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March 20, 1944

VOL. XIV. NO. 8.

PACIFIC ISLANDS Monthly



A model of Rabaul Harbour and environs (showing Blanche Bay in foreground, and Simpsonhaven further in) made by the RAAF for the use of Allied pilots. The model shows the volcanic mounts (including the new Mount Vulcan, in the top of the picture) and the town of Rabaul (centre).

Established 1930

[Registered at the G.P.O., Sydney, for transmission by post as a newspaper]

1/-

ROLL OF HONOUR

(We try to assemble here the names of men of the United Nations, residents or former residents of the Pacific Territories, whose names appear in casualty lists or who receive decorations. We should be grateful if relations and friends would send us details of such men.)

KILLED

Sgt. Bert AITKEN, NZEF, formerly of Fiji. Killed in action in Libya.

Eugene AUBRY (formerly of Tahiti), of the Air Force of Fighting France. Killed in an air accident in Great Britain.

Lieut. L. E. AUSTIN, AMF, formerly of Tangara, Papua. Reported missing, believed killed, February, 1944.

Squadron-Leader Stan BALDIE, RAF, formerly of Wau, TNG. Killed in action in India.

Pilot-Officer Len BAYLISS, flying instructor in the RAAF, formerly of Rabaul, New Guinea. Killed in Sydney, 18/11/1940, when he fell from a trainer aircraft in flight.

Lieut.-Colonel C. N. F. BENGOUGH, of BSI, Defence Forces, formerly Acting-Resident Commissioner of BSI. Killed when aircraft shot down into sea, August, 1943.

E. C. BENTLEY, NZEF, formerly of Fiji. Killed in action, Middle East, June 27, 1942.

A/Bdr. Neville W. BERTWISTLE, AIF artillery (tank unit), formerly a clerk on the staff of W. R. Carpenter and Co. Ltd., of Rabaul, New Guinea. Killed in action, April, 1941.

P/O J. B. BOMFORD, RNZAF, formerly of CSR Co.'s staff, Fiji. Killed on active service in England.

Pte. W. R. M. BRADNAM, of the NZ Forces, formerly of Fiji. Reported killed in action in the Middle East, 25/11/1941.

Warrant-Officer R. F. BRECHIN, New Guinea Force. Killed in air accident, June 17, 1942. Formerly of NG Department of Agriculture.

Anton BRINON, of Fighting French Pacific Battalion, formerly of La Foa, New Caledonia. Killed in action in Libya, November, 1942.

Lieut.-Colonel Felix BROCHE, of the New Caledonian-New Hebridean contingent of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Killed in action in the battle of Bir Hacheim (Libya).

Pilot-Officer E. H. CANARD, of RAF, formerly of Fiji Civil Service. Killed in flying accident in South Africa in the course of his duty as flying instructor.

Pte. David C. CARLAND, AIF, formerly chief assayer at the Emperor gold mines, Fiji. Killed in action in New Guinea.

Pierre CHARPENTIER, of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Killed in action in the battle of Bir Hacheim.

Raymond CHAUTARD (formerly of New Caledonia), of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Killed in action in Libya.

Flight-Lieutenant G. J. I. CLARKE, of the RAAF, formerly Assistant Flight Superintendent of Carpenter Airlines, New Guinea. Killed in action during operations off Dakar (French West Africa), while attached to HMAS "Australia", September, 1940.

Georges CLEMENS, of the Free French Pacific contingent from New Caledonia. Reported killed in action in the Middle East, March, 1942.

Flying-Officer Jack R. COATH, of the RNZAF, formerly on the staff of the Bank of New Zealand, in Suva, Fiji. Killed October, 1941, when a training aircraft crashed in NZ.

Sgt.-Leader Lionel COHEN, RAF, formerly of Upper Watut, TNG. Killed when returning from a bomber raid on Berlin in 1942.

Sgt.-Pilot Colin CRABBE, RAF, formerly of Suva, Fiji. Killed by enemy action in England in May, 1943.

Pte. Felix CRAIG, AIF, formerly of accounts department, Australasian Petroleum Co., Port Moresby, Papua. Killed in action, June, 1941.

L. J. DAWES, of the NZ Forces, formerly District Officer of Savaii, Western Samoa. Reported killed in action, February, 1942.

Pilot-Officer V. L. DEARMAN, of the RAAF (observer), formerly overseer and clerk at the Colonial Sugar Refining Co., Ltd., Raraval, Fiji. Reported killed in action in the Middle East, October, 1941.

Capt. Jean GILBERT, of the Naval Forces of Fighting France, and formerly of Tahiti. Killed in action.

Captain Kenneth GARDEN, of the RAF Ferry Command, formerly of Guinea Airways Ltd., in New Guinea. Killed September, 1941, when a bomber he "ferried" from USA crashed on west coast of Britain.

Flying-Officer Moresby GOFTON, of the RAF, son of Mrs. F. S. Stewart, of Wau, New Guinea. Reported missing, 17/5/1940—presumed killed in air operations.

Rifleman J. A. GOODWIN, AIF infantry, formerly of Bulwa, TNG. Reported "accidentally killed", April, 1942.

Ernest GOURNAC (formerly of Tahiti), of the Air Force of Fighting France. Killed in an air accident in Britain.

Pte. Wallace GRAHAM, of the NZ Forces (infantry), formerly on the staff of Morris Hedstrom Ltd., Fiji. Killed in action in the Middle East, November, 1941.

Lieut. J. A. GRANT, AIF, formerly of Mandated Territory. Killed in action.

Lieut. L. B. GROVE, AIF, formerly of Madang, TNG. Killed in action.

Squadron-Leader C. R. GURNEY, RAAF, a former chief pilot of Guinea Airways, Ltd. Killed in action in the New Guinea area, May, 1942.

Pte. B. HAMILTON, AIF, formerly of Auckland, NZ, and New Guinea. Killed in action.

Gerald T. J. HARPER, RAF, son of Major and Mrs. P. Harper, of Ra, Fiji. Killed in action while navigating a Whitley bomber during a raid on the Continent.

J. HEAD, RAAF, formerly of Fiji. Killed in flying accident in Australia, 1941.

Captain L. T. HURRELL, infantry, Rabaul. Killed in action.

Sgt.-Leader James R. HYDE, of the RAF, formerly a Patrol Officer in Namatanal and Sepik Districts, TNG. Awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, 1941. Killed in action while leading an attack on an enemy convoy off the coast of Greece, July 24, 1942.

Pte. Jack JOHNSON, formerly of Morris Hedstrom's staff, Fiji. Killed in action on November 4, while serving with the AIF in New Guinea.

Flying-Officer Alan JOHNSTONE, of the RAF, who was born in Suva, Fiji, in 1915. Killed during bombing raid on Kristiansand, Norway, April, 1940.

Flying-Officer G. M. KEOGH, RAAF, formerly of Wewak, TNG. Killed in air operations in New Guinea, August 30, 1943.

LAC Douglas KIRBY, RAF, who left Suva, Fiji, with the first contingent of Air Force trainees. Reported killed in a flying accident in South Africa, March, 1942.

Marcel KOLLEN, of the Pacific Battalion of Fighting France. Killed in action in the battle of Bir Hacheim.

C. D. LAMONT, RAF, formerly a master at Boys' Grammar School, Suva, Fiji. Missing, believed killed on air operations over Germany.

Emile LESSON (formerly of New Caledonia), of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Killed in action in Libya.

Cpl. Gaston LESSON, of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Killed in battle of Bir Hacheim (Libya).

Capt. (now Lt.-Colonel) Edward Tiwi LOVE, NZ Maori Battalion, husband of Mrs. Takau Rio Love, Ariki-nui of Rarotonga, Cook Islands. Reported missing during campaign in Greece, May, 1941; later, June, 1941, reported "wounded and safe." Officially announced, July 17, 1942, killed in action in Libya.

Flying-Officer John C. LOWE, RAAF, formerly an overseer with the CSR Co. in Fiji. Reported, 11/4/1942, "took part in air defence of Rabaul, TNG.—missing, believed killed".

Pte. L. F. MCCARTHY, AIF infantry, formerly supercargo on W. R. Carpenter and Co.'s inter-island vessels "Desikoko" and "Mako", in New Guinea. Reported "killed in action" in Syria, 30/10/1941.

Sgt. Kenneth MACGREGOR, AIF, formerly practising as a barrister and solicitor in Wau, TNG. Reported missing, believed killed, in Papua.

Sgt.-Pilot Ronald MACKAY, RAAF, formerly of Thursday Island. Killed in an aircraft accident in England.

Lance-Corporal A. D. MACPHEE, son of Mr. R. D. MacPhee, Levuka, Fiji. He was 35, was a member of the AIF, and was killed in Greece, May, 1941.

Francois MASSON, of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Killed in action in the battle of Bir Hacheim.

Capt. John Malcolm METHVEN, Reported killed in action in Egypt on July 22, 1942, while serving with the AIF. He was born in Ocean Island, and is the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Stuartson C. Methven, of Belgrave, Victoria.

P/O Officer Stuartson Charles METHVEN, born in Suva, Fiji, brother of the late Capt. J. M. Methven. Killed in air operations over Germany on January 23, 1943.

Sgt. A. L. MORANDINI, AIF Engineers, formerly of Konedobu, Papua. Reported killed in action, April, 1942.

F. R. J. NICHOLLS, Royal Artillery, formerly of Fiji. Killed in action, Burma, May, 1942.

W/O G. A. OBST, formerly a member of the Lutheran Mission, TNG. Joined Australian military forces in February, 1942. Killed in action in New Guinea on December 21, 1942.

J. L. C. OSBORN, NZEF, formerly of Fiji. Killed in action, Middle East, June, 1942.

Pilot-Officer Ivan PALMER, RAF, formerly of Fiji. Killed in air operations over Malta.

Lieut. R. G. M. PEMBERTON, AIF, formerly of Rabaul, New Guinea. Killed in action.

O. PILLING, RAF, formerly of Fiji. Missing; believed killed.

Flight-Lieut. H. G. PILLING, DFC, of the RAF, formerly of Suva, Fiji. Killed on air operations, May 19, 1942.

Pte. Edward Harold PRICE, 2nd NZEF (27th Machine Gun Battalion), youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Price, Savu Savu West, Fiji. Killed in action during the Libyan campaign, Middle East, 27/11/1941.

Pte. Cecil PURCELL, NZEF, formerly of Aicpata, Samoa. First Samoan European to give his life in World War II. Killed in action in Middle East.

P/O G. REES-JONES, RAAF, formerly of Labasa, Fiji. Killed in air operations over Germany, August 16, 1942.

Captain W. H. ROBERTS, NZEF, who was Accountant in the Samoa Treasury Dept., during 1934-35. Killed in action in Libya, December, 1941.

Pte. Kamell ROKOTULOMA, of the Fiji Military Forces. Reported killed in action, December, 1942.

Major A. B. ROSS, NZEF, who, between 1923-29, was successively, Assistant Secretary for Native Affairs, Assistant Secretary to the Administration, and ADC to the Administrator of Samoa. Killed in action in Libya.

Cpl. Alex. C. SCOTT, AIF, formerly manager at Kieta, TNG, for Burns, Philp and Co. Ltd. Killed in action in the Middle East, 19/6/1941.

J. SIMPSON, RAAF, formerly of Fiji. Killed in action over Malta, July, 1941.

Sgt. R. R. SHORT, AIF, formerly of Port Moresby. Killed in action.

Lieut. G. STEVENSON, AIF, formerly a Patrol Officer in New Guinea. Killed in action in New Guinea, on June 26, 1943.

Lieutenant A. G. W. THOMAS, RANR, formerly master of Burns Philp & Company's SS "Mullama". Killed in action.

Pte. Popoaze TANGIITI, of the NZ Forces (Maori Battalion), formerly of Mangala, Cook Islands. Reported "missing after Battle of Greece—presumed dead", July, 1941.

— Derek TOVEY, NZEF, formerly of Suva, Fiji. Killed in action in Tunisia in April, 1943.

Capt. A. F. J. WHITE, AIF, formerly a District Officer in Fiji, and BSI. Killed in action in New Guinea.

DIED FROM WOUNDS

Pte. Ernest HENRY, AIF, formerly of the Rabaul (TNG) staff of Burns, Philp and Co. Ltd. Died from wounds received in Battle of Crete, 1/6/1941.

Pte. Alec. MUNRO, NZ Forces, formerly of Norfolk Island. Died in Libya (Middle East), December, 1941.

Pte. T. LAWRIE, AIF, son of Mr. Lawrie, formerly of Fiji. Died of wounds in Middle East.

Pte. Walter PEARSON, of first NG quota of AIF (infantry). Died from wounds received in action, 24/6/1941.

A/Bdr. W. R. SCOTT, AIF, of New Guinea. Died from wounds, July, 1941.

Sgt. Charles SPITZ, of the Fighting French, Pacific Battalion, and formerly of Tahiti. Died from wounds received at Bir Hacheim, on June 21, 1943.

Sgt.-Pilot Peter Clarkson WISE, of the RAF, son of Mr. W. Wise, OBE, Director of Public Works, Fiji. Died from wounds received during bombing raid over Germany, January, 1941.

ACCIDENTALLY KILLED

A/Cpl. P. A. MCKEE, New Guinea Forces, formerly of Bulolo. Died of injuries.

Major N. V. MCKENNA, AIF, formerly of Wau, TNG. Accidentally killed, September 30, 1943.

Capt. F. E. WILLIAMS, formerly Government Anthropologist in Papua. Killed in a plane accident while on duty in New Guinea, in 1943.

Sgt. Edward WILSON, of Suva, serving in the Fiji Defence Force. Accidentally drowned in the Lami River, Fiji, April, 1942.

Gnr. Robert J. WILSON, formerly of Port Moresby, Papua. Accidentally killed in troop train in Middle East in 1942.

DIED FROM ILLNESS

Pte. Clarence A. HUTTON, AIF, formerly of Edie Creek, TNG. Died from illness, April, 1941.

Pte. Manoa NAKARU, of the Fiji Military

(Continued on Inside Back Cover)

PACIFIC NEWS-REVIEW

Feb. 15: A triple Russian thrust towards the Baltic States, East Prussia and deeper into Poland, appears to be developing. Pskov and Vitebsk are threatened. In an endeavour to rescue his forces trapped in the Kanew pocket, Marshal von Manstein has thrown in wave after wave of German tanks and Panzer units.

Feb. 16: The Allied perimeter defences in the Anzio beach-head, south of Rome, are being maintained in the face of the second German large-scale counter-attack.

Feb. 16: Allied troops have landed, without opposition, on Rooke Island, situated in Bitiaz Strait, between New Britain and New Guinea.

Feb. 17: RAF bombers last night launched the heaviest raid of all time against Berlin; 2,500 tons of bombs were dropped on the city in 20 minutes. More than 1,000 bombers were over enemy territory during the night; 45 of them failed to return.

Feb. 17: General MacArthur's headquarters report that American and New Zealand forces seized Green Islands—of which the most important is Nissan—last Monday. This move will seal the fate of 22,000 Japanese dispersed through the Choiseul, Shortlands, Bougainville and Buka Islands, who are now isolated from their supply base at Rabaul.

Feb. 18: In Russia a mighty battle is raging in the Vitebsk sector where the Russians have assembled large numbers of troops and equipment to co-operate with their northern groups on their drive to the Baltic States.

Feb. 19: A large US Naval force has attacked Truk, the Japanese base in the Carolines. Surface units shelled the base and carrier-based aircraft blasted it. Further details are not yet available.

Feb. 20: In the heaviest German air raid on London since the blitz of 1940-41, the Nazis last night, in a short, fierce, raid, attempted to set London aflame. London civil defence units dealt with outbreaks and brought them under control.

Feb. 21: Light Allied Naval units made daring sorties at dawn on Friday on the Japanese bases at Kavieng and Rabaul. Simultaneously, US forces in the Marshalls, 1,400 miles to the north-east, captured the enemy air base on Eniwetok atoll, which brings the US air forces nearer to Truk by 200 miles (400 miles saved on the round trip), than they are at present when they use Kwajalein (Marshalls) as an aircraft base.

Feb. 21: 2,300 tons of bombs were dropped by the RAF on Leipzig on Saturday night. Large fires were started, but 79 of our aircraft failed to return. This is the heaviest loss in aircraft ever sustained by the RAF in one night's operations.

Feb. 22: Simultaneously with the Japanese admission that the American Fleet had struck a devastating blow at Truk (19 ships of various descriptions sunk, 8 probably sunk, 201 aircraft destroyed in combat and 50 damaged on the ground), it was announced from Tokyo that Japanese Army and Navy chiefs had been relieved of their jobs: Chief of the Army General Staff, Field-Marshal Sugiyama, has been replaced by Japanese Premier General Tojo; Chief of the Naval Staff, Fleet Admiral Nagano, has been replaced by Admiral Shimada.

Feb. 23: In a statement to the House of Commons, Mr. Churchill said that the Allied air-offensive is the foundation on which the plans for overseas invasion is based—in the past 48 hours 4,000 aircraft have been used in Allied raids over Europe. He revealed, further, that since

the war began, Britain, excluding Dominions and Allied personnel working with the RAF, had lost 38,300 members of air crew killed, and 10,400 missing. More than 10,000 planes have been lost.

Feb. 23: Russian troops are storming Krivoi Rog, last German stronghold in the Dnieper Bend. The retreating German armies in Russia are threatened with two new major Russian breakthroughs: on the southern front towards the Rumanian border and on the Baltic front where the Russians are clearing the approaches to Pskov.

Feb. 25: A US Pacific Fleet task force, including several hundred carrier-based planes, stuck at Saipan and Tinian Islands in the Marianas on Tuesday. At the same time, US troops completed the capture of Eniwetok atoll in the Marshalls by occupying Farry Island. Another Japanese convoy has been attacked in the Kavieng area.

Feb. 25: American heavy bombers, based on Italy, have raided targets in Austria, 95 miles from Vienna.

Feb. 26: The Anglo-American air-war against Germany reached new violence within the last 48 hours. Centres of the enemy's aircraft industry in Germany and Austria had not recovered from mass daylight attacks when 1,000 night-bombers of the RAF reappeared on February 24 and continued the havoc.

Feb. 26: The Red Army has surged forward on another sector of the eastern front and captured Vitebsk and Rogachev and 100 villages. German withdrawal to a new line in northern Russia is indicated. The new line appears to be from Pskov south to Polotsk and Bobruisk, but swift Russian successes are likely to dislocate the enemy's plans for an orderly retreat.

Feb. 27: Allied destroyers again shelled Kavieng, New Ireland, during the weekend, silencing shore batteries and sinking a ship in the harbour. Allied planes heavily bombed Rabaul (New Britain), Wewak (New Guinea) and Lorengau (Admiralty Islands).

Feb. 27: Since the German "blitz" on London was renewed on February 20, Londoners have had only one raid-free night—last Friday. The raids are thought to be for propaganda purposes and as an attempt to disrupt invasion preparations.

Mar. 1: On the Arakan front in Burma, the British forces, with ample air-cover from the Eastern Air Command, have forced back the Japanese to the line of their original positions which they left three weeks ago to send a formidable force through the jungle in an attempt to cut off British lines of communication and sweep on into India.

Mar. 2: Yesterday, American troops made a surprise landing on the Admiralty Islands, 240 miles north of Madang, New Guinea. This has tightened the Allied blockade of the remaining Japanese bases in the South-west Pacific, and has also relieved the Allied supply-line from the constant threat of a flank attack.

Mar. 3: The battle for the Baltic States is now in full swing as three Russian armies advance on a 300-miles front stretching south from Narva. Fighting continues around Pskov, but some Russian units threaten to outflank the town, and pour over the Latvian border. Desperate German efforts are being made to stem the Russian flood, but without avail.

Mar. 3: On Wednesday the Japanese on Los Negros Island (Admiralties) made a fierce counter-attack against the newly-landed American forces. The attack was repulsed and Allied GHQ announces that the airstrip on the island will soon be in full use by Allied aircraft.

NOTES AND COMMENT ON THE PROGRESS OF THE WAR FROM FEB. 15 TO MAR. 14

Mar. 4: Hard fighting has been going on in the Anzio beach-head in Italy, where the Germans launched a strong attack directed at the central position of the British lines.

Mar. 4: Hitler's northern winter line from Narva to Vitebsk is breaking before the greatest Russian offensives of the war. Meanwhile, in Finland, the Finnish Cabinet is still deliberating on the Russian peace terms, and no answer has been given to Russia as yet. It is reported that Finland has until March 8 to decide. The Red Army is preparing to launch an offensive if the terms are refused.

Mar. 6: In a desperate effort, on Friday night, to regain the Momote airstrip on Los Negros Island (Admiralties), the Japanese lost 3,000 dead and wounded in fierce hand-to-hand fighting with Allied forces. This Japanese counter-attack was completely defeated.

Mar. 7: Led by the Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Red Army, Marshal Zhukov, a new Russian offensive in the Ukraine threatens all the German forces west of the Lower Dnieper with an encirclement far greater than that of Stalingrad.

Mar. 9: United States Marines landed five miles north-west of Talasea, on the north coast of New Britain, on Monday. There was little enemy opposition. Talasea is 180 miles from Rabaul. In the Admiralties, the whole of Los Negros Island is now under American control.

Mar. 10: The Russian drive to Rumania has not been halted, in spite of the German Marshal von Manstein's attempt to hold it with picked tank and infantry divisions. The front has now broadened to 130 miles as the Russians press forward through a sea of mud; they have already crossed the upper reaches of the River Bug and are threatening Prokurov from three sides. The Finns are reported to have refused the main armistice terms offered by Russia but are seeking further discussions.

Mar. 10: Berlin had the greatest fire-raid of the war on March 8, when more than 1,000 US bombers dropped 350,000 incendiaries in a daylight attack; 100,000 explosive bombs were also dropped.

Mar. 10: A Japanese attempt to land several barge-loads of troops on Los Negros Island (Admiralties) has been frustrated. The American Marines who landed near Talasea, New Britain, at the beginning of the week, are consolidating their positions against strong enemy opposition from the direction of Talasea.

Mar. 14: Sweeping the Germans back over the River Bug along a broad front west of Uman, which they captured after a five-days' battle, yesterday the Red Army advanced to within 50 miles of the old Rumanian border.

Miss Leonie Edmunds, formerly of the staff of Rotorua primary school, New Zealand, has been appointed to the school at Levuka, Fiji.

The New Colonial Secretary of Fiji, Mr. J. F. Nicoll, took his seat in the Legislative Council for the first time when it met for formal business on February 18.

Mr. D. M. Lazarus, formerly of the British Solomon Islands, is now first mate on a Liberty ship attached to the American Army Transport Service. He was married recently, and his wife is at present living at 2 Augusta Road, Manly, Sydney.

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MARCH, 1944—PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY

USEFUL ADDRESSES

The following are the addresses of organisations set up to deal with Pacific Territories affairs:—

PAPUA, NEW GUINEA, NAURU,
NORFOLK IS.

Department of External Territories (Sydney Branch) (Lately the New Guinea Trade Agency), Australia House, Carrington Street, Sydney. Telephone: BW 1776.

(Dealing with all matters connected with the Australian Pacific Territories and also the Sydney representative of the New Guinea Copra Control Committee.)

Fiji, and High Commission
for Western Pacific.

Sydney Office of Fiji and Associated Administrations.

(In charge of Mr. E. F. Blackwell.)
72 Pitt Street, Sydney.

Telephone: BW 7724.

BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS

Sydney Office of British Solomon Islands Government

(In charge of Mr. F. E. Johnson, Treasurer of the Solomon Islands Administration),
17 Castlereagh Street, Sydney.
Telephone: B 1710.

FOR PACIFIC TERRITORIES
EVACUEES GENERALLY

Pacific Territories Association
(C. A. M. Adelskold, Secretary),
c/o Robert Gillespie Pty., Ltd.,
54a Pitt Street, Sydney. Telephone: BW 4782.

WAR DAMAGE COMMISSION

Sydney Office: M.L.C. Building, Cnr. Martin Place
and Castlereagh Street, Sydney.
Telephone: BW 2361.

FOR CLAIMS AGAINST ARMY

Mr. H. Alderman, Darwin-Moresby Claims
Section, Chief Finance Office (Army), Victoria
Barracks, Melbourne.

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Mandated Territory (NZ) of Western Samoa.
British Colony of Fiji.

British Solomon Islands Protectorate.
British Protectorate of Tongan Islands.
British Crown Colony of Gilbert and Ellice Islands.
Mandated Territory of Nauru.

British and Free French Condominium of New Hebrides.
Free French Colony of New Caledonia.
Free French Colony of Oceania (Tahiti, etc.).
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American Territory of Hawaiian Islands.

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ANZAC AGREEMENT UNDER FIRE

A REMARKABLE and piquant situa-
tion has developed, following the
recent Anzac Agreement. Dr. H. V.
Evatt, Australian Minister for Ex-
ternal Affairs, has been defending
himself querulously against attacks
made upon him by various critics of
external affairs, most prominent of
whom is Sir Keith Murdoch.

Back in October, Dr. Evatt made a
statement concerning the present
and future political set-up in the
South Pacific. It was a wide-visioned
and statesman-like survey of a rather
complex situation. There are so
many different, criss-crossing interests
involved in any survey of South
Pacific Territories control (there are
14 separate administrations, con-
trolled in different ways from London,
Washington, Paris, Canberra, Wel-
lington and Suva) that practically
every "public man" who has tried to
discuss them in recent years has
made an ass of himself. Dr. Evatt did
not. His outline of the situation, and
his discussion of it, were clear and
authoritative.

The arrangement of the conference
between Australia and New Zealand
was the next logical step in what Dr.
Evatt was seeking to accomplish. The
conference took place in January. A
summary of the Agreement was pub-
lished in February "PIM." It fitted
in neatly and logically with the
various statements made by Dr.
Evatt.

But the Agreement was no sooner
signed and published than criticism
began to be heard, not in Australia or
New Zealand—where public opinion

concerning Pacific affairs is too dull
and uninformed to be worth noting,
anyway—but in Washington and
London.

It appeared that the somewhat
elaborate Anzac plan for dealing with
South Pacific affairs had been drawn
up by Australia and New Zealand
without any consultation with the
United States or Great Britain, or
with the French National Committee,
although their interests in South
Pacific Territories are as great if not
greater than those of the Anzac
neighbours.

There was outspoken comment in
the United States. The Americans,
who saved Australia and New Zealand
and most of the South Pacific Terri-
tories from the most horrible enemy
we Europeans ever have known, were
naturally resentful of the way in
which Australia and New Zealand,
apparently without reference to
Washington, proceeded to dispose of
the Pacific Territories which American
forces, with some aid from Australians
and New Zealanders, had freed and
were freeing. There was some similar
comment in London. London, of
course, is deeply interested—so many
of the Territories are British.

BUT little was said in Australia until
that exceedingly able journalist,
Sir Keith Murdoch, head of the Mel-
bourne *Herald* group, published an
article in which he criticised the
action of the two Dominions in hold-
ing the conference without prior
consultation with Britain and the
United States, and pointed out that
the terms of the Agreement "had been

widely criticised and censured in
America."

Sir Keith, quite correctly, said the
worst features of the Agreement were
its assumption that all existing
sovereignties are immutable except
those of enemy possession; and, with
regard to the Carolines and Mar-
shalls, its demand that no change
should be made without Australian
and New Zealand consent.

Sir Keith proceeded to suggest
that, so far from existing boundaries
being maintained, the island of New
Britain (whereon is the good port of
Rabaul) and the French island of
New Caledonia might pass into the
possession of the United States, as
part of a plan which would make
available to the United States all
possible facilities for the future pol-
icing of the Pacific. Sir Keith can see
—as any man of vision can see—that
there is no future in the South Pacific
for the white communities, including
Australia and New Zealand, unless
they have the protection of the
United States and/or whatever inter-
national body is set up by the United
Nations after World War II to guar-
antee world peace.

According to newspaper reports,
Dr. Evatt replied angrily that "no
Australian Government would enter-
tain for one moment the suggestion
that Australia should hand over the
Australian territory of New Britain to
the United States"; and he said that
Australia had guaranteed, in 1940, the
sovereignty of France in New Cale-
donia.

DR. EVATT evidently was caught
unprepared. The stupidity of his
statement is not worthy of him. New

Britain is not an "Australian territory"—it is part of the Mandated Territory of New Guinea. Australia probably will be given administrative authority over the islands covered by that Mandate; but, for that, they must await the end of the war and certain international conferences—and no one knows that better than Dr. Evatt himself.

The Australian promise about New Caledonia was given in 1940, long before the whole Pacific situation was altered by the American-Japanese war.

Surely Dr. Evatt, and his co-Ministers, can see that the future of all these South Pacific Territories will be decided, not by little Australia and even littler New Zealand, but by Washington and London, in consultation; and that the wishes of the United States most certainly will be the final, determining factor. The American system is based on the same kind of justice that rules in Australia and New Zealand; and so the South Pacific decisions will be made by Washington and London, finally, after consulting the wishes of Australia and New Zealand. It is palpably ridiculous that Australia and New Zealand should proceed to arrange the future set-up in the South Pacific, without consultation of United States or Great Britain. Can these small-time politicians of Canberra and Wellington not realise that the total population of Australia and New Zealand, together, is barely equal to the population of London or of New York?

