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THE Pacific Islands Monthly

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

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MONEY ORDERS

In Mandated New Guinea

To the Editor

SIR—One naturally hesitates, in these "hard times," to agitate for any innovation where public service is concerned, that might require expenditure from the Administration's coffers. Yet there is the small matter of extending the Money Order system to post offices in the Mandated Territory that would require but slight expenditure and still be a boon to many hundreds of the residents who are not domiciled in Rabaul.

As the position is at present, all Money Orders or Postal Notes received by residents may be cashed only through the Rabaul post office, as Rabaul is the only Money Order Office in the Territory. This naturally occasions considerable delay where often communication from outstations to Rabaul is every four or five weeks.

Should residents in outlying districts desire to remit money to Australia, then drafts may be obtained on the New Guinea Trade Agent, Sydney. Still, this is not an altogether satisfactory procedure where remittances are required to be made to places other than Sydney, or the amount is too small to warrant the issuing of a draft.

In July of last year I communicated with the Chief Postmaster in Rabaul on the subject and he replied:

"Approval has been given for the extension of the Money Order to outstations. Some little time will elapse, however, before the latter approval can be given effect to."

A "little time" has already elapsed: surely eleven months is sufficient to set the machinery in motion, considering that the approval has already been given for this public convenience to become operative—I am, etc.

GORDON THOMAS

Ruka, June 3, 1931.

NEW GUINEA'S HALF MILLION

The annual report for 1929-1930 of the Territory of New Guinea shows the following native population:

New Britain	43,877
New Ireland	18,416
Bougainville	20,687
Malakal, New Guinea	289,242
Admiralty and North-western Islands	14,987
Indigenous labourers, all districts	30,130
Grand total	327,387



MISS MURIEL STARR

The eminent Canadian actress writes: "I have been a user of mercolized wax for many years and have always found it excellent for preserving the skin."

They have to use the best, the notable stage stars. Always must their skin show flawless, clear and lively, on or off the stage. You too should use mercolized wax, to beautify, protect. It does not remove hair, 2/6 and 5/6, chemists and druggists, for instance, French, German, wind-chap, etc. Don't hesitate, it is really good.

2/6

BIG FIJI FISH



This shark, weighing 234lb, and the cod, weighing 160lb, were caught at Levuka recently by a local resident. The shark put up a great fight for an hour, on a thin line, but was eventually conquered.

LABOUR COSTS IN NEW CALEDONIA

Revision Necessary

COMMISSION TO INQUIRE

From Our Own Correspondent.

NOUMEA, June 18.

IN connection with the Japanese and Indo-Chinese labourers at present working in New Caledonia under contract, a commission has been appointed to go into the question of the possible re-adjustment of their contracts. It is realized that conditions of production and economic affairs generally, have changed radically during the last few months; and it is considered that such a review has now become necessary.

The commission has been constituted with the Secretary-General of the Colony as President, the other members to consist of the Chief of the Health Department, President of the Chamber of Agriculture, President of the Labour Commission, three representatives of the mining industries, and the head of the Immigration service. Monsieur M. Lapellerie is Secretary.

The Department of Native Affairs has recently fixed lower minimum wage rates for local coloured labour, as follows, in view of the changed economic conditions:

	New Rate per Month	Old Rate per Month
Men, 18 years and over	75	75
Women, 18 years and over	75	75
Boys, up to 18	60	60
Girls, up to 18	60	60

In addition, employees must be fed, clothed, lodged and supplied with medical necessities.

During the year 1929-30, 84 overseas vessels called at the Territory of New Guinea, the total tonnage of the ships being 161,738. British vessels numbered 52, French 12, German 6, Dutch 4, American and Japanese 3, Danish and Norwegian 2.

NEW FOKKER

For Pacific Transport Co.

From Our Own Correspondent.

PORT MORESBY, July 7.

MR. Ray Farrer is expecting another Fokker plane for the Pacific Aerial Transport Co. by the July "Le Maître," due to arrive here shortly. He is expected to come over from the New Guinea goldfields to meet the incoming machine, and will assist in assembling it in conjunction with engineers of Port Moresby, and later on will fly across to Salamua.

MALOLO TO VISIT PAPUA

From Our Own Correspondent.

PORT MORESBY, July 7.

THE luxury liner, Malolo, carrying American tourists, is to call in at Port Moresby on November 19, on her world cruise, and will spend one day here in the capital.

Preparations are being made to welcome and please the visitors. Native dances, canoe races, sporting events and even aeroplane flights are being arranged, besides the usual sight-seeing tours, all the attempt to captivate and convince the tourists of the beauty and splendour of the surroundings we so melancholically live in day by day.

New Ship for Phosphate Trade

Triona's Wireless Telephone

THE Triona, which was built in the United Kingdom for the British Phosphate Commission, has taken up her running between Ocean Island, Nauru and Melbourne. The vessel has been equipped by Amalgamated Wireless (A.W.) Ltd. with a complete wireless installation. This includes an A.W.A. 15 kilowatt marine transmitter, employing C.W. and I.C.W. on both long and short waves, and speech on long waves (660 to 800 metres).

The telephony transmitter is used by the master of the vessel to speak to the British Phosphate Commission officials through their wireless telephone stations at Nauru and Ocean Island.

NEW GUINEA NATIVES DANGEROUS

Series of Attacks in Goldfields Region

UNCONFIRMED REPORT THAT LOST AIRMAN WAS KILLED

THE natives in the hinterland of the New Guinea goldfields, who have been known to be of a truculent and hostile nature, have been very treacherous of late.

The unrest seems to have commenced with the massacre in the Upper Watut district, of Hellmuth Baum, a well-known prospector, and nine of his natives.

About the same time, Messrs. Mick and Paddy Leahy, who were also prospecting in that region, were attacked and wounded.

A Papuan patrol officer, with a party of native police and carriers, who passed through this area on the way to the coast, also found the natives very hostile.

There was a rumour that Pilot Trist, of Guinea Airways' staff, who has been missing since May 23, landed his plane safely near Zenag aerodrome and was killed and eaten by the natives there. The report was investigated by the Administration officials and proved quite baseless.

The area between the Papuan border and the main dividing range of the Mandated Territory is now officially described as highly dangerous country.

Much of the trouble has been attributed to the Kikukukus, an untamed, nomadic people, who have drifted over from the Papuan border.

BAUM met his death near Surpise Creek, in the Upper Watut, only three days' walk from the main camp at Watut. The three natives, who were the only survivors from the massacre of this well-known prospector and his party, took nearly a month to get through the bush to the camp at Watut, as they had to lie low to escape capture by the searching bushmen.

They arrived thin and ill, from hunger and exposure. They said that Baum was drinking his morning coffee just at daylight, when the natives attacked without warning. They crawled under the tent flap very silently and missed Baum's arms down to his sides, whilst other waiting natives killed him.

Baum was one of the most respected men in New Guinea. No one had a better knowledge of the Morobe district, as he had spent many years in these parts. He used often to say that he could travel through New Guinea with a walking stick. He would never believe the natives guilty of treachery.

LEAHY BROS.' DESPERATE FIGHT

Two other prospectors, the Leahy brothers had a desperate fight for their lives at the hands of natives in this vicinity. At about the same time as Baum was killed, Messrs. Mick and Paddy Leahy were at Laggamah, also only three days' journey from Watut.

They were recrossing an old trail when the natives, without warning of any kind, and for no known reason, suddenly appeared at the usual hour of attack—near dawn—and made a brutal onset. A warning cry from the native carriers aroused the white men.

The Leahy brothers never kept any kind of watch in their camps, so the

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)



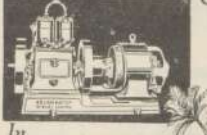
Three of the Kikukukus natives arrested and brought in by District Officer Field, near Surpise Creek, in connection with the murder of Hellmuth Baum. The three are handcuffed together. On D. O. Field's return from this region he reported that the area between the Papuan border and the main dividing range was highly dangerous.

—Photo by courtesy of L. V. Waterhouse.

Page Two

THE PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY, JULY 17, 1931

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N. Guinea Natives Dangerous

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

warning came too late for them to secure any weapons with which to prevent trouble. They bravely managed to save their carriers from harm, but were badly hurt themselves.

Mick Leahy was battered unconscious by a "pineapple" club. Paddy Leahy was speared through the shoulder, but, despite his injury, he was successful



Mr. Mick Leahy, one of the Leahy Brothers, who were speared through the shoulder by natives in the New Guinea goldfields region.

In scaring the invaders off and in getting his brother to the Watut camp without a further attack.

Both men are now at Salamoa, where they are making good recovery from their injuries, although the knock that Mick Leahy received from the club has so far left him deaf in one ear.

These two brothers, like Holmuth Baum, are thoroughly experienced in all bushcraft. Neither of them had



Some of the police party with the six natives arrested near Surpise Creek in connection with the murder of Mr. Baum. D. O. Feldt is in the centre of the group. The men are handcuffed together and attached to a bamboo.

—Photo by courtesy of T. V. Waterhouse.

ever felt the slightest fear of bush natives. Mick Leahy, in company with M. Dwyer, during last year carried out an important trip across New Guinea. On that occasion they were sent out to prospect in Central New Guinea as the result of a fund subscribed by residents of the goldfields.

THREE ATTACKS A DAY

Still a third party has been attacked. A Patrol Officer from Papua, together with another European, seven

was sick, walked to a village and tried to make friends, but he was struck down and killed. After holding a big sing sing the kanakas ate him. They then took the cargo from the plane and covered the machine with grass. The Zenag natives have previously proved to be of a peculiar type and



District Officer Feldt photographed on his return from Surpise Creek with Kanaka prisoners.

—Photo by courtesy of L. V. Waterhouse.

while not actively hostile they are regarded as unreliable and dishonest. Police parties left for Zenag as soon as this news was received. It is now reported that one party has returned owing to the hostility of the natives.

On July 11, the Administrator advised the Prime Minister (Mr. Scullin) that there was no foundation for the report that Trist was killed by natives.

A description of the Kanaka people, who are blamed for some of these disorders, appears elsewhere in this issue.

Revenue of the New Guinea Administration during 1929-30 totalled £330,642 and expenditure £352,312. As the year opened with a surplus of £20,283, there was a surplus at June 30, 1930, of £2,714.

THAT QUARTER MILLION LIMIT

Reviewed at Canberra

Much Delay But No Embargo

CANBERRA, July 14.

NOT much further progress has been made by the Canberra authorities concerning that section of the Transfer of Land Control Ordinance (N.G.) which provides that no person or firm may have an interest in land in New Guinea, "which land is in the opinion of the Administrator, of a value of more than £250,000."

The position is that the trading firms operating in New Guinea, which give financial assistance to the land owners there, have made monetary advances on properties which altogether represent a value in excess of £250,000. The firms concerned have asked that either the Ordinance be reviewed so that the amount can be altered; or that the system be altered so that the amount of their advance, rather than the value of the property on which the advance is made, shall limit their total interest. At present, if the advance is only £100 and the Administrator's estimate of the value of the property is £10,000, the £10,000 and not the £100 is the figure taken into calculation in connection with the £250,000 limit.

If neither of these alternatives can be accepted, the firms point out, transactions in excess of the £250,000 limit must be referred by the Administrator in New Guinea to the Minister in Canberra, and must receive his personal sanction. This entails considerable delay, just at a time when many plantation owners urgently need assistance, and the firms ask that at least some method be devised of speeding up the process under which the applications are submitted to the Minister for his approval.

The officials of the Prime Minister's Department have considered the firms' representations very sympathetically; but they point out that it is extremely difficult to alter the system without altering the underlying principles of the Ordinance. They say it is essential that transactions in excess

of the £250,000 limit be controlled by the Minister; and they point out, although there may have been some delay, no application has been vetoed by the Minister. In other words, the financial assistance sought by plantation owners from the big trading firms has been approved in every case. There has been no Ministerial embargo. Every case, however, has to be dealt with on its merits.

It was explained further that the Ordinance has been referred to the Crown Law authorities; but the latter have been extremely busy on legislation arising out of the Australian Premiers' Agreement, and nothing has been done yet with the New Guinea matter.

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Churn—Size 1-B - - - £5/10/-

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The Kukukuku

Natives Who Are Disturbing Goldfields

Wild Papuan Tribes

THERE is a marked resemblance between the native prisoners captured by District Officer Field, of the New Guinea Administration, in connection with the murder of Helmut Baum, and the natives in the accompanying photo, which was taken by Mr. G. F. W. Zimmer, of the Papuan Administration, during a trip to the interior in 1925, when he visited the Kukukuku natives.

The same hood, which is a protection against rain and sun, is worn and there is the same small sporran-like garment made of reeds. The only notable difference is that the native in Mr. Zimmer's photo is wearing thigh bones.

A further link between these two tribes is provided by the fact that the Papuan Patrol Officer, who was recently subjected to a "mailing" from the Papuan border to the New Guinea gold fields, described the country passed through as Kukukuku. The Kukukuku in Papua are known to be truculent and at different times have given much trouble.

