

1911.
NEW ZEALAND.

CENSUS OF THE MAORI POPULATION

(PAPERS RELATING TO).

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly by Command of His Excellency.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HON. THE NATIVE MINISTER.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you the preliminary results of the census of the Native population which was taken during the month of March last. It is not possible to take the Maori census in one night, as is done in the case of the European census, nor is the same degree of accuracy to be expected in the enumeration; but I believe the work has been done as thoroughly as circumstances would permit. The total Maori population amounted to 49,350 persons, an increase for the five years of 1,617 persons, but these figures are liable to readjustment, being only the first rough results taken from the Enumerator's summaries.

The first Native census was taken in the year 1874; but in 1867, and again in 1871, the various officers residing in Native districts had been instructed to furnish estimates of the number of Maoris in their respective districts. These estimates were, however, admittedly merely approximate, and must be regarded as imperfect. Since 1874 a census of the Native population has been taken coincidentally with the European census. The following table shows the population at these respective periods:—

Year.	Persons.	Increase.	Decrease.
1867 (approximate estimate)	38,540	..	..
1871	37,502	..	..
1874 (first census)	45,470	..	..
1878	43,595	..	1,875
1881	44,097	502	..
1886	41,969	..	2,128
1891	41,993	24	..
1896	39,854	..	2,139
1901	43,143	3,289	..
1906	47,731	4,588	..
1911	49,350	1,617	..

The fluctuations exhibited in the above table cannot be regarded as normal, and conclusions deduced from the figures must be regarded to a large degree as conjectural. It was doubted whether the large decrease shown by the census of 1896 was a real decrease, or merely due to the non-inclusion of a number of Natives either by accident or through refusals to give proper information to the sub-enumerators. However, the increase shown by the present census may be taken as a fair index of the position. The figures quoted for 1911 do not include the Maori population of the Chatham Islands, which have not yet come to hand. In 1906 the total number of persons was 202. In addition to the foregoing totals, there were enumerated with the European census the following half-castes: Males, 1,475; females, 1,402.

It may be assumed that to arrive at the true census of the Maori people it is necessary that all half-castes and intermediates between a half-caste and a Maori should be under one enumeration. If this were done, the figures for 1911, assuming that the population of the Chatham Islands has been stationary, would read 52,429 persons.

It is obvious that any real increase in the Maori population must arise from an excess of births over deaths—in other words, the Maoris must reproduce themselves, as, unlike the European population, they cannot be recruited from outside. It is therefore necessary to ascertain whether there is any increase in the number of children since the previous census. The table attached hereto shows the number of persons under the age of fifteen at the present census to be 19,866, while in 1906 it was 18,417, an increase of 1,449 persons during the five years. In further support of this contention, it will be noticed that there are 6,968 persons under the age of five years.

It is a matter of some difficulty to ascertain the number of half-castes living as Maoris. There is no very defined rule to guide the Enumerators and sub-enumerators in deciding what half-castes should be classified as "living as Europeans" and "living as Maoris" respectively. This applies especially to the South Island. Probably it would not be very inaccurate to say that all half-castes—and, indeed, a large proportion of the Maoris as well—in the South Island live now in European fashion.

Judging from the reports of the Enumerators, it would appear as if the Maoris, as well as the half-castes, of the Dominion were departing from their old communistic habits, and were striving to carve out homes for themselves individually. Under these circumstances, I do not propose to classify them in any way, for the simple reason that it would only be conjectural.

It is an idea of many people that the ultimate fate of the Maori race is to become absorbed in the European. Whether any tendency is shown in this direction must be gathered from the increase or decrease in the number of half-castes. The present census shows that in the five years since the last census the number of half-castes has increased by 256. No valid deduction can be drawn except by taking account also of those half-castes who are living as Europeans and not accounted for in this census.

The health of the Natives has been generally good. There have been occasional outbreaks of typhoid and other fevers, influenza and kindred disorders, but there has been no epidemic of disease. In all cases of serious outbreak that have been reported the Native Health Department has promptly sent medical assistance, and has also supplied medical comforts and suitable food, at the discretion of the medical attendant. In one or two cases, where it was necessary to isolate the patients, the Department has also provided nursing assistance. A number of medical officers all over the Dominion are subsidized from the Native Civil List, together with several dispensers in districts where no medical men reside, and who, though not legally qualified to practise medicine, are quite able to dispense simple remedies for minor complaints. The duties of these officers are to treat and prescribe for every Native who may visit them at their surgeries, and to visit all patients who, through age or illness, are unable to come to them. In addition to them, the services of the Native-school teachers are largely utilized in the same work. The Department supplies these teachers with a selection of useful medicines, with simple directions as to their use; and there is every reason to believe that by their efforts much suffering is spared and many outbreaks suppressed. The good work performed by these ladies and gentlemen is deserving of notice.

During the last five years there has been a considerable change as regards the observance of sanitary laws by the Maori population of the Dominion.

It will be seen from the reports of the Enumerators and sub-enumerators that in this respect there has been a great advance. This is attributed largely to the instruction, example, and influence of the Chairman and members of the several Maori Councils appointed under the Maori Councils Act, 1900. Credit must also be given to the efforts of Dr. Pomare, Health Officer (a half-caste); to the several Sanitary Inspectors appointed by the Councils; and to Nurse Hei and Nurse Whangapirita (both Maoris). I regret, however, to report that Nurse Hei contracted typhoid and succumbed to the disease. Nurse Whangapirita also contracted typhoid, but I am pleased to report that she recovered. She has since resigned in order to get married. The work of these nurses cannot be too greatly eulogized. It is evident that the Maoris are beginning to realize that the excessive mortality, amongst their children especially, has been caused to a large extent by insanitary conditions prevalent in their settlements. While Maoris have in the past shown some indifference to the exhortations of European medical men, now that the matter has been taken in hand by their own leading chiefs, they may be expected to follow out more strictly the instructions given.

The diffusion of knowledge must tend to uplift the Maori. The transforming powers of education and association are at work, and must in time have their effect. The village schools are steadily improving the standard of knowledge among the Maori people as a whole, while the higher schools turn out a number of intelligent young fellows who want only the opportunity to show the value of the training they have received. Suitable openings in the public service are limited, but the Government has displayed a sympathetic regard for deserving Maori youths wherever possible.

The reports of the Enumerators and sub-enumerators attached hereto contain much of interest. It may not be out of place to note that the Maoris in the Bay of Islands (Ngapuhi) have erected nearly 100 miles of telephone, connecting up remote forest villages with the chief centres of the district, Kawakawa and Kaikohe. In this matter they have followed the lead of the Waiapu east-coast Natives, who were the pioneers of the Maori-owned telephone system in the Dominion.

Crime does not prevail in any marked degree. The Natives as a whole are becoming more and more temperate every year. The drunken orgies that were once common are in a great measure things of the past. In several of the reports reference is made to their adoption of the European style of living: some are sheep-farmers, others cultivate their land, while others again engage in various forms of remunerative labour. Every year the spread of settlement brings them into closer touch with their pakeha neighbours, and subjects them to the influence of European example.

As to the agricultural statistics, I would suggest that in future it should be kept separate, as the Agricultural Department collects these statistics annually. I fail to see that there is any advantage in taking it at the census period. As pointed out by the Enumerator for the Wellington District, a number of Maoris cultivated oats, but, as the crops had already been harvested, no count was taken thereof, and on that account it was impossible to arrive at the correct statistics. Lands being cultivated, grass or tussock country, and stock all come under the heading of agricultural statistics, and should not be collected with the census. I would like to draw particular attention to the schedule relating to communal farms and live-stock. The practice of farming upon the communal system is practised largely in the Waiapu district, and the returns show that they are, to all appearances, a success.

Wellington, May, 1911.

THOS. W. FISHER, Under-Secretary.

APPENDIX.

I. CIRCULAR TO ENUMERATORS.

SIR,—

Native Department, Wellington, January, 1911.

Referring to previous correspondence, I am directed by the Hon. the Native Minister to inform you that you have been appointed an Enumerator for the purposes of taking a census of the Maori population and of all half-castes living as members of Maori tribes in the counties noted in the margin, inclusive of interior boroughs, and you are authorized to nominate such sub-enumerators as you may consider necessary to enable an accurate census to be taken of the Maori population in the district for which you are responsible. It is considered that the several counties should be the census subdistricts, and probably one sub-enumerator had better be appointed for each county. The remuneration authorized for sub-enumerators not already in Government employ is £1 per day, which must include all expenses of travelling. In cases where constables are employed they will be allowed 2s. 6d. a day, with actual travelling-expenses.

You will be good enough to place yourself in communication with officers of districts adjoining your own, and arrange with them so that there will be no possibility of any Maoris being omitted from the census, or numbered more than once. You are authorized to seek the co-operation of any officers in the Government service whose aid or information would be of value; and it is desired that you should use your best endeavours to make the census as accurate as possible.

You will probably find it convenient to enlist the aid of the Maori Councils, established under the Maori Councils Act, 1900. The Chairmen of the Councils, or the Inspectors, should be able to afford valuable information, and very likely you could arrange for the Inspectors to accompany the sub-enumerators on their visits to the respective settlements for a small remuneration of, say, 2s. 6d. to 5s. per diem.

Books containing blank forms, on which the results of the census should be taken down by the sub-enumerators, are herewith supplied to you, to which I am to request that you will be good enough to adhere as far as possible. It will be your duty as Enumerator to make up from the sub-enumerator's books a summary for your whole district, according to the printed form entitled "Enumerator's Summary," copies of which are herewith enclosed. In the case of communal cultivation and live-stock it will be sufficient if the pages at the end of each book are totalled.

It is considered that the Maori census cannot be taken in the same manner as the European census, on one particular night, but it is desirable that it should be taken within as short a period as possible—say, the second week of March. You will then have the opportunity during the remainder of the month of March of carefully examining the returns, communicating with Enumerators in other districts, and correcting any errors or omissions before forwarding the complete returns to this office, which should be done as soon as possible after the 1st April next.

I have to request that you will accompany your return with a report on the increase or decrease of the Natives within your district since the last census was taken, remarking also upon the general state of health of the Natives, any disease or epidemic which may have visited them, and supplying any other information bearing on the statistics of the Maori population which you may consider of interest.

I have, &c..

T. W. FISHER, Under-Secretary.

II. REPORTS OF ENUMERATORS.

1. MANGONUI, WHANGAROA, HOKIANGA, BAY OF ISLANDS, WHANGAREI, HOBSON, OTAMATEA, RODNEY, WAITEMATA, EDEN, GREAT BARRIER, AND WAIHEKE AND OTHER ISLANDS IN THE HAURAKI GULF.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNDER-SECRETARY, NATIVE DEPARTMENT.

Tokerau District Maori Land Board Office, Auckland, 20th April, 1911.

IN compliance with your circular of January last, I have the honour to submit herewith my summary of the census of the Maori population of the northern counties (enumerated therein taken during the month of March last by sub-enumerators specially appointed for that purpose.

A comparison of the figures with those of last census (1906) shows an increase of 831 in the population.

This increase may principally be attributed to the continued improved conditions of living and consequent reduction in the percentage of infant-mortality, as it is evident and gratifying to observe that the Natives are gradually but surely endeavouring to emulate the pakeha in every respect. The increase may also be partly due to the special exertions resorted to by sub-enumerators in their endeavours to secure an accurate census. Although more time has been occupied than on previous occasions, and a little additional expenditure incurred by sub-enumerators, I am satisfied that more reliance can be placed in the returns for my district for 1911 than those of previous census.

Maori Councils are responsible for much good work amongst the Natives in enforcing regulations which provide for improved sanitary conditions, &c., thus raising the standard of the Maori generally.

The health of the Natives, generally speaking, has been good. Several outbreaks of typhoid fever occurred recently, and a few deaths resulted, but in each instance the Health Department rendered prompt assistance to the sufferers, with apparent good results; and in all cases of infectious disease, as soon as the Health Department is notified, prompt action is taken to prevent the spread thereof and to relieve the sufferers.

