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Indian Immigration

(REPORT ON, FOR THE YEAR 1916).

Laid on the Table, 24 August, 1917.

THE AGENT-GENERAL OF IMMIGRATION TO THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Immigration Department,
Suva, 1st May, 1917.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit, for the information of His Excellency the Governor, the following report upon Indian immigration and the Indian immigrants in this Colony during the year 1916. It is divided into two parts: Part I deals entirely with indentured Indians; Part II deals with unindentured and indentured Inoians, and with matters of general interest.

2. Applications were received originally for 2,926 adult immigrants to be allotted to 434 plantations, supplementary applications were received for an additional 109 adults. Owing to the war it was found possible to despatch only two vessels with immigrants to this Colony during the season. A reduction of fifty per centum on the original applications was therefore made when allotting immigrants who arrived during the year.

3. The undermentioned steamers were chartered for the transport of immigrants in 1916, viz.:-

Steamer.	Master.	Surgeon-Supt.
"Chenab"	H. Findlay	T. Ireland.
"Sutlej"	J. Burley	H. Vallance.

The "Chenab" left Calcutta on the 1st of August, arriving at Madras on the 7th of August. After embarking immigrants at Madras the vessel resumed her voyage on the 7th of August, and arrived in Suva harbour on the morning of the 1st September, twenty-five days out from Madras. The general condition of the immigrants during the voyage was good, there being little serious illness. In spite of the exceedingly rough weather during the last week, which was the cause of much sea-sickness, the condition of the immigrants on arrival was good. One birth and no deaths occurred during the voyage. The immigrants embarked at Calcutta and Madras were as follows:-

	Males.	Females.	Children.	Infants.	Total.
Calcutta ..	299	154	30	17	500
Madras ..	222	100	34	18	374
Total ..	521	254	73	35	883

Two passengers are included in the above.

The "Sutlej" left Calcutta on the 2nd October, arriving at Madras on the 6th of October. After embarking immigrants at that port the vessel resumed her voyage on the 9th October, and arrived at Suva on the 2nd of November, after a voyage of twenty-five days from Madras. The Surgeon-Superintendent reported that the general condition of the immigrants during the voyage was good, there being little serious sickness. Notwithstanding exceedingly rough weather during the first fourteen days which was the cause of much sea-sickness the condition of the immigrants was good. One birth and four deaths (one male adult, one female adult, and two children) occurred during the voyage. The immigrants embarked were as follows:-

	Males.	Females.	Children.	Infants.	Total.
Calcutta ..	190	85	14	8	297
Madras ..	342	159	54	23	578
Total ..	532	244	68	31	875

No passengers are included in the above.

ARRIVAL OF IMMIGRANTS IN 1916.

4. The total number of immigrants embarked and landed, taking the rating at port of embarkation was as follows:—

	Male Adults.	Female Adults.	Boys.	Girls.	Male Infants.	Female Infants.	Total.
"Chenab" from Calcutta and Madras arrived 1st September, 1916	521	254	39	34	22	13	883
"Sutlej" from Calcutta and Madras arrived 2nd November, 1916	532	244	34	34	16	15	875
Number embarked	1,053	498	73	68	38	28	1,758
Born on the voyage .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	2	2
	1,053	498	73	68	38	30	1,760
Deduct deaths on voyage	1	1	..	1	..	1	4
Number landed	1,052	497	73	67	38	29	1,756
Deduct passengers	2	..	..	..	..	..	2
Immigrants landed	1,050	497	73	67	38	29	1,754

PROPORTION OF SEXES.

5. The proportion of females to every hundred males was:—adults, 47.33; children, 86.48; total, 51.07. There were 13.38 children to every hundred adults.

RETURN IMMIGRANTS.

6. Included with the total number despatched, the following immigrants had previously served or resided in other Colonies:—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Natal	58	33	7	98
Surinam	1	1	..	3
Fiji	9	5	3	17
Mauritius	3	2	..	7
Jamaica	1	..	..	1
British Guiana	1	1	1	3
Total	73	42	14	129

Passengers are not included in the above.

NON-IMMIGRANT PASSENGERS.

7. There were two passengers neither of whom had previously served under indenture in Fiji.

REMITTANCES.

8. Sums amounting to £11 18s. 8d. were deposited with the Emigration Agent at Calcutta, by four immigrants for payment in Fiji.

DETENTION IN DEPOT.

9. The Immigration Depot, Nukulau Island, was in occupation during part of the months of September, October, and November, 1916. No quarantine restriction was necessary in the case of immigrants arriving by either steamer. The usual steam disinfection of all the immigrants' clothing, blankets, &c., was carried out in Depot. Upon the Nukulau Depot being closed after the allotment and delivery of the immigrants from each steamer, all unallotted and rejected immigrants with their dependants were removed to Korovou Depot, Suva, as usual. The period of detention in Depot in the case of each steamer is shown hereunder, viz.:—

	"Chenab."	"Sutlej."
Arrived in Depot	2 September	3 November.
Date fixed for delivery	18 September	20 November.
Depot closed	23 September	24 November.

PHYSIQUE AND CONDITION OF IMMIGRANTS ON ARRIVAL.

10. The physique of the immigrants medically examined in Depot appears to have been good. The condition of the immigrants greatly improved during their stay in Depot.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS IN DEPOT AND HOSPITAL.

11. One birth and two deaths occurred in the Depot, both deaths were of Madras male adults, of these a Madras male was found drowned. A Magisterial inquiry was held by the Chief Police Magistrate, and the finding was "found drowned." All the circumstances pointed to suicide. The man according to his ship mates had been depressed since leaving India. One death, a male adult, and two births occurred in the Colonial Hospital.

MARRIAGES DECLARED IN DEPOT.

12. Declarations made on arrival under section 4 of the Indian Marriage Ordinance No. II of 1882, by newly arrived immigrants were taken by the Agent-General in the case of 185 couples and certificates of registration issued to the parties.

MEDICAL INSPECTION.

13. The medical inspection of the immigrants was carried out by officers of the Medical Department, and the following details of chest measurements and weights of adults were recorded:—

	"Chenab."	"Sutlej."
Chest measurement—		
Males, average in inches	32.81	32.37
Weight—		
Males, average in lbs.	119.63	120.35
Females, average in lbs.	106.96	102.90

The average chest measurement of the adult male immigrants landed during the year was 32.59 inches, and the average weights were:—males, 119.99 lbs.; females, 104.93 lbs. The ages of adult immigrants varied in the following proportions:—

	Males.	Females.
20 years and under	28.83	47.12
25 years and over 20	49.02	41.08
30 years and over 25	17.98	8.64
40 years and over 30	4.32	2.26

IMMIGRANTS SET-ASIDE.

14. The immigrants set-aside for rejection or subsequent allotment after re-examination were:—

Vessel.	Set aside.			Dependants.					Total.		
	Adults.			Adults.		Children.		Total.	Adults.	Children.	Total.
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	M.	F.				
"Chenab"	6	1	7	1	1	3	..	5	9	3	12
"Sutlej"	7	2	9	8	5	4	5	22	22	9	31
Total	13	3	16	9	6	7	5	27	31	12	43

15. Subsequently they were disposed of as follows:—

	Set aside and rejected.			Dependants.					Total.		
	M.	F.	Total.	Adults.		Children.		Total.	Adults.	Children.	Total.
Allotted on re-examination	4	..	4	M.	F.	M.	F.					21	15	10	25
Allotted without obligation to work .. .. .	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2
In depot awaiting allotment and repatriation	9	1	10	3	1	1	1	6	14	2	16
Total	13	3	16	9	6	7	5	27	31	12	43

RE-CLASSIFICATION.

16. Twelve males and six females recruited as adults, being under fifteen years of age, were re-classified as non-adults.

LIMITED TASKS.

17. Under section 51 of Ordinance No. I of 1891, there were placed on limited tasks as under:—

Vessel.	Half Task.		Three-Quarter Task.		Total.		Percentage to Number Allotted.
	M	F	M	F	M	F	
"Chenab"	5	18	31	..	36	18	7.21
"Sutlej"	3	12	21	..	24	12	4.85
Total	8	30	52	..	60	30	6.04

18. The number despatched, the casualties, and the number actually allotted are shown in the following table:—

Particulars	Adults.		Children.		Infants.		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Embarked (two steamers)	1,053	493	73	68	38	28	1,758
Born on voyage .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	2	2
Died on voyage	1,053	498	73	68	38	30	1,760
.. .. .	1	1	..	1	..	1	4
Total landed	1,052	497	73	67	38	29	1,756
Deduct passengers	2	..	..	..	..	..	2
Number of immigrants landed	1,050	497	73	67	38	29	1,754
Deduct died in Hospital and Depot	3	..	..	..	..	..	3
Committed indenture	3	1	..	..	..	..	4
Reclassified	12	6	..	..	..	..	18
Rejected and dependents	12	2	..	1	1	..	16
Total deductions	30	9	..	1	1	..	41
Add born at Nukunau .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Reclassified .. .. .	..	..	12	6	..	..	18
Total additions .. .. .	..	..	12	6	1	..	19
Total allotted	1,020	488	85	72	38	29	1,732

19. As shown by the foregoing summary, 1,547 adult immigrants were landed in 1916 (exclusive of passengers); of these 1,508 adults were allotted, 18 classed as adults in India being reclassified as children; 2 with 1 adult dependent were rejected at medical examination; 3 died in depot and hospital; and 2 were allowed to cancel their agreements to serve under indenture. Of the number allotted, 60 men and 30 women were placed on limited tasks, equal to about 5.96 per cent.