The Lieutenant-Governor of Papua, Sir Hubert Murray, in his pamphlet "Recent Exploration in Papua," gives

the following interesting information regarding this tribe and the country which they inhabit.

"In the Gulf Division the exploration of the country between Kerema and the Vailala—the home of the so-called Kukukuku—was completed in 1919 and the following years. The Kukukuku live in the mountainous hinterland of the Gulf of Papua, from the Lakekamu to the Vailala, and the same Kukukuku is a nick-name derivatively applied to them by the Motu traders, who sail along the coast in their lakatos on their trading expeditions to the rivers of the Gulf.

"There is, in fact, so far as I am aware, no particular connection between the various tribes of Kukukuku who call themselves by different names and who have no common language, but they resemble one another in their general mode of life (in which they differ little, if at all, from other mountain tribes), and in the way in which they have succeeded in striking terror



Kukukuku men of the Mahiki tribe, Papua, showing the peculiar head wear for protection from both sun and rain. It is worn by the children from the time they can walk.

into the coastal people, who class them altogether as a type of every-thing barbarous and inhuman.

"I can remember only one man who was entirely free from this almost superstitious horror of the Kukukuku. He was a man called Varasina, a native of the village of Motu Motu, in the Papuan Gulf, who voluntarily accompanied me as a guide when I went into the Kukukuku country in 1919. He had been there before, he said, first of all with his father, when he was a boy. The father was killed by the Kukukuku and the son swore to avenge his death. So when he became a man, he went up again and paid back for his father by killing the first Kukukuku that he met. And he was quite ready to go again; he had no fear of them, he said, and he was not satisfied that his father had been fully 'paid for'.

"The establishment of the Government Station at Kerema had stopped the raids of these people on the coast, but, until 1916, little had been done to explore their mountain home in the neighbourhood of the Albert and Nabo Range.

"In the years 1916 and 1917, Mr. Skelly, Assistant Resident Magistrate, and other officers working from Kerema, succeeded in dispelling the cloud of doubt and uncertainty which had hitherto hung over this portion of the territory.

PARTY'S STRANGE WELCOME.

"After ascending the Dohiti River, the party arrived at the first Kukukuku village, and met with a most cordial reception, though Mr. Skelly was at first rather concerned with the facility with which these natives became unconscious on apparently the slightest provocation. When I approached the village," he says in his report, "the people stood and gazed at me, and in less than two minutes there were people fainting and collapsing all around me. Four men and three women collapsed at my feet in a heap. I called out to bring some water, but chief Arivi explained to me that it was all right, and no one appeared to be alarmed. The same thing happened at another village further on. Chief Kavilahu came to meet me," says Mr. Skelly in his report, "but as soon as I caught hold of his arm, he collapsed at my feet in the bed of the creek. The whole crowd assembled round me and in a few seconds five men were stretched out in the bed of the creek."

"Mr. Skelly described the dress of the men of these tribes as being the same as that of the women—a small sporran-like garment made of reeds in front of the body, and a long cloak behind, which they slip over their bodies as a protection against rain and use for sleeping in."

"Further investigations of this district have been made quite recently (1921) by Mr. Bastard and Mr. Lamb-

News From New Caledonia

New Bounty for Coffee Planters

From Our Own Correspondent

AN official communiqué announces that a bounty of two francs per kilo for coffee exported is to be granted to New Caledonian planters. In view of the low prices now ruling this will give a good deal of satisfaction in the Colony.

Some of the Colonists who are just commencing coffee-growing consider that there should also be a bounty spread over a period granted to them to enable them to finance the putting into production of their plantations.

Monument to Field Marshal Haig.—A committee has been formed in France to erect a monument to the Commander-in-Chief of the British armies in France in the Great War, the late Field-Marshal Haig. A committee has been formed in Nouméa in order to collect subscriptions from New Caledonians in connection with the above project. The President, Lieutenant-Colonel Amalric, in charge of the local military forces.

Personnel.—Recent arrivals at Nouméa from France are Monsieur A. Barreau, of Maison Barreau; Dr. R. Magu, surgeon, of H. P. Magu, in la Gallaude. Government official from Madagascar, who is spending a holiday in New Caledonia.

Aviation.—Captain Brown, formerly of the Australian Flying Corps, is the first aviator to give regular flights in this Colony. He has been doing this for some time and his services in transporting mails and making urgent trips with passengers in New Caledonia have proved of very great utility.

Hotel de Plaisance.—Visitors to New Caledonia will be interested to know that this delightful little resort reopened on 1st June. The layout of the farm and its proximity to the sea, with long sandy beach, have made it a very pleasant holiday resort for those wishing to spend a few quiet days away from Nouméa.

Military Service.—In connection with the compulsory service in the local military forces which is undergone by all French citizens, the examining board sat at the Town Hall, Nouméa, on Tuesday, June 16. The lads who came up for inspection were the second section of the 1930 class, consisting of those born between 1st June and 31st December, 1910, and those of the first section of 1929 class, consisting of those born between 1st January and 31st May, 1911. Also included were those born prior to 1st June, 1910, who became French subjects by naturalisation, or became liable for service by other means.

Ex-Service Settlers.—In order to encourage settlement on the land in New Caledonia, a proposal has been put on foot in Paris to settle a number of ex-members of the French forces, who took part in the Great War, on the land in this Colony. The proposal is in its early stages and will no doubt require a good deal of consideration and preliminary study before the necessary funds are advanced to purchase and equip the land.

It is considered that there is a satisfactory prospect of a limited number of ex-servicemen being sent together with some local returned soldiers, being able to make good in the Colony, subject of course to the selection of the best type and naturally those who have had previous agricultural experience. At the same time it must be kept in mind that a proportion of the colony is quite unsuited for development.

Fifty Years of Education.—In order to commemorate the existence, for a period of 50 years of free primary education throughout France and her colonies, suitable celebrations have been arranged at Nouméa. It was on 18th June, 1881, that the Jules Ferry Ministry passed a law making primary education compulsory and free to all throughout the Republic.

The celebrations at Nouméa are taking the form of a concert given by the Old Scholars' Association, a march of all school children through the streets of Nouméa, headed by their fine band, and various other activities.

The Matin Newspaper.—In order to obtain first hand, some information for his paper, M. Perre, of the staff of the well known Paris daily Le Matin, has arrived at Nouméa. It is anticipated that the Colony will receive some useful publicity in the Paris press as the result of his visit.

den, of Kerema, and the Nabo mountains and the country between that range and the coast are fairly well known. The native population is very small and, though they have no particular desire for the blessings of civilisation as proposed to them by the Papuan Government, they naturally have, according to Mr. Lambden, "lost all their nervousness, and instead of fainting or running away, are inclined to be rather effusive in their welcome and in their demonstrations of affectionate regard for the strangers."

From the above it would seem that it is a tribe of these Kukukuku men who have crossed the border and are menacing the New Guinea gold field country.

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"Seabrook's" Honey, 2lb. tins, per tin -/8	Canned Vegetables, "Aunt Mary's" -/7
"Globe" Brand Sheep Tongues, 12oz. tins, per tin -/4	Cabbage, 1lb. tins, per tin -/7
"Agar" Brand Sheep Tongues in glass 1lb. jars, ea. 1/10	Carrots, 1lb. tins, per tin -/7
"Agar" Brand Calves Tongues in glass 1lb. jars, ea. 2/4	Celery, 1lb. tins, per tin -/8
Libby's Spaghetti, 1lb. tins -/11	Green Peas, 1lb. tins, per tin -/10
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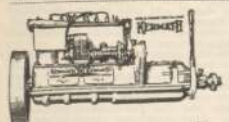
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"MAWEENA"

Capt. Thurston Departs in New Yacht.

A fine new motor yacht, the Mawena, which was specially built at Hobart for Capt. J. A. Thurston, of Drina River Plantation, New Britain, arrived in Sydney during the month and later left direct for Rabaul in charge of the owner.

She is of 83 tons net and is registered with the Royal Perth Yacht Club of which Capt. Thurston is a member. She is equipped with 100 horse-power Fairbanks-Morse Diesel engines, and carries an electric light plant which also operates a refrigerator. Her accommodation is very roomy and comfortable. She is fitted with a wheelhouse, which is very complete and even includes a miniature engine-room telegraph.

Mr. W. Davies is mate of the vessel, and seven natives from the Admiralty Islands comprise the crew.

Capt. Thurston's plantation is situated on the south coast of New Britain, 130 miles from Rabaul. It has been recently cleared prior to commencing the planting of coconuts and kapok.

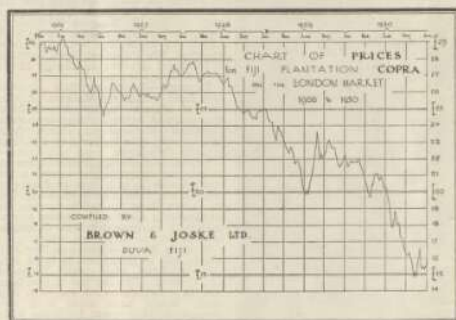
COPRA'S MELANCHOLY RECORD

Brown and Joske on Market Movements and Probable Future

THE following carefully-reasoned and interesting summary of the copra market was issued, early in June, by Messrs. Brown and Joske Ltd., of Suva, to the members of the Coconut Planters' Union. The article is so valuable that we have taken the liberty of publishing it for the information of South Seas planters generally.

THE time seems opportune to consider briefly the state of copra, and for the guidance of our numerous clients who are interested in copra in one shape or another we have prepared a chart giving a picture of the fluctuations in the price of Fiji plantation copra for the five years from 1926 to 1930 inclusive.

It forms a melancholy record of the fall from fortune's favour of the coconuts of the Pacific. Two months ago



one would have said that it was incredible that such a fall could so yet further. However, in the middle of April, the economic barometer again declined and the destructive sale became a smashing hurricane. The price of copra, which two years ago was £27 in London, was last week quoted at £10 per ton!

In Suva to-day local market price is £6. (Of course shippers through the Coconut Planters' Union Ltd. receive more than this.) From this price must be deducted approximately 17/6 per ton to cover freight from the plantation to Suva, and it must be remembered that included in the present price is the benefit of an exchange premium on London, which to-day is worth about 12/6 a ton. The position is thus quite impossible for the planter the world over and, if it continues, will lead to the shutting down of plantation after plantation within a short period of time.

What is the cause of this disastrous condition? There are many theories put forward by many learned economists, but the one thing which is clear is that there has been a huge over-production of every sort of raw material and the world has been unable, under the existing means of distribution, to absorb it. In numbers of cases restriction has been tried and produce pools have been formed. In the case of copra, such a thing is manifestly impossible, for which in the long run we will feel thankful. The natural laws of supply and demand will operate all the quicker and so recovery will come sooner.

In particular, copra has been influenced by the huge supplies of whale oil. In 1910-1920, the output of whale oil averaged 90,000 tons per annum. This has jumped stupendously. In 1929 output was 225,000 tons; by 1929 it was 300,000 tons; and by 1930 450,000 tons. The output for the 1931 season is expected to total 600,000 tons.

Every whale fishery in the past has followed the same course—first a period of rapid development and profitable enterprise, followed by collapse and final failure. By the 15th century the Basques had exterminated the Nordkaper whales from the Bay of Biscay—in the 16th century the Newfoundland fisheries rose and fell. In the 17th century to the middle of last century a series of fisheries in northern seas, one after the other, flourished and failed; and one by one the great British whaling ports gave

up. Hull, once famous for its whaling, sent its last ship in 1888.

Just when it seemed that whaling in the north was dead, a Norwegian invented the modern harpoon gun. That enabled a fresh species of whale to be attacked. Then history repeated itself once more and, for many years now, only a few small stations have been operated in the north.

Then whaling was started in the Antarctic—and we have seen the top of that particular boom. If all the

other whaling booms have flourished and failed, then any reason to doubt that this particular one will come to the same end?

The great Unilever Combine committed themselves in the autumn of 1930 to purchase huge quantities of the 1931 season's catch of whale oil at £25 per ton. It is generally estimated that, given a reasonably good catch, whale oil is produced by modern methods at a cost of £15 per ton. Thus, whaling companies, which the season before had received £30 per ton, have been able to reap a wonderful harvest. But the day of reckoning has come. Those companies which did not accept the Unilever offer of last year have now to take £12 or £13 per ton, and consider themselves fortunate to sell at that.

The unsold surplus oil in May was said to total 70,000 tons, and there was the usual talk of formation of a pool to hold it off the market until next season. However, Unilever has created consternation amongst whalers by announcing that it will send its own fleet to the Antarctic in 1931-32 to procure the 50,000 tons of whale oil needed in 1932. The general opinion in London seems to be that this season Unilever got landed with such a vast quantity of whale oil that all its factories have had to be turned over to handling whale oil alone. This policy cannot suit Unilever, with its vast interests in West Africa, the Solomon Islands, etc., and in that lies the salvation of the coconut planter.

It takes approximately 11 tons of copra to make 1 ton of coconut oil. After whale oil has been hardened it

PAPUAN SUGAR

New Industry Full of Promise

From Our Own Correspondent.

