

The Ngarimu V.C. Essays

Each year the Ngarimu V.C. and 28th (Maori) Battalion Memorial Scholarship Fund Board holds an essay competition for Maori schoolchildren in forms 1 to 7. Last year 837 entries were received from 103 schools. Fourteen prizes were awarded — one each for the best essays in English and in Maori from each form. We chose two of the prize-winning essays, one in Maori, one in English, to print here.

Meha Waitai
Form Six
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Porirua

Ko te timata me hoki ngaa whakaaro ki ngaa raa o mua, ki ngaa tiipuna. "Ko too whenua te mea nui, kia mau ki o whenua, ko teena too orange. Ka ngaro teenei, ka ngaro too tuunga waewae. Ka ngaro teenei, ka noho pani koe, ki hea hoki? Ko too whenua too orange. Kei runga ngaa mara kai, kei runga ngaa rakau moo o whare, kei runga ngaa manu, kei runga ngaa rau, ka ora koe, ka ora too whanau, ka ora too iwi. Me manaaki teenei tino taonga."

Ki ngaa tiipuna, he mea ora te whenua no reira kaore te pai kia hokoa engari ki etahi, na te hiahia moni ka hoki i o raatu whenua.

I teenei ra kua whakaaro te Maaori ki ngaa hee a te Pakeha e pa ana ki ngaa whenua Maaori.

Kei te whawhai ngaa uri i ngaa whenua i Raglan ki te iwi Pakeha moo a raatu whenua. I te Pakanga tuarua i hoatu e te iwi o Raglan eenei whenua hei awhina te Kawana. I te mutunga o teenei Pakanga i tukua kee e te Kawana eenei whenua ki te iwi Pakeha. No te pakeketanga o ngaa uri i eenei whenua ka kite raatau te hee o teenei tikanga. Kua roa kee eenei whenua i te iwi kee. Kua piki kee te waariu o eenei whenua. He pai noa teenei engari no te takiritanga o te iwi Pakeha i ngaa urupa Maaori katahi anoo ngaa uri o eenei whenua ka wera. He mea tapu te urupa — naa wai i kii, me takahi e te Pakeha. Katahi anoo ka timata te whawhai a ngaa uri o eenei whenua ki te iwi Pakeha, ki te Kawana, ki te ture hoki o Niu Tireeni. E whawhai tonu ana, tae mai ki teenei raa.

Ka huri ki ngaa whenua i Bastion Point. Ki ngaa uri o eenei whenua he mahi tahae naa te Kawana eenei whenua. I hokoa eenei whenua ki te Kawana, naa te tono a te Kawana hei whenua mahi whare moo ngaa uri o taaua iwi.

I hangaia etahi whare moo ngaa Maaori engari he iti te whenua i mahia. A, ka takoto te whenua nei, katahi anoo te Kanawa ka kii kei hokoa ngaa-tooenga whenua ki te Pakeha hei hanga whare moo raatu. He ataahua eenei whenua, no reira ka nui te waariu. Ka raru ngaa uri o eenei whenua. Kua nui rawa te utu moo ngaa whare hou kei te hangaia. Raru pai ana te iwi o Orakei.

Ko te tuarua teenei o ngaa raru a teenei iwi ki te Kawana. I te tuatahi i murua o raatau whenua, a, i tahua to raatau

Marae. Katahi ka takiria o raatau urupa e te Pakeha. "Te Aroha hoki."

I mua atu i murua ngaa whenua o Waikato. I panania etahi o ngaa iwi. Ko tetahi waiata aroha, waiata tangi i titoa me eenei whenua ko teeraa waiata ko "E Paa too Hau". He waiata tangi teenei moo Te Wano, te Rangitira, me toonaa iwi i panaia e te Kawana, ki te whenua kee. He waiata tangi teenei moo a raatau whenua i mahue atu ra ki muri. I hokoa eenei whenua ki te iwi Pakeha. Naa te kaha tonu o ngaa uri o te iwi o Waikato; naa to raatau matauranga ki ngaa ture a te Pakeha; ka utua raatau e te Kawana. He tika kaore te rite o te utu ki te waariu o ngaa whenua engari ko te timata teenei.

He nui tonu ngaa raru a te Maaori a paa ana ki ngaa mahi a te Pakeha ki oonaa whenua engari jura marama haere to iwi Maaori o eenei raa ki eenei mahi. Naa reira, e te iwi Maaori, kia mau ki o whenua o eenei raa. Kia mau ki ngaa tohu a ngaa tiipuna kei kore ai taatau e kii "Ko Te Iwi Kore Whenua, He Iwi Kore".

Teena Koutou Katoa.

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The past decade has seen the Maori writer established upon the New Zealand literature scene, with growing emphasis on the Maori people in today's world. This has already been seen with the successful publication of various literature, whether it be poetry, drama, novels or short stories. The Maori as a writer first gained recognition with Witi Ihimaera's award-winning novel *Tangi*.

The modern Maori today is living in two worlds: the conflicting worlds of both Pakeha and Maori. The past years have seen a growing trend of traditionally rural people move to the industrialised Pakeha world of the cities, in the hope of giving their children the best of the two worlds. This has seen the Maori writers write with aroha for their land, their people and the traditional Maori way of living, in the hope that the values of that life will never be lost.

In *Mutuwhenua*, by Patricia Grace, Ripeka illustrates the difficulties faced by a young Maori woman typical of many Maori women today, who try to adjust themselves to this new world and at the same time retain their Maoritanga. She becomes banded in two worlds — the world of the Pakeha, in which Graeme has been brought up, and her own. Unintentionally the different worlds start to affect each other. Nanny Ripeka becomes angered at Ripeka's choice of marriage to a Pakeha: "... what's wrong with a Pakeha girl ..." she says to him. At first she is reluctant to accept Ripeka for what she is doing. She feels that Ripeka, by marrying a