

Vol. 1 No. 3 (Oct. 16, 1930)

Date : 7/17/26, 3:08 AM

<https://nla.gov.au:443/tarkine/nla.obj-333436472>

Copyright varies by issue and article

Reason for copyright status: Serials have an open range of dates.

Copyright status was determined using the following information:

Material type: Literary, dramatic or musical work

Copyright status may not be correct if data in the record is incomplete or inaccurate. For more information regarding Copyright in Library Collections visit <http://copyright.org.au> and <https://www.library.gov.au/services/copyright-library-collections>

The National Library of Australia supports creativity, innovation and knowledge-exchange but does not endorse any inappropriate or derogatory use. Please respect indigenous cultural and ethical concerns.

THE Pacific Islands Monthly

THE ONLY JOURNAL CIRCULATING THROUGHOUT THE ISLAND TERRITORIES AND GROUPS OF THE CENTRAL AND SOUTH PACIFIC.

Vol. 1.—No. 3.

SYDNEY: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1930

[Single Copy, 6d.
Per Annum, posted, 8/-]

IN LIQUIDATION

Bechades Go Under

NEW CALEDONIAN SMASH

THE large trading establishments known as Les Etablissements de Bechade (New Caledonia) and Societe de Bechade Nouvelles Hebrides have been definitely forced into liquidation. As a result, very many planters and traders in New Caledonia and the New Hebrides are in difficulties, and trading conditions generally in these two territories are seriously disturbed.

It was explained in our last issue that the trouble has been caused by drastic uncompromising action by the Bank of Indo-China. The bank for years gave liberal credit to the Bechade concerns, and Bechades, in their turn, allowed easy financial terms to individual planters and traders everywhere. Then came the depression and the bank became alarmed and made a hurried valuation of assets.

There is, of course, a vast difference between the values of plantations in times when produce is being readily disposed of and in times like the present, when everything is extraordinarily depressed. On that basis, Bechades' position looked bad, and the bank forthwith demanded that it meet its liabilities. Bechades pointed out that that was impossible, but that the debt due to it was greatly in excess of its liabilities and, if given reasonable latitude, and allowed to carry on over the period of depression, it would meet its obligations.

At this point the other creditors of Bechades became interested—particularly about 40 Australian merchants, to whom large sums were due. The whole position was most carefully scrutinised on their behalf by Mr. F. P. Parkes, of Messrs. W. S. Tait & Co. Ltd., and they were satisfied that if Bechades were allowed to carry on they would survive the economic storm and meet all their debts. Strong representations were made along these



PI-FATER, the God of Good Gardens. Only two of these images are known to be in existence—the one shown above, which is on Bourville Island, in Torres Strait; and the Bechade Museum, while two have disappeared.

lines to the bank. The bank, however, was adamant, and in spite of all the efforts that were made to save the firm, which had been trading honourably and successfully for 16 years, it was compelled to file its schedule.

In addition to its relations with innumerable planters and traders, the Bechade firm owned about 20,000 acres on the north-west coast of New Caledonia, where it produced cattle, coffee, etc. It had a large staff and its collapse will mean the ruin, not only of hundreds of people, but of the members of the Bechade family, whose pri-

'DIGOEL' DISBANDS

End of Communists' Camp

FORMED about five years ago as a concentration camp for Dutch East Indies natives possessing communist tendencies, the settlement at Diogel, Southern Dutch New Guinea, is being broken up, as it is extremely unhealthy. Hundreds of the prisoners, it is reported, are being pardoned and paroled, and sent back to Java, but others are to be interned elsewhere. When the camp was first established the communists were deported to New Guinea with their wives and families. By the end of 1922 there were 3,000



A Diogel war canoe in one of the narrow streams running into the Middle Fly River. These red-bordered avenues twist and turn for innumerable miles among the swamps and lagoons, on the banks of which are situated the villages.

inhabitants. Being political prisoners, a certain monetary allowance was made to them each year. This was spent with an enterprising Chinese trader, who attached himself to the settlement.

The camp was situated only four days' walk from the Fly River, close to the boundary of Dutch and British territory. The location was considered ideal because of its isolation, but the low-lying, mosquito-infested swamps surrounding it caused much sickness.

Only one party was successful in escaping from the camp, which was guarded by Dutch soldiers. The prisoners reached the Suki country in Papua, and, no doubt, had a trying experience there. With the Suki tribe headhunting is a pastime and "the survival of the fittest" still reigns. Two years ago a few of them came 200 miles down the Fly River in their war canoes and wiped out the village of Weridai. Forty bodies were eaten in the feast that followed. It took the Sukis about four months to paddle back to their homes. The Government then paid them a visit and brought some of their number down to Durr Island as prisoners. This, however, hardly dampened the ardour of the multitude or spoiled their taste for "long life."

Nevertheless, the communists reached the coast unscathed. Eloquence evidently won the day, the mouth proving mightier than the spear. But, meantime, the Australian magistrat at Durr received word of the Javanese escapees and he arrested them. They were taken over to Thursday Island and from there returned to the Dutch authorities.

Fortunes are wholly involved in the smash.

According to current report the Bank of Indo-China believes that it will recover its full debt from the liquidation. But the opinion of other observers is that the bank will sustain a heavy loss.

Perhaps the wish is father to the thought. If the bank does suffer a loss, it apparently will gather no sympathy in New Caledonia.

Planters Helped

Relief for New Guinea Purchasers

B.-P. AND CARPENTERS CO-OPERATE

SUBSTANTIAL concessions have been made by the Commonwealth Government to the numerous planters in New Guinea, who are paying off plantations which they took over from the Custodian of Expropriated Property; and who are suffering severely owing to the general depression.

Early in 1929 the New Guinea Planters' Association asked the Commonwealth Government for relief and, after the Custodian, Mr. W. C. Thomas, had inquired into the position, some relief was given. But as copra maintained its downward tendency, the Planters' Association petitioned for still further relief.

The representations of the Planters' Association were reinforced by those of the New Guinea Branch of the Returned Soldiers' Association.

The Federal Government in September announced complete suspension of all payments connected with the purchase of expropriated properties, this suspension to operate until June 30, 1931, when the position will be further reviewed.

The effect of the suspension is to relieve the planters altogether of the payment of interest for this financial year, and to defer payment of principal monies owing in respect of the purchase of plantations. Cash value of concessions is estimated to be over £100,000.

An interesting feature of this decision is that Messrs. Burns, Philp & Co. Ltd. and Messrs. W. R. Carpenter & Co. Ltd. have agreed with the Commonwealth Government to also assist planters, who owe them money, by making an ex-gratia allowance equivalent to a reduction of two per cent. in the interest charged by the companies in their clients' accounts.

THE BREMERHAVEN

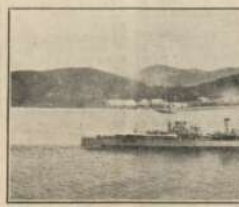
Why Does She Run to Rabaul?

THE continued visits of the Norddeutscher Lloyd steamer, Bremerhaven, to the Mandated Territory of New Guinea are a subject of comment and speculation.

It was reported that this service—which is run by German interests, between Hong Kong and Rabaul—had been discontinued, but the Bremerhaven again put in an appearance at Rabaul recently.

Very little cargo is carried either way by this vessel, and it would be interesting to know whether she represents merely a shipping service which is being continued without profit in the hope that business will improve when the depression has passed; or whether the maintenance of the service has some political and national significance.

ON A FRIENDLY VISIT



The British cruiser from New Zealand, H.M.S. Dunedin, has been visiting various ports in the Pacific. Here is a photograph of the vessel entering the harbour at Noumea, New Caledonia.

OIL PALM'S CHALLENGE TO THE COCONUT

Production Extending Rapidly From West Africa to East Indies

Specialty Compiled for The Pacific Islands Monthly.

A PRIMARY contributing cause to the low price of copra is the extraordinarily heavy production throughout the world of oils which may be used, as an alternative to coconut oil, in the manufacture of soap, margarine, etc. They are mainly palm kernel oil, whale oil, peanut oil and soya bean oil.

As the growth and development of rival oils are likely to affect the future of the copra industry, and as some South Sea observers regard palm oil as an even greater menace than whale oil, The Pacific Islands Monthly has collated all available information about the position and prospects of palm oil.

PALM oil, and palm kernel oil, are

the product of a West African palm, extensively cultivated in West Africa and the East Indies, but unknown in Australia. There is said to be an experimental plantation in the Solomon Islands; and experiments are also being made in the Cook Islands.

The palm itself is of a bushy type, not at all resembling the palm of popular conception, and it produces a fruit of coffee colour, and about the size of a Rugby football.

This fruit has a pulpy exterior and a hard kernel. The fleshy, outside portion contains a very large proportion of a white oil, known as palm oil. The semi-hard kernel of the fruit gives two products, oil and feeding-cake, used for stock. The white palm oil merely supplements coconut oil, tallow and the other constituents of soap; but the kernel oil is almost identical in character to coconut oil and possesses the same qualities. This kernel oil, then, is one of copra's great rivals.

During the past half century, the production of palm kernel oil has been definitely on the increase. About 1880, Germany established large factories for the treatment of the product, which at that time all came from the one source—West Africa. During the Great War, England saw the necessity of establishing her own crushing plants for dealing with the product from her African possession, and in 1916 a Government committee decided that ample facilities could be provided in the United Kingdom for crushing the whole of the kernel crop.

WEST AFRICA'S OIL WEALTH.

In evidence before this committee some interesting facts were disclosed. It was stated that in 1913 the value of the trade in palm oil and palm kernel oil from West Africa amounted to over £8,000,000.

Particular emphasis was laid on the fact before the committee that the oil from the kernel could be made into soap, vegetable lard or margarine, and the balance of the kernel—the feeding cake—could be sold in its existing form as palm-kernel cake, or meal, or used

as a component of one of the compound cakes thin on the market.

Competition likely from new varieties of nuts, produced in other parts of the world, was also considered. In Central and South America, it was stated, the cologne and tabasco nuts had been engaging attention, and the committee was informed that other varieties of oil-producing nuts might become available.

One compilation subsequently gave the following as the exports from West Africa, over a quarter of a century:

Year	Kernels	Palm Oil
1909	Tons	Tons
1909	85,820	15,880
1910	138,600	14,900
1911	194,500	17,500
1912	186,600	17,500
1913	218,000	20,000

OIL PALMS IN EAST INDIES.

It is said that the greatest strides have been made in growing the African oil palm. West Africa has continued its crude native methods of cultivation, and its market is now challenged by the Dutch East Indies, where the area under crop in Sumatra alone is over 50,000 acres. This has been planted scientifically and systematically, with improved methods of treatment, and a corresponding improvement in the value of the product. Indeed, West African trade circles fear that the Dutch Indies and Malay Archipelago will soon be strong competitors in the palm oil markets previously controlled by them.

Sir Hugh Clifford, G.C.M.G., when Governor of Nigeria, pointed out that the gradual extension of plantations in the Dutch East Indies was a menace which it would be the height of imprudence to ignore. He suggested the introduction of central factories, equipped with modern machinery and under scientific management for manufacturing the oil for export. It was estimated that in the Gold Coast alone as the result of crude methods employed palm products to the value of well over £1,000,000 were being allowed to go to waste annually—a loss to the nation and the industry.

In the Gold Coast Handbook for 1924, the hope is expressed "that efforts will be made to cultivate the oil palm on plantation lines, with the necessary machinery, otherwise the product will be unable to compete with that of plantations in other parts of the world."

A writer in "The British Soap Manufacturer" in July, 1929, said that it is calculated that within 10 or 15 years Sumatra will be exporting 100,000 tons of palm oil, as compared with an estimated total export of palm oil from West Africa of 140,000 tons. Sumatra produced 8,000 tons of palm oil in 1925.

