

SESSION II.
1921.
NEW ZEALAND.

COOK AND OTHER ISLANDS.

[In continuation of Parliamentary Paper A.—3, 1920.]

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

MEMORANDUM.

THE annual reports of the Resident Commissioners at Rarotonga and Niue are attached hereto.

During the year changes were made in the Administrations of Rarotonga and Niue. Mr. F. W. Platts, who had been Resident Commissioner at Rarotonga for five years, was offered and accepted a position as Stipendiary Magistrate in New Zealand. Mr. J. G. L. Hewitt, S.M., was appointed to succeed Mr. Platts, and took up his duties in February.

Mr. J. C. Evison was appointed Resident Commissioner at Niue in place of Mr. G. N. Morris, who has been transferred to be Treasurer and Collector of Customs at Rarotonga.

The trade returns show a considerable increase in the value of imports—£177,911, as against £142,925 for the previous year; but the exports show a decline, being £94,697 for the year, as against £127,729 for 1919. This is due principally to the falling-off in the export of copra and pearl-shell.

The shipping facilities have improved during the year, and the service is gradually resuming pre-war conditions. There is, however, room for further improvement, and there is no doubt that the time must come when in order to develop the trade of these Islands, the question of providing adequate shipping facilities will have to be seriously tackled.

The reports of the Medical Officers indicate that the health of the people has, on the whole, been good, and the statement that there has been a marked progressive decrease of tuberculosis in the northern islands during the past three years is very satisfactory.

A census of the inhabitants of the Islands was taken simultaneously with the census in New Zealand. The following table shows the population of the various islands:—

COOK AND OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDS.—SUMMARY OF POPULATION.

Table showing the Population (Native and other) of each Inhabited Island at the Census of 17th April, 1921.

Island.	Native Population.			British and Foreign-born Population.			Totals.		
	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	Males.*	Females.*	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.
Aitutaki	682	661	1,343	14	16	30	696	677	1,373
Atiu	432	398	830	4	3	7	436	401	837
Mangaia	625	584	1,209	10	11	21	635	595	1,230
Manihiki	224	205	429	3	..	3	227	205	432
Mauke	296	265	561	12	5	17	308	270	578
Mitiaro	106	101	207	..	..	..	106	101	207
Palmerston	41	42	83	..	..	..	41	42	83
Penrhyn	170	200	370	4	2	6	174	202	376
Pukapuka	288	242	530	..	..	..	288	242	530
Rakahanga	171	138	309	1	..	1	172	138	310
Rarotonga	1,768	1,519	3,287	105	111	216	1,873	1,630	3,503
Totals, Cook and Northern Islands	4,803	4,355	9,158	153	148	301	4,956	4,503	9,459
Niue	1,703	1,988	3,691	33	26	59	1,736	2,014	3,750
Grand totals ..	6,506	6,343	12,849	186	174	360	6,692	6,517	13,209

* Includes twenty-two Native women married to and living as Europeans.

NOTE.—There were no inhabitants at the islands of Manuae and Suwarrow.

M. POMARE,
Minister for the Cook Islands.

COOK ISLANDS.

REPORT OF THE RESIDENT COMMISSIONER OF RAROTONGA FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1921.

SIR,—

Rarotonga, 5th August, 1921.

I have the honour to submit my report to the 31st March, 1921.

As I did not take charge here until the 7th February this year, I am not in a position to deal in detail with matters that are usually covered by Resident Commissioners' reports, and I think it better to leave what I have to say on these matters until I have had the experience of a full year's term of office.

I enclose herewith return showing values of imports and exports, High Court and Native Land Court returns, return of vital statistics, census return, estimates for the year 1921-22, and statement of receipts and expenditure to the 31st March, 1921. The Medical Officer's report for the year has already been forwarded to the Secretary.

I wish to draw particular attention to the financial position of the Administration as on the 31st March. The statement of receipts and expenditure shows a credit balance of £7,939 15s. 1d. This balance is made up as under:—

	£	s.	d.
Fixed deposit with Bank of New Zealand, Auckland	1,000	0	0
Cash on current account, Bank of New Zealand, Auckland	3,069	7	2
Cash in Treasury, Rarotonga	1,305	17	7
Debts due to Administration	£3,152	3	1
<i>Less amounts owing by Administration</i>	587	12	9
	2,564	10	4
	£7,939	15	1

The amount mentioned above as being owing by the Administration—namely, £587 12s. 9d.—is made up of sums deposited by Natives for safe deposit—trust funds that should at all times be available to meet applications for withdrawal. The actual working balance is therefore reduced to £3,437 11s. 7d.

Against this there were debts due by the Administration, incurred prior to the 31st March, amounting to £7,126 19s. 10d. Of this amount £5,126 19s. 10d. has already been paid, and the balance will be paid as soon as funds are available.

There are sums amounting in the aggregate to £4,649 due to the Administration for wireless receipts, stamp sales, High Court fines and fees, &c., for the period 1920-21, and as these come in the pressure will be much relieved.

As the position is at present it is not possible for me to undertake any new work, and I am confining myself to general organization and to carrying out some very necessary repairs to Government buildings and officers' residences.

I estimate the revenue for this year at between £16,000 and £17,000, and expenditure at £21,895. This expenditure, of course, includes the debts due before the 31st March, already referred to.

I have, &c.,

J. GEORGE L. HEWITT,

Resident Commissioner.

The Hon. Dr. Pomare, C.M.G., Minister for the Cook Islands, Wellington.

EXTRACT FROM REPORT OF CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER, RAROTONGA (DR. R. S. TROTTER).

Rarotonga, 30th April, 1921.

In Rarotonga 7,460 visits and attendances were made upon Maoris, and 431 upon Europeans; total, 7,891. In the outer islands 2,484 visits were made. The sickness rate has been less than for the previous year. Ten islands outside Rarotonga were visited during the year, but owing to lack of communication we were unable to call at Takutea, Suwarrow (at present uninhabited), Palmerston, and Nassau.

In the northern islands there has been a marked decrease of tuberculosis, and this has been progressive during the past three years.

Hospital: 139 in-patients were treated at the hospital during the year: the average stay was eighteen days. Eighteen major and thirty-five minor operations were performed, and a large number of minor operations upon out-patients. Under the latter category came a number of injections of salvarsan, which were given by the Assistant Medical Officer for the treatment of yaws, with good result.

Dentist: The appointment of a dentist would be a great boon to the island. Dental caries is most common, and good prophylactic work in this respect would save endless trouble for these people in later life.