OF the two sugar companies that are under way in Papua—Sangara Sugar Estates Ltd. and the Papuan Rural Products Ltd.—the Sangara company stands out as being especially promising.

It is situated in Buna Bay, North-east Papua, 200 miles from Samarai, and comprises an area of 20,000 acres. Already 25 acres have been planted with cane. It is now six months old and it is expected to produce 60 tons to the acre. The cane planted is exclusively Budia, indigenous to Papua, brought back from Queensland, where it has been extensively grown for 30 years. This planted area is estimated as a nursery to provide for the future development of 3,000 acres. The proposal is to establish a mill with a capacity of 25,000 tons of sugar per annum.

Arrangements have been completed for a large flotation which calls for a capital of half a million pounds. This contribution is being sought in all States of Australia, India, and in the United Kingdom. The company's proposition has already received support in Australia.

A stabilised agreement by a group of the world's sugar producers to combat the falling price of sugar, due to over-production, has already shown a powerful leverage on the sugar market, although there has not been sufficient time for any beneficial results.

Papuan grown sugar would have preference on the English market, as an Imperial product, and would, therefore, receive the British preference of £4 3/4 per ton.

The Hon. A. H. Bunting and Mr. Tom Nevill, of this Territory, who are directly interested in the Sangara Co. have just lately returned from Australia by the incoming Morinda. They have been down on business connected with the company.

can be used for precisely the same purposes as coconut oil. Therefore the value of coconut oil is governed by that of whale oil. Probably, copra is worth more, since there is the value of the coconut meal to be taken into consideration, and again, the operation of hardening and refining whale oil is said to cost round about £5 a ton. Of course, comparison of prices is largely guess work, but it is significant that Unilever thought it good business to make their big purchases of whale oil at £25 per ton at a time when copra had been forced down to about £20 per ton, and coconut oil was selling round about £30 per ton.

What of the future? Over-production in the oils and fats market and in other markets, is its own corrective; and so, in a year or two, supply may be expected to balance demand. On the assumption that whale oil costs about £15 a ton to produce, then we might say that the future price of whale oil would range between £18 and £20, and estimating from that we get a figure of somewhere about £15 per ton for copra. This would mean that the planter would receive for his copra somewhere between £9 and £10 per ton f.o.b. plantation in Fiji. From this we derive some measure of gauging the present value of plantations in Fiji. We should add that it does not look as though ever future prices will be reached for at least six months, possibly longer.

In the meantime our only comfort lies in the fact that it must be half a century since copra was £10 in London; that copra, palm kernels, groundnuts and everything else is in similar straits; and that the present position is like that particular proposition of Euclid in which he proceeds to prove that such and such a thing cannot be, by the argument of reducing it to an absurdity.

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BOUNTY MEMORIES

The Pitcairners' Anniversary

CELEBRATED ON NORFOLK ISLAND

From Our Own Correspondent
NORFOLK IS., June 20.

JUNE 8 was a great day on our island. For the first time for 50 years we celebrated Anniversary Day—that is, the anniversary of the landing of the Pitcairners on Norfolk 75 years ago.

For many years after their arrival the Islanders made a special celebration of the event and acted a pageant which embodied the outstanding incidents of the famous mutiny on the King's ship *Bounty*, in which their forefathers participated. But with an increasing influx of "outsiders"—as we are still called when the kinder name "mainlanders" is withheld—the custom fell into disuse; and those of us interested in old things of the past had to be content with stories told by the elders of the community.

This year, however, convinced at last, we hope, of our real interest and sympathy, the leading Islanders consented to re-enact their historic play, and did so before a thronged and appreciative audience, which gathered in Kingston at an early hour, ready for every entertainment the day might offer.

The quarter deck of the *Bounty* had been reconstructed, and it was walked by Commander Bligh and his First Lieutenant Christian, who led the mutiny 150 years ago. Scenes also took place within the big courtyard that surrounds our administrative offices. Remarkable costumes were improvised and no one took part who was not an actual descendant of the original mutineers. They were reviewed by Colonel Bennett, our present administrator, who was accompanied by Mrs. Bennett and Captain Stopp, acting private secretary, while the rest of us stood around or accompanied them from place to place as the exigencies of the play demanded.

The official proceedings terminated with a visit to our cenotaph and the laying of a wreath by "Commander Bligh" in memory of those who left this peaceful little land to fight and die far overseas in the Great War.

While the Islanders played the mainlanders at cricket on the village green the womenfolk were busy assembling a feast that will long live in the memory of those lucky enough to take part in it. On acres of tablecloths laid end to end beneath the old grey prison, where every delicacy the island could furnish was laid out. There were turkeys and ducks and geese and sucking pigs and grown-up pork and whole hams and every kind of vegetable, including the island dish, "pilpil," which is composed of bananas, green or ripe, or else sweet potato mashed and packed and baked just like a Yorkshire pudding in a big dish and cut and served in slices, with hot or cold meat. And there were plum puddings, rich with fruit, reeking with brandy and served with cream or custard; tarts and jellies and pies; all washed down with cups of strong, sweet tea.

And we sat in rows and rows on the ground—Islanders and settlers side by side, with visitors and the lone stranger sandwiched in between. For if there is anything the Islanders understand, it is hospitality and the art of making everybody at home and one with the rest. No one was forgotten, no one was neglected; all were welcome, and all were at ease.

The day came to a close with an old-time dance, held in the Rawson Hall, where all our public entertainments take place.

SULLEN SPIRIT IN SAMOA

Visiting Journalist Says Gesture of Conciliation is Called For

THE following summary of the position in Samoa appeared in *The Auckland Star* on June 17. The article—because it came apparently from a source completely without bias—caused much comment in New Zealand.

A MUCH-TRAVELLED JOURNALIST

Mr. Marc T. Greene, foreign correspondent of *The Christian Science Monitor*, *The New York Sun* and other American journals, has just passed through New Zealand after four weeks' residence in Samoa. Mr. Greene has personally investigated conditions in Samoa under the Soviet, he knows first hand the story of the Chinese Republic, and his special work for journalism relates to happenings of international importance.

Mr. Greene's impressions of Samoan conditions are not altogether palatable to New Zealanders, but his experience of many forms of government, and a close knowledge of Polynesia give his opinions some weight.

"The first impression one gets in the place," said Mr. Greene, "is that there is too much militarism. With all due respect to the present administrator, for whom I have high regard, and who is doing his best under the policy laid down, I think it would have been wiser had the New Zealand Government appointed a civil administrator. Instead of talking of expedition and discipline and disloyalty in Samoa, there should be more references for sympathy, and an attempt to understand the psychology of the people."

RELEASE POLITICAL OFFENDERS

"There has been no end of talk and your people are hoping that things will calm down. I am convinced that they have not calmed down. Something more than a passive attitude is now needed to make things right in Samoa. A definite gesture of conciliation is called for. Go beyond words, and release all the political prisoners."

Mr. Greene explained that, apart from the few desperadoes, there are many scores of political offenders imprisoned in Samoa. "I saw fifty of them in one group, working in the plantations, and the bananas you enjoy in New Zealand—some of them—have been produced by this kind of convict labour."

It was suggested to the critic that a general release of offenders would be regarded by Samoans as a sign of weakness, but Mr. Greene strongly disagreed. Such an idea might, he remarked, be created in the mind of the Chinese people, but it was quite different with the Samoans, who had a different psychology.

"And it is also quite a wrong idea that conditions are improving. They are getting worse. Things are quiet, but it is a passive resistance, which becomes more sullen. The Samoans are following the advice given in the last words of Tamasese: 'Do not do more to bring about bloodshed.' Nevertheless, when such a strained position exists, something may break out."

REPRESENTATION WANTED

When he was asked to suggest an alternative to the present policy, Mr. Greene said that the principal complaint of the Samoan people should be considered, that they have no voice in the government of their country.

A reminder of the Council of Falepua provoked the criticism that these 35 Samoans are to all intents and purposes subsidised by the Government.

Mr. Greene declared that a more representative constitution was needed.

somehow on the lines of that proposed for American Samoa. There is a Bill before Congress, with every prospect of adoption this year, providing for autonomy for this territory. The naval governor is to be replaced by a civilian, and American Samoa given a Parliament elected by the people. This will follow the lines adopted in the Philippines, excepting that in the latter country there is a military governor.

"This Bill already has been passed and is shortly coming into operation."

—Ed. P.M.

EXAMPLE OF TONGA

"New Zealand has made a success of its administration of Rarotonga," continued Mr. Greene, "and I know from personal knowledge of that group that the Administrator, Mr. Ayson, has won not only the respect, but the affection of the people. You have suggested that under Samoan rule the health, education and economic conditions of the natives might go back, but they are an exceedingly cleanly race, and I would have no fear on that score. Such a Government would have to be under the direction of a European governor with power of veto."

"If New Zealand wants an example to follow, it could take some points from the Crown protectorate of Tonga. I have never seen a happier native people. They are ruled by a Queen and a Parliament which supports a Cabinet, including a New Zealand Minister of Finance. European control over finances would be essential. I became friendly with some of the Samoan chiefs," concluded the American journalist. "At first—so bad is the atmosphere of suspicion—they took me for a spy, but I eventually got far enough into their confidence to know that they would receive such a practical gesture from your Government as I have indicated, with real gratitude and appreciation."

"General Hart, the new Administrator, has shown every desire for conciliation, but in the absence of a tangible indication, his efforts are bound to fail. No amount of further talk will be convincing."

NAURU'S TRADE

Although Nauru is a somewhat isolated territory, without a regular steamship service with Australia, it is a purchaser of large quantities of Australian goods.

There are on the island, in addition to 1,400 Nauruan natives, about 150 Europeans and 1,100 Chinese engaged in working the phosphate deposits. This community imports each year goods to the value of about £150,000 and exports anything from £300,000 to £400,000 worth of phosphates. Much of the import trade is with Australia and the official report for last year shows that the imports included the following:

Miscellaneous foodstuffs	£23,128
Motor vehicles	2,119
Timber	1,808
Tobacco	1,418
Clothing	1,281
Liquors	2,800
Drugs and medicines	2,509

Nauru is one of the most prosperous communities in the Pacific. Its revenue is generally considerably in excess of its public expenditure and its annual statement of accounts shows that it always has a substantial cash balance in hand.

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Swedish Safety Matches	6/- gross
Rice, 50lb. Bags	11/9 bag
Tea, 5lb. Cartons	9/- carton
Tea, Half Chests, about 50 lbs.	8d. lb.
Campbell's Soups	8/9 doz. tins
Dates, by box, about 70 lbs.	4jd. lb.
Nestle's Condensed Milk, 4 dozen in case	39/- case
Sugar-Coy, Golden Syrup, 36 x 2 lb. tins	10/- case
Sugar, 70 lb. Bag Coy, 1A.	16/- bag

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FRENCH CORN CURE—1/- Tin

Anthony Horderns' celebrated French Corn Cure. It is without doubt one of the best corn cures manufactured. In two sizes.

Anthony Horderns' Price Small Tin, 1/-; Large Tin, 1/6

CASCARA TABLETS—1/3 Bottle

Anthony Horderns' pharmaceutical standard Cascara Tablets. 100 in bottle.

Anthony Horderns' Price 3-grain, 1/3 bottle; 5-grain, 1/9 bottle

LAXATIVE VEGETABLE TABLETS—1/9

Anthony Horderns' pharmaceutical standard Laxative Tablets. 100 tablets in bottle.

Anthony Horderns' Price, bottle 1/9

A.P.C. TABLETS—1/- Packet.

Anthony Horderns' A.P.C. Powders, for Headaches, Influenza, Rheumatism, etc. 12 powders in packet.

Anthony Horderns' Price, Packet 1/-

8-oz. PHOSPHORISED QUININE AND IRON TONIC—2/-

Anthony Horderns' Phosphorised Quinine and Iron Tonic, for nervous debility, brain fog, loss of appetite, loss of vitality, sleeplessness, weariness, etc. 8oz. bottle.

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INFLUENZA MIXTURE—2/- Bottle

Anthony Horderns' Influenza Mixture. Quickly relieves Influenza, Colds, Glands in the head, etc. 8oz. bottle.

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Anthony Horderns' Bismuth Indigestion Mixture. A quick and effective remedy for the immediate relief of Indigestion, Heartburn, Acidity, etc. 8oz. bottle.

Anthony Horderns' Price, per Bottle 2/6

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GOOD GOLD AT MISIMA

Mount Sina Gold Fields (Papua) N.L. has received advice from the mine manager at Misima (Louisa Islands Eastern Papua) that he had deposited gold valued at £150, which had been won from 50 tons.

He added that the mill, which was working well, was treating good ore from the No. 4 tunnel. He advised increasing the plant.

PATROL ATTACKED

In New Guinea Hinterland

NATIVE SERGEANT'S GOOD WORK

From Our Own Correspondent

RABAUL, June 1.
RECENTLY a Patrol Officer and his party were attacked by the inhabitants of Indipi Village, in the Bombia area. This area is in the hinterland of Wewak, a sub-district of Aitape.