A report on commerce, industry and agriculture in the Netherlands East Indies in 1927, published fairly recently, stated that oil palm plantations on the east coast of Sumatra produced 13,283 tons of oil in 1926 and 21,617 tons in 1927. There were then 54 estates cultivating oil palms—9 in

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

Praise for Pacific Islands Monthly

Some Further Letters

WE gratefully acknowledge the receipt of letters from many places expressing appreciation of the purpose of The Pacific Islands Monthly and praising the early issues. Space permits the publication of extracts from only a few; but we take this opportunity of thanking our many kind correspondents for the encouragement they have given this enterprise.

Hon. E. A. Ransom, M.P., Acting Prime Minister of New Zealand:

I have perused the first issue, and find it very interesting, and I am sure it will form a very valuable medium for exchange of views between the various Pacific territories.

Hon. T. R. Bavin, K.C., M.L.A., Premier of New South Wales:

I have looked through the first issue of the Pacific Islands Monthly and take this earliest opportunity of congratulating you on your enterprise. The publication will, I believe, serve a very useful purpose in promoting a better co-operative spirit among the peoples of the Pacific and in developing trade between the various territories. I wish your enterprise the success it deserves.

Mr. W. McKee, Director of New Guinea Goldfields Ltd., and a former resident of Suva:

I wish you every success with the venture, which should excite the support and interest of all those concerned in the development of the islands of the Pacific, whose trade possibilities have not been realised by Australia and New Zealand—in fact, have been seriously alienated.

Mr. J. G. McLaren, Secretary, Prime Minister's Department, Canberra:

The publication of The Pacific Islands Monthly improves an old development that is likely to prove of very great advantage, not only to the Territories, but also to Australia. It should serve the dual purpose of providing a medium through which public opinion in the Territories may communicate itself to the Australian public, and of assisting the Australian public to a better understanding and appreciation of the problems of the Territories.

The Pacific Islands Monthly, however, does not concern itself with the affairs of the Australian territories, but rather aims for the better groups in the Pacific and the Pacific. In addition, therefore, to stimulating a healthy interest in the Pacific Islands, the publication should also serve to assist the knowledge of and interest in Pacific problems generally which are to her nature of ever-increasing concern.

Sir Joseph Carruthers, K.C.M.G., M.L.C., Sydney:

I think The Pacific Islands Monthly is a new publication and supplies a long-felt need.

Chinese Immigration to Fiji

Production of Tomatoes for Sydney Market

Written for The Pacific Islands Monthly by C. L. CHING, Chinese Consul in Suva.

THE establishment of the Chinese Consulate in Suva is merely another step forward in the modernising of a scheme, approved last year by the National Government of the Republic of China, to increase the number of legations and consulates abroad, with a view to keeping closer touch with the many thousands of Chinese citizens residing away from their Homeland.

The Chinese diplomatic service is comparatively young, for it was only 30 years ago that the Opium War was fought and China began to have her first real contact with the outside world. Even after the gradual opening of the treaty ports of China, the Manchu Government were reluctant to send their representatives abroad to be accredited to foreign governments, although Chinese emigrants were leaving the country in large numbers.

The inherent weakness of the Manchu Government was soon evident. China's defeat at the hands of Britain during the Opium War began a series of military and diplomatic disasters which continued right on even after the overthrow of the Manchu Government by a gradually awakening people, and it did not cease until the ascendancy of the Kuo Min Tang was definitely established.

At home concessions had been wrested by the Powers from the helpless and disinterested officials, who cared neither for the welfare of the country or the people. Abroad our immigrants had to put up with the discriminatory legislation enacted by governments who were quick to realise the weakness of a corrupt regime at home, and numerous were the indignities that Chinese suffered.

In 1928 a new era in Chinese history began. The Kuo Min Tang (Nationalist Party) had succeeded in unifying China under a strong Government with the capital in Nanking. New treaties, based on equality and reciprocity, were negotiated with the European

What is to be the respective parts of the four communities—European, Fijians, Indians and Chinese—in the future development of rich and prosperous Fiji? To-day there are nearly 1,500. They control a large proportion of the small-scale trade, and they are energetically extending their agricultural activities. They are building up a valuable export trade in bananas.

A Chinese Consul, Mr. Ching, a clever, well-educated man, has been sent to Suva to represent the Republic of China.

to be re-organised, more consulates established and trade commissioners sent abroad.

The story of Chinese immigration in Fiji is but a repetition on a small scale, perhaps, of that of Chinese in other countries. The first immigrants were usually hard-working labourers who were utilised to do the pioneering and developmental works. As soon as the arduous part of the pioneer work was complete, they found that they were not so welcome.

In Fiji, we find that from amongst the more enterprising of the first arrivals, as they became settled down, small traders sprang up, and some of these gradually built up fairly large businesses which, in the end, were staffed with intellectual Chinese who were introduced from China.

Chinese agriculturists in the Colony utilise much ground that otherwise would go to waste, even in such close proximity to Tamavua. The fact that the whole world are responsible for a constant and abundant supply of cheap vegetables is well recognised by all Europeans who, I feel sure, agree that no other race would be capable of doing the same.

Since my arrival in Fiji, I have induced several of the large gardeners to export their tomatoes for the Sydney market, and I have reason to believe that in a short time the tomato business will develop into a very important phase of the Colony's export

trade, which may help to recoup for the lost banana business with Australia. Other projects are also under consideration.

The inherent respect of the Chinese people for established law and order is proverbial, and lawlessness among our people is very rare. But notwithstanding this, and the creditable part they have contributed to the building up of the prosperity of the Colony,

many disabilities were placed on them. Happily, the present Government is most sympathetic and, following a recent visit of the Consul-General, Mr. Fatsung T. Sung, to Suva, many of these disabilities were removed, and the recognition of the qualities of our people as useful and law-abiding citizens was placed on record.

C. L. CHING.

The ROYAL Portable TYPEWRITER



— the finest portable writing machine on the market.

Sturdy construction, simple operation.

Fitted with Standard Keyboard and all latest mechanical improvements.

Indispensable in the Home. It will handle all Private, Social and Business correspondence with equal facility.

For full particulars and catalogues send attached coupon to

SYDNEY PINCOMBE LIMITED

Australasian Agents

ROYAL TYPEWRITERS, 46-48 HUNTER ST., SYDNEY
Also at MELBOURNE, BRISBANE, NEWCASTLE

Please send me full particulars of the ROYAL PORTABLE TYPEWRITER.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

"TRUTH IN ADVERTISING"—always adhered to at Anthony Horderns'

ANTHONY HORDERNS'

(THE SENIOR STORE)

FOR EVERYTHING!

Anthony Horderns' claim to be Universal Providers is no mere idle boast—through more than a century of retail trading this business has grown and constantly developed until to-day it embraces every need of modern life. And always the idea of Famous Low Prices has been adhered to—comparison of quality for quality and price for price will show that Anthony Horderns' values remain unequalled. Anthony Horderns' mighty Store and comprehensive stocks are brought right to your door, for you can order from our Catalogues with perfect confidence and know that our Mail Order service will ensure that the goods reach you promptly and in perfect condition.

Special Attention to Islands Orders

Anthony Horderns' huge Mail Order Department is efficiently organised and expertly supervised to ensure that orders from the Islands receive special attention. The result is Service to Mail Order customers—and this we support by a guarantee of satisfaction or money refunded.

Get Our Catalogues

Anthony Horderns' are constantly issuing up-to-date Catalogues, giving the full details of the newest goods in every section of the business. We will be pleased to place you on our Mailing List so that you will receive Catalogues if you will send us your name and address.



ANTHONY HORDERN & SONS, LTD.
SYDNEY, N.S.W.

Postal Address: Box 2712C, G.P.O., Sydney

Special Grocery Price List

Anthony Horderns' supply Groceries to Pacific Islands customers under specially favourable conditions. The ruling principle is that all goods are thoroughly reliable in quality and perfectly pure, offered at specially low prices. Send for Grocery Price List for Island customers.

Manchester Values

Manchester Goods form such an important part of the World's requirements, that Anthony Horderns' have specialised in supplying them at very favourable prices. Qualities are always excellent, so that the value challenges comparison. Send for special Islands Price List.

TORRES STRAITS GUANO

A Dead Industry?

RAINE ISLAND'S WEALTH

(From Our Thursday Island Correspondent.)

AMONG the hopes that spring eternal in the human breast is that of making easy money, and there are enthusiasts who persist in believing that Nature leaves fortunes scattered about in desert places for the mere picking up. The world could ill spare such folk; occasionally their instincts prove true and universal benefit results.

It was probably for this reason that a sample of guano was recently brought in from one of the many small islands where it is found, and submitted for analysis to Brisbane.

The results did not encourage further investigations, and it may be taken for granted that guano seekers hereabouts are wasting their time. In the past some money was made out of guano and, seeing that deposits occur on Channel Rock, Red Wall, Bramble Cay and other islands, the subject is not without interest to local people.

Excluding the well-known deposits of the Pacific, guano hails principally from the coasts of Peru. Probably it was used by the ancient Incas, and it was introduced to the notice of European farmers by Humboldt, who bought samples from South America along the coast on the mainland of the Mandated Territory, with the same potentialities. It is believed to have valuable petroleum resources, and it is likely that there are other valuable mineral deposits.

The guano formerly obtained from Raine Island on the Barrier Reef, about eighty miles south-east of Thursday Island, was of this nature, and had the appearance of soft white sandstone. The centre of Raine Island was almost entirely removed during the seventies of last century when an American and later a Scottish company, were engaged in the collection of guano there. The work was done by Chinese coolies, some of whom left their bones on this island, and were provided with gravestones by their employers; these are still visible near the old workings.

Another curiosity of Raine Island is a hollow round tower, made of blocks of guano stone, which was erected by a party of naval men from H.M. ships *Bramble* and *Fly*, in the year 1843, or thereabouts. It was not there to mark the passage through the reefs for vessels coming from the Pacific, in the days when it was thought nothing short of suicidal to venture through the Barrier Channel from Capricorn northwards. The tower, or beacon, is visible for a long distance, and has proved very useful in the past. Unfortunately, it is now fast crumbling, and the name of the erecting vessel can no longer be deciphered.

After Raine Island was worked out, a move was made to Rocky Island, one of the Wellesley group, lying well down in the Gulf of Carpentaria. One of the most tragic wrecks in the history of Torres Straits was that of the *Knappa*, which was destroyed at Rocky Island during a cyclone while loading guano. After this mishap the business was discontinued. Nor is it likely to be revived in Torres Straits.

Dutch New Guinea

Huge and Unknown Territory

Movement of Settlers to North Coast

SO far the huge territory known as Dutch New Guinea has received little attention. The Dutch have settled and cultivated their other possessions in the East Indies and, what with copra, rubber, petroleum, rice, etc., each island has proved to be extraordinarily rich. Now, with the fall in the market price for copra and rubber, the Dutch are looking further afield for new country to develop.

According to a message from Weltevreden, Java, published in *The Sydney Sun*, a movement of settlers towards New Guinea has started. One agricultural settlement has been formed near Sentani, on the north coast, not far from the Mandated Territory; and another near Manokwari, on the north-west coast.

Little native labour is being used in these enterprises. The promoters hope that the settlements will decrease the number of planters now unemployed in consequence of the fall of rubber prices and also diminish the number of unemployed Dutch ex-Government servants crowded out of the service by trained natives.

Although not much is known of the country in northern Dutch New Guinea it is understood to be similar to that along the coast on the mainland of the Mandated Territory, with the same potentialities. It is believed to have valuable petroleum resources, and it is likely that there are other valuable mineral deposits.

