

Earthquakes felt in Aotearoa-New Zealand during 1910

This document gives transcriptions of newspaper articles attesting to earthquakes reported felt in Aotearoa-New Zealand in the year 1910. These total 99 different earthquakes, plus a swarm of 21 felt earthquakes in June 1910. Of the 99 different earthquakes, 26 of them are from a sequence of 36 felt earthquake in November 1910. One of the earthquakes is suspect and may be a duplicate.

Significant earthquakes are believed to have occurred on the 9th May 1910 (ML 4.5-5.5, MM IV?), on the 24th June 1910 (ML 4.7-5.5, MM III-IV?), on the 30th July 1910 (ML 4.5-5.0, MM IV), on the 8th August 1910 (ML 4.5-5.0, MM III-IV), on the 26th September 1910 (ML 4.0-4.5, MM V-VI), on the 7th November 1910 (ML 4.0-5.0, MM V-VI), and on the 9th November 1910 (ML 4.5-5.5, MM VI-VII). Either the 24th June 1910 or 9th November 1910 earthquake were the largest to occur in 1910. The former earthquake likely had an epicentre between the Bay of Plenty and Lake Taupo, with a depth between 100-250km. The latter earthquake likely had an epicentre within 15km of Kaikōura, with a shallow depth of 12km or less; it was the second in a sequence of at least 36 felt earthquakes in a 14-day period. Minor contents damage (MM V-VI?) was caused by the 21 felt events of an earthquake swarm which afflicted Rotorua during the morning of the 15th June 1910.

Newspaper Articles, Papers Past

11th January 1910 [Taranaki]:

- “There was a slight shock of earthquake in Taranaki yesterday afternoon just about 3 p.m.” [Hawera & Normanby Star, [12th January 1910](#)]

11th January 1910 [Hawke’s Bay]:

- “A sharp earthquake shock was experienced at 8.30 o’clock last at Hastings.” [Hastings Standard, [12th January 1910](#)]
- “A sharp, sudden shock of earthquake was felt in Waipawa at twenty-four minutes past 8 o’clock, on Tuesday night.” [[Page 2](#)]
“WAIPUKURAU ITEMS
(Own Correspondent.)
A slight shock of earthquake was felt here on Tuesday evening shortly after 8 o’clock.” [[Page 3](#)]
“NAPIER NEWS.
(Own Correspondent.)
NAPIER, Yesterday.
...Two light shocks of earthquake were felt here at about 8.30 last evening.”
[Waipawa Mail, [13th January 1910](#)]

17th January 1910 [Central Hawke’s Bay]:

- “A slight earthquake shock was felt in Waipawa, yesterday, at 10 a.m.”
[Waipawa Mail, [18th January 1910](#)]

20th January 1910 [Hawke’s Bay]

- “EARTHQUAKES.
(By Telegraph. – Press Association.)
NAPIER, this day.
A severe shock of earthquake was felt at 1.28 this morning.
HASTINGS, this day.
A somewhat severe and prolonged earthquake was experienced at 1.37 this morning. An inch of rain has fallen since daylight, and will cause considerable damage to stone fruit.” [Auckland Star, [20th January 1910](#)]
- “EARTHQUAKES SHOCKS.
[Same telegrams as above]
...A slight shock was also felt in Wellington, the time being about 1.30.”
[Evening Post, [20th January 1910](#)]
- “A sharp shock of earthquake was felt [in Hastings] at 1.37 this morning.”
[Hastings Standard, [20th January 1910](#)]
- [New Zealand Times copies same as Evening Post, see [here](#)]

24th January 1910 [Rangitikei]:

- “An earthquake was experienced in Marton last evening at 11.20.” [Rangitikei Advocate and Manawatu Argus, [25th January 1910](#)]

2nd February 1910 [Gisborne]:

- “There was a slight shock of earthquake [in Gisborne] at 11.5 this morning.”
[Poverty Bay Herald, [2nd February 1910](#)]

11th February 1910 [Horowhenua]:

- “An earthquake, accompanied by a loud report, was felt in this district [Foxton] at about 11.30 a.m. yesterday.” [Manawatu Herald, [12th February 1910](#)]

14th February 1910 [Horowhenua]:

- “A slight shock of earthquake was felt at Foxton at half-past six o’clock this morning.” [Evening Post, [14th February 1910](#)]
- “There was a sharp shock of earthquake in Palmerston [North] at 6.37 this morning.” [Manawatu Standard, [14th February 1910](#)]
- “There were two sharp shocks of earthquake felt yesterday [in Palmerston North], one in the morning at 6.37, and the other at 2.30 in the afternoon.”
[Manawatu Times, [15th February 1910](#)]
- “PAHIATUA NOTES.
(From Our Own Correspondent.)

...A slight shock of earthquake was felt here on Tuesday morning."

[Manawatu Times, [17th February 1910](#)]

14th February 1910 [Tararua]:

- "A slight shock of earthquake was experienced [in Dannevirke] at fourteen minutes to 2 this afternoon. The shock was preceded by an almost imperceptible earth tremor. The direction appeared to be from W. to E." [Bush Advocate, [14th February 1910](#)]
- "There was a slight earthquake shock at ten minutes to this afternoon [in Woodville]." [Woodville Examiner, [14th February 1910](#)]
- "There were two sharp shocks of earthquake felt yesterday [in Palmerston North], one in the morning at 6.37, and the other at 2.30 in the afternoon." [Manawatu Times, [15th February 1910](#)]
- "A slight shock of earthquake was felt in Waipawa at ten minutes to 2 o'clock yesterday." [Waipawa Mail, [15th February 1910](#)]

22nd February 1910 [New Plymouth]:

- "A sharp shock of earthquake was experienced at New Plymouth at an early hour this morning." [Taranaki Herald, [23rd February 1910](#)]
- "WAREA.
(From Our Own Correspondent.)
...A very slight earthquake was felt here on Tuesday night about 11.35."
[Taranaki Herald, [26th February 1910](#)]

24th February 1910 [Hastings]:

- "A slight shock of earthquake was felt in Hastings at 12.30, midnight."
[Hastings Standard, [24th February 1910](#)]

1st March 1910 [Tararua]:

- "Last issue we omitted to mention the fact that a sharp earthquake was felt in Woodville at 9.15 on Tuesday evening. It was of short duration, and very much resembled a heavy knock, and was preceded by a rumbling noise."
[Woodville Examiner, [4th March 1910](#)]

21st March 1910 [Wanganui]:

- "JOTTINGS FROM WANGANUI
SEVERE EARTHQUAKE
(By Telegraph. – Special Correspondent.)
Wanganui, March 21.
...A very severe earthquake shock was felt at six o'clock this evening. It was generally described as one of the severest shocks experienced here for a long time and was accompanied by a very loud rumble." [Dominion, [22nd March 1910](#)]

- “A severe earthquake was felt locally [Foxton] last evening at 6 o’clock.” [Manawatu Herald, [22nd March 1910](#)]
- “LOCAL AND GENERAL
...A sharp shock of earthquake was felt here [New Plymouth] shortly after 6 o’clock last night.” [Taranaki Daily News, [22nd March 1910](#)]
- “A sharp shock of earthquake was felt [in Wanganui] last evening at 6.2. Another fairly severe shock occurred at 12.30 this morning.” [Wanganui Chronicle, [22nd March 1910](#)]
- “A severe earthquake was felt [in Wanganui] at 6.2 last evening and another at 12.30 this morning.” [Wanganui Herald, [22nd March 1910](#)]
- “OTAKI.
A slight shock of earthquake was felt here at about 6 o’clock on Monday evening.” [Dominion, [24th March 1910](#)]

22nd March 1910 [Wanganui]:

- “A sharp shock of earthquake was felt [in Wanganui] last evening at 6.2. Another fairly severe shock occurred at 12.30 this morning.” [Wanganui Chronicle, [22nd March 1910](#)]
- “A severe earthquake was felt [in Wanganui] at 6.2 last evening and another at 12.30 this morning.” [Wanganui Herald, [22nd March 1910](#)]

26th March 1910 [Gisborne]:

- “A slight shock of earthquake was experienced [in Gisborne] about 10.30 on Saturday night.” [Poverty Bay Herald, [29th March 1910](#)]

29th March 1910 [Christchurch – Doublet Quake]:

- “About 8.25 last night a slight shock of earthquake was felt in Christchurch. The motion, which was wave-like, was from north to south.” [Press, [30th March 1910](#)]
- “A shock of earthquake was felt in Christchurch at 8.20 last evening. At the same time two distinct shocks were felt in Sumner, the second being less severe than the first. Residents in Rangiora also noticed the earthquake, and at Kaiapoi two shocks were felt.” [Lyttelton Times, [30th March 1910](#)]
- “The earthquakes shocks felt in Christchurch last night were recorded at the Magnetic Observatory in the Public Gardens in Christchurch. There were two slight shocks. The first began at 8 hours 18.4 minutes and ended at 8 hours 18.9 minutes, and the second began at 8 hours 19.6 minutes and ended at 8 hours 20.2 minutes. The second had the largest motion.” [Star, [30th March 1910](#)]
- [Press copies same as Star above, see [here](#), 31st March 1910]
- [Lyttelton Times also copies same as Star above, see [here](#), 31st March 1910]

3rd April 1910 [Central Hawke’s Bay]:

- “WAIPUKURAU ITEMS.
(Own Correspondent.)
A slight shock of earthquake was felt here shortly after 11 o'clock, on Sunday evening.” [Waipawa Mail, [5th April 1910](#)]

9th April 1910 [Horowhenua]:

- “A slight shock of earthquake was felt in Levin during the small hours of this morning.” [Horowhenua Chronicle, [9th April 1910](#)]

11th April 1910 [Selwyn]:

- “A slight shock of earthquake was felt at Broken River at 6.25 a.m. yesterday. Its duration was only about two seconds, and it appeared to be travelling from north-west to south-east.” [Lyttelton Times, [12th April 1910](#)]

12th April 1910 [Hastings]:

- “A fairly smart shock of earthquake was experienced in Hastings this morning at 5.15.” [Hastings Standard, [12th April 1910](#)]

13th April 1910 [Central Hawke's Bay]:

- “A shock of earthquake was felt in Waipawa at 1.39 o'clock, yesterday.” [Waipawa Mail, [14th April 1910](#)]

17th April 1910 [Marlborough]:

- “A sharp shock of earthquake was felt in Picton at 9.49 on Sunday night, states the local press.” [Evening Post, [19th April 1910](#)]
- “The Press reports that a sharp shock of earthquake was felt in Picton about 9.49 on Sunday night.” [Marlborough Express, [19th April 1910](#)]

20th April 1910 [South Taranaki]:

- “A slight shock of earthquake was experienced locally [Patea] on Wednesday evening at half past seven o'clock. On the bridge a distinct tremor could be felt for several seconds.” [Patea Mail, [22nd April 1910](#)]

6th May 1910 [Lakes-Queenstown]:

- “A slight shock of earthquake was felt here [Queenstown] on Friday morning last.” [Lake Wakatipu Mail, [10th May 1910](#)]

9th May 1910 [South Taranaki Bight]:

- “A sharp shock of earthquake was experienced at New Plymouth shortly after one o'clock this afternoon.” [Taranaki Herald, [9th May 1910](#)]
- “A distinct shock of earthquake was felt here [Opunake] at four minutes past one.” [Opunake Times, [10th May 1910](#)]

- “A sharp shock of earthquake was felt in Nelson yesterday at 1.10 p.m.” [Colonist, [10th May 1910](#)]
- “KAPONGA.
(From Our Own Correspondent.)
...A slight shock of earthquake was experienced here to-day (Monday) at 1.15 p.m.” [Hawera & Normanby Star, [11th May 1910](#)]
- “A decided shock of earthquake was experienced here [Collingwood] on Monday just after 1 p.m.” [Golden Bay Argus, [12th May 1910](#)]
- “WAREA.
(From Our Own Correspondent.)
A couple of slight shocks of earthquake were felt here on Monday.” [Taranaki Daily News, [13th May 1910](#)]
- “RAHOTU
(From Our Own Correspondent.)
...A slight shock of earthquake was felt here on Monday.” [Taranaki Daily News, [14th May 1910](#)]

22nd May 1910 [Tararua]:

- “At about 10 o'clock yesterday morning a slight earthquake was felt in Woodville.” [Woodville Examiner, [23rd May 1910](#)]

29th May 1910 [Stratford]:

- “PUNIWHAKAU.
(From Our Own Correspondent.)
May 31.
...There was a sharp shock of earthquake here last Sunday afternoon about 3.15 o'clock.” [Taranaki Herald, [3rd June 1910](#)]

29th May 1910 [Manawatu-Wanganui]:

- “MATAMAU.
...A slight shock of earthquake occurred here at 3.45 on Sunday afternoon.” [Bush Advocate, [30th May 1910](#)]

31st May 1910 [Hawke's Bay]:

- “An earthquake shock was felt in Hastings last night. Some describe the shock as severe while others state it was scarcely perceptible.” [Hastings Standard, [1st June 1910](#)]
- “A slight shock of earthquake was felt [in] Waipawa at about 7.7 p.m. on Tuesday.” [Waipawa Mail, [2nd June 1910](#)]

11th June 1910 [Whakatane]:

- “AN EARTHQUAKE SHOCK.
(BY TELEGRAPH. – OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

WHAKATANE, Saturday.

A SHARP shock of earthquake was fe[lt] here this morning at five o'clock."
[New Zealand Herald, [13th June 1910](#)]

12th June 1910 [Wellington]

- "A slight shock of earthquake was felt in Wellington at 2.13 p.m. yesterday. Our Petone correspondent notes that it was felt also at Petone and the Hutt. Mr G. Hogben describes it as an "average New Zealand shock." [Dominion, [13th June 1910](#)]

- [Evening Post copies same as Dominion, see [here](#)]

- "GLADSTONE NOTES.

(*Special* to DAILY TIMES.)

A slight shock of earthquake was experienced here on Sunday afternoon, at about a-quarter past two." [Wairarapa Daily Times, [Page 4](#)]

"LONGBUSH NOTES.

(*Special* to DAILY TIMES.)

...A smart shock of earthquake was felt here on Sunday afternoon."

[Wairarapa Daily Times, Page 6, [14th June 1910](#)]

15th June 1910 [Timaru]:

- "An earthquake was felt at Geraldine between one and two o'clock yesterday morning." [Ashburton Guardian, [16th June 1910](#)]
- "An earthquake was felt by several residents of Geraldine between one and two o'clock yesterday morning. One lady distinctly felt three shocks, and awakened her husband, who felt the final shock." [Timaru Herald, [16th June 1910](#)]

15th June 1910 [Rotorua Lakes]:

- "SHAKEN BY EARTHQUAKE.
SHOCKS AT ROTORUA.
NO DAMAGE DONE.

A SERIES of earthquake shocks were felt at Rotorua yesterday. Our Rotorua correspondent telegraphed last night: There was a series of earth tremors this morning between 5.30 a.m. and 6.30 a.m. Ten strong shocks were counted, the heaviest being at 6.15. The shocks followed each other at close intervals, and were accompanied by a rumbling noise.

A gentleman who came to Auckland by the express yesterday states that considerable apprehension was felt by those in Rotorua during the hour or more that the shocks lasted. The first was felt about 5 a.m. and 21 followed during the next hour. Some of these were very slight, but at least nine were of sufficient severity to make the house shake. Two were specially severe. No damage was done to buildings, but pictures were shaken off the walls of several houses and dashed to the ground. Crockery which was not secured to

the walls or shelves by hooks or bars was in danger of falling off, and in some cases did, while other articles of a fragile nature were injured by knocking against each other. The shocks were accompanied by a loud rumbling noise, which caused the Maoris at Ohinemutu and Whakarewarewa much concern. Their excited conversations bore principally on the danger of another disaster such as that of 1886. Alarm, however, was not confined to Maoris, as some European households were seriously thinking of seeking safety in the open when the shocks ceased. One or two women, indeed, sought the streets in undress and stood till the shakes ceased in spots where they thought there would little danger of injury from falling buildings.

It is stated that at Turakina, a few miles away, no shocks were felt.

NO CAUSE FOR ANXIETY.

PURELY LOCAL DISTURBANCE.

No particular significance is attached to yesterday morning's visitations by Professor A. P. W. Thomas, of the Auckland University College, who is particularly well versed in the past history of the hot lakes district. In reply to an inquiry from a HERALD representative last evening, Professor Thomas pointed out that most of the earthquake shocks experienced at Rotorua were distinct from those affecting the main line of seismic activity, which runs from Wellington to the East Coast. "I should expect these earthquakes," he said, "to be purely local disturbances, connected with the volcanic phenomena of the district. There are many localities there where volcanic action has been rife in the past, and where there are still hot springs testifying to the activity of natural forces."

When questioned as to the probable cause of the earthquakes, Professor Thomas said that they were probably due to subterranean explosions of steam. It was not difficult to understand that the result of steam working its way along underground in this way should be explosion after explosion. The occurrence of an unusually large number of shocks might thus be accounted for. So far as he was aware, most of the earthquake shocks felt at Rotorua did not originate there. Some, he knew, started at Tarawera, and some appeared to come from the neighbourhood of Orakei-Korako, on the Upper Waikato, between Rotorua and Taupo. The main line of these disturbance was to the east of Rotorua, in a line stretching from White Island to Tarawera and Ruapehu.

With so many earthquake shocks occurring from time to time in the Rotorua district without being followed by any serious consequence, it would be premature, in Professor Thomas's opinion, to anticipate any serious results to follow yesterday's shocks. "Of course," he added, "the district is a volcanic one, and eruptions may be expected there in the future, but without some more definite signs there is no occasion to anticipate that any unusual volcanic activity will follow these earthquakes." It was true, he remarked, that the great Tarawera eruption of 1886 was preceded by a number of slight

earthquake shocks, occurring an hour or two previously, but similar shocks had occurred on other occasions without being followed by any indications of volcanic activity.

“Rotorua is the centre of a volcanic district, and there will be plenty of earthquakes and plenty of eruptions,” declared Mr T. F. Cheeseman, curator of the Auckland Museum, when seen by a HERALD representative with reference to yesterday’s earthquakes. “It contains abundant signs of previous volcanic disturbances of all kinds, and accordingly this experience should occasion no surprise. The fact that these disturbances have occurred in the same month as the eruption of 1886 is purely a coincidence, and therefore no importance can be attached to it.”

MORE SHOCKS TO FOLLOW.

MR STEVENSON’S PREDICTION.

Mr J. T. Stevenson, F.R.A.S., who was also seen on the subject, ventured the opinion that there would probably be more shocks at Rotorua within the next 24 hours or so. “My anticipation that Whakatane would get a shock was fulfilled a few days ago,” said Mr Stevenson, “but I did not anticipate shocks at Rotorua. I don’t think any alarm need be felt, as similar shocks of greater number have occurred in Rotorua before without anything serious resulting. Rotorua lies in the same line of weakness as Whakatane and White Island,” continued Mr. Stevenson, “and it is almost impossible to say in which direction activity might manifest itself – it might be White Island, it might be Whakatane, or it might be Rotorua.”