No other epidemics appear to have visited the Natives since last census was taken, but it is impossible to report the number of deaths or births amongst them, as at present compulsory registration is not enforced as far as they are concerned, however desirable it may be.

It is gratifying to note from the census returns the considerable increase in individual cultivation, as also in the sheep, cattle, and horses owned by Natives, as compared with last census (1906).

The decrease in area of the potato-crop (142 acres) is accounted for by the potato-blight which was prevalent for some years, but seems now to be dying out, and the decrease shown in the number of pigs (1,098) owned by Natives is probably due to the action of Maori Councils in enforcing regulations which prevent pigs being allowed to stray at large, but it is difficult to obtain an accurate estimate of the number owing to the manner in which they are still allowed to stray.

It is evident that the Maoris in my district are becoming more civilized and industrious as years roll on. Many are employed gum-digging, bushfelling, road-making, and working on farms for Europeans, and some are farming on their own account and doing well. Many have insufficient knowledge and means upon which successful farming could be undertaken, however industrious they may be; some method of instruction, advice, and encouragement by way of pecuniary advances would, I think, prove advantageous to them, and enable them to cultivate more of their own lands.

As the Native lands are now being opened up, no difficulty is experienced in obtaining employment such as above mentioned.

Free education has undoubtedly had and is having most beneficial results amongst the Natives, who are in consequence brought into closer contact with the European, and educated in their ways; and it is noteworthy to observe that the parents are anxious that their children should attend school and receive an English education. As will be seen from Sub-enumerator Cahill's report, the Natives at Awarua are prepared to supply a schoolroom and European teacher if the Government will furnish the necessary school equipments.

In conclusion, I respectfully suggest that a copy of the census (in Maori) be furnished to each Chairman of the Maori Council, for the information of Maoris generally.

Extracts from the reports of sub-enumerators submitted herewith.

W. DINNIE, Enumerator.

EXTRACTS FROM THE REPORTS OF THE SUB-ENUMERATORS.

Mangonui County (South).

Constable W. Drummond, sub-enumerator for Mangonui (South) reports,—

The Maoris in this district have apparently increased considerably since last census was taken (1906).

Their health has been good; there has been no epidemic or disease, to my knowledge, amongst them during the past five years.

Whangaroa County.

Constable P. Carmody, sub-enumerator for Whangaroa County reports,—

There is a decrease in the Maori population in this county of 117 (sixty-seven males and fifty females) as compared with the census of 1906. This decrease is accounted for by the fact that at the time of taking the census a great number of Natives were temporarily absent gum-digging in the north, principally at Waiharara. At the present time there are fully 100 men, women, and children away. I found quite a number of whares unoccupied at Touwai and Pupuke.

The health of the Natives, on the whole, is fairly good, although some of their habitations are kept in a very insanitary condition, through keeping pigs and other animals in close proximity to their dwellings. I have remonstrated with them in respect to this on several occasions, with good effect.

In this county the Maoris are in very poor circumstances, with the exception of a few who are industrious. The most of them depend upon the result of their gum-digging as a means of livelihood. They really neglect cultivation beyond putting in a patch of maize or kumaras. At one time they used to cultivate potatoes extensively, but very few put any in now, in consequence of the blight.

Nearly all children are sent to school except those living too far away.

Hokianga (North).

Mr. A. Ngawaka, sub-enumerator for Hokianga (North) reports,—

Some of the Natives at Herekino make their living by gum-digging and bushfelling; some live like the European, but a good many in the old style. They keep themselves clean. There is no Native school at Herekino, but some of the children attend the Board school. The Herekino Natives are not very healthy, some having skin-disease.

There is no Native School at Manukau, but a few of the children attend Herekino Board School; others are neglected as regards education.

The Natives at Manukau are very backward, mostly living on gum-digging or working for wages. The crops are growing well. A couple of Natives supply milk to the Herekino Dairy. The Manukau Natives are unhealthy, and seem to be suffering from some disease; one old man, apparently suffering from leprosy, requires some attention; a nurse in the district seems to be required.

The Natives at Whangape West are increasing, and in good health, mostly living on the land; a few working at the sawmill and in the bush. There is a good Native school here, well attended. The kumaras and corn have no blight at all. The Natives here are willing to work the land, which does not appear to have been surveyed or apportioned, and this prevents much cultivation.

At Whangape East the Natives have increased considerably, and are mostly working on their lands. The kumaras and corn seem to grow well. There is a Native school here, also well attended. The Natives are not healthy, living on swampy land which requires draining. This place requires regular visits by a Sanitary Inspector.

At Mitimiti the Natives are not increasing in prosperity, although they may be in number; gum-digging is their occupation; the land is very poor. There is a Native school here, well attended.

At the foot of the Golden Stairs there are five families. A visit from a Sanitary Inspector seems necessary. The children are running wild.

Hokianga (Central).

Mr. C. H. Irvine, sub-enumerator of Hokianga (Central) reports,—

The Natives in this district are certainly on the increase, and the returns would show a larger population but for the fact that many of the young men are away working in other districts, in saw-mills and at bushfelling.

There has been very little sickness and few deaths since the last census was taken; the increase in births has been considerable.

The Maori houses and kaingas are much improved in comfort and cleanliness, which I think chiefly accounts for the better health of the Natives.

Maori Councils are doing a lot of good work, and if a copy of each census (in Maori) could be sent to the Chairman of each Council it would be the means of removing the present apparent antagonistic feeling most Maoris have towards sub-enumerators.

Hokianga (South).

Constable H. Cox, sub-enumerator for Hokianga (South), reports,—

The Maoris in this county are, on the whole, a healthy people; no disease or epidemic has visited them since last census was taken.

I regret I cannot report any improvement in the industriousness of the Maoris. A few of them have taken up the dairying industry, with, I am informed, satisfactory results, but it is a pity more of them do not follow the good example; from inquiry, I was informed that the non-individualization of the land was the chief cause which prevented them doing so. It frequently happens that an industrious Maori clears a piece of land and sows it in grass for the purpose of raising stock, and, when the grass grows, other Maoris interested in the block turn their stock in, thus discouraging the industrious Maori and preventing further cultivation. Very little cultivation is indulged in, each Native simply cultivating a small plot for his own use. Pigs are scarce, owing to the action of Maori Councils in preventing pigs being allowed to stray at large.

Maoris mostly follow the occupation of gum-digging, bushwork, road-work, and working at saw-mills.

Bay of Islands (South-western Part).

Constable T. Cahill, sub-enumerator for south-western part of Bay of Islands, reports,—

According to the census I have just completed, there appears to have been a very satisfactory increase within the last five years in the number of Maori inhabitants in this portion of the Bay of Islands. The majority of the people have an abundance of food and clothing. Excellent health has been enjoyed, and no epidemic of a serious nature has occurred. Senile decay and pulmonary diseases have been responsible for almost the whole of the mortality.

Among the wealthier Natives, houses of European design are supplanting the slab whare, but the latter style of building is yet almost universally preferred. The neighbourhood is generally in a sanitary condition, which is due no doubt to the regulations of the Maori Councils. The adoption of European habits of life must, however, necessarily be a slow and gradual process.

It is gratifying to note that some of the Maoris have adopted the occupation of dairy-farming. It is confined chiefly to those who possess an area of fertile land, and for whom facilities exist for the carriage of cream to the factory.

The potato-blight has not been so prevalent of late as in former years, but it is still active enough to deter the Maoris from making any extensive plantations. They rely almost wholly on the kumara-crop.

A very interesting innovation is observable here. A telephone system has been arranged, with Orakau as its centre. Within the last three years considerably over a hundred miles of lines have been constructed. Several remote forest villages by this means enjoy communication with the chief centres of the district, Kawakawa and Kaikohe.

Among the various settlements south of Kopuru the absence of schools is keenly felt, and the Maoris assured me that if one or two schools were placed among them their children would derive great benefit.

At Awarua, a settlement of some size lying sixteen miles south of Kaikohe, the Maoris asked me to mention the fact that they were prepared to furnish a schoolroom and a European teacher themselves if the Government would supply the necessary school equipments.

In conclusion, I might say that I was afforded the fullest information and assistance by all the Maoris with whom I came into contact during the course of my inquiries.

Bay of Islands (Eastern Part).

Constable B. I. Parsons, sub-enumerator for Hokianga (part of), reports,—

Part of the living of the Maoris in this district is the fish they catch. The Rawhiti Natives are in the habit of sending fish to the Auckland market.

With very few exceptions the Natives now live in floored wooden buildings. Generally their health is good. With the exception of Karetu and Tupui (Whangaroa Harbour) their cultivations are small. During the last two years the Natives about Rawhiti, Waikare, and Whangaruru have gone in for co-operative scrub-cutting; it is understood their idea in so doing is that they will be able to hold the land.

I have seen no indication of new fences or grass-seed sown—merely the scrub cut in patches from 4 to 5 acres up to 30 acres. In a few instances quite good-sized holdings are found, and the owners have a considerable number of stock on them. The potato-crop is almost nil, kumaras now being the vegetable grown. Very little maize has been grown except at Karetu.

Hobson County.

Mr. A. C. Black, sub-enumerator for Hobson County, reports.—

In compiling the Maori census for Hobson County I received valuable aid from Waaka te Huia (Chairman of the Maori Council) and the Rev. Wiki te Paa (advisory member of the Council), both of whom showed an enthusiastic keenness in the compiling.

Natives in the Hobson County number 818, being sixty-four less than the previous census. The decrease is, I consider, of little importance, for numbers of Natives are constantly on the move, and, moreover, the sawmill at Naumai and farms at Raupo (both of which are in Otamatea County) employ a fair number of Wairoa employees. It is also certain that the births far exceed deaths, and that the Maori population in these parts is on the increase.

Their condition of living has during the past five years vastly improved. Old-time whares have been replaced with comfortable timber houses, the merits of sanitation are recognized, and in many instances they dwell in better environments than do many pakehas.

During the past few years epidemics of typhoid have made their appearance, and only within the last few months twenty-four cases occurred. The Health Department promptly took the matter in hand, and established a special hospital at Ripia. Six cases proved fatal, and there are eighteen cases at present under treatment; but all the patients, I am pleased to report, are convalescent. Each succeeding winter sees a recurrence of bronchitis and pulmonary troubles, but few deaths have resulted therefrom, as pakeha medicines are instantly sought.

The district has for a long time been free from the *tohunga* blight which exists at Hokianga, where a pakeha professes to cure every disease, and to whom, I am sorry to state, several branches of Maori population in this county at times repair to seek his skill.

You will notice by the returns forwarded that the agricultural and pastoral work done since the last census was taken is gratifying. The Natives are going in more for farming, and dairying especially appeals to them. If agricultural pamphlets printed in Maori were disseminated amongst them they would be gladly received.

The population as a whole is greatly improving. The men are certainly more industrious and thrifty, and infinitely more sober; in fact, sobriety is a marked feature amongst them.

The aged people derive much appreciated benefit from the old-age pension, and are all living in comfort.

It may be noted that the bulk of the Maoris in this county have been born and brought up amongst pakeha surroundings; they mostly understand English, thoroughly understand European customs, and each succeeding year sees their further adoption of our generally accepted ways. As a whole, they are eminently law-abiding, and lead highly respectable lives.

Otamatea County.

Mr. J. H. Jackman, sub-enumerator for Otamatea County, reports,—

I find that the number of Maoris living in this county is 454, this being an increase of forty-seven, as compared with the census of 1906.

The Maoris as a whole are in a healthy condition, with the exception of a few cases of pneumonia and influenza. The sanitary conditions of most of the settlements seem to have greatly improved.

In the agricultural districts I think you will observe that there is an increase in the acreage of land under cultivation.

Whangarei County.

Mr. G. H. Woods, sub-enumerator for Whangarei County, reports,—

Owing to the frequent visits of the potato-blight the Natives grow very small patches of potatoes, not caring to run the risk; they chiefly grow the kumara. They do not cultivate as formerly, as a tribe, each parent having their own small cultivation.