PROPORTION OF SEXES.

20. The proportion of women to every 100 adult immigrants allotted was 32.36 per cent. or 47.84 to every 100 men.

REPATRIATION.

21. Fifteen adult immigrants rejected on arrival in the Colony during the year 1915 were repatriated during the year under section 7 of the Indian Immigration Ordinance 1891. Fifty-six adults and their children were repatriated under section 45 as being incapable of completing their terms of indenture.

CANCELLATION OF INDENTURES.

22. The indentures of 341 immigrants (194 men and 147 women) were cancelled by the Agent-General on terms mutually agreed by the immigrants and the employer as provided under section 9 (4) of Ordinance XXII of 1915. The amount paid by the immigrants to employers in commutation was £1,700 5s. 8d.

The following table shows the number of immigrants whose indentures have been cancelled in each year since 1910:—

Year	Males.	Females.	Total.
1910	83	88	171
1911	56	93	149
1912	47	85	132
1913	127	142	269
1914	211	237	448
1915	236	228	464
1916	194	147	341

TRANSFERS.

23. There were 100 separate transfers recorded, involving 1,055 adults. Of the above 445 adults were transferred by reason of change of ownership of plantations; 548 adults were transferred under section 81 to other plantations belonging to the same or other employer; and 64 adults were transferred with the approval of the Governor for reasons connected with the maintenance of peace and good order on various plantations.

IMMIGRANTS REMAINING IN THE COLONY AT THE EXPIRATION OF INDENTURE.

24. In the following table is shown the number of immigrants introduced in 1911 and whose term of indenture expired in 1916, the loss through death or repatriation, and the number remaining in the Colony at the expiration of the term of their original indenture:—

	Adults.			Total.
	Male.	Female.	Children.	
Allotted in 1911 (5 steamers)	2,732	1,036	324	4,092
Died in 5 years	148	94	64	306
Repatriated in 5 years	160	74	21	255
Total	308	168	85	561
Remaining in the Colony	2,424	868	239	3,531

Of the above the indentures of 268 men, 243 women, and 83 children were commuted during the term of indenture. The percentages lost by death and repatriation during the period of indenture were as follows:—

Period 1911—1916.	
Male adults	11.27
Female adults	16.21
Children	26.23
Total	13.71

EXTENSION OF INDENTURES.

25. The extensions of indenture recorded against immigrants whose indenture expired in 1916, together with the average number of days extended, are shown in the following tables. The extensions granted are for all time lost to the employers both by reason of breaches of the Immigration Ordinance and for criminal offences, and include some heavy sentences for serious crimes:—

Class.	Number whose term of indenture expired in 1911.	Indentures extended for						Total.			Percentage whose time was commuted.	Percentage whose time was not commuted.
		Under 100 Days.			100 Days and over.			No. of Persons.	No. of Days.	Average No. of Days.		
		No. of Persons.	No. of Days.	Average No. of Days.	No. of Persons.	No. of Days.	Average No. of Days.					
Men	2,156	195	5,084	26	45	9,987	222	240	15,071	62	11.13	88.87
Women	825	24	331	13	..	..	..	24	331	13	3.84	96.16
Total	2,781	219	5,415	24	45	99.87	222	264	15,402	58	9.49	90.51

The following is a comparison of the deaths, repatriations, and extensions while under indenture, per cent. of immigrants introduced in each year, 1906 to 1911:—

Adult immigrants of	Died.	Repatriated.	Time extended.	Time not extended.
1906	8.32	6.51	21.44	78.66
1907	7.61	6.28	23.77	76.23
1908	7.92	2.69	21.56	78.44
1909	9.06	4.53	19.51	80.49
1910	7.09	2.28	11.84	88.15
1911	7.09	6.07	9.49	90.51

INDENTURED POPULATION.

26. The indentured immigrant population as shown by the plantation returns in each of the last nine years was as under:—

Year.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
1908	7,632	2,623	1,744	11,999
1909	7,750	2,624	1,869	12,243
1910	8,174	2,787	1,796	12,757
1911	9,374	3,152	1,936	14,462
1912	9,767	3,400	2,202	15,369
1913	10,060	3,557	2,544	15,961
1914	9,644	3,430	2,528	15,602
1915	8,799	3,123	2,440	14,362
1916	7,232	2,693	2,144	12,069

INSPECTION.

27. The Inspectors attached to this Department during the year under review were five in number and their respective districts are shown hereunder:—

Mr. P. R. Backhouse, stationed in Suva, is in charge of the Rewa (including Colo East and Tailevu), Navua, and Suva districts. He is assisted in his inspection of these districts by Mr. R. F. Thomson. During the year 123 different visits were made to plantations in these districts.

Mr. R. F. Thomson, stationed in Suva, besides assisting in the inspection of Rewa, Tailevu, and Colo East districts made 42 visits of inspections to plantations in Lomaiviti, Lan, Cakaudrove, Savusavu, and Busa districts.

Mr. G. R. Jordan, stationed at Labasa, is in charge of the Labasa, Dreketi, and Tavuni districts, and during the year paid regular visits of inspection to all plantations in these districts.

Mr. S. A. Lord, stationed at Lautoka, is in charge of the Lautoka, Nadi, and Sigatoka districts. One hundred and sixty-five visits were made to plantations in these districts in 1916.

Mr. H. E. Disbrowe, stationed at Namosau, Ba, is in charge of the Ba, Tavua, and Ra districts. During the year 189 visits of inspection were made to the various plantations in these districts.

The provisions of the Regulations relating to dwellings, water supply, and sanitation of lines are generally complied with by employers. Instructions to employers regarding minor defects and repairs required were in all cases promptly attended to. Particular attention has been paid to all complaints by indentured immigrants, and prosecutions for breaches of the Ordinance were instituted when such action appeared necessary. The majority of the complaints received were of a trivial nature and a patient hearing and a little well placed advice in most instances proved sufficient. In a few cases where, after inquiry by officers of the Department, it was found that the root of the trouble lay in the treatment meted out by overseers and sardars to the immigrants in their charge, the offending parties were removed by their employers. The reports of the District Medical Officers indicate that the improvement noted in previous reports in regard to the sanitation of the lines of their respective districts is satisfactorily maintained.

28. The details of daily earnings, attendance at work, and absence through sickness, or other causes, obtained from the plantation registers for the whole year by Inspectors, are shown in a condensed return (Appendix C annexed to this report) and are summarised hereunder. In working out the percentages, non-workers, *i.e.*, immigrants absent from work for the whole period taken have not been considered. Non-workers include prisoners sentenced by the Supreme Court, incapables, and deserters. The period for which details were generally obtained was twelve months.

ANALYSIS OF RETURNS OF WORK AND ABSENCE FROM WORK.

The figures given below show the percentage of working days in the period taken on which immigrants were present at work or absent by reason of the causes stated:—

		Attendance at Work.				
		1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
Males	..	91.91	92.55	92.00	92.03	91.04
Females	..	78.76	78.12	76	77.18	76.01

The attendance of women is affected by pregnancy and the care of young children.

		Absence by reason of sickness.				
		1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
Males	..	3.63	3.30	3.43	2.92	3.29
Females	..	5.94	6.07	5.77	5.28	6.38

The following comparative figures show the percentage of loss of working time on account of sickness in each district by males and females separately:—

		Males.				
		1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
Rewa	..	3.16	3.05	3.68	3.21	3.00
Ba and Ra	..	2.83	3.11	3.39	2.60	3.26
Macuata	..	6.08	2.47	2.57	2.78	3.70
Navua	..	3.37	4.11	4.32	3.95	4.49
Lautoka and Nadi	..	3.07	3.16	2.97	2.28	2.44
Nadroga	..	4.71	4.68	4.67	3.68	4.77
Cakaudrove, Lau, Savusavu, and Lomaiviti	..	—	—	—	2.90	2.99
		Females.				
		1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
Rewa	..	5.64	5.84	6.30	5.81	6.36
Ba and Ra	..	5.86	5.87	5.94	4.47	6.66
Macuata	..	7.27	3.81	4.28	4.30	5.01
Navua	..	5.96	6.99	6.71	7.44	8.04
Lautoka and Nadi	..	5.65	6.16	4.71	5.07	5.91
Nadroga	..	6.47	7.77	8.43	6.95	7.85
Cakaudrove, Lau, Savusavu, and Lomaiviti	..	—	—	—	3.81	4.97

Regarding the individual plantations on which over 20 immigrants were employed, the highest percentages of absence throughout the year on account of sickness were:—Among men, 7.00 on Ba-Lautoka plantation, Ba district; among women, 18.01 on Lakena plantation, Rewa district; and the lowest was among men, .17 on Rabi plantation, Cakaudrove district; among women, .32 on Baulevu plantation, Rewa district.

