

1945
NEW ZEALAND

MAORI PURPOSES FUND BOARD

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1945

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly pursuant to Section 14 of the Maori Purposes Fund Act, 1934-35

MEETINGS

THE statutory annual meeting of the Board was held on the 7th September, 1944. No other meetings were held during the year.

PERSONNEL OF THE BOARD

It is with much regret that the Board records the death of one of its members, Mr. H. T. Ratana, M.P. Mr. Ratana had been a member since 1935 in his capacity as Member of Parliament for the Western Maori Electorate. His place on the Board will be taken by Mr. Matiu Ratana, M.P., to whom a cordial welcome is extended. Dr. Gilbert Archey was reappointed a member on the 26th July, 1944, for a further term of three years.

SECRETARY

During the year under review a change in the post of Secretary was brought about by Mr. C. W. Morrison's secondment to C.O.R.S.O., where the full-time nature of his duties prevented his giving that attention to the affairs of the Board which was required. Mr. Morrison held his post for a period of five years, and during that time took a keen interest in the affairs of the Board and carried out his duties with expedition and efficiency. Opportunity is now taken to record the Board's appreciation of Mr. Morrison's services.

His place has been filled by Mr. J. M. McEwen, of the Native Department staff. Mr. McEwen brings with him a wide and intimate knowledge of the Maori people, their language, customs, history, traditions, genealogical relationships, and arts and crafts, as well as an extensive acquaintance with Maori administration and sympathy with the lawful aspirations of the members of the Maori race. Altogether he possesses qualifications which should prove most useful to the Board and make him an ideal choice for the position of Secretary.

OPERATIONS

Education.—The sum of £500 was again granted to the Education Department as a contribution towards the cost of Maori Free Place Scholarships. During the year 1944 scholarships were awarded to 260 students, comprising 214 at Maori secondary schools, 37 at State secondary schools, and 9 at University colleges.

As in the previous three years, a further sum of £250 was made available to the Education Department to assist deserving students not eligible for State scholarships. From the fund twenty-one students benefited during the year, six of whom had received similar assistance in the previous year.

Ethnology. Owing to the limited income of the Board, one of its primary functions—the collection and preservation of Maori ethnological data and the promotion of cultural activities—has necessarily been restricted to a comparatively small scope. The annual grant of £300 was again made available to the Polynesian Society, Incorporated, to assist in the publication of what is now the only ethnological journal regularly published in New Zealand. This journal has been maintained at a very high standard since first produced, and the results of much valuable research in Maori and Polynesian ethnology have been placed on record.

Board's Publications.—There is a steady demand for the books published by the Board, and the receipts for the year amounted to £145. Details are as follows:—

Maori Artistry	100 copies.
Nga Mahi a Nga Tupuna	68 "
Maori String Figures	59 "
Nga Moteatea—Part I	56 "
Native Custom and Law	49 "
Nga Moteatea—Part II	37 "
The Changing Maori	37 "
The Mystery of the Moa	15 "
Material Culture of the Cook Islands	13 "
Total sales	434 "

Dr. P. H. Buck has reported that he has made considerable progress with the revision of "The Coming of the Maori," but that completion of the work may be postponed for a time owing to certain Pacific surveys which he has undertaken on behalf of the United States Government.

Arts and Crafts.—Five grants were made during the year to assist in the erection of carved meeting-houses, the funds having been donated for the specific purposes by Maori Land Boards.

FINANCE

The following is a statement of receipts and payments for the year ended the 31st March, 1945:—

<i>Receipts</i>		<i>Payments</i>	
	£		£
Cash balance as at 1st April, 1944	45,709	Administration expenses	232
Grant from Consolidated Fund	375	Grants—	£
Interest	1,365	Free Place Scholarships	500
Grants by Maori Land Boards for specific purposes	969	Special educational	250
Miscellaneous receipts (sales, &c.)	153	Polynesian Society	300
		Meeting-houses, &c.	425
		Miscellaneous	121
			1,596
		Purchase of books	3
		Binding books	21
		Annotation of Maori recordings for National Broadcasting Service	14
		Cash balance with Native Trustee, 31st March, 1945	46,705
	<u>£48,571</u>		<u>£48,571</u>

BUDGET FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH, 1946

<i>Expenditure</i>		<i>Income</i>	
	£		£
Administration expenses—		Interest on funds with Native Trustee	1,300
Audit fee	5	Grant from Consolidated Fund	375
Native Trustee's commission	60	Profit on sale of publications	25
Depreciation on assets	10		
Freight	2		
Insurance	10		
Printing and stationery	8		
Rent, repairs, &c.	50		
Salary	35		
Travelling-expenses	25		
Sundry expenses	10		
	225		
Grants (subject to separate approval of Board)—			
Education Department	750		
Publishing	500		
	1,250		
Balance available for miscellaneous grants, &c.	225		
	<u>£1,700</u>		<u>£1,700</u>

Approximate Cost of Paper.—Preparation not given; printing (570 copies), £3 10s.

By Authority: E. V. PAUL, Government Printer, Wellington.—1945.