The general state of their health seems good, very few sickly persons being amongst them. The young children seem healthy, and the younger married people have fairly large families.

Through the work of the Maori Councils, they are keeping the places where they are living in a very clean and sanitary condition. I had the Chairman of that Council with me, and can say that in the whole of the ten days' travelling amongst them in those out-of-way places there were not more than five homes which we commented unfavourably on.

The drinking habit does not seem to trouble the Natives; it is only when in the towns that a great deal is indulged in.

There are a number of Waikato Natives in this district, chiefly at Waipu, working on farms and gumfields, and there are a few families away from home visiting relatives in the Kaipara and Bay of Islands districts.

A kind of fever (swamp) visited the Takahiwai Settlement some three years ago, and a few deaths resulted. This summer the Natives (mostly young) were again struck down with the same sickness, resulting in two deaths. On the former occasion Drs. Baxter and Buck visited the kainga, and on the latter Drs. Baxter and Pomare made a visit, reporting officially to the Health Department.

You will notice a number of Natives have dairy cows; these are milking for the respective butter-factories, and are doing very well. This industry not only keeps the families together, but encourages them to clear and grass the land. I should like to see the Department send some person to lecture amongst them, pointing out the advantages of the dairy industry.

Rodney County.

Mr. G. E. Thompson, sub-enumerator for Rodney County, reports,—

The Maoris have increased in the Rodney County from 132 in 1906 to 155, an increase of twenty-three; sixty-nine are children under fifteen years of age, as compared with forty-eight in 1906 (an increase of twenty-one).

I met with no sickness in any of the camps, and only one case of asthma. They all seemed in good health, especially the children.

Their houses and whares were in a much better state of cleanliness and order, and their surroundings were cleaner and tidier than heretofore.

The potatoes were a complete failure. They have no area of kumaras growing which looks very well. They have a few patches of maize and a few acres of water-melons. There are only two engaged in the grazing of sheep and cattle, one is a bushman, and the rest depend on gum-digging and odd days labouring on public works and for farmers.

Each family grow their own small patch of maize and kumaras. I consider the Maoris have more ready money and are better dressed in this county than they were five years ago.

The children attend the Native school at Makarau and the public school more regular than hitherto.

Waitemata County.

Mr. W. R. Fosbroke, J.P., sub-enumerator for Waitemata County, reports,—

The cultivations in the Maori settlements are, with a few exceptions, very small; this is accounted for by the number of men who go out working for the pakeha farmers. The small amount of cropping done by the Natives is chiefly done by the women.

The health of the Natives is, on the whole, good, but there is still a considerable number of chest complaints. Scrofula, a most common disease in bygone days, seems to have almost disappeared, probably owing to the disuse of putrid foods and the adoption of the pakeha diet.

A good many of the Natives belonging to this district were included in the Eden census, where the Native Land Court was sitting.

2. MANUKAU, COROMANDEL, THAMES, OHINEMURI, PIAKO, MATAMATA, WAIKATO, RAGLAN, WAIPA, WEST TAUPO, OHURA, WAITOMO, AWAKINO, AND KAWHIA.

SIR,—

Auckland, 9th May, 1911.

In accordance with the instructions contained in your memorandum of the 19th January last, I have the honour to forward herewith a summary of the Maori census in the Counties of Manukau, Coromandel, Thames, Ohinemuri, Piako, Matamata, Waikato, Raglan, Waipa, West Taupo, Ohura, Waitomo, Awakino, and Kawhia.

Matamata and Ohura are new counties, and were at the time of the last census included in the Piako and Waitomo Counties respectively.

It will be seen that, though there has been a decrease in some instances, the Maori population of the counties above enumerated has in the past five years increased by 573 persons. The increase is, of course, slight in comparison with the large increase in the European population during the same period, but it must be remembered that the Maori population, unlike the European, cannot be augmented by immigration, and that any increase can arise only on there being an increase of births over deaths. In this connection it is worthy of note that there is a large excess of males of a marriageable age (between fifteen and forty-five years) over females of a similar age, the exact figures in the counties named being 2,324 males, 2,001 females. Right through the returns it will be noticed that males preponderate in number over females.

The taking of the Maori census is naturally a work presenting great difficulty, inasmuch as the Native population is so scattered. I am glad, therefore, of this opportunity of placing on record my appreciation of the manner in which the various sub-enumerators have carried out their duties. I was fortunate in being able to obtain the services of gentlemen who had the interests of the Native race at heart, and who had a knowledge of their language, and I can say without hesitation that the details now forwarded compare very favourably, on the score of accuracy, with those compiled at any earlier enumeration.

Many of the sub-enumerators have complained of the reluctance of some of the Natives to supply the necessary particulars, and in some places information was refused unless the sanction of the prominent chiefs was obtained. However, a threat of criminal proceedings had due effect, and thereafter no further opposition was offered.

I fear that the statistics as to stock, crops, &c., can only be accepted as fairly accurate, as many of the Natives seemed to be under the apprehension that the collating of the particulars was a preliminary to taxation, and in consequence it is probable that the figures given in the return are under the mark.

It is gratifying to report that in almost all cases the sub-enumerators report that the health of the Native community has been eminently satisfactory during the past five years, and that they have not been visited by any severe epidemic. This result may be partly attributable to the fact that the Government's Sanitary Inspector and the local Maori Councils have insisted on better sanitation, but it is, I think, mainly due to the influence of education on the younger generation, as a result of which the old Maori whare is now the exception rather than the rule, its place having been taken by weather-board houses on European lines.

The ravages of the potato-blight, which caused such a lamentable state of affairs among the Native population a few years ago, appears to have been checked, and I notice that the majority of the sub-enumerators report that there is no scarcity of food this year. One effect of the blight has been to cause the Maori to rely less extensively on the potato as a staple article of diet, and kumara-cultivation is in consequence more in evidence.

The land legislation which came into operation last year, and which practically opened the door to free trade in Native land, has resulted in large areas being sold to Europeans, and in consequence the Natives in this district seem to be fairly well off financially just at present. Many of them are using the money so obtained for the purpose of farming their land, and in the Waikato a large number of them are regular suppliers to the creameries.

It is noticeable that a large number of the Natives, particularly the younger generation, are working for Europeans, while a large number are also employed by the Government in the Hauraki Plains drainage-works, in railway-construction, road-making, &c.

If I may make a suggestion, I would urge that it is desirable that the next census should be taken about a month earlier. In some districts it is necessarily a work which must occupy some time, and it would be advisable that all the sub-enumerators should finish their field-work before the rainy season. The sub-enumerator for the Awakino County reports having had a rather adventurous experience in fording a river.

Another argument in favour of an earlier enumeration is furnished by the fact that a Native carnival and regatta is held at Ngaruawahia each year on the 17th March. It is estimated that nearly two thousand Natives attended this function, so you will recognize that the work of the sub-enumerators was not facilitated by the fact that so many Natives were on the move.

I beg to append a collection of extracts from the reports of some of the sub-enumerators, and which should be found to be of interest.

The Under-Secretary, Native Department, Wellington.

I have, &c.,

W. H. BOWLER, Enumerator.

EXTRACTS FROM REPORTS OF SUB-ENUMERATORS.

Constable W. R. Lowry, sub-enumerator for the Piako County, states,—

The health of the Natives in the Piako County is and has been very good. They have not suffered from any disease or epidemic. Some of them are making an effort to cultivate their land, especially about Waharoa, where they have very good crops of turnips and oats. Their general social condition is good.

Mr. Mark Barton, sub-enumerator for the Ohinemuri County, states,—

In my travels I noticed that the crops were fairly good all round.

Mr. W. S. Gordon, sub-enumerator for the Matamata County, states,—

I heard no complaints as to scarcity of food in this country. Those who planted potatoes assured me that they would have plenty to carry them through till next planting season. Most of the younger Natives are employed by Europeans at a weekly wage, so that they are very rarely to be found at their kaingas. This applies more particularly to those living around Matamata and Waharoa. A good few of the Natives have started dairy-farming, and a few are making it pay. I must say I have never visited a more prosperous and healthy Maori district: I heard of only two sick persons in my whole district. They all appear to be striving to live a more European life than formerly.

Mr. W. Stubbs, sub-enumerator for part of the Waikato County, states,—

I have found no illness amongst the Natives, and am pleased to say that they are making headway towards cultivating their lands.

Mr. Pepa Kirkwood, sub-enumerator for the Raglan County, states,—

The Maoris in this district are increasing in number through adopting the European way of life. They are also getting industrious in the way of farming and so forth. It is very pleasing to see the great difference from five years ago. There has not been any epidemic of any sort for the last few years. The whole people in general are looking very healthful and are flourishing in every way. I am sure that in a few years a good third of the population in my district will be worthy citizens of this Dominion.

Mr. Remana Nutana, sub-enumerator for portions of the Manukau, Waikato, Thames, Ohinemuri, and Piako Counties, states,—

The general state of health is very satisfactory, and a large number are employed by Europeans and by the Government on the Piako Swamp. The potato-crops of the Natives I visited were all destroyed by the blight.

Mr. J. H. Phillips, sub-enumerator for the Kawhia County and a portion of the Raglan County, states,—

I found the Natives fairly prosperous, owing to the fact of their potato-crop turning out well this season. There are only a few cases of potato-blight reported. I found no sickness, except at the Taharoa kaingas, where there is a considerable amount at the present time, ten persons having died within the last three months. These settlements own several *tohungas*, who, in my opinion, help very much towards making up the death-roll. Generally speaking, the Natives appear to be very indolent, not caring to go far from their kaingas to seek work. I found very few who appeared to be making any effort to better their social conditions.

Constable J. A. Matthew, sub-enumerator for the southern portion of the Waitomo County, states,—

I found the Maoris in this district to be enjoying good health, and, taking them as a whole, they are fairly well off. I did not see any poverty. So far as I could gather, there are no communal cultivations. They all have their own cultivations, and some I met were quite indignant at my suggesting that they grew potatoes, &c., for communal purposes. I was struck with some of the bright and intelligent children I met. This I put down to their attending school. The children seem to be losing the superstition of their fathers. The women are exceedingly superstitious. They did not like the idea of their babies being taken in the census.

Constable D. C. Fraser, sub-enumerator for the central portion of the Waitomo County, states,—

The Maoris are in good health. I saw no sickness. All are busy in getting their potatoes in. Their social position is improving, and their financial position is as good as that of the average European. A lot of the younger Maoris are beginning to work. I did not see any poverty. The Maoris have pretty well given up communal cultivation and communal stocking. In all the places I went to each one has his own potatoes, oats, maize, horses, and cattle.

Constable P. J. McCarthy, sub-enumerator for the northern portion of the Waitomo County, states,—

I found the Natives all in good health. There is no sickness amongst them. Their social condition is good, and they all seemed prosperous, and compare very favourably, financially, with their European neighbours.

Mr. A. E. Mellsop, sub-enumerator for a portion of the Manukau County, states,—

I found the Maoris very much more scattered than hitherto, particularly in and around Pukekohe, where they are camped on farms all through the district, mostly in small numbers, working for the farmers. In the course of my travels I came across only one Native who was in bad health.

Mr. T. U. Cook, sub-enumerator for the southern portion of the West Taupo County, states,—

I found the Natives in splendid health, and did not come into contact with one case of sickness of a serious nature. Socially they were all contented and living happily together. I am sorry to report that their position financially is not so favourable. Speaking generally, they live for to-day, and to-morrow, as a rule, can look after itself. The potato-crops I saw were a failure, owing to the blight. Their corn, too, has not come to anything, owing to a late frost in November, and this winter will be a very hard one for those Natives who are depending mainly on their crops.

Mr. Te Nguha Huirama, sub-enumerator for the northern portion of the West Taupo County, states,—

The health of the Natives generally is good. The younger Natives generally are taking to work. I was surprised to see the amount of farming-work done at Waotu.