Aitutaki: Four visits were paid to this island, where the Assistant Medical Officer performed thirteen operations, and treated eighteen cases of yaws with salvarsan injections, with apparently good results. There are now only two lepers left at Moturakau, both in an advanced stage of the disease.

Mangaia: The settlements were all inspected and found to have little sickness except of a chronic nature. A nurse is being sent to Mangaia.

Atiu: Three brief visits were paid to this island. The new water-tanks and washing-places are proving of considerable advantage to the people.

Manuae: This island was visited twice, and there was no sickness on the island on either occasion.

Mauke: Only one short visit was paid, owing to want of communication. Medical attention is required, and it is hoped that better arrangements will be possible during the coming year.

Mitiaro: Eighteen days were put in here, and the health of the people as a whole is good.

Pukapuka: Three visits were paid, and the health of the people was good. Additional water-tanks are needed at Ato and Roto.

Rakahanga and Manihiki: Five brief visits to both islands, where the health of the people is good. The settlement at Rakahanga was becoming overcrowded, but this matter is being stopped and rectified.

Penrhyn: Two visits were made. The settlements were both well kept and looked after, and the health of the people generally was good.

On the whole, health matters in these islands are improving, and our educational efforts amongst the people are doing some good.

REPORTS OF REGISTRAR.

SIR,— Cook Islands Administration, Rarotonga, 30th July, 1921.

I have the honour to submit my report on the work of the High Court for the financial year ending 31st March, 1921.

The number of cases heard were as follows: Criminal, 760; civil, 79. Fees and fines received: Criminal, £728 17s. 6d.; civil, £24 4s.; miscellaneous, £1 15s.: total, £754 16s. 6d.

The following fees were also collected by this office: Car fees, £65; dog-tax, £35 10s.; fruit-buyers' licenses, £11; market stalls, 12s.; visiting foreign passports, £4 10s.; cinema licenses, £30; printing account, £11 10s. 6d.; miscellaneous, £2 10s.: total, £160 13s.

The work in this office during the past three years has been very heavy; I have had to undertake the clerical work in connection with the Resident Commissioner's Office.

Attached hereto is return showing vital statistics for the Group, and the census returns for the islands of Rarotonga, Aitutaki, Mangaia, Atiu, and Mauke.

I have, &c.,

S. SAVAGE, Registrar.

The Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga.

SIR,— Cook Islands Administration, Rarotonga, 30th July, 1921.

I have the honour to submit my report on the Native Land Court for the year ending 31st March, 1921.

The total fees collected for Rarotonga amounted to £55 6s. 6d. At the close of the financial year the outstanding fees were £762 0s. 7d. Of this amount the sum of £20 16s. 6d. has since been collected and paid to the Treasury. As soon as the Resident Agents have supplied this office with a full statement of the amounts they have remitted direct to the Treasurer, we will then be in a position to credit each title with the amounts thus paid and the actual outstanding balance arrived at.

We have now entered on a vigorous campaign in collecting all outstanding fees, and it is anticipated that at the end of the present financial year these outstanding fees will have been very considerably reduced, if not all paid up; indeed, our aim is to endeavour to have the total amount collected.

I have, &c.,

S. SAVAGE, Registrar.

The Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The following is the return of births, deaths, and marriages for each island. Unfortunately, owing to the infrequency of communication with the northern islands, a complete return from each of the northern islands is not available for this return.

Island.	Births.				Deaths.				Marriages.	
	Maori.		European.		Maori.		European.		Maori.	European.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
Rarotonga ..	58	62	2	2	42	38	2	2	51	2
Aitutaki ..	38	26	..	..	21	18	1	..	6	..
Mangaia ..	23	20	..	..	15	22	1	..	14	..
Atiu ..	22	17	..	..	14	17	..	..	9	..
Mauke ..	12	8	..	..	16	6	..	..	4	..
Penrhyn*	5	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Manihiki*	5	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rakahanga*	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	165	139	2	2	108	101	4	2	84	2

* The returns from these islands are up to September, 1920.

S. SAVAGE, Registrar.

CENSUS, 1921.

The following are the census returns for the islands of Rarotonga, Aitutaki, Mangaia, Atiu, Mauke, Penrhyn, Manihiki, Rakahanga, Pukapuka, and Palmerston.

<i>Rarotonga.</i>					<i>Mauke.</i>					
Native population .. .. .	..	..	..	3,219	Native population .. .. .	..	..	..	712
European population .. .. .	..	..	..	204	Europeans, including 8 under age of sixteen years	..	..	..	17
Total .. .. .	..	..	..	3,423	Total .. .. .	..	..	..	729
<i>Aitutaki.</i>					<i>Penrhyn.</i>					
Native population .. .. .	..	..	..	1,342	Native population .. .. .	..	..	..	373
European population, including 14 half-castes who live as Europeans .. .. .	..	..	..	31	Europeans .. .. .	..	..	..	3
Total .. .. .	..	..	..	1,373	Total .. .. .	..	..	..	376
<i>Mangaia.</i>					<i>Manihiki.</i>					
Native population .. .. .	..	..	..	1,207	Native population .. .. .	..	..	..	420
European population, including 16 under age of sixteen years .. .. .	..	..	..	24	Europeans .. .. .	..	..	..	2
Total .. .. .	..	..	..	1,231	Total .. .. .	..	..	..	422
<i>Atiu.</i>					<i>Rakahanga.</i>					
Native population .. .. .	..	..	..	835	Native population .. .. .	..	..	..	309
Europeans .. .. .	..	..	..	2	European .. .. .	..	..	..	1
Total .. .. .	..	..	..	837	Total .. .. .	..	..	..	310
					<i>Pukapuka.</i>					
					Total Native population					530
					<i>Palmerston.</i>					83
					Total population					83

S. SAVAGE, Registrar.

COOK ISLANDS ADMINISTRATION.