Mr. Stevenson also suggested the probability of further earthquake shocks in the northern hemisphere during the first week in July.” [New Zealand Herald, [16th June 1910](#)]

24th June 1910 [Deep North Island]:

- “EARTHQUAKE.
A sharp shock of earthquake was recorded at Napier at 1.40 to-day.
(The shock was also distinctly felt at Dannevirke.)” [Bush Advocate, [24th June 1910](#)]
- “A gentle and [sic] inoffensive sort of earthquake was felt in Hastings this afternoon at 1.40 o’clock. Napier reports that a sharp shock was felt there.” [Hastings Standard, [24th June 1910](#)]
- “EARTHQUAKE SHOCKS.
(Per Press Association.)
NAPIER, this day.
A sharp shock of earthquake was experienced at 1.40 p.m. to-day.
NELSON, this day.
A short, sharp shock of earthquake was experienced at 1.40 p.m. to-day, the direction being north and south.

A slight earth tremor was experienced at Gisborne at 1.41 this afternoon."

[Poverty Bay Herald, [24th June 1910](#)]

- "A sharp shock of earthquake of brief duration was experienced in Nelson yesterday afternoon at 1.40." [Colonist, [25th June 1910](#)]
- "A mild shock of earthquake was felt in Waipawa at 1.40 p.m., yesterday." [Waipawa Mail, [Page 2](#)]

"NAPIER NEWS

(Own Correspondent.)

NAPIER, Yesterday.

...A sharp shock of earthquake at 1.40 [this] afternoon caused a bit of a flutter, [?] duration was too short to cause [ap]rehension." [Waipawa Mail, Page 3, [25th June 1910](#)]

- "WEBER.
...A slight shock of earthquake was felt here on Friday, about 1.40 p.m., and the sharpest frost was experienced on Friday night." [Bush Advocate, [27th June 1910](#)]
- "Two shocks of earthquake were felt at Eketahuna at 1.40 p.m. on Friday last." [Wairarapa Age, [27th June 1910](#)]
- "A sharp earthquake shock was felt in Woodville shortly before 2 o'clock on Friday afternoon." [Woodville Examiner, [27th June 1910](#)]

26th June 1910 [Hastings]:

- "A very slight earthquake was felt at Hastings about 10.20 last night." [Hastings Standard, [27th June 1910](#)]

6th July 1910 [Wanganui]:

- "A short, sharp earthquake, preceded by a loud rumble, was felt here at 6.30 o'clock this morning." [Wanganui Herald, [6th July 1910](#)]
- "A shock of earthquake was experienced about 6.30 yesterday morning." [Wanganui Chronicle, [7th July 1910](#)]

9th July 1910 [Hastings]:

- "A sharp and prolonged earthquake disturbed the slumbering town of Hastings at about 1.24 o'clock this morning. It was also felt at Napier." [Hastings Standard, [9th July 1910](#)]

13th July 1910 [Cook Strait]:

- "A sharp shock of earthquake was felt here [in Dannevirke] at 6.40 this morning." [Bush Advocate, [13th July 1910](#)]¹
- "SHOCK OF EARTHQUAKE.
(BY TELEGRAPH. – PRESS ASSOCIATION.)

¹ Uncertain report. This seems likely to be a different event which struck the Tararua district at about the same time as the Cook Strait quake hit.

BLENHEIM, This Day.

A sharp shock of earthquake was felt here at twenty minutes to seven this morning.

A shock of earthquake was felt in Wellington at twenty minutes to 7 o'clock this morning." [Evening Post, [13th July 1910](#)]

- "EARTHQUAKE AT FLOODS.

(PRESS ASSOCIATION.)

BLENHEIM, July 13.

A sharp shock of earthquake was felt here at 6.40 this morning. There was heavy rain yesterday and all night, which made the rivers rise rapidly, and it is feared that if the rain does not cease soon parts of the country will be flooded." [Hawera & Normanby Star, [13th July 1910](#)]

- "A sharp shock of earthquake was felt at Christchurch at 6.40 this morning." [Inangahua Times, [13th July 1910](#)]²
- "A fairly sharp shock of earthquake was felt in Blenheim about twenty minutes to seven o'clock this morning." [Marlborough Express, [13th July 1910](#)]
- "A slight shock of earthquake was experienced in Nelson early this morning. A press wire from Blenheim states that a sharp shock was felt there at 6.40." [Nelson Evening Mail, [13th July 1910](#)]
- [New Zealand Times copies Evening Post as above, see [here](#), [14th July 1910](#)]

18th July 1910 [Gisborne]:

- "A sharp shock of earthquake was experienced at Gisborne at 3.45 this morning." [Poverty Bay Herald, [18th July 1910](#)]

19th July 1910 [Tararua?]

- "A sharp shock of earthquake was felt a[t] Waipawa at about 12.15 a.m., to-day." [Waipawa Mail, [19th July 1910](#)]
- "FEILDING NOTES.
A sharp shock of earthquake was felt here at 12.30 a.m. on Tuesday." [Dominion, [22nd July 1910](#)]

27th July 1910 [Hastings]:

- "A shock of earthquake was felt in Hastings at 6.40 last night. The direction was north and south." [Hastings Standard, [28th July 1910](#)]

30th July 1910 [Manawatu]:

- "A fairly heavy shock of earthquake was experienced [in Dannevirke] at 2.15 this morning. The shock was preceded by a loud rumbling, and the tremor caused a considerable noise amongs[t] the [sic] buildings of the town." [Bush Advocate, [Page 4](#)]

² Doubtful report. Christchurch newspapers (Press, Star and Lyttelton Times) do not mention this. Possibly the telegram this information is sourced from came via Christchurch?

“SHOCK OF EARTHQUAKE.

(PRESS ASSOCIATION.)

PALMERSTON N., This Day.

A sharp shock of earthquake was felt in Palmerston about 2.15 this morning.

It was quite the most energetic for some time past.

TAIHAPE, This Day.

A severe earth shock occurred here at 2.20 a.m., being the sharpest experienced for some while. There was a heavy frost last, which was followed by a brilliant day.” [Bush Advocate, Page 5, [30th July 1910](#)]

- “At a quarter-past two this morning a sharp shock of earthquake was felt in Palmerston.” [Manawatu Standard, [30th July 1910](#)]
- “A sharp shock of earthquake was experienced in this district [Foxton] at 2.12 a.m.” [Manawatu Herald, [30th July 1910](#)]
- “A sharp shock of earthquake was felt in Pahiatua at 2.14 this morning. It was also felt at Palmerston North, where it was “quite the most energetic for some time past” so a Press Association messages informs us.” [Pahiatua Herald, [30th July 1910](#)]
- “Earthquakes
A sharp shock of earthquake was felt in Waipawa about 2.15 this morning.
A sharp, but of short duration, earth tremor, was felt here (writes out Waipukurau correspondent), about 2.15 this morning.” [Waipawa Mail, [30th July 1910](#)]
- “A smart earthquake shock was experienced in Woodville on Saturday morning about 2.15.” [Woodville Examiner, [1st August 1910](#)]
- “COUNTRY CORRESPONDENCE.

PIRI PIRI

(OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

...A sharp shock of earthquake was felt here on Saturday morning at 2.10.

This is the second of similar nature occurring within the past two weeks.

RAUMATI.

...A sharp shock of earthquake was felt here by residents shortly after [sic] two o'clock on Saturday morning.” [Bush Advocate, [2nd August 1910](#)]

- “...We are indebted for this information to Mr W. A. Wallis, who also informs us that three shocks of earthquake were felt Ngaturi during the month.” [Pahiatua Herald, [2nd August 1910](#)]
- “A sharp shock of earthquake was felt at Eketahuna on Saturday morning at 2.15 o'clock.” [Wairarapa Age, [2nd August 1910](#)]

31st July 1910 [Hawke Bay]:

- EARTHQUAKE AT WAIROA.
(By Telegraph. – Press Association.)
WAIROA (Hawke's Bay), this day.

A slight earth shake was felt here at 3 p.m. yesterday." [Auckland Star, [1st August 1910](#)]

- "A slight earthquake was felt at Wairoa at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon." [Hastings Standard, [1st August 1910](#)]

- "NAPIER NEWS.
(Own Correspondent.)

NAPIER, Yesterday.

...A sharp shock of earthquake was felt here at 3.5 p.m., yesterday."
[Waipawa Mail, [2nd August 1910](#)]

7th August 1910 [Napier]:

- "NAPIER NEWS.
(Own Correspondent.)

NAPIER, Yesterday.

...A slight shock of earthquake was [felt] here at 6.10 last evening." [Waipawa Mail, [9th August 1910](#)]

8th August 1910 [Deep Marlborough]³:

- "A Nelson wire states two strong shocks of earthquake lasting five seconds closely following each other were felt at 2.15 to day. In Reefton several felt sure there was a shock about the same time." [Inangahua Times, [8th August 1910](#)]

- "A sharp shock of earthquake, the direction being apparently from east to west, occurred [in Blenheim] at ten minutes past two this afternoon."
[Marlborough Express, [Page 4](#)]

"THE EARTHQUAKE.

TWO SHOCKS IN NELSON

(PRESS ASSOCIATION.)

NELSON, Aug. 8.

Two strong shocks of earthquake, lasting five seconds, closely following each other, were felt at 2.15 to-day." [Marlborough Express, Page 8, [8th August 1910](#)]

- "Two harps [sic] shocks of earthquake, following closely on each other, were felt at Nelson at 2.15 p.m. to-day." [Nelson Evening Mail, [Page 1](#)]

"Two sharp shocks of earthquake, lasting some seconds, and having a direction from west to east and following one immediately upon the other, were felt at Nelson this afternoon at 2.20. A Press wire received this afternoon says felt at Westport at 2.20 p.m. to-day, but no damage was reported.

