

1943
NEW ZEALAND

EDUCATION OF NATIVE CHILDREN

[In continuation of E.-3, 1942]

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

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No. 1
REPORT OF THE SENIOR INSPECTOR OF NATIVE SCHOOLS

SIR,—23rd March, 1943.
I have the honour to present the following report on Native schools for the year 1942 :—

1. POST-PRIMARY EDUCATION

Considerable difficulty was encountered during the year with the post-primary education of Maori boys, owing to the fact that two of the colleges approved for scholarships were closed for military reasons. At the end of March, St. Stephen's College, Bombay, was taken over as an auxiliary hospital, and of the thirty-seven Government scholars twenty-two were transferred to Te Aute College, eleven to Wesley College, while four boys continued their education at Government post-primary schools. Then early in August the Military authorities took over the buildings at Wesley. It was impossible at such short notice to find alternative accommodation for all these scholars. The influx of pupils from St. Stephen's had almost filled Te Aute, and it was found impossible to send more than three of the twenty-four scholarship-holders to that college. Four boys were allowed to remain at Wesley, three boys were accommodated at Feilding Agricultural High School, and the remainder attended district high schools in their home districts.

Steps were at once taken to ensure that suitable education could be provided for those winning scholarships at the end of the year. The High School Boards at Dannevirke, Feilding, and New Plymouth readily agreed to find room for six Maori boys each. With the assistance of these schools, together with the normal vacancies at Te Aute, it was possible to find accommodation for all our scholarship-holders at the end of last year. I should like to express my thanks to the Principals and the Boards of Governors at Feilding, New Plymouth, and Dannevirke for their ready assistance to us in this emergency ; also to the Headmaster and the Board of Trustees of Te Aute College for the help they rendered by taking in such a large number of extra scholars at very short notice.

In the three Native district high schools established by the Department in 1941, there was a decline in the average enrolment of the secondary departments from seventy in 1941 to fifty in 1942. This can be attributed to the demand for male labour on farms. Staffing difficulties were encountered at both Te Araroa and Tikitiki, where the secondary assistants were called up for war service and there was a dearth of applicants for the war vacancies. The boarding problem for assistants in these three localities is very acute, as houses for married assistants are unprocurable. The Department has endeavoured to meet this problem by purchasing a cottage at Ruatoria and by making use of the old residence at Tikitiki for assistants in these districts, but this is insufficient to meet all requirements. Nevertheless, the aim of the Department in establishing these district high schools—that of providing a good cultural and practical education based on home-making and home-management—has been maintained and fostered.

Much still remains to be done before the position of the Maori in relation to post-primary education can be considered satisfactory. At the present time only about one-third of the pupils passing through Form II are proceeding to some higher form of education, whereas, in the case of pakeha children, about two-thirds proceed to secondary and technical and district high schools.

2. CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS

Last year a special effort was made to interest the Maori parents in the schools and to secure their co-operation. Prior to each visit to a school the Head Teacher was asked to call a meeting of parents, which was addressed by the Inspector. The opportunity was taken of explaining to the parents the aims of our Native schools, the methods that were being taken to attain these aims, and some of the successes that had already been achieved. In most cases the parents attended in very gratifying numbers, and some very enthusiastic meetings resulted. An effort was also made to interest the people in adult education, and in a few localities classes have already begun.

3. PRIMARY EDUCATION

Music continues to be a very prominent feature of Native schools, in quite a number of which a very high standard is attained.

The new system of physical education made definite progress in 1942. The influence of young teachers, who have become thoroughly acquainted with the system at training college, has had a very beneficial effect, and for 1943 two specialists have been attached to Native schools, one in the east coast area, and one in the Tauranga district. With a better understanding of its principles and methods, teachers are showing a greater enthusiasm for the work.

The latest methods of infant-room teaching have been stimulated by the visits of the infant-teaching specialists to our schools. These ladies have not only demonstrated methods, but have also conducted several one-day refresher courses for infant-teachers, and I should like to express my thanks to them for their interest in and the help given to our Native schools.

