1907. ZEALAND. NEW

EAST COAST NATIVE TRUST LANDS

(REPORT, BALANCE-SHEET, AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS IN RESPECT OF).

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly in pursuance of Section 13 of "The East Coast Native Trust Lands Act, 1902.

REPORT BY THE EAST COAST NATIVE TRUST LANDS COMMISSIONER.

Gisborne, 11th September, 1907.

SIR.-I have the honour to submit the following report of the transactions of the late Board and of my predecessor (the late Mr. J. A. Harding), together with the balance-sheet and statement of the accounts of the Trust to the 31st March last.

Since the date of the Board's last report none of the lands have been disposed of either by sale or lease. In view of the duty cast on the Validation Court by the amending Act of last session to adjust the equities of the beneficiaries of the several lands, and to direct such sales, mortgages, and other dispositions of the several blocks as may be necessary to give effect to the scheme for such adjustment, the Board and the Commissioner were almost entirely precluded from disposing of any further areas until after formulation by the Court of the scheme of adjustment. If the Court is further empowered, upon the prorogation of the present session of Parliament, to complete and give effect to such a scheme of adjustment as was contemplated by the statute, the lands now remaining in the Trust can shortly be dealt with in accordance with the directions, and all the lands not required for the purposes of the Native beneficiaries can be leased.

The whole of the lands under lease are in profitable occupation, and in every instance the lessees have complied fully with the requirements of the improvement clauses in their leases.

Some of the lands in part-occupation of Natives cannot be leased upon terms which are mutually satisfactory to the Natives and their tenants. Such lands should be made productive. My predecessor in office was pressed by the Natives to utilise such lands, but felt restricted by the limitation of his powers. I recommend such power should be granted to the Commissioner. If the blocks to be improved, either singly or in groups, were first approved by the Minister, a sufficient check upon an undue exercise of such power would be provided. Power to borrow moneys for purposes of general improvement would be required.

I have, &c., T. A. COLEMAN, Commissioner.

The Hon. the Minister for Native Affairs, Wellington.

Statement of Receipts and Payments in respect of the East Coast Native Trust Lands from the 25th August, 1906, to the 31st March, 1907.

20010 11 ag to		,					
Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Payments.	£	8.	đ.
Receipto.			10	Subdivision expenses and improvements-			
Balance, 25th August, 1906-cash in bank	0,104		10	Paremata	1	2	6
Purchase-moneys: Balances received fr m				Mangapoike No. 2	10	0	0
purchasers on sales of freehold as per		5	10			12	6
former accounts	1,906	5	10	THATE adding 1(0) 25	4	4	ŏ
Rents—				Matawhero No. 1	44	9	š
	203	7	11	Tahora No. 2			•
	1,463	4	11	" (road formation) · ·	1,010		0
MADDADCIRC 110. 2	1,188		6	Rents paid to Native owners	622		4
Mangaheia No. 2D	300			Rates and taxes	240		2
Tawapata South No. 1	30	-	-	Interest	933	16	7
Pakowhai, Section No. 2	÷ •	-		Law-costs	948	14	4
Whangawehi 1A, 1B, 1C	62	-	-				
Tahera No. 2	374		5	Salaries-	1,200	0	0
Interest on purchase-moneys	47	13	2	Members of Board	33		š
Proceeds fencing claim, Maraetaha No. 2,				Commissioner			-
Proceeds lending claim, manacetant	31	15	0	Secretary	133		
SECHON #		Ō		Travelling-expenses	58	6	0
Contractors' deposits	00	v	Ū	Audit and office expenditure	51	7	4
				Advances to settlers in Tahora No. 2 on			
,				account of contract for road-formation			
					522	10	0
					60		ŏ
				Contractors' deposits repaid		-	Ő
				Balance, 81st March, 1907-cash in bank	3,464		
					£9,370	3	1
	£9,370	9	1				_
			_				
				the A Commit	anionor		

T. A. COLEMAN, Commissioner.

Gisborne, 13th July, 1907. Examined and found correct.-J. SANDTMANN, F.I.A.N.Z. G.—8.

Statement of Liabilities and Assets in respect of the East Coast Native Trust Lands as at the 31st March, 1907.

Liabilities.		£	s.	d.	Assets.	£	s.	d.
Mortgages secured on freeholds		26,000			Freehold lands	227, 00 0	0	0
Accrued interest on freeholds	•••	211	18	11	Balance of purchase-moneys on sale of			
		·····			freehold properties	6,224	16	3
		26,211	18	11	Accrued interest on ditto	55	19	2
					Rents due	1,305	3	9
					Advances to settlers in Tahora No. 2 on			
					account of contract for road-formation	522	10	0
Surplus	••	212,361	9	0	Cash in Bank of New Zealand	3,464	18	9
		£238,573	7	11		£238,573	7	11
					I			_
Gisborne, 13th July, 1907.					T. A. Coleman, Comm	nissioner	•	

Gisborne, 13th July, 1907.

Examined and found correct.-J. SANDTMANN, F.I.A.N.Z.

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