

1934.
NEW ZEALAND.

NIUE ISLAND ADMINISTRATION.

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

Department of External Affairs,
Wellington, 1st August, 1934.

MEMORANDUM.

By the Cook Islands Amendment Act, 1932, authority was given for the transfer of the control of Niue Island from the Minister for the Cook Islands to the Minister of External Affairs, and the change was actually effected on the 1st October, 1932.

As no report on the Administration of the island was published for the year 1932-33, the tables at the end of this report include the figures for that financial year as well as for the year under review.

GEO. W. FORBES,
Minister of External Affairs.

REPORT OF THE NIUE ISLAND ADMINISTRATION, 1933 - 34.

FINANCE.

In common with other island territories Niue has experienced a difficult year. Revenue for the twelve months ended 31st March, 1934, amounted to £13,972, while expenditure totalled £13,840, a surplus of £132, as against a surplus of £3,578 for the previous year.

Investments on behalf of the Administration by way of general reserve amounted to £3,706 on the 31st March, 1934. On the same date the Administration held assets valued at £30,997.

TRADE.

Imports for the calendar year 1933 totalled £13,123 and exports £11,542. The figures for the previous year were £14,756 and £13,987 respectively. The total trade for the year 1933 was only £24,665, as compared with an average of £32,866 over the previous ten years.

The trade figures largely reflect the decreasing value of copra during the past few years. This product has been in the past the island's principal source of revenue, but during the last twelve months the market price has reached what is believed to have been a record low level. The loss to the Administration has been twofold in that the greatly reduced value has resulted in lessened production. The total quantity exported during the calendar year under review was 190 tons, valued at £1,760, as against an average of 522 tons, valued at £8,772, over the previous ten years.

Fortunately, the reduced value of copra has been offset to a great extent by the increased trade in bananas carried to New Zealand by the M.V. "Maui Pomare." The exports in 1932 and 1933 amounted to 22,828 cases and 24,596 cases respectively, as compared with 8,703 cases in 1931. While the small quantity shipped in 1931 was largely due to the fact that the island was then recovering from the effects of a prolonged drought and heavy storms, the 1933 figure is the highest yet reached.

The following table shows the quantities and values of the principal exports during the past ten years :—

Year.	Copra.		Bananas.		Baskets.		Hats.		Fungus.		Kumeras.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Tons.	£	Cases.	£	Dozens.	£	Dozens.	£	lb.	£	Tons.	£
1924 ..	652	11,094	2,778	1,211	..	..	2,529	1,533	8,998	332	..	..
1925 ..	647	13,863	4,000	1,457	153	144	2,801	1,347	6,523	263	..	..
1926 ..	699	14,441	692	280	972	1,079	1,749	1,083	11,070	603	..	..
1927 ..	257	4,788	7,564	4,679	1,747	1,445	1,327	935	49,951	2,319	..	..
1928 ..	621	11,445	14,010	6,254	3,182	2,365	121	75	20,680	525	..	..
1929 ..	735	11,652	17,434	7,683	2,948	1,879	574	386	6,606	222	..	..
1930 ..	335	3,382	21,456	9,787	1,012	660	1,214	810	5,694	183	..	..
1931 ..	204	2,269	8,703	3,590	801	480	271	185	3,789	151	15	278
1932 ..	366	3,815	22,828	8,384	682	270	775	467	13,104	315	31	348
1933 ..	190	1,760	24,596	8,542	670	320	1,222	729	384	5	4	41

