

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY.

R. C.

No. 1.

Ocean Island,

19th February, 1933.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward a Report on the Census of the Ellice Islands taken on the 27th April, 1931, together with forty-one statistical tables prepared from the Schedules issued to the householders in that District.

Tables 1-41.

2. In accordance with Your Honour's instructions I arrived at Nanumea Island, in the Northern Ellice Group, on the 13th April, 1931, on board H.M.C.S. "Nimanoa", and called at Namumanga, Niutao, Nui, Vaitupu and Nukufetau Islands, reaching Funafuti on the 17th April. At each Island the Native Government were instructed in the purport of the questions asked and in the method of filling in the schedules, sufficient forms being left for issue to every household. After proceeding south in time to take the Census on Nukulaelae Island on the 27th April, H.M.C.S. "Nimanoa" sailed for the Gilbert Group, picking up the completed Census papers from the various

Ellice

His Honour,

The Resident Commissioner,

Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony,

Ocean Island.

Ellice Islands on her way north. Nurakita, the most southerly Ellice Island, was not visited, as it contained no indigenous inhabitants and it was possible to obtain full particulars relating to the imported labour employed there from Messrs. Burns Philp (South Sea) Company, Ltd., of Funafuti Island.

3. As the Enumerators on each Island were necessarily invariably natives it speaks highly for the general standard of education in the Ellice Islands that the Schedules were almost without exception correctly and neatly filled in, usually by the householders themselves who appeared to find no difficulty in understanding what was required of them. In this connection there is no doubt that the natives were greatly aided by the forms being printed in Ellice instead of in Samoan, satisfaction being openly expressed by the people of several islands that they were thus enabled to read the forms direct and without reference to the local Missionary.

4. A Census was taken of the two ships in the District at the time, H.M.C.S. "Nimanoa" and the a.s. "Makea", the former lying at Nukulaelae and the latter off Nanumea on the night of the Census. Particulars of the passengers and crew on board these vessels are included under the heading of "Floating" in the annexed tables.

5. The Tables, Nos. 1 - 41, have been prepared, as far as possible, in accordance with the suggestions
contained

contained in the Enclosure to the Secretary of State's Circular despatch of the 30th August, 1930, separate Tables having been made out for the Pacific Island, European, Half-caste and "Other" populations. The Island population totals are summarised in Table 1, which includes all races.

6. The comparative statistics of population given in Table 2 are the only ones on file at Headquarters, there being no record of a Census having been taken in 1901. In the case of the 1921 census, only the total for the District is obtainable, which includes, however, the "Floating" population. As it was found impossible to obtain figures showing even the approximate area of the various islands, the table giving the area and density of population has been omitted. A table showing the Masculinity of the Pacific Island population at each census is annexed to Table 3, as the percentage borne by the male to the total population is generally considered to furnish an indication of the prospects of survival of a race. The figures given show how the change from a preponderance of males to a preponderance of females was followed by a large increase in the total population. In Table 4 the description of houses was obtained from Dr. D.C.M. Macpherson, Government Medical Officer for the Ellice Islands.

7. Besides the Birth Places by Island Groups given in Table 5, statistics are also included giving the number born on or away from the island on which they were actually

actually resident at the time of the Census, thus furnishing an indication of the amount of intercourse between the various islands of the Group. In Table 7, as it was not possible to make out a Nationality Table from the Schedule issued to native householders, statistics are given showing the Island or Island Group to which the parents of the enumerated individual belonged. These figures have been summarised in Table 36, showing the population by Ethnographic areas, as these areas are at present defined by Anthropologists. In this table the Gilbert Islands have been included in Micronesia and the Ellice Islands in Polynesia.

8. In order to aid comparison, the ages given in Tables 8, 16, 24 and 33 have been divided into the groupings adopted by Captain Holland in his Report on the Census of Ocean Island. The Occupational tables have been based, as far as possible, on the groupings given in the Enclosure to the Secretary of State's Circular Despatch of the 30th August, 1930 and the sub-groupings adopted for the Census of Great Britain, but it should be emphasised that there is very little specialised occupation in the Ellice Islands, practically the entire population consisting of land-owners obtaining their livelihood from the products of their own lands supplemented by fish caught off their islands. Statistics of school children have not been given as, since many, if not most, of these were returned as land-owners, the number enumerated gives a totally false impression.

9. Tables 11 and 27, which include only the population over the age of 10, show how small is the
percentage

percentage of illiteracy in the Ellice Group. "Ability to speak English" has been strictly interpreted and includes only those who can speak the language with some proficiency.

10. The term "Half-caste" has also been strictly interpreted and includes only the issue of Europeans and Pacific Islanders. A separate table - No. 29 - is included showing the number of Pacific Islanders with a smaller percentage of European blood, but these have been included in the native population returns. In most cases the percentage of European blood is very small indeed and the individuals are indistinguishable from the ordinary native population with whom they live.

11. The declaration required by Section 13 of the Census Ordinance, No. 1 of 1931, is attached to this letter.

Enclosure.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Honour's obedient servant,

(Signed). H. E. Maude.

Census Enumerator,

Gilbert and Ellice Islands.

Ellice Islands District.