Revenue Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1921.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Balance, 31st March, 1920	8,585	8	7	Marriage fees	33	6	6
Customs duties—				Fruit-inspection	1,475	7	5
Rarotonga	9,198	15	2	Ammunition Account	270	11	6
New Zealand	1,876	10	8	Liquor Account	2,662	4	9
Export duties—				Truck Account	24	17	6
Copra	1,018	1	6	Dog-tax	35	10	6
Shell	119	19	8	Post-office boxes and telephone rents	87	8	6
Traders' license fees	551	10	0	Wireless revenue	621	9	7
Stamp sales—				Post-cards	1	1	10
Rarotonga	826	7	2	Passport fees	4	10	0
New Zealand	2,971	19	5	Miscellaneous	0	10	0
Fees and fines, High Court—				Lepor Account receipts	0	10	0
Rarotonga	758	1	6	Hospital Account	37	9	6
Aitutaki	113	16	6	Hospital, contingencies	17	5	6
Mangaia	49	3	0	High Court, contingencies	0	1	0
Mauke	46	10	0	Education Account, contingencies	161	4	9
Atiu	1	7	0	Postal and telephone, contingencies	1	0	0
Penrhyn	53	1	0	Farm	34	6	0
Manihiki	78	8	0	Government buildings (sales, &c.)	18	10	9
Land Court	133	14	3	Roads	2	14	0
Water rates—				Ngatangiia School	1	14	0
Avarua	200	18	0	Water Account receipts	61	17	3
Arorangi	70	8	0	Aitutaki Wharf	211	15	4
Ngatangiia	38	10	0	Freezer Trading Account	2,525	4	6
Matavera	38	11	0	Customhouse	23	0	6
Titikaveka	54	18	0	Cement Account	146	19	6
Muri	25	8	0	Timber Account	45	7	6
Shipping fees	4	10	6	Fruit-trees	28	15	0
Hall licenses	30	0	0	Mangaia School	0	6	9
Interest	35	0	0	Tanks, Mitiaro	0	4	2
Rents	129	17	0				
Motor-vehicle fees	65	0	0				
Road rates	73	10	0				
					£35,684	8	0

Expenditure for the Year ended 31st March, 1921.

Service.	Voted.	Expended.	Service.	Voted.	Expended.
VOTE	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	VOTE	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Engineer and Surveyor	370 0 0	246 13 4	45. Subsidy, carrying mails in Group	30 0 0	..
2. Registrar, Interpreter, and Printer	150 0 0	412 10 0	46. Subsidy, wireless station, Rarotonga	500 0 0	..
3. Postmaster ..	350 0 0	408 15 0	47. Subsidy, destruction of flying-foxes and rats	800 0 0	571 11 6
4. Hospital Nurse, Rarotonga (Miss L'Amie)	175 0 0	262 9 0	48. Assistant Printer ..	108 0 0	{ 43 15 0 107 6 8
5. Hospital Nurses, Aitutaki—			49. Allowance to Registrars of Births, Deaths, and Marriages, Mitiaro, Palmerston, and Pukapuka	11 0 0	..
Miss La Fontaine ..	200 0 0	252 1 8	50. Postal and telephone service, Rarotonga	200 0 0	558 15 9
Miss King ..	..	5 0 0	51. Experimental farm ..	350 0 0	352 5 11
6. Foreman of Works ..	210 0 0	140 0 0	52. Upkeep of Government buildings	150 0 0	1,577 8 10
7. Draughtsman ..	200 0 0	195 13 4	53. Roads and bridges ..	800 0 0	793 5 7
8. Island allowance, Collector of Customs	125 0 0	220 0 0	54. Atiu Residency ..	600 0 0	..
9. Island allowance, Sergeant of Police	25 0 0	66 6 8	55. Aitutaki road subsidy..	50 0 0	..
10. Clerk, Land Office ..	100 0 0	73 6 8	56. Ngatangia School ..	800 0 0	1,508 19 4
11. Clerk, Registrar's Office	130 0 0	131 13 4	Customs duties ..	..	0 2 11
12. Clerk, Post Office ..	130 0 0	127 10 0	High Court, Aitutaki ..	..	0 10 0
13. Clerk, Commissioner's Office	52 0 0	18 2 11	Fruit-inspection ..	..	501 16 7
14. Clerk, Treasury and Collector of Customs	130 0 0	127 10 0	Ammunition Account ..	..	185 8 9
15. Cadet, Registrar's Office	62 0 0	63 13 4	Liquor Account ..	..	2,292 0 7
16. Resident Agent, Mangaia	300 0 0	325 0 0	Truck Account ..	..	222 10 1
17. Resident Agent, Atiu ..	250 0 0	125 0 0	Water Account ..	..	1,102 8 2
18. Resident Agent, Aitutaki	300 0 0	260 0 0	Aitutaki Wharf ..	..	111 15 3
19. Resident Agent, Penrhyn	250 0 0	125 0 0	Freezer Trading Account	..	3,072 6 7
20. Resident Agent, Manihiki and Rakahanga	220 0 0	100 0 0	(Dr. balance, 31/3/20, £21)		
21. Resident Agent, Pukapuka	220 0 0	55 0 0	Customhouse ..	..	140 5 3
22. Resident Agent, Mauke	300 0 0	150 0 0	Cement Account ..	..	146 19 6
23. Native Agent, Mitiaro	60 0 0	30 0 0	Timber Account ..	..	45 7 6
24. Native police, Rarotonga	218 0 0	322 14 0	Fruit-trees ..	..	34 9 3
25. Native police, Aitutaki	60 0 0	45 0 0	Mangaia School ..	..	259 0 4
26. Native police, Mauke ..	30 0 0	14 0 0	Tanks, Mitiaro ..	..	0 11 8
27. Native police, Mitiaro ..	15 0 0	7 10 0	Car ..	..	259 18 4
28. Native police, Penrhyn	21 0 0	9 5 0	Whare Manuhiri ..	..	138 0 7
29. Native police, Mangaia	41 0 0	20 10 0	Cadets ..	..	95 19 2
30. Native police, Manihiki and Rakahanga	30 0 0	15 0 0	Packing-shed ..	..	71 15 11
31. Native police, Atiu ..	30 0 0	12 10 0	Freezer Engineer's residence	..	283 1 10
32. Native Assessor, Rakahanga	20 0 0	10 0 0	Library ..	..	2 6 2
33. Maintenance of lunatics	180 0 0	95 12 0	Electric Light Account ..	..	139 17 0
34. Maintenance of lepers	270 0 0	348 12 9	Mauke, tanks ..	..	34 6 6
35. Hospital supplies and attendance	1,000 0 0	2,844 14 4	Atiu bathing-pool ..	..	89 14 3
36. Rent, wharf-site ..	5 0 0	9 7 6	Parliamentary party ..	..	23 9 0
Rent, Post-office site ..	8 15 0	8 15 0	Clerk, Aitutaki ..	..	5 0 0
Postmaster's house ..	12 0 0	18 0 0	Atiu, tanks ..	..	50 6 3
Rent, grounds and office, Mangaia	..	33 0 0	Wireless station ..	..	47 15 1
37. Contingent expenditure—General	500 0 0	1,424 1 0	Cost-of-living bonus ..	..	90 0 0
38. Contingent expenditure—High Court	300 0 0	734 15 3	Aitutaki, water ..	..	21 0 5
39. Contingent expenditure—Land Court	300 0 0	168 18 8	Atiu, cargo-shed ..	..	106 4 0
40. Contingent expenditure—Education	500 0 0	2,208 15 6	Customs cadet ..	..	11 2 3
41. Subsidy, boatman, Mangaia	10 0 0	5 0 0	Audit expenses ..	..	164 0 0
42. Subsidy, boatman, Aitutaki	15 0 0	10 4 0	Aitutaki, boat ..	..	32 7 8
43. Subsidy, boatman, Atiu	3 0 0	1 10 0	Printing-house ..	..	75 9 6
44. Subsidy, boatman, Mauke	6 0 0	3 0 0	High Court, Rakahanga ..	..	20 0 0
			Island allowance, Secretary Nurse, Mangaia ..	..	29 18 3
			Mangaia, water ..	..	9 17 0
					1 2 6
			Total expenditure ..	..	27,744 12 11
			Balance, 31st March, 1921	..	7,939 15 1
			Total ..	..	35,684 8 0

