

SESSION II.
1921.
NEW ZEALAND.

COOK AND OTHER ISLANDS.

[In continuation of Parliamentary Paper A.—3, 1920.]

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

MEMORANDUM.

THE annual reports of the Resident Commissioners at Rarotonga and Niue are attached hereto.

During the year changes were made in the Administrations of Rarotonga and Niue. Mr. F. W. Platts, who had been Resident Commissioner at Rarotonga for five years, was offered and accepted a position as Stipendiary Magistrate in New Zealand. Mr. J. G. L. Hewitt, S.M., was appointed to succeed Mr. Platts, and took up his duties in February.

Mr. J. C. Evison was appointed Resident Commissioner at Niue in place of Mr. G. N. Morris, who has been transferred to be Treasurer and Collector of Customs at Rarotonga.

The trade returns show a considerable increase in the value of imports—£177,911, as against £142,925 for the previous year; but the exports show a decline, being £94,697 for the year, as against £127,729 for 1919. This is due principally to the falling-off in the export of copra and pearl-shell.

The shipping facilities have improved during the year, and the service is gradually resuming pre-war conditions. There is, however, room for further improvement, and there is no doubt that the time must come when in order to develop the trade of these Islands, the question of providing adequate shipping facilities will have to be seriously tackled.

The reports of the Medical Officers indicate that the health of the people has, on the whole, been good, and the statement that there has been a marked progressive decrease of tuberculosis in the northern islands during the past three years is very satisfactory.

A census of the inhabitants of the Islands was taken simultaneously with the census in New Zealand. The following table shows the population of the various islands:—

COOK AND OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDS.—SUMMARY OF POPULATION.

Table showing the Population (Native and other) of each Inhabited Island at the Census of 17th April, 1921.

Island.	Native Population.			British and Foreign-born Population.			Totals.		
	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	Males.*	Females.*	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.
Aitutaki	682	661	1,343	14	16	30	696	677	1,373
Atiu	432	398	830	4	3	7	436	401	837
Mangaia	625	584	1,209	10	11	21	635	595	1,230
Manihiki	224	205	429	3	..	3	227	205	432
Mauke	296	265	561	12	5	17	308	270	578
Mitiaro	106	101	207	..	..	..	106	101	207
Palmerston	41	42	83	..	..	..	41	42	83
Penrhyn	170	200	370	4	2	6	174	202	376
Pukapuka	288	242	530	..	..	..	288	242	530
Rakahanga	171	138	309	1	..	1	172	138	310
Rarotonga	1,768	1,519	3,287	105	111	216	1,873	1,630	3,503
Totals, Cook and Northern Islands	4,803	4,355	9,158	153	148	301	4,956	4,503	9,459
Niue	1,703	1,988	3,691	33	26	59	1,736	2,014	3,750
Grand totals ..	6,506	6,343	12,849	186	174	360	6,692	6,517	13,209

* Includes twenty-two Native women married to and living as Europeans.
NOTE.—There were no inhabitants at the islands of Manuae and Suwarrow.

M. POMARE,
Minister for the Cook Islands.