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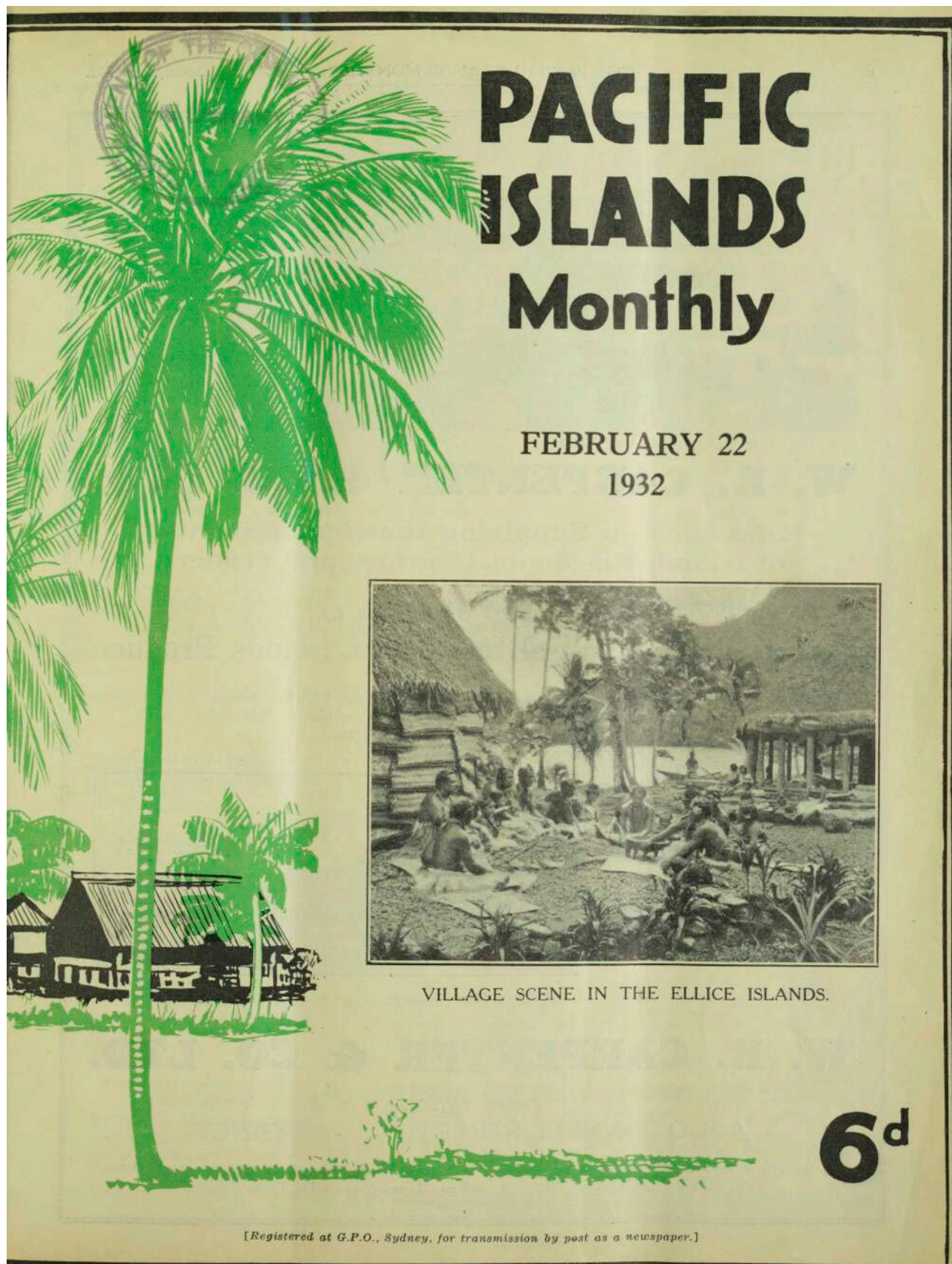
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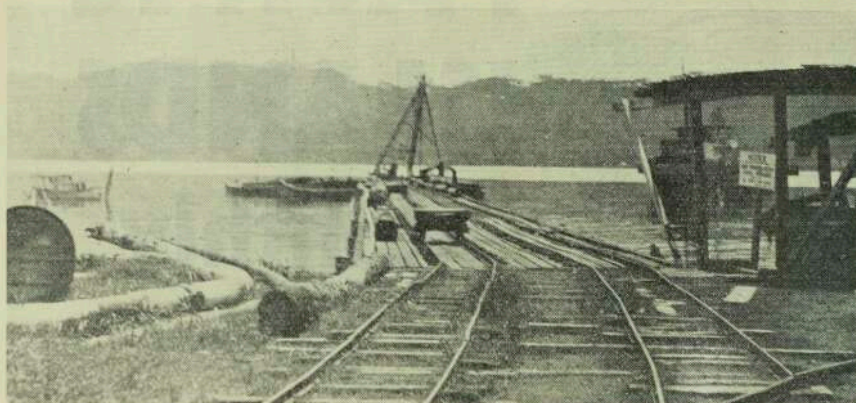
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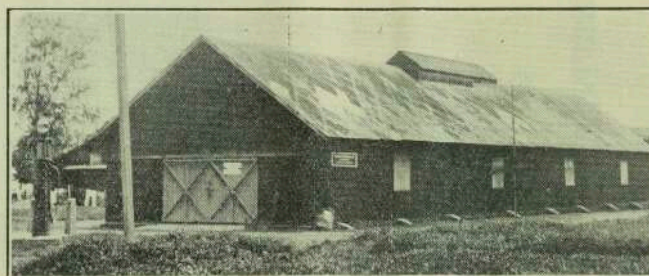
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February 22, 1932.

THE PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY

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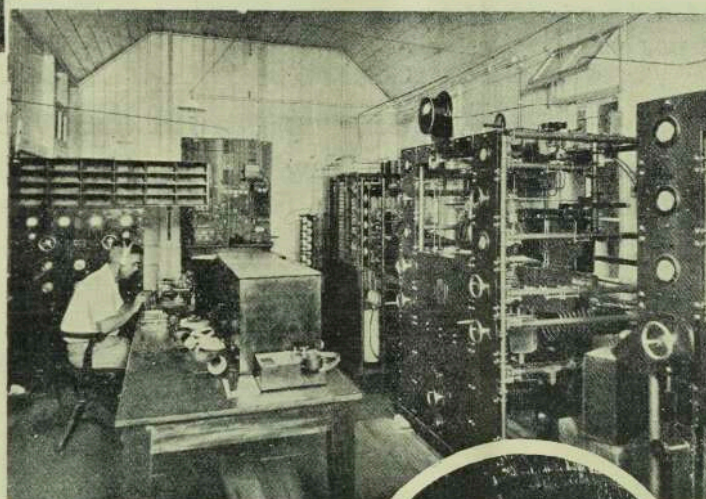


◆ A.W.A. Radio Station at Kieta.

◆ Section of Transmitting Room, A.W.A. Radio Station at Suva, Fiji.

◆ A.W.A. Radio Station at Salamua.

◆ (Circle) View from Bita Paka, Rabaul, Radio Station.



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COPRA PRICES IN THE SOUTH SEAS

Exchange Movements and Commodity Fluctuations

There is much talk at Pacific Islands centres about the local copra price in relation to the oversea quotations, and many wild charges have been made against some of the big copra merchants. There is also much misunderstanding of the exchange position, and the why and wherefore of price movements in relation to the gold standard. It is all very confusing; but an attempt has been made in this article to explain the copra position and price movements.

IN recent issues of this journal we have said that, as copra is mostly in demand by countries on the gold standard, and as Britain is 20 per cent. off the gold standard, and as the Australian £ is 25 per cent. under the British £, the copra-grower should be feeling fairly cheerful.

We have now received a letter from a copra-grower in Eastern Papua. He says he is not feeling particularly elated, and he sends along a recent statement of account sales to show why.

The question that has been raised is one of great importance to copra producers everywhere. Before we deal with it, we should perhaps try to clear the air by explaining what has happened to copra quotations as a result of exchange movements. It cannot be too strongly emphasised that the

world-value of copra (that is, its gold value) has not increased very much, if at all. All that has happened is that we are receiving more British and Australian currency for it. The French or American grower is not much better off. However, that does not worry us, so long as the British and Australian currency we are getting is buying for us the same quantity of goods or service.

Some fifteen months ago Britain was on the gold standard (one British note for £1 represented one golden sovereign), and the Australian £ was only slightly under the British £. The gold standard means 124 French francs and 4.86 American dollars to the golden sovereign. Therefore, when copra, fifteen months ago, was quoted at 1488 francs, that represented £12 per ton, c.i.f., in London.

A little later the value of the Australian £ fell sharply, so that in January, 1931, instead of being at par with the British £, it was 30 per cent. less. In other words, 26/6 Australian was adjudged to be the equal of the British £. This meant that a ton of copra, worth £12 in British money, was worth about £15/18/- in Australian money.

In other words, the copra producers in those groups which work on Australian money—Papua, New Guinea, Solomons—were 30 per cent. better off, provided always that they used their money to buy goods from Australia. To buy goods from any other country meant that they would have had to convert their Australian money into that country's currency, and would lose the 30 per cent. That position continued for several months.

In October, 1931, Britain suddenly abandoned the gold standard—she would no longer promise to pay on demand a golden sovereign for each of her £1 notes. The British £ immediately fell 20 per cent. in value in relation to the franc and the dollar, which remained on the gold standard. That is to say, the British £, instead of being worth the full golden sovereign, was then worth only four-fifths of it, or 16/-, if expressed internationally. Within Britain, of course, the £ note (buying the same quantity of goods) is still worth twenty shillings.

The Australian £, despite Britain's abandonment of gold, remained 30 per cent. less than the British £. There-

fore, as the British £ was worth 16/- in gold, the Australian £ was worth about 10/8 in gold. A little later the value of the Australian £ improved slightly, so that it is now 25 per cent. under British currency values.

Now, let us express all this in terms of copra. It is important to remember that for many months the intrinsic value of copra did not alter. All that happened was that exchange values shifted about. To make what follows easy to understand, let us assume that intrinsic copra values have not altered since November, 1930, when Australia, Britain and France were on the gold standard and copra was quoted at £12, c.i.f., London. Put it this way:

IN NOVEMBER, 1930,

One ton of copra worth, in London, 1488 francs and 58.32 dollars. That is its gold value.

Therefore, in London, copra is worth £12 per ton, because Britain is on the gold standard, and 124 francs and 4.86 dollars equal the British £.

Copra, in the Australian South Seas, is worth about £12 per ton in Australian money, less the cost of transport to London. The Australian £ is at this time about the same value as the British £.

IN JANUARY, 1931,

One ton of copra is still worth 1488 francs, 58.32 dollars, and £12 British.

Copra, in the Australian South Seas, is worth £15/18/- in Australian money, less cost of transport to London. The Australian £ is now worth 30 per cent. less than the British £. £1 British is equal to 26/6 Australian. £12 British (the value of a ton of copra in London) is therefore equal to £15/18/- Australian.

IN JANUARY, 1932,

One ton of copra is still worth in London 1488 francs or 58.32 dollars. That is its gold value.

The same copra is worth in London £14/8/- in British money. Britain has abandoned the gold standard, and the British £ is not now worth a sovereign, but only four-fifths of a sovereign (16/-). Therefore, for this ton of copra, worth 12 sovereigns, we now receive fourteen and two-fifths British pounds (£14/8/-).

The same copra in the Australian South Seas is worth a little less than £18 of Australian money, less the cost of transport to London. It is worth £14/8/- British, and, as the Australian exchange is 25 per cent., each British £ is worth about 25/- in Australian currency.

The Australian £ was worth about a sovereign in November, 1930; and a ton of copra then was worth 12 sovereigns and £12 Australian. The Australian £, in January, 1932, is worth only a little more than three-quarters of the British £, and the latter is worth only four-fifths of a sovereign. That is to say, one sovereign is now worth 24/- British and nearly 30/- Australian. Twelve sovereigns (value of one ton of copra) are therefore worth nearly £18 Australian.

This higher price for our products ("exchange premium" it is called) is a very fine thing for our producers so long as the prices of the commodities they must buy (food, labour, material) do not rise. They have risen very slightly in Britain and not at all in Australia—in fact, strange as it may seem, they have actually fallen in Australia. That is to say, the copra-producer who works on Australian currency is far better off to-day than 15 months ago; he is getting a bigger price and—so long as he buys Australian goods and service—he is paying less for his requirements. But, of course, he loses all the advantage of

the Australian exchange when he has to use his Australian money to buy anything outside of Australian territory; and he loses the advantage of both Australian and British exchanges when he buys outside of British territory.

That should make the exchange position fairly clear. Now let us return to our Papuan friend and his account sales.

COPRA FROM PAPUA.

At the end of September, 1931, this grower—let us call him Mr. Smith—shipped 3 tons of sun-dried copra and 3 tons of smoked copra by the Mata-ram from Eastern Papua to Sydney on sale to Messrs. Burns, Philp and Co., Ltd. The latter firm's account sales to him was dated 12th October, and allowed £10/10/- for sun-dried per ton and £10 for smoked. The net return to him was £44—a little less than £7/7/- per ton. He actually received £7/15/2 per ton for the sun-dried and £7/5/2 for the smoked.

The firm's account sales show the following charges made against the shipper for transporting the copra from Papua to Sydney:—

	Per ton.
Freight, Papua to Sydney	40 0
Sorting and stacking	2 0
Wharfage	0 6
Lighterage	5 0
Customs entry	0 10
Labour and weighing	1 6
Commission, 2½ p.c.	5 0
Total deductions per ton	54 10

On October 9 South Seas sun-dried copra was quoted in London at £12/15/-, c.i.f., London. The Papuan planter was allowed £10/10/- per ton in Sydney, less charges. Let us see how it all works out, so as to get the equivalent price in Eastern Papua:—

	Per ton.
London price, c.i.f. (Oct. 7)	£12 15 0
Less freight from Sydney	£2 15 0
Less various charges	1 0 0
	3 15 0
Sterling price, f.o.b. Sydney	9 0 0
Add exchange, London on Sydney, then 30 p.c.	3 0 0
Australian price, f.o.b., Sydney	12 0 0
Deduct transport and other costs, details as above	2 14 10
	£9 5 2

Mr. Smith actually received £7/15/2 per ton for this quality of copra, which is £1/10/- less than the sum shown above. This apparently is the sum retained by the purchasing and shipping firm to guard against marketing risks—shrinkage, alteration of exchange, market alterations, etc.

THE RABAU MARKET.

To ascertain how Mr. Smith, shipping from Eastern Papua direct to Sydney, fared in comparison with Mr. Robinson, selling his copra in Rabaul, we sought some figures, but found the position baffling. The big firms insist that they pay for copra in Rabaul only some £3/10/- per ton (sterling) under London parity. The growers, in complaints sent to this journal, say that the difference between London and Rabaul is £7 per ton (Australian). Each side quotes figures—and each side seems to be sincere. The confusing factor apparently is the exchange.

Each side makes part of its calculations in Australian currency and part in British—and there is a difference of 25 per cent. between them.

The planters say that fair deductions are:—

	Per ton.
Freight	£3 5 0
Duty	0 7 6
Handling charges	0 5 0
Insurance	0 1 6
Selling commission	0 12 6
Other charges, say	0 5 0
	£4 16 6

The planters argue that as the London price is quoted in British currency, the deductible charges should be reduced from Australian to British currency at the prevailing exchange rate of 25 per cent. Therefore, they say, the correct deduction per ton is £3/12/6 (£4/16/6 less 25 p.c.).

The Rabaul Times of December 31, 1931, announced that Messrs. Burns, Philp and Co. and Messrs. Carpenter and Co. were that day allowing £10/6/6 per ton for hot-air dried copra delivered into store at Rabaul. The quoted London price at that date was £14/15/-, c.i.f. According to the planters, the deductible costs are £3/12/6 sterling; this brings the London price down to £11/2/6. The conversion of this into Australian money at 25 per cent. brings it up to £14/17/6—which, say the planters, is the amount they should be receiving, instead of £10/6/6.

Now we turn to the merchants' calculations. First of all, they do not base their weekly buying price on that week's London quotation. They are buying copra that will not reach the market for three or four months at the earliest, so of course they must guard themselves against risk of market and exchange fluctuations. Apparently they allow 30/- to 40/- per ton for that. That is to say, their Rabaul price is, in any event, some £2 under the equivalent London price.

So far as one can see, their scale of deductible charges in Australian money is:—

	Per ton.
Freight	£3 15 0
Selling commission	0 10 0
Handling	0 15 0
Duty	0 7 6
Shrinkage (6½ p.c.)	0 17 6
Risk of market and exchange	2 0 0
	£8 5 0

If that sum is converted to British currency it becomes £6/4/-. If that is deducted from the London price (£14/15/-) on December 31, the latter becomes £8/11/-. If the exchange premium of 25 per cent. is added to that it becomes £10/14/-—which is close enough to what the big firms were paying for copra in Rabaul on December 31.

We are not trying to defend these figures—only to explain why there is such a marked gap between what the growers think they should receive and what the big firms are prepared to pay. It mostly comes down to the item which we call "Risk of market and exchange fluctuations." The big firms may make substantial profits on a rising market—and it has been rising in terms of Australian currency since September. They will lose money on a falling market—and it fell

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TO MILL COPRA IN SYDNEY

W.R. Carpenter Launches New Industry

A NEW industry, the progress of which will be watched with interest by copra-growers in the South Seas, has been established in Marrickville, Sydney—a mill for the crushing of copra and the recovery of coconut oil.

The mill commenced operations about the middle of February, and is employing between 15 and 20 people. There is provision also for the production of desiccated coconut.

The mill is treating only about 30 tons of copra per week; but if the industry flourishes its operations can be quadrupled with little extra cost.

So far the only coconut oil produced in Australia has come from Lever Bros.' mills, and they have met Australian requirements with a heavy type of oil, sold at £36 per ton. There is a duty of £12 per ton on imported coconut oil. Lever Bros.' price recently was reduced from £36 to £28 per ton.

Mr. Carpenter's new mill is working on an entirely new process—an Australian patent partly chemical in its action. He is aiming to produce a very light, comparatively volatile coconut oil, for which he believes there will be a ready market. Samples of production up to date are highly encouraging.

EDITORIAL NOTE.—It is a matter for surprise that so little has been done in the South Seas to test out the method of sending coconut oil, instead of copra, to the world's markets. Crushing is carried out very extensively in Ceylon, the Philippines and the Dutch East Indies, and the coconut oil from those places commands a ready sale at good prices. Disposal of the coconut cake might represent a problem; but the other coconut-growing centres which crush the copra appear to have solved it. There should be a market for the cake in Australia and New Zealand. What might be lost in the cake should be far more than made up by the saving in freight. A ton of coconut oil would not occupy anything like the space of a ton of copra.

Mr. Carpenter is not only to be congratulated on his enterprise; he is also deserving of every support. If it is shown to be practicable to take South Seas copra to Sydney for re-export after conversion into oil, a new industry might be established in Australia, which would be the means of Australia regaining some of her lost trade with the South Seas.

Mr. J. G. Shearer has retired from the service of Messrs. Burns, Philp (South Seas) Ltd., Vila, New Hebrides, and has settled down in Brisbane. Mrs. Shearer died at Vila some little time ago.

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Rarotonga Pleasantly Shocked

Ultra-Modern "Going Ashore" Dresses

From Our Own Correspondent

RAROTONGA, Jan. 20.

LADY passengers coming ashore at Rarotonga off the mail boats, treat us to glimpses of what we take to be advanced ideas in fashion in the feminine world.

Plus-fours raged for a while. After we had come finally to accept these as the recognised "going ashore" dress, we were at once astonished and delighted at the appearance of "shorts," with a kind of singlet, as the upper garment.

From time to time reports have reached us of the new "back to nature" cult sweeping across Europe; and we had therefore steeled ourselves for the appearance of a dress something on the lines of athletic V's with brassieres.

For a moment, however, fashion seems to have taken a twist in altogether a different direction. Split skirts are now the vogue. The singlet idea for the upper garment still remains, but with this difference, that the thing is worn as a kind of body bandage, with the usual thin shoulder straps.

We get so many thrills in dress novelties from those coming ashore off the mail boats, that the appearance of lido pyjamas amongst our own womenfolk leaves us stone cold in appreciation of Fashion's drastic changes in feminine dress.

ISLAND OF PINES

Excursions from Noumea

From Our Own Correspondent.

NOUMEA, January 15.

THE Societe des Iles Loyalty is to be congratulated on its enterprise in conducting passenger trips across to the beautiful Island of Pines.

The return passage by the steamer Loyaute is 250 francs per head, including meals. The steamer leaves Noumea on Saturday and returns the following day after a very pleasant week-end on the island.

Hurricane Season in Cook Is.

From Our Own Correspondent

RAROTONGA, Jan. 25.

THUS far the hurricane season has passed without any destructive gales to the islands of the lower group, although a rather disturbing fall of the glass took place at Rarotonga and Aitutaki about the middle of the month. The low pressure persisted for two or three days, and then passed off without any abnormal disturbance to weather conditions.

We are out of touch with the islands of the northern group, Penrhyn, Manihiki and Rakahanga, but we have no reason to fear that the Tagua, which left here shortly before Christmas, did not reach the lagoon at Penrhyn soon after the New Year.

The two most dangerous months from the point of view of weather and also health (February and March) have yet to be faced. We shall be pleased when April arrives.

Where Late Mr. Levien Established His Fortune on New Guinea Goldfield



The first gold-mining camp established on the Bulolo, by the late Mr. C. J. Levien. When he resigned from the Government service, some six or seven years ago, to try his fortune on the field, he was a poor man. When he died suddenly last month he was very wealthy. This photograph (taken several years ago by Mr. H. L. Downing) shows where Mr. Levien commenced operations and the heavy forest which guarded the hidden gold. Mr. Levien is seen standing near the corner of the hut.

World's Greatest Aerial Transport Service

A SERIES of very fine photographs by Mr. H. L. Downing, published in The Sydney Mail of February 3, gave timely publicity to the rapidly growing goldmining industry on the Morobe goldfield of New Guinea.

The imminent opening of the first big dredge on this well-nigh inaccessible plateau, has directed much public attention to Morobe developments, and the arrival of the popular Assistant District Officer in Australia, on furlough, with his extraordinarily wide range of first-class photographs, was welcomed by many of the newspapers.

The pictures necessarily showed a good deal of the aerial transport system, which has made the development of this awkwardly placed goldfield possible. Every bit of two great steel dredges has been carried in by aeroplanes.

Here is an extract from The Sydney Mail article:

A stirring story is attached to the pictures on these pages. Great freight-carrying aeroplanes are transporting heavy mining machinery over mountains on a scale that is attracting the attention of mining engineers

all over the world. The investing public has followed with interest the operations of the Bulolo Gold Dredging Co. and is aware that powerful financial interests are associated with Placer Development. What has been accomplished by airmen in that work is an epic of pioneering. A recent letter to Mr. Fred Burley, of Sydney, from a "flying friend" gives details which are thrilling:

"I have no hesitation in saying that this is the largest undertaking ever attempted in the aviation world. I refer to Bulolo Gold Dredging and Guinea Airways. Between the coast and Bulolo River is a mountain range 8,000 feet to 10,000 feet high.

"A highway is out of the question, owing to landslides, initial cost, and the upkeep. So the aeroplane was brought into operation. Up to date we have carried 1,700 tons of material into Bulolo. In one month, with two machines, we carried 261 tons. Our three-engine Junkers carry up to 3½ tons and our average loading is 5,600 lbs. On one occasion with three machines, 51 tons were taken into Bulolo in two days. The route we follow takes from 35 to 40 minutes flying time, at a speed of about 90 m.p.h. To avoid an altitude of 9,000 feet we go a long way round, and the highest point we have to get over is 4,000 feet. Bulolo itself is 3,000 feet above sea-level. We play safe the whole time, and cloud-flying is out of the question owing to the nature of the country. We have to be very careful we are not caught, as the clouds close in very quickly."

SAMOA'S FINANCES

Retrenchment Campaign Expected

From Our Own Correspondent

APIA, January 5.

THE Secretary to the Administration, Mr. Turnbull, returned by the Maui Pomare, and his mission to New Zealand has, apparently, not been very successful.

There seems no hope whatever of much financial assistance from New Zealand and the Government will have to start a retrenchment campaign in earnest. After the Commissioner of Labour, some more high officials are to be retired, as well as a number of European constables. Furthermore, the wages of Samoan native officials will be cut by 10 per cent. Drastic changes are predicted at the end of the financial year, on March 31.

As all possible cuttings and savings will not enable the Administration to balance the budget, import duties are to be raised in the near future.

A BUSY DAY AT WAU AERODROME, NEW GUINEA



A recent photograph of the aerodrome at Wau, the administrative centre of the Morobe goldfields, New Guinea. Left to right: A P.A.T. machine, "Lady Lettie," carrying 1900lbs.; Mr. Les. Holden's "Canberra," carrying 1800lbs.; Guinea Airways Ltd.'s big 'bus, "31," carrying 2½ tons. Note the only bullock team in Wau, alongside "31," ready to take part of the load. The mining warden's bungalow in the background.

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THE PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY

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A WHITE WOMAN'S VISIT TO ONGTONG JAVA

Mrs. Robinson, wife of the first mate of the B.P. inter-island steamer Mitiaro, who has been staying with Mr. and Mrs. Bignell, at Ysabel, in the Solomons, recently paid a visit to Ongtong Java. She was the first white woman to visit the group for 20 years, and we are indebted to her for this interesting sketch and photograph.



Native Cemetery in Ongtong Java.

ONGTONG JAVA lies about 150 miles north of the Solomon Group, and it comes under the administration of the Resident Commissioner of the Solomons. The group is inhabited by an entirely Polynesian race—and this, in the midst of Melanesia, is hard to understand.

These islands grow nothing but coconuts, and are only about three feet above sea level. No other vegetation of any kind exists, and the natives live entirely on coconuts and fish.

I was quite prepared, after leaving Ysabel, to encounter rough seas, as the nor-west season had set in, but both coming and going it was dead calm—a record trip, I have been told.

After two days and one night of travel this wonderful group of islands came in sight. Just a line of coconuts, apparently growing in the ocean, was my first impression. Then, as we got closer, I could see miles and miles of reefs and palms, extending for forty miles, forming a perfect oval, with an immense lagoon in the centre.

After negotiating the reefs we dropped anchor, causing great excitement among the inhabitants. Almost at once a small outboard canoe came alongside, holding two men and one woman. The woman came aboard, much to everyone's surprise—such a thing never having been known before. She was exceedingly pretty, in her bright calico, in addition to which she had a large white damask tablecloth draped artistically round her. Very strange to say—but surely pure coincidence—she had her hair done in the latest European style, smoothed down with curling ends tucked behind her ears. Her body was completely covered with tattoo, and she was quite young and beautifully built. She stared at me in astonishment, but when "Pat" appeared her surprise was beyond description. We were the first white woman and child she had ever seen.

Our next visitor was one of the two white traders who live there. His first request was for iced beer. After he had consumed this, we went ashore, whilst stores and copra were being landed and loaded.

It was quite certain these people had never seen a white woman and child before—they crowded round in hundreds, in sheer amazement. They were

just as Nature made them, except for a few ornaments and much tattooing—especially the women. I have been told that tattooing is carried on to the stage of utter cruelty by these natives. It is part of their custom that, as they grow up, more and more tattooing is done, denoting each stage of life, until the body is entirely covered.

These people appeared to me less civilised and yet more cultured than the ordinary Solomon boy. They seem so utterly unspoiled by civilisation and live on raw fish and coconuts.

We visited the somewhat vast cemetery, to see the grave of a white trader who died there six months ago. We found it beautifully kept, just as all the others. We saw also groups of mourners standing round other graves, dressed in sack and straw. They still keep up the old custom of mourning for their dead, sometimes living by the grave for two years.

Meanwhile our retinue had increased rather alarmingly. As they grew less nervous, they began touching our hands and clothes, which made me

thank a kindly fate that I was wearing shorts and shirt—otherwise, I have no doubt, they would have taken an embarrassing if harmless interest in garments beyond their understanding.

On our return to the beach, they danced—a slow, monotonous affair, working slowly up to great excitement, the only accompaniment being kerosene tins loudly beaten. Whilst waiting on the beach for the dinghy to take us aboard, and still surrounded by the multitude, my small daughter of six, holding a small boy by the hand, asked if she might bring him aboard to play with. Before I had time to answer, a frantic mother grabbed him, terror written plainly on her face, and dashed away, certain we were going to shanghai her offspring. A simple folk, these.

During all these proceedings the damsel of the tablecloth had attached herself to me. She followed me back to the steamer, and into my cabin, where she showed an interest in many things—the mirror, especially. Then into the saloon, then out on deck, and, finally, into the bathroom, whence she had to be forcibly ejected. Whilst we were breakfasting next morning, she appeared again, but was promptly sent ashore. I saw her no more, for which I was thankful.

Copra loaded and farewells said, we steamed away, leaving two lonely white men, and a crowd of chattering natives for another two and a half months.

I was astounded at the growth of coconuts on Ongtong Java. They are so close together that it is almost impossible to walk between them. There is, of course, no water, except wells, which are stagnant.

These natives are dying out rapidly. There were many thousands a few years ago; now only a few hundreds are left.



Native Men of Ongtong, Java—a Typical Group.

India's Influence on Pacific Races

Scientist's Jottings on Indian Immigration in Fiji, and Elsewhere

Written for the *Pacific Islands Monthly* by
A. J. Vogan, F.R.G.S., etc.