During the attack, two native police and one of the local tribesmen were wounded.

As soon as the news was received by the District Officer at Aitape, he dispatched native police reinforcements to the patrol officer and made preparations to visit the scene himself.

The patrol officer, being hampered with his wounded, and having only a small party of native police with him, decided to return to his base at Aitape with the wounded. Meanwhile the native police reinforcements, in charge of an Acting-sergeant, dispatched by the District Officer, had missed the patrol officer's party, so they decided to remain in the district and camped in a friendly village close to Indipi.

The patrol officer, upon arrival at Aitape, ascertained that the reinforcements had missed him, and after making his report and discussing the matter with the District Officer, returned to the hostile district to pick up his reinforcements and continue his patrol.

The Acting-sergeant of native police took things into his own hands and did not wait the return of the patrol officer. He ascertained that the attack was not intended against the patrol officer's Government party, but that it was against a native woman of the carriers. It appears that this carrier, who had been picked up at a neighbouring village, and married woman of Indipi against the wishes of her step-father, hence the attack.

The sergeant and his party arrested all the persons involved in the raid, and returned them to Aitape for trial by the District Officer. This was accomplished without violence of any kind. The native sergeant displayed a remarkable amount of intelligence, patience and tact.

On the return journey to Aitape a fight was stopped between the natives of Yakamul and Uluu, over a question of some stolen food. The combatants were separated and arrested before any real damage had been done. The new prisoners were added to the party and all brought into Aitape for trial. The prisoners have all been dealt with and the wounded are progressing satisfactorily.

Meantime, the patrol officer has again gone on his way, continuing his patrol in unknown and uncontrolled areas.

SESAME OIL

Might Be Islands Product

A correspondent has asked for information about sesame oil.

Sesame (sesamum indicum) is a hardy annual plant, 2 to 3 feet high and is extensively grown in India, Ceylon, Africa, Jamaica, Japan and Asia Minor. From the seeds which it produces there is pressed one of the finest cooking oils known, worth about £25 per ton. The oil is clear and limpid, varying in colour from a pale yellow to a dark amber. It has no smell and is not liable to become rancid. Sesame oil is much in demand—8,000 tons were produced in 1926. Mandalay is the centre of the sesame trade. The seed sown straight into the ground, without preparation, and it yields 45 to 55 per cent. of oil and a very valuable cattle fodder.

In India, where over 4,000,000 acres are planted with sesame the oil is used for culinary purposes, soap manufacture, medicine, and the manufacture of perfume. The seed is sown broadcast on ploughed ground and harrowed in. The crop is harvested in three or four months after planting. It is often grown as a catch crop. There are two varieties, one producing white and the other black seeds—the latter is more largely grown and yields the better oil.

In India it is planted in warm, temperate or sub-tropical regions, being cultivated as autumn or winter crop in the warm north and as a summer crop in the colder. It requires a moderate rainfall. The best soil is a well drained alluvial loam, although it can be grown on poor land, but with a reduced yield. When the plants are cut they are tied in bundles or thrown into heaps to dry. The pods then burst and release the seeds.

Much of the "best olive oil" is really sesame oil, and it is used freely in the best quality of marmalade. About 20 bushels of seed from an acre may be obtained, which will yield approximately 60 gallons of oil.

The sesame shrub is being cultivated in New Caledonia, among other places.

NOTES FROM TONGA

Government "Fleet" Laid Up—Trouble With Native Police

From Our Own Correspondent.

NUKUALOFA, June 1.
THE two Government despatch vessels—"Hifofua" and "Tokaga"—are still out of commission, the one lying at anchor and the other stranded at the small island of Pagamotu.

In the case of the "Hifofua" her trouble may be summarised in the words "semi-Diesel engine." It would seem that what engineers don't know about these engines would fill a fair-sized volume. Soon after she was put in commission the motors started giving trouble, and it was then said that it was not a marine engine at all, but a stationary converted type. A little later they were changed altogether, but, after reconditioning, were passed as conforming with all marine requirements. Subsequently, they were again condemned and taken out of the hull, but it is now said that an expert has examined them and there is nothing the matter with them. It is not surprising to hear that the Government is simply "fed up" with conflicting expert opinions.

At latest, we learn that the engines are to be once more cleaned up and sent back to the ship's yard. If when installed, they still refuse to function satisfactorily, I'd hate to predict the kind of death in store for the next expert that carelessly advances his solution. Incidentally, whilst one of the engines was being cleaned up, another putting them back, the "Hifofua" is useless for anything but an ornament on our waterfront.

The "Tokaga," on the other hand, appears to be a "rotten" investment only insofar as her timbers are concerned. Allegedly purchased as a new ship two years ago, shipwrights, who are now reconnoitering her, state that the amount of decayed wood in her hull tends to indicate that "she must have been a very old boat when she was built." If this is true, the Government was undoubtedly "sold a pup."

The vicissitudes in connection with these two boats may appear humorous to most, but it is a matter of considerable inconvenience to the island traveller, and he cannot but view the policy of the Government in laying up all its "fleet" at the one time as inimical to the taxpayers' requirements and the country's needs.

DISHONESTY AMONG POLICE

The native police system in Tonga has for some time past given cause for serious complaint. From the native point of view—particularly the Tongan native—the sight of the uniform is said to be a portent of coming disaster, and apparently his fears are not unfounded. The dismissal of four constables in uniform has recently thrown a light—so to an extent dimmed by the authorities in an endeavour to "keep it dark"—on police methods, when dealing with Her Majesty's subjects.

It seems that these constables of law and order were instructed to collect money from certain natives to satisfy a number of claimants who had successfully proceeded through the Civil Courts in the Kingdom. The police collected the money all right, but as the debtors were "bush" and astonishingly ignorant of such things as receipts, they were offered no certificates of discharge. The opportunity was too good to be missed. The police pocketed the money. In due course, further distress warrants were issued against the poor chaps and strange to relate, so cowed were they by "Majesty of law" that they actually paid up again. Luckily however, one man did resist, and his lamentations forced the Government into an inquiry, which eventually reduced the police force by four.

Unfortunately, the whole sorry business has now shown the native population that a uniform can cover flagrant dishonesty and, what is more to the point, that the administration of the police is, to say the least of it, casual and dilatory in the extreme. For the prestige of the force, the Executive Council must surely now make an earnest endeavour to clean things up in such a manner that the police tunic may in time regain its lustre.

DEATH OF BRITISH VICE-CONSUL

It is with regret that we have to chronicle the death of Mr. J. M. Mas-

terton, British Vice-Consul and an old resident of Tonga. Some two months ago, although Mr. Masterton had been ailing for a time, every hope was entertained that he was on the road to recovery. The malady, however, was only temporarily arrested, and he passed away on the morning of May 4. A journalist of outstanding merit in the South Seas in his younger days, Mr. Masterton had contributed many articles of absorbing interest to readers of overseas journals. I do not think I am divulging a secret when I say that his output for many years of prose and poetry, which was accepted and published in leading Australian periodicals, was written under the pseudonym of "Talakau." Of a genial and pleasing personality, Mr. Masterton will live long in the memory of his wide circle of friends. He leaves a widow and one son to mourn their loss.

BISHOP OF POLYNESIA VISITS TONGA

The Right Rev. Bishop Kempthorne of Polynesia, and Mrs. Kempthorne, sailed for Suva by the last "Totia." During their short stay in Nukualofa, they were the guests of Chief Justice C. Murray-Ansley.

On May 6 Mrs. J. S. Neill entertained at the British Residence, where ladies of the Anglican Church were invited to meet Mrs. Kempthorne. A most delightful afternoon was spent, owing, undoubtedly, to the beautiful appointments and the pleasant derived from those indoor fraternal competitions which were set on foot and kept going by an excellent hostess.

CONSECRATION OF ST. PAUL'S CHURCH

Thursday, May 14 (Ascension Day) saw the consecration of St. Paul's Church at Nukualofa. Probably the finest church in the Kingdom, the opportunity was well taken during the visit of the Bishop of Polynesia to publicly declare its opening. The grounds were thronged with both natives and Europeans.

The ceremony itself occupied two hours, following which an excellent repast (native fashion) was served at the Vicarage, under the patronage of the Vicar, Mr. H. A. Favell.

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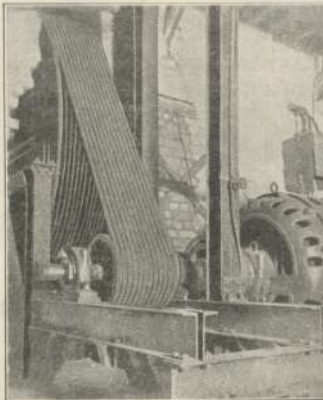
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Labour Idealism and Native Administration

THREE men of the Kuni tribe came down from the mountains of Papua to trade with the coastal people, as is their custom. They carried with them their goods and their money. They were suddenly and treacherously attacked by coastal natives and killed, their wares stolen and their bodies hidden. The police uncovered the crime, however, and the two murderers were sentenced to death. The sentence was delivered by a trusted judge, after a fair trial, and was confirmed by the Executive Council of Papua.

In this case there was a consideration of far greater weight than the punishment of a crime—important that may be. This was a paramount occasion for the justification of the white man's rule.

In the old days the hillmen of Papua met the coastal men warily. There was much trade between the mountains and the sea shore, but no trust. The two peoples did not mingle—and they took their own effective measures both for protection and revenge. Then came the white men, who forbade fighting, with its concomitants of bloodshed and vendetta. The natives accepted the white man's law—the hill folk trustingly, the coastal tribes sullenly. The white man enforced obedience.

In the light of those facts, consider the importance of placing the supreme punishment upon the hillmen murderers—men who not only slew for gain, but also betrayed the trust of the Kuni men in the protection provided by the Administration. The murderers were both "educated" natives—the dangerous kind, who wish to liken themselves on an equality with white men. Apart from the fact that the whole of the circumstances of the case crime demanded the death penalty, it was essential that the Papuan natives generally should experience the full moral effect of the execution.

And then, when the date of execution was actually fixed, the Federal Cabinet—the members of which know as much about governing natives as a rabbit does about metallurgy—decided in and commuted the death sentence to some other form of punishment, obviously because the Australian Labor party officially does not favour capital punishment.

Could political expediency go further? The native understands only the simple, elemental facts of nature—the sick across his camp when he is chattering; good food and kindness when he deserves them; certain, inevitable death when he commits a crime demanding that penalty; and the justice and bonded word of the white man. The idealism which forbids the death sentence as a punishment for murder is questioned sharply enough. In European communities, in the case of the Papuan natives it is ridiculous and absurd. The commutation can only be accepted by the natives in only one way—a weakness in applying the law and as a rank betrayal of the hillmen's trust in the white man's protection.

The mollycoddling laws under which natives must be governed already make the task of the Australian administrators difficult enough. Such incidents as that noted, representing fantastic interference with the voice of wise and experienced administrators, tend to make the position intolerable.

TROPICALITIES

Written for The Pacific Islands Monthly by "Des Serpent."

A TONGA correspondent writes that "Darky" George has "gone west." He came originally from Antigua, in the West Indies, and has been always looked upon as an integral part of the Haapai group. It was he, whilst trading at the island of Haaveva, on being asked by a tourist if there were any white men on the island, replied: "No, sir, I am the only white man living among these natives." At George was the only "coal-black baby" amongst the copper-coloured islanders, the joke was mightily amused, and the joke will assuredly outlive any recollections of the man himself. "Darky" George was one of nature's gentlemen, and the sincere mourners, who followed his catafalque, were the white men of Haapai, paying their last respects to a real "white" man.

A CORRESPONDENT at VAVAU, Tonga, writes: "I have been going through the estimates, and I find that the 47 European officials in the Government draw £13,300 in salaries and the natives (I don't know how many) draw £2,170. The four European drivers draw £400 a year, in an average of £400, and 25 an average of £300. It seems to me in these hard times, that the Government should be £1,000, and I say it is far too much. I think, for the tropics, in these hard times, the standard wage in the Government should be £300—not much more, perhaps—and a man and his family can live on that all right. If the Government took £100 of the six hundred pounds and £200 of the four hundred pounds, it would save £2,000 this year in salaries. I don't worry about the Tongan salary, because although they don't work much, it's all their own money they play with, and they get it back themselves.

There seems to be some similarity between the thought processes of our Vavau friend, and those of the prime minister, Mr. Lang, Premier of N.S.W., who wants to bring all public officials down to the dead level of £500 per annum. Men are not paid £400, or £600, or £1,000 per annum because someone else is paid more, and because that is the estimated relative value of their services in a highly competitive market. There is a difference between their services. There will be differences between men's earnings just as long as there are differences between their services. The difference is not a matter of respectability. There is only one fair way of applying inevitable salary cuts, and that is on a percentage basis. The Lang method is a combination of lunacy and socialism.