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cash	1,305	17	7
Fixed deposit	1,000	0	0
Bank current account	3,407	15	1			
Less unrepresented cheques	338	7	11			
Accounts due to Administration	3,069	7	2
Less accounts owing by Administration	3,152	3	1
							8,527	7	10
							587	12	9
							<u>£7,939</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>1</u>

Estimated Expenditure for the Year 1921-22.

	£		£
Salaries and contingencies—			
Aitutaki	500	Police—Salaries, uniforms, &c. ..	1,000
Atiu	300	Post Office—Salaries and contingencies ..	750
Mangaia	450	Printing Department	600
Manihiki and Rakahanga	250	Prisoners	500
Mauke	350	Public works, including running and upkeep of motor vehicles, &c.	2,000
Mitiaro	75	Resident Commissioner's Office—Salaries and contingencies	600
Penryhn	270	Roads and bridges	500
Atiu—Residence for nurse	250	Subsidy, flying-foxes and rats	600
Courts—Salaries and contingencies	1,600	Telephone service	200
Education	1,000	Treasury and Customs—Salaries and contingencies ..	400
Experimental farm	350	Water Account	350
Freezer	650	Whare Manuhiri	500
Government buildings, officers' residences, repairs, additions, general maintenance ..	1,750	Wireless station	1,500
Furnishings, Government buildings, officers' residences, &c.	750	Contingencies, general	1,000
Hospital and medical services	2,500		
Lepers	250		
Lunatics	100		
			<u>£21,895</u>

S. FOSTER, Acting-Treasurer.

COOK ISLANDS ADMINISTRATION.

Port of Rarotonga.—Value of Imports for the Year ended 31st December, 1920.

Article.	United Kingdom.	New Zealand.	United States of America.	Tahiti.	Other Places.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Agricultural produce .. .. .	..	776	..	..	..	776
Animals (live) .. .. .	..	75	..	20	..	95
Apparel, drapery, silks, &c.	2,348	12,146	3,449	406	287	18,636
Bags and sacks .. .. .	..	1,274	292	..	..	1,566
Biscuits and cabin-bread .. .. .	..	7,451	75	..	59	7,585
Bicycles, tricycles, motor-cars, &c.	1,060	3,575	5,384	2	..	10,021
Boots and shoes .. .. .	..	539	1,064	..	94	1,697
Butter and cheese .. .. .	..	1,652	..	..	..	1,652
Building-material and timber for fruit-cases ..	118	16,208	6,893	383	..	23,602
Cordage and twine .. .. .	..	754	713	78	..	1,545
Cotton piece-goods	4,597	12,250	4,647	36	25	21,555
Drugs and chemicals	423	531	497	..	30	1,481
Fish (preserved)	9	1,421	1,830	..	..	3,260
Flour .. .. .	..	10,013	..	24	..	10,037
Furniture	37	2,764	875	185	269	4,130
Hardware, tools, iron, and machinery	284	9,590	4,317	67	8	14,266
Meat (frozen), &c. .. .. .	..	12,009	..	..	..	12,009
Oils, &c.	39	1,239	7,050	1,386	..	9,714
Provisions n.o.e.	90	8,642	1,548	45	46	10,371
Rice .. .. .	..	304	2,355	..	115	2,774
Stationery, books, &c.	166	2,399	1,841	10	58	4,474
Sugar .. .. .	..	5,463	5	..	..	5,468
Tea and coffee, &c. .. .. .	..	675	4	1	..	680
Tobacco, cigars, and cigarettes	39	2,809	67	14	37	2,966
Miscellaneous	140	4,861	821	1,224	505	7,551
	<u>9,350</u>	<u>119,420</u>	<u>43,727</u>	<u>3,881</u>	<u>1,533</u>	<u>177,911</u>

SUMMARY.

	£
New Zealand	119,420
United Kingdom	9,350
United States of America	43,727
Tahiti	3,881
Other places	1,533
	<u>£177,911</u>

COOK ISLANDS ADMINISTRATION.

Return showing Value of Exports for the Year ended 31st December, 1920.

Article.	Where exported.	Quantity.	Value.	Total.
Bananas	New Zealand	25,944 cases	£ 12,859	£ 12,859
Oranges	New Zealand	109,480 „	36,490	36,490
Tomatoes	New Zealand	20,235 „	11,127	11,127
Pines	New Zealand	928 „	360	360
Coconuts	New Zealand	3,109 sacks	1,554	2,599
	United States of America	2,178 „	1,045	
		5,287 sacks		
Lemons	New Zealand	941 cases	225	225
Mandarins	New Zealand	321 „	141	141
Kumaras and taro	New Zealand	1,903 „	740	740
Coffee	New Zealand	3½ tons	448	448
Shell	United Kingdom	30 „	2,400	2,400
Copra	New Zealand	52 tons	1,300	27,308
	United States of America	901 „	24,238	
	Tahiti	49 „	1,770	
		1,002 tons		
Total .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	94,697

SUMMARY.

	£
New Zealand	65,244
United Kingdom	2,400
United States of America	25,283
Tahiti	1,770
	<u>£94,697</u>

GUY N. MORRIS,
Collector of Customs.