NOTHING is clearer to the student of such matters than the fact that our original ancestry, the prehistoric Great Race of what is now the Gobi desert and Altai Mountains of Central Asia (which gave the first civilisation to a semi-human world) was also the blood-fount from which sprang the Hindu—originally a fair-skinned race.



Mr. A. J. Vogan.

As the Ant or Bee can produce the highly specialised Queen from the same insignificant maggot—that, under ordinary conditions, would have been a lowly "worker"—through the medium of certain exotic foods and "massages," so the early immigrants from Asia developed differently under the stern vicissitudes of the Baltic sea-lands or in those "Isles of Eden," the beautifully dangerous, coral isolations of the Pacific.

Two main characteristics of the Great Race (as I have termed it in my writings, for this prehistoric people still remain amongst the innominate of Science) stand out—differentiating them from other "breeds without the law." They are born navigators; and they have a pushing, pioneering genius for business—sometimes combined with piracy, as dear old Herodotus had already noticed over 400 years before our era!

This business rapacity, driven at all costs against opposition, has been the cause of most of the trouble in Burmah, where Hindu traders and minor officials swarmed in, owing to the backwardness of the Burman to qualify himself for government. One could point out similar cases nearer home, but for fear of the editorial blue pencil: for, as all anthropologists know full well, many of our so-called "whitemen" have less of this Great Race in their make-up than have other equally wrong designated "Black" or "Brown" folk—take the black Berbers, who are Arabs, really.

The reason for the friction between Hindus and Mussalmans in India is at bottom, also just that. The latter were attracted to India by that root cause of all human movements: Hunger. The Mussalmans, disciplined for war, preserved, throughout the days of their rule, a purely military outlook, until Aurangzeb found it necessary to transform the personnel of the civil government, declaring that "The Hindus are the axle-tree of the administration." With the advent of their distant cou-

EDITOR'S NOTE

I met Mr. Vogan in Pitt Street, Sydney, and we discussed the proposal of the Lever interests to introduce Hindu labourers to the Solomon Islands.

"One recognises the economic necessity," I said, "but how is it going to work out sociologically? What will it do to the Solomons? Sooner or later 'indentured' labour gets a permanent footing."

Then this deeply-read, widely-travelled gentleman told me many significant things about the Hindu people. I begged him to write these things for me—and the accompanying article is the result. It will be read with interest by everyone who is trying to see something of the future of the white and coloured races in the Pacific.

Those who have made no study of ethnology must bear in mind in reading Mr. Vogan's article that we white people of Europe are very closely allied, in a racial sense, to the Hindus—there is a much closer relationship between European and Hindu than between European and negro or Asiatic.

sins, the British, the Hindus came once more into power, as being pre-eminent in trade. "Men are seldom so well employed as when making money!" wrote the great Dr. Johnson 200 years ago.

The Pacific Monthly reader who goes to see the large "home-circle" of Mr. Le Soeuf, at Taronga Park, may find there evidence of his own connection with this Great Race of ancient Asia; and, through it, with the Hindus. Here, amongst the most interesting of all the poor creatures "in for life," and "cribbed, cabined and confined," are the sturdy, pointed-tailed, rather quick tempered Prejavalski ponies—who would be greater favourites, perhaps, than they are with the horse-lov-

ing young Australian, but for their troublesome name. We are glad to simplify this for them. It is approximately pronounced: "Chevalski"; and means "Cavalier."

When the writer was a boy, the vastly ancient cave-drawing of Spain and France were just attracting the notice of science. But the artists (who drew and painted about 5000 years before the Great Pyramid was planned) were criticised. "Who ever saw a horse like that?" Their other sketches of pre-historic rhinoceros, etc., were therefore discounted. But, later, in 1870, Lieut.-Colonel Prejavalski, the great Russian explorer, brought down from Mongolia specimens such as you see to-day in Taronga—which were bred from the originals in the New York Zoo. These archaic drawings are very faithfully exact; and we know now that our ancestors brought these ponies with them when they reached the Baltic and Danube.

I remember that in 1900, we were supplied with Hungarian-bred remounts during the Boer War, which are almost exact replicas. And in Stockholm, and in many places along the German littoral, similar steeds—called in northern India "Yarkandis"—are still occasionally to be seen.

Again, when we examine the old Baltic Pantheon, we find it founded upon legends and mysteries identical with those of the Nature-worshippers of ancient Central Asia—as Mrs. Murray-Aynsley (aunt of our own Mrs. Western of Hornsby), the great archaeologist of India, General Sir G. M. Birdwood, and other authorities, have shown conclusively.

The experience of a lifetime has shown us that it is generally safe to look upon any "popular" belief as erroneous—though some certainly originated in truths, long since twisted by ignorance beyond recognition. One such is the popular idea about "the mild Hindu"—that he is invariably unwarlike. It was the Warrior caste of this People, the Rajputs, or Mountain people, who held back the Moguls—the ancestors of those moderns who have been made the vehicle for foisting Communism upon an unwilling world; and who have crept into posi-

Continued on page 18.



Types of Indians who have settled in Fiji: Girls from a Methodist Orphanage in Fiji.
—Photo by courtesy of Missionary Review.

February 22, 1932.

THE PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY

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Extracts from the Diary of a White Woman in the Papuan Bush

By MOLLIE LETT.

MONDAY.

6 a.m.—Crawl from under mosquito net. Ring for boy. No boy. Shout for boy. No boy. Take 5 grains quinine. Go behind house to kitchen. No fire. No boy. Light spirit stove. Put on kettle.

6.30 a.m.—Cook arrives. Says he is "too sick, head belong him no good." Agree. Enter house boy: "Him, too, head he no good." Again agree. Give instructions as to work.

7 a.m.—Wait for tea. No tea. Again go out to kitchen. Find cook playing mouth organ. Spirit stove out. Feel annoyed.

7.30 a.m.—Tea at last. Water not boiled. "Where sugar? Where milk? Sari," I ask. "No sugar. No milk. He pinish, Sinebada" (mistress). "Finish! Plenty last night." "Sinebada, one ting, this puss-cat." "X-X-X—." Exit cook. Swallow tea. Feel upset.

8 a.m.—Breakfast. hard boiled eggs, lukewarm tea, tinned butter, tinned paste and biscuits. Throw away cook's mouth organ. Tell cook to scrub kitchen. Cook throws bucket of water over floor and sweeps. Feel cross.

9.30 a.m. — House boy sulky. Show him again how to make beds. He asks for 5/-, complains his father is dying. Give him duster. He finds mouth organ. Feel nervy. Throw away mouth organ.

10.30 a.m.—A visitor arrives from the coast. Says he has fever. We say we have fever, too. Says times are very bad. How are we doing? "Very bad." No news. Says his neighbour Jones is a snake in the grass. We think so, too. Offer him tea. He prefers whisky. Offer him papers. Says he has read them. Says he thinks he will stay to lunch.

12.30 p.m.—Order lunch: tinned salmon, sweet potatoes and fruit. Bread doughy and heavy. Cook CANNOT make bread. Make a custard — cook scornful.

1 p.m.—Lunch. Husband tired. Mosquitoes troublesome. Visitor gloomy. Very hot. No house boy. Cook says "His looking for mouth organ." Decide to sack house boy; find him useless.

4 p.m.—Make tea. Tell cook to kill a fowl for dinner. Cook seems delighted; house boy asks if he can help. Both chase wretched fowl around kitchen garden, trampling on lettuces and tomatoes. Decide to shoot fowl. I miss. Leave it to cook and go for a stroll;

take dogs. Visitor thinks he will stay for dinner; says he feels off colour and fevery. Feel depressed.

5.30 p.m.—Return from stroll very hot and clammy. Tell cook he MUST cut head off fowl. Show him. Help with dinner.

6 p.m.—Show house boy again how to lay table.

6.30 p.m.—Call for baths. Cook says "Hot water he no stop." Feel annoyed. Tell house boy to bring drinks. He complains his sister is now dying, can he go at once? Cocktails. Feel much better—not so depressed. Visitor less gloomy.

8 p.m.—Dinner. Fowl very tough and potatoes burnt. Visitor much brighter. Thinks he will stay the night. Says he thinks the country is going to the dogs. We think so, too.

WEDNESDAY.—

6 a.m.—Visitor up first, 5.30. No boys. Make tea. Very sultry. Visitor thinks he will get a move on to-day.

6.45 a.m.—Boys arrive. Scold boys. Give orders for breakfast.

10 a.m.—Show cook how to make scones. Seems offended. Says he "savy plenty along everything." Disagree.

11 a.m.—Go out with husband on plantation, sit and sew. Find ants and mosquitoes troublesome. Bitten by centipede. Decide to go home. Send tea out. Find visitor still here. Says he will wait until to-morrow. Feel annoyed. Centipede bite troublesome.

4 p.m.—Visitor goes for stroll. Seems unsteady — look at decanter. Have sacked house boy. He won't leave. Cook says "His looking for mouth organ." Give him 5/- for a new one. Says it is not enough. Order cook to send him away.

5 p.m.—Visitor says he is leaving. Say "Good-bye." Later, do some gardening. Cook and ex-house boy help. Plant out new cabbages. Find all lettuce and tomatoes trampled down. Cook says "chuck-chuck, he do that." Feel annoyed. Notice ex-house boy has bought a new belt.

8 p.m.—Dinner: tinned meat, tinned beans and apricots. During dinner visitor returns — says he didn't feel too good. Husband seems put out. Visitor thinks he will stay the night.

FRIDAY.—

8 a.m.—Cook says, can he have his wages—he wants to go—that I am "no good." Show him again how to cook

bacon. He says cooking "nother fashion." Getting rather tired of cook.

11 a.m.—Two more visitors. Seem pleased to see us. Ask them if they have any news. No; they have not. Have we any? I tell them about my cook, Sari. Seem inattentive.

1 p.m.—They think they will stay to lunch. Lunch too frightful. Cook mixed the tinned soup with the fruit. Weather very hot. Feel upset. Lie down.

3 p.m.—Visitors suggest a picnic. Ex-house boy and cook seem very pleased — can they bring their families? No, they cannot. Cook sulky, and ex-house boy disappears. Prepare for picnic. Feel pessimistic.

9 p.m.—Picnic a ghastly failure. Cook forgot milk, tea and tin opener. Heavy rain. Husband annoyed. Says he never did like picnics. Visitors disappointed. They decide to stay the night. Feel cross.

SATURDAY.—

6 a.m.—Seedy and fevery. Crawl out of bed. Shout for boys. Threaten cook. Cook says he will report me. Decide to get rid of cook. Tell him so. Shooting boy arrives with wild pig. Cook very excited. Can his wife help him cook? No, she CANNOT. Says he has changed his mind; he wants to stop.

10 a.m.—Visitors decide to push off after lunch. I offer them magazines and books. Find they have read them. They offer me theirs. Find I have read them, too. Decide I must send for some new books.

4 p.m.—Tea. Visitors depart. Cook says he wants to go with them. "They are much nicer than I am. I am no good." He goes. Make ex-house boy cook and odd boy house boy. Find he cannot cook and odd boy very odd. Feel annoyed. Go for a walk and take dogs.

SUNDAY.—

3 a.m.—Gubu (hurricane) in the night. House flooded. Shout for boys to bring lanterns. Can't wake boys. Find two old lanterns—one no wick, the other out of order. Very uncomfortable. Beds wet. Strike matches. Husband annoyed—a bit upset myself. Take 5 grains quinine. Husband takes 10 grains.

4.30 a.m.—Visitors return wet through. Canoe swamped. Can we give them shelter? No, we cannot. Can they lend us a lantern? No, they cannot. We offer them copra shed. They decide to push on to Jones.

5 a.m.—Decide not to go back to bed. Make tea on primus stove. Feel tired and cross. Husband feels cross—says he is getting tired of Papua.

Papua, June, 1931.

DURIAN TREES THRIVE IN TAHITI

From Our Tahiti Correspondent.

THIS year, two more of the Durian trees introduced from Borneo some ten years ago by Mr. Harrison W. Smith, are producing fruit.

Some of us will recall the occasion, last year, when the first Durian fruit to ripen in Tahiti was conveyed in a hermetically sealed case to the Yacht Club at Papeete, and there partaken of—with all the appropriate rites—by a few very special friends of the owner.

The Durian, which is a native of the Malay Archipelago, has an odour which is extremely offensive to the uninitiated. Its qualities have been described by various writers in most contradic-

tory terms. Some say that the eating of Durians produces a sensation well worth a voyage to the East. The Chinese have faith in the Durian as a medicine of great virtue.

However this may be, the arrival of Mr. Smith in Tahiti with his cargo of Durian trees was sufficient to inspire Mr. Nordhoff to some remarkable verses, which cannot now be omitted in any reference to this fruit.

This amusing poem, entitled "Saved by the Durian," was written by Mr. Charles B. Nordhoff, and is well known in Eastern Polynesia:

SAVED BY THE DURIAN

High on a hill above the bay,
Where trading ships at anchor lay,
The signal-tower stood.
"A ship! A ship!" the watchman cried
As far beyond the reef he spied
What seemed a floating wood.

"A ship?" he muttered. "Am I sane?
A forest came to Dunsinane,
But that was not at sea.
She moves—she trails a cloud of smoke—
Ha! This is getting past a joke!
I'll warn the town," said he.

From north, and south, and east, and
west,
The folk came running, fearing lest
They miss so strange a sight.
So dense a crowd was never seen
Upon Papeete's village green
At dance, dispute, or fight.

The ship drew near, she reached the pass,
Her funnels smoked above a mass
Of vegetation strange.
Langsat and lofty Durian,
The foliage of the Rambutan,
Far from its natural range.

Her anchor dropped with clanking sound.
The people whispered all around:
"Look! Who is yonder man?"
A savage figure strode the deck,
Pierced teeth about his stalwart neck
Gleamed white against the tan.

A bristling beard adorned his face,
Blue clan-marks of the Kayan race
Were traced on arms and back.
They whispered as he stepped ashore
"He wears a chawat—nothing more.
Run! Fetch a copra-sack!"

"In Borneo he's spent his days—
Kayan and Dyak sing his praise
In all their nursery rhymes.
He was a friend of Raja Brooke—
'Twas whispered at the court he took
A head or two at times."

The governor and all his suite
Were waiting on the dock to greet
This celebrated chief.
He said: "I've braved the tempest's foam
To make your sunny isle my home—
Safe in its barrier reef!"

"I'm done with Borneo!" he cried:
"And every other land beside—
They're all too civilised!
Once wild headhunters lay in wait,
And savage chieftans sat in state—
That was the life I prized!"

"But now headhunting's defunct—
It makes me ill—it makes me blue
To mark the saddening change.
They've chopped the finest jungles down—
The savages have moved to town—
The monkeys have the mange!"

"Tahiti's good enough for me,
And by this distant, tranquil sea
I'll settle down for life.
Beneath these palms I'll meditate,
Forgetting jazz, and real estate,
And politics, and strife.

"I've brought a hundred kinds of fruit,
And ornamental trees to boot,
To plant about my door.
Not one man in this crowd, I ween,
Has tasted of the Mangosteen
Or Rambutan before!"

"Langsat, Jackfruit and Soursoy,
You'll all declare the last tip-top—
The finest of the three.
Yon giant Victoria blooms in Spring—
From hot Sumatra's isle I bring
The curious Traveller's Tree.

"And when my trees begin to bear
I hope one day I'll see you there
To act the jury on
The fruit which cheers, rejuvenates,
And strengthens Eastern potentates—
The royal Durian!"

The stranger bowed and walked away—
He was not seen for many a day
And many a year to boot.
A generation passed before
The noble tree beside his door
Flowered and bore its fruit.

His hair was scant, his beard was snow;
He could no longer walk, and so
They wheeled him in a chair.
They wheeled him to watch with rheumy eyes
The ripening fruit that Sultans prize,
The Durian hanging there.

The longed-for day arrived at last,
The fruit was ripe, the waiting past,
And patience had its ends.
His messengers rode forth in haste,
Without a moment's time to waste,
To call his aged friends.

Some came in breechclouts—some in pants;
In stretchers and by ambulance
They hastened to his door.
He held aloft in palsied hand
The fruit no man in all that land
Had seen or smelled before.

'Twas strange to see each ancient friend
Grip tight his suffering nose. "Quick, send
Plates and a knife," he cried.
A thick mephitic perfume rose—
Each dotard swore despite his nose
He'd taste it 'ere he died.

Bananas, garlic and ice cream,
Onions and chocolate would seem
A horrid blend enough—
But what is this? Each palsied guest
Feels rising in his withered breast
An urge to action rough!

With brightened eyes, all in amaze,
Each ancient turned a piercing gaze
Upon the others there.
Each voice grew strong, each back grew
straight,
Fast-sprouting on each shining pate
They saw a growth of hair!

Spurning his chair—on legs grown strong—
The host leaped up in gay sarong
With Dyak battle-cry.
"The Durian has saved our lives!
Each man will need a hundred wives!
We're off! Let's go, say I!"

"Break up this chair! Discharge my nurse!
Run for my cheque book and my purse!
Cut up another fruit!
Tell all the dancing girls to come!
Send in for twenty casks of rum,
And wine and beer to boot!"

That day was many months ago,
But still the man from Borneo
Makes merry in his house.
And now, throughout that sunny land,
Old men are young on every hand—
Their lives one long carouse!

L'Envoi.

So men whose hair is spare and grey
Should travel east without delay,
In ships, canoes, or boats—
To eat the fruit that fires the mild—
The fruit that helps the growing child—
The fruit that makes tame women wild,
And old men skip like goats!

TALKIES FOR SUVA

New Era of Entertainment

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, January 24.

SUVA had its first real experience of the talkies on January 20, when the Universal Theatre opened with its new equipment under the joint management of Miss Bayly and the Noerr Brothers.

For a long time past there has been talk of such an installation being made in Suva, and experiments have been made with a couple of low-priced plants. These did not prove satisfactory, at any rate, on a commercial scale, and so the opportunity has been offering for a combination of skill and capital to explore this new field of entertainment in Suva.

We have had two picture theatres for many years in Suva and are shortly to have a third. Dr. Beattie is putting up a large concrete picture theatre, which will be equipped in the most modern manner and wired for "talkies." As the doctor is also an expert on acoustics, the result should be as high perfect as possible.

The "talkies" at the Universal Theatre were produced on "Vocal-tone" equipment installed by an Australian, Mr. George Glynne, and as he aptly replied to a critic in a letter to our local paper, "Sound has routed the local blacksmith or street sweeper from the easy job of projecting silent pictures with single projectors, to the discomfort of the audience."

In the opinion of those who have heard talkies in Australia and New Zealand, the installation at the Universal Theatre is an unqualified success.

But the fact that the films chosen were American productions, with the "American language" very pronounced, caused a good deal of hostile comment among those who know that first-class British films, employing the English language, are now available.

PAPUA'S NIPA PALMS

Believed to be Source of Enormous Unexploited Wealth

SURPRISINGLY little has been done to investigate the value of the nipa palm, which grows wild in incalculable abundance along the waterways of Western Papua.

This palm, in the Philippines and Borneo, has an acknowledged commercial value, and is now being cultivated in those regions. It has been also introduced into South Florida, U.S.A.

The main value of the palm seems to lie in the use of the sap, whence is derived power alcohol, which has many uses and is an alternative for petrol in driving engines. However, its chief market to date is for drinking, in the form of spirituous liquor. For this purpose many distilleries have been established in the Philippines, and to these the sap of the nipa palm is taken for treatment.

During the last decade considerable work has been done in the Philippines and elsewhere in ascertaining the practicability of producing power alcohol from the sap of the palm.

It has been calculated that power alcohol could be produced and profitably marketed as a motor fuel at 1/6 per gallon.

Some few years back the Automotive Industries Journal, published in New York, stated that in 1925 an experimental plant for the purpose was erected in the State of North Borneo, under the direction of the Department of Agriculture there. The article stated that there were 300,000 acres of nipa in North Borneo, and it occurred in nearly solid stands of 5,000 acres or more. The sap flowed for only six months of the year, but it was estimated that during that period 900,000,000 gallons of sap, capable of producing nearly 60,000,000 gallons of alcohol, could be obtained. The results of the first year's working of the plant came up to expectations in every way.

DETAILS OF THE PALM.

Nipa is a perennial, in that it continuously reproduces itself through its branching rhizomes.

The sap is collected by cutting into the fruit at its point of attachment to the stalk, and fixing a container underneath, into which the sap drips. How-

ever, a preliminary treatment is necessary. This consists of kicking or hand-shaking the fruit stalks once a week for from three to six weeks, depending on the locality, the condition of the palms, or the whim of the tappers. It is claimed that fruit stalks which have



A pile of nipa leaves. These leaves are used extensively for thatching in Papua, the Philippines and Borneo.

photos of the collection of the nipa sap and of the distilleries for the treating of the tuba.

The Science Journal of those Islands for 1911 says that the sap of nipa palm



Avenues of nipa along one of the innumerable waterways in Western Papua. There are incalculable quantities of nipa palm, similar to the above.

not received this treatment do not bleed when tapped. Filipino tappers turn in as much as 90 gallons of sap for alcohol manufacture a day.

The Philippine Islands Agricultural Review, 1917-18, shows interesting

is the cheapest source of alcohol in the world.

The best-managed nipules, or nipa groves, in the Philippines, continues the Journal, are divided into sections of about one hectare, containing 700 to 800 producing plants in every hectare, each of which is assigned to the care of one or more men. Usually two men are required to handle one hectare and the work of cutting the plants, gathering and transporting the tuba to the distillery and the general care of the grove is divided between them.

Since the sap not only has a recognised commercial value at the distillery, but is also greatly prized by the natives as a beverage, a close watch by the guards is necessary.

The sap, as it drops from the flower stalks, is collected in hollow joints of bamboo. Each plant is visited daily and the sap brought to the distillery in bancas, a light canoe, which natives paddle in and out of the waterways. Sometimes the tuba is emptied into large earthenware jars, which are transported to the distillery, or else it is emptied directly into the boat.

The labourer in the nipa grove builds himself a house of nipa leaves, thatch-

The following shows the many uses to which the nipa palm is placed in the Philippines:—

Nipa palm	Leaf	Young leaves to surround cooked rice.
		Leaflets ... Shingles for house-building, hats, mats and bags.
		Midribs ... Pail for dipping water; coarse baskets.
	Stalk	Brooms, tying rice bundles, sewing nipa shingles.
Fruit	Food	Fuel, floating logs, sewing nipa shingles.
		Sweetmeats.
Sap tuba	Drink (fresh).	Food
		Sugar.
		Fermented drink (tuba).
		Alcohol.
		Vinegar.

ed with bamboo framework, on the bank of a stream on the nipa estate. Fish is the principal article of food and is easily caught in these places. Here, usually with a large family, he lives in peace and contentment.

It is probable that the natives of the Philippines fermented beverages from nipa sap before the arrival of Europeans in 1521.

TAPPING THE NIPA.

Since the nipa sends its inflorescence up from the base and, hence, is near the ground, the flower stalk is conveniently situated for the gathering of the sap. Four years after planting the seed the nipa bears small fruit, but it is not tapped for its tuba until the fifth year. Some time after the fruit has formed, the stalk is cut across near its top, usually just below the fruit and, each day, a thin slice is removed to keep the wound fresh and to facilitate exudation. One stalk normally flows for about three months.

The tuba season is usually of six months' duration. In some areas, only a portion of the palms are cut at the beginning of the season, in order to supply the distilleries with tuba throughout the year, and thus avoid shutting down the plant. As these palms are exhausted, others are brought into production by cutting, and thus the season becomes continuous.

The Malayan Agricultural Journal, 1927, also contains a reference to nipah, which is the Malayan spelling of the word. It is stated that the coconut and the nipah palm are the two main sources of alcohol in that country, but the former must be discounted by the fact that it is a valuable food producer and would require a labour force of skilled toddy tappers or trained monkeys to exploit it. Nipah, however, is tapped at a height of only four feet from the ground, and, moreover, shows promise of giving yields greater than any obtained from other sources.

Some 2,000 acres of nipa have been now cultivated in the Federated Malay States and the production is said to be 1,300 gallons of 96 per cent. alcohol per acre per annum.

INVESTIGATIONS IN PAPUA.

An attempt to exploit the Papuan nipa palms was made about 1920 by a strong Sydney company, called Power Ltd., with which Captain

Morgan and the late Mr. W. Scott Fell were associated. The Steamships Trading Co., of Papua, were agents for the company and, for a time, its prospects were bright. But a very serious misunderstanding arose between the company and the Administration. The company believed that an arrangement it had made with an official was final; but it turned out that the official concerned had not authority to give the concession sought by the company, and the Administration would not confirm the official's action, and demanded certain guarantees regarding re-planting and other matters. As a result of the dispute, Power Ltd. did not proceed with its scheme.

Since then, a couple of other companies have interested themselves in this possible new industry, but nothing of a concrete nature has been yet achieved. One of these was the Natalite Company, which took up a lease near the Turama River.

Mr. C. E. Lane-Poole, Inspector-General of Forests of the Commonwealth of Australia, made the following remarks about the nipa palm and power alcohol in his report on the forestry resources of Papua and New Guinea:

Alcohol is an excellent liquid fuel, and it is more satisfactory than petrol, for, according to the authorities, a thermal efficiency of 30 per cent. can be obtained against 20 per cent. for petrol. This means a reduction in the quantity of fuel used, and the cost of running the engine. While Australia has no *prima facie* cheap source of industrial alcohol, her molasses, now wasted, is the best, but is not large enough.

Papua has in her nipa palm a very large source of this motor fuel. It has the advantage that it has been used for the manufacture of alcohol in other countries.

In the Philippines, not only is the sap collected from the forests of wild nipa palms, but this species is cultivated for its sap, which is distilled into alcohol; it has an advantage over grain, as it does not require milling.

It is a short palm, so that the fruit is at a handy height, and it only takes four years to develop from seed. The production of alcohol exceeds 10,000 litres a year. The yield per year of the sap from one palm is 43 litres, and they count on 750 fruiting palms to the acre, or a yield of sap per acre of 32,250 litres. This is taken to the distillery and a yield of from 4.1 per cent to 7.5 per cent. is obtained. The average yield from 33 distilleries is 5.6 per cent. According to the estimates of H. D. Gibbs, from whose work the above has been extracted, nipa is the cheapest known source of alcohol.

Just as I am unable to give exact figures of the area of mangrove swamps in Papua, so I am unable to give an estimate of the area under nipa. It is a local species in the mangrove swamps, of which vast areas exist between the Alele mouth (Purari River) and the Fly River.

The development of this industry looks very promising and, with proper regulation and control, and the denaturing of the product, to make it unfit for consumption by natives, there seems little possibility of it becoming a beverage.

It must, however, be borne in mind that in motor engines built for petrol one gallon of alcohol is equivalent to less than three-quarters of a gallon of petrol, although by altering the engine to higher compression ratio, this difference would be diminished.

POWER ALCOHOL'S FUTURE.

Regarding power alcohol, the Handbook of the Territory of Papua for 1927 says:

It is believed that power alcohol will in the future play an important part in the enormous motor-power required in the world's transport.

In France, Germany and other continental countries, power alcohol is frequently used in place of petrol. The raw materials for the manufacture of alcohol are, unlike mineral oils, constantly renewed by Nature.

It is also apparent that the economic production of alcohol is best suited to tropical and sub-tropical countries, where the different kinds of vegetation for its manufacture grow rapidly, and in some cases can be obtained from raw material that is growing wild, and which is not even an essential foodstuff . . .

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February 22, 1932.

THE PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY

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Australia now imports 120,000,000 gallons of petrol per annum, and if power alcohol is to gradually take its place, this Territory should be in a position to render material assistance, as there are vast areas of nipa palms (nipa fruticans) and also land in every way suitable for the cultivation of cassava and sweet potatoes.

The Sydney Morning Herald of January 4, 1932, stated that much attention was being paid to the production of power alcohol in Natal. There, however, the molasses resources were being used. It was estimated that the output from a plant just established would be 2,000 gallons of 100 per cent. alcohol per day.

It is significant that the main experiments to date have been carried out in countries which, so far as is known, do not possess commercial supplies of indigenous oil—i.e., the Philippines, Australia and her Territories and Natal. It would therefore appear as though power alcohol has a future in those countries. The whole question must come down to one of production cost, especially as there are still large supplies of mineral oil, with which it would have to compete.

NEW PAPUAN INDUSTRY?

A casual observation of conditions in Papua shows that an enormous unestimated supply of wild nipa is available at very little cost and, with care, the areas would take a long time to become exhausted.

A big labour force would be available to work the nipa, the pay of each individual labourer being about 10/- per month and keep. The feeding cost of a large army of workers would be small, as sago palms, which provide the staple food of most of the Papua natives, grows in among the nipa. Tapping of the palms could be done by the natives with a little white supervision.

Then would come the question of establishing a distillery at some central position for the treatment of the sap. It appears that this would provide the main problem, because of transport difficulties. If the enterprise were equipped with a fair-sized vessel to maintain communication with the Queensland coast, the transport of the treated sap to the main market, which would doubtless be Australian, would be comparatively cheap.

From experiments, it is known that power alcohol possesses definite advantages over motor spirit, so if the price was right, a fair market should be at hand.