Unlawful absence, &c.—The percentages of days lost through unlawful absence, court, and gaol, compare as follows with the previous years:—

		1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
Men	..	2.32	2.17	2.05	2.75	3.03
Women	..	.28	.27	.31	.38	.44

Absence from other causes.—By pass, holiday, bad weather, and in the case of women, pregnancy, and nursing, the percentage of days occupied were:—

		1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
Men	..	2.14	1.98	2.32	2.31	2.64
Women	..	15.02	15.54	17.74	17.18	17.16

ANALYSIS OF WAGES AND RETURNS.

Earnings.—The average earnings for all estates during twelve months (stated in pence) are shown in the following comparative table:—

		Per Working Day.				
		1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
Males	..	12.34	12.29	12.55	12.52	12.90
Females	..	6.88	6.54	6.61	6.54	6.56

		Per Day Worked on.				
		1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
Males	..	13.32	13.32	13.65	13.60	14.17
Females	..	8.36	8.37	8.66	8.48	8.04

The highest plantation averages per working day were:—

Plantation, district, and nature of work.	Males.	Females.
	pence.	pence.
Makogai, Lomaiviti, general cultivation	16.56	—
Lomaji, Lau, copra	—	9.69
Bureta, Lomaiviti, copra	15.06	—
Rarawai, Ba, mill and field	16.37	—
Labasa, Macuata, mill and field	—	6.13
Naidovi, Macuata, cane	14.47	—
Nagarawala, Rewa, cane	—	8.66
Wainurara, Rewa, bananas	—	8.95
Waitakala, Rewa, bananas	17.42	—

The lowest plantation averages per working day were:—

Navunisei, Rewa, bananas	9.22	—
Waiva, Rewa, bananas	—	5.05
Navuso, Rewa, cane	9.84	—
Naikokokoro, Lautoka, cane	—	4.00
Soqulu, Tavuni, copra	10.78	—
Ardmore, Tavuni, copra	—	6.19
Rarawai, Ba, mill and field	—	5.23
Penang, Ra, mill and field	12.80	—

The highest plantation averages per day of actual work were:—

Waitakala, Rewa, bananas	19.56	10.43
Muanaweni, Rewa, cane	—	11.38
Naidovi, Ba, cane	16.70	—
Manoca, Rewa, cane	—	11.06
Bureta, Lomaiviti, copra	17.72	—
Lomaji, Lau, copra	—	9.82
Rarawai, Ba, mill and field	17.44	—
Labasa, Macuata, mill and field	—	8.57

The lowest plantation averages per day of actual work were:—

Nabalawa, Rewa, bananas	12.51	7.16
Raiwaqa, Navua, cane	11.11	—
Drasa, Lautoka, cane	—	7.11
Seialevu, Tavuni, copra	—	8.88
Vatuboro, Macuata, copra	11.71	—
Penang, Ra, mill and field	—	7.71
Lautoka, Lautoka, mill and field	14.20	—

In the above figures regarding the highest and lowest plantation averages, only those plantations employing ten or more indentured immigrants have been considered.

VITAL STATISTICS.

29. Under this heading the births and deaths among indentured Indian immigrants and their children during the year 1916 are shown. The birth-rate and the death-rate have been calculated on the daily average population as ascertained from the plantation returns submitted by the employers. Deaths from accident and violence (including capital punishment) are included in the total death-rate.

30. Births.—The births reported as having occurred during 1916 were males, 316; females, 281; total, 577 (not including still-born children). The plantation birth-rate was 5.31 per cent. and the proportion of girls to every hundred boys was 82.59 per cent.

31. Mortality.—The deaths reported during the year 1916 among indentured Indian immigrants and their children numbered 82 and 116 respectively. Included among these are 33 deaths (31 adults and 2 children) due to accident or violence. The death-rate per cent. of the average indentured population was:—

Adults	65
Children	5.11
Total	1.41

Excluding deaths from accidents and violence the death-rate per cent. is:—

Adults	46
Children	5.02
Total	1.24

The following comparative table shows the death-rate and birth-rate among indentured immigrants during the last ten years:—

Year.	Adults.		Children.		Total.		Births.
	Excluding deaths from accident or violence.	All causes.	Excluding deaths from accident or violence.	All causes.	Excluding deaths from accident or violence.	All causes.	
1907	1.43	..	13.93	..	3.04	..	4.79
1908	1.46	..	10.20	..	2.73	..	5.02
1909 .. .. .	.74	..	10.28	..	2.10	..	5.10
1910	1.85	..	15.08	..	3.78	..	5.43
1911	1.35	..	12.04	..	2.74	..	4.64
1912	1.22	..	7.32	..	2.21	..	5.36
1913 .. .. .	.97	..	8.37	..	2.01	..	5.70
1914 .. .. .	.75	..	7.83	..	1.81	..	6.10
1915 .. .. .	.70	.93	5.98	6.19	1.58	1.81	6.37
1916 .. .. .	.46	.65	5.02	5.11	1.24	1.41	5.34

Previous to 1915 deaths from accident and violence were not included in calculating the death-rate.

32. Appendix A, prepared from reports of deaths, shows all deaths reported, and the causes of death. The principal causes of death among adult indentured immigrants during the year were:—

Tuberculosis	17
Pneumonia	4
Dysentery	4

and among their children:—

Congenital syphilis	10
Pneumonia	17
Premature birth	14
Digestive system	28

and in 10 cases the cause was unknown or ill defined. The ages of the indentured children whose deaths were reported are as follows:—

1 year old and under 15 years	22
6 months and under 1 year	27
1 month and under 6 months	30
1 week and under 1 month	18
Under 1 week	19

Out of a total of 229 plantations on which 13,330 indentured immigrants were employed during the year, no deaths occurred on 153 plantations, and on 185 plantations there were no deaths of adults.

ACCIDENTS AND VIOLENCE.

33. The deaths due to accidents and violence are classified in the following statement:—

Cause of Death.	Indentured.				Time Expired.				Total.			
	Males.	Females.	Children.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Children.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Children.	Total.
Executed for murder	9	..	..	9	2	..	..	2	11	..	..	11
Murdered	5	..	..	5	3	..	..	3	8	..	..	8
Accidental overlying .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Accidental drowning	4	..	1	5	4	3	5	12	8	3	6	17
Accidental burning .. .. .	..	..	1	1	..	..	3	3	..	..	..	3
Accidental injuries	5	..	..	5	2	2	1	5	7	2	1	10
Suicidal hangings	6	1	..	7	7	..	..	7	13	1	..	14
Suicidal injuries	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Total	25	6	2	33	18	8	12	38	43	14	14	71

MURDERS.

34. In the following table is shown the number of indentured immigrants murdered in each of the past ten years and the rate per cent. of persons murdered to the average indentured population:—

Year.	Total Indentured Population.	Murdered.				Rate per cent.
		m	f	c	Total.	
1907	11,689	2	1	..	3	.025
1908	11,990	3	5	..	8	.066
1909	12,243	..	5	..	5	.040
1910	12,757	..	4	..	4	.031
1911	14,462	1	..	..	1	.006
1912	15,369	2	3	..	5	.032
1913	15,951	1	4	..	5	.031
1914	15,602	1	4	2	7	.044
1915	14,362	2	2	..	4	.027
1916	12,069	..	5	..	5	.041

ACCIDENTS.

35. Eleven deaths among indentured immigrants are recorded as due to accidental causes. Four men and one child died as the result of drowning. One child died as the result of burns.

36. In eight cases the deaths of indentured immigrants appear to have been self-inflicted. Particulars of each case are shown hereunder:—

- Registered No. 52944, male, 24 years, blacksmith caste, district of Malabar, arrived 11th April, 1913, indentured to Lautoka plantation, Lautoka; no motive assigned.
- Registered No. 47643, male, 30 years, Kapula caste, district of Gunter, arrived 4th October, 1911, indentured to Labasa plantation, Labasa; suicide by hanging while in a disturbed mental state, probably owing to financial difficulties.
- Registered No. 57721, male, 19 years, Palli caste, district of Tanjore, arrived 21st June, 1915, indentured to Kavanagasau plantation, Nadroga; suicide by hanging while in a state of mental depression.
- Registered No. 51366, female, 23 years, Vellama caste, district of Viragapatam, arrived 8th November, 1912, indentured to Tavua plantation, Ba; suicide by hanging while suffering from melancholia, probably brought about by the awful weather during the first six months.
- Registered No. 48174, male, 37 years, Nair caste, district of Malabar, arrived 27th April, 1912, indentured to Naleba plantation, Labasa; suicide by hanging while in a state of mental depression probably caused through being afflicted by leprosy.
- Registered No. 50331, male, 37 years, Gounden caste, district of Gunter, arrived 18th July, 1912, indentured to Nausori plantation, Rewa; suicide by hanging, no motive assigned.
- *Registered No. 56584, male, 36 years, Kahar caste, district of Gorakhpur, arrived 7th May, 1915, indentured to Karawai plantation, Ba; suicide by hanging, no motive assigned.
- *Registered No. 55564, male, 28 years, Pasi caste, district of Allahabad, arrived 16th June, 1914, indentured to Sarava plantation, Ba; suicide by hanging while in a state of mental depression probably caused through being afflicted with leprosy.