Evidently it was the same shock as that felt at Nelson, as the times correspond." [Nelson Evening Mail, [Page 4, 8th August 1910](#)]

- "There was a sharp shock of earthquake at Hanmer at 2.12 p.m. to-day. A slight shock was felt in Christchurch about the same time. A Nelson telegram

³ Comparable to ML 4.9 (Mw 4.4), 50km depth [Southern Marlborough earthquake](#) on 11th March 2017.

states that two strong shocks of earthquake, each lasting five seconds, and closely following one another, were felt at 2.15 p.m." [Star, [8th August 1910](#)]

- "EARTHQUAKE SHOCKS.

(By Telegraph. – Press Association.)

NELSON, Monday.

Two strong shocks of earthquake, lasting five seconds, closely following each other, were felt here at 2.15 p.m. to-day.

CHRISTCHURCH, Monday.

There was a sharp shock of earthquake at Hanmer at 2.12 p.m. to-day. A slight shock was felt in Christchurch about the same time." [Auckland Star, [9th August 1910](#)]

- "Two strong shocks of earthquake, lasting for five seconds and closely following each other, were felt in Nelson at 2.15 p.m. yesterday. A shock was also experienced at Hanmer yesterday. The tremor was recorded at the Observatory, beginning at 1h 58.2m, New Zealand time, the movement being a maximum, gradually subsiding, and ending at 2h 03.2m." [Press, [9th August 1910](#)]

- "SHARP SHOCKS FELT.

NELSON, August 8

Two strong shocks of earthquake lasting five seconds, closely following each other, were felt at 2.15 p.m. to-day.

CHRISTCHURCH, August 8.

There was a sharp shock of earthquake at Hanmer at 2.12 p.m. to-day. A slight shock was felt in Christchurch about the same time.

The shock was distinctly felt in Hawera yesterday at about 2 o'clock." [Hawera & Normanby Star, [9th August 1910](#)]

- "There was a sharp shock of earthquake at Hanmer at 2.12 p.m. yesterday. A slight shock was felt in Christchurch about the same time." [Marlborough Express, [9th August 1910](#)]
- [Lyttelton Times copies the Press as above, see [here](#)]
- "The earthquake felt at Nelson and Westport yesterday was experienced also at Hanmer." [Nelson Evening Mail, [Page 1](#)]

"MOTUEKA.

DEATH OF AN EARLY SETTLER

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

MOTUEKA, This Day

...THE EARTHQUAKE.

A slight shock of earthquake was felt here yesterday afternoon, about 2.10 o'clock." [Nelson Evening Mail, [Page 6, 9th August 1910](#)]

- "EARTHQUAKE. – At ten minutes past 2 o'clock yesterday a very sharp earthquake shock was felt in Havelock." [Pelorus Guardian and Miners' Advocate, [9th August 1910](#)]
- "EARTHQUAKE.

(UNITED PRESS ASSOCIATION.)

Christchurch, August 8.

There was a sharp shock of earthquake at Hanmer at 2.12 p.m. to-day, and a slight shock was felt in Christchurch about the same time.

A pronounced shock of earthquake was experienced here [Nelson] yesterday at 2.15 p.m." [Colonist, [9th August 1910](#)]

- "HAVELOCK.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.

Monday

...A very sharp shock of earthquake was felt here at ten minutes past two this afternoon." [Marlborough Express, [10th August 1910](#)]

- "The earthquake which was felt in Blenheim and Picton on Monday afternoon was also experienced at Mahakipawa and Cullensville, our correspondent at the latter place describing it as a "smart shock."'" [Marlborough Express, [11th August 1910](#)]

19th August 1910 [Kaikoura]:

- "A severe shock of earthquake was experienced at Kaikoura at 9.20 last night." [Star, [20th August 1910](#)]
- "A severe shock of earthquake was experienced at Kaikoura at 9.20 on Friday night." [Lyttelton Times, [22nd August 1910](#)]

21st August 1910 [Tararua]:

- "A smart earthquake shock was felt in Woodville yesterday afternoon at five o'clock. It was preceded by a loud rumbling noise." [Woodville Examiner, [22nd August 1910](#)]
- "A sharp shock of earthquake was felt in Eketahuna at 5 p.m. on Sunday. It was evidently of a very local character, for it is not reported to have been felt elsewhere." [Wairarapa Age, [24th August 1910](#)]

4th September 1910 [Dunedin]:

- "A distinct but not violent earthquake shook Dunedin at 4.45 a.m. yesterday. The tremor was somewhat prolonged. A Portobello resident writes: Yesterday morning, at 4.50 o'clock, we experienced a sharp shock of earthquake. It was preceded by a rumbling sound like distant thunder, which increased rapidly, and then the house was shaken. The sound came along from an easterly direction, and after the creaking of the house died away towards the west. The sky was perfectly clear at the time, and the air calm and frosty." [Evening Star, [5th September 1910](#)]
- "TELEGRAPHIC.
(From Our Own Correspondent.)
Dunedin this day.

...It is said there was a sharp earthquake shock at South Dunedin and Port Chalmers on Sunday morning accompanied by a rumbling sound." [Lake Wakatip Mail, [6th September 1910](#)]

- "At about a quarter to 5 on Sunday morning a short, but sharp, shock of earthquake was experienced in the district. The duration of the earthquake was brief, and seemed in many localities much like the passing of a very heavy lorry in the street. Others who noticed it describe it as like the slamming of a door in the house. Residents on the Flat, however, report that a heavy rumbling caused them to awake, and then a successive shock and continued tremor produced a creaking in wooden houses. The rumbling sound passed away towards the south. A number of persons in Port Chalmers say that they felt a violent shock of earthquake at about 10 minutes to 5 o'clock on Sunday morning. The shock is said to be the most severe felt in Port Chalmers for many years." [Otago Daily Times, [6th September 1910](#)]
- [Otago Witness copies Otago Daily Times as above, [see here](#). [7th September 1910](#)]
- "SAWYERS BAY
September 17 - ...On the day previous [Sunday] a smart shock of earthquake was felt..." [Otago Witness, 21st September 1910]

16th September 1910 [Horowhenua]:

- "The Rev. D. C. Bates, Government Meteorologist, report that he has received a telegram from Foxton stating that a severe shock of earthquake was experienced there this morning at 4.18. The direction was from east to west." [Evening Post, [16th September 1910](#)]
- "A sharp shock of earthquake was experienced in this district [Foxton] at about 4.20 a.m. yesterday." [Manawatu Herald, [17th September 1910](#)]
- "A severe shock of earthquake was felt at Foxton at 4.18 o'clock yesterday morning." [Wairarapa Age, [17th September 1910](#)]

19th September 1910 [Deep South Taranaki Bight]:

- "A sharp shock of earthquake was experienced in Palmerston [North] about 1 o'clock this morning. A telegram from Hastings reports that a sharp shock was felt there at 5.47 this morning." [Manawatu Standard, [19th September 1910](#)]
- "A shock of earthquake was experienced at Palmerston North at 12.58 this morning." [Manawatu Times, [19th September 1910](#)]
- "An earth tremor was felt in New Plymouth during the early hours of this morning. A Hastings telegram reports that a sharp earthquake was experienced there at 5.47 this morning. Napier also reports a severe earthquake at 5.48 a.m., the direction being north to south." [Taranaki Herald, [19th September 1910\]](#)⁴

⁴ This report may not refer to this quake but the one at 5:50 am later on the same day.

- “A slight shock of earthquake was experienced here at 12.58 this morning.” [Wanganui Chronicle, [19th September 1910](#)]
- “A slight shock of earthquake was felt here [Wanganui] shortly after midnight last night, and another rather longer one at about 5.45 this morning. The latter shock was also felt at other places throughout the island.” [Wanganui Herald, [19th September 1910](#)]
- “There was a slight earthquake shock early this morning.” [Woodville Examiner, [19th September 1910](#)]⁵
- “HALCOMBE NOTES.
(From Our Own Correspondent.)
...A sharp shock of earthquake was felt here upon the stroke of one a.m. this (Monday) morning.” [Wanganui Chronicle, [20th September 1910](#)]
- “KOPUARANGA.
A very sharp shock of earthquake preceded by a lighter one, was experienced here between the hours of 12 and 1 a.m. last night, accompanied by loud booming sounds. Beyond rattling crockeryware and windows, no damage is reported.” [Wairarapa Age, [21st September 1910](#)]

19th September 1910 [Hawke's Bay]:

- “SHARP EARTHQUAKE.
(By Telegraph. – Press Association.)
HASTINGS, this day.
A sharp earthquake was felt here at 5.47 o'clock this morning.
NAPIER, this day.
A severe earthquake was experienced here at 5.48 a.m. to-day, the direction being north to south.” [Auckland Star, [19th September 1910](#)]
- COUNTRY CORRESPONDENCE.
(OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)
ORMONDVILLE.
...A slight earthquake shock was felt here at about 5.53 a.m. this morning.” [Bush Advocate, [Page 4](#)]
“EARTHQUAKE SHOCKS.
(PRESS ASSOCIATION.)
HASTINGS, This Day.
There was a sharp earthquake shock at 5.47 this morning.
NAPIER, This Day.
A severe earthquake was felt at 5.48 a.m. this morning, direction being north to south.
The shock was also felt at Dannevirke.” [Bush Advocate, [Page 5, 19th September 1910](#)]

⁵ This report also may not refer to this quake but the one at 5.50 am later on the same day.