A company, which was started some months ago in Sydney to exploit the sago and nipa resources of Papua, proposed to develop the nipa, not by the tapping of the wild palms, but by gathering the leaves and crushing them. Analysis obtained from the juice showed that 5 gallons of alcohol could be obtained from 100 gallons of sap. The crushed leaf was found to be ideal for paper pulp. Therefore, there would be a minimum of waste. By judicious cutting, it is not considered that the palms would be injured and would quickly produce more leaves.

The plans of this company have been retarded by the existing depression.

It seems certain that before long further steps will be made to exploit Papua's nipa wealth. Should the wild palms not give sufficient recovery of sap to make a proposition successful, nipa plantations, similar to those established in the Federated Malay States, could be perhaps cultivated in sufficient quantity to supply Australia with some of its petrol needs. Huge areas of suitable land are available. The labour supply is there, and doubtless a market is obtainable.

New Guinea's Oil Prospects

Result of Matapau Survey

MUCH valuable oil prospecting has been carried out by Oil Search Ltd. in the Matapau district of the New Guinea mainland.

This work was referred to by the chairman of the company (Mr. W. A. Freeman) at the annual meeting, recently held in Sydney.

"It is satisfactory," he said, "to record the excellent work now nearing completion on the Matapau area of the Mandated Territory. A detailed Geological Survey of 340 square miles and a Reconnaissance Survey of 150 square miles have produced results referred to by the Government as—to use its own words—the most hopeful contribution towards the discovery of oil in New Guinea which has ever appeared.

"The key to the oil series has been discovered—structures or formations have been located—there is still work to be done before a main drilling activity can be recommended. It is best to hasten slowly and to take all the necessary steps to prove the best structure on which such work could be undertaken. That extensive oil seepages have been found to exist in the district, that structures have been located and that the key to the oil series has been discovered, justifies the further work to be undertaken."

The Matapau area of this company lies to the west of Aitape, near the Dutch boundary.

1,000 Tonkinese Repatriated

From Our Own Correspondent.

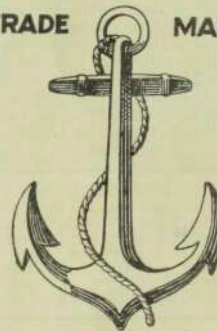
NOUMEA, January 15.

It is anticipated that fully 1,000 Tonkinese will be repatriated by the Laparouse, which is to leave for Indo-China this month.

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KUMARAS FOR N.Z.**Tonga Preparing Shipment***From Our Own Correspondent.*

NUKUALOFA, January 30.

GROWERS with vision and foresight have already planted their seed kumaras so that they will have a crop for shipment to New Zealand at a time when the Dominion market (so far as the New Zealand sweet potato is concerned) will be bare.

The low price of copra has thus been not altogether an evil in this Kingdom, for, had that price been maintained which obtained prior to three years ago, it is safe to say that neither the banana nor kumara, as a marketable product, would have interested the Islanders at all.

As it is, from all accounts, there is the certainty of copra prices improving to a figure which will give the growers a respectable profit, even if that time cannot yet be definitely dated. And so it follows that, when that happy state is reached, the Tongan planter will find himself "sitting pretty," with three strings to his bow—bananas, kumaras and copra.

Now, you "dismal Daniels," can you find anything wrong in that?

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COCOA IN DEMAND**Samoa Industry Has Good Prospects***From Our Own Correspondent*

APIA, January 5.

THE cocoa market continues to be firm and Samoan cocoa is in good demand in all the markets.

In England and Germany stocks are sold out, in fact there has been no Samoan cocoa shipped to Germany since beginning of 1930, though some may have been reshipped from England and U.S.A. Up to September 30, 1930, 350 tons of Samoa cocoa beans were imported into New York (for the nine months of the year). The stocks on hand on September 30, 1930, at New York, included 2,439 sacks of Samoan cocoa beans, or approximately 160 tons. These stocks have probably much decreased since, as part was re-exported to Germany, while the balance was disposed of for the Christmas trade in October and November.

In spite of the world depression the consumption of cocoa and chocolate is still growing. A German periodical recently announced that there would be a bright and increased Christmas trade in chocolate as, owing to the bad times, people were unable to buy more expensive presents and would go in more for chocolates, which are very cheap now and are at the same time nourishing and attractive.

FIJI'S CROPS**Sugar and Copra Prospects Bright***From Our Own Correspondent*

SUVA, January 21.

THE year opened with prospects of better crops in the three exporting industries of sugar, copra and bananas.

Owing to the favourable climatic conditions, the recovery from the hurricanes of 1929-31 has continued unchecked, and, as this improvement seems to coincide with the prospect of better prices in the not far distant future for sugar and copra, there may be said to be a brighter aspect all round.

Beneficial rains have fallen in the sugar districts and all mills report that the cane is growing splendidly. It is common talk that the tonnage will run into six figures in sugar and that, if the same conditions continue, 1933 may easily see a record output. The Indian cultivators will benefit directly, but indirectly the whole of the Colony will share in the good things.

Opinions vary somewhat about copra prospects. Mr. Edward Duncan, a recognised authority, forecasts an export from the Colony of only 20,000 tons during 1932. In 1929, our export was 33,000 tons, but this fell in 1931 to 17,000 tons. Other authorities are inclined to put the figures somewhat higher. Like sugar, the recovery is on account of favourable climatic conditions.

Bananas have jumped tremendously. In February last year, 6,000 cases were exported, but low water mark was touched in April with only 2,500 cases.

It is not too much to say that if market conditions and shipping opportunities suited, we could ship 25,000 to 30,000 cases in February this year.

Bananas have been planted up all over Fiji and the quality of the shipments going to New Zealand is the best for many a long day. The Tofua, in the middle of January, took 20,000 cases, but cables advised that the top price realised was 10/-. After deduction of the freight to Auckland (4/-) and the selling agents' commission, there will probably remain not much more than 4/- to 5/- to be returned to shippers in Fiji.

Out of this the shippers must pay for the cost of the cases (1/6), the cost of Government inspection (6d.) and the cost of transport of the fruit from the place where it is grown to Suva (about 1/6). However, this sort of thing happens every now and again in the banana industry, and a cheap banana in New Zealand means increased consumption, eventually better prices and, finally, a healthier industry all round.

At the end of 1930, 121 private cars and 81 commercial trucks were registered in Tonga. Benzine in the Kingdom costs 2/6 per gallon.

Copra exported from Tonga for 1930 totalled 14,134 tons and was valued at £169,610. For the previous year, 16,841 tons were exported, the value being £252,911.

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CORRESPONDENCE SOLICITED

February 22, 1932.

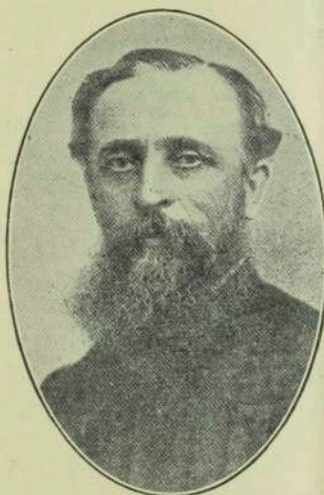
THE PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY

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Rev. Michelsen Retires

54 Years in New Hebrides

AFTER 54 years as a missionary among the natives of the New Hebrides, Rev. O. Michelsen, who was attached to the Presbyterian Church of New Zealand, has retired. During this long period in the Group, he ac-



REV. O. MICHELSEN.

From an early photograph.

complished much valuable work and he has to his credit a splendid record of achievement.

Mr. Michelsen is a native of Norway. He went as a young man to New Zealand, and for some time he was attached to the Bible Society there. He offered as a missionary for China, but something came in the way and he went to the New Hebrides instead. About 1877, he began work on the Island of Tongoa, among natives who were entirely heathen. At the end of 12 years, they had been Christianised.

Then, Mr. Michelsen and his wife went on furlough to Australia and England. While in London, Mr. Michelsen had a book published by Messrs. Morgan and Scott, entitled "Cannibals Won for Christ." This was about the year 1885.

He returned to the New Hebrides, after the death of his wife, and continued his work on Tongoa and the adjacent islands, obtaining teachers, some of whom were sent to other islands to assist the missionaries there. He translated large portions of the New Testament and portion of the Old Testament into the native language.

When on furlough in New Zealand, he spoke in many places about his work in the group. He has the manuscript waiting for publication on his life and work up to three years ago. Mr. Michelsen is a fine linguist.

A "Wonderful Day" at Thursday Island

By Linda I. Burkett, of Bundaberg, Q.

FROM the spacious white decks of the Taiping to the open deck of a pearling lugger is, practically speaking, a long step downward, but for a party of students from the south who arrived at Thursday Island at the end of December, it was a step to a higher branch on the tree of knowledge.

The Taiping, bound from Melbourne to Hong Kong, tied up at the T.I. jetty for over twenty-four hours, thus enabling these gleaners of knowledge to explore one of the reefs in Torres Straits. Twenty students from universities and colleges of Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria were accompanied by Professor MacDonald Holmes, D.Sc., F.R.G.S., and Dr. Harvey Sutton.

Through the courtesy of Mr. Sullivan, manager of Messrs. Morey and Co., the local agents for the A. and O. I was able to join the party and place on record further interesting experiences of a visitor to the Island of Pearls, goats and New Guinea boys.

Once aboard the lugger our only difficulty was to catch sufficient breeze to drive us to the wonderful sea gardens between Thursday and Tuesday Islands. However, the launch Weenonah relieved the situation and we soon reached the reef.

Fearless of sharks and other denizens of the Straits, a Japanese diver, stripped to the waist and, wearing watertight goggles, plucked for us mag-

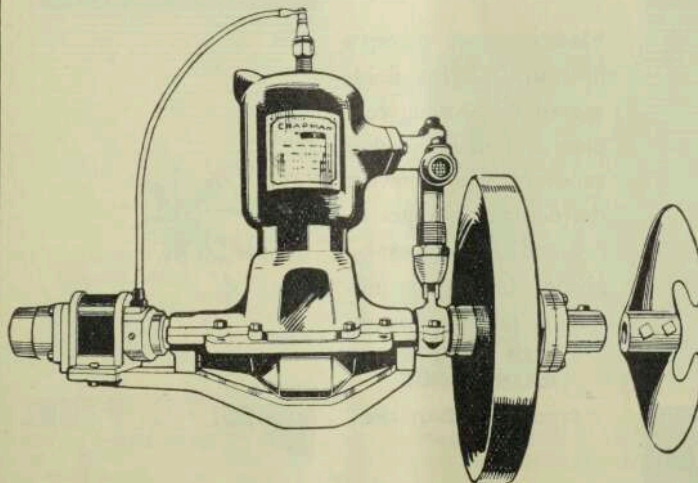
nificent bunches of coral, coloured beds of which we viewed through glasses swung over the side of the dinghies. Each specimen of coral varied in formation and colour, the classification of which I shall leave to those who did more than admire their wonderful colours.

The adventurer's appetite should have been more than satisfied in that two hours' cruise in the clear green waters of the Straits, for every moment held some unexpected happening. Riding the ocean in a pearling lugger, deep-water diving exhibitions by smiling Japanese, coral collecting, swimming off the sandy spit at Tuesday and, last but not least, the discovery of a turtle's nest—all these composed a first-rate programme.

In the eyes of us landlubbers the reptile's track in the soft sand was scarcely discernible, but it was unfortunate for Mr. and Mrs. Turtle that two of our Japanese crew landed with us. Our craft was delayed while about a hundred of the coming turtle family, then resembling ping-pong balls, were removed from the nest, in which the track ended. Unlike the eggs of birds, turtle eggs do not require very careful handling. They have soft, tough shells, and almost bounced on being tossed from their subterranean nests into the molester's basket. The display of our spoils was accepted as a good reason for delaying the party, as the discovery of a turtle's nest was a novelty we would not have cared to forego.

The general verdict was "A Wonderful Day," and it mattered little that the luncheon gong had pealed two hours before our return to Thursday Island.

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Samoan Lepers for Makogai

From Our Own Correspondent

APIA, January 5.

THE auxiliary schooner Tamanina, which left Apia Dec. 19 for Makogai, Fiji, took 5 Samoan lepers along for treatment at Makogai leper station.

This brings the total number of lepers from Samoa, at Makogai, to 25, of whom 18 are Samoans, 3 black boys, 1 Chinese and 3 half castes.

LEVUKA'S NEW MAYOR

At a recent meeting of the Municipal Council of Levuka, Fiji, Councilor Chisholm was elected Mayor for the ensuing year.

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Spirit of the Old Polynesian Navigators is Not Dead

From Our Own Correspondent

PAPEETE, January 2.

THAT the spirit of enterprise and adventure displayed so strongly by the old-time Polynesian navigators is not yet completely dead was shown at the Papeete Tribunal recently.

A native of Tahiti, whose name matters little, was before the court to answer a charge of gaol breaking, and under stress of examination revealed, bit by bit, the full story of his escape and subsequent recapture.

Seizing a moment when the warder's back was turned, he darted into the bush, which in Tahiti presents a dense wall of vegetation on either side of the road in many places, and was quickly out of sight. For many days afterwards, while the hue and cry was on, the escapee kept to the unfrequented valleys of the interior, and subsisted without difficulty on crayfish, eels, breadfruit, plantains and other natural island products, which are to be found in abundance.

Finally, he left the hills, stole quietly down to the beach at night, lifted the first canoe he found drawn up there, and paddled off to the westward, on a journey that came near costing him his life.

He reached Moorea, which is some 12 miles distant, before dawn and

again took to the bush, for pursuit was pretty certain up to this point. With the fall of darkness he made the journey overland to the extreme western point of the island, stole another canoe there and paddled off to Maiao, an unfrequented island, without any white people on it, some 40 miles distant. Luck was with him until close to the island, when the weather changed, and he had to cope with heavy seas and treacherous currents, but he finally made a landing, minus his canoe, which was battered to pieces in the surf. Here, by giving out a plausible tale to the natives, he hoped to remain for many a day unmolested.

As luck would have it, however, at this place, where ships are seldom seen, a cutter blew along from Papeete three days after his arrival, and, of course, brought the story of his escape.

There was nothing to be done now but purloin another canoe and set forth again—this time on a much more risky journey, for the nearest island on which he could have a hope of safety was at least 80 miles away to the north-west.

Ill-fortune dogged him from now on. The weather grew boisterous and kept him constantly bailing out his frail canoe, so that he had little time to paddle along towards his destination. His supply of coconuts was lost overboard, the lashings of his outrigger came apart and put him in an extremely perilous situation. Nothing daunted, however, he tore his dungaree pants into strips, said a prayer to his shark god, and succeeded in restoring his outrigger to its proper position. While doing so, the canoe got completely swamped, so that his paddle floated away beyond recovery, and he had to do the best he could from then on with one of the seats of the canoe.

After three days of thus battling with the elements, he finally made the south end of Raiatea. He landed there safely, but in an exhausted condition, only to be sent back to Papeete a few days later.

Meditation Concerning Whale Oil

(To the Editor.)

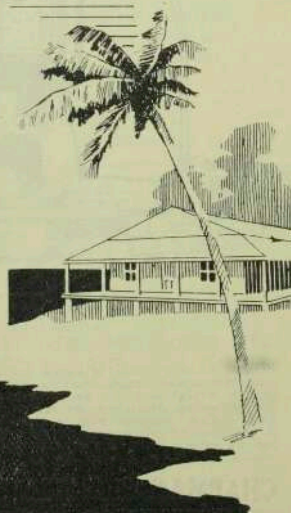
Sir.—One of our opulent wags, not affected by "consols of the East," wrote this gem whilst giving a square meal to a down-and-out copra bug:—
In days of old, so we are told, a big whale swallowed Jonah.
And for a day hid him away from his beloved Donah.
But in our time the oily whale a different caper cuts:
Instead of swallowing Jonahs he swallows coconuts.
No more we style the coconut "Consol of the East"—
That title has been sadly damned by this aquatic beast.
No eye prophetic saw the fate which would the nut assail.
And certainly none ever dreamed a knockout by a whale.
The moral is, don't cultivate ingredients for a dish
Which runs the risk of a being knocked out by an oily fish. J.H. Fiji.

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TROPICALITIES

Written for The P.I.M. by Sea Serpent.

A PRIVATE resident of Apia, in a letter to us, comments severely on some of the attacks which Mr. O. F. Nelson is making in his newspaper (published in Auckland) on the Samoan Administration. The reduction of the very heavy fine imposed on Mr. Nelson's firm is generally approved, says this writer, but he is losing sympathy by his irresponsible newspaper criticism. "To bring up, in a newspaper, the most trivial incidents of private life, in order to attack officials, is not a good method of fighting, and will not benefit a political cause," is the concluding remark in this letter.

THE construction of the Maui Pomare—the steamer owned by the Government of New Zealand, which maintains more or less regular communication between Auckland and Samoa—was a faulty job. The rivets in parts of the vessel were not properly inserted, so that the least tension drew them out of their sockets. Other grave constructional defects were discovered after the vessel was put into commission and, before she was running satisfactorily in the Island service, many thousands of pounds were spent on overhauls and repairs. It is now being very pertinently asked why the large sums lost on the Maui Pomare since she was put into commission have all been charged on the Cook Islands Department of the New Zealand Government, while the vessel is used almost exclusively in maintaining communication between Auckland, Samoa and Niue. It seems tough on the Cook Islands—even although lonely Niue, which is equidistant from the Tongan, Samoan and Cook Groups, is sometimes described as one of the Cook Islands.

THE Sunday Sun, of February 7, contained some appreciative references to Sir Hubert Murray's work in Papua. The story written around his achievements was quite interesting, but the newspaper man, with the average Australian journalist's usual knowledge of the Pacific Islands, persistently referred to Papua as being held under a Mandate.

The following extract from the article is interesting: "Sir Hubert says that there is a picture show at Port Moresby but he has been forced to forbid natives to attend. Pictures too often show white women in undignified roles and wearing a minimum of clothing, while the aim of his administration is to set white women on such a pedestal that natives will think of them as beings apart."

Incidentally, we apologise to Sir Hubert Murray, on behalf of newspaperdom, for the black and white sketch of his genial self, which was published with the article in question. No one could possibly have recognised "the dictator of Papua"; and for some reason best known to himself, the artist placed

upon his victim's face an extraordinary expression, which one might see there only once in a lifetime—if Sir Hubert Murray came unexpectedly upon a Daru sorcerer gnawing the shin-bone of his mother-in-law, for instance. And did anyone ever see Sir Hubert Murray wearing a topi? Or cream trousers?

SEVERAL months ago we expressed the opinion that the fine of £5,600, imposed by a Samoan Court upon Messrs. O. F. Nelson & Co. Ltd., for trading with the Mau (the firm claimed that all it did was to receive from the Samoans small debts due to Mr. O. F. Nelson, now in exile) was an example of sheer savagery, not justified by reason or common sense, even if permitted by law. It is interesting to note that the New Zealand Supreme Court of five judges, just before Christmas, gave a decision in Messrs. Nelson's appeal against the Samoan verdict, by which it reduced the fine from £5,130 to £470. That is a big concession; yet the firm still has to pay £470 plus huge costs—a very heavy punishment for breach of a law that has nothing to do with criminal intent. The Supreme Court verdict amounts to a censure of the Samoan Court; and, as the latter has given a number of decisions which do not suggest that necessary tempering of justice with mercy, it might be worth the while of the Dominion Government to look into the whole subject of legal machinery in this mandated territory.

ISLAND medical officers are occasionally called out to deal with some queer cases of sickness. It is reported that Dr. Ellison, the chief medical officer in the Cook Islands, in response to an urgent call for medical attention, found on his arrival that the patient was a horse! The doctor sank his professional pride and prescribed successfully for the animal, much to the relief of the native owner.

RESIDENTS of New Guinea, who pay substantial taxes, but have no voice whatever in the government, watch the increasing administration costs with a certain grimness. The story of how "mother welfare" is being introduced to wild bush mothers has been told elsewhere. The critics have other things to complain about. "Three years ago, we had three white policemen in Rabaul," writes one gentleman. "Now we have seventeen! And we have hundreds of native police—all decked out now in dinky blue and red uniforms. It makes us feel mighty important—but who's paying for it all? A little less spent on the things that the officials think are important, and a little more spent on developmental works would make those of us with a stake in the country feel a little happier about the country's future."

RUPERT BROOKE IN THE PACIFIC

I SHALL go out and wander through the forest paths by the grey moonlight.

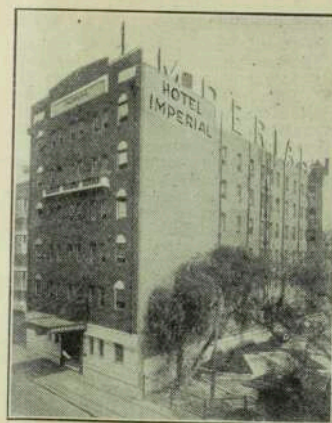
Fiji in moonlight is like nothing else in this world or the next. It's all dim colours and all scents. And here where it's high up, the most fantastically-shaped mountains in the world tower up all around, and little silver clouds and wisps of mist run bleating up and down the valleys and hillsides like lambs looking for their mother.

There's only one thing on earth as beautiful; and that's Samoa by moonlight. That's utterly different, merely Heaven, sheer loveliness.

You lie on a mat in a cool Samoan hut, and look out on a white sand under the high palms, and a gentle sea, and the black line of the reef a mile out, and moonlight over everything, floods and floods of it. . . . And then among it all are the liveliest people in the world, moving and dancing like gods and goddesses, very quietly and mysteriously, and utterly content.

It is sheer beauty, so pure that it's difficult to breathe in it—like living in a Keats world, only it's less syrupy—Endymion without sugar. Completely unconnected with this world.

—From "The Collected Poems of Rupert Brooke, with a Memoir."



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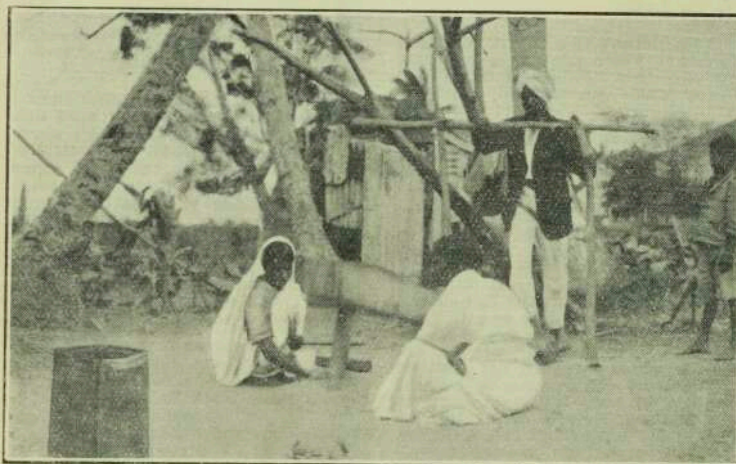
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INDIAN MIGRATION IN PACIFIC

Continued from page 8.



Indian Peasant Farmers in Fiji.

tions of harmful power in our trades halls, and even into our democratic parliaments.

The Hindu "Jati" (Sanskrit for a "human-group") is then descended from a very ancient white race like ourselves; and this has recently been confirmed by the discovery of 3,000 years-old skulls near Delhi — that most ancient of world-cities, which was destroyed and rebuilt again so many times, that it received its prehistoric name which means "loose," or "undetermined."

The Great Race, from whom we and the Hindus sprang, produced not only the first forms of religion which entered Europe (Scandinavia was not Christianised until late in the 12th century) but, also, that wonderful conception of a Supreme and Spiritual Power outside our mundane sphere of which, in later days, the Rig Sama and Yajut Vedas were the fruit. In Asia, it intermarried, on the one hand, with the Dravidian (Indo-African) peoples; and probably (as our Pacific Islands saw) with the pre-Dravidian-Australoid and Melanesian-Negrittos; and, on the other hand, with the Mongol-Alpine Sakas and Mongol-Turki Huns in historic times. They form today the great mass of the Hindu mahajati.

The four great periods of ancient India are the Vedic, the Upanishadic, the Vedantic, and the Buddhist-Hindu; but space will only allow of our mentioning them so as to impress upon our readers the vast eons of time during which that wonderful race, with which we are dealing so sketchily, held the premier place in the world's burgeoning civilisation.

It is an axiom in anthropology that the older the characteristics of a race, the more permanent these become; and the reader they are re-gained, should altering surroundings have eclipsed them for a time. This explains the quickness of Japan's marvellous rejuvenation as regards modern civilisation: it came from a civilised race originally. Our Pacific "brown" folk are surprisingly able to pick up all we can teach them (at least, the "Te Ariki," or "Gouyau," are — the aristocrats) for similar reasons.

In Fiji, so surprisingly has better food, liberty, and an enlarged mental environment improved the descendants of the original, wretched Hindu labourers, that they are to-day, without any exaggeration, as fine a sample of hu-

mans as are to be found anywhere in our Empire.

It was during the Second of these four great periods that our Melanesian Pacific was visited by traders from the nautical Jat tribes, at the mouth of the Sindhu (now Indus) River, who had been pressed southwards by the conquerors of northern India. This river also gave Europe the Phoenicians and the Gypsies; and Madagascar ("Malaygascar" as it was spelled originally, and correctly) its first civilisation, and connection with Egypt.

Under the legendary Hanuman, the Aryan civilisation was carried over the Pacific; and even our own Cumberland triassic sandstones bear on them the cryptolyphs and "carvings" that tell their tale to the initiated.

Only four months since, I found fresh proofs of this immigration; and saw carvings at the village of Boitalu, in that most interesting Trobriand group of islands, 200 miles north of Samarai, that were clearly of the same school of art as those of the Shang period, B.C. 1766-1122—vide Strech-neek's "Chinese Pictorial Art." I had come north, hoping to find folk of purer Indian descent than on the mainland; and here they were, for all to see!

One very curious feature stands out when we read the history of the Hindu Yati. It should warn us. But it won't! For, as the great American writer Shaw said: "Every generation seems by some inscrutable law to have to learn its lessons by experience."

In the Third period we see a time of the greatest expansion, and greater

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February 22, 1932.

THE PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY

19

synthesis still. Then was born that extraordinary science of spiritualism which is not of any particular creed, or dogma; but which contains that analysis of the path of mind-discipline which is applicable as much to Islam and Christianity, as to Buddhism and Hinduism. It is contained in the unique four-chaptered Vedas. The Sankhya, Patanjala, and other systems of philosophy, as well as the astronomy, mathematics, medicine, chemis-

try, literature of that period all testify to the genius of the Hindus.

It was then, centreing round the vast conquests of the Pandavas, that many races on the outskirts of India got their first admission into the Hindu fold. One part of the Aryans had constantly to take care that the limited handful of their Race did not get themselves lost amidst the countless non-Aryans. This is our object lesson. Are we not seeing this very process at work within our own homeland—here in Australia, for instance, since democracy went "lunatic" over the "something for nothing" promises of paid professional politicians, who are proposing to bring about a millenium for millions of patient workers, toiling under slave conditions—as in Russia, with an overlordship of a few hundred New York Centre high financiers.

The pendulum always swings too far! Pretend to ignore religion as we may, the fact remains that it still remains the greatest force, second only to hunger, in the World. Those vast multitudes in ancient India held their faith in the higher and more intellectual religions; but later we find them gradually sinking, and settling down into the swamps of ritualistic forms, leaving to a higher, professional-caste all direction of their methods of worship. Thus, when Buddha appeared on the stage of Indian history, about 2,500 years ago, the misery of India was shown in decadent forms of belief—full of animal, and even human sacrifices, and countless numbers of deities, and bewildering sacerdotalisms which now hid the older, more understandable, and simpler faiths.

As Christianity came to Europe, so Buddhism came as a cleansing wave to India; and the progress of the whole continent was marvellous. Then appeared the great teacher Sankaracharya; and by the force of logic and the renowned hopes he raised in the minds of miserable men, he disposed of decadent Buddhism, which was often frightfully indecent—another lesson for us moderns. Indecency is ever the child of disease and decadence, as General Ulysses Grant used to proclaim. A little before the birth of Sanka, which took place in 778 of our era, and 200 years after that of Muhammad, the Mohammedans attacked Sind; and later conquered Northern India.

This brief history of that great birthplace of religions will serve our purpose; but a satisfying one has yet to be written. It should take external events as the expression of the inner, finer and spiritual ideas of the time.

The Indians (mostly Hindus) in Fiji number about 70,000, as against 90,000 Fijians, and 4,500 Europeans: a total of 176,000.

Emigration from India for the purpose of providing plantation labourers dates from the beginning of the 19th century; but the first officially recorded instance of such occurred in 1830, when a French merchant imported 150 East Indians (Hindus) to the Island of Bourbon. Between the years of 1860 and 1877, Solomon Islanders were introduced into Fiji; and I have seen their little settlements, which still remain in places. In 1879 East Indians were first brought to Fiji—from New Caledonia. But the real immigration began from 1884, when an extension of the sugar industry took place.

"Where the carcass is, there will the vultures be gathered together." Vari-

Copra Prices and Exchange

Continued from page 4.

steadily from 1929 until September, 1931.

