

And I do solemnly and sincerely declare that the information hereinafter furnished by me in the appendix hereto is correct in every particular; that the abstract of accounts is a true statement of the receipts and expenditure of the institution for the year herein specified; that the whole of the subsidy received during the year was expended in the purchase of books for the library; and that by the rules of the institution admission to the reading-room is open to the public free of charge.

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of an Act of the General Assembly of New Zealand intituled "The Justices of the Peace Act, 1882."

Declared at _____, this _____ day of January, 1901, before me— _____, Justice of the Peace [or Solicitor, or Notary Public].

[Here affix and cancel a stamp at 2s. 6d.]

[NOTE.—The words relating to last year's subsidy and to free admission may be struck out if they are not applicable. The words in brackets are not part of the form, but indicate matter to be inserted or substituted.]

Copies of the form of application may be obtained from the Secretary for Education, Wellington, and from the Secretary of any Education Board.

W. C. WALKER.

II. EXTRACT from Twenty-fourth Annual Report of the Minister of Education.

By a vote of last session a sum of £3,000 was granted for subsidies to public libraries; the same amount was voted for distribution in 1899. The method of distribution of the vote for 1900 was the same as that adopted in the previous year, as follows: A nominal addition of £25 was made to the amount of the income of each library derived from subscriptions, donations, and rates, provided that the receipts for the year were not less than £2, and the vote was divided according to the amount thus augmented; but no library received credit for a larger income than £75—that is, in no case did the augmented amount on which distribution was based exceed £100. In accordance with a *Gazette* notice of the 31st October, 1900, the day appointed for the distribution of the subsidy was the 8th February, 1901, and the amount of the vote was divided among the 349 libraries from which applications, each accompanied by a statutory declaration on the proper form, had been received. The vote, as thus dealt with, afforded a subsidy of 3s. 11.96d. in the pound of the nominal income, and the subsidies ranged from £19 19s. 7d. to £5 6s. 2d.

Some libraries supplied with the proper form failed to send in formal claims by the 31st January, 1901, the date fixed by the *Gazette* notice, and did not therefore participate in the vote.

The number of libraries participating in the vote shows an increase of thirty-seven over the number aided in the previous year. In order that the purpose intended to be served by the vote may be attained, it is made a condition for participation that the whole of the subsidy granted to each library in the previous year shall have been expended in the purchase of books.

The following table shows the distribution according to education districts:—

SUMMARY OF DISTRIBUTION OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES SUBSIDY.

Education Districts.	Number of Libraries.	Income.	Amount on which Subsidy is calculated.	Amount of Subsidy.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Auckland	88	2,114 2 1	3,411 13 2	681 11 7
Taranaki	11	299 18 8	526 2 11	105 2 0
Wanganui	20	856 15 5	1,066 12 10	213 1 5
Wellington	19	1,810 2 9	1,046 9 8	209 1 2
Hawke's Bay	24	678 4 3	1,149 3 2	229 11 5
Marlborough	4	105 18 4	205 18 4	41 2 8
Nelson	24	519 5 8	1,067 15 2	213 7 4
Grey	4	189 13 9	287 10 9	57 8 11
Westland	6	97 0 3	247 0 3	49 7 4
North Canterbury	60	1,675 13 5	2,324 8 11	464 9 6
South Canterbury	16	558 12 10	810 13 11	161 19 6
Otago	48	845 9 2	1,914 2 8	382 8 9
Southland	24	224 8 8	824 8 8	164 14 2
Chatham Islands	1	17 7 0	42 7 0	8 9 3
Total	349	9,992 12 3	14,924 7 5	2,981 15 0