

1938.
NEW ZEALAND.

NIUE ISLAND ADMINISTRATION.

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

REPORT ON THE NIUE ISLAND ADMINISTRATION, 1937-38.

FINANCE.

THIS is in a very satisfactory state, there being a larger amount in reserve than ever before in the history of Niue Island.

Once again no subsidy has been asked for by this Administration, and, as a result of the large sum received from the sale of Coronation stamps, no assistance should be required from New Zealand funds for some years to come.

The revenue for the year amounted to £35,443, and the expenditure £22,311, showing a gross surplus of receipts over payments of £13,132, this surplus being entirely due to the sale of Coronation stamps referred to above. Of the surplus shown, £10,000 were invested, leaving a net surplus for the year of £3,132.

TRADE.

Imports for the calendar year 1937 totalled £29,309, and exports £23,321, a total trade value of £52,630, which is the highest recorded figure since 1919.

Bananas.—There has been a decrease in shipments, mainly owing to neglect in making new plantations. This is rapidly being remedied.

Strict inspections have reduced the quantities which could have been shipped, the Administration being insistent that a high quality be maintained.

Kumeras.—One hundred and twenty-three tons have been shipped this year. This is a record, the previous largest annual total being ninety-four tons.

Hats and Baskets.—Hats exported have decreased, but baskets have increased.

Miscellaneous.—Citrus fruits, grandillas, and pawpaws have been shipped in small quantities.

The following table shows the quantities and values of the principal exports for the last ten years :—

Year.	Copra.		Bananas.		Baskets.		Hats.		Fungus.		Kumeras.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Tons.	£	Cases.	£	Dozens.	£	Dozens.	£	lb.	£	Tons.	£
1928 ..	621	11,445	14,010	6,254	3,182	3,182	121	75	20,680	525	..	..
1929 ..	735	11,652	17,434	7,683	2,948	1,879	574	386	6,606	222	..	..
1930 ..	335	3,382	21,456	9,787	1,012	660	1,214	810	5,694	183	..	..
1931 ..	204	2,269	8,703	3,590	801	480	271	185	3,789	151	15	278
1932 ..	366	3,815	22,828	8,384	682	270	775	467	13,104	315	31	348
1933 ..	190	1,760	24,596	8,542	670	320	1,222	729	384	5	4	41
1934 ..	125	961	28,393	10,006	308	130	920	492	5,137	81	13	273
1935 ..	316	2,031	22,714	8,620	162	78	1,769	756	7,593	77	40	360
1936 ..	662	7,077	35,701	13,744	93	80	880	384	3,583	35	94	1,464
1937 ..	728	10,825	26,709	10,283	167	92	694	254	261	4	123	1,451

The principal items of imports for the year 1937 are as follows:—

Article.	Whence imported.	Value.	
		£	£
Apparel, n.e.i.	New Zealand	1,019	
	Western Samoa	11	
	U.S.A.	5	
		—	1,035
Arms, ammunition, &c.	New Zealand	223	
	Western Samoa	19	
	Hong Kong	4	
		—	246
Bags and sacks	New Zealand	271	
	Western Samoa	280	
		—	551
Bicycles and parts	New Zealand	1,000	
	United Kingdom	2	
		—	1,002
Biscuits	New Zealand	1,404	
	U.S.A.	5	
		—	1,409
Boots and shoes	New Zealand	472	
	United Kingdom	4	
		—	476
Cement	New Zealand	219	
	Western Samoa	31	
		—	250
Confectionery	New Zealand	459	
	Western Samoa	6	
		—	465
Cotton piece-goods	New Zealand	939	
	Western Samoa	123	
	United Kingdom	439	
	Australia	29	
	Japan	47	
		—	1,577
Drapery, n.e.i.	New Zealand	244	
	United Kingdom	57	
	Japan	21	
		—	322
Drugs, n.e.i.	New Zealand	381	
	United Kingdom	3	
		—	384
Fancy goods, n.e.i.	New Zealand	331	
	Western Samoa	50	
	United Kingdom	37	
	Australia	2	
	American Samoa	2	
	Tonga	4	
		—	426
Fish, preserved	New Zealand	486	
	Western Samoa	42	
	United Kingdom	31	
	U.S.A.	221	
		—	780
Flour	New Zealand	1	
	Western Samoa	2	
	Australia	322	
		—	325
Hardware	New Zealand	634	
	Western Samoa	1	
	United Kingdom	11	
		—	646
Hosiery	New Zealand	316	
	Western Samoa	14	
	Japan	26	
		—	356
Iron, galvanized corrugated, roofing	New Zealand .. ..	..	1,124
Carried forward .. ..	..	..	11,374

The principal items of imports for the year 1937—*continued*.