- “A severe earthquake shook a reveille at 5.47 this morning, the direction apparently being north to south. It was also felt at Napier.” [Hastings Standard, [19th September 1910](#)]
- “A sharp earthquake was felt in Pahiatua about 5.47 o’clock this morning. The shock lasted several seconds, its direction being from north to south. Press messages from Napier and Hastings state that the shock was also felt in those towns.” [Pahiatua Herald, [19th September 1910](#)]
- “A slight shock of earthquake was felt here [Wanganui] shortly after midnight last night, and another rather longer one at about 5.45 this morning. The latter shock was also felt at other places throughout the island.” [Wanganui Herald, [19th September 1910](#)]
- “There was a slight earthquake shock early this morning.” [Woodville Examiner, [19th September 1910](#)]
- “A sharp shock of earthquake was experienced in Waipawa about a quarter to 6 o’clock yesterday morning. The shake was preceded by a loud rumbling noise that lasted some time.” [Waipawa Mail, [Page 2](#)]
“WAIPUKURAU IT[EMS]
(Own Correspondent.)
On Monday morning, a few m[inutes] before 6 o’clock, a rather heavy [shock of] earthquake of a few seconds’ durati[on was] felt here.” [Waipawa Mail, Page 2, [20th September 1910](#)]

23rd September 1910 [Hastings]:

- “EARTHQUAKE SHOCKS.
(BY TELEGRAPH – PRESS ASSOCIATION.)
HASTINGS, This Day.
Earth tremors have been frequent in the last few days, and this morning at 2.45 a sharp shock was experienced.” [Evening Post, [23rd September 1910](#)]
- “A sharp earthquake was experienced in Hastings at 2.45 this morning.
During the last few days slight earth tremors have frequently been observed.” [Hastings Standard, [23rd September 1910](#)]

26th September 1910 [Masterton]:

- “A faint shock of earthquake was experienced at 2.35 p.m. to-day.” [Wairarapa Daily Times, [26th September 1910](#)]⁶
- “MASTERTON NOTES.
(By Telegraph. – Special Correspondent.)
Masterton, September 26.
...A distinct shock of earthquake was experienced here at 2.35 this afternoon.” [Dominion, [27th September 1910](#)]
- “MASTERTON FOLK ALARMED BY SHOCK
TWO SHARP EARTHQUAKES

⁶ This report reports the quake far weaker than subsequent sources suggest.

RESIDENTS RUSH INTO THE STREETS
FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.
MASTERTON, September 26.

Two severe earthquakes, occurring at an interval of a few seconds, were experienced here this afternoon at 2.35 o'clock. The shocks were the heaviest felt in Masterton since the big shake in August, 1904, which did so much damage in Wellington and Wairarapa.

Masterton residents thought by the severity of the shocks that they were going to have a repetition of the experience of six years ago, and large numbers rushed into the streets. Fortunately the shocks were not prolonged, and no damage was done beyond the breaking of some crockery, glassware, and such like articles, which fell from shelves.

FELT AT CARTERTON.

CARTERTON, September 26.

An earthquake was felt here at 2.30 this afternoon. Though it was a sharp shock, no damage is reported." [New Zealand Times, [27th September 1910](#)]⁷

- "A pronounced shock of earthquake, preceded by a heavy thud, was experienced in Masterton at 2.35 o'clock yesterday afternoon. The movement appeared to be from north to south." [Wairarapa Age, [Page 4](#)]
"CARTERTON.

A short, sharp shock of earthquake was felt here yesterday afternoon, at about 2.30 o'clock." [Wairarapa Age, [27th September 1910](#)]

- "SOUTH WAIRARAPA NEWS
CARTERTON

...A short, sharp shock of earthquake was felt here at 2.30 yesterday afternoon." [Wairarapa Daily Times, [27th September 1910](#)]

- "TENUI.
...A sharp shock of earthquake was felt about 2.30 on Monday afternoon."
[Wairarapa Age, [Page 6](#)]

"KOPUARANGA.

...A shock of earthquake was felt here on Monday, about 2.50 p.m."
[Wairarapa Age, [28th September 1910](#)]

- "EKETAHUNA NEWS.
(*Special to DAILY TIMES.*)
...A sharp shock of earthquake was experienced here at 2.30 on Monday afternoon." [Wairarapa Daily Times, [28th September 1910](#)]

- "SOUTH WAIRARAPA NEWS
...LONGBUSH.

A rather prolonged earthquake was felt here on Monday at about 2.30 p.m."
[Wairarapa Daily Times, [29th September 1910](#)]

⁷ This report is from a Wellington newspaper. No Masterton newspapers report the effects of the earthquake, making this report potentially unreliable. From the number of small places which report it, and the geographic spread of those locations reporting it, this report gains some credibility and suggests an epicentre very close to Masterton.

8th October 1910 [New Plymouth]:

- “The slumbers of the inhabitants of New Plymouth were disturbed between 3 and 4 o’clock this morning by a sharp shock of earthquake.” [Taranaki Herald, [8th October 1910](#)]

18th October 1910 [Ruapehu]:

- “EARTHQUAKE SHOCK.
NGAURUHOE IN ERUPTION.
(By Telegraph. – Press Association.)
Auckland, October 18.

The Waiouru correspondent of the “New Zealand Herald” states that a sharp shock of earthquake was experienced there at two o’clock this morning.

Ngauruhoe is again in eruption, and all to-day large clouds of smoke and ashes were emitted.” [Dominion, [19th October 1910](#)]

- “NGAURUHOE IN ACTION.
LUMINOUS EJECTA.
SMOKE-PALL AND RUMBLING.
A VIVID SPECTACLE.
MOST STRIKING DISPLAY ON RECORD.

NAGURUHOE, the wonderful volcanic cone which overlooks the Waimarino Plains and the Main Trunk line on the one side, and the Ragi-po plateau and Tokaanu on the other, was again in eruption early on Monday evening. As to the degree of this emission, the accounts to hand differ, but after comparing them and allowing a discount, it is fairly clear that the outburst was one of the most severe – perhaps the most severe – record in recent years.

On Monday afternoon the mountain showed signs of increasing activity. At 5.15 o’clock there was a great emission of steam, the white pall rising to a height of between 400ft and 500ft. Black smoke and white steam emissions are not out of the ordinary for Ngauruhoe when in activity, but a fiery exhibition of the kind described in the following telegram from Mr S. Crowther would be very much out of the ordinary. The telegram was written on Monday night, but did not reach Waiouru telegraph office in for despatch that evening: -

“Ngauruhoe is in violent eruption. The flames are rising about 50ft. The smoke and steam are rising over 1500ft. Two fireballs burst about 500f above the crater. There is great excitement in Waiouru township.”

Mr. Crowther, who is connected with the coaching business, knows the mountain and the district well. The “flames,” possibly, were flashes of light reflect and magnified in the clouds of steam and vapour, much as a street lamp’s rays give rise to a widely-diffused glare on a foggy night; and the “fire-balls” may have been ejected incandescent rock. At any rate – though a telegram from Taihape, much further away than Waiouru, says “no flame” – Mr. Crowther’s statement is corroborated to the extent that vivid light-flashes were seen. The stationmaster at Waimarino, who must have been in a

splendid position to observe, told the guard (Mr. F. Auger) of the Wellington express (which arrived here yesterday morning) that Ngauruhoe, which had of late been rather quiescent, gave on Monday evening, at about 7.30, the most remarkable exhibition he had seen, emitting flashes of light, the display being accompanied by an awesome rumbling. The stationmaster was of the opinion that a part of the crater lip had fallen in.

Mr. Auger further states that when he joined the express on Monday night at Ohakune, in the Waimarino forest, the driver (Mr. Whisker), who does not come beyond Taumarunui, told him a similar terms of a fiery display on Ngauruhoe, as seen from the train, when it was in the vicinity of Waiouru, a little earlier. From Ohakune the train traverses the forest for a great distance, and when it attained the open Waimarino Plains, thus gaining a better view of the active cone, the principal pyrotechnics were over. Mr. Auger states that when they reached Waimarino station the hour was about 10.21, and the top of Ngauruhoe could not be seen, owing to a thick black veil, which they took to be smoke. It was then that the Waimarino stationmaster told him of the outburst.

Later news indicates reduced activity. Mr. Crowther further wired last night: "A sharp shock of earthquake was felt here about two o'clock this morning. Ngauruhoe is still very active, though not so violent."

Our Ohakune correspondent's account of the occurrence, telegraphed yesterday, is as follows: - "A large volume of smoke, apparently from Ngauruhoe, was seen here at 7.30 o'clock on Monday night. The appearance presented was that of a mushroom, rising to probably 3000ft, the smoke drifting westward. The passengers by the midday train yesterday, when at Waimarino, saw Ngauruhoe smoking."

Our correspondent telegraphed yesterday from Taihape: - "Ngauruhoe was active last night, and all to-day was emitting large clouds of smoke, also ashes. There is a ring of smoke round the mountain; no flame." [New Zealand Herald, [19th October 1910](#)]

20th October 1910 [Napier]:

- "NAPIER NEWS.
(Own Correspondent.)
NAPIER, Yesterday.
...A shock of earthquake was experienced here at about 4.30 this afternoon."
[Waipawa Mail, [22nd October 1910](#)]⁸

21st October 1910 [New Plymouth]:

- "An earthquake was experienced at New Plymouth at 1.10 this morning."
[Wanganui Chronicle, [21st October 1910](#)]⁸

⁸ Only report from a Wanganui newspaper, which is peculiar. Surely the Taranaki Herald or Daily News mentions it?