IT is an astonishing thing that a man with Dr. Evatt's reputation for adroitness should have placed himself in such a position. It was assumed by everyone interested that, when he convened his Anzac Conference and proceeded to formulate the Anzac Agreement, all the proposed steps had been personally explained by Dr. Evatt, in 1943, in London and

Washington. As he apparently acted without consultation, and presumably for the glory of Evatt, he has placed himself off-side in regard to South Pacific post-war consultations, and has made Australia and New Zealand look ridiculous.

The incident gives point to the oft-repeated argument that, from the administrative viewpoint, it is a wrong thing that the Pacific Territories should be tied to the tails of little people in Canberra and Wellington.

The politicians of Australia and New Zealand, especially the political products of the trade unions, have a most exaggerated idea of their own stature, and love to strut as "statesmen of the young nations." The only time they ever got themselves into correct focus was in those black months of early 1942. The unfortunate thing is that nowadays, while Washington and London remember us still in terms of 1942, Canberra and Wellington like to imagine themselves as the equals of London and Washington, and even think they are competent to go ahead by themselves—as per the Anzac Agreement.

Captain R. O. Freeman, of the First Battalion, Fiji Defence Forces, has been gazetted temporary Major.

Second-Lieut. M. T. Khan (Honorary Captain) has resigned his commission in the Fiji Military Forces.

Sgt. Observer Ross Buckley, formerly of Fiji, who was reported missing on air operations some months ago, has now been "presumed dead" by the RNZAF Headquarters. The body of a fellow crew member was found washed up on the coast of Denmark.

Lieutenant Tony Phelps, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. I. Phelps, of Suva, Fiji, has been reported killed in action while serving with the First Fijian Battalion. He was only 23 years old and his cheerful good nature had endeared him to many. News of his death was received with sincere regret by a large circle of friends.

POLYNESIANS WILL HELP MELANESIAN EVACUEES

TERRITORIANS are asked to keep free the evening of April 14, when the Polynesian Club of Sydney will give one of their popular concerts in aid of Sydney New Guinea Women's Club funds. At the time of going to press, the hall where this concert will be held had not been fixed, but all members will be circularised and a notice stating time and place will appear in the daily papers before April 14.

All are asked to attend this function. These Polynesian concerts are deservedly popular and have been delighting Sydney audiences in hundreds of charity performances since World War II began. The majority of the cast are engaged on full-time war-work, but are giving unreservedly of their spare time to help Red Cross and Comforts Funds. This concert should be of particular interest to residents of Melanesia who know only the Melanesian way of things: it will afford them the opportunity of seeing something of the culture of their Polynesian neighbours from New Zealand and the Eastern Pacific.

N. GUINEA FILMS SCREENED

THE first meeting of the Pacific Islands Society for 1944 was held at Shell House, Carrington Street, Sydney, on Wednesday, February 16.

There was a large attendance of members and some notable guests, including members of the New Guinea Women's Club, Canon Bell, secretary of the Australian Board of Missions, Lieut.-Col. J. T. B. Sharpe, the Hon. T. D. Mutch, and others.

The beautiful films taken by Mr. L. V. Waterhouse, of the Bulolo Gold Dredging Co., Ltd., were shown, and a running commentary was given by Mr. Tom Yeomans, in the unavoidable absence of Mr. Waterhouse, who was in hospital.

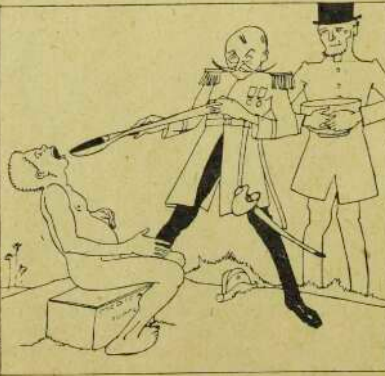
During supper some excellent violin solos and recitations were given by the talented Miss Dawn Bodley, and a song by Mr. Hawke.

Mr. R. W. Robson moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Waterhouse, Mr. Yeomans and the entertainers. The Shell Company also was thanked for the use of its theatre for an instructive and enjoyable evening.

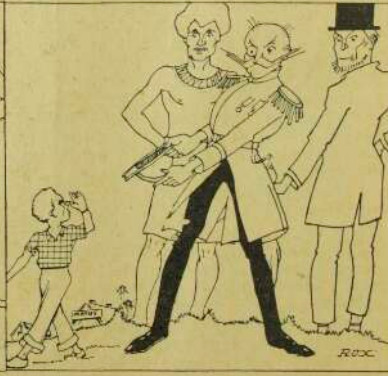
A NOT-SO-COMIC STRIP



One hundred years ago, lawless Europeans went into the South Seas, and enslaved and exploited the natives of the islands.



Fifty years ago, European Governments and missionaries came to the assistance of the natives, and gave them freedom, health, education.



To-day, from nearly every Territory, come complaints that the flash, young, "Europeanised" native respects nobody. He has created a new problem.

—Drawing by A. McF. Roxburgh, Levuka.

TO GOVERN NEW GUINEA

A New Set-up for Present and Immediate Post-war Period

THE creation of a standing sub-committee to deal with all future civil administration in Papua and New Guinea, was announced by the Australian Prime Minister, Mr. Curtin, on February 22. The standing sub-committee will consist of the Minister for the Army (Mr. Forde), the Attorney-General (Dr. Evatt), the Treasurer (Mr. Chifley) and the Minister for External Territories (Mr. Ward).

That day, Mr. Curtin stated, Full Cabinet had considered a report by this sub-committee on a conference with the Commander-in-Chief of the Allied Land Forces, Sir Thomas Blamey, as to the future administration of these Territories, and Cabinet had adopted the views and conclusions expressed in the sub-committee's report, with which Sir Thomas Blamey had also concurred.

These conclusions were as follows:

- That the Ministerial sub-committee be a standing sub-committee to deal with all matters of civil administration in the territories of Papua and New Guinea;
- That there be the closest possible collaboration and direct communication between the Department of External Territories and the Army (through the Director of Research, Lieut.-Col. Conlon);
- That the Department of External Territories be the secretariat for the Cabinet sub-committee;
- That the Minister for External Territories be the responsible Minister in all matters relating to civil administration in Papua and New Guinea, whether for immediate or post-war application;
- That when War Cabinet discussed matters affecting the territories, the Minister for External Territories should attend and that submissions should be presented through him.

OTHER agreements arrived at by the sub-committee and Sir Thomas Blamey were also approved by Cabinet:

The present administrative unit, the Australian New Guinea Administration Unit, although of a military nature, should carry on the training of staff for native administration in that unit (ANGAU) and later on, personnel for appointment to the reconstituted administration. A school of administration will be established under the control of the Director of Research, Lieut.-Col. Conlon.

The Commander-in-Chief agreed that approved civilians be allowed entry into parts of the Territory declared by the military authorities to be available. All applications for entry are to be approved by the General Officer Commanding the New Guinea Forces and the Department of External Territories.

Female missionary teachers will be allowed entry into the Territories in view of the need to resume native primary education. But other females, including wives of planters, will not be permitted to enter the Territories.

With regard to the future of the Territories, while it was realised that it was too early to form estimates, it was agreed that substantial financial provi-

sion for these Territories would have to be made available by the Commonwealth Government.

Territorians' Reaction

TERRITORIES' evacuees, at present in Australia, were bewildered at this sudden bolt from the blue, and viewed the "conclusions and views" approved by Cabinet with consternation. Immediately Mr. Curtin's statement was released, the Pacific Territories Association sent a telegram to Mr. Ward, asking for clarification. His reply, and discussion arising therefrom, is reported in an account of the PTA quarterly meeting, on page 9, this issue.

ANTHROPOLOGISTS FOR NEW GUINEA

TWO anthropologists from the University of Sydney have been appointed to the Army Directorate of Research, and will leave shortly for New Guinea to gather material upon which the Government will base its native educational policy. They are Miss Camilla Wedgwood and Dr. Ian Hogbin, both of



Lieut.-Colonels Camilla Wedgwood and Ian Hogbin at work in Victoria Barracks, Melbourne.

whom are well known in New Guinea, where they did field work before the war.

They have been appointed with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, and it is reported, at the express wish of General Sir Thomas Blamey, who wishes to ensure that the best scientific knowledge is applied to solving the problem of protecting New Guinea native society from the disruptive effect of war.

Miss Wedgwood is a noted anthropologist and first came to Australia in 1928 to lecture at Sydney University. She is an Englishwoman and the daughter of the late Lord Wedgwood, of the famous china and pottery firm of Staffordshire.

Dr. Hogbin is also a lecturer in anthropology at Sydney University. Last August he was temporarily appointed to the Solomon Islands Defence Forces to investigate the reactions of the Solomon Islander to war, and to advise the Western Pacific High Commission on what steps they should take to rehabilitate these natives.

He is an Australian, but has studied

abroad under the late Professor Malinowski. He did field work in Ontong Java, in the Solomons, and on Wageo Island—a small island off the north coast of New Guinea eastward of Wewak. He has written several books on his anthropological research.

Mata'afa as Third Fautua

N. Zealand Government Approves of Appointment

THE New Zealand Prime Minister, Mr. P. Fraser, has approved of the appointment of the Hon. Mata'afa as a third Fautua, or Samoan adviser to the New Zealand Government. This was announced by the Administrator of Western Samoa, Mr. A. C. Turnbull, when he met Samoan leaders shortly after his return from New Zealand in mid-February.

In a message from New Zealand, Mr. Fraser said he was glad to confirm the appointment of Mata'afa as a Fautua, in company with Tamasese and Malletoa, who had held that office for some years—as high chiefs representing the Samoan people, their advice was highly valued by his Government.

New Zealand Government approval has also been given to the scheme for sending 12 Samoan youths to New Zealand each year to complete their education. This scheme was discussed by the Fono of Faipule at the end of last year and it was then resolved to start an "education fund"; chiefs to pay £1 tax per annum; young men 5/-.

Young Caledonian Escapes From France

From Our Own Correspondent

NOUMEA, Feb. 11.

A 20-YEAR-OLD New Caledonian, Andre Cayrol, has written to relatives that he has escaped from France to North Africa, where he has joined the ranks of General de Gaulle.

After crossing the Spanish frontier, he walked 110 kilometres and was arrested by the Spanish police 30 kilometres from Barcelona. He was imprisoned for six months, then sent to Madrid and expelled from the country.

"In France," he writes, "everything is done in silence; in the dark cells of a Barcelona prison all is forbidden, even warmth and appetite; but 'nos bons vrais amis les Anglais' gave us a great reception at Gibraltar, and we shall never forget the welcome of our de Gaulist brothers and sisters when we set foot on French territory in Africa. Our morale is excellent, like that of the lads in the Spanish prison."

DR. VAN LOON DEAD

DR. HENDRICK WILLEM VAN LOON, a native of Rotterdam, who entered business in America after the last war and became the well-known writer of "popular" history—including "The Story of the Pacific"—died in New York on March 12.

That well-known Methodist missionary, the Rev. J. F. Goldie, who has spent 42 years in the Solomon Islands, recently spoke at a Pleasant Sunday Afternoon service in Wesley Church, Melbourne, on the natives of the Solomons.

DICTATOR — OR WHAT?

The Delicate Position of Mr. Tojo of Tokio

ON February 21, Tokio radio broadcast to the world that the position of the war in the Pacific was "tremendously grave—furiously serious." This followed announcements that there had been important sackings in the Cabinet of Japan, and that the nation had turned for salvation to Hideki Tojo. Tojo now holds the following positions:

*Premier of Japan;
 Chief of the Army General Staff;
 Minister of the Army;
 Minister of Supply;
 Minister of Education.*

This appears to mean that Tojo now is Dictator of Japan. Probably, it means that the ambitious gentle-

fighting; and they are being thoroughly well beaten.

The plan of the Tokio war-lords made no provision for meeting the overwhelming air strength and naval strength now being advanced by the Americans, supported wherever possible by the British. Evidently, they thought we should be beaten into the earth before that strength could be developed.

Now, the situation is changing against them, almost daily. The Japs have been thrown out of Papua and the Solomons and Eastern New Guinea; out of the Gilberts and the Marshalls; they are half out of Central New Guinea and New Britain and Bougainville; they are being mercilessly hammered in Rabaul and New Ireland, the Carolines, the Marianas, and in Burma. Air, sea or land, they have not had a win worth mentioning since the middle of 1942.

SO the powers behind the throne in Tokio have had an anxious stock-taking; and Hideki Tojo is given powers which make him virtually Dictator of Japan. It is a little astonishing.

For Tojo definitely is not in the world-beater class. Tojo is a professional soldier, and his record is not remarkable. He was Chief of Staff of the Kwantung Army, in Manchuria and North China; and when the military clique, by murder and intrigue, finally got command of the Government of Japan, and decided on war, the man they selected as Premier, to follow Konoye, was Tojo. One commentator says: "His most remarkable quality is his ability to intrigue against his competitors."

Tojo was put into power by the "inner group" (then dominated by the militarists), in 1941, to direct the war against the United States and Britain. He was the head of the Government responsible for the Pearl Harbour treachery; for the quick occupation of South-east Asia, Indonesia and the Pacific Islands; and for the poor and steadily failing defence now being offered against American penetration in the south-west and the east.

Then (one naturally asks) if Tojo is responsible for the recent failures of Japanese arms, why clothe him with new powers and ask him to change the course of the war?

It is here that we part company with logic and reason, because we do not understand the mind of the Japanese. The "inner group," who put Tojo into power, must know that Tojo's war administration has failed; that Japan is being beaten in amphibious warfare; that the end of Germany is in sight, and that when Germany is done, great new Anglo-American forces will be released for the Pacific.

The Japanese war-lords are trying very hard to induce more than 100 million people in South-east Asia and

Indonesia to come together under the Japanese banner and form the "Great East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere." It is essential to that plan that the Japanese should suffer no "loss of face." The dismissal of Mr. Tojo would be an admission of a grave reverse of fortune, and a great loss of face.

So Mr. Tojo has been given much wider powers, and many new service chiefs, and has been requested to alter the course of the war and bring some much-needed victories to Japanese arms—or else!

The most significant of the sackings was that of the Minister of Communications. Shipping is vital to the maintenance of the Japanese Empire; and this incident recalls the fact that, since Pearl Harbour, Japan has lost 1,043 commercial ships, exclusive of barges, of a total tonnage of 2,000,000—one-third of her merchant navy. She has replaced some of it with shipping captured, and new building; but, nonetheless, just at a time when Japan needs ships more urgently than ever before, her fleet has been greatly reduced, and her war machine is being crippled accordingly.

Mr. Tojo is on the spot. He must either do something spectacular, to change the course of the war, or go out. We may expect an attempt at something spectacular.

THE RIVER CALL

From Cooktown 40 years ago
 I wandered to The Yodda.
 Lucky years, or scarce a cent,
 As following the Fields I went.
 (Ain't a creek but where I've bent
 Fossicking The Yodda.)

With roarin' nights and many types,
 We've boozed up on the river.
 We emptied shammys to make glad,
 We cursed Les when his booze was bad.
 He calabossed us blokes when mad,
 That storeman on The Yodda.

Fever? True, I've had my whack,
 In wet camps on the River;
 Days I've crawled back to me pack
 And lay a week there on me back.
 (The line cleared out, save One-eyed
 Jack,
 The best coon on The Yodda.)

Then that there Dook, or Marquis chap
 (Sir Hiccups to the River)—
 Bit dumb! But the finest pal:
 Flood time swam with hefty Hal.
 His weakness was a nigger gal—
 They speared him up The Yodda.

You've heard of "Turpentine Malloy"
 Who doctored up the River?
 He'd poultice till your back was red,
 Cured your innards, eyes or head.
 (He poulticed one bloke three days dead—
 That tickled all The Yodda.)

A bloomin' mixed lot are these coves
 That drift around the River.
 Weird toffs, studyin' things, they roves,
 Chasin' crows or paintin' doves.
 One emptyologist in gloves
 Could stouch tho'—ask The Yodda!

Times I clear out to Samarai . . .
 Just finished with the River.
 Me shammy's full, I mean to hie
 Southward . . . I'm fed up, says I.
 (Do me cheque and back here fly—
 It gets you, does The Yodda.)

—ALICE ALLEN INNES.



"Dictator" Tojo.

man has been put on the spot by the "inner group" who are the real rulers of the nation, so that he must either restore some semblance of victory to the Japanese arms—or get out.

And the way out is likely to be tragic and painful for Mr. Tojo.

No European can read the mind of the Japanese. Therefore, it is almost useless to guess at the motives which induced the Tokio war lords to attack us so treacherously on December 7, 1941.

But it does seem certain that they expected to overwhelm us in a series of quick, heavy, unexpected blows; and that they were confident the war in the Pacific would be over in less than two years. That was the prevailing Tokio opinion—although a few, like Nomura, who was Japanese Ambassador in Washington, warned the nation most insistently of the recuperative power and the tremendous latent strength of the United States.

TWO years have passed. The war in the Pacific, so far from being over, is only just beginning. The Japanese, who marched so arrogantly against the few ill-prepared defenders of Indonesia, South-west Asia and the Pacific Territories, are at last meeting real foemen and real

EMPLOYERS OF NATIVE LABOUR

Defended by Administrator of
Papua

SPEAKING at the Methodist Overseas Mission Demonstration in the Lyceum Hall, Sydney, on March 2 (and reported in the "Sydney Morning Herald" the following day), Chaplain J. C. Rundle made an impassioned plea for the Papuan native, and stated that they had acted as a buffer between Australia and her enemies. Yet, Chaplain Rundle is reported to have said, there were people in Papua who have declared that the only way to deal with natives is to "belt the hide off them" to make them work.

Mr. E. A. James, president of the Pacific Territories Association, in a letter to the "SMH" asked if Mr. Rundle were suggesting that malpractices and exploitation of the natives were condoned by the Murray and Nicoll Administrations of the two Territories.

The missions had had representatives on the Legislative Councils of the Territories for very many years before the war, yet it was strange that they made no outcry about the treatment of natives.

"May we not be justified," concluded Mr. James, "in thinking that these statements are propaganda in order to strengthen the prestige and finances of the missions? We have no objection to the missions airing their views, but we do object to their attempting to bolster up their arguments by unfair accusations against former European residents of the Territories."

TO the support of Mr. James, and the defence of employers of native labour, came Hon. Leonard Murray, Administrator of Papua (Administration temporarily ceased) in the following letter to the same newspaper:—

Sir,—Please allow me to support the representations of Mr. E. A. James, president of the Pacific Territories Association, regarding the treatment of natives in Papua.

I have been tempted from time to time during the last two years to try to correct some inaccurate or misleading statements that have been made regarding Papua and its people, white and brown; but I feel an obligation to defend the employers of native labour, and residents of Papua generally, against any allegation of harsh or unfair treatment of natives.

The native labour laws, and the methods of their administration were such that speedy detection of such treatment was almost certain; but I believe that the good relations which existed generally between employers in Papua and their natives were due much less to the deterrent effects of statutory penalties, than to the feeling of confidence and mutual understanding that had grown up through the years between employer and employee. I do not pretend that there were no breaches of the native labour laws, nor that there were no prosecutions of employers; but I can state that, for many years, the breaches were of a minor kind, and the number small.

In my opinion Papua was fortunate in the quality of her settlers and employers of native labour, and I am confident that those men (and women) are entitled to a share of such credit as is due for creating among the natives generally that feeling of confidence in us which forms the basis of their splendid war co-operation.

Manly, NSW,
March, 1944.

I am, etc.,

LEONARD MURRAY.

Major David Trench has been awarded the Military Cross in recognition of gallant and distinguished service in the South-west Pacific. He served in Fiji and in Tonga before going to the Solomons, and passed through Suva some months ago on his way to England on leave. He recently broadcast from London in the BBC feature, "Calling the Islands."

DEATH OF MR. H. I. HARDING, IN TAHITI

From Our Own Correspondent

PAPEETE, Jan. 4.

THE recent passing of Mr. Harold I. Harding has been felt deeply by his many friends here. He was a victim of the prevailing influenza epidemic. Mr. Harding was born in 1883 at Toronto, Canada, and after completing his studies at a great Canadian university, entered the British Consular Service and was appointed to a post in China.



His extraordinary ability as a linguist established him as a permanent and indispensable member of the service in the Orient.

In addition to Asiatic languages, he spoke fluently, several European languages, including French. During the present war, he has given his services to the Colonial Government at Tahiti, as censor of all Chinese correspondence.

No Consular officer—in recent times, at least—has had so interesting and adventurous a career. During his 35 years in Asia, he penetrated remote mid-Asian regions to which only well-equipped exploring parties, sent out by geographical societies, have dared to travel.

During the later years of his service, he was Consul-General at Yunnan-Fou. A few years ago Mr. Harding came to Tahiti and recently established himself on the outskirts of Papeete. Although his residence here has been comparatively short, many very warm friends honour his memory.

IMPORT AND CURRENCY CONTROLS FOR W. SAMOA AND COOK IS.

REGULATIONS gazetted in New Zealand on February 18, extend to the Cook Islands and Western Samoa, all import and currency controls already existing in the Dominion under the Finance Emergency Regulations and import licensing system.

One of the early settlers of the Ba and Nadi districts of Fiji, Mr. Charles Kennedy, died at Nadi, on January 24, at the age of 80 years. He arrived in the Colony from New Zealand with his parents in the 60's. He leaves two daughters and one son: Mrs. Forrest (Alma), Cremorne, Sydney; Mrs. Watson (Norma), Loma-wai, Fiji; Mr. Freeman Kennedy, of the Civil Service, Suva. His wife died some years ago, and another son, the late Sgt. Martin Kennedy, was killed in an air crash between Suva and Auckland in June, 1943.

BEWARE OF "PUFF FUNGUS"

A Menace of the Jungle

Letter to the Editor

I READ with interest the article on Japanese River fever on page 3 of November "PIM."

It may not be generally known that the scrub tick referred to often carries on its body or leg-segments, the spores of dangerous forms of "Puff-fungus" (varieties of the genus *Trichophyton*).

These spores are the cause of several forms of ulcerative infection. Ringworm, and Tinea, Sporothrix, Bush-fever, Thrush, Favus, or scalp-disease, and others, are quite common.

The spores are emitted from these tiny "Puff-ball-fungi" in jets, like wisps of smoke, and, for the moment, are visible to the naked eye. After being carried up into the air, the spores are no longer visible, being extremely minute (even under a lens). The spores may be collected on a piece of cloth dampened with milk, for the purpose of carrying out experiments, but great care should be exercised that the spores are not inhaled.

The direct inhalation of the minute spores of this poisonous fungus may cause fever, delirium, and prostration. But with regard to the direct bite of an insect, such as the tick, ant, and possibly, the sandfly, the fungus-spores, if present, find direct access, which may mean rapid infection.

Rodents, such as rats, sometimes contact these fungi in the scrub, and develop skin eruptions, weakness, and death. Mosses and lichens often harbor the spores of these fungi, as a slight rub of the back of the hand may prove. After contact with the spores an intense itching is felt. This is followed by a rash, which may become very painful, especially if rubbed.

Treatment is simple. While the presence of ticks usually requires kerosene or arsenical ointment, hot soapy water (as hot as can be borne) will be found quite effective, even after a rash has appeared on the skin. Treatment should be followed by the application of some weak disinfectant (sol. of permanganate of potash, or one of the new sulfa-drugs) dusted over the infected part. Sulfathiazole has been used by this writer in experiments with this infection, with complete success.

In past years, I have often been troubled by ticks, both in Queensland and in New Guinea. But it was a Sepik River boy who drew my attention to the danger of the fungus.

I am, etc.,

CHARLES REED.

Apia, W. Samoa.

TONGAN RECEIVES US DECORATION

From Our Own Correspondent

South Pacific Headquarters, Feb. 29.

ASERGEANT in the South Pacific Scouts (American name for the Fiji battalion that is serving overseas), Jione Inukilua Agana, who comes from Nukualofa, Tonga, has been awarded the American Silver Star. The decoration is for gallantry in action on New Georgia Island in the Solomons, on July 19 last year.

Sgt. Agana saw two or three Japanese making directly for a wounded American soldier. He killed the Japanese and then, under heavy enemy fire, successfully evacuated the injured man.

NEW GUINEA MISSIONARIES ESCAPE JAPS

Extraordinary Trek of Three Priests and Five Nuns

ONLY recently released for publication is the story of how, between May and August last year, eight missionaries (three priests and five nuns) made a nightmare journey, on foot, from Japanese-occupied Wewak on the north coast of New Guinea, over the mountains and through the Sepik Valley, to a point where they were picked up by plane and flown out to an Allied base.

Those who escaped were: Father Anthony Cuysberg, born in Holland; Father Karl Laumann, born in Germany; Brother Alfred Weidmann, born in Holland; and Sisters Vindiana, born in Holland, Auxillan, born in Vienna, Alena, born in Holland, Antonellia, born in Germany, and Arnoldine, born in Germany.

Brother Weidmann came to New Guinea 12 years ago, Fathers Cuysberg and Laumann about eight years ago, and the nuns arrived in New Guinea 20 years ago. All were members of the Missionary Order of the Society of the Divine Word.

Father Cuysberg described what led up to their decision to escape and their subsequent journey as follows:—

"When the Japanese landed on the northern coast of New Guinea they began taking missionaries prisoners for transference to a distant island. We were warned to stop proselytising the natives and to place ourselves and our possessions at the disposal of Japanese authorities. We were told that we had nothing to fear if we did what we were told, and the nuns, in particular, were assured that they had nothing to fear, as the

Japanese were the eternal protectors of women.

"Unfortunately, the behaviour of some Japanese was not in keeping with these assurances. Two priests complained to Japanese officers about pillaging by the troops, and the soldiers were punished by being slapped in the face by the officers. The soldiers then took revenge by raiding the house in which the priests were living, and took them away into the jungle and shot them. The natives had prepared graves for them under orders from the soldiers.

"It soon became obvious that if we wished to escape imprisonment we would have to leave Wewak. So our party set off on foot, as that was the only way to safety.

"The nuns soon wore their slippers out, so we men gave them our boots and continued on for some days in our bare feet.

"We had plenty of water, but had to depend upon a little sago and edible tree leaves for food. At first, we said Mass every morning, but this was discontinued when we began to feel the strain, and we then said Mass only on Sunday mornings.

"The walk seemed endless, but we kept going—one mountain over which we had to climb was 10,000 feet. Our arrival at our destination was a great relief to us all."

FATHER CUYSBERG was able to give news of Father Manion, a priest of the Order, from Boston, USA, and

well known and liked by all residents of the Sepik district before the war. He was captured by hostile natives and tied to a pole, and in this way was being carried to the Japanese when other priests rescued him.

The nuns, all middle-aged women, who knew nothing of New Guinea except the country in the immediate vicinity of their mission, toiled through the jungle in their flowing habits and their crucifixes, but when they stepped from the plane on their arrival at an Allied base they still looked neat—tears and rents in their clothing had been painstakingly darned.

The men, however, wore such an extraordinary collection of bits and pieces of clothing, as to be totally unrecognisable to territory residents who were used, in pre-war days, to the bearded priests in their topes and starched white clerical suits. On arrival at the base all were clean-shaven; one wore a striped pyjama coat and khaki trousers, and sandals without soles; another, a green shirt, khaki trousers and a battered topee; and the third, blue drill trousers and a large panama hat.

Army officers were staggered at their escape. The route they took would have tried the endurance of the fittest soldiers, and for women would have been dismissed as impossible. Yet the only illness of any member of the party, although they were continually drenched in rain, was a few days of fever.

THE following members of the Roman Catholic Mission in Eastern New Guinea are also now safe in Australia:—

Rev. A. Aufinger, Rev. Van Baar (Alexishafen); Rev. C. Van Baar (Bogia); Rev. A. Kasprus, Rev. J. Ziegler (Ramu); Rev. J. Much, Rev. H. Aulenanger (Bismarck Mountain); Rev. J. Nilles (Chimbu); Rev. A. Schaefer, Rev. J. Kueppers, and one Brother (Waghi); Rev. I. Schwab, Rev. C. Laumann and five Sisters (Marienberg); Rev. W. Hagen, Rev. C. Krzemiński (Marui).

CENTRAL MEDICAL SCHOOL GRADUATES FOR 1943

THIRTEEN students of the Central Medical School, Suva, Fiji, completed their training at the end of 1943. The Advisory Board of the school has recommended that they be awarded Native Medical Practitioner Certificates.

The successful students are: Filipe Vulaono, Serupepe Lomani, Peni Vuliya, Waqa Kubuabola, from Fiji; Mahesh Prasad, an Indian from Fiji; Semesi Fonua, from Tonga; William Tela, from the Solomon Islands; John Kalsekau and Basil Leodoro, from the New Hebrides; and Lene Pilitati, Iakopo Esora, Maka Sapolu, and Tautasi Paatiga, from Western Samoa.

The gold medal winners for 1943 were: Mahesh Prasad (Public Health); Peni Vuliya (Obstetrics); Tautasi Paatiga (Medicine), and Mahesh Prasad (Surgery).