INTERESTING to note the manner in which the wireless telephone is coming into use for administrative and industrial purposes in the Pacific Islands. The system is being used for the regulation and control of the avi-

ation transport services on the New Guinea goldfields. It is being introduced to enable the master of the phosphate ship, Triona (running between Australia and the Central Pacific) to communicate with the officials of the Phosphate Commission at Suva and Ocean Island. One always likes to say "I told you so!" Years ago this writer forecasted that the coming of radio, the aeroplane and the internal combustion engine would open a new era in the development of the Pacific territories. The general use of seaplanes and wireless telephones for inter-island communication is as certain as the sunrise.

It is, by the way, strange that the radio trade has not yet awakened to the wonderful field there is in the Pacific for the introduction of first-class receiving sets.

EXTRAORDINARY how general is the effect of this world depression. One would suppose that isolated Pacific communities, where life is simple and easy, would escape the troubles of our highly organised communities. But here is recent testimony from a well-known trader on Ambrym, in the New Hebrides: "Generally things here are as bad as in other parts of the Pacific—perhaps worse, as the ruling rate for very indifferent labour is 30/- per month, with food. The native appears to be becoming accustomed to the low rate paid for labour. But there is very little margin left, and we are all just living on the edge of things."

O. Greenwood and R. A. Laws are planning wisely in connection with their Rabaul business. The ever-increasing burden of taxation on the natives, the closing of the doors of existing companies, and the promoters of new corporations to plan ahead, when the Government is so mercilessly imposing. Those with Pacific connections are looking to Rabaul and Suva, where they are investing, and are preparing to give advice and service to public companies in this connection. Also, they are getting ready to give advice and service to new companies, which, presently, will engage in developmental enterprises in the Territory. There is a boom coming in New Guinea which is likely to interest mainland investors—that is as certain as the sunrise—and men with vision should get ready to make the best of it.

LAURABADA'S DASH

Port Moresby to T.I. in 43 Hours Hours

From Our Own Correspondent

PORT MORESBY, July 7. ON Sunday, June 29th, the Governor's yacht, the Laurabada, left hurriedly for Thursday Island, by the special permission of His Excellency, Sir Hubert Murray. The Hon. H. L. Murray was in charge as master. The small son of Mr. and Mrs. P. E. Williams being dangerously ill, it was considered imperative that they leave



Immediately to catch the S.S. Change at Thursday Island, on her way from China to Australia, in order to get in touch with specialised surgery and treatment.

His Excellency wired to Thursday Island, explaining the urgency, and expressed his wish that the Captain of the S.S. Change should wait for the arrival of the Laurabada.

Making record time, the Change was caught and the Laurabada had returned to Port Moresby in under 43 hours, on July 2. She made the trip to T.I. in under 43 hours. Owing to His Excellency's courtesy and the efficiency of the Hon. H. L. Murray, the master, Mr. and Mrs. Williams are now in Sydney and their small son is receiving special treatment and is possibly out of danger and well on the way to recovery.

GOLD DREDGES

Two for New Guinea

RABAU, July 7.

THE M.V. Carisso, due at Salomon on July 20, is bringing from San Francisco the complete machinery for the first dredge to be installed by Bulolo Gold Dredging Ltd., on its New Guinea property.

The machinery for the second dredge is to be shipped from San Francisco about September. It is, therefore, hoped that both dredges will be in operation early in 1932.

The dredge built in Sydney have been already shipped to New Guinea and are at present being transported to the field by plane. The erection of the first dredge, as stated elsewhere, was commenced on June 22.

In and About the Islands

Mr. Don. Waugh, District Officer at Kavirine, New Ireland, is returning to Rabaul, per M.V. Macdonald, after long leave spent in Australia.

Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Laws, of Rabaul, who left in March on a visit to the United States, arrived in Sydney from San Francisco, by the Carisso, in June. They return to New Guinea by the Macdonald at the end of this month.

Mr. Thos. Dean, who had been engaged recruiting in the village of Sangu, in the Upper Markham district of New Guinea, died at Salama, on June 17 of malignant malaria.

Dr. Mavis Boyd left Sydney by the Ventura on June 20 to take up work at the Methodist Mission Hospital at Ba, Fiji.

Mr. C. L. Cheng, Vice Consul for China, in Fiji, who has been spending a holiday in Sydney, returned to Suva by the Sierra, on July 11.

Mr. F. R. Cawley, D.C.M., left by the Montara, in June, for Port Moresby, after 12 months' furlough spent in Australia. He will take up the position of Resident Magistrate of the Delta Division, with headquarters at Kikori.

Mr. J. W. Baldie, who retired some time ago, after 25 years in the Papuan Government service, has settled down in Sydney and has acquired business interests at 7 Macquarie Place, Sydney.

Mr. Bairdrow, of the Burns, Philp and Co. Ltd. (Solomon Islands) by the Marsina, early in July, and went on by the Morinda to the New Hebrides, where he joins the Villa staff.

An able and popular islands official has passed away with the death of Colonel Shillington, in Sydney. He was formerly a member of the N.S.W. Legislative Assembly, and two or three years ago was appointed as a special representative to New Guinea. Last December he became ill and returned to Sydney.

TAURI GOLD

Reef Located at Last

EXPERT TO EXAMINE FIELD

From Our Own Correspondent

PORT MORESBY, July 7. REPORTS have been received of the definite discovery of a reef formation in the Tauri field, by Mr. H. Garbutt, a well-known miner, who has had considerable experience in Northern Queensland.

He reports the main reef to be from 25 ft. 6 in. to 3 ft. in width. The lesser branches leading into the main reef above Hides Creek, near Cathcart Creek, he traced also, and they were found to be of various widths, 8 to 18 inches.

Mountains 1,000 to 2,000 feet in height separate the creeks, and it was found to be impossible to keep track of the formation, owing to the jungle growth and the debris, though lower down the slopes, near the creek beds, it was discovered that the reef was continuing.

In consequence of his report, many applications for leases have been lodged with the Warden in Port Moresby, and renewed interest in the prospects of the field has been created in the Territory.

Mr. Garbutt also states that he was struck with the resemblance of this new reef to the formations in Charters Towers, North Queensland.

Mr. S. Dunstan, an ex-Chief Government Geologist of Queensland, is expected soon and will proceed to the Tauri field, accompanied by Mr. Garbutt, where they will be met by a Government officer and party. Mr. Dunstan will make a complete survey of the district and later on will visit other parts of the Territory and advise the Papuan Government on the mineral resources of the Territory generally.

There is a more cheerful feeling in the town owing to the report from the field, and though the general optimism, a distinct feeling exists that the prospects of the field now hold out very good chances of success.

Mr. Dunstan's report as a mining expert will clear the way and will only hasten the development of the field or condemn it utterly for future enterprise.

Mr. Dunstan's reputation as a mining expert is high in Australia, and his visit here and reports should do a lot towards assisting the development of Papua's mineral resources.

Copra exported from the Mandated Territory of New Guinea during 1929-30 amounted to 553,833 tons, an increase of 5,207 tons over the figures for the previous year. The quality of copra produced greatly improved during the year, due to planters generally taking a greater personal interest in their plantations.

Probable Purchase of Melanesia Co.

by B.P. Interests

THE first public intimation of negotiations, which probably will result in the purchase by Burns Philp Interests, of the assets of the Melanesia Co. Ltd., was made on July 8, when the following appeared in the records of companies registered in Sydney:

New Hebrides Plantations Ltd., capital £12,500, to acquire and develop plantations in New Guinea. First Directors: J. Burns, J. Virtue, N. B. Brewster and H. K. Mitchell.

New Britain Plantations Ltd., capital £12,500, to acquire and develop plantations in New Guinea. First Directors: J. Burns, H. J. Saworthy, L. Armstrong and J. Mitchell.

The Melanesia Co. Ltd. was registered in London, soon after the war, and it purchased expropriated properties in the Mandated Territory of New Guinea to the value of some hundreds of thousands of pounds. Most of the capital came from German sources. Mr. P. R. Jolly, who had a good deal to do with the New Guinea expropri-

ation proceedings, was interested in the Melanesia Co. and is to-day general manager in Australia.

The company operated many plantations and one small inter-island vessel, the Ralium. It did not prosper and a receiver, appointed by debentureholders, took charge 18 months ago.

Much has still to be done before the deal is done. It is one of the biggest in the history of the northern islands—and it is fairly certain that it will go through. The two new companies noted above, have merely been formed to take the transfers—much bigger organisations obviously will be needed to handle the Melanesian assets. The latter probably are worth between £250,000 and £400,000.

The transfer of all this property from Anglo-German to Australian ownership is of much interest to Australia, from both the political and the trading points of view.

MISSIONARY WEDDING IN PAPUA



Some of the wedding party at the marriage of Rev. J. R. W. Brown and Miss Olive L. Phillips, which was celebrated at Kiritivai, Eastern Papua. The bridegroom is seated in the center, and the bride is seated to his right. The bridesmaids are seated to the left of the bride, and the groomsmen are seated to the right of the bride. The wedding was celebrated at Kiritivai, Eastern Papua. The bridegroom is seated in the center, and the bride is seated to his right. The bridesmaids are seated to the left of the bride, and the groomsmen are seated to the right of the bride.

Click by courtesy The Missionary Society.

TIN-CAN MAIL

Story of Niuafoou's Unique Service

Mr. RAMSAY'S 112 SWIMS

From a Special Correspondent

OUR unique mail service, the "Tin-Can Mail"—the only one of its kind in the world—has suffered a sad disruption!

For the information of those who have not seen it or its description, it may be explained that the mail is brought monthly to this island of the Tonga group, by the U.S.S. Co.'s Tofua, on her way from Samoa to Suva. The inward mail is sealed by the ship's carpenter in 40-lb biscuit tins. The tin, or tins (as the size of the mail may warrant) usually contains a leg of mutton and some apples, provided by the bounty of the U.S.S. Co. The outward mail is made up ashore into several



Mr. Ramsay and his two native friends, ready to swim out to receive the "Tin-Can Mail." The big sticks are for support. The outgoing mail can be seen, tied to the short sticks.

parcels and tied to the ends of as many sticks of about 3 feet in length. Mr. C. S. Ramsay, manager for Messrs Morris, Henderson Ltd., at Niuafoou, accompanied by two or three natives, usually swims out, each with a stick topped by the parcel of mail supported by poles of Pau wood of 6 to 7 feet in length. These poles are very buoyant and easily carry the weight of a recumbent body.

The parcels are dropped into buckets lowered from the deck of the Tofua, while the tins of mail are then thrown overboard. They are then towed ashore by the waiting "postmen."

Sharks! Yes, there have always been plenty of them here, but in the history of the island no one had been killed until last month, when a tragedy spread her sombre cloak and Death struck from beneath its folds.

The natives have been in the habit of fishing from poles of Pau wood for hours at a time. As the fish were caught they were threaded on a small stick attached to the pole. On April 30, four days before the expected arrival of the Tofua on her last trip, five natives were fishing quite close in shore, in front of the landing place. Suddenly one of them was seen to be in difficulties. One of his companions noticing the water was red with blood, swam to his assistance. "Got me ashore, I'm badly bitten," was the gasped appeal. The two were then joined by another of the party and the wounded man was towed ashore. A brave deed that in "civilisation" would be blazoned in thick black head lines and lauded by all. In Niuafoou it was part of the day's work.

It was a noble effort, partly wasted for the lad was dead before shore was reached. We carried him up the cliff and alone to the (usually half-empty) dispensary, but he was beyond human aid. A fearful wound. The flesh was stripped from buttock to back of knee. One bite only. He had bled to death in 3 minutes.

"Ko hono aho," the natives said. Yes, it truly was "this day," and had we not had the warning of his awful fate it would doubtless have proved "the day" of one or two of the "postmen" next mail day.

Mr. Ramsay has made 112 swims to the mail steamer—an aggregate distance of over 150 miles. Plenty of opportunities for sharks.

The Tofua came as usual but the mail went out this time in a canoe. The natives query arises, "Why not always take it in a canoe?" Because, for six months of the year it is impossible to launch one from the wave-beaten, rocky coast. We may pluck up courage later on and swim again, but it looks a risky proposition, to say the least of it.

INDENTURED CHINESE

Nauru's Experience

AS indenture of Chinese labourers is permitted by some of the Pacific Islands administrations, there is always a good deal of interest in the social and economic effect of the use of this class of labour.

The annual report of the Administrator shows that there were in Nauru on December 31 last, 1,110 Chinese engaged mostly in working the phosphate deposits. This number has remained fairly constant since the island was taken over by Britain, Australia and New Zealand in a joint mandate from the League of Nations ten years ago. The Administrator says that the conduct of the Chinese, as a general rule, is excellent. They are industrious and peacefully inclined, and support the authorities in the maintenance of order. There was a squabble between two Chinese factions in April, 1930, and a Nauruan policeman was fatally injured while trying to suppress the disturbance; but otherwise the Asiatics have given no trouble.

An interesting item is that during 1930 these Chinese workers sent £14,436 to relatives and friends in China, making a total of £113,162 thus remitted to China since the introduction of mandatory control.