NIUE ISLAND.

REPORT OF RESIDENT COMMISSIONER.

SIR,—

Alofi, Niue, 1st April, 1921.

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my report on the work of the Niue Administration for the year ended 31st March, 1921.

FINANCE.

The total revenue for the period just closed amounted to £6,938 9s. 2d. It must be noted, though, that one item of revenue comprises £2,000, being the donation so kindly given for hospital purposes to the Administration by the Red Cross Society of New Zealand, and the subsidy added by the Government of that Dominion. The item "Refund of advance made to Samoan Administration" is simply a cross-entry, and arises from the fact that, on the occasion of the engagement of labour here last April, the Niue Administration paid, on behalf of the Samoan Government, the amount named as an instalment of wages to the labourers concerned.

The increased expenditure, which is a record in that direction, is mainly due to the heavy outlay in connection with the hospital scheme. Had regular communication with New Zealand been maintained it would have been considerably greater. There are two new items of expenditure, one of which—namely, "Advance to Samoan Administration"—has been explained in the preceding paragraph. Regarding the other item, that entitled "Firearms and Ammunition Account," it was decided during the year, owing to the ravages of *kale*, wild pigs, &c., to import a quantity of ammunition and firearms for sale to those Natives wishing to get rid of these pests. The amount named has been expended, but the goods have not yet come to hand, hence the fact that no mention has been made of anything in this direction in the statement of revenue. The expenditure on the medical side was increased very greatly during the year. This is accounted for by one or two facts. The salary of Nurse Copland is paid by this Administration and debited to the Medical Account, although she was engaged in and sent from New Zealand for work on this island. It cannot be too strongly urged that the salaries of all white officers sent from the mainland for service on this island should be paid by the New Zealand Government. During the year it was found necessary to purchase a new set of instruments and appliances for the medical work.

The balance in hand is also a record one, but is naturally swelled by the hospital donation and our inability to get, owing to the dislocation of the subsidized shipping service, all the material so urgently needed for carrying on our work here.

TRADE.

The value of the imports for the year just ended amount to £20,524, being £1,259 less than for the preceding year. Of course, high prices account, as they have done for the last few years, for such large figures. But even then, if a fair deduction to cover the increase of prices be made, the result is an amount hitherto beaten only thrice since the occupation of this island by the New Zealand Government. Every year the demand for European foodstuffs and clothing on the part of the Natives is becoming greater; consequently, given regular communication with the outside world, this item should always be an increasing one. As this demand becomes greater the use of money will ever be more acutely felt by the Natives, upon whom the effect of such should be in the direction of compelling them to go in more extensively for the growing of coconuts and other tropical produce. Here again, had communication with New Zealand been maintained right throughout the year, a record in imports would presumably have resulted.

The value of the exports is very much down, there being a decrease from last year of £22,837. But in connection with this decrease one point has to be remembered, and that is this: the main article exported from Niue is copra, on which the average valuation for the year just closed was 33 per cent. higher than for the preceding year. It follows, then, that the drop is more serious than it appears at first sight to be. The main causes in the decrease in export are these: Only a small number of ships capable of carrying outward cargo visited Niue during the year. Of the nine ships that entered, four of them did not take a single pound of outward cargo. Then, those that did carry anything away were only two small schooners capable of carrying only small cargoes. Moreover, the island was visited in the early part of last year by a small hurricane, which, while it did not do a great deal of damage at the time, still accounted for a shortage of copra, because for months subsequent to that event great quantities of nuts continued to drop prematurely from the trees, owing to the great shaking they then received. It goes without saying that the unfortunate loss of the subsidized schooner "Jubilee" naturally caused a great amount of dislocation of trade.

At present the prospects for the coming year are promising as far as the production of copra is concerned. The coconut-trees apparently have recovered from the hurricane mentioned above, as they all seem to be bearing excellently, due to a very great extent to the careful attention that has been given to the weeding of plantations.

SHIPPING.

The subsidized schooner service proved a failure last year, despite the fact that the vessel used was an auxiliary schooner. To begin with, she did not arrive here on her first trip till the beginning of the second week in May. Then it took over two months for her to return to Niue on her second trip. Unfortunately, on her third trip to Niue from Auckland, which port she left on 14th August she disappeared, and has not been heard of since. This is the second schooner subsidized by the New Zealand Government to run to Niue that has been lost within two years. Other vessels that have called at Niue during the year were the "Mokoia" (with the Parliamentary Party on board), the "Ogre" (the small pleasure-ship of Mr. Ralph Stock, the author), H.M.S. "Veronica," N.Z.G.S. "Tutanekai," and the auxiliary schooner "Ajax" (three times), from Samoa.

Never has there been felt greater need for a regular and more frequent service than has been felt during the last year. On four occasions relief in the shape of foodstuffs had to be brought to the inhabitants of this island. Had it not been for the timely visits of the "Mokoia," "Veronica," "Tutanekai," and "Ajax," it would have been very awkward for white and brown people alike. Fortunately there was no hurricane during the hurricane season just closing, otherwise all and sundry would have fared very badly. Much-needed provisions, that in the ordinary run of even an erratic subsidized service should have reached us last November, have not yet put in an appearance, and probably will not do so for some considerable time yet. The crying need of this isolated outlier of the Empire is regular, consistent, and dependable communication, spread over the whole year, by means of a good and efficient vessel. The conditions which obtain now very materially hinder the progress of the island. Until such time as a regular service can be instituted, trade and agriculture will languish, for it is impossible to get the Natives to go in for extensive planting without being able to assure them of a steady, regular, and efficient means of getting their produce away.

Consequent on the loss of the "Jubilee," the "Veronica" called here at the beginning of last November, followed by the "Ajax" later in the same month. Advantage was taken of the visit of the last-named vessel to send her to Beveridge Reef to search for the "Jubilee." After a thorough search no signs of her were discovered. Immediately on the return to port of the "Ajax" the "Tutanekai" arrived in quest of the "Jubilee." So that apparently nothing was left undone by the New Zealand Government to ascertain fully the fate of the unfortunate schooner.

HOSPITAL.