Peni Vuliya was awarded the NMP Ielu medal, also.

A special prize, donated by Dr. K. R. Steenson, has been awarded to Enele Ratumaitavuki for his ability and keenness in clinical work.

The school re-opened on January 12, after the Christmas vacation. This year there are 15 new students: five Fijians, two Indians, two Solomon Islanders, one New Hebridean, one Tongan, one Gilbertese and three Western Samoans.

Second-Lieut. G. A. Thompson, of the First Battalion, Fiji Defence Forces, has been promoted to temporary Lieutenant.



The party of missionaries who escaped from Wewak last year. Top, from left: Father K. Laumann (Germany), Father A. Cuysberg (Holland), Bro. A. Weidmann (Germany). Below: The five Sisters.

New Monetary Agreement

200 Fighting Fr. Francs to £ Sterling

From Our Own Correspondent

NOUMEA, Feb. 11. THE cost of living in New Caledonia and Tahiti is likely to be increased 15 per cent. as a result of the new monetary agreement between Britain and Fighting France, fixing the value of the English pound sterling at 200 francs in all Fighting French overseas territories.

Hitherto, the rate of exchange in North Africa has been 200 francs to the £, but in countries that originally rallied to General de Gaulle, including those in the Pacific, the rate of exchange for the pound sterling was fixed, in 1940, by agreement with the British Government, at 176 francs, or 140 francs in relation to the Australian pound.

A second important agreement with Britain provides for the supply of material and goods to the Fighting French in accordance with established lease-lend practice.

Extraordinary Weather in Tahiti

Worst Storm for 50 Years

From Our Own Correspondent

PAPEETE, Feb. 5. THE history of our Central Pacific Islands, during the past month, is chiefly a chronicle of the weather.

We are emerging from the longest period of uninterrupted storm our islands have experienced since the memorable downpour of 1889, when Papeete became a veritable Venice.

Inter-island vessels, as well as ships from overseas, bound for destinations offering only open roadsteads as anchorages, have crowded the harbour at Papeete, awaiting the passing of the storm.

Four days ago we had our only glimpses of the sun since January 14, and those glimpses were interrupted by heavy squalls. During more than a fortnight our roadways have been rivers, our rivers torrents and the countryside a quaking bog.

An old Tahitian friend of mine, from Teahuupoo, came in, yesterday, to inform us that the extraordinary storm has not troubled the southern portions of the island. The central mountains have so protected the southern districts that the weather there is normal. Yet the storm is widespread in northern and north-eastern Tahiti.

PAPUAN PUBLIC SERVICE ASSOCIATION

MEMBERS of the Papuan Public Service will be interested to know that their Association has been functioning actively in Sydney for some time.

A good deal of ground has already been covered, and, as there are many matters common to New Guinea and Papuan civil servants, the PSA of Papua is collaborating with that of New Guinea.

Members of the Association will remember that it has co-operated on a number of occasions with the New Guinea Association, and there is every reason, at the present time, why both organisations should continue to work in the closest harmony.

The temporary wartime address of the

BUTARITARI AND THE JAPANESE

Gilberts Port Thoroughly Looted

THE story of how Tarawa, in the Gilbert Islands, was occupied by the Japanese in December, 1941, has been told more than once in the "PIM"; but we have had to await letters from Butaritari, following the recovery of that atoll by the Americans in November last, to learn how the Japanese came to the northern port.

Japanese marines landed at Butaritari at 4 a.m. on December 10, 1941—only three days after Pearl Harbour. They met with no resistance, of course—the township consisted of less than a dozen white men, a few families of Euroneseans (mostly the descendants of Germans who had married Marshall Islanders, and whom the Japs had chased out of the Marshalls during the previous 20 years), some Chinese traders, the Japanese staff of the Japanese trading firm established there, and about 1,600 Gilbertese. The Europeans included a British administrative officer and a radio officer.

The largest store there was that of On Chong & Co. (a branch of W. R. Carpenter & Co., Ltd., Sydney). The Japs took possession of the store and its contents, as barracks for their troops. When the Chinese manager protested, they said: "This is an English company and, therefore, all its assets are subject to confiscation." Some of the merchandise was used by the occupying troops; the balance, including copra, launches, workshop equipment, etc., was packed up and shipped to Japan.

The Japanese firm in Butaritari evidently had acted as "intelligence." When the Japs arrived, they knew exactly where to go and what they wanted. They sacked the little port very thoroughly, and everything that was not needed by the occupying troops was carried off. The British officials and one or two others were made prisoners and taken away—no one knows where—and the Chinese and some of the Euroneseans were imprisoned. But they were turned loose, after a week, and left to shift for themselves. They spent two years of misery and privation.

The natural food resources of these atolls do not extend much beyond coconuts and fish.

The delight with which these people welcomed the Americans, in November last, is beyond description. The Japs had looted and ravaged and destroyed; the American bombardment smashed most of the remaining buildings; but the Butaritari folk were so glad to see the end of the invasion that they were prepared to endure almost anything.

One report says that "the newly arrived administrative officer, Mr. Collins, is working with the American commander in caring for the people, restoring order, and getting them working again." This probably is Mr. D. Collins, of the Fiji Public Service, who joined the staff of the Gilbert and Ellice Colony in 1941, and returned to Fiji, in 1942, when the enemy occupied Ocean Island.

Incidentally, there still is no word of what has happened at Ocean Island, 200 miles west of the Gilberts, and headquarters of the Gilbert and Ellice Colony. It was believed to be occupied by Japanese in 1943; but, if they have remained there, while the Americans have occupied the Gilberts and Marshalls, and begun to hammer the Carolines, they now are clearly "out on the end of a bough."

BISHOP AND TWO PRIESTS MISSING IN GILBERTS

NEWS received from the Gilbert Islands by the Roman Catholic Mission headquarters in Sydney, indicate that practically all of their missionaries in that Group are safe. There is, however, uncertainty as to the whereabouts of Bishop Terrienne and two of his priests. It is assumed that they are prisoners of the Japanese, either in the Carolines or in Japan itself.

During the two years of the Japanese occupation, one Sister and one priest died—both from natural causes.

DISCOVERY OF RARE RELIC AT MANGAIA

From Our Own Correspondent

MANGAIA, CI, November.

A VISITOR from Rarotonga, Mr. McBirney, who is a keen archaeologist has discovered here a fine old "mere" (traditional Polynesian club), of greenish stone. It is in perfect order, and it is believed that the discovery may be found to be of some importance, when this very rare piece is examined by experts.

This island's highly "tapu" burial-caves contain other treasures, but these have been viewed by only one living European—Mr. E. Gold, who under the guidance of the heir, Kimi-ravenga (since dead), entered the famous cave "Pire-te-ume-ume" in 1926. This cave contains priceless old weapons, nets and clothing which are regarded as being the most sacred of the artifacts of the Group. The whereabouts of this cave are now known to only two people, and they guard the secret with sincere respect.

There are other caves in Mangaia, not particularly "tapu," which also contain relics. But these relics are of a much more recent date than those in "Pire-te-ume-ume."

Mr. C. E. Leembruggen has been appointed Censor of Postal Matter and Telegrams in Fiji.

NEW GOVERNOR ARRIVES



M. Jacques Tallec (left), the new Governor of New Caledonia, talking with M. Christian Laigret, on M. Tallec's arrival in Noumea recently.

PSA is c/o Public Service Association of NSW, 12 O'Connell Street, Sydney. The president of the Association is Mr. A. W. Marshall, and the hon. secretary is Mr. D. L. Pullen.

LAMBETI—HOW

HERE is a despatch probably unique in the Pacific War. The owner of a Pacific plantation, who happens to be a skilled writer, was with the American forces when they attacked and threw out the Japs. He watched his plantation being freed from the invaders—and he saw it, in the freeing, blown to pieces.

The writer is Mr. Leslie F. Gill, owner of famous Lambeti Plantation, once one of the show places of Roviana Lagoon, in New Georgia, British Solomons. When the Japs, in August-October, 1942, were thrown out of Guadalcanal, they immediately built up a new base, with a good airfield, at Munda, at the northern end of Roviana Lagoon. They seized the Methodist Mission station there, and Lambeti Plantation, alongside; and there, and in the hills immediately behind, they constructed innumerable fortifications.

The Americans beat them by seizing Rendova Island, lying some five miles off the coast, opposite Munda and Lambeti. Mr. Gill was with them when they landed on Rendova. It took many weeks to clear the enemy out of the maze of islands of which Munda was the centre, and Mr. Gill witnessed much of the fighting.

In this article, written for the "PIM," he vividly describes some of his early impressions.

THE days following the landing on Rendova of the American Army come back to me as memories of men, guns and transport toiling gigantically in an ocean of mud.

It rained until the coconut plantation became a quagmire, and the road a horror. The heavy guns went through, followed by the loaded ten-wheel trucks. Then the road ceased to exist.

Ruts became chasms, along the edges of which the Jeeps crawled and pushed with their bellies on the mud. It rained. The Jeeps bogged at last and were pulled by cats.—then only the cats. (caterpillars) could move.

More rain. For hours even the cats could not claw their way through the mud. By some miracle, which only those supermen of the Seabees and the Artillery can explain, the 155's had been lugged into position, and commenced barking at Munda and Lambeti, seven miles away.

We camped, and dug our foxholes in the slush. Jungle troops, laden like packhorses with sodden equipment, awaiting their turn to go into the line, filled the area. No cover for them. They just scratched shallow, inadequate foxholes and lay down in the mud and the rain.

Rendova then was the answer to an air bomber's prayer—a small harbour stuffed with shipping, and beached LST's pouring men and supplies into a small, congested area—surmounted by heavy artillery. A bomb dropped anywhere must surely hit something. How the Japs hated those 155's! And how they went after them!

Day and night they raided. The alert would go—sometimes it didn't, and we would be caught with our pants down, and would dive for our foxholes. Overhead would be heard the unsynchronised engine drone of the Jap planes, while we dug our noses and toes into the bottom of our foxholes and held our breaths.

Then it started. With the noise of a thunderclap, the first bomb exploded near us—growing to a shattering crescendo of hideous scrunching, as plane after plane peeled off and added its "stick" to the pattern of bombs that was rocking us.

From the islets and ships and from the whole area our flak roared into the

A SOLOMONS PLANTER RETURNED HOME

sky. The ground shuddered and shook with the monstrous reverberations of the bombs. The air palpitated with the prodigious pulsation of our flak. It was Hell.

We sweated and quivered in our foxholes. Pattern bombing or strafing as they went, the enemy planes swept along the plantation, out to sea, turned, came back, repeating it all again.

Suddenly, silence. Followed by the sweet, silken swish of American fighters' engines as they swept in to our rescue. Blessed sound. Relief unutterable! We breathed again.

Shakily we emerged to see a gigantic black pall of smoke rapidly filling the sky, and to hear a long continued crackle of explosions. Three great fires had been started in dumps of fuel, stores and ammunition. Then, grimmest and saddest of all sights, came the wounded and dead, carried or helped by their comrades.

After one such raid our area was a shambles. Twenty killed and 100 wounded. But through it all—raid after raid—the troops carried on, and the "heavies" continued to pound Munda and Lambeti from indomitable Rendova.

A NIGHT air raid is a beautiful sight when the long, silver fingers of the searchlights are interwoven with the bewitching patterns of the flak's coloured tracers across the dark sky. But a night naval bombardment excels all as a magnificent spectacle. Its transcendent power and terrible beauty is War at its loveliest. Multi-coloured lights and gorgeous streamers arch across the black sky from unseen warships. Thunderous detonations roll across the water as the guns of the fleet open their throats out there in the darkness.

Coloured star-shells burst in the air and spread an effulgent beauty in the sky. The black void of night is canopied and laced with streaming shells and tracers speeding on their rainbow-coloured way from the blooming rosettes at the mouths of the guns. Mighty explosions shake the shore, and sheets of flames illumine the area where the shells are bursting. The earth, sea and sky are ablaze with a terrible grandeur of colour, and athrob and shuddering with the gigantic thud of the guns.

Suddenly, the show is over. The lights go out. Somewhere out there in the darkness great phantom shapes alter course, gather speed, and leave. The naval task force has completed its mission.

MUNDA suffered several such bombardments. In addition, it was pounded night and day for a month from Rendova by heavy artillery—the 155's. For months of "softening," American bombers had had the area on an almost-daily bombing schedule. Munda was tough.

Finally, the American Air Forces really turned on the heat. From Rendova could be heard the prolonged scrunch of bursting bombs, day after day, as the great fleets of bombers carried out their strikes on "the most bombed area in the Pacific."

Over 500 tons of bombs fell on Lambeti in less than a week. Then the Navy took a hand, and poured 5,000 shells into 500 square yards of my Lambeti plantation. Even then the ground forces had to employ tanks, flame-throwers, mortars, and hand grenades before they could capture that strongpost.

My feelings may be imagined as I listened and looked towards lovely Lambeti, and realised that my beloved home was being annihilated. Thus I came home—to dust and ashes. I brought with

me liberation, death, and destruction. Lambeti is no more!

WHEN the history of this war is written it will probably be said that the Japanese made a major mistake in not holding Rendova in force, thereby denying the American forces a vantage point from which to shell Munda, a valuable harbour in which to land men, stores and equipment, and also a beach-head from which to deploy troops for the attack on the airfield. Tough and prolonged as the Munda operations unexpectedly proved to be, the task might have proved impossible had Rendova been as strongly held as Munda.

Fortunately for us, only an outpost of about 120 Japs held Rendova island and harbour—with no fortifications, installations or artillery whatsoever.

Properly equipped and garrisoned, I consider the Kolombangara-Munda-Rendova set-up could have been an impregnable fortress. Snugly tucked away behind, and protected by the southward seaward maze of reefs of the Roviana Lagoon, the Munda airfield was safe from a frontal landing from the sea. Rendova guards the only sea approach from the east, Kolombangara that from the west—leaving only the long approach from the north coast across the highest mountains of the widest part of New Georgia open to land forces. Fortify those northern approaches—a simple task—and Munda is virtually impregnable.

Mr. F. R. Charlton, Director of Lands, Mines and Surveys in Fiji since 1935, resigned from active duty at the end of January. He came to Fiji in 1921 and during his period of service in the Colony has been at various times a member of the Suva Town Board and the Central Board of Health. He was chairman of the Town Planning Board and a member of the 1936 Public Service Re-organisation and Revision Committee. Appointed Commissioner of Lands in 1935, the title of the office was subsequently changed to Director of Lands, Mines and Surveys. Mr. W. H. B. Buckhurst now succeeds him as Director.

MENTIONED IN DESPATCHES



Lieutenant K. G. Fuller, formerly of Tonga, where his father was Government surveyor for 22 years, now of the AIF, has been mentioned in despatches for rendering gallant and distinguished service in the South-west Pacific area.

DECORATION FOR GOVERNOR-ELECT

But Still Has Not Arrived in
N. Caledonia

From Our Own Correspondent

NOUMEA, Feb. 4.

THE recently-appointed Governor of New Caledonia, M. Jaques Tallec, the date of whose arrival in the Colony is still unknown, has been awarded the French Medaille de la Resistance with the following citation published in Algiers:—

"Animated with an ardent spirit of patriotism, he took a leading part in the movement in Syria for resisting the armistice with Germany. Dismissed from office when the local authorities rallied to the Vichy Government, he was expelled to France, separated from his family and placed under close police surveillance. He succeeded in escaping from France in 1942 in the face of innumerable difficulties, and placed himself at the disposition of the Free French Forces."

M. Tallec's military rank is that of Chef de Bataillon.

In a radiogram to the president of the local Administrative Council, the Commissaire des Colonies at Algiers, M. Plevin, promises that Governor Tallec "will continue the policy of confident and fruitful collaboration with the Administrative Council, that has been adopted by M. Laigret, whose work I much appreciate for the happy manner in which he has conducted the mission entrusted to him."

[ED. NOTE.—M. Tallec has since arrived in New Caledonia.]

WHAT WAS THE MEANING OF THIS FLAG?

Letter to the Editor

COULD any New Guinea reader enlighten me on the following matter: On November 26, 1884, I left Port Moresby by HBMS "Swinger" for New-castle. Going on board I passed the house (a hut erected on posts on the water-edge) of Boi-Vagi, who had been appointed King of the Port Moresby tribe by the Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Romilly, on the Rev. Chalmers' recommendation, and noticed that on Boi-Vagi's hut was a small flagpole attached to which a flag was flying.

The flag was blue with a white square on the upper part near the pole and in this white square was a bird of paradise of a brown colour.

Was this flag an official flag (Royal Standard), or just a recognition of Boi-Vagi's position?

Some old Port Moresby residents might be able to trace this affair. I have only this note about it in my day-book, which I came across recently.

I am, etc.,

F. T. GOEDICKE.

Lotofoa, Haapai,
Tonga, 21/1/44.

Mr. J. A. Kirpal, of Suva, Fiji, formerly managing clerk to Messrs. Hasan and Hasan, barristers and solicitors, who is at present in New Zealand, has joined the Auckland University College with a view to qualifying for the Bar.

Mr. R. Crompton, CBE, KC, has been appointed chairman of the Fiji National Arbitration Tribunal, in place of Mr. E. E. Jenkins (Attorney-General).

EVACUEES ARE "BEFOGGED"

Pacific Territories Assn. Discusses Commonwealth
Reoccupation Proposals

SMALL as was the Territorian's voice in the administration of either of the two New Guinea Territories before the war, indications were that it would be a "thundering sight less" in the post-war set-up apparently being considered by the Commonwealth Government.

This view was expressed by Mr. E. A. James at the quarterly meeting of the Pacific Territories Association in Sydney, on March 14, when, as president, he discussed the Government's proposals for the civil reoccupation of the Territories. (The text of these proposals and the machinery set up to govern the Territories appears on page 3 of this issue.) In Mr. James's opinion, the Commonwealth was preparing to hand the administration of the Territories, lock, stock and barrel, now and forever, over to the External Territories Department.

When the Commonwealth's proposals were published in the Press on February 23, the PTA immediately telegraphed Mr. Ward, asking for fuller details. Mr. Ward's reply confused rather than threw any light on the subject, and consisted mainly in a reiteration of the Press release given by Mr. Curtin on February 22.

The PTA Executive confesses to being "befogged" and therefore advises all members who are desirous of returning to the Territory of Papua to make application immediately, and, if possible, to acquaint the PTA of the replies they receive, as this appears to be the only way of ascertaining who are considered by the Commonwealth to have "essential" work to do in the Territory.

Regarding the return of womenfolk, a letter has already been forwarded to the Minister asking that further consideration be given to this matter at the earliest opportunity.

The Executive has requested also that the earliest possible consideration be given to the re-introduction of civil administration to the Territory of Papua and other places as they lose their status as operational areas.

The Government's proposals were discussed at length—and with heat—by the large meeting, particularly with regard to the "conclusions" reached by the Commander-in-Chief, Sir Thomas Blamey, and the Standing Sub-committee, that although female missionary teachers were to be allowed to return to the Territory, other females, including wives of planters, were not.

Mr. R. A. Laws asked if it were more important to educate natives than it was for planters and others to have the care and help of their wives? Mr. J. C. Mullaly proposed that the meeting express to the Commonwealth Government its thorough disapproval of its recent decision to allow class-distinction in the return of females to the Territory, and considers that it is quite improper that any differentiation between various sections of residents of the Territories should be made in the granting of approval to return, and that such approval should be granted on the merits of each application, irrespective of the section of the community to which the applicant belongs.

This motion was seconded by Mr. G. Bellamy and supported by Mr. C. I. H. Campbell, who said that women had proved themselves worthy of taking their place alongside their men and that their

return would have a most wholesome effect on the natives.

The motion was carried unanimously.

OTHER matters dealt with in the Executive's report, submitted by Mr. C. A. M. Adeskold, were as follows:—

MINING SUB-COMMITTEE

The Mining Sub-Committee has held a number of meetings since it was appointed to look after the interests of the mining community of the Territories. As a result of such meetings proposals in regard to the sending forward of a maintenance unit to the Territories, in order to preserve and save as much as possible of the assets, has been placed before the Minister of External Territories, and we now await his advice.

WAR DAMAGE INSURANCE

Following on inquiries regarding the insurance of trees, your Executive on the 25th January, 1944, circularised all plantation owners whose addresses could be ascertained, advising them to insure their trees for the current period at the reduced rate of 2/- per centum. In taking this action your Executive took into consideration the possibility of considerable damage when invasion and land operations took place. Inquiries made showed that these operations would cause much greater damage than bombing.

Regarding amendments to the regulations which your Executive recommended to the Federal Treasurer, a reply has been received agreeing to some of such amendments, but unfortunately one of the most important—the insurance of plantation boats—has not been agreed to and the Minister for Territories has been requested to again take up this matter with Mr. Chifley.

A new ruling has been given on the question of cattle. Previously, the regulation allowed for payment only when it could be proved that the cattle were killed; now it is defined that "if livestock is removed by the enemy and not recovered, total loss can be presumed, and it would be so treated under the scheme. The same conditions apply to livestock removed to prevent it falling into the hands of the enemy."

INTERNEES

Your Executive has continued in its efforts to obtain certain privileges for civilian internees and their dependants, but to date no definite reply has been received from the Government. In this connection we have requested all affiliated bodies and the New Guinea Branch of the RSSAILA to also take up the matter. This has been done, and we hope by concentrated attack that we may be able to obtain a decision in the near future.

CUSTODIAN OF EXPROPRIATED PROPERTIES

The position of plantation owners, who are purchasing their properties from the Custodian, in regard to War Damage Insurance claims has exercised the minds of your Executive, and it has attempted to obtain from the Custodian a statement defining his attitude, but up to date this has not been obtained. Under the War Damage to Property Regulations all charges against insured property must be noted, and we contend that if the Custodian intends to exercise his rights he should be prepared to pay his proportion of the contribution.

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DEATH OF MR. O. F. NELSON

Mau Leader Who Fought NZ Officialdom For 15 Years

NEWS of the death of Mr. O. F. Nelson, of Samoa, on February 21, though not unexpected, was received throughout the South Pacific with genuine regret. Mr. Nelson was the leader of the Mau (Samoan National Movement); and, if he had made errors, he also had made great personal sacrifices for the cause in which he believed, and he never ceased to fight for the Samoans against what he regarded as oppression.



Mr. O. F. Nelson.

"Fred" Nelson, as he was generally known, was the son of a Swedish sea captain and a Samoan lady—a woman of chiefly rank. Although he grew up and was educated as a European, his attachment to the Samoans, through his mother's family, was very strong.

He was born in 1884, and therefore all his young and formative years were spent under the German regime, which terminated with the occupation of Samoa by New Zealand troops in 1914. He knew three languages—German, English and Samoan—and when the New Zealand administration took over in 1920, he was a prominent member of both the European and Samoan communities. He also was one of the richest men in the South Seas.

During World War I, and for some years afterwards, copra boomed, and Nelson proved himself a shrewd trader and manager. The war had killed the German firms, and O. F. Nelson & Co., Ltd., stepped quickly into the vacant field. The firm opened branches or established traders in every Samoan village; and its enterprise and activity, combined with the popularity of Nelson himself among the natives, gave it almost a monopoly of native trade and a very large share of all overseas trade. When the New Zealand civil administration came to Samoa, Mr. Nelson, then in his late thirties, was sitting on top of the world. His firm was big, and rich, and apparently unassailable; and he himself had become increasingly the mouthpiece of the Samoans in their dealings with the British.

It is a little difficult to form an opinion of the Nelson of this period. He has been represented as arrogant, and over-ambitious, and a profound hater of the new British administration. That is probably an exaggeration. Nelson was a very successful young man, and he loved power; but there is no real evidence (apart from the statements of very prejudiced New Zealand officials) that he was at that time anti-British, or that he had any motive other than a sincere desire to do the best he could for the Samoans under the new regime.

But in that latter respect, he was doomed to utter failure and complete exasperation—and it was not his fault. The primary blame for all the sorry history of Samoa in the 'twenties and 'thirties goes primarily to the blundering gentlemen who arranged the League of Nations Mandates, and the greater fools

who tried to administer the Mandate which had been issued to New Zealand in respect of Samoa.

The Samoan Mandate was "C" Class—that is, it assumed that the Samoans were a primitive people, incapable of governing themselves. That, in itself, was an insult to a proud people, with fine traditions of culture. True, under the German administration, they had had little share in the government, in an official sense; but, actually, the German administration had made itself thoroughly familiar with the native viewpoint, and understood Samoan ways, and the Samoans had actually a considerable voice in their own affairs, while the Germans were careful always to consider native wishes and native susceptibilities in all that they did. The majority of the Samoans were educated and quite capable of taking a part in local government, at least.

THE new set-up provided for a Legislative Council, and O. F. Nelson was one of the three European non-official members thereon. The official members easily swamped the non-official; and trouble soon developed.

It had its roots in the New Zealand approach to the Samoan administrative problem. A party of New Zealand members of Parliament, led by a very stubborn and one-eyed Minister named James Allen, was organised to go to Samoa and look the situation over and (the Samoans believed) recommend the form of government to be adopted. The Samoan people made elaborate preparations to meet the Parliamentarians and confer with them.

To their utter discomfiture, the New Zealanders made no attempt to confer. Instead, Mr. Allen simply told them the form of government which had been arranged for them (it included total prohibition of liquor, which still endures, and which has been much criticised); while his Parliamentarians proceeded to disport themselves on what they regarded as a tropical picnic.

That was the beginning of unrest which lasted for 15 years, and which, among other things, showed the New Zealand administration in a very bad light. From his position on the Legislative Council, Mr. Nelson began to argue with the New Zealanders, on behalf of the Samoans, who had many grievances in regard to native affairs. But the attitude of the Administrators (especially Sir George Richardson, 1923-28, and Colonel Stephen Allen, 1928-31) was that New Zealand could do no wrong, and that the Samoans must accept their dictates without question and obey at once.

They treated Nelson with contempt; and this aroused Nelson's fighting spirit. Within a very few years, the Samoans had organised the Mau, to fight for the national rights of the natives; and Nelson, whom they trusted, naturally became their leader. He took their grievances to New Zealand, and even to the League of Nations headquarters at Geneva; but, wherever he turned, he got up against stiff-necked, unimaginative officialdom—the kind of people who had control of the world between World War I and World War II, and who made World War II inevitable.

There was the Nosworthy incident, for example. New Zealand appointed a

(Continued on Page 30)

Sowing Seeds of Brotherly Love

BY A. C. ROWLAND

LAST night, while listening to radio broadcasts, I heard one of the undying race of optimists rejoicing over the myth that more rapid communication and the consequent mingling of peoples, will sow the seeds of brotherly love and, presently, the Millennium will dawn.

In Europe, during a thousand years of primitive communications, wars were little more than raiding parties sent out by bored kings to stir up a little excitement. So far as one can estimate, these expeditions troubled no one except the historians.

After half a century of more rapid communication and the consequent mingling of peoples, whole nations hurl themselves against each other, their minds ablaze with murderous hatred.

If we are to believe Senator Butler, of the United States, the South American hates the "Gringo" with more intensity than ever before; and just before the outbreak of World War II, responsible men who knew South America, were appealing, by broadcast and in the Press, for "goodwill" expeditions to that continent to cease lest whatever "goodwill" might lurk in odd corners, be destroyed.

IN civilian life, we should not love the most amiable of friends who barged in at all hours to instruct us how to carry on our household, peer into our closets, and examine our schedule of family prayers. Such procedure may be necessary in time of war; but how long will any self-respecting nation tolerate it when peace shall have come again?

The cry for self-determination that comes to our ears from all quarters of the globe is undoubtedly a desperate appeal for measures to keep such people at home.

The conduct of the war is in able hands. The crystal-gazers continue to intone their prophecies. We of less exalted attainments can exercise only our faith in the great men who will lead us to victory.

THE only forecast on which I care to stake my reputation as a prophet is that Mr. Roosevelt will be elected by an overwhelming majority, notwithstanding the efforts of his enemies to disfranchise the men of our armed forces, who will vote in a body for their illustrious Commander-in-Chief.

The type of people who are Mr. Roosevelt's most bitter enemies are such as are described in America as "Cafe Society." This is a fungus of recent growth, but is the natural heritage from the migration of newly-rich vulgarians who descended on New York from the Middle West at the lush period following the Spanish-American War. These extraordinary people bought their way into the Yellow Press to establish a Cult of Millionaire Worship which afflicted our United States until the memorable crash of 1929 dethroned the millionaire to give place to the clown, who has since reigned in his stead.

The Rev. A. P. Jennings, of the New Guinea Anglican Mission, has been seriously ill. He spent many weeks in the RAAF Hospital at Milne Bay, and it will be necessary for him to come south for some months for furlough and recuperation. His work at Taupota, Papua, will be carried on by the Rev. Raymond Nicholls.

TROPICALITIES

AN Allied soldier, writing from the New Hebrides, says he has "acquired" (he didn't say how) the Charm of Invisibility from a native chief there. The charm is a small woven bag a few inches long, with a short handle and it was carried into battle in the old days with the idea of making the wearer invisible and thus bringing him through unscathed. It had also the power of smelling out the enemy—and when it had smelled it or them out, it "sang out" and indicated the safe road to take.