Note.—The cases marked * were Calcuttas.

DISTRICT RATES OF MORTALITY.

37. The following figures show the death- and birth-rates of indentured immigrants in the respective districts. Deaths due to accident or violence are included:—

District	Adults	Children	Total	Births
Rewa and Tallevu ..	64	4-08	1-18	4-19
Macuata ..	77	5-07	1-46	5-93
Navua ..	72	5-12	1-52	4-50
Ba, Ra, and Tavua ..	76	6-30	1-75	5-39
Lautoka and Nadi ..	69	5-09	0-99	5-84
Sigatoka ..	79	9-09	2-82	8-74
Cakaudrove, Savua- vu, Bua, Lau, and Lomalviti ..	08	1-92	42	5-07
Suva and Kadavu ..	08	1-92	42	2-27

In Appendix B is shown the average indentured population throughout the year and the number of births and deaths occurring on each plantation with five or more indentured immigrants.

CRIMES AND OFFENCES.

38. *Employer v. immigrants.*—The result of proceedings taken by employers against indentured immigrants for breaches of the Immigration Ordinance in 1916 and each of the four preceding years is shown in the following table:—

	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
Number of adult immigrants in the Colony throughout the year ..	16,111	16,410	15,033	15,315	13,330
Total number of complaints made by employers ..	1,256	990	1,159	1,081	696
Total number of immigrants complained against ..	1,007	730	848	800	589
Total number of convictions for offences against the labour law ..	1,135	729	854	876	640
Total number of sentences involving imprisonment with hard labour ..	186	26	30	26	nil.
Total number of sentences involving extension of indenture ..	447	248	157	145	49

The proportion of sexes in the total average plantation population, and of charges against men and women respectively to the total charges in the last five years were:—

	Proportion of sexes.		Proportion of total charges against.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
1912 ..	74-10	25-90	89-65	10-35
1913 ..	73-88	26-12	87-37	12-63
1914 ..	73-29	26-71	89-64	10-36
1915 ..	73-58	26-42	82-60	17-40
1916 ..	73-88	26-12	85-31	14-69

Taking the whole estates population, 6-99 per cent. of men and 3-41 per cent. of women were prosecuted, the respective proportion in each district being as follows:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Rewa ..	11-55	5-69	10-11
Ba ..	3-95	1-16	2-93
Macuata ..	2-93	—	2-14
Navua ..	7-14	5-75	6-77
Lautoka and Nadi ..	5-46	3-7	4-14
Nadroga ..	6-38	—	4-65
Ra ..	9-36	16-66	11-43
Cakaudrove ..	9-33	6-78	8-69
Lau ..	2-77	—	2-05

39. *Immigrants v. employers.*—The following informations were laid by indentured immigrants or by Inspectors of the Department on their behalf, against their employers or persons having control of immigrants on a plantation, for breaches of the Immigration Ordinance:—

District	Convicted.	Dismissed.	Withdrawn.	Total.
Navua ..	9	3	2	19
Lautoka ..	1	—	—	4
Nadi ..	1	—	—	1
Suva ..	1	—	—	1
Taviuni ..	2	1	2	5
Rewa ..	1	3	—	4
Lomalviti ..	—	1	—	1
Macuata ..	8	—	—	8
Bua ..	2	—	—	2
Ba ..	5	—	—	5
Total ..	30	16	4	50

Charges against Europeans included in the above were:—

District	Charges.	Convicted.	Withdrawn and dismissed.
Lautoka ..	1	—	1
Macuata ..	8	8	—
Ba ..	5	5	—
Taviuni ..	1	—	1
Rewa ..	1	1	—
Navua ..	10	5	8
Bua ..	2	2	—
Sava ..	1	1	—
Lomalviti ..	1	—	1
Total ..	30	22	8

LEGISLATION.

40. An Ordinance (No. 8 of 1916) relating to education was passed on the 22nd July and came into operation on the 31st December, 1916. Under this Ordinance the Board of Education have power to establish and maintain Government schools and to sanction the establishment of and to grant aid from public funds to assist schools.

An Ordinance (No. 12 of 1916) was passed on the 22nd July to amend the False Report and Preservation of Public Peace Ordinance 1915. By section 2 a clause was added to the principal Ordinance that no proceedings under it shall be instituted without the consent of the Attorney-General.

An Ordinance (No. 15 of 1916) was passed on the 24th November to make provision for the purchase of land within the Colony for the purposes of Indian Land Settlement.

CONDITIONS OF INDENTURED IMMIGRANTS.

41. From the foregoing returns it will be seen that during the year 1916, there has been a slight increase in the average earnings of indentured immigrants on plantations; the average earnings in 1916 per working day being in the case of males 12-90 pence, and females 6-56 pence; in 1915 the amounts respectively were 12-52 and 6-54. The average earnings in 1916 per day worked on in the case of males being 14-17 pence, and females 8-64 pence; in 1915 the amounts respectively were 13-60 and 8-48. Included with the total average number of adult immigrants whose earnings have been taken were 1,508 allotted in 1916 and who were therefore not experienced workers.

The attendance at work shows a slightly lower percentage both for male and female immigrants than in 1915. Absence from work by reason of sickness both for male and female workers is higher than in 1915.

The death-rate among indentured immigrants and their children is lower than in any previous year. The birth-rate is lower than in 1915.

There has been a decrease in the number of immigrants who were allowed to commute their indentures; in 1915 the number was 464; in 1916 the number was 341. In 1914 the number was 448.

42. The number of informations laid by employers in 1916 was lower than in 1915. The number of immigrants complained against was lower in 1916 than in 1915. The number of sentences involving extension of indenture was lower than in 1915. The number in 1916 was 49.

PART II.

RETURN PASSAGES.

43. The s.s. "Chenab" was placed at the disposal of the Department on the 6th of September, and 678 passengers were embarked the same day, and the vessel left the harbour the following morning. The s.s. "Chenab" arrived at Madras on the 28th September, and after landing passengers for that port proceeded on her voyage to Calcutta, where she arrived on the 2nd October. One birth and one death occurred on the voyage.

44. The following is the classification of return passengers:—

Classification.	Section of Ordinance under which re- stricted.	Adults.		Children.		Infants.		Total.
		M	F	M	F	M	F	
Rejected ..	7	12	3	1	1	..	..	17
Ten years' people ..	37	238	73	41	30	12	9	403
Incapables ..	45	45	11	3	2	3	1	65
Passports ..	127	111	23	1	2	2	2	141
Non-immigrants ..	..	43	4	1	1	1	1	51
Special authority ..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Total ..	..	450	114	47	36	18	13	678

The foregoing figures include passengers for Calcutta, 372 adults and 64 children; and for Madras, 192 adults and 50 children. Among the immigrants embarked were 167 certified as invalids and 39 lepers.

45. Money and valuables taken by passengers were declared as follows:—

Money	£4,023 0 0
Jewellery, &c., valued at	1,868 14 0
Total	£5,891 14 0

Sums amounting to £6,672 7s. 3d. were deposited by immigrants with the Treasury for remittance to India by 216 persons. In all a total amount of £12,564 1s. 3d. was declared by 383 immigrants; an average of £32 16s. per immigrant. One hundred and thirty-five adults declared themselves without means including rejected immigrants and immigrants certified as incapable of completing their indenture. The largest sum declared by any individual passenger was £359. Owing to the Government not allowing more than £20 in gold to be taken away by one person it is thought that the declarations as to cash were incorrect.

46. The following table shows the number of returned immigrants and the amounts declared during the last ten years:—

Year.	Number of Returning Immigrants.	Amount Declared.			Total.
		Money,	Jewellery.	Drafts.	
		£	£	£	£
1907	641	7,921	1,440	2,421	11,782
1908	693	10,295	1,536	1,056	12,887
1909	414	6,485	816	1,285	8,586
1910	445	6,523	790	1,156	8,469
1911	708	9,903	1,011	2,391	13,305
1912	719	9,953	1,642	1,879	13,474
1913	802	12,195	1,805	2,760	16,760
1914	1,296	17,549	3,613	4,527	25,689
1915	510	7,618	1,580	843	10,021
1916	678	4,023	1,868	6,672	12,563

IMMIGRANT POPULATION.