The principal items of import for the calendar year 1933 were as follows :—

Article.				Whence imported.				Value.	
								£	£
Apparel	..	..	..	New Zealand	..	..	495		
				United Kingdom	..	..	67		
				Other	..	..	45		
							—		607
Biscuits	..	..	..	New Zealand	..	..	..		557
Cotton piece-goods	..	..	..	New Zealand	..	..	312		
				United Kingdom	..	..	1,020		
				Other	..	..	55		
							—		1,387
Drapery	..	..	..	New Zealand	..	..	194		
				United Kingdom	..	..	132		
				Other	..	..	16		
							—		342
Drugs	..	..	..	New Zealand	..	..	279		
				Other	..	..	1		
							—		280
Hardware	..	..	..	New Zealand	..	..	257		
				United Kingdom	..	..	3		
				Other	..	..	2		
							—		262
Iron, galvanized roofing	..			New Zealand	..	..	347		
				Other	..	..	29		
							—		376
Meats, preserved	..	..	..	New Zealand	..	..	..		762
Motor-cars and parts	..	..	..	New Zealand	..	..	..		316
Oils : Benzine and kerosene	..	..	..	New Zealand	..	..	..		743
Soap ..	..	..	..	New Zealand	..	..	..		242
Timber, sawn ..	..	..	..	New Zealand	..	..	..		250
Timber, shooks	..	..	..	New Zealand	..	..	1,085		
				Other	..	..	12		
							—		1,097
Tobacco	..	..	..	New Zealand	..	..	368		
				Australia..	..	..	671		
				Other	..	..	1		
							—		1,040
Sundry	..	..	..	New Zealand	..	..	4,193		
				United Kingdom	..	..	220		
				Australia..	..	..	170		
				Other	..	..	279		
							—		4,862
Total imports ..				..	..	..	£13,123		

The total trade of the island over the last ten years is set out in the following table :—

Year.	Imports.					Exports.			Total Trade.
	New Zealand.	United Kingdom.	Australia.	Other.	Total Imports.	New Zealand.	Other.	Total Exports.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1924	14,169	1,028	1,393	208	16,798	14,603	..	14,608	31,406
1925	14,953	2,056	1,550	188	18,747	17,320	109	17,429	36,176
1926	14,105	1,790	1,153	515	17,563	17,655	..	17,655	35,218
1927	10,896	2,003	878	229	14,006	14,290	60	14,350	28,356
1928	14,403	2,476	1,027	731	18,637	16,347	4,591	20,938	39,575
1929	14,688	2,866	880	673	19,107	13,449	8,757	22,206	41,313
1930	14,863	1,588	955	1,224	18,630	13,323	2,554	15,877	34,507
1931	8,958	961	678	910	11,507	5,186	2,005	7,191	18,698*
1932	11,568	2,424	360	404	14,756	10,820	3,167	13,987	28,743
1933	10,400	1,442	841	440	13,123	10,225	1,317	11,542	24,665

* Island recovering from drought and storms.

SHIPPING.

Throughout the year the island has had a regular four-weekly service by the N.Z.G. M.V. "Maui Pomare." This is the only regular shipping service to the island at the present time, but, in addition, one call was made during the year by a copra vessel.

LEGISLATION.

No Ordinances were passed during the year by the Island Council, but the following legislation affecting the island was passed in New Zealand: Customs Amendment Act, 1932-33; Niue Island Fumigation Regulations, 1933; Regulations for preventing the Growth of Noxious Weeds, 1933.

ISLAND COUNCIL.

The Island Council is established under the provisions of the Cook Islands Act, 1915. It consists of twelve Native members, under the presidency of the Resident Commissioner, the Native members being appointed by the Governor-General. The Council has met frequently for the purpose of discussing matters affecting the welfare of the people.

HIGH COURT AND NATIVE LAND COURT.

Criminal cases heard during the year totalled 526, 467 convictions being entered. The majority of the offences were minor ones. There were ten civil cases and one Native Land Court case.

MEDICAL, AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

The health of the people has been excellent. One case of cerebro-spinal meningitis occurred, but immediate isolation prevented any spread of the disease. There was only one known leper on the island at the end of the year, a woman, who has since been removed to Samoa *en route* for the leper station at Makogai, Fiji.

The following summarizes the work performed at the hospital: Admissions, 228; average length of stay, 30 days; deaths, 2; out-patients, 5,932; visits, 2,272. Operations—Major, 14; minor, 52. Dental extractions, 107. Injections—Bicreol, 159; novarsenobillon, 155.

Yaws.—This disease is not greatly in evidence among the inhabitants in a severe form, only thirty cases in infective stage and four of extensive ulcerations being observed and treated.

Filarial Disease.—The incidence of microfilariasis is approximately 33 per cent. of the adult male population. Eighty-two cases of filarial fever were treated, but probably many more occurred.

Intestinal Parasites.—There has been no mass treatment of the population for some years, but only occasional cases of worm infestation have been observed.

Gonorrhœa.—There was a total of 150 cases for the year. This figure is higher than usual, but is due to a more rigid inspection, and not to any increase in the disease.

