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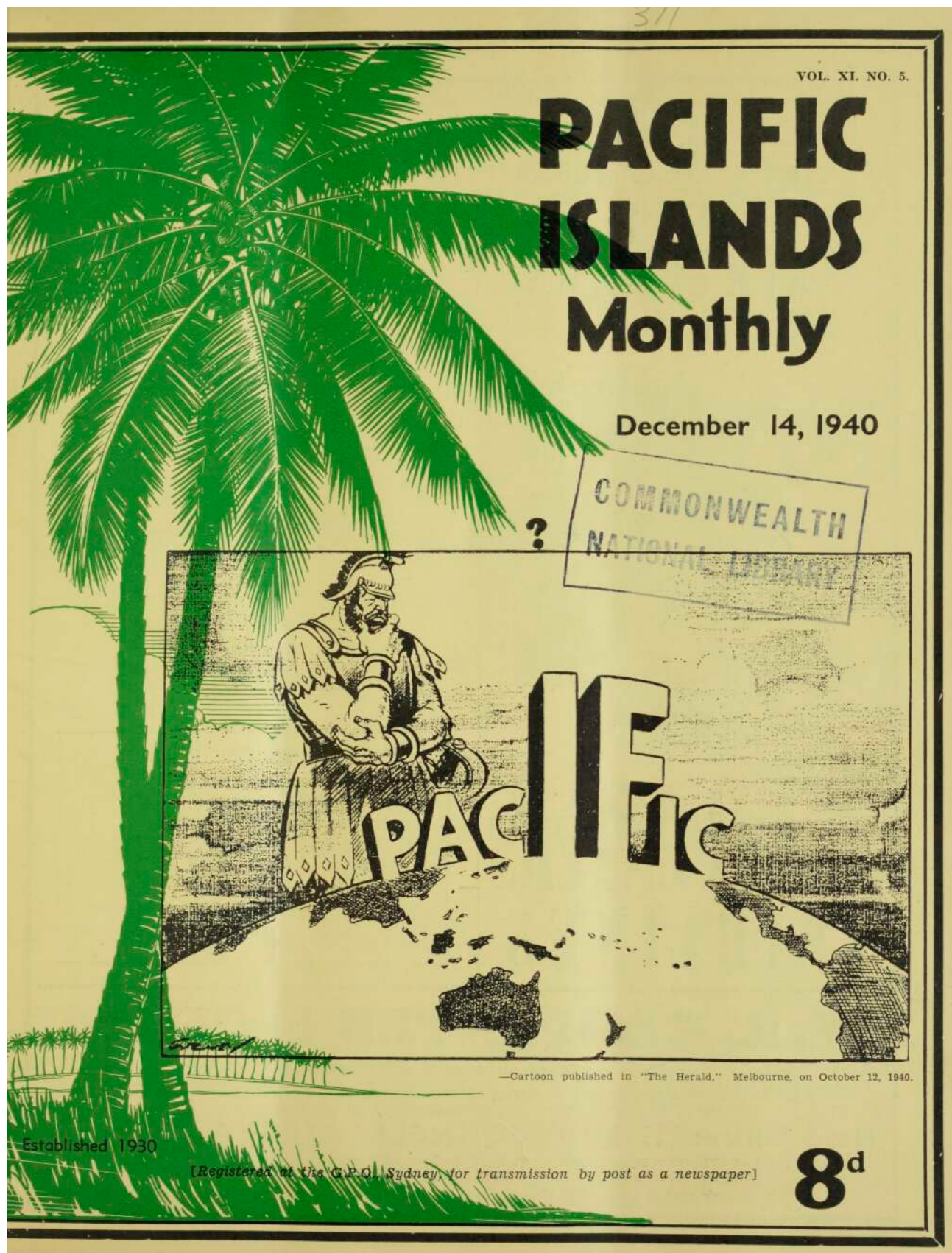
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PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY—DECEMBER, 1940

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PACIFIC NEWS-REVIEW

Nov. 12: The Italian forces in the mountains of southern Albania, having been severely defeated by the Greeks, are now struggling back in retreat, through the various mountain valleys, and are being harassed on the land by the Greek infantry and by British and Greek airmen.

Nov. 12: "I do not believe that the era of Democracy can or will be crushed out in our lifetime", declared President Roosevelt, in one of the first speeches he has made since his re-election. Signs all over USA indicate a growing organised effort to give assistance to Britain.

Nov. 12: The Russian Premier, Molotov, is now in Berlin having consultations with Hitler. There is much speculation as to the purpose and outcome of these talks.

Nov. 13: A dozen mines have been swept up in Bass Strait, Southern Australia, where they were released by an enemy raider, and which caused the sinkings of two ships.

Nov. 13: The British Fleet air arm, on Monday night, made a smashing attack on Taranto, one of Italy's main naval bases, and, with aerial torpedoes, sank or crippled three battleships, two cruisers and two auxiliary ships.

This is the most striking naval success in the war to date. It is pointed out, by experts, that it completely alters the balance of naval power in the Mediterranean—half the heavy units of the Italian Fleet are now out of action. During the succeeding days, British aeroplanes took photographs of Taranto, which confirm the damage done in the action. It is also seen that Italy has hurriedly moved practically the whole of her strong fleet, which she had assembled at Taranto, to more distant bases.

Nov. 13: The German claim that a pocket-battleship had destroyed a British convoy of 36 ships in the Northern Atlantic is now proved wrong. A pocket-battleship attacked the convoy, and was herself immediately and most heroically attacked by the British armed merchant cruiser "Jervis Bay" which, although out-gunned and out-ranged, kept the enemy battleship busy until she was herself blown to pieces. By that time the convoy had scattered widely, and the German battleship was able only to find a few individual ships. Through the self-sacrifice of the "Jervis Bay"—described as one of the finest exploits in the glorious history of the British navy—no less than 31 out of 36 ships in the convoy escaped safely into port.

Nov. 13: There are heavy concentrations of Japanese naval and military forces in and about Hainan Island. It is believed that Japan has planned a major southwards operation, probably against Indo-China and possibly against the Dutch East Indies; but is hesitating until she knows: (1) the probable reaction of America, and (2) the result of the talks in Berlin between Hitler and Molotov.

Nov. 14: Night after night, during this moonlight period, German air flotillas are raiding districts in Britain, and heavy and growing forces of RAF bombers are attacking important industrial centres throughout Germany.

Nov. 15: The German air attack against Britain has taken a new form, called "one-town-blitz". There is an enormous concentration of German machines against one particular town, which is virtually wiped out. This happened last night to Coventry, a well-known town in the Midlands. Practically the whole of the centre of the city was destroyed. Deaths 200; injured 800.

Nov. 15: An important statement by Tass, Soviet official newsagency, is that Japan and the Soviet have not agreed on respective spheres of influence in the Far East, and that the Soviet has not promised to cease to give aid to the Chinese National Government. This is represented as a great disappointment to Japan, who has her forces all ready for a southwards thrust, which she dare not make, unless she is reasonably sure of the attitude of Russia.

Nov. 17: Smashing attacks on Hamburg by the RAF are regarded as vengeance for the German destruction of Coventry.

The captain of the "Jervis Bay", who went down with his ship, was awarded posthumously the Victoria Cross, "for valour in challenging hopeless odds and giving his life to save many ships".

Nov. 18: The Greeks are fighting magnificently along the whole front and are steadily driving the Italians back everywhere. Important developments are expected soon.

Nov. 18: The Russian Premier has returned to Moscow and there still is no indication of results of his talk with Hitler. The belief is growing, however, that failure has attended Hitler's frantic efforts—seen in his consultation with Central European powers, with France, Spain and finally with Russia—to organise his "new order in Europe". It would appear that Russia is as aloof and incalculable as ever. This is borne out by the attitude of Turkey, which continues to make military preparations, and professes herself satisfied with the international situation and her treaty with Britain.

Nov. 18: In a blistering speech, Mussolini declared that the Italian defeat on the south Albanian front by the Greeks would be terribly avenged. Although the Italo-Greek war commenced with the sudden unprovoked invasion of Greece by the Italians, he blamed Greece, "on the instigation of Britain", for the commencement of the war.

Nov. 18: The Japanese Imperial Conference has decided to give the Chinese National Government (Chiang Kai Shek) "a last chance" to consider its attitude towards Japan and make a satisfactory peace.

Nov. 19: The Greek army has captured Koritza, an important Italian base in southern Albania, with many prisoners and much war material.

Nov. 19: It is reported that King Boris of Bulgaria made a secret visit to Berlin to interview Hitler. This has given rise to the belief that Bulgaria may open a way for German armies to come to the assistance of the Italians, by attacking the Greeks through Thrace.

Nov. 20: Germans carried out their second "one-town-blitz" last night, when they made a concentrated air attack upon Birmingham and did great damage.

Nov. 21: There now are indications that Hitler has failed seriously in his plan to create in Europe a "new order" with which he could oppose Britain, and offer a peace conference.

Up to the present, apart from Germany, Italy and Japan, the only nations which have formally joined up with the Axis-bloc are Roumania (which is virtually under Hitler's thumb) and Hungary (which has been obeying his orders for some time). France, under Petain, has so far resisted his arguments (although Laval is in favour) for reasons that are not clear. Spain and Bulgaria, nominally very friendly to the Axis, have not joined up. Russia remains still aloof.

Piquancy is given to this virtual stale-

NOTES AND COMMENT ON THE PROGRESS OF THE WAR FROM NOV. 12 TO DEC. 11

mate in Europe by a growing belief that there is friction between Hitler and Mussolini. Germany shows no sign of going to Italy's assistance against Greece. It is stated confidently that Mussolini embarked on the attack on Greece in defiance of Hitler's wishes.

It is clear that Italy's attack upon Greece, making Greece a belligerent, allowed Britain immediately to take possession of Crete as an important naval and air base; and this, together with the destruction of half of the heavy units of the Italian navy, has altered the strategic situation in the Mediterranean, to Italy's disadvantage. It can be understood that this development has greatly angered Germany.

Nov. 21: United States Army has released to Britain 26, four-engined Consolidated Bombers, each of which has a range of 3,000 miles. It is expected that America will also give Britain 20 of the latest type of "Flying Fortresses".

Nov. 22: Seeking revenge for Taranto, Italian bombers for ten nights in succession have attacked units of the British fleet in Alexandria, but they have failed to do any damage to warships or fortifications.

Nov. 22: Koritza, the main Italian advance base in Albania, actually was occupied by the Greeks to-day after bitter fighting around the mountainous outskirts of the town. Greeks appear also to have broken the Italian lines in Epirus, on the coastal section. British planes are constantly attacking the Italian columns, which appear to be in retreat all along the front.

Nov. 22: The arrogance and the vaunting ambitions of the Axis Powers are well illustrated in an article just published in a Japanese Army newspaper, in Shanghai, named "Sin Shun Pao", which says that the scope of the pact between Japan and the Axis envisages stabilisation of Europe, of Africa, of the Far East, and of Australia. This is the first time that any Japanese newspaper, anywhere, has openly included Australia by name within the framework of Japan's southward expansion programme.

It is officially announced that Japan is still offering the Chinese National Government a final chance to participate in direct peace negotiations.

Meanwhile Japan—apparently owing to her uncertainty of the probable attitude of USA and Russia, has not committed herself definitely to the southwards expedition. Nevertheless Japanese forces, economic and military, are gradually taking possession of sections of the late French Colony of Indo-China.

Nov. 24: The German "one-town-blitz" was last night directed against the city and port of Southampton. There was a great concentration of German machines. Extensive damage and many casualties were caused.

No attempt is being made by the British authorities to deny that these successive raids against important English cities represent a serious problem. Nevertheless, on the balance of damage caused, the advantage probably lies with the RAF, which night after night, with monotonous regularity, despite very bad weather, is making concentrated attacks on German industrial centres practically all over the Reich.

Nov. 25: Troops from Thailand (Siam) are reported to have clashed with French Indo-China troops. Thailand is claiming the restoration of certain territories taken by Indo-China some 30 or 40 years ago. It is suggested in some quarters that

the Thailand move is anti-Japanese; but it is well to remember that Thailand is honeycombed with Japanese and permeated by Japanese influences, and if Japan eventually takes all Indo-China, as evidently she plans to do, Thailand undoubtedly will become actually, if not officially, part of the Japanese Empire.

Nov. 25: The Greek Army is continuing its advance into Albania along the whole of the 160 miles front. Italians retreating rapidly everywhere. So swiftly has the position changed in the past few days that it is possible the disorganised Italian forces will not be able to stand along the defence line they recently attempted to establish in southern Albania.

Nov. 26: Chinese experts believe that the two things which are likely to stop Japan from expanding southwards are her inability to reach an understanding with Russia and her failure to effect a peace settlement with General Chiang Kai Shek. Japan now is planning recognition of the puppet Government set up in Nanking under Wang Ching-Wei as the Official Government of China; but this will not affect the National Government's determination to fight on for the independence of China.

Nov. 26: At the close of the conference held during the past month in Delhi, India, it was announced that the eastern group of British Empire countries represented there will shortly, under the plan of organisation that has been initiated, give an ever-increasing volume of substantial aid to Britain.

This development obviously is of great importance. As long as the Red Sea route can be kept open—and the ability of the Italian forces, in Somaliland and Abyssinia, to interfere with it, is steadily decreasing—the Eastern, African and Pacific countries of the British Empire, can unaided provide the British Armies in the Mediterranean area with all necessary reinforcements and supplies.

Nov. 27: The British Mediterranean fleet to-day again caught sight of an Italian fleet, comprising two battleships and various cruisers and destroyers, and attacked immediately. But the Italians fled at high speed towards their bases in Sardinia and, although they were pursued for some distance, and engaged at extreme range, it is not thought that much damage was done.

Nov. 27: An enemy raider in the south Indian Ocean has sunk two large British freighters, "Port Brisbane" 8,000 tons and "Maimoa" 8,700 tons. Both have been engaged in carrying important cargo between Britain and Australasia.

Nov. 27: Britain has announced officially that if Bulgaria does not directly or indirectly assist the enemies of Britain to attack her allies, Britain intends to ensure that at any peace conference, the integrity and independence of Bulgaria will be respected. This apparently is having a good effect. There are several indications that, for the present, Bulgaria does not intend to abandon her neutrality.

Nov. 27: The Greek Army, advancing steadily along the coast, is now expected to seize from the Italians two important points in southern Albania—the port of Saranda and important base of Argyrokastron.

Nov. 27: It is frankly acknowledged that Britain's most serious problem now is that of replacing the merchant shipping which is being destroyed by the enemy at the rate of not less than 60,000 tons per week.

It appears that the Germans have adopted a new technique, and send their submarines far out into the Atlantic to hunt in "packs", with a view to paralysing the important traffic between the United States and Britain.

It is recognised that the only way of solving this problem, if a new means of checking the submarines cannot be devised, is to reinforce Britain's shipbuilding efforts with a mighty and concerted shipbuilding programme in the United States. Conversations between Britain and United States are proceeding, with this end in view.

Nov. 28: The German's "one-town-blitz" last night was directed against the English city of Plymouth. It was a prolonged attack in which much material damage and many casualties were caused. The Germans in these "one-town-blitzes" do not seek out military objectives—they simply use a great concentration of aeroplanes to pour an enormous mass of explosives upon the centre of the cities.

Nov. 29: The Iron Guard of Roumania, a Fascist organisation, has assassinated hundreds of political personages, in the most cruel manner, on the grounds that their execution is necessary for the good order and government of the country.

Nov. 30: M. Chiappe, a ruthless French bureaucrat who had just been appointed Governor of Syria, by the Vichy Government, with instructions to stop the drift in Syria towards Britain, was on his way to Syria in a large French aeroplane when he inadvertently flew over the scene of the British-Italian naval engagement on November 27. Fighting planes—whether British or Italian is not clear—attacked and destroyed the French plane, and M. Chiappe and another high French official were drowned. The Vichy Government says that Britain is to blame.

Nov. 30: Japan, having failed to induce the Chinese National Government to enter peace negotiations, to-day formally recognised the "puppet administration" formed by Wang Ching-Wei, at Nanking, as "The National Government of the Republic of China", and asked other nations to similarly recognise it. Chiang Kai Shek's Government, at Chungking, declares Wang Ching-Wei to be a traitor and says that if any other country recognises the puppet government it will be regarded by Chungking as an "unfriendly act".

Nov. 30: President Roosevelt announced to-day that the United States was immediately making a loan to China (the Chiang Kai Shek Administration at Chungking) of 50,000,000 dollars for general purposes, and would probably make an early allocation of a further 50,000,000 dollars for the stabilisation of China's currency.

This is one of the most startling developments of the war. It is a formal intimation to Japan that the United States will not recognise the so-called "New Order in the East". It is a staggering blow to the plans of Japan who, now, can make no progress southwards unless (1) the Axis Powers become dominant over Britain, the United States and China, or (2) Japan defeats the United States in the Pacific in a separate war.

Dec. 2: A new Greek thrust on the northern front, in which 5,000 Italians were captured, has started a general retreat by adjacent Italian forces, leaving a huge gap in the Italian centre. Greek advance is continuing slowly in snow-storms.

Dec. 2: Mr. Kennedy, lately United States Ambassador in London, has resigned. His activities in the United States indicate that while he is sympathetic to Britain, he is an active agent of those who favour a policy of appeasement—it is believed that there are a considerable number of them in Britain and the United States, working for peace negotiations with Hitler.

Dec. 2: Germans, on Monday night, directed their "one-town-blitz" against Bristol. Considerable damage, but casualties not numerous. The raids on

Southampton on Saturday and Sunday night caused 370 deaths.

Dec. 4: The Germans are boasting that a new phase has opened in the attack on Britain, in that submarines are now hunting in "packs", and crippling Britain's merchant shipping. Meanwhile, the United States is making plans to release to Britain every merchant ship she can spare.

Dec. 4: The United States is about to release old-type planes for China to assist her in the war against Japan.

Dec. 5: Germany and Roumania have signed an agreement, effective for 10 years, for "the economic re-construction of Roumania".

Dec. 6: While the Greeks are still attacking and the Italian armies generally in Albania are in full retreat, a startling development has occurred in the resignation of Marshal Badoglio, Italy's Chief of Staff, and probably the most important man in Italy next to Mussolini. A large number of prominent military and naval officers are also resigning, and this development is clearly the result of marked discontent with Mussolini's conduct of the war.

Dec. 6: The Greeks have captured Saranda, Albania's third seaport.

Dec. 6: The peace moves of the "appeasement gang" in Britain were scotched effectively when the House of Commons rejected, by 341 votes to 4, a motion urging the Government to set forth Britain's terms and call a peace conference.

Dec. 8: It is announced that, following on the high officers' resignations, serious internal disturbances have broken out in the principal Italian cities.

Dec. 8: It is believed that Bulgaria has been holding secret conferences with emissaries from Russia, and Bulgaria has been urged by Russia to maintain neutrality.

Dec. 8: The announcement that Russia will continue to recognise the Chiang Kai Shek regime as China's National Government is a sharp reverse to the Axis, and a pleasant surprise to the United States.

Dec. 9: The Greeks have occupied the important town of Argyrokastron (principal Italian base in southern Albania) and are pursuing the retreating Italians towards central Albania.

Dec. 9: London on Saturday night experienced one of the most serious raids the Germans have yet made on Britain. Very extensive damage was countered by the heroic work of the volunteer defence force.

Dec. 10: Although there are large concentrations of Japanese military and naval forces at Hainan Island, the Japanese still are hesitating in their southwards thrust. The support of United States and Russia to the anti-Japanese Government of China has seriously checked Japanese war-mongers. It is thought that the latter will not strike southwards unless Britain receives a serious reverse or the United States influence weakens.

Meanwhile, there is an extraordinary quietness about Germany's political operations. Hitler, who was racing about Europe, interviewing the leaders of Spain, France, Hungary, Russia, Roumania, etc., a month ago, is now seldom mentioned. Germany, apparently, is making no move to assist Italy—the impression is growing that there is serious friction between the German and Italian dictators.

Dec. 11: The announcement that British forces in Western Egypt are in contact with Italians all along the Libyan front, and have taken 4,000 prisoners, is accepted in London as an indication that Britain has launched an offensive against the Italian Army in Libya.

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Miss E. E. Brabin, BA, of Vunairima, New Britain, will shortly retire from the Methodist Mission to be married to Mr. E. W. Pearce, of the Mission staff at Rabaul.

Mrs. C. W. Blakelock, of Suva, Fiji, died in the War Memorial Hospital recently, aged 37.

Mr. E. V. O'Brien, well-known planter of Madang, New Guinea, arrived in Australia recently.

Mr. Ted Fulton, formerly of Maprik, northern New Guinea, is now a bombardier with the 1st Battery, 2/1st Field Regiment, 6th Division Artillery, AIF, in the Middle East.

Mr. M. B. Baker, Acting Director of Agriculture at Rarotonga, Cook Islands, left for New Zealand, on furlough, in October.



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This is Not a Merry Christmas

THIS is the grimmest Christmas that
we British people have known
for hundreds of years. We face
terrifying realities.

The modern Hun—a queer, horrible
creature, a combination of the callous,
robot mind of the German with the
beastliness of the Nazi—is battering
at England's door. As he sees the
spoils, over which he slobbered in
September in greedy anticipation,
getting farther away, while England's
strength grows, his attack becomes
more savage, more brutal and sense-
less.

We escaped, in 1940, dangers which
beggared description. But there are
more to come. If we are to remain a
free people, we may have to endure,
in 1941, trials and sacrifices such as
we never have known. If we are to
conquer the monster that our bumble-
footed diplomacy, unchecked capital-
ism and fantastic theorising let loose
upon the world in 1938-39, we must
be prepared for things that, last
Christmas, would have seemed a
lunatic's dream.

But, because victory goes, inevitably,
to the people with the strongest
morale, we need not fear the future.
We know now what we did not know
a year ago, that there is no weakness
in the British spirit—that it is, in-
deed, unconquerable.

The record of these past ten
months is magnificent—there has
been nothing like it, in memory. Our
people have been battered from Arras

to Dunkirk, smashed flat in London
and Coventry, treacherously attacked
and sunk in Atlantic darkness, des-
troyed by grossest incompetence
among Norwegian mountains—but
every man—and woman—has died
without a whimper, his chin high and
his spirit triumphant. In fact, the
courage of our people, of all classes,
at all times, in all circumstances—
whether attacking an enormously
stronger Graf Spee, or being filthily
buried in a London slum, or gallantly
rescuing comrades from a "hell-ship",
or tackling a 20-to-1 enemy in Eng-
land's skies—has been so unvarying,
among all classes, that probably it
will supply the future historian with
one of the most glorious chapters in
our history.

The world, in centuries to come,
will thank God for this gallant British
spirit; for, had it not been for the
capacity of the British people to "take
it", the Hun must have triumphed,
and personal freedom, and most of
the decencies of life, would have
vanished from the earth.

It is a grim Christmas—not much
merriment for those whose friends
are being bombed in England, and
whose relations are on active service
somewhere; little peace of heart for
those who recognise the strains and
stresses we all must endure before the
tide turns, and victory begins to flow
our way.

But, at least, there is consolation
in the thought that the spirit of our

race has been proved, refined and
hardened in this cruel fire of war.
These people who, with such gallant
courage, fought off the apparently
irresistible onslaught of the Hun, will
not be content with the muddled,
selfish organisation of society which
ruled their lives prior to 1939. They
will—and rightly—demand the new
world that already they have earned.
There is a bad time coming for pro-
fessional politicians, "guinea-pig"
directors, privileged nincompoops, and
all the rest of the parasitical rubbish
which has fastened itself upon our
national economy in the fat and easy
days of peace. Sometimes, to this
writer, the possibilities of the peace
of to-morrow appear more terrifying
than the actualities of the war of to-
day.

IT is a hellish prospect that we see,
this Christmas. There is no joy
in it. But there is solid comfort in
the thought of the dangers we have
escaped, the proof that we have of
the fine spirit of our young men, and
the assurance thus given of ultimate
victory and a cleaner and better
world.

Mr. Thomas Watson, an old resident of
the Cook Islands, died at Arorangi, Raro-
tonga, in September. The late Mr. Wat-
son, many years a well-known planter,
had retired to his plantation to live en-
tirely alone, and it was not until three
days after he passed away that he was
found dead from heart failure. A large
number of European and Maori friends
attended the funeral.

New Peoples of Central N. Guinea

Fascinating Field of Study

THREE articles of unusual interest are published in the December issue of "Oceania"—the journal of anthropology issued by the Australian National Research Council, of Sydney.

The first article gives what is, as far as we know, the first studied account by a scientist (Mr. F. E. Williams, the Papuan Government anthropologist) of the natives of Lake Kutubu, which is in the Central Western region of Papua, opened up to European exploration only during the past two or three years. These are people entirely new to science, and Mr. Williams' description of them has considerable general, as well as scientific, interest.

These people are well worth investigation. They may supply some valuable data concerning long-distance migrations from Asia to Oceania.

An article which is related to the foregoing is entitled "Stone Axes of Mount Hagen, New Guinea" by Mr. L. G. Vial. The Mount Hagen people are, in a sense, just over the range from the Kutubu people—they are all part of the large, unknown populations of those unexplored plateaus in the centre of New Guinea. The way in which these primitive folk systematically produce stone axes of beautiful design, polish and balance, makes a fascinating story.

The third article is entitled "Rennell Island Tattoo Markings", by Mr. D. Trench. This also has special interest, because the Rennell Island people are sandwiched in between Melanesia and Polynesia, and show signs of the characteristics of each.

WHAT NAZISM MEANS TO YOU AND ME

From a striking editorial in the "Sydney Morning Herald" of December 9:—

"We have lived a generation to see something I consider to be the essence of evil," said General Smuts last June. It is its racial theory which gives to Nazism its essentially evil character, because if Nazism prevails, the theory, carried to the extremes which the Germans are even now practising, must plunge the world into an endless night of savagery and oppression.

The longer the war goes on, the more clearly is the whole non-German world coming to grasp this fact, and in this growing realisation lies the hope for the future. Force has long been an instrument of policy in human affairs, but mankind has had to wait until the twentieth century of the Christian era to see it exalted into an all-embracing philosophy or religion. Yet it is Nazism's very excess, a fantastic excess that belongs properly to nightmares and lunatic ravings, which will in the end confound it.

MINE ENGINEER KILLED

A TRAGEDY occurred at the gold-mines on Misima Island, Eastern Papua, on October 26, when Mr. A. E. Jeffery, the chief engineer on Cuthberts Misima Gold Mines was killed instantly by electrocution. He was buried on October 27.

Mr. Jeffery had been a resident of Misima for approximately ten years.

JUDGE STUART

Promotion to Guiana Ends Strained Situation

JUDGE W. H. Stuart, who has been Chief Justice of Tonga since 1938, has been promoted to the position of Chief Justice of British Guiana.

The departure of Judge Stuart may end a position of strain and difficulty in Tonga. The Judge is a courageous man, who does his duty exactly as he sees it; and he had to undertake the unhappy task of dealing with the position of Mr. Bagnall (the Kingdom's Treasurer) in relation to certain scandals which had occurred in his Department. Mr. Bagnall has been 30 years in Tonga, and his qualities had won for him many loyal friends. Some of the latter found themselves in conflict with the Judge. There was friction in one or two other directions—Judge Stuart is not a man tolerant of the easy ways that develop in a tropical community.

If the Judge is a literary man, his two years in Tonga will have supplied him with abundant material for an interesting book.

ROLL OF HONOUR

(It is hoped to assemble, here, the names of men, former residents of the Pacific Territories, which appear in British and French casualty lists, or in lists of honours awarded. We should be grateful if relations and friends would send us details.)

Missing

Flying-Officer Moresby Gofton, of the R.A.F., son of Mrs. F. S. Stewart, of Wau, New Guinea. Reported missing, 17/5/1940. Now believed killed.

Flying-Officer K. J. A. Johnstone, of the R.A.F., who was born in Suva in 1915. Reported missing, 1/5/1940. His mother was a daughter of the late Mr. H. Thiele, for many years a member of the Colonial Sugar Refining Co.'s staff in Fiji.

Flight-Lieutenant G. J. I. Clarke, of the R.A.F., serving overseas, formerly Assistant Flight Superintendent of Carpenter Airways, New Guinea. Reported missing 25/9/1940.

Wounded

Stanley Higgs, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Higgs, of W. R. Carpenter and Co., Ltd., well-known in New Guinea. Member of an English Lancers regiment, wounded during evacuation from Dunkirk, May, 1940.

Sir Walter Carpenter, head of the group of Carpenter companies, left Sydney on another business visit to the United States, at the end of November.

Mr. Donald Waugh, who for over 20 years was one of the best known and most highly respected District Officers in New Guinea, and who retired a few months ago to make his home in Sydney, died on December 2, after a lengthy illness, at the age of 65. Mr. Waugh entered the British Army at an early age, and saw service in India and South Africa. He was in Northern Queensland, in 1914, and he immediately joined the Australian forces. He was sent with the Australian expeditionary force to New Guinea, and given a commission; and administrative duties in New Guinea subsequently became his life's work. He leaves behind him a widow and four children—two of them sons who have enlisted in the Australian forces for service overseas.

COPRA

Market Cut Off by Freight Shortage

THE copra position remains bad, and the prospects gloomy. Some copra is being got away, but there is an increasing shortage of shipping and, despite decreased production in all directions, there are growing accumulations in most of the Islands stores.

The Sydney firms were advised on November 22 that the British Ministry of Food is again buying copra at about £12 per ton c.i.f. London, but as freight and other charges from Rabaul to London are by now about £11 per ton sterling, there was nothing in the trade.

In reply to strong protests, the British authorities suggested that South Pacific copra be shipped from the South Seas to Singapore and thence to Britain—the freight then from Singapore to Britain being around £6/10/- sterling. But the freight from Rabaul to Singapore makes this impracticable.

It is obvious that Britain at present prefers to buy Dutch East Indies and Malayan copra.

Very strong representations have been made to the Commonwealth Government by Pacific planting interests in relation to the copra industry—but Canberra apparently can give little help. It is all a matter of shipping. If there are to be large accumulations of Australian produce in Australia owing to lack of shipping, the South Pacific territories which produce copra can expect little mercy.

It is expected that Sir Walter Carpenter, while in the United States, will make unofficial efforts at Washington to induce the United States to open its doors to a limited amount of South Pacific copra. If this could be done the position may be eased.

COPRA-FED SHEEP DIE

SERIOUS mortality has occurred among sheep fed on copra in the Narrabri district of NSW (says "Sydney Morning Herald" of 11/12/1940). The copra was not fed as a meal, but in an unprepared state.

It is suspected that copra when fed to excess contains something toxic to animals, although thousands of sheep have been fed on it with excellent results. Experts discount the suggestion that the toxic element is in the fat.

