

OTHER MATTERS.

According to figures given in previous returns, the area now remaining in the hands of the Maoris of the North Island is as follows :—

	Acres.	Acres.
Estimated area at 31st March, 1922	4,472,349	
Sold to Crown	51,523	
Sold to individuals	39,910	91,433
Leaving a balance estimated at		4,380,916

The Urewera and other consolidation matters are progressing steadily. Some portions of the schemes have been completed and only await final orders. The Urewera Commissioners report they have progressed as far as the position of the surveys will permit.

Two Natives were declared by the Governor-General in Council to be Europeans under the law for that purpose, making a total of fifty-six since the Act was passed in 1912.

Four Native Interpreters have been licensed during the year, all of whom were Maoris.

R. N. JONES, Under-Secretary.

TABLE A—NATIVE LAND COURTS.

RETURN OF BUSINESS AND FEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1923.

Native Land Court.							
Number of sittings							112
Number of cases notified							21,768
Number of cases for which orders were made							7,549
Number of cases dismissed							2,824
Number of cases adjourned <i>sine die</i>							11,665
Number of partitions made							911
Area affected (acres)							180,456
Number of investigations of title							12
Area affected (acres)							2,028
Number of succession orders made							7,871
Number of other orders made							2,638
Court Fees.							£ s. d.
Fees received.. .. .							6,380 13 10
Fees outstanding for period							389 10 0
Native Appellate Court.							
Number of sittings							8
Number of cases notified							87
Native Land Court decisions varied							7
Native Land Court decisions affirmed							10
Native Land Court decisions referred back to Native Land Court							7
Native Land Court decisions annulled							6
Appeals dismissed or withdrawn							37
Appeals adjourned <i>sine die</i>							11
Applications under section 208 ordered							2
Application under section 208 dismissed							1
Applications under section 208 adjourned <i>sine die</i>							2
Court Fees.							£ s. d.
Fees received.. .. .							124 19 0
Fees outstanding for period							1 0 0

TABLE B.—MAORI LAND BOARDS.

AREAS OF NATIVE LAND VESTED IN AND ADMINISTERED BY MAORI LAND BOARDS.

Board.	As at 31st March, 1922.	Vested during Year.	As at 31st March, 1923.
<i>Lands subject to Part XIV of the Native Land Act, 1909.</i>			
	A. R. P.		A. R. P.
Ikaroa	16,301 2 36	..	16,301 2 36
Aotea	14,345 0 28	..	14,345 0 28
Tairāwhiti	2,824 3 36	..	2,824 3 36
Wairariki	18,710 1 4	..	18,710 1 4
Waikato-Maniapoto	197,637 3 3	..	197,637 3 3
Tōkerau	50,892 3 24	..	50,892 3 24
	300,712 3 11	..	300,712 3 11