

VIII. EDUCATION

The work of this Department is in charge of an Education officer, seconded from New Zealand, assisted by 8 European teachers, also from New Zealand, and by 127 local teachers and trainees.

There are twenty-four schools in the Group; of these, eleven are Administration, seven are London Missionary Society, and six are Roman Catholic Mission schools. The Administration assists education in the Northern Group by subsidizing the local Mission schools.

The following table shows the schools in the Cook Islands, together with the numbers of pupils attending each during the past five years:—

Island.	School.	Roll Numbers.				
		1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.
(a) GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS						
Rarotonga	Avarua (including European class)	390	415	432	437	502
	Arorangi	258	273	280	281	269
	Ngatangia	225	209	216	205	230
	Titikaveka	187	196	188	190	199
Aitutaki	Araura	465	512	562	593	604
Atiu	Atiu	220	216	204	198	221
Mangaia	Oneroa	221	223	218	238	270
	Ivirua	109	105	106	138	146
	Tamarua	68	71	68	77	79
Mauke	Mauke	157	161	172	189	177
Pukapuka	Pukapuka	168	166	143	118	127
Totals		2,468	2,547	2,589	2,664	2,824
(b) LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY SCHOOLS						
Mitiaro	Mitiaro	63	40	38	64	22
Manihiki	Tukao	26	18	22	18	19
	Tauhunu	65	54	52	44	45
Rakahanga	Rakahanga	61	64	64	64	114
Penrhyn	Omoka	75	89	89	122	115
	Tetautua	66	69	18	45	36
Palmerston	Palmerston	34	34	21	17	20
Totals		390	368	304	374	371
(c) ROMAN CATHOLIC MISSION SCHOOLS						
Rarotonga	St. Joseph's Convent	153	162	169	165	165
Atiu	Atiu Catholic	52	61	58	59	71
Mauke	Mauke Catholic	43	46	43	37	41
Manihiki	Tukao Catholic	20	22	20	20	22
	Tauhunu Catholic	16	9	8	8	8
Rakahanga	Rakahanga Catholic	33	19	8	8	12
Totals		317	319	306	297	319
Grand totals		3,175	3,234	3,199	3,335	3,514

The number of schools is the same as in previous years, but the school population increased by 179 over the total for 1945. Attendances have been regular and satisfactory throughout the year.

Mr. A. McKenzie has been appointed Education Officer in succession to Mr. R. Walker, who resigned early in 1946. A new European Head Teacher has commenced duty at the Ngatangia School, Rarotonga, and a new European Head Teacher and an Infant-mistress have been appointed to Mangaia.