Census Ordinance - No. 1 of 1931.

Declaration under Section 12.

I, H.E.Maude, hereby declare that the forty-one returns furnished by me in pursuance of the above-cited Ordinance have been truly and faithfully taken and that to the best of my knowledge they are correct so far as may be known.

(Signed). H. E. Maude.

Census Enumerator,
Ellice Islands District.

Ocean Island,

19th February, 1932.

Ellice Islands District.Index to Tables.

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Ellice Islands District.Table 1 ~~141~~.Total Population - All Races.

<u>Island</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Nanumea	347	423	770
Nanumanga	204	220	424
Niutao	320	325	645
Nui	201	209	410
Vaitupu	390	330	720
Nukufetau	190	204	394
Funafuti	210	203	413
Nukulaele	88	90	178
Nurakita	17	23	40
Floating	69	11	80
<u>Totals</u>	2,036	2,038	4,074

Ellice Islands District.

Table 2.

Total Population - Comparative Tables.

Island	Population - 1911			Population - 1921			Population - 1931		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Nanumea	397	348	745	---	---	---	347	423	770
Nanumanga	159	170	329	---	---	---	204	220	424
Niutao	300	303	603	---	---	---	320	325	645
Nui	195	190	385	---	---	---	201	209	410
Vaitupu	273	255	528	---	---	---	390	330	720
Nukufetau	177	157	334	---	---	---	190	204	394
Funafuti	121	114	235	---	---	---	210	203	413
Nukulaelae	82	99	181	---	---	---	88	90	178
Nurakita	---	---	---	---	---	---	17	23	40
Floating	---	---	---	---	---	---	69	11	80
<u>Totals</u>	1,704	1,636	3,340	1,729	1,728	3,457	2,036	2,038	4,074

Percentage increase per 1,000 during the decennial period 1911-21 = 35.03

Percentage increase per 1,000 during the decennial period 1921-31 = 178.48

1911 1921

Ellice Islands District.

Table 3. (a).

Population and Number of Inhabited Houses - All Races.

<u>Island</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Inhabited Houses.</u>	<u>No. per Household</u>
Nanumea	770	103	7.48
Nanumanga	424	66	6.42
Niutao	645	103	6.26
Nui	410	79	5.18
Vaitupu	720	138	5.22
Nukufetau	394	67	5.88
Funafuti	413	68	6.07
Nukulaeae	178	26	6.85
Nurakita	40	6	6.66
Floating	80	---	---
<u>Totals</u>	4,074	656	6.21

Table 3 (b).

Masculinity of Pacific Islanders.*

<u>Census</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Masculinity</u>
1911	1,704	1,636	3,340	+2.04
1921	1,706	1,723	3,429	- .50
1931	2,012	2,030	4,042	- .44

* Masculinity is here calculated as the excess of males per 100 of both sexes combined.

Ellice Islands District.

Table 4.

Description of Houses.

Type 1. (a) Size:- about 20 feet by 15 feet.

(b) Shape:- rectangular.

(c) Construction:-

Floors - On Nanumea, Mukufetau, Funafuti and Nukulaelea Islands the floors are made of coral cement.

On the other islands they are made of shingle, with a skirting of coral cement.

All floors are raised about 8 inches above the ground level.

Sides - Open sides, but furnished with coconut leaf mats which can be raised or lowered at will.

Roofs - Made of pandanus thatch, with an overhang of about a foot.

The roofs are supported on four pandanus posts.

The rafters are of pandanus and the lashings are made of coconut sinnet.

No nails are used in construction.

Type 2. On Nanumea a few houses are built on artificial islands over the lagoon. In construction these are similar to Type 1.

Type 3. On Vaitupu and Funafuti a few houses are built on piles over the lagoon. The floors of these houses are made of coconut mid-ribs, otherwise they are similar in construction to Type 1.

Type 4. At Funafuti a few houses are built on the Gilbertese plan, with raised floors of coconut mid-ribs and permanent walls of the same material. Otherwise they are similar in construction to Type 1.

Ellice Islands District.

Table 5.

Pacific Islanders - Sexes and Islands.

<u>Island</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Namua	347	423	770
Nanumanga	204	219	423
Niutao	320	325	645
Nui	201	209	410
Vaitupu	387	328	715
Nukufetau	187	202	389
Funafuti	203	200	403
Nukulaelae	88	90	178
Nurakita	17	23	40
Floating	58	11	69
<u>Totals</u>	2,012	2,030	4,042

Ellice Islands District.

Table 6.

Pacific Islanders - Birth Places.

<u>Island</u>	<u>Ellice Is</u>	<u>Samoa</u>	<u>Gilbert Is</u>	<u>Tokelau Is</u>	<u>New Guinea</u>	<u>Ocean I</u>	<u>Phoenix Is</u>	<u>Fiji Is</u>	<u>Tahiti</u>	<u>Caroline Is</u>
Nanumea	751	2	4	1	4	5	2	1	-	-
Nanumanga	414	-	4	3	-	1	1	-	-	-
Niutao	634	5	3	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
Nui	391	8	9	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Vaitupu	677	13	2	7	12	1	3	-	-	-
Nukufetau	378	2	2	1	4	-	1	1	-	-
Funafuti	367	7	5	14	6	3	-	-	1	-
Nukulaelae	175	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Nurakita	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Floating	58	2	4	-	-	1	-	2	1	1
<u>Totals</u>	3,885	40	33	29	29	12	7	4	2	1

Ellice Islands District.