It is interesting to compare the London quotations, as published in The Sydney Morning Herald every Monday, with the price quoted in The Rabaul Times every Friday:—

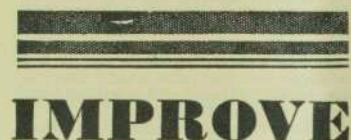
	London.	Rabaul.
Oct. 11, 1931 ..	£13 0 0	.. £9 12 6
Oct. 18, 1931 ..	12 15 0	.. 9 17 6
Oct. 25, 1931 ..	13 2 6	.. 9 15 0
Nov. 1, 1931 ..	13 15 0	.. 10 2 6
Nov. 8, 1931 ..	14 5 0	.. 10 10 0
Nov. 22, 1931 ..	13 15 0	.. 10 0 0
Nov. 30, 1931 ..	13 15 0	.. 10 0 0
Dec. 6, 1931 ..	14 10 0	.. 10 6 6
Dec. 13, 1931 ..	14 10 0	.. 10 6 6
Dec. 20, 1931 ..	14 10 0	.. 10 6 6

It will be seen that, taking exchange into consideration, the difference between the London and Rabaul quotations remains at about £7 (Australian) per ton; and that the Rabaul price generally moved up or down in sympathy with the London quotation.

ous attempts by American and other anti-British agitators have been made to combine these Fijian-Indian labourers and immigrants into trades unions and "clubs," that bear a striking family likeness to Communist affairs. There is one now which has some 10,000 members.

But, having had to report to London upon Australian Communism in 1919 and 1924, and having superficially investigated the Suva affair, and read the "Viddhi," whose editor is Dr. I. H. Beattie, M.A., I do not anticipate that the highly intellectual Hindus will succumb to what is so tempting to the automatism of the Mongol and Slav mind—and to a certain "foreign" type of alleged "white-man" in our trades unions. The Mohammedans certainly will not fall victims to these agents of the New York Center. It was in 1927 that Sayyid Abdallah Mukhlis, a member of the Arabic Academy of Damascus, in a lecture entitled "Muslims and Christians," in which a number of texts from the Koran sayings by the Prophet, and anecdotes were quoted, showing the friendly relations that have always obtained between the two communities, deplored the fact that this ideal state of affairs should have been spoiled by European intervention.

There has been a revival of interest in the fate of Henry Jacobson, a retired Islands planter, who disappeared mysteriously from his bungalow on Dangar Island, in the Hawkesbury River, north of Sydney, on August 1, 1929. It will be remembered that Jacobson left the adjoining postal township in a rowboat on his way home and was never seen again, and that there were persistent reports of foul play. The Sydney police have now received a letter-card in a woman's handwriting, and a sketch plan, and were told to search at a spot marked "X." Two constables consequently spent a strenuous few days digging in the broiling sun, but they discovered nothing to throw any light on Jacobson's fate.



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DOGS ARE USEFUL AT RAROTONGA'S RACE MEETING

From Our Own Correspondent

RAROTONGA, Jan. 30.

THE island race meeting was held at Nikao on January 8. A down-pour of rain during the morning marred the outing and conducted to many people staying away. No charge is made for admission, so numbers do not much matter, although actually there were about 500 people present.

A feature of island gatherings such as this is the noticeable neatness in dress and colour displayed by the native women and girls.

The meeting is held on the beach. At Rarotonga there is no cleared area of sufficient size for a racecourse.

A Union Jack, hoisted on a pole sunk into the sand (it resembled Amundsen's flag at the South Pole) denoted the starting point, as well as the finishing post. A second flag, about half a mile along the beach, marked the turning point for each race.

About 20 horses competed. Many had the finishing touches put on them by a morning's work in the plantations—dragging a plow. The Inspector of Police (Mr. Caldwell) acted as starter by dropping a white handkerchief.

Jockeys differed in weight from about 5 to 10 stone. Strangely enough weight is not taken into consideration at all by our racing officials.

Records, which come to light only when local racing matters are working up to red hot pitch, disclose the information that many of our jockeys (now on the retired list) have been somersaulted off their mounts in the saddling paddock and some hooked under

the chin by clothes lines strung between coconut trees, and not removed by the stewards.

As a matter of fact, it is scarcely correct to refer to a saddling paddock. The jockeys ride bareback. The usual form of bridle is a piece of rope with one end knotted round the lower lip of the horse. Bits are a rarity.

The Rarotonga Cup (presented by Judge Ayson) was won this year by a horse owned by Taripo. A dark mare, owned by John Tuapai, fancied by some, unfortunately fell over in the sand and was not seen again until some time after the race finished.

Native spectators climbed the iron-wood trees to obtain a bird's eye view of the finish. Others waded into the lagoon and perched themselves on rocks for an unobscured view of the dash past the judges.

Many dogs joined in the race at the second furlong, on the outward stretch, and did much to keep the rear horses from falling too far behind. From the vicinity of the finishing post one could scarcely make out just what was happening between jockeys, horses and dogs in the piece of scrub surrounding the flag at the turning point for home.

The refreshment stall conducted by the local picture house proprietor, Mr. W. Browne, appeared to do good business in ice cream, apricot pie and water melon.

An orchestra provided a variety of musical items, which everyone enjoyed. There were no swindles, broken punters or fashion parades.

Morinda's Schedule

Will Auckland be Cut Out?

From Our Own Correspondent

NORFOLK IS., Feb. 12.

THERE is yet another alteration in the existing itinerary of the s.s. Morinda, as it affects Norfolk Island, under consideration.

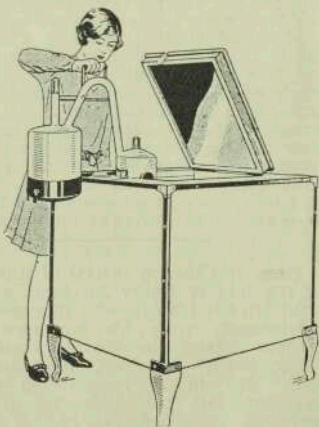
When her regular runs from Sydney were extended to include a hasty trip over to Auckland on her return here from the New Hebrides, a large traffic in tourists was anticipated, and it was also supposed that she would carry a heavy and profitable shipment of bananas by every sailing.

But the N.Z. Government has now contracted with the administrations of various tropical islands under their own mandate for regular consignments at regular prices, and the tourist traffic has failed to materialise to any satisfactory extent.

This is partly due, no doubt, to the fact that the dominion is also lamentably hit by the world-wide financial crisis, and there are few tourists travelling overseas for pleasure; but, undoubtedly, it is also a sad outcome of the inability of Messrs. Burns, Philp, Ltd., to see the wisdom of reducing the single fare for a two and a half days' passage at its cheapest to less than eight guineas. There is a reduction of 10 per cent. on the return eight guineas, but this is so infinitesimal as to partake of the nature of a further affront.

However, be the cause what it may, it appears that the shipping company is steadily losing on each trip to the mournful tune of hundreds of pounds, and not even the most rabid critic of the Islands policies of Messrs. Burns, Philp can expect them to continue long with that.

So something has to be done about it; and a new scheme is already being considered, subject to the approval of the N.I. Administration, the Planters' Association—which is growing increasingly in power—and Burns, Philp themselves. They, naturally, will speak the last word.



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S.S. TOFUA

To be Replaced by Small Cargo Steamer

THE Union S.S. Company's Tofua, which has for very many years maintained a regular monthly passenger service between Auckland, Fiji, Tonga and Samoa, is to be withdrawn from service, following her return to Auckland on April 11.

The Walpahi, a cargo steamer with accommodation for four passengers, will take over the service from the Tofua. She will run to a four-weekly schedule and will leave Auckland for Suva on her first trip on April 16.

The falling away in the passenger traffic between Auckland and the Islands is, it is understood, the reason for the withdrawal of the Tofua. This is due not only to the present depression, which has had a similar effect on all passenger services, but also to the fact that the Matson Line steamers, since they have been including Auckland as a port of call since last July, have provided a regular three-weekly service both ways between Auckland and Suva.

The Aorangi and Niagara also provide a four-weekly service between Auckland and Suva, and with the added competition of the Matson steamers the number of passengers travelling by the Tofua has fallen away to such an extent that the Union Company has now decided to withdraw her and substitute a cargo steamer.

The Tofua, which is a vessel of 4,345 tons gross, was specially built in 1903 for the round trip of the Islands, and except during the war, when she was used as a troopship, she has been engaged in the service ever since she was built.

The Union Company first entered the trade in the South and Western Pacific in 1881, and the service was commenced from Australia in 1883. Later the Australian connection was dropped, owing to the falling away in the traffic. Two other well known vessels formerly engaged in the Islands trade were the Talune and the Navua.

JUDGE GORE OF PAPUA

By An Admirer.

JUDGE RALPH GORE came to Papua as Crown Law Officer with the highest credentials, and he has done all that was expected of him.

As associate to the late Sir Sam. Griffith and subsequently as a practising barrister in Brisbane he showed exceptional ability, and his experience qualified him to succeed the late Mr. C. Herbert as Judge in Papua.

Big in mind and stature, affable and kind, a good sport and soldier, Judge

ISLANDS' SULPHUR

Mr. Travers Black's Inquiry in New Britain

AN investigation of important sulphur deposits on the slopes of Mt. Bango, 2,375 feet high, which lies inland from Talasea on the northern coast of New Britain, New Guinea, was made recently by Mr. Travers Black, a well known Sydney engineer.

The occurrence of sulphur in the volcanic areas of New Guinea has been known for a very considerable period and lately, owing to the increased



The ugly, barren slopes of Mt. Bango, visited recently by Mr. Travers Black.

Gore is extremely popular. It is only the unfortunate circumstance that he is not the senior member of the Executive Council which debars him from being Acting Lieut.-Governor in the absence of Sir Hubert Murray from the territory. But he is the only official in the service qualified by ability, education and experience to wear the mantle of Sir Hubert when that intellectual and physical marvel can no longer stand up to Time.

value of sulphur—one of the effects of the Australian and British exchange rates—investors in Australia have been investigating various sulphur deposits in and about the South Seas. We reported in last issue that a party of engineers had visited the huge sulphur deposits on Vanua Lava, in the Banks Group, which is part of the New Hebrides.

Mr. Black returned to Australia recently with much data and a number of fine photographs of the barren region on and around Mt. Bango. Mr. Black, in his investigation, went right up to the smoking crater of the volcano, travelling over wide, dead slopes of volcanic matter that in its utter barrenness and ugliness suggested a scene from Dante's Inferno.

These enquiries for payable sulphur deposits are being carried on quietly and it is not known whether anything worth-while has yet been discovered.

MORINDA'S SCHEDULE ALTERED

The schedule of the Morinda, which maintains the Sydney-Norfolk Is.-New Hebrides-Auckland service, has been slightly altered. This month's trip, instead of starting from Sydney on February 25, will commence five days earlier—on the 20th—and the vessel will return to Sydney on March 18, thus allowing passengers to reach here in time for the opening of the harbour bridge.

The full itinerary of the Morinda will be found in our shipping columns.

Brunton's

FLOUR

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ESTABLISHED 1868.

French Colonial Inspector Visits N. Caledonia

From Our Own Correspondent.

NOUMEA, December 2.

A recent arrival in the Colony is Monsieur Cazeaux, who arrived from Paris, and is making a detailed visit

of inspection through New Caledonia and the New Hebrides.

No doubt he will make himself fully acquainted with many of the peculiar difficulties which present themselves in New Caledonia and the New Hebrides, and which would probably be rather obscure from an armchair in Paris.



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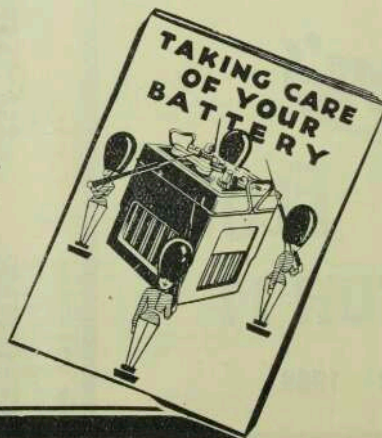
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N.G. Goldfields Ltd.

New Accounts Show Co.'s Position

THE second annual report of the directors of New Guinea Goldfields Ltd. was presented to shareholders on December 9 and adjourned to allow a complete statement of the financial position as on September 30 to be made.

These accounts are now to be presented at a meeting on February 22 and are as follows:—

CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES.

	£	£
Nominal Capital—		
5,250,000 Shares of £1 each		
— £5,250,000 of which there have been issued—		
4,074,182 Shares called up to £1 per share	4,074,182	
375,000 Shares called up to 1/- per share	18,750	
	4,449,182	4,092,932
Less Calls in arrear	7	
		4,092,925
Shares to be allotted for purchase of leases		9,075
Sundry Creditors		20,723
Premiums on Share Capital Account		31,170
		£4,153,893

ASSETS.

	£
Mine Property and Mining Interests	3,709,976
Buildings, Plant and Equipment	103,568
Stores, etc., on hand	42,415
Sundry Debtors	19,028
Cash at Bank and on hand	88,305
Payments in Advance	5,474
Prospecting and Development Account—Balance at 30/9/30	£110,688
Add Expenditure for year ended 30/9/31	74,435
	185,124
	£4,153,893

DEBITS.

Profit and Loss Account for Year Ending 30th September, 1931.			
	£	s.	d.
To Expenditure at Mine—			
Prospecting and Development	60,689	14	11
Road Surveys and Construction	10,747	7	1
Geological Survey, Sampling and Assaying	9,503	17	8
Depreciation on Buildings, Plant and Machinery	18,504	6	0
Administrative Expenses, Sydney and London:			
Directors' Fees, Salaries, Technical and Consulting Fees and Expenses	8,908	11	6
Designing Expenses and Experiments	2,382	1	3
Travelling Expenses, Postages, Stationery, Cablegrams, Legal Expenses and Sundries	2,071	14	7
Taxes	570	19	8
	£113,338	13	5

CREDITS.

	£	s.	d.
By Sale of Gold	34,662	11	7
Sundry Revenue at Mine	953	17	0
Interest Received	3,221	15	8
Transfer Fees	64	15	6
Balance Transferred to Prospecting and Development Account	74,435	13	8
	£113,338	13	5

An examination of these figures indicates one reason for the slow progress being made in the development of this company's properties on the Morobe field.

More than 4,000,000 £1 shares have been issued, mostly for the purpose of

purchasing mining properties and leases from the original holders. To pay even 10 per cent. on its issued capital, this company must earn £400,000 per annum. To bring the Morobe establishment into the condition in which it can earn even half of that, a very large further capital expenditure is required on plant and in providing communications. The mill, which the company is now establishing, is capable of treating 100 tons of ore daily; and it would be a remarkable thing if such a mill could produce gold to the value of £150,000 annually, from which, of course, would have to be deducted all operating expenses.

In other words, it is perfectly clear that if this company is to bring itself into a profit-earning condition within a reasonable time, it must eventually get rid of a portion of its present enormous load of capital. The shares are valued on the market at between 5/- and 6/-, and, on present prospects, that is about their fair market value. If the company is to do any good, it must first of all sacrifice about two-thirds of its present issued capital; provide a few hundred thousand pounds of additional capital for the construction of a suitable road to the coast and the installation of adequate plant; and then it may go ahead and produce quite rich profits for its shareholders. It will be impossible to bring in new capital so long as the present huge load of capital remains.

The gold is there — there is little doubt that the present large areas held by this company contain large, payable quantities of the precious metal. But it is equally obvious that the company is at present being suffocated under its load of unproductive capital and that all those concerned realise this and are making no special effort to achieve anything worth while, until the main body of shareholders recognise the position and agree to a writing down of capital.

However, there are likely to be lively developments before that. The adjoining "dollar" companies are at the point of production and, presently, will be returning rich dividends. The hundreds of people who sold their rich interests to New Guinea Goldfields Ltd. for shares, viewing these rich profits from next door, are not going to sacrifice a big slice of their share values without sharp protests and bitter criticism.

Probably, they have reason for complaint. But the position is there in the figures, plain for anyone to see, and the sooner the shareholders recognise it, the sooner will something be done.

The New Guinea Administration would be doing a public service by forcing the position a little. There is an enormous amount of undeveloped wealth in the Morobe goldfields, and it is of national importance that it be brought out. From the public point of view, it is wrong that such development should be prevented because this huge and swollen New Guinea Goldfields Ltd. has got astride of a large section of the goldfields and, because of its organisation, cannot produce the gold itself or permit anyone else to do so.

It is no use blaming the present directors of N.G. Goldfields Ltd. They are no more responsible for the position they find than Mr. Lyons is responsible for the Australian national debt.

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particulars of temperatures and
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LOTTERY AT TAHITI PROPOSED

From Our Own Correspondent

PAPEETE, Jan. 29.

A scheme which may bring a few welcome dollars into Tahiti in these bad times, and incidentally find employment for a number of people, is the promotion of a permanent lottery by a couple of Australians who arrived recently to negotiate with the Government and make tentative arrangements for premises, etc. It now seems fairly certain that the proposition is going through, and will soon be in operation.

Mr. P. C. Hubbard, recently acting as British Judge on the Condominium Joint Court of the New Hebrides, has been spending a few weeks in Sydney, prior to leaving for London. Mr. Hubbard probably will return to the Solomon Islands, where he was formerly chief magistrate, and from which service he was transferred to the New Hebrides about two years ago.

MAURITIUS BEANS

Papuan Product May Find Market in Australia

THE successful cultivation of Mauritius beans in Papua has caused inquiries to be made as to the market available for this product in Australia. The Commonwealth at present imports the bean mainly from the island of Mauritius and from Fiji.

The chief use of the bean is for growing on sugar plantations, for green manuring purposes. The seeds are sown, and when the plant grows, it is ploughed into the ground, where it decomposes, thus preparing the soil for the planting of the cane. Although the bean grows in Australia for cropping purposes, it will not mature, so fresh supplies of seed have to be constantly obtained from abroad.

Imports of Mauritius beans, through the port of Sydney, for the year ended June 30, 1931, were valued at £483.

The imports through Queensland ports, in the same period were:

	From Papua.	From Fiji.	From N. Guinea.
Brisbane	£122	£280	—
Mackay	—	£121	—
Townsville	—	£1,022	—
Cairns	£659	£527	£132

The beans enter Australia free of duty and primage, under the heading of "unspecified articles," but they are subject to a sales tax of 6 per cent.

Besides the Queensland market for this bean, it is thought that a market might be also found on the banana plantations on the North Coast of New South Wales.

It appears that at present some planters throughout New South Wales and Queensland use cow-peas, which will mature in Australia, for green manuring on many of their properties. They probably would have to be satisfied that they were obtaining a bigger tonnage to the acre and a superior manure before they would turn exclusively to Mauritius beans. If the Commonwealth Government were convinced that Papua could supply the existing needs in Australia, it seems likely that some preference might be granted, in order to exclude shipments from elsewhere.

Another bean which grows in Papua, being originally imported from Java, is the Kratok or Java bean (*Phaseolus lunatus*). This bean is grown extensively in Java for green manuring and is considered nearly equal to the Mauritius variety.

What is known as the rice bean is a third species, which would grow well in the tropics. It is quite as good as the Mauritius for manuring purposes, and, like the Mauritius, the bean, when ground up, makes a nutritious food for stock.

Another variety of bean, which might be tried in the Islands, is the flower bean, which is grown on a commercial scale in Manchuria, and is used for food as well as for grinding into face powder.

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3-case lots 20/6 case
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Brunswick Canadian Sardines, 4oz. tins, 4d. tin, 3/9 doz.
Rosa Breakfast Food, 2lb. pkts. 5½d. pkt., 5/- doz.
Best Australian Sultanias, loose 9½d. lb., 9/3 doz.
Rosa Pure Garden Honey, 2lb. tins 1/3 tin, 14/6 doz.
Rosa Round Mixed Pickles, large bots., 11d. bot., 10/6 doz.
Rosa Worcestershire Sauce, med. bots., 7½d. bot., 7/3 doz.
Pure Mocha Coffee, 1lb. tins 2/9 tin, 32/- doz.
Excelsior Coffee Essence, large bots. . . 1/3½ bot., 15/- doz.
Schweppe's Lemon Squash Cordial, lge. 1/3 bot., 14/6 doz.
Selmore Toilet Paper, 5oz. rolls 2d. roll, 1/10 doz.
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February 22, 1932.

THE PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY

25

AUSTRALIA AND THE PACIFIC

What is Her Interest in New Hebrides?

AN article in last month's issue, in which we suggested that Australia should seriously consider the consolidation of her Islands interests by seeking to extend her administration over the Solomons and the New Hebrides, has caused a good deal of comment.

It is likely that, as a result of the publicity given, the matter will presently have the attention of the Commonwealth authorities.

The most interesting development has been in connection with our comments on the New Hebrides. We gave the history of Australasian and New Hebrides Co. Ltd., and showed that when that concern was taken over by Messrs. Burns, Philp & Co. Ltd., its land interests were given to the Commonwealth Government; and it was pointed out that for many years the Commonwealth Government has paid a retainer to a Mr. Wallace, a solicitor, who lives at Port Vila, and whose main interest, it is understood, is to protect Australian land claims generally and advance them before the Condominium Joint Court.

We emphasised that the total lack of interest by Britain and Australia in the New Hebrides in recent years had permitted French interest to become dominant in the Group; and that, if the present policy were pursued much longer, the Group would pass into the hands of France. Not that France particularly seeks this possession—on the contrary, the New Hebrides are so distant from most other French possessions that the ad-

ministration is probably a source of embarrassment to that nation and the French colonial authorities would be probably quite glad to part with their interests there for concessions in some other part of the world where administration would link up more conveniently with other territorial interests.

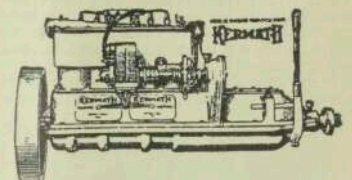
We have formally sought information from the Federal Government concerning Australia's interests in the New Hebrides and have received a somewhat baffling reply. The Government makes no reference whatever to its supposed land interests in the Group, in which we are particularly interested, and simply says that Messrs. Burns, Philp & Co. Ltd. have trading activities in the New Hebrides and receive from the Commonwealth Government a subsidy towards the maintenance of shipping services.

The Government's letter proceeds:—"The Commonwealth Government pays a retainer to Mr. Wallace, a solicitor, who assists Australian and other British settlers in land cases, in which they may be interested, before the Joint Court. I may mention that he is not required to watch the Commonwealth Government's interests."

However, the wheels are beginning to revolve, even though slowly, and it is likely that there will be developments in connection with the New Hebrides within the next few months which will be of considerable interest to Australia.

Answer to Correspondent

Solomon Islander.—Thanks for the information about shipping. The details we publish are supplied by the Sydney offices. The necessary alteration has been made.



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AUSTRALIA

Tahiti's People

Oceania Now Has Over 40,000

From Our Own Correspondent

PAPEETE, Jan. 29.

THE results of the 1931 census, just published in the "Journal Officiel," show a total population in French Oceania, which includes the Society, Marquesas, Tuamotu, Austral and Gambier Groups, of 39,713 persons.

The returns from three small, isolated islands have yet to come in, and these will bring the total to well over 40,000, which is an increase on the 1926 figures of more than 4000.

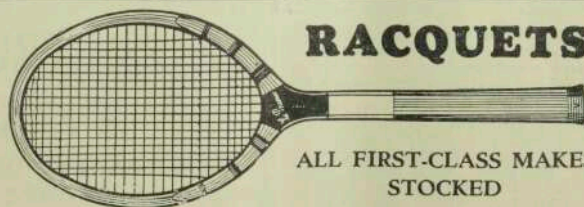
According to the returns, this increase is almost entirely accounted for under the heading of "French," the numbers given being 870 and 5280 for 1926 and 1931 respectively. Here there obviously has been a change made in the system of classification, and it may safely be assumed that the latter figures includes a majority of people of mixed French and Polynesian blood who were formerly classed under the heading of "natives."

Natives are shown as 29,101 for 1931, as compared with 29,644 in 1926, an apparent decrease; but in the light of

what has been said in the preceding paragraph it will be realised that there is an actual increase in the native population of nearly 4000.

Another interesting fact brought out by the census is that the Chinese element is not overrunning the colony to the extent portrayed by writers of sensational fiction. The figure for 1931 is 4056, a gain of 67 only since 1926. Other Asiatics total 356, a decrease of 168 during the period under consideration.

English and Americans (470), other foreigners (307) and floating population (307) all show small increases on the 1926 returns.



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N.I. HOSPITAL

Mr. Love Enters a Hornets' Nest

From Our Own Correspondent

NORFOLK IS., Feb. 12.

On this casual island we never take seriously an invitation to render ourselves at any given spot at any given time, and we turn up so late to any entertainment, as a rule, that anywhere else the promoters would have given us up in despair and gone home to bed.

But on the evening of February 8, long before the appointed hour of 8 o'clock, the Rawson Hall was packed and jammed to the door with an audience eager to hear a special lecture on the aims and methods of the modern hospital, prepared by a Mr. Love who, over the other side—as we broadly designate the whole of Australia—is something very exalted in the official world of hospital management.

For some months past we have been sailing very stormy seas indeed in regard to the control and administration of our little local hospital—which appears to be a public institution when it comes to our obligations towards it, and private when patients are called upon to pay fees—and it was finally considered advisable by all concerned to clear up the situation once and for all by a semi-official invitation to Mr. Love to make a sort of holiday visit to the island and meet all the officials involved.

Mr. Love, therefore, accompanied by two friends—Dr. Colvin and Mr. Fitzpatrick, both concerned also in the administration of hospitals—arrived by the Morinda on January 28, and this address to the general public was the outcome of the passionate feeling existing throughout the whole island and expressed in no uncertain words.

"AN ISLAND FROM HEAVEN."

Mr. Love is a man of vast experience, and his advice and suggestions were extremely interesting; but we here on Norfolk are faced with peculiar problems duplicated nowhere on any continent, and his counsels were counsels of an impossible perfection and, in many cases, of a nature that we cannot possibly apply. However, during his short stay of something over a fortnight he gathered enough of local conditions and sampled our glorious climate sufficiently to assure us that he would do his utmost to bring before the public of Australia our desirability as a health resort. In his own words:

"Norfolk Island should be a paradise for convalescents. So far as climate and conditions are concerned, it is an island straight from heaven."

And he intends to broadcast this fact and to induce persons in need of sunshine, peace and beauty to flock over here in ever increasing numbers. We shall be much obliged if that happy state of affairs should come about, and Mr. Love will not have paid his visit and attempted to regularise us in vain.

His address concluded about 9.30, and the meeting—for which he, Dr. Colvin and Mr. Fitzpatrick remained, while the administrative party retired—was taken over by the Hospital Board,

who ranged themselves in the vacated chairs on the platform, with Mr. Love in their midst, and the public were invited to go ahead and to subject the Commissioner, or whatever he is, to a bombardment of questions, enquiries and information of urgent import.

He had come prepared to be hammered, he said, and by the time the chairman of the board closed the meeting towards midnight he must have felt as though the weapon employed was a steam hammer. But it was a God-given opportunity for the ventilation of serious grievances, and no doubt Mr. Love knew a good deal more of our actual problems and difficulties by the time he wearily climbed into his car than when he rather complacently took the platform some four hours earlier.

What will come of the clash of official opinion and public sentiment we do not yet know; but we understand that Mr. Love intends to formulate a policy and submit it for consideration to our existing administration—which is still headed by Colonel A. J. Bennett, with Mr. Cyril Leonard, late of Papua, as private secretary—and in due course our Hospital Board—which at present is declared to be unconstitutionally elected—will be advised of its clauses, and from thence it will trickle through to the public, who are so vitally interested.

All sorts of side issues and personal considerations are concerned, and it is hoped that Mr. Love knows enough to know how little he knows the situation.

PEARL CULTURE

Experiment at Tahiti

From Our Own Correspondent

PAPEETE, January 29.

THAT the market for pearls and mother-of-pearl shell is not completely dead is shown by the return to Tahiti of Mr. Victor Berge, who was here some years ago with a submarine equipment, invented by himself, for looking at the bottom of the sea and taking under-water pictures.

Mr. Berge then worked secretly and in remote places, so that the local people knew little of what he was about. But he evidently met with some success, for he went away and wrote a book called "Pearl Diver," which had a good circulation, and he has now returned with a wife, and is well backed by capital, so he says, from one of the principal jewellery houses of Paris.

Just now Mr. Berge is investigating the lagoon island of Tetiaroa to ascertain its suitability for the project he has in view—the planting of pearl oysters and subsequent culture of pearls artificially. What he needs is a lagoon without an entrance from the ocean, so that predatory fishes may be kept under control to some extent. We wish him luck with his new enterprise.

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Agent for—Celebrated "Vallo" Brand Spray Preparations, used successfully by Orchardists throughout Australia.

Certificated Nurses and Modern Ambulance Convey Child-Welfare Instruction to Naked Mothers in New Britain Bush.

IT has been said that pictures speak louder than words; and the little group of photographs published herewith serves to explain occasional outbursts of fiery indignation on the part of planters in New Guinea, who have for many years vainly sought roadways and other public works.

There are hundreds of thousands of natives in the Territory, and the great majority of them live under entirely primitive conditions. The gentle, kindly theorists, who comprise the Mandates Commission of the League of Nations and who have entrusted to Australia the administration of New Guinea, profess an urgent and insistent interest in the welfare of the native inhabitants.

It is not our purpose to sneer at any activity devoted towards native welfare—on the contrary we believe that the history of the Pacific Islands groups shows that far too little attention has been paid in the past to this aspect of European penetration. But we do say, with reason, that this thing can be carried to ridiculous extremes, and the New Guinea instance which we now quote, is an example of that.

The Commonwealth of Australia makes an annual grant to the New Guinea Administration, to be spent specially on native welfare activities, and the New Guinea Administration itself imposes a tax on the whole community with the same object in view. The money is spent in various ways—most of them worthy of praise; but the genius who decided that some scheme to provide these primitive people with maternal-care and child-welfare advice was an unconscious humorist, who added somewhat to the gaiety of the nation.