GOLD IN NEW BRITAIN

Present But Not Payable

Mr. A. Travers Black, a mining expert, who has been associated for many years with gold mining in New Guinea, has reported to Nakamal Mines Ltd., a Sydney company, that its holding on the island of New Britain is unpayable.

Mr. Black spent about a month on the property and returned to Sydney in July last. He found that an extensive mineral belt existed through the mountains of the island, but, in his opinion, there was nothing that could be payably worked.

Mission schools in New Guinea

Mission schools in the Mandated Territory of New Guinea now number 1,300. Of these, 167 are in the charge of Europeans, and 1,133 are under native teachers. The teachers engaged by the various missions comprise 231 Europeans, 4 Asiatics, 1,186 natives, and 1,161-caste. Pupils receiving instruction total 36,507.

The figures showing the trade turnover in Western Samoa in the year ended March 31 last indicate a shrinkage, but in values rather than in quantities. The value of the principal exports was copra £217,800, cocoa £58,573, rubber £9,655, bunnias £24,825.

THURSDAY ISLAND TOPICS

From Our Own Correspondent

Government's Attitude Towards Pearling Industry—Now Recognised that Asiatic Divers are Necessary—Medical Survey Proceeding

THURSDAY ISLAND, Sept. 26. THE intentions of the Federal Government in regard to the pearl shell industry have been explained by the Federal member for this district, Mr. C. W. Martens, M.P., who has paid us a very welcome visit.

It had been reported that this new Labour Government was determined to

almost immediately and expects to be in Thursday Island towards the end of October.

Mr. Moorhouse, B.Sc., a member of Dr. Young's expedition the Barrier Reef in 1929, has apparently been eating Wongau, for he has returned to his old haunts around these parts and is at present investigating the growth of pearl shell and other biological subjects, at Murray Island.

Dr. Baldwin, Assistant Director of the Sydney School of Tropical Medicine, is to make a complete survey of medical matters in Torres Straits, and will be conveyed from island to island by the Government ketch *Melbird*. While the main object is to investigate the various forms of tropical disease that exist in the Straits, the general health and hygiene of the natives will be looked into. It is many years since a similar medical survey was made, the last being by Dr. Brien before the war.

The Resident Magistrate of Daru (Papua) and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Woodward, are at present on leave and have gone as far as the Colima District, where Mr. Woodward was A.R.M. of the same district, has been promoted to R.M., and will, I am informed, take up duties at Kerema after his leave.

TROCHUS SHELL

A rise in the price of trochus shell has been announced, to-day's local quotation being 503 per ton.

NEIGHBOURLY DARU

Daru, the official seat of administration for the Western Division of Papua, is almost as much in touch with Thursday Island as with its own metropolis of Moresby. When a resident of Daru sees the prospect of the desired "Trip South," he finds himself in no better a position than the man who is to be left behind in Thursday Island, where a daily newspaper, afternoon tea parties, bridges and seed drinks make a pleasant change from a Papuan outstation. In fact, it has been openly stated here that "T.I. is a paradise compared to Daru," or, as some people would put it, "it is a somewhat less unpleasant sort of hell."

Daru is a great recruiting ground and supplies Thursday Island with its collection of "New Guinea boys," who in reality the most communistic of all the races gathered here, are the last to adopt Bolshevist principles. In fact the highest form of economic subtlety that the Kival boy is as yet capable of is to develop a headache two hours before his lugger is ready for the sea—and there were suggestions of a cure that is often enough a cure that.

Daru is a place that has—temporarily at least—missed the bus. It was



TYPICAL JAPANESE PEARL DIVERS, THURSDAY ISLAND.

keep the industry for the whites, and push out the Asiatics; and the industry, in consequence, has been in a jump and uncertain state for some time.

Your representative had the pleasure of a chat with Mr. Martens, and the latter gave the following assurance with regard to the industry.

"Of course," said Mr. Martens, "we would like to see the pearling industry wholly in the hands of people of our own race, but that does not mean that we are seeking to impose impossible conditions to that end. The Royal Commission on the shell industry, presided over by Mr. Bennett, was strongly liberal in its pronouncement and sympathy, and it came to a definite conclusion when it took evidence here in 1913. It quite



Some vessels of the pearling fleet at Thursday Island.

of a strong desire to the contrary, the finding was that Asiatic labour, especially as regards the actual diving, was essential to the industry. Before the present Government can reverse that verdict, it must make more than fundamental change have occurred which could justify its taking such a step. And it does not need a Royal Commission to prove that that has not yet come about.

"As far as the actual working of the shell is concerned, we realise that methods must remain very much as they were. We are certainly introducing changes in the accessory operations of grading, packing and sorting, by which we hope that men may find employment, but even these must be regarded as experiments. If they prove workable they may be required. The Government is fully aware of the great value of the shell industry in promoting local prosperity and in helping to adjust adverse trade balances abroad. For this reason alone we are not likely to hamper the industry unduly."

"We are not alone in our wish to preserve pearling for white men. Some time ago a gentleman (I think I am right in saying that it was Mr. Martens) offered to fit out a boat and land it over to any competent white team for purposes of pearling, with the understanding that the boat and crew would be paid for by the Government. The offer was quickly enough, but it failed for the want of a white team with the necessary qualifications and local knowledge. Added to this was the fact that the offer was made during the Japanese drive and his crew resigned as satisfactory."

"While our object is to introduce white labour where it can be done without burdening the industry, we are prepared to give the same a fair deal and we expect the same from a kable."

PERSONAL ITEMS.

A cable has been received from Mr. Max Rabin, the well-known pearl buyer, stating that he is leaving Paris

COPRA OUTPUT

Is It Possible To Reduce?

"ONE PRODUCT WHICH CAN NOT BE REGULATED"

Is it possible to regulate the production of copra, so that a world-glut of the product, which has caused such serious depression in the industry, may be avoided? Is it possible to arrange united action between the copra-growers of Java, Ceylon, Malaya and the South Seas?

THESE questions were submitted by The Pacific Islands Monthly to Sir John B. Jock of Moresby, Brien and Jock Ltd., Suva, who are the managing agents of the Coconut Planters' Union of Fiji. Mr. Jock, who is a keen student of the conditions surrounding the copra industry, courteously replied as follows:

I do not agree with the idea of restricted output, because, in the first place, I believe it to be economically unsound to attempt restriction of any primary product, and secondly, because I think that if there was ever a primary product in which restriction of output was absolutely impossible, it is copra.

As far as my first reason is concerned, I have merely stated this as a proposition. The arguments in its favour would involve a study of the question on the theory of economics that, even if I were capable of setting them out, I refrain from doing so. This is really rather like the question of religious faith—either you believe or you don't believe in it, so why waste time arguing about it.

As regards my second reason, I refer you first of all to that classic failure of restriction, i.e. the Stevenson scheme for rubber. There you had an article produced practically only in two or three countries, and whose cultivation was therefore limited to a small area.

You had, further, a market in which it was impossible to find a substitute.

You have a parallel to that product today in tin ore. (Where there is also over-production and depressed prices.) Now compare those products with copra, which is made along a broad band of varying countries, practically right round the world. It is not produced by the art of man, anything like the extent of rubber or tin. Probably 60 per cent or even higher of the world's production of copra comes from small native holdings. If the Stevenson scheme was wrecked by native-produced rubber, how much more so would any scheme for the restriction of copra be wrecked? I should say that to devise any effective scheme for the control of the output of copra would be as effective as a snowball in Hades.

Copra has by no means got any shadow of a monopoly of any section of the fats and oils leading to a present price position is not due so much to over-production in copra itself, as to over-production in almost every other oil seed, coupled with the energetic re-entry into the oil markets of whale oil.

This has coincided with an era of phenomenal trade depression. So all we can do is to set to work to reduce the cost of our production of copra, so that we may compete adequately upon a lower price level with the other fats and oils. This—and patience—is a far better road upon which to lean than restriction of output.

At the annual meeting of the Orinoro Oil Co. Ltd., a company registered in Papua for oil prospecting, Mr. J. M. Vaughan, who presided, said it was hoped that as a result of the company's interest in Oil Search Ltd., Orinoro Oil would soon be financially strong enough to undertake the required extension of its work in parts of Papua, already indicated by Dr. Woolnough, Federal Geological Adviser, as potential oil areas.

A seven-ton cutter, the *Teddy*, has reached Tahiti on her voyage round the world. She is owned by Captain Thame, who is accompanied by only his wife and one young child, born on the trip. The vessel sailed from Norway two years ago and has called at the Canaries, Azores, Curacao and the Marquesas. From Tahiti, the *Teddy* will go to New Zealand.

The soya bean—the cultivation of which in recent years has profoundly affected the present price of copra—is being grown in Fiji. Mr. R. V. Howard, writes in *The Fiji Times*, states that Mr. H. Howard has a small plantation of soya beans on his holding at Tavua, Sigatoka River. The varieties grown are from seeds imported from Virginia and Georgia, U.S.A. The plants are flourishing, suggesting that this is a crop that might be profitably cultivated in Fiji.

New Guinea Development Co. N.L. has reported that Mr. F. J. Deane, one of the technical directors of Placer Development Ltd., who is now on the Morobe goldfields, is making an immediate inspection of the company's property on behalf of the New York option holders.

USE The
Wireless Service
and Save Time & Money
SPEED—
ACCURACY—
ECONOMY!

Speedy and efficient services to
Australia and Overseas.

Route your overseas traffic for
Great Britain, Europe and North
and South America for transmission

"VIA BEAM"

The Longest Direct Telegraph Service
in the World

Amalgamated Wireless
AUSTRALASIA LTD.

Australia's National
Wireless Organisation.

SOUTH SEAS TOURS

Scenes of Great Beauty and Charm

Where the B.P. Steamers Go

Persons with the means to travel have many pleasure-trips to choose from. There is no doubt that the most popular are those to the islands of many enchantments in the sunny South Seas.

A large number of new booklets and pamphlets, describing some of the most attractive Pacific island tours, have just been issued by Burns Philp & Co. Each trip has some particular feature apart from contact with native races, who are still living in the fashion which delighted the first travellers to the South Seas, 150 years ago.

Three trips of great charm are to Papua, the Mandated Territory of New Guinea, and the Solomon Islands.

Papua is a country of allurement and adventure. The B.P. steamer to Papua calls at Brisbane, Townsville and Cairns. From Cairns, it goes on to Port Moresby, the seat of Government of Papua. A day's run from there is Samarai, the commercial centre of the Territory, situated on a small inlet, about 35 acres. It is a pretty little place

SAMOA IS SETTLING DOWN

Mau is Quieter — Attempt to Give Representative Government

Comparatively peaceful conditions appear now to obtain in Western Samoa, and it is hoped that the rebellious spirit, which brought about the fatal riots at the end of last December, is passing away.

AS is generally known, the Mandate from the League of Nations for the government of Western Samoa is held by New Zealand. The Samanians have been frequently termed "The Irish of the Pacific." They are a superior class of Polynesians, highly intelligent, very proud, warlike and brave, and with a profound faith in their race and its destiny. Of all the Pacific Islands communities, Samoa probably is the most difficult to govern.

New Zealand made some serious mistakes in her selection of men to govern the Samanians under the Mandate. Positions of great responsibility were given to officials who tried to cover up their painful limitations with bluster and pomposity. Important powers were placed in the hands of men who might have successfully governed African natives, but who had absolutely no know-

ledge or understanding of the high-class Polynesian natives. There was much muddling and many errors of administration. The Samanians, whose social and political sensibilities had been frequently lacerated during 50 years of turbulent history, were not in a mood to treat their new masters with patience.