Chinese coolies are brought to Nauru under three years' contracts, and are repatriated at their employers' expense. Much care is now being exercised in their medical examination before leaving China, and in ensuring satisfactory living and working conditions in Nauru with the result that the number repatriated owing to medical unfitness has declined in the following way:

131	33	20	15
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It is probably the result of strict supervision of living conditions that caused 83 Chinese to be prosecuted during the year for breaches of the sanitary laws.

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GOLD DREDGE

First on New Guinea Field

CARRIED IN BY PLANES

A RADIO received by Bulolo Gold Dredging Ltd., stated that the erection of the first dredge on their New Guinea property was commenced on June 22.

Splendid progress is being made with the transportation of the machinery and equipment by plane from the coast to the field and, up to July 4, 153 flights had been made and 755,101 lbs. of cargo carried.

The company's report for May stated that additional levelling on the Bulolo aerodrome was carried out during the month.



Mr. Chen, D. Harris, general manager of Bulolo Gold Dredging Ltd. (left), and Mr. L. V. Waterhouse, a technical director of that company, photographed recently on the Bulolo property in New Guinea.

month. This is now in first class order and suitable for all requirements. The second C-31 plane made its first trip on May 6, with a cargo of 3,700 lbs. Its loads have been gradually increased and both planes are now operating at full capacity. Altogether, 62 loads were freighted in during the month. The unloading equipment on the field is working well, so that the freight is handled without difficulty.

Wireless telephones are being installed at Las (on the coast) and Bulolo (on the goldfield) and these will give considerable assistance in handling the planes and will also be of great convenience generally.

Good progress is being made with the hydro-electric project and during the month of May 162 feet of tunneling was done, and also about 5,500 cubic yards of excavating by hand on ditch and dump grade. In addition a considerable yardage was stripped off by sluicing.

The guy derrick to be used in the construction of the dredges was assembled and erected during the month.

Scandal of Goldfields Road

Why has no road been built to connect the New Guinea goldfields with the coast? Why has Authority looked calmly on while the development of this marvellously rich goldfield has been retarded by transportation costs? Has the fact that there has been no motor road, the excessive expenditure on port transport, amounting to more than half of the £200,000 won from the goldfields, anything to do with the further fact that a certain transport organisation has made huge profits for its shareholders?

It is a fact that the construction of a road from the coast to the goldfields would have been found quite practicable had it not been for meddling by Administrative officials on the one hand and wire-pulling on the other?

These questions are indeed by some remarkable data brought to this journal to recent weeks from three separate and independent sources. If the facts are as presented to us they constitute a grave scandal, in which important Australian interests are involved.

The statements are being investigated, but evidence of the facts are already clear to the satisfaction of a large section of the public. That statement will appear in the August issue of The Pacific Islands Monthly.



This interesting photograph, showing a section of the New Guinea goldfields, was taken from Pilot Trier's plane on May 11—the day before he and his plane disappeared, as described above. The photograph shows the rugged terrain of the goldfields and the surrounding landscape.

NOUMEA'S LIGHT
New Electric Power Plant

IT is worthy of note that practically all the Pacific Islands centres are now equipped with electric power plants. The towns are lit with electricity and power is available for most of the usual purposes. New equipment of a good type is now operating in Apia (Western Samoa) and Nabalua (New Guinea).

The latest advance is reported from Noumea (New Caledonia). Our correspondent there states that installation of the town's electricity scheme is progressing favourably. It is understood that the first buildings to be illuminated will include Government House and the Town Hall.

Noumea has been noted for many years for its very poor night illumination, which has been furnished from a gas plant; so that the new form of illumination will be greatly appreciated by residents and visitors alike.

13 POINTS

Woes of Solomon Islands

Appeals to the High Commissioner

From Our Own Correspondent

TULAGI, July 4.

AS this mail leaves Tulagi the local stores report a famine in starch and branso.

Tailors and laundries have been working night shifts to cope with orders in preparation for the visit from the 4th to about 20th July of His Excellency the High Commissioner, and it is fairly safe to assert that the nerves of even the Government office cat will be worn pretty threadbare before his departure.

The Planters' and Commercial Association have drawn up a list of thirteen points to be laid before His Excellency as soon as a deputation is granted a hearing. They are as follows:

- (1) Economy of Government expenditure and reduction of official salaries and emoluments.
- (2) That for results of inquiries of Labour Commission conducted more considerable over pay.
- (3) Request that rates of indentured natives should not be paid by employers.
- (4) Reduction of their wage and some labour.
- (5) Discontinuance of compulsory loans of labour to labour.
- (6) Reduction of wages of indentured labour to 30/- per month.
- (7) Terms of service of indentured labour to be extended to three years.
- (8) Use of firearms for the purpose of obtaining fresh fish for labour to be allowed.
- (9) Reduction of or reduction of the cost of fresh labour.
- (10) Prohibition of food restrictions to be revised.
- (11) Prohibition to be granted to import outside labour.
- (12) Suspension of all orders of Advisory Council should receive more sympathetic consideration.
- (13) Request that Quarantine Regulations be revised.

IMPORTED LABOUR PROBLEM

While the Planters' and Commercial Association endeavours at all times to express the wishes of the producing community, a goodly portion of it will not be in accord with point (11) of this list. On the face of things it certainly seems absurd to ask for a reduction of administration in the one case, and for imported labour (which MUST mean extra administrative costs) in the next.

This request mainly comes from Lever's Pacific Plantations Propriety Ltd. It is reported that Lever's lost last year's operations. We also hear that it contemplates closing down if matters do not soon improve. The banking has begun to curtail orders for recruits, in line with all other firms and individual employers so that, at the present time there is a considerable surplus of labour available. As this state of affairs is likely to continue for some time to come, or until such time as the production of copra is once again on a profitable business, this banking or imported labour only strengthens the suspicion that there is a "body in the bush" somewhere.

The main reason for imported labour is to increase output, and since the world is suffering from over-production, the policy of still further increase.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 12)

PAPUAN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETS

From Our Own Correspondent

THE Annual Session of the Legislative Council of Papua will be held this month.

All non-official members will be in attendance, including the Hon. J. G. Neilson and the Hon. A. Bunting, from Samarai, also the Hon. A. Jewell, from Lae.

This session will be of more interest than usual, owing to the country's depletion of labour and to suggestions and innovations that it is reported some of the non-official members intend to submit.

Islands Association
Movement Started

A MEETING of people interested in the formation of a Pacific Islands Association is to be held on July 22 at 5.15 p.m. in the offices of Pacific Publications Ltd., Union House, Sydney. The movement has been initiated by a small group of former residents of Papua, supported by visitors from New Guinea and by former residents of other groups.

Briefly, the objects of the proposed Association are:

1. To provide an organisation which will, if and when necessary, defend the interests of Pacific Islands residents and ex-residents.
2. To promote, if possible, periodical Convention, at which there may be an interchange of views on numerous matters affecting Pacific Islands administrative, trading, industrial and social conditions, by representatives of the various Islands, groups and territories.
3. To provide club-room facilities and a central address in Sydney for members, and particularly members from the Islands who are visiting Australia.
4. To provide facilities by which ex-residents of the Pacific and particularly retired public servants from New Guinea, Papua, and other Australian territories, may meet together socially.

Additions to Port Moresby's Power House

From Our Own Correspondent

PORT MORESBY, July 7. THE Public Works Department is enlarging the generating plant of the Port Moresby electric power house. New machinery has been ordered and it is expected that it will be installed by November.

The new machinery is said to be a 100/165 continuous maximum B.H.P. together with suitable alternator and exciter.

It is over 5 years since electric power was first installed in Port Moresby, and it is inconceivable that the residents who they managed to exist without it, in discomfort and inconvenience.

COMMUTED!

Death Sentence on Bailala Murderers

Amazing Application of Socialistic Ideal

From Our Own Correspondent

PORT MORESBY, June 9.

HIS Excellency, the Lieut.-Governor, has decided that at the request of the Commonwealth Government the sentences of death passed on native Urebi and Koaba, for the murder of three Kuni natives, last December, will be commuted.

Death sentences were passed by Mr. Justice Murray and ordered to be carried out by the Executive Council of Papua, on April 21. The order of the Council was submitted to the Prime Minister of Australia in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

It will be difficult for the primitive Kuni people to understand the decision. With them it is "An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth." It will be unfortunate if, in their lack of comprehension, they resort to their age-old customs of "pay back," and some unfortunate and innocent victims will



Papuan labourers employed on plantations. It was to this type of semi-indentured natives that the two Bailala murderers belonged. The Federal Government's commutation of the death sentence on the murderers is the subject of an article on page 5 of this issue.

take the punishment which undoubtedly these natives seem to have deserved.

The natives convicted of the Bailala murder were of the more educated type and have been in touch with Europeans for many years. One was a domestic servant of long standing and another an ex-lance corporal of Police. The murdered Kuni men had come

rest, where they were discovered by the police. The disappearance of the men caused alarm amongst the Kuni people and their friends made four attempts to find them. Fearing treachery they reported the matter to the Government. The motive of the crime was robbery.

Reference is made in our leading article to this remarkable Government decision.



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Enquiries in respect of the above are invited from Planters, Cattle Owners, Storekeepers and all Island Residents.

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PAPUAN NEWS

Drop in Revenue—Prospectors Persevere with Tauri Field—Gold Return from Misima Mine

From Our Own Correspondent.

PORT MORESBY, June 5. PAPUAN finances are in line with what seems to be the general condition of the world of to-day—a shortage of money.

The Treasury statements for the nine months ended on March 31 continue to show a decrease in receipts. Customs returns show the greatest fall, a drop of £14,566 as compared with the same period for last year. Other decreases include port and wharfage dues, mining, native labour fees and sale of produce.

Expenditure for the nine months is down £12,289, as compared with the corresponding period of the previous year. As regards exports, copra is at its lowest price, £10-17-6 in London, and rubber has varied within the last month from 2½d. to the present price of 3½d. per lb.

Coffee is being sold locally and is taking the place of imported coffee, if not within the Territory, at least in

Port Moresby itself to quite a considerable extent.

STORES ATTEMPTING TO REGAIN TRADE.

One of the principal stores in Port Moresby is advertising important reductions in the price of foodstuffs, and the announcement is welcomed by many residents, who have been long forced to endure the inconvenience of ordering their goods for direct shipment from Sydney and of handling and clearing them on arrival.

It is to be hoped, for the good of the Territory, that the local store will be successful in its endeavour to regain the larger volume of business which has been diverted to Sydney during the last two years; but the task will not be simple, as there is also a project on foot to form an agency for the purpose of indenting monthly shipments from South, clearing the goods and delivering them to local buyers for a small commission and fixed terms for payment.

However, both are innovations and will be welcome to the average economical householder, who, for a long time, has rebelled against the high prices in Port Moresby.

MINING ACTIVITY.

The Tauri and Tiveri field, in the old Lakekaimu bounds, still holds no hope to prospectors and miners.

The Mahony's Gold Syndicate, a party of young men, are still trying their luck, and from a report lately received, though they have no results, they intend prospecting new country. They have found the natives friendly on the whole, but, owing to the nature of the country, they had rough trading and food supplies are running short.

Mr. Whitbourne, one of the prospectors, concludes his report that he hopes later to have the pleasure of reporting a good find, as the new country looks good and there are great chances of finding something in that district.

In the report of the new Misima Gold Mine for the month of April, 27 tons of ore were put through the mill—430 tons of sand and 140 of slime. Also 56 tons of crystals were treated, making a total of 1,070 tons handled, for gold bullion valued at £279-7-3.

In addition five bars of silver bullion accumulated were shipped, valued approximately at £58.

The prospects of silver lead, beyond Yule Island, on the Ononze Road, have held no promise and up to date there have been no further negotiations in that direction.

MAIL CONTRACT ARRANGEMENTS.

The residents of Port Moresby were pleased to learn that the Commonwealth Government has definitely decided against the proposal of the contractors of a combined shipping service between Australia, Papua and New Guinea.

Burns, Philip now advise that, following the present trip of the S.S. Morinda, the suggested timetable for the monthly service to Papua provides for the Morinda to do one trip, followed thereafter by the Malabar, leaving Sydney on July 22nd.

There will be many here who will be sorry to see the last of the Morinda, which weathered many a cyclone and storm that might easily have foundered a more luxurious vessel.

RECORD COPRA SHIPMENT.

Besides the Morinda, the Le Maire and the Inverbank visited this port last month. The Le Maire, of the Royal Dutch Packet, was on her usual three-monthly visit, and the Inverbank, a vessel of 5,000 tons, came for the purchase of copra (1,091 tons), the largest of Burns, Philip for European ports.

The Inverbank took from here 14,723 bags of copra (1,026 tons), the largest single shipment of copra ever loaded from this port.

PERSONAL ITEMS.

His Excellency Sir Hubert Murray, the Lieutenant-Governor, does not intend visiting England, as was previously announced, to attend as the representative of the Australian Association, the Centenary Meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science to be held in London in September next.