Away out in the wild country, nearly 50 miles from Rabaul, the Administration has built a bungalow as a child welfare centre for the natives. Within that bungalow, it has installed two highly qualified Australian nurses—competent, clever women, who hold certificates for general nursing, for obstetrics and for child welfare. These ladies have been provided with an excellent motor ambulance—see photograph herewith—and with all necessary orderlies and servants. If any comment is needed concerning the usefulness of this work, it is provided by the photograph of the native women and children—a snapshot taken to show these people in their ordinary every-day condition.

Maternal care and child welfare are excellent things in their right place—but everyone knows how very difficult it is to have these principles accepted and applied, even in Anglo-Saxon communities. How completely ridiculous it is, therefore, to send this highly skilled and experienced staff and equipment 50 miles into the New Britain bush, to propose methods of hygiene and common-sense to a primitive native population, which lives,

missions, the natives would get far more value for the money than by the establishment of mother and child welfare centres in the manner described.

The man who took these photographs has a valuable plantation, along with some score of others, in the Baining District. They have been waiting years for a road along the shores of Ataliklikum Bay, which would give them direct communication with Rabaul. But the Administration has

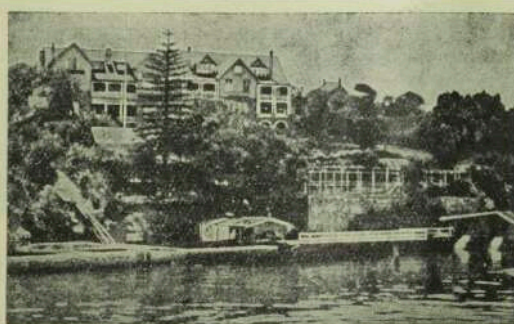


Photographs referred to in accompanying article.

and is likely to live, exactly as it has done for thousands of years.

The natives must have ordinary medical care and supervision; and, as time and opportunity permit, they must be given some kind of rudimentary education. But Pacific administrators in the past have found it possible to supply these requirements in a perfectly satisfactory way by co-operating with the missions; and there is little doubt that if the native welfare fund of New Guinea were apportioned among the

no funds for such a purpose, and the Baining planters continue to reach Rabaul by launch, along the coast. The planter in question, being addicted to figures, takes a bitter pleasure in calculating how many miles of that road could have been built with the money that is wasted in sending highly skilled Australian nurses out into the bush to urge naked black mothers to give their offsprings ten drops of orange juice four times a day.



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Oil Producers in Financial Trouble

THE troubles of the vegetable oil producers are indicated by the following article, published by the Fiji Coconut Planters' Union:—

The United Africa Co. was formed a couple of years ago by the amalgamation of the interests of the Margarine Union, the Niger Co. (a subsidiary of Levers) and the Independent African and Eastern Corporation. The capital of the amalgamation was in excess of £15,500,000. Of the shareholding roughly 40 per cent. was held by Unilever. The interests of the concern are in West Africa, from which are drawn large supplies of palm oil, palm

kernels and other commodities used in the crushing industry.

The accounts of the United Africa Co. show a loss of £1,500,000 for last year. The concern is in financial difficulties owing to its credit being restricted. It has thus become necessary to introduce further capital.

The proposals are that capital shall be written down by £7,500,000, and another £3,500,000 capital shall then be introduced. If the African and Eastern Corporation cannot contribute their entire quota, Unilever have offered to find £3,000,000 if the Africa and Eastern Corporation will put up the other half-million; but the consideration is that Unilever will then hold approximately 80 per cent. of the issued share capital, and African and Eastern Corporation will be reduced to 20 per cent.

Pacific Islands' Association

Growth of Membership

THE organisation of the Pacific Islands Association—formed a few months ago to generally advance the interests of residents in the Pacific Islands—is proceeding slowly and steadily.

A number of the Sydney members and their friends have arranged to dine together in Sydney during "Bridge Week" in March, and there will be some discussion then concerning the association's future activities. It is felt that as the association now has a substantial membership it may soon begin to function as originally intended.

At recent meetings of the executive committee applications for membership were received from the following and granted:—

A. N. Lussick, Logagon, Kavieng, New Guinea.
Alec Bird, Messrs. H. S. Bird & Co. Ltd., 7 Macquarie Place, Sydney.
R. L. Dick, 1 Mansfield Mansions, 35 Bennett Street, Bondi.
J. Colclough, Wingello House, Angel Place, Sydney.
Captain S. G. Green, c/o Burns, Philp & Co. Ltd., 7 Bridge Street, Sydney.
Charles Booth, 4 St. Ann's Flat, Kings Cross Road, Sydney.
Captain Edward Clay, Port Moresby, Papua.
Reginald A. Vivian, Port Moresby, Papua.
Sir J. Hubert Murray, K.C.M.G., Papua.
W. J. Turner, Jenene, 17 Vicars Avenue, Bondi.
J. G. Fowler, Glenlea Flats, 37 Milson's Point, Sydney.
Dr. Colin C. Simson, c/o Union Club, Bligh Street, Sydney.
Bertram W. Bramell, Box No. 603 F.F., G.P.O., Sydney.
Mrs. Alice J. Keelan, Otuaroa, Thirroul.
J. P. Keelan, Otuaroa, Thirroul.
Jas. W. Baldie, 7 Macquarie Place, Sydney.
Mrs. Elizabeth Mahony, 184 William Street, Bathurst.
W. B. Rainsford, 350 George Street, Sydney.
R. W. Robson, Pacific Publications, 247 George Street, Sydney.
H. A. Ross, 30 Grosvenor Street, Sydney.
Sidney Smith, Port Moresby, Papua.
J. P. Fitzgerald, 158 Hawthorne Parade, Haberfield.
Dr. W. L. Calov, 157 Macquarie Street, Sydney.
Rev. M. A. Warren, Secretary, Australian Board of Missions, 242 Pitt Street, Sydney.

A NATIVE REGATTA

From Our Own Correspondent

RAROTONGA, Jan. 25.

The harbour of Ngantangia was the scene of a native regatta on January 27, held by the people of Muri.

The stores and Government offices closed for the afternoon, permitting the attendance of many Europeans at the event.

At Ngantangia there is a deep water opening through the reef into the lagoon. Three small islands lie strung out along the reef with a body of water (shallow for the most part) washing up on to a saucer-shaped beach of white sand.

The small village of Muri is situated on the main road within a hundred yards of the beach, and is a favourite spot for picnic parties. The small islands are not inhabited, and may be reached by wading or swimming across the lagoon. Exploring the islands is most interesting for newcomers and tourists.

The native women's catamaran race (one woman to each canoe) provided the most interesting event of the afternoon. One woman fouled another competitor on one or two occasions. A canoe capsized and the occupant disappeared for a moment. One or two competitors zig-zagged badly. The winner deserved the garland of flowers placed on her head by some of the onlookers.

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February 22, 1932.

THE PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY

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GOLDFIELDS' NEWS

Reduction of Air Transport Rates.

From Our Own Correspondent

WAU, N.G., January 26.

A bombshell was dropped on Wednesday last when Pacific Aerial Transport Ltd. announced that freights would in future be 5d. per lb.; and many wondered what form Guinea Airways' reply would take. On Thursday, this company advertised that a new company had been formed, to be known as Pacific Trading Co. Ltd., and that it would have stores at Salamaua and Wau. Rice is advertised at £40 per short ton, which is £10 per short ton less than the freight per ton ruling up till that date. Allowing 1½d. per lb. as landed cost of rice at the beach, Guinea Airways freight therefore works out at 3¼d. per lb.

It is not expected that the private citizen or Government servant will be able to take advantage of this rate, as it is presumed that these quotations are made for ton lots only. However, to the miners and companies on the field it will be of very great assistance, in reducing the terrific costs of the past. Trade meats, tobacco, flour, sugar and other items are to be sold at similarly reduced rates.

The great advances made by the air transport companies are to be seen in the reduction from 1/- per lb. freight, of some 12 or 18 months ago, to the present rate; and the question is now being asked, can the small aviation companies carry on against the bigger company's opposition, or will they have to give way and leave the field open, and allow freights to rise again?

AEROPLANE ACCIDENT.

Large stones have recently started to show above the ground on the Wau aerodrome, and on January 16 Pilot O'Dea, in Les Holden's "Waco," had the misfortune to hit one with his tail skid, with the result that the tail portion of the plane was considerably damaged. Since that date the District Officer has been busy with a line of boys removing stones from the 'drome.

MORE GOLD PRODUCTION.

The greatly enhanced price of gold, and the added premium, together with the threat of the closing down of tributes by New Guinea Goldfields Ltd., has spurred up the production of gold during the last six months, and it is understood that figures for the first six months of this financial year are greatly in excess of figures for the whole of last year.

The Administration has at last given permission for three shifts to be worked by natives employed in alluvial mining and, while it is expected that only the employers of large numbers of natives will be able to take advantage of the night-shift, production should increase considerably.

WIRELESS STATION.

The wireless station has been removed from Edie Creek to Wau, and is now operating there. As practically the whole of the Edie Creek Area is held by New Guinea Goldfields Ltd., whose head office is at Wau, it was felt that the business offering would not justify the retention of the station at Edie Creek. Mr. C. Beckett, who has been in charge of the station at Edie Creek for some years, will continue to operate at Wau.

A FATAL DATE.

It was rumoured in Wau on Wednesday last the Mr. Charles Graham, who has been mining at Poverty Creek and Bitoi River, in partnership with Mr. Andy Smeaton, had died at Trists Lake, about three and a half days' walk from Wau. The District Officer immediately despatched Mr. R. Foulkes, medical assistant, with Mr. Smeaton and patrol, to enquire into the rumour.

News has also arrived that Mr. Godfrey Bond, who brought an all-metal Junker plane to this field about two years ago, and which he later sold to P.A.T., has disappeared in Europe whilst on his way to England. The death or disappearance of three Wau citizens—Mr. Levien, Mr. Graham and Mr. Bond—in different parts of the world in one day has caused quite a sensation among the few residents here.



Not alone the wondrous fragrance of the Marechal Niel rose. And not the honeyed fragrance of the Sweet-briar. Nor the full rich odor of the old Red rose. And again, not the shy perfume of the Tea rose. Not one of these, nor of these alone. In "Ashes of Roses" Perfume, Monsieur Bourjois caught the elusive and joyous fragrance of a whole garden of roses, its spirit and its atmosphere. Because of this, "Ashes of Roses" is famous throughout the world. While fashions come and fashions go, "Ashes of Roses" remains constant, ever new and delightful, presenting ever afresh its sensations of joy.—Always an added charm to beautiful womanhood!

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Head Hunter's Own Story of Recent Papuan Massacre

From Our Port Moresby Correspondent.

(This is the story of how 17 unsuspecting Weredai and Suwami tribesmen were massacred on the Fly River, in Papua, last November. The story is exactly as related to Patrol Officer Hides by Danu, of the Nausakus, one of the two leaders of the raid. Danu is an intelligent native with a smattering of Motu—and it was in Motu that he told his story, in dramatic fashion, to the patrol officer, who wrote it down then and there.)

MEN of the Gumakari and Nausaku tribes (usually called Sukis) came down the Fly River on the warpath. Four days out, near Weredai village, they came upon a man bailing out a canoe.

"Suama," shouted Danu, giving the bush greeting in the Motu language.

bringing the people of Weredai village.

The raiders were seated on the ground. Besides them were their weapons—hidden under leaves.

A raider named Insai was to give the signal, when everything was ready. Insai gave tobacco to a Weredai man, next to him—then suddenly turned and



A recent snapshot of Suki warriors on the Fly River.

"We have come. We want to give you tobacco."

The river man, much frightened, tried to break away.

"We have not come to fight," said Danu. "See, our women are with us. Sit down—don't be frightened."

The canoe man sat down and Danu addressed him thus: "Go and bring your people to us. We will smoke and make friends, and to-night you can have our women."

The river man went away and the raiders waited. At sunset he returned,

smashed his bamboo pipe across the face of another Weredai man, on his other side.

"That was the signal," said Danu. "We all jumped up and started to kill them."

Some of the unfortunate Weredai people escaped, but nearly a score were butchered there, in cold blood.

"We cut off the arms and heads of the dead Weredai," said Danu to the patrol officer. "We took them up the river with us. We eat only the arms of those we kill—the rest has no taste."

I carried my head back to my village, but I did not cure it myself. There are special men in the tribe for this work."

Patrol Officer Hides brought Danu, Ganga (chief of the Gumakari) and 24 others, accused of murder in connection with this raid, down to Daru, where they are now in prison and awaiting trial.

It appears that immediately news of the massacre reached Port Moresby, Patrol Officer Hides was rushed up the Fly River in an attempt to apprehend the murderers, while the Assistant Resident Magistrate of the district approached the main Gumakari village on the land side. It was arranged that the two officers were to make a simultaneous attack with their police, in the early morning. Mr. Hides' launch, however, could not get through the shallow water, when approaching the village, and the Gumaks were alarmed by the land party and escaped. The police made another surprise attack on the village of Gwitaka, where some twenty-five men, concerned in the murder of the villagers at Moiam, were arrested. Some of these men had been charged with the massacre at Weredai village in 1928.

There was a certain amount of fighting, and four of the native police were wounded, but not seriously.

The last Weredai massacre, according to Mr. Hides, was connected with the ceremonies of headhunting. It appears that there were five young unmarried and unclaimed women in the raiding tribe, who were not able to choose husbands or eat kangaroo meat until new heads had been taken. So the raid on the Weredai people was planned. It is noted that these young women have obtained husbands since the raid.

Suki, the name given to these dangerous tribes, was acquired because when they first met Europeans some 15 years ago, they called "Suki, Suki"—meaning "axe." They always regarded the whites as givers of tomahawks. They are officially described as the Gumakari tribes.

Great-grandson of a Pioneer

Our Thursday Island correspondent records an interesting event:

The arrival of new babies on Thursday Island does not usually merit attention in the press, but we cannot allow the birth of the first great-grandson of Frank Jardine to pass unheralded in a paper devoted to the interests of Torres Straits. The newcomer, a lusty specimen of the tropic-born Anglo-Saxon, is the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Vidgen and is the first of the fourth generation of our leading pioneer family.

New Guinea in Talkies

Mr. Stanley W. Hawkins, who produces "Talkie Picture Travelogues," will leave about March for Papua, New Guinea and the Solomons, to produce a series of "Travelogues" for the world's film market.

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February 22, 1932.

THE PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY

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TAHITI NEWS

Farewell to Popular Naval Commander

From Our Own Correspondent

PAPEETE, January 29.

THE British Consulate, which has lately been entirely rebuilt, and occupies one of the most attractive sites along the Papeete waterfront, was the scene of a very successful party on the night of January 23, the occasion being the departure for France of Commandant Bastard, who for a long time past has been stationed in Papeete in command of the gunboat *Bellatrix*.

Dr. Williams, Consul here for nearly twenty years, together with his popular and accomplished wife, did not spare either money or work in order to make this function one of the most memorable in the annals of Tahiti's social life. Over a hundred guests, including His Excellency Gouverneur Jore, were present, and the crowd showed no signs of thinning till well on toward daylight, and did not finally fade away till Papeete's housewives were returning home from market with the Sabbath provisions. What better compliment could a successful hostess desire?

Commandant Bastard goes home for promotion, and the good wishes of this community go with him wherever he may be. All we can hope is that his successor on this station—who, we understand, is detained by illness in Panama—will prove equally hospitable, and as quickly win the warm regard of Tahiti's heterogeneous inhabitants.

A WANDERER RETURNS.

Mr. Bissel, who is well known in America as the proprietor of Bissel's carpet sweeper, arrived in Tahiti last week in the three-masted yacht *Ariadne*, and plans to proceed to Samoa and the islands of the Western Pacific in a few days' time. The *Ariadne* was formerly owned by Governor Pinchot, of New York, who made a South Sea voyage in her a couple of years ago; she was then known as the *Mary Pinchot*. For some reason her topmasts have been removed, changing her appearance considerably from the well-remembered Governor's yacht.

The return of Mr. Bissel and family to the Islands adds another prominent name to the long list of those who, having once visited here, find the longing to return almost irresistible. We remember with pleasure Mr. Bissel's first visit to Tahiti on his yacht *Wanderlust*, which, under the able guidance of Captain Brisson, made several interesting cruises about the Group.

POPULAR TAHITI.

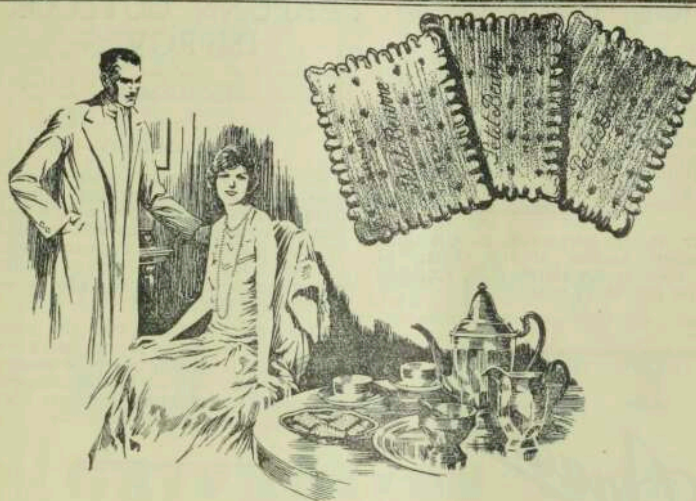
The fact that Tahiti is becoming increasingly important as a pleasure resort for tourists is indicated by the increasing number of world cruises which are making this port a stopping point.

We are at present awaiting with interest the arrival of the large around-the-world cruiser *Stella Polaris*, due here early in February with a full list of passengers on a cruise through the South Pacific. She left New York in January, and is coming via the Panama Canal. Needless to say, extensive arrangements are under way for the entertainment of our guests with native feasts, dancing and a general carnival spirit, which, combined with the natural beauties of scenery and climate which we have to offer, should leave a permanent happy memory with all of them.

ARTISTIC SUCCESS.

We wish to compliment the firm of A. B. Donald, Ltd., and Mr. Alistair Macdonald, the noted artist, for their co-operation in producing one of the most beautiful calendars for the New Year which we have ever seen.

Mr. Macdonald has lived here during the last ten years, which he has devoted exclusively to the portrayal of local scenic beauty in watercolour. His latest picture, "Papeete Harbour in the Early Morning," was justly considered by Messrs. A. B. Donald as a masterpiece, and its reproduction in colour on their new calendar indicates a high degree of artistic as well as commercial ability on their part. It is certain that many of these reproductions will be carefully framed and preserved long after the calendar itself has become obsolete.



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Mr. R. H. Kirkwood, at one time Assistant Auditor of the Colony of Fiji, died in Auckland, N.Z., recently, at the age of 72 years.

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PAPUAN OUTLOOK IMPROVES

From Our Own Correspondent

PORT MORESBY, Feb. 12.

Sir Hubert Murray (Lieut.-Governor) on his return to Port Moresby from Canberra has given us the welcome news that Australia will continue to give preference to Papuan rubber for at least another year. In the meantime, it is hoped that the rubber market will improve.

This news, together with the substantial rise in copra prices, has given new heart to our primary producers, and may put an end to the stringent conditions under which we have been living for the last nine months.

Sydney - Suva - Vavau

New Steamer Service

A SHIPPING development of very considerable interest to the Central Pacific will take effect shortly, when the Union S.S. Co. Ltd., acting in co-operation with Messrs. W. R. Carpenter & Co. Ltd., will despatch the Union Company's vessel Hauraki, on the following itinerary: Sydney, Suva, Rotuma, Vavau, Sydney, with possible calls, if required, at intermediate ports.

Messrs. W. R. Carpenter & Co. Ltd., who have business affiliations in the ports mentioned and who are steadily extending their operations, have promised the Union Company a definite amount of business, and, as a result, the Union Company has undertaken that this or another vessel will maintain this itinerary on a regular schedule.

It is intended that the service shall be maintained by a vessel capable of carrying passengers, and this is important as, since the Matson liners were diverted to include Auckland, there is no direct communication between Sydney and Suva.

The development is also important from a purely Australian point of view, because a good deal of the ordinary trade of Fiji and Tonga has been diverted to New Zealand in recent years; and Messrs. Carpenter & Company's interest in the new venture represents an attempt to make use of the Australian exchange position in an effort to recover some of the lost trade for Australia.

The service may also prove to be specially useful to Tonga, in view of the withdrawal of the Tofua from the Fiji-Tonga-Samoa service, to which reference is made elsewhere.

PACIFIC ISLANDS' TRAVELLERS

PASSENGERS PER S.S. MONTORO, WHICH ARRIVED IN SYDNEY ON JANUARY 25, FROM NEW GUINEA AND PAPUAN PORTS:

Miss I. H. Balmer, Miss L. Barbour, Mr. C. J. Bartlett, Miss N. Buckingham, Miss M. Carnell, Miss E. D. Glasson, Mr. and Mrs. J. Gray, Miss H. V. Humphries, Miss K. Idriess, Miss F. E. Martin, Mr. A. H. McMaster, Misses H. I. and M. (3) McNamara, Miss C. L. Page, Mr. S. G. Pickering, Messrs. J. C. and H. J. Sartain, Miss M. G. Surtees, Miss B. Whitehouse, Mrs. R. Pickwell, Mrs. L. R. Bennett, Mr. C. E. Hopkins, Dr. I. Dickson, Mr. and Mrs. J. Meeks, Mr. H. Meeks, Mr. L. Ankers, Father J. Bender, Father Borchardt, Mr. A. B. Bogie, Mr. P. Burrows, Mr. P. Flannery, Mr. H. J. Gale, Mr. W. G. Gibson, Mr. P. D. Good, Mr. R. Hooper, Brother Knepper, Brother Licanerski, Miss M. Moulder, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Robertson and 2 children, Father J. Schneider, Master D. J. Washington, Mr. R. N. Wayne, Mr. J. R. Brazier, Mr. and Mrs. D. G. Irvine, Mr. W. Shedden, Mr. L. W. Brossey, Mrs. B. M. Clarke and child, Mrs. D. Dettman and infant, Mr. W. M. Dupain, Mrs. C. Miller, Mrs. P. Murray & son, Mr. and Mrs. S. Watson and 2 children, Mrs. M. Allen.

PASSENGERS PER S.S. MONTORO, WHICH SAILED FROM SYDNEY ON FEBRUARY 3, 1932, FOR PAPUAN AND NEW GUINEA PORTS:

Mrs. Len. Murray, Mr. H. R. Niall, Mrs. Niall, Mrs. A. P. Dowsett and two children, Miss M. Gibson, Mrs. E. W. Thompson, Mrs. C. M. Breerton, Miss E. Bryant, Miss P. Bryant, Mrs. A. Campbell and infant, Sir Hubert Murray, Mr. I. Clark, Mr. W. A. P. Gill, Mr. L. Thornton, Mrs. Thornton, Mrs. Walby and two infants, Mrs. R. M. Allan, child and infant, Mr. W. J. Jeffries, Mr. C. H. B. Bowles, Mr. B. Bowles, Mr. J. Vincent, Mr. D. P. Spankie, Mr. A. G. Allen, Mr. L. Bridger, Mr. E. F. Clay, Mr. S. D. Anderson, Mr. G. Washington, Mr. W. D. Voysey, Mrs. Voysey, Mr. A. R. Haviland, Mrs. Haviland, Mr. R. A. Vivian, Mr. F. F. Griffin, Mr. H. G. Carter, Mr. W. J. King, Mr. D. C. G. Phillips, Mr. W. J. Read, Mr. A. A. Bloxham, Mr. K. W. H. Bridge, Mr. D. Walch, Mr. J. A. L. Capron, Mr. A. W. Allen, Mr. N. L. Robinson, Miss I. Corry, Mr. L. H. Thompson, Mr. P. L. Flannery, Miss E. Froomes, Mr. D. Honeysett.

PASSENGERS PER S.S. MATARAM, WHICH SAILED FROM SYDNEY, JANUARY 27, 1932, FOR SOLOMON ISLAND PORTS:

Mr. E. P. Stephens, Mrs. Mines, Miss L. Parkinson, Mr. J. Farrar, Miss Stringer, Mr. M. H. Hall, Mrs. Hall, Mr. A. Campbell, Mr. W. R. Wood, Mr. H. Ransley, Miss B. McCook, Miss E. Raymond, Rev. Father Van Mechelen, Rev. Father Schlieker, Mr. J. M. McLaren, Rev. A. A. Bensley, Mrs. Bensley.

PASSENGERS PER S.S. "MORINDA," FROM NEW HEBRIDES, ARRIVED FEBRUARY 16, 1932: Mr. and Mrs. L. Chmitelin, Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Dawson, Mr. W. L. Bell, Mr. C. D. Elliott, Mr. N. J. Warton, Mr. I. Cassidy, Miss H. K. Kirk, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Nathan, Mr. D. Brown, Mrs. K. A. Burgess and child, Mr. A. E. Carter, Mrs. H. Christian, Dr. A. E. Colvin, Mr. G. Fitzpatrick, Mr. R. J. Love, Miss H. Laurence, Messrs. M. and B. Lapin, Mr. J. O. MacGibbon, Mr. J. McPhail, Miss M. C. Nobbs, Mrs. M. Quintal, Mr. C. G. Quintal, Mrs. M. E. Quintal and child, Mrs. I. Rennie, Mrs. C. Scott, Mrs. E. Stock, Miss E. F. White, Mr. and Mrs. H. Walton, Miss O. Young, Miss L. Anderson, Mr. P. Andreas, Mr. R. Baxter, Miss I. Baxter, Mr. and Mrs. Beale, Mr. and Mrs. P. Cameron, Mr. and Mrs. Cook and child, Mr. J. Cox, Mr. L. Crommelin, Miss M. Daniel, Mr. T. C. Douglass, Mr. and Miss C. Davies, Mr. W. Hammill, Miss M. Hammond, Master A. Harford, Mr. Darcy Johnson, Miss C. McLeerie, Misses J. and M. McLean, Miss S. O'Brien, Mr. J. and Miss M. Merrick, Mr. N. Morrow, Mr. S. B. Morton, Mrs. A. Norman, Miss A. Paton, Miss G. Patten, Mr. H. Payten, Misses B. and R. Ramsay, Mr. D. Rea, Mr. T. Rich, Mr. R. M. Simmons, Miss D. Rowland, Mr. G. Solomon, Mr. J. Stewart, Mr. O. C. Thompson, Mr. A. Thomas, Mr. W. McDonald, Mrs. R. Winning, Miss G. Watson, Miss M. Whitfield, Miss E. Yeend.

February 22, 1932.

THE PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY

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Growers Complain

New Banana Contract for Samoa

From Our Own Correspondent

APIA, January 5.

THE Government Secretary, Mr. Turnbull, has closed a new banana contract on behalf of the Administration with N.Z. fruit importers on what are regarded as unfavourable terms.

The contract is only for 4½ months, and the price, which is not published, is much below the former contract price. The price to be paid to growers will be 3/6 per case, less freight to Apia, which, up to the amount of 9d. per case, has to be borne by the producers for all bananas, whether accepted for shipment or not.

A few years ago the Administration urged European, as well as native growers to plant bananas to their utmost capability. It was stated at the time that the Administration would be able to take up to 30,000 cases a month for export to New Zealand. As a consequence of this campaign, and especially when the copra price began to drop, a large number of Europeans and natives turned to bananas and planted large areas, trusting that the Administration would ensure a market for the fruit—especially after an Ordinance was enacted, securing to the Administration an exclusive monopoly in the handling and export of bananas.

At the present time the limit given by the Administration—30,000 cases per month—is already produced and available. But, to the sore disappointment of the growers, the shipments are wholly inadequate to cope with the production. The Maui Pomare, leaving on December 31, takes about 7,200 cases, when over 20,000 cases were applied for.

The situation is bad enough for the large European and the native producers, but some Samoan districts of the South and East coast of Upolu, and of Savaii, have been cut out of shipments altogether. It is altogether ruinous for the small European growers, who depend on bananas for a living and for payment of Government taxes, and who have in some cases invested their last savings in small banana plantations.

The Inspector of Produce is severely criticised for his method of dealing with applications for banana boxes. While some of the large European and Chinese growers are given all the boxes they want, the small man, in many instances is given no share whatever. It surely should be possible to give out shipping space on a fair percentage basis and avoid unnecessary hardship to the small planters who depend on banana shipping for a living.

Great dissatisfaction was expressed by banana growers that no shipments were despatched to New Zealand to arrive before Christmas, when probably good prices would have been obtained. Samoan as well as European growers had hoped to ship some bananas before Christmas, and obtain some cash for seasonal purchases.

EDITORIAL NOTE.—Growers cannot very well blame the Administration, which is obviously doing its best in very difficult circumstances. We have repeatedly pointed out that the shipment of bananas from Samoa to the N.Z. market is obviously a gamble, because

much fruit is already going down from Cook Islands and Fiji, and now Tonga has entered the banana market. The main cause of the trouble described, however, appears to be an insufficiency of freights, and if Western Samoan producers are being thus handicapped, the New Zealand Government must take the blame. If New Zealand cannot provide adequate shipping, New Zealand has no right to undertake the administration of important

Islands territories. No Islands shipping services are profitable to-day. Therefore, how can the N.Z. Government, running its own steamer in these difficult times, in competition with private enterprise, expect to secure the goodwill of the Union Company? Without the goodwill and co-operation of that company, the Dominion must make a poor showing in its relations with the important islands territories in which it is interested.