47. The following statement represents the Indian population of the Colony as estimated from the records of the Immigration Department and based on the returns of the census taken in 1911:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Estimated, 31/12/15	36,340	20,513	56,853
<i>Add—</i>			
Immigrants introduced, 1916	1,163	593	1,756
Unindentured immigrants introduced, 1916	2	2	2
Births, 1916	1,126	1,024	2,150
Total	38,631	22,130	60,761
<i>Deduct—</i>			
Repatriated immigrants and non-immigrants	401	136	537
Left under passport	114	27	141
Died in 1916	289	219	518
Estimate, 31/12/16	37,817	21,748	59,565
Being indentured	8,373	3,696	12,069
Being unindentured	29,444	18,052	47,496
Total	37,817	21,748	59,565

48. *Proportion of sexes.*—The proportion of females to males in respect of the Indian population is as follows, viz., unindentured population, 61·30 females to every 100 males; total population, 57·51 females to every 100 males.

BIRTHS.

49. The births among the unindentured Indian population during 1916 were:—males, 810; females, 763; total, 1,573 (not including still-born children). There were registered 94·19 girls to every 100 boys.

DEATHS.

50. Three hundred and twenty deaths of unindentured Indian immigrants were reported during the year—189 adults and 131 children. In Appendix A will be found the causes of death among Indian immigrants from which it will be seen that tuberculosis, 40; fever, 30; anaemia and debility, 19; pneumonia, 9; diseases of digestive system, 24; and respiratory system, 16; were the chief causes of death among unindentured Indians. The causes of 30 deaths were ill-defined or unspecified. Thirty-eight deaths (26 adults and 12 children) were due to accident or violence.

51. The death-rate based on the Indian population as estimated on the 31st December, 1916, is as follows:—unindentured immigrants, 62; total population, 87. Deaths from accident or violence, are included in calculating the death-rate. There is reason to believe that a few deaths among unindentured Indians are not reported, and that the figures dealing with mortality among the unindentured Indian population are, therefore, to a small extent unreliable. The following table shows the death-rate in each of the last ten years on total immigrant population and the unindentured immigrant population:—

Year.	Unindentured population.	Total population.
1907	1·36	1·98
1908	1·31	1·82
1909	1·09	1·88
1910	1·55	2·49
1911	1·20	1·76
1912	1·08	1·22
1913	·99	1·29
1914	·94	1·20
1915	·82	1·06
1916	·62	·87

52. *Deaths by violence.*—Three male and three female immigrants not under indenture were murdered during the year. Two unindentured male Indians were executed for murder.

53. *Deaths by accident.*—Five children died as result of burns. Seven adults and five children were drowned and one child died from asphyxia caused from over-laying by its mother. One man died from injuries received by being pinned between two trucks while employed transporting ballast for the reclamation works, Suva harbour; one man and one woman died from injuries received from result of fall; one female died from the result of injuries received by being knocked down by a passing train; and one child died from injuries received by a kick from a horse.

54. *Suicide.*—Seven unindentured immigrants committed suicide by hanging. In four cases the finding was "suicide while of unsound mind," one male adult died from the effects of wounds self-inflicted after having committed murder. In the remaining cases no motive could be assigned.

MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE.

55. The marriages registered during the year under the Indian Marriage Ordinance of 1892 numbered:—under section 4, 185; under section 6, 233; total, 418. Two divorces were notified to this Department under section 25 of the above Ordinance.

DECEASED IMMIGRANTS' ESTATES.

56. This account shows:—

Balance on 31st December, 1915	£958 9 10
Net amount of estates collected during 1916	1,426 4 3
Interest	14 0 0
	2,398 14 1
Estates disposed of	735 14 5
Balance on 31st December, 1916	£1,662 19 8

NATIVE LEASES.

57. Five hundred and twenty-nine leases comprising a total area of 4,004 acres were registered in 1916, the largest area in any province being 1,807 acres in Ba and Yasawas. The following table shows the number of leases issued and area leased in each of the last nine years:—

Year.	No. of leases.	Acres.
1908	415	3,715
1909	456	3,740
1910	455	—
1911	440	2,300
1912	573	2,676
1913	392	1,817
1914	398	1,865
1915	742	5,744
1916	529	4,004

SAVINGS.

58. *Deposits in local banks.*—During the year fixed deposits were made by the Receiver-General, in the local banks on behalf of 83 depositors. The total sum at fixed deposit on the 31st December, 1916, was £3,694 12s. 5d., being £2,252 7s. 9d. less than the previous year. The decrease is no doubt due to the war, resulting in an unusually large amount of money being buried. The following table shows the amount on fixed deposit by Indian immigrants on the 31st December in each of the last ten years:

1907	.....	£13,542 10 11
1908	.....	12,641 12 1
1909	.....	14,855 6 7
1910	.....	13,186 5 1
1911	.....	13,943 0 0
1912	.....	14,201 17 3
1913	.....	15,514 3 9
1914	.....	12,084 12 1
1915	.....	8,947 0 2
1916	.....	3,694 12 5

Deposits in Government Savings Bank.—The balance to the credit of 135 Indian depositors in the Government Savings Bank on 31st December, 1916, was £215 10s. 11d., being £22 12s. 6d. less than the previous year. In the following table is shown the number of depositors and the amount deposited in each of the last five years:—

Year.	No. of depositors.	Balance to credit.
1912	77	£2,527 2 0
1913	159	4,725 14 5
1914	172	3,114 13 4
1915	156	2,177 3 5
1916	135	2,154 10 11

59. *Remittances.*—The amount remitted by Indian immigrants through the Treasury was £1,710 6s. 4d., sent by 370 persons. This amount does not include the amount remitted by Madras immigrants through the Treasury, which was £1,533 4d. by 224 remitters. The average remittance for both Calcutta and Madras being £5 9s. 2d. This total is exclusive of money remitted by immigrant passengers repatriated per s.s. "Chenab" amounting to £8,672 7s. 3d. The following table shows the amount remitted through the Treasury in each of the last ten years:—

Year.	No. of remittances.	Amount remitted.
1907	587	£2,996 12 4
1908	684	3,027 12 0
1909	761	3,534 14 0
1910	721	3,843 5 6
1911	762	4,201 19 8
1912	844	4,792 17 9
1913	886	5,268 8 0
1914	707	4,419 17 0
1915	549	3,391 7 4
1916	594	3,243 10 4

LUNATICS AND LEPROS.

60. On the 31st December, 1916, there were 32 Indians (21 males and 11 females) who were inmates of the Suva Lunatic Asylum, and 70 (males 55 and 15 females) inmates of the Leper Asylum, Makogai.

TRADING AND OTHER LICENCES ISSUED.

61. During 1916 the following licences were issued to Indians, viz.:—

Store (wholesale and retail)	55
Store (country retail)	1,399
Store town (retail)	54
Hawker	974
Baker	21
Jewellery	80
Gun	116
Dog	3,216
Waterman	129
Fruit shipper	6
Butcher	3
Coasting	8
Dairy	3
Shooting gallery	5
Total	6,069

The trading licences are for various terms, but are usually taken out for a period of three months.

EMPLOYMENT OF UNINDENTURED IMMIGRANTS.

62. *Engagements under Masters and Servants Ordinance.*—Under the above Ordinance 1,379 immigrants were engaged under registered agreements, of whom 869 were engaged for work in Sugar mills for the crushing season at wages varying from 1s. per diem to 2s. 6d. per diem with bonus, the majority being engaged at the rate of 1s. 3d. per diem with bonus. The wages of domestic and store servants varied from £10 to £40 per annum, usually with food. Immigrants engaged for plantation work received from 1s. to 2s. per diem without food. A large number of Indian labourers are employed on public works in Suva, the current wages varying from 2s. to 2s. 6d. per diem.

INDIAN ORPHANS.

63. Under the provisions of Ordinance No. 1 of 1891, Part XIII, there have been assigned to guardians, 11 children of Indian immigrants as shown hereunder:—assigned to the Methodist Mission 2 boys, to the Roman Catholic Mission 2 boys, to Indian immigrants 2 boys, 5 girls. On the 31st December there were 41 children (24 boys and 17 girls) in the orphanage maintained by the Methodist Mission. Of these 13 are orphans handed over to the Mission under section 150 of Ordinance I of 1891. The remainder are children who have been placed in the institution by their parents (in most cases parent, one or other being dead) for a period of five years. The children are reared and schooled entirely at the expense of the Mission.

CRIMES AND OFFENCES.

64. During the year 90 Indian immigrants were committed for trial to the Supreme Court on 59 charges, with results set forth below:—

Offence Charged.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons concerned.	Results.		Wife Present.
			Guilty.	Acquitted.	
Murder	10	14	13	1	1
Wounding with intent	12	18	15	3	..
Rape	5	18	14	3	1
Perjury	8	8	5	1	2
Breaking and entering	6	10	6	4	..
Larceny	3	3	2	1	..
Horse stealing	1	1	1	..	..
Cattle wounding	1	1	1	..	..
Forging and uttering	2	2	1	1	..
Indecent assault	1	1	1	..	..
Attempted suicide	3	3	2	1	..
Manslaughter	1	1	..	..	1
Arson	2	3	2	..	1
Abduction	2	5	..	..	5
Escape from gaol	1	1	1	..	..
Administering poison	1	1	1	..	..
Total	59	90	64	15	11

SETTLEMENT OF UNINDENTURED INDIAN POPULATION.