One authority recommends that not more than 25 per cent. of the ration should be copra meal, though a much higher percentage has been used with success. It is considered that, mixed with wheat or other grains and with hay, copra may be put to good use in the feeding of stock.

The subject is creating much interest in the north-west, where considerable quantities of copra meal are being used.

Messrs. Burns Philp state that graziers, unable to get other fodders in this drought period, have been eagerly experimenting on a large scale with copra—feeding it "raw" to the sheep, without any oil extraction. It is confidently believed that if the oil content of copra is reduced, and it is then mixed with other recognised fodders, it will be completely satisfactory.

Mr. D. R. Blyton arrived in Wau, New Guinea, recently to replace Mr. A. Aubrey as accountant at the Bank of NSW. Mr. Aubrey, who was in the Territory for two years, has returned to Australia.

CHANCE FOR PACIFIC TIMBERS

Australia's Softwoods Shortage Now Accentuated by War

A SITUATION which provides the Australian, New Guinea and Suva Governments with a unique opportunity to establish new Pacific industries exists in connection with Pacific Islands timber.

As everyone knows, there are great forests on practically all the innumerable mountainous islands of the South Pacific. There is much fine hardwood, a good deal of semi-hardwood, and a little softwood.

These timbers are mixed with a great deal of useless tropical rubbish. Only in a few cases are there islands of good timber which can be easily handled. Most of it "takes finding".

In recent years, as the forests of the temperate, settled countries have been cut out, timber-getting industries have been established in Fiji, New Caledonia, Solomons and New Guinea—especially the latter. The timber has been going, in logs, to Australia and America. Australia maintains a jealous, heavy duty upon sawn timber.

The demand for timber, in Australia, in recent months, has become very urgent. There is a marked shortage of softwoods. Victoria has demanded the right to supply "softwood" to New South Wales. NSW retorts that it is not softwood, but semi-hardwood from the Gippsland forests, recently ruined by fires, which Victoria is trying desperately to turn into money.

There is snarling and fighting beneath the calm surface of the industry.

Meanwhile, New Guinea interests have been seeking an amendment of the tariff, to allow New Guinea sawn timber to enter Australia. If that were done, the New Guinea timber industry would be soundly established; and sawn timber could be delivered, at moderate prices, direct to Australian consumers. At present, they can send only logs—a costly and wasteful system.

But Australian timber interests, already monopolistic and well guarded

politically, scream in fury at the very suggestion of such an arrangement. They insist that they shall mill and sell all the timber which is distributed in Australia.

NOW, however, war conditions have intervened. Australia is forbidden to import from non-sterling countries (North America) any redwood or red cedar; while Oregon and hemlock imports are reduced by more than half. Already, inquiries and tests are being made to see what Australia can offer to replace the valuable imports now cut off. It is announced ("SMH" of Dec. 7) that "in some quarters it is believed that New Guinea can supply timbers which have not previously been exploited."

The Minister for Customs also stated: "A concession would be allowed on timbers imported from New Guinea for the manufacture of boxes and doors. This decision had been taken to encourage timber production in New Guinea."

This probably will be implemented by some license system which, it is presumed, will apply also to Papua.

There is something worth while waiting for the man or men who can step in, now, and organise a timber trade between Australia and New Guinea, Papua, Solomons, Fiji and New Caledonia. Australian timber-consumers, in a very short time, will be shouting frantically for supplies; and the Australian timber rings, however they may try to protect their monopolies, cannot dam back this flood.

This is an opportune time to break down the opposition to the importation of sawn timber from Australia's Pacific territories—timber which is produced by European labour, with Australian capital, under Australian conditions.

Attention should be given to freights. It costs 13/6 per hundred to take logs from near Rabaul to Sydney, and only 33 dollars per thousand feet to carry logs from Vancouver to Sydney.

SUVA MARKET

Plan to Meet Clamant Public Need

IT is an astonishing fact that, in the considerable and rapidly-growing city of Suva there is no adequate provision for markets.

The early morning market is a feature of life in all Pacific centres—notably, Noumea, Rabaul, Papeete. In Suva, with its five communities (European, Fijian, Indian, Chinese and Euro-nesian), and its daily accumulations of perishable, tropical foodstuffs, the market is a necessary affair. But, until now, it has been a primitive arrangement—mostly a meeting of vendors and buyers in the open air under somewhat unhygienic conditions. There are only two small shelter-sheds, incapable of housing the fruit, vegetables, fish, etc., that are brought in.

The Suva Town Board, with the approval and assistance of the Government, now proposes to spend some £14,000 on erecting a suitable building on a suitable site in the centre of the town.

It is not a good time to undertake public expenditure of this kind. But, as Mr. G. K. Roth (chairman of the Town Board) pointed out, the need is very urgent, and "who can say when costs will be again as low as they now are?"

SEEK AN ALTERNATIVE TO RICE!

WAR conditions generally, and political conditions in the Far East, all of which have interfered with shipping, threaten to bring about a rice famine in New Guinea.

New Guinea imports large quantities of rice from Saigon, Rangoon, etc., for the feeding of the tens of thousands of native labourers employed there. The price of rice, delivered in the New Guinea ports, has risen sharply in recent weeks.

This is very embarrassing—but it may prove to be a very good thing if it compels the N.G. administration, and N.G. interests generally, to devise some other means of providing their thousands of native labourers with a staple food—either a cereal grown in New Guinea or something made from Australian flour. It often requires a "good" war, or a "good" fire, to clean up economic conditions which should never have been allowed to exist.

"Papuan Chief" Goes as Scrap to Japan

THE old "Papuan Chief", after long years of service on the Papuan Coast, and after being wrecked, salvaged and repaired, was sold recently by Steamships Trading Co. Ltd. to the Japanese as "scrap", and was removed from Port Moresby.

A Japanese ship, "Tashema Maru", arrived in Port Moresby on November 9 with cargo, and a spare crew for the "Papuan Chief", which was transferred to the Japanese flag and named "Kapi Maru". The latter sailed out of Port Moresby on November 12, but broke down near the reef and anchored off Local Island. Repairs were made, and next day she sailed for Samarai and the East.

Port Moresby's 50-Years-Old Church

From Our Own Correspondent

PORT MORESBY, Dec. 1
ON Sunday, November 17, a large congregation gathered in Ela Protestant Church, Port Moresby, to cele-



The church building, photographed in 1890.

brate the 50th anniversary of its establishment in 1890. A service was conducted by the Senior Missionary of the LMS in Papua, Rev. H. J. E. Short, assisted by Rev. S. J. Rankin and Rev. Maurice Nixon, Chairman of the LMS.

The service was an impressive one, and in his sermon Mr. Short testified to the soundness and dignity of the Church's contribution to the life of the community over the years, and he made a stirring call to a new allegiance.

The Senior Elder, Mr. C. H. Brough, sketched the history of the church since subscriptions were raised towards the building fund by the first LMS missionary in Papua, Rev. G. W. Lawes. Of the 62 subscribers to the fund, Mr. A. C. English, of Kapa Kapa, is the only one living to-day. The names included those of Sir William MacGregor, Sir Samuel Griffiths, Sir James Burns, Sir James Reading Fairfax ("Sydney Morning Herald") and many others, long passed away.

Mr. S. A. Lonergan, Assistant Government Secretary in the New Guinea Administration arrived in Australia with Mrs. Lonergan recently on leave. Mr. C. Meares has taken Mr. Lonergan's place during his absence.

TAHITI IS FOR FREE FRANCE

DR. DE CURTON NOW GOVERNOR

THERE has been an extraordinary series of events in the Government of French Oceania.

In June, France was betrayed by the Fascist enemy within, and capitulated.

In July and August, a little gang of Fascists tried to seize power in Tahiti.

In August, a plebiscite showed that 5,364 people were for General de Gaulle and Free France, and 18 against.

The official Governor, M. de Gery, then resigned and left the colony.

Three members of the Privy Council and the Mayor of Papeete took over the government.

Early in September, Edmond Mansard, an old comrade of General de Gaulle, became Governor.

M. Mansard was too ill to carry on.

It was officially announced, on November 9, that M. Mansard had resigned, and had made a recommendation to General de Gaulle.

It was announced, late in November, that Doctor de Curton had been appointed Governor of French Oceania, and was working in harmony with M. Henri Sautot, the Free French Governor of New Caledonia.

THE SPIRIT OF FRANCE

THE following is a summary of the announcement made by M. E. Mansard on November 9:—

My Dear Friends,—In the month of September your qualified representatives, conferring upon me a confidence which will remain the greatest honour of my life, proposed me for the heavy task of Governor of this country.

When I was nominated by the Leader of Free France, my ambition was to serve our little country, these magnificent archipelagos placed in the very heart of the Pacific Ocean, to consecrate myself to that heavy task, and with your aid to strive for the liberation and regeneration of France, our unhappy and much-loved Motherland, betrayed by villainous politicians and overrun by the Boche.

I reckoned, however, without my ill-health. During this grave period, I am chained to my bed. Therefore, in view of my ill-health, I was forced on the 30th September last to resign my duties. In conjunction with Members of the Government, I proposed to General de Gaulle, the nomination of Doctor de Curton. At this grave hour, the choice of a young man seems to us necessary. Dr. de Curton is energetic and courageous and must succeed. Give him your confidence.

I thank all those who have helped me.

I wish for the happiness of everyone.

Long live the French establishments of Oceania.

Long live Free France and her Leader, General de Gaulle.

Long live Great Britain, our faithful ally.

May a lofty and upright mind, and a well-placed heart unite everyone for the victory of our arms.

—E. MANSARD.

How a Fascist Clique Was Suppressed

From Our Own Correspondent

PAPEETE, Oct. 18.

AT last, after many delays due to a variety of causes—of which transport is not the least—I am able to supply a connected story of what happened here between the time when France made her tragic capitulation to the enemy in June, and we in French Oceania finally placed ourselves in the ranks of Free France at the end of August.

Here, in French Oceania, we are very



General de Gaulle

isolated. We knew in June, of course, that France had been over-run by the Hun and that French leaders, of whom we had expected resistance to the death, had surrendered to Hitler and formed what was called the Vichy Government.

But, until the middle of August, we in Papeete believed that we were part of the French Empire, and that, whatever Vichy might do, we were definitely still at war on the side of our British allies. That, we believed, was the wish, and perhaps the intention, of our then Governor, M. de Gery, whom we highly esteemed.

On June 25, the Governor issued a proclamation to the population of Tahiti virtually stating that we were still at war as an ally of Great Britain. We did hear, however, that certain Fascist gentlemen in high places in this colony were bringing heavy pressure to bear on the head of our colony to induce him to adhere to the Vichy Government.

A large section of our community became restless and suspicious. The "Committee of Free France" was formed.

When certain regulations, manifestly emanating from Vichy, appeared in our official journal, and at the same time our local Fascists issued a manifesto demanding restrictive laws—comparable only to those in force in Poland and Nazi Germany—against those who favoured Free France, the Committee of Free France decided to act.

It insisted that there be taken a plebiscite of the whole population. The plebiscite was taken in mid-August and it resulted in 5,564 people voting for Free France and General de Gaulle, and only 18 voting against. Thus was disclosed the real strength of our gang of Fascists.

Thereupon the Governor, the popular M. de Gery, took the only course open to him, and resigned office. He shortly afterwards departed for San Francisco, en route to Europe. The direction of the Government was assumed by three members of his private council—namely MM. Erahne, G. Lagarde and E. Martin, together with the Mayor of Papeete, M. George Bambridge. All of these men are members of old and influential families in Tahiti.

The radiogram announcing the result of the plebiscite, and the fact that the Government temporarily was in the hands of the four men named, was despatched to General de Gaulle on the evening of September 2. Listeners were

thrilled to hear, in the early morning broadcast of the B.B.C. on September 3, the announcement that the message had been received by General de Gaulle.

Early in September, the Government of New Zealand arranged an economic accord with the Tahiti administration, to last for the duration of the war. New Zealand, in many ways, gave the French colony immediate assistance.

A steamer of the Messageries Maritime Line, which had come from France via Panama, and had been lying in Papeete for a considerable time, was brought into useful operation.

On September 18 our local Fascists tried to stage a coup d'etat, but it was immediately put down by the authorities, without any riot or bloodshed. The Fascist ring-leaders were then gathered up and placed aboard the MM liner, which sailed away with them a few days later.

Since that day everything in the colony has been calm.

Dismal Story of an Experiment

I AM sorry to note (writes Mr. J. Bryan, of Casino, NSW) that greater attention has not been paid in the Territory of New Guinea to the growing of cotton.

"About 1924 to 1926, cotton was grown on Kar Kar Island (near Madang). A ginning plant had been erected at Madang, but in the early days of the Expropriation Board the operation of the gin was not understood, and the crop of first year and ratoon cotton accumulated.

"However, a new engineer at Madang got the gin running properly, and the cotton was sent to England. Many months later a letter was received from an English manufacturer, through the High Commissioner's office in London, asking for further supplies of this cotton, and offering a bonus. No further cotton was being planted by the Expropriation Board, however, and the venture lapsed.

"At the present time, I understand, Australia's requirements of cotton are approximately 80,000 bales per annum and local production is about 20,000 bales. The inference is obvious: New Guinea can grow good cotton and Australia is short of requirements."

SIDELIGHT ON THE WAR

Hitler (telephoning): Hullo, Benito! How you vos getting on in Greece? Mussolini (cooingly): Oh, hullo, Adolf! Where you speaka from? London, eh?

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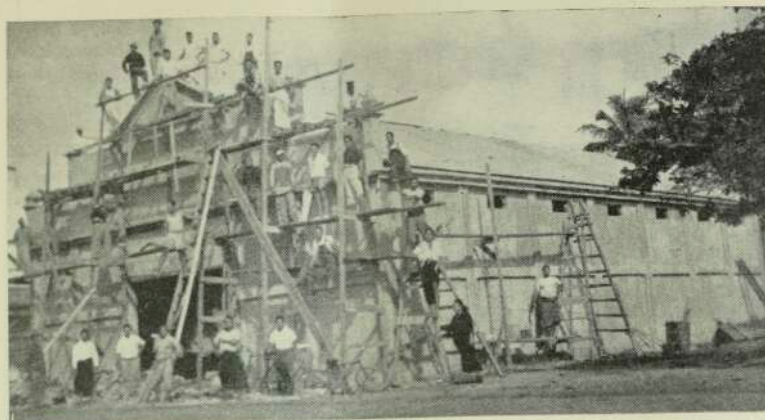
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JAPANESE EXPANSION IN POLYNESIA



As has been pointed out frequently in this journal, the Japanese penetration of the South Seas goes on steadily. This is a recent photograph of a large concrete building, under erection in the centre of Nukualofa, Tonga, for Banno Brothers, Japanese merchants.

High tariffs do not prevent the expansion of Japanese merchandising in European countries. Labour conditions in Japan are immensely different to Euro-

pean industrial conditions, with the result that Japanese goods are produced at a tithe of the cost of European goods, and can be sold against them at a profit, in spite of "prohibitive" tariffs.

There, in a sentence, is the crux of the Pacific problem. We want to trade peacefully and amicably with Japan; but how can we do this, while the standards of life of Japan's industrial masses are so different to our own?

Australia's Pitiful Record in N. Guinea

A Plea For an Economic Survey

IT is reported that the Wau branch of the Australian Labour Party is strongly urging that an economic survey be made of the Mandated Territory of New Guinea.

If this energetic little body, with its headquarters on the Morobe goldfield, can induce the Commonwealth Government to undertake a New Guinea stock-taking, and scientifically line up for examination the enormous undeveloped wealth of New Guinea, it will have done Australia a great national service.

It is nothing short of a tragedy that Australia should have been in possession of this great, rich territory for more than twenty years, with the enormous funds, providentially supplied by the gold industry, available for development, and that it should have done so little with the Territory. A great gold industry has been established—but that has been the result of enterprise by individual miners and well-managed companies—the Australian Government and the New Guinea administration can take little credit for that. Little else, worthy of mention, has been accomplished.

Yet the amiable Sir John Latham, on his way to Japan as Australian Minister, when entertained at afternoon tea at Government House, Rabaul, made a speech in which he warmly praised the admirable achievements of the Australian administration in New Guinea. One wonders what Sir John knows of the matter, anyway—and what the older European residents of New Guinea (who do know something about it) think of Australia's record there. It is a pity Sir John does not have a chat with some of them, away from the atmosphere of Namanula.

territory of great value, along lines indicated by Java and the Philippines. Instead, for over 20 years, New Guinea has been nothing but a plaything for politicians.

We challenge anyone to study the New Guinea annual reports, and point to any period (apart from the brief administratorship of General Tom Griffiths) when New Guinea was apparently being governed in accordance with a defined plan and a developmental policy. Yet the Territory has had the men (a well-trained, capable corps of keen young Australians) and the money (available in the rich royalties of the gold industry). It simply has lacked a creative force and an administrative touch in Canberra and Rabaul.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. F. S. STEWART

From Our Own Correspondent

WAU, Dec. 5.

YESTERDAY, December 4, Mrs. F. S. Stewart was the guest at a party at the Wau Club, when the Wau community took the opportunity of saying good-bye to her as part-owner and recently manageress of the Hotel Bulolo, where she long has been held in high regard. Felicitous speeches were made, and Mrs. Stewart was presented with a handsomely-fitted travelling case.

LOSS OF HER SON

It was with deep regret that residents of Wau and district learned that notification had been received by Mrs. Stewart from the Air Ministry, that all hope that her son, Pilot Officer Moresby Gof-ton, might still be alive, has been abandoned. Moresby Gof-ton, who was serving with the RAF, failed to return from a flight over Norway about the time when the Germans attacked that country; and his name now apparently must be inscribed in the Roll of Honour as the first man from the Morobe Goldfields to give his life for the Empire in the present war.

Mr. H. E. Nicholl, Senior Road Foreman in the Public Works Department, has retired from the Fiji Civil Service.

THERE is now a "hush-hush" policy in relation to New Guinea. "Do not criticise Australia's performances there," one is told. "You will only strengthen the hands of our enemies, who are seeking justification of their plans to deprive us of our territories."

This war has shown that it is not our British people who fear the truth, but thick-skulled bureaucrats and dithering politicians—spawn of our rotten political machine—who are given responsibility for our national activities. They will seize upon any excuse to hide their notorious inefficiency.

New Guinea is a case in point. New Guinea could be developed as a tropical



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ABOUT ISLANDS PEOPLE

Mr. E. S. Paul, the well-known proprietor of the Gold Star transport services in Samoa, went to New Zealand recently on a holiday. But probably, while in New Zealand, he is doing something about petrol restrictions. New Zealand has exaggerated ideas regarding petrol rationing, and Samoa has suffered thereunder. The boat service between Apia and Pago Pago, established several months ago by Mr. Paul, is running satisfactorily.



Miss Lema Price, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Price, of Qaranikula Plantation, Savu Savu West, Vanua Levu, Fiji, who last month was married to Mr. A. Thompson Low. Mr. Low has been appointed, recently, manager for Burns Philp (South Sea) Co., Ltd., in Rotuma; and the newly-married couple left for that isolated dependency of Fiji, in December. Miss Price probably is well-known to "PIM" readers through the humorous and descriptive sketches she contributes under the pen-name of "Amel."

Mr. George Step, managing director of the well-known firm of Islands agents, C. Sullivan Pty., Ltd., left Sydney by plane on December 6 on one of his periodical visits to Noumea, where, on this occasion, he will stay about two weeks.

Mr. H. B. Smith, branch inspector of W. R. Carpenter & Co., Ltd., returned to Sydney by plane recently after a visit of inspection to New Guinea.

Mr. Frank Stock, postmaster at Tulagi, BSI, returned to the Protectorate in mid-November, after spending furlough in Sydney and Melbourne.

Mr. H. H. Fraser, who is engaged in tributing activities for New Guinea Goldfields, Ltd., in Morobe District, TNG, was in Victoria on a holiday visit in November. He was accompanied by Mrs. Fraser and their daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Tattersall, accompanied by their four children, reached Sydney from Western Samoa recently and proceeded to Queensland where they will reside in future. Mr. Tattersall, who has been in ill-health for some time, which necessitated his leaving the tropics, served in the Great War with the British Coldstream Guards. A member of the Samoan Administration for over 20 years, his last position was plan-

tation overseer with the NZ Reparation Estates.

Miss Sheila Page, daughter of the well-known Government Secretary and Deputy Administrator in New Guinea, is about to enter upon a course of training as a nurse in Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney. She recently has been feted at many farewell parties in Rabaul.

Mrs. Charlotte Dorothea Hahn, who died in Sydney on December 3 at the age of 53 was well-known in Tonga, where she was at one time a close friend of Queen Salote. She came from two of the oldest families in Central Pacific—the Riechelmans and Cockers; and her grandfather, Mr. Joseph Cocker, was first British Consul in the Group. Mrs. Hahn is survived by two sons and a daughter—Richard, Charles and Olita—all of whom are living in Sydney. One of her sisters is Mrs. W. G. Bagnall, of Tonga.

Mr. Dion Coote, son of the manager of Burns, Philp & Co., Ltd., Rabaul, New Guinea, arrived in Sydney recently for medical treatment.

Mr. A. C. Turnbull, Acting-Administrator of Western Samoa, arrived in New Zealand in November, with Mrs. Turnbull. During his absence, the post of Acting-Administrator is being filled by Mr. W. R. McCulloch.

Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Smyth, well-known and popular residents of Apia, Western Samoa, celebrated their Ruby Wedding (40 years) in October—they were married on October 8, 1900, by Rev. Weld-Thomas at the Quetta Memorial Church, Thursday Island.

IN MEMORIAM

SOUTHCOTT.—In memory of Bill, who was accidentally killed at Wau, New Guinea, on December 30, 1939.
—Inserted by his friends, Selwyn and Marie Thompson.

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Mrs. D. Cahill recently returned to Samarai, Eastern Papua, after 12 months' absence in Australia.

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TROPICALITIES

A NEW Guinea ADO, well-known for his quiet humour, had a well-known clerk, Mr. X, associated with him on the goldfields. Mr. X was very keen on cricket and loved to discuss the game at every chance. One day, he was leaning on the counter, explaining to a caller how Warwick Armstrong used to trick 'em with his bowling. The 'phone rang, and the ADO answered it.

A voice enquired if that was the District Office. Told that it was, the voice said: "Well, look! Does X work there?"

The ADO glanced towards the counter, where Mr. X had just explained how Warwick did the hat trick in a test match. Then the ADO smiled slightly and replied: "Well, no, he doesn't!"

IT is not generally known that the little island of Takutea, about 16 miles distant from Atiu was a gift to the British Government by Ngamaru Ariki (husband of Makea Takau, of Rarotonga) shortly before his death in 1903. There was no doubt as to Ngamaru's ownership. But, realising that he was not long for this world, he had the title investigated that year, and the island was legally awarded to him. When the decision was made in his favour Ngamaru, in the presence of Makea, Parurangi, Rongamatane and other ariki, declared: "This island I hand over to my Ariki, King Edward VII, for the benefit of his subjects in the Cook Islands".

Of Ngamaru (who was over-lord of Atiu, Mauke and Mitiaro) it was said by the then Commissioner (the late Colonel Gudgeon): "He possessed power that no other Ariki has, or is likely to have in the future". The island, which comprises 400 acres, was planted with coconuts by

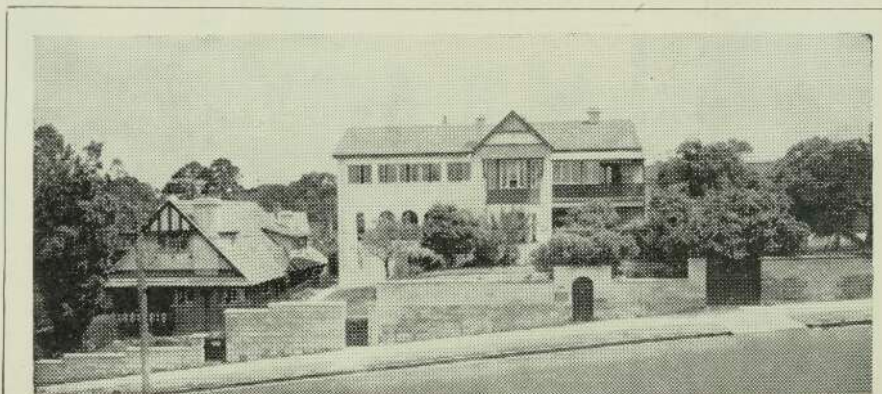
Gudgeon's orders, and, at one time, it was suggested as a penal settlement for the Group. However, it is exposed to tidal waves, and, for that and other reasons, it is uninhabited. From time to time the people of Atiu visit it. The prized red feathers of the bosun bird (tavake) are of more interest to them nowadays than Takutea copra.—"Vakatini".

THE most magnificent wedding cake ever seen in the Pacific was probably that made in NZ for the marriage of King George II, of Tonga (father of Queen Salote). It was designed by an Auckland baker, said to have been a friend of the King's when the latter was at school in that city. As is well known, the King's selection of a bride occasioned some heartburning in Tonga, and many months elapsed before the monarch made his final choice in 1899. King George was then 24 years' old, about 23 stone in weight, stood 6 ft. 4 in. in his stockings, and measured 52 in. round the chest—in every respect a descendant worthy, physically, of the splendid race of Tongans. It was related that at first the King cast eyes beyond Tonga, even as far as Hawaii, for a wife; but, finally, the selection narrowed down to two ladies of ancient lineage of his own land. Eventually, the lady known in history as Queen Lavinia became his choice.

A correspondent in Nukualofa remarked at the time that the making of the Royal wedding garments was entrusted to two Europeans in the capital. "Rumour hath it", he said, "that their instructions are to make them so that they can be readily altered to fit the bride whom the King finally selects. The wedding cake, which came from NZ months ago, and

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which has since nourished some millions of ants and copra bugs, is in the hands of a local confectioner, who is busily repairing their ravages. Meanwhile nobody, apparently not even the bridegroom, knows for whom the dresses and cake are intended!"

When the King did marry, Nukualofa residents were worried for a time by a series of mysterious fires—apparently, some Tongans who were annoyed with their monarch for his choice expressed their feelings that way!—"Moaroa".

"NEVER in the history of the world has there been a conflict on whose outcome so much is at stake; never before has our Empire, or any other Empire, been to the same extent the shield and buckler of human civilisation."—A passage from a stirring address to the Fiji Legislative Council by Sir Harry Luke.

IN 1914, after German atrocities had been committed in France, a portrait of "All Highest" appeared in "Pearson's Magazine" (says a New Guinea correspondent). And, under it, were lines, something like this:—

Some say there is a Mongol strain persists in Prussian blood;
When bursting from the crowded East there came that evil flood,
Of flat-faced, lusting devils, spawn of Hell's own womb,
Who entered Rome with Attila, and left of Rome—a tomb
That when the Hunnish tribesman went a-raiding in the West,
They left an ugly Hunnish babe at many a German breast.
This maybe is a legend. But, if that tale be true,
How proud to-day would Attila, All Highest, be of you!

If (says our New Guinea friend) you put the words "All Lowest" in place of "All Highest", and placed them under a portrait of the gentleman "with the brow of a Christ and the moustache of a Charlie Chaplin", it would exactly express our viewpoint of to-day.

HUMAN freaks are occasionally reported, but it is seldom that one is found in Polynesia. A curious case was reported, however, from Ralatea, in 1867. A native child was born that year, on this island, with two heads, four arms and four legs. A medical official was despatched from Tahiti by the French Government to report on this case. Eventually, both the infant and its parents were brought to Tahiti, the intention being to exhibit the freak of nature. The child lived for a time.—"Eriki".

THE Fijian crew of the cutter were talking. That unending topic, war, was the subject, and talk drifted to what they would do to Hitler if they caught him. Various boys had a stab at the mouth-watering idea; then Jone, the shameless, raised his voice.

"If I catch, I would eat him", he declared emphatically. "Yes", he went on, "eat him, but not 'Vakadua' (right at once) but bit by bit." Then, his eyes glazing with anticipation, he continued, "On Monday, I eat his little finger, on Tuesday his third finger, on Wednesday his big finger, then on Thursday his index finger . . ."

The rest of the tale was an orgy of blood-thirsty imagination. By the time Jone got to the Fuehrer's shoulder-joint, I gave it best; acting as chairman at the hideous banquet, I sharply rapped the hammer.—"Rox".

ONE of the prized exhibits of the Dominion Museum at Wellington (NZ), is the axe called "Te Toki a

Rei Meitei", which, according to Moriori tradition, was brought by the chief Moe from their original home, in the canoe Oropuke. This weapon, and another of equal importance historically, was found at the foot of a tree in the Chatham Islands.

Both axes are regarded as evidence that the Moriori people originated in New Zealand. As they were in those islands prior to the Maori invasion of 1836, they must have been brought by the original Moriori migrants. It is believed that the Moriori migrated to the Chathams from New Zealand about 1150—200 years before the main migration of Tahitian voyagers from the Society Group to New Zealand. When certain Taranaki (NZ) tribes invaded the Chathams in 1836, there were at least 1,800 Moriori then living. But, from that time, the race declined rapidly. Tommy Solomon, the last Moriori (who weighed 30 stone) died in 1933.—E.R.

THE Burns Philp Trust Bill, which is a measure designed to give a proper legal standing to the Trust Company, established in recent years by the big firm to handle trustee business and manage estates of deceased persons, passed the last stage in the NSW Parliament in the dying hours of the

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HOBART AND SYDNEY.

session on December 5. It was ceaselessly and bitterly opposed by the two great Sydney trust companies, which now have a kind of monopoly of that kind of business in NSW—so much so that they hold virtually a controlling interest in several leading Australian corporations. They succeeded in having the Bill held up for special examination, and they even briefed counsel to state arguments against it. It is a curious and interesting fact that this measure, so bitterly opposed by people representing

monopolies and money power, was opposed also by the Labour Party. However, the bill was carried eventually by a majority of 5 votes.

The Bill was altogether 14 months in the legislative machine, and the fact that it finally went through is a tribute to the tenacity and patience of BP's general manager at headquarters, Mr. C. H. Chester. Night after night, month after month, he could be seen sitting quietly in the public gallery of the NSW Parliament, waiting for the occasional appearances of his long-cherished measure. Through all the weary months he beamed pleasantly through his spectacles at friend and foe alike; but, if one only could have read his mind, and learned his real opinion of Parliamentary processes, his thoughts might have been worthy of publication in the "PIM"—which is said to be notorious for its loathing of politicians and all their works.

A SIGN of the times was noticed in the ports of Fiji last month, where

a five-masted schooner from overseas was seen loading sugar. It is nearly 25 years since a similar sight was seen—when then, as now, war had destroyed so many steamships that it was necessary to bring the old-time sailing ships into use as freighters.