21st October 1910 [Wanganui]:

- “A fairly sharp shock of earthquake, lasting about half a minute, was felt at noon to-day.” [Wanganui Herald, [21st October 1910](#)]
- “A sharp shock of earthquake was experienced in this district [Foxton] at about noon yesterday.” [Manawatu Herald, [22nd October 1910](#)]
- “A sharp shock of earthquake was felt here a few minutes before noon yesterday.” [Wanganui Chronicle, [22nd October 1910](#)]

7th November 1910 [Kaikoura]:

- “EARTHQUAKE SHOCK.
(By Telegraph. – Press Association.)
CHRISTCHURCH, this day.
A sharp shock of earthquake was felt at Kaikoura at 6.23 a.m. The direction of the wave was north-east to south-west.” [Auckland Star, [7th November 1910](#)]
- “The sharpest earthquake at Kaikoura for years was experienced at 6.23 yesterday morning. The shock was of some seconds duration. No serious damage was done, though the contents of the stores and hotels suffered slightly. One chimney in the township was brought down.” [Press, [8th November 1910](#)]
- [Both the Star, of the [7th November 1910](#), and the Lyttelton Press, of the [8th November 1910](#), quote the above telegram found in the Auckland Star.]
- “Residents of Kaikoura were startled (states the [Kaikoura] Sun) on Monday morning at 6.23 by a particularly sharp earthquake shock. The earthquake was the heaviest felt in the district since November 16, 1901 – the occasion when the Cheviot settlement suffered so severely. No damage is reported beyond a few minor breakages in glassware and bottled stuffs in the various shops, although a chimney in the back of a fruitshop had a few bricks dislodged. Beyond this, fright was the extent of the injury.” [Marlborough Express, [9th November 1910](#)]

9th November 1910 [Kaikoura]:

- “EARTHQUAKES IN CANTERBURY.
CHIMNEYS BROKEN.
(By Telegraph. – Press Association.)
CHRISTCHURCH, this day.
There was a heavy shock of earthquake at Kaikoura at 7.54 o'clock last night, followed by minor shakes. Several chimneys fell, and much glass and crockery was broken. The residents were greatly scared. Shocks less violent occurred at 2.10 and 5.45 this morning.” [Auckland Star, [10th November 1910](#)]
- “EARTH TREMORS.
SUPPOSED TO BE SOUTH-EAST OF BLUFF
(PER PRESS ASSOCIATION – COPYRIGHT)
SYDNEY, Nov. 9.

The Riverview College seismograph, starting at four o'clock to-day, recorded a series of extraordinary earth tremors, lasting for several hours.

It is supposed that the centre of the disturbance is to the south-east of Bluff, New Zealand. The oscillations exceeded in amplitude those of anything that has yet been experienced.

SHARP SHOCK AT KAIKOURA

KAIKOURA, This Day.

A sharp shock of earthquake occurred on Monday morning and another shock at 7.55 last evening. Old residents say it was the worst ever experienced. It was more severe though shorter than that of November 16th, 1901, which caused damage to Cheviot.

It lasted ten seconds and several chimneys were destroyed. Considerable damage was done to the upstairs portion of Davidson's store. The glassware was thrown in all directions. The inhabitants rushed from their houses in considerable excitement. No person was injured." [Greymouth Evening Star, [10th November 1910](#)]⁹

- "A very distinct shock of earthquake was felt last evening [in Greymouth] at about five minutes before eight. The impulse seemed to come from the Gorge. The duration was momentary." [Grey River Argus, [10th November 1910](#)]
- "SEVERE EARTHQUAKE.

A slight shock of earthquake was felt in Blenheim about eight minutes to eight o'clock last night." [Marlborough Express, [Page 5](#)]

"KAIKOURA BADLY SHAKEN.

CHIMNEYS THROWN TO THE GROUND.

(PRESS ASSOCIATION.)

CHRISTCHURCH, Nov. 10.

There was a heavy shock of earthquake at Kaikoura at 7.45 last night, followed by minor shakes. Several chimneys fell, and much glass and crockery were broken.

The residents were greatly scared.

Shocks less violent occurred at 2.10 and 5.45 this morning." [Marlborough Express, [Page 5](#)]

"HEAVIEST SHOCK SINCE "CHEVIOT."

PEOPLE GREATLY ALARMED.

(Special to EXPRESS.)

KAIKOURA, Nov. 10.

At 7.52 last night an extremely severe earthquake occurred, lasting 20 seconds. The direction was N.N.E. to S.S.W. The shock was followed by a minor one a few seconds later.

⁹ The earthquake reported via a telegram from Sydney, "Supposed to be South-East of Bluff", was in fact a M7.2 in Vanuatu. Correspondence between Edward Pigot of Saint Ignatius' College, Riverview, and George Hogben can be found in the Seismological Observatory felt reports records.

The damage consists of a number of chimneys partially fallen and otherwise damaged, while stores had a large number of articles shaken off the shelves and smashed. In private houses there were many similar incidents.

Residents on the flat felt the earthquake more than in the township.

There was considerable alarm felt by many.

The shake was decidedly the severest since the famous Cheviot earthquake of 1901.

Another shock was felt at 2.10 this morning, which awakened many people, and another slight one occurred at 5.50." [Marlborough Express, [Page 5, 10th November 1910](#)]

- "A slight shock of earthquake was felt at Rangiora at 7.40 p.m. yesterday. A sharp shock of earthquake was felt in Lyttelton at 7.54 p.m. The direction was from north to south." [Lyttelton Times, [10th November 1910](#)]

- "EARTHQUAKES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

KAIKOURA, November 10.

An extremely heavy shock of earthquake occurred at 7.54 o'clock last night. It was the severest since 1901, and was followed by a minor shake. The direction was from north-east to south-west. Several chimneys fell and in the stores much glass and crockery was broken. The shock lasted fully twenty seconds, and thoroughly scared the residents of the town and suburbs.

Another shock was felt at 2.10 a.m. and another at 5.45 a.m. to-day.

A shock of earthquake, lasting several seconds, stopped the Cheviot Post Office clock at 7.52 last night." [Star, [10th November 1910](#)]

- "EARTHQUAKE. – A very sharp shock of earthquake was felt in Akaroa about five minutes to eight o'clock on Wednesday evening. The shock did not last long." [Akaroa Mail and Banks Peninsula Advertiser, [11th November 1910](#)]

- "A light earthquake with an undulating motion was felt at Waikari at 7.53 p.m. on Wednesday evening." [Press, [11th November 1910](#)]

- "THE EARTHQUAKE,

"SEVEREST FOR HALF A CENTURY."

WOMEN FAINT

(PRESS ASSOCIATION.)

KAIKOURA, Nov. 10.

Although the earthquake was the severest for half a century, the district escaped very luckily. The tops were shaken off a number of chimneys in the town and in the suburbs – several being half down.

Messrs Davidson Bros.' store, on the Esplanade, suffered the worst. The contents were thrown about in the upstairs department, crockery and bottled stuffs being broken, but the actual loss is small. The contents of private houses also suffered, crockery, ornaments, etc., being thrown down extensively. The interiors of many dwellings were thrown into a state of disorder.

Several women fainted and a feeling of unrest prevails owing to slight shocks continuing. The last experienced occurred at 26 minutes past noon to-day. Cheviot reports that no damage arose there out of the shock, which was sharp." [Marlborough Express, [11th November 1910](#)]

- "EARTHQUAKES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

KAIKOURA, November 10.

An extremely heavy shock of earthquake occurred at 7.54 o'clock last night. It was the severest since 1901, and was followed by a minor shake. The direction was from north-east to south-west. Several chimneys fell and in the stores much glass and crockery was broken. The shock lasted fully twenty seconds, and thoroughly scared the residents of the town and suburbs.

Another shock was felt at 2.10 a.m. and another at 5.45 a.m. to-day.

A shock of earthquake, lasting several seconds, stopped the Cheviot Post Office clock at 7.52 on Wednesday night.

A sharp shock of earthquake was felt at Amberley at 7.52 p.m. on Wednesday." [Lyttelton Times, [11th November 1910](#)]

- "Evidently the extraordinary seismic disturbance recorded on the evening of Wednesday at Riverview College, Sydney, and the centre of which is supposed to have been located the south east of the Bluff, manifested itself in the South Island. It will be seen by our telegraphic news that just before 8 o'clock the same evening there were two severe shocks of earthquake at Kaikoura, one lasting for ten seconds, and doing considerable damage. About the same hour there was a very distinct shock experienced at Greymouth."

[West Coast Times, [Page 2](#)]

"EARTH TREMORS.

SHARP SHOCK AT KAIKOURA

(PER PRESS ASSOCIATION. – COPYRIGHT.)

KAIKOURA, Nov. 10.

KAIKOURA, This Day.

A sharp shock of earthquake occurred on Monday morning and another shock at 7.55 last evening. Old residents say it was the worst ever experienced. It was more severe though shorter than that of November 16th, 1901, which caused damage to Cheviot.

It lasted ten seconds and several chimneys were destroyed. Considerable damage was done to the upstairs portion of Davidson's store. The glassware was thrown in all directions. The inhabitants rushed from their houses in considerable excitement. No person was injured." [West Coast Times, [Page 4](#), [11th November 1910](#)]

- "RANGIORA

A sharp shock of earthquake was felt at Rangiora at a few minutes to eight o'clock on Wednesday evening." [Press, [Page 5](#)]

"AKAROA

... A sharp shock of earthquake was felt at Akaroa on Wednesday at nine minutes to eight in the evening." [Press, [Page 5](#)]

"Mr M. J. Dixon writes to say that he felt an earthquake at 7.56 p.m. on Wednesday evening. The direction was apparently from south-east to north-west, and the duration of the shock was five seconds." [Press, [Page 8](#), [12th November 1910](#)]¹⁰

- "LE BON'S BAY.
(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)
...EARTHQUAKE.
On Wednesday evening about 7.40 p.m. a rather severe shock of earthquake was experienced here." [Akaroa Mail and Banks Peninsula Advertiser, [15th November 1910](#)]

10th November 1910 [Kaikoura, three aftershocks]:

- "HEAVIEST SHOCK SINCE "CHEVIOT."
PEOPLE GREATLY ALARMED.
(Special to EXPRESS.)