Table 6 cont'd.

Pacific Islanders - Birth Places, continued.

<u>Island</u>	<u>Born</u>	
	<u>On Island*</u>	<u>Elsewhere</u>
Nanumea	694	76
Nanumanga	375	48
Niutao	609	36
Nui	372	38
Vaitupu	518	197
Nukufetau	339	50
Funafuti	244	159
Nukulaelae	166	12
Nurakita	7	33
Floating	---	---
<u>Totals</u>	3,324	649

* Includes those born on Island of residence on day of Census.

Ellice Islands District.

Table 7.

Pacific Islanders - Race by Island Groups.

<u>Island</u>	<u>Ellice Is</u>	<u>Gilbertese</u>	<u>Samoans</u>	<u>Tokelau Is</u>	<u>Tahitians</u>	<u>Rotumans</u>	<u>Fijians</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Nanumea	766	2	1	1	-	-	-	770
Nanumanga	414	3	-	6	-	-	-	423
Niutao	642	2	-	1	-	-	-	645
Nui	399	4	7	-	-	-	-	410
Vaitupu	708	1	3	3	-	-	-	715
Nukufetau	387	-	-	1	-	1	-	389
Funafuti	384	9	6	3	1	-	-	403
Nukulaelae	177	-	-	1	-	-	-	178
Nurakita	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	40
Floating	59	8	-	-	1	-	1	69
<u>Totals</u>	3,976	29	17	16	2	1	1	4,042

Ellice Islands District.

Table 8.

Pacific Islanders - Ages.

<u>Island</u>	<u>Under 10</u>	<u>10-19</u>	<u>20-29</u>	<u>30-39</u>	<u>40-49</u>	<u>50-59</u>	<u>60 & Over</u>
Nanumea	229	160	90	115	87	61	28
Nanumanga	121	109	49	64	43	22	15
Niutao	199	120	89	86	69	33	49
Nui	104	82	45	74	58	27	20
Vaitupu	216	198	92	76	65	36	32
Nukufetau	125	79	59	40	34	34	18
Funafuti	136	83	56	54	42	18	14
Nukulaelae	60	28	34	23	14	11	8
Nurakita	12	13	3	5	5	2	--
Floating	5	8	26	16	9	3	2
<u>Totals</u>	1,207	880	543	553	426	247	186

Ellice Islands District.

Table 9.

Pacific Islanders - Conjugal Condition.

<u>Island</u>	<u>Single</u>	<u>Married</u>	<u>Widowed</u>	<u>Divorced</u>
Nanumea	439	278	46	7
Nanumanga	259	135	29	--
Niutao	350	244	39	12
Nui	217	150	36	7
Vaitupu	458	219	36	2
Nukufetau	213	142	31	3
Funafuti	242	144	14	3
Nukulaelae	101	63	14	--
Nurakita	27	12	1	--
Floating	23	43	--	3
<u>Totals</u>	2,329	1,430	246	37

Ellice Islands District.

Table 10.

Pacific Islanders - Occupations.

Occupation	Nanumea	Nanunanga	Niutao	Nui	Vaitupu	Mukufetou	Funafuti	Mukulaelae	Murakite	Floating	Totals
(1) Primary Production:- Plantation Overseer Agriculture and Fishing	340	134	340	220	252	176	113	51	5		1,631
(2) Secondary Production:- Carpenter	1				2		1			1	5
(3) Transport and Communications:- Assistant Marine Engineer Wireless Operator (sea-going) Ship's Engine-room hand Boatswain Sailor Ship's Steward Ship's Cook Ship's Cabin Boy							1			1 1 2 3 18 2 1 1	1 1 2 3 19 2 1 1
(4) Trade and Commerce:- General Trader General Trader's employee Native Co-operative Co's employee	2			2	1	3	6				4 6 5
(5) Public Administration and Professions:- Native Medical Practitioner Native Hospital Dresser Interpreter Clerk Policeman - Colony Constabulary Native Government Official School Teacher Mission Pastor	1	1	2	1	2	1	3			1 2 2 1 2 2 1	1 13 2 1 8 86 9 25
Domestic Service:- Cook Washerwoman Sempstress					1		3			3	4 3 1
Other Industries:- No Industry:- No Gainful Occupation stated							1				
<u>Totals</u>	415	275	289	169	435	194	250	119	34	27	2,207
	770	423	645	410	715	389	403	178	40	69	4,042

Ellice Islands District.

Table 11.

Pacific Islanders - Literacy and ability to speak English.

<u>Island</u>	<u>Can Read</u>	<u>Cannot Read</u>	<u>Can Write</u>	<u>Cannot Write</u>
Nanumea	520	21	513	28
Nanumanga	270	32	265	37
Niutao	414	32	386	60
Nui	301	5	299	7
Vaitupu	479	20	475	24
Nukufetsu	246	18	246	18
Funafuti	263	4	263	4
Nukulaelae	113	5	113	5
Nurakita	27	1	27	1
Floating	64	--	64	--
<u>Totals</u>	2,697	138	2,651	184

Note:- Above figures refer to the population aged 10 and over.