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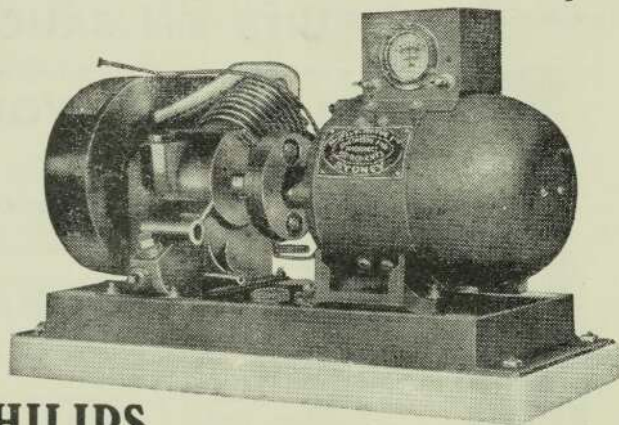
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SUVA RED CROSS CARNIVAL



QUEEN OF PEACE.—A photograph of a charming young Indian lady, Miss Rena Grant, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Grant, of Suva, Fiji.

Rev. George Thomas, who last year visited Nauru and Ocean Islands as Anglican Chaplain has recently taken up appointment as Organising Secretary of the Australian Board of Missions for Victoria, with headquarters at St. Paul's Cathedral buildings, in Melbourne. He succeeds Rev. Maurice Jones, who travelled extensively in Papua and New Guinea a year or two ago in furtherance of the work of the A.B.M. and wrote an interesting booklet on the work of the N.G. Anglican Missions. Rev. Jones is now vicar of a Brunswick parish, Melbourne.

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ALL the machinery taken to Papua by Australasian Petroleum Co., Pty., Ltd., has now arrived on the selected site on the Vailala River, Papua, and a large part of it is in position. It is expected that drilling will commence in January. Quite a township has been established there, in the deep, tropical jungle.

The structure chosen for this first greatest drill has been closely examined and submitted to intense geographical surveys by the field staff—and hopes are high. It should be borne in mind, however, that, so far as oil is concerned, Papua is a virgin country and, although undoubtedly it offers excellent prospects, it is quite impossible to say that oil will be produced in Papua until the drill has given the last word.

Gas flows and seepages of oil have been known in Papua for 20 or 30 years but, as the world's greatest oil experts insist, the drill remains the final arbiter.

If there actually is commercial oil in Papua it should be found on this occasion. APC Pty., Limited, up to date, has spent more than £700,000 on surveys and drilling equipment.

N. Guinea Co. Wants to Seek For Oil

A LIVELY little squabble developed in Melbourne in connection with the annual election of directors to the NG company known as Enterprise of New Guinea Gold and Petroleum Development NL.

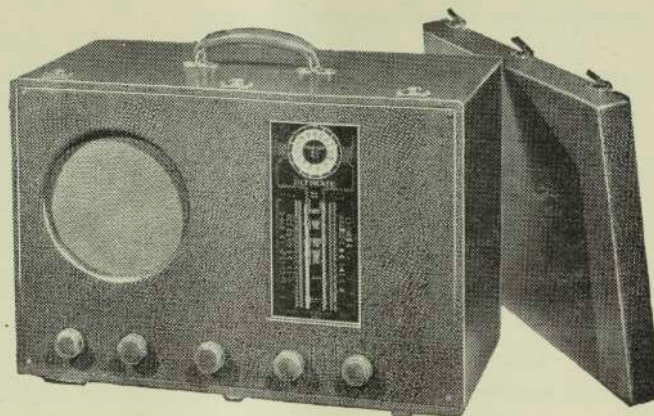
A group of three were nominated to contest vacant seats, and they promised the shareholders rigid economy in administration, reduction in expenditure on gold mining at Edie Creek pending a decision to treat large tonnages of ore already blocked out in the Edie mine, and a more vigorous effort to secure a permit to search for oil in the uncontrolled area in New Guinea, for an application has been refused.

The retiring directorate replied, sharply, that everything possible had already been done in the directions indicated.

The refusal of the Administrator to allow Enterprise parties to conduct a search for oil in the uncontrolled areas on the New Guinea mainland led to angry exchanges just before the war.

There are indications that when the war is over, and normal conditions return Fiji may become a popular winter holiday resort for Australian and New Zealand motorists. There are now many good roads in the main island of Viti Levu, including a motor run of about 200 miles, right round the big island.

In the Divorce Court in Rabaul, at the end of November, John McEvoy Poland applied for a dissolution of his marriage with Millie May Poland, on the grounds of her alleged adultery with Ray Swift. The parties are well-known on the Morobe goldfields, where the applicant is engaged in mining. Mrs. Poland denied the allegations of misconduct, and defended the suit, but there was no appearance of the co-respondent.



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Address.....

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Mr. Geoffrey Holmes, formerly of Kavieng, New Guinea, is now serving with the RAF in England.



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Australia's Lost Opportunities in the Pacific

AN address on "Mysteries of the Pacific" was given at the November meeting of the Pacific Islands Society in Sydney by Mr. Thomas Dunbabin, Australian journalist and author. He said that as far back as 1875, the New South Wales Cabinet urged Britain to annex the South Sea Islands which, later, were taken over by Germany. Another chance came on November 18, 1914, when it was announced that an Australian expedition would assume control of the Marshall and Caroline groups. On November 24, however, the British Government stated officially that it was not considered advisable that the expedition should go north of the Equator, and the Australian authorities had to agree.

On February 7, 1917, the British Government asked Australia if there was any objection to a pledge being given to support Japan's claim to keep these islands. Australia offered no objection.

Mr. Dunbabin said that this war might bring even greater changes in the Pacific than did the last war. Already there was talk of re-drawing the map of the Western Pacific. It was up to Australian leaders to see that the Commonwealth did not again lose opportunities for extending its influence in an area that was so vital to her interests. "This time the Australian Government has not told the world about its Pacific plans", he added. "Let us hope that Australia will not be caught again so easily."

Two sweeps conducted at Samarai, Eastern Papua, on the result of the Melbourne Cup in November resulted: Miss Leoni Skelly £61; Miss Nance Campbell £30; Mesdames Searle and Lees £10; and Mr. T. Lowney £51; "Three Jacks" (Misima) £20; Mr. "Nobby" Clarke ("Maedhui") £10. Profits went to the Red Cross (£17) and the Samarai Library Institute (£20).

SCHOONER LAUNCHED IN TAHITI

From Our Own Correspondent

SHIPBUILDING has been for many years an important industry at Papeete. The major number of inter-island vessels now navigating the waters of French Oceania have been built in local ship yards.

The latest construction has been the handsome schooner "Vaitere", built for



The new schooner "Vaitere."

the Cie Francaise Maritime de Tahiti by the Chantier Leprado.

This vessel has been constructed to replace the historic schooner "Vaite", which was wrecked in the Tuamotu Archipelago, October 18, 1939.

The "Vaitere" was launched, with traditional ceremonies, on October 10, 1940, Mademoiselle Leprado, daughter of the constructor, christened the schooner after the ancient manner, in the presence of a distinguished company.

The vessel's length over-all is 104 feet, beam 25 feet and depth 10 feet. Estimated cargo capacity, 120 tons of copra. It is equipped with two Atlas Imperial full diesel engines, each 75 hp.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Johnson, of Edie Creek, New Guinea, spent furlough in Victoria in November. He is mill superintendent for New Guinea Goldfields, Ltd.

Mr. H. F. Ayson, Resident Commissioner at Rarotonga, who has been in poor health for some months, left with Mrs. Ayson for New Zealand in October, on sick leave.

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Order an assortment. Be sure it is Aunt Mary's brand;
packed by Tillock & Co., Pty., Ltd., Sydney.

Recent Bishop Museum Publications

OCEANIC, American Indian, and African Myths of Snaring the Sun, by Katharine Luomala. B. P. Bishop Museum Bulletin 168, 58 pages, 2 maps, 1940. Dr. Luomala gives synopses of sun-snaring myths among the Polynesians, Melanesians, Micronesians, American Indians and peoples of Africa. She discusses the distribution of these stories and related themes of moon-snaring and wind-snaring. Bibliography of 150 references. She concludes that each area has "independently developed its own myth-complex about the theme, and that, except for occasional startling convergence, the development was along different lines. A type myth was clearly distinguishable for each area and each type differed, except in the most superficial and general ways, from the type myths of the other areas. Since the myths of each area were so different, and the distribution so discontinuous, without any evidence of loss in intervening areas, it was concluded that the theme was independently invented in each major diffusion area."

New Species and New Records of Elaterid Beetles from the Pacific, by R. H. van Zwaluwenburg. B. P. Bishop Museum Occasional Papers, Vol. 16, No. 5, pages 91-130, 6 figures, October 18, 1940. Records 62 species, of which 28 are described as new to science, from Melanesia, Micronesia and New Guinea.

Southern Lau Islands: an ethnography, by Laura Thompson. B. P. Bishop Museum Bulletin 162, 228 pages, 5 plates, 21 figures, 1940. The Lau Islands, of eastern Fiji, are of interest to the ethnologist, for they form a place of transition between two different cultures, Melanesian on the west and Polynesian on the east. The Southern Lau Islands especially are of interest, for, because of their ruggedness and isolation, they have to a considerable extent escaped invasion by the white man and the inevitable changes which follow in his wake. They retain their native population, living a simple life. During 1933 and 1934 a study was made of these Lauan people by Dr. Laura M. Thompson, under the auspices of the B. P. Bishop Museum. Bulletin 162 presents a report on this study. It gives a clear and accurate picture of the geography of these islands, especially the island of Kambara, the people and their culture. Dr. Thompson learned their language and lived with them their daily life. The subjects covered include the social organization of the natives, with its tradition and ceremony; the economic life, including problems of obtaining and preparing food; arts, crafts, exchange, and details of the past from archaeological studies.

Opbioglossum, Rollandia, and Scaevola, by Harold St. John. Hawaiian Plant Studies 9. B. P. Bishop Museum, Occasional Papers, Vol. 15, No. 28, pages 351-359, 1 figure, June 26, 1940. New records and forms of Hawaiian plants.

Plant-Parasitic and Free-Living Nematodes in Hawaii, by J. M. Oliveira. Bishop Museum Occasional Papers, Vol. 15, No. 29, pages 361-373, July 15, 1940. An annotated list of 85 species of nematode worms, belonging to 56 genera, of which 38 are reported in Hawaii for the first time; extensive bibliography.

New Species of Dicotyledonous Spermatophytes from Tahiti, by John W. Moore. Bishop Museum Occasional Papers, Vol. 16, No. 1, pages 1-24, 14 figures, June 28, 1940. Describes 14 new species of plants collected in 1927 by L. H. MacDaniels.

A Revision of the Hawaiian Species of Myrsine (Suttonia, Rapanea) (Myrsinaceae), by Edward Y. Hosaka. Bishop Museum Occasional Papers, Vol. 16, No. 2, pages 25-76, 21 figures, June 26, 1940. A monographic revision of this genus of plants, giving its history, morphology, distribution

in Hawaii, keys to species and varieties; descriptions, figures, references and notes, to 21 species and 4 varieties, of which 8 species and 2 varieties are described as new; also 9 new combinations and a new name.

Three Polynesian Ferns, by E. B. Copeland. B. P. Bishop Museum Occasional Papers, Vol. 16, No. 3, pages 77-79, 1 figure, June 26, 1940. Describes *Genocormus samoensis* new species from Samoa; and records *Polypodium lepidum* from Samoa and *Selliguea Feei* from the Marquesas.

Itinerary of Hugh Cuming, by Harold St. John. B. P. Bishop Museum Occasional Papers, Vol. 16, No. 4, pages 81-90, portrait, July 19, 1940. Notes and letter giving some observations of a naturalist in South-eastern Polynesia in 1827-1828.

The new Ahioima Road, providing 25 miles of motor-lorry road between Waigani and Ahioima, Eastern Papua, was opened officially in October by Mr. S. Elliott-Smith, ARM, in the presence of a large gathering of Europeans and natives. Milne Bay planters celebrated the occasion with sports events, canoe racing and a feast for the natives.

Mr. Andrew Kelly, formerly a well-known solicitor in Rabaul, New Guinea, is now partner in the Sydney legal firm of Lynch and Kelly. After leaving New Guinea, he attempted to join the Navy, with which he served during the Great War, but his services were not required.

Mr. Justice Bruce, Puisne Judge of the Gold Coast Supreme Court and a former official of the Western Pacific High Commission, lost his life at sea recently as a result of enemy action while returning from England to West Africa, states the "Fiji Times". Thomas Bruce, MA, who was born in 1885, went to Fiji as Crown Solicitor in 1913; and he was Acting Attorney-General on a number of occasions. Following two years' service abroad in the Great War, he returned to the Pacific and acted as Resident Commissioner of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony in 1920-21. He was appointed Resident Magistrate in Jamaica in 1922, later serving in Kenya and the Gold Coast.

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"Since last October I have been thoroughly run down, I had no appetite and got exhausted with the least exertion and didn't feel like doing anything but just laze about. I was advised to try Bidomak. I am very glad that I took the advice.

My appetite has returned and I can now do a day's work without being done up, and altogether life has taken on a brighter tinge. I would advise anyone that has that run-down feeling to try Bidomak."

(Sgd.) H. Stubbs, Brisbane Rd., Manly, E.2., Queensland.

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At All Leading Island Stores

CHINESE TRADERS IN THE SOLOMONS

Letter to the Editor

HAVING, like so many others, been driven from the Solomon Islands by the "far seeing" policy of the Resident Commissioner there, in issuing unlimited trading licences to Chinese, I will not be renewing my subscription to your journal.

Like many others, I have sons and relatives at the war, while wise representatives of the British Government drive good colonists out and force them to abandon their holdings, so that Cantonese Chinese may prosper. Long live the British Empire!

I am, etc.,

LESLIE W. TULLOH.

Melbourne,
18/11/1940.

POLYNESIA AND MELANESIA

How the Names Were Given

TO-DAY the islands of the Southern Pacific are divided geographically into three parts: Polynesia, Melanesia and Micronesia, said Rev. Walter Ivens (former travelling Secretary for the Melanesian Mission) in an article published in the "Church Standard" (Sydney) on November 29.

Polynesia is the name given to the eastern groups, Tahiti, Samoa, Tonga, etc.; Melanesia comprises the western portion from Fiji to New Britain through the New Hebrides and the Solomons; Micronesia is the name given to the islands lying nearest the equator, the Carolines, Marshalls, etc. The three names are Greek, and the last five letters, "nesia", denote "island". The first

parts of the names denote respectively, "Many", "Black", "Little".

In the case of the first and third, "Polynesia" and "Micronesia", there is a decided aptness in the naming, as a glance at any good map will show; but it is evident that there is a departure from strict etymology in the case of "Melanesia"—the islands being green in colour and not black. The name must therefore be considered to mean "Black Islanders", or "Islands of the black". This is to strain the word, undoubtedly, but the excellence of the other two names makes up for the faultiness of the third.

Who was responsible for these three names? On page two of Commodore Erskine's book "A Cruise Among the Islands of the Western Pacific", there is a statement that "Melanesia is the name given by the French to all that tract between the meridian of Tonga and New Guinea inhabited by the Polynesian negro races". The date of Erskine's voyage was 1849.

The accounts of the voyages of Bougainville, La Perouse and D'Urville, the three French explorers of the Southern Pacific, do not show any use of the name "Melanesia", though D'Urville does use the term "Polynésie". His visit to the Western Pacific took place in 1827, and in 1833 he published a chart which shows the three names used in their present-day connotation. It would seem, then, that we owe the names to him.

There is a tendency nowadays to reckon Melanesia as part of the "South Sea Islands", but this term was applied originally to the islands of the Eastern Pacific, the first known islands in the "South Seas", and Melanesia proper, with its heavier rainfall and its malarial conditions, has not the type of climate that one associates with the "South Sea Islands".

To any one who knows the natives of, say, Mota (Banks Group, New Hebrides), or even of the Solomon Islands, it is obvious that the term "black" is not applicable to the colour of their skins. On the whole, it is true to say that the average "Melanesian" is chocolate in colour and not black. There are, doubtless, varying shades even of chocolate, but, "nigger brown" is a well-known colour. How, then, came D'Urville to regard Melanesians as "blacks"?

I think the answer is found in the fact that D'Urville began his naming at Fiji. Commodore Erskine states quite definitely that certain chiefs of Fiji whom he saw, Thakombau and others, had skins of "a decided black, quite different from the copper colour of the Polynesians". To anyone coming from Samoa or Tonga, as D'Urville did, the difference between the light coloured skins of the Polynesians and the darker coloured skins of the Fijians would be very noticeable. Erskine speaks of "the quantity of hair" on the bodies of the latter, which "give a kind of bluish black tinge".

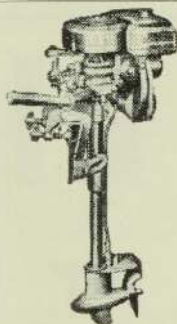
We can be grateful, therefore, to Captain Dumont D'Urville for giving us the pleasant-sounding names, Polynesia, Melanesia and Micronesia, even if the second name does not quite fit the chocolate-coloured peoples who come under that division.

Mr. E. G. Theodore, head of the Loloma and Emperor mining companies at Vatukuola, Fiji, visited Sydney and Melbourne during November in connection with his Australian newspaper interests.

Miss Helen Goldsbury arrived in Fiji from New Zealand recently to take up a teaching post at the Methodist Mission's new Ballantine Memorial Girls' School. She has had considerable teaching experience among Maori girls.

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Illustrated is the popular Tall Table Lamp, 300 c.p. and suitable for all large rooms. An ideal Xmas present. Write for Tilley catalogue or see local agent.

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or midnight dance party,



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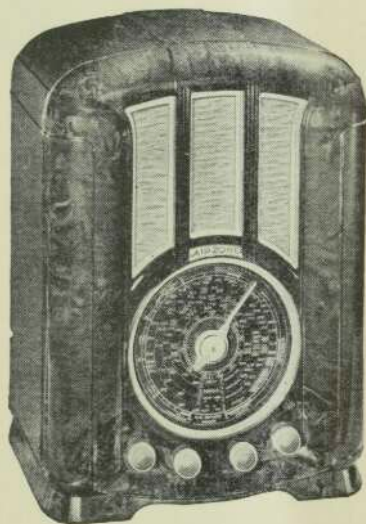
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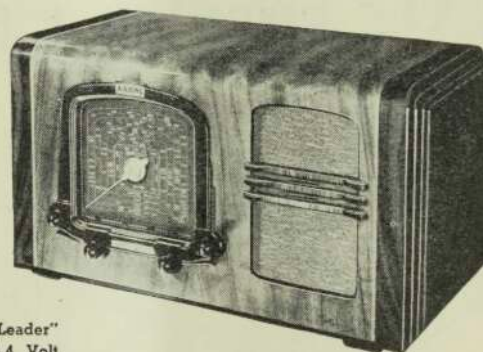
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Airzone fine Radio can satisfy your every need. + + +



At left is the "Symphony Leader" Model 5098, 5 Valve 1.4 Volt Battery Dual Wave Mantel, designed to measure up to the exacting requirements of those without electric current. Also as Model 5059, 5 Valve Vibrator Powered Dual Wave. Both are Airzone masterpieces of Mantel Model Art!



Above is shown Airzone's new mantel production, Model 1072VM. It is a 7 Valve Vibrator Powered Dual Wave Mantel with EVERY feature of a console radio in mantel form. The seven valves make it very powerful and long distance or local reception is extremely good. Also as a 6 Valve A.C. Dual Wave Model 1062AM housed in the same cabinet.

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19 O'Connell Street, Sydney; Salamaua, Rabaul, Kavieng and Madang, N.G.; and Tulagi, Solomon Islands

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AIRZONE *fine* RADIO

Rabaul Man Killed in Fall From Plane

AN unusual accident was responsible for the death of Pilot-Officer Len Bayliss, formerly of Rabaul, New Guinea, when he was training an Air Force recruit in Sydney on November 18. As the pupil was executing a slow roll manoeuvre, Bayliss's safety strap came undone and he fell out of the machine, from a great height. He was not wearing a parachute and crashed to his death in a suburban street.

The cadet pilot did not know his instructor had fallen out until he brought the plane down safely, five minutes after the accident.

Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Fenn, mission workers at the LMS station at Aird Hill, Papua, arrived in Sydney by the November "Macdhui" and proceeded to South Australia on furlough.

Improving Port Moresby Harbour

From Our Own Correspondent

PORT MORESBY, Nov. 22. DREDGE arrived here recently and, within a short time, it is expected that Port Moresby's harbour will be extensively dredged to improve it for larger vessels. For days now, the dredge with its buckets has been an object of great curiosity to the native Papuans.

The Administration recently called for tenders to strengthen and enlarge the local wharf.

Mr. R. Irwin, who for a number of years had been manager of Mogubu plantation in the Abau District, Eastern Papua, arrived in Australia recently to live in retirement. He was accompanied by his daughter Miss Debbie Irwin.

FIJI-INDIAN RIFLEMAN



Mr. A. G. Sahu Khan, of Waimanu Road, Suva, who shot five consecutive "possibles" on the miniature rifle range. He is a member of the Fiji Shooting Club (which came eighth in the Inter-Colonial Shoot) and a member of the Indian Platoon of the Fiji Defence Force.

THE IMPERIAL IMPS PRESENT

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(PRONOUNCED HAMP-Y)

The NEW

"MEAL IN A MOMENT"

Here is Imperial's newest triumph in palate-tickling, quick-serve foods. It's Hampe—a delicious combination of selected, mild cured ham with prime veal.

Serve Hampe fried with eggs—Hampe Salad—Hampe Sandwiches—Hampe Toasted Sandwiches. Hampe costs less per pound than ham, yet most people prefer its flavour and all approve its savoury food-value. In 8-oz., 12-oz. and 4 lb. cans.

Imperial Ox Tongues, 24 oz. & 32 oz.	"FITZROY"	"OX & PALM" OR RIVERSTONE
Imperial Cheese, 8 oz.	Luncheon Beef .. 16 oz. (in oblong can)	Native Trade Meats.
Mild or Tasty.	Pork Sausages .. 16 oz.	Corned, Boiled and/or
Imperial Savoury Spreads, 4 Varieties.	Beef Sausages .. 16 oz.	Roast Beef .. 12 oz.
Lamb Tongues .. 12 oz.	"WESTFIELD"	16 oz., 24 oz., 2 lb.,
Imperial Camp Pie.	Corned, Boiled and/or	3 lb., 4 lb., 5 lb., and
Sheep Tongues .. 12 oz.	Roast Mutton, 12 oz.	6 lb.

THE RIVERSTONE MEAT CO. PTY. LTD.

5-7 O'Connell Street, Sydney. Cables: "IMPERIAL".

Fiji Representatives: PEARCE & CO. LTD.

PITCAIRN ISLAND OR ISLANDS?

COMMENTING on the handsome new set of Pitcairn stamps, recently issued, the "Australian Stamp Journal" (November) says: An interesting point revealed by the new issue is that the official title of the colony is "Pitcairn Islands" and not "Pitcairn Island". The colony comprises, in addition to Pitcairn Island, the islands of Henderson, Ducie and Oueo, which were annexed in 1902, and are (according to the "Pacific Islands Year Book") "included in the district of Pitcairn"; but it appears to us to be incorrect to extend the name of one island to cover a group. An analogous case, for instance, would be if the Gilbert Islands were re-named after the chief island of the group and entitled "Ocean Islands". Why should not the stamps have been inscribed simply "Pitcairn Colony" or "Pitcairn"?

Private Daniel Brudo, a Euronesian, of the Trobriand Islands, Eastern Papua, is now serving in the British Army—he was the only man from Papua who went right through the battle of Flanders and took part in the heroic retreat from Dunkirk last May. His brother, Henry Brudo, is a private in the AIF.

Mr. J. H. L. McGuigan, Medical Assistant in the NG Administration, is now serving with the AIF. His address is: Private J. H. L. McGuigan, VX 42189, HQ Coy., 2/9th Field Ambulance, Bonegilla, Victoria.

ART THAT CONCEALED ART!

A Tahitian Scandal With Comic Trimnings

SINCE that dolorous day when a syndicate of art dealers and a peripatetic novelist emblazoned the name Gauguin on the architrave of the temple of fame, this island of Tahiti has been an atelier of artists from every corner of the world—except, perhaps, the Antarctic Continent.

Among them was a portrait painter from Denmark. He was introduced to us by an esteemed friend and neighbour who, in his young days, had been a captain in the Danish army.

Now, just at that time, both the captain and the writer had been denounced as unshriven heretics and contumacious Philistines by a college of painters drawn from all the schools—from post-impressionist to sur-realist. So when the man from Copenhagen told us he was a great artist, we appeared duly humble (as was fitting in the presence of greatness), and let him do most of the talking. We did not wish any more court-martials until we were sure of ourselves.

Later, when the great Dane took us to view his paintings, the captain and the writer looked long into each other's eyes, then raised our right hands and swore eternal fealty to our Philistinism. But we held our peace, and listened patiently while the painter discoursed eloquently on "My art".

In due time, the artist had rented apartments at Papeete, unpacked his paints and brushes and set about the task of finding natives to people his masterpieces.

One of his achievements was his success in persuading one of the real beauties of the island, an eminently respectable matron, to sit for her portrait. Tahitians of her type usually shun artists and writers. Experience has taught them to be wary. But in this case the captain had vouched for his fellow countryman.

Two or three sittings had enabled the artist to finish those charming features and shapely head on his canvas. Then, having made sketches of her figure and costume, he told the matron that no more sittings would be necessary.

When he had thus disposed of her, he called in a model from a less conventional stratum of society, and finished the picture in the "altogether".

The artist used every precaution to guard the secret of this substitution. While the paint was drying, the canvas was set on an easel, in the most remote corner and kept covered. Unfortunately, a temporary absence from the studio left the man-of-all-work the opportunity to appease a curiosity which was eating into his vitals. He raised the covering from the picture; and, within an hour all Papeete knew what he had seen.

Now, being old-fashioned and hostile to "Progress", our domicile had been connected neither with the island telephone system nor the coconut telegraph. Consequently, we were still ignorant of the happenings recorded above, when the Danish artist appeared at our threshold, bearing an oblong object concealed under heavy wrappings of thick paper.

"I beg a service of you", he said. "Will you keep this parcel in a safe place until I come for it?"

"Be particularly careful", he added, "that the wrappings are not disturbed."

We sensed some misgivings; but we had no reason for refusal, and we consented.

A little later we awoke to the fact that we had given shelter to a veritable Pandora's Box.

Relays of eyes had followed the parcel to its destination.

Enlightenment and an exceedingly great tempest arrived simultaneously.

We summoned the artist. The interview was short; but charred spots on the woodwork of our front porch, which several coats of paint cannot entirely conceal, bear witness to its fervency.

The captain, when he heard the story, spoke words and phrases in Danish so potent that the old Scandinavian fire-god Loki appeared, and the captain had to chase him away with the garden hose to prevent having his house burnt down.

In the last act of the drama, the handsome matron—guarded by two burly brothers—committed hari-kari on her image, while the painter tore his hair and shrieked "My art! My art!"

Shortly afterwards he sailed away, and we have seen him no more.—A.C.R.

Port Moresby Introduces a Soda Fountain

From Our Own Correspondent

PORT MORESBY, Dec. 1.

AN up-to-date soda fountain and milk bar, including an ice cream parlour, has been recently opened in Port Moresby, and is extremely popular with all sections of the community since the hot weather has set in. Clay and Co., are the enterprising firm responsible for the innovation; and the bar, which is to be run on strictly cash lines, promises to be a marked success.

Rt. Rev. P. N. W. Strong, MA, Bishop of New Guinea, has completed his extensive tour of Australia and will return to Papua this month. He lectured on the Mission's work to audiences in NSW, Victoria, Western Australia and Tasmania.

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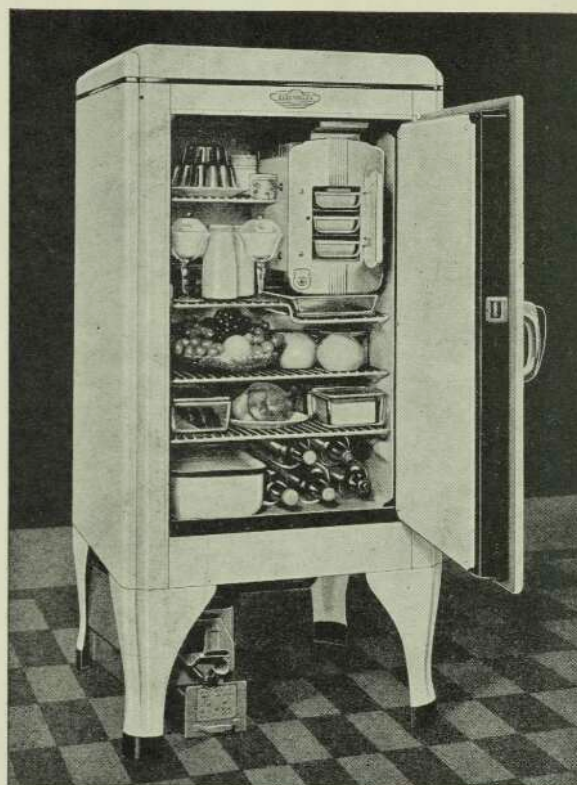
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COCONUTS FOR PIGS

**Profitable Industry—Provided
There is a Market**

VALUABLE information about the way in which the at present valueless coconut can be used profitably as pig-fodder has been given to the "Fiji Times" by Mr. R. T. Ricketts, a planter of Koro, Fiji.

Mr. Ricketts says "there is a fortune in pigs". He makes the important point that he does not feed copra to his pigs—only the raw nuts, which they eat eagerly.

Mr. Ricketts has on his Koro coconut plantation some 250 pigs which graze on the grass under the trees. Apart from the grass, their only food is the raw coconut, cut in two and left on the ground. The procedure is that one of his Fijian labourers goes out every morning and calls to the herd, which come to his call and follow him through the plantation as he cuts open the fallen coconuts, where they have dropped, and he leaves them on the ground.

In the afternoon the pigs are again called and are fed near the homestead. The only time that they are actually in an enclosed area is when they are collected for shipping.

The Fijian only employs part of his time in tending the pigs. The consumption of nuts is five daily per pig, three in the morning and two in the afternoon. A pig fed on these lines will dress at 100 lb. in nine months.

The pork is used by local butchers and a sample exported received a first-class report.