Mr. Huirama also refers in his report to the difficulty experienced in obtaining information from the Natives, many of whom in the first place refused to give any particulars.

3. TAURANGA, ROTORUA, TAUPO, WHAKATANE, AND OPOTIKI.

Rotorua, 26th April, 1911.

In forwarding the Enumerator's summary of the Maori census for 1911 for the Counties of Opotiki, Tauranga, Rotorua, Taupo, and Whakatane, I have nothing much to add to what has already been stated by previous Enumerators.

The Natives are living in the same state, and dying at the same rate, or probably faster. The present return shows an increase of forty persons in the combined counties, but I do not think that this represents accurately the real state of affairs. I am positive the Natives are decreasing, and that on this occasion the census has probably been taken more carefully than on the previous occasions. The birth-rate is fairly high, but, comparatively speaking, a very small percentage of the infants reach womanhood or manhood, and the preventable epidemics of typhoid and enteric fevers and measles, which break out periodically, sweep off both children and adults in large numbers. And then they have always consumption amongst them, which takes off a fair number every year. It is true that their mode of living has improved to a certain extent of recent years, but it still leaves a great deal to be desired.

It has been stated on occasions that the Maori Councils have bettered matters, but, so far, I have not noticed it. What is required is that competent persons should be sent amongst the Maoris at frequent intervals to inspect their kaingas and advise them on sanitary matters, for there is no doubt but that the epidemics of typhoid and enteric fevers and measles that break out so often now amongst them are solely due to their ignorance of the ordinary laws of health and sanitation. The Inspectors should have the power to compel them to clean their kaingas and keep them clean. That something of the kind is required is shown by the following extract from the report of one of the sub-enumerators for the Opotiki County: "Last year some kind of fever broke out at Te Kaha. Eighteen deaths took place in a very short time—say, one month and a half. No one knows even to this day what was the real cause of it. Dr. Wirepa was there at the time, and he was not able to give a report of the cause of that fever. Dr. Buck this year was supposed to come round to Te Kaha to see the place, but failed

to come through. He went back from Te Araroa, east coast, and here we are left alone to face another slaughter by our old enemy the fever or by something worse than that." There is no doubt in my mind but that the fever was caused by bad drinking-water, and there is no doubt also but that the cause has not been removed, and that the epidemic will break out again shortly and take off another twenty or thirty of them, and the others will look on in the same hopeless way, and wonder why. The same kind of thing is happening periodically in every kainga in the district. The high death-rate amongst infants and children might also be obviated to a large extent by teaching the Maori mothers how to properly care for their children. Given the same conditions, the death-rate amongst European children would be just as high.

It has been stated that, if the Maoris learned to work, their general health and condition of living would improve. All Maoris work, some continually and others intermittently, and I have noticed lately that the death-rate amongst the continuous workers is just as high as amongst others. It would therefore appear, unless the ordinary rules of sanitation and health are observed, and the conditions of living improved, a Maori who works continuously has no better chance of living than one who does not.

But why continue? All that I have said now has been said over and over again by others, and I am beginning to think that the position is almost hopeless—that the race is dying, and that all that can be done now is to make things as easy as possible for them by seeing that they should not suffer from actual hardship and starvation. They should not be allowed to waste all their substance, and there is grave danger of this at the present time owing to the safeguards against the complete alienation of their lands having been to a large extent removed. There seems to be a growing inclination amongst them to sell all they can—live for the present, and let the future look after itself.

One of the sub-enumerators of the Whakatane County notifies me that there were twenty or thirty Natives at Waimana, followers of Rua, who would not give their names, and consequently he could not make any record of them. The other sub-enumerator of that county reports that Rua's influence is still strong amongst a certain section of the Ureweras, but not altogether for good. They have gone in a great deal for felling the bush, grassing, and cropping, but he thinks that Rua will benefit mostly by this. In other respects the sub-enumerator speaks hopefully of the Ureweras. He states that they seem to be on the increase, and are healthier than they were on his last visit.

JAMES W. BROWNE, Enumerator.

The Under-Secretary, Native Department, Wellington.

4. WAIAPU, COOK, WAIKOHU. AND WAIROA.

SIR,—

Gisborne, 29th April, 1911.

I have the honour to forward my summary of the Maori census taken in the Counties of Wairoa, Waikohu, and Cook, together with a report from each sub-enumerator.

You will notice the health in general is good, and that sanitary arrangements have improved. I regret to say that the old complaints *re* asthma and pulmonary diseases still cling to them, whilst enteric fever was prevalent this season. Typhoid fever broke out amongst them in different parts of this district; at Jerusalem it originated at a house through need of sanitary precaution, and I regret to say that several deaths have resulted through its ravages. It is of no use medical gentlemen or experts making flying visits to the districts, and telling the Natives what should be done; what is wanted is a proper notification stating clearly *what should be done*, and then some responsible person appointed to see that the instructions are strictly carried out. The Natives appear to drink all sorts of water, whilst the spouting and tanks are never cleaned out, and, of course, no lime or charcoal is ever put into the tanks to purify them.

On the east coast farming is carried on, and the movement flourishes. The Tokomaru Freezing-works has been of benefit to those in that part.

I visited the Waiapu Diocesan Conference on the 19th and 21st of March last, where there was a very large gathering of Natives, and found everything in the way of sanitation in good order. A large baker's oven of modern type was erected, the bricks being made at the Maori plant, and some seventy loaves were baked daily for the use of the assembled Natives.

In several of the backblocks the sub-enumerators had difficulty in getting information on account of the superstition which still lingers in some of the minds of the Maori of to-day. There was a suspicion that the collecting of the census meant to them more taxation, or something else more dreadful; however, after some reluctance, the sub-enumerators managed to elicit the desired information.

The census itself reveals the fact that there is a good percentage of young people, and that the Natives are fairly prosperous. Several half-castes preferred to be enrolled in the European census to that of the Maori one.

Upon reference to the tabulated return of the 1906 census you will see that there is an increase in the Wairoa County of some 395 persons. At that period Cook included Waikohu. These two counties are now severed, and combined show an increase of 177 persons.

I am pleased to say that crime is not prevalent.

Re tohungas: Some of the sub-enumerators have expressed their opinion in a very candid manner regarding these gentlemen, and I have no hesitation in saying that, by allowing these people to carry on, a large amount of harm is done.

You will observe that three of the sub-enumerators make a suggestion that if prior notification was given that the census was to take place, with explanatory memoranda in Maori, the Natives would better understand the reason, and the information would be given and collected more freely. This, I may say, appeals to me to be a good and reasonable suggestion.

The Maori Councils have done good work, but there still remains the fact that the sanitary conditions are to a great extent not yet coped with; much more diligence should be used if the Maoris are to be kept in a state of good health and progress in the European ways.

On the whole, I found the Natives very temperate; many who used to be of drunken habits have taken to farming and skilled labour.

In my travels I noticed the children were attentive to their school duties, were kept tidy, and were obedient and respectful to their teachers.

In most cases wooden cottages of European style have replaced the old-time Maori raupo whare, and at first glance one would think they were inhabited by Europeans.

Upon reference to the summary you will find, sir, in the Wairoa County, an increase of 313 sheep; of sown grasses, 22,066½ acres; of 727 acres in other crops; of 7 acres in maize; whilst wheat, cattle, and potatoes show a small decrease.

In Cook and Waikohu combined there is an increase of 58 acres of potatoes, 74 acres in maize, and 11,238½ acres in sown grasses.

There are 2,476 horses in these counties, and an increase of 8,504 sheep; in cattle, an increase of 529; and in pigs, an increase of 95.

So, in general, the agricultural statistics show a considerable increase; likewise in live-stock and acreage under cultivation, which tend to show the progress the Maoris have made in five years.

The summary which I have forwarded, together with the various reports, give you an estimate of the population, statistics, and condition of the Maori race in the above-mentioned counties, and, having been taken in each case by those acquainted with the districts, people, and language, should be an accurate return. The certificates in each case speak for themselves.

I regret the Waiapu returns are not yet to hand; upon arrival of same, no time will be lost in computing same and forwarding.

I have, &c.,

The Under-Secretary, Native Department, Wellington.

ALEX. KEEFER, Enumerator.

[NOTE.—Waiapu census since completed, and show an increase of 329 persons since last census.]

EXTRACTS FROM REPORTS OF SUB-ENUMERATORS.

Waiapu County.—Sub-enumerator H. Mateke.

Health.—All informations under this heading can be better treated by medical men, but from a layman's point of view the health of the Maori has improved somewhat during the last two or three years. Wherever one goes there is evidence of robust manhood. Where can one find healthier children than the Maori children one sees during one's itinerations amongst the kaingas? I can only account for this healthy outlook to the better sanitary precautions now being taken.

The Birth-rate.—The birth-rate is good, and but for the high percentage of infant mortality during the last year, when the whooping-cough carried off so many little ones, the census returns for this year would have shown a larger increase.

The Tangi.—This Maori custom is carried on to an extravagant degree. Apart from the enormous consumption of food, which the relatives in many instances could ill afford, there is the presentation of money, Maori mats, &c. A *tangi* party constituted of the tribes living round about Gisborne recently visited this district, and the presents to the visitors in hard cash amounted to something in the vicinity of £200. Then there is the danger of contagion at a *tangi*. No matter what the deceased died from, the custom demands a *tangi*. To this cause is attributed the spread of diseases.

The Tohunga.—The Tohunga Suppression Act, 1908, is honoured more in the breach than in the observance. This is due to the extreme difficulty in defining a *tohunga*. The *tohunga*, or medicine-man or faith-healer, imports so much Scriptural truths into his teaching as to captivate the credulous and superstitious, and, immuned from conviction, he plies his craft with impunity.

The Drink Question.—At the present time, speaking comparatively, one sees far less drunkenness now than formerly. With the exception of Tuparoa, one can safely say there is a tendency to moderation right through the district. The Maoris now have the right to prohibit themselves, and the Horouta Maori Council have applied for a poll to be taken on the question before the next general election.

The Industrial Aspect.—Agricultural farming to any extent is out of the question, so far as the Waiapu County is concerned. The east coast, owing to its hilly and broken-up nature, is purely a pastoral country. The Maoris both as communities and as individuals, following the example of their European neighbours, have taken to sheep-farming with enthusiasm.

There is a bright future before the Maoris of this district. They are anxiously looking forward to the time when the Waipiro and Tuparoa leases fall in, which is due in three or four years' time.

Waikohu County.—Sub-enumerator E. E. D. Hooper.

1. *Mode of Living.*—Under the supervision and direction of Committee Maraes appointed under the Maori Council Act, 1900, the mode of living of the Natives is on the whole improving. All the Natives I visited who formerly lived in whares are housed in wooden buildings, the majority of which are fitted with brick and iron chimneys; and in cases where they are devoid of chimneys, cooking-houses are built separately.

2. *Health.*—Good. Only saw one sick person, and heard of two deaths within the last three months.

3. *Cleanliness.*—I am pleased to report there is a great improvement, thanks to the Maori Councils.

4. *Birth-rate.*—Very fair. A remarkable feature is that the married Natives with any European blood bear children more fruitfully than the full-blooded Maoris.

5. *Industry.*—The Natives are improving, and are beginning to realize the fact that they must keep pace with the pakeha. A good many of their bushes have been felled and burnt, and the clearings

sown in grass and well fenced into small paddocks. The stock is looking very well and healthy, and I think the Maori will eventually make a good farmer.

6. *Tohungaism*.—I am pleased to report that I have not heard of the existence of any *tohunga* in the above county, but there is a Native doctor in the person of Dr. Tutere Wirepa, to whom most of the Natives go for advice, which he freely gives.

Remarks.—In my opinion, the only way to increase and save the race from extinction or absorption is to stop their intermarriage with Europeans. On the whole, I found Native mothers as good as their European sisters in the rearing of their children, thanks to the training, in the case of young mothers, they received at schools.

Cook County.—Sub-enumerator C. Ferris, jun.

