

1911.
NEW ZEALAND.

NEW ZEALAND JUNIOR CADETS
(REPORT ON THE).

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

THE COMMANDANT OF THE NEW ZEALAND JUNIOR CADETS to the Hon. the MINISTER OF EDUCATION,
Wellington.

SIR.—Wellington, 11th July, 1911.
I have the honour, pursuant to subsection (2) of section 36 of the Defence Act, 1909, to submit the following report on the Junior Cadets of New Zealand for the year ended 31st March, 1911.
The following summary, compiled from returns received from approximately 2,000 schools (public and private) in the Dominion, will show that the total strength of the Junior Cadet Force (including Scout Cadets) is 29,067, which is an increase of nearly 5,000 on the number for 1910.
The Scout Cadets do not include any units belonging to the Boy Scout organization; they comprise patrols formed at small schools where it would be difficult to work Cadet detachments. Their training is similar to the Boy Scouts' training. The details of strength are as under:—

	Number of Units.	Number of Officers.	Number of Cadets and Officers.
Junior Cadet officers	..	913	..
Scoutmasters	..	320	..
Junior Cadet units	490	..	..
.. Scout Cadet units	645	..	..
.. Cadets (all ranks)	..	..	22,939
.. Scout Cadets (all ranks)	..	..	6,128
Totals	1,135	1,233	29,067
Totals for 1909-10	1,013	1,100	24,300
Increase 1910-11	122	133	4,767

On the coming into force of the Defence Act, 1909-10, providing for the compulsory training of Junior Cadets, which necessitated the taking-over of all assets and lawful liabilities by the Government, it was found that a very large amount of the equipment in the possession of Cadet units was worn out, in some cases being as much as from eight to ten years old, and required replenishing, in addition to which each new unit as it was formed had to be fully equipped. Consequently, 10,000 sets of equipment (including model rifles, belts, and haversacks), 10,000 caps, and 6,000 jerseys had to be purchased during the year.
Owing to the large amount of work at Headquarters due to the reorganization, re-equipment, the taking-over and adjusting the assets and liabilities of the Public-school Cadets, which existed prior to the adoption of obligatory training, I found it impossible to do much inspection-work during the transitory period, which may be said to have continued during the whole year. Wherever I did go, however, I found the utmost enthusiasm shown by all ranks, and, generally speaking, satisfactory work being done by officers, non-commissioned officers, and Cadets. I was able to advise many schools in the selection of sites for miniature ranges, and was also able to settle many minor difficulties on the spot.