

Vol. XVIII, No. 1 (Aug. 18, 1947)

Date : 7/17/26, 5:35 AM

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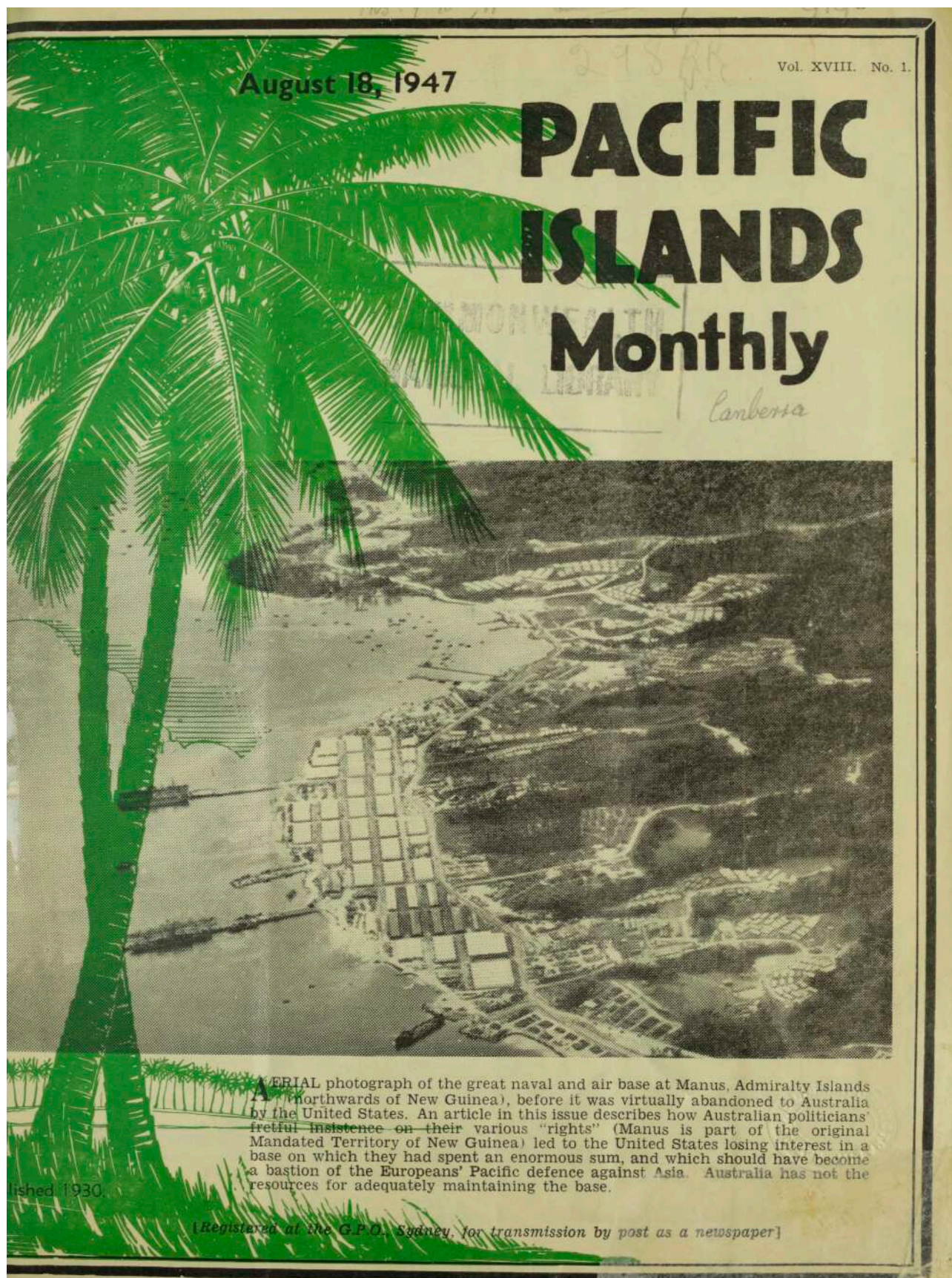
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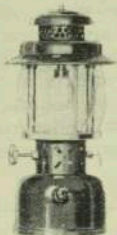
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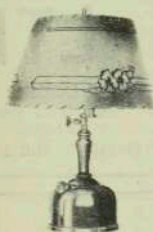
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Mr. Percy Woods, formerly a resident of Papua for 30 years, is now living permanently in West End, Brisbane, with his sister and mother. He was a planter in the Territory, but considers that the low price of copra now being paid the producer offered no inducement for planters to return to what was once a payable Islands industry.

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Published Once Each Month and Circulated in Australia and New Zealand
and in the following Pacific Territories and Islands Groups:

Australian Territory of Papua.
Mandated Territory (Australia) of New Guinea.
Australian Territory of Norfolk Island.
New Zealand Territory of Cook Islands.
Mandated Territory (NZ) of Western Samoa.
British Colony of Fiji.

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Hebrides.
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American Territory of Eastern Samoa.
American Territory of Hawaiian Islands.

Owned and Produced by Pacific Publications Pty. Ltd., Union House, 247 George Street, Sydney.

Telephones: General Office and Advertising.
BW 5037.
P.O. BOX 3408
Registered Address for Telegrams, Radiograms,
and Cables: "Pacpub", Sydney.

CONTRIBUTIONS.

Articles, Stories, and Photographs dealing with
Pacific Islands subjects are invited and will
be paid for on publication.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

Per Annum, Pre-paid, Including Postage.
In Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, New
Guinea, Papua, Western Samoa, Cook
Islands, Tonga, British Solomons, Gil-
bert and Ellice Colony, Nauru, and
United Kingdom 15 0
Elsewhere 18 0
Single copies 1 6

Editor and Publisher:
R. W. ROBSON, F.R.G.S.
Assistant Editor: JUDY TUDOR.

General Office: Union House, 247 George Street,
Sydney. Telephone: BW 5037.
Advertising Manager: W. E. Rogers.

REPRESENTATIVE IN LONDON.

J. T. Wallis, Coronation House, 4 Lloyds
Avenue, London, E.C.3, from whom may be
obtained copies of Pacific Islands Monthly,
Pacific Is. Year Book, advertising schedules, etc.

REPRESENTATIVE IN U.S.A.

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Vol. XVIII. No. 1.

AUGUST 18, 1947

Price { 1/6 Per Copy
Prepaid, p.a.: 15/- Aus.
In USA, p.a.: \$3.

New Order Planners Bring Chaos to an Exhausted World

WELL-MEANING theorists in British Empire Governments, without any apparent agreement or official announcement, are following a clear policy of encouraging and stimulating the idea of nationalism among the dependant coloured races in Empire countries.

This, already, within two years, has brought about great political changes—India, Egypt, Burma, for example—and the ferment is working increasingly in other British-Asiatic countries such as Malaya and Ceylon. Had it not been for the encouragement given to the Indonesian visionaries by our theorists in Canberra, Wellington and London, there would have been no challenge to Dutch authority in the East Indies.

If this furtive, blundering and ill-conceived policy is not checked—or at least brought out into the open and given a thorough dusting—it easily may mark the beginning of the disintegration of the greatest Empire the world yet has known.

Very few coloured races are ready yet to take their places in the society of nations under conditions of complete freedom. Any sudden introduction of such countries as Egypt, India, Burma, Indonesia, Cambodia, etc., as sovereign States is not going to assist in bringing about that universal peace for which all mankind supposedly is striving; but it almost certainly will provide new breeding grounds for unruly and irresponsible elements and new cockpits for war.

THE world seems to have gone mad on the subject of racialism. Parliaments,

newspapers and the forum of the air are over-run by impractical professors and starry-eyed claquers with a brotherhood complex, who somehow have hypnotised the otherwise sane Western democracies into an acknowledgment that they have been holding, in serfdom, various peoples with dark and yellow skins — and the hearts of angels!—who must now, forthwith, be given free nationhood and a name.

We are being called despots, Imperialists, exploiters. The really glorious record of our colonisation which, within 500 years, tamed Asia, the Americas, Africa and the Islands of the Pacific—so that, in the 20th century, one might walk practically all over the world unarmed and unharmed—is spat upon, and the fine qualities of human endeavour which created Empires have become the subject of ribald jesting.

Of course, we did not go out as crusaders, or for any altruistic reason. Of course, the flag followed the trader. It was the lure of gain which took the European merchantman across uncharted seas to face all kinds of perils among all kinds of uncivilised peoples.

The dominant quality of human nature is selfishness—always has been and always will be. The Western European nations cleverly harnessed that trait—the "profit motive"—to the service of the State. Thus the industrial era, the era of great colonial expansion, when men developed their finest qualities in mechanical invention and industrial or-

ganisation, in crossing the oceans, taming the wilderness and conquering barbarians, went hand in hand with the creation of magnificent social structures based on strength, achievement, justice, and the rights of the common man.

WESTERN civilisation is no namby-pamby thing. It frankly recognises that the maximum of human effort can be secured only by an appeal to human selfishness; that social orderliness can be achieved only if the strong will take charge of the weak. That is what is called the system of free private enterprise. But, under Western civilisation, private enterprise is not really free. It may operate only if it recognises certain obligations: the obligation to sustain and protect the weak, and scrupulously give justice to all men.

That is why the system of Western Democracy conquered the world and brought mankind to its finest achievements. It tempered strength with mercy; concealed ruthlessness — without which the majority of men will drift to lower living standards—in a velvet glove. That system was achieved in thousands of years of social evolution. Abandon it and mankind, beyond any question of doubt, will go into a Dark Age.

True, Western civilisation took much from the lands it conquered; but it also gave much. In not one country invaded and occupied by the Europeans in the last 500 years was there already established any form of government which acknowledged the fundamental rights of the common men. In some cases the common man enjoyed some degree of security and comfort; but nearly always he was merely the chattel of an over-

lord, something to be trodden upon, enslaved and sacrificed, at will.

The European nations, and especially the British, brought to every race over which they unfurled their flags some form of orderliness, security and common justice. The peoples were given medical service, education and religion; to their lands were introduced roads and ports, public services and wealth-producing industries.

SUCCESSING generations of these subject races, having imbibed from their masters a little education, a little technical knowledge, some idea of orderly government, and a little Marxism, are now howling for national freedom; and the bumblefooted New Planners of London, Paris and Canberra are listening to their howls and hastening to greet them as brothers.

Suppose that all these peoples were given full freedom and national responsibility. Let us see what would happen.

India is dividing itself between Hinduism and Pakistan; and, as the British move out, an orgy of throat-cutting begins. Whoever imagined that those mutually antagonistic races could live together in peace? Not only will there be fearful fighting within India; but bad internal conditions inevitably will make the country a breeding ground for greater wars—and one of her richest markets is lost to Britain.

Burma is to get "independence." The country is torn between savagely contending parties who already have commenced murdering each other's leaders.

In Malaya, now crying for independence, there are three mutually antagonistic communities—Malays, Indians and Chinese; they will be at each other's throats as soon as British rule is withdrawn. It is the same in Ceylon, with its Tamil and Christian minorities, and in North Borneo and Sarawak where the dominant Chinese and Malays are a minority in the population.

We have the example of Indonesia right under our eyes. British and American New Planners abandoned the Dutch after the Dutch had given to us, in 1942-45, every ounce of their strength; and the Jap-inspired Indonesians temporarily took possession. Under Dutch rule, these people were orderly, economically and politically secure. Since 1945, under Indonesian rule, the country has been a shambles, a place of disorder, famine, murder and panic. All the Chinese and most of the Indonesians now pray daily for the complete restoration of Dutch rule; but our "Great Western Democracies" are moving to hamstring the Dutch.

We might range over all Asia and much of Africa and multiply these examples endlessly. A little thought is enough to show that we dare not, for the sake of human orderliness and world peace, intoxicate these unprepared people with too copious draughts of the heady wine of freedom.

Nationhood and complete freedom they must have eventually; but the preparation of a people for self-government is a slow process. Any attempt by the New Planners to hurry the process will lead only to disaster, political and economic;

and already we see political and economic disasters without number developing within our sight.

HERE in the Pacific we have little to worry us, compared with the terrifying picture presented by the events of the bigger world.

There is a problem in Samoa—which is being discussed by the Samoans with typical Polynesian courtesy, and for which a solution undoubtedly will be found.

There is a sharp racial problem in Fiji—but so long as the British are left alone, to combine strength and wisdom with plain justice, Fiji will remain happy—the problem there actually is incapable of solution, anyway—except by Dr. Malthus.

There is a kind of problem in Papua-New Guinea—but it is only the mischievous creation of the amateur New Planners of Canberra and eventually will disappear—along with Mr. Ward.

MANY observers looking out on the frantic world of August, 1947—exactly 33 years after the Kaiser drove the nations into World War I—are in despair. They cannot understand that this dreadful confusion in economics and in politics, which seems to be carrying us rapidly into World War III, is merely the impact of muddled thinking on post-war problems—of an attempt by Marxist planners to do by State instrumentalities what can be achieved only by individualism.

It is no time for despair. If they are not caught bending the British peoples presently will throw the poor little well-meaning demagogues out of Whitehall, Canberra and Wellington, and drag their crippled governmental machines out of the morass and will build again—build something that again will be the admiration of the world. A great and glorious Britain surely will arise out of this mess—if in the meantime we are not caught bending by the assembling hordes of Tartary.

ONE hundred years ago Macaulay had occasion to thus rebuke the poet Southey (who, like present-day dreamers, was all for Socialism and the brotherhood of man):

"It is not the intermeddling of Mr. Southey's idol, the omniscient and omnipotent State, but by the produce and energy of the people that England has hitherto been carried forward in civilisation; and it is to the same prudence and the same energy that we now look with comfort and good hope.

"Our rulers will best promote the improvement of the nation by strictly confining themselves to their own legitimate duties, by leaving capital to find its most lucrative course, commodities their fair price, industry and intelligence their natural reward, idleness and folly their natural punishment; by maintaining peace, by defending property, by diminishing the price of law, and by observing strict economy in every department of State. Let the Government do this; the people will assuredly do the rest."

At St. Peter's Church, Lautoka, Fiji, on July 12 Miss Jean Brandon Snowsill, only daughter of Mrs. J. M. Snowsill, was married to Mr. Stanley Buckle, of Sydney.

FIJI TRAVELLERS



Among passengers who left Suva by flying-boat for Australia on August 1 were:—

TOP: Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Dyason, who were going to Australia on leave. Mr. Dyason is principal of the Fulton Mission School.

CENTRE: Mrs. E. S. Moore, who was making a business trip to Australia. Mrs. M. Johnston, returning to Australia, after two years' service with the Western Pacific High Commission.

LOWER: Mr. H. E. Piper, vice-president of the Seventh Day Adventist Union, who has been attending conferences in Tonga, Samoa, and Fiji. Mrs. K. Curry, of Queensland, who is a cousin of the Costello brothers, of Fiji.

SIR LESLIE FREESTON New Governor of Fiji

THE appointment of Sir Leslie Brian Freeston as Governor of Fiji and High Commissioner for the Western Pacific was announced on August 7. He is at present Governor of the Leeward Islands, West Indies.

Sir Leslie was born in 1892, educated at Oxford, served in World War I, and joined the Colonial Office in 1919. He was engaged during the first 15 years of his service there mostly on special commissions, in the course of which he visited Ceylon, the Far East, the West Indies and various parts of Africa.

Sir Walter Carpenter and Mr. C. H. Carpenter, directors of the Carpenter group of companies (now based, on Australia New Guinea, Fiji and Canada) left Sydney on August 14 for Vancouver. They will remain indefinitely in Canada. Mr. R. B. Carpenter who returned from Canada a few months ago, will be the principal resident Director in Australia, for the present.

Mr. Keith Colyer, of Colyer, Watson (NG) Ltd, proceeded from Sydney to Rabaul on a business trip at the beginning of July.

WESTERN SAMOAN GOVERNMENT

Inquiry Mission Receives Chiefs' Plans

From a Special Correspondent

APIA, Aug. 1

THE mission of inquiry from the Trusteeship Council of the United Nations, in July, visited many districts of Western Samoa and made one short visit to Tonga, to observe, at first hand, the operation there of "a large measure of self-government."

The mission will return to America this month where it is expected to submit its report and recommendations, in about four months' time.

After much discussion, the Western Samoan Chiefs have submitted to the mission their plan for the future government of the Territory. It embraces the following main points:—

(1) The three fautua (high chiefs who are official advisers to the Administration) to be recognised as the head of the Government.

(2) Forty-one "representatives of the Samoans," otherwise the 41 faipule, to form the actual Government, with the addition of three or four European representatives at a ratio of 12 to 1, according to population. The heads of departments would attend meetings, but would have no voting powers.

(3) A representative of New Zealand to hold the power of veto, but this would be so hedged with restrictions that it would be virtually non-existent in the event of the chiefs expressing the opinion that the power of veto should not apply to matters affecting Samoans.

(4) Health, education, public works, finance and public service committees, in all of which Europeans would have predominance, to be appointed to advise the Government.

(5) All Crown estates should be "returned to the Samoans for the coming generations because the population was growing but not the land."

THE last proposal concerns principally the New Zealand Reparations Estates, an area taken over by the New Zealand Government from the former German owners after World War I. No recent statistics are available to show what area of land is at present in non-Samoan hands, but the last official figures gave Samoan lands as over 80 per cent. of the total. These figures, however, are 20 years old, and in that period sizeable areas have returned to Samoan ownership. Further, of the fertile land in Samoan hands, only a fraction is cultivated.

Immediate self-government is by no means the unanimous desire of the Samoan people as a whole. Certain districts have firmly dissociated themselves from the petition to the United Nations.

Presentation of Samoan Case Gives Bad Impression

IT would not surprise me to know that the Trustee Council Mission has not received a good impression of the native Samoans in relation to their request for self-government — which is what the Mission came here to inquire into.

Our visitors, I think, were astonished to find that the natives' political demands were not induced by any social or economic disadvantages to which they have

been exposed by the New Zealand Administration. On the contrary, the Samoans have never been better off, economically. They are a happy and healthy people, they are increasing rapidly in numbers and, what with public works, water supplies, new industries and medical services, the NZ administration has raised the standard of living very much, compared with 20 or 30 years ago.

Why, then, the natives demand for immediate self-government — especially in view of the firm opinion expressed by the great majority of Europeans and Euronians that any far-reaching administrative changes now would lead only to confusion and chaos? The latter say frankly that the present demand arises mostly from the personal ambitions of a few power-hungry chiefs.

The Europeans and Euronians admit that, sooner or later, Samoa must be self-governed; but, to avoid all kinds of complications, the introduction of self-government should be a slow and cautious process.

It is much to be regretted that the Samoans in presenting their case to the Mission, made use of some aggressive showmanship. It was most unwise of them to revive the old Mau atmosphere, and to demonstrate in the blue-and-white striped lava-lavas of the old Mau days. Some sections of them tried to influence the Mission by threats—they said that if they did not get immediate self-government there was danger of a "fight."

The Mission was not favourably impressed.

Whoever was responsible for this kind of display should have his wings severely clipped. It misrepresented the Samoans (who are now quiet and law-abiding), and it suggested to the overseas observers that the natives are not yet qualified for self-government in a world where they must live in close community with Europeans and Euronians.

Applications are being called by Australian External Territories Department for a Licensed Surveyor for duty with the Lands, Mines and Survey Department in Papua-New Guinea. Salary commences at £714.

FIJI ELECTIONS

Sir Hugh Ragg Retires

SUVA, August 6.

THE Legislative Council, which ended its last session on July 31, was formerly dissolved by the Acting-Governor on August 1.

Nominations for the elected Members close on August 25; and the polling for South and Northwest Divisions will take place on September 20, and for East (which includes numerous islands) between September 15 and 22.

Sir Hugh Ragg announced that, after 21 years' membership, he would not seek re-election. Tributes to his good service, and the happy relations he had maintained with everyone, have been paid by representatives of all Parties.

PACIFIC ISLANDS SOCIETY

THE following, on July 23, were elected office-bearers of the Pacific Islands Society which has had a very active and successful year:—

PATRON: His Excellency Sir Alexander Grantham, KCMG.

PRESIDENT: Major C. A. Swinbourne, OBE (MIL.).

VICE-PRESIDENTS: Dr. George Mackaness, OBE, MA, Messrs. Guy D. Blaxland, Claude Israel, F. D. McCarthy, and Alfred E. Stephen.

HON. SECRETARY: Miss Betty Matheson.

ASST. HON. SECRETARY: Mr. C. Price Conigrave.

COUNCIL: Mrs. M. S. Williamson, Miss Doris Peters, Major C. M. Southey, Messrs. H. C. Monckton, Hubert Sabben, OBE, Alfred E. Stephen, and Alfred E. Sturt.

HON. AUDITOR: Mr. R. H. Clarke.

NEW MEMBERS: Mrs. E. W. Fenner, The Queen's Club, Sydney; Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Carver, Sydney; Mrs. E. Spence, 23 Eltham Avenue, Darling Point.

A Native Fisheries Commission has been set up under the Fisheries Ordinance of Fiji. The members are the Secretary for Fijian Affairs (Ratu Sir Lala Sukuna), Mr. G. K. Roth and Setariki M. Koto.

AIR TRAVELLERS TO NEW GUINEA

Recent Qantas Airways travellers from Sydney to airports in Papua-New Guinea included (top left to lower right): Mr. W. R. Plunkett, who was going to Port Moresby to join the staff of APC, Ltd. Mr. W. V. Bryen, of W. R. Carpenter & Co., Ltd., who was returning to Rabaul after an absence of some years. Mr. C. Black, who was making a business visit to Papua. Mr. B. Ferreira and Mr. T. Ford, who were going to Port Moresby en route to Milne Bay.

(See also Page 83)



ANTI-DUTCH!

Australia Joins Egyptian "Wogs" and Indian "Reds" in Seeking Close Relations With Indonesians

PACIFIC Islands people who depend for world news upon some Australian newspapers and Australian radio may get a cockeyed idea of recent events in Java. The radio because it is under Government domination and the newspapers mostly because of ignorance and prejudice, have generally taken sides with the Australian Dockers' Union in their war against the Dutch.

The following summary is taken from a dozen reliable sources.

After more than six months of shuffling, lying and prevarication, the "Indonesian Republican Government" (created by the Japanese in Java out of war-time disorder) was informed by the Dutch, at the end of June that, if it did not forthwith honour the Agreement it had entered into at Cheribon, Dutch forces would take the steps necessary to restore order to the Territory.

Between July 1 and 15 the Indonesians made various promises—and broke them all.

Thereupon, about July 16, the Dutch moved rapidly into action. Within a few days, the Indonesian "Army" was running in all directions. As town after town was occupied by the Dutch, the native Indonesians and the Chinese communities (there are, in Java, 3,000,000 Chinese, who have been brutally treated by the Republicans) made demonstrations of welcome. There was only sporadic fighting. The Indonesians however set fire to much property, including oil-wells in Sumatra. They murdered hundreds of Chinese, and countless numbers of natives whom they suspected of sympathising with the Dutch.

JUST when it seemed that the Dutch would restore order in the Indies, in quick time, there were international complications.

The Indonesians are Communist-supported. So also are the dockworkers of Australia. The latter got other Red unions to join with them in imposing a ban on everything Dutch, in order to help the Indonesians.

The bumble-footed trade union politicians who comprise the Australian Government instead of condemning this impudent declaration of war against Holland, actually made common cause with the Reds. They ran yelling to UNO, asking for "intervention in the dispute"—which meant nothing more or less than intervention against the Dutch.

The United Nations is moribund. Russia has used her veto in the Security Council so regularly and consistently during the past year that UNO has done virtually nothing—it is paralysed by the Reds.

However, Australia's move—enthusiastically supported by various Asiatic nations—was not supported by Britain and other Empire countries; and it was set aside in favour of a proposal of mediation, not by the United Nations, but by the United States.

The UN demanded a "cease fire" while America investigated. Both Dutch and Indonesians ordered a cease fire on August 4; but fighting continued intermittently thereafter. The Dutch charged the Indonesians with ignoring the order—and, if recent history is any guide, they probably were right. The Indonesians are trying to force UNO to appoint an international commission of inquiry.

A NEW PACIFIC AIRWAY

Hawaii to Samoa

FROM JOHN WILLIAMS

HONOLULU, August 1.

REGISTERED in Pago Pago and Hawaii, and financed and managed entirely by Samoan interests, Samoa Area Airways have succeeded in blazing a new commercial air trail in the Central Pacific. This may be ground-work for closer co-operation between British, American and French air interests.

Four successful round-flights already have been made between Honolulu and Pago Pago (American Samoa) with a DC-4 chartered from Pacific Overseas Airlines of Honolulu. The company is purchasing its own DC-4, and a Catalina flying boat, which will be used to pioneer new routes from Pago Pago to the south and east.

The entire operations of the company are under the strict regulations of the US Civil Aeronautics Administration. Veteran American air crews are employed, but wherever possible Samoans are used to assist them. Samoan hostesses add a distinct charm to the air cruises.

Sadie Thompson's Inn, at Pago Pago, has been modernised and extended for the use of visitors who have, too, the choice of new native huts at various places if they want "to go native."

President of the new concern is Lawrence M. Coleman, who was born and educated at Pago Pago, and specialised in business courses at Honolulu, San Francisco, New York and Washington, D.C. His brother-in-law, Peter E. Reid, is secretary-treasurer. Mr. Reid is managing director of G. H. C. Reid & Co., the old-established general merchants of Pago Pago. Mrs. Reid is local agent of the Airways.

United States naval authorities have greatly assisted the company. Former

The American investigator was expected in Java about August 12.

MEANWHILE the following things have happened:—

The overwhelming majority of the native peoples in the Netherlands Indies outside Java, and a large proportion of those in Java, and all the Chinese have expressed sympathy with the Dutch, and their hope that the latter will restore order in the country.

Having found that all they could do for the Indonesians was cancelled out by the Indonesians' own untrustworthiness, the Labour and other parties of the Left, in Holland, placed themselves wholly behind the Dutch Government, in carrying on its task in Java.

Greatly embarrassed by repercussions from the ban on Dutch shipping, the Australian Prime Minister demanded at least a part-removal of the ban; and, when this paper went to press, he was getting into hots with the various Red-rulled unions on the matter.

"Wog" mobs in Egypt, anti-British elements in India, and Communists generally, were making common cause with Australia in a campaign against the Dutch. All other Western European countries were either silent, or were sympathetic with the Dutch.

The people of the Commonwealth with their "White Australia" complex, must feel very happy about the associations to which they have been committed by a combination of aggressive Communist unions and Government weakness!



Lawrence M. Coleman, head of Samoa Area Airways, and his sister, Mrs. Mabel Reid, wife of Peter E. Reid, of Pago Pago. Mr. Reid is secretary-treasurer of the company, and Mrs. Reid is Pago Pago agent.

Governor, Captain H. A. Hansen, set the ball rolling. To-day's officials who are helping to open the Central Pacific to this new traffic are: Governor of American Samoa, Captain Vernon Huber; captain of the yard, Commander W. J. Germershausen; Attorney-General, Commander W. J. Bivens; Senior Medical officer, Captain V. G. Colvin; chief Customs officer, Lt. Joseph Eikam; and operations officer, Lt. A. G. Trube, jr.

Mr. Coleman, who is in charge of the company's office at Honolulu, is supervising the purchase of additional equipment and the establishment of a branch office at Los Angeles, California. The organised Samoan community at Honolulu and the Hawaii Visitors' Bureau (a non-profit, community agency) are assisting Mr. Coleman to publicise the objectives of the new airline.

A distinguished New Caledonian is visiting Noumea after an absence of 20 years. He is **Lieut.-Col. Maurice Bichon**, who holds the Legion of Honour and the Croix de Guerre with four citations. He was captured in the early part of the war, but was later able to rally the French Forces, with whom he fought in Italy and France. After serving with the occupation forces in Germany, he joined General Leclerc's expeditionary force in Indo-China.

A whaleboat containing three native men, one woman and three children, which left Rakahanga for Manihiki (a distance of 25 miles) on July 12, failed to reach its destination and has been reported missing. The auxiliary ketch "New Golden Hind" was despatched from Rarotonga to conduct a search and aircraft have been asked to keep a lookout; but so far no report has been made of the missing boat.

ANA WILL BE OUT OF TRANS-PACIFIC SERVICE NEXT APRIL

UK and Dominion Governments Will Then Run Own Organisation

BRITISH Commonwealth Pacific Airlines will take over the Sydney-North America, and Auckland-North America air service next April.

At present this service is being run by Australian National Airways Pty., Ltd., under contract with BCPA. Their contract ends in April and will not be renewed.

BCPA was registered under the NSW Companies Act last year, but so far, has been kept as a shadow organisation, with a registered office and a secretary, but no staff. Nominal capital was £1,000,000 and stock is held by the Australian government (50 per cent.), New Zealand (30 per cent.), and United Kingdom (20 per cent.). Mr. A. W. Coles, who is also chief executive officer of the Australian Government's internal air company, Trans-Australian Airways, is chairman of BCPA.

It has been stated that BCPA expect no difficulty in taking over from ANA. ANA has recently been permitted to purchase two new Skymasters for the trans-Pacific service and it is understood that these can be acquired by BCPA at will. TAA will have its new Conquairs in operation by next April and then presumably also will pass over its Skymasters for the trans-Pacific service.

Simultaneously with the announcement that BCPA would take over, Captain A. A. Barlow, who has been largely concerned with the flight operations of ANA's trans-Pacific run, resigned from that company and joined BCPA as manager of the new organisation.

THE new development is in keeping with the intention of the Socialist governments of Australia, New Zealand and United Kingdom to control all airways.

Australia now controls Qantas Empire Airways and the trans-Pacific service,

New Zealand controls Tasman Empire Airways, its internal airways and some South Pacific services; and the United Kingdom controls BOAC and allied services.

Trans Australia Airways—which was the Australian Government's answer to a High Court decision against the nationalisation of internal airways—received a foundation grant of £3,000,000 from Australian public funds and has subsequently received every aid, financial and political, that it is possible for the Government to put its way. It is the expressed intention of the Government to push private air companies from the skyways, if possible.

Latest broadside in this campaign is the introduction, at the end of July, of a Government levy on all planes using aerodrome facilities in Australia.

Trans-Australia Airlines completes its first year in October, but so far there has been no statement as to its financial position, although pertinent questions have been asked, both in and out of Parliament, and there is some uneasiness that taxpayers' money is being used to finance this effort to break private airline enterprise.

AUSTRALIAN National Airways Pty., Ltd., has had a long and excellent record in Australian aviation. It was due to this company's enterprise and organisation that BCPA was able to inaugurate the service last year—the shadow company, at that time, had neither the machines nor the ground organisation for such an undertaking.

It is unlikely, however, that the managing director of ANA (Captain Ivan Holyman) was unaware that, once the pioneering period had passed, the service would be run by BCPA on its own account. But apart from surmounting the problems associated with every pioneer venture, ANA may yet have come out best in the trans-Pacific service; the problems of that service are likely to increase rather than diminish.