The expression of their discontent and of their national aspirations was the Mau. Many people have tried to define the Mau and each produces something different. Roughly stated, the Mau is simply a fierce patriotic organisation of natives who want, if not Samoa for the Samanians, as much of Samoa as they can get.

Nothing can be gained by traversing the history of the past ten years. New Zealand is genuinely doing her utmost to make this country contented and prosperous—the tragedy lies in the fact that for several years she was badly served, and opportunity was given to mischief-makers to stir up much trouble among the natives. Perhaps the agitation was justified. Probably, a serious error was made when New Zealand took the extreme course of deporting Mau leaders and persons in close sympathy with the Mau. However, it is finished. Conditions are better, now. Let the dead past bury its dead.

In December last, certain people connected with the Mau returned to Samoa. The Mau, early one morning, came out of the bush and the hills in full strength, to welcome its heroes.

Marching in the Mau ranks were several persons for whom warrants of arrest had been issued by the authorities. Such open defiance of law and order could not be tolerated. The police went forth to arrest the wanted men—the men of the Mau rallied to their protection. In the resulting clash and riot, one white policeman and 11 Samanians were killed. Tamasese, well-loved Mau chief, received fatal wounds.

It looked as if there would be another war in Samoa. The Mau returned furiously to the bush. The Administration sent urgently for naval and military forces. The cruiser Dundedin came from New Zealand, and 150 Royal Marines and bluejackets policed the country. They were outnumbered probably ten to one by the Mau. But somewhere, somehow, good sense and restraint were exercised, and there was no fighting. The New Zealand authorities handled the situation with great delicacy—and a full measure of credit also can be handed to the Mau leaders, who must have kept the more turbulent spirits in check.

In March, a New Zealand Minister, Mr. Cobbe, in company with the new Administrator, held a series of meetings with the Mau, and although not very much was achieved then, there is no doubt that a better understanding followed. The Mau agreed to recognise the authority of the Government, and a large number of wanted men (members of the Mau) were surrendered.

In his annual report on Western Samoa to the League of Nations, at the end of July, the Prime Minister of New Zealand says:

"The situation in the Territory is now greatly improved, and no difficulty is being experienced in enforcing law and order. There is good ground to hope that co-operation with the Samanians of the Mau will be feasible at no distant date, though the possibility of isolated incidents cannot be ignored. It is considered that the present police force will be adequate for the maintenance of order in the Territory, but the Government, of course, are prepared to reinforce it if necessary."

It is pleasing to note that as a result of economic effort and without any material curtailment of the activities of the Administration, the Territory (except for the cost of the police) was for the year ended March 31, 1930, self-supporting—a subsidy of £20,000 was said to the Territory by the New Zealand Government, but the year closed with a surplus of £20,136.

As evidence of goodwill, the New Zealand Administration has amended the constitution of the Samoan Legislative Council so as to reduce the European representatives from three to two, and appoint two representatives of the Samanians. No attempt was made to have these native representatives elected—they were simply nominated by the Administration. This is a temporary arrangement, however, and the Administration intends that the Samanians themselves shall elect their Legislative Councilors.

The Prime Minister's report continues: "The Government do not feel that representation on the Legislative Council of the Territory can be regarded as an adequate means of enabling the Samanians to share in their own government, and they have contemplated either the reconstitution of the Fono of Faipules, when conditions allow, or the substitution of some equally suitable means of associating the Samanians in their own government."

"As the result of a meeting between the Administrator, and a generally representative gathering of natives from all districts, which took place after the date covered by this report, it seems clear that the Samanians still desire the Fono of Faipules as their representative body, on lines that will allow of the representation of all sections of the native race. It is hoped to have the scheme in operation by the end of this year."

It may be noted that there are 2,500 Europeans, 40,000 natives, and 1,000 Chinese in Western Samoa, and the trade turnover is £750,000 per annum.

STEWART HOSPITAL

Opened on New Britain

The Stewart Hospital at Vunairima, on the island of New Britain, was declared open recently by the Administrator of the Mandated Territory of New Guinea, Brig-General E. A. Wisdon.

The hospital was built by the Methodist Missionary Society of Australasia, following a gift of £3,000 by Mr. F. H. Stewart, of Sydney, a member of the Mission Board. Mr. Stewart has made a further gift of £1,000 per annum for five years, to assist in the upkeep of the hospital, and Dr. Horace Thomas, of Melbourne, has given £100 per annum for the same purpose, also for a period of five years.

In performing the opening ceremony, His Excellency said that he felt that the Mission and the Administration were working towards a common end, which was the uplifting of the native people.

**JUST STEP OFF
DRIVE YOURSELF**

Our First complete of different types of Cars, and our rates only a-ording to the type.

PHONES B1200 CIRCULAR QUAY WEST
B1200 CIRCULAR QUAY WEST
B1200 CIRCULAR QUAY WEST

POYKERS

DRIVE YOURSELF SERVICE LTD.

THE USE OF A CAR IS ESSENTIAL to the complete enjoyment of a HOLIDAY IN AUSTRALIA — or the quick transaction of your business. Under our system you can hire any type of Car of the latest Model and drive yourself.

Write for further particulars:
DRIVE YOURSELF SERVICE LTD.
Circular Quay West - Sydney - Australia.

HADFIELD'S (Aust.) LIMITED

Steel Founders, Forgemasters and General Engineers

The most complete Workshop of its kind in Australia



Machine Cut Gears.
Up to 16ft. Diameter.

Cable Address: "Elecosteel, Sydney."

Head Office and Works - Mitchell Road, ALEXANDRIA, N.S.W.

Art Union Winner

Valued at £1000

Miss P. Walton, whose father is a well-known contractor of Cairns, won the First Prize valued at £1000 in the F.F.B. Art Union. She selected ticket No. 414777



because she likes seven. This is the first time she ever won a prize. Someone, and it may be you, will win a prize valued at £2000 in the Christmas Box weeks.

Clip this paragraph and send it, with a stamped addressed envelope and a Postal Note for 1/- for your ticket, to the Secretary, Christmas Box Art Union, St. Margaret's Hospital, Deak P.I. Box 1716, G.P.O., Sydney, and your ticket will be immediately sent you. The tickets are in the form of Christmas Cards.



Cruise-making in the South Seas. A sight familiar to travelers in the Pacific Islands.

with its main street of stores and offices alternating with tall waving coconut palms and rows of brilliant crotons and other tropical shrubs. Some half a dozen other interesting ports are visited before the return to Australia.

A round trip to New Guinea lasts five weeks, and during that time many calls are made in the Territory. After Samarai, the steamer passes the D'Entrecasteaux and Trobriand Islands, and then on through St. George's Channel, Coconut plantations fringe the shores, providing scenes of great beauty. Rabaul, the capital of the Territory, is situated on the shores of Simpson's Harbour, beneath an almost circular range, the arms of which terminate in volcanic hills known as "The Mother and Daughters." From Rabaul, visits may be made to hot sulphur springs, and to the islands of Manus. The voyage is continued through an archipelago of islets and reefs to Kavieng, the principal town of New Ireland. Then there are numerous other ports of call before the return journey is commenced.

The Solomon Islands are only seven days' steaming time north-east from Sydney. They consist of seven large islands and innumerable small ones, mostly of volcanic origin. Tulagi, the port of entry, rests in a lovely harbour, the approach to which is magnificent. The island steamer "Mataram" calls at more than a score of ports, and the opportunity is available to tourists to pay a visit to many native villages and see for themselves the quaint customs, mode of living and handicrafts of the inhabitants.

ledge or understanding of the high-class Polynesian natives. There was much muddling and many errors of administration. The Samanians, whose social and political sensibilities had been frequently lacerated during 50 years of turbulent history, were not in a mood to treat their new masters with patience.

The expression of their discontent and of their national aspirations was the Mau. Many people have tried to define the Mau and each produces something different. Roughly stated, the Mau is simply a fierce patriotic organisation of natives who want, if not Samoa for the Samanians, as much of Samoa as they can get.

Nothing can be gained by traversing the history of the past ten years. New Zealand is genuinely doing her utmost to make this country contented and prosperous—the tragedy lies in the fact that for several years she was badly served, and opportunity was given to mischief-makers to stir up much trouble among the natives. Perhaps the agitation was justified. Probably, a serious error was made when New Zealand took the extreme course of deporting Mau leaders and persons in close sympathy with the Mau. However, it is finished. Conditions are better, now. Let the dead past bury its dead.

In December last, certain people connected with the Mau returned to Samoa. The Mau, early one morning, came out of the bush and the hills in full strength, to welcome its heroes.

ONLY
25/-
Per Doz.
Case
f.o.b.
Sydney

SPARKLING WINE

LEO

ONLY
25/-
Per Doz.
Case
f.o.b.
Sydney

Agents in the Pacific:

Burns, Philp & Co. Ltd. — Morris, Hedstrom Ltd.

A Product of McWilliams Wines, 15 Alberta Street, Sydney

Big Game Fish

Where the Sport is Worthy
of the Name

All men dream that some day, somewhere, they will catch a big game fish. Sport writing of the name can wait at almost any time, in the end, whether the writer of the PIM Group.

The most enthusiastic fishermen in Suva are the Mr. Magnus Henderson, and Mr. Thomas Horne, who know the waters of Fiji from end to end. Mr. Horne, who has just been fishing in Suva, has written this brief note for the Pacific Islands Monthly.

NEARLY everyone who comes to Fiji wants to know about the fishing—where to go and what kind of fish are to be caught.

The best plan is to find out where Andy Smootley is. He can take you to all the good spots about Suva. If there are any fish to be caught Andy Smootley will find them for you.

In my experience I found that the best artificial bait is the No. 6 Gibb's.



Mr. Thomas Horne, managing director of Messrs. Walter Horne & Co. of Suva and Sydney, Vice-President of the Chamber of Commerce, has been fishing years in the Pacific. Mr. Horne is a noted deep-sea fisherman.

Stuart and the No. 6 Knowles Automatic. I always keep a piece of red wool to keep the hook in its place in the No. 6 Knowles Automatic. With the Gibb-Stuart I find that by using a triple hook, hanging two inches from the top triple, I get the best results. You must use a steel wire trace—brass is of no use, because the "Ogo" and "Walu" have sharp teeth that they bite through the brass wire.

In the vicinity of Suva a large variety of fish are to be found. "Ganga" from 3 to 60 lbs., "Ogo" from 1 to 70 lbs., "Walu" from 5 to 10 lbs., "Doru" from 5 to 25 lbs., and rock cod up to 70 lbs. If you are lucky enough to get into a "Bonita" or you can get on to a "Ligone," you will have all the fun you want.

Anyone coming into Suva and wanting to know about accommodation and where they can go around the island, should communicate with Mr. J. Herriek (Secretary of the Tourist Bureau), and he will be only too pleased to give all information required.

APPEAL TO PACIFIC ISLANDS NATURALISTS

To The Editor
Sir—Would your Norfolk Island correspondent be so kind as to supply a list of the various orchids that are found on the island, together with any interesting particulars regarding them, either through your columns or direct to me.

We should be most happy here to exchange any local information with other Pacific centres, per medium of our Society.

I remain, yours sincerely,
O. H. VERNON, F.R.G.S.A.
Hon. Sec. T.I. & T.S. Branch of the Royal Geographical Society of Australasia.

Thursday Island,
September 15.

Mr. Quifery F. Roberts, Consul for the U.S.A., has received a cablegram notifying him of another promotion in the Consular Service. This is his third in the past six years. He has received many congratulations from his friends throughout the Pacific.

New Guinea Market for Australian Rice

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

CANBERRA, October 14.

I understand that enquiries are being made to ascertain whether the market for rice in New Guinea Mandated Territory may not be captured by the Australian article.

