### FINANCE.

The Administration has had a year of unprecedented success from the financial point of view. The revenue amounted to £6,563 ls. 1½d., being £2,959 in excess of any previous figures. The main items of revenue were—Customs duties, £1,805; stamp-sales, £1,808; and copra-export duty, £1,110. The expenditure amounted to £3,661 16s. 3d., the balance in hand being £4,241 8s. 9d., an increase of £2,901 4s. 10½d. for the year. In view of the expenses of erection and equipment of a hospital during the coming year this balance is very satisfactory. I estimate the expenditure for 1920–21 at £6,175, while the revenue should reach £5,000.

#### TRADE.

The year 1919 was also an exceptionally successful one for the island from the commercial standpoint. Niue was extremely fortunate in shipping the whole of the copra which had accumulated during the years of the war, and this accumulation has swelled the export figures to an abnormal extent. It is therefore not to be expected that the same result will be attained again for some years to come, though there is little doubt that, with increased planting and careful attention to the trees, Niue could double her output of copra during the next decade. The imports reached £21,783, in which total, of course, increased prices have played a big part. Exports amounted to £35,977, giving a total trade value of £57,760 for the year, the previous best being £34,828. 1,110 tons of copra were exported during the year, and the traders were left with empty sheds. During the latter part of 1919 there was keen competition for copra, and the price paid to the Natives at one time reached £28 per ton. The Natives have therefore enjoyed a period of unprecedented prosperity. In any case the Natives have the option of taking a share in the space in the contract schooner, but this privilege is but little availed of, the Niueans evidently being content with the prices paid on the island for their produce. There was, however, one untoward result of the high prices, a number of Natives being tempted to use immature nuts in making copra. The police promptly caught a number of offenders, and severe penalties were inflicted by the Court, so that the practice soon ceased. Every care is taken here to see that only matured nuts are used, and also that the copra is properly dried before sale or shipment. It has been noticed that merchants in Auckland have reported unfavourably on the copra obtained from some of the islands, but Niue is certainly not included amongst these. On the contrary, masters of various vessels have spoken in most complimentary terms of the quality of Niue copra, and I have been told on more than one occasion that it will bear comparison with any in the Pacific. Copra is and always will be the only important product of this island, and the Administration is making every possible effort not only to keep up the quality but to increase the output.

It will be observed from the export return that New Zealand received only 587 tons of our copra out of 1,110 exported, and I have reason to believe that even as regards the 587 tons a large proportion will simply be re-exported from New Zealand. The New Zealand Customs figures show that very little of the raw product is used in the country, and there would seem to be a danger that New Zealand's trade in this article will be merely entrepot. Now that New Zealand has Samoa included amongst her island possessions there is annually a large crop of copra at her disposal, and the opinion is freely expressed here and in other islands that an effort should be made in New Zealand to foster and encourage those industries which use copra, and that if necessary the State itself should take up the matter. Such a step would do much to establish a community of interest which is at present not very apparent between New Zealand and the islands.

#### SHIPPING.

Besides three trips made by the contract schooner "Rira," the following vessels called at Niue during the year: s.s. "Tutanekai," s.s. "Mokoia," "Henriette," "Ysabel" (twice), s.s. "John Williams," "Jubilee," "Manua," and "Makoa." The contract vessel did not arrive on her first trip until the 8th July, the delay being due to the wreck of the "Awanui," knowledge of which did not reach New Zealand until April. The "Rira" arrived again on the 28th August, and a third time on the 10th November, bad weather accounting for delays on these trips. It was hoped that a fourth voyage would nevertheless be made, but it did not eventuate, and the Adminis-

tration has been put to great inconvenience, as the whole of the building-material for the hospital is thus still in New Zealand. The traders were inadequately supplied with foodstuffs for the hurricane season, and there was also a scarcity of native foods, so that the Natives had a somewhat anxious time until the arrival of the "Mokoia" on the 29th February, when some 50 tons of cargo, mostly foodstuffs, were landed. I can only hope that the contract vessel during the coming season will make at least her usual five trips.

#### THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S VISIT.

On the 26th June the s.s. "Tutanekai" arrived, bringing Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Liverpool on their farewell visit to the islands. The Minister in Charge of the Cook Islands, the Hon. Dr. M. Pomare, and Mrs. Pomare were among the party. Through the chance arrival of the "Henriette" a few days previously Niue had been made aware of the impending visit, but the time did not permit of the preparation of the right royal welcome the Natives wished to give. As no New Zealand Governor had visited Niue since the hoisting of the flag, this visit made a deep impression on the Natives, and their only regret was that the vessel had to depart the same day. On landing, the party were welcomed in speeches from leading Alofi Natives and myself, after which His Excellency delivered an address. His speech was subsequently, through the courtesy of the Rev. J. H. Cullen, published in Niuean in the Missionary Society paper, and has thus been read throughout the island. The party then drove to Tufukia School, where a programme by the children had been prepared, and the school was subsequently addressed by His Excellency and by the Minister. After lunch at the Residency the Alofi Natives gave an impromptu exhibition of Native dances and of various old-time customs, and Their Excellencies and each member of the party planted a coconut as a memento of the trip. A return was made to the steamer shortly after 4 o'clock, and thus closed a visit which had been all too short.

#### PARLIAMENTARY PARTY'S VISIT.

On the evening of the 29th February the s.s. "Mokoia" arrived, bringing a large number of members of both Houses of the New Zealand Parliament on a visit to the island. The members of a Trade Commission and a number of prominent New Zealand Civil servants were also with the party. Messengers were despatched to the various villages that evening, with the result that the Island Councillors, police, and returned soldiers, as well as a large number of Natives from all the villages, came to Alofi the following day. At a meeting in the morning the party were introduced to the members of the Island Council, who were invited to place any grievances before the visitors. Three members of the Council spoke and brought forward various matters for consideration, and in reply Sir James Allen addressed the gathering. These proceedings lasted about an hour, and the party then went down to Tufukia School, where the children entertained them with drill, singing, and recitations until lunch-time. After lunch Sir James Allen addressed the returned soldiers, who mustered in uniform, and presented a captured German gun, with which memento the Natives are very pleased. It has been mounted on a concrete platform beside the monument to the Niue soldiers who died at the front. Several traders and Administration officials gave evidence before the Trade Commission, and facilities were given to the various Civil servants to see as much as possible of the island in the limited time at their disposal. The island confidently expects that much good will result from this visit, and the keenness and sympathy of the whole party were much appreciated by local residents. As in the case of the Governor-General's visit, the Natives were unable to do much to entertain the party. Preparation for their entertainments runs into weeks, and this visit came as a complete surprise, as no vessel had visited Niue since November of the previous year.

#### HOSPITAL.

In August last information was received that the executive of the Red Cross Society in New Zealand, through His Excellency the Governor-General, had made a donation of £1,000 towards the erection of a hospital in Niue. There was much gratification amongst the Natives when they heard of this splendid gift, and undoubtedly the most urgent need of the island is now to be satisfied. The lack of proper medical and surgical attention has accounted for many deaths in the past, and once the hospital is established there should be an immediate reduction in the death-rate. The balance of the estimated cost of building and equipment is already in hand, having been accumulated during the past two years, and as soon as materials arrive from New Zealand the erection of the various necessary buildings will be pushed ahead as quickly as possible. The Natives have voluntarily rendered assistance, each village having burnt an *umu* of *puga* (lime), and this material will be used for the walls of the building. The hospital should be ready for patients before the end of 1920, and will be known as "The Lord Liverpool Hospital."

#### PUBLIC WORKS.

The work of re-forming and widening the roads has been continued practically during the whole of the year, and the following roads have now been completed: Alofi-Hakupu Road (balance), five miles; Alofi-Mutalau Road, ten miles and three-quarters; Tamakautoga-Hakupu Road, six miles and a half. The roads still requiring attention are from Mana corner to Lakepa, six miles, and from Mutalau to Liku, seven miles, and work will be continued on these immediately. Another important road requiring attention is that from Alofi to Avatele. The twenty-two miles of road covered during the past year cost £800. Good roads are as important here as they are to the backblocks settler in New Zealand, and I have accordingly given them first place among public works. A good deal of work has also been done on the tracks connecting the various villages with the sea. The Natives have in these cases provided free labour and half cost of explosives used.

As to other works completed during the year, the police officer's residence was finished at a cost of £440. Prison-cells and a garage have also been built, and the reservoirs and wayside tanks have been thoroughly overhauled. All necessary repairs to Government buildings have been effected. Time has not been found for the enlargement of the jetty as proposed in my last report, and a report on this subject is now awaited from the Public Works Engineer who visited us with the parliamentary party.

