

HIGH COURT.

The underwritten statement shows the business transacted and fines and fees received in connection with this Court during the year :—

Court.	Number of Cases before Court.	Total Fees and Fines imposed.	Fees and Fines received.	Fines worked out in Gaol.	Fees and Fines outstanding at 31st March, 1922.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Criminal	628	952 17 6	645 14 0	153 19 0	197 6 0
Civil	158	46 1 0	41 15 0	..	..
Totals	786	998 18 6	687 9 0	153 19 0	197 6 0

NATIVE LAND COURT.

The undermentioned statement shows fees outstanding, less fees received during the year, in connection with the operations of this Court, so far as the Administration has been able to ascertain them :—

	£	s.	d.
Amount of fees outstanding, 1903 to 31st March, 1922	762	0	7
Work done, 1921, Rarotonga	61	12	0
Work done, 1921, Aitutaki	316	6	1
Adoption fees	7	2	0
	1,147	0	8
Less receipts for 1921-22	227	4	5
	£919	16	3

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

During the year 607 attendances and visits were made upon Europeans and 5,106 upon Maoris in Rarotonga. The heaviest months amongst Europeans were July and September, each with seventy-three visits and attendances, and the lowest December, with twenty-four, and January, with twenty-five. Amongst Maoris the heaviest months were July, with 631 visits and attendances, and September, with 623; whilst the lowest were December, with 235, and February, with 238.

Hospital.—Five Europeans and 100 Maori patients were treated in the institution during the year; the average stay was 15½ days. A considerable number of operations were performed, mostly of a minor nature, and a large number of dressings were done. The educative value of the Hospital is considerable.

Prevalent Diseases.—The most prevalent complaints were—Diseases of the respiratory and alimentary systems, rheumatism, skin-diseases, menstrual and nervous disorders, and filariasis, in order of sequence. In all cases the sickness-rate was less than in the previous years. The respiratory rate, as a rule, ran fairly constant in accordance with the prevailing weather—viz., in rainy weather it was low, and in dry dusty weather high. Alimentary troubles are largely associated with indiscretions in eating—e.g., at times of feasts they are relatively common. In children especially they are often due to worms, particularly round worms, a reminder of the presence of dogs on the island. Rheumatism seems to be intimately connected with the large amount of saccharine food consumed by the people. Skin-diseases are mostly due to carelessness in regard to clothing and contact, itch and ringworm of various kinds, and a pustular sore locally known as *une*, being the most common. Eczema and impetigo are relatively rare. Menstrual troubles are chiefly caused by the inveterate carelessness of the women at these times in regard to sitting for long periods in cold water. Nervous disorders are mostly of a neuralgic character, although there are occasional cases of a cerebral and spinal nature. Filariasis seems mostly to come through the mosquito and the dog. Filarial abscess was very common during the year. The abolition of dogs in these islands would be of distinct benefit to the public health.

Outer Islands.—All the islands in the Group with the exception of Takutea (uninhabited) have been visited by the Medical Officers during the year.

The Chief Medical Officer made a round with the Resident Commissioner in the early part of the year with a view to seeing what islands in the Group most required medical attention. As one result of that visit the Assistant Medical Officer was sent on tour and asked to devote special attention to Aitutaki, Mangaia, and Mauke. At the two former he would have the help of the district nurses. One month was spent by him in Mauke, one in Mangaia, and four in Aitutaki, and shorter periods in Atiu, Mitiaro, and Manuae. From the Assistant Medical Officers' reports and from those of the district nurses there appears to have been an excessive sickness-rate in Aitutaki, and a little more sickness than usual in Mangaia. For the whole year under review in Aitutaki there seems to have been more sickness in proportion to population than in any other island of the Group, and a great