

1890.

NEW ZEALAND.

COMMISSIONERS UNDER THE REPRESENTATION ACTS

(REPORT OF THE).

Presented to the House of Representatives in pursuance of the Provisions of "The Representation Act, 1887."

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS APPOINTED UNDER THE REPRESENTATION ACTS.

SIR,—

Wellington, 28th April, 1890.

I have the honour to enclose herewith the report of the Representation Commission, for His Excellency the Governor.

I have, &c.,

T. M. HAULTAIN,
Chairman.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

To His Excellency the Right Honourable William Hillier, Earl of Onslow, of Onslow in the County of Salop; Viscount Cranley, of Cranley in the County of Surrey; Baron Onslow, of Onslow in the County of Salop, and of West Clandon in the County of Surrey; Baron Cranley, of Imbercourt; Baronet; Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George; Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over Her Majesty's Colony of New Zealand and its Dependencies, and Vice-Admiral of the same.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

We, the undersigned, appointed by a Commission bearing date the 8th day of June, 1887, under the hand of the Governor, and sealed with the seal of the colony, for the purposes of "The Representation Act, 1887," and convened by His Excellency on the 4th day of March, 1890, to carry out the provisions of sections 3 and 4 of the aforesaid Act as altered by "The Representation Acts Amendment Act, 1887," do respectfully submit for your Excellency's consideration our report, as follows:—

The report of the Registrar-General of the results of the census taken in 1886 shows that the total population of the colony was 578,482. Deducting from this 216,602, being the number contained in thirty-one boroughs and one town district each containing over 2,000 inhabitants, together with the men on board ship and the residents of the Chatham Islands, we have a country population of 361,880. Adding 28 per cent. or 101,326 to these, we find that the total nominal population of the colony for the purpose of the Representation Acts is 679,808, which, divided by 70, the number of members, gives a quota of 9,711.

In rural districts this quota represents an actual population of 7,587. The maximum number to be included in any electoral district is 10,451 nominal or 8,172 actual population; the minimum numbers are 8,961 and 7,002 respectively.

In the city electoral districts the quota is 29,133 of actual population. The maximum is 29,233, and the minimum 29,033.

In mixed districts the actual population representing the quota, and the maximum and minimum, vary according to the relative numbers of borough and rural inhabitants.

We have had some difficulty in determining whether the Chatham Islands shall be included in an electoral district. We find that up to the present time the inhabitants have not been entered on any roll of electors, and that they have never made any remonstrance or objection to this exclusion; and we have been advised that section 3 of "The Representation Act, 1887," does not provide that the people of these islands must necessarily be included in the apportionment of the representation of the people in the House of Representatives. In the absence, therefore, of any expression of opinion from the inhabitants themselves, who might if directly represented in Parliament be deprived of certain immunities they now enjoy, and following the precedent laid down by the Legislature in "The Representation Act, 1881," which omits all mention of the Chatham Islands, we have not included them in any electoral district.

Having prepared our scheme for the rearrangement of the electorates, the proposed boundaries were published in the *Government Gazette* of the 20th day of March, and we gave notice that objections in writing would be received up to the 21st day of April, and on that day we reassembled and found that various communications, affecting fifteen districts, had been forwarded. Several of these we have been able wholly or partially to comply with, whilst in other cases we have found it impossible to make the suggested alterations, for, although quite reasonable in so far as the particular

locality was concerned, yet a compliance with them would have either been inconsistent with the limits of population, or would have injuriously affected the interests of other and larger groups of electors.

We annex to this report a Schedule showing the names of objectors, the nature of their objections, and the decisions we have arrived at.

