

Niue to Auckland.

Left Niue.*	Route.	Arrived Auckland.	Number of Days.
May 13	Direct	June 6	22
July 3		July 16	14
August 18		August 30	11
October 8		October 24	15
December 18		January 8	20

* Local time one day behind New Zealand time.

Average time, 16 days.

One additional trip was made from Niue to Tonga and back, giving an extra mail and cargo connection, which occupied twenty-one days—viz., left Niue April 23, arrived back at Niue May 10; time en port, three days.

Average duration of stay at Niue, five days.

New Ordinance.

During the year the Niue Island Council passed an Ordinance entitled the Niue Island Undesirable Immigrants and Vagrancy Ordinance, 1909, which received the Royal assent and became law on the 23rd October, 1909. Under this Ordinance it is sought, *inter alia*, to prevent persons of undesirable character from landing or remaining in Niue. The island has been unfortunate in this respect in the past, as, while most of the neighbouring islands have framed laws attempting to grapple with this question in some way or other, Niue had no law covering such matters; consequently, this island, owing to its isolated position, became a refuge for men of a very undesirable class—men whose dissolute lives set a bad example to the half-civilised Natives, who are easily influenced for ill, and renders the work of the Administration and the missionaries much more difficult than it would otherwise be.

Meteorological.

During the past two years a complete record of the daily readings of the various instruments installed at Niue has been kept. The results disclose the fact that Niue possesses one of the most even tropical climates in the world, the mean range for the past year being 16·7° Fahr., while in 1908 the mean range was only 15·3° Fahr.

Following are the results compiled from the daily readings for 1908 and 1909:—

Year.	Temperature in Shade.							Rainfall.	
	Highest.	Month.	Lowest.	Month.	Mean Maximum for Year.	Mean Minimum for Year.	Mean Range for Year.	Number of Wet Days.	Fall for Year.
	Deg. Fahr.		Deg. Fahr.		Deg. Fahr.	Deg. Fahr.	Deg. Fahr.		Inches.
1909	97	Jan. and March	57	July and August	85·6	68·9	16·7	121	81·8
1908	97	Jan.	58	June, July, and Sep.	85·2	69·6	15·3	141	99·9

Mission Changes.

The Rev. F. E. Lawes, resident missionary of the London Missionary Society in Niue for the past forty-two years, has retired, and left for England in February. The Rev. Gavin Smith, M.A., of Aberdeen, who has been appointed as successor to Mr. Lawes, arrived at Niue last October.

During Mr. Lawes's very long term in Niue he has succeeded single-handed in accomplishing much for the good of the Natives. He was largely instrumental in persuading the Natives to accept British rule, and since the Administration was established in 1901 he has rendered it valuable assistance. His great knowledge of the Niue Natives, and their language and customs, has at all times been readily placed at the service of the Government.

Education.

The Niue Government School was opened on the 10th August, 1909, with an attendance of 64 boys. On the 31st March, 1910, there were 71 pupils on the school-roll—viz., 66 boys and 5 girls. Four boys and 1 girl, the children of Europeans, attend the school as day-scholars, while 66 Native pupils (61 boys and 5 girls) remain at the school as boarders. Mrs. Malcolm, the wife of the teacher, arrived during December, and commenced giving assistance with the teaching