On the receipt early last year of the plans and specifications drawn up by Dr. Chesson, the erection of the Lord Liverpool Hospital was immediately proceeded with. The Administration was very fortunate in obtaining as foreman of works a very capable man, who has evinced the greatest interest in the progress of the buildings pertaining thereto. So far the work done is of a very satisfactory nature. From the outset the work was assiduously carried out by Native labour, until

the unfortunate loss of the "Jubilee," which at the time of her loss had on board a great quantity of material for the proposed buildings, practically put an end to all regular work in connection with them. However, the main building, with the exception of facings, windows, &c., is about three-parts finished, and so far is a credit to the foreman before mentioned. The only outbuildings nearing completion are the morgue and the laundry. The foundations of the operating-theatre, the kitchen, and bathrooms, however, are down, and await the time when suitable material is available. At present everything is at a complete standstill, as there is an absolute lack of every description of building-material except roofing-iron. It is therefore difficult at this date to say when the buildings will be ready for their legitimate purpose, as there is yet a great deal of work to be done and a large sum of money to be spent on them.

To date the expenditure on this account has been over £2,400, which does not include cost of material now on order. Despite the fact that donations amounting to £2,000 are available for this work, the great cost of the scheme will mean a very heavy drain on an already restricted revenue. The scheme, it is feared, is rather too elaborate for a small Administration to be responsible for, more especially when urgent calls for good roads, education, regular communication with New Zealand, infant welfare, and other needs are heard on every hand. The present and future funds of this Administration will have to be most carefully guarded and conserved to enable the hospital scheme to be well founded and efficiently carried on.

The most cordial thanks of one and all on this island are due to the Red Cross Society of New Zealand and the New Zealand Government for the very handsome donations made by each towards the cost of this important and necessary work. It goes without saying that in the absence of such liberality the local Administration would not have been able to venture upon even a limited hospital scheme for very many years to come.

PUBLIC WORKS.

In addition to the work on the hospital buildings the work of re-forming and widening roads was continued. The following roads were attended to, and are now in good order: Mana corner to Lakepa (six miles); Mutalau to Liku (seven miles); Tuapa to Hikutavake (two miles); and a short piece at Fatiaua. The road from Alofi to Mana corner will receive attention during the coming year, while a beginning will be made with the new road from Amanau to Tamakautoga. Owing to the loss of the "Jubilee" it was impossible to commence these works earlier, as the Administration is very short of the necessary materials and tools.

When the coming year's programme of roadwork is complete an endeavour will be made to obtain a good maintenance gang to keep the whole of the roads in thorough order. Without work of this description the cost of repairing roads will always be recurring and heavy. Once a road is in good order little effort on the part of a good maintenance gang will be needed to keep it so.

In the very near future the expenditure in connection with public works will be very greatly increased, for, apart from the large amount of money that has yet to be used to complete the hospital scheme, there are at least four residences for white officers to be built very shortly. Then there will be a substantial outlay to face when the proposed installation of the wireless scheme is set in motion. Furthermore, the inauguration of the proposed copra-purchase scheme will naturally tend to drain the financial resources of the Administration to a very low ebb. Then, it will not be long before a large sum of money will be required for extensive additions and alterations to the present jetty.

POPULATION.

During the year 1920 seventy-five Native men and fourteen women left Niue, while forty-five men and twelve women came in. Included in the number of emigrants is a labour gang of fifty men and three women that was sent to Western Samoa at the request of the Administrator of that territory. But, as these will return to Niue this month, a temporary loss of Native population to the extent of thirty-two will then resolve itself into a gain of twenty-five. In addition to these movements five Europeans left the island and twenty-one arrived.

The following table shows the position as regards births, deaths, and marriages for the year 1920, as well as for the six years immediately preceding it:—

Year.	Births.	Deaths.	Marriages.
1914-15	93	73	70
1915-16	94	100	41
1916-17	82	128	63
1917 (nine months only)	100	137	37
1918	95	178	43
1919	110	126	71
1920	92	104	45

Again there is a loss as between births and deaths, although smaller than for the preceding year. The matter of a small birth-rate is a serious one on this island, where population, sparse, is ever dwindling. Until these people are brought to a sense of their responsibility in this matter little improvement under this heading will be attained. An urgent necessity here is a system of baby bonuses—a system which could be easily and effectively carried out under the direction of the medical department.

There is a decrease in the number of marriages as compared with the year 1919, but this is partly accounted for by the fact that forty-five of the members of the labour gang now in Samoa are single men of marriageable age.

EDUCATION.

During the year there has been an advance under this heading, for last July a new village school was opened at Hakupu, a village eight miles from headquarters. The grounds and the necessary school-buildings were presented to the Administration free of charge by the villagers, who themselves erected the building. The school is 40 ft. long and 30 ft. wide, with a veranda 8 ft. wide running right round. The whole of the timber, with the exception of that for the two doors, was obtained in the bush close to the village. The walls are made of native lime overlying interlaced laths of native timber. Below the top plate there is an open space 3 ft. high all round the room, by means of which difficulties of ventilation are reduced to a minimum. The twelve windows, each about 6 ft. high, are made of louvres of native timber. The sill of every window is 5 ft. above the floor, which, while it does away with direct glare, also prevents the idle pupil from having his attention attracted by outside objects. The roof is made of a thatch of sugar-cane leaves, which helps considerably in keeping the room cool. Owing to the lack of desks and forms, the pupils while at work squat on large Native mats.

When the school was opened it was found necessary that the headmaster at Tufukia School, who controlled both schools, should reside in Hakupu, where he taught for four days every week—Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday. To enable the full school time of twenty-five hours a week to be covered it was necessary to actually teach for over six and a half hours on each of those days. On Tuesday and Thursday of each week he spent the whole of each day at Tufukia School, where, in addition to taking his share of active school-work, he had to instruct the staff for three hours a day. It was, of course, necessary for him to have assistance at Hakupu, and Miss Evison was appointed assistant teacher there.

In addition to the junior school, an adult school of over thirty men and women was established and successfully carried on. Wednesday and Friday afternoons were given up to this latter work, when at least five hours a week were occupied in teaching eager pupils.

The following table shows the position regarding attendance at both schools during the year 1920 :—

	Tufukia.			Hakupu.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Roll number at beginning of year ..	139	81	220	56	50	106
Roll number at end of year ..	128	93	221	56	49	105
Average attendance for whole year ..	127.40	86.44	213.84	51.59	45.32	96.91

During the year the people of Mutalau (the second-largest village on the island) and Tuapa gave a piece of land for school purposes in each village. A school in the first-named village would cater for the children of it and of Lakepa, an adjacent village. One at Tuapa would be sufficient and convenient for all the children of the villages of Tuapa, Makefu, and Hikutavake. The people of Mutalau and Lakepa have already cut the necessary timber for their proposed school, and I hope soon to be able to have the pleasure of informing you that the erection of the building is well on the way. There is, unfortunately, a hitch in connection with the offer made by Tuapa, but I am hoping that the matter will in a very short time be satisfactorily adjusted.