65. *Macnata.*—The following remarks are taken from a report by the Inspector of Immigrants at Labasa:—

- There are approximately 3,175 acres of Native Land leased to Indians, and about 2,000 acres are sublet by Europeans to unindentured men. There are 1,604 acres of Government land on which Indians are settled. The Government settlements of Veitadra, Nabouballi, Vanivelara, and Nabulleka are sights well worth travelling miles to see, and are, to my mind, the finest in Fiji. It cannot be denied that the immigrants settled on them lead a life of comfort and freedom unattainable in their own country.
- The year 1916 seems to have been profitable for industrious Indians settled to the land, although some losses were occasioned to maize crops owing to the abnormal rainfall, but growers of dhán and other crops received excellent returns. The average rainfall for Labasa is between 70 and 80 inches. This year over 125 inches fell.
- In conclusion I might mention that I have never come in contact with the privation and hand to mouth living mentioned in the 1915 report. Nearly all Indians eat maize; it is of this that many in the best of circumstances mill their own meal, but do not do so with the idea of leading one to believe that they have nothing else to eat, or by force of circumstances.

4. Cane returns for Macuata:—

- (a) Number of contractors on books, 126.
- (b) Number of contractors who cut in 1916, 65.
- (c) Area under cultivation, 850 acres.
- (d) Area actually cut in 1916, 309 acres.
- (e) Number of tons crushed in 1916, 7,440 tons.
- (f) Greatest tonnage delivered by one contractor, 268 tons.
- (g) Smallest tonnage delivered by one contractor, 16 tons.
- (h) Total amount paid for cane crushed in 1916, £4,196 9s. 3d.
- (i) Greatest amount obtained by one contractor, £164 2s. 8d.
- (j) Smallest amount obtained by one contractor, 66 16s. 4d.
- (k) Highest p.o.c.s. and price obtained by any contractor, p.o.c. 16-35 per cent. price, 14s. 3d.
- (l) Lowest p.o.c.s. and price obtained by any contractor, 7-50 per cent., 10s.
- (m) Area estimated to cut in 1917, 388 acres.
- (n) Estimated tonnage to cut in 1917, 8,699 tons.

N.B.—The figures under (h) and (i) are exclusive of bonus (bonus 1s. per ton and a further deferred bonus of 1s. 6d. per ton). The grower referred to under (i), in spite of the above-mentioned low sample, received 8-98 (exclusive of bonus) per ton for his crop.

66. Ba.—The following is a report by the Resident Inspector of Immigrants on the unindentured Indian immigrants at Ba, Tavua, and Ra:—

The population return is given for the district of Ba only. Indian cane return:—The figures for cane grown by independent contractors and that grown by Company's tenants on their private settlement areas are given separately. In the case of the independent contractors the figures given do not include some 1,600 tons of cane which it was found impossible to harvest owing to delay caused as the result of the abnormally wet weather experienced during the latter part of the crushing season. The tonnage given of cane harvested off land let out to Indians on Company's settlement areas is somewhat less than was anticipated. The reason for the shortage referred to is that a number of people relinquished their holdings at the end of the 1915 crushing season, because they objected to the strict supervision exercised over them by the Company's officers, they argued that although tenants of the Company they were no longer under indenture, and should therefore be free to work their blocks as they wished, that all the Company should require of them was cane and that if they failed to supply cane to the mill and pay off their indebtedness the Company had power to put them off their land.

The relinquished blocks have since been let to other tenants, and it is confidently expected that notwithstanding the abnormally wet weather experienced during the early and latter parts of the year the crop to be harvested during 1917 crushing season will be nearly double that of 1916. Indian farmers growing cane under contract with the Colonial Sugar Refining Co. Ltd., obtained on an average satisfactory returns for their crops. The figures given in Appendices B and C, which I am enabled to furnish by the courtesy of the Company's Manager, bear eloquent testimony to the prosperous condition of the Indian cane contractors in the districts of Ba and Tavua.

Settlers other than those engaged in growing sugar cane, also had a prosperous year, the yields of both rice and maize were very satisfactory. During the early part of the year there was somewhat of a glut in the local market of maize, and the selling price fell proportionately, consequently many farmers did not plant again with the result that towards the end of the year there was just as great a shortage of maize as there had been a surplus at the beginning of the year, prices advanced considerably and even at the enhanced rates it was only possible to obtain maize in very limited quantities. The shortage was so great at one period that an effort was made by planters to import maize from Australia, and I believe one or two did actually import maize from Sydney, the majority, however, contented themselves by feeding crushed dhau to their working stock for the time being.

The health of the Indian community has been good. The people appear contented and are looking forward to a good season during the coming year.

APPENDIX A.

Population, agricultural, and stock returns.

Population.—Ba—males, 1,980; females, 1,080; children, 1,732; total, 4,792; births, 225; deaths, 37. Tavua and Ra no figures available.

Acres under.—Ba—rice, 2,291; maize, 648; dal, 202. Tavua no figures available. Ra—rice, 505; maize, 222; Mauritius beans, 30; peanuts, 12.

Amount cropped in bushels.—Ba—rice, 40,032; maize, 9,474; dal, 2,140. Tavua no figures available. Ra—rice, 22,040; maize, 15,680; Mauritius beans, 1,200; peanuts, 132.

Value of crops.—Ba—rice, £8,340; maize, £1,579; dal, £1,030. Tavua no figures available. Ra—£5,510; maize, £2,352; Mauritius beans, £240; peanuts, £32.

Live stock.—Ba—horses and mules, 925; cattle, 3,350; goats, 412; poultry, 9,295. Tavua no figures available. Ra—horses and mules, 263; cattle, 1,132; sheep, 1; goats, 59; poultry, 3,884.

Value of live stock.—Ba—horses and mules, £18,500; cattle, £17,750; goats, £206; poultry, goats, £29; poultry, £389.

£929. Tavua no figures available. Ra—horses and mules, £5,260; cattle, £5,650; sheep, £1;

APPENDIX B.

Cane Returns for districts of Ba and Tavua. (Unindentured Indian immigrants).

1. Number of contractors, 429.
2. Area under cultivation, 5,422 acres.
3. Number of contractors who cut in 1916, 330.
4. Area actually cut in 1916, 3,229 acres.
5. Number of tons crushed in 1916, 58,957 tons.
6. Total amount paid for cane crushed in 1916, £38,538 2s.
7. Greatest tonnage delivered by one contractor, 2,852 tons.
8. Smallest tonnage delivered by one contractor, 3 tons.
9. Average tonnage delivered by all contractors, 178 tons.
10. Highest p.o.c.s. and price obtained by any, 17-95; p.o.c.s., price, 16s. 2d.
11. Lowest p.o.c.s. and price obtained by any 3-45 p.o.c.s.; price no value.
12. Greatest amount obtained by one contractor, £1,565 14s. 5d.
13. Smallest amount obtained by any one contractor, £1 14s.
14. Average amount obtained by any settler, £116 15s. 7d.
15. Area estimated to cut in 1917, 3,352 acres.
16. Estimated tonnage to cut in 1916, 48,082 tons.

APPENDIX C.

Cane Returns, Company's Indian Settlements.

1. Number of settlers, 23.
2. Area under settlement, 323 acres.
3. Number of settlers who cut in 1916, 23.
4. Area actually cropped in 1916, 162 acres.
5. Number of tons crushed in 1916, 4,608 tons.
6. Total amount paid to settlers for cane in 1916, £900.
7. Greatest tonnage delivered by one settler, 254 tons.
8. Smallest tonnage delivered by one settler, 142 tons.
9. Average tonnage delivered for all settlers, 200 tons.
10. Highest p.o.c.s. and price obtained by any settler, 16-2 c. 14s.
11. Lowest p.o.c.s. and price obtained by any settler, 7-9 c. 6d. (no value).
12. Greatest amount obtained by any settler, £60.
13. Smallest amount obtained by any settler, £28.
14. Average amount obtained for all settlers, £39.
15. Area estimated to crop in 1917, 730 acres.
16. Estimated tonnage to cut in 1917, 7,000 tons.

67. Cane Returns for district of Navua.—Unindentured Indian immigrants:—

1. Area actually cut in 1916, 1,797 acres.
2. Number of tons crushed in 1916, 34,537 tons.
3. Total amount paid for cane crushed in 1916, £16,510.
4. Highest price obtained per ton by any contractor, 13s.
5. Lowest price obtained per ton by any contractor, 8s.
6. Area estimated to cut in 1917, 2,030 acres.
7. Estimated tonnage to cut in 1917, 29,650 tons.
8. Acreage under—bananas, 180; beans, 5; maize, 7; rice, 600; yams, 2; yaqona, 5.
9. Value of crops—bananas, £1,800; beans, £200; maize, £56; rice, £1,800; yams, £10; yaqona, £500.