"But," says our American, "this charm was once almost my undoing in the way of a laundry boy. The boys who do our laundry knew that I had the thing, though I kept it away in my locker. Then one day, for some damn fool reason, I got it out and waved it at several boys who were at the tent. Well, they darn near tore out the door getting out of there. They were deathly afraid of it, and for weeks they would not come near the tent.

"So, finally, I told them I would burn it. Several of them came and stayed at a respectful distance while I 'burned' my charm. Actually, I burned only the box I had kept it in. But they were satisfied and we regained our laundry boys.

"But I couldn't fool the chief. Shortly after the burning he came to me and said, 'You fella gammon. You no burn 'im basket. Burn 'im bokis that's all. Basket 'e stap.' Now, how the hell did he find that out?"

AWAY back in 1940, when the American invasion of New Caledonia was still a long way off, and when the inhabitants were suddenly forced to import Australian in place of French goods and the English language was less familiar than it is to-day, a shortage developed in all sorts of proprietary stock bearing Paris labels. Soaps and creams, and lipstick and rouges and other aids to feminine beauty, disappeared, and the men were wondering whether lack of shaving materials might not force them to grow beards for the duration.

In the middle of this anxiety, a shipload of highly necessary articles arrived from Sydney. The whole town soon knew about it and the rush was on. One lady I met coming away from the perfume counter of "Maison X" carried a large tube of something that looked familiar. "Ah, Madame," said I, "I see you're shopping for your husband's birthday!"

"No," was the reply. "It is strictly for myself. Everybody's buying it and they say it's wonderful. You put a leetle beet on your brush, *comme ça*, rub it on your teeth—and it foams *delicieusement!*"

"It does," I agreed. "I've been using it myself for years." What I neglected to add was that the new tooth paste happened to be a well-known brand of Australian shaving cream.—H.E.L.P.

THOSE of us who survive from the Victorian Age can remember certain dear old ladies who derived mental excitement and refreshment from funerals. The Tahitians of the pre-radio, tourist, motor, clown-worship period, regarded funerals in somewhat the same light. The gathering of people, the solemn pomp and ceremony, the haunting music of the district choirs throughout the night, the feasting, the murmur of quiet gossip, the eerie consciousness of the presence of the spirit of the departed—all aroused in the Tahitian an ecstasy of spirit.

My friend from Teahuupoo tells me a story of when such an occasion was in prospect. A very beloved personage of high degree became gravely ill. Hope had been abandoned. Friends, relatives and retainers from all the districts roundabout came bearing pigs, fowl, and comestibles of every sort; the trained choirs assembled from near and far; the chief men were there ready with sublime oratory to recount the virtues of their friend.

And then, to the amazement (and as my Teahuupoo friend affirmed), the consternation of all, the patient rallied, took a fresh hold on life and proceeded to recover.

The assembly disbanded and returned to their several districts, bearing their pigs, fowl and comestibles. They never forgave the once-beloved personage of high degree; he had outraged the clear course of nature and had spoiled what promised to be one of the most memorable occasions of their lives.—A.C.R.

A TERRITORIAN serving in the AIF, gives this explanation of how the "kanaka" became a "Boong": "In Palestine, the Arab fellahin or labourer was always known as a 'Boong' in just the same way as the Egyptian was universally known as a 'Wog.' Therefore, when the AIF returned to Australia and were sent to New Guinea, they, not being very discerning, just naturally took our 'coons' to be 'Boongs!'"

DESCRIBED as a "type of dehydrated butter," Australia is now turning out about 8,000 tons of tropical butter spread per annum. This "spread" is

designed for troops in Australia's tropical north, as its melting point is about 100 degrees Fahrenheit as compared with 70 to 80 degrees for ordinary butter.

Bush Territorians will remember pre-war tinned butter. This also could be described as a "type of"; and it, too, had a high melting point. In camp, it had an all-over consistency of warm axle-grease, but it rarely, if ever, melted completely away into oil. On the track, subjected to the stress and strain of travel per rucksack attached to a native, it developed an upper stratum of white curds.

Presumably Territorians were too busy wringing wealth from the elemental jungle or exploiting Fuzzy-wuzzies in those days, to have a care about minor food problems or to develop a butter-consciousness. The butter was either warm or curdled, or both—so what?

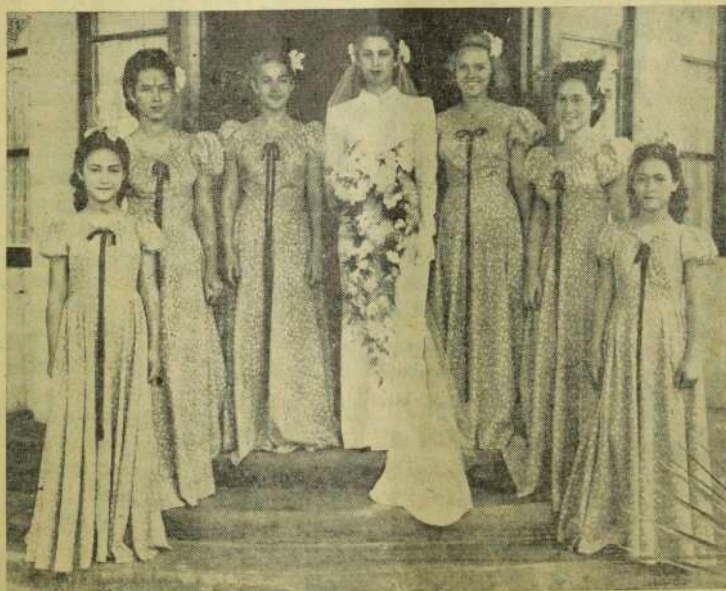
Nonetheless, improvements will probably be appreciated *apres la guerre*.

Australian Minister for Commerce hopes the new processed butter will take the place of ordinary butter for export to tropical countries, including the East, the NEI, India and Ceylon, when peace returns.

MANY "PIM" readers will be interested to have news of Dr. J. S. Phillips, who, for three years prior to the outbreak of the present war, was engaged in research work in the Solomon Islands in connection with immature nutfall of coconuts. The story of his research into the intimate habits of *Amblypelta coco-phaga* (the insect responsible for immature nutfall), and called "George" for convenience by Dr. Phillips, was told in his book, "Coconut Quest," published in 1940. (The publisher's stocks of this book were destroyed in the London blitz, shortly after it came on to the market.)

(Continued Overleaf)

WEDDING GROUP IN TAHITI



This photograph shows the eldest daughter of the late Mr. Samuel Russell (author of "Tahiti and French Oceania"), on her wedding day on December 19, when she married Lieut. Potter, of Papeete. Her bridesmaids are: Miss Rose Martin, and five members of the Pambrun family—Misses Beel and Beco (twins), Angele, Martha and Ginetti.

—Photo by Frederick Simpson.

After completing his Solomons' engagement with Lever Bros., Dr. Phillips returned to his home in England, and reached there shortly before World War II. On the declaration of war, he tried to join the Army (he had won the Military Cross and held the rank of captain in World War I) but was not accepted—entomology was regarded as a reserved occupation. However, no work could be found for him as an entomologist, so he did voluntary war work for over two years.

Early in 1942 he received a Government appointment in West Africa; here he did anti-malarial research work among the Forces in Nigeria and Sierra Leone.

Writing from England on Christmas

Day, 1943, Dr. Phillips says: "West Africa cannot be compared with the Pacific in scenic beauty or general interest and the natives are very inferior to those of Polynesia and Indonesia; all the same, I had a very interesting time there . . . After three months in England I have another engagement with the Unilever combine and I am going out to the Congo to do research work on a number of interesting problems.—J. D. McC.

SINCE American troops garrisoned some of the Cook Islands, a new market has arisen for the tiny snail-shells that the women of Mangaia make into necklaces, and also use for the ornamentation of baskets, etc. At one time these

were so little esteemed that threepence a string was "good money." To-day, they fetch 7/6 a dozen for yard-long necklaces, and the market is still rising. The present buyers are the Cook Island Trading Co., Ltd., and a European resident of Rarotonga.

It would be interesting to know who first saw in these tiny snails that swarm upon the rocks in wet weather, a bead of value! No record exists; and natives do not regard the art as ancient, or truly Polynesian. These snails are the size of a fruit-box nail head, and when boiled in caustic lye they turn yellow (the commonest colour), red, orange, or brown. At one village a purple and a maroon shell are found.

The present shortage of needles and caustic soda is holding up this "pupu" trade; but in spite of difficulties, a large trade in the shells will later be possible.—E.G.

A YOUNG Government official in Suva, Fiji, before the war, Flying-Officer Ronald Crook, RAF, recently "made the news" when he completed his bomb run and led his formation of light bombers back to their base in Central Italy, although dazed and wounded in the head by anti-aircraft shrapnel.

Three years ago he left Suva with 18 other young RAF recruits and Italy is the 24th country he has visited since leaving home. He trained in Southern Rhodesia and Kenya, and at present he is the only pilot among the air crews representing the United Nations in the Desert Air Force who wears Fiji shoulder titles. The other men who joined with him are now scattered to RAF squadrons throughout the world.

SAID to be the most decorated native in the South Pacific is Sergeant-Major Vooza of the Solomon Islands Native Constabulary. His refusal to divulge information valuable to the enemy when he was captured by the Japanese in the early days of the fighting on Guadalcanal, earned him the George Medal from the British and the Silver Star from the Americans. From "along before" he had the Long Service and the Good Conduct medal—Sergeant Vooza had already retired from the Native Constabulary at the time of the Japanese invasion of the Solomons, but he voluntarily went back into service when the Americans landed.

OUR Mangaia correspondent informs us that there is a good opening for a dairy farmer there. "There were two cows on Mangaia in 1931," he writes, "but one died and the other was killed. We have seen no cattle since. The local goats are a poor lot—more interested in making pests of themselves than in reproducing their kind and supplying milk. Consequently much money is expended on 'condensed'—money that should go into the pockets of some enterprising dairy farmer as it does in progressive Rarotonga."

The Secretary of State for the Colonies has approved of the promotion of Mr. A. H. Phillips to be Director of Education in Fiji, in succession to Mr. J. Russell, who retired recently.

A new appointee to the Fiji War Fund Executive Committee is Mr. John Trotter, who will take the place of Mr. T. M. Bryce, who has left the Colony.

A young Fiji resident who left the Colony with the first RAF contingent, has just received his commission. He is Pilot-Officer G. Edwards, and he is stationed in England. He was married last September to Miss Maureen Mackie, of Salisbury, Rhodesia.



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THE GOLD-MINER TRUE

What That Pioneering Spirit Has Done, and Yet May Do, For New Guinea

BY JUDY TUDOR

THE New Guinea path that leads towards becoming a "gold-miner true" (i.e., a person who has been bitten by the gold bug early in life and thereafter knows no other peace) is as thorny as ever.

But whether the Army's official reminder of the laws of Papua and New Guinea, which prohibit prospecting without a miner's right, will have effect on soldiers with good Australian blood in their veins is doubtful. New Guinea has a gold-mining history that is all-Australian, except for a Spanish introduction, when Alvaro de Saavedra, in 1528, is alleged to have found traces of gold on the north coast of the New Guinea mainland, and a German interlude prior to World War I.

The Australian era began about the 1880's, when gold was found in the Louisiade Archipelago, eastward of Samarai, and worked by Queensland miners according to laws of their own brewing. No Klondyke, Rand or Ballarat sketched such high-coloured romantic gold-mining adventure as did the continuous exploits of Australian miners in the New Guinea theatre of operations between that time and 1942, when the Japanese invasion suspended mining operations.

Prior to 1914, considerable border-hopping went on between Papua and the then German Protectorate to the north-east. Papuan prospectors shrewdly suspected that there was more gold on the German side of the border than in Papua, and although many well-organised German mining expeditions tried to penetrate the Morobe district, it was left to the miners from the Australian Territory to locate Morobe's gold—and to work it.

WHEN the mining ordinances of the newly-constituted Mandated Territory came into operation about 1922, old "Sharkeye" Park, from Papua, was found to have employed the war years well, and was already working rich gold not far from where the township of Wau now stands. Neither hostile natives, lack of food and communication with the outside world, or the incredible mountains he had had to cross had stopped him. With a newer knowledge of New Guinea conditions and terrain, it is now possible to appreciate more fully the things accomplished by the old-time prospector with nothing but his pig-headed courage, his one-track mind, his own two legs for transport, a rifle for

defence and meat, and a few natives to carry his gear.

Air transport (which arrived in 1927) revolutionised the Morobe goldfield; and, when the richest alluvial deposits were worked out, dredges and hydro-electric plants supplanted the small miner, who then went further afield, and between 1931 and 1940 extended his search for new gold all over the Ramu and Sepik districts. In 1942, several hundred men were still making a living from these new districts, with nothing more elaborate in the way of equipment than a prospecting dish, a sluice-box, a team of natives, or, at most, a sluice-pump.

THE fact that gold is inaccessible has automatically sewn into a water-tight compartment those who take the trouble to go after it. I should perhaps state here that I am not a "gold-miner true." I was driven to New Guinea by a pioneering urge. I liked being there—when I could have been elsewhere and much more comfortable—for the same reason that people in another age wore hair shirts: it gave a warm glow to my ego to be living life the hard way. Fin-

ally, New Guinea "got me," and life elsewhere seemed flabby. In other words, I became "troppo." I absorbed gold-mining lore because my associates were "gold-miners true," and because I lived in an atmosphere where there was little else to absorb.

In the course of time, the perpetual seeker of gold becomes a very rugged individualist and the elasticity perishes from his ideas. One of his kinks concerns women-kind. Antipathy for the female of the species—when she bobs up near a new mining field—survived long enough to dull my by then glowing ego when I encountered it in the raw in the early days on the Wewak goldfield.

Sporadic mining had gone on in the district for a couple of years before the first gold of any real worth was discovered. Then, instead of the conventional claim, the discoverers pegged several miles of mining lease, and the rest of the mining fraternity—about ten, in

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those days—arrived from far and wide to dispute it.

As a group, they had courage, intelligence, good sense, a sense of fair play, and were all fundamentally honest men. But because they suspected that piece of river to contain large quantities of gold they were prepared to do battle in good jungle style. Later, reason reasserted itself and they went their way, but while the hate was at its height, I unsuspectingly walked into the area on the heels of my family.

THE result was immediate. Here was something upon which they could all agree—a darned female to complicate matters. A ledge on a high hill behind the creek on which they had camped was pointed out as a fine place for my tent-fly, and there I was banished.

But it was a technical error on the part of the banishers. In the still, heavy air all sounds rose to me clearly, and I

remember gratefully that opportunity they gave me, then, of acquiring an intimate knowledge of New Guinea profanity and at the same time an insight into the minds of men in the process of letting their back hair down. Neither experience might otherwise have come my way.

As we had all been pals together, in former mining camps, four days' march nearer civilisation, I could not see what ailed them. So, in between reading on my bunk, I kept close watch on what transpired on the flat below, where my own men had joined in the fun.

On the third night, three natives appeared out of the bushes behind my tent and shoved three prospecting dishes, each containing more gold than I had seen before, under my nose. One of them said the master wanted me to hide it for him.

My eyes must have stuck out. All that gold impressed me, and that I should

again be considered of use to men flooded me. "What name?" I asked.

One of the boys shrugged and pulled down the corners of his mouth: "Suppose me take 'im along house, other master like look 'im." He added that the master would be along later to collect the gold.

The master did come and we sat on my bunk and discussed things. Life; gold—and the queer effect it had on humans; but not the undesirability of a woman on a new mining field. As he left he invited me to eat with them. "It's hell down there," he said. "But if you are there, at least they won't be able to wrangle at meal-times."

TIME marched on. We established a camp further up the creek, on a ledge cut out of the mountain. Other men came to Wewak by ship and schooner, scattered across the range and over large areas of country.

There followed a year of prospecting, trekking, fever and bad food for all of us. But gradually the district passed from its state of flux. Those who had prospected and found nothing, departed. The more fortunate got some semblance of order into their lives.

Our establishment was now divided into two: the old mining camp, up the mountain, and a new lease of our own, on the other side of the range. And towards the end of 1936 it fell to my lot to spend five weeks alone in the old camp, sampling all the joys of the lone prospector in the raw jungle.

HAVING survived, in a more or less passive capacity, the life of a homeless prospector living in perpetual rain and mist, damp clothes, musty bedding, on a diet of tinned food and taro, and later sampled all the trials and tribulations incidental to establishing alluvial workings in the heart of New Guinea, it was considered that I might be capable of holding the fort alone for a couple of weeks. Could I?

I said, sure—hadn't I lived and breathed mining for twelve months? Surely Fate, with all her cussedness, could not think up any problem that we had not yet faced.

So with Nausi, who would do my domestic chores, and a boy to carry my gear back over the range, I went to relieve the member of our outfit who was beachwards bound. He was to be absent for two weeks; due to the usual New Guinea complications he was away five.

There are many men who will maintain, in the face of providence, that they like it; but I imagine there must be a mental kink in a person who genuinely prefers being alone in the bush.

When the sun went down, my world seemed to shrink until it was no bigger than the circle of light shed from the old, battered, hurricane lantern sitting on the table before me, and nothing was left except the tremendous all-enveloping blackness. I was used to the bush, and the pitchy-blackness it took on with the setting sun, and the strange noises of the New Guinea night. It was not that—but that feeling of alone-ness, more mental than physical, that darkness brought with it. The futile, solitary meals, without being able to say as much as "Pass the salt"; the blank space of time between eating one's evening meal and when it was decently possible to retire for the night . . .

I baked bread at week-ends and lived on it for the rest of the week. That, and tinned meat and boiled yam. The only culinary problem was Nausi's nightly question—would I have my yams

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"straight," or would he "fight them" (i.e., mash them)?

I GOT up with the dawn, climbed into damp shorts and shirt and gum-boots, lined the boys, and sent them on their way.

Nausi, by this time, had come sufficiently awake to make me some toast and coffee and, during the eating of it, on nine mornings out of ten, the boss-boy would arrive to announce "Bani's 'e bruk along namil!" (or "along hap"). Meaning that the dam at the top of the creek, on which sluicing operations depended, had broken away at the middle, or sides, and that I should have to spend the rest of the morning in the boss-boy's company, my shorts rolled up to their last decent limits, while we paddled around in the muddy water of the dam, treading down clay between the logs.

For most of the day I supervised work on the sluice-boxes, to the best of my ability, and in spare moments rounded up stray natives and tried by sheer eloquence, to persuade them to make the four-day journey to But to carry in stores for us. After the first week I checked in the cargo that was being sent from our partner on the beach.

At night I panned off the gold and weighed it; dressed two dozen assorted wounds, boils and tropical ulcers, for the boys; squinted down throats, peered into eyes, made feeling inquiries about the state of innards, and ladled out doses of castor oil, Epsom salts, quinine, aspirin and cough mixture where required.

DURING the first week, a visitor blew in on his way to his claim a day further on, and stayed the night.

He said he "didn't like my colour." (Malay yellow.) I didn't care for it myself much—or what I could see of it in six inches of trade-mirror.

I replied that it was due to low fever, and he then entertained me with tales of people he had known, in Morobe and elsewhere, who had had persistent low fever like mine, and who had eventually "kicked the bucket" through an acute attack of blackwater.

Thereafter, my state of health added itself to my worries, and daily I expected the symptoms of blackwater to manifest themselves. In the middle of this period, a small bottle of Atebrin arrived from the new doctor at Wewak. Atebrin then was new, and the instructions that came with the bottle were as alarming as my fear of blackwater. I postponed the cure until such time as the men returned and they could witness the "toxic conditions" with which the doctor seemed to threaten me.

LASTLY, I was visited by one of the men from down the river who, with more generosity than sense, suggested that I use one of their wheel-barrows, which had somehow been dragged in over the ranges and were now resting in idleness.

I rather fancied the idea of getting a little mechanisation to bear on our mining problems, and I had the boys cut two rough planks to stretch from the tailing dump to the face, where they were working. Then I called the two largest of them to me to explain what I wanted them to fetch from the lease down-river.

I know no Pidgin for wheel-barrow. The nearest I could get was "wheely-wheel"—a bicycle. But these lads were precisely five months removed from the stone-age, and had seen no wheels of any description.

So, when I said, "You savvy this fella wheely-wheel belong Master Harry?" they promptly replied, "No got!"

"Godammit—you all the same bush kanaka?" I queried. "Before you no

lookim this fella something belong Master Harry—'e got lik-lik wheel—now you push 'im—now 'e work all the same?"

I ran up and down the bank, pushing imaginary wheel-barrows, to their great delight, but they still chorused "No got!"

Impasse! So I returned to my camp and wrote a note and, obligingly, the two trotted off down-stream. When, at long last, they returned, one wore a sheepish grin and the other, shiny with sweat, carried the barrow on his back!

Until I saw that barrow in the hands of those boys, I should never have believed that one could be such an instrument of destruction, or have so wayward a disposition.

They grappled with it bravely, but it took complete control and bore them protestingly along in its wake, or rose in its wrath like a half-broken colt and threw them. It fell off the planks, it capsized and it wobbled, and never once did they land a full load of clay and stones on

the other side—those working underneath received most of the dirt on their backs.

It became a riot. Waves of giggles rocked the lot of us—so I left them to it and went off to inspect the dam.

When I returned, they had abandoned all idea of wheeling the barrow. But one had the handles and another the wheel, and, so laden, they walked gravely across the planks and deposited the contents on the tailing dump.

After five weeks our partner returned. I took my Atebrin, turned a fine deep yellow—without toxic complications—and returned to the lease over the range. I had proved to the general public that I could manage a mine, if necessary; but I had proved to myself that it was more soul-comforting to be camp scribe and keeper of the petty cash in company, than general manager in lonely state.

THE beauty of progress is all in the eyes of the beholder. There is no lack of people to-day who become



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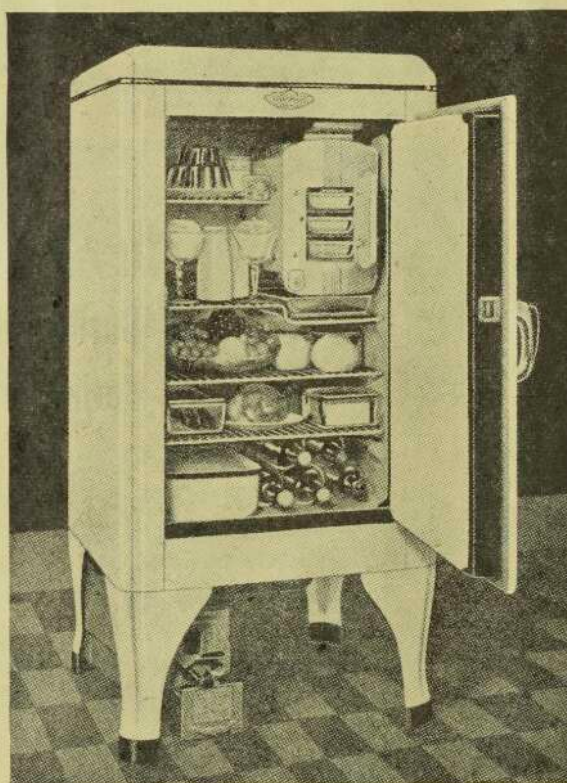
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easily eloquent on the subject of how civilised, and therefore "wonderful," New Guinea will be after the war. Progress to these people is usually calculated on a basis of how many hot-dog stands and hamburger-joints there are to the acre; or how many billboards can be erected to the mile. When this sort of civilisation hits New Guinea there will be many new bemoaners of the "good old days"—and I amongst them.

Will the present-day passion for rationalisation sound the knell of the miner as we knew him in pre-war New Guinea?

With all his faults there was a great deal to be said for this man who, forsaking the byways of civilisation, marched off into the blue to carve a life of his own choosing. When there is no longer room for him, the world will be a poorer place.

In Australia the gold-seeker laid the foundations of a nation; whatever lies ahead for New Guinea, the historians of the future must record that the same brand of gold-seeker performed the same service for that country.

No "Dollar-prosperity" in Mangaia

Traders and Others Just Grin and Bear It

From Our Own Correspondent

MANGAIA, CI, December.
THE local native "tea-shops" (they sell coffee) are re-opening now that flour is available once more. On this isolated island, bread is still something of a foreign delicacy to the natives, who are very fond of "varaoa," as they call it.

The price of a roll and a bowl of coffee is still 3d.—probably the cheapest in the world to-day.

Owing to wartime conditions, we Europeans miss many things. Foreign gas-lamps, stoves, etc., are quite useless until spare parts again become available. Gramophones are valueless, too, as soon as springs break. There seems no solution to this situation, unless New Zealand or Australian manufacturers are able to produce these items. But so far, inquiries in these countries have met with no success.

However, these are some of the "hardships" we can bear with a grin—the shortage of sewing needles, on the other hand, is less humorous.

One by one the local "independent" traders are going out of business because they are unable to replenish their stocks. Others are carrying on only under crushing difficulties. An anomalous situation exists in the fact that the same licence fee (£5 per annum) is demanded of the "small" man as from the big corporations. Thus, the struggling trader has to make £5 for the Administration before he starts to make anything for himself.

The local-made boats which have replaced canoes for lightening cargo from the steamers, have not been a success. Cargo is now received soaking wet, or at the best, damp. The big firms have had much loss as a consequence. The old cargo canoes kept the cases out of the water, but the new boats tend to become half submerged in rough seas.

One of the oldest identities of the Savu Savu District of Fiji, Mrs. J. S. Dods, died in Suva in early January. She was born in Levuka in 1857, and spent all her life in the Colony. She is survived by six children, including Mr. M. J. Dods, of Savu Savu, and Mrs. J. White, of Suva.

LOLOMA GOLD MINES

DIRECTORS of Loloma (Fiji) Gold Mines, NL, reported, on February 3, that under the combined milling scheme entered into with Emperor Gold Mining Co., Ltd., the Loloma mill was closed down on December 24.

On December 28, a beginning was made with the dismantling of the Edwards roaster, or drier, and other units which will form part of the combined mill. It is expected that treatment of Loloma ore at the new mill will begin after July next. Meanwhile, all ore mined will be stacked for subsequent treatment in the new mill.

Since the publication of clean-up fig-

ures for the 12 weeks to December 22, 1,208 oz. of fine gold have been recovered from slag and other material from the old mill. Further gold will be recovered from these sources from time to time as dismantling proceeds.

The Hon. Dr. V. W. McGusty, Director of Fiji Medical Services, returned to the Colony in January after a visit to London and America on official business.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Shelton-O'Reilly, formerly of Papua, are now living in Paea, Tahiti. Mr. Shelton-O'Reilly, some time ago, retired from the Lands and Survey Department, Port Moresby, and as soon as travelling circumstances permit he and his wife will return to England. Their present address is: c/o Banque de L'Indo-Chine, Papeete, Tahiti.

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NEW CALEDONIA'S POST-WAR CLAIMS IN FRENCH SET-UP

Representative in Algiers Pleads For No More "Bird of Passage" Officials

From Our Own Correspondent

NOUMEA, Feb. 4.
DURING the January debate on colonial affairs by the French Consultative Assembly, at Algiers, the New Caledonian representative, Roger Gervolino, a Pacific Battalion volunteer, referred to this Colony's claims to more liberal treatment by Metropolitan France after the war. Similar claims have frequently been made during sessions of the local Administrative Council, and notably by the president, M. Berges.

In view of the misconceptions of a few American newspapermen, who come to Noumea with fixed ideas and prejudices about the French, and the French colonials—ideas and prejudices that they do not usually trouble to check when they do arrive—M. Gervolino did well to reassert the Colony's absolute attachment to the cause of French liberation. Followers of Vichy in this country are practically non-existent; most of them took the opportunity of going to Indo-China in November, 1940, and hardly any of those were Caledonian-born. The bad press General de Gaulle has almost consistently received in America, instead of turning the population here against the liberation leader, has helped to rally round him even those who formerly appeared "Giraud-minded." Caledonians hope that one day General de Gaulle will find time to pay them a visit.

"If we had felt like separating from France," M. Gervolino said, "all we needed to do was to follow Vichy. Our sentiments are unfortunately not always appreciated at their real value, but

France is our Patrie and there is no peaceful existence for us if France has not the same existence. The people I represent are grateful to the Allies for their magnificent help, but our whole endeavour is for the restoration of France and her complete sovereignty over the territories of the French Empire."

M. Gervolino said that the first just claim of the Pacific colonies must be for parliamentary representation—a claim that dated back 25 years. It was inconceivable that a colony like New Caledonia, with an electorate of French origin, had no right to representation in a French National Assembly. That right was to-day incontestable.

His second request was that France should stop sending out officials to administer the country who lacked interest and stayed only a short time—sometimes invoking the traditional reasons of "health" for repatriation to France. A greater professional sense of duty was needed before a programme could be formulated and profitably carried out. Greater use should be made of local elements, with overseas officials to guide the way.

Thirdly, the Colony demanded the suppression of the French quota and the revision (downward) of Customs barriers. The avowed object had been to protect French products, but that object was not attained. What had happened was that a great proportion of the goods so "protected" did not arrive in a satisfactory state. Losses were such that Caledonians preferred to import foreign goods in

spite of heavy duties. In effect, the result was to boost the cost of living, particularly that of large families and the working population.