WRITING recently in a New Zealand newspaper, a Mr. J. Beasley said:—"I fed pigs on copra 30 years ago and found it superior to any other food. The pigs were more satisfied with it and the pork was far superior in flavour. It was as firm as if it had been frozen. I always received the best price in the market for my pigs. I also exhibited at the agricultural show for four years, and took first and champion prize each time. Any farmer can be quite safe feeding pigs on copra. I found one sack would be as good as two sacks of sharps, by placing half a sack in a large cask and filling it up with water or skim milk, letting it soak for 12 hours and if possible adding one gallon of molasses."

MUCH interest has been taken by coconut planters and copra interests in the idea of using coconut meat as a fodder for pigs; but, as in so many of these things, persons concerned ask, Where is the market? Pigs of superior quality may be raised on coconut meat, or even on copra; but, under present world conditions, the market is not easily seen. Britain used to buy huge quantities of bacon, etc., from Denmark and it is assumed she now will seek to fill her needs elsewhere. But no one has any data.

(See further comment by a Fiji planter, elsewhere in this issue.)

Rev. and Mrs. Rankin, of the LMS station at Saroa, Papua, are at present in Sydney on furlough. Their young son Dauncey, who accompanied them, has gone to a Melbourne college for education.

Rev. James Benson, ThL, of the New Guinea Mission, Gona, Papua, has been appointed organising secretary of the Diocese of Goulburn, NSW, for the next three months. He then will return to Papua.

Government Control of Cook Is. Products

From Our Own Correspondent

RAROTONGA, Oct. 21.

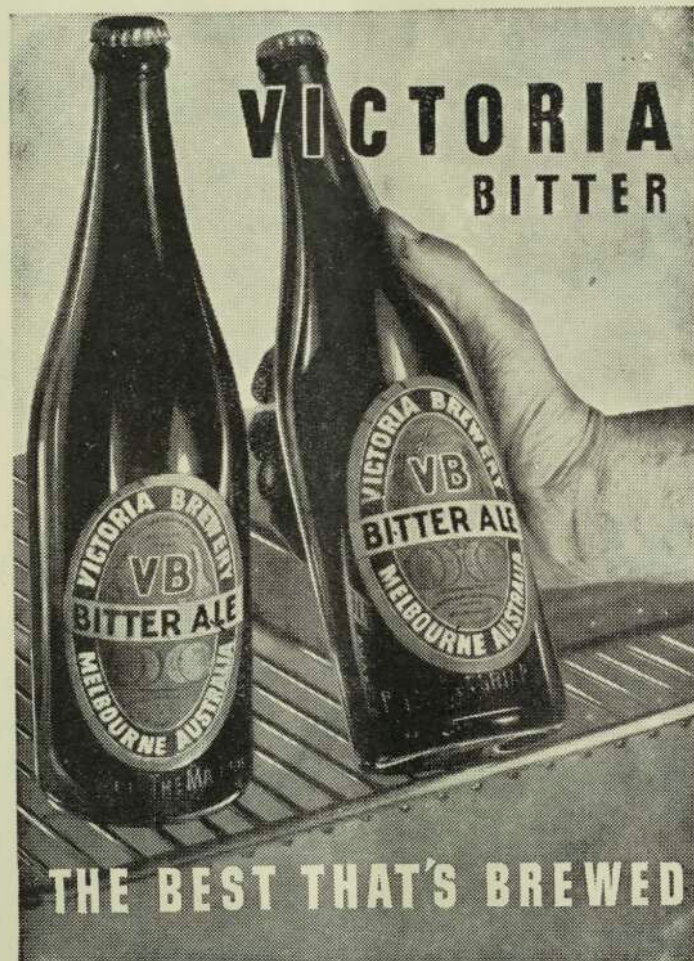
IT was not altogether with unfeigned delight that Cook Islanders learned that the New Zealand Government had taken control of their kumara (sweet potato) and small citrus fruit exports (as well as oranges).

After excellent returns had materialised from the sale of kumaras, grapefruit, lemons and mandarins to local trading firms, it is felt that the Government control will almost surely bring trouble in its wake. Kumaras are in such demand on the NZ market that it was even necessary to obtain export supplies by schooner from the outlying island of Aitutaki; and comparatively large areas of land in Rarotonga have been planted in expectation of a continued fair price. Should returns dimin-

ish, even as a result of seasonal demand, or conditions of export become stricter, the Fruit Control will almost certainly get the blame for it.

One well-known planter, who recently has received excellent prices for shipments of grapefruit and tangerines, expressed the opinion that control had to be taken of the smaller citrus fruits in order not to show up the poor orange prices. It seems probable, however, that with the attention that the Government is now giving to efficient fruit distribution in New Zealand prices are likely to be more encouraging in the not-so-distant future.

Miss Marjorie Hamilton Macindoe, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Macindoe, of Lami, was married to Mr. Don Stokes, eldest son of Mrs. and the late Mr. G. F. Stokes, of Nausori, Fiji, at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Suva, recently.



Papuan natives, under the direction of Mr. C. Fisher, are building another 45 ft. launch at the London Missionary Society's station at Isuleilei, Fife Bay. The vessel will be similar to the "Oliver Tompkins", now in commission.

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A SOUTH SEAS REVERIE

BY "AMEL"

SIGHING over the mountains, loitering in the valleys, hastening over rivers and skimming down to the sea, a warm breeze is bringing its fragrance to temper the heat of a tropical summer's day.

I recline at ease in the shade of a dense-foliated mango tree, whose branches are burdened with clusters of ripening fruit. My dog, Lassie, snores gently beside me. No, that is not correct . . . Lassie never snores. Being a lady through and through, she just breathes heavily. She seems to sense that I am writing about her, for she has opened one melting brown eye, winked a roguish wink, and gone to sleep again. . .

The tide is dead low, and, out on the broad expanse of the bay, the sinister shapes of many coral reefs are plainly visible. They lie beneath the shining sea like somnolent monsters, in places so close to the surface that they are a trap for unwary mariners. But they are also a treasure trove for shell and coral seekers, and a never-failing source of food for the native fisher-folk.

A string of islands, like pieces of a jade-green necklace, sprawl out from the mainland. Ascending lazily from the largest of them, a pale wisp of smoke marks the spot where a party of fisherwomen are baking their taro, their yam, or their brightly-coloured fish, fresh from the sea.

I can picture them squatting beside the fire, waiting eagerly for their food to cook, with their tongues wagging incessantly and their skimpy ragged *sulus* twisted carelessly around copper-brown

waists. When their meal is finished, and the tide has started to turn, they will wend their way homeward to the villages that nestle behind those distant hills.

At each swoop of the wind, the coconut palms along the beach dip and sway gracefully. Their faint rustling comes up the hill to me. The sound has a soothing effect. In the daytime, it takes the edge off that loneliness which sometimes assails dwellers in quiet places; at night, like the waves murmuring on the shore, or rain drumming on the roof, it lulls one to sleep.

How rich is the verdure of this tropic land! Even the humble mangrove is vividly green. The cushiony smoothness of it sweeps back from the sea-shore and merges into the darker-green foothills. But the colour is lost again in the lofty, shadow-dappled mountains, which fill the northern skyline like piles of crumpled blue velvet.

A vast expanse of sea, unbroken and empty, save for one dim island, stretches far south. Over my shoulder, the sun is dying in the west, and its glow is seeping up the valley.

Lassie yawns in utter boredom, and glances suggestively down at the homestead. But I am not ready to go yet. I want to watch the matchless beauty of the tropical sunset, until the sun disappears amid a host of crimson banners. And I want to say a prayer of thankfulness that so much unchanging loveliness still exists in a world of change, ugliness and strife.

The shadows are lengthening and the soft wind goes whispering past, as Lassie and I walk slowly down the hill.

Rev. Samuel J. Gibson, who died in Sydney on December 2 aged 81 years, spent six years in Fiji as a member of the Methodist Mission, from 1884 to 1890.

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From Notes Made in New Caledonia

BY BRIAN STEIN

LIKE most large Pacific towns, Noumea has its daily market; and, early in the morning, all kinds of gardeners begin to arrive at the market place with horse-drawn carts, cars, lorries, and even wheelbarrows. Their loads of vegetables and fruits are laid out on a long counter, running between avenues of large Jameloyne trees. The mistress of the average household usually sends her Javanese or Tonkinese servant to buy the day's requirements; but some of the French ladies prefer to do their own shopping, and these, together with the natives, Tonkinese and Javanese, make the market an interesting, animated place between 5.30 and 6.30 a.m.

A feature of this market is the sale of live fish. Because fish deteriorates very quickly in the tropics, the French authorities issued a decree that only live or dried fish may be sold. As a result, the fishermen make tanks on wheelbarrows, fill them with salt water, and put live fish in. The prospective pur-



Selling live fish at the market place.

chaser walks along the row of barrows and selects his fish. These are taken out and put onto a string, and away the buyer goes with his day's vegetables in one hand, and a string of wriggling fish in the other.

IT was at a Noumea hotel. Several friends of an Australian, who had been on a business trip to the Colony, gave him a dinner, prior to his departure; and the guest of honour was half-way through his reply when he was interrupted by one of the hotel assistants at his elbow. He stopped, and silently handed his bill!

THE macadamised roads outside Noumea, with their topping of loose gravel, wreak havoc on motor car tyres; and a Caledonian driver considers himself fortunate if he gets 8,000 miles from a tyre. Australian tyres are more expensive than those which formerly came from France; but Noumeans recognise that they are considerably better in quality and this, to a degree, offsets the extra cost. One enterprising garage owner in Noumea has installed a modern retread outfit, so that worn tyres now will be given a new lease of life.

DESPITE a dry winter, Noumea has an ample water supply—so much in fact that during the day a constant stream of water runs down the gutters, and in the night these gutters are almost running over. The town gets



Dumbea River, from a point several miles above the dam which supplies Noumea with its fresh water. In background is the little bridge over which a steam train formerly ran between Noumea and Paita.

its supply from the Dumbea River, several miles north; where a dam has been built, and water is pumped to the local reservoir at the back of the town. It is the overflow from this reservoir which runs down the streets of Noumea into the sea, 24 hours every day.

I WAS sipping coffee after *dejeuner*, when the *maitre d'hôtel* handed me a card. It was from Madame —, who, according to the note on the back, had some "interesting information" for me.

Not knowing the lady, and having a limited knowledge of French, it was with some misgivings that I proceeded to the address. Eventually, I arrived at a little cottage, and an elderly lady answered my ring. We exchanged "bon-jours" and she motioned me to enter. Then there was an uncomfortable pause, which I broke by asking in halting French what I could do for Madame.

The lady began to speak in rather fast

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French; and, in an instant, I was lost. For about five minutes I tried pidgin English, with a few French words thrown in, and then a mixture of bad French and hand signs; but of no avail.

The lady, by this time, had begun to look a little exasperated, although I could not understand why, and she abruptly left the room. After a short interval, she returned, waving a copy of the local newspaper, and excitedly pointed to a small advertisement.

I slowly spelled out the news that "un gentilhomme Anglais" was looking for board and residence in a Noumea home, where he could improve his French. Pointing to the advertisement and then to myself I shook my head vigorously, and understanding dawned on the lady's face, and she broke into peals of laughter. I was the wrong "English gentleman." When I departed, my relief manifest, tears of mirth were still running down her cheeks.

THERE is little tropical vegetation around Noumea, but a drive up into the central chain of mountains, which runs the length of the island, brings you into great valleys in which are found all kinds of tropical ferns and flowers, growing out of dense undergrowth and clinging vines. Trees, with heavy foliage, and an occasional pine tree, towering high above all others, replace the familiar niaouli tree of drier parts. A number of native tribes live in these valleys under conditions equal to any other part of the Pacific. They have ample supplies of all kinds of tropical fruits, yams, taro and coffee. Meat is always on hand, in the shape of wild deer, and, as none of these tribes are very far from the coast, a fresh supply of fish is always available.

The Government has discouraged the

building of native huts and these have been replaced by little square-shaped houses with thatched or tin roofs; and once a week a doctor visits the village. This service, together with the fine work being done by the various mission organisations, safeguards the future of the natives.

THE little steam train, which was a familiar sight for about 30 years, between Noumea and Paita, has now ceased to run. Originally, it was intended to build the line from Noumea to



The old railway station in Noumea.

Bourail, 100 miles up the west coast, but it was not carried past Paita, about 20 miles away. On week days, the train came down from Paita to Noumea in the morning and returned in the evening; but on Sundays several trips were made, bringing crowds of country people down to the big town. The upkeep of the service was very expensive and this, together with the growing use of motor transport, finally caused the Government to close the service down.

WHEN France collapsed Caledonians were very worried about the Colony's monetary position. They did not know whether their francs would be worth anything in the future; and many people began to buy goods with their money, declaring that the goods would retain their value, whatever the currency. This started an extraordinary wave of buying, and some storekeepers, fearing that their stocks would not last, closed down during the afternoons for several days—for "stocktaking". To-day, the large stores only sell to smaller traders on a restricted basis, and one merchant said that if he did not do this he would be out of goods in two or three days.

NEW Caledonia imports over £40,000 worth of flour from Australia each year; but tests carried out at the Government experimental plantation over the past 10 years show that certain kinds of wheat grow quite well in the Colony. One member of the Department of Agriculture stated that the Colony could produce all the wheat necessary for flour if a mill were established to manufacture it.

MANY of the big nickel and chrome mines of the Colony are situated at the top of the Central Chain. A chrome mine at Pantoche, for instance, goes down into the heart of the mountain until the bottom is below sea-level. The method usually adopted by miners looking for nickel, however, is to prospect along the tops of the range until a deposit worth exploiting is found. If the vein does not run into the mountain the miners just dig the ore—which resembles red clay—out of the mountainside and shovel it into trucks, which run down a cable to the bottom of the mountain. The ore is then loaded into motor lorries



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and taken to the place of shipment. Sometimes it is sent to the nickel works at Noumea in barges, in which case the lorries take their loads to one of the many jetties around the coast. The ore



A nickel loading jetty near St. Louis, on the South Coast.

is transferred into trucks, which run out on rails to the end of the jetty, and dumped into the waiting barge.

MANY of the poorer families of Noumea cannot afford to hire a motor hearse, and it is not unusual to see a horse-drawn hearse heading a funeral procession. These hearses, which look like Elizabethan-period coaches, are



in two colours—a black one for adults, and a white one for children. The photograph shows a Chinese child's funeral in Noumea recently.

VISITORS to Noumea, unaware that most imported goods are rationed, have some unusual experiences. Coming down to breakfast at his hotel, one meets other guests bearing jars of butter, jam, etc., which they solemnly place on their tables. The newcomer is immediately conscious that his own table looks bare, when compared with others, loaded with sauces, pickles, jams and cake; and he soon is told that these goods, which are very scarce, are not supplied by the hotel, and guests must buy them. This well-fed Australian at first was amused, when he found he could get only half a pound of butter and a couple of boxes of matches a month; but the comedy took a tragic turn when he found that he could not order the meal he fancied, and had either to accept or reject whatever was brought along by a waiter who could not understand a word of English!

MANY years ago sugarcane was grown in New Caledonia, first for milling sugar and, later, as the basis of a rum industry. When the French Government prohibited the import of New Caledonian rum, the industry ceased and the question of growing sugar again has been raised in recent weeks. It is being asked whether, instead of importing sugar to the value of about £25,000 every year, the Colony cannot grow at least portion of its requirements locally. Sugar cane will grow, but the local cane has not a very high sugar content, and samples of Australian cane have been obtained, and experiments are being made to see whether it can be adapted to New Caledonian conditions.

THE most important nickel company in New Caledonia is the powerful Societe le Nickel. Latest figures

show that this company owns 21 valuable nickel mines, which in 1939 produced a record total of 275,000 tons of ore; a smelting works at Doniambo Point; and a fleet of colliers.

There are 23 other nickel mines in the Colony, and last year's production from these mines totalled 75,000 tons—a record. Very little of this ore is smelted locally; it is sold to whatever market is available—principally Japan. A small mining company recently sent a representative to Australia in search of a market; but although Australian interests could not buy the ore, they assisted the company to get in touch with an interested group in America.

NOUMEA has a commercial broadcasting station which, twice daily, broadcasts a programme of news and music. These sessions are not very long—usually about half an hour; but

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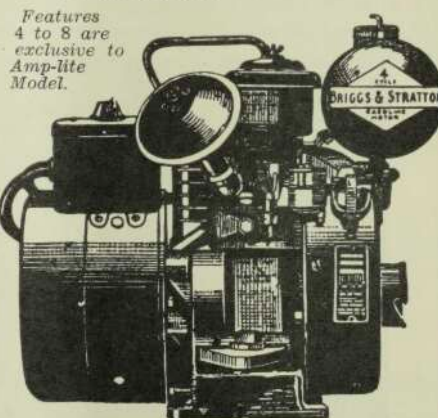
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the value of the station was evident during the recent unsettled period, following France's capitulation. The various Governors and other leading people gave several speeches over the wireless, telling the people of their policies and opinions, etc.

A feature of this broadcast is that before the station opens its programme, the "Marseillaise" is played, followed by the whole of the British National Anthem.

FEW people in New Caledonia know of the existence of a large forest of wild kauri (Kauri Savage) at Pourrina, in the south-east of the island. In this forest there are several million cubic feet of timber, which is soft when green, and hard when dry. Because of its hardness, it is considered that it would be better than the ordin-

ary kauri for match-making. A Noumea timber man said the trees are about 25-30 metres high and grow very close together; and, although it would cost about 1,000,000 francs to put the forest into production, this capital could be found locally if there was a market for the timber in Australia.

AS in other Pacific Territories, copra in New Caledonia is in the doldrums. Now that France—formerly her sole market—has gone, the Colony has stopped exporting. It was reported in Noumea recently that there was a good market in Mexico, but no shipping was available to shift the copra. A Noumea soap factory has announced that it will make toilet and other soaps from coconut oil, thereby using a small portion of the 3,000 tons a year of production. Meanwhile, however, many

planters are using their copra as pig fodder.

ALTHOUGH New Caledonia in the past has imported gypsum from South Australia, the Colony to-day is obtaining most of its needs locally. Gypsum is used in the processing of nickel at the Doniambo smelting works. There are considerable deposits at Pouembout, near Kone, on the west coast, and the photograph shows how it is being ex-



ploited. The mineral is dug out of the ground and after being washed is carried away to Noumea.

WHEN war broke out it brought to a standstill New Caledonia's growing tourist trade. It also terminated the activities of a small group of Noumea businessmen who for many years have been working for the establishment of a tourist bureau. In 1912 the "Syndicat d'Initiative de la Nouvelle Calédonie" was formed; and, several years ago, M. C. Desmazes, representative in Noumea of the Touring Club de France, founded the "Touring Club de Nouvelle Calédonie". Mainly through the efforts of M. Numa Daly, these two bodies in 1937 amalgamated into the "Touring Club de Neo Calédonien (Syndicat d'Initiative)". Since then in co-operation with Cook's representative (Mr. H. Martin) this group has provided the entertainment, etc., for the various P. & O. and Orient cruise ships.

Shortly before the declaration of war, Governor Pelicier agreed to let the tourist organisation have a building near the waterfront, where a tourist office could be set up. This offer was withdrawn, later, as the building was required by the military authorities.

ENGLISH people, who do not speak French, rarely meet with any difficulties when travelling around the large centres of New Caledonia. Most business people in the Colony speak a little English—particularly the younger generation. This, probably, is due to the practice of New Caledonians of sending their children to Australia for two or three years after they have finished their education in Noumea. As New Caledonia is quite close to a large English-speaking country, it is only natural that English is regarded as an important part of the school curriculum, and it is astonishing to note the large number of young men and women in Government offices, stores, etc., who speak excellent English.

A RECENT arrival in Noumea was Colonel T. Crowther, managing director of the Societe de Ouaco, New Caledonia's well known meat canning company. Colonel Crowther was in Paris when France collapsed in June; and it took him 15 days to reach a French port, where he caught one of the last boats

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for England. After a stay in London, he left for America, arriving there after 16 days' zig-zagging across the Atlantic. At New York he caught a plane for San Francisco; spent a day there, and flew to Noumea by PAA clipper—the whole journey from New York to Noumea taking just 6 days.

Colonel Crowther's last visit to the Colony was some 20 years ago, and he said the outstanding change which had taken place was the road system in the country. Formerly, he had had to travel up the coast by boat, and then on horseback, to reach his company's properties. To-day, main roads take him to any of his interests in the island.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

FIJI'S IMPRESSIVE GIFTS TO WAR EFFORT

WHAT the Governor (Sir Harry Luke) called "a truly impressive contribution to the Empire's war effort" is being made by the people of Fiji—Europeans, Fijians, Indians and Euroneseans. The position, early in November, was:—

The Bomber Fund stands at over £61,000; the amount so far remitted to the Red Cross and St. John of Jerusalem Joint Appeal Fund is £12,610; and there has been subscribed in aid of the London Air Raid Relief the sum of £1,526. Amounts have also been allocated by the Fiji War Appeals Board to King George's Fund for Sailors and to St. Dunstan's; and there have been private gifts of a fighter plane, of money and of garments which do not figure in these totals.

The Great Council of Fijian Chiefs, meeting in Levuka in October for discussion of native affairs, voted £2000 from the Draiba Rest House Fund, for the Fiji Bomber Appeal—a spontaneous and striking gesture.

Is There a Weather Cycle?

Letter to the Editor

IT is with interest that I have compared the opinions of the older residents of these islands on the subject of weather conditions. The recent cold spell in Rarotonga has awakened memories of better days in the breasts of these old-timers—days when such things as sweaters and blankets were unheard-of in this so-called tropical clime. One and all are concertedly adamant in their statements that the local weather is going rapidly "to the dogs". Can this be true, or is that these elders and betters have fallen into the error of most of their ilk in saying that "there's nothing now like the good old days?"

Yours inquiringly,

RALPH J. A. INGRAM.

Rarotonga, C.I.,
21/10/1940.

EDITORIAL NOTE

Mr. Ingram wrote facetiously; but, actually, he directs attention to a very interesting phenomenon. One seems to see a connection between all South seas weather, insofar that abnormality in Australia, for example, usually is balanced by abnormality out in the Central Pacific. Eastern Australia, until December, suffered a long-continued and very bad drought; and attention is increasingly being given to the theory that Australia's rain cycle is between 35 and 40 years. In other words, Australia, every 35 years or so, can expect a drought that lasts from 3 to 5 years. There is much data to support this belief—including the fact that Australia's last great drought was between 1900 and 1905. Can the old hands in the Pacific say whether the present weather abnormalities were noted by them between 1900 and 1905?

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PHOSPHATE AS WAR FACTOR

Great Value of Pacific Fields

BECAUSE this war has a great economic background, and economic considerations frequently cause moves which do not appear to be justified on military grounds, it is important to consider the phosphate industry of the Pacific.

Pacific phosphate is taken from three main sources: Nauru Island and Ocean Island (in the Central Pacific—both British) and Makatea Island (in French Oceania); and smaller supplies come from New Caledonia and Netherlands Indies.

Modern farming conditions made an adequate supply of phosphate rock, for conversion into super-phosphates, indispensable; and three great agricultural countries—Australia, New Zealand and Japan—draw their main supplies of phosphate from the places mentioned.

Nauru and Ocean Island carry deposits of approximately 100,000,000 tons of the finest phosphate rock in the world—it has a phosphate content of 80 per cent. In the year ended June 30, 1939, those two islands exported 1,224,515 tons of phosphate rock. The British Phosphate Commission which works the deposits on the two islands reports that in that year Australia took 800,000 tons, New Zealand 300,000 tons, Britain 60,000 tons, and the balance was divided between Japan and Scandinavia. Makatea, the French Island, produced approximately 100,000 tons per annum in pre-war days, which went mostly to Pacific markets.

The world's largest producers of phosphate rock are, in their order of importance: United States, Tunisia, Morocco, and Nauru-Ocean Island. Although Nauru and Ocean Island come only fourth in production, they carry the richest rock.

As a result of war conditions, the organisation which supplies phosphate rock to Australia and New Zealand fell into some confusion—partly as the result of shipping disorganisation, and partly owing to a sharply increased demand for phosphate from the Pacific. By August, 1940, the price had risen considerably in Australia, supplies had fallen, and agriculturists and pastoralists were in a state of high alarm. However, the Prices Commissioner in Australia took control of the situation and forced the interests concerned to reduce their price by 4/- per ton as from July 1; while the Phosphate Commission announced, about the same time, that new arrangements would permit larger production on the islands and more regular shipments.

The New Zealand Phosphate Commissioner (Sir Albert Ellis) said in Auckland that he expected Nauru-Ocean Island to produce at the rate of 1,250,000 tons per annum. He said the labour supply there had been considerably increased by bringing in Chinese from Hongkong and native labourers from the Gilbert and Ellice Group. There are now on the two islands 175 Europeans, and 2,500 labourers, engaged on phosphate rock production.

Japanese agricultural industry, to an increasing extent, is dependent upon good, regular supplies of phosphate; and Japan, in consequence, is intensely interested in the future control of the phosphate islands. There are phosphate deposits on the Japanese mandated

islands (Carolines, Marshalls, etc.), but they provide less than 100,000 tons per annum, whereas in an ordinary year, before the war, Japan imported about 1,000,000 tons of phosphate rock.

Japan buys largely from Nauru-Ocean Island and Makatea and, in this connection, it is worth remembering that, when the Great War broke out, in 1914, and Australian, New Zealand and Japanese forces moved out rapidly into the Pacific to occupy the German colonies, an Australian force had settled in Nauru, and raised the British flag there, only a few hours before a Japanese force appeared.

If ever war conditions should develop between Britain and Japan, the two great phosphate islands of Nauru and Ocean Island, only a few hundred miles

from the Japanese Mandated Territories, would be in a very exposed position.

There is interest, also, in the future of the French island of Makatea. The deposits there, which are very considerable and very rich, have been controlled by a French company. There is no information as to what has been going on there since the collapse of France; and, if the French Empire is not restored, the future of Makatea is bound to be the subject of a diplomatic headache or two, in the future.

Mr. Joseph McCarthy, a Government teacher on one of the Torres Strait Islands, married Miss Viti Smith, of Wollongong, NSW, recently.

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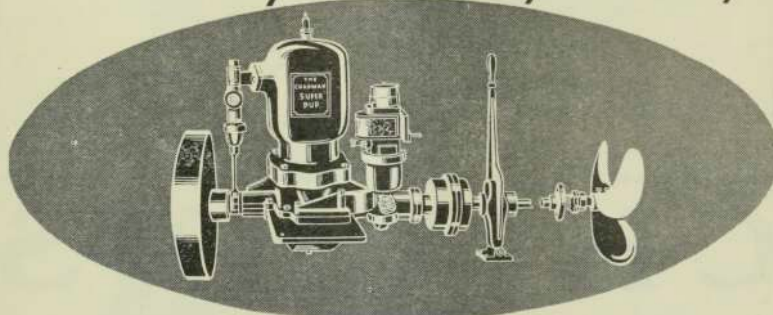
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ENGINE MANUFACTURERS FOR THIRTY YEARS

Mrs. Frances Augusta Evelyn Swann, who spent more than 57 years in Fiji, died at Suva in November, aged 89. Mrs. Swann arrived in the Colony in 1883 with her first husband, Mr. Cutbush; and, following his death some years later, she married Mr. Arthur James Swann. Mrs. Swann had a large family, most of whom are well-known residents of Fiji.

Mr. and Mrs. Y. S. Chen arrived at Suva, Fiji, recently, where he will take up the position of Chinese Vice-Consul in the Colony. Mr. Chen, who formerly was stationed in India, replaces Mr. C. T. Tsiang, who left Suva in November for Bombay.

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Pitt, after a holiday in Australia, recently returned to Rabaul, TNG, and later proceeded to Madang, where Mr. Pitt has taken over the duties of Assistant District Officer.

WHAT JAPANESE NAZIS ARE AFTER

Control of All Pacific West of 180th Longitude

BECAUSE nothing of a sensational character has happened in the North-West Pacific since Japan, early in October, announced her adherence to the Axis Pact, and her determination to create "a New Order in the East", it would be exceedingly foolish for the European Territories in the Pacific to imagine that nothing has happened, or that the general situation is not exceedingly delicate.

Japan, permitting herself to be made the plaything of German diplomacy, has committed herself to a policy which, if pursued on the lines announced by her representatives, must presently bring

her into collision with Anglo-American power. But it may not go so far as that. All the Japanese are not Nazis and fools. They yet may see the dangers ahead, and alter course.

MEANWHILE, they are pressing on with their preparations for their "New Order". What is this "New Order", exactly? It means a Japanese dictatorship over South-eastern Asia and the great islands in the seas to the southward. It means that Japan shall be as supreme in South-eastern Asia as Germany now is in Central and Western Europe—where the Hun stands with his feet on the necks of a dozen prostrate peoples, and howls about his love of humanity and his high cultural standards!

The thing was well explained in the following cablegram sent from New York, and published in Melbourne "Herald" on November 14:—

A former Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Navy (Admiral Takahashi), for the first time defines the scope of the "New Order in Asia", which he says begins at Manchukuo and extends southward to Australia, eastward to parallel 180, and westward to the Bay of Bengal, says the Tokyo correspondent of the "New York Times".

General Takahashi, in an article in the periodical "Himode", declares that the "New Order" will be constructed in several stages.

First of all, Japan demands Manchukuo, China, Burma, the Straits Settlements, New Caledonia, New Guinea, the Philippines and Indo-China.

"Australia and the Dutch Indies can be included later," he adds, "and the 'New Order' can be enlarged if our strength increases."

The "New York Times" correspondent says that the above definition was evolved at a round-table conference of naval officers called by the editor of "Himode" to discuss Japan's place in the Axis, and whether America and Japan were likely to fight.

Commander Hirade said that the Axis alliance laid on Japan the heaviest naval burden in her history, but did not necessarily mean immediate war.

Vice-Admiral Hamada said that America's participation in the European war would automatically involve Japan, but the Triple Alliance probably would delay hostilities.

The correspondent says that Admiral Hamada added: "War cannot be postponed indefinitely. Circumstances beyond control necessitate a Japanese-American showdown."

Admiral Takahashi said: "Japan determinedly faces war with America, otherwise she would not have entered the Axis Alliance". War could be prevented only by American readiness to abandon the "open door" policy, and recognise the "New Order".

He strongly deprecated the Japanese tendency to belittle America's preparations. The alliance was intended to prevent America from interfering in Europe, but she might interfere in East Asia. Until that day, Japan must be prudent and not provoke the United States.

That does not seem to leave much room for rearrangement or compromise.

But it must be noted that these people who define their precious "New Order"—and who, therefore, are after Malaya, Burma, Dutch East Indies, Philippines, Borneo, New Guinea, New Caledonia and perhaps Northern Australia—are naval and military officers. The latter classes are known Fascists, and fiercely anti-British.