Pan American Airways run a parallel trans-Pacific service, twice weekly between Sydney and North America, in comparison with BCPA's single service; and once weekly from Auckland, in comparison with BCPA service once a fortnight. There must, however, be a limit to the number of passengers who are prepared to pay over £200 to cross the Pacific, and once the post-war boom seriously begins to wane and trans-Pacific shipping is restored to something approaching its former frequency, the maintenance of any trans-Pacific air service might well become a headache for its operators.

PACIFIC AIR COUNCIL

THE South Pacific Aviation Transport Council began discussions in Canberra on August 11. The Council had its first meeting in Melbourne last December.

It will discuss the operation of the trans-Pacific service by British Commonwealth Pacific Airlines and the development of air services among the islands of the South Pacific.

It will also discuss the relative advantages of Nadi and Nausori as Fiji's international airport.

Representatives of the United King-

dom, New Zealand, Australia and Fiji are attending the Conference. Canada has sent an observer.

NATIVES' WAGES

Attempt at Classification In Papua-N. Guinea

RATES paid to natives employed by the Papua-New Guinea Administration are set out in detail in the Territories Gazette of August 6.

There is a large number of classifications. Pay for unskilled labourers is the minimum of 15/- per month (which rises to 30/- per month in third year). Semi-skilled labour (rubber tappers, medical orderlies, machinists, messengers, store-assistants, saw-mill workers, etc.) starts at about £1 per month, and goes up to £3, £4, and £5 per month, according to circumstances.

Skilled labour includes machinery operators, clerical workers, medical assistants, all classes of trained tradesmen, seamen, cooks, teachers, interpreters, and their wages run according to circumstances. They can start as low as 15/- per month, and they range up to £10 and £12. A cook can get £8 per month; a teacher £12/10/0; a carpenter, £10; and so forth.

US PACIFIC COMMISSIONER

ADMIRAL LOUIS E. DENFELD, who has been appointed High Commissioner in charge of all the new United States Territories in the North Pacific.



Death of Mrs. C. Williams

A WELL-KNOWN resident of the Ba district, Fiji, died suddenly at the Ba Hotel during July. She had been on a visit to Suva and appeared to be in good health, although 73 years of age. She had resided in the district for 46 years, and both she and the late Mr. Williams were highly respected. She is survived by her son, Mr. J. Williams, who lives in New Zealand.

Australia's "Pacific Minister" On World Tour

THE Minister in charge of Australia's Pacific Territories, Mr. E. J. Ward, is expected back in Sydney on September 28. He left for London, and the ILO Conference in Geneva, accompanied by various officials, early in June. He spent some weeks at Geneva (where he strongly disagreed with what was done) and then, with Mrs. Ward and Senator Amour (another world tourist travelling at Australia's expense) he had a wander through Western Europe, England, Scotland and Ireland; crossed to United States by luxury liner; spent a further period "studying railway systems in North America" (he is also Minister for Transport in Australia); and he joined a ship in New York to travel leisurely to Australia via Panama Canal.

NORTH PACIFIC POLICIES



On the left: Father Bernard R. Hubbard, Alaska's famous "glacier priest," has just completed a seven months' tour of the North Pacific. He has two warnings. First, the present naval administration of the former Jap-mandated islands should not be replaced by "theorist politicians, too many of them being undeveloped morons." Second, "we must have occupation of Japan for at least a generation, to wipe out completely the cancer of militaristic shintoism. There is still a group of have-nots waiting so they can get back in . . . that is human nature. It will take a new generation to breed a new type of thinking."

Kon-Tiki Raft Reaches French Oceania

Drift Voyage Proves Possibility of Peruvian Influence on Early Polynesia

THE Kon-Tiki raft voyagers have proved that pre-Inca natives of South America could have reached what we now know as Polynesia using primitive balsa rafts and the Humbolt Current.

The six young Norwegians, led by Thor Heyerdahl, who left Callao, Peru, on April 29, arrived in the Marquesas 81 days later. They drifted the distance of approximately 4,000 miles in 5 weeks under schedule. Their object was to prove that Polynesia could have been peopled (at least in part) from the South American continent and not, as generally accepted, from South-East Asia only.

The Norwegians are not the first to subscribe to this theory—the presence of the kumera (or sweet potato), gourds, the mysterious statues on Easter Island and other non-Polynesian constructions on other islands, and the language of Eastern Polynesia—which is quite unlike that spoken in the rest of Polynesia—have been offered as proof of South American influence on the original settlement of these people.

The Norwegians' exploit does seem to indicate that there was some influence from this quarter, particularly on Easter Island, the Marquesas and Tahiti—from whence certain material results of the "invasion" (such as the sweet-potato) spread to the rest of Polynesia. But whether or not the arrival of these pre-Incas was anything but a matter of accident and extremely spasmodic, is still open to doubt—notwithstanding the successful Kon-Tiki raft venture. When nearing the Marquesas on July 10, Heyerdahl radioed: "Our experiences with the little known balsa wood raft have, on the whole, convinced us all that with such a craft in common use along the coast of ancient Peru with wind and current sweeping incessantly westward, Polynesia can hardly have been undiscovered by South American raftsmen."

The scientists reported that even after long weeks of immersion, the balsa logs, of which the raft was constructed, were still buoyant, and that in spite of storms, the softness of the logs had prevented the chafing of the ropes that held them together.

They also reported that sufficient water could be carried in bamboos and that sweet potatoes and coconuts, although they had started to sprout, were in edible condition at the end of the voyage. Flying-fish had landed on the raft every

Candlenut Oil Process Now Protected

SUVA, Aug. 3

THE purchase within Fiji of candlenuts, the export of nuts, and the manufacture, processing and refining of candlenut oil have been declared a protected industry by the Legislative Council.

The Director of Agriculture (Mr. C. Harvey) said that owing to the shortage of tung and linseed oils there was a strong demand locally for candlenut oil. It was also possible, he added, that the residual meal might be useful as animal food or as organic fertiliser.

Every year, said the Director, about 1,000 tons of candlenuts, producing about 40,000 gallons of oil, are available in the Colony. He added that the price paid for the nuts would be based on the financial return to the manufacturer.

DEATH OF DR. A. J. BORG

THE death has been reported from Auckland, N.Z., of Dr. A. J. Borg.

Dr. Borg was for 30 years attached to the Medical Department, Fiji. He retired in 1943 and has since been in private practice in Auckland.

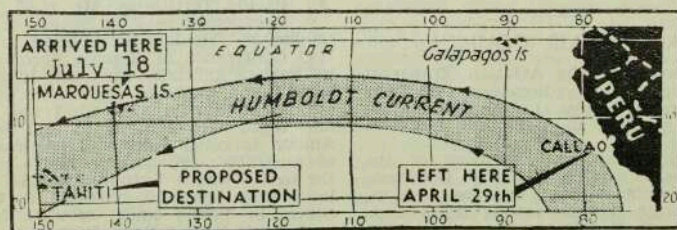
night; crabs could be picked off the logs and big fish were always caught easily under the raft.

The raft, which is 18 feet by 45 feet, is similar to that believed to have been used by the ancient Peruvians. It had a centre board and a primitive single sail. A small bamboo hut, erected upon it, gave shelter to the men and their gear.

THE Norwegians have proved their point. But what we will never know is whether the Peruvians, knowing the hazards of such a voyage to what must have been unknown lands, and the extreme unlikelihood of their ever getting back to Peru, deliberately undertook these voyages; or whether such South American culture as did reach Eastern Polynesia was the result of accident—rafts that were blown away from the western coast of the continent in storms.

After making their Marquesan landfall, the six Kon-Tiki scientists decided to go on to Tahiti.

AUGUST 11: The Kon Tiki voyage has ended on Raroia Reef, east of Tahiti. After spending 3 days getting round the Reef, the raft went aground on the coral. The party made its way ashore on an uninhabited island and managed to salvage most of their equipment. Ropes that had held the logs in place had broken during a 4-days' storm but they hope to find natives on adjacent islands to help reassemble the logs.



THE HUMBOLDT Current, which carried the expedition across the Pacific.

COOK IS. REDS

Challenge by Government- Sponsored Union

From Our Own Correspondent

RAROTONGA, July 25.

AN official workers' union was registered on July 12. Full title is "The Cook Islands (except Niue) Industrial Union of Workers." It embraces every class of labour.

The formation of this government sponsored Union is bitterly resented by the Cook Islands Progressive Association which believes that this is a direct attempt to break up the CIPA. Actually, the new union has been organised by workers who refused to be intimidated by the CIPA's "Join or else . . ." methods of gaining complete control of Cook Island industrial affairs.

The CIPA had a stranglehold on Rarotonga while it held complete control of the waterfront. As the only workers organisation in the Cook Islands it had the sympathy of Communistic NZ watersiders and used the strike weapon with full effect. A legal union, affiliated with the NZ Federation of Labour may change the picture somewhat.

But numerically the CIPA is a powerful organisation and its leaders are determined to fight. Mr. Albert Henry, Auckland secretary of the CIPA arrived in Rarotonga by the last plane. A number of meetings have been held and it is reported that one of the matters discussed is the formation of a company to market all native products.

Latest "independent" labour move is the formation of a "carpenters' union."

Employers were served with a circular explaining that, in future, anyone requiring the services of a carpenter would have to apply to the organisation and that the following rates of pay per day must be observed: Head carpenters, 18/-; senior carpenters, 14/-; junior carpenters, 12/-; apprentice carpenters, 10/-.

The classification caused some amusement. With very few exceptions, native "carpenters" can generally be considered "labourers who are handy with tools," and paid accordingly.

As it appeared that employers were paying little attention to the new organisation, all "carpenters" were called out on strike. The strike, however, was not a success. Employers had no difficulty in finding other men for the work, and, so, for the present, most of the original "carpenters" are without jobs.

DR. F. L. PINCHING DEAD

THE death occurred on June 30 at Summer Hill, Sydney, of Dr. Frank Lawley Pinching, at the advanced age of 88. He was very well known in the Solomons. He was born in Ireland, the son of a doctor, and he and every one of his eleven brothers and one sister became qualified medical practitioners.

He served in the Matabele and Boer Wars; he was a fellow-prisoner of Dr. Jameson; and his friend Cecil Rhodes sent him to England to study an obscure fever which was causing concern in Africa. Later, he went to Nauru as a native commissioner; and then he joined his old friend, Mr. Workman, then Resident Commissioner in the British Solomons, as a labour inspector. He transferred to the Levers Plantations service, in the Solomons, as a medical officer, and remained with Levers until he retired about 10 years ago. He held some of the highest degrees in Freemasonry.

PACIFIC SHIPPING POSITION SHOWS NO IMPROVEMENT

Industrial Disputes, Rising Costs and Shorter Hours Put Companies on the Spot

ALTHOUGH the shipping services between Australian and Papua-New Guinea have shown considerable improvement since the "Malaita" came out of dock and went on to the Sydney-Port Moresby-Samarai-Rabaul run, thus relieving the "Montoro," which does mainland ports in New Guinea, the overall shipping position in the Pacific is worse, if anything, than during the war.

SYDNEY-NORTH AMERICAN SERVICES: It was announced in July that the two Matson liners, "Monterey" and "Mariposa," which are being refitted in San Francisco, will not return to the Pacific trade until well on in 1948. It was hoped that these ships which have been in dock for over a year, would be back before the end of this year. Work was suspended on them in mid-July while the company made new plans. Originally it was intended to modernise these ships from the waterline, but reasons given for suspension of this work were: Increased costs in labour and materials, industrial hold-ups and the uncertain effect of air competition across the Pacific. It is estimated that operating costs on voyages have increased 106 per cent.—the cargo handling rate in Auckland, N.Z. for example, is only half the pre-war figure.

The "Marine Phoenix" is at present maintaining a fairly regular schedule from Sydney to San Francisco. She carries only "priority" passengers and is usually unable to pick up or set down passengers at intermediate Islands ports.

The "Aorangi," which belongs to Canadian-Australasian, an affiliate of the Union Company, is refitting in Sydney and was to be back on the Sydney-Vancouver run in February 1948. No progress reports on this vessel have been issued for some time, but it is expected that it will be much later in the year before she is ready.

In July there was a "blacklog" of 2,000 Australians waiting for passages from America to Australia.

TASMAN SERVICE: There is no service between Sydney and New Zealand at the present time. It is expected, however, that the "Wahine," which was on the run earlier in the year and was then withdrawn, will be back on this service in September. Tasman Empire Airways is at present the only means of passenger communication between the two countries.

AUSTRALIA-FIJI: There is no regular passenger shipping service between Australia and Fiji, and other South Pacific ports. Before the war, this was adequately taken care of by the Matson ships and the Canadian-Australian line.

NEW ZEALAND-FIJI AND SOUTH PACIFIC ISLAND PORTS: The "Matua" continues to maintain a five or six-weekly schedule between Auckland, Suva, Tonga, Apia, and return. Owing mostly to labour unruliness, delay is experienced at the turn-around in Auckland, otherwise this ship could maintain a four-weekly schedule.

"Matua" should have sailed from Auckland on July 29, but was held up by a waterside workers' dispute and was

still in Auckland on August 4. Watersiders, who refused to lay dunnage in one of her holds, were dismissed. Subsequently they did not answer the call to load her. Meanwhile, 100 island passengers were left kicking their heels in Auckland. After this trip of "Matua," she will be withdrawn for annual survey and expects to be back on the run about the beginning of October.

The Government vessel "Maui Pomare" is maintaining a passenger and freight service between Auckland and the Cook Islands, with occasional calls at other Groups. The NZ Government has been unsuccessfully trying to purchase a larger and more suitable vessel.

SYDNEY-NORFOLK ISLAND-LORD HOWE-NEW HEBRIDES: Because the "Morinda," the regular steamer on this run, has had to go into dock for overhaul these islands will be without passenger services for about three months. The small BP ship "Mullama" will carry essential supplies to these islands; but the only passenger communication will be between Norfolk Island and New Zealand, which is served by a RNZAF Dakota airmail service.

NEW SHIPPING SERVICE

Auckland-Norfolk Is.-N. Caledonia

THE small, twin-screw motor-vessel "Rosalie," 250 tons, Captain E. G. Coudrey, was scheduled to sail from Auckland on August 15, to inaugurate a new monthly service between Auckland, Norfolk Island and New Caledonia.

The vessel was bought from NZ War Assets Realisation Board by Union Manufacturing and Export Co., Ltd., of Wellington, and is being run by Irving Clarke Ltd., of Auckland, as managing agents. She will carry general merchandise to Norfolk Island and New Caledonia, and will take back to New Zealand timber and copra (from New Caledonia) and fruits and tropical vegetables from Norfolk Island.

Norfolk Island has no trade with Australia worth mentioning and, apart from the "Morinda," no communication with outside, except a fortnightly call from a plane flying between Auckland and Fiji.

While the Administrator of NI and the Prime Minister of NZ, with the simple veracity of politicians, have been denying that NZ has any thought or intention of taking NI over from Australia, Auckland commercial interests have quietly stepped in and provided a long-needed freight service, which will probably make Norfolk Island a NZ Territory in all but name.

The United States Atomic Energy Commission announced on July 24 that it was establishing proving grounds in the Pacific for experiments and tests of atomic weapons. Location is not indicated.

POWER FOR VITI LEVU

Fiji Inquiring Into Hydro-Electric Plans

A CONSULTING engineer, Mr. H. Vickerman, of Wellington, N.Z. will proceed to Fiji soon, to investigate various plans for hydro-electric installations in Fiji, and report upon same to the Government of Fiji.

Especially will he inquire into possibilities in Viti Levu which, with its heavy rainfall and big rivers falling sharply out of the mountains into the coastal plain, seems to have been designed by nature for the development of hydro-electric power.

In the middle thirties, when the Vatoukoula gold-mine industry was being developed, rival interests (some headed by Sir Charles Marr, MP, of Australia, and some by the Hon. E. G. Theodore, director of the new gold enterprises) investigated the possibilities of hydro-electric power in Viti Levu; but, for some reason (ascribed by some to political antagonisms) nothing came of these plans, and the gold industry installed its own powerful generating plant, driven by oil-engines.

Hydro-electric plans were not dealt with during the war period.

IN November, 1946, the subject was revived by a memorandum to the Government from the Director of Works, who said he sought a river capable of being harnessed to give 15,000 h.p. He discussed various schemes, and his memorandum has aroused some controversy.

There seem to be three schemes in Viti Levu. These are:—

1.—**Central Viti Levu**—(a) Upper Sigatoka (Vuka-ni-Manu). (b) Wai-ni-Vodi Creek (Mua-ni-Savu Levu Falls). (c) Wai-ni-Savu Levu Creek (Vau Falls). These schemes were closely investigated by two Sydney engineers, Messrs. A. G. Gibson and H. G. Foxall, under Sir Charles Marr's directions, in 1935-36, and they were favourably impressed with at least one of them. The Works Director says their catchment is too small and the cost of making them accessible by road would be enormous. This has been sharply contradicted by Mr. Theo D. Riaz, of Navai, who claims to know the country well, and has had it under observation for a long period. It is contended that power generated here could be economically reticulated over all Viti Levu—and especially to the sugar mills and airfields, to the gold-mine industry at Tavua, and to Suva.

2.—**Nadi River.** This location is well to the westward of the island. It is described as a promising possibility for Nadi, Lautoka and Ba.

3.—**Navua River.** This is on the south side of Viti Levu. It is strongly favoured by the Works Director, who says it can be readily dammed to give a large reservoir, that it has a good catchment, and that from a generating station there power could be distributed to Navua, to Suva and to the Rewa Delta (Nausori, etc.).

Experts always disagree. To the plain layman, the idea of placing the power-station at a central point, from which it could feed light and power to the whole of the island, seems sound. But accessibility is important; and catchment, of course, is vital.

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SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL COMMISSION

No Indication of When Organisation Will Function

EXCEPT for an interesting debate in the Legislative Council of Fiji, reported hereunder, very little has happened in relation to the South Pacific Regional Council, since that body was formed in Canberra in February by representatives of British Empire countries, United States, France and Holland.

The delay probably is due to the greatly disturbed condition of all the countries primarily concerned.

It was announced in February, soon after the delegates dispersed, that an organising secretary would be appointed; and that matters of procedure would have attention, such as the selection of a Secretary-General, and preparations for the first meeting of the Commission, which would take place in Sydney in June or July. (The Canberra Conference resolved that, pending the selection of a headquarters site, headquarters should be in Sydney; but that a headquarters site should be selected within six months of

the Agreement coming into force).

In April, Colonel John Kerr, principal of the School of Pacific Administration, Sydney, was appointed to act as Organiser-Secretary. Premises for the preliminary staff and organisation of the Commission have been provided near the School of Tropical Administration, St. George's Heights, Mosman, Sydney.

That, so far as is known, is all that has happened.

There is no indication of when the Commission will hold its first meeting. There has been no announcement by the Australian Minister (Dr. Evatt), who was responsible for the creation of the Commission—probably because half the Australian Ministers are travelling abroad at the present time, and their absence has thrown a tremendous burden of work upon Ministers at home. (Dr. Evatt, incidentally, is not at home—he is absent on a brief visit to Japan.)

Some Fiji Public Men Critical of Commission

A MOTION by Mr. A. A. Ragg, European-elected member of the Southern Division, protesting strongly against Fiji's inclusion in the ambit of operations of the South Pacific Regional Commission, was defeated in the Legislative Council on July 25, by 19 votes to 11.

Of the 19 opponents, 16 were official members of the Council. The remaining three came from the ranks of the Fijian members. All the European and Indian unofficial members and one of the Fijian members voted for the motion.

Mr. Ragg based his attack on the Commission on three main grounds:

- He objected to the inclusion of Fiji in the Commission's sphere of operations without the prior consent of the people of the Colony.

- He contended that Fiji was more advanced politically and economically than Territories such as New Guinea and the Solomon Islands, and would therefore be held back by association in the Commission with such Territories.

- He expressed the fear that the Commission would eventually cease to be merely advisory and consultative, and that its recommendations would become mandatory, resulting in the loss of the independence of the territories concerned.

Apprehension that the Commission would be dominated by Australia and New Zealand was emphasised by Sir Hugh Ragg, European-elected member for the North-Western Division, and by Mr. W. G. Johnson, one of the European nominated members.

Mr. Johnson said that the people of Fiji were awakened, politically and economically, and the Colony was already considerably past some of the stages from which it was inferred by overseas political leaders it was being saved.

"We do not wish to be held back by association with more backward peoples, nor do we wish to be rushed forward too quickly," Mr. Johnson said.

Sir Hugh Ragg quoted International Labour Organisation conventions which had been incorporated in the Labour Bill passed the previous day by the Council as an example of the findings of an advisory body being considered binding on participating territories, and he said that there was wide-spread apprehension that the recommendations of the South Pacific Commission would also eventually be considered mandatory, thus opening the way

for interference in the affairs of Fiji by the neighbouring dominions.

MR A. D. PATEL, Indian-elected member for the North-western Division, criticised the membership of the Commission on the grounds that while the Governments of Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand and the United States of America were democratic, those of France and Holland were reactionary. He suggested that India should participate in the Commission.

The Acting-Governor, Mr. J. F. Nicoll, pointed out that the agreement constituting the Commission specified that only those Powers with dependent territories in the South Pacific could take part.

Mr. H. B. Gibson, European elected member for the Eastern Division, said that the members were jealous of the dignity of Legislative Council, and felt that they should have been consulted before matters affecting Fiji were discussed at the Canberra Conference.

Dr. J. C. R. Buchanan (who, besides being Director of Medical Services in Fiji, is the executive head of the South Pacific Health Service) said that a lesson he had learned from 60,000 miles of travel in the South Pacific, and from many years spent in the Colonial Service, was that when any Territory was too proud to take advantage of the experience of others in any sphere it was extremely likely that it would fall behind, despite the ingenuity and skill of its own people. He agreed that conditions varied, from one South Pacific country to another, but he would not acknowledge that all the problems facing these countries were dissimilar. General principles which had been proved elsewhere were applicable to each.

Dr. Buchanan recalled the help given by the Rockefeller Foundation in the early stages of the Central Medical School; and he paid a warm tribute to New Zealand's assistance in maintaining a pool of nursing sisters for hospitals in Fiji.

THE Acting Colonial Secretary, Mr. A. R. W. Robertson, said that the motion could not be accepted by the Government. He thought that the members who had supported it had shown undue uneasiness. The Agreement establishing the Commission was quite straightforward. It stated plainly that the functions of the Commission were to be consultative and advisory. Political and

constitutional matters were specifically excluded, and arguments based on fear of political interference in the Colony's internal affairs were therefore groundless.

In replying to the debate, Mr. Ragg said that Great Britain had a tendency at present to shed political responsibility, and that others were willing to receive the plums as they fell. He realised that the Commission Agreement excluded political matters; but, when economic forces obtruded, political domination was the result.

Mr. Ragg said that in the Commission the majority would rule; and he believed that this would eventually result in direct interference in the affairs of Fiji, leaving the liberties and rights of the people to become mere ninepins to be bowled over whenever it suited the sovereign Powers.

M. Joseph Cruciani, member of a prominent Corsican family, has been appointed head of the New Caledonian judiciary. He played a great part in freeing Corsica. In 1943 he was deported to Italy but escaped and joined the Italian Resistance movement in Tuscany. Next, called to Algers by the French, he had appointed a lieutenant-colonel, he became Government Commissioner in Corsica.

Government grants to five New Caledonian students in France, amounting to 8500 French francs per month, have been renewed for the coming scholastic year. They are made to Messrs. Guy Dubois, Marc Fonquernie, Theodore Siret, Jacques Laplagne and Camille Bastien. Other scholarships have been awarded to Messrs. Roger Liezour, Maurice Costa, Philippe Busiau and Mlle. de la Ville, who left Noumea for France recently by the Ville de Strasbourg.

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Mrs. Jack McLean has returned to Queensland after some months in Port Moresby, where her husband is Wing-Commander J. McLean, of the RAAF.

The Missionary Sisters of the Society of Mary, recently bought Mr. D. B. Costello's home and property at Muanikau, near Suva, Fiji, for conversion to a convent, to be known as St. Mary's. There are 70 Missionary Sisters of the Society of Mary in Fiji. Of these, 18 are employed by the Medical Department as nursing sisters at the Central Leper Station at Makogai. The remainder undertake educational work at various Roman Catholic mission stations in the Colony.

DEATH OF J. TARIPO

THERE was general regret at the news of the death, in New Zealand on July 27, of Mr. John Taripo, well-known popular trader of Rarotonga. On July 23 Mr. Taripo was taken to Auckland in a plane specially chartered by the New Zealand Island Territories Department.

Mr. Taripo was taken ill while building a new cinema in Avarua. He was found to need a delicate brain operation.

He leaves a wife, one daughter and four sons who will continue his business interests.

"FIJI GUARDIAN"

A New Weekly Newspaper

MEN prominently connected with the European Electors Association have organised "The Guardian"—a weekly newspaper which is expected to make its appearance in Suva fairly soon. Machinery and premises are exceedingly scarce now; but those problems have been solved by bringing some printing equipment from New Zealand, and installing it in Mr. J. H. Bayley's building, around the corner from Mr. Noel Levy's shop, near the main street.

"The Guardian," which will be under the direct management of Mr. Furby, is expected to voice the policy of the EEA, which seeks "greater political control of their domestic affairs by the people of the Colony," and "the long-avowed aim of the British colonial policy to advance the Colonies towards self-government."

The new journal, however, will find that Fiji, with its curious mixture of races (10,000 Europeans, in charge; 117,000 Fijians, comparatively indifferent towards politics; and 120,000 Indians, avid for political power) presents an especially difficult problem.

This is the view taken of the British Colonial Office, as expressed by the Minister (Mr. A. Creech-Jones) on June 4:

"The constitution of Fiji was amended in 1937 so as to increase Fijian and Indian representation, and to give equal representation to the three communities while retaining an official majority of one."

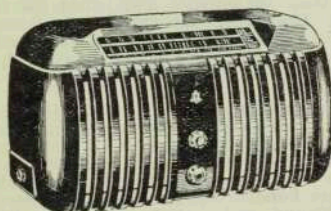
"The overriding consideration must remain the obligation of his Majesty's Government to the Fijians. I cannot accept the suggestion that this change was or is contrary to the wishes of a majority of the people, particularly when much responsible European opinion and Fijian opinion is opposed now to any change in the constitution."

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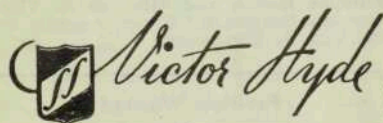
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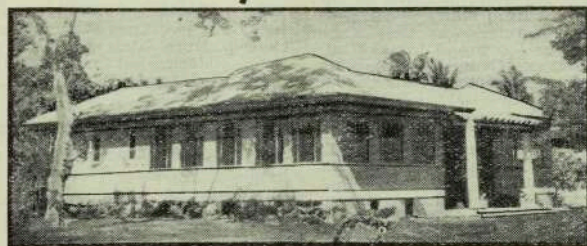


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It's An Old Tongan Custom

SUVA Aug. 3.

THE customs of Merrie England, such as kissing under the mistletoe and similar agreeable devices, have nothing on the customs of Merrie Tonga.

The firm of W. R. Carpenter (Fiji) Ltd., honorary agents in Suva for the Tongan Government, entertained the visiting Tongan Rugby team and some of the Tongan's Fijian friends at a picnic at Nukulau Island.

At the end of an eminently successful day, the massive Tongans, courteously explaining that this was an old Tongan custom, heaved their host, Mr. W. G. Johnson, and their manager, Mr. G. Goodacre, into the sea.

Neither Mr. Johnson nor Mr. Goodacre has said a word to suggest that the day was not a success to the end.

Incidentally, the Tongan Rugby tour has been a complete success. The Fijians won both the tests, played at Suva, but in the provinces the home teams did not come off so well. The Vatukoula team went down 21-6.

Mr. D. C. C. Trench, MC has been appointed First Assistant Secretary of the Western Pacific High Commission with effect from March 9, 1947. Mr. J. A. C. Hill has been appointed Cadet Officer and Second Assistant Secretary of the WPHC. Mr. Trench, until his recent transfer to the Commission in Suva, was stationed in the Solomons.

£10 HIGHER Consumer Price of N. Guinea Copra

IT became known, at the end of July, that Australian consumers of copra were being charged the following prices by New Guinea Production Control Board (Government-owned and controlled):

	Per ton.
Hot-air-cured and Sun-dried	£51 5 0
Smoked	50 5 0

The rise came into effect on July 22, and it is an advance of approximately £10 per ton on the rates previously ruling.

When the price to the Australian consumer was about £42 per ton, the price allowed to the Papua-New Guinea producers was around £30 per ton.

It is now expected that the price to the producers will be increased by about £10 per ton. That, however, is arranged by the Department of External Territories at Canberra, and is usually announced by the Minister. As the present Minister (Mr. Ward) is abroad, and not expected back in Australia much before September, no announcement of an increased price is likely, for a while.

Producers, however, are confident that the higher prices will be retrospective—that they will operate as from the last week of July.

Fiji Copra Value Doubled In 18 Months

INTERESTING figures relating to the Copra industry in Fiji were quoted recently by Sir Maynard Hedstrom in giving his annual address to shareholders in Morris Hedstrom Ltd.

"Production in Fiji for the calendar year 1946 was about 28,000 tons, as against an average of 24,000 tons during the previous four years. More important is the increase in price. In January, 1946, the Fiji Government paid producers for FMS Copra £18 per ton, (which was the rate prevailing when I wrote my last address). During the year, prices have advanced as follows:—

Date	FMS £ s. d.	Plantation £ s. d.
14-1-46	18 0 0	19 7 6
28-1-46	18 0 0	18 5 6
4-7-46	23 5 0	23 10 6
29-9-46	26 3 6	26 9 0
2-12-46	25 15 0	26 0 6
5-1-47	29 10 0	29 15 6
9-6-47	36 13 6	36 19 0*

"These figures indicate that the buying power of copra producers increased considerably during the year. There are now no private exporters of copra in Fiji—the Government, acting for the United Kingdom Government, buys copra brought into shipping ports at prices

fixed by that Government. For this purpose the Fiji Government employs business firms who in former years were concerned in the copra business. Indications are that present prices for copra will be maintained throughout the current year, and may be increased."

* Added since address was delivered.

Analysis of Fiji Copra

NOW that the Fiji price has been fixed at £36/13/6-36/19/- per ton, it is interesting to review the information on copra market trends broadcast by Mr. W. Grainger Johnson, MLC, in Suva, on May 31, and June 6.

Mr. Johnson urged that the producers make a very strong protest against the price then being paid to Fiji by the British Government—just under £30 Fiji per ton. He pointed out that the British Government then was paying £51/15/- Fijian for Ceylon copra, which meant that the Fiji producers should actually be getting £48, instead of £30. This was borne out by the Philippines free market price then ruling—177.50 dollars. He contended that Fiji, for a considerable time, had been deprived of from £16 to £18 per ton.