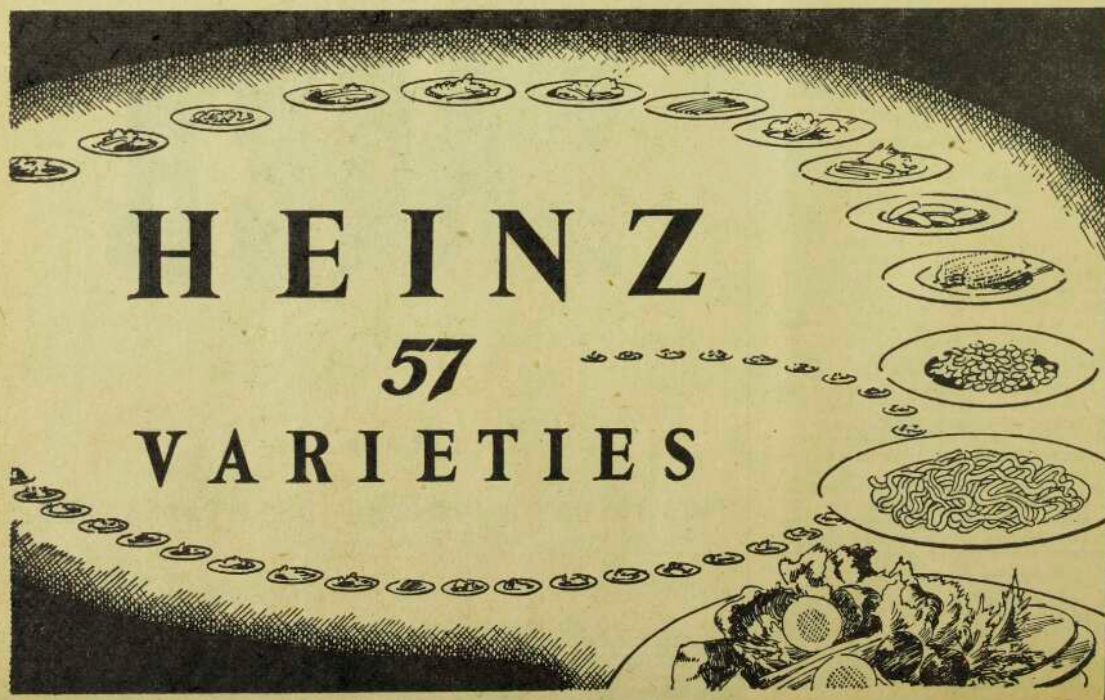
"Lastly," said M. Gervolino, "we are hoping for the control of the big companies who make millions of francs profit without being obliged to pay a corresponding amount of taxation. I believe that when these first reforms have been undertaken, we will have made a great step forward."

AS a footnote to M. Gervolino's speech, it may be added that Australia would gain most from any reduction in the French protective legislation and Customs dues; while New Zealand could possibly also develop a limited trade mainly in perishable goods, which in pre-war days were largely an Australian monopoly.

The overseas official question was a sore point long before the war; spokesmen like M. Berges often severely criticised the short-term officials—those who never stayed long enough to get an intimate acquaintance with the country and its problems. "Not merely birds of passage, but birds of prey," is how a Caledonian once described them in a French colonial magazine published in Paris.

The question of the big international companies and their profits, and control of the mining industry, has more recently been much discussed. It is the custom of these companies to underpay their Caledonian employees while little of the profits of the industry has hitherto remained in the country.

Flight-Lieutenant R. N. Leek, RAAF, formerly of Morris Hedstrom, Ltd., staff in Suva, Fiji, has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. He went to Australia soon after the outbreak of war to join the RAAF. He has recently been stationed in the Middle East.



ISA LEI

"MANY men who have served in Fiji during the last two years delight in singing 'Isa Lei,' a song written in the vernacular by the bandmaster of the Fijian Band, some years ago, and now adopted as the national song of Fiji," writes our Noumea correspondent. "I have taken these words of the song from 'Kiwi News,' newspaper of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force in the South Pacific, which states of the song: 'Its infectious melody has led to requests for the words from men who are not 'vet-erans' of Fiji.'"

Isa, Isa, you are my only treasure
Must you leave me so lonely and
forsaken?
As the roses will miss the sun at
dawning
Every moment my heart for you is
yearning.

Chorus:

Isa Lei, the purple shadows fall,
Sad the morrow will dawn upon my
sorrow.
Oh, forget not when you're far away.
Precious moments beside dear Suva
Bay.

Isa, Isa, my heart was filled with
pleasure
From the moment I heard your tender
greeting;
Mid the sunshine we spent the hours
together.
Now so swiftly those happy hours are
fleeting.

(Chorus)

O'er the ocean your island home is
calling;
Happy country where roses bloom in
splendour.
Oh, if I could but journey there with
you.
Then forever my heart would sing in
rapture.

For those who wish to learn the song
as it is sung in the native tongue here
are the Fijian words for the first verse
and chorus:—

Isa, Isa, vulagi lasa dina
Nomu lako au sana rarawa kina.
Ava beka ko ya mai cakava
Nomu lako au na sega ni lasa.

Chorus:

Isa lei, nanoqu rarawa
Miko sana vodo e na mataka
Bau nonuma, na nodatau lasa
Mai Suva, nonuma tikoga.

(Pronunciation: "g" is pronounced "ng" as in
long, "q" is "ng" as in longer, "d" is "nd,"
"b" is "mb," and "e" is "th" as in the.)

DEVOTION TO DUTY Brings Honour and Tragedy

From Our Own Correspondent

NOUMEA, Feb. 4.
A HUMBLE heroine of the Ducos leper colony here, Sister Othilde (Madame Lea Billaud), has recently been decorated by General de Gaulle, at the suggestion of Governor Laigret. She has received the Gold Medal "des Epidemies."

For years past she has been caring for the lepers with simple devotion, and she has now contracted the dread malady herself, although that has not been allowed to interfere with the accomplishment of her life's work.



HE WANTS TO GROW UP LIKE DADDY

He's filled out so much lately, Daddy will scarcely know him for the same little boy he left at home. The credit for that belongs to Mummy. She knows how vitally important it is, in these days of recurring shortages, to guard against lack of essential food elements in a child's diet.

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HAS POLYNESIA A FUTURE WITHOUT A "COPRA-ECONOMY"?

South Pacific Conditions as They Appear to
Robert Dean Frisbie

UNLESS there is some unforeseen improvement in shipping facilities and the manufacture of civilian goods, at the end of World War II the entire South Pacific area will require a virtually complete restocking of consumers' goods, equipment, and construction material.

The United States will probably be the country best equipped to manufacture and transport these goods, and she may be expected to do so if import restrictions do not prohibit trade. Trade restrictions may be anticipated, however—England, Australia, New Zealand, and India can not be asked to allow their own industries to suffer for the benefit of American exporters.

At the present time, most of the textiles imported into the South-eastern Pacific come from India. These goods are often unsatisfactory in quality and are always exorbitant in price. Importers state that the Indian manufacturers are bleeding the market for all it will stand; and the consumers, who are paying from 600 to 800 per cent. more for textiles than they did before the war, are losing patience. Perhaps India, through her own nearsightedness, is building up a mushroom trade that will collapse with the coming of peace; she is existing at present on a high-profit economy, and she may not be able to reorganise her industry on a basis of smaller profits. Also, she may suffer from the resentment of her former customers.

It is deplorable that many of the

primitive and semi-primitive people in the South Pacific are recalling that Japan, in pre-war years, supplied textile goods which were retailed at from sixpence to ninepence a yard, and which were identical if not superior to the goods now supplied by India and retailed at from four to six shilling a yard. Furthermore, there are persistent rumours that the Japanese in occupied territories are supplying the natives with good-quality merchandise at very low prices—probably in anticipation of many of the islands being retaken by the United Nations, and with an idea of educating the people to a pro-Japanese frame of mind.

The Europeans in the South Pacific do not enter largely into this picture. They compose a very small minority that obtains its personal goods from England and America. These Europeans look upon the high price of Indian textiles as a temporary and unavoidable evil in the same way as they formerly looked upon the low price of Japanese textiles as a temporary, though not unavoidable, evil. But the native people understand only that a pound note will now buy four or five yards of shoddy print, while formerly it bought as much as 40 yards. Though these Polynesians never heard of inflation, they know that their money is not worth as much as formerly.

WE who live in the South Pacific are naturally concerned about the economic future of this area. Even the optimists among us admit that the

outlook is gloomy. Before the war copra, on many of the islands, was not worth making. Few of the rubber plantations showed a profit. Cocoa was a risky gamble. Vanilla was profitable only to the small growers who tended their own vines. Pearl-shell was virtually unsaleable. Now we wonder if, when munitions factories are closed down, there will be any sale whatsoever for copra. Will natural rubber find a market in countries overstocked with synthetic rubber? Will cocoa fall to its pre-war price? Will synthetic vanilla and nacre again force natural vanilla and pearl-shell out of the market?

If the South Pacific stores and warehouses are to be restocked, if the worn-out trucks and automobiles are to be replaced, and equipment and construction material supplied, then a use must first be found for the produce which the South Pacific people produce.

To-day, the planters of the South Pacific area are receiving excellent prices for their produce. Copra is now bought, on the more accessible islands, for about £14 (sterling) a ton, while the market price in Sydney, at this writing, is £24 Australian. This is approximately 300 per cent. higher than the pre-war price. Cocoa, Samoa's most important produce, is now quoted in Australia at £80 (Australian) a ton, while the pre-war price was seldom half that amount. Vanilla, pearl-shell, tortoise-shell, and rubber have jumped to phenomenal prices.

On the other hand, there has been no improvement in the market for fruit, and this is an important point, because it affects directly the small native growers, who are in the majority in these islands.

The above remarks would suggest that no one, except fruit-growers, should complain of the high price of consumers' goods, because prices obtained for produce have risen to a parallel degree. This is not true. If accumulating



inflated currency can be called profiting, then the only ones who have profited in this area are the big growers, who are almost entirely European and who are only a handful among many. The natives in this area depend for their livelihood on labor on the big plantations to a small extent, but mainly on the produce from very small acreages. Very few of them have plantations that will produce more than enough food for their own household use. There are a few exceptions, such as certain small acreages of tomatoes in the Central Pacific, which are bringing their growers large profits at the present time, small plantings of vanilla in the Eastern Pacific, and the scattering of rubber trees in the western area. This does not alter the picture—the shipments from small planters are mostly fruit, and fruit has not increased in price locally.

THERE is, of course, a brighter side to the picture. No matter what form future world economy takes, the native people of the South Pacific will always have an abundance of food, satisfactory shelter, and sufficient clothing. Even on the barren atolls, where the stranger sees only sand and coconut trees, people lived well for hundreds of years before the coming of Europeans; and even if they were cut off entirely from the outside world they would live well—albeit they might hanker for a cup of tea or a pipe of tobacco.

Many old residents of the South Pacific believe the natives would be better off if they were deprived of the so-called amenities of civilisation. The missionaries, traders, and planters throw up their hands in horror at such a suggestion, but it must be remembered that they have selfish motives for wishing to coat the people with a thin veneer of pseudo-civilisation. However, it is pointless to speculate on whether or not the natives would benefit by a return to cannibalism, pagan religion, and primitive material culture.

No such change will take place so long as they have copra and rubber to exchange for manufactured goods. When copra and rubber are no longer wanted, then these Pacific peoples' reversion to a primitive state appears to me to be inevitable.

UNION JACK FLIES AGAIN OVER TREASURY ISLAND

BY HAROLD COOPER

SIX natives of Treasury Island, serving in the Solomon Islands Defence Force, went ashore with the first wave of New Zealanders when that Japanese outpost was attacked last October.

They were used as guides during the subsequent operations and also did a valuable job in maintaining liaison between the New Zealand Command and the native population of the island, which showed an instant readiness to co-operate in every way with the invaders.

The services of these six volunteers won unique recognition, for it was one of their number whom the New Zealand Brigadier chose for the honour of hoisting the Union Jack over the first Solomon territory to be reconquered by British forces.

After five years absence, Mr. R. Shepherd, one of the original traders on Mangaia, Cook Islands, re-visited the island towards the end of last year, and was given a warm welcome by old customers and friends.

CHILDREN BORN "ABROAD"

THE attention of parents of children of the second and subsequent generations born abroad, and persons whose British nationality could not hitherto be admitted owing to inability to fulfil the conditions attached to the registration of a birth at a British consulate, are drawn to the "British Nationality and Status of Aliens Act, 1943." This amends certain provisions in the Act of 1914.

Under the new Act, any legitimate person born abroad, whose father was at the time of birth a British subject, may apply for registration of his birth, and with the permission of the Secretary of

State, this may be effected within any period after this person's birth. (Formerly, the birth had to be registered within a year, or in special circumstances two years, at a British consulate.) In certain circumstances, where the interests of a surviving wife or child are involved, the registration may now be effected in respect to a person already deceased.

The new Act includes several clauses of interest to British subjects living abroad. Reference should be made to local consulates, and to obviate delay and reference to the Secretary of State, London, it is still urged that parents register the births of their children within one year of their occurrence.



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TOTAL WAR

BY "DAIKA"

WE parked our vehicles and the tired and dirty troops stumbled out. This town in Greece had not yet been bombed and the children crowded round us anxious to swap eggs for "conserva" (bully beef). We had not had eggs for days.

The women brought us hot water and we lay and rested under the pines which fringed the beautiful little town. Everywhere was peace, except for the large quantity of military traffic on the road, and we spoke and joked with the kiddies, who were just like kiddies anywhere in the world, although their country had been at war for months and most of the able bodied men were absent. The women wore strained faces and were thin, but they laughed at our attempts to speak Greek. We felt better as we looked at them.

Then over came some planes with the black cross of the Nazi on them. The sirens screamed and everyone crowded into the large shelters in the centre of the town, but when the shelters became too crowded the women and grown men left to make more room for the younger ones who still had most of their lives in front of them—they were to be given their chance to live whatever happened.

The planes circled once and then down crashed their load of death—on to the shelter. We looked at each other as we lay and waited. The planes unloaded all their bombs and left for more.

We ran down to help—if we could. That sight will remain forever in my mind; many of us dreamt nightmarishly of it for months after, and that day we swore an oath of vengeance. Now most of those men who swore that oath are themselves dead—some in Crete, some in Syria, and some in New Guinea. The few who are left will still remember the moment when we came in sight of the main square of that town.

THE only sounds were the crackle of flames and the subdued clatter of boots on the cobble stones. Seldom did anyone speak. The whole square was covered in blood and mangled bits of human flesh which such a short time before had been living, romping children. Some still lived, horribly broken, and their large eyes followed us piteously as we did our best to ease their soul's flight to what we hope is a better world.

The mothers worked dry-eyed. They were stunned—their brains could not grasp such catastrophe. Some of them gathered up odd pieces of what had been flesh of their flesh: a foot with a little foot still in it. Yes—the patch on the side had been done by their hard-worked hands only a few days before. Never again would they cry shrilly for the lad who wore them to come quickly out of the rain and be answered by his child's voice.

The pitiful little heaps grew on the pavements as the women searched. A hand and arm; a head, severed from its trunk and recognisable only by the hair and teeth. We cursed God that day as well as the Nazi butchers.

A woman's body, torn open, lay in the track of a big military lorry. An old woman, holding the battered head in her arms, rocked to and fro, crooning to herself as she had done when her daughter had been a babe in arms. Now her daughter had gone—and her grandchildren too. But she could not realise it.

Many a tear was wiped surreptitiously away from a tough Aussie's eye that day. It was total war—but not a soldier had been hurt—physically. And yet we had scoffed at others for surrendering when

this was happening to them. Would we be able to continue the fight if this had happened in Australia? Would our union leaders, and politicians still rant and rave and keep their safe jobs?

A LONG line of white planes droned across the Papuan sky, very high up. The sun flashed on the spinning props and the glass of the cockpits. We identified them as Japs.

Came the thunder of heavy explosions as their bombs landed. The rattle of machine-guns came from above as our planes—so few at that time—strove to break through the screen of enemy fighters and disperse the bombers. Soon a Jap plane slowly pulled out of the line and began its dive—to death. Its engines screeched and screamed; a wing came off. We on the ground stood with bated breaths. The engine left its mountings, but the scream went on and the air shook. We watched—but not a Jap left that doomed plane. Faster and ever faster it came, until it went out of sight below the trees and a wisp of smoke drifted up—vanishing before the fluttering, side-slipping wing reached earth. At least one Jap plane and crew had paid in full for this raid.

Up in the bombed area men worked feverishly. A hospital had been hit. The doctor eased pain and put broken bodies together. This, too, was war.

Many bombs had landed in the bush. No one worried about them—too thankful that they had not fallen closer—but in the bush were natives, who, driven from their villages by the cruelty and lust of a blood-mad world, had made small community houses in this secluded spot. They made new gardens, too, and lived frugally while waiting for the har-

vest. Now one bomb had destroyed all. There were no doctors here. No bandages, no medicines; just life—and death. There was crying as the flow of life ran out of bleeding little bodies. A young mother, dying, tried to give her

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week-old child a last drink at her breast. The baby's tiny hands waved, and he gurgled in delight as he nuzzled her. Soon her body would grow cold and he would cry—but there would be none to hear.

An old man, dragging himself along while trying to push back the intestines bulging from a gash across his abdomen, his dark skin glistening with the perspiration from the effort, at last lay down to die.

Two children, one with a broken leg and the other with a mangled arm, gazed about them with eyes glazed by shock and pain.

The sun rose higher, then began to sink. No movement or sound disturbed the solemn quiet. The baby began to cry and continued until exhaustion at last quieted him. The next day his cries grew less.

A week later a patrol of soldiers stood and looked at the scene. Just another episode in a total war, with its suffering innocents, differing from a thousand

such episodes on a dozen battle fronts only in location. This time it was a few "Fuzzy Wuzzies" who, knowing nothing of civilised conflicts, nor having ever heard of Germany or Japan, yet reaped the whirlwind of international hate and avarice.

We who see these sights are left wondering how long the world is to be allowed to remain steeped in such selfishness and hypocrisy.

**QUEEN SALOTE SILVER
JUBILEE STAMPS**

TO commemorate the completion, on October 11 last year, of the 25th year of the reign of Queen Salote, special postage stamps were issued in Tonga on January 25.

The stamps are a replica of those issued in 1938 to commemorate the 20th year of the Queen's reign, with the exception that the years 1918-1943 are printed on the new issue.

The stamps are in five denominations, 1/-, 6d., 3d., 2d. and 1d., each in a different colour. They measure 1½ in. x 1½ in., and each denomination has the same attractive design, the centrepiece being a portrait of Queen Salote.

**GOOD WORK BY FIJIAN
MISSIONARIES**

AT present on leave in the southern States of Australia, are two Fijians who are attached to the Methodist aboriginal missions in Northern Australia.

One of them is the Rev. Kolinio Saukuru, who figured last year in the rescue of an Australian Beaufighter crew forced down in Northern Australia; and the other is Captain Aminiasi Ratulaveta, master of the Methodist Mission cutter, "Larrapon," stationed at Croker Island.

The Rev. Kolinio Saukuru is affectionately known as "Koi" by airmen in Northern Australia. He is a man of many accomplishments, who has done great work among the aborigines. He is an ordained minister, who was appointed to work in an aboriginal mission at Millingimbi, off the coast of Northern Australia; he is a qualified teacher, marine engineer and captain, and his word is law among the natives for hundreds of miles along the NW coast of Australia.

His portrait, painted by Mr. R. J. Sheppard, was recently entered for the Archibald prize.

Captain Ratulaveta has also done good work by rescuing airmen who have been forced down into the sea.

**DEATH OF M. RATARD, OF
NEW HEBRIDES**

From Our Own Correspondent

NOUMEA, Feb. 15.

THE death is announced of M. Ratard, one of the most successful French planters in the New Hebrides. He arrived there in 1901, with no fortune other than the will to work, and built up a large property at Santo, which he had never left, and which is run on up-to-date lines.

He is reported to have amassed a fortune of many millions of francs. His son has been working in recent years for the Nickel Company in Noumea, and his daughter-in-law is chemistry professor at the College de la Perouse.

When he announced M. Ratard's death, Governor Laigret described him as one of that group of valiant French pioneers who created the important centre of French colonisation, the Second Channel.

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STRANGE CASE OF THE SEWING THREAD

Tahiti's Thieves and Black Marketeers

From Our Own Correspondent

PAPEETE, Feb. 5. THERE is a great deal of petty thieving going on in and about Papeete. Many Polynesians inherit from the old communal system of pre-European days the theory that anything that Nature produces—such as fruits, vegetables, and so forth—should be regarded as common property in cases of need; and the taking of anything of that category does not constitute thievery. (Some Europeans have also adopted that code and thrive on it.)

Anything bought with the coin of the realm is, however, regarded, by natives, as property the filching of which is unlawful. In earlier times, therefore, one could leave one's house unlocked and unguarded, confident that nothing of value would be disturbed or taken.

Now times have changed. The enlightenment of civilisation has instructed the predatory element of our people in the higher arts of plunder, so that anything—from pigs to jewellery, from bed linen to thousand-franc notes—is in danger from prowling marauders.

The acquisitive elite, after observing a series of gangster films from Hollywood, have set about emulating these popular heroes of Chicago. The organisation has centred its operations on incoming cargo as the most remunerative objective. It is not yet clearly known how long the broaching of cargo has been going on; but in the earlier stages of their adventure, the thieves were wise and considerate enough to leave some merchandise in

the cases for the consignee. Their undoing was consequential to their taking the whole of the contents of a large case of sewing-thread. At the time, there had not been one spool of thread in the island for a long period. Therefore, the sudden merry chatter of sewing-machines, owned by the wives and sweethearts of the bandits, led the police by an easy path to the culprits.

A search of the premises of that select band of Chinamen who operate the Black Market, revealed the remainder of the plunder in some extraordinary hiding places.

The judicial inquiry into the whole affair is still going on at the time of this writing.

Many—not all—of our Tahiti Chinamen are past-masters in the enterprise known as the Black Market. Some, indeed, are wise enough to "temper the wind to the shorn lamb"; others could give Torquemada lessons on how to clamp on the thumb-screws. They "get away with it" because most natives are dependent on the Chinese wayside shop for bread, coffee and various household supplies; and, in addition, are usually more or less in debt to this fountain of sundry favours. Naturally, they do not wish to stir up trouble which would dry up this well-spring.

Europeans, on their part, shrink from getting involved with Court proceedings. Consequently, our judicial authorities never hear of these violations of the law, and the Black Market flourishes, notwithstanding stringent regulations designed to prevent all such practices.

Mr. and Mrs. T. P. Nicholson, who went to Fiji from New Zealand in the early 80's, celebrated their golden wedding in Suva on January 27.

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Fiji Now Rejoices in "Travel Priorities"

Another War Curse Descends on the Colony

THE whole question of travel between Fiji and New Zealand was somewhat clarified, if not relieved, at the end of January, when the Fijian Government announced that in future a system of travel priorities would be introduced.

Great difficulty has been experienced by Fiji residents wishing to travel to the Dominion, and recent discussions between the Fiji and New Zealand Governments indicate that for some time to come the number of steamship passages available for civilian travellers will be far short of demands.

A committee, consisting of Mr. Alport Barker, Mr. D. A. Butler, Mr. H. Cooper, and Dr. K. R. Steenson, has been appointed to deal with travel priority applications, and, in general, priorities will be allotted in the following order:—

(1) Persons travelling on urgent business connected with the war effort. (2) Persons travelling on urgent Government business. (3) Persons who are required to travel for urgent business or health reasons. (4) In appropriate cases, the families of persons in the above three categories and of Service personnel. (5) Persons wishing to travel to New Zealand to enter educational institutions there. (6) Persons wishing to visit close relations who are seriously ill. (7) Persons who will not require return transport to the Colony. (8) All other applications in order of booking.

Civilians wishing to travel will book their passages with the shipping companies in the usual way; a priority application form will be supplied at the shipping office and should be filled in at the time of booking.

ANOTHER notice published at the end of January stated that civilian applications for passages in Service aircraft would in future require the approval of the Commander-in-Chief, South Pacific Area, and that this approval would be given only in cases

where the journey was in connection with the war effort and might be regarded as of extreme urgency, or in other exceptional circumstances.

PERMIT NOW NECESSARY TO LEAVE N. CALEDONIA

From Our Own Correspondent

NOUMEA, Feb. 11.

IN future, citizens of New Caledonia under French jurisdiction (including officials) wishing to travel outside this Colony, must make application to the Governor, explaining the reason for the voyage. The application is then passed on to American headquarters.

YOUNG NEW GUINEA FLIER



Sgt.-Pilot Walter A. Lussick was born in Samoa 20 years ago. He came to New Guinea with his parents at the age of two, and lived there till the outbreak of war. His mother is the daughter of the late Andrew Blunt, of Fagamalo, Savaii, Samoa. His father is a well-known resident of New Ireland, being the owner of Logagon and Maramakas plantations. Sgt.-Pilot Lussick is a bomber pilot now serving in England.

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EVOLUTION OF A FIJI COMMANDO

BY HAROLD COOPER

COMMANDOS are made, not born, even in Fiji. Not so many months ago the Fijian men who won such a reputation on Guadalcanal were living quietly in remote villages and had never handled any weapon more complicated than an axe or a cane knife.

When they reported to their New Zealand instructors they were perhaps the rawest recruits ever to don the King's uniform. They could speak no English, and the New Zealanders no Fijian, so that early instruction had to be imparted painstakingly through interpreters.

The Fijians at first stood in some awe of the bullet, not because of its power to inflict injury, but because its flight was invisible. This initial nervousness, however, soon vanished and before long they were carrying out manoeuvres unperturbed by live ammunition bursting round them.

Their physique was excellent and they lost no time mastering all the devices of unarmed combat. The course of training was tough, but the Fijians were tougher, and they cheerfully survived many an exhausting trek over the worst terrain these rocky, forest-clad islands can provide.

The second quality which gave the Fijian recruit the hallmark of the fine soldier was his sense of discipline. From birth he had been taught to respect his Chiefs and obey the reasonable orders of his seniors in the village community; and he readily adapted himself to the severe routine of army life.

But all the instructors are agreed that the Fijian's outstanding quality was his unbounded zest for soldiering. From the hour of enlistment his one desire was to learn how to fight and to learn so thoroughly that the opportunity to practice his skill in actual combat could not be long denied him.

Even before he was allowed to use ammunition he was completely absorbed in his rifle and would spend hours practising the modest preliminary art of holding and aiming. By way of relaxation he joined with his comrades in devising mekes (or ceremonial dances) in which the rifle was the chief stage property and which gaily dramatised the successes to be achieved in future engagements with the enemy. It is scarcely surprising that in the end this enthusiast became (as many a Japanese on Guadalcanal had the misfortune to discover) a formidable marksman.

These Fijians were hand-picked men, selected from many volunteers for the honour of representing their various villages, and were the pride and envy of other islanders. Their enormous prestige sometimes hampered training, for wherever they appeared they were welcomed and feted as heroes. This popularity was a source of acute embarrassment during periods when the Commandos were out "on a stunt" with strict orders to "live on the country" and eat only wild food. The villagers would try to load them as usual with produce from their gardens and the officer in charge would find it difficult to explain that for once this generosity was entirely misplaced.

THE Fijian has made a tremendous hit with his American ally. In the transport on their way to the Solomons the Commandos kept the crew and their fellow-passengers entertained with native songs to the accompaniment of the guitar. From the moment they landed

on the beach at Guadalcanal they struck up a firm friendship with the Marines, hundreds of whom crowded round to welcome them as the first British Colonial reinforcements.

Provision had been made in the training curriculum for lectures to the Fijians on the origins of the war and the cause for which they would be fighting. But no such education was necessary. The Fijians knew the Japanese was on his way south and they wanted to turn him back before he could reach their own islands.

After they had observed him at close quarters on Guadalcanal they grew to loathe him for the bestial manner in which he lived and fought. They saw Japanese encampments which presented spectacles of appalling squalor, with un-

buried corpses left to rot beside tents still occupied by living soldiers. They were filled with indignation and incredulity that this unclean and degenerate creature should dream of becoming master of the world.

The Fijian is a devout Christian. When the Commandos were not on Sunday patrols they could be seen in Guadalcanal's little thatched churches joining in worship with their comrades of the Solomons Scouts. Those who decry Britain's Colonial record might ponder this picture of the former cannibal and the former head-hunter kneeling together to give thanks for a new way of life which they, in common with millions of their fellows throughout the Empire, have found worth fighting and worth dying for.

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MYSTERY EPIDEMIC IN MANGAIA

From Our Own Correspondent

MANGAIA, CI, November.
THE ancient custom of "fumigating" ships' passengers as they come ashore at Mangaia, by making them walk through smoke from a "kikau" fire, is being discussed locally with a view to reintroduction should a wartime epidemic hit the outside world as it did in 1918.

Recently, after a schooner had called, a mysterious epidemic of vomiting dysentery went the rounds of the island—children being particularly affected. All infants attacked by the complaint died. The disease was unique in that starvation worked a cure, while patients, who were "fed to keep their strength up," quickly got beyond all aid. Sad experience has taught the island that nourishment is

sometimes fatal. While the epidemic was at its height, all schools were closed for two weeks.