#### POPULATION.

During the year 1919 eighty-two persons, including sixteen Europeans, arrived in Niue, and sixty-one persons, including twenty-four Europeans, departed. The Native population has thus gained to the extent of twenty-nine through migration. In this connection I desire to place on record my gratitude to the London Missionary Society, who at my request brought home thirty-seven Niueans from Samoa in October last. As the "John Williams" had on board a number of passengers for other islands, the ship was put to some inconvenience in bringing these Niueans home, and the thanks of the Administration are due for the courtesy shown.

The following are the numbers of births, deaths, and marriages during 1919 and the five previous years:—

Year.	Births.	Deaths.	Marriages.
1914-15	93	73	70
1915-16	94	100	41
1916-17	82	128	63
1917 (nine months only)	100	137	37
1918	95	178	43
1919	110	126	71

The excess of deaths over births is therefore sixteen, as against eighty-three in the previous year. Taking migration into account, the Native population increased by thirteen during the year, and, small though the increase may be, it is much more encouraging than the results for the past few years. The births were very satisfactory, and the marriage figures are the highest recorded since the Administration took charge of Niue. Birth, death, and marriage rates are alike a good deal higher than those of New Zealand.

I regret to have to record the death of one European during the year, the Rev. J. H. Cullen, of the London Missionary Society, having died of angina pectoris on the 14th September. During my term here the relations between the Administration and the society have been most cordial, and I deeply deplore Mr. Cullen's death.

#### EDUCATION.

Work at Tufukia School has been handicapped during the year by the absence on leave in New Zealand of the European teachers. Owing to the delay in commencing the contract service Mr. Cowan did not return from leave until the 8th July, and Mr. Evison left for New Zealand on the 14th November, and has not yet had an opportunity to return. Both these officers were in urgent need of leave, and further delay in granting it might have proved disastrous to their health. However, a good deal of progress has been made at the school. A more thorough system of instruction in technical work has been instituted, and classes have also been started in handwork and mat-weaving. A fife-and-drum band has been formed and is making good progress.

Progress with the building of the new school at Hakupu has been slow, principally because that village has also had a good deal of roadwork and plantation-clearing on its hands. However, the building will be ready in a few weeks, and the school should be opened during May or June.

The Natives desire to erect further schools at Tuapa, Mutalau, and Avatele. The Tuapa School would cover the villages of Hikutavake and Makefu, the Mutalau School would include Lakepa, and the Avatele School would cater also for Fatiau and Tamakautoga. This arrangement would leave only Liku unprovided for, but many of the children there could no doubt attend the Hakupu School in the meantime. The three schools asked for are necessary before it can be said that education in Niue has been placed on a proper footing. Now that a hospital and good roads have been provided for, education is certainly the most urgent question for the Administration. Native teachers are out of the question as officers in charge of these schools, and, further, the necessity for properly trained teachers is even greater than it is in New Zealand. The salaries of a sufficient educational staff would always, I am afraid, prove too great a drain upon the slender resources of this Administration, and I therefore submit the matter for your earnest consideration. The Niueans are still a primitive people, and because there is only a handful of Europeans on the island their enlightenment is a slow progress. If the Niueans are to be preserved from ultimate extinction it is to education we must look to combat the evils of superstition and pernicious custom which yearly take toll of their lives.

#### HIGH COURT AND NATIVE LAND COURT.

During the year 1919 324 criminal cases were dealt with, as against 190 in 1918 and 142 in 1917. This increase is due to a slight extent to the creation of various new offences by Ordinance, but more particularly it results from an increased efficiency on the part of the Native police.

Civil work continues to be negligible in quantity. Fines and fees amounting to £295 19s. 3d. were collected during the year, the amount outstanding at 31st March being £3.

In the Native Land Court twenty applications for adoption and one application concerning land were dealt with.

#### ORDINANCES.

Four sittings of the Island Council were held during the year, and the following Ordinances were passed: Suppression of Immorality Ordinance, Public Health Ordinance, and Aid to Revenue Ordinance.

## METEOROLOGICAL.

Summarized, the readings for 1919 are as follows: Barometer—Mean for year, 30·03. Thermometer—Highest, 96, in March; lowest, 61, in July; mean maximum, 85·66; mean minimum, 68·93. Rainfall—Rain fell on 108 days: total fall, 71·26 in.

On the 29th April, 1919, at 7.53 p.m., there was a severe earthquake, lasting five minutes, followed by a tidal wave which destroyed some seventy canoes. This was the disturbance which did considerable damage in the Tongan Group.