In his next broadcast, Mr. Johnson said that the British had now offered £37/12/7 sterling for FMS—equal to £41/13/6 Fijian, which, with the 65/6 handling charge off, represented about £38 to the producer. The British offer represented a rise of £9 Fijian per ton. This offer, however, contained no long-term provision—and many people

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wanted a fixed price for five years, or at least until 1950. Mr. Johnson pointed out that, pending a satisfactory adjustment, Fiji copra was being withheld from the market.

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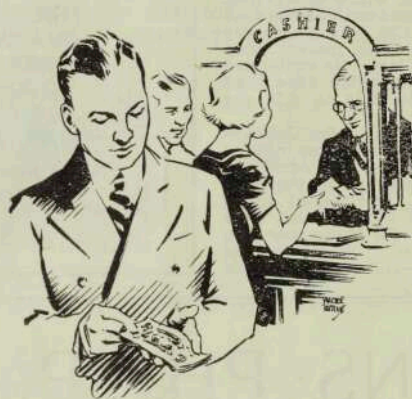
The attempt made to gain the views of the copra producers was useless, however—too many small producers, and no time in which to consult them. The British offer was accepted, without any provision for a guaranteed price until 1950; while the Fiji Board increased the margin between the price paid by Britain, and the price paid to the producers by 35/- (from 3/5/- to £5 per ton). The producers, therefore, got a net rise of slightly over £7 per ton.

There is now a substantial profit in copra production, and the present prices seem to be assured for at least two years.

Copra Price Rises in NZ Territories

WE have been informed, unofficially, that the New Zealand Government has recently raised the price paid to producers of copra in its Pacific territories (Cook Islands, Western Samoa, Niue). The price is stated to be £46/17/0 (NZ currency) at island ports. This is about £5 higher than the new price ruling in Fiji, and about £14 higher than the ruling rate paid to New Guinea producers—although, as stated above, it is confidently expected that the New Guinea price will soon be increased by about £10. It has also been hinted that the New Zealand Government expects to fix a permanent price for its Territories' copra.

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Another Dragon Crashes in New Guinea

From a Correspondent

PORT MORESBY, July 20. A DRAGON Rapide aircraft, belonging to Qantas Airways, crashed between Lae and Bulolo on July 15. The two passengers, Mr. O. P. Blanden, Mining Warden of Wau, and his wife, were unhurt, but the pilot received minor injuries.

The plane, in the best tradition of New Guinea forced landings, was pancaked into the spreading branches of a large tree and here passengers and pilot spent the night. They were rescued by a land party the following day.

New Guinea has had a series of air accidents in recent months. Two of them have been fatal, and Dragons seem to have a particularly unfortunate record. There is, consequently, some anxiety felt among air travellers in the Territory who are forced to fly in this type of aircraft.

The Civil Aviation Department, however, which has a unique safety record in Australia, is making determined efforts to bring New Guinea flying conditions up to the same high standard. They are policing the services rigidly, and grounding planes for the smallest imperfection.

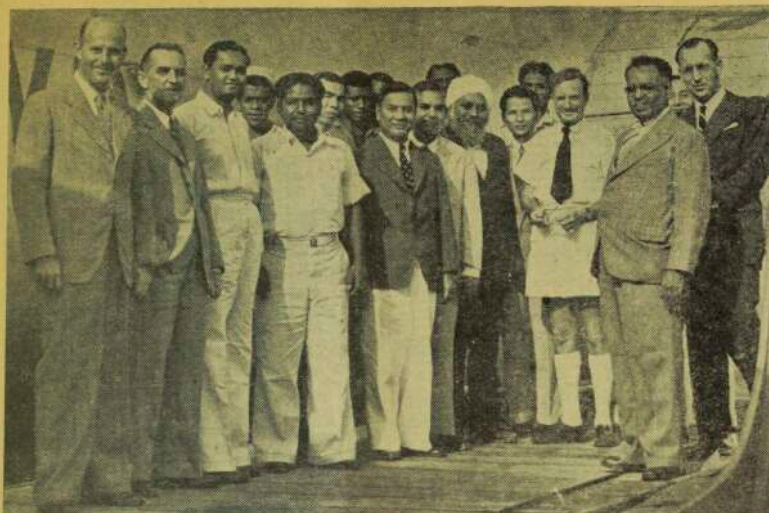
A party of Civil Aviation officials has recently conducted an exhaustive survey of every existing or projected airstrip or route in the Territory. It is planned to run a modern, well-equipped and well-controlled network of internal services to link up with the overseas air routes which will eventually take in New Guinea.

Civil Aviation authorities have conferred with the Administration to estimate future requirements in the Territory.

(EDITORIAL NOTE: In the years before the war, the air companies operating in New Guinea had a safety record second to none. And this was in the days when pilots flew without aid of directional wireless and without most of the instruments now installed in modern aircraft. They used landing-fields that were roughly hewn from the jungle, or were merely mountain ridges cleared of bush. Not even the Civil Aviation Department will be able to overcome New Guinea's natural hazards to safe flying—terrain and climate).

Ratu Mara Ululakeba, of Fiji, who is an undergraduate at Oxford, has been successful in recent athletic competitions and has become a member of the Achilles Club, which is open to Oxford or Cambridge blues or near-blues. In an unofficial inter-University meeting last month Ratu Mara won the high jump by clearing 3 feet. He has been selected for an Oxford University athletics team which is to tour the British and American zones of Germany.

NEW PACIFIC AIR SERVICE



This photograph was taken at Laucala Bay, Suva, Fiji, on July 3, when Trans-Ocean Airways' flying-boat "Australis" visited Fiji for the first time. Trans-Ocean Airways plan an irregular chartered run from Sydney to Hong Kong, via Fiji. They also undertake chartered trips anywhere else in the Pacific. The "Australis" carries 14 passengers in comfort, and six tons of freight.

The photograph shows a number of Suva citizens to whom Trans-Ocean Airways gave a complimentary flight over the town.

—Photo by Fiji Public Relations Office.

Mr. J. C. K. Marshall, formerly of the Malayan Forestry Service, has been appointed Conservator of Forests, Fiji, in succession to Mr. G. K. Setten, who has

been acting in that capacity for some time. Mr. Setten has been transferred to Malaya and will leave the Colony about September.

Three American Skymasters recently landed in Brisbane to take 63 Australians (51 men and 12 women) to work at the US Army Air Force base at Guam. It is said that they went happily—glad to get away from overtaxed, strike-torn Australia. But Canberra got its revenge. It would not give them passports—only a "permit" to be absent from the country for six months!

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Workmanship

THIRD FLAG IN N. HEBRIDES

Problem of Shipless Tonkinese

"NO European who lives in the New Hebrides wishes to see the Condominium abolished," said a recent visitor from Vila. "The idea of the Territory being joined more closely to Britain, or France, or Australia is not liked. We get a very fair deal from the Condominium officials, and there is none of this interference with our private lives and businesses. We want no change."

The most remarkable development in the New Hebrides in recent years is the appearance there of a third flag.

Over a building in the main street of Vila there waves a red flag with a five-pointed yellow star in the top corner, near the staff. This building is the headquarters of the Tonkinese Commissioner, and the flag is the flag of Tonkin, to which Indo-Chinese country the French have given a certain recognition. A miniature of the flag waves from the bonnet of the Tonkinese Commissioner's car, in the same way as the miniature Tricolour and Union Jack wave from the bonnets of the cars of the French and British Resident Commissioners.

To get labour, the French Administration brought to the New Hebrides large numbers of Tonkinese, under indenture. The British had no labour—so many of them obtained French nationality, and employed Tonkinese, and so saved their plantations.

When war came, the indenture system broke down, because the time-expired men could not be repatriated. The Tonkinese generally were freed, and thrown on their own resources. The majority entered into private contracts, with a considerable rise in wages.

In 1942-45 large numbers of American troops were in the group, and the Tonkinese generally became prosperous, by selling to the troops curios, liquor, taxi-cab service, and their women. They still have a lot of that money.

After the war, the Tonkinese clamoured to go home, but lack of shipping prevented any repatriation worthy of note. The men engage in various industries, but they still want to go back to Indo-China. Although they have their women with them—the French allowed about two women to come in, for every 10 men—they show no inclination to settle in the country—being, in this respect, very different from the Indians in Fiji, and the Chinese in New Guinea.

The number of Tonkinese in the Condominium is variously estimated at from 6,000 to 10,000—probably about 8,000. The Tonkinese Commissioner is in the group to represent them, in all their relations with the French and British.

Recently, there were tense scenes in Santo, when a large number of Tonkinese gathered around the house of the French Resident and remained there for three days, loudly demanding that they be sent home. The French officials explained that it still was impossible to get ships; but they promised the repatriation of about 300 in a month's time, to be followed by small parties at fairly regular intervals.

The Tonkinese dispersed; but the whole community insists that it is very unhappy and anxious to go home.

Mr. F. L. Jones, a trader from Vanikoro (Solomon Islands) and Baulu Islands (New Hebrides) arrived in Sydney in August, and will spend three months in Australia.



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A.P.C.
FOR SAFETY'S SAKE SAY "VINCENT'S"
POWDERS & TABLETS

Future of Norfolk Is.

Suggestion of Transfer to NZ Is Unknown Officially

ACCORDING to the Administrator of Norfolk Island, Mr. A. Wilson, there is no truth in the rumour that the island will soon come under the control of New Zealand.

Mr. Wilson is at present on a visit to Australia—a routine matter, he says, to confer with External Territories Department, Canberra. Mr. Wilson is an ex-Australian MP. He was appointed Administrator of Norfolk at the end of 1945.

Mr. Wilson, says that Norfolk Islanders are "hostile" at the New Zealand proposal. There seems to be no reason why they should be. Australia can produce everything that is grown on the island, and consequently NI products are not permitted to enter the Commonwealth in competition with mainland growers. New Zealand, on the other hand, does not produce the semi-tropical fruits and vegetables that grow the year round on Norfolk. These would find a ready market in the Dominion.

In a radio interview after his arrival in Australia, Mr. Wilson said that over 100 tourists per week were visiting Norfolk. It is interesting to note that these tourists are all from New Zealand. There is a Dakota service between Auckland and the island.

There is no air service between Australia and Norfolk Island, although the Commonwealth Government stated several months ago that they "were going into the whole question." The only regular communication with the island is by the small Burns Philp ship "Morinda" which leaves Sydney about once every seven weeks and calls at Lord Howe, Norfolk Island and ports in the New Hebrides.

The NZ Prime Minister has denied that NZ plans to take over NI. Nothing of the kind has been considered by the Australian or NZ Governments.

It should be pointed out that the proposal did not come from any politicians—who can always be depended upon to dodge and prevaricate, anyway—but from the Auckland Chamber of Commerce. After that, it received much press publicity, mostly favourable. Under NZ, the island would be useful and valuable. Under Australia, it is merely an isolated community, with no economic future, and an everlasting administrative expense.

PAPUAN MEDICAL STUDENTS FAIL AT CMS

From a Special Correspondent

SUVA, July 8
THE four Papuan students who were admitted to the Central Medical School, Suva, at the beginning of the year have failed to pass their preliminary science course.

Originally, seven boys went to Fiji to enter the School, but one was subsequently found to be suffering from TB, and others were not up to the required educational standard.

The four who have now failed in the science course will go to Queen Victoria School, Fiji, for further instruction and will re-enter the Medical School as students in 1948.

Even in normal times the educational standard of Papuan and New Guinea students would generally be below that required by the Suva Medical School. But, in addition, educational facilities in

the Australian territories had been dislocated by years of war. The failure of these students to make the CMS grade does not surprise anyone. It is believed that Dr. J. Gunther, Director of Medical Services in Papua-New Guinea, was against the boys going in their unprepared state, but that some higher authority prevailed against his judgment.

Dr. A. S. Frater, the new principal of the CMS, Suva, is making good progress. His long experience in the New Hebrides has enabled him to appreciate the difficulties associated with native medical students.

BGD PRODUCTION FIGURES

DURING the month of June, the two dredges of Bulolo Gold Dredging Ltd., which are in operation in the Bulolo River, put through 309,000 cubic yards of gravel, returning 5,185 ounces of fine gold.

Mrs. Claude Fenner, of Ba, Fiji, returned from the United States in July. While in the San Francisco Bay area she was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Andrews, Berkeley, Cal.

PONY STALLION

THE KENTUCKY STUD have decided to sell their Shetland pony sire "Wee McGregor." This pony has stood at the head of the stud for four years—he's now nine years old.

He is a splendid type of Shetland and is a sure foal-getter—his stock can be inspected at the stud. The only reason he is being sold is on account of us having too many of his stock on hand. Any small child can ride this pony. Further particulars and photos will be supplied. Price, 75 Guineas.

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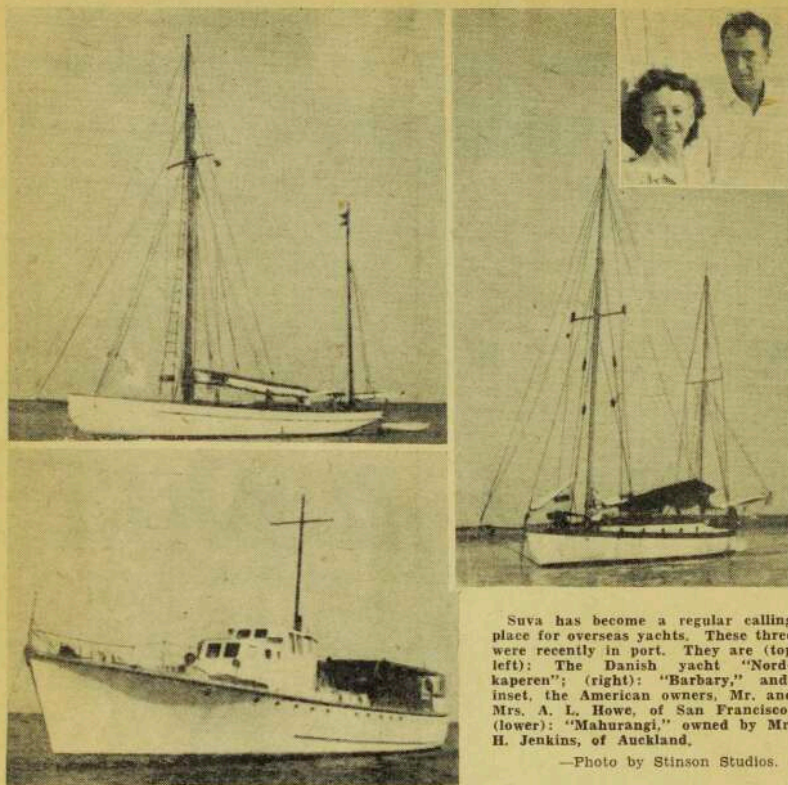
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OVERSEAS YACHTS IN SUVA



Suva has become a regular calling place for overseas yachts. These three were recently in port. They are (top left): The Danish yacht "Nord-kaperen"; (right): "Barbary," and, inset, the American owners, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Howe, of San Francisco; (lower): "Mahurangi," owned by Mr. H. Jenkins, of Auckland.

—Photo by Stinson Studios.

Sir Josiah Crosby, noted author and formerly British Minister to Siam, has now settled down in Apia, Western Samoa. He regards the Samoans as having the charming manners of the Burmese and Siamese. Sir Josiah's book, "Siam," is regarded as the standard work on that country.

Mrs. C. Younger left Sydney by the "Montoro" in August for Rabaul, thence to make her way to Cape Marsh, British Solomon Islands, where she will rejoin her husband. She had been a resident of Sydney since the evacuation in 1942. Mr. Younger returned to BSI in the "Southern Cross" in 1946.

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126/814

Blasting Coral From Apia Harbour

Dangerous Job Performed
By NZ Navy Men

THANKS to the efforts of three petty officers of the RNZN, the channels leading to Apia Harbour, Western Samoa, have now been made reasonably safe for shipping. Encroaching coral growths threatened to block some of the channels altogether.

The three men, Chief Petty-Officers De L. A. Graham-Cameron, and D. W. Bell and Petty-Officer J. H. Kane, did most of their underwater work with only diving goggles for equipment. The first depth charges were ignited by cable but it was found that the connection was continually being cut by the jagged coral. Thereafter the best spots were selected by diving and reconnoitring and then the charges, with a waterproof safety fuse already lit, were dropped on the selected position from above.

Misfired fuses were the most exciting part of the business. These could not be ignored, and it was the unhappy task of one of the officers to dive down to inspect the faulty explosive, remove it or insert a new fuse in it, and then escape to a waiting dinghy. Sharks, poisonous coral and tumbling surf added to the hazards of the operations.

Samoans were impressed by the spectacular demolitions. Somehow, the story got abroad that the Navy men were to make entrances to every lagoon village in a similar fashion, and they were received everywhere with expressions of honour—even to the extent, so the story goes, of one petty-officer being given a Samoan title which translated means "Chief Blasting Harbours."

LAUNCH OF REVOLUTIONARY CHARACTER

THE Mott Marlin 17-feet steel cruiser (see advertisement in this issue) is a craft of revolutionary design and construction. It is the invention of a young Australian engineer. The cruisers are made in steel works in Newcastle, NSW. They are pressed out by huge dies and presses, and fabricated and welded like the steel bodies of automobiles, except that the plates used are of much heavier gauge steel.

There are three special features: Corrosion has been mastered by a special technique—galvanic control—so that destruction of the hull by rust is impossible; each boat, although mass-produced, is tested individually in a special tank, where hull and engine are subjected to calculated strains; and the boat has road mobility—two wheels can be attached and it can be towed by a car, without aid of cradle or carrier. The boats already have been exported to the Far East, New Caledonia, the United States and New Zealand.

NATIVES' STRANGE BELIEF

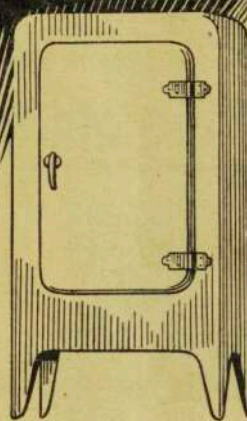
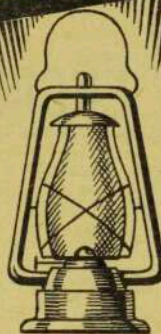
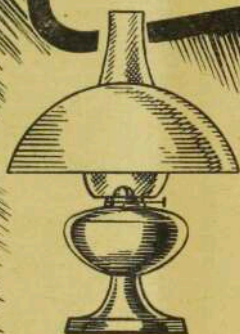
From a Special Correspondent

MADANG, June 25.

AT recent native festivities at Siassi Is., local boys were farewelled before leaving for Rabaul. It was announced—and believed by those present—that all New Guinea natives who had served in the Army during the war were to be sent to Rabaul, where they were to be executed.

This is just another example of the backwardness of New Guinea natives, who seem to have profited little in an intellectual sense from their years of contact with hundreds of thousands of servicemen.

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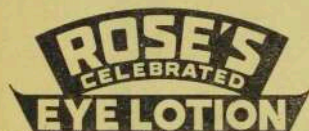
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The Fiji Banana Board has fixed the following prices for bananas grown by Fijians and bought by licensed buyers: Viti Levu, Ovalau, Moturiki, Beqa, Vatulele and small nearby islands—5/6 a case; Kaduva, Gau, Nairai, Batiki and Vanua Levu—4/6 a case. These prices came into effect from April 25.



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BRISBANE NG ASSOCIATION

MISS DOROTHY STEWART, secretary of the New Guinea Scholarship Fund, was the guest speaker at the Brisbane-New Guinea Association on June 14.

Miss Stewart gave an interesting and comprehensive address on the aims and objects of the Scholarship Fund, to which the Brisbane Association has subscribed. Visitors are always made welcome at the Brisbane Association, which meets on the second Saturday of each month at the Lyceum Club, Queen Street, Brisbane. The secretary is Mrs. A. Jamieson. Her address is Dudley Street, Sherwood. Phone U 7931.

A son was born on July 9, in Kokopo to Mr. and Mrs. Graham Briggs.

PAPER MAKERS AND KURUKURU

Indications of Keen Interest In Papua Material

THE announcement in the July "PIM" that the Papua-New Guinea Administration had granted to Sir Gerald Mussen the exclusive right, for 12 months, to apply for a license to cut kurukuru grass on 200 square miles of country in North-east Papua, caused a stir among Australian paper-making companies.

We stated erroneously that Sir Gerald was chairman of Australian Pulp and Paper Company; and we express regret for the error. Sir Gerald is connected with another Australian paper-manufacturing concern with a very similar name, but not with the company referred to.

The original Australian Pulp and Paper Co. Ltd. was formed by the same interests which controlled the Commonwealth Hemp Corporation, and those interests gained an unsavoury reputation, and persons connected with them finished their careers in the criminal courts. In the 'thirties, before the crash, they acquired a large area in North-east Papua, called the Sangara leases, and sold shares on the undertaking that they were going to base a paper-making enterprise on kurukuru grass.

The gentlemen referred to went into gaol; the company went into liquidation; and nothing more was heard of Sangara kurukuru grass.

Many worthy people had been caught by the racketeers; and, on their behalf, Mr. W. C. Mulroy took charge, and tried to save something from the wreck. The points in his favour were that kurukuru grass has been proved, beyond doubt, to be valuable as the raw material for high-class paper; and that the company held the Sangara leases.

After long and patient labour, Mr. Mulroy has completed the liquidation of Australian Pulp and Paper Co., and has taken steps to re-register it as Pacific Pulp and Paper Corporation (Australia) Ltd.; and plans for the issue of new capital, and the development of an industry based on the Sangara kurukuru, are now well under way.

These latter interests therefore learned with surprise that the Administration has given certain rights, affecting 200 square miles alongside the Sangara leases, to Sir Gerald Mussen. Sir Gerald is a famous and successful man, his achievements embracing certain metalliferous activities, and the development of important paper-manufacturing enterprises in Australia based on the use of pulp made from eucalypts.

It is apparent that some of his paper-manufacturing interests are investigating kurukuru grass—which is the same as kural in New Guinea. There are enormous quantities of this material in both Territories; and, if the paper manufacturers are becoming seriously concerned, it augurs well for the establishment of a really worth-while new industry in these countries.

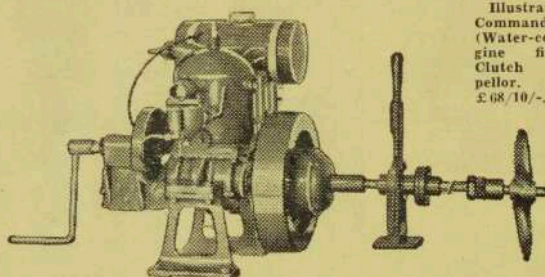
One report from an English paper-mill which obtained a shipment of kurukuru just before the war was that it produced a paper equal in every way to the paper made from esparto grass.

The girls of Civil Administration, Rabaul, recently organised a dance in the ruins of the New Guinea Club. Hostesses were Misses L. Hawken, M. Allen, S. Kilminster, P. Bakewell, M. Haffenden and S. McArthur. Over 100 guests attended the function in the decorated ruins of the popular pre-war club.

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IN MICRONESIA

Four Governorships Under USA Admiral

IT was announced on August 5 that the following will be the American administrative set-up over the Micronesian archipelagoes, taken from the Japs in the recent war by United States forces:

The High Commissioner for the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands, Admiral Louis Denfeld, will be in general control.

Under him there will be four areas each in charge of a Governor, as follows:
Mariana Islands East Caroline Islands
West Caroline Islands Marshall Islands

For the time being, naval commanders in these areas will serve as civilian governors. Directly under them will be civilian administrators, who, for the present, will also be naval officers. However, they will wear civilian clothes when performing duties connected with administering the Trust Territory.

The proclamation ordered the retention of all mandates, laws and orders previously enforced by the United States military government, except those not in agreement with President Truman's executive order calling for civilian rule of the areas.

HISTORY OF THE GROUPS

THE more important of these archipelagoes were colonised by the Spaniards 400 years ago, and they were generally regarded as Spanish Territory. Germany tried to seize the Western Carolines in 1885 and finally was given trading rights; and in 1899 Germany bought all three groups except Guam from Spain for 4,000,000 dollars. Guam became an American naval station.

Japan did not take much part in World War I, but in 1914, as an ally of Britain, the Japanese moved in and took possession of the three archipelagoes. In 1921 Japan was given the Mandate over the Territories. About 1933 Japan withdrew from the League of Nations and denounced the Mandate, and stated that the islands thenceforth were wholly Japanese.

Between then and 1941 Japan fortified the islands heavily. She introduced some 70,000 or more Japanese settlers, mostly sugar growers, and established them generally in the Marianas and the Western and Central Carolines.

The Americans, in their northward and westward advances upon Japan, occupied the Marianas, but bypassed most of the Carolines and Marshalls and isolated the Jap garrisons there, and mopped them up after Japan collapsed in 1945.

There were then in the three archipelagoes about 47,000 Kanakas, 3,500 Chamorros and perhaps 60,000 Japanese. There is no indication of what the Americans are going to do with the Japs.

Reported Death in N. Guinea

IT was reported in Sydney in August that a planter named Griffiths had been killed, by violence, on Manam Island (off the north coast of New Guinea, near Bogia). There were no details.

Pen friends in the Pacific Islands are sought by Mrs. Joy Ellis, 49 Minnesota Avenue, Five Dock, Sydney.

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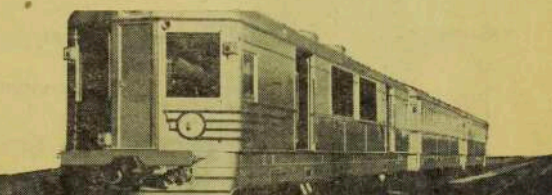
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The Rev. Ronald Woodgate, BA, BE, has been appointed principal of Tubou College, Tonga, and will take up his new appointment towards the end of this year. He is at present undergoing a post-graduate course at Sydney University.

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INTER-ISLAND RUGBY



Representative Fijian and Tongan Rugby football teams before they played their first Test at Lautoka, Fiji, on July 19. Fijians (light jerseys) defeated the Tongans 21 to 6.

Twenty Millions for West African Cocoa-Growers

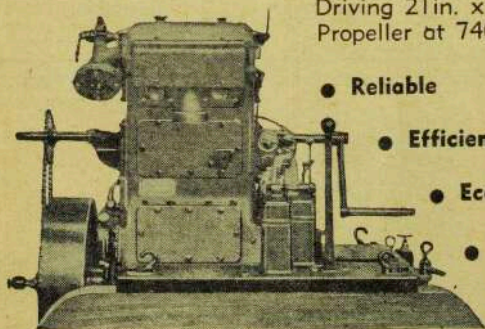
WEST AFRICAN cocoa is grown mostly by natives who (note it carefully, Mr. Ward!) have been taught, in the course of about four generations, to become peasant farmers. In the past three years or so, their cocoa has been bought, under Government supervision, by the West African Produce Control Board. American speculators have pushed the price of cocoa-beans up and up, and

the Produce Board got world parity for its accumulated stock. The net result was that the stocks realised £20,000,000 sterling more than was paid to the cocoa-growers who, for their part, were quite happy about what they had received.

Britain has decided to put the £20,000,000 in trust for the benefit of the West African natives who grew the cocoa. It is to be used "to serve as a cushion against short and intermediate price fluctuations, and for such purposes as research, disease eradication and rehabilitation."

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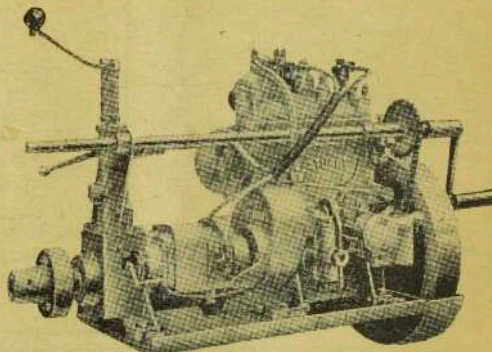
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Mr. R. Dierke, of Kokopo NG, was married to Mrs. Ives, of Melbourne, in the Catholic Church at Valavalo, near Rabaul, on June 8.

The engagement has been announced of Miss Lesley Hawken, of Rabaul, to Mr. Neville Holland, of Civil Administration, Rabaul. Mr. Holland is a son of Dr. E. A. Holland, formerly well known in Kavieng, New Ireland.



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COUNT VAN ASTEN

Old Tongan Resident Inherits A Dutch Title

AN old resident of Tonga, Mr. F. T. Goedicke, has been informed that he has inherited an old Dutch title, and may call himself Count van Astén. Count Hendrick van Astén, of Astén, North Brabant, Holland, died some time ago, and a long search disclosed that Mr. Goedicke, through his mother, was the only surviving relation. He was formally advised that he was heir to the late Count's title and estates. The Count left about £20,000, which was deposited in a bank at Astén; but it was all looted or destroyed when the Germans invaded Holland in 1940. The bank made a claim upon the Dutch equivalent of our War Damage Commission, but it was not entertained, as all records had been lost in the bombing, and the depositor (the Count) was dead.

Mr. Goedicke's great-grandfather was a Dutch General who distinguished himself in 1798 in the war against Spain, and gained a title, but his son went into the Church and gave up the title. He married Caroline van Astén, daughter of the Count van Astén of that day.

"So I'm a Count of no account," writes Mr. Goedicke, "but I will call myself Goedicke-van Astén. I have told my son, who lives in Devonport, Auckland, that if, after my death, he cares to use the title of Count, which is hereditary, he will have my blessing."

Mr. Goedicke was a resident of New Guinea 60 years ago, and knew the German Governor, "Queen" Emma Forsyth, and other interesting people of that period.

More Japs Discovered in New Guinea

Presence Revealed by Inter-Village Feud

From a Special Correspondent

EMACIATED, ragged, and suffering from beri-beri and tropical ulcers, three diminutive Japanese arrived in Rabaul from Madang recently under escort. They had hidden in the Bogadjim area since the war ceased.

One said he was a doctor, another one was an electrician, while the third stated that he was an ironworker. The "doctor" said they were making for "soda water" (he could speak a limited amount of Pidgin English, which he said the kanakas taught him), and it may be that their salt supply had run out.

He said that they had built a large garden and grew root crops and an abundance of tropical fruits, etc.

Native police think that they were hidden away by natives and that when inter-village factions quarrelled over some other matter, vindictive natives reported the Jap's presence to Yali, influential ex-AIB sergeant-major, whose widespread propaganda is being used by the Administration.

The 105th US Army Hospital now disbanded has handed over to the French Oceanic Institute, Noumea, a library of between 4000 and 5000 English books, which the Institute is making available to New Caledonian residents who are able to read English. The library will be a boon to Noumea's ex-Australian residents.



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In the year 1787, the commanders of ships of the first English fleet to lie at anchor in Australian waters compared melancholy notes. Said Captain Brown of the Fishburn, on the heavy losses suffered during the voyage by a complement of fowls—"Verily, I have lost three dozen fowls out of four dozen. I believe that the rogues at the Cape gave something to the stock we purchased there to occasion such a fatality."