We submit the following final arrangement of districts,* with respect to which we have given, in accordance with section 2 of the Act of 1889, every possible consideration to the present boundaries of electoral districts, to community of interest, facilities of communication, and topographical features:—

Electoraltes.	Population.		Electoraltes.	Population.	
	Actual.	Nominal.		Actual.	Nominal.
NORTH ISLAND.			MIDDLE ISLAND— <i>contd.</i>		
Bay of Islands ...	7,187	9,199	Brought forward		
Marsden ...	7,788	9,955	Inangahua ...	7,148	9,149
Waitemata ...	8,645	10,322	Grey ...	8,051	9,428
City of Auckland ...	29,111	29,111	Westland ...	8,083	9,593
Newton ...	8,746	10,060	Ashley ...	7,529	9,637
Eden ...	7,908	10,122	Kaiapoi ...	7,595	9,721
Parnell ...	8,856	10,112	Avon ...	7,485	9,435
Manukau ...	8,637	10,252	City of Christchurch ...	29,137	29,137
Franklin ...	7,655	9,798	Heathcote ...	8,619	9,898
Thames ...	8,848	10,081	Halswell ...	7,889	10,097
Waikato ...	7,721	9,882	Akaroa ...	8,764	10,099
Te Aroha ...	7,962	10,191	Selwyn ...	7,288	9,328
East Coast ...	8,173	9,847	Ellesmere ...	7,205	9,222
Hawke's Bay... ..	7,586	9,126	Ashburton ...	7,362	9,423
Napier ...	9,182	9,602	Geraldine ...	7,802	9,986
Waipawa ...	7,159	9,193	Timaru ...	8,136	9,362
Masterton ...	7,890	9,214	Waimate ...	7,106	9,095
Wairarapa ...	7,112	9,103	Waitaki ...	7,264	9,297
New Plymouth ...	7,841	9,170	Oamaru ...	8,778	9,743
Egmont ...	7,023	8,989	Mount Ida ...	7,190	9,203
Waitotara ...	7,097	9,084	Port Chalmers ...	8,324	10,028
Wanganui ...	8,377	9,350	Peninsula ...	8,888	9,922
Rangitikei ...	7,063	9,040	City of Dunedin ...	29,154	29,154
Palmerston ...	7,977	9,480	Dunedin Suburbs ...	9,056	9,517
City of Wellington ...	28,617	29,365	Taieri ...	7,889	10,097
Hutt ...	7,056	9,031	Bruce ...	7,532	9,640
Totals, North Island	247,217	288,679	Clutha ...	7,847	10,044
MIDDLE ISLAND.			Tuapeka ...	7,382	9,448
City of Nelson ...	9,126	9,633	Mataura ...	7,895	10,105
Waimea-Pieton ...	8,121	10,394	Wakatipu ...	7,149	9,150
Wairau ...	8,091	9,490	Wallace ...	7,733	9,898
Buller ...	7,395	9,465	Awarua ...	7,622	9,756
Carried forward...			Invercargill ...	8,708	9,686
			Totals, Middle Island	326,343	386,280

Authenticated maps and descriptions of the boundaries of the electoral districts accompany this report.

Given under our hands and seals, this 26th day of April, 1890.

T. M. HAULTAIN, Chairman.
JOHN HISLOP.
E. DOBSON.
J. SPERREY.
S. PERCY SMITH.

* For complete schedule of electoral districts, *vide* Gazette, No. 26, of 14th May, 1890.

REPRESENTATION COMMISSION, 1890.—REGISTER OF OBJECTIONS.