The Maori people, on the whole, are in good health, and, from my knowledge of the number of Maori children, the birth-rate is decidedly on the increase. The children are strong and healthy, and the elder Maoris also enjoy good health.

Mode of Living.—The greater number of the Maoris are living on European principles. They are all now living in my district in wooden cottages, the thatched raupo whare being a thing of the past. The different Maori families are also living by themselves in their cottages, and not, as of old, several families living together in the big *wharepunis*.

Enteric Fever.—I regret to report that a number of Maoris contracted fever during last summer, and the disease has been spreading right up till last month. The cause of this was, in my opinion, the extraordinary long dry season. The watercourses, creeks, wells, and tanks got infected and contaminated with insects, flies, and vermin, the Maori houses and grounds being fairly clean. The original cause of the outbreak could not have originated except by the causes referred to. The fever having once broken out, the mischief began. Contagion followed, owing to the Maori people not knowing the danger and the secret of guarding and combating against it. To further assist the spread of the disease, the Maori *tohungas*, I regret to say, advised the stricken Natives and relatives the opposite to that of European doctors. The *tohungas* are a curse to the Maori race, and, in my opinion, they are far more dangerous to the health of the Maori people than the diseases that affect them.

Recommendation.—To fight against *tohungas* and any danger of the race dying out, I would recommend and ask the Government's assistance in erecting Maori cottage hospitals. The Maoris, I am certain, if properly advised and the matter properly explained, would rather collect money by way of *huis*, and subscribe to the upkeep thereof, than collect for churches, meeting-houses, &c. I, together with my tribes, Teitanga-Hauiti and Whanauarua, will take the first opportunity to raise means for the erection of one hospital at Hauiti, Tolaga Bay. The upkeep of this hospital for the time being could be done by way of subscription. Several wealthy European sheep-farmers who have the interest of the Maori people at heart would willingly subscribe towards it.

Tohungaism.—I would ask that more stringent laws be enacted by Parliament regulating these butchers of the Maori people, and in so doing can assure you that I am voicing the opinion of the whole Maori race, except the *tohungas* themselves. They are, as I have said, far worse than diseases. To quote an instance, four Maori children were killed practically by one of these fiends. The children had, after an attack of fever, become convalescent, and, as usual in such cases, commenced to crave for solid food. Against the advice of European friends and doctors, the *tohunga* came and ridiculed the idea of giving them no solid food for a time. He gave them pipis and other like foods, resulting in almost instant death.

Farming.—I am pleased also to report that the Maori people have taken a great interest in farming. They are, in fact, born farmers, and are more adapted for that kind of work than any other work. The great check, however, in the progress in the Maori farming is the want of capital to improve and stock their lands.

Maori Birth-rate.—I am also pleased to state that the Maori people are on the increase. As I pointed out in my last report, Maoris with European blood have more children than the full-blooded Maori. The pure Maoris are very lack in this respect.

Remarks.—1. Not many Maoris died of fever. Maoris who were nursed in the European way recovered in almost every case. (2.) I regret to say that the Maori tattoo experts are still tattooing the Native girls and women. I recently saw some women freshly tattooed, and this sort of practice should be stopped by law. (3.) The influence of our Maori Health Council is to a great extent responsible for the change in Maori life, and our village committees have burnt most of the raupo whares.

Diseases.—I would recommend that the Sanitary Inspector for the County of Cook be appointed to supervise and inspect the Maori houses, and advise the rules of sanitation; also that Dr. Buck or Dr. Wirepa be appointed to go round the various Maori districts to advise on sanitation. The costs and expenses of this could be paid out of our Maori Health Council's funds.

Wairoa County (Part).—Sub-enumerator J. H. Mitchell.

I met with considerable opposition to the work of taking the census, especially in the backblocks, some Natives expressing a fear that when the Government found they were few in numbers steps would be taken to exterminate them; others were afraid of additional taxation or the seizure of their lands by the Government. These ideas I found most difficult to overcome. However, after a great deal of trouble, and with time and patience, I obtained all the information required. I am certain no pakeha collector could have so succeeded. In districts where education has made reasonable progress I found the Natives quite willing to afford all the information in their power. A good deal of misunderstanding could have been avoided if the Census Department had sent to every Maori Council about six months before the census period full explanations in the Maori language, and this could have been distributed by the Council to every *marae* (village).

The principal points which I desire to emphasize are (1) education, (2) sanitation and health, (3) agriculture.

As regards the first—that is, education—I find that the attendance of children within a reasonable radius of European or Maori schools is not encouraged as it should be, and I am afraid the Maori Councils have neglected their plain duty in this matter. Until men are placed in power who know how to value education, the Maori children must grow up in ignorance, to be hereafter the prey, perhaps, of designing Europeans. But the members of the Maori Councils are generally elected according to the interest they take in the old Maori custom, and not in the interests of the younger generation.

In the backblocks (assuming sufficient interest can be secured), there are not enough schools. It is intended to shift the Kokako (Waikaremoana) Maori schoolhouse to Ardkeen (near to Frasertown European school). And yet in a pa half a mile from Kokako I counted sixty children of school age. How could these be expected to travel to Ardkeen, more than twenty miles? Is this looking after the educational interests of the Maoris? Perhaps it may be said that when this school was open the Maori children did not attend, and that is so; but the Maoris then were very much under the baneful mana of Rua, whilst now they are decidedly off that personage, and are anxious to see the school reopened. In all the other districts except Te Uhi—a stone's throw from Wairoa—I found matters in a much better way; the parents in the latter case are to blame.

Sanitation and Public Health.—On the whole, there has been an improvement in both respects, due to the abolition of whares; but even this has not in some cases been for the benefit of the Maoris. A corrugated-iron or weatherboard building, unlined, perhaps without a floor, and unprovided with windows, is not as warm in winter as the well-constructed ware of olden times. But the Maoris have gone only a part of the way, and need to go a little farther before they even approach the ideal of a sanitary and comfortable dwelling.

Te Uhi, close to Wairoa, is the worst pa in all respects, and has gone back considerably. The site is low, badly drained, and large pools of stagnant water lie within a few feet of the drinking-water supply, in the shape of wells, which are mostly holes for collecting soakage. There is, of course, no closet system of any kind, and I am surprised the pakehas have not made it their business to seek reforms in their own interests, to say nothing about the Maori. The population of Te Uhi is decreasing, not that the Maoris are dying out, I am glad to say, but the young people who have visited other places from time to time are being driven out by insanitary conditions, and seek residence elsewhere; nor can they be to blame for leaving a pa where public health and decency do not count for anything.

At Kihitu I found a great improvement in this respect, also at Mohaka—one of the healthiest pas in the district for grown-up people, but child life is adversely affected by the cold winds from the sea and the scorching westerly winds. The Natives need some instructions as to the kind of break-wind trees that will grow and flourish near the sea.

At Waimako, in the Urewera country, I found the sanitary conditions very good, and the water-supply of the best. The population is increasing, but I saw indications that the girls are allowed to marry too young, some that looked like mere schoolgirls having as many as two children. There may also be too close intermarriage with blood relations, which might account for so many weedy children.

Tangoio Pa I found up to the mark in all respects, and evidently the Maori Council there are alive to their duty, not only in sanitary matters but in education also, there being a large number of children at school on the occasion of my visit.

Te Haroto Pa is a good second in both respects.

Agriculture.—Taken, as a whole, the Maoris are well off for crops. Shortness of seed last spring, and holding of *tangis* and *huas*, will account for them having less to sell this winter. They are perhaps more industrious than in the past, but they are increasingly disinclined to wait twelve months for, say, a crop of maize; they would far sooner lease to the pakeha, and go to work for wages, and perhaps for some the gospel of work is not a bad idea after all. Some of them are farming with more or less success, but the majority have yet a great deal to learn before they can work land profitably.

In conclusion, while the Maori is face to face with difficulties caused by not having their lands individualized there will be some excuse for his want of industry, and I must sympathize with many who would like to rise but cannot do so. I plead for the greater interest of the Maori Council in sanitation and education, and this will pave the way for other reforms in the best interests of the Maori race.

Wairoa County (Part).—Sub-enumerator W. Cooper.

Health.—I found the Maoris in excellent health, with the exception of two male adults and two children, one of the adults being laid up with a complaint which was very much like typhoid fever. In the Mahia district the sites of most of the dwellings were high and dry and well chosen, and most of them are built of sawn timber and wood-floored, with iron roofing. The cooking is generally done in independent buildings with earthen floors. At Nuhaka the sites were generally good, with the exception of part of Tahaenui, which becomes very wet in winter. A swamp in Nuhaka Village would be a source of danger in future. The most of the dwellings are built according to European fashion, the Natives in this locality being more advanced in views and more energetic than those of other localities.

Whakaki.—At Whakaki the sites are on very wet ground, which badly needs draining. A few of the buildings are made according to European fashion; the rest are according to Maori style (without wooden floors, &c.). The partition of the Hereheretau Block will cause much activity in building here, as hitherto the want of settled sites has delayed the erection of permanent homes. Already a few thousand feet of timber are stacked on various sites.

Ewitea.—Ewitea, though surrounded by swamps, is on open sandy soil, and is dry in the wettest weather. Half of the dwellings are built of sawn timber, floored, &c., and the rest are of a primitive

description. This settlement is conspicuously clean and tidy, due to the efforts of Tihi Wahaanga, chairman to the local *komiti marae*.

Wairoa.—At Wairoa the sites are generally fair and good. The buildings are nearly all well built, but require to be kept a little better. The rest of district have sites in fairly good places, but the dwellings are not so good. The sanitary conditions of the different villages are fair, but there is plenty of room for improvement, Nuhaka being the only village with W.C.s provided.

Education.—The Natives seem to be keener at present in seeking to educate their children than they were, and are generally agitating for schools to be erected. The parts of district which need schools are Mahia, Te Whakaki, and Te Reinga. At Opoutania, Mahia, a Board school has only just been completed, and the Natives are making arrangements for boarding their children nearer the school. At Te Whakaki the Natives have given 8 acres for a school-site, and are anxiously awaiting the erection of the school buildings. So far, nothing definite has been done for Te Reinga Pa in the way of a school. There are over seventy children attending the Nuhaka Native School, and about thirty at the Tuhara Native School.

Agriculture.—The Natives at present do not seem to crop so much as they used to, cultivating just enough for their immediate wants. In the case of potatoes this is due to the shortness of seed, caused by the attacks of blight; but kumara is still cultivated a great deal. The greater number of the people are taking up sheep-farming and dairying. At Nuhaka practically all the suppliers to the dairy factory are Natives. A few of the Wairoa Natives are dairying. Whether the Natives will succeed in sheep-farming is a question which cannot be answered at the present time. They are hampered in not being brought up in the business methods of the pakeha. Yet there are a few who are quite as capable as any business man in transacting business.

Before concluding, I wish to state that the Natives need the principles of the reasons for collecting the census taught and explained to them, as a great deal of trouble and delay was caused in collecting the census through their ignorance, some of them thinking that the Government were wanting the information for the purposes of taxation, others thinking that they would be killed or taken to some other country; and, in justice to the Nuhaka people, I may say that they were the only ones who seemed to understand why the census was taken, and did their utmost to give me the truest information.

5. HAWKE'S BAY, WAIPAWA, WAIPUKURAU, PATANGATA, DANNEVIRKE, WOODVILLE, AND WEBER.

Office of the Ikaroa District Maori Land Board,
Wellington, 18th April, 1911.

SIR,—

I have the honour, in accordance with your instructions of January last, to transmit herewith a summary of the Maori census taken during the month of March last in the Counties of Hawke's Bay, Patangata, Waipawa, Waipukurau, Dannevirke, Woodville, and Weber.