Article.	Whence imported.	Value.	
		£	£
Brought forward .. ..	.. ..	..	11,374
Meats—			
Preserved	New Zealand	2,048	
	Western Samoa	39	
		—	2,087
Salted	New Zealand .. ..	..	220
Milk, preserved	New Zealand	250	
	Western Samoa	3	
		—	253
Motor-cars and parts	New Zealand .. ..	..	1,228
Oils, benzine, and kerosene	New Zealand	461	
	Western Samoa	10	
	U.S.A.	60	
		—	531
Paint and varnish	New Zealand	295	
	Western Samoa	4	
	Australia.. ..	5	
		—	304
Provisions, n.e.i.	New Zealand	226	
	Western Samoa	2	
		—	228
Rice	New Zealand	523	
	Western Samoa	40	
		—	563
Silk	New Zealand	709	
	Western Samoa	8	
	Japan	223	
		—	940
Soap	New Zealand .. ..	..	496
Specie	New Zealand .. ..	..	1,700
Stationery and books	New Zealand	246	
	Western Samoa	5	
	United Kingdom	84	
	Australia.. ..	8	
		—	343
Sugar	New Zealand	203	
	Western Samoa	17	
		—	220
Timber, sawn	New Zealand	906	
	Western Samoa	46	
		—	952
Timber, shooks	New Zealand .. ..	..	2,341
Tobacco	New Zealand	1,313	
	Australia.. ..	489	
		—	1,802
Tools	New Zealand	256	
	United Kingdom	7	
		—	263
Sundry	New Zealand	3,116	
	Western Samoa	117	
	United Kingdom	165	
	Other	66	
		—	3,464
			29,309

The total trade of the island for the last ten years is set out in the following table:—

Year.	Imports.				Exports.			Total Trade.	
	New Zealand.	United Kingdom.	Australia.	Other.	Total Imports.	New Zealand.	Other.		Total Exports.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
1928	14,403	2,476	1,027	731	18,637	16,347	4,591	20,938	39,575
1929	14,688	2,866	880	673	19,107	13,449	8,757	22,206	41,313
1930	14,863	1,588	955	1,224	18,630	13,523	2,551	15,877	34,507
1931	8,958	961	678	910	11,507	5,486	2,005	7,191	18,698*
1932	11,538	2,424	360	404	14,756	10,820	3,167	13,987	28,743
1933	10,400	1,442	841	440	13,123	10,225	1,317	11,542	24,665
1934	11,888	658	515	311	13,372	11,342	999	12,341	25,713
1935	13,191	942	780	375	15,288	10,010	2,066	12,076	27,364
1936	22,280	609	649	1,124	24,662	15,915	7,077	22,992	47,654
1937	26,142	840	855	1,472	29,309	12,469	10,852	23,321	52,630

* Island recovering from drought and storms.

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

The hard-working Niueans are a contented people, in spite of the difficulties experienced in growing their food-supplies.

The Administration considers its first duty is the care of the Native population, and the maintenance of law and order, bringing about desirable changes gradually. In its efforts it is ably supported by the London Missionary Society.

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

There have been no epidemics during the year. The medical services have functioned in a very satisfactory manner.

The following is a summary of the work performed at the hospital:—

Statistical.

(1) Infectious diseases—	Operations—	
(a) Tuberculosis	Major	12
(b) Gonorrhœa	Minor	248
(c) Yaws	Dental extractions ..	261
(d) Pneumonia	Injections—	
(e) Conjunctivitis	N.A.B.	734
(f) Ringworm	Gonococcal vaccine ..	620
(g) Filariasis	Peptone	141
(h) Varicella	Old tuberculin	66
	Manganese (colossal) ..	254
	Number of confinements attended	67
2) Hospital and dispensary statistics—	(3) Summary of Operations—	
Remainig in hospital, 31st	Abscesses opened	180
December, 1936	Removal of foreign bodies ..	6
Admitted during year ..	Aspiration of cysts, &c. ..	5
Discharged during year ..	Circumcisions	38
Died in hospital during year ..	Suture of wounds	7
Remainig in hospital, 26th	Sequestrectomy	3
December, 1937	Reduction of fractures, &c. ..	2
Average number of days in	Excision of tumours, &c. ..	5
hospital	Amputation	1
24.1 days	Laparotomy	1
Average number of beds oc-	Gynaecological	3
cupied per day	(4) Summary of anaesthetics—	
15.7 beds	Local	224
District out-patients ..	Spinal (stovaine)	4
8,621	Chloroform and ether ..	7
Dispensary out-patients ..	Evipan and ether	2
3,357		
Special visits		
717		
District special visits ..		
820		
Hospital dressings		
2,336		
Hospital out-patient dressings		
7,929		

Yaws, Gonorrhœa, and Tuberculosis. The treatments given in these cases have had excellent results, and the indications are that they will gradually decrease in numbers.

Nursing Staff.—The one European Matron is assisted by Niue girls as nurses, who respond readily to the training they receive. On the return of those now at the Apia Hospital, where they receive excellent training, even more satisfactory results should be obtained.

It is hoped that it will shortly be possible to send a Niue boy to the Central Medical School, Fiji, or training as a Native Medical Practitioner.

EDUCATION.

The special feature of the school system is the training of the pupils in all matters which will be of benefit to them and to their people when they return to their villages.

The average roll strength of the two Administration schools is 362, with an average attendance of 325.

The Technical School handicraft and sewing classes have functioned admirably.

The London Missionary Society has ten schools which are subsidized by this Administration. Their work is good and of great benefit.

PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORT.

These Departments have in training a number of Niue boys, and it is hoped that the knowledge they are gaining will be of great advantage to both the Administration and private employers. In addition to the practical training they receive they attend special classes conducted by the European Engineer.

Roads.—Improvements have been made, but there is still much to do during the next few years before the roads can be considered satisfactory.

Water-supply.—The whole supply is obtained from rain, and therefore tanks have to be built near catchment areas. Each year more of these tanks are being built, and those already in existence are kept in repair. The water-supply is still inadequate, but gradually this difficulty is being overcome.

AGRICULTURE.

Gradual improvements in agricultural methods are being made, though the pace is slow owing to the difficulties which exist. In dealing with Native races it is not advisable or possible to carry out big reforms in a short time. However, the indications are that there is a steady improvement in agricultural matters, and it is believed that the methods used and the experiments carried out at the Administration plantation will be followed by the people.

HIGH COURT AND NATIVE LAND COURT.

No serious offences have occurred, the 634 cases dealt with by the High Court being for minor offences.

The Native Land Court has dealt with 126 cases, though many applications still await hearing.

ISLAND COUNCIL.

There are thirteen Native Councillors for the twelve villages, their duty being to assist the Resident Commissioner and advise him on island matters.

At an election held recently almost all former Councillors were re-elected by the people.

LEGISLATION.

No new laws have been made during the year.

WIRELESS.

This Department is controlled by a European officer, who also assists with other activities of the Administration. In his wireless duties he is assisted by a Native boy.

Traffic Inwards.—Three hundred and twenty-nine messages, containing 5,321 words, were received, as compared with 351 messages, containing 6,661 words, for the previous year.

Traffic Outwards.—Three hundred and ninety-two messages, containing 6,746 words, were despatched, as compared with 469 messages, containing 7,781 words, for the previous year.

METEOROLOGICAL.

The total rainfall for 1937 was 53.70 in., which is 27.57 in. less than the average for the last thirty-two years.

SHIPPING.

The New Zealand Government vessel "Maui Pomare" has called regularly, providing the only regular service between this island and the outside world.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The Native population is now 4,215, an increase of 84 for the year. Births, 152; deaths, 80.

NIUE ISLAND ADMINISTRATION.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1938.

<i>Expenditure.</i>			<i>Income.</i>		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Agriculture Account	359	19 3	Aid to revenue	471	19 0
Audit	150	0 10	Ammunition Account	63	15 5
Accident to S. Head	385	13 4	Benzine Account	160	11 10
Education Department	2,115	6 3	Bond storage	0	8 8
Fruit-case Account	93	3 8	Copra export duty	710	0 0
Interpreters and office staff	188	17 7	Customs duties	2,568	14 5
Island Council	73	9 0	Dog-tax	63	5 0
Jetty Account	155	7 0	Fumigation	9	4 6
Lepers	165	18 8	High Court fees and fines	254	3 0
Medical Department	2,597	5 7	Interest	112	4 2
Miscellaneous Account	8	19 1	Landing Account	306	7 9
Police Department	410	18 4	Licenses	140	0 0
Printing and stationery	29	9 8	Liquor Account	10	0 0
Prisons Department	239	1 11	Native Land Court fees and fines	6	6 6
Public Works Department	752	8 0	Registration and permit fees	17	3 0
Residency Account	206	12 2	Stamp sales	20,876	17 5
Resident Commissioner's Department	422	2 6	Stock supplies	6	10 3
Roads	1,804	2 7	Transport Department	1,238	15 7
Treasurer	505	5 0			
Treasury Department	62	2 11			
Water-supply	80	8 5			
Wireless Department	372	10 5			
Depreciation Account	1,142	1 6			
Investments	10,000	0 0			
Excess of income over expenditure	4,695	2 10			
	<u>£27,016</u>	<u>6 6</u>		<u>£27,016</u>	<u>6 6</u>

BALANCE-SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH, 1938.

<i>Liabilities.</i>			<i>Assets.</i>		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Accumulated funds	24,353	15 3	Boats	336	14 3
Less interest on account of previous years	13	0 9	Buildings	10,024	9 7
	<u>24,340</u>	<u>14 6</u>	Medical equipment	228	18 3
Plus excess of income over expenditure	4,695	2 10	Household furniture	1,712	13 8
			Land	1,111	0 0
Reserve Fund	13,206	0 0	Motor-vehicles	1,471	1 7
Sundry creditors	468	2 4	Office equipment	617	6 7
			Plant and tools	1,347	8 8
			Plant, wireless	2,047	6 4
			Reservoirs, &c.	1,632	6 9
				<u>20,529</u>	<u>5 8</u>
			Suspense Account, "Maui Pomarc"	91	12 4
			Sundry debtors	230	14 7
			Accrued interest	28	0 11
			Stocks on hand	4,469	10 1
			Investments	13,206	0 0
			Cash in bank, Wellington	2,606	11 10
			Cash in hand, Niue	1,548	4 3
				<u>£42,709</u>	<u>19 8</u>
	<u>£42,709</u>	<u>19 8</u>			

N.B.—These accounts are subject to audit.

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