4. SCHOOLS AND STAFFS

In 1942 there were 154 Native schools directly under the control of the Education Department. Five schools—Ngataki, Motukiore, Owairaka Valley, Kennedy's Bay, and Ngapuke—were taken over from the Auckland Education Board. The total enrolment was 11,009 (10,916 in 1941), and the average attendance was 9,091 (9,043 in 1941). The average weekly roll number was 11,539 (10,588 in 1941), and the percentage of regularity was 79. Of the 11,009 children on the roll at the 31st December, 1942, 10,020 were Maori and 989 European. The following table shows the increase in the attendance at Native schools since 1918:—

Year.					Roll Number at 31st December.	Average Attendance.	Average Weekly Roll.
1918	..	..	..	..	5,064	4,551	5,281
1928	..	..	..	..	6,671	5,964	6,770
1938	..	..	..	..	9,832	8,471	9,787
1942	..	..	..	..	11,009	9,091	11,539

There were 13,181 Maori children in attendance at 879 public schools at the end of 1942.

Staffing difficulties during last year were very acute, owing to the shortage of teachers, due to the war. With the increase in size of so many schools it is now necessary to provide more assistants, and in quite a number of localities there is the problem of finding suitable boarding accommodation for them. Nevertheless, there were very few occasions indeed when a school was closed for more than a few days owing to the impossibility of providing a teacher. With so many changes and occasional shortages of staff, additional burdens were thrown on the permanent teachers, but it is to their credit that they have so willingly carried on. I have also to acknowledge the ready response of some of our superannuated and married women teachers in coming to our assistance.

At the end of 1942 there were 477 teachers employed in the Native Schools Service, of whom 294 were certificated. The number of junior assistants was 107.

These junior assistants are mainly Maori girls who have completed post-primary courses and desire to take up teaching. As a result of our system of Continuation Scholarships we have now an assured supply of girls, and it is difficult for a girl with less than four years' post-primary education to secure one of these positions. The result of this has been that most of our appointees have either reached or approximately reached the School Certificate standard, which is the qualification for entrance to training college. We have also arranged a system of coaching with the Department's Correspondence School for those who have not passed this examination. These girls now have the opportunity of becoming qualified teachers, and the success of these arrangements may be judged from the following comparison of Maori students admitted to training colleges: 1940, 4; 1941, 9; 1942, 18.

Ten Mission schools, controlled and administered by denominational authorities, were registered last year. The total enrolment at these schools was 639 children.

5. SCHOLARSHIPS

At the end of 1942, 155 Junior Scholarships, 26 other than Native School Scholarships, 31 Continuation, 9 Nursing, and 9 Agricultural Scholarships were held by pupils attending approved post-primary schools. Seven University Scholarships were current. The Buller and the Senior Te Makarini Scholarships were won by Dan Reihana and N. T. Raihana, respectively.

I have, &c.,

T. A. FLETCHER,
Senior Inspector of Native Schools.

No. 2
DETAILED TABLES

Table H 1

GRADE OF NATIVE SCHOOLS WITH NUMBER OF TEACHERS AND AVERAGE NUMBER OF CHILDREN PER TEACHER

Grade of School.	Number of Schools.	Total Average Attendance, Year ended 31st December, 1942.	Number of Teachers (exclusive of Probationary Assistants and Junior Assistants).	Average Number of Children per Teacher.	Number of Probationary Assistants.	Number of Junior Assistants.
II	13	219	13	16·8	..	5
IIIA	16	359	17	21·1	..	12
IIIB	60	2,340	112	20·8	..	30
IVA	38	2,728	103	26·4	..	35
IVB	14	1,465	48	30·5	4	13
IVC	8	1,142	38	30·0	4	8
VA	4	684	25	27·0	..	3
VB	1	154	6	25·6	..	1
Totals	154	9,091	362	25·1	8	107

Table H 4

MAORI PUPILS ATTENDING MAORI SECONDARY SCHOOLS AT THE END OF 1942 AND 1941

School.	1942.							1941.						
	Government Pupils.			Private Pupils.			Grand Total.	Government Pupils.			Private Pupils.			Grand Total.
	Primary.	Secondary.	Total.	Primary.	Secondary.	Total.		Primary.	Secondary.	Total.	Primary.	Secondary.	Total.	
Queen Victoria (girls), Auckland	..	35	35	4	22	26	61	..	35	35	5	21	26	61
St. Stephen's (boys), Auckland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	36	36	17	21	38	74
Wesley College (boys), Paerata	..	4	4	..	4	4	8	..	17	17	9	22	31	48
Turakina (girls), Marton	..	26	26	..	19	19	45	..	28	28	..	19	19	47
St. Joseph's (girls), Napier	..	43	43	12	23	35	78	..	40	40	17	22	39	79
Te Aute College (boys), Napier	..	55	55	..	44	44	99	..	36	36	..	35	35	71
Hukarere College (girls), Napier	..	33	33	7	18	25	58	..	30	30	..	27	27	57
Te Waipounamu (girls), Christchurch.. ..	..	..	..	3	20	23	23	..	..	..	2	12	14	14
Totals	..	196	196	26	150	176	372	..	222	222	50	179	229	451