However, despite similar reports from the Prince of Wales and the Golden Grove, the census of livestock in the settlement in 1788 showed 122 fowls and 87 chickens. By 1796 poultry was plentiful in Sydney, and full grown fowls were selling from sixpence to one shilling each.

Today, the poultry industry flourishes in Australia. In Victoria alone is the largest single poultry farm in the world, stocking some 100,000 birds, while in 1940 Australian poultry interests produced for export alone some 18 million eggs.

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Deed of Cession Monument

THE four marble tablets which were part of the old Deed of Cession Memorial near the now demolished Government Buildings, Suva, have been preserved and will be incorporated in a monument to be erected in front of the Supreme Court, Suva.

The marble tablets commemorate the signing of the Deed of Cession, the reign of Cakobau and the jubilee of Queen Victoria. The old buildings were cleared away some months ago to make room for the new Anglican cathedral.

It is hoped that the new monument will be completed in time for Cession Day, which is October 10.

The French decree authorising the establishment of a casino at Noumea has been published in the Journal Officiel of New Caledonia.

One Happy Night in New Guinea

FINSCHHAFFEN, July 16.

STAGED primarily as a combined valedictory to RAAF, the Bannigans and the Whites, it was coincidental that New Guinea's largest and most successful post-war social function at the Finschhafen Hall should take place the same day as the arrival of HMAS "Kanimbia" with occupational troops for Japan.

Aboard was distinguished Australian Dr. Evatt (Minister for External Affairs) en route to Japan; and he joined in the conviviality of the occasion.

Efficiently organised by Mrs. J. R. Keenan, attractive wife of the Assistant-District Officer, the "Evening" was unique for its variety of entertainment, galaxy of display and the abundance of refreshment.

Gaily adorned with bunting and brilliant tropical flowers, the hall was greatly admired by "Kanimbia's" passengers, especially the Army sisters, who not before had experienced the delights of such a tropical night.

Long-frocked women danced to the rhythm of excellent music with high ranking, gold-braided naval officers, dignitaries of the RAAF, and civilians in immaculate evening attire.

Nearby was the palm-fringed coral shore, with gentle breezes rippling the shimmering waters. A myriad of tasty delicacies had been skilfully prepared by "Tarangau's" famous chef. Smart, dapper, well-trained, pre-war natives, clad in short, well-starched lava-lavas, revelled in their masters' hilarity. Fleet of foot, they dashed hither and thither, holding aloft great trays of sparkling beer. Breezy American officers from the US War Graves Registration unit paid tribute to the occasion. All Finschhafen turned out to welcome the revival of those happy pre-war New Guinea nights that must surely come again.

WAU-LABU ROAD

IT is reported from Lae that the road between Labu (at the mouth of the Markham) and the goldfields area is now in a much better state of repair. All Public Works duties have been taken over by the Commonwealth Department of Works and Housing, which has had much pressure brought to bear upon it by local citizens.

Lae residents had the town water supply tested by the School of Tropical Medicine in Sydney—with what results is not stated. A year ago this water was declared to be unfit for human consumption, and ships calling at Lae were unable to take on water.

Mr. Richard W. Tebb, of Lae, New Guinea, has been granted a District Licence under the Auctioneers' Ordinance for the District of Morobe.

A book by Mrs. Kathleen Mellen of Honolulu well shortly be published by Hastings House, N.Y. It is called "In a Hawaiian Valley," and is illustrated by drawings by artist Madge Tennant. Mrs. Tennant's husband, Hugh Tennant, is a New Zealander who was at one time an official in Samoa.

Samoans have a short way with careless motorists. During the recent LMS Malua Meeting, Western Samoa, an Apla taxi-driver ran over and killed a child. The indignant inhabitants of the village of Fasitoota, where the accident occurred, gave the driver of the taxi a thorough thrashing.

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CZAR OF THE OILS INDUSTRIES

UNILEVER, Unchallenged International Cartel, is Prominent Again

By JOHN WILLIAMS.

HONOLULU, June 12.

THE most disturbing post-war news for many people of the Pacific and South-east Asia is the recent decline in world copra prices.

It will embarrass millions of people, but it will fatten the semi-secret international copra cartel which is controlled by joint British-Dutch soap interests, and interests in Australia which are subsidiaries of the cartel, or are associated with it.

Has the Australian Government the honesty of purpose to do something about this situation? Dr. Evatt, the publicised and "crusading" Australian Attorney-General, has the authority to do something. Has he the courage?

The American Associated Press, on December 26, 1946, released a message from Manila, which said: "Stimulated by high world prices, Philippine copra production available for export in 1947 may reach a record of 750,000 long tons." (The new Philippine Republic has been banking on copra remaining stable).

In May, 1947, the price of copra fell sharply at Manila. Commented the "Honolulu Star-Bulletin" on May 30: Copra is a commodity that accounts for 75 per cent. of Philippines export. High prices have brought out at least 25,000 tons more copra than has been believed available. Now prices in Manila have fallen 50 per cent. The United States, best customer for this product, is well stocked. Requirements are much less. . . .

During the war, certain American

agencies made a study of the world copra situation. Highly-trained investigators discovered, and put into a report that created a stir behind the scenes at Washington, a picture of the world's greatest monopoly. It is a case history of how relentless interests rig a market for their own selfish ends.

Keystone of the world monopoly is Lever Bros., makers of Sunlight, Lifebuoy, and a host of other soaps, Pepsodent tooth-paste, Lipton's tea, etc. Research in the intelligence division of the US Department of Commerce disclosed the vast international ramifications of the Lever network.

It showed how Levers and their Dutch subsidiary, Unilever, operated. Levers won control of the world market as a result of World War I. During that war, they jacked up the price of copra (an important source of the vital explosive, glycerin) and in the early years afterwards they used their immense profits to secure control of world markets.

GRAPHS designed by the American investigators show that as Levers gained world control, the world prices of copra slumped. In the famous "depression" of the Thirties came the rigged low. At this point, Levers had merged completely with Unilever NV, the gigantic European subsidiary. At the same time, Levers entered the American domestic market, and expanded an Australian subsidiary, which has been producing copra in the South Seas since 1907.

To-day, this Australian subsidiary still controls plantations (notably in the Solomons) and, according to an American consular report, "owns a large fleet of trading vessels" and "the whole of the shares are held by Levers of England." "European Finance" of January 31, 1930, published in London, summarised the Lever empire: "The authorised capital of

Unilever Ltd., to-day is 165,000,000 (pounds sterling) and its interests, apart from soap, extend to almost every kind of undertaking, including banking, shipping, engineering, mining, building, whaling, seed crushing, chemicals, margarine. . . . The Australian subsidiary is responsible for the collection of the Polynesian (South Seas) copra. . . ."

The British Stock Exchange official year book for 1938 reported that as a result of the redistribution of markets as from January 1, 1937, Unilever Ltd. would control all British Empire interests and Lever Bros. and Unilever NV (the European subsidiary) would control all non-British Empire interests. It added: "... Levers own interests in over 300 associated companies, including controlling interests in Australia, New Zealand, Canada and South Africa, and 41 companies in the British Isles."

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In brief, Levers can freeze world copra prices at low levels to suit their international machinations.

Lord Leverhulme, governor of the Lever empire, was in charge of the fats and oils division of the British Ministry of Food in World War II. The British Ministry of Food is to-day controlling the purchase and distribution of all copra produced in British countries.

The "Honolulu Star-Bulletin," or any other source of public comment, does not publish and analyse these official facts because Levers rigidly control comment via Levers domination of the advertising fields—newspapers, magazines, and radio—throughout the British Empire and the United States.

Smart editors do not bite the hand that feeds them. In 1946, in America, for example, Levers spent exactly 9,530,518 dollars in newspaper, magazine and radio advertising. Money like that talks—in favour of Levers. In 1945, Levers spent in America on radio advertising alone a total of 7,274,503 dollars. The main Lever programmes were the Bob Hope show, Inner Sanctum, Lux Radio Theatre, A Woman's Life, etc.

The same story is repeated in Aus-

tralia, where, according to "Newspaper News," the main trade journal, Levers dominate the advertising expenditures, year after year. They spend enough to make the Australian daily press and radio respectful. I defy anyone to find anything critical of Levers octopus in the Australian press, go back as far as you like.

In the issue of April 16, 1940, "PIM," in an editorial stated: "... The British Government's idea of effectively conducting the war and, as it has expressed it, 'protecting' the masses of people against exploitation, is to take control of all vital industries, and then permit bureaucratic control of those industries by committees nominated by the rings and combines which formerly were trying to dominate them. Under pre-war conditions, the rings and combines were having a pretty good time; under war conditions, they are given almost absolute power."

True words. Lord Leverhulme sat at the helm of the British Empire's fats and oils during the war; and, also during the war, by secret agreement with Washington, the Lever interests did all the buying of copra in the Western Pacific for

US requirements. In other words, Levers fattened on Lend-Lease.

To-day's is a critical situation, not only in the Philippines but throughout the world, wherever copra is produced and is an economic mainstay. As representing the dominant nation in the Western Pacific, what is Dr. Evatt going to do about it? This writer can refer him to documented source material in London and Washington which he can use to convict Levers out of their own mouths.

Breaking up the Lever octopus should challenge the lawyer and judge in him. It is a shut-and-closed case. The documents await him.

KOKOPO SMILES AGAIN

Only Place in NG Which Really Enjoys Rehabilitation

THE progress of rehabilitation in the Kokopo district is probably the most rapid in New Guinea, writes a correspondent.

Mr. V. Pennefather, of Tokua plantation, has constructed a nice bungalow on his place. It is good to see the progress he is making, ably assisted by his wife. He is producing copra now, even though the labour (casual) is a serious handicap. He is an example of what an experienced man can do despite adverse circumstances.

Mr. Norman Duncan and his wife are re-establishing themselves on their property, "Tamilili." They also are back to copra production. At present they are living in a temporary home. They are building a Quonset bungalow; and this will be a very nice home, with modern conveniences. Norman's dad, Skipper Duncan, is a frequent and very interested visitor.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Allan are well established on their place, "Gilalum." For a while their casual labour supply was good and rehabilitation progress was correspondingly good. Their homestead is a picture, and the plantation, a young one, looks really fine. They are now producing copra and cocoa. Unfortunately, labour troubles are now hampering them. This trouble, of course, is common throughout New Guinea.

Mr. Theo Thomas and wife, with their small daughter, Rosslyn, have re-established themselves at Bitu Paka, on the site of their old home. Their home, a Quonset bungalow, is set in very picturesque surroundings. Theo has been in production for over six months. Recently, he purchased "Rainau" plantation from Mr. Oscar Rondahl. "Rainau" was the former home of the late Mrs. Schmidt, well-known and respected pioneer of the Kokopo district.

Kokopo is getting back to its former prosperity and popularity. The re-established Kokopo Sports Club is the social centre of the district, and it is good to see the old residents enjoying their week-ends at cricket, tennis and swimming.

Kokopo has a fine native hospital. There are some 400 patients being cared for by two very able gentlemen—Messrs. Joycie and Kerr.

Mr. Willie Rowe, smiling and popular, has returned to Kokopo and is a busy man, settling in at "Ravallen." The Rowe Brothers have several properties in the district.

The Rev. Francis Auld, lately of Sheffield, has gone to Apia, where he will be next to the Rev. H. W. Whyte, MA, in charge of the LMS organisation in Western Samoa. Mr. Auld was for several years a district secretary in Britain.

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Americans on Nauru

PERHAPS this heading is misleading. But to my way of thinking, they are still Americans, even though they are dead. They did not come here by any of the usual means, although a few years ago I do not suppose it would be considered unusual to have made your entry in a crashing aircraft. These fellows did—four terribly fine men whose remains now lie in a lonely graveyard on a tiny island of the Central Pacific.

I say they were fine fellows, even though I never met them. There must be greatness in any person who is willing to risk his skin—and so far away from home. And they were not fighting for their soil, either; they knew Nauru was British and not American.

The Australians found their bodies shortly after the reoccupation, in September, 1945, and reinterred them in what has become known as the American cemetery. The four graves are well looked after; the Nauruans have a great respect for the dead, particularly for those who acquire nobility by their deeds.

One of these fellows has been here since December 9, 1943, and another crashed on June 30, 1944. One would think the Americans would have been over by now and gathered up the remains of these heroes. Perhaps they are too busy in other parts of the Pacific, although we told their HQ in Tarawa about them the year before last.

Whatever happens, it may interest other Americans to know that four of their kith and kin are on Nauru, that their graves are bright with the colours of hibiscus and frangipanni, and that they are among friends.—A.S.

SMALL INCREASE IN NAURUAN POPULATION

THE native population of Nauru is again on the increase. Official figures, issued on April 30, showed the total native population of the island as 1,376—24 more than for the previous year. This figure, however, is 512 less than shown by a census in 1942, at the time of the Japanese invasion.

Almost 30 per cent. of the Nauruans were wiped out during the Japanese occupation, and those who did survive have not yet completely recovered from the effects of that period. On a comparative basis, Australia would have lost 2½ millions of her population.

At a recent meeting of the Nauruan Council of Chiefs, financial plans for the next 20 years were discussed. Of the male population, over 16 years of age, 78 per cent. are employed by the Administration or by the British Phosphate Commission as tradesmen, clerks, typists, wireless operators, transport drivers, general labourers, etc.

Besides the native Nauruans there are on the island 192 Europeans, about 1,100 Chinese and 31 Gilbertese.

DEATH OF MRS. JESSIE ANDERSON

FRIENDS of Captain C. O. Anderson, well-known seafarer of the South West Pacific, will regret to learn of the death of his wife, Jessie, on July 14, after a brief illness in Samarai, Papua.

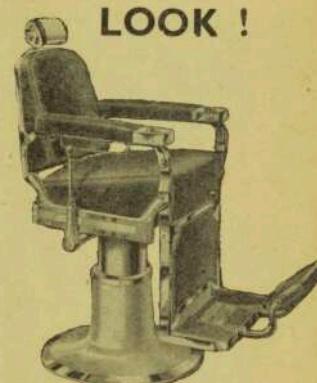
Mrs. Anderson went to Samarai in 1908 and lived there until 1921, when she took her children to Brisbane to finish their education.

Captain Anderson retired from the sea in 1939 and settled on a plantation near

Samarai. He was joined by Mrs. Anderson and their daughter Elsie who lived there until the general evacuation in 1942. They returned to their plantation in 1946.

Mrs. Anderson is survived by her husband, three sons, three daughters and several grandchildren.

Mr. Jack Ahearn, of the APC, arrived by plane from Port Moresby last month.



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BSI PORT OF ENTRY

IT was announced by Gazette on June 3 that Hombu Hombu, in the western district of the British Solomons, had been appointed a Port of Entry for vessels entering the BSI from the Australian Territory of New Guinea.

Hombu Hombu, presumably is in the Shortland Islands, but current maps do not show it.

The Rev. J. H. Spivey, of Abaiang, has been appointed to take charge of the London Missionary Society's organisation in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, and he has moved to LMS headquarters at Beru. He takes the place of the Rev. G. H. Eastman, OBE, who now has retired, but who is doing a few months' special work in Suva before leaving the South Pacific, to live in England.

NG NATIVES AS EMPLOYERS

And Some Reflections!

Letter to the Editor

BEFORE splashing his sensational story across the front page of Brisbane's "Courier" the newly-arrived ex-Irishguardsman residing at Lae should have faced facts.

What if a native did offer a European a job at £2 a day? Even that is better than the average wage-plug gets from his employer in New Guinea. And, did not a European marry a lass from Hanuabada recently?

Haven't the natives at Lae been robbed by unscrupulous whites who bought CDC vehicles at a song, and sold to the unsophisticated at enormous profits? What's

the difference between selling a rami to a native at a trade store, and actually working for him? The man who sells the rami relies on the native for his bread and butter—as the majority of people in Papua-New Guinea are doing to this very day.

Is not the greater portion of ex-guardsman's income derived directly or indirectly from natives? Has he never carted a bag of rice, a case of meat, furniture or building material for a European who is engaged directly or indirectly by the Administration?

I've heard this "white man's prestige" stuff over and over again from "old-timers," planters, traders and miners alike; but it didn't concern them when their personal boys had to piggy-back them home when they were too drunk to walk! And who has not heard of the flirtations of white man-brown woman?

Is the first man in the Territory or the first man in any District working for Europeans? Not on your life! They are working solely in the interests of the native.

Profits from native trade alone would have sufficed "Steamships" to pay a dividend—12 months ago they were peeling £1,500 a day off the boys, in quite legitimate trading. If that was their daily turnover, what must BP's and others' have been!

THERE'S a type of European who condemns the native at every turn—and then calmly peels the silver from him without a blush. What of the trade stores?

Does ex-Guardsman know that the Administration is literally working for the native by encouraging him to commence trade stores of his own—is that not the beginning of general trading? Soon they will have stores like the Chinese had in various parts of New Guinea before the war, where any European could get a fair deal. They didn't worry about the White Australian Policy as long as they could get a bargain. If the whites won't finance the natives the Chinese soon will—it wasn't the Europeans before the war who had all the money!

These reflections hurt, I know, but we must keep abreast of the times; and, if we cannot absorb the New Order, there's only one thing—walk out.

"Ex-guardsman" will get a helping hand wherever he goes throughout New Guinea, and he should do well—if one Irish Guardsman isn't worth ten niggers, I'll go east! He needn't be afraid of competition. Even the most advanced Papuan natives hadn't the elementary business instinct to insure a vessel worth hundreds of pounds, and when it was burnt to water's level they lost all.

While a generous Australian Government continues to distribute largesse throughout the Territory for the sole benefit of natives—and it looks as though we'll have another ten years of it—everyone has a chance of cashing in on some silver, and having a good time later on.

Let's make hay while the sun shines!
I am, etc.,

LAURA BADA

New Guinea, 24/6/47.



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TORONTO, CANADA . . . CHICAGO, U.S.A.

A number of Government officers stationed in Port Moresby took the round trip on the July "Malaita," to Samarai, Rabaul and back. Mr. Justice Phillips accompanied by Mrs. Phillips, and Mr. W. Watkins, Legal Officer, went to Rabaul to conduct sittings of the Supreme Court. Mr. W. C. Groves, Director of Education, inspected his Rabaul organisation; Mrs. Groves also made the trip. Mr. Ian Macdonald, New Guinea representative of the Department of Post-War Reconstruction, also took this opportunity to visit the old New Guinea capital.

CONFUSED AND UNCONVINCING COMPILATION

New Scheme of Salaries for Papua-New Guinea Officials

From a Special Correspondent

PORT MORESBY, July 23.

AFTER a long period of hopeful waiting, the new classification of the Papua-New Guinea Public Service has been made available to members of the service through the Public Service Association. The latter are considering it and, on some points, are seeking further clarification.

Members of the service have expressed no great satisfaction at the new rates, as far as they can be understood from a document which is at times difficult to follow. Based almost entirely on the Buttsworth Report, which was submitted to Canberra some months ago, it has done little to remedy the discontent already noticeable in the service. Indeed, it has in some cases seriously aggravated the situation. It is current knowledge in Port Moresby that the Administrator and his senior officers are seriously concerned about the new scales.

The matter has been discussed with the Public Service Associations, together with counter-proposals which were submitted to Canberra by the Administrator and a Committee of senior officers when the Buttsworth report first arrived in the Territory. These counter-proposals appear to have been given scant consideration.

As this classification is likely to be permanent, and as it has wide and disturbing implications for the future of the New Guinea Administration, the following analysis is as exhaustive as possible:—

THE BASIC SALARY.

THE base salary rate for the lowest grade officers of the Second (Clerical) Division is fixed at £372 per annum. For Third Division (Non-clerical) officers it is £354.

The method of computing this figure is set out as follows: From the Commonwealth base standard salary of £232 (for a man, his wife and one child) £19/10/- is deducted for the first child. (Because in Australia only children after the first are allowed Child Endowment; whereas it is proposed to pay for each child in the Endowment Scheme recommended for New Guinea).

To the resulting £272/10/- a 35 per cent. margin is added "for higher costs in the Territory," which brings the salary to approximately £372, which is, therefore the base rate. In addition to this there is an allowance of £26 for each child. (This is also 35 per cent. in excess of Australian rates). There is no marriage allowance, nor does the old provision that married men shall not receive less than £400 apply to any future appointees. This means that married men appointed in future lose on the transaction; and, further, as will be seen below, they will receive less than the rate granted in 1922!

Then, incomprehensibly, the Minister has added a cost of living variation of £6 as from May 5, which brings the salary to £378.

"REAL WAGES" LOWER THAN IN 1922.

THESE figures are computed on a harsher system than that adopted in the original NG classification in 1922. The minimum salary for a single officer then was fixed at £300, and all married officers on less than £400 were given an allowance to bring them to that figure.

Cost of living then in the Territory was no more than in Australia, if not

less. At Rabaul's hotels three meals per day, for a month, would have cost £6/13/-. There was, moreover, no cost of living figure in the Commonwealth itself. Therefore, cost of living did not enter into the calculations which were arrived at on the following basis. To the minimum Commonwealth salary of £200 per annum was added a loading of £100 to provide for the disadvantages and hardships of tropical service, the incentive needed to attract quality personnel, the lack of amenities, isolation from one's normal environment, and the margin needed to finance leave periods. This is what is normally referred to as the "tropical loading."

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stantive salary of Commonwealth officers has been altered, according to Mr. Buttsworth, himself, to £292, in addition to which the Commonwealth officer obtains £64 as an allowance, variable, to account for the statistical discrepancy between the substantive salary and the present-day cost of living. This is known as the "Cost of living allowance," or variation.

THE COUNTER-PROPOSALS

THE committee of Administrative officers which considered Mr. Buttsworth's findings therefore recom-

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mended that to the base figure (£292) the traditional tropical loading (£100) be added, and that a further margin to account for cost-of-living variation be added to those figures. (Which is a completely different consideration from that of a tropical loading; Mr. Buttsworth has obviously not appreciated that quite simple distinction).

As there are no accurate cost of living figures in the Territory, but as they are obviously no less than those operating in Australia, the Committee very reasonably suggested that, pending such figures, the Commonwealth rate of £64 be added to the substantive salary. Their recommendations can be summarised as follows:—

Present Commonwealth Base salary	£ 292
Plus tropical loading	100
Giving a basic substantive salary of (which remains constant)	392
To which is added (temporarily) the Commonwealth cost of living figure	64
Giving a total actual salary of	456

Actually, the Committee recommended £428, but they worked on a Commonwealth base salary of £264, which was lower than that revealed to Mr. Buttsworth. All these calculations would be slightly lower if separate allowance were to be made for the first child, which is proposed; but that factor is immaterial to the reasoning and the rough figure arrived at.

ECONOMIC LOGIC.

THEIR reasoning, then, seems eminently reasonable. It would only remain to fix a cost of living index for the Territory to correspond with the Commonwealth index.

(All this is economically equivalent to

the procedure proposed in June "PIM," except that there a tropical loading was advocated but was not put at any precise figure. "PIM" suggested that the actual Commonwealth salary be varied as cost-of-living varies, which would eventually mean the same thing as adoption of the substantive Commonwealth salary plus a variable cost of living margin).

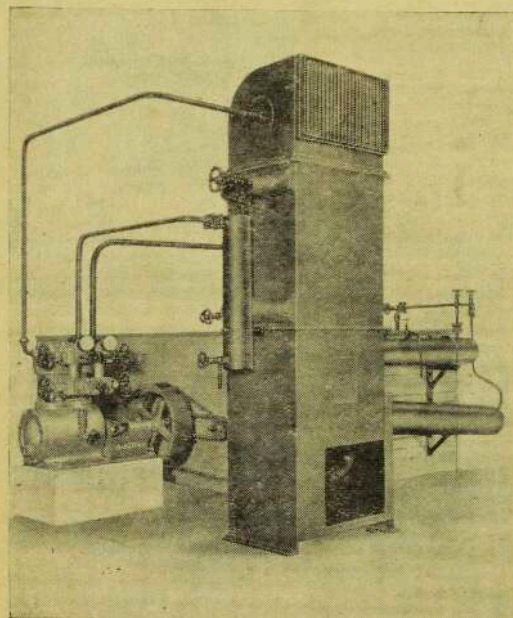
STRANGE NOTIONS ABOUT COST OF LIVING.

MR. BUTTSWORTH has not allowed the traditional sort of tropical loading at all. He has quite arbitrarily decided that cost of living in New Guinea is 35 per cent. in excess of the Australian level, but, strangely enough, has taken 35 per cent. of the Commonwealth substantive salary of £292, instead of the actual salary paid to meet Australian cost of living, which is £356. By taking 35 per cent. of the actual Australian salary, therefore, Mr. Buttsworth would arrive at a considerably higher figure; whereas the figure he recommends (£372) is only 5 per cent. in excess of the actual Australian salary of £356. So that Mr. Buttsworth has worked himself around to a procedure which sabotages his own arbitrary figure of 35 per cent.

It is fantastic to suggest that an officer in New Guinea only needs 5 per cent. more than an officer in Australia. Such an hypothesis is going to land a lot of people into the Bankruptcy Courts.

This is in flat contrast to the Commonwealth's own procedure for those of its own servants required to serve in the Territory. They get their Commonwealth salary plus their Commonwealth cost of living variation, plus £120 tropical loading. (£292, plus £64, plus £120, gives a figure of £476).

Then comes the strangest provision of all. Since March, the Commonwealth cost of living has risen by £6. (In March



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it was £58). And this £6 is to be added to the Territory salaries, which were originally fixed as at March. So that, although there is no reference to the Commonwealth cost of living figure in any original calculations, its rise of £6 is incorporated.

Further fantasy is introduced when it is realised that there is no reason why Commonwealth figures should not fall at some stage, thus lowering the substantive Territory salary below £372.

TROPICAL LOADINGS.

THE failure to allow the usual tropical loading to compensate for the general conditions of tropical service is a reactionary step in Administrative history.

Without such a loading, and with the harsh stupidities of the Buttsworth findings, this Territory is not likely to attract one single officer of great merit. Already many good men have resigned, and many more intend to do so if this classification is not repealed very quickly.

It is even doubtful whether the officers of the School of Pacific Administration would be so desirous of running the country, or so solicitous of its welfare, on £372 per annum! And it is interesting to note that the Principal of the School receives £1200 per annum for his services, whereas the Anthropologist to be appointed in the Territory, and who in a normal colonial organisation would surely be an important adviser, is to receive £834-906. Salaries in senior positions are considered adequate, a representative figure being that paid to the Directors of the technical departments: £1,050-1,200.

But (as predicted in June "PIM", Mr. Buttsworth has shown little knowledge of the principles of wage-fixing, the elementary conventions of logic or the rules of simple mathematics. This classification is one of the strangest documents in Administrative history.

Canberra Says "No Mistake"

PORT MORESBY, August 3. THE Administration has been informed by Canberra that there was no mistake in the cost-of-living schedules in the new classification of Papua-New Guinea public servants' salaries.

It is indicated that the new classification is irrevocable.

The only hope left to the Territories services, therefore, is that Mr. Ward, on his return, will lend a kindly ear to their representations. The Public Service Associations are not likely to remain silent under what is a manifest injustice—especially in view of the huge sum of public money being wasted on "fancy schemes" in the Territories.

SAMOANS GIVE LAVISHLY TO CHURCH FUNDS

From Our Own Correspondent

APIA, June 19. THE now-famous annual meeting of London Missionary Society adherents at Malua, Western Samoa, took place this year between June 10 and June 20, after being postponed for some time owing to the influenza epidemic in May. Thousands of Samoans from Upolu, Savaii and American Samoa attended, and £7,000 was collected towards mission funds. The Administrator, Colonel F. W. Voelcker addressed the large assembly before it dispersed.

A new LMS church has been opened at Fasitoouta village, Western Upolu. Many thousands attended the ceremonies and £6,000 was contributed to the building fund. This church has been in course of construction for the last 14 years.

This wholesale giving to church funds, which is a characteristic of the Samoans, is nevertheless an indication of their present-day prosperity.



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Mr. S. H. Yeoman, Patrol Officer at Gairana in the hinterland of the Morobe District, is at present attending the Australian School of Pacific Administration in Sydney. He was formerly well known in the TNG as accountant with the firm of Greenwood and Laws. He did valuable work among the mainland natives during the war, and has since joined the Administration.

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OCEAN IS. GIRL SERVES IN RED CROSS



This is Miss L. M. White, formerly of Ocean Island, and now with Australian Red Cross, in Iwakuni, Japan. She was on the "Triona" in 1940 on her way home to Ocean Island from Australia when that ship was captured by a German raider. With other survivors, she was landed on Emirau Island, off New Ireland. When rescued she returned to Ocean Island from which she was evacuated in 1942. After joining the Red Cross she served in Australia and Morotai, as well as in Japan.

—Photo from British Information Office, Sydney.

Mr. Vic Maxwell, of Rabaul, who was recently successfully operated on in a Sydney hospital, has returned to Rabaul to resume his duties with the PCB there.

GOLD AND OIL

Search in North New Guinea

IT is likely that within the next few months the port of Madang, on the north coast of New Guinea, will see a good deal of activity relating to new mining operations in the interior.

The oil companies appear to have completed plans to resume their search—mostly in the Sepik area—for suitable country in which to drill for oil; and it is understood that Madang will become their principal base.

Bulolo Gold Dredging Ltd.—whose operations, more than any other single factor, contributed to the pre-war prosperity of New Guinea—have now completed plans for carrying out boring operations in the Sepik area. A boring plant, in charge of Mr. Harry Horne, arrived in Northern New Guinea in May. The BGD party have gone to Marui, on the Sepik River, 200 miles from the mouth, and from that point the workmen and their plant are to be transported 80 miles inland to the particular area which is to be tested for gold.

Some of the men who know this region well take a very optimistic view of the BGD enterprise.

LATER:—Mr. Horne's party met bad luck on the Sepik. They were going up to Marui when they suddenly met a heavy "fresh," some of their small craft were swamped, and some valuable equipment was lost. This probably will delay the commencement of boring operations.

Australian Ship Board May be Liable For Cargo Pillage

ONE good example of the way in which New Guinea planters and traders are suffering under the Australian Socialist Government is supplied by the Australian Shipping Board's repudiation of claims for pillage.

In the bad, old days of private enterprise, the shipping companies did all in their power to prevent theft. When cargo in their care was pillaged, however, they never repudiated proven claims—they paid up. They recognised that they were responsible for the safety of cargo from the time they accepted delivery of it for transport until it was signed for by the consignees. That is common law.

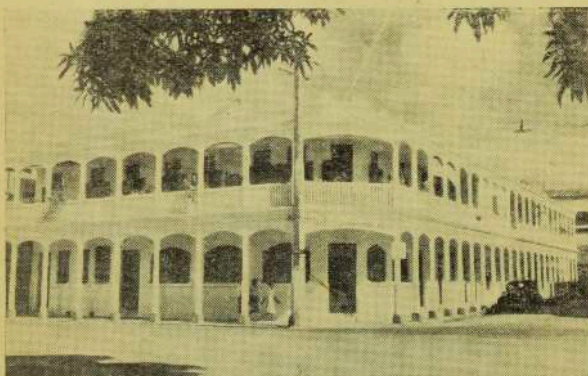
In these days, the shipping companies are merely agents for their own ships. Their ships are directed and controlled by the Shipping Board. The companies operate for the Board, and receive commission, on freights and fares.