On the 17th and 18th January, 1920, what appears to have been the tail-end of a hurricane passed over Niue. The glass dropped very gradually, reaching 29·50 at 12.30 a.m. on the 17th January, when warnings were sent out to all the villages. There was a tremendous sea on the western side of the island that night, although the wind was from the east. At dawn it was a magnificent spectacle, but as the wind increased in violence the sea abated. A few canoes were lost, and the concrete surface was stripped from the Government jetty at Tukaiavi, Alofi, for about half its length. The blow commenced on the afternoon of the 17th and attained its maximum force during the early hours of the morning of the 18th. Throughout, the direction of the wind was east and south-east. The lowest recorded reading of the barometer was 29·26 at 2 a.m. on the 18th. Niue was extremely lucky in the small amount of damage done. The banana and bread-fruit crops were destroyed, and 1,220 coconut-trees and 107 leaf houses were blown down. Although a number of nuts were so damaged that they fell prematurely, I do not anticipate any great falling-off in the crop of copra for the coming year. As a result of extensive cleaning of the plantations there would have been an excellent crop but for the blow, while now I anticipate that it will reach the usual average.

## POSTAL.

The following figures show the postal business transacted during the year: Money-orders—Issued, £318 18s. 8d.; paid, £646 10s. 8d. Savings-bank—Deposits, £1,880 9s.; withdrawals, £245 7s. 11d. Postal notes, &c.—Issued, £39 12s. 1½d.; paid, £21 10s. 8d. War pensions, soldiers' allotments, &c., paid, £676 18s. 6d. The Savings-bank deposits are the highest on record, and generally the volume of work compares favourably with previous years.

## PEACE CELEBRATIONS.

It had been decided to make the planting of coconuts the main feature of the Peace celebrations, and the idea was most enthusiastically taken up by the Natives. Some of the Natives set apart a piece of land in their village as a Peace plantation, others planted along the roads, while some elected to plant individually in the usual plantations. In all over fifteen thousand nuts were planted, and the idea will probably be kept up on a smaller scale in future years. In addition, festivities were held in various villages, and returned soldiers played a big part in these. I may mention here that the returned men have also erected a fine monument in Alofi in memory of their fallen comrades.

I have, &c.,

GUY N. MORRIS,

Resident Commissioner.

The Hon. the Minister in Charge, Cook Islands Department, Wellington.

## NIEU ISLAND ADMINISTRATION.

*Statement of Revenue for the Financial Year ended 31st March, 1920.*

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Customs duties .. ..	1,805	10	11	School fees .. ..	43	2	0
Aid to revenue .. ..	508	15	0	Emigration fees .. ..	24	0	0
Dog-tax .. ..	30	2	6	Copra-export duty .. ..	1,110	9	2½
High Court fees and fines .. ..	295	19	3	New Zealand Government contribution to .. ..			
Native Land Court .. ..	22	12	0	Medical Fund .. ..	450	0	0
Licenses .. ..	168	15	0	Balance in hand, 1st April, 1919 .. ..	1,340	3	10½
Liquor-sales .. ..	264	19	11				
Registration fees .. ..	29	19	0				
Revenue from Post Office .. ..	1,808	16	4				
					£7,903	5	0

*Statement of Expenditure for the Financial Year ended 31st March, 1920.*

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Niue Island Council .. ..	53	15	0	Liquor purchased .. ..	140	0	1
Police .. ..	262	1	3	Niue Public Library .. ..	6	17	10
Prisoners—Food and supervision .. ..	101	16	8	Rent, officers' quarters .. ..	18	0	0
Medical supplies and assistance .. ..	486	19	3	Refund to New Zealand Government— .. ..			
Medical Officer—Local travelling-expenses .. ..	108	7	3	Salary of Mr. A. MacDonald .. ..	490	7	0
Resident Commissioner—Local travelling-expenses .. ..	107	11	10	Compensation for land acquired .. ..	33	0	0
Interpreting .. ..	58	14	0	Miscellaneous services .. ..	72	1	0
Printing and stationery .. ..	20	5	6				
Office fittings and requisites .. ..	11	8	1				
Tufukia School working-expenses .. ..	353	11	10	Cash in hand on 31st March, .. ..			
Maintenance, Government buildings .. ..	453	13	3	1920 .. ..	1,613	5	0
Maintenance, reservoirs .. ..	42	5	11	Cash in Bank of New Zealand .. ..	2,628	3	9
Maintenance, jetty, &c. .. ..	27	1	8				
Maintenance, roads .. ..	800	9	11				
Furniture, officers' quarters .. ..	13	8	11				
					4,241	8	9
					£7,903	5	0