His Honour Mr. Justice Gore returned from leave by this Morinda.

The Hon. A. P. and Mrs. Lyons, who were on short leave from the Territory also returned. Mr. Lyons has taken over his duties as Director of Public Works. In his absence he was relieved by Mr. G. M. Turnbull, the Government Architect.

Among the passengers from South by this Morinda were the Hon. A. H. Buntine, Mr. Tom Nevitt, Mr. Lewis Lett and Mr. A. J. Vossan, the well-known archaeologist, who is relieving Papua and the Trobriands in the interests of his studies and writings.

RESENTFUL NATIVES

Boycotting the Trader

EFFECT OF COPRA SLUMP

Written for The Pacific Islands Monthly by Gordon Thomas

"The quantity of copra exported was 4,500 tons less than in 1927-1928. The decrease was due mainly to the fact that the quantity of trade copra offered by the natives was considerably less than in the previous year. The price of copra fell during the year and the natives were disinclined to sell their produce at the reduced price that was offered to them."

THUS the wording of paragraph 233 in the Annual Report of the Mandated Territory of New Guinea for 1929-30. Although the report for the following period has not yet been put into public circulation, the betting is that it is not a great deal that a further decrease in trade copra will be reported for that period. In the Buika district alone, there are scores of native-owned coconut groves from which not a pound of copra is taken, produced for the past nine months.

The reason is apparent. When copra prices ranged from 12 to 14½ per ton on the beach, competition was so keen amongst the traders that abundantly high prices were paid to the native producers; as high, in some cases, as 10-12½ of smoke-dried copra for 1½. The margin of profit was negligible, the argument being that a one-way profit on turnover of goods was sufficient, and that for trade tobacco that used to be 2/3, which naturally compelled the trader to reduce his buying price from the native. Such things as world depression, over-production and under-consumption are merely figures of speech, but the comprehension of the solid and one-time affluent Buika, he can put but one construction on the decreased value of his product and that is: The white man has launched an intensive campaign of exploitation; and no argument or explanation by the trader will induce him to think otherwise.

The result is that in his determination to avoid "exploitation" he has refused to make copra; allowing the nuts to mature on the ground where they fall; planting up small areas of native tobacco as a substitute for the trade article and depending on "casual labour" payments and the wages from "time-finished" labourers to furnish him with the few necessities of life. And it is surprising how few these "necessities" can be amongst natives when Nature has so generously endowed.

From an agricultural point of view the situation presents the danger of the neighbouring European plantations becoming infested with pests and diseases, which are apt to develop in the native groves at last.

SHOULD THE ADMINISTRATION EXPLAIN?

From an economic viewpoint it is altogether disastrous for the Administration and the individual planter and trader. For the former, it means a considerable decrease in revenue from export duties, and also in the revenue derived from trading licences. For the latter, it is a direct loss of revenue which, in many cases, spells ruin, where the individual's activities are alone confined to trading. It curtails his purchasing power for trade goods and that, incidentally, reflects a decrease in the turnover and the imports of the larger firms.

What better step, therefore, could the Administration take than to explain the existence of the world depression to the natives, through its district and patrol officers, and the need for co-operation amongst all sections of the community in order that the effects of this world depression may be combated as much as possible? Such a step surely could not be interpreted, by even the most conscientious member of the Permanent Mandates Commission, as being a desecration of the "sacred trust" towards "peoples not yet able by themselves to stand under the strenuous conditions of the modern world." Rather would it be putting into practice the

STORING COCONUTS

"Beautiful" Quality of Copra

BUT TOO EXPENSIVE

A subscriber in Samarai, Papua, has written to us as follows:

"If coconuts are husked and stacked in sheds, away from light and rain, will they eventually turn into copra, after a period of 4 months or longer?"

"It is said that, in Tonga and New Caledonia, coconuts have been stacked for many months, at times, in native-built houses, and, after a period, they can be shelled and the meat is as good as sun-dried or Chilla-dried copra, and almost ready to use for export. Such copra is said to be far superior to that produced from other methods of drying."

"I would be obliged if your paper could gather any information in the matter, as same will be of great help to the coconut-growers at present, owing to the low figure offering for copra in the Island."

A representative of P.I.M. referred this inquiry to a copra-producer, with many years' experience in the Pacific, who controls many plantations. He replied as follows:

It is possible to make copra in the way described. I have seen it made by this method in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, where the nuts are husked and then stacked in houses. After some months the moisture in the nuts evaporates and the meat turns into a beautiful quality of copra. But it would be almost impracticable to adopt such a method on the large plantations, because of the heavy expense involved in husking and stacking, with no prospect of an early return. I cannot say just how many months it takes to make copra by this method.

ultimate paragraph of Article 2 of the Terms of Mandate by promoting "to the utmost the material and moral well-being and social progress of the inhabitants of the territory."

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CONDITIONS IN TONGA

Residents Challenge Our Correspondent's Views

THE following two letters have been received from readers in Tonga and follow up those previously written by them—published in the November issue—and our correspondent's reply, which appeared in the February number.

To the Editor.

Sir,—It was not my intention to follow up my letter which appeared in your issue of November 26, but several of the remarks in your correspondent's article, published in the issue of February 26, caused me to do so.

He states I apparently want him to classify and tabulate such things as duties, etc. I want nothing of the sort. But why does he have a cheap jibe at the Government Printer at the way the Government Gazette is bound, when it is done in a manner comparable favourably with the class of documents published elsewhere?

He takes exception to my inference that the Kingdom is not prosperous and he states there is no unemployment. The Kingdom may be prosperous from his point of view, but as to unemployment, although there are no Europeans unemployed, the piece is full of natives seeking work.

Your correspondent states I make a sweeping and aggravating statement that hundreds of taxpayers do not possess land. He does not wish to refer to native possession of land, but to the fact that many of the natives are without land.

I am not a seer, therefore cannot prophesy future values of crops, but in view of the world's supply of edible oils an increase is unlikely. I have been watching these bananas grow and I find they are not doing too well.

It is pleasing to learn that at least one correspondent appreciates the good work the Missionaries are doing, but having his estimate of present day contributions to the Mission on an incident which happened 24 years back, leads me to the opinion his reference to Sir Charles Mitchell's report, issued in 1887, was for some other purpose.

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not towards giving the native real service, as is evidenced by the restriction imposed by that body relative to Government expenditure.

The glowing reports of the prosperity of Tonga, made from time to time, may attract readers to consider the idea of migrating to these parts. My advice to them is to hasten slowly and make after and fuller enquiries before arriving at a decision.

I am, etc.
DEAL KAKA.

To the Editor.

Sir.—A cheering aphorism states that those who are dissatisfied are the seed-beds of the world.

The question between your correspondent and the writer is not whether an individual Tongan is satisfied with his lot, or the policy of his country's rulers, and whether his individual matters must be regarded as camouflage, included in the purpose of confusing the real issue.

Why I imagined that intelligent readers would infer the only logical and possible inference from what your correspondent wrote was, because I believe your readers are really intelligent, and could not possibly infer otherwise. As the inference is discredited, we must agree to leave the matter to the writer's yearning intellect.

Unemployment implies industrialism. The statement that "Tonga is definitely one of the very few countries in the world at the present time that has no unemployment" only means that Tonga is not and cannot be industrialized.

Tonga is not and cannot be industrialized because it is not and cannot be a country with other South Sea Islanders. Tongans are not really interested in self-employment, and the word unemployment is a misnomer. There is nothing singular or unique in Tonga's position, the Pacific and Indian Oceans are dotted with countries where the inhabitants reach into idleness, equally as fortunate as Tonga in having no unemployed, and far more so that they have escaped the question which built up the £148,000—the much vaunted surplus—the basis of Tonga's unassailable position as any suggestion of Government economy.

Your correspondent insists upon the prosperity of the Kingdom. Paradoxical as it may seem, there are more unemployed than at any previous time in the Kingdom's history—that they might be employed on their own "land" is not the question. It is admitted, but the stern fact is that they are asking daily for work, if only for a few days, and in direct contradiction to the fact that Tonga is prosperous is the fact that at present time nearly a half of the Kingdom's inhabitants are subsisting on Government rations. As showing the progressiveness of the country we need only refer to the reports for 1928-29 far exceed 1924-27. The fact that the two former years were adversely affected by drought is directly refuted.

MISSION COLLECTIONS

I trust that the custodians of the particular Mission will fully appreciate the faint praise which professes the "ad antiquum" reference to happenings over half a century ago. I cannot be so foolish as to believe that the Mission, either in the abstract or for any particular type. In my opinion Tonga is indeed a beautiful and fertile land. To insist he does, though the heavens fall.

The Church is poor, voluntary, international and popular, and is surely entitled to such voluntary offerings as the Tongans gladly give. Now for my considered conclusion on Church collections, at the present time and for the past several years, they have not exceeded the half of your correspondent's estimate.

PICTURE SHOWS

There are four picture shows in the Kingdom and I am able to certify that last year's returns for one of them just reached £28 per month gross, a liberal estimate for the premier show would be double that sum. To the best of my belief no one has been doing for some time past, even to hard times, and the Kingdom is a little more than one-half of the sum estimated. I am quite disappointed and have not been a show for the past five years.

There is no "extraordinary coincidence" in the figure showing that "the average taxpayer seems to pull in £35 a year." It would be very extraordinary if it were not seen to show this result. Serious disagreement has already been shown with two of the conjectural estimates. European results are open to the same charge of over-estimation, but your readers will be able to assess the value of the remaining figures for themselves.

INTENSIVE CULTIVATION

May I ask what precisely is meant by this catch-phrase? I am fairly acquainted, theoretically, with the methods employed by French gardeners, who use 50 tons of manure per acre, but intensive cultivation in the South Seas is a different matter. If we tried to make two coconut trees grow where only one grew before, would be to invite prostration for the intensive cultivator. If there is available data relating to any commercial community—which would prove remunerative—adaptable to intensive cultivation in Tonga, why not disseminate it?

The slogan "Grow More Wheat" has been a materially contributing factor in producing the present Australian situation. I think it would be wise to eschew slogans. If there are possibilities in this direction why should the trading community be advised to "improve the Government"? Have they met with sufficient benefits from this course in the past and, any way, what is the Agricultural Department doing?

WATCH THESE BANANAS GROW

This would be a very relevant observation now, but at the time it was penned "watch them die" would have been far less brutal. At that time the poor devil who was trying to grow them were at great expense caring for them in order to keep them alive. Growing bananas is not all beer and skittles. Am I to help a cargo of bananas to rot?

The value of your correspondent's articles can be best appreciated by those residents here, and my efforts constitute an honest attempt to do with the other side of the shield.

"You write," said a popular novelist of the Victorian era to one of his converts, "as you believed everything to be bad." "I said the other," said the other, "but I do believe that everything must be better."

Such a belief naturally breeds a spirit which the easy-goers of the world resent, and now is faced with being agential, discontented, etc.

It is then that the aphorism at the head of this "effusion" ministers comfort and import courage.

TONGA-SEA-TONGA

MANDATES COMMISSION

New Guinea and Nauru Reports

From Our Canberra Correspondent

The Permanent Mandates Commission of the League of Nations met at Geneva on June 9—three or four weeks earlier than is customary—and the reports relating to the Mandated Territory of New Guinea for the year 1929-30 (that is, up to June 30 of last year) and of Nauru for the calendar year 1930 were examined by the Commission.

Mr. J. R. Collins, C.M.G., C.B.E., financial adviser and official secretary of the Commonwealth in London, is the accredited representative of the Government in connection with the examination of the reports.

The estimated non-indigenous population of the Mandated Territory of New Guinea, at June 30, 1930, was 4,150 persons, representing an increase of 227 over the number at the end of the preceding year.

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The external trade of the Mandated Territory of New Guinea for the year 1929-30 amounted to £1,975,783, a decrease of £139,841 from the figures of the previous year. Imports amounted to £878,490 and exports £997,355.

The output of dry rubber from the plantations of Kolikad Para Rubber Estates Ltd., Papua, during June, was 25,702lb.

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Solomon Islands' 13 Points

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9)

ing the supply looks foolish. It is little short of a certainty that imported labour will increase the cost of production to those employing it; and, in a lesser measure, all others by way of extra administrative costs. Why then bother about it until absolutely necessary?

Point (1) in the list will at least find universal backing outside Government circles. While planters and traders have been reduced to a state of bankruptcy or are drifting closer to it every day, and their employees (with perhaps the exception of Levellers) have had to bear reduction and retrenchment. Government officials (in the words of one of them) "are really better off now than they were in boom times, insofar as the cost of living has been somewhat reduced."

It goes without saying that if the producer has to go out of business, the Government personnel will automatically be reduced to "One man and a dog," as it was in the days before production started; and, as it is plain that the world is not going to get over a 40 years' drunk after a 24 hours' headache, the sooner reduction and retrenchment is brought about the better.

REDUCING NATIVE WAGES

Point (6) howls for the relief of a staggering industry. Some few years ago the wage was increased from 10/- to 11/- per month, and a return to 10/- would entail little or hardly any loss to the labourer, as "all found" and the extra 10/- mostly goes in gambling or some other luxury which can well do without.