Pillage of cargo is now very common—on the wharves and on the ships. The wharf-labourers and the seamen are the particular pets of the Australian Government. (The wharf-labourers, in fact, direct and operate Australia's foreign policy. They are at present engaged in a bitter war against Dutch shipping, on behalf of the Indonesian "Republicans.") Both Unions shelter cargo-pillagers.

New Guinea consignees have had heavy losses. They have complained, and they have made claims, but they have got nowhere. The Shipping Board has flatly refused to accept any responsibility.

The anger and indignation of the Territorians, however, have now given place to something concrete. A group of them have taken legal advice; they have been assured that the Shipping Board, as a common carrier, is legally responsible for pillage; and action is to be taken accordingly.

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SEVERE SICKNESS IN RAROTONGA

From Our Own Correspondent

RAROTONGA, June 8. THE sun shone to-day and did much to chase away our blues. The past week of leaden skies, cold wind and continual rain had been a climax to one of the worst spells of illness in years.

Whooping-cough caused a distressing number of native infant deaths, and many people, including Europeans, of all ages were badly shaken with it.

While the whooping-cough was at its height, there was a fierce epidemic of influenza. Few escaped—most suffered from this and whooping-cough at the same time. There were few fatalities from influenza, although it took some toll among the aged.

Schools, churches, cinema and all public gatherings have been closed for weeks. The entertainment of the personnel of HMNZS "Arbutus" now on a Pacific cruise, was cancelled. After a brief call, the corvette proceeded to other islands. Local shipping has been tied up, but official permission has now been given for shipping and public meetings to resume.

Women passengers predominated on the "Montoro" which left Brisbane for Papua-New Guinea on June 14. Of the 95 passengers from Sydney, 50 were women, 23 were children and there were 22 men. Twenty one passengers embarked in Brisbane, 16 of whom were women. Many were to re-join their husbands, others to be married or join mission bodies.

LUTHERAN MISSIONARY DOCTOR RETURNS TO NG

THIS photograph of Dr. Agnes Hoeger, who was a well-known member of the Lutheran Mission in Finschhafen, New Guinea, before the war, was taken in America when she was serving in the American Army Medical Corps. She has since been discharged and will return to medical mission work in New Guinea.

Dr. Hoeger is one of eight children of a Lutheran minister in North Dakota, USA. She took her MD degree from the University of Minnesota in 1935 and soon after was chosen to go to New Guinea.



She had expected to go to India, where a woman medical missionary is useful in ways a male medico cannot be.

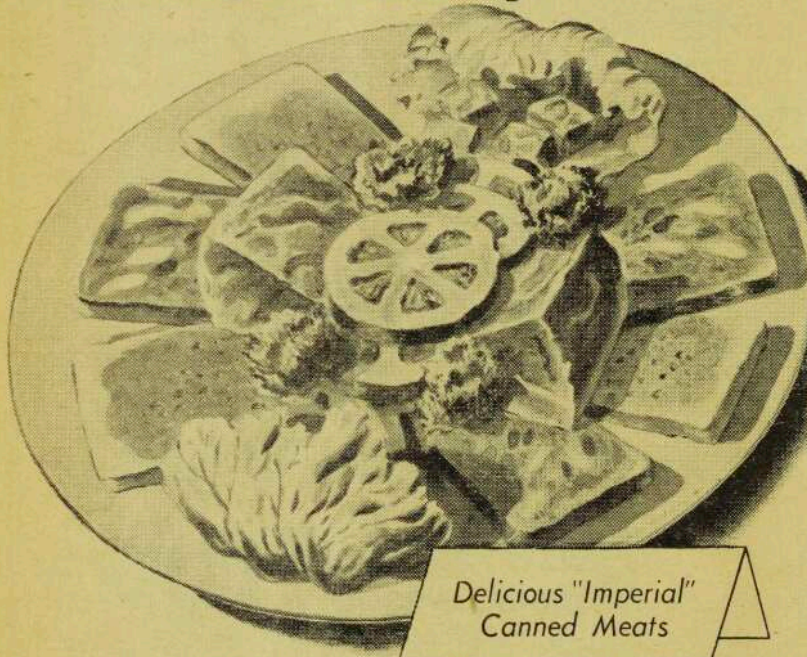
She stayed in Finschhafen until the last moment before the Japs arrived in 1942, and then escaped inland, eventually reaching the Hagen area, where she was picked up by plane.

When she reached Australia she joined the staff of a hospital, until in April 1943, the US Government passed legislation admitting women to the Army Medical Corps. She returned then to America and joined the AMC late in 1943. Soon after, as a specialist in tropical medicine, she was assigned to Peru, where she stayed until November, 1945.

After her army discharge, Dr. Hoeger could have had a lucrative position in America with the ease and grace of living such as only that country can produce to-day. But, in order to continue her mission work, she preferred to go back to New Guinea on the meagre salary that is paid to all missionaries of the Lutheran Church. In commenting upon this, an executive member of the American Lutheran Board of Foreign Missions says: "Our mission treats all alike: the salary of a doctor, a nurse, an ordained missionary or a lay missionary is the same, without distinction. The only increments come with length of service and whether or not members of the mission are married or single."

Major C. Swinbourne, OBE, who is President of the Pacific Islands Society, Sydney, is also Hon. Treasurer of the local Victoria League. Due largely to his efforts, over £2,000 has now been collected by the League towards the rebuilding of the London headquarters, which were blitzed in the war. An Empire Ball and other functions were held in May in Sydney and proceeds contributed to this fund.

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AUSTRALIA, IN PACIFIC AFFAIRS, IS SNAPPING AND SNARLING AT AMERICA

How Canberra Politicians "Missed the Bus" In Manus Negotiations

AUSTRALIA has been shrilly scolding the United States because the ruler of Japan, General Douglas MacArthur, has permitted the Japanese to (a) send a whaling expedition to Antarctic waters; (b) recommence working the phosphate deposits at Angaur Island, in the Palau Group (Western Carolines, north-westwards of New Guinea).

Australia feels that her national dignity has been outraged, or her sovereignty invaded, or something—no one seems very clear as to what all the howling is about. Apparently, Australia now thinks that she has some kind of monopoly over Antarctica (never, until now, manifest in any shape or form); and she says that it is most improper that MacArthur should re-establish the Japs in the Palaus, within a few hundred miles of Australian territory.

In both these matters, MacArthur's motive was never even hinted at by either Australian politicians or newspapers—yet it is plain to any intelligent person. In the forefront of the many great problems that victory brought to America is that of feeding Japan.

In 100 years of "Westernisation," Japan developed an economy which demanded the export of vast quantities of manufactured goods, in return for foodstuffs and raw materials—only so could Japan's 100,000,000 be fed. Since the Tokio Surrender, Japan has been unable to export. Consequently, the Japanese have been forced to strain every resource in order to produce foodstuffs at home. To the extent that they fail, America is obliged to send in foodstuffs—and the quota for starving Europe is correspondingly reduced.

It was a perfectly reasonable thing to send Jap expeditions to the Antarctica after oil and whale-beef, and to encourage the Japs to recommence the stimulation of their home-country crops by again digging fertiliser out of Angaur.

THE Americans, trying desperately to keep the world from going into Red revolution—of which there is still the gravest danger—could have been pardoned if they had ignored the squealing of the Australian politicians and their now well-organised teams of starry-eyed newspaper reporters. Yet they have replied very soothingly to Canberra, and are trying to placate the bombastic Dr. Evatt, who is at present visiting MacArthur in Tokio "to discuss outstanding problems."

In world affairs, including UNO, the United States (140,000,000 people) speaks with one clear voice. The British Empire (87,000,000) speaks with five voices (Britain, Canada, Australia, South Africa, New Zealand), often contradictory—and in some things each British voice has as much weight as the American voice. So far, Uncle Sam has retained all diplomatic courtesy—but is it any wonder that, at times, his patience seems to be wearing a little thin!

The bumble feet of Australian politicians are seen as clearly now in the international field as in the Australian industrial field, where there is hopeless inefficiency and increasing confusion. Of that, there is no better illustration than in the history of the Manus sea and air base, created by the Americans at such enormous cost in the

northern part of the Mandated Territory of New Guinea between 1943 and 1945.

WHEN the war was over, America was prepared to maintain the base, on the assumption that Australia would consent to some sort of title. It would have been quite easy to have lopped Manus off the Mandated Territory of New Guinea and attached it to the American-controlled Mandated Territory of Caroline Islands, immediately to the northward.

But at the very suggestion, the Trades Hall diplomats in Canberra were up in arms. Australia, shouted Dr. Evatt, would not part with one yard of her precious territory, to anyone. But if America—who, he graciously admitted, really had helped to win the war in the Pacific—would ask her nicely, Australia might be prepared to share the Manus base with the United States Navy, on some sort of reciprocal arrangement.

The Americans, with a tired smile, withdrew everything from Manus; and Manus, for many months, has been literally folding up.

Australia, more recently, has been trying anxiously to convince the nations—and especially herself—that she can run Manus quite efficiently, with perhaps some American assistance. But Americans are not interested, any more.

The military writer of the Melbourne "Herald" published the following article on June 16. It sums up the position admirably:

Despite all the political smoke screens that are being put out from Canberra, there is no doubt that Australia "missed the bus" on the Manus Island negotiations.

America did want to come into Manus. Chief of Naval Operations told the United States Senate Naval Committee that the American Navy wished to have major Pacific bases at Honolulu, Guam, the Philippines and Manus Island.

To-day, the course of diplomacy and the policy of economy have forced the American Navy to trim down its desires. Manus Island has been dropped from the list.

This means that an island which America developed into a great wartime naval and air base covering our northern approaches now becomes entirely our responsibility.

The official Commonwealth Government attitude is that, by tacit understanding with the Americans, help would be forthcoming if a threat to us developed in this area.

There will be further consultations between the two Governments. There may be, at some future date, a plan of exchange duty between officers of the United States and Australian Navies.

Having lost the substance of a positive American agreement to man the whole Pacific line, the Commonwealth is consoling itself with a theory that the line can be just as strong if Australia acts as caretaker for this end of it.

But the American system of island bases in the Northern and Central Pacific is strong only because naval task forces, planes and the resources of great armament, engineering and mer-

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chant shipping industries stand ready to use it.

We can put nothing remotely approaching that weight of steel into our area. We can probably afford to keep the grass cut back from the Manus Island air-strips. We cannot by ourselves do much more.

THERE is no sound reason to expect that Britain can make up for our lack of naval and air power. British strategic planners are thinking in terms of a Middle East-Aden-East Africa limit to the effective range of their future resources.

We have no guarantee that they can maintain large forces even as near to us as Singapore.

There have been indications that they would like us to help them in the defence of the Indian Ocean approaches. This hardly suggests that Britain will have ships and planes to spare for the South-West Pacific.

WE are brought back to the truth that there can be no realistic defence of Australia without American aid.

In a crisis there is no doubt that the United States would be willing to give us all the help she could. If wars were leisurely affairs, and required no elaborate preparedness, our grass-cutting party on Manus could sit back and wait for the Americans to move in and mount guard.

But the last Pacific crisis came suddenly. We must assume that any future war would strike even more swiftly.

It might strike in a way which would force the Americans to concentrate on operating from the bases where their supplies and docking facilities were immediately available.

Manus would not be in that state of instant readiness. Only regular use by large formations of ships and aircraft in peacetime can keep the elaborate organisation of a modern base in efficient shape for war.

THE US Navy's proposals, outlined to the Senate Naval Committee in February, 1946, would have given Manus real strength if they had been carried out. Australia has no substitute for that strength.

American public opinion does not readily welcome commitments to defend foreign territory. This political factor began to tip the scale against an American-Australian agreement on the Manus base when it became clear that we wanted not only to retain full sovereign rights to the island into which America had put some £40 millions of strategic value, but to gain reciprocal access to bases under the American flag.

We have been left with our sovereign rights — and our defence problem.

NEW CALEDONIA'S MINERALS

TWO survey parties from France are expected in New Caledonia. One, sent by the National Geographic Institute of Paris, to arrive early in 1948, will map the island. The other "mission" is to carry out a preliminary survey of mineral resources.

Meanwhile, an announcement is made that Broken Hill, which sent experts to report on New Caledonian Plaine des Lacs iron deposits shortly before the war and again in 1945, has given up the idea of exploitation because the presence of nickel and chrome make the ores difficult to smelt.

PLEA FOR LEONARD MURRAY

Ex-Official's Frank Speaking

TWO columns of the Bundaberg newspaper were given over recently to a report of an address before the Rotary Club by Mr. A. L. Ethell, formerly an ADO under the New Guinea Administration, and now a planter in Eastern Papua.

Mr. Ethell pulled no punches. He told of the early panics in Port Moresby—how Port Moresby was deserted when a false air-raid alarm was given in January, 1942; how the Australian troops looted the town about the same time, and did over £1,000,000 damage in one hectic night; how Canberra, per medium of the Barry inquiry, contrived to get rid of the well-loved Leonard Murray; and the facts behind the "Fuzzy-wuzzy angels."

"Never has so much been written about a country by so many who knew so little" remarked Mr. Ethell, aptly.

He described the present method of awarding War Damage compensation to the natives (at the Australian taxpayers' expense) as "the greatest racket I have ever known."

"While the present regime continues in New Guinea, goodness knows what the country will develop into . . . There is only one thing that will save Papua today, and keep the natives from developing into a degenerate race, and that is the return of the one man who really knows them — Leonard Murray. Until he goes back and theorists and idealists have no more say in the direction of New Guinea affairs, we are going to have there only a race of people who depend purely and simply on the Government."

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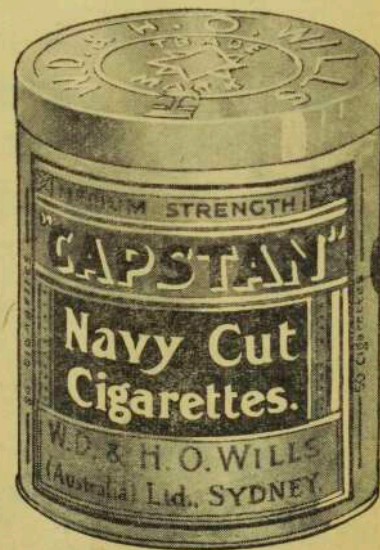
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"TIRPITZ" KNOWS NOW!

N. Guinea Economics In Simple Pidgin

I HAD been on a recruiting trip and now sat in the Buka sunshine, getting a bit of sun tan. It was much more restful than chasing around the villages trying to induce the local lads to take up shovel and hoe and join the ranks of producers.

I had promised that they should begin work at seven and finish at four, with an hour for lunch, and that no one would speak crossly to them or cast any doubts as to the married state of their parents.

But, it would appear, many quite unexpected and urgent jobs had suddenly cropped up in the villages and prevented them from accepting my much appreciated offer!

So, after mutual expressions of regret and esteem, I bowed myself out and continued my merry journey. Blessed is he that expecteth nothing for, verily, he shall not be disappointed. I hadn't expected anything.

And now, as I sat, I saw a canoe approaching the beach. Big, gondola-like it sat the water like a duck, and was being powerfully propelled by 11 "highly respectable gondoliers" who sang the high, wild song of the Buka boatmen as they came rapidly towards me.

When they disembarked, I observed an old acquaintance of mine advancing—one who had worked for me in the Admiralty Group years before. He had been

with the Germans as a youngster and had tripped round on their gun-boats. When I first knew him he had worn a two-pronged beard and was known as "Tirpitz"; but, since razor blades had become common, he had turned clean-shaven.

Halting in front of me he gave me a Jap naval salute, bowed and said, "Good morning, Master." This greeting was really a nice change after the "Goo'-day" of the modern Buka-ite, or the "Allo, Joe" of the British Solomons, but I felt I had to utter reproof regarding the Jap salute.

It seemed that he had had a fit of mental aberration, as sometimes happened in his later years. He had been under the Japs during the four-years' occupation, and they were strong-minded people who were most insistent about observances of the kind. If you disregard their wishes they might "shorten you a whole head's length"; so the thing had become a habit with him. Yes, he admitted that it was a bad show!

He said he had just dropped in for a chat, so I invited him to be seated, which he did. He produced a filthy and battered pipe, into the empty bowl of which he thrust a grimy forefinger, and looked appealingly at me meantime. I took the hint and handed him some tobacco, so he loaded the gun, borrowed my matches and lit up, remarking that "tobak" was a scarce commodity these days. I remarked, "You're telling me!"

HE said that times had changed since the war—and for the worst. Formerly on his coast-wise trips, he would see smoke rising from the copra-dryers, signs of activity on the plantations, pinnacles scooting about the big lagoon,

natives in mons and canoes taking copra to sell at the trade stores or returning with purchases, an old schooner with sails up coming in from Rabaul, and signs of life and commerce.

He used to enjoy taking his bit of copra to a plantation store to sell, whilst he talked and decided upon his purchases. He liked to exchange news and views with the planter folk, whom he got to look upon as good friends.

He missed the regular inter-island steamers and copra schooners coming for copra and bringing their cargoes, and time-expired labourers returning to their villages. It all meant movement and life and kept the natives alert and interested.

Now, the whole coast was silent and deserted, with overgrown plantations and generally depressing air of desolation and abandonment. He said it made him feel sad and at a loss.

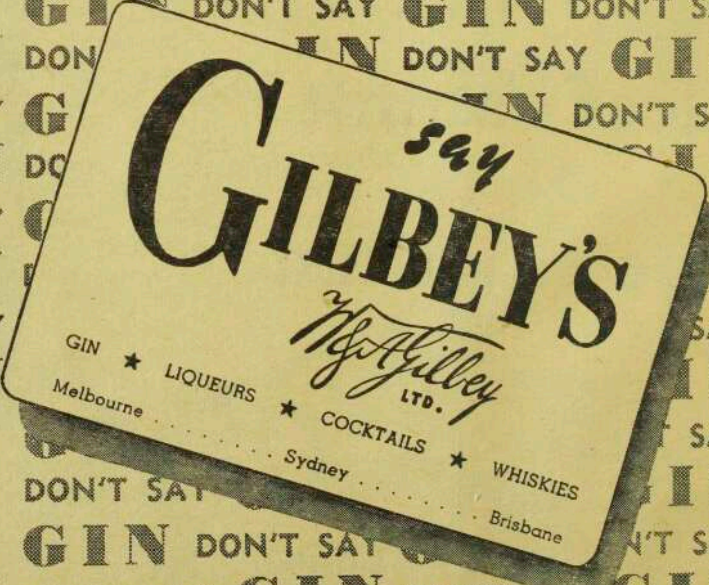
I sighed, and said, "True too much."

Having borrowed my matches again he went on to say that the district was full of disturbing rumours. The natives seemed to be expecting the millenium—or something like it—to arrive shortly. There was talk of higher education and that grown men and women were to attend schools and be paid and fed by a benevolent Government. Wages were soon to rise substantially—all the native ex-soldiers said so. No one was to work unless he ardently desired to do so, and then the urge must come from within!

They had heard about the wonderful sums that were being paid out, and were to be paid out, for war damages, to natives. Was it true that one small coastal village had been paid £3000 for war damages?

The authority of the older men was now

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being seriously undermined by the younger men who said it was part of the New Order. Why were all trade goods so scarce and dear, and why did not the ships come as formerly? Could I explain things a bit to him and could I tell him what to expect in the future? Was another war impending and would the Japs. return, as they said they would do, in due course?

I TOLD him in careful Pidgin that I could not give him any enlightenment as to future prospects, policy and security. Like all other plantation people, I was much in the dark. Our problems centred round shipping, supplies, and labour available, without any of which we could not operate. He must understand that times were difficult, and one could only hope for the best.

He seemed to be a bit disappointed, and more than a little bored, and his pipe had gone out again. So, between us, we re-lit it and I then decided upon a new angle of attack. I would give him straight English.

Rising from my chair, and hitching up my slacks, I shook an admonitory forefinger under the ancient's nose and said, forcefully:

"Now, you get this! It's a question of economics. Without shipping, supplies and labour we cannot hope to produce copra, and plantations must close down. In order to have things, you must produce something in exchange. Without copra, we cannot provide two-way freights for vessels, and there is no reciprocity of trade, which is essential to our economic set-up, and if we want any consideration in way of shipping services, supplies, trade goods, and the good things of the earth.

"People who don't work and produce just don't get anywhere or have any thing! That, my friend, is a law of God,

and Man, and cannot be dodged, side-tracked or avoided!

"To sum up the position: No labour, no production. No ships and no supplies means isolation, stagnation, desperation and damnation! Alright! Finish Palaver! You been hear 'im good, eh?"

THE ancient's pipe had gone out and had dropped from his nerveless fingers, but his eyes were bright with what I hoped was comprehension! He gulped, girded his lap-lap round himself and told me it was "strong fella talk too much," and although he was hazy on many points, he felt quite sure that I was right in my contentions and now he would go and "show 'im good along all the boys!"

He strode across to his friends and was soon ringed about by an attentive audience. He declaimed loudly and at length, and, apparently, successfully

rammed home point after point. Finally, he struck first into open palm and demanded of the circle, "You fella savvy good now? Suppose you no savvy you must talk!"

They answered him as one man: "Me fella hear 'im finish, now me fella savvy, too."

The ancient one now turned back to me, saying, "Orrright, Master, me like go now."

Soon the gondoliers took their places in the mon, the steersman gave curt orders to trim the ship properly, the paddles dipped as one, the water churned under powerful strokes, and they shot away over the wavelets.

Presently their chant was borne back on the breeze, and it seemed to have a new note in it! I hoped that it might be one of clearer understanding and a determination to do the right thing!—FPA.



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Only Poverty for Cook Is. Maoris

"Social Security" for NZ Cousins

Letter to the Editor

A RECENT writer to "PIM" was apprehensive that the recent unrest in the Cook Islands would "spread to New Zealand." It seems to me that this is a case of putting the cart before the horse.

Recent NZ Maori election literature found its way here, in support of the four Maori Labour candidates. It was digested with great interest by the local intelligentsia, because it compared the state of affairs among the NZ Maoris, under Tory governments with their present condition under the Labour government. Labour provides the NZ Maoris with all kinds of Social Security benefits. What the NZ Maori cannot get by working, he can gain in other ways.

But what of the Cook Islands Maori?

If he becomes sick—on his head alone is his recovery; be he poor—on his export of low-priced fruit alone rests his chance of ready cash. Vote he has none, except as it concerns a powerless native council.

If the Cook Islander were not of Asiatic patience he might long ago have given the authorities something to worry about. His acceptance of a coolie living-standard reveals the Islands Maori as a Spartan and a Stoic. To suggest that the justified agitation of the local native planter for a reasonable return for his produce may inflame the NZ Maori to some act of rebellion is, to my mind, ridiculous.

I am, etc.,

EDWIN GOLD.

Mangaia, Cook Is.,
5/5/47.

EDITORIAL NOTE: The use of the term "Maori" is sometimes confusing. Usually, "Maori" means a New Zealand

native. But, officially, it means all Polynesians who speak that particular language. There is little difference between the native language spoken in New Zealand, Cook Islands and French Oceania; but a wide difference between that Group and the languages of Samoa, Tonga and Hawaii.

Canberra Killing Australia's Islands Trade

FROM two letters from the Mandated Territory of New Guinea, received by the "PIM" on the same day: "The 'Nellore', carrying mostly Russian Jews migrating to Australia, came in here on June 20, en route to Sydney," writes a Rabaul resident.

"This vessel has brought a very large cargo of beer and spirits from Hong Kong. The business houses are retailing this beer at 3/6 per bottle, or £8/8/- per case.

"The supplies of Australian beer for Rabaul, by vessels arriving here from Australia, are practically nil, despite the assurance of authorities in Australia that the beer quota for Rabaul is based on the idea of three bottles per person per week.

"This beer quota is either a myth, or it is being off-loaded en route and sold at a much greater profit elsewhere. Anyway, a check on this quota business through the Customs Department would quickly dispel the idea that Rabaul receives the quota that it is supposed to receive.

"One wonders what is happening to New Ireland and Bougainville. They certainly never have any beer, and get very little of anything else. There is no provision whereby they can receive fresh meat, medical attention, mails, etc. For over twelve months, the unfortunate residents of those areas have been trying to exist on what tinned rations the Army left behind.

"It looks as if the Administration has abandoned that portion of the Mandated Territory to the giant slugs and other pests, until such time as the Indonesians and other Asiatics decide to move in.

"Export surcharges on goods purchased in Australia for export to New Guinea are a grievous burden. On a 50/- car battery the export surcharge is 25/0."

Our other correspondent, a missionary resident in Buka, sends us an original letter, dated May 9, from the manager of Queensland Groceries Ltd., Brisbane. The missionary sent to this Co.—which he says had given him every courtesy and attention over a number of years—a cheque for £12, covering a grocery order. The Co. sent it back, with the intimation that the Australian authorities were putting so many difficulties in the way of shipping goods to New Guinea, that it had been decided reluctantly to abandon Islands trade. The manager pointed out that there seemed to be a move to force all such business to Sydney; even when they got shipping space for Brisbane, there was endless red tape to be gone through before they could get permission to ship.

The daughter of the French Resident Commissioner in the New Hebrides (M. Robert Kuter) was married on July 4 to Mr. Donald Jean Gubbay, second son of Mr. and Mrs. D. D. Gubbay, formerly of the New Hebrides. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Father Chaize, and Dr. J. Rutherford (brother-in-law of the bride) acted as best man. After the service at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Sydney, a reception was held at "Kinneil."

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The "Islands of Romance" have suffered much at the hands of peripatetic writers and irresponsible film directors. The places and people they picture rarely exist outside a cinema studio, and the fevered imagination of literary morons. Nonetheless, the Islands which our fathers knew fully deserved the description, "a place where life is different."

But the charming Islands world of the Nineteenth Century has been changed very much by the Twentieth Century—and by no event more than World War II, which brought masses of Servicemen into places which formerly regarded a kava party as a great crowd. We still have the Islands setting and the indefinable Islands atmosphere; but life in the Islands—even in savage and primitive Melanesia—has been altered, profoundly.

This book may indicate how and where conditions have changed.

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TONGA, 50 YEARS AGO

By F. T. Goedicke

THE capital of Nukualofa, looked dead as I passed between the apparently unused Customs and Wharf sheds, and on into the grassy road, on my first visit, 50 years ago. For verily, the paths of Nukualofa at that time were paths of pleasantness, wide grassy avenues, kept trim by each Tongan landowner.

Up and down this verdant esplanade drove an immaculate young Tongan, in the smartest of clothes. He was evidently a person of importance, got up to show what Tonga could do in the way of fashion. I found out, later on, the reason for this.

I was astonished to see how few people there were about; but I learned they were attending an important function—Diploma Day, at the Nukualofa College. Strolling past the building, I was hailed by an official, and invited into the hall, crowded with students and notabilities. The teacher, a New Zealander, greeted me with enthusiasm, and a kind native insisted on ushering me to the platform, where sat my old friend of happy Haapai days, father of King George Tupou II, who greeted me most kindly.

The mental arithmetic of the children was wonderful, and the answers came, quick and prompt, to quite difficult questions.

Next day my boat passed two volcanoes, "Tofoa Kao," but it was a tempestuous day, and the tops were shrouded in clouds.

Next day, in rain, I entered Vavau to whose wooded shores, with exquisite vistas of foliage and harbour, and kindly, handsome people, I lost my heart. This country is volcanic. Only the night before, an earthquake took place and the natives rushed about thumping the ground with

sticks, to awaken the giant, who is turning in his sleep below. The missionaries could not get the idea out of their heads.

There was a most interesting native concert in the Free Church. The singing unaccompanied and unaccompanied, was marvellous; and when they gave, as an extra, "Hard Times Come Again No More," in Tongan, the effect, weird and melancholy, swelling like an organ, and dying away like a sigh, was magnificent.

It was with sadness that I left Vavau again for my old home in Haapai, where I can recollect happy days spent among these kind natives of the Friendly Islands.

Following the Pacific Conference at Canberra, French Inspector General of Colonies Lasalle-Sere has visited Tahiti to study the general situation of French Oceania and the functioning of the administrative services.

The sugar ration card system has been dropped in Tahiti following an exchange agreement with Guadeloupe, which will accept copra in exchange for its sugar.

The French authorities are giving some attention to the growth of the Chinese element in the Tahitian population. Governor Haumant recently threatened to close four Chinese schools for a limited period on the grounds that the teaching of French was inadequate and that only a small number of pupils were sitting for French examinations. The Chinese Consul intervened, and an agreement was arrived at allowing the schools to reopen on condition that they improve the teaching of French in conformity with the programme of the Education Dept.

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When "Boys" Are Not to be "Boys"

A New Edict by Moresby's
Planners

SOME Territories' "old hands" are laughing, and some are jeering, over the latest example of Administration Brown-brother fatuousness. The Administration has placed a *tabu* upon the use of the word "boy," as applied to adult natives.

"Boy," to indicate a coloured man—usually a native man in service—is as old as Pidgin English itself, and there is nothing offensive or derogatory in it. There are two words, commonly applied to native males in the Australian Territories—"coon" and "boong"—which are derogatory and even offensive; and the use of these terms might properly be discouraged. But there is no sound case behind Moresby's attempt to outlaw "boy."

The development is in the shape of a Government circular to all public servants. They are requested to refrain altogether from the use of the term "boy"; and, where the term comes into use in other connections, the following substitutes are brightly suggested:—

Present term.	Suggested alternative.
Boss-boy	Foreman
Boy-house	Native quarters
Boy-proofing	Burglar-proofing

The latest silly story going the rounds in the Territories describes how an official approached a trio of native workers. "Where is the foreman?" he said, conscientiously refraining from the use of the easy Pidgin. The boys could not understand, until he had repeated it two or three times. Then the most intelligent pointed out that there were not four men there—there were only three!

The Government circular ties in with various other incidents, which have been received with derision in the Territories—the reception at Government House luncheon-table of Papuan ex-POW's, for instance, and the official hand-shaking and bowing when representatives of the natives are being greeted.

Generally, Territorians appreciate efforts to raise the status of natives, and they admire the grim purposefulness of the Administrator in trying to carry out the ideas of Mr. E. J. Ward and his starry-eyed planners; but, in their opinion, these attempts, at this stage, simply invite ridicule. Time enough to make a gentleman out of Fuzzy-wuzzy when Fuzzy's standards of living have moved further away from the jungle and the Stone Age. And that will not be for another generation or two.

Native men will be "boys", and Pidgin English will be the *lingua franca* of New Guinea long after the Wardist regime is only an hilarious and never-to-be-forgotten memory.

JAPS FOR NEW CALEDONIA?

JAPANESE and Chinese labour may be introduced into New Caledonia.