Ellice Islands District.

Table 11 cont'd.

Pacific Islanders - Literacy and ability to speak English, continued.

<u>Island</u>	<u>Can speak English</u>
Nanumea	4
Nanumanga	2
Niutao	1
Nui	12
Vaitupu	44
Nukufetau	17
Funafuti	14
Nukulaelae	5
Nurakite	1
Floating	17
<u>Total</u>	117

Ellice Islands District.

Table 12.

Pacific Islanders - Religions.

<u>Island</u>	<u>Congregationalist</u>	<u>Roman Catholic</u>
Nanumea	770	--
Nanumanga	423	--
Niutao	645	--
Nui	410	--
Vaitupu	715	--
Nukufetau	389	--
Funafuti	403	--
Nukulaelae	178	--
Nurakite	40	--
Floating	67	2
<u>Totals</u>	4,040	2

Ellice Islands District.

Table 13.

Europeans - Sexes, and Islands.

<u>Island</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Vaitupu	2	-	2
Funafuti	2	-	2
Floating	9	-	9
<u>Totals</u>	13	-	13

Table 14.

Europeans - Birth Places.

England	2
Scotland	2
New Zealand	2
Ireland	1
Australia	1
India	1
Tahiti	1
Holland	1
Fiji Islands	1
Thursday Island	1
<u>Total</u>	13

Ellice Islands District.

Table 15.

Europeans - Nationality.

British Born	12
U.S.A. Subject	1
<u>Total</u>	13

Table 16.

Europeans - Age Groups.

Under 10	-
10 - 19	-
20 - 29	3
30 - 39	3
40 - 49	3
50 - 59	3
60 & over	1
<u>Total</u>	13

Table 17.

Europeans - Conjugal Condition.

Single	3
Married	9
Widowed	1
Divorced	-
<u>Total</u>	13

Ellice Islands District.

Table 18.

Europeans - Occupations.

(1) Primary Production:-	
(2) Secondary Production:-	
Carpenter	1
(3) Transport and Communications:-	
Master Mariner	2
Ship's Mate (First)	2
Marine Engineer (sea-going)	2
Ship's Supercargo	1
(4) Trade and Commerce:-	
General Trader	1
(5) Public Administration & Professions:-	
Colonial Civil Servant (Native Administration)	2
Schoolmaster	1
Medical Practitioner	1
(6) Domestic Service:-	
(7) Other Industries:-	
(8) No Industry:-	

Totals 13

Table 19.

Europeans - Literacy and ability to speak English.

Able to Read = 13.	Not able to Read = 0.
Able to Write = 13.	Not able to Write = 0.

Able to speak English = 13.

Ellice Islands District.

Table 20.

Europeans - Religions.

Church of England	=	6
Presbyterian	=	3
Roman Catholic	=	2
Protestant	=	1
Agnostic	=	1
<u>Total</u>	=	13

Ellice Islands District.

Table 21.

European-Pacific Island Half-castes - Sexes and Islands.

<u>Island</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Nanumanga	-	1	1
Vaitupu	1	2	3
Nukufetau	3	2	5
Funafuti	4	2	6
Floating	1	-	1
<u>Totals</u>	9	7	16

Table 22.

European-Pacific Island Half-castes - Birth Places.

Ellice Islands	12
Fiji Islands	1
Tokelau Islands	1
Wallis Island	1
Marshall Islands	1
<u>Total</u>	16

Ellice Islands District.

Table 23.

European-Pacific Island Half-castes - Nationality.

British Born	= 11
Naturalized British Subject	= 1
U.S.A. Subject	= 2
French Subject	= 1
German Subject	= 1
<u>Total</u>	= 16

Table 24.

European-Pacific Island Half-castes - Age Groups.

Under 10	3
10 - 19	-
20 - 29	4
30 - 39	3
40 - 49	1
50 - 59	5
60 & over	-
<u>Total</u>	16

Ellice Islands District.

Table 25.

European-Pacific Island Half-castes - Conjugal Condition.

Single	6
Married	8
Widowed	2
Divorced	-
<u>Total</u>	16

Table 26.

European-Pacific Island Half-castes - Occupations.

(1) Primary Production:- Agriculture and Fishing	7
(2) Secondary Production:-	
(3) Transport and Communications:- Marine Engineer (sea-going)	1
Apprentice (marine engineering)	1
(4) Trade and Commerce:- General Trader	1
(5) Public Administration & Professions:- School Teacher	1
Mission Pastor	2
(6) Domestic Service:-	
(7) Other Industries:-	
(8) No Industry - No gainful occupation stated	3
<u>Total</u>	16

Ellice Islands District.

Table 27.

European-Pacific Island Half-castes - Literacy and ability to speak English.

Able to Read* = 13. Not able to Read* = 0.

Able to Write* = 13. Not able to Write* = 0.

Able to speak English = 8.

* Figures refer to Half-caste population aged 10 and over.

Table 28.

European-Pacific Island Half-castes - Religions.