As has been previously pointed out, Australia's production of rice now meets her domestic requirements and leaves a surplus for export amounting to approximately 10,000 tons. Rice is an article of diet that is being increasingly used by planters and other employers of native labour for feeding their "boys", and the value of the annual importation is now about £200,000. Up to date most of this has been purchased from Eastern countries, and there is no reason why, if the price can be adjusted, New Guinea should not absorb Australia's surplus production.

Officials are reticent, but it is stated that the matter is now being discussed between the Administrator of the Territory (Brig-General Wisdom), the Prime Minister's Department and the shipping companies concerned, who are being asked to make some freight concessions so as to assist Australia in capturing this trade.

BIG MERGER

Four New Hebrides Companies

FOUR big French companies, each owning numerous and valuable plantation properties in New Hebrides, have been merged, and in future will be operated as one concern, under the name of Société Française des Nouvelles Hebrides. They are:

Société des Nouvelles Hebrides, Compagnie Générale d'Industrie Hebrides, Compagnie Agricole et Minière des Nouvelles Hebrides, and Compagnie Coloniale de Vale.

Mr. Victorinus, a well-known resident of Noumea, is the managing director of the new organisation; and the Director Technique is M. Pinelli, who has just arrived from France, and who is Sydney for Port Vila by the Laparose last week.

The combined capital of the new concern is 50,000,000 francs. The operations at present are devoted mostly to coconuts and cocoa production, but with the price rises for these products, other lines will doubtless be sought.

It is hoped that this re-organisation will be of benefit to Australia, as it is expected to sell considerable portions of its products here and to purchase Australian foodstuffs and manufactured goods in return.

Fijian Pineapple Industry Prospering

(From our Fiji Correspondent.)

WHILE our other leading primary industries are all confronted to-day with strong opposition and low world's prices, the baby industry of pineapple growing is gaining momentum. The only drag on the progress of the industry is difficulty in getting a sufficient quantity of suckers. Time alone will overcome this drawback, but a large quantity is in sight for next season's planting.

The Fiji Pineapple Co.'s plantation at Waidau, on Ovalau, is coming along splendidly, and the crop looks very healthy and strong, the slopes of the hills where the pineapples are planted presenting a pretty sight from the sea.

At Nandi, where West Coast Pine Ltd. has a fine plantation and factory, good solid progress has been made. The company has a large area of specially suitable land, whose soil shows, by careful analysis, that it is better adapted for pineapple growing than the land of Hawaii. The company has let a good quantity of this land to Indian farmers, and already has three European farmers with crops in. Besides these tenants, there are a number of outside farmers who have signed contracts to grow fruit, so the company has a bright future before it, and with every promise of success. The pack this season will be carried out

under the supervision of the Superintendent of Messrs. Libby, McNeil and Libby Ltd., of Honolulu, while the canning will be done by an expert "double seamer" from the same company. The suckers in sight for the next season will allow of a large addition to the plantation.

It is announced privately that a third pineapple growing and canning company is about to be launched on the West Coast of Viti Levu. The proposed capital is £200,000.

WELL-KNOWN PACIFIC TRAVELLER

Having been engaged in industrial and scientific research for half a century, Mr. A. J. Vogens, F.R.G.S., is as well known in the Pacific as the John Williams. He has just arrived from Fiji, where he has discovered some most interesting rock carvings, and is en route to New Caledonia and the Trobriands, on the track of ancient migrations and more ancient civilisations. He has had an extraordinary and a very interesting career, as explorer, scientist, newspaper artist, etc. He has written some books and contributed articles—but his coming book on Pacific archaeology probably will be his most valuable contribution to the world's knowledge.



How Taxation is Killing Our Pacific Trade

By Graham Kerr

Many should be the shipping-boats for the South Pacific trade, but Australia's tariff restrictions on this, that and the other trade is driving them away. Traffic with Fiji and other groups has been almost dead.

After all, the question boils down to this: What is of the most advantage to Australia? Then Australia should be adding State and Federal income tax on all profits, and on all sales as arbitrary basis and a prohibitive income tax here to pay for goods bought here? To be sold in the future New South Wales should be no exception. But Tax on produce sold.

If we have the Primary Tax on top of the rest. The Primary Tax, although the lowest, being almost negligible, is perhaps the most satisfactory of the three. The Economic State, Unemployment Relief Tax, and the State and Federal Income Tax are driving trade and income away.

It is not that the Governments concerned to stop these ridiculous taxes on produce sold here to pay for Australian goods?

Is there no scientific review of the benefit or otherwise of these measures?

Mr. C. C. Brady, the well-known Inspector for Messrs. Burns, Philp (South Sea) Co. Ltd., left by the Makambo last week for Lord Howe, Norfolk Island, and the New Hebrides ports. He will be back early in November and will then visit the New Zealand and Fiji branches. Probably he will remain in Fiji for several months on relieving duty.

140 ACRES IN BEARING

(From our Auckland Correspondent.)

Most of the £50,000 subscribed for the Fiji Pineapple Co. Ltd., incorporated in October, 1928, is New Zealand capital. About 140 acres have been planted on the island of Ovalau, and most of this will be in full bearing in the coming summer. It is estimated that the 1930-31 pack will be 18,000 cases. The reports on the quality of the canned pineapples, already exported are first-class. Another 100 acres will be planted between November and March.

The demand for canned pineapples throughout the world continues in excess of the supply, and the prospects of the industry are excellent.

From our Auckland Correspondent.

Most of the £50,000 subscribed for the Fiji Pineapple Co. Ltd., incorporated in October, 1928, is New Zealand capital. About 140 acres have been planted on the island of Ovalau, and most of this will be in full bearing in the coming summer. It is estimated that the 1930-31 pack will be 18,000 cases. The reports on the quality of the canned pineapples, already exported are first-class. Another 100 acres will be planted between November and March.

The demand for canned pineapples throughout the world continues in excess of the supply, and the prospects of the industry are excellent.



Pineapple plants on the Fiji Pineapple Co.'s plantation at Waidau, on the Island of Ovalau, Fiji.

Why Not a Pacific Islands Federation?

NEED FOR MACHINERY FOR CONSIDERATION OF COMMON PROBLEMS

The proposal to form, out of the British islands and territories of the Pacific, a Pacific Islands Federation, has been under consideration for many years. It was first brought into the sphere of practical politics by a series of well-written articles published in *The Western Pacific Herald* in 1911; and it was advanced a further stage in 1921 when the Legislative Council of Fiji, on the motion of Sir (then Mr.) Henry Scott, passed a resolution approving of Federation.

Sir Henry Scott very kindly has acceded to our request that he write for *The Pacific Islands Monthly* an explanation of this important proposal. Sir Henry is a well-known legal practitioner in Suva and is a member of both the Executive and Legislative Councils of Fiji.

In the year 1921, I moved the Legislative Council of Fiji in the above matter and the resolution was, I understand, forwarded to the Colonial Office. But no steps have since been taken.

The object of the motion was to give publicity to the subject, and to try and bring about an interchange of ideas. To some extent this was successful, as the Kingdom of Tonga (through its Premier) did not approve, and some expression of opinion was heard from the British Solomon Islands in opposition. The question has not since been publicly debated or considered.

That there are difficulties—and practical ones—to be faced to our can deny, and it may be that it will be some years before anything further can be done, but I am convinced that sooner or later a closer union of the islands is inevitable.

In 1921 the Legislative Council of Fiji, on the motion of Sir Henry (then Mr.) Scott, K.C., passed the following motion as an expression of opinion from the Elected side of the Council:

THAT in the opinion of this Council:

(a) The interests of the Empire in the Pacific would be best served by a confederation of the British Islands and the Western Pacific Islands, governed and controlled by a common centre.

(b) That this resolution be recommended to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, respectfully asking for his approval.

The area covering what we know as the Western Pacific is, in extent, as large as the area stretching across the Continent of Africa from Mecca to the mouth of the Congo River—enormous. I would, however, like to see the representatives of all the present varied forms of government meet together at a round-table conference, to discuss the question and see whether the difficulties could not be minimised, if not overcome. I mention the following administrations by way of illustration:

(a) British Crown Colony of Fiji and Ellice Islands (controlled by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific residing in Suva);

(b) British Crown Colony of Gilbert and Ellice Islands (also controlled by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific, residing in Suva);

(c) British Solomon Islands (also controlled by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific, residing in Suva);

(d) Samoa;

(e) Tonga.

It seems to me that the question might at first be classed under three heads:

(a) Administration,

(b) Financial, and

(c) Trade and Commerce.

VARIEITY OF ADMINISTRATION.

In dealing with the first it would be difficult to conceive more varying forms of administration than now exist.

In Fiji there is an Executive Council and a Legislative Council. The former is to some extent analogous to a Ministry in a self-governing Dominion, and this Council determines the policy of the Government—subject, of course, to specific directions received by the Governor from the Secretary of State. It is the highest institution in the country, being, in effect, the Governor's Cabinet.

For some years past, in addition to the official members, two unofficial members are appointed to this Council by the King, on the recommendation of the Governor and the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The Legislative Council is the body that is partly elective. The Europeans, who are fairly liberal franchisees, elect six members and the Indians three members. The Fijians, also, have some native members who are appointed by the Governor from names selected by the Great Council of Chiefs, usually one in three years. There are 13 nominated (official) members.

The Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony, including Ocean Island, is governed by Resident Commissioners, who are directly controlled by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

The whole question of Islands Administration in this part of the Pacific wants careful, sympathetic and unselfish consideration; and, if eventually some more central and unified administration could be brought about, I feel sure that good would result. With the faults admittedly attendant on any administration, it must be conceded that in the officials whom the Colonial Office has at its command there exists a great asset in native administration; and my own view is that a Confederation of the British Islands in the Pacific will eventually lead to a greater co-ordination of work and policy, lesser costs and improved commercial and trade relations, not only amongst the islands themselves, but with the outside world.

The predominant need of all these islands is the establishment of a system of co-operation, so that they may work and act conjointly for their betterment, as a whole.

The same problems of health, hygiene, education, native life and customs, and administrative difficulties are common to them all. To contend with these problems by individual effort is but experimental, and of poor effect, compared with what unity amongst them is capable of achieving.

The British rightly regard it a bounden duty towards a primitive people to lift them up and protect them against themselves. The protection Great Britain affords these islands is not given because they are regarded as being of any great economic value. From an economic standpoint, however, I know of no better service towards the prosperity of the Western Pacific Islands than unification.

Mr. A. W. Freeman, B.A., B.E., chairman and managing director of Austral-Malay Tin Ltd., and its subsidiaries, died from heart failure on board the New Zealand liner on October 1. Mr. Freeman was a brother of Mr. W. A. Freeman, chairman of the Fiji Chamber of Commerce and Bulwark Gold Dredging Ltd.

Mr. A. W. Freeman, B.A., B.E., chairman and managing director of Austral-Malay Tin Ltd., and its subsidiaries, died from heart failure on board the New Zealand liner on October 1. Mr. Freeman was a brother of Mr. W. A. Freeman, chairman of the Fiji Chamber of Commerce and Bulwark Gold Dredging Ltd.

Mr. A. W. Freeman, B.A., B.E., chairman and managing director of Austral-Malay Tin Ltd., and its subsidiaries, died from heart failure on board the New Zealand liner on October 1. Mr. Freeman was a brother of Mr. W. A. Freeman, chairman of the Fiji Chamber of Commerce and Bulwark Gold Dredging Ltd.

Mr. A. W. Freeman, B.A., B.E., chairman and managing director of Austral-Malay Tin Ltd., and its subsidiaries, died from heart failure on board the New Zealand liner on October 1. Mr. Freeman was a brother of Mr. W. A. Freeman, chairman of the Fiji Chamber of Commerce and Bulwark Gold Dredging Ltd.

