1924. NEW ZEALAND.

NATIVE LAND AMENDMENT AND NATIVE LAND CLAIMS ADJUSTMENT ACT, 1922.

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION ON PETITION No. 331 OF 1920, OF TE HAWHE PAKEHA, RELATIVE TO SUCCESSION TO PAKEHA (NOHOTU) IN HINEWHAKI Nos. 2 AND 3 BLOCKS.

Presented to Parliament in pursuance of Section 55 of the Native Land Amendment and Native Land Claims Adjustment Act, 1922.

Native Department, Wellington, 7th July, 1924.

Petition No. 331 of 1920, re Pakeha (Nohotu), deceased.

Pursuant to section 55 of the Native Land Amendment and Native Land Claims Adjustment Actains, I enclose herewith report of the Native Land Court upon the above petition.

In view of the Court's opinion expressed in the report that the evidence before it was not sufficiently conclusive or reliable to warrant it in believing that the petitioner was Pakeha's child, or even in recommending that the case be reopened, I recommend that no further action in the matter be taken.

R. N. JONES, Chief Judge.

The Hon. the Native Minister, Wellington.

Native Land Court, New Plymouth, 7th May, 1924.

Re Petition No. 331 of 1920—Hawhe Pakeha, praying for a Rehearing as to Succession to Pakeha Nohotu in Hinewhaki Nos. 2 and 3 Blocks.

I have the honour to inform you that in accordance with your reference, dated the 4th December, 1922, under se tion 55 of the Native Land Amendment and Native Land Claims Adjustment Act, 1922, the Court, sitting at Wairoa on the 6th February, 1923, and following days, held an inquiry into the subject-matter of the above petition, and as a result I beg to report as follows:—

At a sitting of the Court held at Wairoa on the 27th October, 1886, applications came before it

At a sitting of the Court held at Wairoa on the 27th October, 1886, applications came before it for the appointment of successors to the interest of Pakeha Nohotu (deceased) in Hinewhaki No. 3 and Hinewhaki West (or No. 2) Blocks. It was stated then in the evidence that deceased had left no children and had had no brothers or sisters. The descendants of the brothers and sisters of Hinenui, his grandparent—twenty-one in all—were thereupon appointed his successors without opposition.

The evidence in support of the petition was somewhat conflicting and not in any way convincing. It was asserted that the petitioner, Te Hawhe Pakeha, was the child of the deceased Pakeha Nohotu by a woman called Hinewhakarchua. One witness stated they were not married but were simply "carrying on, as it were," and had never lived together; whilst another asserted that they had lived together at Rereopito for a time as husband and wife, but had separated after Te Hawhe was born. It was also alleged that Hinewhakarchua had had two previous husbands—one a Maori and the other a European. One witness stated Tamarche was her first husband, whilst another alleged that Tamarche was her father and Nuhuka her first husband. It was admitted that Te Hawhe had never lived with Pakeha, but had been brought up by Maihi Kaimoana, who subsequently married her; but it was asserted it was generally known that she was Pakeha's child, and that Pakeha had acknowledged her as such at one of the gatherings at Te Uhi.