The returns indicate that the present Maori population of the counties referred to totals 1,892 persons, representing a decrease of 232 on the census returns of 1906. In comparing the present returns for the respective counties with those of 1906, it will be necessary to take the combined figures of Waipawa, Waipukurau, and Dannevirke, as these counties at the time of the 1906 census constituted the single county of Waipawa. In comparing the returns for the County of Hawke's Bay, it will be seen that there has been a decrease in the population of 243, which can only be attributable to the death-rate exceeding the birth-rate, as very few Maoris appear to have left the district. It might be mentioned as a curious coincidence that in this county the number of males exactly corresponds with the number of females. The Patangata returns show on comparison that there has been a decrease of six. The sub-enumerator for this county reports that there have been nine deaths since 1906. The combined returns of the Counties of Waipawa, Waipukurau, and Dannevirke show that there has been an increase of twenty-five in the population when compared with the returns for the same district—viz., the County of Waipawa—in 1906. Against this, however, must be taken into account the fact that the eleven persons returned in the 1906 census as being resident in the County of Woodville were there temporarily only on a seed-sowing contract, and have since returned to their usual residence, Tahoraiti, Dannevirke. The actual increase in the three counties under notice is therefore barely worthy of note. There is one family, comprising three persons, now resident in the County of Weber. There are no Maoris or half-castes residing in the County of Woodville.

The sub-enumerators in all instances report that there is a general mark of improvement in living-houses, most of which are built on European lines, the old style of Maori whare having practically disappeared. There seems, however, to be a sad lack of industry on the part of the majority of the Natives. Most of their lands being under lease to Europeans, they themselves are content to live on the rentals derived therefrom, and in cases where this is insufficient for their maintenance they go out shearing and scrub-cutting, &c., as opportunity offers. There are instances, of course, where Natives are profitably engaged in farming their lands and rearing stock, but these are, unfortunately, rare.

The agricultural returns show the areas under cultivation to be very small, and in the County of Hawke's Bay a very considerable reduction on the 1906 returns is evidenced. This may to some extent be attributable to the number of sales of Native land that have taken place in the district since the passing of the Native Land Act, 1909. The Natives, while the moneys derived from these sales hold out, do not apparently see any necessity to occupy themselves in cultivating and otherwise improving their remaining lands. It would, in my opinion, be productive of much good if the Natives in this district could be induced to set aside an area to be worked as a co-operative farm under the management of the Maori Land Board, as is being successfully done in the Wanganui District.

The areas shown in the agricultural returns, under the headings of "Sown grasses" and "Tussock and other unimproved," can hardly be taken as reliable, there apparently being some misconception on the part of some of the sub-enumerators as to what class of land should be included under these headings.

The other areas returned as being under cultivation, as also the stock returns, can, however, be assumed to be fairly accurate. In the latter an increase of over 22,000 sheep and 2,000 cattle is shown on comparison with the 1906 returns.

The general health of the Maoris in the counties allotted to me appears to be good, and no epidemic of any kind has visited them. *Tohungaism* is referred to in the report by the sub-enumerator for Hawke's Bay, but, according to him, it has been practically suppressed.

I attach extracts from the reports of the several sub-enumerators, which may prove to be of interest.

In conclusion, I might state that the sub-enumerators appointed by me were in every case men thoroughly well acquainted with their respective districts, and, as I personally interviewed each one in regard to his duties and proposed itinerary, I have full confidence in expressing the opinion that the returns submitted are as correct as it is possible to obtain them under the circumstances.

I have, &c.,

L. A. TEUTENBERG, Enumerator.

The Under-Secretary, Native Department, Wellington.

EXTRACTS FROM REPORTS OF SUB-ENUMERATORS.

Hawke's Bay County.—Sub-enumerator P. H. Tomoana.

There is a general improvement in dwellinghouses. The old whares have almost disappeared and the number of European houses has considerably increased. I do not think the general health of the people has greatly improved, although I heard of no visits from epidemics. The population of some of the kaingas has decreased considerably, and, taking it on the whole, that weak appearance among the children is still there. The birth-rate, speaking generally, is low, although in a few kaingas it was far above the death-rate. The decrease in the population of the county can only be put down to the death-rate being in excess, as no Natives have left the district. I am sorry to say that everything points to "no industry," which means laziness. There are a few exceptions, but the majority have "no time" for anything but shearing, &c. Most of those who have rents coming to them are quite satisfied when the leases expire to either sell or lease again for long terms, because they can depend on the next shearing season to supplement their incomes. I am pleased to report that I never once came across a *tohunga* during my visits to the kaingas. I am quite satisfied that the mana of the *tohunga* is rapidly weakening in this district, and the younger people are almost one in their desire to suppress *tohungaism*. The agricultural returns will be found to be very low. The lands the people used to crop are all sown back in grass. A few have successfully taken up sheep-farming and dairying.

Patangata County.—Sub-enumerator Hemi K. Rapaea.

I noticed that the general health of the people was good, though there have been nine deaths since 1906. The houses, with their *maraes*, are exceptionally well kept. There appears to be a good deal of drinking, especially during *tangis* and meetings. I am afraid that the Natives here are very much behind time as far as cultivating and harvesting are concerned. A few years ago almost all were occupied in this way, but now there are only a few exceptional cases to be found. The main reason for this is that just at present they have plenty of money. They need not work too hard, and have leased their paddocks to pakehas.

Waipawa and Waipukurau Counties.—Sub-enumerator Tuati Meha.

I find that many of our people residing in these two counties are in poor circumstances, in spite of the fact that they are owners in several blocks of land which are under lease to Europeans. These Maori landlords, if I may so term them, go out to work for the people who are leasing their holdings, live in miserable camps, and so exist from year to year. In the summer they are shearing, and about this time they are scrub-cutting, and for the rest of the year they have nothing to do but wait for the next shearing. Often when the next shearing season comes a Maori finds himself heavily in debt, which has accumulated during his inactivity in the winter months. Under these conditions the Maori is discouraged, and when the first opportunity presents itself he sells his land at whatever price he can get. It will be noticed from the returns that the Maori of to-day is not like his brother of ten or twenty years ago. He of former days was a farmer, and raised acres of wheat and oats. The Maori of to-day, speaking generally, is neither a farmer nor an agriculturist. The reason lies in the fact that he has no land under his immediate occupation. It is the same cry everywhere you go, "We have leased the land to the pakeha." I am glad to say that there is no sickness among the people. Only once did I come across a sick person, and that was in a private hospital. Quite a number of the people are progressive. They have sheep, and seem to be doing well.

Dannevirke and Weber Counties.—Sub-enumerator J. W. Down.

The Maoris in Dannevirke County are distributed amongst four separate kaingas, all of which are within a six-mile radius of the Borough of Dannevirke. The number of children of school age is forty, and these, I find, regularly attend the European school that is nearest to their respective kaingas. On my visit I was particularly struck with the cleanliness and neatness of many of the homes. The general health can be described as good. The houses in most cases are occupied by members of one

family, and pigs are kept at a distance; in fact, there has been a great improvement in the general mode of living, both in and out the kaingas. There is, however, still a sad lack of knowledge on the part of some of the mothers in nursing and rearing their young. Inquiries disclosed the fact that within the last three years twelve children have died under the age of five, and for the same period there have been eight deaths among adults. For nine months in the year those who can and care to work are kept in constant employment at shearing, scrub-cutting, grass-seeding, &c. The total area cultivated and put down in potatoes last spring was 43 acres, and it is very pleasing to be able to report the absolute freedom of this crop from the devastating potato-blight of the last few years. Small sowings of wheat, maize, and oats are made every year for private consumption and use. Within the last twelve months, owing to the expiry of certain leases, there has reverted to the Native owners a total area of 4,550 acres. The greater portion of this land has been highly improved and grassed. This will therefore explain the increase of 3,400 acres of sown-grass land over the return of 1906. The falling-in of these lands have also led to an increase of stock, as some of the owners have decided to start sheep-farming on their own. Five years ago the Natives of this district could not muster a flock of 500 amongst them, while this year they are returned as owning 4,600.

6. PAHIATUA, AKITIO, EKETAHUNA, MAURICEVILLE, MASTERTON, CASTLEPOINT, WAIRARAPA SOUTH, AND FEATHERSTON.

SIR,— Native Land Court Office, Wellington, 12th April, 1911.

I have the honour, in accordance with the instruction contained in your circular letter of January last, to forward herewith the Enumerator's summary, showing the results of the census of the Maori population taken last month in the Counties of Wairarapa South, Mauriceville, Eketahuna, Pahiatua, Akitio, Castlepoint, Masterton, and Featherston.

The returns show an increase of fifteen in the total population of the eight counties, as compared with the number shown in the census of 1906, the figures being 880, as against 865.

One noticeable feature is the increase in the number of children under fifteen years of age, the figures being—for 1911, 358; for 1906, 324: an increase of thirty-four. The increases in the total population for these counties would have been greater but for the fact that many of the Natives in the Pahiatua district have left there, and have taken up their abode in Dannevirke and Hawke's Bay.

For the purposes of comparison, I tabulate hereunder the returns relating to the area under cultivation, and the number of live-stock kept.

					Potatoes, Maize, &c.	In Sown Grasses.	Sheep.	Cattle.	Pigs.
					Acres.	Acres.			
1906	..	..	..	..	989 $\frac{3}{4}$	11,296	6,649	736	146
1911	..	..	..	..	941 $\frac{1}{8}$	11,364 $\frac{1}{4}$	14,188	826	192

These figures show an increase in every respect, with the exception of the lands in crop. The outstanding features are the very great decrease in the area planted in potatoes—namely, 600 acres—the figures being 827 acres in 1906, and 227 $\frac{3}{8}$ acres in 1911—and the large increase in the number of sheep—14,188 in 1911, as against 6,649 in 1906.

The decrease in the area planted in potatoes may be ascribed to two causes—firstly, the departure of many of the Pahiatua Natives, who were the largest potato-growers in these districts; and, secondly, the general fear of the potato-blight. The high prices may account for the increase in the number of sheep.

The Maoris are making continuous progress towards the complete adoption of civilized modes of life. It is a rare exception to find a Moari living in one of the old-time whares, the houses being constructed on European plans. The Maoris are recognizing the necessity of good sites, and are generally conforming to sanitary rules. There is no doubt that the Maori Councils, under the direction and with the assistance of the Native Department, have contributed largely to this result.

There appears to be an almost complete absence of sickness or disease amongst the Maoris in these districts, the sub-enumerators reporting only a few cases of asthma and measles, and the death of a few babies from whooping-cough. Some of the children are suffering from a cutaneous disease, ascribed by the sub-enumerator to the habit of the children playing with the dogs. There is no doubt there are far too many dogs kept by the Maoris in their pas, and the dogs are not clean, and are often allowed with or near the children.

Under-Secretary, Native Department, Wellington.

I have, &c.,

E. A. WELCH, Enumerator.

7. HUTT, MAKARA, HOROWHENUA, MANAWATU, KAIRANGA, OROUA, POHANGINA, AND KIWITEA.

SIR,— Native Department, Wellington, 4th April, 1911.

I have the honour to forward herewith the result of the census of the Maori population in the Hutt, Makara, Horowhenua, Manawatu, Kairanga, Oroua, Pohangina, and Kiwitea Counties.

I have to report that the total of the above counties shows an increase as compared with the last census, the total increase being 291. It will be noticed that only two (Horowhenua and Manawatu)

counties show an increase ; all the other counties show a decrease. In the case of the Hutt and Makara Counties the decrease may be accounted for by the fact that at the time of the taking of the last census there were a considerable number of visiting Natives, and also that this year some twenty Maoris were away in the South Island. It is also assumed that about twenty-five Maoris were absent from the Horowhenua County during the period the census was taken. It may therefore be taken as a fact that the population of the Natives in the above counties, as compared with that of last year, has increased by about 250.

The sub-enumerators report that the general health of the Maoris in these counties is good, there having been no epidemics amongst them. It will be worthy of note that there are two persons who are centenarians, being 101 and 102 years of age respectively. Their names are Merekaahu Rangi and Hakaria Taratoa.

