

reserve of 3,776 $\frac{3}{4}$ acres already referred to. The Native portion is held in twenty-two subdivisions (including the reserve). The accompanying schedule and plan show the scheme of the partition. Exclusive of the reserve, the Native portion is in three main blocks. The Northern Block is reported to be of good quality and suitable for close settlement. Two of the main kaingas are on this Northern Block—namely, Karamu and Waireka. The Eastern Block, which consists of Subdivisions 15, 16, 18, and 19, is of inferior quality, although portions of 16 are fair. Aotearoa, the largest of the Ngatiraukawa kaingas, is on 16. The whole of the Southern Block, consisting of Subdivisions 6, 8, 10, 13, 17, and 20, is poor land.

In the scheme of partition the different hapus receive a proportion of good and a proportion of poor land. Thus the owners of No. 4 in the North are given a subdivision in the South No. 6, and so on (see Schedule).

The Northern and Eastern Blocks are reported to have very little forest—about 5,200 acres out of 54,000 acres.

The Southern Block, on the other hand, is almost all forest—24,000 out of 28,000 acres—and there is reported to be milling-timber.

With the exception of Subdivisions 19 and 20, the Wharepuhunga Block is owned by the Ngatiraukawa Tribe. As already stated in our report on the Rohe-Potae lands, they, in sympathy with the Waikatos, are opposed to their land being dealt with in any way by the Commission. They desire to be left alone to do as they please with the land. There is very little of it under cultivation. On the other hand, the Ngatiraukawa as a tribe own very little land outside Wharepuhunga, and some of that they share with relatives residing in Otaki and other places in the Wellington District. The insufficiency of other lands was taken into consideration by the Land Purchase Officer (Mr. W. H. Grace), who would not negotiate for the purchase of this block.

Subdivisions 19 and 20 are owned by a section of the Ngatituwharetoa Tribe of Taupo, who own a sufficiency of other lands of similar quality in the Taupo district. We are of opinion that these subdivisions, from their position and the fact that the owners have sufficient other lands and will never be in a position to utilise the subdivisions in question, should be sold. They adjoin Crown lands. We are of opinion that the Maniapoto-Tuwharetoa Board should be empowered as agent for the owners to sell these subdivisions to the Crown, as they are completely surrounded by Crown land.

The owners of Nos. 5, 7, and 9 also own Nos. 6, 8, and 10 at the southern end. The former should be reserved for their use and occupation, and the latter sold to the Crown through the Board. No. 6 adjoins Rangitoto B Block, which was vested in trustees for the purpose of sale to discharge survey liens, and which we have recommended for sale. No. 13, a small subdivision in the Southern Block, owned by the same people who own No. 12 in the North, should also be sold. The owners of No. 16 in the Eastern Block also own No. 17 in the South. In our opinion No. 16 should provide all their needs in the way of papakaingas and farms, and No. 17 should be sold.

Large portions of Nos. 14B, 16, 15, and 18, and the whole of the reserve of 3,776 acres, should be leased. But we have not the information to enable us to recommend specific areas for the purpose. We think that the Board should be left to make such adjustments after inquiry.

We summarise the recommendations as follows :—

- (i.) For sale : Nos. 6, 8, 10, 13, 17, 19, and 20; area, 27,000 acres.
- (ii.) For lease : Reserve, 3,776 acres, and portions of 14B, 15, 16, and 18, to be determined by the Board after inquiry.
- (iii.) For Native occupation : The rest of the block.

The fair value of timber on lands recommended for sale should be taken into consideration.

3. TUTIRA BLOCK.

The total area of the Tutira Block is 20,490 acres. The title to the block is a Crown grant issued under what are known as the Waikari-Mohaka provisions of "The Native Land Acts Amendment Act, 1881." The number of original