It is significant that with the coming of rain and southerly winds the epidemic abated; but the "Sunday silence" that hung over the place, and the entire absence of movement, recalled to the older people, the epidemics of 1918 and 1928, when influenza took severe toll.

PROFITEERING IN FIJI

AN Indian wholesale storekeeper, P. J. Patel, was sentenced to six months' imprisonment and fined £400, on January 7, on a charge of having sold textile piecegoods at excessive prices, the excess profit being £78.

Tulsi Shai, for a similar offence, was sent to gaol for three months and fined £300. The excess profit in this case was £1404.

COST OF A RUBBER ESTATE

THE following extract from the "PIM" of August, 1941, may be of interest to many who have already expressed a determination to return to New Guinea after the war and "start a rubber plantation." In making any calculations it would be as well to remember the comparative prices of goods as they probably will be in the post-war period, as against those that prevailed in the seven years prior to 1941.

HOW much does it cost to bring a rubber plantation to the productive stage, in New Guinea and Papua? Some estimates go to £50 and £60 per acre.

As the question often is asked, we have taken the liberty of extracting some figures from the annual report and balance sheet of Mororo Rubber Estates, Ltd., a small Papuan concern of which Mr. G. A. Loudon is chairman.

The estate comprises 579 acres of leasehold, held on 99 years' lease; and 330 acres have been planted with rubber trees, and are densely cover-cropped with Centrosema. A nursery has been established, containing 10,000 plants. There are suitable buildings and roads. Details of costs up to date are as follow:

The Company's prospectus provided for estimates as under:—

(1) Felling, planting and covercropping, £6 per acre.
 (2) Weeding and maintenance, £1/10/- per acre.

(3) Seven years to bring to production at total cost of £25 per acre.

The Co. now has arrived at the stage where it has expended £3,765 on 330 acres, equal to £11/2/9 per acre.

How much money must it yet find to bring the 330 acres into production? Here is the calculation:—

130 acres planted 1938/9 by Vendor will require 4 years' weeding and maintenance at 30/- acre	780
100 acres planted in April, 1940, will require 6 years' weeding and maintenance at 30/- acre	900
100 acres planted in April, 1941, will require 7 years' weeding and maintenance at 30/- acre	1,050
	2,730

Plant, tools and sundries to bring to production 195

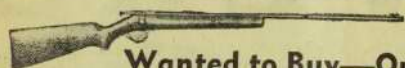
Total of money still to be spent .. 2,925
 Already expended as per Balance Sheet at April, 1941 3,675

Total to bring plantation to production 6,600

Which is equal to cost of £20 per acre.

Mr. R. C. Savage, who has been wireless officer on Mangaia, Cook Islands, since 1932, left recently, accompanied by his wife and family, to take up new duties as Resident Agent at Puka Puka in the Northern Cooks. He is the son of the late Mr. Stephen Savage, who was well-known as a Government official in Rarotonga.

Three sons of Mr. C. S. Gilfillan, formerly manager of the Qaranagio rubber estates in Fiji, and now of New Zealand, are serving with the NZEF. All three of the boys were born in Fiji, and one of them, Pte. W. M. Gilfillan, was one of the first five to land on Mono Island, Treasury Group, BSI.



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PAPUA IN 1888

Louiades Gold—And the First Execution

Letter to the Editor

MR. D. H. OSBORNE has expressed some doubt as to the year in which gold was found at Sudest Island. In my previous letter I stated the fact that gold had been first found there by a Government party in 1886. This is correct. The prospecting party who opened up the field were sent there by the Governor (Hon. John Douglas) who remained in New Guinea only during the latter part of 1886—so there is no doubt about the year.

In 1888, after Sir William MacGregor ("Dr." in those days) took over the Administration of British New Guinea, he visited Sudest and, while there, some of the miners came on board and stated that the gold was being worked out in Sudest. The Governor at once offered to take a party of 12 miners round the other likely islands. This was agreed to at once, and within a day or two we sailed with the miners on board.

We visited Rossel, and found nothing. Next we visited Misima, and we found gold there. Then on to the Woodlarks, where the miners were very well satisfied with their find, and decided to return there after replenishing stores.

We called at Goodenough, Ferguson, and Normanby Islands, but found no trace of gold. Then we sailed for Samarai.

On standing over for the mainland, we sighted a wreck on the east point of Cheddo Bay. We went ashore to investigate, and saw there had been foul play. We then landed on the beach, but no natives were to be found, although we could hear them talking in the bush. We got under way and stood out to sea; but we returned at midnight, anchoring with a kedge anchor, to avoid making any noise.

We lowered the boats and made for the shore. Unfortunately, as we were rowing, an oar struck a dugong which was feeding in the shallow water. This caused a great disturbance in the water, as there must have been dozens of the creatures there. The result was that the watchers on the beach were aroused. They rushed to the village, about a quarter of a mile inland. We found no one in the village.

But, just at daybreak, two women were captured and, later, they gave us a full account of all that had happened, and named everyone implicated in the crime. During the day we broke up into three parties. The miners were told off to go west. Unfortunately, a village was set

on fire in that direction, which meant the departure of the miners next morning for Samarai. That meant that the work had to be done by the Government party.

And it was done. We spent between two and three months over the job, but every one of the culprits was brought to trial. We were so long out of touch with Queensland that the Queensland Government sent the small steamer "Albatross" to search for us; and just as we were finishing up our work she found us in Milne Bay, where we had gone to secure the last two men wanted.

When we arrived at Samarai there was no place to keep the prisoners, so the Governor decided to cut down the coconut trees in the village, which was then situated on the south-west point of the island. A compound was soon erected and the prisoners safely housed. They were brought before Judge Winter and tried; four were sentenced to death, and the others to terms of imprisonment.

The four who were sentenced to death were taken to Cheddo Bay and hanged in the presence of all the natives that could be got together. They were the first natives to be executed in New Guinea (January, 1889).

During the whole of this tour (between five and six months) we had, as guest of the Governor, Captain Baden Powell, younger brother of Lord Baden Powell. At that time he was inventing a balloon—which, I believe, is the type of defence

balloon used round the coasts of Britain to-day.

Mr. Osborne, in his last letter, said Mr. M. Martin was Private Secretary to Sir William MacGregor, while he was Governor of Queensland. So far as I know, he never held that position in Brisbane.

I am, etc.,

T. L. CRAIG.

Scotts Point,
Moreton Bay, Q.

The South Sea Evangelical Mission, which operates in the Solomon Islands, was registered as a corporation on December 22, and the letters "Limited" are now added to its name.

Three lads from Moresby, aged 15, have passed the junior examination set by the University of Queensland, equivalent to the Intermediate of NSW. They are: Ian Chester, Ken Baldwin, and Gilbert Rogerson, all sons of well-known residents. Ian Chester is a grandson of the late Mr. H. M. Chester, and of Mr. J. G. Fowler. Ken Baldwin is a grandson of the late Mr. C. R. Baldwin, and the late Mr. J. Graham-slave. All are well-known names in Moresby. These lads were born in Port Moresby, and started school together, and they have kept pace with each other right through the various grades. They are continuing their education to the Senior standard.

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DEATH OF MR. NELSON

(Continued from Page 10)

Minister called Nosworthy to Samoa to settle the troubles there. The Samoans made elaborate preparations to meet him and discuss their grievances. Mr. Nosworthy delayed his visit for eight months. Then he spent his time in Samoa mostly at pleasant Vailima (the official residence) and did not meet the Samoans until a few hours before his departure; and then his manner was harsh and over-bearing, and he achieved nothing.

THE Samoan position deteriorated steadily. The heavy-booted, uncompromising Richardson finally took action against the Europeans who were helping the Mau, and O. F. Nelson, A. G.

Smythe (a well-known merchant) and Judge Gurr (an American, with Eastern Samoan connections) were banished from the Territory for terms of years, without trial.

Mr. Nelson settled down in Auckland, and threw himself heart and soul into the fight of the Samoans against the high-handed authority of New Zealand. He maintained close contact with the Mau, and he published in New Zealand a newspaper which carried on very vigorous propaganda. He spent his own money very freely for the cause he had espoused. The period of his banishment (1928-33) corresponded with the depression, in which his firm, like all others, suffered greatly. There was a time when it was rumoured that O. F. Nelson & Co., Ltd.,

being without the directive hand of its chief, being under a sort of official ban, and suffering from the depression, was "going out"; but it weathered the storm, although its operations were considerably curtailed.

The Mau, led by Nelson and certain devoted Samoan chiefs, became more aggressive and noisy, the more officialdom tried to suppress it. A chain of events led inevitably from the visit of the grim prohibitionist, James Allen, in 1920, to the riot of December 28, 1929, in which a European policeman and eleven Samoans were killed. After that, New Zealand used sterner measures. A war-ship, early in 1929, landed parties which chased members of the Mau all over the central mountains of Upolu.

OFFICIALLY, the Mau was dispersed. Actually, it remained actively in existence, and welcomed Nelson eagerly when, in 1933, he returned from his five years' banishment. By this time, a more reasonable man, Sir Herbert Hart, had come in as Administrator, after the disastrous regime of Richardson and Allen; and Hart got far along the road to a conference and settlement with the Mau. But a deadlock occurred when the Mau, quite properly, insisted that Mr. Nelson be one of its delegates. Stiff-necked Wellington, still trying to rule Samoa on the do-as-you're-told-you-naughty-child principle, would not accept Nelson.

By now, the patience of Mr. Nelson and the Mau leaders had worn thin, and they acted foolishly and unwisely. They did things which, in a subsequent trial, officialdom was able to construe as sedition and plotting against the administration. Several leaders were punished. An over-zealous Court sentenced Nelson to eight months' gaol, and ten years' banishment. Nelson was taken to New Zealand, under humiliating conditions; but an Appeal Court there promptly quashed the sentence of imprisonment. That sentence was an ugly episode; but only in line with New Zealand's black record in Samoa.

The banishment lasted only eighteen months. One of the first acts of the new Labour Government in New Zealand, in 1936, was to cancel the decree, and send Mr. Nelson and his family back to Samoa, at the State's expense, with full honours. The Samoan administrative system was completely revised, so as to give the Samoans a much larger share in local government; and Mr. Nelson's voice carried much weight in administrative affairs.

THUS did the most famous Euro-nesian of the South Pacific finally see success crown his 15 years of bitter fighting. But by now his health had failed; and, after 1936, he took less and less part in public affairs. He had many official enemies—but few personal foes. Everyone liked the big, kindly, hospitable "Fred"—his friends, among both Europeans and Samoans, were countless. He had some very human faults; but he was an outstanding, able man, and if only the New Zealand Government had had the wit to enlist his aid in the beginning, instead of ignoring and insulting him, one of the blackest chapters in Samoa's chequered history need not have been written.

As it is, the name of Nelson always will be remembered in the Samoan Nationalist Movement—especially if, as now seems possible, the revision of the League Mandate system should give Samoa some definite measure of self-government.

Mr. Nelson had a large family—mostly girls. All are well-known and popular, and some have attained distinction in the professions.

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THE WAR AGAINST MOSQUITOES

New Ways of Dealing With Man's Deadliest Enemy

THE United States Office of War Information has announced a war-time development of an aerosol, or fine-fog method, of spreading insecticides that is disastrous to certain insect pests—notably mosquitoes.

This method is said to be far more effective, convenient and economical than the old-time spray and promises great things. The development consists mainly of an insecticide material mixed with an activator and dissolved in a highly volatile solvent which propels and atomizes the insecticide into a fog—and all compressed into a chamber that keeps the mixture under high pressure ready for instant use.

The solvent evaporates almost instantly, leaving the infinitesimal particles of the insecticide suspended in the air as an aerosol. More than a million containers, or "bombs," of improved design, filled with this mixture, are on their way, or already in use, on the fighting fronts of Africa, the North Pacific and elsewhere, to protect Allied troops against the irritations and dangers of mosquitoes, flies and other pests.

Malaria Control in Guadalcanal

ANTI-MALARIAL measures which have recently been adopted by the United States authorities in the South Pacific have reduced the malarial rate among troops there from 212 per thousand to 21 per thousand, it is officially stated.

The troops are issued with a skin lotion called indalone, which gives protection against mosquito bites for three or four hours after application. A liquid known as freon, commonly used in mechanical refrigerators, is used to spray dug-outs and tents; and on Guadalcanal a battery of anti-mosquito oil-spraying guns, mounted on jeeps, is in action—every pool within the area under military control being sprayed once a week.

—*"Crown Colonist,"* August, 1943.

Anti-mosquito Ointment

IT is reported that Australian scientists have developed a new repellent for mosquitoes, in the form of an ointment, which is superior to anything hitherto used in that it remains effective for at least 12 hours after application—sufficient for the longest tropical night.

Medical and military authorities are said to be enthusiastic about this new preparation which, if it is as effective as claimed in preventing attacks by the malaria-carrying *Anopheles*, will reduce sickness casualties among troops in tropical areas to at least 50 per cent.

—*"Crown Colonist,"* April, 1943.

The Royal Society of NSW has bestowed the Clarke Memorial Medal—awarded for outstanding contributions to science—on Dr. W. L. Waterhouse, Reader in agriculture and lecturer in plant pathology at the Sydney University. Dr. Waterhouse was in Fiji between 1909 and 1911 as headmaster and agricultural instructor of the Davuilevu Methodist Boys' School. He served in World War I and won the MC. He is a member of the Waterhouse family that is famous in the

South Pacific for its outstanding contributions to life in that area.

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FATHER ROUGIER**Interesting Fiji Memories of
40 Years Ago**

FATHER ROUGIER, formerly a missionary in Fiji, died in Tahiti several years ago, after a very successful business career. He owned plantations and traded in certain of the Line Islands. He was reputed to be very rich. He gave away large sums to the church, and to charity, and he was held in very high regard in Tahiti. He left his property and his business to his nephew.

In the following article, H. W. Garnett tells the interesting story of Father Rougier's early life in Fiji.

FATHER Rougier was in charge of the Catholic Mission at Naillili, on the Rewa River, in the early 1900's.

He was an outstanding type of man in those days, with his long, reddish beard and forceful nature. He had the welfare of the Mission very much at heart and his zeal for acquiring converts to the Catholic faith very nearly ended in a nice little tribal war.

It appears that the Chief of Namosi, with some 2,000 of his followers, wished to forsake the Wesleyan Church for the

Catholic, and Father Rougier proceeded to the Namosi district, where the baptism ceremony was to take place. After the ceremony, he pointed out that the natives should surrender all the Wesleyan Bibles, which he would replace with Catholic ones. These books were duly passed in; and some of them were in such a torn and dilapidated condition that he decided to have a bonfire on his return to Naillili.

As he was poling his punt home, past the Wesleyan stronghold, his feelings overcame his sense of tact, and he derisively scattered pages from the torn Wesleyan Bibles along the banks of the river. On his return to Naillili, he burned the old, torn books, along with other worn-out church gear, and he had a good fire. These acts of scorn, as the Wesleyan Missionaries saw them, caused a good deal of ill-feeling, and representations were made to the Governor, who publicly reprimanded Father Rougier. An explanation and apology were sent to the Wesleyan Mission.

A LASTING monument to the memory of Father Rougier is the picturesque church standing on the bank of the Rewa River, at Naillili, to-day. This



Father Rougier.

church took nearly four years to build, and is constructed entirely of limestone.

Each day, the Mission sisters, with their youthful charges, poled out to the reefs, and returned with their punts laden with coral, which was pounded, burnt and used for the erection of the church.

The man who had much to do with the construction of the church—he might even have been the architect—was a Frenchman named Cecile, and his history is a strange one.

During one of Father Rougier's periodical visits to Levuka, he came across this countryman of his, and when he returned to Naillili he took Cecile with him. Rumour has it that Cecile came of a noble and wealthy French family, and had been deported for life to New Caledonia for some political offence, but he had escaped from that island.

Whatever mystery obscured the origin of Monsieur Cecile, there is no doubt that his association with Father Rougier was colourful and greatly influenced that shrewd old gentleman's later life.

The story current on the Rewa, in those early days, was that after Cecile had been at Naillili for some years, a letter came for him, from France, inform-

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Blemishes such as these make you look and feel embarrassed, unattractive and handicapped in life, both socially and in business. You can't get rid of these disfigurements with ordinary treatments, which give only temporary relief, because they do not kill the germs or parasites responsible for your trouble.

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Dr. T. A. Ellis, well-known physician of Toronto, Canada, recently stated: "Skin disorders caused by parasites, as many are, yield to Nixoderm. These parasites are invisible to the naked eye. They eat away the skin, forming ugly eruptions. Ordinary ointments or remedies fail completely, or give only temporary results because they do not reach the cause of the condition. It is this value about Nixoderm in attacking parasites which impresses me most favorably, and explains in large measure the success it enjoys over many stubborn cases."

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ing him that he was heir to a large sum of money. Father Rougier opened this letter and, for some time, kept the contents to himself. However, Cecile had become attracted to a young Fijian girl, and he eventually married her. Father Rougier then told him about the money waiting for him in France, and he persuaded Cecile to give him full authority to collect the money on his behalf. Shortly afterwards, he left Fiji for France, accompanied by the young wife of Cecile, through whom perhaps he hoped to secure control of the fortune.

Father Rougier's departure from Fiji was not made known to the Bishop in Suva. When the latter heard of it, and the circumstances surrounding this secretive departure, he immediately suspended Father Rougier from exercising his privileges as a priest; and this suspension, I believe, was in force for some years.

AFTER some time, the young wife returned to Fiji alone. Father Rougier, now in possession of the fortune, entered the business world. He purchased Fanning and Christmas Islands and, many years later, sold them at a very handsome profit. So far as is known, Father Rougier did not again visit Fiji.

A stipulation that Cecile made when giving Father Rougier full power to collect the money, was that provision was to be made for his wife. Cecile himself died soon after her return from France, and she was left to fend for herself. Later, she married a Fijian and, by him, she had several children; and it is to these children that she now looks for the care and comfort which Cecile intended she should gain from the mysterious fortune.

It is said that one reason for the eagerness of Father Rougier to obtain control of that money was his wish to restore his parents to their former grand estate, as for some time they had suffered financial misfortunes. At any rate, as soon as he got the money he patched up the family estates.

Money was an important factor in Father Rougier's later life, and he certainly displayed financial genius. I have heard that he expended a good deal of his fortune on helping those in need, in outlying islands of the Pacific, and he won many friends throughout the Islands.

No doubt there are many residents of Fiji to-day who will remember Father Rougier and it would be interesting to read of their memories of this interesting and fiery character.

GUARANTEED PRICES FOR FIJI PRODUCTS

A GUARANTEED price for certain vegetable products has been in operation in Fiji since late in 1941 and has worked very satisfactorily.

"Guaranteed" prices are in no way "fixed prices" and producers are free to sell their products where they wish and at any price they can get (provided that price complies with the published legal maximum price where such has been imposed). The guaranteed price is to secure the grower against loss by sudden contraction of demand and to stimulate regular production for military needs. In most cases the ruling market prices are half as high again as the guaranteed price.

In December, 1941, the following guarantees were offered: dalo, £5 per ton; kumalas, £4.10 per ton—both commodities delivered at Suva, Nausori, Korovou or

Sigatoka. Yams were guaranteed at £8 per ton at Suva; and £7 per ton at Nausori, Korovou and Sigatoka.

In September, 1942, guaranteed prices for yams, dalo and kumalas were raised to £9, £6, and £6 respectively at Suva, Nausori and Sigatoka. Guarantees have since been issued for the purchase of maize at £1 per four-bushel bag, naked, at Dobuilevu, Ra and Labasa, but only in respect of contracts with individual growers.

The Fiji Supply Board has now authorised a guaranteed price to rice growers. Padi will be purchased at £15 per ton, delivered in bags to any mill in Viti Levu. This guarantee will be effective until December 31, 1944.

Mr. Jack Salzmann, of the New Guinea Anglican Mission, has been transferred to Menapi, Papua, to take charge of the station during the absence of the Rev. F. H. T. Lane, who is at present in the south on furlough. Just before leaving his former station at Wanigela, Mr. Salzmann saw a volcanic eruption close inland. During the eruption smoke and debris were hurled up many thousands of feet.

Mr. J. D. ("Bilo") Williams, of Levuka, Fiji, died in the Colonial War Memorial Hospital in Suva, on January 27, at the age of 59. He was an employee of Morris Hedstrom Limited, at Levuka. He is survived by a wife and a grown-up family.

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The Rev. Oliver Brady, principal of St. Aidan's College (Anglican Mission), arrived from New Guinea at the end of January, on furlough. The college is now in charge of the Rev. Hugh Andrew.

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FIJI GOVERNMENT APPOINTMENTS

THE following Government appointments were gazetted in Fiji during the week ending February 20: Miss C. Barlass and Miss A. M. Walton, as Public Health Nurses; Miss J. S. Carson and Miss G. I. Pettit, as Sisters in the Fiji Nursing Service; and Miss C. H. Wadmore as a dietitian.

Miss K. D. Peake to be Sister-in-Charge at Labasa Hospital.

Miss Dorothy Forster to be Matron of the Boys' Grammar School Hostel, and Mrs. Beryl Smith to be Matron of the Girls' Grammar School Hostel.

Mrs. J. S. Manning, who has been supervisor of the correspondence classes, has been appointed a temporary relieving teacher at the Suva Grammar School. Mr. S. R. Daniels and Superintendent G. G. Kermod have been granted leave prior to retirement.

Mr. Thomas Smith, of Levuka, Fiji, died suddenly in Levuka Hospital, at the age of 35, on January 23. He leaves a wife and three young children.

BATTLE OF MAROVO LAGOON

Oddest Naval Engagement Ever Fought

THIS is a story of how Major D. G. Kennedy, of the Solomons Defence Force, fought—and won—the Battle of Marovo Lagoon. Major Kennedy, it will be remembered, was a District Officer in the Solomons before the war and between the Japanese invasion of that area and the landing of the Americans, he waged a private amphibious war with 32 native riflemen, captured Jap equipment and a 10-ton schooner.

Just before the Americans landed on New Georgia, Kennedy was in command of a small outpost at the southern end of that island, and he had orders to hang on till a US Marine force landed. The Japs had a strong force established at Wickham Anchorage on an island between Kennedy's outpost and the nearest Allied base—in the Russells. There was nothing much Kennedy could do about the Japs at Wickham Anchorage, but he could deal with the Jap patrols that ventured into Marovo Lagoon.

One such patrol was sighted one day, island-hopping through the palm studded islets in the lagoon, so Major Kennedy loaded 12 of his men into his schooner "Dadavata," and set off. After some preliminaries, the Japs appeared to be taking up defensive positions on one islet and Kennedy prepared to land; but the Japs apparently thought better of it and loaded machine-guns and equipment into their whale-boat and tried to depart.

The rest of the story is told by Harold Cooper, of the Suva Information office:—

KENNEDY with his men aboard the schooner edged out into the lagoon.

There was a fairly bright moon and he could see the dark hull of the whale-boat moving south, about a mile and a quarter away. Kennedy headed towards his prey with his Browning ready for action. The Japs at first rowed frantically in the opposite direction, but when they saw they were being overtaken they turned about and made straight for the schooner, obviously determined to fight it out.

Kennedy got in the opening burst with his Browning at 500 yards. The Japs returned his fire and machine-gun bullets spattered along the side of the "Dadavata."

One of them hit Kennedy in the leg, but he kept blazing away with his Browning until, after he had fired three and a half drums, it jammed. By this time the Jap machine-guns were silent and Kennedy (who later owned that by this time he was "damned annoyed") turned to the bosun of the "Dadavata" and gave this Nelsonian order: "Full speed ahead. We're going to ram them."

THE schooner went bouncing through the water at a majestic seven knots, while the Japs in the whale-boat, their oars long discarded and most of their number already killed or wounded, disputed the issue only with feeble and sporadic fire from Tommy guns.

As the "Dadavata's" bows made lurching contact with the doomed whale-boat, native riflemen crouching on the deck tossed a shower of hand-grenades among the helpless Japanese. A few seconds later the Battle of Marovo Lagoon was over.

As the "Dadavata" put about to survey the results of her first taste of naval warfare ten Jap corpses could be seen bobbing forlornly in the water beside the capsized whale-boat. The bodies were brought

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ashore that night for burial and next morning Kennedy's men, diving to the bottom of the shallow lagoon, recovered the bulk of the Japanese equipment, which they were later to use with good effect in other brushes with the enemy.

At Wickham Anchorage, the Japanese Commander waited in vain for the return of his patrol, and doubtless drew the conclusion that the strength of the Allied forces in southern New Georgia had not been under-estimated by the official intelligence reports. Kennedy's outpost remained unreduced, and when the Marines began their campaign in New Georgia he was able to welcome them at their only undisputed beach-head.

THE "Dadavata" is now back on duty as a humble inter-island ferry craft, but on her sides she still bears scars which serve to remind her passengers that once, for a few heroic minutes, she could claim to be counted among His Majesty's men-of-war. As for the Battle of Marovo Lagoon—that deserves a little niche of its own in the history of amphibious warfare, not only because it culminated in one of the oddest naval actions ever fought, but because, trivial as were the numbers involved, its result probably had a significant effect on the development of the American campaign in New Georgia.

TAHITI PLANTER RETURNS

Mr. F. Hanak's Four Years' Service

AFTER four years' war service in Europe, Mr. F. Hanak, a Czechoslovakian, was recently in Auckland, NZ, on his way back to his coconut plantation in Tahiti.

Early in the war he heard a broadcast appeal made by Dr. Benes in London, calling upon all Czech patriots. Mr. Hanak immediately placed his plantation in charge of Chinese employees and left Tahiti in February, 1940.

He landed in France and joined an artillery unit of the Czechoslovak Army, which had been formed there. France collapsed after he had seen about three months' service, and, with a number of his fellow-countrymen, he made his way to the south coast of France. From there the party was taken by two small British cargo steamers to Gibraltar and they were later transferred to England.

Rejoining the Czechoslovak Army in England, Mr. Hanak was then transferred to the Czechoslovakian Ministry of National Defence.

Now discharged on medical grounds, he is on his way back to Tahiti, accompanied by his wife, a Czechoslovakian girl whom he married in London.

Musically-minded Mangaiaans Are Bereft

From Our Own Correspondent

WHEN Dr. John Numa left Mangaia some time ago, he took with him the island's only piano. No one had ever heard a piano here, until the advent of this one, and it is not likely that another one will ever appear. Pianos do not thrive on Mangaia's damp climate.

The old harmonium presented by Parliament to the island about 1924, is still in a corner of the Court House; but it is unlikely that that will ever be played again either, owing to the combined ravages of insects and weather.

Most of our nocturnal melodies of late, have been provided by the village dogs, which at the Resident Agent's orders, are now chained up at night. The animals loudly resent this curtailment of their liberty, and most village dog-owners, it is feared, do not provide sufficient length of rope for this tethering.

Sister D. Tomkins, of the Anglican Mission, who has been giving temporary service in Australia, will shortly return to New Guinea.

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ARMY PICNIC

NZ Garrison On Norfolk Is.

DESCENDANTS of Fletcher Christian and his companions in the historic mutiny on the "Bounty" in the South Seas, more than a century and a-half ago, are hosts to New Zealanders on garrison duty in Norfolk Island. From the first landing to the last farewell, many a soldier will remember that dot in the Pacific, 800 miles east of Australia, for the whole-hearted and sincere welcome of its people. If the Norfolk Island interlude teaches us nothing else, it will have been a practical lesson in hospitality.

Boats going ashore were met with the islanders' cheerful "What-a-way you" (a greeting meaning "How are you?") and offers of fruit. Many tasted the Norfolk orange during his first few minutes on land. The welcome stays and the sojourn is characterised by an open door to nearly every island home.

Embarrassment is felt by some—for in return for home-cooked meals of supreme quality and gifts of bananas, oranges, grapefruit, passionfruit, persimmons and

guavas, the soldier has little to offer but his appreciative thanks.

To an island depleted by evacuees to Australia, the garrison brought new life. Entertainments there were none and the dances held on occasions are as much an event for the New Zealander as for the islander. Invariably, now, every dance is an "excuse me," as the normal attendance of 200 comprises usually no more than 25 women. If a couple moves half-way round the floor without being separated it is an accomplishment.

However, it was not long before concerts were produced by Army personnel for the entertainment of the troops. Personal invitations from troops are permitted to serve the purpose of returning to the islanders their many kindnesses, and to every concert our invitations are widely accepted.

It is difficult to imagine a Saturday night in Norfolk, when everyone turns out to an Army production, unless you have seen it. A paddock sloping gently down to an open-air stage is the amphitheatre. Crowds that would gladden a fight promoter's heart flock in, in whatever transport is available.

Our brass band is always the centre of attraction. Once an Army picnic, which included a trip round the island, was organised for the school children.

THE flagpole on the top of Mount Pitt is intimately connected with the lives of every Norfolk Islander. First thing in the morning he glances to the top of the mountain, two or three times during the day and again as dusk falls. For a flag at the masthead means a ship in sight. It also means much more. Possibly no ship has anchored off Norfolk for weeks. It means fresh supplies, mails, friends and relatives, visitors perhaps, news, a sign that the island after all has some contact with the outside world. Not infrequently, supply ships from Australia are three and four months apart.