*Estimated Expenditure for the Year ending 31st March, 1920.*

	£		£
Niue Island Council .. .. .	55	Reservoirs .. .. .	100
Native police—Salaries and equipment ..	200	Roads .. .. .	700
Prisoners—Food and supervision .. ..	150	Jetty, &c. .. .. .	100
Medical supplies and assistance .. ..	1,100	Furniture, officers' quarters .. ..	100
Medical Officer—Local travelling-expenses ..	100	Liquor purchased .. .. .	180
Resident Commissioner—Local travelling-expenses	100	Library .. .. .	10
Interpreting and translation of laws .. ..	60	Rent, officers' quarters .. .. .	20
Printing and stationery .. .. .	75	Miscellaneous services .. .. .	100
Office fittings and requisites .. .. .	25		
Education .. .. .	500		
Government buildings .. .. .	2,500		
			<u>£8,175</u>

*Port of Alofi.—Return of Imports for Year ended 31st December, 1919.*

	From American Samoa.	From British Samoa.	From New Zealand.	From Other Places.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£
Agricultural produce .. .. .	..	..	373	5	378
Animals, horses .. .. .	..	..	74	..	74
Apparel, drapery, &c. .. .. .	26	17	2,213	101	2,357
Bags and sacks .. .. .	..	..	341	..	341
Bicycles and parts .. .. .	..	..	688	..	688
Biscuits .. .. .	..	..	1,031	..	1,031
Boots and shoes .. .. .	..	5	258	..	263
Butter and cheese .. .. .	..	..	167	..	167
Cement .. .. .	..	14	106	..	120
Cotton piece-goods .. .. .	10	75	2,869	63	3,017
Drugs .. .. .	..	..	708	5	713
Fancy goods, stationery, &c. .. ..	..	3	276	1	280
Fish, preserved .. .. .	..	..	490	..	490
Flour .. .. .	..	10	358	7	375
Furniture, &c. .. .. .	..	..	65	..	65
Hardware, &c. .. .. .	..	6	547	1	554
Matches .. .. .	..	..	305	..	305
Meats, preserved and salted .. .. .	..	..	902	..	902
Milk, preserved .. .. .	..	4	96	..	100
Oils, kerosene, &c. .. .. .	..	6	381	4	391
Perfumery and toilet preparations .. ..	..	..	196	..	196
Rice .. .. .	..	..	245	..	245
Soap .. .. .	..	..	463	..	463
Specie .. .. .	..	..	3,020	1,000*	4,020
Sugar .. .. .	..	..	147	..	147
Tea, coffee, and cocoa .. .. .	..	..	65	..	65
Timber .. .. .	..	..	250	..	250
Tobacco and pipes .. .. .	2	93	1,671	7	1,773
Vehicles, motor, &c. .. .. .	..	..	633	..	633
Miscellaneous .. .. .	..	1	1,330	49	1,380
Totals .. .. .	38	234	20,268	1,243	21,783

\* From Tonga.

*Port of Alofi.—Return of Exports for Year ended 31st December, 1919.*

	To New Zealand.		To United States of America.		To Other Places.		Total Value.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	
		£		£		£	£
Bananas .. .. .	75 crates ..	30	..	..	..	..	30
Baskets and brushware {	154½ doz. baskets ..	201	..	..	..	..	213
	10½ cwt. brushware ..	12	..	..	..	..	
Copra .. .. .	587 tons ..	17,327	505 tons	13,153	18 tons	549	31,029
Fungus .. .. .	1,763 lb. ..	35	1,482 lb.	37	..	..	72
Hats .. .. .	4,234 doz. ..	3,341	..	..	35 doz.	26	3,367
Specie .. .. .	.. .. .	..	..	..	..	1,000*	1,000
Miscellaneous .. .. .	.. .. .	241	..	..	..	25	266
Totals .. .. .	.. .. .	21,187	.. .. .	13,190	.. .. .	1,600	35,977

\* To Tonga.

Alofi, Niue, 1st April, 1920.

JOSEPH P. McMAHON-BOX, Treasurer.  
GUY N. MORRIS, Resident Commissioner.*Approximate Cost of Paper.*—Preparation, not given; printing (500 copies), \$22 10s.

By Authority : MARCUS F. MARKS, Government Printer, Wellington.—1920.

Price 6d.]