The Maoris generally have adopted the European methods of living in houses of their own in preference to the old communistic habit of living all together in big meeting-houses. They are also much more industrious than formerly, numbers going in for farming, while others have found employment as labourers, mechanics, &c. Not a few of the young lads have taken up clerical work. They are, on the whole, comfortably well off, in that they have their own homes and sections, and, in addition to their earnings, they are interested in what is known as the New Zealand Company's "tents," which is administered by the Public Trustee.

The old saying, "Keep your cradles full," is being well carried out by the Maoris (see returns, which show 296 children under five years of age).

With regard to the agricultural statistics, I am informed by the sub-enumerators that it is a difficult matter to obtain the information required. Why it should be so I am unable to say. From personal knowledge, I might add that in the majority of cases the sub-enumerators have not been supplied with the full areas owned by the Maoris, and on perusal of these returns it will be found in many instances that they own, say, 300 sheep and only 25 acres. If I may be permitted, might I suggest that in the future the census as regards the population and general health only be taken, and that the agricultural statistics be left to the Agricultural Department, which, I understand, collects annually. Further, I might mention the fact that quite a number of the Natives cultivated oats, but as the census was taken after they had gathered their crops it was impossible to arrive at the true position of the agricultural statistics.

In conclusion, I beg to state that I have every confidence in the sub-enumerators appointed by me. They are all personally known to me, and, further, they know every inch of the districts to which they were appointed, and were well acquainted with the different kaingas and homes. Such being the case, I can confidently assure you that the taking of the Maori census for the districts intrusted to me is accurate, and that same has been carried out as expeditiously as possible. No matter of note to warrant publication has been reported by the sub-enumerators, therefore I have made no extracts.

The Under-Secretary, Native Department, Wellington.

I have, &c.,

WM. PITT, Enumerator.

8. RANGITIKEI, WAIMARINO, WANGANUI, AND WAITOTARA COUNTIES.

SIR,—

Native Land Court Office, Wanganui, 12th April, 1911.

I have the honour to report on the returns of the Maori census taken for the above-mentioned counties.

On comparing the figures with those of 1906, it will be seen that there is a decrease of 309 persons for the combined counties.

I enclose reports by the sub-enumerators for Waimarino (inland), Waimarino, and Wanganui, by which it will be seen that some of the Maoris were averse to giving information. The Enumerator's summary is attached hereto.

I have, &c.,

The Under-Secretary, Native Department, Wellington.

A. H. MACKAY, Enumerator.

EXTRACTS FROM REPORTS OF SUB-ENUMERATORS.

Rangitikei County.—Sub-enumerator R. Davies.

I rode right through the county, and wherever I came across Maoris, whether amongst Europeans or in the Maori pas such as Moawhango, Mangaono, Parewanui, Turakina, and Wangaehu, I found them all enjoying good health. This I attribute to the fact that the old style of communistic living is fast receding, and in place of it each family appears to be enjoying the comforts of a private home, although, of course, not far removed from one another.

The majority of Maoris right through the Rangitikei County have within the last four years, and since the last census was taken, gone in largely for dairying, some milking as many as sixty cows in the beginning of the season. A few, especially around the vicinity of Taihape, have started sheep-farming.

I might mention that I was not received at the Maori prophets pa at Parewanui. When I paid my first visit there the Natives got away into the bush ; others would not give their names, saying that the Government had taken all the Native lands, that the Maori mana had gone, their *rangatiras* had all died, and now the Government was curious to know how many survived this great battle between white and brown. Of course, I kept cool and explained the object of the census, but to no avail. I therefore left and returned a few days after, again without success ; so I took their names from the Maori parson, Te Iwiora.

Waimarino County.—Sub-enumerator H. Tairei.

I have the honour to report that during the time I was occupied as sub-enumerator for part of the Waimarino County I found the Natives in good health and prospering very much in farming their lands. Their sanitary arrangements are all that can be desired.

On several occasions they refused absolutely to give me particulars I required, and on these occasions I had to find others who would give me a true account concerning those who refused to do so. They are suspicious. They think that I came there to get these particulars by means of which the Government would step in and take their lands away from them.

Some of them, again, did not really know what lands they owned. In some cases one out of the family works the family property, &c.

Waitotara County.—Sub-enumerator H. Pukehika.

I have the honour to report that during the time I was acting as sub-enumerator I found the Natives in the best of health. They appeared to adopt the European mode of living. They have plenty of food-supply, with few exceptions only, as far as potatoes are concerned. These few places have been touched by the potato-blight.

Some of the families are progressing in farming their lands. They have splendid stock, but their farming occupation is tardy, and this is due to not having all their lands individualized.

Some of the Natives were reluctant in giving me full particulars, and this is due to the fact that they do not know exactly what land they own. Some of them are without record of their lands.

Wanganui County.—Sub-enumerator W. Roach.

I have the honour to inform you that as sub-enumerator of the Wanganui County I paid a visit to every Maori pa of that county. I found the Natives in the best of health and adopting every European sanitary arrangement within their means to make their houses and *maraes* healthy. The absence of real Maori houses is quite noticeable throughout the county. It appeared to me that they are realizing the fact that it is time they should work, and send their children to school, to keep up with pakehas in the march of civilization; but, as their lands are more or less invested in the Maori Land Board, some of them have very little area of land to farm. Again, some of their lands are not individualized. This fact seemed to hinder their advancement in farming their lands. The need of schools at Kaiwhaiki, Parikino, and other places is lamentable, for the children of these places are numerous. However, in spite of this obstacle, they do work; but I cannot expect them to reach the standard of pakeha farmers under the circumstances.

With few exceptions they are provided with plenty of food-supply. There was no potato-blight throughout the county, and some of the Natives are enjoying a successful year in potato-cropping. I regret to say that I found most of the Natives reluctant in giving me the full particulars required. At Kaiwhaiki especially they gave me irregular information—they gave me names of trees and lands as substitutes for themselves—and it was afterwards, through Hori Pukehika, that I found the information was erroneous, and many who were not given were in my book. They are very suspicious, as they are under the delusion that I was sent amongst them to find out what the Government could secure in land, &c., from them. These facts made my otherwise pleasant tour unsuccessful. Under the circumstances, I have done what I could to make my work complete.

9. PATEA, HAWERA, ELTHAM, WAIMATE WEST, EGMONT, TARANAKI, CLIFTON,
STRATFORD, AND WHANGAMOMONA.

SIR,—

Wanganui, 22nd May, 1911.

I attach the particulars gathered concerning the Maori population of the district from the Waitotara River to the Mokau River. These reveal a sad story—the story of a decadent people.

The decrease of population in this area numbers 499. Owing to the birth of new county districts since the last census, strict comparisons of the fluctuations in each county are not possible; but it may be said that the decrease is, with two exceptions, general over the whole area. The exceptions are the notable decrease in Egmont County, and increases in the environs of Hawera and in Taranaki County.

Egmont's decrease, in a large measure, is due to the emigration from Parihaka since the death of the leaders Tohu and Te Whiti, and the death of many of the aged adherents of these chiefs. Many people resident in Parihaka at the date of the last census, during the past four years, have returned to their tribal homes in the Waikato and elsewhere. The remnant of "foreigners" left in Parihaka belongs principally to the Wanganui Tribes.

Due to the foregoing, Taranaki County and the Hawera counties have gained out of Egmont's loss; but, in addition to this gain, the Hawera counties provide the one gleam of hope for the Maori: there appears to be a slight natural increase there.

From my personal knowledge of the district, I can testify that the number of productive families is greater where the Natives are engaged in an occupation of economic value. This is particularly noticeable in the district extending from Hawera to Puniho. It is there that a larger number of the Maoris than in other districts are engaged in dairy-farming. In the district from Waitotara to Urenui there are 163 milking-sheds in use by Maoris. The number of Natives engaged in dairying is increasing. Proof of this is to be found in the large number of young cattle owned by them. Not having the means to begin dairying by the purchase of milking-cows, their practice is to buy heifer calves and rear them.

During the past five years there has been no virulent epidemic amongst the Taranaki Natives, but a large number of the elder people were carried off by pneumonia three winters ago. At the present time the general condition of health is good.

The child mortality is very heavy, how heavy is not ascertainable in the absence of registration of births and deaths. When the method often adopted of artificially feeding the children is considered, the wonder is not that so many die, but that so many live. Since it has been made illegal to supply liquor to Maori women, the children receive better attention than hitherto, and the once common scene of a drunk woman carrying a babe is now happily rare.

In order to reduce infant mortality, I think an attempt might be made to establish a nursing home on the lines of the St. Helens Hospitals, but adapted to suit Native customs. The cost of such an institution in Taranaki could be borne by the Maoris themselves by a percentage on their rents. In a few years their rents will be increased, so that such an impost would not be felt. In the days when the Parihaka influence was supreme such an institution would have been scorned; but now the appreciation of its benefits would, I believe, justify the establishment of such a home in a small way.

The information relating to areas under crop is not as complete as it might have been, as the Maoris of some localities refused to give the information needed. The numbers of stock are, I believe, fairly accurate.

In the environs of Hawera it was noticed that some of the larger families have but little land on which to farm, and it is their wish to have their areas added to out of some of the leased areas as those leases, which do not carry a pre-emptive right of renewal in the lessee, expire.

The Under-Secretary, Native Department, Wellington.

J. B. JACK, Enumerator.

10. THE WHOLE OF THE SOUTH ISLAND, INCLUDING STEWART ISLAND.

SIR,—

Magistrate's Office, Christchurch, 5th April, 1911.

I have the honour to forward to you herewith a complete summary of the census of the Maori population in the South Island recently taken by me. The figures show an increase since the 1906 census of 341 persons, the increase being made up of 85 male Maoris, 155 female Maoris, 48 male half-castes, and 53 female half-castes. I do not, however, think that this can be taken to prove a natural increase to the extent indicated. I am very decidedly, however, of the opinion that there has probably been a slight natural increase, and certainly no falling-off. I have examined and checked the books and closely analysed the figures, and I have come to that deliberate conclusion as the result. By a comparison of my returns with those of 1906, it will be seen that the most noticeable increase is in the Counties of Sounds, Southland, and Wallace. The return for Sounds in 1906 was 80 persons; my return shows 214. I did not have the oversight of the Sounds returns in 1906, and I have no material at hand to enable me to check the localities then visited. I am, however, satisfied, from my knowledge of the locality and from my general acquaintance with the Natives residing therein, that my return is accurate. I assume that the sub-enumerator in 1906 overlooked some of the places scattered in and out of the many bays where Maoris reside. I placed a special launch at the disposal of my sub-enumerator, so that every facility should be given to cover the whole of the ground.

Southland has jumped up from 93 to 157. I attribute this increase to the fact that the sub-enumerator has probably included a number of half-castes not enumerated in 1906 because they were not living as members of Maori tribes. Very little discretion is shown by sub-enumerators in distinguishing between half-castes, and it is quite impossible to check their work in this respect. I incline generally to the belief that only a very small percentage of the half-castes in the South Island can be truly said to be living as members of Maori tribes. I specially referred to this aspect of the matter in the report which I furnished with my census returns of 1906. I see no occasion to alter the opinion which I then expressed.

What I have said about Southland applies in a lesser degree to Wallace, where the returns have risen from 276 to 327, the increase being mainly with the half-castes. Half-castes very largely predominate in Wallace and Southland as compared with the rest of the Island. In all the other counties the figures call for no special remark.

Taken on the whole, the health of the people has been fairly good. There have been no serious epidemics, and the main trouble has been pulmonary, as it always has been. Natives throughout the South Island live, as a rule, under conditions that are vastly more favourable to good health than used to be the case. A great deal of credit for this must be given to the work of the Maori Councils, the leaders of which, both by precept and example, have striven hard, and with considerable success, to induce a higher standard of regard for sanitary conditions in the kaingas.