Residents gather on the shore when the boat anchors and tough, wiry men man the whaleboats which carry the passengers and supplies ashore. The descendants of the Pitcairners know every mood of the waves and how to defy them. See them at the helm, and you know you are safe in the roughest of seas.

The flagpole holds the same significance for the New Zealander, for a flag at its head means possibly a ship from the south with rations and mail.

After the ship has unloaded the island returns to its normal solitude.

One result of the occupation has been a growth of tearooms, to provide a genuine demand. Four operated in a very short time.

Unaccustomed to entering shops, to be met with negative answers at almost every request, we required a little time to absorb the fact that infrequent shipments and strict rationing for a small community could not cope with demands such as are often made on the four or five storekeepers, some of whom are in business in a very small way only. Consequently, the soldier's money goes home; it is of little use to him.

A DREAMY place—Norfolk; its life unhurried, its people unlike any on earth. A mixture of Tahitian and English, the islanders talk a language all their own in their homes, a quaint mingling of two tongues with a touch of West County about it. They nevertheless speak good English.

After our experience in other islands of the Pacific and certain countries of the Middle East, where the inhabitants make the best of an Army's presence, their gifts of fruit and other gestures are unusual and indicative of the very real generosity of friendship and hospitality offered.

Occupation of Norfolk by the Pitcairners dates back to 1856, when Pitcairn Island was evacuated owing to famine and drought. Eight family names—Buffett, Christian, Quintal, McCoy, Nobbs, Adams, Fletcher and Young—were held by the 194 persons who landed to establish their home on Norfolk. A few years later 46 forsook the superior facilities and opportunities offered and returned to Pitcairn, but the remainder stayed to build up to-day's community, in which the names mentioned figure prominently.

We shall remember the tall pines, pin-pointed against the sky, as the transport approached; the grim prison ruins at Kingston; and the smiling children double-banked astride a horse on their way to school. We'll not forget the delicate-tasting Norfolk dishes, of which sour cream on fried fish was typical. Above all, we'll remember the islanders—a grand people!—W.M.E.

Lieut.-Col. J. B. K. Taylor, Commander of the Fiji Battalion serving overseas, who was wounded by a Japanese bomb on Bougainville, was still in hospital at the end of February, but was reported to be greatly improved.

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HONOUR ROLL

(Continued from Inside Back Cover)

Lieut. A. THOMPSON, of the Fiji Military Forces. Reported wounded in action, December, 1943.

Lieut. P. A. TUCKEY, infantry, formerly of New Guinea. Wounded in action.

Pte. Harold G. TURNER, AIF, of Samarai, Eastern Papua. Wounded in action at Bardia (Libya), January, 1941.

Pte. F. D. TWISS, AIF, infantry, of New Guinea. Wounded in action, August, 1941.

Camille VINCENT, of the Free French Pacific contingent from New Caledonia. Reported a casualty in the Middle East, March, 1942.

Driver Don F. WAUCHOPE, AIF. Formerly employed on his brother's plantation in New Guinea. Wounded in action, July, 1942.

Lieut. F. R. G. WILSON, AIF, formerly of the Mandated Territory of New Guinea. Reported wounded in action, February, 1944.

Alex. WINCHESTER, of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Wounded at Bir Hacheim.

Pte. K. M. WHITE, AIF, formerly of Bulwa, TNG. Wounded in action.

Sgt-Pilot W. WRIGHT, of the Australian Spitfire Squadron, attached to the RAF, formerly of New Guinea. Wounded in knee during aerial "dog-fight" over the English Channel, March, 1942.

PRISONERS OF WAR

Pte. J. H. ALLAN, AIF, formerly of Wau, TNG. Formerly reported missing, now reported prisoner of war.

Gnr. N. H. AMOS, AIF, formerly of Port Moresby. Reported prisoner of war after Malayan campaign.

Lieut. CLARRIE ARCHER, NGVR. Believed prisoner of war in Japan. Reported prisoner of war in February, 1943, in prison camp on island south of Japan.

Cpl. Jock BAIRD, AIF, formerly of Bank of NSW staff, Suva, Fiji. Reported missing in Malaya, February, 1942. Reported prisoner of war, September, 1943.

ALEXANDRE BLACK, of Pacific Battalion of Fighting France. Reported killed in action at Bir Hacheim, now reported prisoner of war.

A/Cpl. Peter W. BOSGARD, AIF, infantry, formerly of the Lands Department, Port Moresby, Papua. Reported prisoner of war at Sulmona, Italy, 29/6/1941; transferred to Bolzano prison camp, September, 1941.

Cpl. J. E. BROAD, NZEF, formerly of Suva, Fiji. Reported prisoner of war.

Lieut. John BROWN, formerly of Fiji. Reported a prisoner of war in Italy.

Cpl. E. BOURKE, AIF, formerly of New Guinea. Prisoner of war in Germany.

Sgt. R. F. BUNTING, AIF, formerly of Samarai, Papua. Missing in Malaya. Now reported prisoner of war.

Andre CHITTY, of Pacific Battalion of Fighting France. Taken prisoner at battle of Bir Hacheim (Libya).

Sgt. Peter COGGINS, AIF, formerly of Fiji. Taken prisoner in Malaya, and now reported prisoner of war in Borneo camp.

A/Sgt. A. A. S. COTMAN, AIF, infantry, of Abau, Papua. Reported missing—believed prisoner of war, 5/5/1941; reported later, July, 1941, "wounded in chest and head by shrapnel—taken prisoner".

Cpl. W. F. CULLEN, AIF, formerly of Thursday Island. Reported prisoner of war.

John Arnold CROCKETT, AIF, formerly of Bulolo, TNG. Reported prisoner of war in Osaka, Japan, September, 1943.

Pte. J. DALTON, AIF, Transport and Supply, formerly of Thursday Island. Reported prisoner of war, April, 1942.

Dick ELMOUR, formerly of New Caledonia, prisoner of war after Dunkirk. Repatriated to France in January, 1942, because of health reasons.

Pte. W. G. ECKBLADE, AIF, formerly of Rabaul. Previously reported missing; now reported missing; believed prisoner of war.

Gnr. A. I. FOLEY, AIF, formerly of Papua. Reported missing in Malayan campaign. Reported prisoner of war in February, 1944.

Pilot-Officer George Belby EVANS, RAAF, son of Mr. and Mrs. Belby Evans, formerly of Buka Passage, TNG. Reported prisoner of war in Java.

Sgt. Robert GEMMELL-SMITH, RAF, formerly of CSR Co.'s staff, Fiji. Reported prisoner of war in Bengazi, Libya, in November, 1942.

W/O H. V. M. I. GORDON, AIF, formerly of Wau, TNG. Reported prisoner of war after Malayan campaign.

Pte. W. GOSSNER, AIF, infantry, formerly of the BNG Development Co., Port Moresby, Papua. Reported prisoner of war, Sulmona, Italy, 6/7/1941.

W/O I. A. N. GRAY, AIF, formerly of Rabaul, TNG. Reported prisoner of war.

Lieut. J. M. HARCOURT, 2nd NZEF, son of Mr. H. W. Harcourt, formerly Deputy Treasurer in Fiji. Reported "captured in Libya and now prisoner of war", March, 1942.

Squadron-Leader Godfrey HEMSWORTH, of the RAAF, formerly a well-known commercial pilot in Morobe, TNG. Reported missing after an operational flight against the Japanese in the New Guinea area and presumed killed in action. Reported prisoner of war in Japanese hands in October, 1943.

S. D. C. KERKHAM, NZEF, son of Mr. R. C. Kerkham, Suva, Fiji. Reported prisoner of war in September, 1942.

Lieut. JEFF KILNER, NGVR. Believed prisoner of war in Japan.

Gnr. A. L. B. KING, AIF, artillery, of Rabaul, TNG. Reported prisoner of war, 29/7/1941.

Lieut. G. G. KINNER, New Guinea Forces, formerly of Rabaul. Reported prisoner of war.

Major E. G. A. LETT, of the East Surrey Regiment, and son of Mr. Lewis Lett, of Port Moresby, Papua. Reported prisoner of war in Libya.

P/O J. LIETKE, RAAF, formerly of Labasa, Fiji. Reported prisoner of war in Germany, 1943.

A/Cpl. John H. LONERGAN, AIF, Supply and Transport, of New Guinea. Reported prisoner of war at Corinthia, Italy, 8/7/1941.

Pte. Ernest ("Paddy") McGEADY, NZEF, son of Mrs. J. McGeady, of Suva, Fiji. Reported "missing, believed killed", after fighting in Libya, January, 1942; reported prisoner of war in Italy, April, 1942.

Cpl. J. H. L. McGUIGAN, of the Field Ambulance, AIF, formerly of the Public Health Department, New Guinea. Officially reported missing at Singapore; unofficially reported a prisoner in Japanese hands. Reported prisoner of war in Malaya, May 24, 1943.

Observer Alex. McKAY, of the RAAF, formerly of the CSR Co.'s staff, at Penang sugar-mill, Fiji. Reported missing, 27/7/1941; reported

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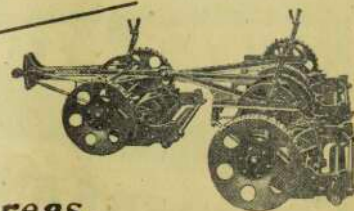
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prisoner of war in Italy, 26/10/1941.

Pte. Harry MARCHINGTON, of the NZ Forces, formerly of Fiji. Reported prisoner of war after Battle of Crete, 2/12/1941.

Pte. F. C. MAYO, AIF, formerly of New Guinea. Reported a prisoner of war. Emilie MILLOT, of Pacific Battalion of Fighting France. Taken prisoner in battle of Bir Hacheim (Libya).

Pte. G. S. O'BRYAN, NZEF, formerly of Rarotonga, Cook Is. Missing after battle of Crete; now reported prisoner of war in Germany.

Pte. D. R. PHILLIPS, AIF engineers, formerly of Bulwa, TNG. Reported prisoner of war, June, 1942.

A/Bdr. L. J. SMEETON, AIF, formerly of Rabaul, TNG. Reported prisoner of war in Malayan campaign.

Pte. John O. SMITH, of the NZ Forces, son of Captain Arthur Smith, of the Fiji Inter-Island vessel "Tui Kauvaru". Missing after battle of Crete, May, 1941; reported prisoner of war in Germany, 21/10/1941.

Squadron-Leader L. C. SHOPPEE, DSO, RAF, formerly of Edie Creek, New Guinea. Was in Java during Japanese invasion; now known to be a prisoner of war.

Gnr. D. M. SPENCE, AIF, formerly of Port Moresby. Reported prisoner of war after Malayan campaign.

LAC Charles SOLLITT, of the RAAP (wireless operator), son of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Sollitt, of Nausori, Fiji. Reported missing after air operations in New Guinea, January, 1942; later, March, 1942, reported rescued from sea by Japanese—now prisoner of war.

Pte. Fred SWAN, NZ Army Medical Corps, formerly of Apia, Western Samoa. Missing after Battle of Crete, August, 1941; reported prisoner of war in Germany, November, 1941.

Signalman J. C. E. SWINBOURNE, 6th Div. Signals, AIF, formerly of Fiji and the Gilbert & Ellice Islands Colony. Taken prisoner at Crete, June, 1941, now in prison camp at Stalag, VIIA, Germany.

Lieut. CLIFF WARREN, of NZEF, serving in the Middle East, and formerly of Morris Hedstrom Ltd.'s staff at Ba and Lautoka, Fiji. Reported prisoner of war.

Mjr. N. WATCH, formerly Dr. Watch, of Rabaul, missing after Japanese invasion of Rabaul. Believed prisoner of war in Japan. Now reported POW in Japan.

Gnr. D. S. WHITCOMBE, NZEF, formerly of Fiji and Tonga. Wounded in Crete and reported prisoner of war in Germany.

Pte. John D. WHITCOMBE, of the NZ Forces, formerly of Levuka, Fiji. Reported prisoner of war in Germany, November, 1941.

DECORATIONS

Squadron-Leader G. U. ("Scotty") ALLEN, RAAF, who is well-known in New Guinea and Papua, having been co-pilot on the "Faith in Australia", on the first official air-mail flight to the Territories in 1934. Awarded the Air Force Cross for his work with Catalina flying-boats in Australia and the Pacific.

Major H. T. ALLEN, AIF, formerly of Wau, Morobe District, TNG. Awarded the OBE.

Squadron-Leader C. A. BASKETT, formerly of Bulolo, TNG. Awarded Distinguished Flying Cross for raids over enemy territory while attached to Hampden bomber squadron in England.

— Victor BRIAL, Fighting French Pacific Battalion, formerly of New Caledonia. Awarded the Croix de Guerre and the Etoile d'Argent.

Major W. F. M. CLEMENTS, of the British Solomon Islands Defence Force. Awarded Military Cross for exceptional devotion to duty in a theatre of war.

Sgt. Henry C. S. COTTON, of the RNZAF, who was born in Samoa (his father was Secretary of Native Affairs during the NZ military occupation). Awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

FREDERIC DELAVEUVE, formerly of New Caledonia. Awarded Croix de Guerre, while serving with Fighting French volunteers in Egypt.

Flight-Lieut. R. N. DALKIN, RAAF, formerly of W. R. Carpenter and Co., Ltd., Salamaus, TNG. Awarded the DFC for bombing raids against the Japanese in Koepang area, DEI.

Squadron-Leader R. A. DUNN, RAAF, formerly of Carpenter Airways New Guinea Service. Awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for bravery while leading his squadron against the Japanese.

Chaplain N. J. EARL, AMF, formerly of Papua. Awarded MBE for bravery shown during early Papuan campaign.

Sgt. R. EMERY, NGVR, formerly of Lae. Awarded Military Medal for gallantry in New Guinea.

Flight-Lieut. Norman FADER, RAAF, formerly a commercial pilot in New Guinea. Awarded the Air Force Cross for exploits in Bismarck Sea Battle.

Rifleman H. W. FORRESTER, NGVR, formerly of Bulolo, TNG. Awarded the Military Medal for operations against Japanese in New Guinea.

Squadron-Leader C. R. GURNEY, RAAF, formerly of Guinea Airways, Ltd., TNG. Posthumously awarded the Air Force Cross, for bombing raids on Japanese-held ports in New Britain.

Major T. GRAHAMSLAW, AMF, formerly of Papua. Awarded OBE for conspicuous devotion to duty in the Buna area (Papua) during initial Japanese landings in the district.

Walter GRAND, Fighting French Pacific Battalion, formerly of Tahiti. Awarded Croix de Guerre, with one star, for bravery during the Battle of Bir Hacheim, 1942.

Squadron-Leader Godfrey HEMSWORTH, RAAF, formerly a well-known New Guinea pilot, who was killed in action against the Japanese in May. Posthumously awarded the Air Force Cross.

Capt. L. HENDERSON, AMF, formerly of Papua. Awarded MBE for courage displayed during the Oro Bay operations when he was in charge of small ships operating in those waters.

LUCIEN HERVOUET, formerly of New Caledonia. Awarded Croix de Guerre while serving with Fighting French volunteers in Egypt.

Lieut. Colin HILL, RANR, of the Australian destroyer, "Waterhen", formerly second officer on the trans-Pacific liner "Niagara". Awarded the OBE.

Lieut. Gordon HOWE, RANR, formerly an officer in Burns Philp ships. Awarded the US Legion of Merit for meritorious service in leading a reconnaissance party to Russell Islands, BSL.

Capt. H. T. KIENZLE, ANGAU, formerly of Papua. Awarded MBE for devotion to duty during the campaign in the Owen Stanley Ranges.

Wing-Commander C. J. N. LELAU, RAAF, formerly of Suva, Fiji. Awarded the OBE for distinguished service.

Sgt. T. McADAM, NGVR, formerly of New Guinea Forestry Dept. Awarded Military Medal for gallantry in New Guinea.

Lieut.-Commander A. W. R. McNICOLL, RAN, son of Sir Ramsay McNicoll, Administrator of

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New Guinea, and Lady McNicoll. Awarded the George Medal.

Petty-Officer PAUL MASON, RANVR, formerly a plantation inspector at Inua, Bougainville, TNG. Awarded American Distinguished Service Cross for "extraordinary heroism in action."

HENRI MAYER, formerly of New Caledonia. Awarded Croix de Guerre while serving with Fighting French volunteers in Egypt.

Flt.-Lieut. George B. (Golly) MEIDECKE, RAAF, formerly of W. Samoa. Awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Lieut.-Commander H. A. MACKENZIE, RAN, formerly of Rabaul, TNG. Awarded the US Legion of Merit for exceptionally meritorious services at Guadalcanal.

Capt. John Malcolm METHVEN, AIF. Mentioned in despatches for distinguished services during the siege of Tobruk. Since reported killed in action. (See section "Killed.")

Sgt. Geoffrey MOORE, of the RNZAF, formerly engineer on the NG inter-island vessel "Malwara" and on the trans-Pacific liner "Aorangi". Awarded the Distinguished Flying Medal.

ANDRE MORNAGHINI, formerly of New Caledonia. Awarded Croix de Guerre while serving with Fighting French volunteers in Egypt.

Flight-Lieut. G. B. MEIDECKE, RAAF, formerly of W. Samoa. Awarded the DFC for "courage, coolness and tenacity, and flying skill of the highest order."

Flight-Lieut. M. O'CONNOR, RAAF, formerly of Suva, Fiji. Awarded the DFC for a "high record of success on operations" in the Middle East.

Flight-Lieut. H. G. PILLING, RAF, formerly of Suva, Fiji. Awarded the DFC, May, 1942. (Killed a few days later.)

Pilot-Officer Pat RICHARDSON, RAF, son of Mr. W. Richardson, formerly of Penang, Fiji. Awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Commander Alford S. ROSENTHAL, RAN, son of Major-General Sir Charles Rosenthal, KCB, CMG, DSO, VD, Administrator of Norfolk Island. Awarded the DSO, November, 1941; awarded the Bar to DSO, February, 1942.

Capt. A. T. TIMPERLEY, AMF, formerly of Papua. Awarded MBE for work on Goodenough Island when he acted as a guide.

F/O Leigh G. VIAL, RAAF, formerly ADO in TNG. Awarded American DSC for outstanding heroism in New Guinea in September, 1942.

Squadron-Leader Charles WIDDY, RAAF, formerly of BSI. Awarded the US Legion of Merit for meritorious service in leading a reconnaissance party to Russell Islands, BSI.

Lieut. (then W/O) Raymond WATSON, AIF, formerly of TNG. Awarded MBE for bravery and devotion to duty during the Papuan campaign.

Lieut. G. K. WHITTAKER, NGVR, formerly of Lae, TNG. Awarded MBE for gallantry in New Guinea.

Lieut. George Raymond WORLEDGE, of the RANVR, formerly of Fiji. Awarded the MBE (Military).

MENTIONED IN DESPATCHES

Captain A. H. Baldwin, Papua.

Captain N. B. N. Blood, TNG.

Warrant-Officer J. B. Davies, Papua.

Captain L. S. Dexter, Papua.

Warrant-Officer P. R. N. England, Papua.

Major S. Elliott-Smith, Papua.

Sergeant V. H. Gilchrist, TNG.

Warrant-Officer I. F. Jones, Papua.

Corporal M. Marlay, TNG.

Captain J. J. Murphy, TNG.

Captain N. Owers, Major D. G. Rice, Lieutenant J. I. Rae, Papua.

Lieutenant C. H. Smith, TNG.

Warrant-Officer R. A. Smith, Papua.

Captain L. N. Tribolet, TNG.

Lieutenant A. G. Vagg, TNG.

Captain G. H. Vernon, MC, Papua.

The Department of Agriculture in Fiji recently received an American order for 5,000 cuttings of ornamental trees. These cuttings will be used for landscaping the American cemetery at Guadalcanal, BSI.

Figures for the Patriotic Pete held in Fiji in October were not quite complete at the end of January. But it was expected that the total returns for the appeal would be between £45,000 and £46,000. A public meeting will be held in Suva during March, when matters connected with the disposal of the money will be discussed.

PTA MEETS

(Continued from Page 9)

COPRA PAYMENTS

We have made representations to the Department of External Territories and the Treasurer that portion of the assessed amount of War Damage Insurance on copra insured by the Copra Pool be made available to the owners, and we have now received advice that a decision may be expected at an early date.

MOBILE UNIT

We have found it impossible to obtain the attendance of a majority of the committee elected at the last quarterly meeting to investigate the proposals for the formation of a Mobile Unit for native welfare. This matter will again be brought up for direction.

PRODUCTION CONTROL BOARD

Efforts are still being made to have representatives of the producers appointed to the Board and, whilst the Minister expressed his agreement with the principle of such representation, at our delegation on December 2nd, 1943, to date we have not succeeded in overcoming the prejudice which appears to exist in other quarters to any representation of other than Government Departments, and from a communication, dated the 1st March, received from the Minister, it appears that the Government are not desirous of agreeing to such representation. Your Executive will, however, continue its efforts in this direction.

With regard to the prices paid by the

Board for produce from plantations, every effort is being made to obtain from the authorities all information as to the computing of the nett FOB plantation prices as compared with the market price by the Allied Nations control, and from information received by telegram from Canberra, these particulars should be available at any moment and will then be fully investigated by your Executive.

In regard to the prices charged for stores, your Executive arranged some time ago for publicity in this matter through the medium of "Smith's Weekly," and one particular item objected to, namely, wheatmeal, has been reduced from 5d. per lb. to 3d. per lb., a fall of £16/3/4 per ton. That such a reduction was possible does not reflect too highly on the administration of the selling department.

AFFILIATIONS

Your Executive has to report that Sydney, Brisbane and Adelaide Women's Associations have completed their affiliations, whilst Melbourne Association, it is anticipated, will complete affiliations within a few weeks. We have received



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KEW, VICTORIA.

President of Council:
A. O. HENTY, Esq.

Headmaster:
ALFRED BRIGHT, M.Sc., B.A.

The School is well equipped and splendidly situated. Its 1944 complement (about 70 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 1943-4, 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.

2nd term commences 31st May, 1944.

Postal Address: Kew, E.4, Victoria.

Telephone: Hawthorn 412.

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ROBERT GILLESPIE PTY. LIMITED

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Cables: ROBERGILL.

G.P.O. BOX 137CC.

advice that the Country Women's Association constitution will not allow of the affiliation of their New Guinea Branch with the PTA.

EXECUTIVE CHANGES

It is with very deep regret that we record the death of Mr. J. R. Clay, who has been an Executive member since the inception of the Association. The Executive

has not yet appointed any member to replace him as Papuan commercial representative.

Since the last meeting, Mr. H. Taylour has tendered his resignation from the Executive owing to his present employment taking him away from Sydney the greater part of his time, and we have, therefore, appointed Mr. G. Bellamy to fill the vacancy caused—that of New Guinea mining representative.

OTHER BUSINESS

THE recommendations made by the Mining Sub-committee, which have been submitted to the Minister, Mr. Ward, were read to the meeting, as follows:—

1.—The personnel of the unit to consist of a minimum of six men preferably to be nominated by the Pacific Territories Association and at least 50 per cent. of these are to be chosen from nominations of the above Association. The Association undertakes to nominate men with the necessary New Guinea experience and abilities to fit them to carry out the duties hereafter outlined. They would be selected from men above military age and as far as practicable from men not employed in reserve occupations.

2.—The duties of the unit would be to act as custodians of present plant, equipment and property, to visit all mining properties where required so to do by either the owner or other interested persons, to advise and recommend remedial steps necessary to prevent further loss of assets and the extent and probable cost of salvage operations. To take immediate steps, where necessary, to minimise weather and other damage, to protect plant, etc., from the elements, improper use, looting and vandalism. At the request of the owners, and/or the War Damage Commission, to carry out such preliminary salvage and repair work as required.

3.—In the nomination of the personnel every endeavour will be made to include persons with intimate knowledge of all properties such as, Edie Creek, Wau, Black Cat, Sandy Creek, The Bulolo, Sunshine, Upper and Lower Watut, Misima, Sapphire Creek.

4.—The War Damage Commission to be approached to send representatives forward with the unit with full power to approve, or otherwise, proposals put forward by the unit for salvage and protective operations, etc.

5.—To carry on the work of erecting suitable shelters for the rehabilitation of the white population, and particularly the reconstruction of the sawmill and timber working plants for the purpose of providing timber necessary for the housing of the European population.

6.—To report to owners as to the condition of their properties, obtaining in advance particulars of replacements which will be required when peacetime conditions obtain, so that property owners will be able to resume activities with a minimum of delay and thereby provide immediate employment for many Australians.

7.—To take such steps as are possible for the planting of native foodstuffs and generally to

prepare for the return of the indentured labourers.

8.—That the centre of operations of the proposed unit will be at Wau and the unit will generally provide a service to the owners giving full information as to the state of their properties and generally act as their agents when requested so to do, to do all things possible to prepare in advance for the return of the population.

With regard to the request for information relating to the price of copra paid to the plantation owners in Papua, made to the Department of External Territories by the PTA on January 10, a letter, dated March 11, was received from the Secretary of the Department, Mr. J. R. Halligan. The letter was submitted to the meeting. Relevant extracts are as follows:—

The Minister fixed the following price for copra to be purchased from plantations in Papua:—

Hot Air—good quality . . .	£15/10/- per ton
Sun Dried	£15/- " "
Smoke Dried	£14/10/- " "

(All subject to reclamation.)
These were tentative prices fixed for 3 months from July 1, 1943. The prices have since been revised and have been fixed:—

Hot Air and Sun Dried . . .	£18/10/-
Smoke Dried	£17/-

These prices are final for period ending September 30, 1943, and tentative thereafter.

These prices will be reviewed from time to time having regard for changing circumstances and costs.

These prices are paid to plantation owners at usual plantation port of shipment or on plantation where no coastal shipment is involved. All copra coming into Australia is under Government control and price thereof is fixed by the controlling authorities.

The price paid to this Department for copra from Papua is £28 for Hot Air and Sun Dried, and £27 for Smoke Dried.

Similar conditions relate to the purchase of rubber.

From July 1, for three months, the tentative price was:—

No. 1 Grade	1/5 per pound
No. 2 Grade	1/4 " "
No. 3 Grade	1/2 " "

The following were the final prices fixed for the quarter ending September 30, 1943, and tentative thereafter:—

No. 1 Grade	1/6½ per pound
No. 2 Grade	1/5½ " "
No. 3 Grade	1/3½ " "

Inferior 10½ to 1/2½ " "

Prices at which the rubber is now sold ex-board in Australia are:—

No. 1 Grade	1/11 per pound
No. 2 Grade	1/10 " "
No. 3 Grade	1/8 " "

Inferior 1/3 to 1/7 " "

DISCUSSION

THERE was some discussion on the Production Control Board. Mr. James stated that the PTA originally proposed to the Minister for External Territories that the Production Control Board should consist of the GOC New Guinea Forces and three nominees of the producers. In actual fact, the Board consisted of one military officer—Brigadier Cleland (who incidentally was all that could be desired in such a position)—and two Army officers, appointed by the External Territories Department. These are on leave without pay but are subject to military discipline. A third member has not been appointed, as this apparently is considered unnecessary.

When a PTA delegation met Mr. Ward in December, the matter of having a producers' representative on the Board was taken up with him, and he appeared to be sympathetic. Since that time, however, a letter has been received from the Minister, in which he states that this request cannot be granted. Mr. Tom Nevitt, a returned planter, has been co-opted to the Board but as far as can be ascertained he is not always invited to sit at meetings, his advice is rarely asked, and when given, it is not given much consideration. He then can scarcely be called a representative of the producers.

Rid Kidneys Of Poisons And Acids

If you suffer sharp, stabbing pains, if joints are swollen, it shows your blood is poisoned through faulty kidney action. Other symptoms of Kidney Disorders are Backache, Aching Joints and Limbs, Sciatica, Neuritis, Lumbago, Sleepless Nights, Dizziness, Nervousness, Circles under Eyes, Loss of Energy and Appetite and Frequent Headaches and Colds, etc. Ordinary medicines can't help much because you must get to the root cause of the trouble.

The Cystex treatment is specially compounded to soothe, tone and clean kidneys and bladder and remove acids and poisons from your system safely, quickly and surely, yet contains no harmful or dangerous drugs. Cystex works in 3 ways to end your troubles.

1. Starts killing the germs which are attacking your Kidneys, Bladder and Urinary System in two hours, yet is absolutely harmless to human tissue.
2. Gets rid of health-destroying, deadly poisonous acids with which your system has become saturated.
3. Strengthens and reinvigorates the kidneys, protects from the ravages of disease-attack on the delicate filter organism, and stimulates the entire system.

Praised by One-time Sufferers

Cystex is approved by one-time sufferers in 73 countries from the troubles shown above. Mr. Reg Thomas, Townsville, Queensland, recently wrote: "My joints were all stiff, I had leg pains, my back used to ache day and night. My bladder was weak. I had headaches and no appetite. The first dose of Cystex helped me and before I finished three boxes my health and strength came back."