Table H 6

CLASSIFICATION AND AGES OF MAORI SCHOLARS ATTENDING PUBLIC SCHOOLS AT THE 1ST JULY, 1942

Years.	Class P.		S. I.		S. II.		S. III.		S. IV.		Form I.		Form II.		Form III.		Total.	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
5 and under 6	579	521	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	579	521
6 " 7	743	729	3	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	747	732
7 " 8	719	617	90	129	5	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	814	754
8 " 9	423	371	280	314	72	117	5	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	780	808
9 " 10	194	149	310	242	225	265	70	84	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	801	742
10 " 11	62	56	164	131	248	232	226	224	48	86	2	4	..	..	..	..	750	733
11 " 12	26	17	76	72	175	133	230	244	174	165	40	59	3	..	..	..	724	690
12 " 13	9	9	31	23	96	59	182	184	176	198	133	139	18	21	..	..	645	633
13 " 14	4	8	11	6	29	13	87	73	151	156	133	190	68	79	2	5	485	530
14 " 15	..	1	3	2	7	4	19	20	42	36	56	57	90	75	7	18	224	213
15 " 16	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	5	9	14	30	24	8	7	50	50
16 years and over	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	1	7	6	6	1	15	9
Totals	2,759	2,478	968	922	858	831	822	835	593	649	375	464	216	205	23	31	6,614	6,415
Percentage	5,237	40·2	1,890	14·5	1,689	13·0	1,657	12·7	1,242	9·5	839	6·5	421	3·2	54	0·4	13,029	100·0
Median age, in years and months	7 1 7 0	9 4 9 0	10 6 10 1	11 6 11 5	12 5 12 4	13 1 13 2	14 2 14 0	15 5 14 7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

NOTE.—For the purpose of this table half-caste children and children intermediate in blood between half-caste and Maori are reckoned as Maori.

Table H 7
AGES AND STANDARDS OF CHILDREN ON THE NATIVE SCHOOL ROLLS AT THE 1ST JULY, 1942

Ages.	Standard I.				Standard II.				Standard III.				Standard IV.				Form I. (Standard V.)				Form II. (Standard VI.)				Form III. (Standard VII.)				Race Totals.				Grand Totals.			
	Europeans.		Maoris.		Europeans.		Maoris.		Europeans.		Maoris.		Europeans.		Maoris.		Europeans.		Maoris.		Europeans.		Maoris.		Europeans.		Maoris.		Boys.		Girls.		Total.			
	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.						
5 and under	50	41	481	484																														531	525	1,056
6	62	58	551	538																													616	605	1,221	
7	37	36	373	491	28	18	43	53																									66	606	1,288	
8	14	10	407	277	32	22	192	186	14	16	35	41																					61	562	1,257	
9	5		155	134	11	8	236	213	20	22	132	167																					50	597	1,196	
10																																		62	604	1,203
11	1	3	61	26	2	3	144	110	9	10	214	212																					55	552	1,212	
12																																		47	500	1,034
13																																		36	518	947
14																																		12	236	465
15																																		2	65	116
16																																		2	12	14
17																																		1	2	4
18 and over																																				
Totals ..	169	148	2,254	1,971	79	56	725	633	51	69	675	630	78	63	592	577	37	56	288	310	31	45	155	191	1	..	7	14	506	490	5180	4837	5,686	5,327	11,013	
Percentage	317	4,542			135	1,493			111	1,416			141	1,310			93	691	598		76	346	422	346	1	22	21	996	10,017	11,013						
		41.2				13.6				12.9				11.9				6.3																		
Median age, in years and months	6	7	7	2	6	11	8	4	8	6	9	3	9	6	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	

NOTE.—For the purpose of this table half-caste children and children intermediate in blood between half-caste and Maori are reckoned as Maori, and children intermediate in blood between half-caste and European as European.

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