Congregationalist = 11

Protestant = 2

Roman Catholic = 2

Wesleyan Methodist = 1

Total = 16

Ellice Islands District.

Table 29.

Pacific Islanders with a percentage of European blood (excluding Half-castes).

<u>Island</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Nanumea	-	-	-
Nanumanga	-	-	-
Niutao	1	-	1
Nui	1	-	1
Vaitupu	3	5	8
Nukufetau	1	-	1
Funafuti	-	-	-
Nukulaelae	-	-	-
Nurakita	1	-	1
Floating	-	1	1
<u>Totals</u>	7	6	13

Ellice Islands District.

Table 30.

"Other" Population - Sexes and Islands.

<u>Island</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Funafuti	1	1	2
Floating	1	-	1
<u>Totals</u>	2	1	3

Table 31.

"Other" Population - Birth Places.

Ellice Islands	2
Bengal, India	1

Table 32.

"Other" Population - Nationality.

British Born	3
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Ellice Islands District.

Table 33.

"Other" Population - Age Groups.

Under 10	-
10 - 19	-
20 - 29	-
30 - 39	-
40 - 49	-
50 - 59	1
60 & Over	2
<u>Total</u>	3

Table 34.

"Other" Population - Conjugal Condition.

Single	-
Married	2
Widowed	1
Divorced	-
<u>Total</u>	3

Ellice Islands District.

Table 35.

"Other" Population - Occupations.

(1) Primary Production:- Agriculture and Fishing	2
(2) Secondary Production:-	
(3) Transport and Communications:- Ship's Cook	1
(4) Trade and Commerce:-	
(5) Public Administration and Professions:-	
(6) Domestic Service:-	
(7) Other Industries:-	
(8) No Industry:-	

<u>Total</u>	3
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Table 36

"Other" Population - Literacy and ability to speak English.

Able to read = 3.	Not able to Read = 0.
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Able to Write = 3.	Not able to Write = 0.
--------------------	------------------------

Able to speak English = 2.

Ellice Islands District.

Table 37.

"Other" Population - Religions.

Congregationalist	=	2
Roman Catholic	=	1
<u>Total</u>	=	3

Ellice Islands District.

Table 38.

Racial Analysis - Pacific Islanders.

<u>Island</u>	<u>Polynesians</u>	<u>Micronesians</u>
Nanumea	768	2
Nanumanga	420	3
Niutao	643	2
Nui*	406	4
Vaitupu	714	1
Nukufetau	389	-
Funafuti	394	9
Nukulaelae	178	-
Nurakita	40	-
Floating	61	8
<u>Totals</u>	4,013	29

Note:- No attempt has been made to disentangle the racial mixture on Nui. The population was originally Micronesian, but through 10 generations of inter-marrying with neighbouring Islands they have absorbed much Polynesian blood.

Ellice Islands District.

Table 39.

Racial Analysis - "Other" Population.

West Indian Negro	2
East Indian	1
<u>Total</u>	3

Ellice Islands District.

Table 40.

Total Population by Races.

<u>Island</u>	Polynesians	Micronesians	Europeans	Half-castes	W. Indian Negroes	East Indians	<u>Totals</u>
Nanumea	768	2	-	-	-	-	770
Nanumanga	420	3	-	1	-	-	424
Niutao	643	2	-	-	-	-	645
Nui	406	4	-	-	-	-	410
Vaitupu	714	1	2	3	-	-	720
Nukufetau	389	-	-	5	-	-	394
Funafuti	394	9	2	6	2	-	413
Nukulaelae	178	-	-	-	-	-	178
Nurakita	40	-	-	-	-	-	40
Floating	61	8	9	1	-	1	80
<u>Totals</u>	4,013	29	13	16	2	1	4,074

Ellice Islands District.

Table 41.

Disability Return - All Races.

<u>Island</u>	Blind	Lame	Deaf	Feeble-minded	One legged	No ears	Hunch-backed	No arms	Dumb
Nanumea	11	-	1	3	-	-	1	1	-
Nanumanga	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Niutao	1	3	1	1	2	-	1	-	-
Nui	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vaitupu	8	2	3	1	-	1	-	-	-
Nukufetau	8	3	3	1	-	1	-	-	-
Funafuti	3	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Nukulaelae	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nurakita	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Floating	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
<u>Totals</u>	36	16	9	7	3	2	2	1	0

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY.

R. C.

No. 2.

Ocean Island,

27th February, 1932.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward a Report on the Census of the Phoenix Islands, together with eleven statistical tables prepared from the schedules filled in at Funafuti where, in accordance with Your Honour's instructions, the necessary particulars were obtained from Mr. J. Bowerman, the local Manager for Messrs. Burns, Philp (South Sea) Company, Limited. To aid comparison, the tables have been prepared on the same system as those annexed to my Report on the Census of the Ellice Islands, forwarded to Your Honour on the 19th February, 1932.

2. The Phoenix Group comprises the eight islands of Phoenix, Birnie, Hull, Canton (or Mary Island), Gardner, McKean, Enderbury and Sydney and is situated to the east of the Gilbert and Ellice Groups, between 2 30' S. and 4 30' S. Lat. and 171 and 174 30' W. Long. The islands are low-lying and of coral formation, enclosing lagoons, the Group itself forming a rough circle, with Birnie Island in the

His Honour,

The Resident Commissioner,

Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony,

Ocean Island.