Guaranteed to Satisfy or Money Back

Get Cystex from your chemist or store to-day. Give it a thorough test. Cystex is guaranteed to make you feel younger, stronger, better in every way, or your money back if you return the empty package.

Now in 2 sizes—4/-, 8/-.

This is a **GUARANTEED** **Cystex** Treatment for Your Kidneys, Bladder, Rheumatism.

PRODUCING UNIFORM GOOD RESULTS SINCE 1868

Brunton's
FLOUR

ALWAYS ASK FOR IT

A motion was moved by Mr. C. I. H. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Mullaly, that: The strongest possible protest be made to the Government at the continual refusal of the Commonwealth authorities to appoint a representative of the producers to the ANGAU Production Control Board—particularly in view of the Board's far-reaching powers over industry in the Territories.

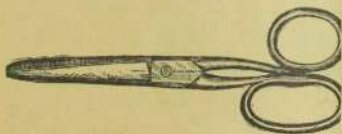
The motion was carried.

With regard to the refusal of the Commonwealth to pay rent or compensation on property taken over by the military authorities, or on gold handed over to the authorities by the miners on their evacuation and subsequently lost, Mr. James stated that the PTA was waiting legal opinion of their position. The meeting resolved that when such opinion was forthcoming, the Executive of the Association should have the power to act as it thought fit.

The motion put to the meeting that the committee elected to go into the matter of the mobile canteen for native welfare, should be called again, was defeated.

The New Caledonian Administrative Council recently reduced the budget estimates for 1944 to 99,250,000 francs—a sum 2,227,000 francs less than the estimates proposed by the Administration.

Your old **SCISSORS, RAZORS**
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SHARPENED and REPAIRED



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W. JNO. BAKER PTY.
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SYDNEY.

Restlessness and sleeplessness,
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frequently respond to treatment
with Dr. Williams' Pink Pills.

Dr. Williams'
PINK PILLS

help to enrich the blood, which has
a beneficial and restorative effect
upon the nervous system.

Polynesian Concert

THE concert given by the Polynesian Club of Sydney, in aid of the Red Cross Younger Set, on March 3, was, as usual, excellent.

Directed by Mr. L. Moran, members presented songs and dances of New Zealand and Polynesia to a large, appreciative audience in the 2GB theatre in Phillip Street, Sydney, and, as a result, somewhere between £40 and £50 will be added to the funds of the Red Cross.

Members who took part were: Katarina Nehua, Waikainga Tipene, Wikitoria Paiona, Marj. Ziele, Riro Light and Stella Darley, all from New Zealand; Rangl Wethered, from the Chatham Islands, NZ; Ngahuia Waugh, an Aus-

tralian-born Maori; Ivy Buffett, Cora Young, Verle Young, Helen Quintal, Dora Buffett, Aldin Buffett, Barbara Christian and John Young, all from Norfolk Island; Salote Olsen, from Rotuma; Malia and Leli Colbert, from Hawaii; and Pera Williams, from Suva, Fiji.

The secretary of the Fiji War Fund Board has received letters of thanks from the following overseas organisations, to which the Board has donated money: Secretary of the Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund; Lady Cripps, president of the Aid to China Fund; general secretary of Dr. Barnardo's Homes; and Admiral Sir Aubrey Smith, chairman of King George's Fund for Sailors.

ISLAND TRADERS PLEASE NOTE

REHABILITATION

Discharged N.Z. Officer, rank Captain, age 47 years, self and 4 children, aged 8 to 15 years, desires to secure steady position with reliable Trading Concern, situate preferably Cook or Tongan Group, with climate suitable for children.

Advertiser has had 20 years' varied experience in Argentina, Brazil, Canada, U.S.A. and N.Z., including many years' Government Service (Clerical, Stores Control, and Administrative work). Has not required references. Present employment with N.Z. Public Service (Manpower Department).

Military Service equals 29½ years (8 active, balance on Reserve of Officers).

Keen, conscientious, reliable and honest. Willing undertake long term contract where responsibility required and reasonable conditions and prospects exist and where opportunities exist for children to follow in his footsteps.

Are you requiring such an employee in your firm? If so, kindly contact the undersigned, stating full particulars and conditions of your vacancy.

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ISLANDS PRODUCE

COCOA

Official prices for New Hebrides cocoa beans, controlled by the Cocoa, Chocolate and Confectionery Committee, are as follows:—

Present stocks, £55 (Australian), per ton, f.o.b.
 Future stocks, £41/10/- per ton, f.o.b.
 Selling prices, d/d Sydney, Melbourne or Hobart:—
 Future stocks, £53/5/-
 Present stocks, £68/15/-
 Accra: £69/10/- (on wharf, Sydney, all charges paid).
 New Guinea cocoa beans: No quotations.
 Western Samoa: Last sale reported, 1st quality, £80 (f.o.b., Apia).

TROCHUS SHELL

There were sales of trochus shell in the week ending February 15 at the slightly reduced price of £107 per ton.

COFFEE

No purchases are now permitted without the consent of the Tea and Coffee Control Board, to whom all offers must first be submitted. Nominal quotations are as follows:—

New Caledonian: Arabica, £81 per ton (c.i.f. Sydney). Robusta, £63 per ton (c.i.f. Sydney).
 New Hebrides: Robusta, £63 per ton (c.i.f. Sydney).
 Mysore: £240 (c. & f. Sydney).
 New Guinea and Papuan: No firm quotations available.
 Java: No quotations.

VANILLA BEANS

White Label, 15/6 per lb.; Green Label, 13/- per lb.; c. & f. Sydney (Aust. currency).

KAPOK

Market for Javanese kapok has been suspended. Indian kapok is being quoted for indent at 1/6 per lb. c.i.f. stig.

COTTON

Government controlled. Stocks being made available to manufacturers at following rates:—
 For spinning and weaving yarns, 14½d. per lb.;
 cordage making, 11½d. per lb.; condenser yarn, 12d. per lb.

IVORY NUTS

No firm quotations available.

RICE

No quotations.

GREEN SNAIL SHELL

F.a.q., £103 per ton, in store, Sydney.

PEARL SHELL

Government-controlled price:—
 "B" Class, £200 per ton. "C" Class, £190 per ton. "D" Class, £135 per ton.

Exchange Rates

THE following exchange quotations show the rates existing in Sydney in mid-July:—

FIJI

Through Bank of NSW and Bank of New Zealand:—Australia on basis of £100 Fiji: Buying, £A111/2/6; selling, £A113. Fiji-London on basis of £100 London:—

	Buying, £ s. d.	Selling, £ s. d.
Telegraphic transfer	110 15 0	112 0 0
On demand	110 12 6	111 17 6

WESTERN SAMOA

Through Bank of New Zealand:—Australia on Western Samoa on basis of £100 Samoa: Buying, £A99/12/6; selling, £A100/2/6. Samoa on London on basis of £100 London:—

	Buying, £ s. d.	Selling, £ s. d.
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

Only nominal at present.

FREE FRENCH PACIFIC COLONIES

Buying, 140; selling, 143; francs to Aust. £.

COPRA

London	Price on—	South Sea, Sun-dried to London	Plantation, Hot-air Dried, Rabaul
January 1, 1932	£14 0 0	£13 2 6	£14 15 0
June 17	£13 2 6	£14 2 6	£13 5 0
December 16	£14 2 6	£13 0 0	£14 5 0
January 6, 1933	£13 0 0	£10 17 6	£13 12 6
June 30	£10 17 6	£8 12 6	£11 0 0
December 1	£8 12 6	£8 0 0	£9 0 0
January 5, 1934	£8 0 0	£8 0 0	£8 7 6
June 15	£8 0 0	£8 0 0	£8 12 6
December 28	£9 0 0	£9 0 0	£9 12 6
January 4, 1935	£9 5 0	£11 15 0	£10 5 0
June 7	£11 15 0	£12 7 6	£12 7 6
December 6	£12 7 6	£14 0 0	£14 0 0

London	Price on—	South Sea, Sun-dried to London	Plantation, Hot-air Dried, Rabaul
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 0
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	£22 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
Mar. 4	£10 17 6	£11 0 0	£12 0 0
June 3	£9 15 0	£9 15 0	£10 12 6
Sept. 2	£9 10 0	£9 10 0	£10 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
Mar. 3	£10 0 0	£10 2 6	£11 0 0
Apr. 6	£9 12 6	£9 15 0	£10 12 6
May 5	£10 0 0	£10 5 0	£11 0 0
June 2	£10 7 6	£10 10 0	£11 7 6
July 7	£9 2 6	£9 7 6	£10 5 0
Aug. 4	£9 2 6	£9 5 0	£10 5 0
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, to 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.
 On February 18, 1942, Fiji and Tonga copra, 1st grade, was fixed at £13 per ton (Fijian), f.o.b.; and in July: Plantation Grade, £18/5/-; Fair Merchantable Sun-dried, £18; and Under-grade, £17/15/-. The values are stated in Fijian currency. To get Australian or New Zealand values, add 12½ per cent.; sterling values, deduct 12½ per cent.

In April, 1942, unofficial quotations in Sydney were around £24 (Aust.) per ton, c.i.f., Sydney.
 July, 1943.—N. Guinea and Papuan copra under Aust. Government control. Fixed prices, payable at port of shipment, or on plantation, where no coastal shipment is involved: Hot-air Dried, £15/10/-; Sun-dried, £15; Smoke-dried, £14/10/- per ton. These prices subject to circumstantial considerations.
 In September, 1943, prices were revised as follows: Hot-air and Sun-dried, £18/10/-; Smoke-dried, £17 per ton. Tentative thereafter.

Government selling prices to processors: New Guinea and Papuan Hot-air and Sun-dried, £28 per ton; Smoke-dried, £27 per ton, ex ship's slings.

Quotations For Mining Shares

	Mid-Jan.	Mid-Feb.	Mid-March.
Emperor Mines	b11/-	b11/-	b11/-
Loloma	s19/6	s20/-	s20/-
MT. Kasi	s2/-	s2/3	b2/2

NEW GUINEA

Bulolo G.D.	b90/-	b90/-	b90/-
Guinea Gold	s10/4	b10/3	s11/-
N.G.G., Ltd.	b2/2	s2/3	b1/11
Oil Search	b4/3	b4/3	b4/4
Placer Dev.	b66/3	b66/3	b66/3
Sandy Creek	b1/-	b1/2	b1/3
Sunshine Gold	s7/-	s7/-	s7/-

PAPUA

Cuthbert's	s12/6	s12/3	b11/6
Mandated Alluvials	b4/-	b4/-	b4/-
Orlomo Oil	s2/-	s1/9	s1/8
Papuan Apinaipi	b3/4	b3/6	b3/9
Yodda Goldfields	b1/7	b1/9	b1/6

RUBBER

London	Price on—	Para. Smoked, per lb.	Plantation Smoked, per lb.
January 6, 1933	4½d	2.43d	
July 7	5½d	3.71d	
December 8	4½d	4.0½d	
January 5, 1934	4½d	4.28d	
July 6	5½d	7.06d	
December 28	8d	6½d	
January 4, 1935	5d	6½d	
July 5	5d	7½d	
December 6	6½d	6½d	
January 3, 1936	6½d	6½d	
June 5	8d	7½d	
December 4	1/-	9 1-16d	
January 8, 1937	1/2	10½d	
June 4	11d	9½d	
December 3	7½d	7½d	
January 7, 1938	7½d	7d	
July 1	7½d	7½d	
December 2	7½d	8d	
January 6, 1939	7d	8½d	
December 1	7½d	8½d	
January 5, 1940	12d	11½d	
July 5	13d	11½d	
December 6	15d	12½d	
January 3, 1941	13d	12d	
February 7	13d	12.47½d	
March 7	15d	12.5½d	
April 4	15d	13½d	
May 2	15d	14½d	
June 6	16½d	14.05½d	
July 4	17d	13.5½d	
August 1	17d	13 7-16d	
September 5	(No quote)	13½d	
October 6	—	13 11-16d	
October 10	—	13½d	

July, 1943.—Papuan rubber under Australian Government control. Fixed prices, payable on plantation, where no coastal shipment is involved, or at port of shipment: No. 1 Grade, 1/5; No. 2 Grade, 1/4; No. 3 Grade, 1/2 per lb. These prices subject to circumstantial considerations.
 In September, 1943, prices were revised as follows: No. 1 Grade, 1/6½; No. 2 Grade, 1/4; No. 3 Grade, 1/2; Inferior, 10½d. to 1/2½ per lb. Tentative thereafter.

Government selling prices: No. 1 Grade, 1/11; No. 2 Grade, 1/10; No. 3 Grade, 1/8; Inferior, 1/3 to 1/7 per lb. "Ex-Bond" in Australia.

PRICE OF GOLD

Fine	Standard
oz.	£10/9/-
oz.	£9/11/7

FIJI BUYING PRICES

Suva, Feb. 23

THE following, taken from the "Fiji Times," shows the prices current in Suva on the date mentioned. The prices, of course, are given in Fiji currency, which is 12½ per cent. below sterling, and 12½ per cent. above Australian.

Copra (Plantation Grade)	£16/12/6
Copra (F.M.S. Grade)	£15/12/6
Coconut Charcoal, per ton	£12
Copra Sacks, bale lots, per doz.	30/-
Copra Sacks, each	2/7
Kerosene per tin (4 gal.)	15/1
per case	30/2
1 gallon tin	3/11
Flour, per sack	25/9
Flour, 5 lb.	1/-
Sharps, per sack	20/4½
Sharps, 5 lb.	1/-
Barbed Wire	£31
Pearl Shell, per ton	£14
Beche-de-mer (best quality) about 1 lb.	6d.
Beche-de-mer (raw fish) about 1 lb.	4d.
Turtle Hooves, per lb.	3d.
Trochus Shell, per ton	£70

Australian Short Wave Broadcast

AN Australian radio programme is broadcast daily on short wave from Lyndhurst (Victoria) for listeners in the Western Pacific:—

Call Sign.	Time.	Wave Length.	Frequency.
VLR3.	6.30-10.15 a.m.	25.51 metres	11,760 M/cs
VLR3.	12.00-6.15 p.m.	25.35 metres	11,880 M/cs
VLR.	6.45-11.30 p.m.	31.32 metres	9,580 M/cs

Power: 2 kilowatts.

ROLL OF HONOUR

(Continued From Inside Front Cover)

Forces. Reported died on active service, December, 1943.

Pte. Isakeli NABOKO, of the Fiji Military Forces. Reported died on active service, December, 1943.

Seaman Malvin NELSON, of Fiji Royal Naval Volunteer Service. Death reported in May, 1943.

Pte. Inikasio SERU, of the Fiji Military Forces. Reported died on active service, December, 1943.

A/Sgt. J. H. STANE, Royal Australian Engineers, formerly of Port Moresby, Papua. Died from illness, May, 1942.

Rifleman R. A. SMITH, HQ Unit. (Place of enlistment not stated.) Died of illness.

Cpl. R. H. SUTTON, NGVR, formerly of Wau, TNG. Died from malaria and typhoid in October, 1942.

Pte. Mateo TUIDALA, of the Fiji Military Forces. Reported died on active service, December, 1943.

Pte. Emosi WAQA, of the Fiji Military Forces. Reported died on active service, December, 1943.

Major P. J. WOODHILL, AIF Infantry, formerly legal assistant in the Crown Law Office, Rabaul, New Guinea. Reported "deceased", December, 1941.

Pte. F. WORK, of the Fiji Military Forces. Reported died on active service, December, 1943.

MISSING

Louis ANGER, of Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Reported missing after battle of Bir Hacheim.

Pte. P. F. BAILEY, AIF Infantry, of Rabaul, TNG. Reported missing, 17/2/1942. Now reported prisoner of war.

Lieut. J. T. BARRACLOUGH, AIF, formerly of New Guinea. Reported missing, December, 1943.

Cpl. Leon BARRENE, of Pacific Battalion of Fighting France. Missing after battle of Bir Hacheim (Libya).

Sgt.-Pilot Murray Waldon BENTLEY, RNZAF, formerly of Fiji. Reported missing in air operations in the Middle East, January, 1943.

P/O Robert Waldon BENTLEY, RNZAF, formerly of Fiji. Reported missing on air operations on May 5, 1943.

T. BLAKELOCK, BEP, formerly of Fiji. Missing.

Robert BLUM, of Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Reported missing after battle of Bir Hacheim.

Sgt. Ronald Arthur BROODBANK, formerly of Samarai, Papua, now serving with the RAAF overseas. Reported missing on May 31 while on air operations.

Sgt. Alexander BROWN, RNZAF, formerly of Rarotonga. Reported missing over Germany, on September 15, 1942.

Reginald BOULANGER, of Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Reported missing after battle of Bir Hacheim.

— Ross BUCKLEY, RNZAF, formerly of Fiji. Reported missing on air operations.

H. BUCKNELL, AIF, formerly of Fiji. Missing.

Pte. E. L. CHRISTIE, AIF Infantry, of Rabaul, TNG. Reported missing, 17/2/1942.

Victor DERVAUX, of Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Reported missing after battle of Bir Hacheim.

Lucien DEVAND, of Pacific Battalion of Fighting France. Missing after battle of Bir Hacheim (Libya).

Pte. A. G. DICKSON, AIF Infantry, of Rabaul, TNG. Reported "missing, believed wounded", 17/2/1942.

Pilot-Officer Norman R. FRAZER, RAAF, formerly of Wau, TNG. Reported missing on air operations over Germany, August 30, 1943.

— Elton FIELD, RNZAF, formerly of staff of Kasi Mines, Fiji. Missing in Java.

— Cath GELDARD, NGVR, of New Britain. Missing after the battle of Rabaul, January, 1942.

— GELLER, of Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Reported missing after battle of Bir Hacheim.

J. P. GOUZENES, of Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Reported missing after battle of Bir Hacheim.

Chief-Sergeant Francois GRISCOLLI, of Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Reported missing in Libya in April. Formerly of New Caledonia.

Acting Flight-Lieut. Don A. IRVING, RAAF, formerly chemist in CSR Co., Labasa, Fiji. Missing, presumed dead, in air operations over Germany, February 27, 1942.

Pte. ANDREW (BILL) JOHNSON, NGVR. Reported missing in New Guinea on October 29, 1942.

Georges KABAR, of Fighting French Pacific

Battalion. Reported missing after battle of Bir Hacheim.

Henri LANGLOIS, of Pacific Battalion, of Fighting France. Missing after battle of Bir Hacheim (Libya).

Numa LETHESER, of Pacific Battalion of Fighting France. Missing after battle of Bir Hacheim (Libya).

Rene LETOCART, of Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Reported missing after battle of Bir Hacheim.

Cpl. E. G. MacADAM, NGVR, of Rabaul, TNG. Reported missing after the battle of Rabaul, January 1, 1942.

Camille MERCIER, of Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Reported missing after battle of Bir Hacheim.

— MOUTRY, of Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Reported missing after battle of Bir Hacheim.

Capt. J. J. MURPHY, AIF, formerly of New Guinea. Reported missing, December, 1943.

Pte. R. J. PASCOE, AIF Infantry, of Rabaul, TNG. Reported missing, 27/1/1942.

Pilot Tom PATTERSON, of the RNZAF, formerly of Levuka, Fiji. Reported missing, in November, 1941, after bombing raid on the Continent.

Henri PAYONNE, of Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Reported missing after battle of Bir Hacheim.

Eugene PENE, of Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Reported missing after battle of Bir Hacheim.

Andre PETRE, of Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Reported missing after battle of Bir Hacheim.

Eugene POGNON, of Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Reported missing after battle of Bir Hacheim.

Gnr. Allan H. ROSS, AIF artillery, formerly planter in New Britain, TNG. Reported "missing—believed prisoner of war", 28/9/1941.

— ROUDEILLAC, of Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Reported missing after battle of Bir Hacheim.

Pte. William RUPE, of the NZ Forces (Maori Battalion), formerly of Aitutaki, Cook Islands. Reported "missing after Battle of Greece", July, 1941.

Pilot James SIMPSON, of the RAF, formerly of Vatukoula, Fiji. Reported missing after air operations over Malta, in the Mediterranean, 1/7/1941.

L/Bdr. G. G. SMITH, NZEF, formerly of Suva, Fiji. Reported missing.

Pilot-Officer Neville George STOKES, of the RAF, formerly a pilot with Guinea Airways, Ltd., in New Guinea. Reported missing after air operations in Europe, December, 1941.

REPORTED MISSING

Malaya Casualty List, Published 23/7/1942.

Pte. E. L. CHRISTIE, Infantry, Rabaul.

Pte. A. G. DICKSON, Infantry, Rabaul.

Pte. J. M. HIRSCHL, Infantry, Rabaul.

Pte. J. G. NEWTON, artillery, Port Moresby.

Australia and Island Stations.

Pte. S. W. HUNTER, Infantry, Kokopo.

WOUNDED

Sgt. Robert ASMUS, of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Wounded at Bir Hacheim and evacuated.

Rene AUFANT, of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Wounded at Bir Hacheim.

Cpl. Thomas BAMBRIDGE, of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Wounded at Bir Hacheim and evacuated.

— BERBERE (alias ARESKY), of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Wounded at Bir Hacheim.

Henri BERTHELIN, of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Wounded at Bir Hacheim.

Pte. V. BLANCO, AIF Infantry, of Thursday Island. Wounded in action, July, 1941.

L/Cpl. J. P. BLENCOWE, AIF Infantry, of Rabaul, TNG. Wounded in action, July, 1941.

Jean BRIAL, of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Wounded at Bir Hacheim.

Pte. George BUCKNELL, AIF, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. Bucknell, of Korolevu, Fiji. Wounded in action in Malaya, January, 1942.

Pte. Thomas BYERS, AIF Infantry, of Thursday Island. Wounded in action, May, 1941.

Raymond CHAUTAUD, of the Free French Pacific contingent from New Caledonia. Reported a casualty in the Middle East, March, 1942.

Pte. A. J. CORLASS, AIF, formerly of Rabaul. Wounded in action.

Albert CUBADDA, of the Free French contingent from New Caledonia. Reported a casualty in the Middle East, March, 1942.

Charles DEVEAUX, of Pacific Battalion of Fighting France. Wounded at battle of Bir Hacheim (Libya).

Sgt. EMERY, formerly of Lae, TNG. Wounded in New Guinea in October, 1942.

Lieut. M. G. EVENSEN, AIF, formerly of Rabaul. Wounded in action.

V. FAIRHALL, 2nd NZEF, formerly of the Treasury Department, Western Samoa. Reported wounded in action, February, 1942.

Trooper Arthur T. FILEWOOD, formerly of Thursday Island. Reported wounded in action, May, 1943.

Paroa FIU, of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Wounded at Bir Hacheim and evacuated.

Acting Warrant-Officer V. M. I. GORDON, AIF Infantry, of Wau, TNG. Wounded in action, February, 1942.

Pte. John GRANT, AIF Infantry, of New Guinea. Wounded in neck and thigh, September, 1941; later, reported "rejoined unit".

Henri GUILBAUD, of the Free French Pacific contingent from New Caledonia. Reported a casualty in the Middle East, March, 1942.

Sgt. C. HENDRICK, AIF Infantry, of Rabaul, TNG. Wounded in action, July, 1941.

Stanley HIGGS, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Higgs, of W. R. Carpenter and Co. Ltd., New Guinea. Member of an English Lancers' regiment, wounded during British evacuation from Dunkirk (France), May, 1940.

Pte. W. HOLMES, of the Fiji Military Forces. Reported wounded in action, December, 1943.

Lieut. Lloyd T. HURRELL, AIF Infantry, of Rabaul, TNG. Wounded in action, July, 1941.

Alexandre HUYARD, of the Free French Pacific contingent from New Caledonia. Reported a casualty in the Middle East, March, 1942.

Sgt.-Pilot Andrew KRONFELD, of the NZ Fighter Squadron attached to the RAF. Wounded in knee during operations over France, December, 1941.

Cpl. W. H. LANNEN, AIF artillery, of Rabaul, New Guinea. Wounded in action, June, 1941.

Gnr. E. G. LOBAN, AIF artillery, of Thursday Island. Wounded during campaign in Greece, May, 1941; invalided home after having his left forearm amputated.

Auguste LUTA, of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Wounded at Bir Hacheim and evacuated.

A/Sgt. Alastair MACLEAN, AIF Infantry, of Rabaul, New Guinea. Wounded in action, in Libya, June, 1941.

Sgt. J. D. McGLYMONT, NZEF, son of Capt. D. McGLYMONT, Harbourmaster of Apia, Western Samoa. Wounded in action, November, 1941.

Cpl. R. McKERLIE, AIF, of Yandina, BSL, wounded in face by bomb explosion, April, 1941.

T. MANEA, of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Wounded at Bir Hacheim and evacuated.

Jean MERIGNAC, of the Free French Pacific contingent from New Caledonia. Reported a casualty in the Middle East, March, 1942.

Henri MEYER, of the Free French Pacific contingent from New Caledonia. Reported a casualty in the Middle East, March, 1942.

Sgt. Graham M. MIRFIELD, AIF engineers, of Rabaul, New Guinea. Wounded in action.

Pte. James O'DWYER, NZEF, formerly of Apia, W. Samoa. Wounded in action in Italy, December, 1943.

Joseph OTHUS, of Pacific Battalion of Fighting France. Wounded in battle of Bir Hacheim (Libya).

Lieut. A. G. PEARCE, AIF, formerly of Salamaua, TNG. Wounded in action.

Pte. L. G. ("Mick") REECE, AIF, of Bulolo, New Guinea. Wounded in action, July, 1941.

Henri RIVIERE, of the Free French Pacific contingent from New Caledonia. Reported a casualty in the Middle East, March, 1942.

Pte. H. St. George RYDER, AIF, formerly of Suva, Fiji. Wounded while serving in New Guinea.

A/Cpl. N. K. SAWYER, AIF Infantry, of Rabaul, TNG. Wounded in action, July, 1941.

Pte. Frank M. SCHUSTER, NZEF, formerly of W. Samoa. Wounded in action in Tunisia, 1943.

Lieut. Jeffrey SEAGOE, serving with the British forces in the Far East, formerly of Vila, New Hebrides. Reported "wounded in action", March, 1942.

Pte. F. M. SCHUSTER, NZEF, formerly of W. Samoa. Wounded in action in Tunisia.

Pte. Lance STAMPER, AIF, formerly schoolmaster at Wau, New Guinea. Wounded in action, August, 1941.

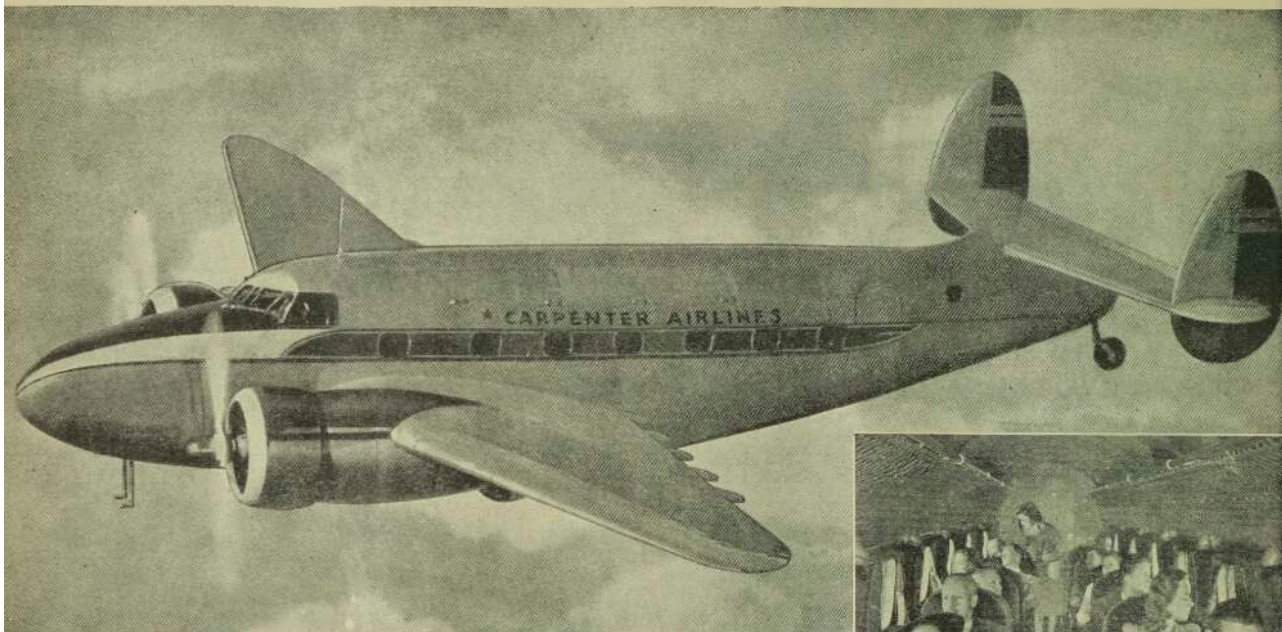
Lieut.-Col. J. K. B. TAYLOR, of the Fiji Military Forces. Wounded in action in Bougainville, December, 1943.

Cpl. Raphael TEHO, of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Wounded at Bir Hacheim and evacuated.

Cpl. Teri TERITUA, of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Wounded at Bir Hacheim and evacuated.

(Continued on Page 37)

PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY — MARCH, 1944



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