1929.

NEW ZEALAND.

NATIVE TRUST OFFICE.

NATIVE RESERVES IN WELLINGTON AND NELSON UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE NATIVE TRUSTEE

(REPORT ON).

Laid on the Table of the House of Representatives by Leave.

PREFACE.

THE object of this report is to place on record the history of those Native lands which were set apart by the New Zealand Company in 1840 as reserves for the benefit of the "aboriginal chiefs, their tribes and heirs for ever."

The history of the New Zealand Company's reserved "tenths" is bound up in the history of the New Zealand Company, which in turn forms an important chapter in the history of New Zealand. The man who planned this system of Native reserves was the man who founded the New Zealand Company and forced the British Government into annexing New Zealand—that great colonizer, Edward Gibbon Wakefield. He foresaw the danger to which a great race of people would be exposed through the colonization of their country, unless sufficient lands were reserved for their future benefit. His system of Native reserves was afterwards adopted by the New Zealand Government in their purchases of land from the Maoris.

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From a mass of official papers, documents, and other records an endeavour has been made to trace the history of these reserves from their origin down to their present-day management.

Wellington, 26th March, 1929.

R. L. Jellicoe.

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