Tuberculosis.—Twenty-one cases were reported during the year, the incidence in one village being particularly high. Instruction regarding this disease has been given to the people, and an endeavour made to prevent its spread by the better isolation of the sufferers.

The medical work of the island is carried out by a European medical officer and a European nurse, with assistance from several Native trainees, and is subsidized by the New Zealand Government.

POSTAL.

Total volume of business amounted to £9,207, as against £10,283 in 1932-33.

WIRELESS.

The plant has functioned without interruption, and a satisfactory service has been maintained.

METEOROLOGICAL.

Barometer mean for the year, 29.942. Thermometer: Highest, 91 in February, March, and October; lowest, 55 in July. Rainfall, 83.79.

PUBLIC WORKS.

In view of the financial stringency, only essential works have been carried out. These included certain repairs and additions at the hospital and improved ventilation in the fruit-shed. All existing reservoirs have been kept in order, and two new concrete ones have been erected. Roads have been kept in repair.

AGRICULTURE.

Owing to the lack of soil and the abundance of rocks, agriculture presents a difficult but very important problem. The Administration maintain an experimental and demonstration plantation designed to show the Natives how best to adapt the resources of the island to their needs.

There are some 1,300 pigs on the island, but owing to lack of new stock these have deteriorated badly. The Administration are making a determined effort to improve the strain and have imported a number of animals from New Zealand, the progeny being distributed among the various villages. In addition, several animals have been generously donated by the following New Zealand breeders: Mr. S. Austin Carr, Auckland; Mr. F. Discombe, Hautapu, Cambridge; Messrs. Roach Bros., Matangi; Messrs. Waione Model Piggeries, Ltd., Papakura. The Administration are greatly indebted for the assistance so rendered in a matter of no small importance to the Niucans, and also for the efforts of Mr. W. G. K. Wright, Managing Editor of "The New Zealand Dairyman," in this connection.

A similar effort is being made in regard to the poultry on the island and a number of birds have been imported for breeding purposes.

There are no cattle in Niue, lack of food being the main difficulty, but a small number of goats have been introduced and two are supplying milk.

Considerable attention is paid to the quality of bananas shipped to New Zealand and a very rigid inspection is made of all cargoes delivered to the N.Z.G. M.V. "Maui Pomare." The results are reflected in the popularity of the Niue fruit on the New Zealand market, no difficulty being found in disposing of the full quantities offered by the island.

EDUCATION.

The Administration maintain two schools under a European headmaster, the combined average roll number being 260. The work of the year was satisfactorily performed. The importance of agriculture is not overlooked in the schools, and regular instruction is given at the Administration Experimental and Demonstration Plantation. Technical classes are carried on, instruction being given in woodwork, concreting, &c.

In addition to the Government schools, ten others are maintained by the London Missionary Society, who receive a small Government subsidy. The combined roll number was 260.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Total at 1st January, 1933.		Births.		Deaths.		Arrivals.		Departures.		Total at 31st December, 1933.	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1,818	1,999	80	64	18	26	23	23	16	24	1,887	2,036

W. M. BELL,
Resident Commissioner.

NIUE ISLAND ADMINISTRATION.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1933.