Of late years I have noticed with extreme regret, a growing habit of excessive indulgence in alcohol in many districts in the Island. I will not specify these, and I am glad to say that in some places there is nothing to find fault with in the matter of drinking. In those parts where the habit has almost become a scandal the excessive indulgence is mostly with the middle-aged women and the very young men. Recently some very bad cases were brought under my notice, where several young men were the subjects of prohibition orders and repeatedly broke their orders. They were really mere boys, one of them being only sixteen years of age. This is most deplorable. When instructing my sub-enumerators I sent a circular to each one, asking him when he forwarded his returns to give me all possible information as to the drinking habits of the people. The result has been somewhat interesting, and the information is thoroughly reliable. Some of the sub-enumerators, who are intimately associated with the Maoris, deplore the present condition of things, and appeal for something to be done to improve it. They recognize, as every one must do, that it means utter ruin to the race. Unfortunately, the fact that the women are able to get drink, and to indulge in most unseemly carouses, shows great demoralization on the part of those who procure it for them. It has been found very difficult to enforce the law prohibiting the supply of liquor to women. The men, and especially the young men, purchase it and convey it to lonely spots where it can be consumed with impunity. Many of the more thinking Maoris, male and female, are doing all they possibly can to minimize the evil. Every one having the benefit of the race at heart will wish them all success.

I have, &c.,

H. W. BISHOP, Stipendiary Magistrate.

MAORI CENSUS, 1911.

Counties (inclusive of Interior Boroughs).	Maori Population.				Males.				Females.				Area of Land occupied by Individuals.					Number of Live-stock owned by Individuals.								
	Maoris.		Half-castes living as Members of Maori Tribes.		Total Persons.		Under 5.		5 and under 15.		15 and under 45.		45 and over.		Not specified.		Area of Land occupied by Individuals.					Number of Live-stock owned by Individuals.				
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 45.	45 and over.	Not specified.	Under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 45.	45 and over.	Not specified.	Potatoes.	In Wheat.	In Maize.	In other Crops.	In Sown Grasses.	In Tussock or other Unimproved.	Horses.	Sheep.	Cattle, including Calves.	Dairy Cows or Milk or to calves.	Pigs.
Mangonui	1,182	1,018	71	59	2,330	235	339	487	192	..	194	291	465	127	..	126	..	94	155	712	7,044	1,328	430	945	95	818
Whangaroa	301	273	33	19	626	56	109	109	60	..	54	94	96	48	..	18	..	54	122	644	5,586	654	545	484	210	765
Hokianga	1,628	1,514	56	30	3,228	224	558	649	253	..	241	494	597	212	..	181	..	437	391	12,042	42,051	2,982	2,501	4,974	710	1,882
Bay of Islands	1,265	1,144	123	93	2,625	233	390	550	215	..	230	346	519	142	..	250	..	241	400	16,223	36,569	3,699	3,707	4,824	341	2,699
Hobson	430	343	22	23	818	68	110	199	75	..	58	103	155	50	..	2	..	180	439	5,218	7,506	965	2,056	1,129	403	743
Otamatea	242	190	8	14	454	42	79	86	43	..	43	58	89	14	..	2	..	23	60	2,473	1,662	396	1,322	166	194	216
Whangarei	481	358	62	38	939	97	142	223	81	..	67	114	166	49	..	37	..	75	152	7,275	5,222	889	1,75	1,528	509	314
Rodney	69	55	15	16	155	16	30	19	19	..	11	23	24	13	..	1	..	41	19	171	75	128	200	28	39	
Waitemata	87	76	15	9	187	15	23	48	16	..	7	21	38	19	..	10	..	17	29	64	180	152	100	131	100	98
Great Barrier Island	41	31	..	..	72	8	13	13	8	..	7	10	10	4	..	5	..	9	4	215	1,360	64	1,600	37	16	38
Eden	225	142	5	..	372	16	36	125	53	..	11	45	56	30	..	8	..	8	..	170	..	42	1,670	87	..	..
Waiheke and Chamberlain Islands	24	26	4	..	54	3	13	7	5	..	4	14	7	1	..	8	..	8	..	..	..	44	2,800	33	..	..
Waipa	187	162	11	14	374	8	40	121	29	..	8	52	95	20	..	28	..	7	8	163	33,524	66	..	8	5	109
Raglan	903	782	27	3	1,720	98	279	453	92	..	100	193	428	64	..	353	..	129	277	18,294	1,731	3,837	6,287	609	3,378	
Kawhia	320	262	3	8	588	29	81	138	75	..	29	67	119	48	..	91	..	7	20	681	1,010	309	1,434	1,099	..	211
Awakino	43	35	6	2	86	7	9	22	11	..	1	10	20	6	..	25	..	10	16	1,866	25,429	221	924	640	230	737
Waitemoa	731	642	89	61	1,523	124	216	351	128	..	114	190	306	90	..	299	..	117	393	8,655	35,607	1,904	2,414	2,572	471	1,702
Manukau	385	352	27	12	776	52	95	171	86	..	39	85	168	14	..	23	..	14	20	912	208	..	..	318	126	68
Waikato	318	285	..	..	603	46	85	136	51	..	50	67	122	46	..	17	..	..	90	301	492	134	..	..	..	59
Matamata	223	172	6	2	403	29	62	105	33	..	20	56	81	17	..	207	..	1	88	1,169	433	1	62	243	221	
Piako	133	90	5	3	231	15	32	72	19	..	12	16	51	14	..	93	..	25	171	375	258	..	67	30	80	
Thames	412	296	37	25	770	52	117	207	73	..	52	87	145	36	..	158	..	141	96	813	3,116	573	200	451	196	482
Ohinemuri	334	309	6	12	661	51	72	139	78	..	45	100	108	68	..	109	..	116	62	2,427	18,300	349	..	759	38	100
Ohura	31	28	1	1	61	3	12	11	6	..	4	10	11	4	..	17	..	..	11	380	66	..	50	87	35	160
West Taupo	694	596	3	6	1,299	92	148	277	173	..	68	153	258	116	..	560	..	330	691	12,344	265,319	1,914	5,680	3,594	655	2,802
Coromandel	258	202	25	13	498	26	56	121	80	..	39	42	89	44	..	43	..	33	33	4,885	1,196	260	845	280	83	416
Opotiki	681	675	46	29	1,427	101	170	256	200	..	102	181	241	175	..	248	..	635	183	4,838	4,838	3,300	6,147	1,320	225	2,681
Whakatane	1,092	1,067	40	29	2,228	169	288	494	180	..	182	283	468	161	..	314	..	1,280	243	5,603	..	2,376	1,261	1,386	618	2,192
Taupo	518	463	34	31	1,046	81	130	243	95	..	71	134	195	94	..	326	..	77	211	6,743	..	1,834	17,812	2,057	125	3,381
Rotorua	662	643	80	76	1,461	131	189	284	138	..	105	195	290	128	..	145	..	158	187	112	..	789	..	311	50	559
Tauranga	842	749	78	49	1,718	97	255	360	204	..	40	72	181	21	..	225	..	1,561	773	696	..	1,566	..	1	752	1,805
Waikohu	280	179	53	37	549	40	72	181	204	..	39	46	110	21	..	104	..	..	773	696	..	6,155	315	110	250	
Waioira	1,290	1,128	133	110	2,661	180	358	644	241	..	193	314	555	176	..	508	..	137	15	3,590	10,340	771	6,155	315	110	250
Cook	745	571	67	41	1,424	84	162	370	196	..	80	126	251	155	..	310	..	447	1,036	33,467	47,889	3,300	36,591	917	568	1,238
Waiau	1,531	1,343	48	30	2,952	266	412	600	295	..	211	377	550	233	..	231	..	158	342	25,702	5,877	1,771	47,984	1,526	435	695
Hawke's Bay	560	543	71	88	1,262	76	138	313	103	..	65	170	312	83	..	178	..	105	92	9,013	2,628	3,093	51,537	2,080	63	2,339
Patangata	68	55	5	6	134	5	18	37	13	..	11	11	28	11	..	33	..	64	94	112	2,000	933	30,965	1,625	697	388
Waipawa	197	103	19	5	324	2	52	105	37	..	17	19	49	23	..	58	..	77	15	402	..	269	1,990	147	71	46
Waipukurau	5	1	..	1	7	2	..	2	1	..	1	19	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	470	258	4,802	157	61	77
Dannevirke	82	74	..	4	162	10	16	45	13	..	11	22	38	7	..	30	..	..	..	..	40	11	..	25	..	..
Woodville	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	200	3,305	143	4,660	231	..	..
Weber	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wairarapa South	52	55	3	4	114	10	11	23	11	..	..	1	1	..	..	48	..	18	182	1,549	..	1	..	..	..	..
Mauriceville	7	3	..	..	15	1	2	4	2	..	..	2	4	..	..	7	..	2	23	310	450	187	2,928	138	37	18
Eketahuna	4	4	..	..	9	..	..	2	2	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	70	..	12	700	72	18	19
Pahiatua	11	10	..	5	33	2	..	7	5	..	..	6	8	3	..	12	..	2	16	574	..	37	610	115	..	47

MAORI CENSUS, 1911.—PARTICULARS OF COMMUNAL LANDS AND LIVE-STOCK.

Name of Tribe or Hapu.	Name of Incorporated Body or Manager.	Total Area occupied.	Area of Land Occupied.						Live-stock.				
			In Potatoes.	In Wheat.	In Maize.	In other Crops.	In Sown Grasses.	Tussock or other Unimproved.	Sheep.	Horses.	Cattle, including Calves.	Cows in Milk or to calve.	Pigs.
Umuariki	Heliera Rewarewa	Acres. 500	Acres. 1	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	700	3	25	..	..
Te Whanau Rakairoa	Paokahuru Station (Himiona te Owai)	..	..	..	..	500	..	..	1,000	..	..	..	..
Ngaitawera	Totaranui Station (Eruera Moeke)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,500	..	..	..	..
"	Okahu Station (Rora Rangī)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	700	..	..	..	..
"	Totaranui No. 1 Station (Eruera Moeke)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	500	..	..	..	..
"	Kahui Station	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	450	..	..	..	..
"	Puhunga Station (Reupena Rongo)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,400	..	..	..	..
"	Hiona Station (Tuta Hongara)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	300	..	..	..	..
Te Whanau Iri te Kura	Rea Matehe	2,300	..	..	..	2,000	..	..	4,500	3	200	..	..
Ngathorowai	Wiremu Pepera and Pitiroi te Puni	3,000	..	..	..	2,100	..	..	3,000	4	20	..	..
Te Whanau Ruataupare	Mangahauni	..	..	..	..	2,000	..	..	8,000	5	150	..	..
Te Whanau a te Aotawarangi	Tawhiti	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,500	4	..	..	..
Whanau Kahu, Tokata Station	Penetana Pahina	500	13	20	5	200	300	800	100	100	300	300	..
Tuwaakairora, Waione Station	Hohepa Piri	1,000	18	40	10	100	100	500	100	50	..	..	..
Hinerupe, Tautari Station	Hori Mahue	100	..	20	10	100	100	300	..	..	..	..	..
Tuwhakairora, Marangairoa Station	Maaka Pawehera	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,000	..	..	..	..
Hinerupe, Whareraka Station	Tuhaka Kohere	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	600	..	..	..	..
"	Reihana Moari	500	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,000	100	..	..	200
"	Wi te Hiamoa Reihana	3,000	10	4	..	700	..	..	2,000	..	..	..	300
"	Tuhaka Fox	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,500	..	..	..	..
"	Akuaku Station	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,000	..	..	..	..
"	Ohineakai Station	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	300	..	..	..	..
Whanauatahi Station, Pohoterangi	Wi Takoko	500	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,000	..	..	..	..
Wanganui, Morikau Station	G. McGregor	14,195	20	7	14½	2,650	11,470	6,180	135	271	10	25	483
		25,595	61½	91	39½	10,350	25,470	44,730	454	1,016	35	..	1,323

* The figures as shown are not accurate. From other sources it is estimated that the area of land in the Waiapu County in actual cultivation by the Maoris, and improved, totals 74,000; sheep grazing thereon, 142,150; cattle, 3,600. If anything these figures are below the mark.

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