KAIKOURA, Nov. 10.

At 7.52 last night an extremely severe earthquake occurred, lasting 20 seconds. The direction was N.N.E. to S.S.W. The shock was followed by a minor one a few seconds later.

The damage consists of a number of chimneys partially fallen and otherwise damaged, while stores had a large number of articles shaken off the shelves and smashed. In private houses there were many similar incidents.

Residents on the flat felt the earthquake more than in the township.

There was considerable alarm felt by many.

The shake was decidedly the severest since the famous Cheviot earthquake of 1901.

Another shock was felt at 2.10 this morning, which awakened many people, and another slight one occurred at 5.50." [Marlborough Express, [Page 5, 10th November 1910](#)]

- "THE EARTHQUAKE,
"SEVEREST FOR HALF A CENTURY."
WOMEN FAINT
(PRESS ASSOCIATION.)

KAIKOURA, Nov. 10.

Although the earthquake was the severest for half a century, the district escaped very luckily. The tops were shaken off a number of chimneys in the town and in the suburbs – several being half down.

¹⁰ Marmaduke John Dixon ([1862-1918](#)) was [buried at Ereyton Cemetery](#) on the 2nd August 1918. He appears to have been a resident of West Ereyton, a small settlement just south of Cust, Canterbury. Assuming he was at home at the time, this is where his felt report comes from. This is his only mention in a newspaper in October or November 1910, so it is far from certain.

Messrs Davidson Bros.' store, on the Esplanade, suffered the worst. The contents were thrown about in the upstairs department, crockery and bottled stuffs being broken, but the actual loss is small. The contents of private houses also suffered, crockery, ornaments, etc., being thrown down extensively. The interiors of many dwellings were thrown into a state of disorder.

Several women fainted and a feeling of unrest prevails owing to slight shocks continuing. The last experienced occurred at 26 minutes past noon to-day. Cheviot reports that no damage arose there out of the shock, which was sharp." [Marlborough Express, [11th November 1910](#)]

14th November 1910 [Kaikoura, five or six aftershocks]:

- "Our Kaikoura correspondent telegraphs that a sharp shock of earthquake occurred at 2 o'clock yesterday, and four or five more were experienced during the afternoon." [Marlborough Express, [15th November 1910](#)]
- [Star of 15th November 1910 copies the Marlborough Express article above, see [here](#), as does the Lyttelton Times of the 16th November 1910, see [here](#)]

17th November 1910 [Central Hawke's Bay]:

- "A VIOLENT EARTHQUAKE.
(By Telegraph. – Own Correspondent.)
WAIPAWA, this day.
A violent earthquake was experienced here at a quarter to eight last night, but no damage is reported." [Auckland Star, [18th November 1910](#)]
- "A short, sharp shock of earthquake was felt here [Feilding] at 7.45 o'clock last night." [Feilding Star, [18th November 1910](#)]
- "A violent earthquake shock was experienced in Waipawa at a quarter to 8 o'clock, on Thursday night." [Waipawa Mail, [Page 2](#)]
"NAPIER NEWS.
(Own Correspondent.)
NAPIER, Yesterday.
...The violent shock of earthquake which is reported to have been experienced at Waipawa was felt but slightly here." [Waipawa Mail, [Page 2](#)]
"WAIPUKURAU ITEMS.
(Own Correspondent.)
A sharp shock of earthquake was fe[lt] here on Thursday evening about 7.4[?] o'clock." [Waipawa Mail, Page 2, [19th November 1910](#)]
- "COUNTRY CORRESPONDENCE.
(OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)
WEBER
...A sharp shock of earthquake was felt here about 8 o'clock on Thursday night." [Bush Advocate, [21st November 1910](#)]

19th November 1910 [Kaikoura aftershock]:

- “EARTHQUAKES. – The Kaikoura *Sun* of Monday last reports: - “On almost every day during the past fortnight Kaikoura has experienced an earthquake shock. Some have been mere tremors while others have been more violent. At 10.36 on Saturday morning there was a sharp shake preceded by a boom report from the east, and since then, right up till just before 9 a.m. to-day, less severe shocks have been experienced. The disturbances have continued for so long that a number of residents are beginning to lose their nerve.”” [Pelorus Guardian and Miners’ Advocate, [25th November 1910](#)]

20th & 21st November 1910 [Kaikoura, eight aftershocks]:

- “Three earthquake shocks were experienced at Kaikoura on Sunday morning. The first, a severe one, at eleven o’clock, was followed by two minor tremors within a few minutes. Again, at seven o’clock in the evening, there was a small shock, and about five minutes afterwards a fairly heavy one, which created consternation among those attending the churches. During Sunday night there were two minor earthquakes, and yesterday morning another at 8.45. The frequency of earthquakes, now totalling thirty-six during the past fortnight, is causing a great deal of alarm. The direction appears to be from the eastward, which may point to some great submarine disturbance. No damage, other than the cracking of a few chimneys and the breakage of a little crockery, is reported.” [Press, [22nd November 1910](#)]¹¹
- [Akaroa Mail and Banks Peninsula Advertiser copies the above text, see [here](#)]

22nd November 1910 [Cook Strait]:

- “SOUTHERN NEWS.
(By Telegraph. – Press Association.)
...MISCELLANEOUS.
...BLENHEIM, this day.

A sharp shock of earthquake was felt about 2.20 a.m. to-day.” [Auckland Star, [Page 2](#)]

“EARTHQUAKE SHOCK.

(By Telegraph. – Press Association.)

WELLINGTON, this day.

A sharp shock of earthquake was felt here at 2.15 a.m.” [Auckland Star, [Page 4, 22nd November 1910](#)]

- “A short but sharp shock of earthquake was experienced in the city [Wellington] at 2.15 a.m. this morning.” [Dominion, [22nd November 1910](#)]
- “At 2.15 a.m. to-day a sharp earthquake shock was felt in Wellington.” [Evening Post, [22nd November 1910](#)]

¹¹ Is this last sentence referring to new minor damage caused during the earthquakes of the 20th & 21st November, or a summary of the total damage from all the earthquakes of the past fortnight? The total number of shocks, 36, is greater than the number individually mentioned and/or assigned times, which is 25-26.

- “A Press Association telegram from Wellington states that a sharp shock of earthquake was felt there at 2.15 a.m. to-day. Some Blenheim residents also felt a sharp shake about the same time.” [Marlborough Express, [Page 4](#)]
“Reported sharp shock of earthquake at 2.20 this morning.” [Marlborough Express, [Page 5, 22nd November 1910](#)]
- “PROVINCIAL CENTRES.
(From Our Special Correspondents.)
...OTAKI.
...A slight shock of earthquake was experienced here early on Tuesday morning.” [Dominion, [23rd November 1910](#)]
- “A slight shock of earthquake was felt in Masterton at 2.16 on Tuesday morning. It was more severe in Wellington.” [Wairarapa Age, [23rd November 1910](#)]
- “EARTHQUAKES. - ...A nerve disturbing shock was felt in Havelock at 2.12 a.m. on Tuesday.” [Pelorus Guardian and Miners’ Advocate, [25th November 1910](#)]

25th November 1910 [Central Hawke’s Bay]:

- “SHARP EARTHQUAKE.
(BY TELEGRAPH – PRESS ASSOCIATION.)
WAIPAWA, This Day.
There was a short, sharp earthquake at 7.30 a.m.” [Evening Post, [25th November 1910](#)]
- “A slight earthquake shock was felt [in Woodville] at 7.30 this morning.” [Woodville Examiner, [25th November 1910](#)]
- “A short, sharp earthquake shock was felt in Waipawa at 7.30 a.m. yesterday.” [Waipawa Mail, [26th November 1910](#)]

29th November 1910 [Manawatu-Wanganui]:

- “A mild shock of earthquake was experienced [in Dannevirke] about 10 minutes to 10 this morning.” [Bush Advocate, [29th November 1910](#)]
- “A slight shock of earthquake was felt here [in Feilding] at 9.50 this morning.” [Feilding Star, [29th November 1910](#)]
- “A sharp shock of earthquake was felt in Palmerston [North] about 9.45 this morning.” [Manawatu Standard, [29th November 1910](#)]
- “A sharp shock of earthquake was experienced [in Foxton] this morning shortly before 10 o’clock.” [Manawatu Herald, [29th November 1910](#)]
- “A slight shock of earthquake was felt in Wellington at 9.20 a.m. yesterday.” [Dominion, [30th November 1910](#)]
- “Yesterday morning, at about 9.45 o’clock a sharp earthquake was felt in the city [Wellington]. No damage appears to have resulted.” [New Zealand Times, [30th November 1910](#)]
- “MANGAHAO NOTES

(From Our Own Correspondent)

November 29

...Quite a sharp shock of earthquake was felt here on Tuesday morning a little before 10 o'clock. The shake was accompanied by a roaring sound which seemed to indicate an explosion somewhere." [Pahiatua Herald, [1st December 1910](#)]

- MANGAWEKA NOTES.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

...A shock of earthquake occurred here at about 9.30 Tuesday morning." [Wanganui Chronicle, [1st December 1910](#)]

10th December 1910 [Tararua]:

- "At eleven to one on Saturday afternoon a slight earthquake shock was experienced in Woodville." [Woodville Examiner, [12th December 1910](#)]

18th December 1910 [New Plymouth]:

- "A short but sharp shock of earthquake was felt [in New Plymouth?] about ten minutes past eight yesterday morning." [Taranaki Herald, [19th December 1910](#)]
- "A sharp shock of earthquake was felt here [New Plymouth] at 8.10 a.m. on Sunday." [Taranaki Daily News, [20th December 1910](#)]

19th December 1910 [Hurunui]:

- "A sharp shock of earthquake was felt at Hanmer at half-past three this morning." [Star, 19th December 1910]
- "A sharp shock of earthquake was felt at Hanmer at half-past three yesterday morning." [Lyttelton Times, [20th December 1910](#)]
- [Ashburton Guardian copies the above Lyttelton Time article, see [here](#)]

20th December 1910 [Wanganui]:

- "A short shock of earthquake was experienced in Wanganui at about 9.5 last evening." [Wanganui Chronicle, [21st December 1910](#)]
- "There was a slight earthquake [in Wanganui] shock shortly after 9 o'clock last evening." [Wanganui Herald, [21st December 1910](#)]

21st December 1910 [Selwyn]:

- "The Postmaster at Bealey reports that a sharp shock of earthquake was experienced there at 7.25 p.m. last evening, the direction being S.E. to N.W. No damage was done." [Press, 23rd December 1910]
- The postmaster at Bealey reports that a sharp shock of earthquake was experienced there at 7.25 p.m. on Wednesday. The direction was south-east to north-west. No damage was done." [Lyttelton Times, [23rd December 1910](#)]

21st December 1910 [Manawatu-Wanganui]:

- “A very slight shock of earthquake was felt in Palmerston [North] at about a quarter to nine o’clock last night.” [Manawatu Standard, [22nd December 1910](#)]
- “A slight shock of earthquake was felt here [Palmerston North] about 9 o’clock last evening.” [Manawatu Times, [22nd December 1910](#)]
- “A sharp earthquake shock was felt in Waipawa at about five minutes past 9 o’clock, last night.
...Our Waipukurau correspondent writes: - An earthquake of a short but sharp nature was felt here a few minutes past 9 o’clock last night.” [Waipawa Mail, [22nd December 1910](#)]
- “At eight minutes past nine o’clock on Wednesday evening Woodville experienced a sharp earthquake shock. It was preceded by a rumbling noise.” [Woodville Examiner, [23rd December 1910](#)]
- “A sharp shock of earthquake, lasting for some seconds, was felt at Taihape and Mangaweka at about nine o’clock on Wednesday night.” [New Zealand Herald, [27th December 1910](#)]

22nd December 1910 [Palmerston North, *suspect*]:

- “A sharp shock of earthquake was felt about 9.30 p.m., direction from west to east.” [Manawatu Standard, [23rd December 1910](#)]¹²

31st December 1910 [Hurunui]:

- “A sharp shock of earthquake was felt at Hanmer this morning about half-past two, in the direction, apparently, of east and west.” [Star, [31st December 1910](#)]
- “A sharp shock of earthquake was felt at Hanmer on Saturday morning about half-past two, in the direction, apparently, of east to west.” [Lyttelton Times, [2nd January 1911](#)]

Miscellaneous:

- “VARIOUS CABLES.

By Telegraph. – Press Association. – Copyright

(Received November 2, 9.10 a.m.)

...SHARP EARTHQUAKE.

LONDON, 2nd November.

A sharp shock of earthquake was felt on the Scilly Isles, Cornwall. The inhabitants were alarmed, but no damage was done.” [Evening Post, [3rd November 1910](#)]¹³

¹² This may be a different earthquake, but the time of the earthquake, location and lack of information on which day it occurred makes this report challenging to interpret. This is why it is labelled as *suspect*, the only such earthquake in the database for 1910.

¹³ This earthquake is included purely because it appears to be an unknown UK earthquake. The shock reportedly struck the previous Sunday morning at about 08:00 UTC (30th October 1910); testimony from The Cornishman newspaper indicates MM IV intensity in the Scilly Isles, and it was reportedly also felt at Sancreed,

- “The seismic disturbances reported from Melbourne during the past week were recorded by the instruments at the Christchurch Magnetic Observatory. The records were developed yesterday afternoon, and Mr H. F. Skey told a “Lyttelton Times” reporter that the seismograph had registered an earthquake on November 9. It began at 6hr 8min Greenwich time, or approximately 5.40 p.m. New Zealand time, and the large waves commenced five minutes later. The maximum motion occurred from twenty-four to twenty-seven minutes past six, and the instrument measured a semi-altitude of 50 millimetres. That represented a considerable earthquake, but as the earth waves were long and slow, the disturbance was not generally noticed. A secondary maximum was reached at from thirty-one to thirty-four minutes past the hour. Another very much smaller shock, evidently independent of the first, occurred at 8hr 24min, and its motion persisted for about an hour. The record showed that the distance originated 1200 to 1500 miles from Christchurch. A further shock was recorded on November 10, at 12.40 Greenwich time, but it was a very small one, with a semi-altitude of only about two millimetres.” [Lyttelton Times, [15th November 1910](#)]¹⁴
- “QUAKE AT THE ISLANDS.
(Received 9.15 a.m.)
SYDNEY, this day.
The French steamer from the New Hebrides and New Caledonia reports a severe earthquake recently at Port Sandwich and Canal du Segord. Several buildings were destroyed and small craft oscillated until they almost overturned.” [Auckland Star, [28th November 1910](#)]¹⁵
- “Regarding the frequency of earthquake shocks experienced in Kaikoura lately, one of the oldest Maori inhabitants states that during a dry period, some sixty odd years ago, a similar state of affairs existed, earthquakes continuing for fully five or six weeks until a heavy downpour of rain occurred, when the shocks ceased. The Maori were so afraid at the time that they took to the hills, fearing a tidal wave.” [Marlborough Express, [30th November 1910](#)]¹⁶

west of Penzance ([see here](#)). There is a suggestion there was a slight earthquake at about 4 o'clock the same morning (Brixham Western Guardian, 3rd November 1910, Page 8 – unable to access whole article online).

¹⁴ This article refers to the recordings of the 9 November 1910 M7.3-7.9 Vanuatu Earthquake. This quake appears to have occurred perhaps 140 minutes prior to the Kaikoura earthquake of the same day, hence the Christchurch Magnetic Observatory's seismograph does not seem to have recorded this far more local earthquake. Neither of the two other events match with the time of any Kaikoura quakes – the second shock recorded occurred 30 minutes after the Kaikoura quake, whereas the third shock occurred during a period where small aftershocks were felt in Kaikoura, but about 110 minutes prior to the only shock to which a time is known from Seismological Observatory felt reports.

¹⁵ This is the first report to reach New Zealand of the earthquakes which afflicted Vanuatu on the 9th and 10th November 1910. The second, given on the ISC Bulletin as a M7.1-7.2, reportedly caused a tsunami, the effects of which are here described.

¹⁶ Is this Maori recollection referring to the 1848 Marlborough Earthquake and aftershocks, or the 1855 Wairarapa Earthquake and aftershocks? Both were about 60 years prior to the article, and occurred during the summer of their respective years. This is also a superb example of local Maori knowledge and lengthy memory,

- “An earthquake shock of some violence was felt in New Hebrides on 9th November, and a considerable amount of damage to property resulted. The greatest force of the shock was felt in the Canal du Segond, at about 5 o'clock in the afternoon. Nearly every house was damaged, and several had to be abandoned.” [Auckland Star, [6th December 1910](#)]¹⁷

- “QUAKE AT NEW HEBRIDES.

FORMATION OF ISLANDS ALTERED.

MOUNTAIN PEAKS DISAPPEAR.

SYDNEY, December 22.

The steamer Makambo brings news of a severe earthquake at the island of Espiritu Santo (New Hebrides) on November 13. A store and other buildings were wrecked, and the native were greatly alarmed. No lives were lost.

(Received 10.30 a.m.)

SYDNEY, this day.

The earthquake at Santo extended as far south as Mallicolo. Many destructive land slides occurred and some mountain peaks disappeared, the whole formation being altered. On the west coast of Santo a tidal wave followed, and the beach was raised several feet.

Considerable damage was caused to shipping.

One report states that the shock lasted 30 seconds, during which time houses were razed and a large area of crops destroyed. Cliffs were shaken into the sea and tons of fish destroyed. The coastline in several places was raised several feet.” [Auckland Star, [23rd December 1910](#)]¹⁸

- “THE SANTO EARTHQUAKES.

ONE VILLAGE LEVELED.

SHAKES LAST A FORTNIGHT.

(Received 10.5 a.m.)

SYDNEY, this day.

A further report of the Santo earthquake states that there were over 100 landslips on the island. One village was levelled to the ground.

Intermittent earthquakes were in progress for two weeks during November.”

[Auckland Star, [24th December 1910](#)]¹⁹

preserved via oral history, of the secondary hazards produced by earthquakes – that the threat of tsunami was taken seriously.

¹⁷ Some further information about the effects caused by the Vanuatu earthquake of the 9th November 1910.

¹⁸ There is no known earthquake in Vanuatu on the 13th November. The three earthquakes found in the ISC Bulletin are those of the [9th November](#) (M7.3-7.9), [10th November](#) (M7.1-7.2) and [26th November](#) (M7.2-7.4). The entries in the NCEI/WDS Global Significant Earthquake Database indicate the first two earthquakes, [9th November](#) (Ms 7.9) and the [10th November](#) (Ms 7.2) affected Vanuatu, the latter triggering the tsunami which devastated Espiritu Santo. An article from an Adelaide newspaper is referenced for the latter quake, slightly more detailed than this Auckland Star telegram article; it also gives the date as the 13th November, but it is believed this incorrectly given. The earthquake of the [26th November](#) (Ms 8.0) apparently did not occur in Vanuatu, but instead the Solomon Islands.

¹⁹ Indicates a significant aftershock sequence following this apparent doublet earthquake in Vanuatu. Unsurprising if both earthquakes occurred on or in the general vicinity to the plate interface.

Document compiled by **Jamie Gurney**, June 2022, from National Library of New Zealand
archive newspapers and GNS Science Archives documents