Mr. A. W. Freeman, B.A., B.E., chairman and managing director of Austral-Malay Tin Ltd., and its subsidiaries, died from heart failure on board the New Zealand liner on October 1. Mr. Freeman was a brother of Mr. W. A. Freeman, chairman of the Fiji Chamber of Commerce and Bulwark Gold Dredging Ltd.

Mr. A. W. Freeman, B.A., B.E., chairman and managing director of Austral-Malay Tin Ltd., and its subsidiaries, died from heart failure on board the New Zealand liner on October 1. Mr. Freeman was a brother of Mr. W. A. Freeman, chairman of the Fiji Chamber of Commerce and Bulwark Gold Dredging Ltd.

Mr. A. W. Freeman, B.A., B.E., chairman and managing director of Austral-Malay Tin Ltd., and its subsidiaries, died from heart failure on board the New Zealand liner on October 1. Mr. Freeman was a brother of Mr. W. A. Freeman, chairman of the Fiji Chamber of Commerce and Bulwark Gold Dredging Ltd.

Mr. A. W. Freeman, B.A., B.E., chairman and managing director of Austral-Malay Tin Ltd., and its subsidiaries, died from heart failure on board the New Zealand liner on October 1. Mr. Freeman was a brother of Mr. W. A. Freeman, chairman of the Fiji Chamber of Commerce and Bulwark Gold Dredging Ltd.

Mr. A. W. Freeman, B.A., B.E., chairman and managing director of Austral-Malay Tin Ltd., and its subsidiaries, died from heart failure on board the New Zealand liner on October 1. Mr. Freeman was a brother of Mr. W. A. Freeman, chairman of the Fiji Chamber of Commerce and Bulwark Gold Dredging Ltd.

Mr. A. W. Freeman, B.A., B.E., chairman and managing director of Austral-Malay Tin Ltd., and its subsidiaries, died from heart failure on board the New Zealand liner on October 1. Mr. Freeman was a brother of Mr. W. A. Freeman, chairman of the Fiji Chamber of Commerce and Bulwark Gold Dredging Ltd.

Mr. A. W. Freeman, B.A., B.E., chairman and managing director of Austral-Malay Tin Ltd., and its subsidiaries, died from heart failure on board the New Zealand liner on October 1. Mr. Freeman was a brother of Mr. W. A. Freeman, chairman of the Fiji Chamber of Commerce and Bulwark Gold Dredging Ltd.

Mr. A. W. Freeman, B.A., B.E., chairman and managing director of Austral-Malay Tin Ltd., and its subsidiaries, died from heart failure on board the New Zealand liner on October 1. Mr. Freeman was a brother of Mr. W. A. Freeman, chairman of the Fiji Chamber of Commerce and Bulwark Gold Dredging Ltd.

Mr. A. W. Freeman, B.A., B.E., chairman and managing director of Austral-Malay Tin Ltd., and its subsidiaries, died from heart failure on board the New Zealand liner on October 1. Mr. Freeman was a brother of Mr. W. A. Freeman, chairman of the Fiji Chamber of Commerce and Bulwark Gold Dredging Ltd.

Mr. A. W. Freeman, B.A., B.E., chairman and managing director of Austral-Malay Tin Ltd., and its subsidiaries, died from heart failure on board the New Zealand liner on October 1. Mr. Freeman was a brother of Mr. W. A. Freeman, chairman of the Fiji Chamber of Commerce and Bulwark Gold Dredging Ltd.

Mr. A. W. Freeman, B.A., B.E., chairman and managing director of Austral-Malay Tin Ltd., and its subsidiaries, died from heart failure on board the New Zealand liner on October 1. Mr. Freeman was a brother of Mr. W. A. Freeman, chairman of the Fiji Chamber of Commerce and Bulwark Gold Dredging Ltd.

Mr. A. W. Freeman, B.A., B.E., chairman and managing director of Austral-Malay Tin Ltd., and its subsidiaries, died from heart failure on board the New Zealand liner on October 1. Mr. Freeman was a brother of Mr. W. A. Freeman, chairman of the Fiji Chamber of Commerce and Bulwark Gold Dredging Ltd.

Mr. A. W. Freeman, B.A., B.E., chairman and managing director of Austral-Malay Tin Ltd., and its subsidiaries, died from heart failure on board the New Zealand liner on October 1. Mr. Freeman was a brother of Mr. W. A. Freeman, chairman of the Fiji Chamber of Commerce and Bulwark Gold Dredging Ltd.

Mr. A. W. Freeman, B.A., B.E., chairman and managing director of Austral-Malay Tin Ltd., and its subsidiaries, died from heart failure on board the New Zealand liner on October 1. Mr. Freeman was a brother of Mr. W. A. Freeman, chairman of the Fiji Chamber of Commerce and Bulwark Gold Dredging Ltd.

Mr. A. W. Freeman, B.A., B.E., chairman and managing director of Austral-Malay Tin Ltd., and its subsidiaries, died from heart failure on board the New Zealand liner on October 1. Mr. Freeman was a brother of Mr. W. A. Freeman, chairman of the Fiji Chamber of Commerce and Bulwark Gold Dredging Ltd.

Mr. A. W. Freeman, B.A., B.E., chairman and managing director of Austral-Malay Tin Ltd., and its subsidiaries, died from heart failure on board the New Zealand liner on October 1. Mr. Freeman was a brother of Mr. W. A. Freeman, chairman of the Fiji Chamber of Commerce and Bulwark Gold Dredging Ltd.

Mr. A. W. Freeman, B.A., B.E., chairman and managing director of Austral-Malay Tin Ltd., and its subsidiaries, died from heart failure on board the New Zealand liner on October 1. Mr. Freeman was a brother of Mr. W. A. Freeman, chairman of the Fiji Chamber of Commerce and Bulwark Gold Dredging Ltd.

Mr. A. W. Freeman, B.A., B.E., chairman and managing director of Austral-Malay Tin Ltd., and its subsidiaries, died from heart failure on board the New Zealand liner on October 1. Mr. Freeman was a brother of Mr. W. A. Freeman, chairman of the Fiji Chamber of Commerce and Bulwark Gold Dredging Ltd.

Mr. A. W. Freeman, B.A., B.E., chairman and managing director of Austral-Malay Tin Ltd., and its subsidiaries, died from heart failure on board the New Zealand liner on October 1. Mr. Freeman was a brother of Mr. W. A. Freeman, chairman of the Fiji Chamber of Commerce and Bulwark Gold Dredging Ltd.

Mr. A. W. Freeman, B.A., B.E., chairman and managing director of Austral-Malay Tin Ltd., and its subsidiaries, died from heart failure on board the New Zealand liner on October 1. Mr. Freeman was a brother of Mr. W. A. Freeman, chairman of the Fiji Chamber of Commerce and Bulwark Gold Dredging Ltd.

Mr. A. W. Freeman, B.A., B.E., chairman and managing director of Austral-Malay Tin Ltd., and its subsidiaries, died from heart failure on board the New Zealand liner on October 1. Mr. Freeman was a brother of Mr. W. A. Freeman, chairman of the Fiji Chamber of Commerce and Bulwark Gold Dredging Ltd.

Mr. A. W. Freeman, B.A., B.E., chairman and managing director of Austral-Malay Tin Ltd., and its subsidiaries, died from heart failure on board the New Zealand liner on October 1. Mr. Freeman was a brother of Mr. W. A. Freeman, chairman of the Fiji Chamber of Commerce and Bulwark Gold Dredging Ltd.

Mr. A. W. Freeman, B.A., B.E., chairman and managing director of Austral-Malay Tin Ltd., and its subsidiaries, died from heart failure on board the New Zealand liner on October 1. Mr. Freeman was a brother of Mr. W. A. Freeman, chairman of the Fiji Chamber of Commerce and Bulwark Gold Dredging Ltd.

Mr. A. W. Freeman, B.A., B.E., chairman and managing director of Austral-Malay Tin Ltd., and its subsidiaries, died from heart failure on board the New Zealand liner on October 1. Mr. Freeman was a brother of Mr. W. A. Freeman, chairman of the Fiji Chamber of Commerce and Bulwark Gold Dredging Ltd.

Mr. A. W. Freeman, B.A., B.E., chairman and managing director of Austral-Malay Tin Ltd., and its subsidiaries, died from heart failure on board the New Zealand liner on October 1. Mr. Freeman was a brother of Mr. W. A. Freeman, chairman of the Fiji Chamber of Commerce and Bulwark Gold Dredging Ltd.

WHERE IS SVAAP?

Anxiety for Yacht's Safety

ANXIOUS enquiries are being made in the various groups of the South Pacific for information concerning the auxiliary yacht, Svaap, owned by Capt. W. A. Robinson, who is making a voyage round the world.

The vessel visited Suva, Levuka and other ports in Fiji, and then made over to the New Hebrides, where she was last seen. From there it was expected that Capt. Robinson would proceed to the Solomon Islands, but news of his arrival has not been received.

It was his intention to proceed from there to Samarai, Papua, and have his vessel cleaned before sailing up to New Guinea. He was to have later visited the Sepik River and crossed over to Sourabaya.

After leaving the New Hebrides, Capt. Robinson would probably have struck the severe storms which were responsible for some disturbance of shipping some three months ago in that part of the Pacific.

Much anxiety is now being felt for his safety.

It is thought to be possible that he decided to go direct to Sourabaya from the New Hebrides, and this may explain the lack of news.



MORTEIN
IS BETTER

KILLS
FLIES AND MOSQUITOES etc.
STONE DEAD
NOW
DOUBLE STRENGTH
BETTER THAN EVER



We are the largest and more qualified Opticians in Australia, and our prices are moderate. For the convenience of those requiring glasses, and who are unable to visit us, on request we will post self-testing charts, which will assist you materially in the choosing of glasses yourself for reading or near work. We replace broken lenses and repair broken frames.

ALEX HALE LTD. Qualified Sight Testing Opticians
111 PITT STREET - SYDNEY
Also Five Other City Addresses. Established 38 Years

Vitality and Health are the Main Factors in Every-day Life

Put yourself in the hands of Specialists who have made an intelligent study of your requirements; it is vital to your health.

We are known everywhere as the Suppliers of the Right Goods and which put the VITAL into VITALITY. 35 years is our record of supplying Fresh Fruit, Vegetables and Produce to the leading Houses throughout the world.

GET FULLY ACQUAINTED WITH US

Tel. MA 4799; FX 4350 Private
Cable Address: PIGS, SYDNEY. Code: BENTLEYS

C. G. PIGGOTT

WHOLESALE FRUIT AND PRODUCE MERCHANTS
DIRECT IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS.
SYDNEY.

Office, Bulk Stores & Packing House: Fruit Exchange, Sydney
Sales Dept.: Fruit Exchange and City Markets, Sydney
Bank of N.S.W. Bankers.

NEW INDUSTRIES

Cook Islands Progress

CONTROL OF PESTS BY PARASITES

ENTERPRISE is shown by the Cook Islands Administration (controlled by New Zealand) in introducing new industries to that fertile territory.

The annual report to 30th March, 1930, just to hand states that a new industry was commenced in Rarotonga for the preservation of pure orange juice, and there is every possibility of this proving of great importance. Several thousand gallons were preserved during the year and found a ready market. The Administration considers that New Zealand's total requirements could easily be supplied from the Cook group, and the company is to make a bid for this trade, provided it can compete against foreign imports.

The value of the industry lies in the fact that it will absorb a considerable portion of the surplus crop of oranges, for which no shipping has hitherto been provided. Lemon juice and peel have been tried also by the company and experiments are being carried out with spices, etc.