Tables I-II.

No. 1 - 19.2.32.

in the centre. They lie on the direct route for ships proceeding from Vancouver to Fiji. The islands have been annexed by Great Britain and are under the jurisdiction of the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

Fr.H.C. to R.C.
No.11 - 25.1.26

3. Canton Island had formerly extensive deposits of guano, but these have been all worked out, the only product of the Group at present being copra, although Gardner Island, in addition to its coconut plantations, contains some valuable hardwood trees formerly used in ship building. All the islands, with the exception of McKean and Enderbury, were leased to the Samoa Shipping and Trading Company for 87 years, from the 1st January, 1914, and are at present being exploited by Messrs. Burns, Philp (South Sea) Company, Limited. There are several coconut plantations on the islands, notably on Phoenix (the most fertile), Canton, Sydney, Gardner and Hull, but the only islands inhabited at the present time are Sydney and Hull.

4. There are no indigenous inhabitants, the entire population consisting of labourers with their families, employed on contract by Messrs. Burns, Philp, in charge of a half-caste overseer on Hull Island and a native on Sydney. The natives are all recruited from Nanumea Island, in the Northern Ellice Group. No official figures are obtainable for former years but the Statesman's Year Book for 1916 gives the population as 59. The area of the Group is said to be 16 square miles but the areas of the individual

the individual Islands are not known.

5. While of small economic importance in the present, the islands, with their comparatively fertile soil and abundant supply of fish, may well become of great value in the not distant future as an outlet for the population of the Gilbert Islands, which threatens to increase rapidly beyond the slender means of subsistence afforded by the inhospitable environment. The fact that Kingsford Smith in 1928 chose one of the Phoenix Group for an emergency landing place on his flight across the Pacific suggests that the islands may be also of use as a seaplane depot, when the trans-Pacific route is operated on a commercial basis.

6. The Declaration required by Section 12 of the Census Ordinance, No. 1 of 1931, is attached to this Report.

Enclosure.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Honour's obedient servant,

(Signed). H. E. Maude.

Census Enumerator,
Gilbert and Ellice Islands.

Phoenix Islands District.

Census Ordinance - No. 1 of 1931.

Declaration under Section 12.

I, H.E.Maude, hereby declare that the eleven returns furnished by me in pursuance of the above-cited Ordinance have been truly and faithfully taken and that to the best of my knowledge they are correct so far as may be known.

(Signed). H. E. Maude.

Census Enumerator,
Phoenix Islands District.

Ocean Island,

27th February, 1932.

Phoenix Islands District.

Table 1.

Total Population - All Races.

<u>Island</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Hull	9	6	15
Sydney	9	7	16
<u>Totals</u>	18	13	31

Table 2.

Population and Number of Inhabited Houses - All Races.

<u>Island</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Inhabited Houses.</u>	<u>No. per Household</u>
Hull	15	7	2.14
Sydney	16	5	3.2
<u>Totals</u>	31	12	2.58

Table 3.

Pacific Islanders - Sexes and Islands.

<u>Island</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Hull	8	6	14
Sydney	9	7	16
<u>Totals</u>	17	13	30

Phoenix Islands District.

Table 4.

Pacific Islanders - Birth Places.

<u>Island</u>	<u>Ellice Is.</u>	<u>Phoenix Is.</u>	<u>Ocean I.</u>
Hull	12	1	1
Sydney	15	1	-
<u>Totals</u>	27	2	1

Table 5.

Pacific Islanders - Race by Island Groups.

<u>Island</u>	<u>Ellice Islanders</u>
Hull	14
Sydney	16
<u>Totals</u>	30

Table 6.

Pacific Islanders - Age Groups.

<u>Island</u>	<u>Under 10</u>	<u>10-19</u>	<u>20-29</u>	<u>30-39</u>	<u>40-49</u>	<u>50-59</u>	<u>60 & Over</u>
Hull	4	2	-	4	1	2	1
Sydney	5	2	3	3	2	1	-
<u>Totals</u>	9	4	3	7	3	3	1

Phoenix Islands District.

Table 7.

Pacific Islanders - Conjugal Condition.

<u>Island</u>	<u>Single</u>	<u>Married</u>	<u>Widowed</u>	<u>Divorced</u>
Hull	4	9	1	-
Sydney	7	9	-	-
<u>Totals</u>	11	18	1	-

Table 8.

Pacific Islanders - Occupations.

<u>Island</u>	<u>Plantation Overseer</u>	<u>Plantation Labourer</u>
Hull	-	6
Sydney	1	4
<u>Totals</u>	1	10

Table 9.

Pacific Islanders - Literacy and ability to speak English.

<u>Island</u>	<u>Can Read</u>	<u>Cannot Read</u>	<u>Can Write</u>	<u>Cannot Write</u>
Hull	9	1	9	1
Sydney	11	-	11	-
<u>Totals</u>	20	1	20	1

Can speak English = 0.

Phoenix Islands District.

Table 10.

Pacific Islanders - Religions.