The great majority of Japanese—including the rich and powerful middle classes and industrialists—do not want war. They know, only too well, that if they get into collision with the United States (and any extension beyond Indo-China will mean war), the Japanese Empire will be destroyed.

The pro-Nazi Japanese, for all their talk of a "New Order", know this very

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well; and they are even undertaking their seizure of Indo-China (which is not likely to be a *casus belli*) very gingerly indeed. Step by step, they are taking complete control of the former French Colony, and there is no doubt of their ultimate object. They will try to filch Indo-China, but they will not expand further while Britain and USA stand undefeated.

But if our flag should go down in Europe, the pro-Nazis of Japan would get a great access of strength and influence, and it is certain that they then would try to extend their "New Order" over the regions mentioned above.

MEANWHILE, however, the Japanese Government (at present actively pro-Nazi and anti-British) is pushing on with preparations for the "New Order". In mid-November the Japanese Foreign Office announced the creation of a "Bureau of South Seas Affairs", to deal with matters relating to Australia, New Zealand, Indo-China, Thailand, Malaya, Philippines, and Netherlands Indies.

The Japanese high officials seem always to be issuing wordy statements about their South Seas plans and ambitions, and one rather loses track of them all. But, running through them all, there is one definite, underlying purpose: Japan, if she can, will influence and direct the affairs not only of the Asiatic countries near her, but also of the European colonies and dominions in the Central and South Pacific. If we lost the war, we should have to accept Nazi domination, through Japanese mouths.

That is the exact meaning of the Japanese-Axis Pact and the "New Order" in the East.

What Happens in Lonely Islands When Markets Disappear

From Our Own Correspondent

RAROTONGA, Oct. 21.
WITH the complete absence of a copra and pearl market, the atoll islands of the Northern Cooks (Manihiki, Rakahanga, Penrhyn, Puka Puka, etc.) are faced with the complete cessation of supplies of their long-accustomed cotton-goods, rice, sugar and flour.

It is understood that the Cook Islands Administration is conferring with the New Zealand Government, with a view to purchasing local copra at a payable price, but no result has yet been made known. The large trading firms, who have been "carrying" these islands for the past twelve months, have now been compelled to cease buying copra altogether as, with full sheds and no prospect of a steamer, the risk is too great.

Mr. L. Trenn, Resident Agent of Manihiki and Rakahanga, who returns from leave to his post this month, is making efforts to revive the export on a large scale of the beautiful Manihiki hats, mats, baskets and belts which were so famous all over the Pacific. These are of the finest manufacture, and materials, and can be bought more cheaply now than ever before in view of existing conditions. Those interested in these, or any other, South Sea handicrafts should communicate with Mr. Trenn or the Cook Islands Administration.

Mr. Alfred Lennard McGowan, son of Mr. and the late Mrs. W. E. McGowan, married Miss Amelia Maud Gosling, daughter of Captain and Mrs. H. Gosling, of Suva, Fiji, at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church recently. The couple have made their home at Tavua.



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DATE OF FIRST LAE-WAU FLIGHT

Letter to the Editor

ON page 13 of the November "PIM", a paragraph refers to the date of the first aeroplane flight from Lae to Wau, in April, 1927.

The official records of Guinea Gold No Liability, which owned the first plane, contain a cablegram, received shortly after the flight, from its representative in Salamaua, reading as follows:—"Plane regular service inaugurated Monday, April 18. No difficulty."

A schedule, on file also, indicates that, on the first completed flight two passengers (evidently Messrs. Mullins and Lewers) were taken to Wau, and three were flown back to the coast on that day. At this time, Mr. C. J. Levien was, unfortunately, in Rabaul, and thus a first-hand report from him is lacking.

I am, etc.,

Adelaide.

C. V. T. WELLS.

ED. NOTE: This information, courteously supplied by the chairman of Guinea Airways Ltd., fixes the historic date beyond argument—it was April 18, and not April 17, as had been supposed.

IT'S OVER THE REEF!

Landing a Motor Truck on Coral Island

THE exacting feat of getting their outrigger canoes over the foaming reefs of Mangaia has been the daily task of the natives of that island for long generations. Mangaia has no harbours or anchorages. The outer edge of the reef falls away into deep water. Crossing the reef is at all times a tricky business, but in bad weather the Mangaians perform miracles of seamanship.

Their greatest feat is that of landing a modern motor truck. To date, seven vehicles have been brought ashore without mishap.

Two canoes, which are hollowed from single tree-trunks, are lashed parallel, spaced with timbers, so that the wheels of the vehicle will settle snugly into the hulls, and taken out to the ship.

Now comes the nerve-racking business of lowering the truck into the canoes from the deck of a pitching and swaying schooner.

We hold our breath as it dangles precariously from the cargo hoist, swinging with the motion of the ship and rising and falling in alternate rushes. Time and again, the hovering truck is almost settled into the canoes, but before it can be released it is jerked into the air, and the canoes go sheering off. Eventually it is settled in the canoes and the tackle cleared.

The strange and valuable cargo is now paddled over the ocean swells to the reef, where comes the difficult task of getting it "over the top".

The craft is halted just outside the breaking surf, one moment lifted level with the reef, the next sinking into the trough, with the jagged coral looming in a formidable barrier.

The art of landing on the reef is to choose the "right wave", to lift the craft above the level of the coral and sweep it over into the quiet shallows inside, aided by the strenuous efforts of the paddlers and the skilful handling of the "rangatira" at the steering oar. A misjudgment would crash the canoes onto the sloping outer edge of the reef, at the mercy of the next curling sea.

THE Mangaians have become accustomed to that white-man's miracle, the dear old "T" Ford; but the arrival of an up-to-date Bedford truck, with its shining cellulose and chromium plating, luxurious upholstery, and dazzling instrument panel with many "clocks", was a new sensation for them.

For several days, while a garage was being constructed for this purring god of power, four elders of the community guarded it day and night, their women-folk bringing them food.

Came the day of the christening celebrations. This event called for something special in the way of a feast. Eighty pigs were roasted in the "umus"; and these, together with vast quantities of fowl and taro, were heaped in long rows on the grass in front of the cargo-shed which served as a grandstand.

The great moment arrived. Cheers rent the air as the truck, so festooned with flowers and streamers that the driver had difficulty in seeing his course, moved slowly up the Lane of Plenty.

Midway, it halted. Hatless, the "orometua", or native pastor of the L.M.S. church, approached, in his hand an opened drinking-nut. Prayers were offered in thanksgiving for the safe

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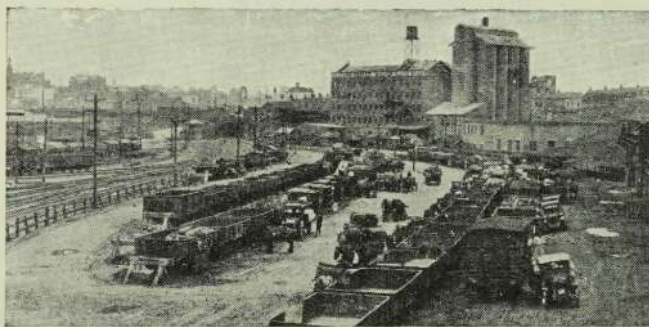
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arrival of the truck and petitions for its future welfare.

The crowd watched silently as the "oro-metua" raised the coconut. He hesitated, then tipped the nut carefully. Just a few drops—that was all. It would be sacrilege to pour coconut water all over that beautiful radiator! So he poured the rest on to the ground. More cheers.

NOW the guitars and ukuleles come to the fore. Brown fingers caress the strings. Eyes begin to sparkle as the tempo increases to the blood-stirring throb of a lively Tahitian hula. A giggling girl slips into the circle, and starts to



TOP: The loaded canoes wait anxiously at the edge of the reef, until a roller comes in, big enough to carry them over the top, into the lagoon, without a smash.

MIDDLE: Over the top!

LOWER: Through the lagoon, the canoes are dragged up on the beach, and the task of getting the truck out of the canoes is undertaken.

sway. It spreads like prairie fire. Grandmas forget the aches in their ancient bones; tiny toddlers shimmy and wiggle.

Nothing can stop them now—the hula is on! While the crowd sways and surges, the king and queen of Mangala, together with members of the Island Council, are taken for a drive through the settlement.

Afterwards, the public got their chance: threepence a head for a one-mile flip. For hours, the garlanded Bedford shuttled back and forth. Three excursions were made right round the island. At various points, the truck was halted while presents were made to it. A few yards of gaudy dress-stuff; a bunch of bananas; a live fowl; at one place a huge, protesting porker, which was got aboard with some difficulty and much noise. When the vehicle arrived back at the main settlement it resembled

a travelling Persian market—complete with smells!

Mangaia's "main road" is a double wheel-track, canopied with coconut trees, which encircles the island, and is used to transport oranges from the outer villages to the main settlement of Oneroa.

Their life's work done, the "T" Fords now rest by the roadside, rusty and forlorn, watching their task being carried on by a number of modern motor vehicles.—W.S.B.

One of the most important scientific works on modern Polynesia is the Tuamotuan dictionary which Mr. J. Frank Stimson has been working on for some years. Of late Mr. Stimson, who is an American scientist with headquarters in Tahiti, has been engaged on field work at Raivavae in the Austral Islands, accompanied by Mr. F. Alan Seabrook. Besides studying the native culture and archaeology, he collected a number of stone adzes and artifacts for the Bishop Museum of Honolulu. The visit was made possible by Mr. Cornelius Crane, the American millionaire, who has a home in Tahiti. It was reported recently that Mr. Stimson was contemplating a field study on Rimatara, the least known of the Austral Islands.

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Hon. O. F. Nelson, of Western Samoa, who was reported in last issue to be in ill-health and gone on furlough to New Zealand, actually was much better in November. He cancelled his projected trip, and was able to resume active business.

"TAGUA" BACK IN CENTRAL PACIFIC

From Our Own Correspondent

RAROTONGA, Oct. 21.
THE Cook Islands schooner "Tagua", long-owned by the Cook Islands Trading Co., and used in the South-eastern Pacific trade, is now under charter to the New Zealand Government for general services. After some months in New Zealand and Suva, for re-fitting and the installation of a new engine, she re-appeared at Rarotonga in October.

The "Tagua" will transport lepers from Rarotonga and Aitutaki to the leper concentration island, and carry out certain other duties in the Northern Cooks.

Before the present Government charter, the "Tagua" had been chartered by Mr. Richard Damon, of the famous Honolulu banking family, and the fortunate crew spent a happy three months chasing rainbows around the Eastern Pacific.

Mr. V. A. Florance, solicitor, who has been practising at Wau, New Guinea, for several years, has transferred his practice to Rabaul. He has taken offices in the WRC building, Rabaul.

Mr. H. B. Gibson, European Elected Member for the Eastern Division in Fiji, went to New Zealand in November where his father, **Mr. A. B. Gibson**, was gravely ill.

Mr. S. H. Ellis, of Suva, left Fiji for New Zealand recently for a holiday, after several months of indifferent health.

FAREWELL TO THE SEA

Captain Henry Low, of Fiji, Retires

WHEN the MV "Tui Cakau" returned to Suva yesterday from Lautoka she was brought alongside the wharf by Captain Henry John Low for the last time (said the "Fiji Times"), on November 1) Captain Low, 48, of whose 66 years have been spent sailing the seas, has retired and will henceforward live ashore.

Henry Low was born on Taveuni in 1874, his father, Mr. Charles Wallace Low, being in charge of a large cotton plantation there. Later Mr. C. W. Low entered into partnership with Hennings Bros., in the Lau Group; and then he settled in Levuka, at that time the capital of Fiji and a thriving mercantile and shipping town. But Levuka's excitements were not sufficient for young Henry so, in 1892, he shipped as mate on the ketch "Alice" (J. C. Smith & Co.) trading between Levuka, Ba, Lautoka and Labasa. After some years in this trade, he then served two years before the mast in the "Rotuma", a sailing vessel belonging to Captain Kaad and trading between Fiji and Rotuma, the islands of Wallis and Futuna, and Sydney.

Returning to Fiji, he took command of the CSR Co.'s "Marama" and spent nine years with the company, as master of this vessel and later of the "Rani". In 1910, Captain Low joined the South Pacific Lumber Co. as master of the schooner "Confianza". After four years in the lumber trade, he formed an association which was to last for 26 years, for in 1914 he was given command of the Fiji Shipping Co.'s "Adi Keva". Under this firm and later under Morris, Hedstrom, Ltd., which took over the Fiji Shipping Co.'s fleet, Captain Low has been master of the old "Adi Keva", her successor the new "Adi Keva", the "Sir John Forrest", the "Adi Rewa", and lastly the "Tui Cakau".

During the past 40 years Captain Low gained a knowledge of the seas, reefs, islands and waterways of Fiji which probably exceeds that of any other one man. There are few islands in the Group which do not know the sturdy figure and stentorian voice of Henry Low. The seamen who have passed through his hands and have been trained by him must be numbered by the hundred. He has probably done favours and executed commissions for every trader and plantation owner in the remoter islands.

Captain Low retires with a proud record—Fiji waters are notoriously narrow and dangerous, but in his 35 years as master of interinsular craft he never has lost a ship. Another source of gratification which perhaps tempers his inevitable regret at leaving the sea is that he has handed over command of the "Tui Cakau" not to a stranger, but to his own son, Mr. D. L. Low.

Mrs. Wati Vuni Harris, relict of the late Mr. John Harris, died recently at Levuka, Fiji, aged 80 years. She was buried at Rukuruku, Ovalau, where she spent the greater part of her life.

Mr. R. F. Pickering, manager in Fiji for the Bank of NSW, has been transferred to Townsville, Queensland, on promotion, and will leave the Colony this month. His successor is **Mr. T. Bryce**.

Mr. Parkin Christian, of Pitcairn Island, paid a visit to New Zealand recently to undergo an operation.

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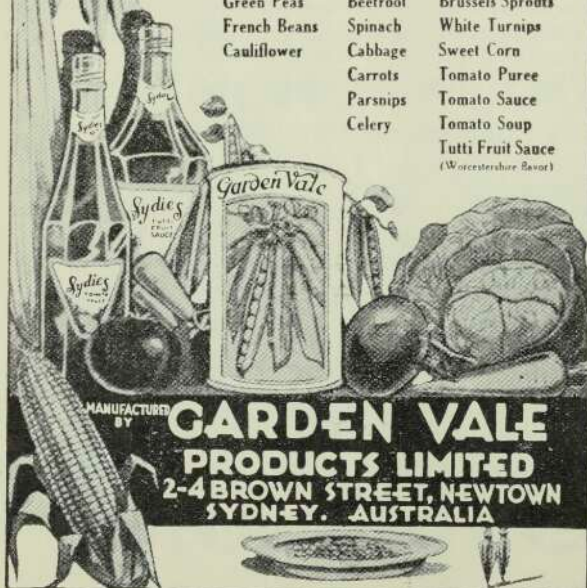
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Why Japan's Interest in Timor?

THE announcement, made in "Sydney Morning Herald" on November 16, that a Japanese Government-subsidised airline is about to run between Palau (Western Carolines—Japanese mandate), via the Moluccas or Dutch New Guinea, to Dilli, capital of Portuguese Timor (the East Indies island nearest to Australia) is a matter of sharp interest to Australia, and to all British and French territories in the Western Pacific.

Why should the Japanese start this line?

Timor is only a small island, divided between Portugal and Holland, and already it has a weekly airmail, provided by the Dutch, which connects with the regular Dutch East Indies airlines.

The Japanese, for years, have shown a lively interest in Timor—presumably, because it is Portuguese, and various land-hungry nations are always hoping to pick up the remnants of Portugal's once great colonial empire.

From Australia's viewpoint, Timor is embarrassingly close to Darwin—it is a water hop of only a few hundred miles. While Dutch or Portuguese are there, Australia will not worry. But if Japanese—Hitler's new ally—were to make any kind of base there, the position would be less satisfactory.

However, Portugal and Holland are Britain's allies. Portugal has not yet given the Japanese the right to land at Dilli, and Holland has not given them permission to fly over the East Indies.

PALOLO ARRIVES

THE peculiar coral worm called "palolo", which comes to the surface on only one or two days each year, and which is regarded in Samoa as a great table delicacy, appeared in the waters around Savai'i, Samoa, on Wednesday, October 23, and fishermen made a good haul.

The palolo comes to the surface only in the dawn of the opening of the third quarter of the moon in Savai'i and the same period of the moon in November in Upolu. Immediately the sun appears, the floating mass apparently dissolves and in a few minutes there is not a trace to be seen.

SUNDAY IS.

Interesting, Fertile Spot is Now Weather Station

AGAIN and again, world-weary people have sought a refuge upon beautiful, fertile, well-watered Sunday Island, in the Kermadec Group, mid-way between New Zealand and Tonga. Life there is easily sustained, and one's isolation is not endangered, because there is no harbour, and ships can anchor off the rocky coasts only in quiet weather.

The little colonies do not last, however. Sometimes they give one reason for their collapse, sometimes another; but the real reason is that, however sick the colonists may be of the sight of other human beings, after a year or two they find they cannot stand the loneliness.

Recently, as part of the South Pacific meteorological network for the trans-Pacific airways, the New Zealand Government established a weather station on Sunday Island, and the following description of the place is supplied by Mr. H. Lukins, a meteorologist, who spent several months there. We predict that, since a permanent weather station and staff mean that Sunday Island must now be a regular steamer call, Sunday Island soon will be regularly colonised.

Sunday Island is a volcano. Its crater is about two miles in diameter, and contains three lakes. The island, about 7,000 acres, is very much broken with precipices and ravines. Rainfall is about 60 inches a year. Summer temperatures range between 80 and 90 degrees.

Passion fruit, bananas, oranges, cape gooseberries and tomatoes grow wild all over the island. Norwegian rats, immigrants from a wrecked ship, have overrun the island and ousted the native rat. Cats, too, abound having originally been left on the island by whalers. The cats have so many birds to eat that they hardly trouble to catch the rats. The goats still number between 1,000 and 2,000. They play havoc with the vegetation. There are thousands of *tuis* and many European birds, such as blackbirds, linnets and starlings. Mutton birds have riddled the island with their holes. Godwits, grey duck on the lakes and birds from the tropics occasionally appear. Petrels are exceedingly numerous. The eggs provide free and easily accessible food for the rats, and young birds dainty meals for cats and rats, and yet the bird population does not seem to be affected. Fish up to 180 lb. in weight are caught off the rocks. Turtles are also taken. The rock pools teem with small fish.

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When making gravy add one dessertspoon Holbrooks Mustard Sauce.

Holbrooks Mustard Sauce with toasted ham or bacon sandwiches.

Equal parts of Holbrooks Mustard Sauce, butter and cheese beaten to a stiff paste, and spread or heaped on savoury biscuits.

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FIJI WANTS A THREEPENNY PIECE

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, Nov. 12.
ONE of the matters brought before the recent meeting of the Fiji Legislative Council was a proposal to re-introduce the threepenny piece in the Colony. When new coinage of a special Fijian design was introduced at the beginning of 1934, to replace British currency in use for 60 years, the humble threepence was not included—the then Governor (Sir Murchison Fletcher) was of opinion that coins of smaller denominations, penny and halfpenny, made for cheap prices, small profits, and quick turnover.

At the recent session, most of the un-

official members of the Council, including Ratu Sukuna and the two Indian representatives, supported Hon. Alport Barker's motion that the threepence be put back into circulation. Business and banking interests particularly favoured its re-introduction, some members stated.

The discussion was brought to a halt, however, when Sir Harry Luke (Governor) pointed out that coinage was a restricted subject—legislation must not be introduced without the prior consent of the Secretary of State, in England. He added that the text of the debate would be sent to London. But members do not imagine that anything will be done about it—Fiji's need for threepences assumes very insignificant proportions these days, while the Battle of Britain rages.

MEMORIES OF LOMA LOMA

Charming Old Port in a Forgotten Archipelago

BY G. SCORESBY SHEPHERD

STRANGE how memories of Loma Loma, that slumbering old port in the Lau (South-eastern Fiji) Archipelago, persist so vividly.

Several years ago, I left it and later, after eight roving months, left Fiji. Since then, I have wandered far and frequently among the Western Pacific Islands, touching at dozens of different ports, sometimes lingering, other times just passing through on tourist cruises.

Loma Loma, should be submerged beneath a welter of other kaleidoscopic Is-



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lands memories, like something fine that has to be sifted out through the running sands in the glass; but it is not so. Memories of the old port stand out with crystalline clearness.

Indelible pictures flash across my mind. I see the faded port languishing on the eastern shores of Vanua Balavu, far away east from flourishing Suva, some 180 miles. I see its forsaken appearance—the tumbledown villas that straggled along the contour of the palm-fringed beach, now occupied by Euroneseans and Fijians; the faded administrative Government buildings on the town's northern outskirts, with the walls of their compound gapped and crumbling; the ruins that were once stores and hotels, when cotton was King of Commerce in early halcyon days, and Loma Loma was on the map.

I see its driftage-strewn beach and crashing surf. Rather do I hear the surf. And what a surf it was! The reef was far out, broken, and could not check the breakers. On they came, an endless procession of them, until they piled up on the beach, and then their roar was like the reverberation of artillery. Between impacts there was a heavy silence, dramatically intensified by the previous roar. A little pyramid-shaped islet, Yanu-Yanu, in the centre of the harbour, barely took off their rough caress. I do not recollect ever seeing that lagoon tranquil.

MEMORY recalls its inhabitants—the Lauans. A fine, yet curiously little known race, these natives. Part

Fijian, part Tongan, descendants of the Tongan invaders who conquered Lau in the fifties under leadership of that genius Ma'afu, they brought out the best of two races, both in physique and intellect. They were fairer in complexion than the Fijians, softer in features, bigger in build; yet lacked the secessive passiveness of the Tongans. Many of them were bi-lingual, speaking with ease either Tongan or Fijian. The Lauans who gravitated down to Suva generally made good as native doctors, while others were clerks in Government offices. The Lauan girls were excellent nurses and surely must be ranked amongst the finest-looking women in the South Seas.

There was a complete Tongan village in the town, its inhabitants had not racially intermingled with the Fijians to any extent. A scattering of Indian dairy farmers lived frugally on the outskirts. Also, there were Chinese, who kept one of the larger stores in the town. The other store was a branch of a big European firm.

This latter store interested me greatly. It was surprisingly well stocked with merchandise, ranging from a ship anchor to a packet of pins. But most of its goods were as inaccessible to the natives as were the glassed exhibits of any Museum. For this was the dark days of '31, when the economic blizzard had even ferreted out Loma Loma.

(The years have swung full circle: the conditions described hereunder by Mr. Shepherd are virtually the conditions ruling to-day, 10 years afterwards.—Ed. "PIM".)

Copra had crashed; £4/10/- for Lauan planters, and freight was high. Many plantations were closing down. Money was scarce in Loma Loma, and debts had piled up high at the store. The natives had resorted to bartering, and had re-

verted to some of their old customs. For instance: the old women were working overtime, beating tapa, to replace the flamboyant sulus; and, instead of buying kerosene, many were obliged to use coconut oil for lighting purposes.

But I don't think anybody was unhappy about it all. There may have been some grumbling among young ex-Suva natives, but the majority of Lauans had always led a singularly withdrawn existence, when compared with Fijians in other parts of the Archipelago. Gaudy coloured sulus, silk shirts and singlets, and European kitchen utensils, were all very nice, but as I have said, they all had their native equivalents. Nobody ever went hungry, and what the stomach doesn't miss, the heart doesn't really mind—in Polynesia, at any rate.

Do the old women of Loma Loma still beat tapa cloth all day, as they did then? What a row there was!—the exulting roar of the breakers, and the staccato tattoo of the tapa beaters, both competing for supremacy. Curiously, I realised after a while that I failed to notice these sounds. I suppose the ear became inured to the constant diapason of the two, and the mind refused to register them.

Apart from myself, the only Europeans in Loma Loma were the Resident DC and the storekeeper, with his wife and child. In fact, on the whole of the Island, there were only two other Europeans: the inevitable missionary and a recluse planter. Once, Loma Loma had a popu-

lation of 100 Europeans, which was always augmented by a floating community. In 1931, I comprised Loma Loma's floating population. In a week, all of Vanua Balavu knew that I was residing in the town; in three months, all of Northern Lau knew.

I have called Loma Loma a port; rather, I should have said an ex-port.



View of Loma Loma Harbour from the hills behind the settlement; Yanu-Yanu islet in background.

During early days, when Levuka was Fiji's capital, Loma Loma was a port of entry into Fiji, and the cross-roads of Lau. In '31, a strange sail—even a small cutter—would bring the entire town down to the beach. The only regular ship was the "Malake", a BP steamer which called monthly at Northern Lau ports, dropping mails and stores and shipping copra. It was the "Malake" which brought me up on her last trip; they took her off the circuit, owing to lack of business, and I understand she was not replaced. A Lakemba mission ship, a copra ketch from Levuka and the Government inspection ship "Pioneer", were the only vessels which one might occasionally ex-



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pect to see. Lau's waters had a monopoly of submerged coral reefs, and there had to be definite inducement for ships to make the long trip from Suva.

Regular appearance of the "Malake" was not the only sight the natives were to miss, late in '31. The European Commissioner was replaced by Ratu Sukuna, that brilliant Fijian chief, who administered Lau until 1939; the missionary on Vanua Balavu was recalled to Suva; ditto the storekeeper and his family. A Euro-nesian trader taking his place. And, finally, I left . . . went down to Levuka, with the firm resolution of returning

soon. But, somehow, there was that urge for fresh Islands horizons and new faces. I never did go back—and now I suppose that I never shall.

Mrs. Douglas Lamond, of Pondo, New Guinea, arrived in Sydney by the last "Macdhui" to spend a short holiday while her husband was visiting the Morobe Goldfields.

Miss A. Brown, of the Crown Law Office, Rabaul, NG, is at present in Australia on four months' leave.

FEW SHIPS

N. Guinea Goldfield Has a Grievance

From Our Own Correspondent

W.A.U., Nov. 20.
FOR some considerable time the shipping facilities to and from Salamaua, the port of this most important part of New Guinea, have been bad, and now they assume the proportions of being appalling.

With one more ship removed from this run—transferred to other duty—the mainland finds itself now with the prospect of one ship every eight weeks or thereabouts.

It has been suggested many times that the E. & A. ships might very well be diverted to Salamaua, and now consideration of this suggestion becomes imperative.

The capital (Rabaul) is in no way inconvenienced in the matter of shipping; and, apparently, no consideration is given to those who, especially in war-time, perform the Territory's most useful function—namely, produce the bulk of the Territory's revenue.

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Fiji's New Tariffs

TO meet increased defence expenditure, the Fiji Legislative Council recently approved a new tariff schedule, the principal items of which are:

Ale and beer.—Increase of 4/- a case on bottled beer and 10/- a drum on draught beer.
Candles.—Now 1½d. a lb. British and 3d. a lb. foreign.

Dhali.—Increased from 60/- and 90/- a ton to 75/- and 112/6.

Sharps and pollard.—Increased from 30/- and 50/- a ton (2,000 lb.) to 40/- and 60/-.

Benzine and similar oils.—Increased 1d. a gallon.

Rice (dressed or broken).—Increased from 40/- and 60/- a ton to 50/- and 75/-.

Soap.—Increased from 1d. and 2d. per lb. to 2d. and 4d. per lb.

Spirits.—Increased from 26/- and 39/- to 36/- and 49/- a gallon.

Tobacco (manufactured).—From 7/- and 10/6 a lb. to 9/8 and 13/2 a lb.

Cigars.—From 9/- and 13/6 a lb. to 12/- and 16/6 a lb.

Cigarettes.—From 8/- and 12/- per lb. to 11/- and 15/-.

Wines.—From 4/- and 6/- to 5/- and 7/6 a gallon.

Still wines (containing more than 40% proof spirit).—From 26/- and 39/- to 36/- and 49/-.

Sparkling wines (containing more than 40% proof spirit).—From 26/- and 39/- to 36/- and 49/-.

MORMONS LEAVE PACIFIC

MONTH by month, Mormon missionaries have been leaving the Pacific Islands. It is reported from Samoa that most of the staff of the Mormon Mission Society has been recalled, and in October about 40 American citizens left Samoa for Salt Lake City. The work of the mission in Samoa now is being carried on by Samoans, under the supervision of an elder.

Mr. Richard William Robinson, one of Fiji's pioneer townsmen, died at Levuka recently, aged 79 years.

Miss Gwenneth Clare, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Miedecke, of Magia Plantation, Western Samoa, was married to Mr. Leicester Mitchell Cook, of Wellington, NZ, at Apia recently.

Old Tamata Station

and

The Murder of John Green

THE old Tamata station, on the Mambare River, Eastern Papua, stood on a small strip of land formed by the junction of Tamata Creek, some 40 miles from the coast. It was low-lying and, save for the river frontage, surrounded by dense jungle. It was a melancholy spot, subject to floods, soft, squelching mud, mosquitoes and sandflies; and it was here that the first government agent, John Green, and his handful of police, erected rough buildings and a stockade, and attempted to establish some form of law and order among the truculent tribes of the district.

This was in 1895, shortly after gold had been discovered on the upper reaches of the river; and Green's duties were to patrol the district, establish friendly relations with the natives, and generally to make himself useful to miners journeying in from the coast.

Green was an experienced man, but his abilities were severely taxed—not only by the hostility of the natives, with whom he had no means of verbal communication, but by the inexperience of the miners. Many arrived unequipped for the extremely difficult journey ahead; while others, disregarding the advice of more experienced men and all precautions against malaria, made for the ranges singly or in parties, carrying their own swags, with the result that many died on the track and as many in their camps, which they established near Tamata station.

IN his first year, Green did excellent work, and his patrols extended from along the coast to the far-away slopes of Mt. Albert Edward, where he succeeded in making contact with mountain tribes who were of great assistance to the miners. According to his reports, he was gratified by offers of friendship from most of the principal men of the neighbourhood. In this, he was assisted by a Tamata man named Dumai, whom he had enrolled as a member of his police force.

Dumai had originally been a prisoner, and subsequently a prison warder, at Samarai. He was intelligent, and his smattering of Pidgin English and Motuan had enabled Green to secure a better understanding among the tribes, who had resented his presence. But Dumai was open to suspicion—which was justified by later events, which showed that, under pressing threats, he assisted in the murder of his master.

Below Tamata station stood the large villages of Pen, Apotchi and Gadara, and these, though outwardly friendly, were, like Dumai, under the influence of Busimai, a powerful chief who certainly gave the impression that he could not be trusted.

Still, some progress was made, and Green, on returning from a patrol, felt justified in devoting a little attention to his living conditions, and made preparations to shift to higher land, clear of the floods, which rose 2 and 3 feet above the banks, to the floors of his dwellings.