No. of Electoral District.	Name of proposed Electoral District.	No. of Objectors.	Name and Address of Objector.	Nature of Objection.	Decision of Commissioners.
1	Bay of Islands	A	John Landon, Auckland.	Bay of Islands should be reduced in size	Alteration not expedient.
2	Marsden	1	R. Thompson, Whangarei	The population of the electorate greater than that of others	The population cannot be reduced.
3	Waitemata	2	Henry Hunter, Kaipara	Proposal to make the boundary of the old Eden County the boundary of the electorate	Alteration not practicable.
9	Franklin	3	J. McPherson	Error in description as to the islands in the Waikato River	Error to be corrected.
13	East Coast	4	C. Evans, Chairman, Te Arari Road Board.	Asks that the Te Arari Riding be part of East Coast Electorate	Proposed alteration to be made in part.
		4A	J. Warren, Gisborne	Asks that the Te Arari Riding be part of East Coast Electorate	Proposed alteration to be made in part.
		4B	A. C. Arthur, Gisborne	Asks that the Te Arari Riding be part of East Coast Electorate	Proposed alteration to be made in part.
		4C	John Clark, Patutahi	Asks that the Te Arari Riding be part of East Coast Electorate	Proposed alteration to be made in part.
19	New Plymouth	5	N. Schumacher, Midhurst	Error in description	Error to be corrected.
		5A	John Elliot, New Plymouth	Asks that the country north of the Mokau River be part of the New Plymouth Electorate	Proposed amendment agreed to.
20	Egmont	6	50 Electors, Hawera	Asks that the whole of the Hawera County be part of Egmont electorate	Limit of population prevents this alteration being made.
21	Waitotara	6A	G. Hutchison, Wanganni	Suggests that the whole of the Porewa Riding be part of Rangitikei Electorate	Alteration cannot be made.
		7	C. Finnerty, Mayor of Patea	Asks that the name be "Patea"	Name "Waitotara" to be retained.
		7A	E. Horner, Patea	Asks that the name be "Patea"	Name "Waitotara" to be retained.
		7B	D. W. Harris, Patea	Asks that the name be "Patea"	Name "Waitotara" to be retained.
2	Waimea-Picton	8	C. H. Mills, Havelock	Suggests that the Wairau River be southern boundary of the electorate	No alteration is practicable.
		8A	G. Holdsworth, Mayor of Blenheim	Asks that that part of the Provincial District of Marlborough north of the Wairau River be joined to the Wairau	Alteration cannot be made.
		8B	Joshua Bird, Chairman, Waimea County Council	Asks that Picton and Sounds County, with Pelorus and Picton Ridings, be separated from Waimea	Alteration not practicable.
		8C	A. S. Collins, Chairman, Kaikoura County Council	Objects to the County of Kaikoura being included in the Wairau Electorate	Alteration cannot be made.
9	Kaipoi	9	James Andrews, Kaipoi	Asks that he may be included in the Kaipoi District instead of Avon	Alteration not expedient.
15	Setwyn	10	Alfred Saunders	Asks that no alteration be made in the proposed boundaries	No alteration proposed.
14	Banks	11	W. Penlington, Mayor of Akaroa	Asks that Lyttelton and Akaroa be not in the same electorate, and that the name be changed to "Akaroa"	Boundaries cannot be altered; name of electorate to be "Akaroa."
17	Ashburton	12	28 Electors	Asks that that part of the proposed Ashburton Electorate between the Rangitata and Orari Rivers be part of Geraldine Electorate	Alteration agreed to.
24	Port Chalmers	13	E. E. Allen, Mayor of Port Chalmers, and J. Drysdale	Suggests that the Wards of Ravensbourne and Rothersey be part of Port Chalmers Electorate	The remaining portion of West Harbour Borough to be added to Port Chalmers.
23	Mount Ida	13A	The Mayor of West Harbour and others	Suggests that the Wards of Ravensbourne and Rothersey be part of Port Chalmers Electorate	The remaining portion of West Harbour Borough to be added to Port Chalmers.
		14	Vincent Pyke, Dunedin	Objects to the exclusion of Earnslough Riding, and inclusion of part of Deep Stream Riding	Earnslough to be included in Mount Ida, and Teviot Riding to be included in Mount Ida, and Earnslough to be included in Mount Ida, and Teviot Riding to be transferred to Tuapeka.
		14A	R. J. Webb, Alexandra South	Earnslough should be part of Mount Ida	Teviot Riding to be transferred to Tuapeka. Waikato to Wakaipū, and part to Clutha.
31	Tuapeka	15	J. C. Brown, Dunedin	Tuapeka County, except Tapanui and the Pomahaka watershed, should be Tuapeka Electorate	Alteration agreed to.
32	Mataura	16	J. S. Simson, Gore	Asks that Gordon be part of the Mataura Electorate	Alteration agreed to.
		16A	H. S. Valentine, Waimea Plains	Asks that Gordon be part of the Mataura Electorate	Alteration agreed to.
		16B	J. D. Hunter, Chairman, Gordon Town Board	Asks that Gordon be part of the Mataura Electorate	Alteration agreed to.

[Approximate Cost of Paper.—Preparation, nil; printing (1,200 copies), £2 17s.]