68. Lautoka, Nadi, and Sigatoka.—The following excerpt is taken from the report on unindentured immigrants by the Resident Inspector of Immigrants at Lautoka:—

1. Area under cultivation, 1916, 7,200 acres.
2. Cane cropped, 1916, 98,519 tons.
3. Area under cultivation, 1917, 8,465 acres.
4. Estimated cane crop, 1917, 90,000 tons.
5. Total amount paid for cane crushed, 1916, £58,690.
6. Area actually cut in 1916, 4,421 acres.
7. Number of contractors who cut in 1916, 450.
8. Average tonnage delivered by all contractors, 219 tons.
9. Average amount obtained by each contractor, £130 8s. 5d.

Cane Returns Company's Indian Settlements:—

Colonial Sugar Refining Company's area settled, 2,405 acres.

Cane harvested from settlement areas, 36,451 tons.

Amount paid to 239 settlers, £22,682 3s. 8d.

The Indian cane growers produced 27 per cent. of the 1916 crop, and it is estimated that 30 per cent. of the 1917 crop will be produced by them. The value although large in the aggregate was not so good per ton as in previous years owing to the reduced sugar contents caused by, firstly, the more than ordinary precipitation throughout the year and, secondly, owing to so large a harvest, the protracted crushing season, which only terminated in 1917.

Agricultural and Stock Returns for Lautoka, Nadi, and Sigatoka.—Acreage under cultivation.—Maize, 743; rice, 6,008; dal, 203; tobacco, 130; beans, 42; potatoes, 111; peanuts, 34.

Live stock.—Horses and mules, 880; cattle, 9,167; goats, 428; poultry, 15,965; pigs, 2.

Settlement.—Settlement is naturally more rapid in the Sigatoka part of the coast than anywhere else, and the records show a gradual increase in the areas settled.

Climatic conditions.—From the end of 1915 right through 1916 to June, precipitation was capricious and continuous. Large quantities of native food were planted and harvested and at the present time most settlers have large stocks.

69. *Cane Returns for district of Rewa.*—Unindentured immigrants:—

1. Area actually cut in 1916, 2,651 acres.
2. Number of tons crushed in 1916, 42,742 tons.
3. Estimated tonnage to cut in 1917, 44,489 tons.
4. Area estimated to cut in 1917, 2,706 acres.
5. Total amount paid for cane crushed, 1916, £22,790 16s. 3d.

Agricultural and stock returns for Rewa and Tailevu.—Acreage under cultivation—Bananas, 718; beans, 7; maize, 52; rice, 1,078; yagona, 2.

Live stock.—Horses and mules, 117; cattle, 1,730; goats, 69; pigs, 17; poultry, 3,430.

70. *Cane Returns for district of Ra.*—Unindentured immigrants:—

1. Number of contractors, 5.
2. Area under cultivation, 325 acres.
3. Number of contractors who cut in 1916, 5.
4. Area actually cropped in 1916, 145 acres.
5. Number of tons cropped in 1916, 3,920 tons.
6. Total amount paid to contractors for cane in 1916, £2,314.
7. Greatest tonnage delivered by one contractor, 2,175 tons.
8. Smallest tonnage delivered by one contractor, 33 tons.
9. Average tonnage delivered for all contractors, 784 tons.
10. Highest p.o.c.s. and price obtained by any contractor, 12.95; p.o.c.s., c. 9s. 10½d. plus 2s. 6d. per ton bonus.
11. Greatest amount obtained by any contractor, £1,347.
12. Smallest amount obtained by any contractor, £16.

71. *Departmental.*—I have to acknowledge the efficient assistance of the Inspectors of Immigrants, the Chief Clerk, and other officers of the Department in connection with the preparation of the statistical returns required for the purpose of this report.

I have, &c.,

R. M. BOOTH,
Agent-General of Immigration.

APPENDIX A.

	Indentured.				Time expired.				Grand Total.		
	Adults.		Children.		Total.	Adults.		Children.			
	Male.	Female.	1 year or over.	Under 1 year.		Male.	Female.	1 year or over.		Under 1 year.	
General diseases—											
Anæmia	1				1	3				3	4
Congenital syphilis .. .			1	9	10			1	1	2	12
Debility				8	8	3	1	1	11	16	24
Dysentery	1	3	2	2	8	2	2	1		5	13
Diabetes					1					1	1
Enteric fever	2				2	2	10	9	9	30	32
Hæmophilia										1	1
Leprosy					3	3	1			4	4
Marasmus			3		3		5			5	8
Parturition		3					1			1	1
Pellagra and exhaustion											
Pneumonia	2	2	3	14	21	2	1	3	3	9	30
Premature birth				14	14				8	8	22
Pyæmia				1	1	1				1	2
Rheumatism	1				1	1	1			2	3
Senile decay						5	3			8	8
Septicæmia	1				1		1			1	2
Syphilis	2				2						4
Tetanus				4	4						4
Tuberculosis	10	7	5	2	24	28	10	1	1	40	64
Local diseases—											
Circulatory system .. .		3			3	5	4	2	5	16	19
Digestive system	3	2	7	19	31	6	2	7	9	24	55
Nervous system		2	2	4	8		1	2	2	5	13
Respiratory system .. .	1			3	4	7	8	3		18	22
Urinary system		2	1		3	1				1	4
Skin				1	1						1
Parasites	2				2	1				1	3
Injuries (accidental) ..	5		1		6	2	2	5	2	11	17
Drowning	4				5	4	3	5		12	17
Judicial hanging	9				9	2				2	11
Murdered	5				5	3	3			6	11
Suicide	7	1			8	7				7	15
Ill-defined	1			6	7	6	10	4	13	33	40
Unspecified				3	3	19	5	3	20	47	50
Total	49	33	23	93	198	115	74	47	84	320	518

APPENDIX B.

Particulars.	Average No. throughout year.			Deaths on plantations.						Percentage including deaths from accident or violence.			Births.	
	Adults.	Children.	Total.	Natural causes.			Accident or violence.			Adults.	Children.	Total.	Number.	Percentage.
				Adults.	Children.	Total.	Adults.	Children.	Total.					
REWA AND TAILEVU.														
Nausori	222	44	266	1	1	1	1	45	27	72	7	3-15		
Vucimara	3	3	6											
Banlevu train line	3	3	6											
Naitasiri	83	21	104	1	1	1		4-76	96	9	10-84			
Muanavei	99	17	116	1	1	1		2-22	17-64	4-67	6	6-66		
Konocidiri	79	12	91	1	1	1		1-26	1-99	4	5-06			
Banlevu	86	15	101	1	1	1		13-33	1-98	4	4-65			
Naitalase	67	11	78											
Naitogovou	68	18	86					1-78	1-51	2	3-21			
Manoa	66	10	76	1	1	1		1-19	1-56	3	3-57			
Viti	84	10	94	1	1	1		2-27	1-81	6	6-81			
Navuso	88	22	110	1	1	1		1-53	20-00	2-85	2	3-07		
Lakua	65	5	70	1	1	1		1-01	13-33	2-63	5	5-05		
Viria	90	15	114	1	1	1								
Navutoka	39	11	50											
Nacali	17	5	22											
Utaicaka	47	8	55											
Neuma	29	6	35											
Burecagi	3	2	5											
Vareta	17	2	19											
Nasoli	57	11	68	1	1	1		1-75	1-47	3	5-26			
Waila	20	3	23											
Waiakahi	16	2	18											
Davullevu	18	2	20											
Nukunota	9		9											
Nagarawalu	10	3	13				1	33-33	7-69					
Wavavu	14	4	18											
Nukavaca	26	9	35											
Laulau	11		11											
Naitogo	30	10	40											
Nasala	53	14	67											
Vaikau	14	2	16											
Wainiurara	14	3	17											
Kavetave	27	8	35											
Nabalava	37	7	44											
Waisa	11	3	14											
Navunielei	16	1	17											
Drekemeko	1		1											
Savata	12		12											
Dalmesv Park	40	7	47											
Nabati	5		5											
Lovukana	8	1	9											
Navestron	11		11											
Total	1,715	318	2,033	9	12	21	2	1	3	64	468	1-18	72	4-19
CAKAUDROVE, SAVUSAVU, BUA, LAU, AND LOMAIVITI.														
Vua	108	18	126	1	1	1		7-11	7-9	5	4-61			
Mount Vernon	35	11	46											
Vatunilo	13		13											
Mua	64	17	81											
Ardmore	14	3	17											
Nagasau	25	2	27											
Nakunono	9		9											
Selalevu, Uta	84	24	108	1	1	1		4-16	9-2	2	3-38			
Delaivani	49	13	62	1	1	1		7-69	1-61	5	10-20			
Nabou	6		6											
Vunivava	23	3	26											
Matei	11	5	16											
Waiavala	9		9											
Uthakau	3	1	4											
Soqulu	37	12	49											
Natuvatu	10	4	14											
Garbua	4		4											
Natavu	13	4	17											
Vunimacava	8		8											
Kaladusi	8		8											
Qarankula	8		8											
Nakasau	12	3	15											
Matanlavika	4		4											
Rahi	56	20	76											
Devo	20	4	24											
Qaravani	14	4	18	1	1	1								
Vunilagi	30	4	34											
Vatudamu	5		5											
Ude	6	3	9											
Waikava	5	1	6	1	1	1								

Particulars.	Average No. throughout year.			Deaths on plantations.						Percentage including deaths from accident or violence.			Births.	
	Adults.	Children.	Total.	Natural causes.			Accident or violence.			Total.	Children.	Adults.	Number.	Percentage.
				Adults.	Children.	Total.	Adults.	Children.	Total.					