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The 15th edition of "The Referee," a handbook of useful information, containing a ready-reckoner of much value to all engaged in building operations, may be obtained post free on application to John Lysaght (Aust.) Ltd., c/o. Box 196 D, G.P.O., Sydney.

A SUVA POET

Mrs. Parham, the well-known botanist and poet of Suva, whose articles upon the neglected flora of "Fair Fiji" often grace the columns of The Fiji Times, has just produced another little work, neatly set up, printed and bound by her own clever daughters. We are glad to give an example from its pages of this versatile lady's poesy:

NAICOBOCOBO POINT

In the waves' cadence, far below,
The thoughtful hear a whisper plain;
And on the winds that come and go
Is borne aloft the sad refrain:
'All are like grass, and all must pass,
'Kai-si', or of the Chiefly class."

Yet in God's love, so full and wide,
We sinners all may shelter find;
He is our rock—where we may hide,
Our comforter in stress of mind,
Yes, ours the truest spirit-road,
Leading us surely up to God.
* Poor folk. Literally, "those who may be eaten."

"Wreck" Season Takes Early Toll
In Solomons

From Our Own Correspondent.

TULAGI, January 10.

THE north-west or "wreck" season began taking toll somewhat early this year, for on December 13 the "Mendana," a 15-ton auxiliary vessel, owned by Mr. Geoff. Clift and captained by Ernie Palmer, was piled up at Iyo, near the south-east end of San Christoval, and became a total wreck.

Capt. Palmer, it will be remembered, had a most thrilling experience in this vessel last October, during the earthquake upheaval on this island, what time he narrowly escaped being cast up by the tidal wave.

The vessel was insured, but for considerably less than the full value.

N.G. TIMBER

Fine Samples From Bulolo

A REMARKABLY fine range of timbers has been brought to Sydney from the Bulolo, by Mr. Chas. Booth, one of the pioneers of the Morobe Goldfield.

Mr. Booth has settled down on rich land on a hillside overlooking the Bulolo River, in New Guinea, and is building for himself a large new house. On his holding he has planted all kinds of fruit trees and vegetables belonging to the temperate and sub-tropical zones, and they are flourishing amazingly. This is an indication that up on this high plateau, where the Morobe Goldfield is situated, the climatic conditions are temperate, and comfortable for Europeans.

All down the Bulolo River, where gold is now being intensively sought, there are good forests of valuable timber, and Mr. Booth has made a plan to float this timber down the Bulolo, Watut and Markham Rivers to the coast, where it will be prepared for shipment to the available markets by a saw-mill located near the mouth of the Markham.

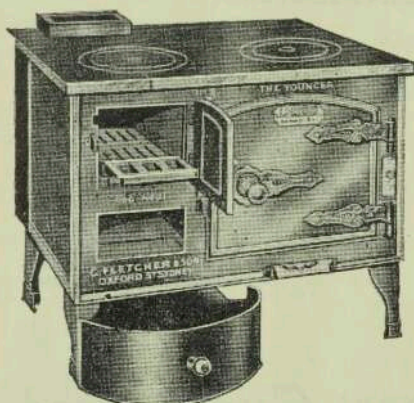
Mr. Booth and his associates intend to form a company, but are being held up because the timber leases covering the area in question, which were applied for about the end of 1926, have not yet been supported by the issue of the official license. No reason for the delay has been given. The approval of the Administrator was advised in a formal letter from the Secretary of the Lands and Mines Department at Rabaul, dated December 23, 1930; but since then all efforts to secure the licenses have been in vain. Mr. Booth and his friends, however, are still hopeful.

The timber in greatest abundance along the Bulolo is hoop pine and bunya pine, which are quite suitable for the making of butter boxes and for similar purposes. There is a fair quantity of beautiful cedar and a good deal of Pacific maple—both timbers very suitable for fine cabinet-making. There is also a quantity of a timber called pometia pinnata, and an oak that closely resembles English oak.

Mr. Booth's display of these timber samples in Sydney was examined with much interest by various people.

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THE PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY

35

REV. R. BARTLETT

What He Did in Samoa

MANY residents of Western Samoa will remember the Rev. Reginald Bartlett, of the London Missionary Society, who arrived there in 1929, to become principal of the Theological College at Malua. Mr. Bartlett interested himself in Samoan politics and, according to the following lunch-hour address at the Memorial Hall, London, on 9th December last (as reported in *The Australian Christian World*) he did something towards preventing bloodshed. Samoan residents generally will be interested in his story:

"Before I had been there long I took a trip round the island. I found that the trouble was seriously interfering with the work of the Church. I wrote a strong letter of protest to the Secretary of the Mau Council, one of the four kings of Samoa, asking for an opportunity of meeting him. He replied offering a date and I met the Council at 9 o'clock one morning.

"The temperature of that meeting was rather warm! The leaders felt strongly about my butting into their quarrel. It was no place for a missionary, they said. I made it clear that I was not a bit concerned with their quarrel, except as it interfered with the work of the Church. 'Is it the custom when you quarrel in Samoa to turn round and hit your best friend,' I asked them. 'The Church in Samoa is your best friend'.

"After a conference lasting three hours they were all my friends except one. My difficulty was that I did not know the language, but I was picking it up as quickly as I could. One of the things I could say in their tongue was 'my friend.' I went up to the one and gripped him by the hand so that he could not get away and said, 'My friend.' For a long time he would not reply, but I did not release his hand until at last he replied with the same words, 'my friend'.

"That was on December 21st, 1929. On December 28th, one week later, the clash came. It was the custom of the Mau to organise an anti-Government procession. The Government had no objection, but issued a warning that if any of a number of wanted men made their appearance they would be arrested. A number of wanted men were put in the front of the procession. The police stepped forward to arrest them, and in the struggle which followed one of the police and thirteen Samoans were killed. The Government was in difficulties. The police force was small. Samoa is mandated to New Zealand. New Zealand marines were landed with rifles, bayonets and machine guns.

"The Samoans took to the bush. Practically the whole of the male population went. Every day raiding parties went into the bush and searched for their camps, but among the mountains and forests of Samoa they might have searched for months without ever finding them. I, too, was hunting for them, but I made my raids by night. One morning I had just returned to the mission house in Malua to find on my verandah a young man, who gave me greeting and said, 'I want to help you. Every day you go into the bush?' 'Yes,' I replied. 'You cannot find them.'

'No,' I replied. 'I'll take you to them,' and he explained that he was a secret messenger employed by the Mau to carry messages from one camp to another. This boy became my guide and every night we went together into the bush."

Mr. Bartlett and his guide found the camps one by one, but it was a long time before he was able to persuade the leaders to come down and meet the Governor. In the meantime he heard that a battleship was preparing to leave New Zealand with a force of picked and intensively trained men to quell the trouble in Samoa.

"I had a week in which to prevent that ship sailing," he said, "and still the Mau would not give in. Every night we went up into the bush and on the very eve of the day on which the ship was to sail we were able to take to the Governor at Vailima a dirty piece of paper with the names of 35 leaders who had all promised to meet him. 'Will you stop that ship?' I asked. That ship never sailed, the party of men was dispersed, and peace was made without bloodshed."

AMERICAN SAMOA

Polynesian Psychology

AN article by Margaret Mead, in *The World To-day*, gives some interesting sidelights on conditions in American Samoa.

The Polynesian separated from his land (she says) is a doomed man. He will not work for wages, he knows no trade, he has no means of subsistence except sponging upon his relatives. Wherever the white or Chinese trader has penetrated, unless deterred by government, he has tended to extend to the native long credits which the latter is unable to meet. Ultimately the native's land finds its way to the trader as payment for the debt.

All such exploitation is effectively prevented in American Samoa.

Justice is administered by a civilian judge appointed by the Navy for a period of two years, and by a series of native magistrates selected from among the more venerable chiefs in the native communities.

Fines have been found to be the most effective form of punishment. The Samoans were familiar with them before "the coming of the light" (a euphemism in Oceania for the coming of the white man). Every Samoan prefers to compound an offence if possible; even adultery is settled by the co-respondent, male and female, making atonement in fine mats to the injured spouse. Gaoling, which lacks the power to confer social degradation in Samoa, is found to be less effective.

Old residents still tell the story of the time when a village asked permission to go upon a malaga—a visit to another village. It had been found necessary to institute some sort of traffic regulation in these wholesale village exoduses, since the introduction of cricket has made them so popular that often the gardens are badly neglected. The judge therefore refused permission to the whole village to go and live upon

the other village for a week, and then found to his great chagrin that the chiefs had made a visit first and asked for permission afterwards. They were ordered to gaol and came into the Naval Station singing gaily, happy at the thought of living upon the Government for a month. The Government has wisely profited by such occurrences and changed its tactics.

5 SYMPTOMS of TINEA or TROPIC RINGWORM

REDNESS OR SKIN CRACKS

TINY ITCHING BLISTERS

INFLAMMATION

EXAMINE YOUR TOES

WHITE THICK SKIN

TOES

DRY SKIN WHICH BECOMES SCALY

Perhaps you have inflammation, redness, or skin cracks between the toes, tiny itching blisters, white thick skin which is always moist, or dry skin which becomes scaly, accompanied by an unpleasant and characteristic odour. These are all definite symptoms of "TINEA" or TROPIC RINGWORM. This disease is very prevalent in all Tropical or Semi-Tropical climates.

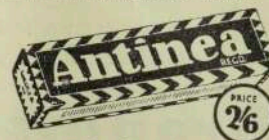
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New Caledonian Cattle

Over-Production Threatens Industry

From Our Own Correspondent.

NOUMEA December 20. NO improvement can be reported in the cattle industry, and the condition of a number of the graziers is rather precarious.

Sales of cattle on the hoof are now taking place at 1 franc 25 per kilo, which is only about one-third of the price prevailing some months ago.

It would appear that there is an over-production of cattle at the present time, although the low price of meat should materially increase the consumption. As against this, however, the reduction in the number of Tonkinese and Javanese labourers by repatriation will reduce the number of mouths to be fed.

The question of opening a freezing works has been discussed at great length, but no practical solution has yet been put forward in regard to this method of exporting cattle. Unfortunately, the Island lacks scientifically trained men who have had practical experience in this section of the meat industry, and advice in this direction, coupled with expert financial assistance, is absolutely necessary to make the proposal a success.

It would be thought that, with the great field of experience available in Australia, advice would be sought in this direction, but apparently nothing has yet been done by the authorities or by the graziers themselves. To get the latter together would, no doubt, be a difficult matter, in view of their large numbers, the varying sizes of their herds, and also their different temperaments.

Finally, the low rate of the English and Australian exchanges makes it a difficult matter to develop an export trade of live cattle, or canned and frozen meat, as the British prices are now considerably below those quoted in francs.

MOTOR CARS IN NEW CALEDONIA

From Our Own Correspondent.

NOUMEA, January 15.

AS giving some indication of the remarkable growth of motor transport, the following figures are of interest. Five or six years ago, the total number of motor vehicles did not exceed 200, while to-day there are more like 1,000 registered.

Most of the cars are of French make and high duties have been imposed to prevent foreign-made automobiles being brought into general use.

BULOLO GOLD

Placer Co. Secures Widubosh Property

AN option has been taken by Placer Development Ltd. over a large area on New Guinea goldfields, known as the Widubosh, adjoining the Bulowat property, below the junction of the Watut and Bulolo Rivers. Prospecting of this new area is to commence at an early date.

Two New Dredges for Additional Area

AN agreement has been concluded for the sale by Placer Development Ltd. to Bulolo Gold Dredging Ltd. of the Bulowat and Burnside areas, situated immediately down stream from the Bulolo Company's dredging property on the Bulolo River, New Guinea.

Placer Development Ltd., having extensively drilled somewhat over eighty per cent of the Bulowat and Burnside areas, estimates that fifty million cubic yards of gravel of an average recoverable gold content of approximately thirty-two gold cents per cubic yard can be dredged therefrom. It is believed that the untested ground will contain up to a further ten million cubic yards of payable ground. Dredging costs, including gold royalty, are estimated at about twelve cents per cubic yard.

Bulolo Gold Dredging Ltd. will complete the testing of the areas and at once proceed to install two electrically driven dredges, each of ten cubic feet bucket capacity.

The entire purchase consideration is payable to Placer Development Ltd. in fully-paid shares of Bulolo Gold Dredging Ltd. Of the above consideration, 75,000 shares will be allotted two months after the first of the dredges commences operating, and a further 75,000 two months after the second commences operating.

After dredging has proceeded for two years on the new areas, a further allotment of shares to Placer Development Ltd. in completion of the purchase is contemplated. The number of further shares, if any, to be allotted will be dependent on the results obtained by Bulolo Gold Dredging Ltd. from the drilling of the untested portion of the Bulowat Burnside area, and will also be governed by the actual gold recoveries and working costs on the original Bulolo area, and also on the Bulowat Burnside areas now being acquired.

The sale agreement also provides for Bulolo Gold Dredging Ltd. granting Placer Development Ltd. the right to recover gold from an area of about ten acres, located outside the Bulolo dredging area and adjoining the Arnold leases, owned by Placer Development Ltd. In consideration of this, Placer Development Ltd. is transferring to Bulolo Gold Dredging Ltd. two dredging claims, comprising the Placer West area, located to the west of the Bulolo Company's original holdings.

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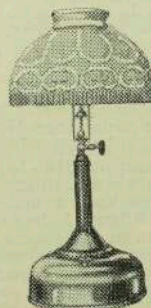
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Tamasese's Death Remembered by Mau

From Our Own Correspondent

APIA, January 5.

THE anniversary of the death of Tamasese, December 28, 1929, was again remembered, when the Mau followers attended a Requiem Mass at the Catholic Cathedral, on Monday last.

About 500 women members of the Mau, in their blue and white striped lava-javas, marched through Apia in an impressive procession to the graves of Tamasese and the other victims of the 1929 shooting at Lepea Village, where a solemn service of remembrance was held.

February 22, 1932.

THE PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY

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Chinese and Samoan Women

New Ordinance Passed

From Our Own Correspondent

APIA, January 5.

THE Legislative Council has had several meetings lately at which some new ordinances were passed. The most important of these was "The Overseas Labourers' Control Ordinance, 1931."

The object of this Ordinance is to replace a former proclamation which prohibited the cohabitation of Samoan women and Chinese coolies. This proclamation had been in existence practically since the military occupation of Samoa by New Zealand in 1914, but had never been enforced by the authorities, with the well-known and unfortunate results which were published in this paper.

The Hon. Mr. Johnston, elected member of the Council, very properly asked at the meeting whether it was the intention of the Administration to enforce the Ordinance. He pointed out that there has never been an attempt to do so on the part of the Administration and that it would be farcical to issue regulations if the Administration is either unwilling or unable to enforce same.

The Administrator's reply to the question was regarded as evasive, as he did not give a promise that the new law would be strictly enforced. It may be that this Ordinance is for the benefit of the Mandate Commission of the League of Nations, which has repeatedly expressed strong views in regard to miscegenation of Chinese and Samoans. But there seems to be no reason whatever why the law in this matter should not be enforced.

Later.

At a meeting of the Legislative Council, on December 15, the Samoan member of the Council, Chief Mataafa, also asked a question regarding the above Ordinance. He enquired whether the police would inspect Chinese labour quarters to prevent Samoan females from entering same. He believed that inspections would reveal not only Samoan women, but also many children living in these quarters.

The Crown Solicitor answered shortly that the police will make inspections when the Ordinance recently passed becomes law.

Cook Islands' Sports Meeting

From Our Own Correspondent

RAROTONGA, January 5.

ON Boxing Day, the Island Sports Association held its track meeting at Titikaveka. The winner of the cricket ball throwing event, Karika Oramatua, established a local record with a throw of 315 feet. Spectators wondered how this throw compares with that of say, a first-class fieldsman, or with the standard throw in open competition elsewhere.

The tug-of-war was won by a team from Aorangi, which pulled against Titikaveka in the final round. The victory for Aorangi compensated for loss of the "Au Vaine" Cup this year by that village, at the hands of Titikaveka.

DOUBLE MOTOR ACCIDENT

Mishaps Near Apia

From Our Own Correspondent

APIA, January 5.

A SERIOUS motor car accident, with fatal results, occurred on December 16 on the west coast main road.

A car owned by Mr. F. Stewart and driven by a young boy, Willie Stewart, from Apia to Leulumaea, struck a young Samoan boy, Prula, who tried to cross the road in front of the car at the village of Tuanai. The boy, who was six years old, was struck by the bumper and knocked insensible.

As apparently the boy was seriously hurt, he was put into the car and taken to the hospital by another driver. On the way to the hospital, at the corner of Taulusi and Vae Roads, close to Apia, one of a group of Sa-

moan children, Ali'va'a, six years old, rushed in front of the approaching car and was also struck by the mudguards and sustained injuries to the head.

He was promptly loaded into the car, which, with the two injured boys, proceeded on its way to the hospital.

The boy Prula died shortly after admission to hospital from a fractured skull. The second boy, Ali'va'a, was operated upon and his life will probably be saved.

An investigation has been started by the police. The driver Stewart was only learning to drive, and seems not to have held a driver's license. After the accident the excited Tuanai natives tried to lynch the responsible driver and only the interference of the Samoan missionary at Tuanai saved the boy from serious injury.

The death occurred at Levuka, Fiji, recently of Jekopi Levau, a well-known native teacher, who had been connected with the Methodist Mission at Levuka for some 15 years.

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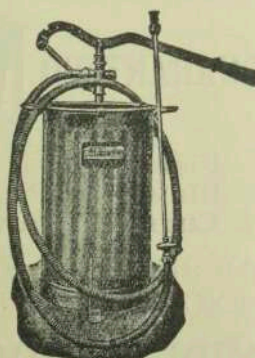


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TITIKAVEKA

Prize Winning Cook Is. Village

From Our Own Correspondent

RAROTONGA, January 5.

THE yearly tour of inspection, or "Tutaka," of native villages, took place during the month.

The following four officials comprise the committee of inspection: Resident Commissioner, Chief Medical Officer, Registrar of Courts, and Director of Agriculture.

The officials are met at each village by a local committee of native women termed the "Au Vaine." The "Au Vaine" movement was introduced in 1926 and has for its function co-operation with the authorities on the following specified lines:

- (a) Cleanliness of villages and plantations.
- (b) Proper tethering of horses, pigs and goats.
- (c) Planting of domestic and export crops.
- (d) General beautifying of village surroundings.

The cup, which goes to the village scoring the greatest number of points for sanitation, cropping, general appearance, etc., was won this year by Titikaveka. The villages of Aorangi and Ngatangia, it is understood, were given higher points than the winner under one or two headings, but the honour went to Titikaveka for the general, all-round standard attained by the "Au Vaine" at that village.

Titikaveka is a charming spot. Its long avenue of flamboyant trees is now a mass of scarlet blossom. Plots of flowers are to be seen here and there on the closely cropped grass of the unfenced allotments. The native huts and tropical bungalows set back from the roadside, nestling beneath shady trees and coconut palms, make a pleasing picture for the eye. The long beach of coral sand and the splendid bathing spots in the lagoon at Titikaveka, make it a favourite resort with the European section of the community here.

"Money-Making" Missions

To the Editor.

Sir.—The Reverend General Secretary of the Methodist Mission Society of Australasia has courteously challenged my statement that certain of his Society's missionaries assist their mission-funds by trading. He also threatens to "deal with" any such if I can prove them to have been guilty of what he declares is against the regulations of the M.M.S. of A.

In the first place, I was writing generally of the Pacific Missions, and not solely of those of Papua. All the same, I confess that I am most astonished to read Mr. Burton's denial, as I thought the M.M. were generally known to go in for trading, and in this differed from the no-trading policies of other missions. But whilst I think such trading a mistake, I may, and do, recognise certain of these trading missionaries as very fine fellows. Certainly it is not my business to bring such "to the mat."

If no trading is permitted, how comes it that certain of these fine M.M. folk receive, compared with those of other missions, fairly high salaries? The wonderful people of the other missions, I understand, only receive the nominal ten shillings a week.

When I was introduced to Mr. Gilmour, who is principal at the Dobu H.Q. of the M.M., by the Resident Magistrate of Samarai (acting on instructions from His Excellency) last June, with a view to my visiting the thermal wonders of that most exquisitely lovely spot, that gentleman said (as nearly as I can recall words): "If you're thinking of going there for nothing you're quite mistaken. You'll have to pay me £25 to go in my yacht; and you must buy your provisions from our store or take what you need with you—each of our stations has to pay for itself."

Perhaps "Nuff sed!" As the run is only that of about seven hours, and I did not want to find myself amongst inhospitable, and perhaps, unfriendly people, I did not accept Mr. Gilmour's suggestion, and that great Christian teacher, Dr. Newton, Anglican Bishop of New Guinea, took me with him, thrice as far, for nothing; and showed me the way to most remarkable archaeological discoveries—as did Mr. Abel, of the Kwato Mission, later on. When my projected book appears I may deal further with this matter.

—I am, etc.,

ARTHUR J. VOGAN.

Sydney, 3rd February, 1932.

Chichester Honoured

Pilot Who Put Norfolk on Aerial Map

From Our Own Correspondent.

NORFOLK IS., January 11.

IT is a matter of personal satisfaction with us that the flying man, Chichester, who visited us last year, was presented by the Prince of Wales at the annual meeting of the Empire Air Pilots' Guild, on November 19, with the Johnston Trophy for the year's best feat of civil aerial navigation.

The trophy was presented for competition by Mrs. Johnston, widow of the hero of the R101 disaster, and at the same function Mr. Chichester met and talked with Amy Johnston, whom he had last seen in Japan, when he was recovering from the injuries sustained in the world flight upon which he had set out when he called upon us en route from New Zealand to Australia.

The particular feat that gained the trophy for him was his achievement in picking up this island of Norfolk while still 30 miles distant, and swooping upon us from the blue, like a sea eagle dropping on its prey.

Now we feel that in some obscure manner we won that trophy with him.

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METROPOLIS OF THE SOUTH SEAS

Suva, Now a Beautiful, Modernly-Equipped
City of 15,000, Has Grown From
Nothing In Fifty Years.

From Our Own Correspondent.

TWO Councillors retired from the Suva Municipal Council by effluxion of time this year, and so the usual elections were held to fill the vacancies.

Some time ago it would have been difficult to find candidates suitably qualified who had the necessary enthusiasm for public service to allow themselves to be persuaded to stand for election. It is a thankless task at the best of times, and especially so in a small community where personal jealousies obtrude themselves. However, during the last couple of years, there seems to have been a stirring of the public conscience, and the last two annual elections have been remarkable for the profusion of talent which has offered itself. It is a pleasing sign that the ratepayer realises more and more the privileges bestowed upon him by Downing Street in regard to self-government.

The Municipality of Suva is like a little republic of its own, living happily and prosperously under the protection of Great Britain; and, as its development is set a stage further on than its sister towns in the Pacific, it may not be out of place to describe it briefly.

In 1909 the Municipal Institutions Ordinance was passed and Suva and Levuka were proclaimed as Municipalities. The Ordinance provides that for the government of every town a council should be constituted to consist of 6 members for up to 600 ratepayers; 600-2,000 ratepayers, 8 members; and 2,000 and upwards, 10 members. Any person over 21, of whatever nationality, who pays rates on any property and who is capable of reading, etc., the English language, can be put on the electoral roll and can be elected as a councillor. In the case of Suva the principle is one man one vote; but Levuka has not reached this stage and is still at the point where cumulative voting is permissible—i.e., for property assessed at under £25 per annum the ratepayer gets one vote, but if the annual value is over £150 he gets 4 votes.

The Municipal Council of Suva consists of 8 members, because the number of ratepayers is held to be over 600—the population is, in fact, over 15,000. Three members retire in each year, except in the third year, when only two members retire. Elections take place annually and the members thus elected sit for three years.

Immediately after the annual election the new Council meets to elect their Mayor for the coming year, who on this occasion is Mr. G. F. Grahame (of Newcastle, N.S.W.) a member of the well known legal firm of Ellis and Grahame. The Mayor is entitled to be addressed as "His Worship"; and after election is solemnly invested by the Town Clerk with the robes and chain of office. He is accorded every courtesy and recognition by the Fiji

Government, and takes a prominent place in all "ceremonial occasions." The office of Mayor is highly esteemed and is often the subject of unrecorded battles for supremacy!

Recent previous holders include names so well known in the life of the community as those of Sir Henry Scott, K.C., the Honourable Henry Marks, C.B.E., the Honourable Alport Barker, M.L.C., and that of the present Mayor.

The Council has a staff which consists of the Town Clerk, who is the Chief Administrative Officer and who is invariably possessed of qualifications under Local Government Acts in Australia. The present Town Clerk, for example, came to Suva from Inverell (N.S.W.) and his work in Suva has been so successful and his genial personality so well received that his term of office has been extended time and again.

Under him are the Deputy-Town Clerk, the Town Engineer and the Electrical Engineer, the three next most important officers. Then come sanitary inspectors, a town gardener, a town librarian, etc., etc. It is the usual framework upon which is draped the cloak of local self-government in any enlightened community, and like everywhere else it is the framework which does the work whilst using the Council as the cloak for its activities.

The ratepayers on the electoral roll number 522, of which about 70 are Indians. Of these, 424 went to the poll to elect two out of the 6 candidates offering at the last election, which shows how much the franchise is appreciated and how vivid is local interest in civic affairs, especially when it is remembered that a certain percentage of those on the roll must inevitably be absentees at the time of the election.

The estimates of expenditure and revenue for 1932 show that the annual income will be close on £4,500, a reduction on last year due to a pruning of expenditure and economies in various directions which permitted a reduction of the rates from 10d. in the £ on the unimproved capital value down to 9½d. This reduction is more in the nature of a gesture compatible with the times, since there has been no extravagance in civic administration, nor is there any overwhelming burden of civic debt.

Altogether Suva has a public debt to-day of about £105,000—not a very large sum for a town of which the revenue in 1931 from rates alone was just under £20,000, and whose ratable value of property exceeds £500,000. Of that amount of debt, approximately £35,000 is owing to the Fiji Government, from which the town took over (many ratepayers think unwisely) the responsibility for the expensive and inefficient sewerage works carried out by the Government in Suva about two decades ago. From the public itself

the town has borrowed £88,000, but by means of sinking funds it has already paid back £13,400, and each year sets aside as high as 2 per cent. of certain loans, quite apart from such items as a depreciation reserve of 4 per cent. on the loan capital of £55,500, employed in the electricity undertaking. It will be obvious that conservative finance is a feature of the civic administration of Suva.

That the ratepayers have had value for their money is evidenced by the miles of tar-macadam streets and concrete pavements, the well-kept public buildings and the beautiful patches of garden which surround the town. The sports ground at Albert Park, built out of reclaimed land, is an expanse of turf which accommodates three cricket grounds and was sufficiently large for Air-Commodore Kingsford Smith to land upon it in 1928, in the Southern Cross, on his epoch-making flight from San Francisco to Sydney.

The municipal activities are varied. One of the most important is that of generating and supplying electric light and power. Originally this was from a steam plant, but this proved unsatisfactory and was later superseded by Diesel engines. The town has erected concrete poles and a system of mains under such capable supervision that the service has been practically uninterrupted for more than a few hours during our last two hurricanes.

Electric light is to be charged for at 9d. and power at 2½d. during the coming year, a reduction from 4d. in the case of power, which it is hoped will stimulate use of household electrical appliances, such as stoves, kelinators, etc.

Public health figures very largely in the civic programme, and two European inspectors are continually employed going round the town, testing milk samples, etc. Very fine public baths were constructed on the sea front at a cost of over £10,000, whilst the existing Carnegie Library was much enlarged and now houses the Tourist Bureau and the Museum. The library itself is under the care of a live librarian and an arrangement has been made with a well known circulating library in London whereby continual supplies of recently published books, just withdrawn, are shipped to the Carnegie Library in Suva.

Altogether Suva forms a very interesting study in development under paternal guidance—especially so when it is remembered that in 1871 it was entirely non-existent. It shows, too, that European, Fijian, Indian and Chinese interests can be successfully harmonised—at any rate up to the present stage of development.

To the outside observer, Suva to-day appears at least a safe and stable place.

Investigation Into Nut-fall in Solomons

TULAGI, January 10.

THE Agricultural Committee held a meeting in Tulagi towards the end of December to discuss progress of investigation into the cause of nut-fall, which has resulted in such drastic reductions of output on several plantations, mainly Levers. But—so far as I have heard—no real success has been disclosed.

BUSY SCENES ON SUVA WATERFRONT

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, January 21.

THE year opened amidst activity in the port of Suva. Ships seemed to be continually coming and going, so that the wharf was a scene of much activity.

The first vessel in the new year was the American mail steamer Sierra, southward bound, followed a couple of days later by its opposite number, the Ventura, going north. The King John, a British motor vessel, arrived and loaded sugar under charter for the United Kingdom. A couple of days later the Tolken came in to take on copra, whilst the Waikawa took sugar to Vancouver. The Karamea arrived with an inward cargo of general merchandise from the United Kingdom, and the Tofua took a full load of bananas to New Zealand.

Yachting interests were represented by the *Iolanda*, belonging to Mrs. Moses Taylor, of New York, which spent a few days here, en route to Europe. She was an interesting vessel of really large size, with a party of over a dozen passengers. Although her owner is an American the ship is registered in Southampton and is manned by an entirely English crew.

DEATH OF NOTABLE MISSIONARY

ONE of the most notable missionary women of the South Seas, Mrs. Margaret Mathieson Gunn, wife of Rev. Dr. William Gunn, died at Roseville, Sydney, on January 18, at the age of 78. She assisted her husband in his mission work in the New Hebrides for 35 years, and was widely known and highly esteemed.