<u>Island</u>	<u>Congregationalist</u>
Hull	14
Sydney	16
<u>Total</u>	30

Table 11.

European-Pacific Island Half-caste.

Sex = Male. Island = Hull Island.
 Birth Place = Union Islands.
 Nationality = British Subject.
 Age Group = 30-39.
 Conjugal Condition = Married.
 Occupation = Plantation Overseer.
 Able to Read = Yes. Able to Write = Yes.
 Able to speak English = Yes.
 Religion = Congregationalist.

C O P Y.

MEMORANDUM.

18th April, 1933.

From

The Acting Secretary to the Government,
Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony,
Ocean Island.

To

His Honour,
The Acting Resident Commissioner,
Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony,
Ocean Island.

ABSTRACTION OF FIGURES FROM 1931 CENSUS REPORTS.

As requested by Your Honour, I submit herewith a report on the practicability of collecting the information required by His Excellency the Acting High Commissioner as stated in paragraph 4 of His Excellency's despatch No. 297 of the 16th December, 1932.

2. I regret that it would not be possible to compile a summary in the form of the draft statement attached to His Excellency's above-mentioned despatch from the figures as obtained from the recent census, owing to the fact that the census was taken on a racial basis whereas the attached form is based on an island or, in one case, national basis. In this connection I would refer Your Honour to the Secretary of State's Circular despatch (2) of the 30th August, 1930, together with the memorandum attached to it, where it is stated that the 1931 census should be taken, unless circumstances rendered it undesirable, on a racial basis.

In

In paragraph 1 of the same despatch the Secretary of State expresses his desire to obtain the most accurate ethnographic and racial statistics possible.

3. In the absence, therefore, of any other instructions I concluded that the census of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands was to be taken on a racial basis and I presumed that the term "race" was used in the sense in which it is usually employed by ethnologists and as distinct from nationality, island or island group. In this conclusion I was strengthened by the wording of the relevant question in the Gilbertese census papers, which were prepared, translated and printed in Fiji/^{and} which ran as follows:-

Kai-n te aba ra ? (N ai arc-n te I-Porinitian etc.)

Of what race are you ? (For example Polynesian etc.)

"Aba" here is an extremely vague word and, according to Bingham's Dictionary, can mean, "land: people generally: the world". It is, in addition, the only purely Gilbertese word used as signifying race ^{when} and/employed together with the defining word "Polynesian", an essentially racial expression, I presumed that it was used in the sense of "race".

4. The vast majority of Anthropologists include the Gilbertese, together with the inhabitants of the Marshall, Caroline and other groups to the north, under the general racial heading of Micronesians and, while this grouping is admittedly misleading, in so much as the Gilbertese have little or nothing in common with the rest of Micronesia, it is the only one generally accepted. The Ellice Islanders, on the other hand, are grouped with the islanders to their south and south-east under the heading of Polynesians. Hence, although the Gilbertese
were

were instructed to write "Kiribati" in answer to the question as to race contained in their census paper, when the returns were compiled they were described as Micronesians.

5. Racially speaking there is, at any rate in these days, absolutely no distinction between Banabans and other Gilbertese and in support of this I would refer to the Introduction to my recently published monograph on the "Social Organisation of Banaba". On the Census papers, therefore, Banabans and other Gilbertese have alike described themselves as "Kiribati" and have been included in the returns as Micronesians and, such is the degree of inter-marriage between them, that I doubt, even should another census be taken, if it would be possible to separate them statistically.

6. I have the honour, therefore, to state that, while the first three columns of the draft statement in question, giving the sexes and total numbers of Europeans by groups, can be compiled, columns 4 to 6 and 7 to 9, requiring the same particulars in respect of Banabans and Gilbertese, cannot be filled in, as the questions contained in the census form do not enable the Gilbertese belonging to Ocean Island to be separated from the Gilbertese belonging to other islands. As regards columns 4 to 12, while the numbers of Ellice Islanders residing in the other islands and island groups, and vice versa, can be abstracted from the "Race by Island Groups" tables in the various Census reports, these cannot be detailed by sexes, but only by totals.

7. Both Chinese and Japanese have been included under the racial heading of Mongolians but, as the High Commissioner only wishes to know the number of Chinese in columns

columns 13 to 15, those of Chinese nationality can be abstracted from the total number of Mongolians but again only the totals and not the sexes can be given. In the case of the last three residual columns naturally only totals can be given, as they must now include a number of Japanese of unknown sex.

8. With regard to the census returns prepared by Captain Holland for Ocean Island there is the added difficulty that he has omitted to separate the sexes in the case of certain children, the number of native indentured labour being returned as men 565, women 168, children 156. Mr. G.E. Hard, who compiled the statistics from Fanning and Washington Islands, followed the lines of Captain Holland's report and has consequently also omitted to separate the sexes in the case of children of indentured labour. In view of the fact that one of the primary objects of a census is to obtain the total population by sexes and as this is not possible as long as the sexes of the children of the indentured labour on Ocean, Fanning and Washington Islands remain unknown, I would respectfully suggest that a re-count be ordered by Your Honour of the census forms sent in from these islands, after which I shall be in a position to prepare a summary of the total population of the Colony based, as far as practicable, on the draft statement attached to the High Commissioner's despatch and which will, I believe, satisfy the requirements of the High Commissioner.