IT therefore became his daily custom to proceed, with his fully-armed police, to the selected site, to work on the buildings, where he was followed by a curious crowd from the neighbouring villages. Green offered no objection,

though he made it a rule that they must come unarmed. At first, they agreed to this, apparently without reluctance; but, suddenly and apparently by agreement among themselves, they complained bitterly of the arrangement, and accused Green of cowardice and lack of confidence, in that he and his police carried rifles, while insisting that they should come unarmed.

Green, who seems to have been deceived by the lofty tone of their grievance, informed them that they should have no further cause for complaint; and, on the following morning (January 14, 1897) he gave orders that the police should leave their rifles behind. Corporal Sedu and others objected strongly, knowing better than their master the treacherous nature of the people. But, when Green ordered those who were afraid to stay behind, they refused to consider such a suggestion, and all marched to the new station site—and some to their doom.

On reaching the scene of his work, Green unstrapped his revolver, in full view of the natives, and, flinging it into a nearby tent, climbed to the roof of one building.

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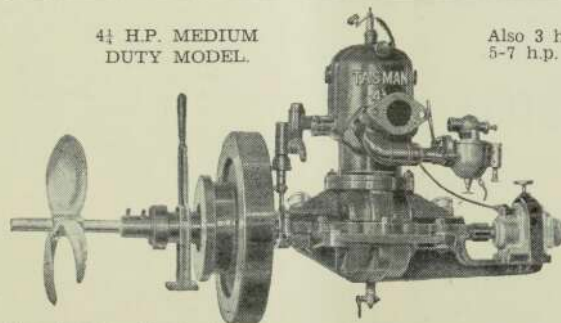
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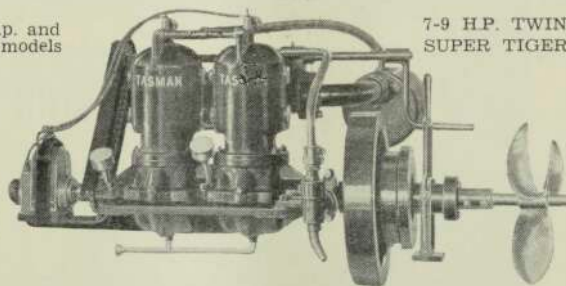
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natives were waiting. They rushed Green and two of his police and, after spearing them to death, turned their attention to the native prisoners.

Corporal Sedu and a number of police were some distance away, getting timber. They heard the disturbance, and returned to see if they could be of any assistance to their master. He was past help when they arrived; and most of them paid for their bravery with their lives.

Those who managed to escape made for the miners' camp. The miners hurried to the scene and rescued Green's mutilated body, carried it back to the old station, and buried it in a prominent position on the river frontage.

The massacre did not end with the killing of Green and his police and prisoners. Twenty-two carriers also had disappeared.

The miners, realising that as soon as

the news spread, the whole country would be up in arms, made for the coast. They went down the river on rafts, and they were forced out to sea by natives, who had just attacked and murdered a party as it was entering the river.

Except for three men on the distant slopes of Mt. Scratchley (Schmitt, Ryan and Burns, with whom the Tamata miners were unable to communicate) the Mam-bare was left in possession of its warlike tribes until Sir William MacGregor arrived, with his Commandant of Police, and restored order.—MOLLIE LETT.

Mrs. W. E. Grose, widow of one of New Guinea's best-known and most highly respected planters, who died a few months ago in Melbourne, is now matron at the well-known Tudor House School, Moss Vale, NSW.



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When Iceland's Future King Visited Tahiti

BY ERIC RAMSDEN

TAHITI has had many strange visitors since the island's contact with Europeans, but none more colourful than Jorgen Jorgensen (or Jurgensen) who was there for a couple of months in 1806. Neither did the missionaries there ever have a more trenchant critic than the man who, three years later, seized Iceland and proclaimed himself king.

Information that a new biography of the Dane was about to appear in London induced me to peruse his "State of Christianity in the Island of Otaheite and a Defence of the Pure Precepts of the Gospel Against Modern Antichrists", which he published in a positively impressive edition in London in 1811.

The book, long since forgotten, and important only for its sidelights upon the LMS missionaries, contains much of the religious balderdash of the period. It is undoubtedly one of the rarities of Pacific literature. The Mitchell Library's copy was presented by Jorgensen to the then Colonial Secretary, Alexander McLeay. The author called himself "A Foreign Traveller".

Jorgensen was that, and a great deal more. Tahiti was, of course, merely an incident in his exciting life. He has been called "Monarch of Iceland, naval captain, revolutionist, diplomatic agent, author, dramatist, preacher, political prisoner, gambler, hospital dispenser, Continental traveller, explorer, editor, expatriated exile, and colonial constable".

One might also add, liar and spy. However, the Dane was a man of undoubted intelligence—even if he did end his days in a ditch in Tasmania.

He had had some experience in whaling and sealing in the Pacific, before he called at Tahiti on the whaler "Alexander" in 1806. Jorgensen was accompanied by a couple of Maoris. He collected a Tahitian chief and the latter's friend, and he took them to London, where he presented the quartette to Sir Joseph Banks. Banks was kindness itself. But within a year the Tahitians were dead, also one of the Maoris—despite the care of the Rev. Joseph Hardcastle (in whose care Banks had placed them). Marquis, the surviving Maori, was proof against the rigours of the English climate for a time, because "he became a tolerable carpenter and kept himself employed".

FOR the missionaries in Tahiti—Jorgensen had ample time to study them while he collected provisions, salted meat, etc., for the voyage—he had nothing but contempt. He considered them deficient in address. Their behaviour was timid, he said, without being respectful. In fact, they looked "like humble petitioners at a gentleman's door, and it is easy to observe that they are men of no education". In short, they were not gentlemen, and the Tahitians were quick to see, by the manner in which they were treated by other Europeans, that they were not chiefs.

Jorgensen stated that, although there were fourteen missionaries on the island (and they had been there since 1797) they had only one convert. This girl, of about fourteen years, was reared in the household of the Rev. W. Henry and his wife. (I suspect that she was the half-

caste daughter of George Stewart, the "Bounty" midshipman, whose wife was Peggy, the Tahitian). Jorgensen says the child was brow-beaten and terrorised by the missionary, and reduced to a mere skeleton. When she committed the smallest fault, he says, she was threatened by her stern master with "the wrath of the Christian god".

The fate of this girl, incidentally, is one of the minor mysteries of the "Bounty" tragedy. It has been inferred that she eventually visited her father's home in the Orkneys.

THOUGH Jorgensen did not like Henry, he was more kindly disposed towards the Rev. John Jefferson (whose grave was discovered by Mr. W. W. Bolton, near Arue, in 1935). To me, Jefferson has never seemed an attractive personality. It was because of his intolerance and pigheadedness that his colleague, the Rev. Thomas Lewis, found a grave so early in life. Lewis, after vainly asking his companions to marry him, eventually lived with a Tahitian girl, and was mysteriously killed by her lover. Missionary historians are apt to skip over the Jefferson-Lewis episode which, though sordid in a way, was not without importance.

Jefferson, he says, was a truly pious man (which is not doubted). In order to mortify the flesh, he retired unto himself, and, in his meditations—to the surprise of the Tahitians—uttered "the most hollow and dismal groans". "He was never seen smiling, nor to enjoy a moment's happiness," wrote the Dane. Jefferson, it might be explained, was in poor health, and died soon after. In appearance, Jorgensen says he was "like a ghost, his skin tinged with a yellow and deadly hue, like a man who has the jaundice."

The Dane has some scathing things to say of a missionary whom he calls "J—". (Obviously, this man was not Jefferson, and there was no other missionary then in Tahiti whose surname began with that initial.) This man, he says, came on his ship, drank more brandy than was good for him, and then, in a burst of confidence, declared that his colleagues were "canting hypocrites".

THERE is more substance to Jorgensen's portrait of Pomare, which is by no means flattering. The Dane says the King was 6 ft. 4 in. in height, and was "exceedingly intemperate": he consumed brandy until the officers would give him no more, cursed the Christian god and exalted that of the Tahitians, and, finally, "took up a whole leg of mutton and gnarled it with his great and ugly teeth". It is not a pretty picture, especially, as in the year of the Dane's visit, Pomare was in the throes of writing to all and sundry, and the missionary press was doing its best to present him favourably to its extensive public.

Pomare, of course, was shrewd enough to use the missionaries for his own purpose, and at that time was writing to the Mission headquarters in London in the following strain: "Friends, I hope also you will send me plenty of muskets and powder, for wars are frequent in our country. Should I be killed, you will have nothing in Tahiti. Do not come here when I am dead. Tahiti is a regardless country." On missionary-purchased muskets (some of which came from Sydney) the ambitious Pomare rode to political power.

Jorgensen makes an interesting remark concerning the King's bodyguard. Pomare, he wrote, had "200 majestic looking warriors, some even hailing from Peru". It has always been assumed that Pom-

are's guard comprised natives from the Paumotu.

The climax in Jorgensen's career came in 1809, when, with the help of British trading interests, he seized Iceland, made the Danish Governor a prisoner, and declared himself King, or Protector. His regime (which was of the comic-opera variety) had lasted barely two months, when a British officer arrived at Reikjavik to investigate. Jorgensen was taken back to England as a prisoner.

Gaming led to his eventual downfall, and finally, he was transported, to end his days in Tasmania, where, "gin-warmed and not unhappy, he died in a wayside ditch". Thirty-three years had passed since his brief hour of glory as the regal Protector of Iceland.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Hyde, of Wau, NG, accompanied by their daughter and son, recently arrived in Australia from the Morobe Goldfields. They will not be returning to the Territory.

Mr. D. Haig, who has been manager of the Yorkshire Insurance Co., at Rabaul, TNG, arrived in Sydney recently on transfer. He has been succeeded by Mr. S. E. Costelloe.

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ONE interesting result of the economic readjustment of the French Pacific Colonies, consequent on the capitulation of France to the Nazis, is seen in the considerable quantities of cocoa-beans from New Hebrides, and coffee from New Caledonia, going into the Australian market. The French Colonies have been placed, by the Commonwealth Government, on the same basis as the British Empire countries; and, since then, hundreds of tons of New Hebrides cocoa have been sold in Australia, by Messrs. C. Sullivan Ltd., Mr. Pelletier and Messrs. W. S. Tait.

There is, unfortunately for the French planters, not the same good market in Australia for New Caledonian coffee; but, none the less, considerable quantities have been sold. Most of this New Caledonia coffee (Arabica and Robusta varieties) is being handled by Messrs. Gollan & Co., although the Islands firms (especially C. Sullivan Ltd.) is handling some.

The trustees of the estate of the late Miss Mary Atkin, who died in Auckland, New Zealand, recently, have handed over to the Melanesian Mission a set of Communion Vessels which originally belonged to her brother, Rev. Joseph Atkin. It will be recalled that Rev. Atkin was killed by a poisoned arrow at the time when Bishop Patteson lost his life on the island of Nukapu (Santa Cruz Group) on September 20, 1871.

FIRST DISPLAY OF FLAG OF FREE FRANCE



It was reported in international news, in October, that the flag of Free France (the Cross of Lorraine on the Tricolour) had been raised for the first time in West Africa. This is not so. It was raised first about July 20, in Vila, New Hebrides, when M. Henri Sautot, French Resident Commissioner, declared for General de

Gaulle, leader of the Free French Forces. This photograph shows three of the flags, actually flying. It was taken in Noumea on September 24, when New Caledonia celebrated the foundation of the Colony. M. Sautot, who became Governor there on September 19, is in the centre of the picture.

Rev. Henry Newton, DD, formerly Bishop of New Guinea, entered a Brisbane hospital recently to undergo an eye operation.

Lieutenant L. N. Tribolet, formerly a branch inspector for Burns, Philp & Co., Ltd., Rabaul, New Guinea, is at present serving with the AIF in Egypt.

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WHY EASTER IS. IS CHILEAN

Interesting Story of Tahitian
Pastoral Enterprise

BY A. C. ROWLAND

DURING the seventh and eighth decades of the last century, the ships of John Brander voyaged back and forth between Tahiti and Valparaiso, laying their course to raise the mountain tops of Easter Island over the horizon, as landmarks for the navigating officers. Easter Island was then a no-man's-land. It had, indeed, been visited and claimed by explorers from many countries: first for Holland by its veritable discoverer, Roggeveen, in 1722; then, 48 years later, for Spain.

At that period "the paramount aim of the Spanish Government was to exclude every foreign power from acquiring a foothold at any point in or adjacent to those wide-spread dominions of His Catholic Majesty collectively known as the 'Indies'." It was this policy that supplied the motive for the despatch, in 1770, of the ship-of-war 'San Lorenzo' commanded by Don Felipe Gonzalez, and the frigate 'Santa Rosalia', commanded by Don Antonio Domonte, to search out and annex Easter Island.

The expedition landed. No foreigners were found there. "The Islanders proclaimed our Sovereign as their own. Three crosses were erected on a lofty hill"—"which (the report adds) the natives were seen to pull down the very next day."

Captain Cook called there in 1774 and La Perouse in 1786. Both, undoubtedly, claimed the island for their respective countries. These were followed by other navigators.

All that these explorers found, however, was a rather bleak country-side, studded over with massive stone terraces supporting hundreds of stone images eternally staring inland and, apparently, keeping watch and ward over some central sacred object which had long since disappeared. This was very interesting—and was destined to stir up scientists of a later age into frenzies of speculative theories, but to practical navigators it offered no prospect of material gains, either in treasure or commerce. Moreover the natives descended from an expedition led by a doughty old Polynesian warrior named Hotu Matua, who landed on Easter sometime in the 14th century—were truculent and hostile.

In consequence, the island was left to its own inhabitants, who amused themselves merrily with internecine warfare, that culminated in the throwing down of all the stone images they could move, until (about 1864) missionaries of the Roman Catholic Church landed there.

Sometime in the 1870 decade, John Brander, of Tahiti, conceived the idea of establishing a cattle and sheep ranch on Easter Island. A co-partnership was formed that included the Roman Catholic Mission, a French resident of Papeete, and John Brander. Cattle and sheep were transported to Easter and the Frenchman went there as resident manager. This individual soon goaded the natives to fury by his autocratic and slave-driving methods, and they rose against him and slew him.

Later on, John Brander Junior—his father having died—bought the interest of his mother and went to Easter as director of the enterprise.

All went smoothly between the Church interests and the Branders; but the widow of the murdered Frenchman was the fly in the ointment—a very rest-

less and contentious fly indeed. On that account it was decided to dispose of the property; and negotiations towards that end were undertaken with a Chilean firm at Valparaiso.

By happy fortune the Chilean gunboat "Abtao" appeared at Papeete at that very time. Her commander, Captain Toro, courteously offered to take Mr. Arthur Brander, as his guest, to Easter Island, where he could consult with his brother and then proceed to Valparaiso.

ON the voyage, it occurred to someone that, inasmuch as the property interests were about to pass into Chilean hands, it would be expedient to place the island under the sovereignty of Chile. Mr. John Brander Junior—being the son of a Scotsman—had kept the British flag hoisted over his station during the period of his residence—without, however, having taken formal possession in the name of Her Majesty. He could, therefore, offer no objection when Captain Toro landed and proclaimed the island a part of the Chilean Republic.

Messrs. Arthur and John Brander were passengers on the "Abtao" to Valparaiso, where the Easter Island interests were taken over by the Chilean company, who subsequently disposed of them to Messrs. Balfour, Anderson and Company—a Scottish company at Valparaiso. The Roman Catholic Mission and the

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Branders were in harmonious accord in all matters concerning the liquidation of the co-partnership. The widow of the Frenchman was still the fly in the ointment. Ten years of litigation were necessary before the end of the matter was achieved.

Mr. Alan Ritchie, of the AWA staff at Rabaul, TNG, is at present in Australia undergoing treatment to his nose which was injured in a motor accident in New Guinea recently.

Archdeacon Gill, of the New Guinea Mission at Mamba, Papua, arrived in Sydney recently on furlough. He has visited Tasmania and Victoria and expects to be in Australia for some months. Archdeacon Gill went to Papua from England more than 30 years ago as a pioneer of the Anglican Church; he is a practical carpenter, and has taught many natives a useful knowledge of building and furniture making.

FIJI ECONOMISES

BECAUSE of the ever-increasing demands of the war and defence services, the Governor of Fiji (Sir Harry Luke) had to cancel the building of a new hospital at Ba, building work at the Central Medical School and Hostel at Suva, and many other public works. He told the Legislative Council that he did this with great reluctance; but war needs were paramount, and defence expenditure continued to grow.

Fiji's revenue in 1939 was £930,866 (the highest on record) but expenditure was £1,095,928. The Colony's general credit balance, in consequence, had been reduced from £455,642 to £293,918, on December 31, 1939.

Despite financial limitations, however, the Government, in the past year, improved the Sigatoka water supply, installed a chlorination plant for the Tavua supply, completed the Suva Technical Training Centre and the Lautoka post office, and carried out many minor public works.

DEATH-BLOW THAT MISSED

Miraculous Escape of B.S.I. Skipper

IN an article entitled "The Blathering of Jim" (September "PIM"), a review of a recently-published book, "Jim of the Seven Seas", mention was made of a treacherous attack on a BSI recruiting vessel during which the skipper, lying in his bunk, had a miraculous escape from death at the hands of a Malaitaman. Old-timers in the Islands were asked if they knew the name of the captain concerned.

By last mail from BSI, Mr. C. R. Bignell, well-known planter of Fulakora, Ysabel Island, courteously supplied the following information:—

"I think the incident referred to took place on Lever Bros.' auxiliary schooner, 'Ruby' (25 tons), when she was recruiting plantation labour in 1913. The skipper's name was Louie Appleberg, a Swede.

"At anchor off Uru, Malaita, the 'Ruby' had taken recruits on board throughout the day. During that night, the recruits rushed the mate, Tommy Jones, an Australian, who was on watch on deck; and he was killed, though not before accounting for several natives.

"Louie was asleep in his cabin below, at the time, and one of the natives, carrying an axe, crept up to the bunk to deal a fatal blow. On the wild down-swing, the axe caught in a beam overhead, thus saving Louie's life; but he received a wound in the shoulder. Jumping up, the skipper promptly shot the native and then, joined by one of the crew armed with an iron pump handle, he rushed up on deck. In the fray that followed, seven of the recruits were killed, the rest leaping overboard and swimming ashore.

"Appleberg sailed back to Tulagi and reported the attack to the Government, but I do not think anything was ever done about it. After this affair, Louie lost his nerve and eventually went to Sydney—that was the last I knew of him.

"Though personally I never have heard of James Brook, who wrote 'Jim of the Seven Seas', he may have passed through the Solomons at some time and got the story from one of the old hands."

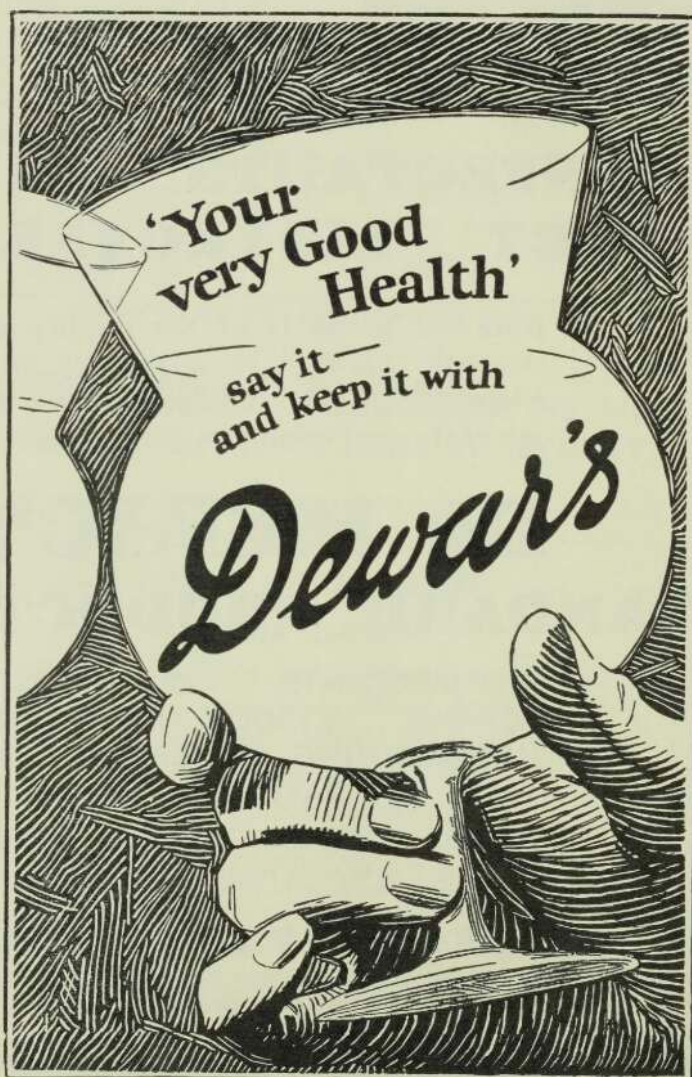
N.G. COUNCIL MEETING POSTPONED

From Our Own Correspondent

WAU, Nov. 9.
A MEETING of the New Guinea Legislative Council was to have taken place on November 24; but it has been postponed until some time in February, next year. This postponement has not yet been gazetted officially, but individual members were advised while in Rabaul.

There may be some good reason for this prorogation, but apart from the official mind it is difficult to understand why. At present there are a number of pressing matters which non-official members desire to bring before the Council, and this apparently unnecessary delay is bewildering.

The Bay Loo Co., Ltd.'s tender—£3,870—was accepted recently by the NG Administration for the erection of a wharf cargo shed at Madang.





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**ESCAPE FROM
NOUMEA****A Memory of De Rochefort**

BY A. G. MILLER

SIXTY-NINE years ago, Paris was the scene of a Communist putsch.

Napoleon III surrendered to the Prussians at Sedan, his lovely Empress fled to England, and the French capital endured a terrible siege. The Commune followed. Street orators, idealists, anarchists, and cranks seized power.

Among the members of the "National Government" was a lean, quick-tempered journalist named Victor Henri Marquis

de Rochefort. Editor of the Left Wing "La Lanterne", he had been released from gaol by the revolution.

The Versailles Government decided to conquer Paris. While the Prussian Army looked on, Federal batteries shelled the City of Light, Frenchman fought Frenchman on the barricades. Defiant Reds scattered oil and started huge fires, before facing execution squads. Prisons and hulks were soon crammed with a weird assortment of prisoners—looters, Apaches, Reds, scallywags and honest citizens who were unlucky enough to be caught on the wrong side of the barricades.

De Rochefort, who had fallen out with his colleagues, had left the city, but was arrested at Meaux. A political firebrand, the Marquis was the type who is always "agin the Government". A military court ordered his transportation to New Caledonia, along with 3,000 other stormy petrels.

"La Nouvelle" had a sinister reputation. There were cannibals in its wild ranges, convicts died swiftly in the road-gangs, sharks cruised beyond the reefs. To a Parisian man-of-letters, exile on this remote island appeared worse than death.

After a long imprisonment, de Rochefort sailed from Brest in August, 1873. The "Virginie's" 140 prisoners included four women. One was the notorious Louise Michel, another a West Indian mulatto, "la grosse Victorine". The old frigate was a slow sailer, quarters were cramped, yet the Marquis seemed annoyed that he was not wearing chains. In early December, the prison-ship reached Noumea. As his sentence was "life imprisonment in a fortified place", Henri de Rochefort was confined on Ducos Peninsula, across the bay.

Here political exiles lived in huts, did no work, and suffered mainly from mosquitoes and boredom. Hoping to escape, the Marquis taught his friends to swim. Hardy convicts had reached Queensland in open boats, but these Parisians knew nothing of navigation and seamanship. However, Bastien Grandthille, ex-Commander of the National Guard, was a ticket-of-leave exile, and could wander around Noumea's dusty water-front. One day the barque "P.C.E." arrived from Newcastle. While her cargo of coal was being unloaded, Grandthille had a long talk with Captain Law. £60 changed hands.

TOWARDS sunset on March 19, 1874, de Rochefort, Grousset and Pain slipped away from their hut and swam to a small rock. A severe thunderstorm kept guards under shelter, and presently a rowing boat appeared. At sunrise, six Frenchmen lay hidden in the barque's grimy hold.

Law had planned to get under way at dawn, but the wind dropped to a dead calm. "P.C.E." stood for "Peace, Comfort, Ease", none of which were shared by his nervous passengers, who waited anxiously for the boom of a signal gun, the warning to close the port and search all shipping. A steam gun-boat "La Vire", lay in the stream. Captain Law kept his telescope swinging between this warship and Fort Constantine.

Towards noon, a light southerly breeze sprang up. Law weighed anchor at once, but the pilot refused to take the barque down the usual channel past Debrun Island: if the wind failed, the "P.C.E." would drift on to the coral reefs. They compromised on the little-used passage between Ile Nou and the prison camp on Ducos Peninsula. Slowly the ship moved away from the anchorage. The escapees were lucky; the breeze held, and a much-relieved captain shook hands with the pilot at Amecie lighthouse.

Seaman Pugh was startled to see six coal-stained strangers emerge from the

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hold. One of them was an architect, Achille Balliere, who had spent ten months in New Caledonia. Obligated to report once a month to the police, he was free to wander anywhere within fifteen miles of the town. Balliere killed time by drawing plans for a theatre and a private residence, both of which he sent to the Intercolonial Exhibition at Sydney. Like the Marquis and Mr. Pugh, he wrote of his experiences in the South Seas, and all three books found their way into the Mitchell Library, Sydney.

Eight days later, the 291-ton vessel entered the Hunter River, N.S.W. The citizens of Newcastle were mildly excited when the news spread that Captain Law had brought some French Communards with him. Landing was a simple matter. There were no fearsome dictation tests in the 'seventies, no passport regulations, and no awkward questions asked. A customs officer merely inquired whether these passengers owed the master any money. Actually, de Rochefort had promised Law a further 8,500 francs (£340), and half the party remained behind while the Marquis raised a loan in Sydney. Seaman Pugh and his mates received a bonus of £4/10/- from the "P.C.E.'s" generous skipper.

SOME newspapers suggested that the French authorities had condoned this mass escape. The refugees were most annoyed by this attitude. Balliere claimed that Governor de la Richerie was recalled, several high officials dismissed, and new regulations strictly enforced. Still, it does seem strange that such important prisoners were not missed at the morning roll-call. With 800 exiles at Ducos camp, the gendarmes were lax in failing to search every departing vessel.

Inquisitive Sydney folk stood patiently outside Courvoisier's Hotel, eager to gape at these "celebrated characters", as the "Sydney Morning Herald" cautiously termed them.

The French Consul, M. Simon, was angry because many people looked on de Rochefort and his companions as political martyrs, and even invited them to dinners and picnics. The Marquis sat quietly in the Stranger's Gallery at Parliament House. He knew very little English at the time, and his arch-enemies, Thiers and MacMahon, were far away in Paris.

M. Simon was thankful when these embarrassing visitors left for Europe. De Rochefort hobnobbed with Royalty at Honolulu. He saw Niagara, and probably he felt much better after scribbling in a visitor's book: "This fall is profound, but my own is far greater—The Shadow of Napoleon III".

An amnesty, in 1880, brought France's most spectacular political figure back to Paris. The Marquis hated the Third Republic almost as much as he detested the Second Empire.

For participating in General Boulanger's abortive coup, he was expelled from France for a time.

The years did not mellow Henri de Rochefort. He revelled in the Panama Scandals and the Dreyfus Affair, and he outlived most of his bitter enemies. He died in June, 1913, at the ripe age of 82.

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BURNING TOOTH-ACHE OUT

LEGEND HAS IT THAT A LION
CONSENTED TO HAVE HIS **TEETH** AND
CLAWS DRAWN OUT IN ORDER THAT HE
MIGHT MARRY A FAIR **DAMSEL**. WHEN
HIS **TEETH** AND **CLAWS** WERE GONE
THE **FATHER** OF THE FAIR **DAMSEL**
FELL ON THE LION AND **SLEW**
HIM. **SUCH IS LIFE...**

AN AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL TRIBE BY CURED TOOTHACHE BY INSERTING A RED HOT STICK INTO THE HOLLOW TOOTH. PATIENTS NEVER WHIMPERED. YOU CAN AVOID TOOTHACHE BY USING KOLYNOS. KOLYNOS KEEPS TEETH SURGICALLY CLEAN, SPARKLING WITH NEW LUSTRE.

SWIRLING BUBBLES THAT END BACTERIAL MOUTH AND DENTAL DECAY

"BACTERIAL MOUTH" STARTS
WHEN TINY FOOD DEPOSITS ARE LEFT
BETWEEN YOUR TEETH TO DECAY. THE
KOLYNOS ACTIVE BUBBLES SWIRL BETWEEN
YOUR TEETH, KILL DENTAL DECAY GERMS
AND END "BACTERIAL MOUTH". KOLYNOS
LEAVES YOUR TEETH SPARKLING WITH
GLORIOUS NEW LUSTRE.
And Remember, KOLYNOS LASTS
TWICE AS LONG AS ORDINARY TOOTH
PASTE. 1/2 INCH ON DRY
BRUSH IS PLENTY.

KOLYNOS DENTAL CREAM
1/3 and 2!

A SECTION FOR WOMEN

By "Therese"

SOUTH Sea Islands flower prints, trick printed crepes and seersuckers will go to the making of better and brighter wardrobes for 1941. Suitable for day or evening wear, they also are ideal for hostess gowns, the most useful garments women have had for years. Prints have the decided advantage of laundering perfectly and many of them are crease-resistant.

The present fashion silhouette is youthful and any mother of 35 may sally forth in the same type of clothes that find favour with her daughter—for instance, the pinafore frock with pleated skirt and vivid printed blouse with puff sleeves looks equally delightful on either.

Lingerie trims on frocks will keep "wash boys" busy and their snowy whiteness makes any frock look cool and re-

freshing. White linen pique, broderie Anglaise and exquisitely embroidered handkerchief linen all are used for cuffs, collars and jabots. Nowadays, clever women make blouses, cuffs, collars and even entire evening dresses and coats with lace, in addition to trimming hats.

Jackets are worn with anything and everything, these days. There is an epidemic of them—boleros, bell boy jackets and monkey jackets. The straight skirt takes hip length or slightly longer jackets, and these are particularly smart when fashioned of check or striped linen over a plain skirt. The jacket is an excellent accompaniment to slacks, too, making them attractive wear even for the older woman. Slacks must be well cut, of course, and it really is foolish for an amateur to make them.

Swim suits are more delightful than ever for 1941. They are presented in satin lastex, wool, rubber and cotton and each is attractive. All are figure moulding, with the exception of the cotton variety which is made in little girl frock fashion, demure and unsophisticated in design.