At a meeting in Paris of the French Societe de Nickel, the company which mines practically the whole of New Caledonia's nickel output, and on whose activities the Colony largely depends, the board indicated that in addition to a greater degree of mechanisation, it is considering applying through official channels for the introduction of Chinese or Japanese labour under strict control. This labour would, of course, replace the Javanese and Indo-Chinese labour hitherto employed but now considered unsatisfactory.

Owing to slow resumption of work at the Le Harve refinery, and coal difficulties with Australia, Noumea's smelters have been working only part time. Last deliveries under war contracts were made to the USA in mid-1945, in which year losses amounted to 17 million francs.

Capital of the company is to be increased from 354 to 703 million francs.

It was formally announced at the end of the financial year that Mr. R. J. Nosworthy and Mr. L. Armstrong had retired from the Board of Directors of Burns, Philp & Co., Ltd. Each had had over 60 years service with the Big Firm. The new directors are Mr. P. T. W. Black and Mr. D. W. Cross, both of whom have long records of service.

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Mr. W. B. Ryan, assistant manager of BP interests in Port Moresby, arrived in Sydney recently on a business trip.

N. GUINEA RATS

Tree-Climbing and Kunai Species

THE mammalogist of the Australian Museum, Mr. Ellis Troughton, is running a series of interesting articles in "Monthly Notes", the official publication of the Australian School of Pacific Administration.

In the May issue he deals with native rats, prevalent in New Guinea, and tells how "Nip" Blood, well-known old Territory identity, succeeded in obtaining the two first specimens of a giant tree-climbing rat, which are rare. They were collected in the Mount Hagen area. One of the specimens measured 34 inches, including a naked rough-scaled tail which acts as a prehensile "climbing iron". The rat has developed powerful chisel-incisors for breaking open hard-shelled nuts, and even coconuts in lowland regions.

The writer refers to the greater menace to health and industry of the village rat (*rattus browni*) and a coarse-haired kunai rat, as they are hosts of the scrub-typhus mites. "Indeed," the writer states, "the presence of the flesh-pink encrustations of mites within the ears and around the anal parts of the rats and marsupials serve as an elementary warning of the risk of scrub-typhus infection. . . . Protective measures will by now have been well-covered by the Administration and tropical hygiene services, but it cannot be stressed too often that places of abandoned settlement and plantation re-growth are among the real danger spots; that natives with their acquired immunity should be employed for clearing operations; and that firing of the

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Moreover, there is so much to see on Tahiti, when one travels leisurely: A foaming cascade within the recess of a fern-clad cliff, the exquisite colours of sea water overlying shallow coral-beds; the flash of emerald from a curtain of sea-wave; the beauty of a garden, seen through an opening of an hibiscus hedge.

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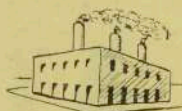
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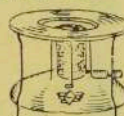
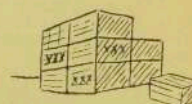
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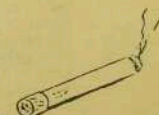
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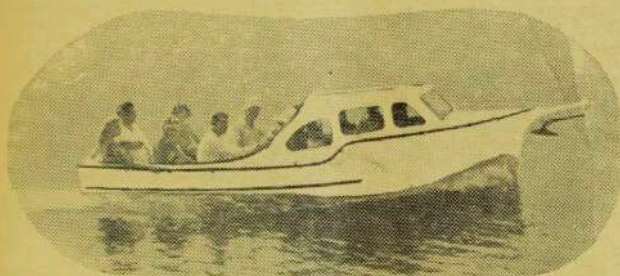
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DUTCH JUNGLE-WATCHER

(Continued from page 48)

landed at Lake Panial. It had been decided that the post should be evacuated by unessential personnel, and those who did not wish to remain; and, in the succeeding months, these people were taken off in Catalinas, leaving behind de Bruijn, a corporal, named Berger, Rudy Gout (the radio operator) and six Indonesians. All had volunteered for the party, which was thenceforth to be known as "Oaktree."

Without delay they abandoned Enarotali, leaving only burnt buildings and destroyed vegetable gardens, and made for a secret jungle hide-out about 12 miles away—and not before time. Two days later the Japs arrived at the lakes.

Now de Bruijn's friendship with local natives paid dividends and, as in other parts of the South-west Pacific, these

people almost automatically became valuable spies. They would mingle with the Japanese—who appeared to treat them with no more suspicion than they did the rest of the scenery—and then would report back to de Bruijn with detailed accounts of Jap strength and equipment. This information was, in turn, relayed to Allied headquarters.

IT was May, 1943, when they moved out of Enarotali; and, apart from a few "drops" of supplies, their radio remained their only link with their own kind until February, 1944.

Then they were informed that they would be joined by a new party, consisting of a Lieutenant Overweel, a radio operator, Brink, and two Indonesians. The party duly arrived, towards the end of the month, by parachute; and from that time on affairs moved quickly towards a climax.

Gout at this time had become ill, apparently with a gastric ulcer, with which they, with their limited knowledge and few supplies, were incompetent to deal.

In early March, 1944, a message was received from headquarters stating that an attempt would be made to evacuate the sick man from Lake Hagers, far to the north of their camp. It was obvious to de Bruijn that headquarters had little idea of the obstacles of terrain that had to be overcome in getting Gout to the rendezvous, which was fixed for April 10 (they finally made it late in July); but, leaving Overweel in charge, he determined to make the effort.

At this time, however, the Japs, too, were moving eastward from the Wissel Lakes, hard on the heels of the Dutch-

men; and, in the hasty destruction of one camp, Brink, the other radio operator, had been badly burned. The parties were now hampered by two sick men.

At the beginning of May, de Bruijn, then preparing for the final trek to Lake Hagers with Gout, received further orders from headquarters. Due to "tactical and political" reasons, all personnel were to be evacuated. They were ordered to make haste to Lake Hagers forthwith.

Slowly de Bruijn and Overweel, their Indonesians, the two sick men and the 30 Papuans—who had left their homes with de Bruijn a year before—struggled down the long valley of the Rouffaer River, towards the lake. But now their chance of escape was threatened by another development.

THE Americans had leap-frogged from Hollandia, and now were firmly established on the north coast, and on Biak Island; the Japanese, consequently, were fleeing southwards, and were flooding into the country around Lake Hagers.

De Bruijn and his men were between two fires and for a while he seriously contemplated trying to find his way out through Archbold's Grand Valley.

The idea was eventually dismissed; it seemed too hazardous a journey with two sick men so . . . "Gradually day by day, they went forward, over the now low rolling, grassy country, through swamps and uninhabited, barren lands. There were no trails and no villages, for the people are a nomadic race, and live and move only in their canoes on the great river.

"Somewhere in the north was Hagers Lake. No one knew much about it. Lieutenant Hagers had discovered it only a few months previously, while flying over to make photo-strips. No land party had been there. Le Roux, in 1926, and van

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Eechoud, in 1937, had both by-passed it. Strangely enough, this goal to which they were making as their sole hope of evacuation was only known by photo-strips."

More and more Japanese were moving in from the north, but headquarters had not entirely forgotten its little party moving in from the south, and, in the final days, they had the unexpected support of the 5th US Air Force, which strafed the area ahead.

So passing through the swamps and the plagues of mosquitoes that nearly drove them mad, they came to Lake Hagers. On the morning of July 26, a few of them took rafts out into the middle of the lake and arranged the recognised signal. At 8.30, two Catalinas came down and settled on the water. In their small, collapsible canoes—which had been dropped to them—the men left the shore in small numbers and boarded the planes. By 10.30 they were air-borne.

"Oaktree" was no more.—J.T.

("Jungle Pimpernel," published by Hodder & Stoughton, for 18/3, Australian.)

Mr. Harold A. Markham, of Marovo Lagoon, British Solomon Islands, one of the best known of the older planters of the group, arrived in Suva early in July on his way to Christmas Island, where he has accepted a temporary appointment as Government Agent under the Gilbert and Ellice Colony. Mr. Markham returned to his plantation in 1946 (he was one of the voyagers on the "Southern Cross," on her never-to-be-forgotten first trip after she was released by the navy); but in the succeeding months he found the labour conditions and the difficulties of shipment and supply so great as to prevent rehabilitation. Therefore he has gone to Christmas Island for a few months in the hope that conditions in the Solomons will be better in 1948.

NEW CALEDONIAN BUSHRANGER SENTENCED

THE New Caledonian bushranger Gaston Dijou, whose depredations covering a portion of the west coast, has been sentenced by the Noumea Assize Court to five years for a number of thefts. His associate Albert Debels, was acquitted of thefts for which he had been previously charged, but got two years for receiving stolen property. His women companion, the native, Marie-Therese, was acquitted.

"PIM" readers will recall that in March 1946, two gendarmes with two native followers came upon Dijou near one of the mines up the Dumbea valley. Dijou was armed, and in the affray he was wounded, and then taken to hospital for treatment.

Dijou, Debels and the native woman had been visiting US Army camps, where Dijou had taken possession of rifles, ammunition and grenades. He had terrorised the neighbourhood, killing cattle, stealing fowls, and molested Asiatics.

After Dijou's arrest, Debels and Marie Therese moved cross country to the Bourail area, where they were arrested in the vicinity of the Nerin tribe on last October 26, by a party led by nine gendarmes. They admitted having lived on stores stolen by Dijou, but denied having participated in the thefts. A charge against Dijou of having attempted to murder a US military policeman was dropped.

Mrs. M. Wacke, Mrs. Goetzelmann and two children, Sister M. Lehmann, Mr. Ray Barber, and the Rev. and Mrs. Hofmann and four children left Australia recently for Lutheran Mission stations in New Guinea.

MORE COCONUTS FOR BOUGAINVILLE!

Letter to the Editor

IT is rumoured that one result of the Administration party's recent visit to Bougainville will be that that unfortunate part of the Territory will again be bombarded with coconuts from Papua. Fifty thousand of them will be sent, it is said, for the restoration of native groves.

As Buka-Bougainville planters have the greatest difficulty in obtaining labour to cut copra, and find it almost impossible to ship it if and when it is cut, it has been suggested that perhaps they might be happy to sell the Administrator 50,000 nuts.

Recently nine pigs were sent to Bougainville. This is the sum-total of Administrative effort in restocking the island. It has taken them just 2½ years to fulfil this first instalment of their countless promises to local natives.

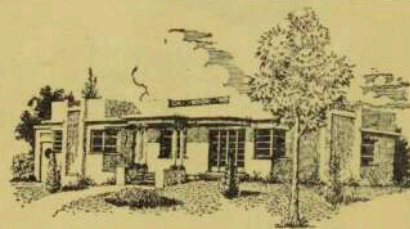
I am, etc.,
OBSERVER.

Rabaul, NG. July 23.

Mr. Max Babbage is in Sydney on sick leave from his planting interests in Buka.

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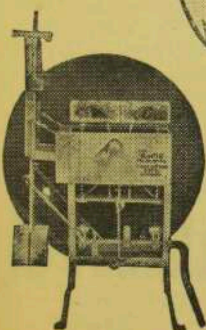
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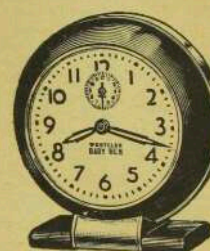
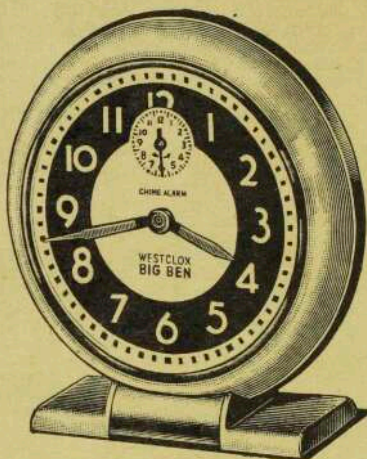
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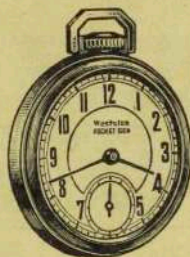


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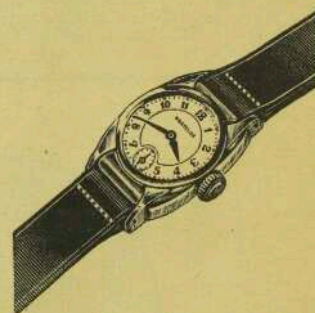


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Only Trouble Is Permanent In New Guinea

INTERVIEWED recently while in Sydney, a resident of New Guinea said that the general outlook throughout the whole of the old Mandated Territory was still uncertain. Temporary building is going on where labour is available, material being collected from disused Army huts.

The lack of galvanised iron for roofing was affecting the domestic water supply, however, as most of the iron used by the Army had been coated with a lead solution which renders water unfit for consumption.

Nothing much has been heard of the projected shift of the New Britain administration centre from Rabaul to Kokopo, but it is said that the Gazelle Peninsula district is to have the services of the Commonwealth Department of Works and Housing. This may be the first shot in the campaign for putting into effect one of the Department's many town-planning schemes. Territorians are asking themselves, however, if a Territory which apparently has no agricultural policy can afford to build Garden Cities for more and more Public Servants.

The need to extend the Australian-New Guinea shipping services to outposts, such as Kavieng, Wewak, Aitape, etc., is pressing, as small ships cannot service these ports adequately, particularly in regard to building materials and freezer goods.

Australian levies on wheatmeal, flour, rice, etc., continue, and hit the natives hard. In view of the Australian government's professed interest in native welfare this is not easy to understand, either by the Europeans of the Territory, or by the natives. Cause and effect mean little to the native; he knows only that 17/5 will now buy him only 40 pounds of rice, where it would buy him 100 pounds in 1939.

THE latest decree from Port Moresby is that a native may not now be employed casually more than 25 miles from his village. This, of course, was the rule in the Mandated Territory before the war, but now that the Administration encourages "free" labour, as opposed to indentured labour, it does not seem to make sense.

Four-fifths of the so-called free labour is now prevented from engaging in employment. Many villages are 100 miles or more from any source of employment, and the Administration itself will, on present indications, be the worst offender against the new rule.

In many cases, in the Territory, machines are replacing native labour, and this policy is expected to overcome, in due course, some of the labour difficulties. Some amusement was caused in the Territory in recent months when Mr. Ward told the Australian Parliament that the Administration now had more natives in its employ than ever before—attracted by the favourable conditions of employment. All Territorians know that, given a few police-boys, anyone can recruit native labour.

Mr. J. Ewen, who before the war was the popular manager of Burns Philp & Co's branch at Kokopo, New Britain, and who has been with the Madang branch since its reopening, has now returned to Rabaul. He will take over the management of the Kokopo branch again shortly.

NO TAKERS FOR LAE TERRACE

From Our Own Correspondent

LAE, July 21.

THE township of Lae, temporarily or otherwise, is rebuilding on the old site on the flat. No one seems keen to live on the terrace with its planned garden city, bus stops and industrial quarters still in the blueprint stage.

Burns Philp are back on their own site and the Morobe bakery is now almost ready to begin production in their new mechanised premises of steel and corrugated fibro cement.

Mr. Syd. Woods, cameraman for Movietone News, is at present making a tour of New Guinea centres, taking shots for a documentary film of the Territory. He is visiting Port Moresby, Rabaul and the goldfields.

Mr. L. D. Jimenez of 114 Norwood Road, Herne Hill, London, S.E. 24, was a member of the RAF in World War II and lost an eye in combat. He recently has been invalided out of the Air Force. He has taken to stamp collecting as a hobby and is appealing to stamp collectors in the Pacific Islands to communicate with him with a view to exchanging stamps. He says that he has a number of African stamps which he would like to exchange for stamps of the Pacific Territories.

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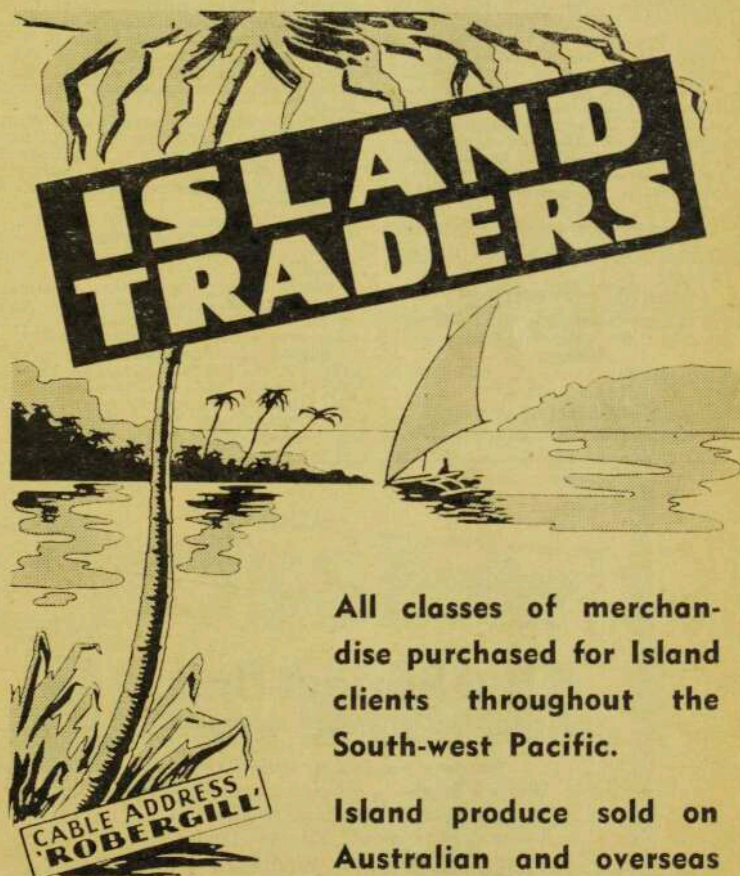
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HOW NGVR HUNG ON NEAR MUBO, IN 1942

Story of Raids and Alarums in New Guinea Jungles

BY N. M. BIRD

SECTION ONE.

BEING unable to procure anything of the sort from the Australian military authorities, we have ourselves compiled a roll of members of the New Guinea Volunteer Rifles—that organisation of planters, traders, miners, officials and missionaries, which did such splendid work in the jungles of New Guinea in the black days of 1942-43. That list of names will be published shortly.

In 1942, the Japs were all over the Territory; the Americans, and the Australians, who were brought back from the Middle East, were still a long way off; and our attenuated forces, who were trying to hold on to positions in New Guinea and Papua, had to depend largely upon the gallant NGVR to provide information and guides.

In this article (which is being published in two sections) Mr. N. M. Bird tells the story of one small section of NGVR—the section that retired into the wet, precipitous, gloomy mountains between Salamaua and Wau, early in 1942, and maintained an organisation there until larger forces arrived. They started in January, 1942, as two detachments. By December, there were only seven men left.

During most of the period described, there

was bitter fighting in the jungles of north-east Papua (Kokoda Trail and Buna), and it was therefore essential that our people should know what the Japs were doing in the region away to the north, between Salamaua and Wau. Mr. Bird gives an indication of how the NGVR served the Allied cause in that region.

JANUARY, 1942—that tragic month when Nippon over-ran Rabaul, and bombed and strafed Lae, Salamaua, Bulwa, Bulolo and Wau—ended in a flurry of evacuation of civilians and others from the goldfields.

The NGVR had taken over under command of Major Edwards; and Captain Humphelby (popularly known as "Hump") appeared from nowhere and took over the Wau-Bulolo section. One detachment went to Salamaua, and was followed soon after by another, located at Mubo.

Reports that our people, both military and civilian, were being murdered by the enemy, drifted through. Small parties, escaped from New Britain, arrived in Lae and Salamaua and went on to Port Moresby.

The Salamaua detachment concentrated on salvaging as much food-stuff as was possible from the bombed and burned stores.

Much freezer stock was undamaged; and poultry and A1 export meat, washed down with copious drafts of salvaged beer, made the war worth fighting.

There was some discontent in Mubo. The "Mubo Force" (otherwise known as the "Force") put up the argument that the Salamaua Detachment was being over-worked, and that Mubo should relieve them. This would allow Salamaua

to go back to Mubo for a rest, while Mubo could take a turn at the hard work in Salamaua, and have a dip in the surf, etc.

The matter was referred to "Hump." He agreed that Mubo and Salamaua should exchange. All waited for the move. It never came off. We did not know "Hump" very well in those days, but our education had commenced.

At Mubo, parades were the order of the day—bayonet drill under that enthusiast, Len Noakes; short patrols under Corporal O'Laughlin; and PT before breakfast under Campbell, lately of the Rabaul School.

"Hump" discovered a bunch of Muruk (cassowary) feathers and ordered that feathers be worn in the hat by all ranks, as a badge of the Force. Force reluctantly obeyed—but quite suddenly became enthusiastic. A supply of Bird of Paradise plums had been located, and the entire Force blossomed out in those gay plumes.

Ted Hawnt, late of Rabaul, surpassed us all, in a wealth of waving plumes.

Ted was OC cookhouse, and could not attend drill parades. But he practised the drill in his spare time. One movement seemed to hold a fascination for him. This was the old "reversed arms," originally used at a military burial. Ted would be seen, several times a day, in front of the house-cook, practising this most depressing movement. The pained look on his gaunt face as he dropped his hand to the butt of the reversed rifle, then dropped his chin on his breast, was something to remember. Here originated that now almost universal expression: "Wouldn't it Hawnt you!"

THE CO at Salamaua wrapped his car around a couple of coconut palms; and Bert Simmons was sent by "Hump" to take over.

Salamaua Detachment took a new lease of life. Drums of petrol were rolled to the foreshore and wired for explosion and fire; the drome was mined with cases of gelignite, and batteries were installed at suitable points. The idea was to explode the drums of petrol when Nippon attempted to land, and he would be nicely browned off.

A watching post was established on the isthmus, and was manned twenty-four hours daily.

At Mubo, the monotony was maddening and the Force came close to open rebellion. Fever took its toll. Sufferers were sent to Wau—and returned no more.

Geoff. White, that stout lad, toiled with his line of natives to shift supplies from Komiatum, to which point they had been carried by natives from the Salamaua detachment.

Then the blow fell at Salamaua.

One bright morning (March 8, 1942) about 2.30, the guard at the watching-post, a very tall chap, who spoke with a maddening drawl, slouched into the post and woke up Hilary Farr, SIC the post, and said: "Say, Hil., what are all those black things out there on the water?"

Hil. bounded out, took one look, and yelled: "They're bloody Jap barges!" The other couple were awakened and all slid down the steep path to the waiting car. The car fairly leaned back under a burst of speed, to get away from there.

Nippon must have thought that it was some dreadful secret weapon as, with its head-lamps blazing, it screamed past them on its way to Kella. Nippon made no attempt to molest it.

The rest of the detachment was quickly mustered, and the crossing of the Frisco bridge was made in fair order.

In the meantime, those whose duty it was, duly pressed down the plungers of the firing batteries to blow up the petrol and the drome.

Nothing happened. Evidently, someone had neglected to chase the horse away

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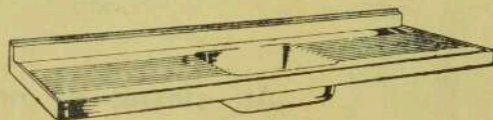
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the previous afternoon. This horse had a stupid habit of getting his feet entangled in the wires.

Nippon swarmed like a disturbed beehive. An heroic party, detailed to destroy the Frisco bridge, toiled with a blunt axe to cut the steel cables, under the interested eyes of a party of Nips, who had arrived on the drome.

The last strand parted and the bridge fell. The party went away from there fairly fast, en route to Mubo.

Nippon never replaced the bridge. It was quite unnecessary—the Frisco could normally be forded with ease.

IN the meantime, Mubo had heard the news, and rolled out to greet the Salamaua detachment, who were now coming in in ones, twos and half-dozens. Simmons was greeted warmly by "Hump": "A fine job of work," he said.

Next arrived Bill Forrester (veteran of World War I) without his false teeth. He had left his fangs in a glass of water overnight, and had not time to dress fully before he left. His teeth were returned to him by his native servant later in the day.

Next in was Mick Shutt, with his trousers under his arm, and his old, grey flannel shirt, with "Shutt" in large letters on the tail, flapping in the breeze.

Apart from these there seemed to be no serious casualties. It was discovered later that Rupe Hanahoran was missing. He turned up in Bulwa some time later, via the Buangs, minus his trousers.

The Salamaua detachment went on to Wau. Our Mubo Force took on a new interest. A watching-post was established on the Buigap Creek and constantly manned. "Get-away" tracks were cut here and there, and "Hump" turned on more and better parades.

Geoff White continued to bring supplies in from Komiatum.

"Hump" decided that sooner or later we should have to fight, so he turned on some training in "jungle warfare." He called in all ammunition and split the Force, turned them loose in the hills round Mubo to rattle rifle-bolts at each other when an "enemy" was sighted, and to wrangle in true school-boy fashion as to who saw who first. The Force took a dim view of the whole thing, and said so. There were in the vicinity some 2,000 lively Nips, in and around Salamaua—and perhaps on their way to Mubo.

Conferences were held as to the best route to take to Moresby in the event of our being chased out. These were mapped, and hung on the wall of the mess-house, so that all could make themselves familiar with the details.

QUITE suddenly, "Hump" decided to evacuate Mubo. All was bustle—preparing packs and mustering native carriers. Geoff White, with tears in his eyes and murder in his heart, dumped half a ton of good flour into the Bitoi.

The Force moved out in good military order. First, the carrier lines under Geoff White. Next came HQ, with "Hump" and his retinue, Hawnt to the fore. Followed, then, the first platoon, close on "Hump's" heels. The second platoon got away to a bad start, but soon caught up. The third platoon was rear-guard. There were less than 6 men in each platoon.

Skindewai was reached by a sick and sorry Force. But we felt better after we had wrapped the loose folds of our

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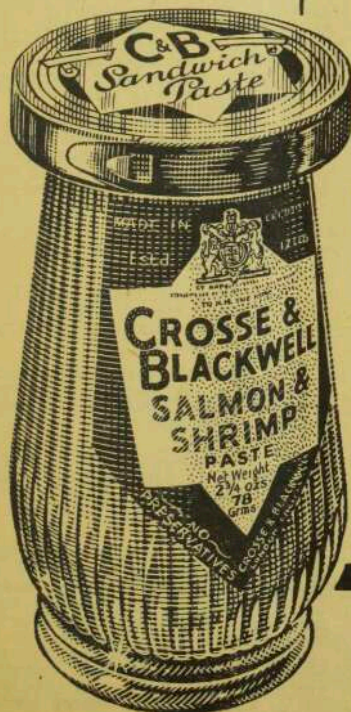
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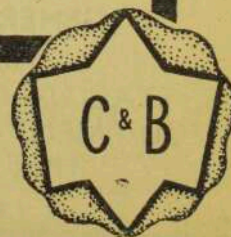
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stomachs around a generous meal, prepared by Hawnt.

Ballams was reached next day. "Hump" and HQ went on to Paddy Leahy's farm, leaving orders that the Force was to rest one day at Ballams.

Force moved on to Wau. One platoon joined the "Wau Detachment" in Wau and the other two platoons stayed at Alan Fuller's house, with "Hump" and HQ in Mrs. Fuller's house, immediately across the road.

Fuller's goats suffered a drastic culling; and roast kid, with vegetables, followed by rich pastry, made the war again worth while. Daily parades, and a 24-hours' guard were not relished by the Force; and it was decided by a party at a secret conference (the result of some pointless bickering) to "cut communications" with "Hump."

A small party was sent to Black Cat to investigate possibilities. They found Olsen's house intact, but with bedding, etc., torn up and strewn over the floor. This was cleaned up, in intervals between visits to the passion-fruit vines, which were loaded with delicious fruit. Passion-fruit has a certain effect. In the opinion of that party, memories of the night that followed are among the most horrid of the war. (See photos on page 71.)

The shed was cleared next day, in readiness for the rest of the rebel party from Wau. They arrived early in the afternoon. The haggard members of the advance party watched their attack on the passionfruit grimly and without comment. Events, that night, were up to expectations. It was an unhappy incident of a ruthless war.

The Black Cat detachment settled down to a series of patrols.

IN the meantime, "Hump" had decided that Mubo should not remain unwatched, and had sent Ernie Hitchcock (World War 1 veteran) to occupy that post. "Hitchie's" platoon consisted mainly of Bill Forrester and Mayos.

Ernie set up camp at Komiatum and prowled all over the country. Up to this time, Nippon had shown not the slightest interest in the hinterland; but he now sent a patrol to Komiatum.

Hitchcock's army fired on this patrol; and Nippon retaliated by shooting everything he had into the village—where Hitchcock was not.

Hitchcock's party left for Mubo, and the Nips burned the village and, locating our camp nearby, punched bayonet-holes in the cooking utensils and all the tins of meat they could find.

Word was sent back to "Hump," and he ordered the Force forward. The Black Cat party caught up by making a forced march to Ballams, via Wandumi ridge. The Force entered Mubo in fine fettle.

The Force now took a new lease of life, an OP was established on the side of the hill, across the Frisco from the drome at Salamaua. This fine piece of work was carried out by Macadam (of Forestry, Wau), Geoff Archer, Bob Day, Gordon Kinsey and others. Vickers were placed on the Mat Mat hill and Vickers ridge, and every one was extremely busy.

Tobacco was a thing of the past. "Stick" was the universal smoke; dry, mouldy and stinking, it was jealously guarded. Green tobacco leaves were dried over the coals till sufficiently inflammable. Food was scarce, as was soap. Some mail came in, with some bills from BP's.

There were rumours of troops coming in and the Fifth Independent Co. arrived in Wau. A detachment under Captain Winning came to Mubo, and he got out plans for a raid on Salamaua to coincide with a raid on Lae. The Force was enthusiastic—some of them.

Came the day (June 28, 1942) and the Nips got a real bashing at dawn. Nip casualties will never be known. Our casualties were one with a slug through the wrist, and one with a jagged piece of metal under the shoulder.

Force was jubilant. They now seemed to be possessed of endless energy, and were eager for more.

But nothing was done. Winning and "Hump" went back to Wau to try for more and better supplies. Mubo gradually settled down.

That raid must have stung Nippon like a handful of dirt thrown on his washing. He sent a patrol, possibly 100 strong, to find out "who done it."

ONE afternoon, about five, Force had finished tea, and Fifth were lining up for mess parade. A card party was in progress in the Force Mess, with visiting Fifth officers.

Force lost interest and wandered back to their various posts. Jimmy Birrell (later Lt. and MM) was first home, and he saw what at first he took to be a large group of natives on the Mubo drome. He quickly realised that they were Nips. He slammed a belt into the Vickers, and yelled for Hilary Farr, SIC Vickers. Hill grabbed a tommy-gun and fired a burst as an alarm, just as Jimmy opened up with the Vickers.