Dr. and Mrs. Gunn came out from the Free Church of Scotland to the New Hebrides in 1883, and took the place of the Rev. J. Copeland, who had been working on Futuna for over 10 years. A little later they took over the work of the Rev. J. H. Lawrie, in Aneityum.



THE LATE Mrs. GUNN

yum. The natives they found in these places in the 'eighties, were not exactly attractive. They were fierce, truculent and treacherous, and their customs and habits, in the eyes of Europeans, were repellant and horrible. But when Dr. and Mrs. Gunn retired in 1917, the natives of both Futuna and Aneityum were peaceful, decent-living folk, conforming generally to the teachings of Christianity. The great change in their way of living was the result of more than three decades of patient effort by Dr. Gunn and his clever, devoted wife.

Mrs. Gunn accompanied her husband on many of his most dangerous and arduous journeys, by boat and by land. She devoted herself to the native women and children, and although, particularly in the early days, they endured frightful hardships and discouragement, and were often close to death, her courage and her faith never faltered. On her visits to the mainland, Mrs. Gunn worked actively on behalf of the missions. She was a well-read woman, with much charm of manner, and was a popular lecturer. She was a direct descendant of John Mathieson, one of the Scottish Covenanters, banished for his faith 250 years ago; the late Sir William McCormick, professor of English Literature at St. Andrew's

University, was a cousin; and James Hislop, a successful Scottish poet, was a relation.

Mrs. Gunn is survived by her husband, Rev. Dr. Gunn—probably the most famous of present-day Presbyterian missionaries—and by two unmarried daughters.

The work of Dr. and Mrs. Gunn is described in two books, "The Gospel in Futuna" and "Heralds of Dawn," of which they were joint authors.

Liquor in Samoa

More Reasonable System Urged

From Our Own Correspondent

APIA, January 5.

THE Administration was magnanimous enough to give the Europeans a measure of Christmas cheer so needful in these hard times, by granting extra holiday permits for liquor.

This gesture at the same time benefited the administrative coffers to quite an appreciable degree, when on Christmas Eve the revenue for liquor amounted to about £100.

The Administrator is said to be in favour of allowing the importation of wine and beer, to be issued to European citizens under a reasonable permit system. It is not known, at time of writing, whether the New Zealand authorities have agreed to his suggestion.

It may be mentioned that according to a beach rumour, General Hart was much surprised when informed of the fact that quite a lot of smuggled liquor is sold on the beach at prices varying from £1 to £1/15/- per bottle of whisky. In the circumstances the Administration should try to divert this money into the Administration coffers, by following a more lenient and sympathetic policy in regard to the issue of liquor allowances to responsible European citizens.

N. Caledonia to Honour Flier Roffey

From Our Own Correspondent.

NOUMEA, January 15.

A COMMITTEE has been formed to raise funds to celebrate the recent flight from New Caledonia to Australia by Mr. Victor Roffey.

The committee is under the patronage of the Governor, Monsieur Guyon, and of Mr. Johnson, the British Consul. A subscription list is to be opened, and the suggestion is that a permanent record be erected at Anse Vata or some other suitable place.

Capt. Moody left Papua for Australia last month, in his seaplane, via Kerema, Daru and Thursday Island. He had been in Papua and New Guinea since October this year.

Mr. L. L. Bell, F.I.O., late of Papua, has been elected to the Council of the Institute of Optometrists of New South Wales for the forthcoming year.

HOLBROOKS' TABLE DELICACIES

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February 22, 1932.

THE PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY

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CHANGE IN LAPEROUSE SCHEDULE

As will be seen from our shipping columns, a change has been made in the schedule of the Laperouse, which maintains the Sydney-Noumea service.

With the approval of the French Colonial Government, the vessel after its January trip was sent to the East to return 1,000 indentured Tonkinese labourers. During her absence, the shipping company made arrangements with the owners of the St. Vincent de Paul and St. Joseph to provide the New Caledonian settlers with communication with Sydney.

The Laperouse is due to leave Sydney on her next trip to Noumea, on March 11. This voyage was not previously scheduled. According to the old itinerary, after her return from Noumea on March 9, the vessel would remain in Sydney until April 2. Her trip to the East will therefore not alter the number of trips which she would ordinarily make during the year between Sydney and Noumea.

NEWS FROM NEW CALEDONIA

From Our Own Correspondent.

NOUMEA, January 15.

MR. A. UNGER, a member of the Conseil General, has been recently decorated with the Legion of Honour, after very many years of faithful service to the Colony. Mr. Unger's voice has been always raised on various matters of importance, and, as one of New Caledonia's leading business men, he has taken particular interest in those matters affecting the welfare of the Colony.

NATIVES RETURN FROM PARIS EXHIBITION.

The hundred New Caledonian natives who went to France to take part in the big colonial exhibition in Paris returned during last month by the Dumont d'Urville, by way of Indo-China. They left France on November 12, embarking at Marseilles.

PERSONAL.

Recent visitors to Noumea from Sydney included Messrs. C. Sullivan (Island Agent) and N. J. Warton (chartered accountant).

Mr. A. Huet, who has been residing in France for some time past, recently returned to the Colony.

Thursday Is. Notes

From Our Own Correspondent

THURSDAY IS., February 1.

MR. E. J. Martin, one of T.I.'s regular travellers and well-known in many parts of the Pacific, has visited us again, after a rather longer absence than usual. He expects to make his next trip to Moresby, Samarai and Rabaul during May.

Just before Christmas, one of the best known of the coming generation of Thursday Islanders, Mr. Jim Fergusson, junior, left for Brisbane to join the Queensland Police Force. His many friends here will be pleased to hear that Jim considers he has fallen on his feet and is very happy in his new surroundings. Thanks to his training as a naval cadet and at the rifle range, our young representative from T.I. has made a very good beginning and we are quite confident he possesses just the right qualities for a successful career in the police.

The S.S. Mangola passed through on her way to Melbourne, six days late. On her outward voyage to Singapore, she struck a reef off the eastern end of Timor, and lost one of her propeller blades. The necessary repairs at Singapore accounted for the vessel's late arrival here.

PACIFIC ISLANDS YEAR BOOK

THERE have been many flattering references made in the newspapers to the Pacific Islands Year Book for 1932, which was published in December. We have pleasure in quoting the following reference to the book from The Melbourne Herald of February 4:

Many interesting articles and a mass of useful information are to be found in "The Pacific Islands Year Book, 1932," compiled and edited by R. W. Robson (Sydney: Pacific Publications Ltd.). It will be of particular value to business men and others who have, or hope to have, interests in the islands. The thousands of islands in the Pacific are ruled over by half-a-dozen nations and governed by a score of different administrations. Each year their economic and political importance is increasing. Particularly is this so for Australia, for this potential market is at our very doorstep. Every aspect of island life is covered in this altogether admirable year book—administration, communications, statistical and business figures, missionary work, island history, customs tariffs and tourist attractions. There is also a number of maps

and many illustrations and the book is fully indexed.

In a brief introduction the editor apologises for any shortcomings and stresses the difficulties experienced in gathering the information for this first issue. He promises a more detailed and enlarged book for 1933, and hopes to make the book the standard work of reference in all matters relating to the Pacific. Mr. Robson is to be congratulated on what he has done. There are hundreds who will call down blessings on his head for making available facts and figures hitherto only available after a trying search.

The book is selling remarkably well in all parts of Australia and New Zealand, as well as in the South Seas, and a very large number of orders have been received from reference libraries in Great Britain and America. Copies may be had from booksellers and Islands stores; or by sending 8/6 direct to Pacific Publications Ltd., Union House, 247 George Street, Sydney.

The census, which was taken in the British Solomon Islands some months ago and was the first accurate one ever taken, has revealed that whereas the native population was supposed to be around 150,000, it was actually only 90,719.

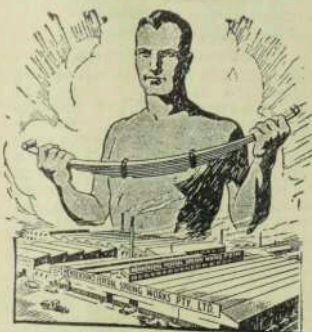
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LIQUOR IN TAHITI

Law Under Review

From Our Own Correspondent

PAPEETE, January 2.

AT the last meeting of the "Syndicate d'Initiative," held in the Museum building on December 15, a lively discussion took place concerning the liquor laws at present in force in the Colony.

The majority of those present were of the opinion that the application of same to the conditions of Tahiti would seriously injure the tourist business and impose undue restrictions upon the genuine hotelkeepers of Papeete for the benefit of licensees located outside the town limits, who were not under such strict supervision by the authorities.

The following resolution was finally put to the meeting and carried almost unanimously: "That the regulations concerning hotels, bars and the admission of non-Asiatic immigrants into the Colony should be the same as those operating in France."

T.I. ELECTRIC LIGHT

From Our Own Correspondent

THURSDAY IS., February 1.

SO far, the Council has spent about £6,000 in the installation of the electric light, a little more than was expected, but an extension of the original plan necessitated an increase.

In spite of the fact that tenders were called (without result) from Australian firms only, the Federal Government imposed a duty of £400 on the English plant finally selected. This extra expense was strongly resented, as it was felt that small communities should receive consideration in their efforts to progress, but no redress could be obtained.

Profit and loss accounts have not yet been prepared, but it is confidently believed that the revenue will exceed the working expenses, and the service given so far has proved most satisfactory.

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NEW GUINEA AND PAPUAN GOLD
SHAREMARKET

The following gives details of shares of New Guinea and Papuan goldmining companies, listed on the Sydney Stock Exchange, with latest available market price:

Company.	Authorised Capital.	Shares Issued.		Market Price, February 15.	
		Number.	Amount.	Buyer.	Seller.
	£		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Akmana New Guinea, N.L. pd.	30,000	140,000	0 1 0	0 1 0	—
Akmana New Guinea, N.L. ctg.		360,000	0 1 0	0 0 7	—
Bismarck Range, N.L. pd.	20,000	100,000	0 2 6	0 2 6	0 1 7 0 1 9
Guinea Gold, N.L. pd.	50,000	50,000	1 0 0	1 0 0	3 6 0
Mount Kaindi, N.L. pd.		90,000	0 4 0	0 4 0	—
Mount Kaindi, N.L. ctg.	50,000	160,000	0 4 0	0 1 3	—
Mount Lawson Blocks, N.L. pd.		80,000	0 4 0	0 4 0	—
Mount Lawson Blocks, N.L. ctg.	48,000	140,000	0 4 0	0 1 0	—
Mount Lawson Extended, N.L. pd.		80,000	0 4 0	0 4 0	—
Mount Lawson Extended, N.L. ctg.	48,000	140,000	0 4 0	0 1 0	—
Mount Sisa, N.L. pd.		120,000	0 4 0	0 4 0	0 0 6
Mount Sisa, N.L. ctg.	70,000	190,000	0 4 0	0 1 10½	—
N. Guinea Developments, N.L. pd.	40,000	643,800	0 1 0	0 1 0	0 0 1 0 0 1
N. Guinea Gold Deposits, N.L. pd.		20,000	0 2 6	0 2 6	—
N. Guinea Gold Deposits, N.L. ctg.	20,000	100,000	0 2 6	0 1 9	—
N. Guinea Gold & Osmiridium, N.L. pd.	10,000	80,000	0 2 6	0 2 6	0 0 6
New Guinea Goldfields Ltd. pd.	5,250,000	4,074,182	1 0 0	1 0 0	0 5 9 0 5 10
N. Guinea Options, Ltd., N.L., pd.		50,000	0 2 0	0 2 0	—
N. Guinea Options Ltd., N.L., ctg.	50,000	272,200	0 2 0	0 0 9	—
North East N. Guinea N.L. pd.		90,000	0 4 0	0 4 0	—
North East N. Guinea, N.L. ctg.	50,000	140,000	0 4 0	0 1 0	—
Oriomo Explorations Ltd. pd.	24,000	48,000	0 5 0	0 5 0	0 1 0
Placer Development Ltd. pd.	\$500,000	80,000	\$5.00	\$5.00	6 17 6 7 2 6
Sloane's New Guinea, N.L. pd.		25,000	0 2 0	0 2 0	—
Sloane's New Guinea, N.L. ctg.	25,000	200,000	0 2 0	0 0 8	—

MISIMA GOLD

New Co. Takes Over Mt.
Sisa Wreck

MISIMA Options Ltd., a Sydney company, which has secured a working option over the leases of Mt. Sisa Goldfields Papua N.L. on Misima Island, in Eastern Papua, is now making preparations to develop the area.

Mr. E. Saker, mining engineer, who has been technical adviser to the new company, together with the mine manager, are leaving by the Macdhui on February 25, and are taking with them a small milling plant, capable of treating 20 tons per day. It is apparently intended to operate this on a number of small lode formations, from which it is estimated 40/- per ton can

be recovered (giving a return of £200 per week), but which lodes have shown a much higher average in past tests.

The company, while seeking to obtain necessary revenue from these small scattered deposits, is directing its particular attention to what is known as the massive lode, which has been proved to a width of 64 feet by a length of 200 feet, and a height of 46 feet. This shows an average assay value of 27/- per ton, and there are apparently nearly 35,000 tons in sight. This lode is believed to be a continuation of a lode on which the well-established New Misima Ltd. mine has been working, and it is believed has given rich returns.

The company has also secured an interest in two areas containing 50 acres, situated between Inhabit Creek and Amouna. There are two big lode formations there, which may link up with the big Amouna and Sisa lodes.

The directors of the new company were General Bertie Lloyd, Major C. W. Marr, and Messrs. S. Mordin, F. C. Emanuel, H. D. Vautin and B. Bannan. Major Marr resigned his directorship as soon as he became the new Federal Minister in Charge of Islands affairs.

Misima Options Ltd. was formed with a nominal capital of £10,000 to take over the wreck of the Mt. Sisa Company, which was originally handled by Messrs. Cooper and Oertel. The capital is divided into 200,000 shares of 1/- each and, of these, it is proposed to allot 50,000 to Mr. N. B. Higgins (who appears to be the vendor of the Mt. Sisa property), and 20,000 shares to Mr. W. H. Gordon (for the mining areas near Inhabit Creek). One hundred thousand shares are being offered for public subscription and 30,000 are being held in reserve.

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February 22, 1932.

THE PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY

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Cook Is. Fruit Trade

"Kanna" to Replace "Waipahi"

RAROTONGA, Jan. 25.

FRUIT prices for the January shipment were disappointing after the good returns received for the December picking, which went forward to New Zealand on December 6 and reached there in time for the Christmas trade.

Prices for the January shipment of bananas ranged from 10/- to 14/- per case.

The first shipment of oranges is not yet in sight, although a ripe orange or two have been picked off trees growing in an elevated position, sheltered and exposed to a maximum of sunshine.

Packing-sheds have been painted, and the equipment is now being overhauled in readiness for the orange season. Several packing-sheds are being further improved by the laying of concrete floors.

Shipments of fruit for the New Zealand market go forward by the mail boats once monthly. The inter-monthly boat, which takes up her running about April or May, lands our fruit at Auckland. Previously the Union Company's steamer Waipahi was put on the running for our fruit season, but latest advices state that she is to replace the Tofua, which is to be withdrawn from the Fiji-Samoa-Tonga service.

We anticipate that the s.s. Kanna will replace the Waipahi on the Cook Islands-Auckland run.

TARIFF PROTECTION SOUGHT FROM N.Z.

The free entry into New Zealand of oranges from sources in the Pacific, outside New Zealand-controlled territory, appears to be a little disheartening to the native growers here.

The poor prices now ruling for all products exportable from these islands show no signs of improving. There is no stimulus urging the native to work his plantations up to the highest pitch of production.

The questions of protection on the New Zealand market for its own territories and marketing are always to the front for discussion amongst our growers.

It is believed that the local administration is disturbed at the effect upon the Cook Group of fruit going into New Zealand from sources in the Pacific, which, but for the tariff barrier surrounding Australia, would have an outlet in the Commonwealth.

The Resident Commissioner, Judge Ayson, who is at present in New Zealand, will no doubt place the position fully before the New Zealand Government.

Unpleasant Weather Conditions at Rarotonga

From Our Own Correspondent

RAROTONGA, Jan. 20.

VERY harsh things have been said about the weather here, particularly during December and the early part of January. Heavy showers have fallen almost daily.

The persistent showers have deepened the green in the trees and vegetation over the whole island. Many flamboyant trees about Avarua which but a short while ago looked as though they would never again bear leaves, much less flowers, have blossomed with almost miraculous suddenness.

On January 13 the weather took up and we realised once more that we were living under the tropical sun. Despite the cooling effect of trees and vegetation, the temperature rose to 88deg. F. in the shade, and has since hovered at about this point.

Our highest temperature for the island is 91 degrees. This perhaps is not to be compared with the heat registered in parts of Northern Australia—124 degrees—but the hurricane season here is nevertheless trying for women and children accustomed to New Zealand conditions.

The three o'clock closing of shops and offices, which extends from January 1 to March 31, has come as a welcome relief.

PALATIAL YACHT VISITS TAHITI

From Our Own Correspondent

PAPEETE, January 15.

THE yacht Iolanda, owned by Mrs. E. B. Taylor, of New York City, arrived in Papeete on December 22, via Panama and the Galapagos Islands.

It is said that this palatial three-decker was originally built for a royal personage in Italy, and was bought and reconditioned in Southampton to suit the ideas of her present owner; she now carries an all-British crew. The guests aboard, who included Mr. Taylor, Jr., and Miss Tiffany, numbered in all about 16 persons, and were an unusually quiet party.

While here, the Iolanda lifted 1,600 drums of fuel oil left for her last month by a Swedish freighter and, after a few days in port, cleared for Borabora, in the Leeward Group of the Society Islands, where a programme of stone fishing, firewalking and other events had been arranged for the party. Thence the Iolanda will proceed to Brisbane and through the East Indies to the Mediterranean where, at Casablanca, Mrs. Taylor, has a residence.

T.I. Has Wet January

From Our Own Correspondent

THURSDAY IS., February 1.

STRONG winds and heavy rain marked the greater part of January, and we seem to have renewed acquaintance with the old-time rainy season.

The weather has been cooler than usual at this time of the year and Thursday Island's hot season, though a prolonged and trying one, never brings the high temperature and discomforts of the heat waves that visit the rest of the Continent.

Fancy Dress Ball at Noumea

From Our Own Correspondent.

NOUMEA, January 15.

THE "Terpsichore" recently gave its annual dance at the Town Hall, Noumea, in order to celebrate the end of 1931 and to usher in 1932.

The large hall was crowded and the original costumes of the dancers, under the coloured electric lights, made a fine showing. The Governor was present at the ball with his daughters. The Mayor, Monsieur Vernier, also took part in the festivities.

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New Hebrides Invention

Electro-Plating of Wood and Glass

THE discovery of a new electro-plating process, which it is claimed by the inventor will be epoch-marking, has been made by Mons. W. Henry Caporn, of Suranda, Santo, New Hebrides.

It is known as the Caporn Electro Chemical Process and, it is stated, it enables both conductors and non-conductors of electricity to be covered with a large variety of metals. The most successful results, however, are obtained with copper on which is superimposed a further coating of nickel, or chromium or cobalt. The inventor sends us the following details:

When the process is employed it is possible

sible to coat wood fabric and glass with a surface of non-corrosive metal, whilst a similar prospective coat can be applied to any metal, thus wood can be coated and rendered impervious to the action of steam heat, chemical fumes, water or acids. There is practically no limit to the thinness of the material, which can be so treated, and it is even possible for cardboard, or laminations of plywood to be given a protective coating.

The application of metallised timber, as wood treated by this process is called, are immense, for not only is the material rendered corrosion proof, but its mechanical strength is increased to an enormous extent. In connection with aeronautical building work, metallised wood can be of the greatest use. Thus, it is possible to make seaplane floats of extremely cheap material and metallise them as a whole, when they become impervious to moisture and amazingly strong. Absorption of moisture into the timber is rendered impossible and hence water-logging is obviated.

COOK ISLANDS NOTES

From Our Own Correspondent

RAROTONGA, January 5.

THE schooner Tagua has gone north to Penrhyn to be up in the lagoon until after the hurricane season. The Tiare Taporo followed on December 31, calling at Palmerston Island on the way. The two schooners are expected to return to Rarotonga early in April.

On New Year's Day, a privately-owned yacht, Iolanda (1,600 tons) anchored off Avaraa for a few hours. She left the same day for Pago Pago, via Palmerston.

SHOOTING CASE BEFORE COURT

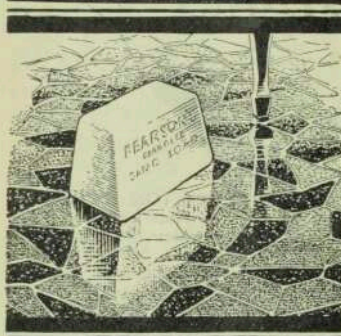
The Watson-McBirney shooting case came before His Honour, Judge Ayson, during the month. On the first and major charge (attempted murder) the jury found Watson "Not guilty," but "Guilty" on the alternative charge of causing actual bodily harm to Mc-Birney. A sentence of one year's imprisonment was passed on Watson by the Judge. It is likely that the term of imprisonment will be served in New Zealand.

The outcome of the trial was followed by each party taking civil proceedings against the other. The matter was finally settled in court, between the persons involved in the trouble.

SHARKS PLENTIFUL IN OUTER GROUP.

Mr. Linton, of the Department of Lands and Survey (New Zealand), and his wife, returned from Penrhyn and Manihiki, by the Tiare Taporo, on December 6. Mr. Linton mentions that the lagoons at both Penrhyn and Manihiki are swarming with sharks, of which he shot somewhere about two hundred.

Mail advices report nothing of special interest from the outer groups, except the serious illness of Mr. Shepherd, branch manager of Cook Islands Trading Co.'s store at Mangala. Later news is to the effect that Mr. Shepherd is recovering satisfactorily.



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with Pearson's Carbolic Sand Soap. It brings out the full freshness of the colouring . . . removes every scrap of dirt. And the linos afterwards polish better and more easily than ever.

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J. H. MacGREGOR DOWSETT

For . . .

RELIABLE CARS, SERVICE and DRIVERS

Gramophones and Latest Records ★ Musical Instruments and Sundries

Cameras and Photographic Goods

(Developing, Printing, Enlarging and Framing)

Recruiter, Mining and General Agent BUILDER AND CONTRACTOR

Agent for

The Australian Provincial Assurance Assoc. Ltd.

Sub-Agent for

The Central Assurance Co. Ltd.

Outstation Orders Promptly Executed

Sample Rooms: Malaguna Road, Rabaul

'Phone: 149

February 22, 1932.

THE PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY

45

Exchange Quotations

The following exchange quotations, gathered in Sydney, show the rates existing in Sydney on February 12:

FIJI—THROUGH BANK OF N.S.W.

Australia on Fiji on the basis of £100
Fiji—buying £112/7/6, selling £113/2/6.
Fiji on London, basis of £100 London:

	Buying	Selling
Telegraphic transfer	£110 0 0	£111 2 6
On demand	109 7 6	110 17 6
30 days	108 15 0	110 12 6
60 days	108 3 9	110 7 6

Fiji, on New Zealand, basis of £100, New Zealand—buying £99, selling £101.

WESTERN SAMOA—THROUGH BANK OF N.Z.

Exchange Australia, on Western Samoa, basis £100 Samoa—selling £113/2/6, buying par. Samoa on Australia—selling par, buying £113/2/6.

Exchange, Samoa on London, basis £100 in London:

	Buying	Selling
Telegraphic transfer	£109 15 0	£111 7 6
On demand	109 2 6	111 2 6
30 days	108 13 9	110 17 6
60 days	108 6 3	110 12 6
90 days	107 18 9	110 7 6
120 days	107 11 3	110 2 6

NEW GUINEA AND PAPUA — THROUGH COMMONWEALTH BANK.

From Australia, on Rabaul and Salamoa, £1 per cent.
From Rabaul on London, same as Australia on London—25½ per cent.

THROUGH BANK OF N.S.W.

Australia, on Papua and New Guinea, £1 per cent. premium each way, equivalent to commission of £1 per cent.

Papua and New Guinea, on London: Same as Australia on London, and vice versa.

NEW CALEDONIA—THROUGH FRENCH BANK

Drafts, Sydney-Noumea and Noumea-Sydney, are on the basis of current rate of exchange on Paris, less 1 per cent. either way. Business is handled mostly by the Comptoir National, in Sydney, and the Bank of Indochine, Noumea.

On February 12 when the Australian £ was nominally worth 71 francs, £100 Australian would purchase a credit in Noumea of 6,700 francs.

The rates between Sydney and Noumea are not made direct, but depend mostly on the Paris-London telegraphic rate, which fluctuates constantly. It is usually much cheaper to transfer a large sum than a small sum between Sydney and Noumea, as the large sum can be made the subject of a cable to Paris, and its transfer arranged at a fixed price, while the small sum takes the chance of the market and the banks, of course, guard themselves against loss.

POST OFFICE ORDERS.

The following are the rates for transfer of money between Sydney and Pacific Groups through the General Post Office. All such transfers are limited in amount.

Papua, Mandated Territory of New Guinea, Fiji, New Caledonia—rate 3d. for each £ or fraction, with minimum charge of 6d.; remittances strictly restricted to small amounts for business purposes, at absolute discretion of post office authorities.

Norfolk Island—6d. for £5 or fraction; no restriction; same as Interstate.

Solomon Islands, Gilbert and Ellice Islands, Tonga—No actual restriction, but an implied one: rate, 4d. for each £ or fraction, for first £6; and 3d. for each additional £, with minimum charge of 9d. Post office orders issued at discretion of post office authorities.

New Hebrides and Tahiti.—No money order issued through post office.
Western Samoa and Cook Islands.—Small amounts can be transferred by Australian Post Office through New Zealand Post Office; but issue strictly limited, at discretion of post-office authorities.

PRODUCTS OF THE SOUTH SEAS

Definite Improvement In Copra Market

THE latest London quotation for copra is £16/7/6, c.i.f. A glance over the range of prices, published in another column, shows a steady, gradual rise, from £10/5/- per ton on September 4, to £16/7/6 on February 13.

This is cheering. Copra is a very long way from the 1921-29 average, but (expressed in terms of British currency), it is at least creeping back to a figure which will permit the planter to live.

We must remember, however, that the London price carries an exchange premium, which has been introduced since Britain went off the gold standard at the end of September. When copra jumped from £10/7/6, on September 18, to £12/15/- on October 9, there was "nothing to it"—copra was worth only the same amount in gold. The quotation in October was the same as in September, when expressed in francs or dollars, which remained on the gold standard. But, as the price of British commodities remained the same, as expressed in British currency, the British copra producer was, of course, over £2 per ton better off. He got the definite benefit of the exchange, because the purchasing power of the British £ remained the same.

But, since October 9, copra has kept on increasing in price, from £12/15/- to £16/7/6. That is, it has increased in intrinsic value. Over £3 of the

£16/7/6 is accounted for by the exchange premium; but the remainder of the increase since September (roughly £3 per ton) represents a definite improvement in the market. Most of the latter improvement has come in the last six weeks.

Since it became possible to use other vegetable oils, and whale oil, for many purposes for which coconut oil was once exclusively used, it is very difficult to forecast the copra market. One can only say that a general improvement in world trading must benefit copra—and if prices are going to hold at £16 (London), with world economic conditions still so depressed, it follows that a further improvement in world trading may lift the copra price further towards £20 per ton—which is the only figure which will give real comfort to all concerned in copra production.

Unfortunately, copra is an entirely unregulated product, the supply being subject always to demand. The recent low prices certainly reduced output, which probably gave the price a lift. With equal certainty the new high price will revive production, with a lowering effect on prices.

However, let us count our blessings! £16/7/6, c.i.f., London, is a price that—even with the exchange premium—we had not expected to see for many months yet. It is, from all viewpoints, an excellent and encouraging sign.

The "SUNGEM" Seed Planter and Cultivator

SOWS MAIZE, PEAS, COTTON
AND MANY OTHER SEEDS.

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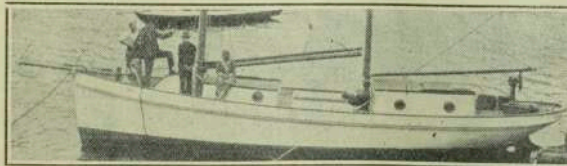
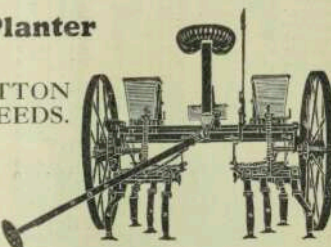
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CANE FERTILISER DRILLS, etc.

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Auxiliary Ketch built for Solomon Islands.

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Can also quote for Secondhand Craft. Send particulars of your requirements
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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.

