

*Land held by Native Owners in North Island.*

The following figures show the estimated area of Native land in the North Island still held by Natives at 31st March, 1921 :—

Estimated area owned at 31st March, 1920	..	..	..	..	..	Acres.	4,787,686
Disposed of during year :—						Acres.	
Purchased by the Crown	..	..	..	..	..	56,595	
Alienated by sale through Maori Land Boards	..	..	..	..	..	91,518	
							148,113
Total	..	..	..	..	..		4,639,573

Of the land owned by Maoris the following areas are estimated to be profitably occupied :—

Leased through Maori Land Boards	..	..	..	..	..	Acres.	2,853,012
Leased and farmed by East Coast Trust Commissioner	..	..	..	..	..		158,432
Leased by Public Trustee	..	..	..	..	..		139,728
Leased under special enactments	..	..	..	..	..		9,538
Occupied by Maori owners (estimated)	..	..	..	..	..		380,000
							3,540,710
Area of land unoccupied at 31st March, 1921	..	..	..	..	..		1,098,863

The unoccupied lands are estimated to comprise :—

Papatupu lands	..	..	..	..	..		15,014
Vested in Maori Land Boards and undisposed of	..	..	..	..	..		204,294
Vested in East Coast Commissioner	..	..	..	..	..		100,117
Urewera District (unpurchased)	..	..	..	..	..		306,996
Other lands	..	..	..	..	..		472,442
Total	..	..	..	..	..		1,098,863

## DEPARTMENTAL.

The total expenditure of the Department for the year was £38,269, including £2,356 on account of the Native Land Settlement vote, as against £33,096 for last year. The revenue received from all sources was £16,407 2s. 10d.

During the year twenty-two applicants for Native Interpreters' licenses sat for examination; thirteen were successful in obtaining first-grade licenses, while one applicant secured a second-grade license.

## NATIVE TRUST OFFICE.

In pursuance of the decision to set up a Native Trust Office to take over the administration of the Native reserves hitherto administered by the Public Trustee, an Act was passed during last session, and Judge W. E. Rawson was appointed to the position of Native Trustee. The Act came into force on the 1st April.

TABLE A.—NATIVE LAND COURTS.

RETURN OF BUSINESS AND FEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1921.

<i>Native Land Court.</i>							
Number of sittings	..	..	..	..	..		109
Number of cases notified	..	..	..	..	..		27,032
Number of cases for which orders were made	..	..	..	..	..		8,672
Number of cases dismissed	..	..	..	..	..		4,344
Number of cases adjourned <i>sine die</i>	..	..	..	..	..		14,016
Number of partitions made	..	..	..	..	..		813
Area affected (acres)	..	..	..	..	..		317,842
Number of investigations of title	..	..	..	..	..		14
Area affected (acres)	..	..	..	..	..		325
Number of succession orders made	..	..	..	..	..		6,642
Number of other orders made	..	..	..	..	..		2,027
<i>Court Fees.</i>							
Fees received	..	..	..	..	..	£	6,238 1 11
Fees outstanding for period	..	..	..	..	..		125 8 6
<i>Native Appellate Court.</i>							
Number of sittings	..	..	..	..	..		9
Number of cases notified	..	..	..	..	..		78
Native Land Court decisions varied	..	..	..	..	..		8
Native Land Court decisions affirmed	..	..	..	..	..		10
Native Land Court decisions referred back to Native Land Court	..	..	..	..	..		6
Native Land Court decisions annulled	..	..	..	..	..		3
Appeals dismissed or withdrawn	..	..	..	..	..		32
Appeals adjourned <i>sine die</i>	..	..	..	..	..		9
Applications under section 208 ordered	..	..	..	..	..		5
Applications under section 208 dismissed	..	..	..	..	..		5
Applications under section 208 adjourned <i>sine die</i>	..	..	..	..	..		8
<i>Court Fees.</i>							
Fees received	..	..	..	..	..	£	41 16 0
Fees outstanding for period	..	..	..	..	..		2 0 0