Nippon was being guided by a couple of

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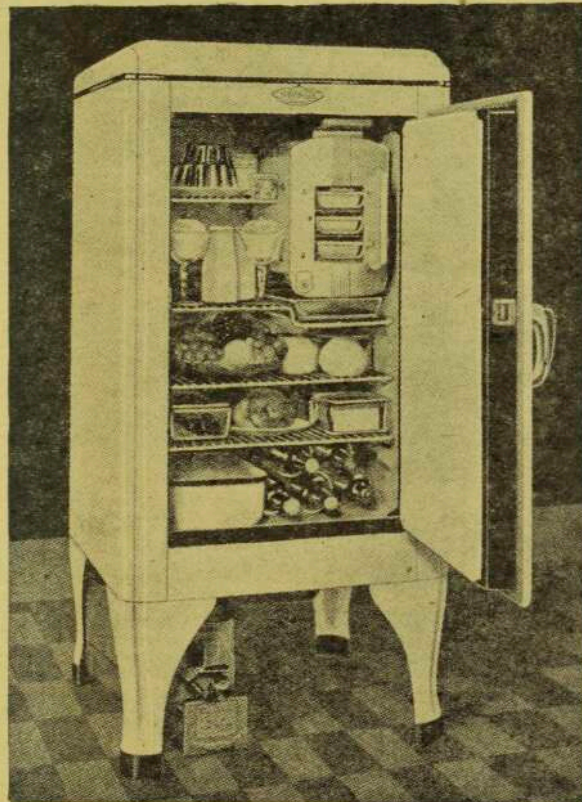
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natives who, evidently, were not familiar with Mubo, and the enemy was grouped on the drome, evidently in conference.

The Fifth, on mess parade, cursed the noisy Force. But when the Nips, who had taken cover under a low bank at the side of the drome, opened up with grenade-throwers, the Fifth woke up and went into action in fine style, and pelted Nippo with everything they had.

Nippon broke cover for the low brush on the other side of the drome, and here they took another thrashing from Jimmy's Vickers, and from a Vickers on the Mat Mat, now in action. Small arms were now added to our fire power, and Nippon pulled out, after about half-an-hour's engagement.

Heads were counted in the Force. No casualties—though some were missing. These turned up later, looking sheepish.

The Fifth and the Force sat tight—to do otherwise would have been madness. Nippon casualties will never be known; but, judging from the broken bamboo carrying poles, first field-dressing covers and blood-stained bandages that strewed the drome, and the track to Komiatum, they must have been heavy. The enemy's party was met at Komiatum by another Nip patrol from Salamaua, and escorted home.

Captain Winning hurried back from Wau, fighting mad, with his red hair on end—first, because he could not improve the supply situation, but more so because Nippon had shown so little consideration as to attack Mubo while he was absent. "Norm" really liked to fight, and hated to miss anything.

Force was now on its toes—two clashes with Nippon and two definite victories. They fairly swaggered round the place.

(Section Two will be published in September).

Captain Foucard, a doctor at Noumea hospital, was urgently sent to Mare Island by French naval cutter at the beginning of June as the result of an accident at the district church of La Roche, a Catholic centre on the east side of the island. During vespers the vault of the transept had caved in and crashed on a group of young native girls, eleven of whom were injured. They were looked after by the local Resident, the Rev. Father Dubois, until the doctor's arrival. Five of the more serious cases were later shipped to the mainland for treatment at Noumea hospital.

Mrs. John Robertson and her three children sailed recently on the "Trienza" for Nauru, where she will join her husband, who is LMS missionary in that Territory.

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Fiji Indians' Appeal To India

A Strange Development That Is Loaded—Against Indians

SUVA, Aug. 1.

THERE still is speculation here concerning the origin and purpose of the move made by Fiji Indians, in seeking the intervention of the Commonwealth Relations Department of the Indian Government in Fiji affairs, with a view (according to "the Civil and Military Gazette," published in Lahore) to securing a better status and living condition for the Fiji Indian population. It is reported now that the Indian Government will send a "goodwill mission" to Fiji, to study the conditions of the Indian population.

Any such development will be very strongly resented by Fiji people, and by British Colonial Office interests generally. If international opinion is in favour of the removal of the Jews from Palestine, and the British from India, and the Dutch from the East Indies, then a very strong case can be made out for the deportation of the Indians from Fiji, and the reservation of that fertile archipelago for the Fijians.

NAVAL MEDICOS SAVE ISLANDERS' LIVES

THE New Zealand Navy corvette, Arbutus, during its recent tour of the Central Pacific, was instrumental in saving the lives of at least three people.

When the corvette visited the isolated Tokelau Group, north of Samoa, Dr. J. Lopdell, senior medical officer in Apia, took the opportunity of making a tour of inspection. He found a young girl on the atoll of Fakaofu suffering from a perforated appendix. Dr. Lopdell, assisted by one of the sick-berth attendants from Arbutus, and a local NMP, performed an emergency operation in a native hut. Only slight hope was entertained for the girl's recovery, but penicillin was landed from the ship's medical stores for post-operative treatment. When the corvette made a second call at Fakaofu, the girl was found to have made a remarkable recovery.

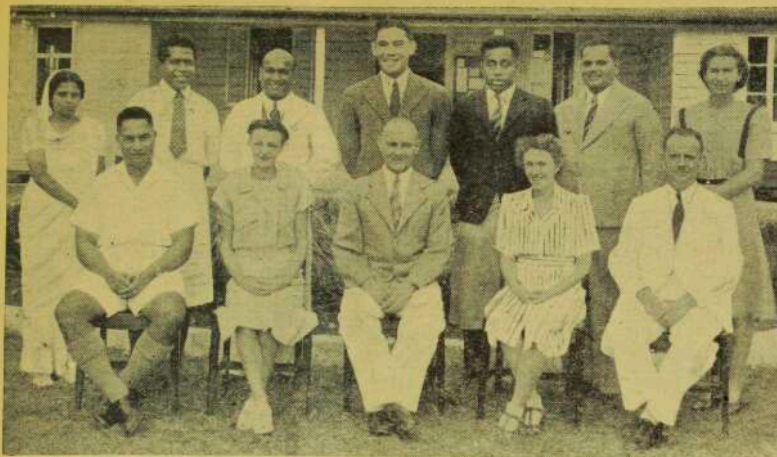
Another operation under similar circumstances was carried out on the neighbouring island of Atafu, and at Nukunono a Catholic priest was found to be seriously ill with beri-beri. Both these patients were taken to Apia on the corvette, for hospital treatment.

"MASINGA RULE"

THE resignation of Mr. C. S. Belshaw, temporary cadet officer, from the British Solomon Islands administrative service, is gazetted, with effect from last November. Mr. Belshaw has a long article, "Native Politics in the Solomon Islands," in the June issue of "Pacific Affairs," the quarterly published by the Institute of Pacific Relations. He gives a detailed description of the "Masinga Rule"—otherwise known as "Mercy Rule," or "Marching Rule"—a native organisation which is partly economic (demand for higher wages), and partly anti-European in character, and which now has a strong hold on BSI.

Mr. Arthur D. Felton, once the world's champion sculler, is now with the New Guinea Administration at Finschhafen, repairing Government vessels.

FIJI TEACHERS' TRAINING COLLEGE STAFF



This photograph of the staff of the Teachers' Training College, Nasinu, Fiji, was taken recently. It shows (standing): Miss S. C. Sukhu, P. Koroj, A. G. Prasad, J. Kingdom, S. Bulicokacoka, H. S. D. Sinha, Miss G. E. Robertson. (Sitting): F. Iell, Miss M. E. Morrison (Women's Warden), M. J. Bay (Acting Principal), Miss L. D. McGowan (Matron), G. D. Pickles (Vice-Principal).
—Photo by Caine's Studios, Suva.

The Rev. C. F. Gribble, who was for seven years a Methodist missionary in Tonga, recently spoke in Brisbane of the wonderful progress Tongans had made in religion and primary and secondary education. He drew particular attention to Prince Tugi, who had received his Bachelor of Arts and Law degrees at the Sydney University; and Prince Fatafehi,

who had displayed marked adaptability for Agriculture. He was for some time a student at the Agricultural College, Gatton (Qld.), and has applied his knowledge on returning to Tonga with much benefit to his people. The Royal family, he said, had an unbroken line of succession for over 800 years and were an example to their subjects in every way.

N. HEBRIDES HAS NO MATCHES NOW

Letter to the Editor

A CURIOUS sidelight on the workings of Big Business was revealed here when the SS "Morinda" arrived recently from Sydney with no matches for any of the local business firms.

It appears that the matches had to come from Melbourne and thus missed the steamer in Sydney. Matches are, of course, manufactured in Sydney—by the Federal Match Co.—but as this Group (the New Hebrides) comes within the area in which Bryant & May (Melbourne) has a monopoly, matches could not be ordered from Sydney.

I suppose that the long-suffering population of these islands should be thankful that the New Hebrides are not included in the sphere of influence of Timbuctu match manufacturers.

I am, etc.,

MATCHLESS.

Vila, New Hebrides.

June 29, 1947.

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Visitors from the Islands to Sydney (or those interested in Islands affairs), are advised to communicate with the honorary secretary of the above Society, which has been formed to study the history, traditions, economics, and political developments of the Pacific Islands.

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From a Special Correspondent

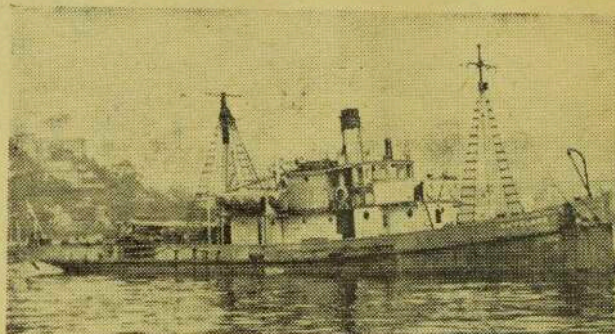
WHEN the steamer "Gippsland" foundered off Yule Island, in the Papuan Gulf, on July 24, she took with her to the ocean bed a considerable amount of bally-hoo, as well as the finances and inspiration of the brothers McRae, of Melbourne, who had hoped to turn the venture into solid cash.

The "Sunday Telegraph" started the nonsense when the ship left Sydney. According to the "Telegraph," this brave band of happy adventurers was out to solve the legend of a beautiful white woman who had been sighted among the natives on some remote and wild island in Eastern Papua.

The discovery of this female was not the party's only objective, however. They were also going to peer around the bottom of the Coral Sea for pearlshell and treasure trove, peep into the abandoned shafts of the Misima goldfields, and comb the ocean bed for anything else that fortune might bestow.

For these exploits they selected a dilapidated little ex-pleasure craft of some 180 tons, the "Gippsland," which used to journey the two or three miles

between Bairnsdale and Lakes Entrance, in Eastern Victoria and later was used in Brisbane.



THE GIPPSLAND, which once was a Brisbane pleasure boat, photographed before it left Sydney for New Guinea.

On this boat they loaded a large quantity of explosives and other salvage gear. They also bought the rights to a wrecked tanker which still contained 8,000 tons of oil, and which they hoped to salvage. Awaiting the "Gippsland" at Port Moresby was diver Jack Johnstone, the man who recovered the gold from the "Niagara."

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Moresby, diver Johnstone prepared himself for efficient business. He managed to get a radio technician to instal two-way radio telephone equipment in his diving suit. Submerging in Fairfax Harbour, he tested the arrangement, and found that it worked perfectly. This was an innovation in diving technique, and would save time normally spent in surfacing to report on findings.

The stage was thus set for a grand adventure. The ship was coming up the Papuan Gulf, only a day or so from Moresby. Then the south-easterly blew with increased vigour, the swell became uncomfortably heavy, and the old "Gippsland," straining against the elements, gave up with a pathetic moan, and slipped to her rest on the bed of the Pacific.

The tropical nymph will remain unmolested. The 8,000 tons of oil will not solve Moresby's fuel problems. If there is much gold left in Misima's abandoned mine shafts it will still be there with the ghosts of the early prospectors.

When the "Gippsland" showed signs of foundering, the 13 men on board took to the life boats. Bad weather prevented sea rescue at first, but RAAF aircraft shadowed them as they drifted away westward, towards Yule Island. They were finally rescued and taken to Port Moresby.

"OISEAU DES ISLES" SAVED FROM REEF

From a Special Correspondent

PAPEETE, June 16

THE Makatea phosphate company's auxiliary schooner "Oiseau des Isles," which went up on the reef at Morpelia on June 9, has been saved from becoming a total wreck and is now safely returned to Papeete.

As soon as news reached Papeete that the "Oiseau des Isles" was on the reef, the inter-island motorship "Hiro" was despatched to her assistance with a party of shipwrights from Papeete.

They patched the hole in the schooner's hull, pumped out the water and the "Oiseau des Isles" was able to proceed to Tahiti under her own power. It is believed that she will be patched up and go to NZ for major repairs.

Rabaul's Fine Effort For Scholarship Fund

(Contributed)

DUE to the efforts of members of the New Britain Club, Rabaul, the New Guinea Memorial Scholarship Fund (Melbourne) will benefit by £310. This sum was raised on July 5 with one of the most pleasant and certainly the most profitable dances ever held in the town.

The persuasive tactics of Mr. Kensett and Mr. Mitchell at the chocolate wheel accounted for £125 and Mr. Rigg's methods of auctioning a bottle of gin brought in £4/10/-. Dancing in the moonlight and quaffing beer in the decorated grounds made the night a memorable one.

During the evening Mrs. E. H. Britten gave a brief account of the aims of the fund, and Miss D. Stewart, who had just arrived from Australia, spoke of its present financial state.

The following is a statement of receipts in connection with the dance:

	£	s.	d.
Chocolate Wheel	125	1	0
Raffle Cards	2	12	0
Auction Gin	4	10	0
Sale of Tickets	49	10	6

Donations:—

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New Britain Club	10	10	0
New Britain Club	5	5	0
Mr. V. Maxwell	10	10	0
Black & Gunton Bakery	10	10	0
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Mr. and Mrs. Rhodes	5	5	0
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Anonymous	5	0	0
Mr. K. Colyer	3	3	0
Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Britten ..	3	3	0

Mr. C. Lormoye	2	2	0
Mr. G. Hill	2	2	0
Mr. E. Bishlon	2	2	0
Mr. J. Duncan	2	2	0
Mr. J. H. Parry	2	2	0
Mr. J. Gannon	2	2	0
Mr. P. Mitchell	2	2	0
Mr. J. Dale	2	2	0
Lieut. Gilbey	2	2	0
Mrs. L. Kent	2	2	0
Transport & Eng. Co.	2	0	0
Mr. A. Browning	1	1	0
Mr. A. L. Williams	1	1	0
Mr. L. Hyland	1	1	0
Mrs. Greenwood	1	1	0

Total

£326 1 6

Expenses amounted to £15/4/-, leaving a balance of £310/17/6.

Australian Minister to Visit Manus

ACCORDING to the Australian Minister for the Navy (Mr. Riordan) the last word has not been said on the question of Manus naval base. The future of the base and American interest therein was still a matter for discussion, he said recently, in Brisbane.

Mr. Riordan will visit Manus this month, with high ranking officers of the RAN, and will then submit a report to Cabinet.

(See article on Manus Base on page 39.)

One of the guests at the Tongan Royal weddings in June was Mrs. J. E. Moulton, who has not been in the Kingdom for 43 years. She is the widow of the Rev. J. E. Moulton, who was in charge of Tupou College for 10 years. Mrs. Moulton went to Tonga as a bride in 1896.

New Guinea is Still a "Mandate"

THERE is doubt whether the Territories of New Guinea and Western Samoa should be called "Mandated" or "Trust" Territories.

They definitely are no longer under the control of the League of Nations, and therefore may not be properly called "Mandates"; yet, although certain Agreements have been made in respect of them with the United Nations, they do not appear to be legally in charge of the Trusteeship Council.

We wrote to the Department of External Territories, Canberra, and on July 31 we were courteously advised as follows:—

"Pending the ratification by the Commonwealth Parliament of the Trusteeship Agreement, the Territory will continue to be known as the Mandated Territory of New Guinea."

Mrs. John Gilmour Jr. and her small daughter recently left Rabaul, NG., by the "Reynella." They will spend three months' holiday in Australia.

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Secretary

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Another Successful Year

New Guinea Women's Club of Sydney Carries on Vigorously

THE annual general meeting of the New Guinea Women's Club of Sydney, in July, marked the sixth year of the Club's existence and its first anniversary as a social club.

The Club was formed in 1941 by Mrs. H. H. Page, and grew in the Pacific war years into a patriotic organisation and a recognised centre of New Guinea life in exile. Its membership was large and its influence for good, among the uprooted New Guinea womenfolk then in Sydney, profound.

With peace and the general return of evacuees to the Territories, membership naturally fell off, but the club is still a vigorous, live organisation with a definite place in the lives of those ex-New Guinea women who are still living in Sydney.

When the club gave up most of its patriotic duties, and at the annual general meeting in 1946, decided to carry on as a social body, it was felt by some that this was the swan song of the organisation and that it would gradually die from inanition. This impression was heightened by the fact that many of the

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office-bearers, who had done such good work during the war years, felt unable to carry on in their former capacities. It was pleasant, therefore, to find at the sixth annual meeting on July 18, 1947, that none of these things had happened and that the club, under the capable leadership of Mrs. N. Foxcroft, was still carrying on vigorously, actively supported by those women whom circumstance has condemned to permanent residence in Sydney, and with the good wishes of many who have now returned to the Territories.

IN her annual report, the president, Mrs. Foxcroft, paid special tribute to the help given her by the last president and now patron of the Club, Mrs. H. H. Page. Among the year's functions were a Christmas party for 125 youngsters, a cocktail party for adults, several games nights and a theatre party.

Club activities had included assistance to needy ex-New Guinea residents, commemorative pilgrimages to the Cenotaph on January 23, on Anzac Day and on the anniversary of the sinking of the "Montevideo Maru." Special mention was made of Mrs. U. Adams' visit to Rabaul, and the appeal she made there on behalf of the Club which resulted in the sum of £174 being collected for general funds. Tribute was paid to Mr. Harry Downing, of External Territories Department, Sydney, for the willing help he rendered members at all times; to the president and staff members of the Feminist Club; and to Mr. H. V. Quinton, honorary auditor.

Both the general Club funds and the special Prisoners of War and Internees Fund show healthy balances. After disbursements during the year of £190, the general fund shows a credit balance of £291. During the year grants of assistance amounting to £150 were made from

the special POW and Civilian Internees Fund. This leaves a credit balance of £314.

Office-Bearers

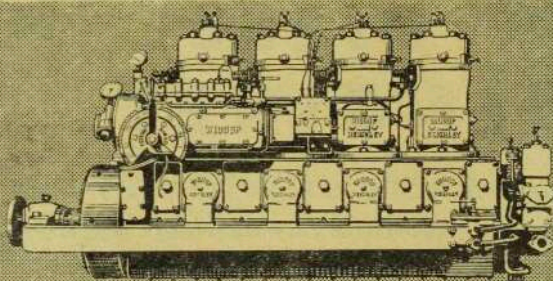
OFFICE bearers elected for current year were: Patron, Mrs. H. H. Page; president, Mrs. N. Foxcroft; vice-president, Mrs. I. Meldrum; secretary, Mrs. Carr; treasurer, Mrs. I. Taylour; committee, Mesdames E. Ormonde, M. Forsyth, E. G. Haynes, J. Edwards.

Bring-and-Buy a Gift

THE club will hold its first entertainment of the 1947-48 year on August 29, in the clubrooms, 77 King Street. It will take the form of an "American tea"—guests are asked to bring a small gift and to buy a gift. Proceeds will go to club funds. No charge will be made for admission, but supper will be available if required at a cost of 1/6.

It is reported that natives attacked Mr. Frank Henderson, who went to New Guinea as manager of Langu Plantation, Witu Islands, which was owned by the late Mrs. Gladys Baker. The property was left by Mrs. Baker to Miss Diana Coote.

The Rev. M. A. Warren, who has been secretary of the Australian Board of Missions in Australia for several years, as well as taking an active interest in the rehabilitation of the Anglican Mission's establishment in Papua, has been created an honorary Canon of the Cathedral of St. Peter and St. Paul at Dogura, Papua. Canon Warren will leave Australia in August with a goodwill mission from the Church of England in Australia to the Churches in China and Japan.



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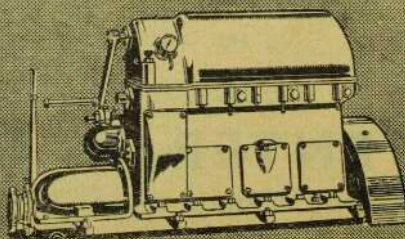
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IN PRE-WAR N. GUINEA

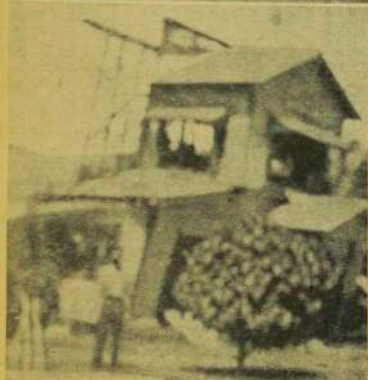
(See Article on page 62)

THE sub-joined photographs of people and events in New Guinea are supplied by Mr. L. Cohen, formerly of Wau, TNG, and now a building contractor in Auckland.

RIGHT: At The Black Cat mine.—Back: Harry O'Kane, Joe Olsson, Centre: Ted Foad. Lower: Dick Glasson, — Fraser.

CENTRE: Part of the First Pacific Islands Regiment Band, formed at Nadzab by Lieut. W. Ryder (assisted in early stages by Mr. L. Cohen). These natives came from all over the Territories and—for men who had had little knowledge of such things—they made remarkable progress as handmen.

LOWER: The picture-theatre at Wau, NG, staggering after its first hit by a Jap bomb, in 1942.



Mrs. Ada Reynolds, of Neutral Bay, Sydney, will return to New Guinea shortly. She was a pre-war resident of Rabaul, and lost both her husband and a son on the "Montevideo Maru" in June, 1942.

The marriage of Miss Joan Cherry to Mr. Robert H. Sass will take place in Port Moresby about the middle of next September. Miss Cherry left the northern capital for Port Moresby last October to take up a position with the Commonwealth Disposals Commission.

A daughter was born at the Lutheran Mission Hospital, Finschhafen, New Guinea, on June 21, to Mr. and Mrs. Eric M. Roy. Mr. Roy is an Administration Medical Assistant.

The Maui Pomare left Rarotonga on June 24 loaded with 10,240 cases of oranges, 1,908 of tomatoes, 422 of mandarines, tangerines and lemons, and 320 of grapefruit, which had been picked up at that port and at Atui, Mauke, and Mangaia.



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fered coughing every night—couldn't sleep. Mendaco stopped spasms first night. I have had no Asthma since in over 2 years." Mrs. A. W. writes: "I had Asthma for 25 years. After using Mendaco I can sleep all night and have not had an attack since taking it." Mrs. G. E. C. writes: "I bless the day I first heard of Mendaco. What a godsend it is to a poor woman like me who for 35 years never knew what it was to have a good night's rest. The constant fight between Asthma and sleep was wearing me down, but I feel now I want to forget my past suffering."

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News and Notes From Buka-Bougainville

From a Special Correspondent

PROGRESS is being made in this district in Administration and in plantation rehabilitation, but it is slow owing to the many disabilities under which the district is at present suffering. Chief among these is lack of shipping, with consequent lack of necessary supplies—both European and native.

There is a general shortage of native labourers, and those natives who are willing to work desire to do so on a casual basis. As a result, it is difficult for planters to get any system of operation, or even a regular amount of work completed. The production of good copra will be exceedingly difficult without

trained dryer attendants who can be trusted. Some planters' labour lines fluctuate from month to month. It is therefore hard to plan ahead and clearing the bush becomes very expensive.

The Administration is handicapped by a shortage of staff and by the fact that, at present, there is no patrol vessel in the district. The one allotted to the area seems to spend most of its time being repaired at Finschhafen, with short periods on duty. As the islands groups of Nissan, Carterets, Mortlocks and Tasmanians are included in Bougainville district, a patrol vessel is necessary.

With a growing number of European women and young children in Buka and Bougainville, the need for a European hospital at Sohano headquarters has become urgent. There is no accommodation

available for sick people and the responsibility for housing and feeding patients appears to rest with the medical assistant. This is most unfair to all concerned. The matter of a hospital was urged upon Dr. Gunther, PMO, on the occasion of his recent visit.

An agricultural station has been started at Komarau, adjacent to Buka Passage, and is in charge of an officer of the Agricultural Department. Experimental crops are being grown and demonstrations in proper methods of agriculture are given to the natives. Nine pedigreed boars were recently landed at Komaru, ex Port Moresby, by "Laurabada."

It is the intention of the Administration to transfer a number of pigs from Nissan Group to the Buin area. They are not of a very classy variety, but will assist in remedying the shortage there, caused by Japanese appetites. Pigs are worth their weight in gold everywhere at the present time.

Residents of Buka and Bougainville were pleased to have had the Administrator and his party tour the district, and to have the opportunity to place their views before him. The month which Colonel Murray spent in the area will give him a clear view of conditions here. Residents feel that the district should be recognised and treated as one of the richest and most productive areas in the Territory of New Guinea. Copra production amounted to 12,000 tons per annum in the pre-war period, and all the plantations were heavy producers. That copra to-day would be worth over £350,000.

Plantations now being cleared include Karoola, Soraken, Bonis, Raua, Inus, Tearouki, Teopasino, Numa Numa, Tenekau, Arigua, Arawa, Iwi and Kekere. There is some copra now awaiting shipment at one or two of these places. Whilst clearing up, the plantations will probably produce smoke copra, although it is understood that this grade is becoming unpopular with buyers.

A large amount of trochus shell was purchased from the natives by planters and traders in the early part of the year. The poor shipping service prevented the greater part of the shell being shipped until early in May, and by that time the bottom had fallen out of the market. The majority of the buyers suffered an unpleasant loss as a consequence.

D. O. RALEIGH FARLOW was due to go on leave in July. During his absence ADO Chris Slattery will carry on. Mrs. Slattery has lately joined her husband at Sohano.

Dr. Pike, who has been appointed medical officer for Bougainville district, arrived recently to take up his duties. The presence of a MO is appreciated by all.

Mr. R. A. Robinson, Senior Inspector of Plantations for Burns Philp & Co., has been touring Bougainville inspecting the company's properties. He returned to Rabaul on July 3.

Mr. Ron Pickwell, our popular and energetic medical assistant, has done a very good job during his 12 months in charge of the native hospital at Sohano. His advice and help to European pati-

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ents has also been much appreciated. Mrs. Pickwell has now arrived from Melbourne.

Mr. J. Preston-White is ADO in charge at Kieta. His wife and child are now with him.

Father Albert Lebel, of the Marist Mission, is now in America on a well-earned holiday. He is not expected back until next year. He flew from Torokina to Sydney and thence to America.

Mr. Paul Mason has now returned to reopen Inus Plantation, Bougainville. He is a welcome addition to the ranks of former planters.

Mr. Rolf Cambridge, formerly District Manager for Choiseul Plantations Ltd., is now inspector in Bougainville for the Production Control Board. He has also been acting for the War Damage Commission.

Bishop T. J. Wade, of the Marist Mission, has his headquarters at Torokina at present. He is a very busy man these days as the re-establishment of his Mission after 3½ years of Jap occupation and destruction, is no light task. His job entails a lot of travel, organising and worry. In spite of all his wartime experiences and his strenuous work, he remains the same cheery and humorous personality that the district has known for so many years. The Bishop always says "I like a straight shooter," and that is another reason why the district likes the Bishop! He comes into that category himself.

Among former residents of this area who have now returned are Mr. and Mrs. Claude Campbell, of Raua; Mr. Max Babbage, of Karoola; Mr. Don Colley, of Soraken, who is in charge of the Burns Philp interests in Bougainville; Mr. Drummond Thomson, who controls the Buka Plantations and Trading Co.'s properties; Mr. Sandford, of Numa Numa; Mr. Alf Long, of Bonis; Mrs. E. Falkner, of Tearouki; Mr. A. M. Stewart, of Teopasino; Mr. Bob Stuart, of Tenekau; Mr. Jack Ellis, of Arawa; Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Joyes, of Iwi; Mr. W. A. L. Clark, of Kekere; Mr. Fred Archer, of Yame, and Mr. Charlie Quintal, who is at Karoola.

Mr. A. H. Voyce, of the Methodist Mission, is at Buin, and Mr. C. T. J. Luxton, of the same Mission, is at Buka. Both are busy getting their mission stations into order. Very soon a minister is expected from New Zealand to reopen the Methodist Mission at Tiop. Usaia Sotutu, the Fijian mission teacher, who figured prominently in "Coast Watchers," is assisting Mr. Luxton at Buka.

Sister Toole, formerly Sister-in-Charge of the Marist Mission native hospital at Pororan Island, Buka, is now in charge of a similar institution at Gagan, in Central Buka. The passing years have not slackened her energy and drive.

Two of the pre-war Chinese storekeepers, Wong You at Kieta and Laurie Chan at Buka Passage, have reopened their stores and are providing certain European lines along with trade goods. Wong You was a storekeeper and trader previously. He had a thriving business.

Master Charles Riechelmann was a passenger on the flying-boat "Coriolanus" which left Sydney on July 18. He was returning to Tonga after eight years in Sydney.

SHIP "VITI" MAY BE LAID UP

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, Aug. 1.

FJI'S most notable white elephant, the compact and, at times, useful little motor-ship "Viti," is still awaiting an owner.

First advertised for sale last year, the "Viti" has recently made two trips—one to Nukualofa to take guests for the Royal weddings and the other with the Acting Governor, an official party and the Band of the Fiji Military Forces, to the eastern portion of the Fiji Group.

Since the ship was first put on the market and was advertised in Fiji, Great Britain, New Zealand and Australia, possible buyers have nibbled—but no more.

It is expected the "Viti" will be laid up and the crew paid off and the ship placed in the hands of shipbrokers.

The liner "Rimutaka," bound from Panama to Wellington, was diverted to Pitcairn Island on July 25 in response to an urgent radio appeal from the island. A child, **Helena Young**, aged 10, had been ill on the island with tetanus for 10 days without a doctor's care. She was taken onto the ship but, in spite of medical attention, she died next day at sea.

AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS SOUTH PACIFIC ISLANDS

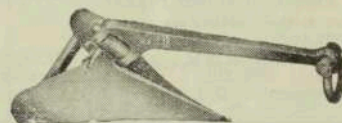
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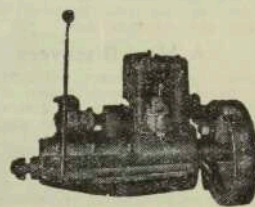
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THE MONTH IN MORESBY

From a Special Correspondent

PORT MORESBY, Aug. 6.

A NATIVE was killed during the month in the main street, just outside BP's, when he tried to climb on to a moving vehicle, and fell under the wheels. It is a matter for wonder that no fatalities have been recorded before this. Natives seem to lack the quick judgment, anticipation, and foresight necessary to sound driving. It is common to see a native driver approach a blind bend at full speed, or hugging the crest of the road, with no thought of what may be around the corner.