Beach coats of necessity find a place in the tropical wardrobe. These are charming and original in design and mostly are made on tailored lines with wide skirts, giving freedom of movement. Some button from neck to hem, while others add hoods to protect the wearer from a too ardent sun. Multi-coloured cottons patterned in bold designs are the best medium. Coats are of varying length, but for a good all-rounder choose one that reaches to your toes. If you favour a shorter length, however, what about a knee-length jacket of gaily striped cotton lined with towelling?

RECIPES

A REALLY good plum cake is appreciated in any climate and during the Christmas season its value is doubled. Here is a tested recipe that is rich in flavour and colour:—

Christmas Cake

Take 1½ lb. flour, 1½ lb. castor sugar, 1 lb. butter, ½ lb. raisins, ½ lb. sultanas, ½ lb. currants, ½ lb. each of cherries, lemon peel (finely shredded), almonds (blanched and chopped), dates and figs, 10 eggs, 1 teaspoon mixed spice, 1 teaspoon baking soda (no cream of tartar required), ½ glass brandy, 1 teaspoon glycerine and a few drops of essence of lemon.

Soak fruit overnight in brandy. Mix castor sugar and butter until well creamed; add eggs one at a time, beating well after adding each egg. Sift in all dry ingredients including a pinch of salt. Lastly add fruit and glycerine. Mix very well; put in tin lined with three thicknesses of brown paper. Bake for at least 3½ hours in even temperature oven.

Simple Sweet Mince

An excellent recipe for easily prepared sweet mince without which no Christmas fare is complete:—

One large apple, 3 tablespoons sultanas or raisins, 2 tablespoons sugar, a little grated lemon rind or lemon peel, 1 teaspoon each cinnamon and mixed spice, 1 good teaspoon butter (melted). Chop apples and raisins finely, add other ingredients and mix well. A little brandy may be added, if desired.

Meringues

Simple to make, delicious to taste and most attractive to look at, nut meringues are well worth trying.

Boil 1 lb. 10½ oz. sugar in 1½ tea cups of water for quarter of an hour, stirring constantly. Beat whites of four eggs until so stiff that you can turn the bowl upside down without spilling. Place beaten egg whites in a double boiler (the pot should be able to hold three quarts), add boiled sugar and beat over a quick flame until crust begins to form. Remove from fire and form meringues with the help of 2 teaspoons or a piping tube. Lay them on an oiled baking tin. Place a nut in the top centre of each meringue and bake slowly in moderate oven until dry. These quantities will make 40 meringues.

Used as a garnish, meringues make a delicious addition to trifle. There also are lots of ways of varying them with fresh fruit and the addition of chopped nuts.

Savoury Biscuits

W.D. (Papua) sends the following recipe:

Rub 1 dessertspoonful butter and one dessertspoonful potted meat (or anchovy)

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into one cup of self-raising flour. Mix to stiff paste with a little milk; roll out to desired thickness. Cut and cook in moderate (not hot) oven for 10 minutes. May be used as savoury biscuits or with usual savoury fillings or toppings.

Banana Croutes

J.G. (Samoa) suggests:—

Four bananas, 1 egg, frying fat, seasoning, flour. Peel bananas; remove all stringy bits, cut them lengthwise and then across. Beat up the egg; season with salt and cayenne. Flour the pieces of banana; coat them with egg; and then again with flour. Have ready a pan of hot fat and put in the pieces a few at a time; fry till crisp and a golden brown. Drain well and serve very hot.

Note:—Bananas egged and crumbed and fried in deep fat make a delicious accompaniment to cold meat.

Egg Plant Recipe

Mrs. M. Clarke, Whenuapai, Upper Harbour, Auckland, a regular "PIM" reader, who was at one time resident in Tonga and Fiji, contributes:—

Peel egg plant, cut into $\frac{1}{2}$ inch slices and put on soup plate. Season with salt and pepper, adding half a gill of cold milk. Turn well in seasoning and then flour well. Melt 2 tablespoons butter in a meat dish; put in egg plant and fry 3 minutes each side. Carefully break same number of eggs over slices; season with pepper and salt. Bake in moderate oven for five minutes and serve with buttered toast.

Pineapple Delight

One level teaspoon gelatine, 2 tablespoons lemon juice, 2 tablespoons cold water, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup shredded pineapple and juice, 3 tablespoons boiling water, 2 egg whites, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup sugar, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup whipped cream.

Soak gelatine in cold water; add boil-

ing water and mix with sugar, lemon juice and pineapple. Allow to half set. When it is beginning to thicken beat until frothy, add stiffly beaten egg whites and lastly whipped cream. Turn into a wet mould and chill.

Sea-Food Avocado

Make use of the Avocado pear whenever possible. Try this attractive recipe:—

Two cups of lobster and crab meat mixed (or crab only may be used), 1 cup milk, 1 cup cream, 4 tablespoons butter, 4 tablespoons flour, salt, pepper (cayenne), 3 avocados (not too ripe).

Break up lobster and crab meat. Heat milk and cream in double boiler. Melt butter and blend with flour; add slowly to milk and cook over hot water until sauce is smooth; season to taste; add crab and lobster meat. Cut avocados lengthwise and remove stones. Peel, then fill the avocados with the hot creamed mixture; bake in hot oven for 15 to 20 minutes in a pan with a little hot water. Keep covered while baking, so that avocados will retain their colour.

Baked Salmon Rounds

One large can salmon, salt and pepper, 2 tablespoons butter, 1 teaspoon chopped parsley, 4 slices lemon.

Chill salmon in the can; drain and cut into four slices. Put in pan, dust with salt, pepper and parsley; dot with butter or margarine. Cover and bake 20 minutes. Garnish with lemon. Serve with tartare sauce and peas, but any green vegetable goes well with this.

Tartare Sauce

One tablespoon vinegar, 2 tablespoons mustard (dry), a teaspoonful flour, 1 oz. salt, yolks of 2 well-beaten eggs, 1 tea-cup water.

Thoroughly mix ingredients. Dissolve 2 oz. butter before fire and add to mixture; stir continuously until it boils. If too stiff

add water or vinegar as it must pour out like cream. Thinly sliced good pickles or a teaspoon of Tarragon vinegar is an improvement.

Captain T. A. McPherson, master of the Melanesian Mission's "Southern Cross V", has returned to Sydney from the Solomon Islands, where the vessel has been laid up for the duration of the war.

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Spirited Defence of Catholic Missionaries in New Guinea

Letter to the Editor

KINDLY permit me to reply to your "Special correspondent's" letter from Wau, published in your October issue.

Under the cloak of replying to Rev. Father Madigan's outburst, your correspondent has made a cowardly attack on a noble band of women, of various nationalities, who form part of the community of missionaries at Alexishafen (Sek). Your correspondent has used his imagination in detailing alleged infringements of the Native Labour Regulations by these Sisters! Thus, he casts a grave slur on the very officials he seeks to defend.

It is this sort of irresponsible piffle which our erstwhile friends of the League of Nations Executive love to get hold of, to try to trick Australia's representatives into admitting that she is not carrying out the terms of the Mandate in the best interests of the natives.

After 25 years' residence in New Guinea, I unhesitatingly say that our Administration has built up a Colonial Service second to none. We have a very fine body of intelligent young Australian manhood

serving the Commonwealth there and, from my observations, very few have fallen by the wayside. They are quite capable of defending themselves against your "Special" correspondent and Father Madigan, however, so I shall resort to that wonderful band of women at Alexishafen—who are doing invaluable work, indirectly, for the Commonwealth Government, in educating and caring for the natives, and who have no opportunity of defending themselves.

When I say that I have lived near them for 20 years, you will concede that I should know something of them and their work. There are Mother Superiors from convents from the United States, Holland and Germany, music and school teachers and nursing sisters from the same countries and from Switzerland—as cultured and refined a community of ladies as could be found in any part of the world.

Many have laid down their lives without earthly reward, after battling for 20 years and more to improve the mental, moral and social outlook of the native women placed in their care. Many more have lived in New Guinea for upwards of 30 years without a holiday, or even once returning to the land of their birth. What sacrifices has not this entailed—fevers and privations of all sorts! But they bear it all cheerfully, and carry on their noble work of christianising and teaching the natives, with a stout heart, and a smile for all.

Let me tell you here that these women have no love for Hitler, or the German brutes who are destroying life and property under his direction. Their lives are dedicated to the service of their mission, and the advancement of the natives committed to their care. During the past 20 years, I have seen them borne on frail canoes, often through raging seas, going to succour native mothers in villages several miles distant from the Convent.

In one such village there were 300 piccaninnies, alone, in it. Also, there are now many families resident in it with from 5-10 children—ample testimony to the care and attention given to native mothers and infants by the Sisters.

Here is an example of the spirit of these wonderful women. A young American Nun, a fully qualified nursing Sister, was met in the bush when going her rounds, alone, on horseback, one day. Asked how she was progressing with her horsemanship, she replied "Oh, this fellow is an old rascal! He has sat me down pretty three times already; the last time he sat in my lap!"

She still carries on bravely, unheralded and unsung, and can be seen at any time, going her rounds of the villages adjacent to her mission station, on the mainland of New Guinea.

NOW, to deal with some of your correspondent's grossly misleading statements contained in his letter. No native women, or Nuns, work in the desiccated coconut factory at Alexishafen. Nor have they ever done so. Also, to my knowledge, there were never more than 100 native women under the care of the Sisters, at any time, during the past 20 years. Those placed in their care, by parents and guardians, are trained by the Sisters, but are free to leave the mission at any time. Others, indentured to the mission, help in the kitchen, laundry, vegetable and flower gardens, etc.

All are housed in a two-storeyed European dwelling, and food is both plenti-

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Sunshine Full Cream Powd. Milk, 12 oz. 14/3 doz.
"Rosa" Full Cream Cond. Milk, 14 oz. 7/6 doz.
"Yoga" Tea, Our Speciality pkts. 2/4 lb.; 6 lb. tins 2/5 lb.
"Rosa" Self-raising Flour, 2 lb. 7d. pkt.; 1/1 tin
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"Rosa" High Grade Sweet Mustard Pickles, large 1/1½ jar
Eta Peanut Butter 4 oz. jars 9d.; 8 oz. jars 1/2; 12 oz. jars 1/5
Morton's Assorted Fish Pastes, 1 oz. 3d. tin; 2/9 doz.
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AUSTRALIA

ful and nourishing. Several Sisters sleep in cells, close to the women, just as they do in convents in Europe and Australia, and there are no wired enclosures. In fact, most of the native women come from villages from which their "boy" friends have been recruited. Thus, their future husbands literally work side by side with them, and ample opportunity for social intercourse is given them.

The educational work carried on by the Sisters in all parts of the world is well-known, and needs no elaboration here. Here is one example, of many, of the training given to native women by the Alexishafen Sisters, worthy of mention. A young, orphaned, native girl was placed in their care when she was about 8 years of age. She was given a thorough training and, later, married a native from her village, indentured to the mission. She is now the mother of 6 bouncing children, makes their clothes, etc., and, a short time ago, I was astounded to see her take an important part in a Passion Play, put on by the Missionaries at Christmas. This woman and her husband have been at the Mission for many years now, where her husband has made contract after contract. Thus another misstatement is nailed (that natives do not renew their contracts at Alexishafen).

THERE is no doubt in my mind about the good work being done by both the Lutheran and Catholic Missions, among the natives. There used to be a very fine old German couple named Schultz, in charge of the Lutheran Mission Station at Nob-o-Nob, near Madang. In 1921, there was an outbreak of "pneumonic influenza" in a village in the hinterland. What do you think this old couple did? They took a couple of cows into the village, and nursed the sick back to health and strength. All the thanks they received for their efforts were that the "Tulla-tullas" (Protestant Missionaries) were no good, as there had been no sickness amongst the "Popi" natives! However, the epidemic spread to "Popi" territory the following year, so honours were even.

During the last war, the small Catholic Mission steamer "Gabriel" was the only reliable boat running along the mainland coast. She also made voyages to Rabaul, bringing belated mails and food supplies to mainland garrisons, on her return. The "Stella Maris" has since taken her place, and I have no doubt that the mission would be only too happy to co-operate with the Administration by placing the ship at its disposal, if and when required.

With regard to the aeroplane flying from the mission aerodrome: it is owned by "Madang Aerial Transport Syndicate". This syndicate was formed by Mr. Stan Johnson and myself in January of this year. We bought a "Fox Moth" plane in Adelaide and, as there seemed to be no prospect of expanding our activities, due to the war, I withdrew from the syndicate. Mr. Johnson now controls and owns the business. So your correspondent has drawn another blank with his random shafts.

I am, etc.,

E. V. O'BRIEN.

Millat Plantation,
Madang, TNG.

Miss M. McCormick, who is a sister in the Fiji Nursing Service, was in New Zealand during November on three months' leave.

Mr. and Mrs. Brett Sewell, who were married at the ABM Chapel in Sydney in September, have returned to Samarai, Papua. The bride formerly was Miss Effie Evennett, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. Evennett, of Samarai.

NEED MARRIAGE SPOIL A WOMAN'S BEAUTY?

Jack and Betty Tyler were a happily married couple. They had two of the loveliest little youngsters you could imagine. Jack had a good position and Betty was the sort of woman who knew how to make friends and keep them. They should have been happy . . . very happy. But they weren't, and here's the reason why. Betty had always sworn to herself before marriage that she would not let marriage ruin her appearance. Of course, it's easy to make such promises to yourself, but they're not always so easy to keep. Listen now to Jack. Betty is powdering her nose. Jack is looking at her in a very critical way. After a while he says:—

You're always messing around with your powder puff. What's the matter with you lately? If it's not your powder puff it's your lipstick."

Those few words cut Betty to the quick. She didn't say anything at the time, but that night before she went to bed she sat in front of her big mirror. She looked at herself closely. This is what she thought:—

"He's noticed . . . I'm losing my looks . . . and no wonder . . . this heat. You'd think I was forty to look at me. I'm always tired, worn out. What IS the matter with me?"

Then she looked at herself very critically in the mirror and this is what she saw. Her eyes were dull, her skin had a strained, pinched look . . . it was pasty too. Her hair was lifeless and there were tiny little lines beginning to show round her eyes, and above her eyebrows. Something had to be done! She decided to have a chat to her doctor. She told him everything. And then finished up by saying:—

"I know it's no use trying to fix myself up with face creams and powder and paint. It's something more than that, doctor, and it's beginning to show on my face! Do you think it's the heat?"

"Well, Mrs. Tyler," said the doctor, "it's not just the heat alone. The most important thing you've told me is that you wake tired in the mornings. That means a lot. You see, when you wake tired in the morning you naturally become more tired as the day goes on. You feel dull, listless. And that's really Night-Starvation. Not many people realise it, but even at night you go on using up energy. Your heart beats, your lungs make muscular movements; and it stands to reason, if energy isn't replaced, you wake tired. And that's when this hot climate begins to tell on you. The best thing for you is Horlicks. Get some Horlicks and drink a cupful every night before you go to bed. You'll feel right as rain in no time."

Horlicks made a wonderful difference to Betty. It was marvellous the way her strength and vitality came back. A couple of months after her visit to the doctor she and Jack were starting off one morning for a picnic. The children were ready, all the sandwiches were cut. Betty had been going like fury all the morning and still looked so fresh and lovely that Jack remarked on it.

"Bet," he said, "it's marvellous the difference that's come over you during the last month. You look really lovely!"

If you wake up tired . . . get more tired as the day goes on, then the chances are that you're suffering from Night-Starvation. Remember what the doctor said. A cupful of Horlicks last thing at night before bed guards against Night-Starvation and replaces energy lost during sleep. You wake up feeling full of life and vitality.





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How Carpenter Ship Was Lost

Extraordinary Circumstances

THERE are extraordinary features surrounding the loss of the 4,000 tons freighter "Admiral Day" which, having just been purchased in the US by Messrs. W. R. Carpenter & Co., Ltd., and transferred to the British flag, was wrecked on Canton Island in August through the "carelessness and negligent navigation" of the master.

The vessel was thoroughly seaworthy and in good condition, and left San Francisco on August 9, 1940, and in due course raised Canton Island light, on a clear night, in fine weather.

According to the naval court (which sat in Rabaul recently and enquired into the circumstances) there was ample time and plenty of sea-room to avoid contact with the island, but the master made no attempt to give the island a wide berth, nor to follow the Admiralty route given him. He refused to heed a warning given him by the Chief Engineer.

The Court decided that he could have prevented the vessel from stranding if he had immediately stopped and turned her round. The Court also said that the vessel might have been refloated had immediate salvage operations been commenced after stranding.

Another curious fact is that the Master and Third Officer (who was the officer on watch at the time of the accident) also the helmsman and the look-out man, were not brought to the Naval Court of Enquiry, but were allowed to scatter to different parts of the world; and the ship's log-book was not made available to the Court.

The hearing opened in Rabaul on November 8 and it delivered its finding on November 22.

It will be remembered that two American freighters, the "Admiral Day" and the "Admiral Chase", were purchased recently by W. R. Carpenter and Co., for use in the Pacific freighting trade.

LATER.

The above is a summary of the finding of the Naval Court, as published in the "Rabaul Times".

It is stated in Sydney that this was only a "preliminary inquiry"; that there will have to be a fuller inquiry by a competent authority; that evidence was not withheld from the Rabaul Court; and that the Captain, supported by other shipmasters in the vicinity at the time, has a complete answer to the charges of carelessness and negligence.

Mrs. H. K. Bartlett, accompanied by her three children, arrived in Sydney from Papua recently and later went on to South Australia. Her husband, who is a Methodist missionary on Misima Island, is remaining in Papua.

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MOROBE GOLD OUTPUT

From Our Own Correspondent

WAU, Nov. 9.
OCTOBER proved a splendid month for the amount of gold won from Morobe goldfield—57,974 oz., valued at £A383,382, the best month since April, 1939.

For the period July 1 to October 31 of the current year, total gold declared for export has reached 176,536 oz. at an assessed value of £A1,109,654. This is well up to the best average and augurs well for a good year. It is hoped that our Administration may ponder over these gold figures and remove all obstacles preventing commencement of the Salamaua-Wau road, thus enabling mining companies to work lower grade ores and so increase the production of this much-needed commodity.

Death of Captain John Benton

INTERESTING experiences among the Pacific Islands of 50 years ago were included in the lifetime of Captain John Benton, who died in Auckland on November 15, aged about 70.

Captain Benton went first to sea in 1889, in the schooner "Olive", which was engaged in the Islands trade. The crew left the vessel at Apia to take part in the Malletoa war and the "Olive" was delayed until that was settled. In his various commands he had many exciting experiences, one of which concerned the three-masted schooner "Jessie". During a hurricane Captain Benton and his crew had to abandon the ship. They landed on an island, and when the hurricane had passed they found the schooner had broken her cable, and they were forced to row the 300 miles to Noumea.

MINING NEWS

From Papua

PAPUAN APINAIFI PETROLEUM CO., LTD.

THE Board is advised that prospects generally are more favourable to-day than they have ever been of obtaining oil in commercial quantities," said Mr. W. M. Marks (chairman) at the annual meeting of Papuan Apinaifi Petroleum Co., Ltd., in Sydney on November 25.

A major drilling plant, worth £40,000, was hired from the Commonwealth Government and operations commenced at Oiapu on March 15 last. After examining cores from the well, which reached 2,764 ft., the Commonwealth Chief Geological Adviser (Dr. W. G. Woolnough) and the Co.'s own geologist (Mr. G. Barrow) advised the removal of operations to a site three miles south-east from the present location. The new hole would save about 2,500 ft. of drilling. It is believed that oil is lying, and being retained, under a cap of igneous rocks on which drilling operations will be made. Transfer of equipment, etc., will take about nine weeks. No. 1 hole has been cased to 2,555 ft. and can be returned to at any time. If the Co. makes use of casing from an old bore, abandoned many years ago, a saving of £10,000 will be made.

The Commonwealth Government has advanced £20,000 to the Co. Mr. Marks said that the Co. had enough money in hand to put the new well down; and added that "big financial interests overseas" had approached him and showed great interest in the possibilities of future operations. Shareholders would be consulted if and when any offer was made.

OIL SEARCH, LTD.

Oil Search, Ltd., in its report for the year ended June 30, states that drilling of the first test well in Papua by the Australasian Petroleum Co., Pty., Ltd., is expected to commence in January at a site on the Vailala River, about 75 miles from the mouth. The decision was made after findings and recommendations of the field staff were reviewed by experts in London and New York. The bulk of the machinery has been landed at the site. Over £700,000 has been spent by APC Pty., Ltd., on surveys and drilling to date.

MANDATED ALLUVIALS, N.L.

For the year ended July 31, 1940, Mandated Alluvials, N.L., treated 5,018 tons of oxidised ore and 3,025 tons of sulphide ore for 516 tons of matte (containing 2,884 oz. fine gold, 7,820 oz. silver and 119.75 tons copper). Total value of

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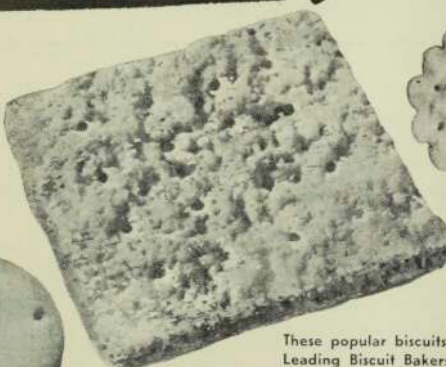
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production was £39,560, and net value after refining, £32,770. A net profit of £1,461 was shown after reducing mine development account by £5,000. A 3d. dividend in September, 1939, absorbed £1,350.

As the supply of oxidised ore from the various mines was rapidly diminishing, Mr. G. A. More was engaged to examine and report on the Laloki mine, which had previously been acquired. He pointed out that above the present

adit level, there was approximately 150,000 tons of ore, sufficient to keep the enlarged plant in almost continuous production for more than three years. The quantity of ore below this level would depend upon the depth to which it persisted and on whether the base continued as now, or widened.

Mr. More estimates that, when in full production, the enlarged plant will show in the three and a half years' treatment of ore above the adit level only, a working profit of approximately £41,000 a year. It had been hoped to pay for work incidental to the new plant out of current revenue. Decline in oxidised ore and delay in delivery of certain plant made this impossible, and the board therefore considers that some arrangement may be necessary to bring the mine to full production stage.

CUTHBERT'S MISIMA GOLD MINES, LTD.

Early this month the directors of Cuthbert's Misima Gold Mines, Ltd., declared an interim dividend (No. 13) of 1/- per share out of the current year's profit earned wholly and exclusively from gold-mining operations. Payment will be made on December 23; books close December 16.

November production compares with September and October as follows:—

	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.
Mill treated, tons	3,210	3,340	3,110
Bullion, oz.	3,402	3,435	3,214
Gold, fine, oz.	780	802	760
Silver, fine, oz.	2,538	2,568	2,338
Estimated value	£6,343	£6,508	£6,160
Value per ton of ore	39/6	39/-	39/7

From New Guinea

NEW GUINEA GOLDFIELDS, LTD.

THE latest report issued by the Mining Trust, Ltd., consulting engineers for NGG, Ltd., compares October production with August and September as follows:—

	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
Edie Creek mill—			
Ore, tons	3,105	*2,704	*2,299
Gold, oz., fine	918	845	688
Silver, oz., fine	5,713	4,040	3,537
Golden Ridges mill—			
Tons treated	2,616	2,420	2,418
Gold, oz., fine	1,184	1,052	977
Silver, oz., fine	1,350	1,429	1,396
Alluvial—			
Gold, oz., fine	1,335	1,528	1,629
Silver, oz., fine	988	1,155	1,150
Operating profit—			
Edie Creek, £	2,019	1,537	*31
Golden Ridges, £	2,772	2,021	1,031
Alluvial, £	5,120	6,885	6,022

*Low tonnage due to water entering the Karuka workings. Mill resumed full production on October 14 after pumping out of workings.
†Loss.

BULOLO GOLD DREDGING, LTD.

Bulolo Gold Dredging, Ltd., reports that October production from the Co.'s dredges in New Guinea compared with August and September as follows:—

	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
Cubic yards	1,613,000	1,790,000	1,765,000
Bullion, oz.	22,304	22,574	23,731
Gold, fine, oz.	15,389	15,875	16,374

Estimated working profit for October, 8,066 oz. of fine gold.

For the five months ended October 31, the dredges handled 8,145,000 cubic yards of gravel, and recovered gold valued at 2,700,390 United States dollars (about £843,872).

PLACER DEVELOPMENT, LTD.

Placer Development, Ltd., a Vancouver company with large holdings in Bulolo Gold Dredging, Ltd., New Guinea, made a profit of 1,100,660 Canadian dollars (approx. £A314,474) for the year ended April 30. This compares with 976,625 dollars (£A305,195) for the previous year.

SANDY CREEK GOLD SLUICING, LTD.

November production at Sandy Creek is compared with August, September and October as follows:—

	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.
Cubic yards	16,530	14,110	21,160	19,122
Gold, oz.	258	243	265	346
Per cubic yard	2/6	2/9	2/-	2/10 ³ / ₄
Working cost	1/1	1/2 ¹ / ₂	9/4	—

ENTERPRISE OF NEW GUINEA GOLD AND PETROLEUM DEVELOPMENT, N.L.

At the annual meeting of Enterprise of New Guinea Gold and Petroleum Development, N.L., in Melbourne, on December 3, some of the shareholders criticised the Co.'s policy in regard to the search for oil in New Guinea. The general manager in the Mandated Territory (Mr. H. Tylour) said that until "uncontrolled" areas were made available for search, little could be

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done. The chairman (Mr. E. Ward) explained that if a concession were granted in Papua, shareholders would have to be prepared to face considerable expenditure. Application for an oil permit was made in May last, and is still being considered.

SUNSHINE GOLD DEVELOPMENT, LTD.

Sunshine Gold Development, Ltd., reports that the clean-up for November yielded 56.3 oz. of gold. Little sluicing was done during the month owing to the removal of over-burden and re-setting plant in the new paddock.

For the year ended September 30, the Co. earned a profit of £33,681, after providing £2,486 for depreciation, compared with £11,142 for the previous year. Three dividends, each of 6d. a share, absorbed £15,000; and a further distribution of 1/- a share has been made. A total of 404,712 yards was treated for 6,857.29 oz. gold, and tributaries yielded 103.47 oz. Total value was £55,636. Mining costs were the lowest on record at 6d. a yard.

Directors state it is not expected that any further heavy outlay on plant will be necessary for some time. A new elevator has been erected on a fresh paddock to work the old river channel, which is about 500 feet wide, and when the paddock has been opened another elevator will be installed. The policy of removing overburden before beginning deep sluicing will be continued, and, although recoveries are expected to be relatively low during the opening out period, they should be augmented by gold from the terraces, which will not be affected by this arrangement.

GUINEA GOLD, N.L.

The directors of Guinea Gold, N.L., have declared a dividend of 1/- a share, payable on December 19. Books closed December 12.

From Fiji

EMPEROR MINES, LTD.

RESULTS from the Emperor Mine, at Tavua, for the past four months compare as follows:—

	Four weeks ended			
	Sept.	Oct.	Oct.	Nov.
	4.	2.	30.	27.
Ore treated, tons ..	10,098	9,899	11,279	13,000
Gold, oz. fine ..	3,653	3,026	4,029	15,062
Head value, dwt. ..	7.1	10.75	7.6	8.97
Residue, dwt.	1.0	1.1	0.67	0.51

†Including gold from concentrates.

Owing to the non-arrival of necessary electrical starting equipment from Australia, it was not possible to start No. 2 mill at the end of October as anticipated. Temporary arrangements, however, are being made for starting equipment in order to run in the new mill.

LOLOMA GOLD MINES, LTD.

Production at the Loloma mine during November is compared with the three previous periods as follows:—

	Four weeks ended			
	Sept.	*Oct.	Oct.	Nov.
	4.	2.	30.	27.
Tons, treated ..	2,527	2,628	2,612	2,585
Gold, fine, oz. ..	3,361	3,419	3,450	3,387
Head value, dwt. .	27.7	27.4	27.22	27.20
Residue, dwt.	1.1	1.38	0.87	1.00

MOUNT KASI MINES, LTD.

December production at the Mount Kasi mine, Vannu Levu, is compared with September, October and November as follows:—

	Sept. 4.	Oct. 9.	Nov. 6.	Dec. 4.
Ore, tons ..	3,360	4,040	3,104	3,881
Gold, fine, oz. .	693	853	615	733
Value, £A ..	6,930	8,530	6,150	7,330

ISLANDS MINING SHARES

FIJI

	Mid-June.	Mid-Oct.	Mid-Dec.
Emperor Mines ..	b10/3	b10/4	b11/9
Loloma	b22/6	b23/4½	b25/7½
Mt. Kasi	b3/6	b2/8	b3/3
Tavua Dev.	s4d	s2d	s4d

NEW GUINEA

	s £5/15/-	b £4/10/-	b £4/10/-
Bulolo G.D.	b12/6	b10/-	b20/-
Enterprise of N.G.	b10/-	b9/9	b12/3
Guinea Gold	s2/2	b2/4	b2/8
N.G.G., Ltd.	b3/2	b3/11	b5/1
Oil Search	s63/-	b57/6	b58/6
Placer Dev.	b9d	b10½d	b11d
Sandy Creek	b6/4	b10/4	b10/9
Sunshine Gold ...			

PAPUA

	b15/-	b13/4	b14/3
Cuthbert's	s1½d	—	b1d
G.M. of Papua .	s3/3	b2/9	b2/3
Mandated All.	s10/-	—	b8/6
Oriomo Oil	b4/4	b3/9	b4/3
Papuan Apinaipi	b1/5	b1/4	b1/4
Yodda Goldfields .			

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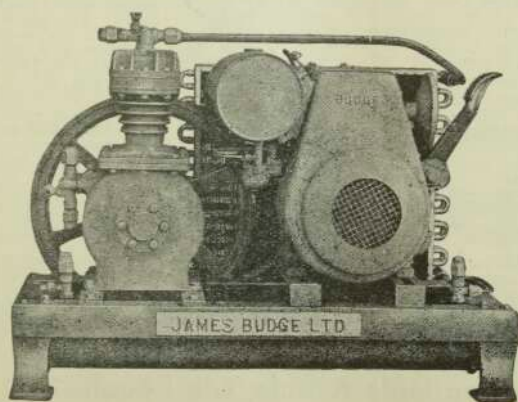
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Australian Short Wave Broadcast

A NATIONAL Short Wave Programme is broadcast daily from Lyndhurst, near Melbourne, Victoria, for listeners in the Western Pacific. Call signs: From 6.30-10.15 a.m., VLR7; from Noon-6.15 p.m., VLR7; from 6.30-12 p.m., VLR. Wave Lengths: From 6.30-10.15 a.m., 25.33 metres; from 12-6.15 p.m., 25.33 metres; from 6.30-12 p.m., 31.32 metres. Frequencies: From 6.30-10.15 a.m., 11.840 Kcs.; from 12-6.15 p.m., 11.840 Kcs.; from 6.30-12 p.m., 9.580 Kcs. Power: 2 Kilowatts. Times given are Australian Eastern Standard (10 hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time).