Natives are already complaining that they are paid off and are unable to find further employment, they will not be able to pay their taxes, which is quite a reasonable demand, and that the Government will soon be compelled to sit up and take notice of it.

Very few firms or individuals here are fortunate enough to be able to go on indefinitely producing copra at a loss, as they are doing at present, and although it is the policy of the financing firms to keep the wheels of industry turning, there must come a time when clients must be asked to reduce their accounts or take the consequences.

Anyhow you look at it, both labourer and producer are on a very sticky wicket, and any assistance that can possibly be given should be passed along without delay.

A PLEA FOR MERCY

Here let me say that Islanders generally are of the opinion that the financing firms could, if they wished, ease the situation somewhat. Facts and figures (or balance sheets) suggest that they have not suffered nearly so much as the producer, and as the producer is their life-blood—their meal ticket, so to speak—it is not unreasonable of him to expect a little more consideration.

Commodity prices and interest charges could easily be pared, to say nothing of freight charges. The Islander clean below the belt to be charged £18 for a seven days' trip to or from Sydney, while the tourist gets a whole round-trip of about 31 days for £41. It completes the knock-out when he learns that both Government officials and Lever's employees get concessions in fares.

The anomaly of the whole business is that the unfortunate producer, who is not financial, is asked to pay a higher rate for the purpose of enabling those who are to obtain cheaper fares. Surely the justice of this point of view must soon be borne upon the minds of those responsible, when steps will be taken that will go far to create a better feeling between the parties concerned than exists at the present time.

QUARANTINE RESTRICTIONS

Point (13) touches mostly on the rhinoceros beetle gow, which has suddenly begun to worry the authorities.

Quite recently a shipment of household furniture and effects from Rabaul was refused admittance at Tulagi, and it had to be transhipped back again to be fumigated. We now hear that Rabaul has no means of doing this and that our own particular species of beetle is far more destructive than their own anyhow (though it is certain that ours does very little damage) so it looks as though the unfortunate person who owns the furniture is faced with considerable loss. It is on the cards that he will have to sell it in Rabaul at any old price at all and then import a new lot from Sydney; but perhaps ere that, eventuates there will be a new set of fumigation regulations out against Langham, or some other such pest, and he will be exposed to further loss.

A contra tramp, coming from ports where the destructive type of beetle resides, may enter and land in day light; but before sundown she must "un anchor" and put to sea. What evidence there is to prove that Mr. Beetle could not possibly get ashore in daylight has yet to be put forward; but, as such a restriction will effectively bar any boat from coming here from such ports, on the score of impracticability, the regulation might just as well have been so worded in the first instance. The whole thing will most likely mean increased freights overseas.

While on the subject of regulations, a new Poll Tax of £1 per head, per

FRENCH SHIPS

May Cease Dunkirk-Noumea Service

PROTEST FROM TAHITI

From Our Own Correspondent

PAPEETE, June 8.

TELEGRAPHIC news from Paris indicates the probable discontinuance of this service would be borne by the present contract, of the subsidised steamship service between France and New Caledonia, via Panama and Tahiti, carried on at present by the Messageries Maritimes Company. Financial considerations are given as the reason for this decision.

The exact terms of the contract do not appear to be available here, but the local public have always understood that any monetary losses resulting to the company from the operation of this service would be borne by the French Government. No doubt the deficiency between income and expenditure has been considerable, and in all probability shows a constant tendency to increase, owing to downward trend of copra values, which means decreased imports and therefore less freights for the Messageries Maritimes.

Needless to say, the community in general is greatly perturbed over this situation, for the ships of the Messageries Maritimes have provided Tahiti with a regular means of sending copra to Marseilles, an alternative market, where prices are generally somewhat better than in San Francisco.

In addition to this, they have afforded for through passengers to Europe a very much cheaper route than the alternative one across the United States.

It is to be hoped that the representations which are being made to the French Government by the Tahiti Chamber of Commerce will meet with success, and that it may be yet possible to make some arrangement whereby this valuable means of communication will be preserved for the Colony, even though in a modified form.

annum, on whites and Chinamen has been inflicted. Also, where 10/- for one or more guns has been charged, we now pay a licence of 10/- per gun. Other negligible little enactments have also been unearthed.

It is bewildering to try and follow the line of reasoning which bids that when one might reasonably expect some relaxation in these matters to meet the frightful existing state of affairs, the opposite is the fact. It has been often enough said that "A fool defends himself at law" and it can be said with equal truth that "An ignorant sticks to the letter of it." Let me hasten to add that the blame is not entirely confined to the Solomon Islands. Sorrowful Islanders are unanimously hoping that the visit of His Excellency who will be able to gain first-hand information, will result in a straightening out of most, if not all, these points.

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PRODUCTS OF THE SOUTH SEAS

Copra Prospects Showing More Hopeful Signs

AN excellent summary of the copra position generally, by Messrs. Browne & Joske Ltd., of Suva, appears on another page.

The latest developments are interesting. The market has recovered to just under £13 (London) and has again slumped slightly. All South Seas copra is being sold at these prices. No quick recovery can be expected, but the special as well as the general factors operating against copra are changing in character. Here, for instance, is a paragraph of great importance, from The Financial News, of 23rd May last:

It is reported all copra stocks of whale oil, accumulated in Norwegian ports (about 100,000 tons) which hitherto had been unable to absorb, has been sold to German Consumers' Co-operative Society, which owns a Norwegian factory, at the exceptional price of 2.8 per ton.

IN EASTERN POLYNESIA

From Our Own Correspondent.

PAPETE, June 8. The Chilean training ship, "General Baquedano," after staying several days in port, left Papeete for the Western Pacific, on June 7.

Many of the old timers here cherish pleasant recollections of a previous visit of this vessel to Tahiti, many years ago. On this occasion, however, our delightful anticipations were not realised, for the incomparable band of guitarists, who left behind for reasons of economy.

Commander Alvarez and his immediate personnel were given the facilities of the various clubs ashore, and the whole ship's company received the usual Tahitian hospitality.

ADVENTURERS FROM SCOTLAND. Mr. Dunn and his two youthful friends, joint owners of the 40-ton ketch "Southern Cross," are planning to leave in a few days, time for Santos, on another stage of their long and adventurous journey round the world. They are all Scots by birth and are all equally endowed, apparently, with an indelible wanderlust which could only be appeased by setting out in their own little craft for the South Seas.

Leaving the Clyde some months ago they crossed the Atlantic, picking up navigation and seamanship as they went along, and finally reached Tahiti, via the Gallapagos Islands, without any particular mishap. Some slight repairs and alterations to the rig of the vessel, necessitated by their experience, have been attended to in Walker Bros. shipyard.

NEW STYLE OF HOTEL. Mr. Leuthen, the energetic proprietor of the Pururu Pass Hotel, appears to be meeting with a fair amount of success in his venture. This hostelry

situated about 100 miles out of Papeete, has the great advantages of a white sand beach and wonderful lagoon bathing facilities.

The accommodation consists of a central dining room and offices and a series of small bungalows, thatched in native style, for sleeping quarters. These are both cool and comfortable. This style of hotel seems to be gaining in popularity, particularly in the tropics, and as he has plenty of room for expansion there is little doubt that it will meet with more and more appreciation as time goes on, both by the sailing tourist and the local townsman out for the week-end.

BIG RESEARCH EXPEDITION

Mr. Kenneth Emery, until recently in charge of the Bishop Museum research expedition to the Eastern Pacific Islands, left by the Makura for New Zealand, en route to his headquarters at Honolulu, where he expects to remain for a considerable period working up the material gathered during the past year or two in the Tuamotu archipelago. During his absence, the leadership of the expedition, whose members are scattered over the Society and Marquesas groups, devolves upon Mr. Stimson, the distinguished philologist.

It is understood that the small vessel hitherto used by the expedition, has been sold to the local Administration and is to be replaced by a larger and better equipped craft.

PERSONAL

Mr. Henmas, representing the New Zealand firm of A. B. Donald Ltd., is in Tahiti on his annual tour of inspection. The firm has branches throughout the Society and Marquesas groups.

Market Quotations

Range of Prices

The Pacific Islands Monthly makes a close check of the prices quoted for islands produce, and it regularly publishes the range of prices during each month, including the last available quotation before going to press.

COPRA.		Plantations, Sun-Dried	Balanced
Sun-Dried		Per Ton C.F.	Per Ton C.F.
London	3	£14 8 0	£14 5 0
January 3		£14 7 0	£14 10 0
January 18		£14 7 0	£14 12 0
January 23		£14 12 0	£14 15 0
January 30		£14 12 0	£14 15 0
February 6		£14 5 0	£14 7 0
February 12		£14 5 0	£14 6 0
February 20		£14 10 0	£14 12 0
February 27		£14 12 0	£14 17 0
March 6		£14 17 0	£15 0 0
March 15		£14 17 0	£15 0 0
March 20		£14 10 0	£14 12 0
March 27		£14 10 0	£14 12 0
April 3		£14 7 0	£14 10 0
April 10		£14 5 0	£14 7 0
April 17		£14 5 0	£14 7 0
April 24		£13 10 0	£13 12 0
May 1		£13 10 0	£13 12 0
May 8		£13 10 0	£13 12 0
May 15		£13 10 0	£13 12 0
May 22		£13 10 0	£13 12 0
May 29		£13 10 0	£13 12 0
June 5		£13 10 0	£13 12 0
June 12		£13 10 0	£13 12 0
June 19		£13 10 0	£13 12 0
June 26		£13 10 0	£13 12 0
July 3		£13 10 0	£13 12 0
July 10		£13 10 0	£13 12 0

RUBBER.		Plantations, Smoked	Per Ton
London	10	£14 0 0	£14 0 0
May 1		£14 0 0	£14 0 0
May 15		£14 0 0	£14 0 0
May 22		£14 0 0	£14 0 0
May 29		£14 0 0	£14 0 0
June 5		£14 0 0	£14 0 0
June 12		£14 0 0	£14 0 0
June 19		£14 0 0	£14 0 0
June 26		£14 0 0	£14 0 0
July 3		£14 0 0	£14 0 0
July 10		£14 0 0	£14 0 0

COTTON.		Good Middling	Per Ton
London	10	£320 0 0	£320 0 0
May 1		£320 0 0	£320 0 0
May 15		£320 0 0	£320 0 0
May 22		£320 0 0	£320 0 0
May 29		£320 0 0	£320 0 0
June 5		£320 0 0	£320 0 0
June 12		£320 0 0	£320 0 0
June 19		£320 0 0	£320 0 0
June 26		£320 0 0	£320 0 0
July 3		£320 0 0	£320 0 0
July 10		£320 0 0	£320 0 0

OTHER ISLANDS PRODUCE.

Nominal prices quoted in Sydney on July 14, from two different sources, were:

	Per ton.
(a) Trochus Shell, No. 1 grade	£68
Trochus Shell, No. 2 grade	£58
Trochus Shell, No. 3 grade	£48
Bêche-de-mer, high grade	£200
Bêche-de-mer, lower grade	£130
Cocoa Beans	£22
Ivory Nuts	£13 5/8
(b) Trochus Shell, No. 1 grade	£65
Trochus Shell, No. 2 grade	£55
Trochus Shell, No. 3 grade	£45
Bêche-de-mer, high grade	£200
Bêche-de-mer, lower grade	£130
Cocoa Beans	£22 10/- to £23
Ivory Nuts	£11 5/8

The above prices are quoted on the Australian £ and are f.o.b. Sydney.

NEW GUINEA GOLD SHAREMARKET

Limited Trading

There has been limited trading during the month for shares in New Guinea and Papua gold companies listed on the Sydney Stock Exchange.

Pacific Development Ltd., which a month ago were quoted at buyer 80/-, seller 90/-, have remained firm and on July 10 the quotation for these shares was, buyer 80/-, seller 81/-, Pacer's subsidiary, Bulbin Gold Dredging Ltd., is making very satisfactory progress, and the creation of the first dredge has already commenced.

The shares of New Guinea Goldfields, which are not listed on the Stock Exchange, strength were 4d. compared with last month. A sale was recorded at 5/2, and the shares were quoted, buyer 5/2, seller 5/3.

Of the smaller companies, Orlene Exploration Ltd. have been most active. The shares have advanced steadily during the month and on July 10 were quoted at 3/4. This company, which originally carried out a good deal of prospecting work in Papua, has now secured interests in Queensland.

Other shares were quoted on July 10 as follows: Guinea Gold, seller 36/-, New Guinea Developments, buyer 35/-, seller 36/-, New Guinea Gold and Oceania, seller 10/-, Oceania, seller 30/-, Oceania, seller 30/-.

RABAU SHAKES

Worst "Guria" Since 1923

A RATHER severe "guria" or earth tremor was experienced in Rabaul on June 13.

Further tremors lasted over a period of about 20 minutes, and smaller shakes were felt at frequent intervals later in the day.

The "guria" was the longest and heaviest since 1923.

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