London. Price on	COPRA.	
	South Sea, Sun-Dried	Plantation, Sun-Dried Rabaul
Per ton c.i.f.	Per ton c.i.f.	Per ton c.i.f.
January 16 ..	£14 7 6	£14 12 6
January 23 ..	£14 12 6	£14 15 0
January 30 ..	£14 12 6	£14 15 0
February 6 ..	£14 5 0	£14 7 6
February 13 ..	£14 5 0	£14 7 6
February 20 ..	£14 10 0	£14 12 6
February 27 ..	£14 12 6	£14 17 6
March 6 ..	£14 17 6	£15 0 0
March 13 ..	£14 17 6	£15 2 6
March 20 ..	£14 17 6	£15 0 0
March 27 ..	£14 10 0	£14 12 6
April 3 ..	£14 10 0	£14 12 6
April 10 ..	£14 7 6	£14 10 0
April 17 ..	£14 5 0	£14 7 6
April 24 ..	£13 15 0	£13 17 6
May 1 ..	£13 10 0	£13 12 6
May 8 ..	£12 15 0	£12 17 6
May 15 ..	£12 10 0	£12 12 6
May 22 ..	£12 0 0	£12 2 6
May 29 ..	£10 17 6	£11 0 0
June 5 ..	£10 5 0	£10 7 6
June 12 ..	£10 5 0	£11 7 6
June 19 ..	£10 15 0	£11 2 6
June 26 ..	£11 15 0	£11 17 6
July 3 ..	£12 15 0	£12 17 6
July 10 ..	£12 2 6	£12 5 0
July 17 ..	£12 0 0	£12 2 6
July 24 ..	£11 15 0	£11 7 6
July 31 ..	£11 5 0	£11 7 6
August 7 ..	£11 2 6	£11 5 0
August 14 ..	£11 7 6	£11 10 0
August 21 ..	£11 2 6	£11 7 6
August 28 ..	£11 2 6	£11 5 0
September 4 ..	£10 15 0	£10 7 6
September 11 ..	£10 12 6	£10 15 0
September 18 ..	£10 7 6	£10 7 6
September 25 ..	£12 15 0	£12 15 0
October 2 ..	£12 0 0	£12 2 6
October 9 ..	£12 15 0	£13 0 0
October 16 ..	£12 10 0	£12 15 0
October 23 ..	£12 17 6	£13 2 6
October 30 ..	£13 10 0	£13 15 0
November 6 ..	£14 0 0	£14 5 0
November 13 ..	£14 5 0	£14 10 0
November 20 ..	£13 10 0	£13 15 0
November 27 ..	£13 10 0	£13 15 0
December 4 ..	£14 5 0	£14 10 0
December 11 ..	£14 5 0	£14 10 0
December 18 ..	£14 5 0	£14 10 0
December 24 ..	£14 5 0	£14 10 0
January 1, 1932 ..	£14 10 0	£14 15 0
January 8 ..	£14 2 6	£14 7 6
January 15 ..	£14 7 6	£14 12 6
January 22 ..	£14 15 0	£15 0 0
January 29 ..	£14 15 0	£15 0 0
February 5 ..	£15 7 6	£15 10 0
February 12 ..	£16 7 6	£16 10 0

London Price on	RUBBER.	
	Para Per lb.	Plantation Smoked. Per lb.
November 6 ..	3½d.	2½d.
November 13 ..	3½d.	2½d.
November 20 ..	3½d.	2½d.
November 27 ..	3½d.	2½d.
December 4 ..	3½d.	3 1-10d.
December 11 ..	4½d.	3½d.
December 18 ..	4½d.	3½d.
December 24 ..	4½d.	3½d.
January 1, 1932 ..	4½d.	3½d.
January 8 ..	4½d.	3½d.
January 15 ..	4½d.	3½d.
January 22 ..	4½d.	3d.
January 29 ..	4½d.	2½d.
February 5 ..	3½d.	2½d.
February 12 ..	3½d.	2½d.

London Price on	COTTON.	
	Good Middling. Per lb.	December Shipment
November 6 ..	4.67d.	December Shipment
November 20 ..	4.55d.	January Shipment
December 4 ..	4.86d.	January Shipment
December 11 ..	4.91d.	January Shipment
December 18 ..	4.85d.	January Shipment
December 24 ..	4.88d.	January Shipment
January 1, 1932 ..	5.01d.	February Shipment
January 8 ..	4.94d.	February Shipment
January 15 ..	5.10d.	February Shipment
January 22 ..	5.20d.	February Shipment
January 29 ..	5.16d.	March Shipment
February 5 ..	5.23d.	March Shipment
February 12 ..	5.30d.	March Shipment

OTHER ISLANDS PRODUCE.

Nominal prices for other Islands produce quoted in Sydney on February 12, from two different sources, were:

- (a) Trochus shell, No. 1 grade £50
Trochus shell, No. 2 grade .. £45
Trochus shell, No. 3 grade .. £40
Beche-de-mer, high grade £200
Beche-de-mer, lower grade
from £30
Cocoa Beans £32
Ivory nuts, nominal, no market £10
- (b) Trochus shell, No. 1 grade £56/10/-
Trochus shell, No. 2 grade .. £52
Trochus shell, No. 3 grade £44/10/-
Beche-de-mer, high grade £200
Beche-de-mer, lower grade
from £30
Cocoa beans £25 to £34
Ivory nuts, nominal £11/10/-

Trochus shell was quoted from a third source as follows:

- No. 1 grade £56
No. 2 grade £52
No. 3 grade £44

All the quotes are on the Australian £ and f.o.b. Sydney.

MARKET ONLY NOMINAL.

SYDNEY, Feb. 17.

On account of the Sino-Japanese trouble, the market for trochus shell, ivory nuts and beche-de-mer is only nominal.

Cook Islands Notes

From Our Own Correspondent

RAROTONGA, January 2.
The Resident Commissioner, Judge Ayson, leaves for New Zealand by the R.M.S. Makura, on January 4. Dr. Ellison will act as Judge Ayson's deputy during the Commissioner's absence.

By the same vessel, Mr. C. Mooney, local manager of the Union Steamship Company, leaves on two months' leave of absence, accompanied by his wife.

Mr. J. D. S. Fahey, the new assistant at the Rarotonga wireless station, has arrived and taken up duty.

Mrs. Dr. Ellison returned to Rarotonga by the R.M.S. Monowai, on January 2.

Cook Is. Opens New Club Pavilion

From Our Own Correspondent.

RAROTONGA, Jan. 20.
THE pavilion erected by the Bowling Club was opened on December 31 by the club's patron, Judge Ayson. Outlining the history of the combined Lawn Tennis and Bowling Club, His Honour mentioned several names closely linked with the past progress of sport on the island, including the late Mr. Percy Brown, Mr. S. Savage and Mr. H. Shearman.

The tennis section was founded over a quarter of a century ago the bowling section in 1929. Tribute was paid by the speaker to those who had advanced the sports and social side of the island by establishing a centre for tennis and bowls.

Reference was made also to the ready means which the club provided of bringing the residents into contact with tourists and other visitors to Cook Islands.

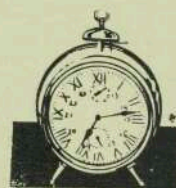
His Honour mentioned the possibility of establishing later some kind of island clubhouse as a general centre for dances, card evenings, etc. Finally the Judge called upon Mrs. Mitchell, wife of the president (formerly resident at Tonga), to cut the ribbon.

It was noticed that no provision had been made in the pavilion for lockers for members. The question of accommodation for private supplies of orange juice apparently has been overlooked. Before leaving for New Zealand on holiday Judge Ayson presented the bowling section with a set of handsome gold buttons for rinks competition.

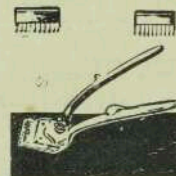
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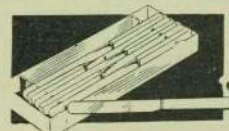
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Sheffield Stainless Knives, square Xylonite handles. Packed in rack boxes of half-dozen. A quality you cannot equal at the price.

Table Dessert
Per ½-dozen 8/3 7/3

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February 22, 1932.

THE PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY

47

Shipping Services in The Pacific

Solomon Islands Service.

Per S.S. Mataram.					
Sydney	Mar.	5	Apl.	13	May 21
Brisbane	Mar.	7	Apl.	15	May 23
Tulagi	Mr.	12-14	Apl.	20-22	M. 28-30
Makambo					
Gavutu					
Su'u	Mar.	15	Apl.	23	May 31
Aola			Apl.	24	
Rere					
Kaukau	Mar.	15		May	31
Rere					
Teneru	Mar.	16	Apl.	24	June 1
Lunga			Apl.	24	
Kookoom	Mar.	16		June	1
Mamara			Apl.	25	
Domma					
Lavoro			Apl.	26	
Yandina					
Banika	Mar.	17	Apl.	27	June 2
Loable					
Ufa			Apl.	27	
Faiam					
Y. Pepsale	Mar.	17	Apl.	27	June 2
Kaylah					
Meringe			Apl.	28-29	
West Bay				June	2
Somata					
Marovo	Mar.	17		June	3
Rendova					
Kenelo	Mar.	18	Apl.	30	
Hathorn S.					
Vila	Mr.	19-20		Jun	4-5
Stanmore					
Gizo	Mar.	21	Apl.	30	June 6
Bagga	Mar.	21		June	6
Faisi	Mar.	22	May	1-2	June 7
Gizo	Mar.	23	May	3	June 8
Tetipari	Mar.	23	May	3	June 8
Russell Group	Mr.	24-25	May	4-5	Jun 9-10
Mamara	Mar.	25		June	10
Tulagi	Mar.	26	May	6	June 11
Brisbane	Mar.	31	May	11	June 16
Sydney	Apl.	2	May	13	June 18

Burns, Philp & Co. Ltd., Agents.

Sydney—N.Z.—Fiji—Samoa—Hawaii

	Ventura	Sierra	Sonoma
Honolulu	Feb. 5	Feb. 26	Mar. 18
Pago Pago	Feb. 12	Mar. 4	Mar. 25
Suva	Feb. 15	Mar. 7	Mar. 28
Auckland	Feb. 19	Mar. 11	Apl. 1
Sydney	Feb. 23	Mar. 15	Apl. 5
Sydney, dep.	Mar. 1	Mar. 22	Apl. 12
Auckland	Mar. 5	Mar. 26	Apl. 16
Suva	Mar. 9	Mar. 30	Apl. 20
Pago Pago	Mar. 10	Mar. 31	Apl. 21
Honolulu	Mar. 17	Apr. 7	Apl. 28

The Oceanic Steamship Co., Matson Line, Agents.

Noumea-New Hebrides Service.

Per S.S. Laperouse					
Sydney, dep.	Mar.	11	Apl.	2	May 16
Noumea	Mar.	16	Apl.	6-9	M. 20-21
Chepenche			Apl.	10	May 22
Vila	Mar.	18	Apl.	11	May 23
Sandwich					
Sarmettes	M.	19-20	Apl.	12	May 24
Norsup					
Santo	Mar.	21	Ap.	13-16	M. 25-26
Banks					
Eni			Apl.	17	May 27
Vila	Mar.	23	Apl.	18	May 28
Chepenche			Apl.	19	May 29
Noumea	Mar.	26	Ap.	20-23	M. 30-J. 1
Sydney, arr.	Mar.	30	Apl.	27	June 4

Messageries Maritimes Co., Agents.

Sydney—Norfolk Island—New Hebrides—Auckland

Per S.S. Morinda.					
Sydney	Feb.	20	Mar.	31	
Lord Howe	Feb.	22	Apl.	2	
Norfolk Is.	Feb.	24	Apl.	4	
Vila	F.	27-29	Apl.	7-8	
Bushmans	Mar.	1	Apl.	9	
Malo					
Tangoa	Mar.	2	Apl.	10	
Segond					
Aoba	Mar.	3	Apl.	11	
Vila	Mar.	4	Apl.	12	
Norfolk Is.	Mar.	7	Apl.	15	
Auckland	Mar.	10	Apl.	18	
Norfolk Is.	M.	13-14	Ap.	21-22	
Lord Howe	Mar.	16	Apl.	24	
Fdney	Mar.	18	Apl.	26	

Burns, Philp & Co. Ltd., Agents

Sydney-N.Z.-Fiji-Hawaii.

	Aorangi	Niagara	Aorangi
Honolulu	Feb. 10	Mar. 9	Apl. 6
Suva	Feb. 19	Mar. 18	Apl. 15
Auckland	Feb. 22-23	M. 21-22	Ap. 18-19
Sydney	Feb. 27	Mar. 26	Apl. 23
Sydney, dep.	Mar. 3	Mar. 31	Apl. 28
Auckland	Mar. 7-8	Apl. 4-5	May 2-3
Suva	Mar. 11	Apl. 8	May 6
Honolulu	Mar. 18	Apl. 15	May 13

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Sydney

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Double Room, Bed and Breakfast, 15/- per day; £3/15/- per week.
Casual Meals, 2/-.
Full Board, £2/15/- per week.
Every comfort and quietness.
Lounge and Dining Rooms. Elevator.
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Special Advantages:

1. Collapsible—saves freight.
2. Water supply is absolutely dust-proof.
3. No cloth to move or taps to shut off when opening door.
4. Bottom of door-cloth always in water.
5. Door and side cloths instantly removable for washing.
6. Safe fitted with Patent Valves and adjustable float, guaranteeing no drying of side or front cloths; no overflow.
7. Uses 50 per cent. less water.
8. Lacquered green outside.
9. ONCE FILLED WITH WATER, SAFE WILL RUN FOR THREE DAYS WITHOUT ATTENTION.

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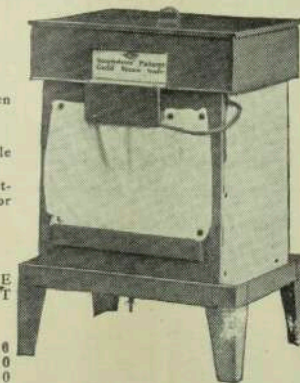
No. 1, 16½ x 15 x 17½ in. high	£4 5 0
No. 2, 20½ x 16 x 17½ in. high	£5 0 0
No. 3, 22 x 17 x 27½ in. high	£6 0 0

No. 1 packed weighs 46lbs. Cubic Measure 3½ft. No. 2 packed weighs 56lbs. Cubic Measure 4½ft. No. 3 packed weighs 90lbs. Cubic Measure 6½ft. C.I.F. delivered part of call. If not obtainable from your local storekeeper write to us direct. Spare parts for this cooling chest always kept on hand. Illustrated Catalogue on request.

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Auckland-Fiji-Samoa-Tonga.

Per T.S.S. Tofua.

Auckland dep.	Feb. 22	Mar. 21	Apl. 18
Suva	Fb. 26-27	M. 25-26	Ap. 22-23
Nukualofa	Mar. 1	Mar. 29	Apl. 26
Haspal	Mar. 2	Mar. 30	Apl. 27
Vavau	Mar. 3	Mar. 31	Apl. 28
Apia	Mar. 4-5	Apl. 1-2	Ap. 29-30
Suva	Mr. 9-10	Apl. 6-7	May 4-5
Auckland, arr.	Mar. 14	Apl. 11	May 9

The Waipahi takes over the service from the Tofua on April 18.

Union S.S. Co. Ltd., Agents.

Sydney—Papua—New Guinea Service

	Montoro	Maedhui	Montoro
Sydney	Feb. 3	Feb. 25	Mar. 16
Brisbane	Feb. 5	Feb. 27	Mar. 18
Townsville	Feb. 8	Mar. 1	Mar. 21
Cairns	Feb. 9	—	Mar. 22
Pt. Moresby	Fb. 11-12	Mar. 3-4	Mar. 24
Yule Is.	Feb. 13	—	—
Samarai	Fb. 14-15	Mar. 5	Mar. 26
Woodlark Is.	—	—	Mar. 27
Rabaul	Fb. 17-18	Mar. 7-8	M. 29-30
Kavieng	Fb. 19-20	—	M. 31-A. 1
Lombrum	Fb. 21-22	—	Apl. 2-3
Lae	—	Mr. 10-11	—
Salamaua	Feb. 23	Mar. 12	Apl. 4
Madang	Feb. 25	—	Apl. 6-7
Salamaua	—	—	—
Lae	—	Mr. 14-15	—
Kavieng	—	Mar. 16	—
Rabaul	—	Mar. 17	—
Soraken	—	Mar. 18	—
Numa	—	Mar. 19	—
Teopasina	—	Mar. 20	—
Arigua	—	Mar. 21	—
Kieta	—	Mar. 22	—
Rabaul	Feb. 27	Mar. 21	Apl. 9
Samarai	Feb. 29	Mar. 23	Apl. 11
Pt. Moresby	Mar. 1	Mar. 24	Apl. 12
Cairns	Mar. 3	—	Apl. 14
Brisbane	Mar. 6	Mar. 28	Apl. 17
Sydney	Mar. 8	Mar. 30	Apl. 19

Calls at Pinschhafen, Alexishafen, Linden-hafen and Pondo optional.

Burns, Philp & Co. Ltd., Agents.

Sydney-Rabaul-Hongkong.

	Nellere	Tanda	Nankin
Hongkong	Jan. 30	Mar. 4	Apl. 2
Manilla	Feb. 2	Mar. 7	Apl. 5
Rabaul	Feb. 11	Mar. 16	Apl. 14
Brisbane	Feb. 16	Mar. 21	Apl. 19
Sydney	Feb. 18	Mar. 23	Apl. 21
Melbourne dep.	Mar. 1	Apl. 2	May 2
Sydney dep.	Mar. 12	Apl. 13	May 14
Brisbane	Mar. 14	Apl. 15	May 16
Rabaul	Mar. 22	Apl. 23	May 24
Manilla	Mar. 30	May 1	June 1
Hongkong	Apl. 2	May 4	June 4

E. & A. Steamship Co. Ltd., Agents.

Saigon-Java-Noumea Line

Per s.s. Le Maire

Saigon	Feb. 16	Apl. 25	July 4
Batavia	Feb. 23-26	May 2-5	Jy. 11-14
Samarang	Feb. 27	May 6	July 15
Pt. Moresby	Mar. 8	May 16	July 25
Samarai	Mar. 10	May 18	July 27
Noumea	Mar. 17-20	May 25-28	Aug. 3-6
Vila	Mar. 22	May 30	Aug. 8
Rabaul	Mar. 27-30	June 4-7	Aug. 13-16
Samarai	Apl. 1	June 10	Aug. 20
Pt. Moresby	Apl. 2	June 11	Aug. 19
Samarang	Apl. 12	June 21	Aug. 30
Batavia	Apl. 13-16	June 22-25	A. 31-S. 3
Saigon	Apl. 21	June 30	Sept. 8

Singapore, Sourabaya, Lae, Salamaua, Epi and Santo will be called at only if sufficient inducement offers.

Royal Packet Navigation Co. Ltd.,

French Eastern Pacific Service.

By ships running between Dunkirk and Noumea, via West Indies and Panama Canal.

From Panama	Recherche	Esperance	Verdun
Papeete	Mar. 3	Apl. 14	May 20
Raiatea	Mar. 4	Apl. 15	May 21
Suva	Mar. 13	Apl. 24	May 30
Vila	Mar. 16	Apl. 27	Jun. 2
Noumea, arr.	Mar. 21	May 2	June 7

To Panama—

Noumea, dep.	Apl. 5	May 17	June 22
Vila	Apl. 12	May 24	June 29
Raiatea (opt.)	Apl. 23	June 4	July 8
Papeete	Apl. 24	June 5	July 9

Messageries Maritimes Co., Agents.

Sydney-N.Z.-Cook Is.-Tahiti.

	Monowai	Makura	Monowai
Papeete	Jan. 30	Feb. 27	Mar. 26
Rarotonga	Feb. 2	Mar. 1	Mar. 29
Wellington	Feb. 8-9	Mar. 7-8	Apl. 4-5
Sydney	Feb. 13	Mar. 12	Apl. 9
Sydney	Feb. 18	Mar. 17	Apl. 14
Wellington	Fb. 22-23	M. 21-22	Ap. 18-19
Rarotonga	Feb. 17	Mar. 26	Apl. 23
Papeete	Feb. 29	Mar. 28	Apl. 25

Union S.S. Co. Ltd., Agents.

New Hebrides Inter-Island Service.

S.S. Malinoa (Burns, Philp (South Sea) Co. Ltd.) connects every 5 weeks at Vila with s.s. Morinda from Sydney, then proceeds on southern trip, calling at the islands of Efate, Erromanga, Tanna, Anietyum, and returns to Vila—trip occupying 7 or 8 days. After 2 to 3 days at Vila, departs on northern trip, calling at the islands of Efate, Mai, Tongoa, Epi, Paama, Ambrym, Malekula, Abba, Malo, Santo, and returns to Vila—trip occupying 25 to 26 days. Vessel extends to Banks Group every second trip, equivalent to about every three months.

Sydney-Fiji Service.

The Karetu will leave Sydney on March 15 for Fiji, and will call at Lautoka, Suva and Levuka.

Union S.S. Co., Agents.

Ocean Island-Nauru Service.

British Phosphate Commission, 16 Spring St., Sydney, sends boats irregularly.

Solomons Inter-Island Service.

S.S. Mitiamo (Burns, Philp (South Sea) Co. Ltd.) maintains a regular service.

Fiji Inter-Island Service.

T.S.S. Makatea (Burns, Philp (South Sea) Co. Ltd.) makes regular fortnightly trips, under Government contract, as follows: Long Trip, 1,050 miles, Suva to Levuka, Tavenui Coast, Buca Bay, Devo, Rabi, Rotuma and back by same route, occupying about 10 days. Short Trip, 560 miles, Suva to Levuka, Ociai Mango, Loma Loma, Tavenui Coast, Savu, Savu, Levuka, Suva, occupying about 9 days.

T.S.S. Malake (Burns, Philp (South Sea) Co. Ltd.) makes frequent trips to Levuka, Labasa and Lautoka, with transshipment cargo from Suva.

A.S. Makoa (Burns, Philp (South Sea) Co. Ltd.) makes bi-monthly trips from Levuka to Funafuti and trades with all islands in the Ellice Group. Round trip, about 1,800 miles.

S.S. Adi Keva (Fiji Shipping Co. Ltd.) makes regular trips from Suva to Levuka and Lautoka, round trip occupying three days.

M.S. Sir John Forrest (Fiji Shipping Co. Ltd.) makes regular trips from Suva to Levuka, Savu, Nabouwalu, Baukalai, Lakutu, Dreketi, Raduri, Labasa, and return by the same route, round trip occupying about 9 days.

M.S. Adi Rewa (Fiji Shipping Co. Ltd.) makes regular trips from Suva to Ba and Lautoka, round voyage occupying four days.

Papuan Inter-Island Services.

S.S. Papuan Chief (Steamships Trading Co. Ltd.) makes regular round trips from Port Moresby to Kapa Kapa, Abau, Baibara, Samarai, and back by same route; then Port Moresby to Histi, Yule Island, Kukipi, Oroko, Kikori, Daru and back via Oroko, Yule Is., and Histi—full trip occupying about one month.

A. K. Matoma (Burns, Philp & Co.) makes regular round trips from Samarai to Puni Puni, Baniara, Cape Nelson, Buna Bay, Mambari, and back by same route, trip occupying about 12 days.

New Guinea Inter-Island Service.

S.S. Maiwara (Burns, Philp & Co.) makes regular round trips from Rabaul to New Ireland and Bougainville ports.

S.S. Mirani (Burns, Philp & Co.) makes regular round trips from Rabaul to New Guinea mainland ports.

S.S. Duris, s.s. Durour, m.v. Durambah, (W. R. Carpenter & Co. Ltd.) make sailings from Rabaul every two or three weeks to various ports in the Territory.

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February 22, 1932.

THE PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY

iii.

PACIFIC ISLANDS ASSOCIATION.

CONSTITUTION.

1. The name of the Association shall be the "Pacific Islands Association."

OBJECTS.

2. The objects of the Association are:

- (a) To further the interests of Pacific Island residents, and enable ex-residents, as far as possible, to preserve their associations with the Islands.
- (b) To provide information relative to the Islands.
- (c) To help bring before the travelling public the tourist facilities between the Islands, Australia and elsewhere.
- (d) To promote periodical conventions, for the interchange of opinions and experiences on matters affecting administrative, commercial, industrial and social conditions in the Pacific Islands.
- (e) To advance, as far as possible, the interests of all countries and territories in the Pacific and of the peoples residing therein.
- (f) To encourage the growth of trade and commerce between the Islands of the Pacific and with Australia, New Zealand and elsewhere.
- (g) To form and maintain club rooms, literary and reading rooms and other facilities for the use and benefit of members of the Association.
- (h) To acquire any rights or privileges which the Association may regard as necessary or convenient for the purposes of the Association or for promoting the interests of its members.
- (i) To purchase, take on lease or exchange, hire or otherwise acquire any real or personal property which may be required for the purposes of the Association.
- (j) To do all such other things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects.

QUALIFICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

3. Membership of the Association may be sought by any person who is interested in the Pacific Islands. Persons eligible for membership and desiring to join the Association shall lodge an application with the Secretary on the prescribed form, accompanied by the amount of the subscription. The committee shall have power to accept or reject any application for membership without assigning any reason therefor.

SUBSCRIPTION.

4. The Annual Subscription shall be 10/8 in the case of members domiciled in the Pacific Islands, and £1/1/- in the case of members resident elsewhere, or such other sums as may be fixed from time to time by the Association at a General Meeting. Provided that any member joining before 31st December, 1931, shall pay a full annual subscription forthwith, and be exempt from payment of any further subscription for 1932.

The subscription, which shall be payable in advance, entitles members to the full privileges and facilities of the Association. Subscriptions shall become due and payable on the first day of January in each year. Members admitted during the second half of a calendar year will pay only one-half of the subscription for that year.

Persons desirous of joining this organisation may now do so by making formal application to The Secretary, Pacific Islands Association, 7 Macquarie Place, Sydney. Applications for Membership should be accompanied by the first year's subscription, and by the following particulars: Full Name; Address; Occupation; In what Islands interested; How interested.

Any member who is at least three months in arrears in payment of any moneys due to the Association may be removed from membership by the committee without notice.

EXPULSION OF MEMBERS.

5. It shall be the duty of the committee if at any time it shall be of the opinion that the interests of the Association so require, to request by letter any member to give a written explanation of his conduct in connection with any matter, and if he fail to make such explanation within a stipulated time, or if the explanation given is not deemed by the committee to be satisfactory, to expel such member.

NO CLAIM ON ASSETS.

6. Any person, upon ceasing to be a member of the Association, shall not have any claim upon the Association, its property or funds.

ELECTION OF COUNCIL.

7. The entire management of the Association and the control of its property and funds (including the expenditure thereof) except as otherwise provided in these rules, shall be vested in a council consisting of a president, vice-presidents and not more than twenty other members. The whole of the council shall retire at each annual meeting but shall be eligible for re-election. The council shall meet as and when it deems desirable, but at least once a year.

The council shall have power to appoint a member to fill any casual vacancy thereon until the next annual general meeting.

Six members shall form a quorum.

8. The first council shall be elected at the first general meeting of proposed members convened to adopt the constitution, with power to add to its numbers.

MANAGEMENT.

9. The council shall have power to delegate any or all of its duties to an executive committee elected by the Council from its members and to consist of not more than ten members who shall elect a chairman and vice-chairman from among themselves. Any vacancy on the executive committee will be filled by the committee. Three members of the executive committee shall form a quorum.

ALTERATION OF CONSTITUTION.

10. This constitution may be added to, amended or repealed by resolution of an annual or special general meeting, provided that no such resolution shall be deemed to have been passed unless it be carried by a majority of at least three-fifths of the members voting thereat in person or by proxy.

AUDITOR.

11. An auditor shall be appointed at each annual general meeting. The first auditor shall be appointed by the Committee.

GENERAL MEETINGS.

12. The annual general meeting of the association shall be held on a date and at a time to be fixed by the council for the following purposes:

- (a) To receive from the council an audited revenue account and balance sheet for the preceding financial year.
- (b) To appoint a council and auditor for the ensuing year.

(c) To consider any resolution relating to alteration of the rules of which due notice has been given, as provided for in rule 13.

(d) To consider any other business which any member may desire to bring forward.

13. A member wishing to bring before any general meeting any resolution to amend or make additions to the constitution shall give notice thereof in writing to the council; such notice to be in the hands of the secretary not later than twenty-one days preceding such meeting.

14. At least fourteen days' notice of all general meetings and of the business to be transacted thereat shall be sent to every member, and such notice may be either delivered or posted to him.

15. At all general meetings of the association the president, or, in his absence, a vice-president, or in the absence of the vice-presidents, a member of the council elected by the meeting, shall take the chair. Every financial member present in person or by proxy shall be entitled to one vote on every motion. In case of an equality of votes, the chairman shall have a second or casting vote.

16. The Council may at any time and for any purpose call a special general meeting and they shall do so within twenty-one days of the receipt of a requisition in writing signed by any twenty financial members stating the purpose for which the meeting is required.

QUORUM.

17. The quorum at all general meetings of members shall be ten financial members present in person or by proxy.

18. At any meeting should no quorum be present, such meeting shall stand adjourned for seven days at the same place and time and no notice of such adjournment need be sent out to members. At any such adjourned meeting the business (but no new business) shall be transacted and for such adjourned meeting a quorum consists of two personally present.

PROXIES.

19. Proxies must be lodged with the Secretary at least forty-eight hours before the meeting concerned.

BANK ACCOUNT.

20. All cheques shall be drawn on behalf of the association by two members of the committee and countersigned by the secretary. Cheques may be endorsed on behalf of the association by one of the committee, or other person authorised by the committee.

SECRETARY AND OTHER OFFICERS.

21. The executive committee shall have the power to appoint and remove a secretary and other officers from time to time and to fix their remuneration.

WINDING-UP.

22. In the event of a resolution winding-up the affairs of the Association being carried by a three-fifths majority of those members present either in person or by proxy, and entitled to vote at a special meeting, the property, books and records then available shall be disposed of in such manner as such meeting shall decide.

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