The Administration is co-operating with the company in growing experimental plots in the Government nursery.

During the year small trial lots of annatto seed have been exported to New Zealand, where there is a demand, principally for colouring cheese. Papain samples were forwarded to the Imperial Institute, London.

Raffia and Pape seeds, imported from Madagascar, have germinated and are growing slowly. West African oil palms are growing well, but making slow progress. Excelsa coffee was imported and plants were distributed to growers.

The outbreak of "Mytilaspas" scale reported last year, which seriously affected the orange trees of Atutaki, has been completely checked by the importation of the chalcid wasp parasite. The noxious weed "Lantana" has been checked also to a great extent by the introduction of a parasite.

REDUCED TRAFFIC

Moeraki Withdrawn Indefinitely

The Union S.S. Company's island steamer Moeraki has been withdrawn from the Noumea-Fiji-Sydney service as a result of reduced passenger traffic. She will not run again until conditions warrant. As shown in our shipping columns, the steamer has taken over the cargo service, but she will not call at Noumea. Arrangements have been also made for the carriage of Fiji cargo by the Canadian-Australian Royal Mail liners Ararangi and Niagara. The Moeraki returned to Sydney from her last trip on September 25. The crew were then paid off and the vessel is lying up.

Send for Self Testing
Eyesight Charts - -

The Future of The Natives

Births Exceed Deaths

Fijians Becoming Rural Producers

Written for The Pacific Islands Monthly by Rev. T. M. Decker, of Bas. F.M.

THE islands of the Pacific are peopled by Europeans, Asiatics and Natives. The European and Asiatic are well able to champion their own cause and their future is assured.

The native races are in a different category and, for some years, they have to be treated as a degraded class by the Governments administering their islands, and by all who have the welfare of the Pacific at heart. Up to the present they have produced no leaders of outstanding ability who are able to take the nations on their behalf and represent their cause to the world.

It was the general conception, some few years ago, that the natives of the Pacific were a diminishing quantity, and that the day would come when there would be no more of them.

But this is not the outlook to-day. In most of the islands the birth rate now exceeds the death rate, and the



Fijian man—a fine type of the South Sea natives, who are rapidly being educated and Europeanized.

natives are not only increasing in numbers, but they are waking up to a sense of their own importance and natural ability. The question now is: Are they to remain the hewers of wood and drawers of water, or are they to become fellow citizens in the Pacific Islands commonwealth? The answer, of course, will be given by the natives themselves, and by the Governments responsible for their well-being.

It is obvious that a peaceful, prosperous and enlightened community is a greater asset to the country than a community where there are different strata of society, marked by a defined colour line. The mingling of the various races is not here suggested; there is a manner in which each race can live its own life and work for its own individual progress and the progress of the community or country. It is co-operation and not exploitation that makes for real progress.

The day of the native races is dawning, and with the better educational facilities now being offered in the various countries, will soon be upon us. Many of the rising generation will be attracted by clerical, commercial and industrial pursuits, but the large majority will find a livelihood as rural workers and independent farmers on their own lands.

In Fiji every encouragement is being given to the Fijians to branch out on their own. The C.S.R. Company have opened up part of the Bau Levu estate to ex-students of the Navajo Agricultural College and, already, a number have settled there and are planting sugar cane. Other ex-students of this same institution are working their own lands; and at the village of Nalila, not far from Nausori, they have a large area under cane and other crops.

At Ba and Nausorokota, the C.S.R. Company have opened up large areas to Fijians, and is assisting them to settle on the land with their wives and families.

Ninety-five per cent. of the bananas exported from Fiji are grown by Fijians, and more than half the copra produced in the Colony is grown on native plantations.

If the large native population becomes enlightened and a door will be opened to commerce and industry, leading to boundless opportunities for the present natives' sons are few, but the day is not far distant when he will desire better clothes, home comforts, better foods and other facilities that are now only being enjoyed by the more enlightened races from older countries. Supply is regulated by demand, and with the increasing of the demands of a community, there is a corresponding development.

THE TONGAN ISLANDS

Government's Troubles with Coastal Vessels

From Our Own Correspondent

NUKUALOFA, September 20.

THIS September month has seen a revival of dancing in those small circles that, for some time past, have devoted themselves so strenuously to bridge to the complete exclusion seemingly of any other indoor recreation. The arrival of an overseas ship with a complement of engaging young men was undoubtedly the cause of this sudden intermission, and we know that at least three dances successfully functioned in as many nights. Husbands who, for months, have had to stand that monthly "pay-day" torture—the never-ending complaint that the pin money allowance is insignificantly in the light of bridge demands—now move around with fairly cheerful countenance. It is thought, by certain students of feminine foibles, that bridge is on the downward grade, and that home life for "hubby" may, before long, get back to normal.

THOSE SEMI-DIESELS.

The Government despatch vessel, "Hifotua," built to the Government's specifications, has been the source of a lot of the Government's trouble since she was commissioned. Semi-Diesel type engines are now a very unpopular theme to those who were primarily responsible for their installation in this boat. Rumour hath it that the Executive contemplates cutting losses and securing full Diesel type engines, which the enlightened now say is the only solution of a difficulty which grows more and more acute each day.

Some two years ago the natives of Nukualofa Island ordered, from a Japanese firm, a vessel similar to the one to the "Hifotua." When she arrived at Tonga it was discovered that a mauling had been inflicted by the builders for their agents before delivery. The Nukualofa people had come to the end of their tether, and to the good old Government jumped to the rescue and depleted the Treasury by \$10,000 dollars. Another day, Diesel job, she lumps into port from time to time on three legs, and engineers and fitters burrow around in her depths and temporarily fix her up till the next time.

NUKUALOFA WHARVES.

Mr. Wini, Fijian Government Civil Engineer, has been requested by the Government, to have been here a month and goes away with all his belongings in the pocket to frame a report on Tongan wharves. It is understood that he will submit to the local Government his proposals.

First, the total demolition of the present wharf at Nukualofa, necessitating

Beche-De-Mer

Strange Tale of Two Socks of Justice

THE Papuan Coast, and, as a matter of fact, the whole of Papua from where the Aradur Sea, Lapérouse's-belted line of the Western division to the towering peaks of the Owen Stanley Range, extend to the Coral Sea, have been always the home of tales of mystery and adventure.

There appeared on this stage the figure of a one-legged sea captain, short-tempered, domineering—a regular blusterer—living by his wits. The clash between this personality and the feelings of a simple black race form the motive of this story.

The small lugger, under his command, was engaged in beche-de-mer fishing along the coast. It happened that they were having a poor time on the reefs, bringing little back for their hard work, and rations were accordingly lessened. Next time when they returned to the vessel with a still smaller catch, another large cut was made in their rations. Instead of at least a small rice ration, the captain gave them merely oia! from the beche-de-mer they had captured.

The crew that night "put their heads together" while the skipper was asleep, and decided on definite action. They knew that as soon as he got angry, he would hit at the nearest boy with one of his crutches, so the plan they formed was this: The little cook-boy next morning was to put salt in taboada's tea instead of sugar. When the captain struck at him with his crutch, he was to snatch it away, leaving the old man helpless. The crew would be watching, and, on seeing their opportunity, would pounce on him and put an end to him.

The following morning everything went as planned. The crew stripped their victim and put him over the side of the lugger to drown. When the culprit, with giant strength, persisted in holding on to the tubaraka, the natives hammered his finger-tips with a heavy block of wood until he released his grip. Arinib then managed to grasp the edge of the craft in his struggle for existence, so a native diver was sent down to rescue him under water until he drowned.

The crew then hauled him back on to the deck, dried him with one of his

a probable £99,000 appropriation for a new structure; Second, a lengthy extension and broadening of the present pier, costing £20,000.

Lastly, the second proposition on a much smaller scale at a cost of about £10,000.

In view of the continued depressed state of the copra market, it is a fairly safe bet to wager on the smaller scheme.

BANANAS AND COCOA

A Vanuatu correspondent writes to Nukualofa and wants to know (rather sarcastically, I think) if anybody in, or above, the Government, has ever heard that bananas and cocoa will grow in Tonga. He says:

"I have been down your way was looked coldly upon, when it wanted \$500 to purchase cocoa plants for the natives, because the Government reckoned the trucking of \$2,000 into a Jap boat a better way of assisting humanity. If this is true, let me know, and I'll get the old ear, held 'stammer'."

No, dear sir! I don't think this is other people's patience, my friend! Have patience!

An irritable catch this Vanuatu correspondent.

BEACH GOSSIP.

Every once in a while—generally, too, when the moon is at the full—some congenial idlers rubes around the "beach" disseminating some wild rumour, which has either gathered up or more likely, conceived himself. This rumour, like the snowball, reaches such dimensions in transit that, by the time it gets to the lapidary ears of, say, the fiftieth recipient, he and naturally those who follow after, are fit to collapse in incipient horror.

Friday's moon (note the Friday) brought along a fair "stammer." "I lost the old ear, and yesterday, I lost the Government and that their young navy (two little 88-ton boats) has a net liability to the extent of £10,900 a year, and it is 'fair dinkum' that there is going to be a big salary cut next year."

I didn't faint—but, how must that have sounded in the ears of some of the underpaid civil servants?

Now, we get so many laws, that 'another little one won't do us any harm,' so I suggest one, neatly drawn up, whereby 'Any person endeavouring or attempting to do anything to incite or induce any other person to attempt to endeavour to make a righteous Government be liable to three years in the 'stone jar' without the option.' It's just in the rough, but the legal fraternity will get my idea.

own towel, dressed him in his pyjamas, and laid him on his bed. The nearest while man was a hundred miles away. The boys sailed there and reported that their captain had died in his sleep. The resident did not suspect violence, and the body was duly buried.

This murder occurred some fifteen years ago, and only lately the truth has been found out. A village constable of one of the coastal villages heard a now going on over a woman. One of the natives threatened that if he did not get his way, he would "go along Govenment" and report how the old sea captain had died. The constable told the Divisional Resident, Mr. Breda, what he had overheard. As a result, four arrests were made. Two of the crew received life sentences, and two others ten years' imprisonment each—H. S. Keeney.

PROFITABLE ROADSIDE PLANTING

Big road-building schemes are under way in Fiji, and it seems likely that within a few years the principal towns and settlements will be linked by first-class motor highways.

Writing in The Fiji Times, Mr. A. Wastall urges that while road building operations are proceeding, opportunity should be taken to plant beside the highway the tree known as the Abrusian banana. The fruit of this tree is useless, but it grows easily, and its trunk attains a size of two feet in thickness, within a comparatively short time. Its fibre, when pulped, makes excellent paper, and there are valuable by-products. Mr. Wastall urges that if this planting were systematically carried out along the main roads of Fiji, the Government, in a few years, would have a huge amount of material from which it could make a valuable paper pulp, for which there is always a good market. Thus, he argues, the Fiji Government could ensure to itself a regular source of revenue.

NEW GOLD FIND IN NEW GUINEA

Mr. Bill Anderson, an old Papuan identity, has located what he considers a good goldfield, two days' walk from Wau, in the Morobe District of New Guinea. After receiving reward money, he has been followed up by many prospectors, all glad of a chance to work new territory.

Rice for the Islands

A New Australian Export

SEEKING A MARKET

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

CANBERRA, Oct. 5.
UP until a few years ago, Australia was a rice-importing country. To-day we are growing an "over" crop, and exporting about £250,000 a year in the country which we were previously sending out of it. In addition to that, we have rice for export.

For our own consumption we require a yearly crop of 25,000 tons. This year the crop promises to run to 30,000, and possibly 35,000 tons. Is there a market for the surplus? Yes—in the Pacific Islands.