<i>Expenditure.</i>			<i>Income.</i>			<i>Grants from N.Z. Government.</i>			<i>Total Revenue.</i>		
<i>Dr.</i>	£	s. d.	<i>Cr.</i>	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
To Agriculture	129	10 8	By Agriculture	53	10 1	..	..	..	53	10 1	..
Ammunition	123	11 9	Aid to revenue	502	5 0	..	..	..	502	5 0	..
Benzine and kerosene ..	744	0 0	Ammunition	133	2 10	..	..	..	133	2 10	..
Customs duties (refunds) ..	0	16 2	Benzine, kerosene, &c. ..	831	17 0	..	..	..	831	17 0	..
Education	1,534	0 0	Bond-storage	0	12 4	..	..	..	0	12 4	..
Exhibits, exhibitions, &c. ..	12	7 5	Copra export duty	282	17 3	..	..	..	282	17 3	..
Fruit-cases, &c. ..	2,309	8 6	Customs duty	2,088	4 10	..	..	..	2,088	4 10	..
Fruit-inspection	91	18 4	Dog-tax	58	12 6	..	..	..	58	12 6	..
Fumigation	0	13 5	Education	168	11 2	1,440	0 0	1,608	11 2	..	..
Interpreters and cadets ..	140	11 6	Exhibits, exhibitions, &c. ..	14	9 9	..	..	..	14	9 9	..
Jetty, boats, bond-sheds, &c. ..	85	12 7	Fruit-cases, &c. ..	3,047	11 9	..	..	..	3,047	11 9	..
Landing and shipping ..	662	0 1	Fruit-inspection	172	7 11	..	..	..	172	7 11	..
Lepers (maintenance, &c.) ..	113	5 6	Fumigation	7	12 6	..	..	..	7	12 6	..
Liquor	111	15 11	High Court fees and fines ..	126	18 6	..	..	..	126	18 6	..
Medical service	1,967	18 11	Interest on investments ..	10	0 0	..	..	..	10	0 0	..
Miscellaneous services ..	21	7 7	Landing and shipping ..	1,081	2 1	..	..	..	1,081	2 1	..
Niue Island Council ..	79	11 0	Licenses	135	0 0	..	..	..	135	0 0	..
Office: Stock-supplies ..	408	6 1	Liquor	122	12 9	..	..	..	122	12 9	..
Police	604	16 5	Medical services	20	7 7	2,080	0 0	2,100	7 7	..	..
Printing and stationery ..	28	16 1	Native Land Court fees ..	2	0 0	..	..	..	2	0 0	..
Prisoners	473	5 6	Office: Stock-supplies ..	484	11 3	..	..	..	484	11 3	..
Public works	676	15 7	Police (refund)	2	10 0	..	..	..	2	10 0	..
Quarantine	15	4 8	Printing and stationery ..	4	14 4	..	..	..	4	14 4	..
Registration and permit fees (refunds)	0	5 0	Prisoners, labour	18	13 6	..	..	..	18	13 6	..
Reserve Fund Account ..	2,000	0 0	Public works: Stock ..	635	8 0	..	..	..	635	8 0	..
Residency	122	11 0	Registration and permit fees ..	18	10 0	..	..	..	18	10 0	..
Resident Commissioner's Department	418	2 8	Stamp-sales	2,544	2 3	..	..	..	2,544	2 3	..
Roads	270	15 11	Transport	1,600	10 8	..	..	..	1,600	10 8	..
Stamp-printing	28	16 9	Wireless	180	15 4	..	..	..	180	15 4	..
Transport	1,496	4 6									
Treasury Department ..	469	17 4									
Visitors: Transport ..	19	13 9									
Water-supply	40	7 5									
Wireless Department ..	574	3 1									
Storm Reparation Fund ..	256	0 0									
Depreciation	887	18 6									
Excess of income over expenditure	949	1 7									
	<u>£17,869</u>	<u>11 2</u>		<u>£14,349</u>	<u>11 2</u>		<u>£3,520</u>	<u>0 0</u>		<u>£17,869</u>	<u>11 2</u>

NOTE.—These accounts are subject to audit.

NIUE ISLAND ADMINISTRATION—*continued*.

BALANCE-SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH, 1933.

<i>Liabilities.</i>				<i>Assets.</i>			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Accumulated funds on 1st April, 1932	26,447	6	2	Land	1,070	0	0
Excess of income over expenditure ..	949	1	7	Buildings	10,679	11	10
				Less depreciation	266	19	9
Storm Reparation Fund			506 0 0		10,412	12	1
Reserve Fund		2,200	0 0	Additions	32	9	11
Suspense Account, M.V. "Maui Pomare" ..		13	8 6		941	17	6
				Reservoirs	23	10	11
				Less depreciation			
					918	6	7
				Additions	148	14	5
					3,643	12	9
				Plant and tools	273	5	2
				Less depreciation			
					3,370	7	7
				Additions	181	7	4
					485	18	2
				Office furniture and fittings	24	5	11
				Less depreciation			
					461	12	3
				Additions	20	7	10
					1,533	15	10
				Household furniture and fittings	115	1	4
				Less depreciation			
					1,418	14	6
				Additions	156	2	4
					559	12	6
				Boats	41	19	5
				Less depreciation			
					952	0	0
				Motor-vehicles	142	16	0
				Less depreciation			
						809	4 0
				Stores on hand		2,495	17 3
				Investments		2,706	0 0
				Cash in bank, Wellington	446	18	3
				Cash in bank, Auckland, in transit to Wellington	3,398	5	2
				Cash in hand, Niue	1,551	3	8
					5,396	7	1
					£30,115	16	3
					£30,115	16	3

NOTE.—These accounts are subject to audit.