MEDICAL.

Without doubt this is the most important side of the work of the Administration, for without a healthy people you cannot expect anything to be brought to a successful issue—it is useless to do anything else without a surety of health and a steady increase in population. But the work is greatly handicapped here by reason of the limited means placed at our disposal to enable the most efficient work possible to be done. Too much praise, however, cannot be bestowed upon the present Medical Officer for his willing, unselfish, and efficient service. But it is impossible for one medical man to spread himself over eleven villages and expect to do absolutely successful work. The most that can be expected of him is the best he can do under existing circumstances, and that best he does at all times of the day and night.

A very valuable assistant is Nurse Copland, who took up her duties in Niue last May. She came here ostensibly to act as a Plunket nurse, but the conditions have been such since her arrival that she has really been a district nurse. The great number of villages, and these all great distances apart; the uncertainty of the means of travel; the utter inability of these people to do anything at all for their babies, except under close and regular supervision—all make it most difficult for one nurse to do in its entirety the work of a Plunket nurse, be she ever so willing and efficient. Nurse Copland deserves all the encomiums bestowed upon her, for she is most untiring in her work, displays a very great interest in it and her patients, has a great amount of ability, and uses that tact so necessary in dealing with people who are naturally lacking in confidence in a medical service placed under the control of white people.

LABOUR.

Last April a gang of fifty-three Niue labourers was sent to Samoa, at the request of the Western Samoan Administration, to engage in public works in that territory. It was then arranged that that would be the last occasion on which permission would be granted to engage labourers in Niue to work in other islands; and I am very pleased to note the subsequent confirmation of this principle contained in a memorandum written by you to this Administration. The future of this island lies in the development of its central portion and the expansion of the systematic growing of coconuts and other tropical products. Consequently all the available labour on the island is necessary to aid in progress along those lines.

HIGH COURT AND NATIVE LAND COURT.

During the year 443 criminal cases were dealt with—easily a record, being 119 in excess of those for the preceding year. But it must not be thought that there has been an increase in actual crime to the extent indicated—far from it; in fact, the number of really criminal cases was less than in the year 1919. The increase shown arose mainly from the bringing into force at the close of the year 1919 of an Ordinance that was very necessary in combating certain Native vices. In addition to this, the greater activity on the part of the police, due to greater efficiency under present conditions, is responsible for a great part of the increase.

The civil work comprised two cases for the recovery of debt, and seventeen cases of divorce. In the Native Land Court twenty-eight applications for adoptions were dealt with.

ISLAND COUNCIL.

During the year the above-named body met four times. The only legislation put through was an Ordinance entitled "The Niue Traders' Hours of Business Amendment Ordinance," under which the usual weekly half-holiday was changed from Wednesday to Saturday afternoon.

METEOROLOGICAL.

The principal readings under this heading were: Barometer—mean for the year, 30.03 in. Thermometer—mean maximum, 84.84; mean minimum, 69.68; maximum temperature for year, 96 (in March); minimum temperature for year, 57 (in June). Rainfall—total amount for year, 73.29 in. Rain fell on 150 days.

POSTAL.

The volume of business in this department for the year was easily a record. The following are the principal figures: Money-orders—issued, £3,479 18s. 1d.; paid, £649 14s. Savings-bank—deposits, £3,122 3s.; withdrawals, £3,316 9s. Postal notes, &c.—issued, £38 1s. 9½d.; paid, £11 17s. 5d. War pensions, gratuities, &c., £4,508 16s. 7d. The savings-bank deposits are greatly in advance of those for the preceding year, when they were the highest on record.

PERSONAL.

I regret to have to record the death of Mr. R. H. Head, sen., who died in February. Mr. Head had been a resident in Niue for fifty-seven years, and was most highly esteemed by every one.

At the close of the year the Rev. C. Beharrel arrived, with his family, to take up the mission work, and was cordially received by the residents.

I have, &c.,

J. C. EVISON,

The Hon. the Minister for Cook Islands, Wellington.

Resident Commissioner.

REPORT OF CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER.

SIR,—

Alofi, Niue, 5th April, 1921.

I beg herewith to submit the medical report for the remaining nine months of the year 1920.

Consultations at the dispensary numbered 5,800, and visits to villages 787. The dispensary, by the way, is open for three hours for four days in the week, urgent cases receiving medicine at any time. I have endeavoured to index on the card system all who are treated medically, but shortage of paper prevented my seeing this through. To lessen the calls at the dispensary an endeavour has been made, when and where convenient, to supply to the outside villages such medicines and dressings as they might require. Thus many thousands have benefited in some small way, and many old folk have received attention.

During April a labour gang of fifty-three were examined prior to their departure for Samoa. By the aid of the Government interpreter and others I have been able to deliver lectures in all the villages on hygiene and on public health matters generally, and the results evident have not been disappointing. I would like to thank the Administration for temporarily granting me the help of Hipa as Public Health Inspector. His assistance was invaluable.

Since May I have had the assistance of Nurse Copland, who is skilled in both general and Plunket nursing. This is a happy combination, and the island is fortunate. A surgical out-patients' department is now opened to the public on dispensing-mornings, and an average of twenty to thirty

avail themselves of it. Thus skin-diseases (and these are many and varied), tropical ulcers, and the lesions of frambœsia, &c., are rapidly clearing up. Many minor operations have been done, and people must now recognize the importance of asepsis.

I regret to say that there was a heavy infantile mortality. To combat this we must uproot some of their old deep-rooted practices. One is their early weaning of infants at two, three, and four months, and substitution of the mother's milk by taro, banana, &c. This early weaning appears to be due to their custom of adopting infants out. Thus many of the deaths have been due to malnutrition. In cases where the child has contracted influenza and died it has been due as much to negligence on the part of the parents in carrying out medical instructions as to interference from witch-doctors, who abound in certain villages. A great deal can be done by education, and I think a translation into Niue, with adaptations, of the Plunket pamphlet, as suggested originally by Nurse Copland, an excellent idea. That we have in charge of the London Missionary Society here a gentleman of the standing of the Rev. Mr. Beharrel, with a tendency towards medical work, is also fortunate. No doubt he will continue to grant us space in his monthly paper, *Talaha*. But to spur the mothers on, to make them anxious for the welfare of their babies, nothing to my mind would appeal to them more than the knowledge that they will be rewarded. Therefore I think your suggestion as to a baby bonus an excellent one. I only hope that your increasing expenditure in the hospital and education will not prevent you from carrying it into effect. The future of this island depends upon a diminishing death-rate.