The mandated territory of New Guinea alone, according to the last annual report of the Administrator, imports rice to the value of \$90,000 a year, the largest quantity coming from Burma, viz. £44,900 worth; India coming next (£35,000), then Java (£3,400), and China (£6,900). Thus there is a market right at our door.

The question is: Can we compete in price with the foreign articles? It is said that we can.

The Murrumbidgee rice-growing industry has made extraordinary headway. In 1924-25 only 152 acres were under crop; to-day the acreage totals 20,000. Last year the price per ton of the crop was sold at £11.16, per ton, but the price this year has not been quite so favourable, though the extra quantity grown more than makes up for that.

Whilst the labor of Eastern countries is cheap, the up-to-date scientific methods of cultivation in Australia give us a great advantage. Efforts have been made to induce the natives of Java and other countries to give up their primitive and wasteful methods and adopt modern machinery, but they have failed, owing to the fact that the various operations connected with rice-growing are bound up with religious rites.

Murrumbidgee growers are confident that rice-growing has come to stay. Certainly the local market is assured to them, but they are expecting to work up a substantial export trade, and their confidence is shown by the fact that they have erected two large sheds, one at Murrumbidgee, and another at Leeton for storage purposes.

One Murrumbidgee grower, Mr. R. M. Cruickshank, working his head-quarters from 11 a.m. till 5 p.m., took off 221 bags in a crop going two tons to the acre. It would take a small army of Indian or Javanese coolies many days to equal Mr. Cruickshank's six-hour record, and so it is claimed that our farmers are well able to compete with Eastern countries.

No efforts have been made to cultivate rice in New Guinea, but in Papua they have proved a failure owing to unfavourable climatic conditions, and the land which was used for the purpose has now been taken to the Government. Active steps are now being taken to exploit the market in the Islands.

In the official report on the Mandated Territory of Western Samoa for 1929-30, it is specially noted that during the March quarter of 1930 the value of £13,900 was imported to Samoa from Australia.

RESCUE OF AVIATORS

What Natives Did

OFFICIAL RECOGNITION

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Canberra, Oct. 15.

WHEN Captain Thomson and Mechanic McMurtrie, flying a three-engine Handley-Page from Salomona to Wau, in New Guinea, ran into an electrical storm and fog, and crashed into a heavily timbered mountain at a height of 8,000 feet, the Government officers at Salomona and Wau were faced with a pretty rescue job. There was nothing to indicate where the aviators had fallen, and the country is incredibly broken, and covered with dense jungle.

Two parties of natives, led by white officials, cut their way through to the wrecked plane in a few days, and found the two aviators unhurt, and subsisting on the foodstuffs which had comprised the aeroplane's cargo.

Writing to his Department from the Warden's office, Wau, Mr. J. D. McLean says:

"The part played by the native carriers in this expedition is worthy of great praise. It is conceded on all sides that their efforts contributed no small measure to the speedy rescue of the aviators. I enclose a list of prisoners who have been imposed long sentences. I trust that the work of these prisoners will be brought under the notice of the Secretary, with a view to a remission of portion of their sentences as a reward for their good conduct."

OUR FIJIAN NEWSLETTER

Successful Loan Means New Public Works—How Suva is Extending—Meat Works to Close Down

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

SUVA, October 2.

IN these days of "Cotto-Jile," when people in Australia are reported to be afflicted with depression talk, and loaded with an "over-optimism," according to a prominent financial expert, it is refreshing to hear that little Fiji has secured a loan on quite pre-war terms, and at a premium, the amount of this latest portion of the half-million loan has been floated at a premium of 10 per centum. The amount is £90,000.

The allocation of the loan will be determined at a meeting of the Legislative Council, about the middle of October. Some of these thousands have already been spent, and it is probable that some £30,000 of it will go to the extension of the bridge across the Rewa River, if the plans now before the Secretary of State are approved.

The loan has also created a very pleasant feeling in the Colony,

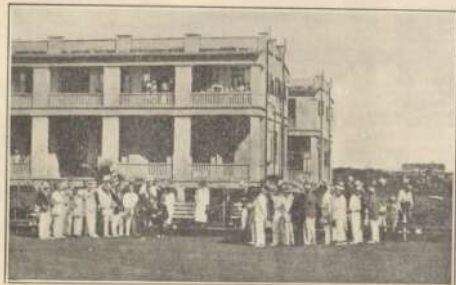
shipbuilding works, and the Grand Pacific Hotel.

Lately, the Shell Oil Company reclaimed a large area, where they have their oil stocks.

Now it is announced that A. H. Marlow and Co. Ltd., who have the big saw-mill, with engineering works, and shipbuilding yards, are about to reclaim over nine acres of this forebore, in order to concentrate their several interests. The move to Suva is north-easterly, and the town, or the business section, is steadily trending that way.

FIJI'S AIR MAIL

The air mail continues to be a great success. Not only has it annihilated distance for the expectant planter, who in the past, has wearily awaited mails often a fortnight late, but it has on several occasions recently given opportunity for business men to reach a destination in a small percentage of



Photograph of official opening of Suva Bowling Club, whose annual tournament is famous throughout Australia.

and residents are naturally elated at the suggestion that our credit stands so well in the financial court of the Empire.

A NARROW ESCAPE.

After being partly loaded with sugar at Lautoka, the motor ship Jedmoor set out for the big sugar centre at Labasa, under the care of a skilled local pilot. As she approached Malulu, the port of Labasa, she ran on to the reef off Malulu Island, which has the mouth of Labasa River.

Happily, the stranding was not a serious one, and next day she came off, but was leaking considerably. It was found that there was a hole in the forepeak and also a small one in No. 1 hold, under the water tank. Captain Twindeman, acting for Lloyd's agents, towed the ship to Labasa, where the damage. The holes were temporarily repaired and the motor ship came on to Suva, where her crew were put ashore. The cargo has been shifted ashore, and the forepeak of the ship stands up in the air, wind and rain doing but little more substantial repairs. It is said that these will allow the Jedmoor to complete her loading and proceed to London.

LUCKY FIJI!

A visitor from Australia, and who has lately visited New Zealand, when he heard a local resident wait about bad times, said: "Why, you don't know what you are talking about! If you had seen the poverty overseas, as I have done, within the past two months, you would shout 'How lucky we are!' No one who has not been out of Fiji for the past twelve months, has any conception of the bad times which are visiting the Dominion."

The visitor was simply giving a well-earned rebuke. The Colony is naturally passing through a tight pinch, owing to all our leading exports falling on a low world market, but while we have a few unemployed, there is every room for congratulation that matters are as good as they are.

One firm in Suva is actually adding to its manufacturing staff. So far, at the registry opened by the Tourist Bureau, under Government authority, only about 20 Europeans have reported as being in need of work. There are a good few half-castes also out of work, chiefly carpenters of a sort—and these get odd jobs.

Taken all round, conditions are not too bad, although pessimists say we have not seen the worst yet. There is no doubt that the estimated revenue from Customs will show a deficit, and probably our finances will be about £50,000 behind what was expected, but this will soon be made up when prices readjust themselves. There is no need for alarm. Fiji is indeed lucky.

HARBOUR RECLAMATION

All round the harbour of Suva there lies a broad strip of coral reef, which is nearly dry at low water. At several points this area has been reclaimed, and to-day, on this reef foundation, there stands the King's Wharf, the Boys' Grammar School, Cable Office, large timber yards and engineer's and

goes on to Page Page, en route to Nausorou, in time, she hopes, to see the occupier.

Mr. Joseph Carruthers is a temporary resident of Suva. He is busy writing his book, and promises a very interesting account of the political history of the Mother State, since the last days of Sir Henry Parkes. Mr. Carruthers is one of the two surviving members of Parkes's last Ministry. He is very popular among the bowlers, and is a regular attendant on the Suva green.

Mr. A. J. Vogan, P.H.C.S., has been exploring parts of the Colony, in an effort to discover traces of early Maori carvings or paintings. He claims to have found some of these in the Yasawa. He is off to Sydney by this steamer.

Captain Bennett, a big game hunter, who is said to have been in some of the Prince of Wales's expeditions, is staying in Suva. He has agreed to give a "talk" to the members of the Young People's Guild.

One of our most popular citizens, Councillor W. H. Terry, has been seriously ill for some time, and his friends are glad to hear he is improving. He is still in the hospital. Mr. Terry is of our local craft to his credit. He has been a power of strength in cricketing circles, and a pillar of St. Andrew's Church.

Medical Survey Mission to New Guinea

Early last year, Dr. P. Hermant, of France, and Dr. P. W. Clouston, of Australia, visited the Mandated Territory of New Guinea in connection with their appointment by the League of Nations to study health problems in the Pacific area. In Rabaul, they inspected the headquarters statistics, the hospitals, the laboratory, the work of the mission, etc. A tour of portion of the Territory was then undertaken, in the course of which Kavieng, Namatanai and Kaka stations were visited. Owing to limitation of time, it was not possible for them to visit mainland stations.

'SIMPLEX' FIRE EXTINGUISHERS



Will stop fires at once—

Away from City Fire Brigades, you must make your own provisions. Fires will start at most unexpected times, and without chemical protection your home or business may be ruined.

"SIMPLEX" Extinguishers put fires out with chemicals—they are much more potent than water—easy to use and quite safe.

Price is only £3/10/-, f.o.b. Sydney.

Write now for full details to—

Wormold Bros. Ltd.

Fire Protection Engineers since 1889.

"PARK WORKS" YOUNG ST.,

WATERLOO, SYDNEY, N.S.W.

All Fire Fighting Appliances are fully approved by Fire Underwriters' Association and Australian Brigades.



Delivered oven fresh and delicious in airtight tins. They keep their crisp perfection for weeks.

ARNOTT'S FAMOUS BISCUITS

SAO BISCUITS are rich and crisp, you will find them delicious in many and varied forms, with butter and cheese, with fresh or stewed fruit, with ham or paste.

Kiss in the dark—if you want to—but, when you read, use natural light—daylight for preference.

If there's no time for daylight reading use Aladdin at night—it gives the only perfect light.

The new "Instant Light" Aladdin is a handsome ornament and a real necessity in every home.



Aladdin Light Saves Eyesight.

SEE NEW STUDENT LAMP MODELS

ALADDIN INDUSTRIES, LTD.,

Aladdin House, Sydney.

F2. AN ALADDIN DEALER IN EVERY TOWN.

CLOSING DOWN

The Tova Estate and meat-canning factory, known as the Fiji Development Co., has gone into voluntary liquidation. This is most unfortunate at the present time, when there is so much unemployment, but it is understood that the company has not been a paying venture. The estate comprises some 100,000 acres of native-lease land, with a very modern cannine factory. The product—various kinds of canned meats—was quite good, and much used locally.

PERSONAL

In March next, Mr. James Palmer, of Levuka, will have reached his 50th year. He is hale and hearty, and goes about his daily business.

Mrs. Mitchell, wife of Professor Mitchell, chief of the American scientific expedition, which has established its headquarters at Nausorou, to observe the solar eclipse, is staying at the Grand Pacific Hotel, and has become quite a favourite with all who have had the pleasure of meeting her. She is a scientist herself, and takes a keen interest in the work of her husband. She

Best Quality at Reasonable Prices

4. A flock of search warrants have been issued and Constable Marsh is

The ruins of the convict prisons at Kingston, N.J. It is from this point that the boats used to put out to harvest of whales.

1. It is from this part
most of whales.

So there you are—take your choice! We live in a constant liveliness of rumour, similar to the above, and the experienced resident believes nothing whatever while entertaining himself by listening to everything.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

Another passenger on the same vessel was Nurse A. V. Priebe, who is joining the nursing staff at Rabaul. Nurse Priebe is familiar with life in the Islands, for she was formerly in the Territory for some time.