NIUE ISLAND ADMINISTRATION—continued.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1934.

Expenditure.			Income.			Grants from N.Z. Government.			Total Revenue.		
Dr.	£	s. d.	Cr.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	£	s. d.	£
To Agriculture	168	10 11	By Agriculture	48	10 9	..	..	..	48	10 9	..
Ammunition	132	13 5	Aid to revenue	448	10 0	..	..	..	448	10 0	..
Benzine and kerosene ..	604	12 3	Ammunition	144	16 0	..	..	..	144	16 0	..
Customs duties (refunds) ..	6	9 5	Benzine and kerosene ..	792	10 6	..	..	..	792	10 6	..
Education Department ..	1,527	7 2	Bond-storage	0	11 9	..	..	..	0	11 9	..
Exhibits and exhibitions ..	42	10 4	Copra export duty	167	18 11	..	..	..	167	18 11	..
Fruit-cases	1,610	12 6	Customs duties	1,672	5 2	..	..	..	1,672	5 2	..
Fruit-inspection	73	11 8	Dog-tax	48	15 0	..	..	..	48	15 0	..
Fumigation	2	6 10	Education	161	4 8	1,440	0 0	..	1,601	4 8	..
Interpreters and office assistants	144	8 9	Exhibits and exhibitions ..	37	11 0	..	..	..	37	11 0	..
Jetty, boats, bond-sheds, &c. ..	58	15 5	Fruit-cases	2,308	2 9	..	..	..	2,308	2 9	..
Landing and shipping	484	16 7	Fruit-inspection	226	9 9	..	..	..	226	9 9	..
Lepers (maintenance, &c.) ..	132	17 0	Fumigation	3	9 0	..	..	..	3	9 0	..
Liquor	33	15 8	High Court fees and fines ..	138	18 0	..	..	..	138	18 0	..
Medical Services Department	1,907	3 3	Interest on investments ..	114	9 4	..	..	..	114	9 4	..
Miscellaneous services	31	17 9	Landing and shipping	719	19 10	..	..	..	719	19 10	..
Native Land Court (refunds) ..	0	15 0	Licenses	135	0 0	..	..	..	135	0 0	..
Niue Island Council	82	7 6	Liquor	94	2 7	..	..	..	94	2 7	..
Police Department	502	12 8	Medical Services Department	12	4 3	2,080	0 0	..	2,092	4 3	..
Printing and stationery	34	5 4	Native Land Court fees and fines	1	10 0	..	..	..	1	10 0	..
Prisons Department	446	6 0	Police uniforms	0	5 6	..	..	..	0	5 6	..
Public Works Department ..	750	6 11	Printing and stationery ..	4	14 4	..	..	..	4	14 4	..
Quarantine	4	18 8	Prisoners	16	17 6	..	..	..	16	17 6	..
Registration and permit fees (refunds)	0	2 0	Public Works Department ..	679	14 9	..	..	..	679	14 9	..
Reserve Fund Account	1,000	0 0	Registration and permit fees ..	18	17 0	..	..	..	18	17 0	..
Residency	82	6 11	Residency furniture (refunds)	0	9 0	..	..	..	0	9 0	..
Resident Commissioner's Department	457	5 7	Stamp-sales	317	8 11	..	..	..	317	8 11	..
Roads	183	6 0	Stock-supplies	528	3 2	..	..	..	528	3 2	..
Stock-supplies	397	1 11	Transport	1,438	13 8	..	..	..	1,438	13 8	..
Transport Department	1,427	10 2	Wireless	170	7 11	..	..	..	170	7 11	..
Treasurer	421	1 0	Excess of expenditure over income .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	119	3 11	..
Treasury	11	15 7									
Water-supply	20	2 2									
Wireless	450	9 8									
Depreciation	856	12 11									
	£14,091	14 11		£10,452	11 0	£3,520	0 0	£14,091	14 11		

NOTE.—These accounts are subject to audit.