WEEK DAYS.—a.m.: 6.30, Market Reports; 6.45, News; 7.15, Music; 7.45, News; 8, Music; 9.30, Story; 10, Devotional Service; 10.15, Close. p.m.: 12, Time Signal and Music; 12.35, Essential Services; 12.50, News; 1.10, Music; 1.35, News; 4.15, News; 4.45, Music; 5.30, Young People's Session; 6, "Radio Magazine"; 6.15, Close; 6.30, Dinner Music; 7, News; 7.30, B.B.C. News; 11.30, Music; 11.50, News; 12, Close.

SATURDAYS.—Same as daily programme, except between 1.05 p.m. and 5.15 p.m., when description of current sporting and athletic events is given, interspersed with music. Close at 12 p.m.

SUNDAYS.—a.m.: 6.45, News; 7, Music; 9, News; 9.30, New Releases (Recorded); 10, Book Reviews; 10.30, Famous Singers; 11, Divine Service. p.m.: 12.15, Great Violinists; 12.50, News; 1.30, News; 2, Close; 3, Orchestral Programme; 4.15, News; 4.45, Music; 7, News and Comment; 10.30, Music; 11, Close.

JANUARY 1 TO JANUARY 18

Jan. 1 (Wed.)—1.50 p.m. Races and Cricket Description; 7.45 "Radio Magazine"; 8.15 "Out of the Bag"; 9.45 Variety Programme; 10.15 "The Mastersingers".

Jan. 2 (Thurs.)—1.50 p.m. Cricket Description; 8.15 "Strike Up the Band"; 9.15 Australian Trio; 10 "Visitors of 1941".

Jan. 3 (Fri.)—1.50 p.m. Cricket Description; 8.15 Play; 9.15 Montague Brearley Ensemble; 9.45 Ballad Concert.

Jan. 4 (Sat.)—1.50 p.m. Moonee Valley Races and Cricket Description; 8.15 Symphony Orchestra; 9.30 Talk (Neville Cardus); 9.40 Wireless Chorus; 10 Sketch; 10.20 Pianoforte Recital; 10.30 Dance Music.

Jan. 5 (Sun.)—7.30 p.m. "Twilight Reveries"; 7.45 BBC Newsreel; 8.15 Musical Programme; 9 Gordon Ireland's Musical Quiz; 9.30 "All Australia" Session.

Jan. 6 (Mon.)—8 p.m. Musical Feature—"Merry-Go-Round"; 9 "Songs of Greece" (Angela Parselles); 10.10 Wireless Chorus.

Jan. 7 (Tues.)—8 p.m. "Doctor's Day"; 9 Haydn Beck (Cellist); 9.45 Brass Band Music; 10.05 Male Quartet; 10.30 Jim Davidson's Band.

Jan. 8 (Wed.)—8 p.m. "Out of the Bag"; 9 Military Band; 9.45 New Compositions (Roy Agnew); 10.15 Wireless Chorus.

Jan. 9 (Thurs.)—8 p.m. "Strike up the Band"; 9 Two-piano Recital; 9.15 Orchestral Programme; 10.30 Jim Davidson's Band.

Jan. 10 (Fri.)—8 p.m. Play—"Ithuriel's Hour"; 9.20 Variety Programme; 10.15 Pianoforte Recital (Sefton Daley).

Jan. 11 (Sat.)—8 p.m. Symphony Orchestra; 9.15 Vocal Interlude; 9.30 Talk (Neville Cardus); 9.40 "Diggers on Parade"; 10.30 Jim Davidson.

Jan. 12 (Sun.)—6.30 p.m. "Island Night's Entertainment"; 8 Montague Brearley's Orchestra; 8.30 "The Mastersingers"; 9 Gordon Ireland's Musical Quiz; 10 New Compositions.

Jan. 13 (Mon.)—8 p.m. "Merry-Go-Round"; 9 The Austral Trio; 9.30 Serial—"It Walks by Night"; 10 Melbourne Wireless Chorus.

Jan. 14 (Tues.)—1.50 p.m. Geelong Races; 8 Melbourne Orchestra; 9 Hilda Woolmer (pianist); 9.15 Musical Comedy; 10.30 Jim Davidson.

Jan. 15 (Wed.)—1.50 p.m. Warrnambool Races; 8 "Out of the Bag"; 9 Military Band; 9.45 Harold Williams Feature.

Jan. 16 (Thurs.)—1.50 p.m. Warrnambool Races; 8 "Strike up the Band"; 9 Band Music; 9.20 "Southern Cross Quartet"; 9.45 John

Morely Quintet; 10.30 Jim Davidson's Dance Band.

Jan. 17 (Fri.)—8 p.m. Play; 9 Australian Boys' Choir; 10.30 Dance Music.

Jan. 18 (Sat.)—1.50 p.m. Race and Cricket Descriptions; 8 Melbourne Concert Orchestra with Henri Penn (solo pianist); 9.15 Sylvia Fisher (soprano); 9.30 Neville Cardus; 10.30 "To-night We Dance".

BROADCAST TO FRENCH PACIFIC COLONIES

THE Australian Department of Information, in conjunction with the A.B.C., recently inaugurated a daily broadcast in French of news talks, and music for listeners in New Caledonia, New Hebrides, and Tahiti. Transmission is made from Station VLQ, Sydney, on a wave-length of 31.2 metres (frequency, 9.615 mcs.) and consists of the following items:—

Aust. Eastern Standard Time.	Noumea Time.	
6.55 p.m.	7.55 p.m.	Announcements.
7.00 p.m.	8.00 p.m.	News in French.
7.20 p.m.	8.20 p.m.	Talk in French.
7.25 p.m.	8.25 p.m.	Close.

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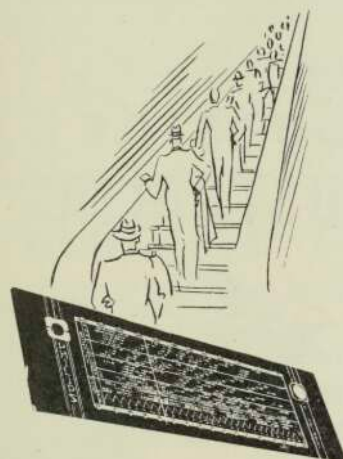
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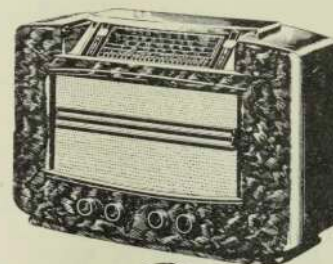
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HOW IS YOUR RADIO RECEPTION?

FOR three years now the Australian Broadcasting Commission from its short wave station VLR in Victoria has broadcast a daily radio programme to cater for listeners in the Western Pacific. New features have been added from time to time and the ABC is now preparing a Sunday evening session to be called "Islands Nights' Entertainment", consisting of music and South Seas news and gossip sent in by listeners.

With a view to improving the service generally, the Commission is seeking the

opinions of listeners concerning the standard of programmes and the quality of reception. Residents in the Pacific Islands are requested to send replies to VLR C/- the ABC, Melbourne, to the following questions:—

- (1) What are your most popular items, in order of preference?
- (2) What is the best listening time for you?
- (3) What is reception like at this time?
- (4) How does reception vary in your district throughout the day and evening?
- (5) Can you suggest any improvements in the Market Reports, Sporting, or News services?
- (6) Can you suggest any feature which you would like the ABC to present?

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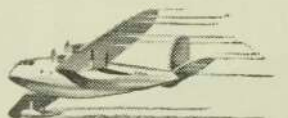
The School is well equipped and splendidly situated. Its 1940 complement (about 50 boarders and 250 day boys) makes it possible for every boy to come into personal touch with the Head Master and a staff of 10 experienced and successful masters (including seven University Graduates). The general life of the school is very varied and full of vigour. The Head Master will be pleased to send the Illustrated Year Book for 1939-40, on application, and to give full information about the school, which is approved by the University of Melbourne as a Class "A" School for Intermediate and School Leaving Examinations.

New Year term commences February 11th, 1941.

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Market Quotations

COPRA

London	South Sea, Sun-dried to London	Plantation, Hot-air Dried, Rabaul
Price on—	Per ton, c.i.f.	Per ton, c.i.f.
January 1, 1932 ..	£14 0 0	£14 5 0
June 17 ..	£13 2 6	£13 5 0
December 16 ..	£14 2 6	£14 5 0
January 6, 1933 ..	£13 0 0	£13 12 6
June 30 ..	£10 17 6	£11 0 0
December 1 ..	£8 12 6	£9 0 0
January 5, 1934 ..	£8 0 0	£8 7 6
June 15 ..	£8 0 0	£8 12 6
December 28 ..	£9 0 0	£9 12 6
January 4, 1935 ..	£9 5 0	£10 5 0
March 1 ..	£12 2 6	£12 15 0
June 7 ..	£11 15 0	£12 7 6
September 6 ..	£9 17 6	£10 17 6
December 6 ..	£12 17 6	£14 0 0

London and Marseilles	South Sea Smoked to Genoa	South Sea Sun-Dried to London	Plantation Hot-air Dried, Rabaul
Price on—	Per ton, c.i.f.	Per ton, c.i.f.	Per ton, c.i.f.
Jan. 3, '36 ..	£13 2 6	£13 15 0	£14 0 0
Mar. 6 ..	£11 15 0	£12 15 0	£13 0 0
June 5 ..	£11 10 0	£12 0 0	£12 17 6
Sept. 4 ..	£13 2 6	£13 10 0	£14 12 6
Dec. 4 ..	£19 7 6	£19 7 6	£20 7 6
Jan. 8, '37 ..	£22 12 6	£22 12 6	£23 12 6
Mar. 5 ..	£19 0 0	£19 5 0	£20 0 0
June 4 ..	£15 15 0	£15 12 6	£16 12 6
Sept. 3 ..	£13 5 0	£13 5 0	£14 0 0
Dec. 3 ..	£12 10 0	£12 12 6	£13 7 6
Jan. 7, '38 ..	£12 12 6	£12 15 0	£13 12 6
Feb. 4 ..	£11 2 6	£11 10 0	£12 7 6
Mar. 4 ..	£10 17 6	£11 0 0	£12 0 0
Apr. 1 ..	£10 10 0	£10 12 6	£11 10 0
May 6 ..	£10 17 6	£10 17 6	£11 17 6
June 3 ..	£9 15 0	£9 15 0	£10 12 6
July 1 ..	£9 17 6	£9 17 6	£10 17 6
Aug. 5 ..	£9 15 0	£9 15 0	£10 15 0
Sept. 2 ..	£9 10 0	£9 10 0	£10 10 0
Oct. 7 ..	£9 2 6	£9 2 6	£10 2 6
Nov. 4 ..	£8 12 6	£8 12 6	£9 10 0
Dec. 2 ..	£9 5 0	£9 5 0	£10 2 6
Jan. 6, '39 ..	£9 12 6	£9 15 0	£10 10 0
Feb. 3 ..	£9 10 0	£9 12 6	£10 10 0
Feb. 24 ..	£9 17 6	£10 2 6	£11 0 0
Mar. 3 ..	£10 0 0	£10 2 6	£11 0 0
Mar. 24 ..	£9 15 0	£9 17 6	£10 17 6
Apr. 6 ..	£9 12 6	£9 15 0	£10 12 6
Apr. 28 ..	£9 17 6	£10 0 0	£11 0 0
May 5 ..	£10 0 0	£10 5 0	£11 0 0
May 12 ..	£10 5 0	£10 10 0	£11 5 0
May 19 ..	£10 5 0	£10 7 6	£11 2 6
May 26 ..	£10 7 6	£10 10 0	£11 7 6
June 2 ..	£10 7 6	£10 10 0	£11 7 6
June 9 ..	£10 5 0	£10 10 0	£11 7 6
June 16 ..	£9 15 0	£10 0 0	£10 17 6
June 23 ..	£9 10 0	£9 15 0	£10 15 0
June 30 ..	£9 5 0	£9 7 6	£10 7 6
July 7 ..	£9 2 6	£9 7 6	£10 5 0
July 14 ..	£9 0 0	£9 5 0	£10 0 0
July 21 ..	£8 15 0	£8 17 6	£9 12 6
July 28 ..	£9 0 0	£9 2 6	£10 0 0
Aug. 4 ..	£9 2 6	£9 5 0	£10 5 0
Aug. 11 ..	£9 2 6	£9 5 0	£10 5 0
Aug. 18 ..	£9 0 0	£9 2 6	£10 5 0
Aug. 25 ..	£9 5 0	£9 7 6	£10 7 6
Sept. 1 ..	£9 10 0	£9 12 6	£10 12 6
Sept. 8 ..	Not quoted—outbreak of war.		
Sept. 15 to 29 ..	Not quoted.		
Oct. 6 ..	£11 15 0	[unquoted]	£12 15 0
Oct. 12 ..	Fixed price based on £12/7/6 per ton, c.i.f., London, for plantation hot-air dried.		
Jan. 8, 1940—April 20, 1940 ..	Fixed price, for plantation, hot-air dried, £13/5/- per ton, c.i.f., London.		
April 20, 1940 ..	Fixed price for plantation, hot-air dried, £12/17/6 per ton, c.i.f., London. Since then, quotations nominal, as above.		

RUBBER

London	Para. Smoked, per lb.	Plantation Smoked, per lb.
Price on—		
January 6, 1933 ..	4½d	2.43d
July 7 ..	5½d	2.71d
December 8 ..	4½d	4.08d
January 5, 1934 ..	4½d	4.28d

July 6	5½d	7.06d
December 28	5d	6½d
January 4, 1935	5d	6½d
July 5	5d	6½d
December 3, 1936	6½d	6½d
January 3, 1936	6½d	6½d
June 5	9d	7½d
December 4	1/-	9 1-16d
January 8, 1937	1/2	10½d
June 4	11d	9 5-8d
December 3	7½d	7½d
January 7, 1938	7½d	7d
July 1	7½d	7½d
December 2	7½d	8d
January 6, 1939	7d	8½d
July 7	7½d	8½d
December 1	12d	11½d
January 5, 1940	13d	11.6½d
February 2	13d	11½d
March 1	12½d	12½d
April 5	12½d	10½d
May 3	12½d	11½d
July 5	15½d	12½d
July 19	15d	12½d
July 26	14½d	12½d
August 2	13½d	13d
August 9	13½d	13 1-16d
August 16	13½d	13 1-16d
August 23	13½d	12.625d
August 30	13d	12½d
September 6	12d	12 3-16d
September 13	12d	12 3-16d
September 20	12d	11½d
September 27	12d	11-9-16d
October 4	12d	11½d
October 11	12d	11½d
October 18	12d	11 13-16d
October 25	12d	11 13-16d
November 1	12d	11 13-16d
November 8	12d	11½d
November 15	13d	12d
November 22	13d	11½d
November 29	13d	11½d
December 6	13d	12d

ISLANDS PRODUCE

THE following quotations were obtained in Sydney in mid-December:—

COFFEE

Robusta, f.a.q., imported from Java on firm conversion of exchange, c.i.f., prompt shipment, Sydney (Sterling): Price fixed by Government at 36/6 per cwt.

(Note: Importers of coffee from Java, etc., pay additional charges, including Exchange, duty (4.4d. lb.), primage (11 per cent.), landing costs (1/- per cwt.), war duty (10 per cent.). Coffee from Papua and New Guinea escapes most of these charges.)

Kenya, f.a.q., immediate shipment, c.i.f., Sydney, per cwt. (Stg.): Quote No. 1: Grade "B", 66/-; "C", 64/- (New Season's).

Mysore, f.a.q., c.i.f., Sydney, per cwt. Quote No. 1: Ship's assortment, 64/-; Jan.-March shipment, Quote No. 2 (c.i.f., Sydney): Grade "A", 66/-; "B", 62/-; "C", 59/-; Triage, 56/-; Ship's assortment, 54/- per cwt.

Arabian (Aden) Hodeidah, f.a.q., c.i.f., Sydney, No. 1 quotation: 84/6.

New Guinea and Papuan grown coffee was quoted in Sydney last month at prices ranging from 7½d. to 8½d. per lb. In view of the sharp rise in the Government-controlled Java market from 29/3 to 36/6, however, a rise in Islands coffee prices is anticipated.

New Caledonian coffee: A Sydney firm states that some business has been done at the following prices:—Arabica, from 11½d. to 10½d., according to quality; Robusta, 8½d. lb.

KAPOK

Java (Government-controlled prices).—Average Java, 6-3/16d. per lb., c.i.f. (Stg.): Prime Japara, 6½d. per lb., c.i.f. (Stg.). Subject to exchange 25½%, duty 2d. per lb., 10% primage, 10% war duty, wharfage, etc.

Sydney quotations: Average Java, 11½d. lb.; Prime Japara, 11½d. lb.; Prime Java, 12½d. lb.

IVORY NUTS

Owing to the International situation, Sydney agents are not quoting for ivory nuts. The last quotations, some months ago, indicated that a nominal rate was in the vicinity of £7 per ton.

COCOA

New Guinea cocoa: Quote No. 1: £39-41 per ton. Quote No. 2: £39-41. Accra, good fermented, £33/10/- per ton (Sterling).

RICE

Rangoon rice, packed in 100 lb. bags, £19/10/- per ton; 200 lb. sacks, £19 per ton. Australian table rice, packed in 56 lb. bags, £20 per ton.

TROCHUS SHELL

A Sydney agent reports that a limited quantity of Trochus shell was sold during November at the following prices:—Grade "A", £57/10/-; Grade "B", £48/5/-; Grade "C", £37/10/-; "Chicken", £37/10/-.

GREEN SNAIL SHELL

Green snail shell, quoted by Sydney buyers:—Quote No. 1: £50. No. 2: £52.

Exchange Rates

THE following exchange quotations, gathered in Sydney, show the rates existing mid-December:—

FIJI

Through Bank of N.S.W. and Bank of New Zealand:—Australia on Fiji on basis of £100 Fiji: Buying £A111/2/6, selling £A113. Fiji-London on basis £100 London:—

	Buying	Selling
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Telegraphic transfer	110 15 0	112 0 0
On demand	110 12 6	111 17 6

NEW CALEDONIA

Through French Bank:—As a result of the French surrender to Germany, the Anglo-French banking system has been completely dislocated. London is not quoting on Paris—therefore the Comptoir National d'Escompte de Paris Bank in Sydney cannot furnish Sydney-Noumea bank rates, as usual.

NEW CALEDONIA AND TAHITI

Through Bank of N.S.W.:—Owing to the present European situation, London is not quoting a rate on Paris; and since the Sydney-Noumea and Sydney-Papeete quotations are based on the London-Paris rate, no quotations for these are available.

Note.—It is understood that negotiations are proceeding between the New Caledonian authorities and the Australian Government whereby a rate between the Commonwealth and the French Pacific Colonies will be established, in-

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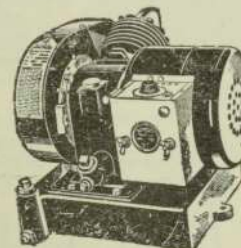
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dependent of the London-Paris rate upon which former quotations were based.

WESTERN SAMOA

Through Bank of New Zealand:—Australia on Western Samoa, basis £100 Samoa—buying, £A99/12/6; selling, £A100/2/6. Samoa on London, basis £100 in London:—
 Buying. Selling.
 Telegraphic transfer — £125 10 0
 On Demand £122 18 9 125 7 6
 30 days 122 8 9 125 2 6
 60 days 121 18 9 124 17 6
 90 days 121 8 9 124 12 6
 120 days 120 18 9 —

NEW GUINEA AND PAPUA

Through Bank of N.S.W.:—Australia on Port Moresby and Samarai, Papua, 10/- per cent. premium each way. Australia on Rabaul, N.G., 10/- per cent. premium. All other places 20/- per cent.
 Papua and New Guinea on London: Same as Australia on London and vice versa.
 Through Commonwealth Bank:—Australia on Port Moresby and Samarai, Papua, 10/- per cent.; on Rabaul, N.G., 10/- per cent.; other Papua and New Guinea districts, £1 per cent. Rabaul on London, same as Australia on London:—
 Buying: T.T. £A125 equals £stg. 100.
 Selling: T.T. £A125/10/- equals £stg. 100.

PRICE OF GOLD

(Australian Official Quotations)

	Fine oz.	Standard oz.
January 1, 1940	£10/12/6	£9/14/9½
February 5	£10/12/9	£9/15/0½
March 4 to June 17 ..	£10/13/3	£9/15/5¾
June 24 to July 7 ..	£10/12/6	£9/15/0½
July 8	£10/11/-	£9/13/5
August 5 to Sept. 14 ..	£10/12/6	£9/14/9½
Sept. 21 to Nov. 30 ..	£10/14/-	£9/16/2
December 8	£10/14/-	£9/16/2

THREE DEAD IN YACHT TRAGEDY

A TRAGEDY of the sea was brought to light in Fiji on November 25 when a mission ketch sighted a wrecked cutter on a reef at Visogo, Vanua Levu, Fiji. On board, the missionary found an emaciated young woman almost dead from starvation, and the dead bodies of a woman and a man.

It appears that the cutter ("Wing On") left Seattle (USA) on August 14 for the Marquesas with Mr. and Mrs. Dalton Arthur Conly and Mr. and Mrs. Chester A. Thompson, of Los Angeles, aboard. The yacht probably was thrown off its course by a cyclone, which is mentioned in the roughly-kept log, and continued blindly for some 5,000 miles without sighting land.

Starvation overtook the yacht's company and Thompson died on November 7, being buried at sea. Conly (master of "Wing On") died on November 13 and his wife about November 23. The sole surviving member, Mrs. Fern Thompson, after being rescued, was taken to Labasa Hospital, gravely ill.

An attempt will be made later to salvage the yacht.

Departure of Dr. Giblin From Wau

From Our Own Correspondent

Dr. W. E. Giblin, who was so well known throughout Papua for many years as Government medical officer, and who on retirement came to Wau, in June, 1936, as medical officer to the New Guinea Goldfields Ltd. and general practitioner, has now retired; and he left for Australia by air in December. Dr. Giblin has had a very busy 4½ years on the Goldfield. A marked increase in the married population, in recent years, and the fact that the Chinese community has been growing since the China-Japan incident commenced, all added to the calls on the doctor's time.

However, his old Territory has claimed him again; and, after a short sojourn in Australia, where Mrs. Giblin preceded him a year ago to establish a home on the North Shore line, in Sydney, Dr. Giblin will go back to Papua as medical officer for the Australasian Petroleum Company.

Prior to his departure, Dr. Giblin was given a public farewell in the Wau Club, when a handsome presentation was made to him and expressions of good wishes were tendered. Subsequently, he was entertained by the staff of the New Guinea Goldfields Ltd. at a buffet dinner at the Wau Hotel, when the general manager (Mr. K. B. Gross) wished him everything good in his new sphere of activities on behalf of the company.

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Owing to severe pressure on our space, the result of paper-rationing conditions, the section entitled "SHIPPING SERVICES IN PACIFIC" is not published this month. It will appear as usual in the January issue.

COPRA AS FOOD FOR PIGS

Economic Factor Much in Doubt

PUBLIC interest in the subject of using copra or undried coconuts as fodder for stock seems to be growing. The "PIM" is being asked constantly for information, but we can supply only the results of discussions in Fiji, New Guinea, etc. (See article on page 23 of this issue.)

An important contribution was made to the "Fiji Times" of November 11, by Mr. N. S. Chalmers, who conducts his Waidranu Plantation and farm on modern lines. He says he raised good cattle; but there is no market for them, so about 150 head a year were killed, and converted into meat meal for pigs. As for pigs: Mr. Chalmers introduced the best strains obtainable in New Zealand, and conducted the pig farm in scientific fashion; a liberal proportion of copra screenings was introduced into their food; but, although costs were kept low, there was no profitable market for first-class pigs, and pig-raising was being abandoned. Mr. Chalmers concludes:—

"I am one of those who believe that copra districts will never be able to produce pigs of that high quality demanded by overseas markets unless the producer is prepared to feed them on rations which must make production unprofitable. Owing to there being no winter in this country we are unable to produce those root crops which can be produced so cheaply in other countries and which form such an important part of the pig ration. Figures compiled by the New Zealand Pig Recording Association tend to show that pig raising becomes unprofitable when the supply of skimmed milk is insufficient to feed the pigs on hand. It is then that the farmer invariably quits his surplus."

NOT FED ON COPRA ONLY

IT was reported recently that a small bacon pig fed solely on copra in Fiji under the supervision of the

Director of Agriculture was slaughtered in Fiji, half of it being retained in Suva and the other half being frozen and sent to Hydra Bacon & Meat Co., in Auckland, to cure. It was of most excellent quality. It was said that this test had demonstrated the value of copra as a pig food, if used in rationed quantities.

The Director of Agriculture in Fiji, however, reports that the pig (which was of Large White type, medium size) was not fed solely on copra. It was bred by Mr. A. McKenzie, of Rewa, Fiji, a dairyman, and it is believed that a large part of the animal's diet was milk, or milk products.

TESTS SUGGESTED

Letter to the Editor

IN a recent issue of "PIM" I noticed that experiments had been carried out in the use of copra for fattening pigs. The article suggested that much copra could be used for this purpose, but the inference seemed to be that this should be done on the plantation.

As the export of pig products (bacon, hams, etc.) is the second string in the economy of the dairying districts of this State, I suggest that endeavours be made with the Department of Agriculture in Sydney to arrange for the feed-

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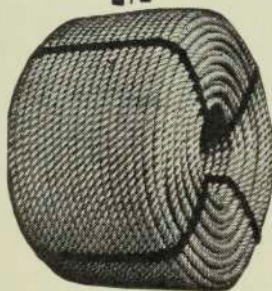
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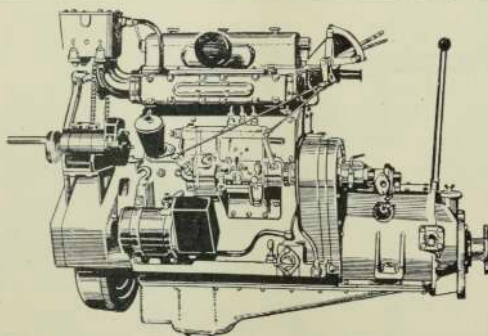
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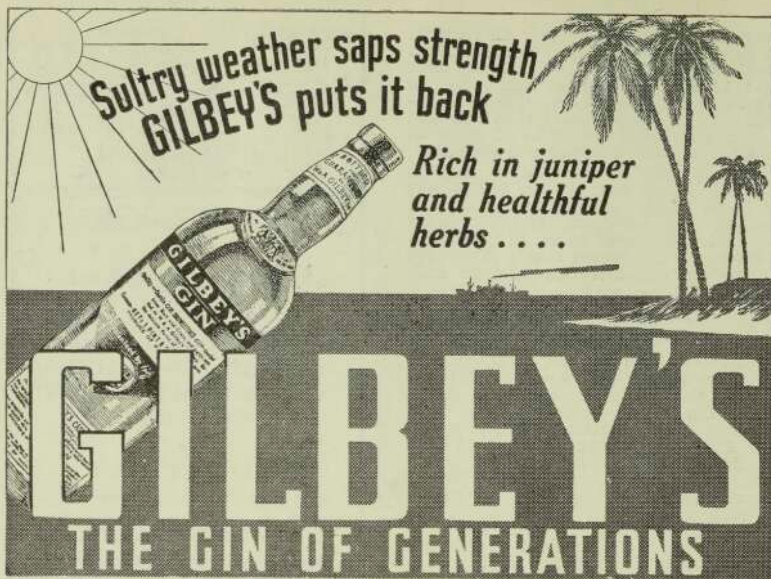
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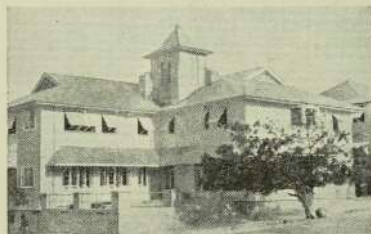
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ing of experimental litters at one or other
of the State agricultural farms or col-
leges. It may be possible of demonstra-
tion that copra, used as a supplemen-
tary ration in varying proportions, may
be more economical than complete farm
feeding.

Casino, NSW. I am, etc., J. BRYAN.

"Philatelic Tragedy"

IN November we published an article,
based on information received from
New Zealand, entitled "Philatelic
Tragedy—Pitcairn Island Stamps". It
was stated that, while arrangements had
been made to issue the first of the new
Pitcairn Is. stamps at Pitcairn on Nov-
ember 25, simultaneously with an issue
of the stamps at Suva (now administra-
tive headquarters for Pitcairn), there had
been a misunderstanding in Suva, and
that, to the world-wide dismay of
philatelists, the stamps were issued in
Suva on October 25.

Late in November, it was announced
by the Secretary to the Western Pacific
High Commission (Mr. Vaskess) that the
original issue-date for the new stamps
was October 25, and that that date had
never been altered. It was made clear
that, if the date of issue at Pitcairn was
altered, Suva did not authorise it, and
knows nothing, officially, about it.

WHAT N. GUINEA PLANTERS MAY DO

IN thoroughly practical fashion, Mr.
Victor A. Pratt, a New Guinea
planter, in an article in "Rabaul
Times" of December 6, outlines alter-
native crops for the planter who has
been crippled by the copra position.

Mr. Pratt points out that rice or
tapioca could be grown in the Territory
to take the place of imported rice; that
tobacco can be grown abundantly and
manufactured in New Guinea to take
the place of the imported trade article;
that soap can be made, so to speak,
"on the premises", of a quality superior
to cheap imported soaps; that coconut
oil can be mixed with certain commo-
dities and used as a fuel for some
engines; that oil cake is a good food for
live stock and a splendid fertiliser; that
New Guinea is awaiting someone to start
canning tropical fruits and juice.

But nothing can be done without gov-
ernmental co-operation.

P.I. Travellers—From Page 3

wenack, Trotter, Wignall, Watson, Bond,
Doughty, Hill, Miller, Ravui, St. George-Ryder,
Singh, Varea. Mesdames Banting, Hopkins,
King, Swann, Tange, Lees, Maguire, Nann,
Misses Banting, Bohle, King, Swann, Marlow,
Donald, Worbey.

DECEMBER, 1940—PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY



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Resch's
WAVERLEY BITTER ALE

IN THE BOTTLE WITH THE **GREEN** LABEL