CAKAUDROVE, SAVUSAVU, BUA, LAU, AND LOMAIVITI—continued.

Tavaniia	24	6	30											
Yalavu and Isaromo	13	3	16											
Nukudamu	14	3	17											
Mataitekeke	6	2	8											
Vunilo	4	1	5											
Kuloulu	2		2											
Navorau	13	5	18											4 5-53
Waimou	75	11	86											1 4-00
Konovatu	2		2											
Masucula	25	5	30											
Lakutu	18	3	21											5 7-14
Mago	70	10	80											
Cica (Tabata and Tokalau)	22	3	25											
Naitaba	10	5	15											
Lomali	10		10											
Nabavatu	7		7											1 6-66
Munia	15	5	20											
Wainyabala	7	2	9											2 2-27
Kanotou	32	13	45											1 6-64
Makogai	22	5	27											
Onivoro	2		2											1 12-00
Lovuka M.C.	2	6	8											2 14-29
Matana	14	5	19											
Sawaieke	5	1	6											2 6-60
Waidou and Bureta	23	4	27											
Total	1,142	260	1,402											1 -08 1-02 -42 58 5-07

SIGATOKA.

Naidovi	35	10	45											
Veivadravdra	30	10	40											
Lomawai	61	14	75											35-71 6-66 8 13-11
Savunavu	44	22	66											4-54 1-51 3 11-36
Idili	9		9											
Yalavu	52	12	64											5 9-61
Olonara	94	19	113											4 4-35
Kavanagasau	70	14	84											1 1-42 7-14 3-38 5 7-14
Ucivai	20	20	40											7 14-00
Samusamu	54	10	64											2 7-40
Ravikula	4		4											
Total	503	131	634	1	12	13	3							3 -70 9-09 2-52 44 8-74

LAUTOKA AND NADI.

Lautoka	903	129	1,032	3	4	7	2							
Levu	76	15	91											8 10-32
Dreua	22	8	30											4 7-90
Vitogo	59	10	69											

Particulars.	Average No. throughout year.			Deaths on plantations.						Percentage including deaths from accident or violence.			Births.				
				Natural causes.			Accident or violence.			Adults.	Children.	Total.	Number.	Percentage.			
	Adults.	Children.	Total.	Adults.	Children.	Total.	Adults.	Children.	Total.								
BA, TAVUA, AND RA.																	
Pesang	453	117	599	4	7	11	1	..	..	..	1	1-15	5-08	2-18	26	6-00
Caboni	25	9	44	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	11-43
Nasulu	17	2	19	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	5-88
Ellington	63	19	82	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	7-93
Tuvavatu	447	99	546	2	5	7	2	..	..	..	2	89	5-05	1-64	24	5-38
Rhawal	82	13	95	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1-22	..	1-05	6	7-31
Tavua South	37	1	38	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	5-41
The Gap, Tagitagi	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Be-Lautoka tramline	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Natawanu	33	6	29	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	3-03	..	12-61	..	..
Nabuna tramline	42	9	51	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	2-38	..	1-96	4	9-32
Dromani	89	12	101	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1-12	..	99	6	6-74
Tadravale	64	13	77	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1-51	1-33	4	6-06	
Vuniamakou	115	14	129	3	4	7	..	..	..	..	..	2-60	28-57	42	3	4-88
Navoli	90	12	72	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1-83	1-32	5	4-35	
Rotoko	71	15	86	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1-40	6-08	2-32	2	2-81
Navatu	57	11	68	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	16-18	2-94	3	5-26	
Veisau	127	31	158	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	7-8	6-45	1-60	7	5-11
Varoko	84	13	97	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7-69	1-03	2	2-38	
Navisi	75	18	93	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1-33	6-55	1-07	6	8-00
Keromahi	68	13	81	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2-41
Valaveu	83	14	97	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17-64	3-00	4	4-82	
Matanigara	83	17	100	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	1-06	16-08	4-23	8	8-51
Natawanu	94	24	118	1	4	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2-12
Benai	47	10	57	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10-00	..	..	2	3-44
Korowabuta	63	10	73	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2-12
Nabutu	68	10	78	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	3-44
Nabutu	34	..	34	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nakibokulu	24	4	28	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	8-33
Nasaua	24	4	28	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	12-50
Sigawa	54	5	59	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8-33	25-00	10-71	1	4-16
Savva	34	4	38	1	1	2	1	..	..	..	1	8-33	25-00	10-71	1	4-16
Nabua	63	16	79	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	4-76
Balata	66	7	73	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1-87
Yaladro	72	15	87	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	20-00	3-44	6	8-33	
Toko	66	15	81	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1-51
Total	2,872	587	3,459	15	37	52	7	..	..	..	7	7-76	6-30	1-75	155	5-39
LABASA AND DREKETI.																	
Labasa	286	65	351	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	3-55	..	..	18	6-29
Mataniwai	11	..	11	1	8-33
Navulevu	30	8	38	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3-33
Tuata	30	8	38	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Batankama	46	6	52	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	8-69
Nacigi	31	6	37	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3-22
Tamici	34	8	42	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2-64
Wainikoro	45	8	54	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2-17	25-00	9-53	3	6-52
Daku	65	17	72	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	11-76	2-77	8	14-54	
Lagaga	47	7	54	1	1	2	1	..	..	..	1	4-25	14-28	5-53	1	2-12
Naleba	67	13	80	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	1	1-49	15-38	3-75	4	5-97
Cogelea	74	14	88	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	7-14	1-13	5	6-75	
Taboula	58	7	65	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	3-37
Vua	49	8	57	2	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	4-08	12-50	5-26	1	2-04
Vunivutu	52	14	66	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	5-76
Koroviri	59	10	69	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	10-00	1-45	5	8-47	
Keroulona	15	2	17	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	6-66
Mataikovata	17	2	19	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	5-88	..	5-26	..	..
Vatuboro	12	..	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8-33
Navodi	9	2	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	11-11
Total	1,027	197	1,224	4	10	14	4	..	..	..	4	7-77	5-07	1-46	61	5-93
NAVUA.																	
Tamunua	404	125	529	3	7	10	..	..	..	..	..	7-4	5-60	1-89	26	6-43
Lobau	90	16	106	6-25	6	3-94
Rukunivua	153	34	187	1	1-98
Raiwaga	51	8	59	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Togaleka	194	12	206	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	1	3-1	16-66	1-45	8	4-12
Batankita	277	53	331	5	3	8	..	..	..	..	..	1-80	5-68	2-41	13	4-67
Togera	100	30	130	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	1-00	3-33	1-53	8	8-00
Waidro	144	33	177	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	9-09	1-69	4	2-77
Varawa	69	21	90	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1-44	..	1-11	2	2-90
Qaramiti	13	..	13	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Valakabala	4	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nadawa	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Naboro	10	..	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	1,510	333	1,843	10	16	26	1	1	2	7-2	5-12	1-52	68	4-50			

Particulars.	Average No. throughout year.			Deaths on plantations.						Percentage including deaths from accident or violence.			Births.				
				Natural causes.			Accident or violence.			Adults.	Children.	Total.	Number.	Percentage.			
	Adults.	Children.	Total.	Adults.	Children.	Total.	Adults.	Children.	Total.								
SUVA AND KADAVU.																	
Lam	20	1	21	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Works Department	7	1	8	1	14-28
Nasulu Experiment Station	14	6	20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Immigration Dept.	3	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Contabulary	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nasulu	8	..	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Samsobula and Suva	8	..	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Naivosa	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Suva, Rev. Fox	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Suva Batcher	3	1	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Suva, W. Wilson	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Suva, J. Barron	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Suva, T. Anderson	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Suva, Sunderland Co.	5	..	5	..	..										

APPENDIX C.

Condensed Return of Work, Absence, and Wages earned on Estates during the year 1916.

Table with columns: District, Plantation, Period, Work, Average number on estate during period, Males, Females, Average daily earnings, and For all days on which work was actually done.

Table with columns: District, Plantation, Period, Work, Average number on estate during period, Males, Females, Percentage of working days, and Average daily earnings.

By Authority: S. EACU, Government Printer, Seva.—1918.