I desire to thank Mr. Morris for his willing assistance and advice during the year. The heavy fines inflicted on witch-doctors have had a deterring effect on their activities. The improvement of the roads most used medically has not only brought all villages within easy access, but has lessened the wear-and-tear and general upkeep of the car. I desire to express our appreciation of the kind gift of this motor-car, which has enabled so much to be done, and which I am sure has been the means of saving many valuable lives.

The people must surely now recognize that the Government desires to help them. A hospital is now in the course of erection, and ere now would have been completed were it not for the unfortunate loss of the "Jubilee."

During the period under review the health of the island was not good. There were three epidemics of influenza, the first being mild, with few deaths, these being among the aged. But in the months of August and September, following a visit from Samoa by the auxiliary schooner "Ajax," there swept over the island a severe type of influenza, with pneumonia a common complication. To my mind this epidemic in no wise differed from the pneumonic influenza which swept over New Zealand during the latter months of the year 1918. The symptoms or physical signs, together with the course of the disease, were similar. Congestion occurred mostly amongst the strong, virile, male adults, and the rapidity of its appearance was remarkable. It was noteworthy that both the young and the aged generally escaped complications. The number of deaths was small, fortunately—far smaller than I expected, for at one period there were over a hundred pneumonias. I attribute this result to the Niueans being non-alcoholic, to the improved means of conveyance, to their previous experience in combating influenza being excellent training as to method, and to the absence of fright. When we take into consideration that many deaths in New Zealand were from relapsing pneumonia due to over-anxiety to resume work, and that the Niuean has no such desire when ill, we see that this alone must have been an important factor in reducing the number of deaths.

Another epidemic followed the succeeding visit of the same vessel from Samoa, but though this was of the ordinary febrile type complications occurred amongst the young, leading to a high infantile mortality. This was due to startling negligence on the part of parents in carrying out instructions as much as to interference on the part of medicine-men and of witch-doctors.

It is noteworthy that on both occasions a clean bill of health was presented and a thorough examination did not reveal trouble. The run from Samoa is but a matter of thirty-six hours, which falls far within the incubation period of most infective fevers. I would therefore suggest for your consideration the improvement of the quarantine station at Amanau, both in regard to landing and accommodation. That there is an increasing passenger-list is worthy of notice.

Water-supply: Last year's rainy season was later than usual, and cave-water was being used. To provide against the contingency again arising I would further suggest the supplying of large tanks to villages in most need of them, or the sinking of pumps into caves with drinkable water.

Consumption: This disease is becoming more and more noticeable, and I think the only satisfactory method of combating it is the provision of shelters *à la* Samoan.

Leprosy: There was one case brought under my notice and isolated.

Venereal disease is still very prevalent, especially the gonococcal variety. I hope, however, to get these diseases under better control this year.

Skin-diseases are slowly and steadily disappearing. Many surgical cases came under notice, such as appendicitis, ulcerations of the stomach and duodenum, likewise cervical glands, &c.

I view the future of this branch of the Polynesian race optimistically. The old idea of their being doomed to extinction I do not entertain. They are a race thirsting for education. Should it be denied them? Marked evidence of their desire to learn is shown in their free gifts of land for schools. Their clearing of the same, the hewing-out of timber, and building of the schools gratis is a healthy sign, I take it, pointing to a prosperous future.

I have, &c.,

E. P. ELLISON,

The Resident Commissioner, Niue Island.

Chief Medical Officer.

Port of Alofi.—Return of Imports for the Year ended 31st December, 1920.

	From American Samoa.	From Other Places.	From New Zealand.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
Agricultural produce	17	2	130	149
Apparel, drapery, &c.	441	186	1,971	2,598
Bags and sacks .. .. .	..	..	292	292
Biscuits	33	26	1,279	1,338
Bicycles and parts .. .. .	..	..	372	372
Boots and shoes	9	..	231	240
Butter and cheese .. .. .	..	32	210	242
Cement .. .. .	..	..	79	79
Cordage and twine	1	..	237	238
Cotton piece-goods	324	137	2,937	3,398
Drugs .. .. .	..	29	655	684
Fancy goods, stationery, &c.	5	24	270	299
Fish, preserved	169	12	335	516
Flour	89	35	585	709
Fruits, fresh and preserved .. .. .	..	4	73	77
Furniture .. .. .	..	69	72	141
Hardware, iron, &c.	12	41	1,289	1,342
Matches	22	1	544	567
Meats, preserved and salted	180	57	1,070	1,307
Milk, preserved	2	34	148	184
Oil, kerosene, and benzine	143	..	352	495
Perfumery and toilet preparations	27	4	101	132
Rice	115	..	524	639
Soap	34	6	275	315
Specie .. .. .	..	..	150	150
Sugar	130	39	208	377
Tea, coffee, and cocoa .. .. .	..	17	44	61
Timber, sawn .. .. .	..	8	571	577
Tobacco and pipes	51	120	1,085	1,256
Vehicles, motor, &c.	12	..	450	462
Miscellaneous	25	126	1,137	1,288
Totals	1,841	1,007	17,676	20,524

SUMMARY.

New Zealand	£	17,676
American Samoa	£	1,841
Other places	£	1,007
	<u>£</u>	<u>20,524</u>

Port of Alofi.—Return of Exports for the Year ended 31st December, 1920.

	To New Zealand.		To American Samoa.		To Western Samoa.		Total Value.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	
		£		£		£	£
Baskets and brushware	96 doz.	190	65 doz.	129	1 doz.	2	327
Copra	5 cwts.	6	89½ tons	2,917	..	..	8,962
Fungus	157 tons	6,045	..	..	..	..	2
Hats	97 lb.	2	126½ doz.	122	12 doz.	12	3,719
Specie	4,050½ doz.	3,585	..	..	..	..	..
Miscellaneous .. .. .	..	55	..	73	..	2	130
	..	9,883	..	3,241	..	16	13,140

SUMMARY.

New Zealand	£	9,883
Samoa	£	16
American Samoa	£	3,241
	<u>£</u>	<u>13,140</u>

Alofi, Niue, 31st December, 1920.

GUY N. MORRIS, Collector of Customs.

Approximate Cost of Paper.—Preparation, not given; printing (500 copies), £25.