9. In conclusion I would respectfully reiterate my offer, made verbally at the time of taking the census, to unite the census figures sent in from the various islands and island groups in the Colony and prepare, in my spare time, a single complete census report concerning the whole Colony on the model of the Census Reports issued by the

Government

Government of India. In this connection I would state that I have for some time been working on a monograph entitled "An Historical and Statistical study of the population of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands", dealing with the various estimates and census of population which have been made since 1835 and analysing the causes affecting the movements of population thus recorded. This will shortly be published in a scientific periodical and much of the material contained in it could be also utilised in the introduction to a Census Report on the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony.

(Signed) H.E. MAUDE.

SCHEDULE OF LETTERS.

To His Honour the Resident Commissioner, Ocean Island.

From the Census Enumerator, Gilbert and Ellice Islands.

27th February, 1932.

<u>No.</u>	<u>Date - 1932.</u>	<u>Subject Matter.</u>
2	27th February.	Census Report on the Phoenix Islands.

THE CONTENTS OF THE MAIL AS SPECIFIED IN THIS
SCHEDULE HAVE BEEN RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE
OF THE RESIDENT COMMISSIONER THIS DAY.



27 FEB 1932

Duplicate.

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY.

Schedule of Letters.

To His Honour the Resident Commissioner, Ocean Island.

From the Census Enumerator, Gilbert and Ellice Islands, Ocean Island.

19th February, 1932.

No. Date - 1932.

Subject Matter.

1 19th February.

Census Report on the Ellice Islands.

THE CONTENTS OF THE MAIL AS SPECIFIED IN THIS
SCHEDULE HAVE BEEN RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE
OF THE RESIDENT COMMISSIONER THIS DAY.



20 FEB 1932

From

O.H.M.S.

9th January, 1932.

The Census Enumerator,
Ellice Islands District,
Ocean Island.

To The Superintendent of Education,
Gilbert & Ellice Islands Colony,
Ocean Island.

W. & S. LTD.

I am forwarding herewith statistics of the number of Boys and Girls in the Ellice Islands returned in the last Census as attending school. I do not think that the totals can be in any way relied upon as where boys or girls are also owners of land they have on many Islands been returned as landowners.

On Nanumanga, where Mr. Anderson supervised the Census, no scholars have been returned and on Vaitupu only those attending the two Central Schools.

(Signed). H. E. Maude.

Enclosure.

Census - 1931.

Children attending School in the Ellice Islands District.

<u>Name of Island.</u>	<u>Boys.</u>	<u>Girls.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
1. Nanumea.	118	127	= 239
2. Nanumanga.	---	---	= ---
3. Niutao.	3	4	= 7
4. Nui.	67	62	= 129
5. Vaitupu.	107 [*]	---	= 107
6. Nukunono.	41	43	= 84
7. Funafuti.	38	55	= 93
8. Nukunono.	21	20	= 41
	===	===	===
<u>Total -</u>	389	511	= 700
	===	===	===

* Consisting of 64 in the Government School and 43 in the Teachers Training School.

From

O.H.M.S.

14th December, 19 31.

The Census Enumerator,

Ellice Islands District,

Ocean Island.

W. & S. LTD.

To His Honour the Resident Commissioner,

Gilbert & Ellice Islands Colony,

Ocean Island.

I should be grateful if I could be spared an Ellice speaking native for a few days for the purpose of completing the compilation of Census statistics for the Ellice Islands Enumeration District.

(Signed). H. E. Maude.

DUPLICATE.

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY.

SCHEDULE OF LETTERS.

Transmitted to His Honour the Resident Commissioner by the Census
Enumerator, Gilbert and Ellice Islands.

5th May, 1932.

No.	Date - 1932.	Subject Matter.
3	30th April.	Census Report on the Gilbert Islands.
4	4th May.	Indians Resident in Gilbert and Ellice Islands.

3 extra copies of the Census Report on the Gilbert Islands.

M.P. No. 189/30. Census, 1931.

M.P. No. 41/17. District Annual Reports, 1916-17.

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY.

Island of Beru,
Southern Gilberts,
3rd May, 1932.

R. C.
No. 4.

Sir,

With reference to the Secretary of State's Circular Despatch of the 18th June, 1930, on the subject of information desired by the Census Commissioner for India regarding persons of Indian Origin resident in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony, I have the honour to enclose particulars of the only Indian returned as resident in the Ellice Islands enumeration district on the 26th April, 1931.

2. No Indians were returned as residing in the Gilbert Islands enumeration district.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Honour's obedient servant,

(Signed) H. E. Maude.

Census Enumerator,
Gilbert and Ellice Islands.

Enclosure

His Honour,
The Resident Commissioner,
Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony,
Ocean Island.

ENCLOSURE.

Indians Resident in Gilbert and Ellice Islands.

<u>Head</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Birth Places:-			
Born in Bengal	1	1	-
Religion:-			
Christian	1	1	-
Civil Condition:-			
Married	1	1	-
Occupation:-			
Indefinite (Ship's Cook)	1	1	-
Age:-			
60 and over	1	1	-