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*(The pages of the publication follow this cover sheet)*

total population of the region increased by only 15.23 per cent, compared with the national rate of 24.46 per cent. Growth was very slow amongst the rural population, 5.44 per cent, but very rapid amongst the urban population, 49.71 per cent. The growth of the total labour force, April 1953 to April 1961, by 8.8 per cent was well below the national rate of 18.24 per cent. The rate of growth of the manufacturing labour force during the same period was 21.21 per cent. This, while higher, fell below the national rate of 24.14 per cent.

There is little wonder that North Auckland appears as an enigma amongst other New Zealand regions; it conforms to the standard in so few ways. Whatever aspect or index one chooses – the proportion of the population located in rural areas, employed in primary industries; the lower stage of economic development attained of which these features are representative; the distinctive qualities of the urban hierarchy; the high proportion of Maoris and the considerable migration and social change amongst them – they serve only to emphasise how different the region is from the rest of the country and how obscure its potential remains.

S.H.F.

For illustrations of the region, see plates 18A (Whangarei); 47A (landscape, Kerikeri); 53A (landscape); 85A (soil profile and landscape); and 87A (Russell).

See also *Geology, Climate, etc.*, also separate entries such as Hokianga, Whangarei, Population (Maori), etc.

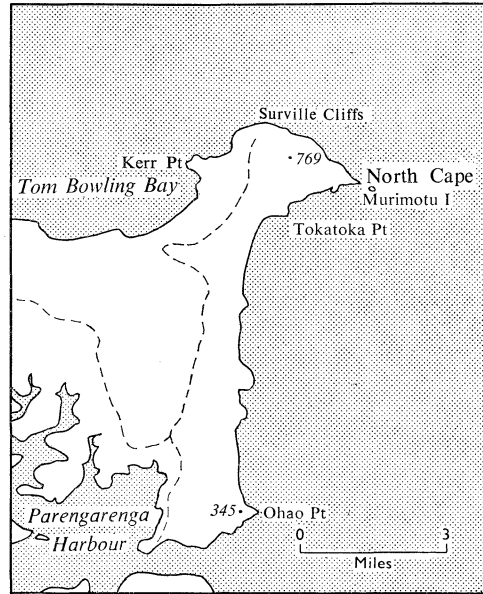
*Report on the Provisional Land Utilisation Survey of North Auckland*, Department of Lands and Survey (1954); *N.Z. Geographer*, Vol. 8, Oct 1952, "The Maori Population of Northern New Zealand", Metge, J.; *Ibid.*, Vol. 14, Apr 1958, "A Land Despoiled – New Zealand about 1830", Cumberland, K. B.; *Ibid.*, Vol. 14, Apr 1958, "Maori Land and Maori Population in the Far North", Frazer, R. M.

## NORTH CAPE DISTRICT

The North Cape district lies in the extreme north-east of the North Auckland Peninsula. It may be described as an elevated rocky area of about 5 sq. miles which was originally an island but is now attached to the mainland by an extensive area of low-lying sand country called Waikuku Flats. On its eastern coast is a small island, Murimotu, which can be approached by land at low tide. The eastern tip of this island is called North Cape, site of a navigation light.

When viewed from the south the surface of the North Cape district is seen to be a dissected plateau of the order of 500–600 ft above sea level. Kerr Point, the highest part of this tableland, is 769 ft. It has been uplifted relative to Waikuku Flats by faulting. The coastline is in a comparatively youthful stage of development, for it consists of rugged sea cliffs up to 500 ft high. At the foot of the cliffs is a broad, flat, horizontal platform, whose formation is perhaps

due to storm waves. The rocks consist of spilites (lavas that are submarine in origin and have a distinctive ellipsoidal shape) into which have been intruded a series of ultra-basic rocks (gabbros and peridotites) which have been later altered to serpentinites. Still later in geological history there was deposited a series of impure limestone, conglomerate, and sandstone on the west of the North Cape block. The surface of the plateau is littered with boulders, fragments, and dust of high-grade (69 per cent ferric



oxide) limonite (iron ore), which has been formed by the weathering of the ultra-basic rocks. It has a poor soil and supports a stunted scrub vegetation.

The low country to the south-west of the North Cape district, called Waikuku Flats, is covered by alluvium and swamp material and is margined by sand dunes. Scrub and wivi are the dominant vegetation. Among the sand dunes on the western shore are many shells of the terrestrial gastropod *Placostylus hongii ambagiosus*. In the bush remnant around Uniwhao Trig. Station at 2,113 ft above sea level to the south-east of Hooper Point the *Placostylus* can be found alive. The dunes also abound in ancient Maori middens, wherein are human bones and obsidian flakes with occasional polished stone adzes.

The serpentine deposits at North Cape have recently been exploited, the rock being mixed with superphosphate to give a fertiliser called serpentine superphosphate. A clay road has been constructed along the plateau from the Spirits Bay - Te Hapua Road. At a distance of about 10 miles the road forks, one branch going north to the quarry and the other south to a loading ramp on the north side of Parengarenga Harbour just inside the heads. The rock is loaded on to barges which are towed to Auckland by ocean-going tugs.

R.F.H.