

Inspections of villages have been carried out weekly. The general sanitation is satisfactory.

Skins: There has been a complete inspection of each village during the year and all diseases have been treated.

Accidents: One child badly scalded; made good recovery. One male adult, badly bitten by shark in right forearm. Patient being transferred to Rarotonga for attention at hospital under Chief Medical Officer.

Vital Statistics.—Births—Males, 45; females, 45; total, 90. Deaths—Males, 16; females, 18; total, 34. Marriages, 18.

Wireless.—Radio traffic for the year was as follows—Inwards: Messages, 350; words, 5,854. Outwards: Messages, 344; words, 5,025. Total gross receipts, £283 5s. 5½d.

The station has worked smoothly throughout the period. Press news as sent out by Radio-Rarotonga has been posted up thrice weekly. Weather reports were sent out daily.

Meteorological.—Summarized, the 9 a.m. readings for the calendar year 1936 are as follows:—

Barometer—

Highest for the year, 30.084 in July.

Lowest for the year, 29.623 in December.

Mean for the year, 29.912.

Temperatures—

Highest maximum, 94.0 in March.

Lowest minimum, 58.0 in October.

Mean maximum, 84.2.

Mean minimum, 72.1.

Range humidity, 74.2.

Total rainfall for the year, 71.34 in.

Average monthly rainfall, 5.94 in.

Maximum rainfall on any one day, 5.90 in. on 7th January, 1936.

The hurricane season passed off without any serious blow. Observations of weather conditions were taken twice daily throughout the year, and monthly reports and returns were rendered to the Director, Meteorological Office, Wellington, with copies to Resident Commissioner, Rarotonga.

Full weather reports were sent out twice daily by radio to Rarotonga and Wellington for purpose of the scheme of weather reports and storm warnings to shipping in the South Pacific Ocean.

Public Works.—Owing to present financial stringency, only repair work of an urgent nature has been undertaken.

All main roads have been maintained and kept in good order, and all drains reformed and cleaned out.

All wells have been cleaned out and pumps overhauled.

Four new beacons were erected in concrete, replacing those destroyed by hurricane.

The three boats were maintained in good order and painted.

School: The present roll at Araura School shows—Boys, 243; Girls, 226; Total, 469.

The health of the children has been very good, except for a mild outbreak of influenza in June last.

Teachers' Classes have been held regularly throughout the year, usually five hours a week being spent on them. A good deal of school method—revision of schemes of work, drawing, painting, comprehension, and reading—has been taken.

Planting of Lands.—All natives have been planting steadily during the year. Personal inspections of all plantations were carried out during May last and again in March of this year. Also regular inspections of each Native's work have been regularly made by the Members of Council and Police of each village.

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Health.—No epidemics have visited the Island, and the general health of the people has been good. The dispensary has been kept busy, but the greater number of cases consist of school-children with minor ailments. General treatments, 11,210; injections, 217.

Hospital.—During the year a two-roomed Native building has been erected and furnished. This is to meet a need that has been felt in the past. Occasionally a patient has been brought in from an outer village, and it has been found that special nursing was needed.

Vital Statistics.—Births—Male, 33; female, 29; total, 62. Deaths—Males, 13; females, 11; total, 24. Marriages, 13.

High Court.—Criminal jurisdiction, 529 cases; civil jurisdiction, 9 cases.

There have been only three serious cases, these being of a sexual nature. There have been the usual breaches of Island ordinances. Bush-beer drinking has been less prevalent.

Trade.—Owing to the majority of growers refusing to sell at the prices offered, very little fruit was exported.

As a result of the visit of the parliamentary delegation and the decision of the Government to take control of the fruit marketing, the coming season, it is hoped, will see more settled conditions and the whole of the Island's output exported.

Fortunately, copra prices rose towards the end of the year, and every available nut was turned into copra.

Exports.—Oranges, 1,000 cases; Copra, 126 tons; Coffee, 3 tons.

Schools.—Roll numbers—Oneroa: Boys, 107; girls, 94; total, 201. Ivirua: Boys, 62; girls, 70; total, 132. Tamarua: Boys, 36; girls, 32; total, 68.

Teachers' Classes are held twice weekly, and the teachers have carried out their duties to the best of their ability. The head teachers of the outer villages deserve great credit for their organizing abilities, their civil activities, and the pride they take in their school grounds.