

Dear Mr Whaanga

Thank you for the impressive 9 photo series of the building and sailing of Hawaiikinu 1979-1985, in the July 1986 issue with Greg Brightwell on the cover. There is material in that great exploit for a book!

However I must comment on Alan Taylor's thought-provoking article "Criminals".

There is much good sense here but he has been too hard on children and a bit facile.

"Criminals are children who have failed to grow up" — well and good, but why? He offers no answers, apart from that for Maori criminals (why not all?), a condition of release for 12 months or more would be the learning of Te Reo Maori.

Children do have the basic characteristics he lists but in their earliest years they are trusting and loving. Children learn by observation and are quick to follow role models. Two tenets which must be learned are self-discipline and a sense of responsibility which includes caring and sharing. Neither of these marks of the true adult are innate, they must be taught.

When parents fail, this can be done by grandparents, aunts, uncles, older brothers and sisters. So I must disagree with Alan Taylor as to environment having nothing to do with the problem of criminals. They are the result of a lack of caring human beings surrounding them in the "growing" time.

Yours sincerely

Mary Jeal

Napier

Dear Mr Whaanga

## Some thoughtful suggestions

I am concerned, have been an active foreign language teacher in other countries for twenty years and am busy now, so will be brief. Obviously the dearth of printed material — news, magazines, novels — in the Maori language is due to poor finance and demand. But this attitude is changing.

The history of Maori newspapers makes the life of "Tu Tangata" appear precarious.

With careful planning, I think you hold the solution to these two problems:

- (1) the furtherance of Maori language;
- (2) Increase of "Tu Tangata" readership.

My suggestions are:

- (1) Print a section in the Maori language.
- (2) Place it in the centre so that it is easily withdrawn to be filed.
- (3) The articles should be semi-language orientated; (this need not exclude advertisements) news, speeches, jokes, poems, songs, stories (for adults) etc. Both the beginner and the mature Maori student, youth and the elderly, could gain much from a lively section.

In other countries such foreign language magazines exist and many school pupils enjoy them. Without this regular in-flow of new, modern idiom the classroom with set texts, quickly becomes sterile.

Naturally the mind boggles at the bureaucratic procedures and Education Department liaison this would entail. Quality and wider distribution could lower the price of this magazine. There are many adults wishing to relax and enjoy their years of language grind. Please do something in this direction. (The situation is actually scandalous.) Good luck.

Yours very sincerely

Pamela Moore

Dear Sir

May I comment on the article Kupu Whakamihi of the August issue.

The reported statement by Patrick Nicholas is really good but the paragraph on the mentality of the Pakehas regarding business could do with further explanation.

Quote: "It is important to remember that if your motives are to get jobs for your people you must keep it secret from the Pakeha." The point he is trying to make is that Pakehas treat each other this way, a sort of one-upsmanship, but it only lasts for a short while.

Other statements imply that the Pakeha is even hostile to the advancement of the Maori in job creation. This is not so, Pakehas have difficulty in creating jobs for each other.

Even the Treaty of Waitangi did not promise either the Pakeha or the Maori something for nothing.

It will be a joy to all when I find my grandchildren have a Maori boss. Where there is fear let us spread hope.

Yours truly

A. P. Richardson

Kia ora koe Philip

Recently I read an article in the Pakiwaitara section of the Feb/March edition of the **Tu Tangata** entitled, **WHO AM I? Dedicated To All Our Children**. Enclosed is a reply, written to encourage **All Our Children** to be proud of their noble heritage.

## I KNOW WHO I AM!

Little child, your mother taught you well!

Remember! her profound words: "Fear not the words of others for they can never harm you. People are people all over the world, some are kind, some are cruel, some belong to people and some don't know who they belong to. But all people want someone to love them. When someone torments and teases you because of your colour, it is because they are hurting inside. If you run away from them and cry, they will never stop hurting, or if you fight them, it still won't stop hurting. So they will keep coming back. The next time someone says something mean to you, I want you to turn around — look them straight in the eye and give them your most beautiful smile . . ."

Yes! smile! for you are a treasured possession of "Te Iwi" — "The People", "The People of the Sun", "The People of God", "The People of Iha-Ra-Iwi (Israel)".

"You live in your ancestors, and your ancestors live in you."

You are a child of a royal birthright, born of a priestly line, Aperahama (Abraham), Ihaka (Isaac), and Hakopa (Jacob).

Your culture is as old as the majestic mountains, that stand as sentinels on the distant horizon in the East, to far off Hawaiki (The Garden of Eden), where Tane moulded the physique and intellect of your Tupuna out of the sacred red earth of Te Papa, The Earth Mother, and breathed into his nostrils his spirit, the Breath of Life — Te Mauri!

Treasure your mother's embrace, remember her wise counsel, walk tall, and love your brother, whatever the colour of his skin.

For your "beautiful smile" radiates forth from a countenance that illuminates "the light of an ancient culture", destined never to perish.

Aroha Nui

M. Fay (Whiwhikiterangi) Campbell