THE Census figures have confirmed the obvious: that there are well over twice as many European people in Moresby to-day as there were pre-war. The actual figure for Moresby was 1,516, compared with approximately 600 in 1939.

HANUABADA, or the Bush!

In late July a tense, almost international, situation developed between our Hanuabadans—of the local (some-day) "model village"—and the Kerema people, who merely work in Moresby. Hanuabada village council conscripted all able bodied villagers to fight for the values of civilisation.

Hanuabadans apparently feel that their adoption of European clothes and their superficial fluency in English are matters for self-congratulation and arrogance. That, at least, is the Kerema story.

In reply, the locals, who were really alarmed at the situation, insisted that the Keremas were still at heart head-hunters who are after blood, and that their choice of the Hanuabadans as an enemy was unprovoked and probably due to jealousy.

One week-end an ultimatum was delivered to Hanuabada: Either the sophisticated locals would disrobe themselves, forsake their airs and graces, and affirm their humble status by returning

to the traditional *rami*, which is good enough for Keremas and therefore distinctly too good for Hanuabadans—or the Keremas would perform these tasks for them.

The Hanuabadan menfolk stayed home from work for several days, and on one occasion the Keremas persistently marched with ferocious grimaces and blood-curdling noises towards the village—until they reached the first policeman.

The Keremas have thoroughly enjoyed themselves, but the Hanuabadans were very, very concerned about the situation.

MEMBERS of a RAAF Searcher Party, under Squadron Leader Rundle returned to Moresby at the end of July. They had spent some time in Dutch New Guinea seeking the remains of Allied planes shot down during the war. One member of the party had previously walked across the Territory from Lae to the coast near Yule Island looking for information and following up clues.

THE sinking of the "Gippsland," off the Papuan coast, placed us at the head of the ABC's national news one proud night in late July. But daily bulletins had kept us so well informed that no one showed much interest in the thirteen survivors. However, when diver J. E. Johnstone loaned a film of the "Niagara" salvage operations to the Education Department for screening in a programme of educational films, apathy fled, and the whole town turned up. Johnstone gave an interesting commentary on the film.

THE Education Department's film officer Mr. Cox, formerly of the Rabaul Theatre, is showing programmes on a regular fortnightly schedule in the Moresby district. The regular programmes at the RSL Clubrooms (for Europeans) and at Hanuabada, Elevala, Kokli, Kila, Sogeri and all nearby schools, are immensely popular with their audiences. As the Department expands, it is planned to have film circuits in each district, with a permanent library at headquarters.

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Nixoderm is an ointment, but different from any ointment you have ever seen or felt. It is a new discovery, and is not greasy but feels almost like a powder when you apply it. It penetrates rapidly into the pores and fights the cause of surface skin blemishes. Nixoderm contains 9 ingredients which fight skin troubles in these 3 ways. 1.—It fights and kills the microbes or parasites often responsible for skin disorders. 2.—It stops itching, burning and smarting in 7 to 10 minutes, and cools and soothes the skin. 3.—It helps nature heal the skin clear, soft and velvety smooth.

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mediately, clearing and healing your skin, making it softer, whiter and velvety smooth. Because Nixoderm is scientifically compounded to fight skin troubles, it works fast. It stops the itching, burning and smarting in a few minutes, then starts to work im-

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Fiji Indians and Diseased Cattle

SUVA, Aug. 1.

A HINDU owner would rather die himself than shoot a diseased beast," said Mr. A. D. Patel, at the July sitting of the Legislative Council of Fiji when a Bill to amend the Animals (Contagious Diseases) Ordinance was being debated.

The Bill empowers veterinary officers and inspectors, if so authorised by the Director of Agriculture, to order the destruction of diseased animals.

A Fijian member, Joeli K. Ravai, said that the officer concerned should see that the animal really was destroyed. Cases occurred, he said, in which condemned animals were disposed of to Fijians.

Ratu Tiale Vuyasawa asked for stock inspectors, and Ratu Estuate Mataitini asked what was the penalty for non-compliance.

Mr. Patel protested against the onus of destruction being placed on the owners. The Director of Agriculture (Mr. C. Harvey) said that failing action by the owner, the officer making the order was prepared to undertake the task of destruction. The veterinary staff had recently been increased.

SHARP DISORDER IN TAHITI

Returned Servicemen Lead Demonstration Against New Officials

THERE has been serious political unrest in the French Pacific Colonies.

On the arrival of the "Ville d'Amiens" at Papeete on Sunday morning, June 22, from Marseilles, a crowd led by returned Servicemen opposed the landing of three French officials and their families. These officials (an administrator and two Treasury assistants) had been brought out to join the Colonial administration. Under pressure from the demonstrators, the local troops and police, largely consisting of Tahitians, were unable to intervene.

Harangued by one of their leaders, perched on the gangway, the demonstrators shouted, applauded, taking possession of the wharf and threatening the three officials should they set foot ashore.

A guard (of demonstrators) was posted on the gangplank and every passenger wanting to go ashore had to disclose his identity and his business.

On Tuesday, June 24, the Governor (M. Haumant), fearing things might take a nastier turn, ordered the "Ville d'Amiens" to anchor off shore. The sailing of the ship was overdue.

The situation was becoming intolerable. Passengers and crew were getting impatient. A delegation under guard was taken from the ship to the Governor to ask him to make a decision. He assured the deputation that the ship would leave within a reasonably short time.

On Saturday, June 28, towards 6 a.m., two Navy launches went alongside the "Ville d'Amiens" and hastily took on board the three officials, their families and luggage. The launches had no sooner started for the shore than the "Ville d'Amiens" blew her siren and left for Vila, four days late.

These details were given by "Ville d'Amiens" passengers on arrival in Noumea.

The Governor's proclamation condemning the demonstrations was issued the previous day, June 27. The proclamation ended by saying that no matter what happened, in the end the law would prevail.

According to a report that has reached the Pacific, a Tahitian deputy in Paris has declared that there is a strong move for Tahitian self-government.

Similar discontent — though the immediate causes may be different — is reported from New Caledonia. It is all part of the tense situation which has been created throughout the Western democracies by the attempts of Moscow-inspired Communists to get control of the Governments.

THE following is the appeal which the Governor of French Oceania, M. Haumant (who succeeded Colonel Orselli recently, and who has in turn been succeeded by M. Maestracci) issued to the Tahitian population:

"A number of discontented people, who claim to speak on behalf of returned Servicemen — of whom they represent only a small minority — and in the name of the population — the great majority of whom are opposed to their methods and their aims — seek to impose their will, by violence, on the local government and on the country.

"Last Sunday, they used force to resist the landing of one official of the administrative services, and two Treasury assistants sent here by the French Government to fill vacancies and work for

the better functioning of the administration. In particular, the Treasury clerks are needed to reinforce a staff that is insufficient to assure normal service—for the Treasury shortage has been critical for many months.

"The agitators are trying to make out that Tahitians could be recruited for this work, and that, furthermore, the administration has brought out these new officials against the wishes of the Representative Assembly, the only body qualified to express the wishes of the population.

"These statements are lies.

"THE Treasury needs, not beginners, but qualified and experienced employees who are familiar with the special book-keeping technique used, and this cannot be picked up in a day or two.

"For a long time now the Representative Assembly has been conversant with the situation. The necessary credits have been included in the budget of the Colony, and without these credits, which are regularly voted, the administration would be unable to pay the officials it employs.

"That is the true position, and these who are causing trouble know it. It was explained to them by the President of the Assembly when he interviewed them last Friday, and by the Public Prosecutor, who in the Governor's name made contact with them on Sunday. Yet, even though the leaders of the demonstrations acknowledged the force of the arguments presented, they have continued their action, under the excuse that the crowd, which they themselves had excited, refused to allow the officials to land.

"For three days past they have employed violence on the ships and on the wharves, preventing the women from landing and seeking accommodation after the fatigue of a long voyage; even trying to stop provisioning of a ship which had just brought to Tahiti tons of produce from metropolitan France. For three days they have used violence to prevent any action being taken, apart from their own.

"A NEW motive for the agitator's activities is involved in the distur-

bances. For many months now they have followed a policy of agitation, with the avowed aim of getting power into their own hands. They have called on members of the Representative Assembly and representatives of the Municipal Council to resign. They hope, through new elections, in the course of which they would not stop at menaces and violence, to become the strongest party and impose their own dictatorship.

"All the conciliatory measures which have been taken, all the concessions that have been made by the local Government up to the present time, have had only one result—to encourage them still more and force the development of a plan of action whose stages are now familiar.

"The local Government does not wish to employ all the legal means at its disposal, hoping in spite of all to avoid incidents graver still.

"THE Government is anxious to study and carry out reforms for which the need is recognised. A commission has been formed which includes two members of the Representative Assembly and two returned Servicemen, plus a

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magistrate and a government official, all of them responsible people, who will examine whatever suggestions may be submitted to them and put forward reforms that may seem both possible and useful. Their proposals will be presented to the Representative Assembly and carried out without delay, so far as this may be done locally, or sent to the metropolitan Government should its aid be required."

After giving every assurance of fair treatment and consideration to Tahitians in the matter of administrative employment, Governor Haumant ended by saying:—

"For this reason it is realised that order in the country cannot be disturbed at every turn by agitators who take advantage of certain justifiable and legitimate claims to lead the credulous mass of the population astray, unsettling the country, and achieving their ends by means which belong not to democracy, but to Fascism."

History of Colonies' Feeling Against Paris

EVER since World War I, French Colonies in the Pacific have charged the French metropolitan Government with far too frequent changes in the administrative services. Apart from war periods, it has often been rare for French officials to stay more than a year or two in the colonies to which they have been sent. The process has been described

as "leapfrogging around the French Empire"—with an eye on eventual retirement in France.

The system has frequently caused friction, both in New Caledonia and in French Oceania, local populations feeling that their problems — and they are anxious for a greater share of self-government — are not properly understood by officials whose stay is to be so short. Also it is understood that these officials take back little real knowledge or love for the countries they have visited when they do get back to the metropolis.

There is in addition a strong feeling that not enough local people are employed in the different administrative services.

There is also considerable resentment because officials sent out from France are very much higher paid than the locals, who are prevented from rising to the higher administrative jobs.

The position in a nutshell is that the people who know the country best are governed by people who know the country least.

Further, visiting officials received liberal travelling allowances. The result is that ships between the Colonies and France were, in the 1st class, full of French officials, and in the 2nd and 3rd of poorer colonials who considered they had paid the officials' 1st class passages. They too had an inferiority complex, considering the Frenchmen from France looked down on them.

Often the French Colonial system works far from democratically, for the local General Council or Representative Assemblies have hitherto been little but advisory bodies, with no control over taxation and appointments.

All real control is, or has been, in the hands of the Governors; and it is very rare for a governor to stay in a colony for more than a year or two before he is replaced by another governor, so that he often only has a fragmentary knowledge of the colony in his charge. Often governors have lasted in one colony a matter of only a few months — in some cases even weeks.

Colonial Ministers in Paris, with the frequent changes in Ministries which are the plague of French politics, are also so frequently changed that in some cases they know nothing of French territories overseas — and French public and press are uninformed.

In 76 years the French colonies have had no fewer than 97 ministers in Paris. Between September 1, 1933 and November 9, 1934 (14 months) there were eight Ministers and two Under Secretaries of State who ran the French Empire. The changes in Colonial Governorships have been equally numerous.

Since 1887, Indo-China has seen 21 Governors-General, 23 interim Governors-General and two High Commissioners—46 rulers in 60 years. New Caledonia and Tahiti could quote comparable figures. In such circumstances what continuity of administration is possible?

In Indo-China, Governors who lasted for any length of time belonged to the period before 1919. After that date Governors took upon themselves the habit of passing half the year in France. This caused bitter complaints.

In Cochinchina, in 20 years, nine governors (who were only interim governors) were in power for longer. During the same time — 20 years — Tonkin had 19 Resident Governors; Annam, 12; Cambogia, 9; and Laos, 16!

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TROUBLE IN WALLIS ISLAND

French Imprison 11 Natives

AS a result of trouble and demonstrations in the Wallis Group, 11 Wallis natives have been brought to Noumea on board the small French vessel "Le Phoque," and imprisoned at Camp Est on Ile Nou in Noumea harbour.

A British subject, Mr. Brabant, with his wife and two children, have been deported on the demand of the local Resident (Dr. Major Chaumet), by an order of the Governor of Caledonia, who is General Commissioner of the French Republic in the Pacific Ocean. Brabant was one of two traders in the group. The other is a Frenchman.

It is reported that the "king" of the Wallis Group has been deposed by the French allegedly for pro-English sentiments. It appears that the trouble was a form of protest against the French Resident, who seems to have been returned post-haste to France by Pan American plane. Many of the natives of this neglected and isolated group are restless.

In the past the French have had trouble with the islanders and their kings. Long ago one or two were deposed in favour of French nominees.

Of the 98 passengers brought to Noumea by the "Le Phoque," 50 were Wallis natives who are to undergo military ser-

vice. Three native stowaways were also discovered.

Wallis is a lonely group (northwards of Fiji and Samoa) about which Alain Gerbault has written, for he spent months there while his yacht underwent repairs. For a long time the Catholic mission has virtually governed the island with little outside interference; but the islands (though belonging to Polynesia) are nominally under the New Caledonian Governor. The people are closely related to the Tahitians in speech and manners, although to-day they are less sophisticated. Some 400 Wallis islanders were brought to Noumea during the war, to work for the Americans, who found them satisfactory.

A percentage of men and women has always tried, in a spirit of adventure, to leave the island and get to other parts of the Pacific. Young girls have been known to swim out to sea or paddle out in canoes to beg passages from passing ships, in order to see life away from their homeland.

The US Forces had a weather station on the highest mountain on the main island during the war — a very lonely outpost, but one of use to the Air Force, and there was a small air strip.

Wallis and Futuna lie just over 500 miles west of Samoa and were discovered by the English seaman who gave his name to the Wallis group. A French Catholic mission has been there since 1837, and the "king" of the island signed a treaty of friendship with France in 1842. Two years later France declared it a protectorate, and a Resident was appointed under control of the Governor of New Caledonia. Like Tahiti, for many years Wallis had a queen as head of the state. The French made her a present of a church organ.

The native population to-day is about 6,000. The main island is 8 miles long, of volcanic origin, rising to about 600 feet, and is surrounded by a reef, with the main entrance to the south. A radio station keeps the residents in touch with New Caledonia, but communication by ship in recent years has been infrequent with Noumea. The islanders are more in touch with the outside world through Fiji and Samoa. To-day they are said to be somewhat pro-British.

Official Tour of Buka and Bougainville

From a Correspondent

BUKA PASSAGE, July 7.
THE Administrator, Colonel J. K. Murray, has just completed a 26-days' tour of Buka and Bougainville. He also visited Faisi, BSI, to meet the Resident Commissioner of the British Solomons, Colonel O. Noel.

Colonel Murray arrived at Sohano Island in Buka Passage, the headquarters of Bougainville District, by HMAS "Condamine," on June 8. On this occasion he stayed two hours and then accompanied by the District Officer of Bougainville (Mr. R. M. Farlow), he continued the trip via Numa Numa, Kieta and Buin to Torokina, where he disembarked. Later the "Lourabada" arrived from Rabaul and picked him up, to continue the tour.

Various centres in the district were then re-visited and the Administrator also had a walk through the southern end of Bougainville. There was a stay of a day and a half at Kieta, where Mr. J. Preston-White is ADO. Two days were spent at Sohano on the return visit, and, from there, a jeep trip was made up the East Coast of Buka, and to Gagan, in the centre of the island. Schools, missions

and plantations were visited. A number of well-known planters met the Administrator and explained the difficulties with which they were at present beset.

The west coast of Bougainville was also visited and the tour ended on July 3, when the official party left for Rabaul.

Accompanying the Administrator on his tour were Dr. J. Gunther (Principal Medical Officer), Mr. W. Cottrell-Dormer (Director of Agriculture), Lt.-Col. J. S. Grimshaw (Superintendent of Police), and Mr. J. H. McDonald (Assistant Director of District Services).

Among Lutheran missionaries who left America for foreign fields at the end of March were the Rev. and Mrs. Andrew Mild and their three young children, and the Rev. and Mrs. Ralph Goldhardt. They were on their way to New Guinea via Australia.

Mr. Dan Leahy returned to Mt. Hagen, New Guinea, in June. He had just spent many months in the United States seeking treatment for failing eyesight. The trouble appears to have been caused during Army service by vitamin deficiency, but the Army doctors could not cure the condition and stated that he would probably go blind. With this comforting prediction, they boarded him out of the Service. Mr. Leahy went to America seeking aid at the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota, John Hopkins, in Baltimore, and later, to a New York hospital. Although no cure was effected, he has been assured that the trouble has been checked and will get no worse.

Mrs. Gross has returned to Australia by plane from Kavieng, New Ireland. Her son, Jim, recently arrived from Australia, and is engaged in plantation rehabilitation on New Ireland.



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OMINOUS NOISES

Hawaii's Giant Volcano May Erupt Again Soon

HONOLULU, Aug. 4.
HAWAII'S slumbering giant volcano—already more than a year behind on its four-years schedule of eruptions—is beginning to awaken again.

Under the 13 680-foot cone-shaped peak of Mauna Loa there have been ominous rumblings recently and the big mountain has shaken the island of Hawaii with some of the strongest earthquakes since the 1942 eruption, which spilled flaming lava down the mountain-sides towards the town of Hilo.

Seismologists and volcanologists are checking the summit daily and report that a terrific pressure is being built up under the dome, which has poured out more lava in the last century than any other volcano in the world.

National park service seismographs recorded 48 tremors in June and on June 11 a large fume cloud hung over Mauna Loa's towering summit.

But if Madame Pele—as natives call the volcano—begins to blow her top, there will be ample warning this time. In the last big eruption in 1942, the Army, fearful that the Japs would schedule an attack to co-incide with the fiery outburst, prohibited publication of any forecasts, and withheld news of the eruption until all activity had ceased.

In April of that year, there was a brief summit eruption and then the side of the mountain split open, pouring lava from a three-quarter-mile crack. The crack lengthened and the hot lava flowed towards the town of Hilo.

Army bombers took to the air and

dropped 600-pound bombs on the flow, successfully diverting it from the city. On May 10, the eruption ceased.

R. H. Finch and Howard A. Powers, volcanologist and seismologist at Hawaii National Park, do not place too much faith in the volcano's traditional four year schedule. "The interval between eruptions has varied greatly," Finch points out. "One time it was but one year, then seven years, and another time nine. One can't expect a volcano to follow the calendar." They agree that the next eruption will probably take place near the northeast rift where the 1942 outbreak occurred.

Underground activity earlier this year was confined to Mauna Loa but recently there have been rumblings from the island's other active volcano—Kilauea.

Although there is no known link between the two big peaks, the experts say that "sympathetic vibrations" on the part of one might easily start the other on the road to eruption.

Volcanologist Finch says that although terrific pressure has been built up under Mauna Loa, there has yet been no sign of tilt—the puffing out of the summit done from terrific pressure underneath, like the bubbles on the surface of a pot of boiling stew. That will be the final warning that the towering mountain is once again about to burst forth in flaming destruction.

Mrs. Stan. McCosker and her two children spent the mid-winter vacation in Sydney. Formerly of Matala Plantation, Rabaul, and at present living in Kelvin Grove, Brisbane, Mrs. McCosker is on the teaching staff of the Moreton Bay High School, Wynnum, and the Brisbane Girls' Grammar School. Mr. McCosker returned to his plantation early in 1946.

High Cost of Former Indentured Labour

SUVA, Aug. 3

THE high ultimate cost of what used to be Indian indentured labour bobs up, even in 1947.

The ship "Orna" sailed from Suva to-day with repatriated Indian immigrants. The government has provided £7,850 to cover this expenditure.

Incidentally, the hurried furbishing-up of Nukulau Island as a quarantine station for Indians who arrived at Suva in the "Orna" in June cost £2,500.

It's odd to think that the indenture system in Fiji was wound up more than 20 years ago. To-day the "Orna" has taken 150 immigrants or their descendants who are exercising their privilege under the Indian Immigration Repatriation Ordinance of being provided with free passages to India at the expense of Fiji.

Mamara Plantations Get Going Again

MAMARA Plantations Ltd., owning coconut plantations in the Solomon Islands, is now making preparations to start operations again, to get advantage of high copra prices, after having been closed down for five years. The Co. (one of the Svensen group) has a subscribed capital of £87,341, and its assets are unencumbered, so it has a good reserve to assist it in resuming activities. The plantations suffered direct war damage and there is heavy undergrowth on the planted areas.

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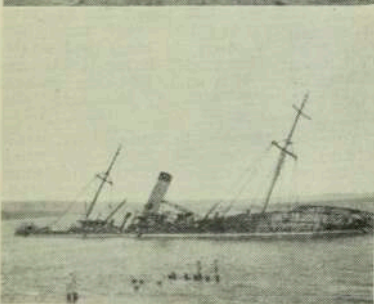
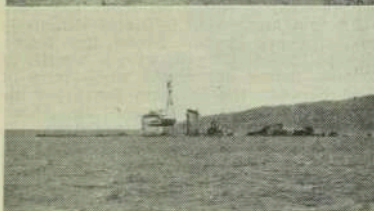
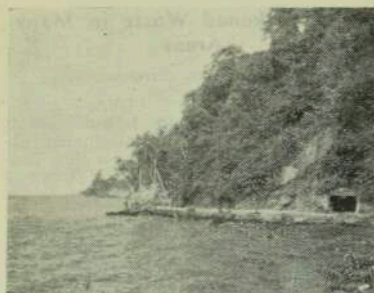
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REMNANTS OF WAR



These photographs which were sent to us by Mr. H. Hulme, now of Wollongong, NSW, show some mementoes of the Japanese occupation of the Gazelle Peninsula, New Britain. At top, the entrance to a Jap tunnel on the main Rabaul-Kokopo coast road. Towards the end of the war, the Japs virtually lived underground in this way. Centre photograph shows a Jap destroyer sunk about five miles north of Kokopo. The bottom photo is of a Jap ship sunk beside a wharf near Kokopo.

NATIVE MUSEUM FOR COOK ISLANDS

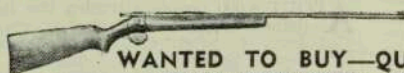
THE Cook Islands are to have a museum, situated on land on Rarotonga, donated by Tepuretu Komono Mataiaopo.

The foundation stone was laid by Princess Te Puca Herangi of New Zealand, on her recent visit to the Cooks, and the Islanders have wholeheartedly joined in the building of a permanent home for relics which have been saved or are hidden in the group.

Chief Medical Officer, Dr. T. R. A. Davis, himself of Polynesian descent, is the leader in the movement and members of the museum committee are all local Polynesians. A youth has been selected for training in New Zealand museums and will return as a competent curator.

Mr. William J. Best* of 6 Torrens Avenue, Fullarton, South Australia, is anxious to find pen friends in the Pacific or overseas who are interested in stamp collecting.

Dr. H. W. Jack, who is well-remembered for his outstanding work as Director of Agriculture in Fiji, from 1934 to 1945, is now Agricultural Adviser for South-east Asia, with headquarters in Singapore.



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DEATH OF MR. HAROLD E. NICHOLLS

MR. HAROLD NICHOLLS, Vatukoula Gold Mins. Fiji, died on July 12. He was well known in the north-eastern districts of Viti Levu where he had spent 20 years in the Public Works Department.

During World War II he served with the Australian Military Forces in Australia. He is survived by a widow and one son.

Mr. B. A. Dolye, a magistrate in Uganda, has been appointed Solicitor-General in Fiji. He was a barrister of King's Inn, Dublin, before joining the Colonial Service in 1937.

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Worry is inescapable. Everyone has a share of it more or less. The great trouble about worry is that it plays havoc with your health and fitness if you let it. You become mentally and bodily weary, depressed; cannot sleep at night, lose appetite and begin to feel a nervous breakdown is impending. That starts the vicious circle. You worry, become run-down and nervy, and that makes you worry more than ever.

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PAGEANT OF 50 YEARS OF MISSION WORK

ABOUT 4,000 people attended the Brisbane City Hall on Sunday afternoon, July 20, when Church of England Grammar School boys depicted in pageantry, "50 years of mission work in Papua."

The pageant, re-enacted events that had taken place from the arrival of the first Anglican missionaries in Papua, in 1891, to the consecration of the beautiful Anglican Cathedral at Dogura, in 1941.

The pageant concluded "mission week." It was initiated to help reach the objective of £100,000, and 50 missionaries for work in the Pacific. Bishop Ash, Commissioner for the Australian Board of Missions, hopes to have both money and missionaries by 1950—the board's centenary year. About £12,000 has already been received towards this goal, and 10 missionaries have been recruited.

Describing the proceedings, a commentator said that the pageant showed the great events and experiences of the Anglican Mission in 50 years of work in Papua. The Papuans were "winsome, and possessing possibilities far beyond the dreams of those who had first entered upon their land. Many of the people were still under bondage of the past; but great numbers of them had passed into the Church of Christ." Careful training and influence of the Christian missionary had transformed their natural conception of life from bloodshed and destruction to a happy fellowship.

Recalling Mr. Samuel Tomlinson and his wife who pioneered the Anglican mission field in 1891, the commentator credited them with having laid the foundations of the New Guinea Mission. Originally a carpenter, Mr. Tomlinson became teacher, deacon and ultimately priest. The year 1893 had seen the introduction of the South Sea Islanders as teachers. They had given great service to the Mission. The crowning event of 50 years' work had been the consecration of the Cathedral of St. Peter and St. Paul. Standing on Dogura Hill, it had taken five years to build, and stood as a monument to the work of the mission.

Deserted Niuafo'ou

Now Blackened Waste in Many Areas

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, Aug. 3.

NO longer "Tin Can Island," lonely Niuafo'ou held the fascinated attention of passengers in a New Zealand Dakota when the plane made a leisurely circuit of the deserted island yesterday.

Since the disastrous eruptions in September, 1946, aircraft of the direct Samoa-Fiji route frequently make a short off-course sweep over the famous island.

Approaching Niuafo'ou from the east, one's first impression is that a singularly beautiful and fertile island lies below. Heavy tropical growth, with a wealth of coconut palms, covers the whole strip of land between the sea and the great inland lake of Vai Lahi. But the circuit of the island reveals its tragedy.

The whole of the northern, western and south-western areas have been destroyed by the eruptions that have broken out at intervals between 1853 and 1946.

The northern coast, where the Government centre, Angaha, stood until last September, is to-day a blackened waste. The neighbouring still-fertile areas are pock-marked with what look like craters, which erupted without producing any great flow of lava.

This correspondent's impression, while looking down on Niuafo'ou, was that sooner or later the destructive tide must swamp the whole of what was once probably the loveliest of all the Tongan islands.

Savaii, in Samoa, suffered similar disasters at intervals until 1911. The bush has reclaimed all but the 1905-1911 lava fields in Savaii; but it will be a matter of generations before Niuafo'ou recovers—if no further eruptions occur.

RAROTONGA BUSY

New Radio and Electricity Stations

From Our Own Correspondent

RAROTONGA, Jul. 24.

THREE ships are here to-day—the "Waitemata," bringing timber, motor-cars and cargo from Vancouver; the "Maui Pomare," on her regular schedule, loading oranges and tomatoes for NZ; and the "Wairata," unloading equipment from NZ for the new radio station and electric power plant.

The electricity station will be on a slope behind Avarua; and the new radio station, which supersedes Arorangi, will be near the air-strip and, in addition to dealing with general traffic, will provide aircraft with directional services.

The recent rapid expansion of both services and commercial operations has created an acute housing problem.

The Rev. G. H. Eastman, of the Gilbert Islands, has now retired from his long and distinguished connection with the London Missionary Society, and for the next nine months will be living at "Oneata," Holland Street, Suva, Fiji. Mr. Eastman hopes to complete, with the help of a Gilbertese teacher, the translation of the Bible into Gilbertese, and when the big task of revision is complete he, with Mrs. Eastman, will return to England.

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BACHELOR-JARRETT WEDDING

THE marriage took place recently at Saroa, in the Rigo district, Papua, of Mr. Colin Batchelor and Miss Sylvia Jarrett. They were married by the Rev. Susie Rankin in the Saroa Church. Natives sat on the floor and sang before the ceremony.

Wearing garlands of flowers round their necks, the bridal couple walked from the church to the house, where the reception was held. The natives formed a guard of honour and showered them with flowers and leaves.

Mr. Batchelor is manager of Kokebagu Estate, not far from Saroa.

ENGAGEMENT



This is Miss Betty Evans, younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. Bielby Evans, formerly of Buka Passage and Rabaul, NG, and now of Killara, NSW. Her engagement has recently been announced to Mr. Ian Pike, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. K. Pike, of Killara, and grandson of the late Mr. Justice and Mrs. Pike.

Monsieur Risbec docteur des Sciences de Paris, has been invited to become director of the Noumea Museum. This museum contains much interesting and valuable material, but needs rearranging and enlarging.

RECENT SUVA WEDDINGS



These photographs of three Suva weddings show, TOP: The reception at the home of Miss G. Hamilton, Suva, after the wedding in the Sacred Heart Cathedral of Miss Rose Marie Nilsen, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Nilsen, of Levuka, to Mr. Albert Jennings, of New Zealand. CENTRE: A group taken after the marriage of Miss Marie Foster to Mr. Onslow Kerkham, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Kerkham, of Suva. The photo shows Mrs. Kerkham, Miss Noeline Kerkham, the groom and his bride, Mr. R. C. Kerkham, Miss G. Foster, Mrs. D. Kerkham, and Mrs. A. Kerkham. LOWER: Corporal F. Milligan, RNZAF, and his bride, formerly Miss Edna Pearce, leaving the Sacred Heart Cathedral, Suva, after their marriage on May 28.

Photos by Stinson Studios.



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Pago Pago, Samoa

A passenger on the July "Maui Pomare" from Rarotonga for Auckland was Charlie Frisbie, son of Mr. Robert Dean Frisbie and one of the young "cowboys" familiar to readers of the noted South Sea author's stories of atoll life. Charlie is to be apprenticed at a New Zealand racing stable as a jockey. This is due to the interest of Mr. W. H. Watson of Rarotonga by whom the lad has been employed for a considerable time. R. D. Frisbie is at present living in Rarotonga with the rest of his young family. A book written by eldest daughter "Johnny," presenting the life of the Frisbie family "from a woman's point of view," is expected to be published shortly.

The Rev. and Mrs. J. Flentze, Mrs. G. J. Platten, and Mrs. R. D. Beaumont of the Methodist Overseas Mission, left Sydney on June 17 to return to their mission stations in New Guinea.



AIRWAYS TRAVELLERS TO PAPUA-NEW GUINEA: These travellers left Sydney in August by Qantas Bird of Paradise Service (from left to right): Mr. D. W. Morrison, who was going to Lae, New Guinea, where he will join the staff of Bulolo Gold Dredging, Ltd. Mr. A. A. Joel, who went to Port Moresby for a survey of conditions there. Mr. J. J. Kenny and Mr. B. C. Gobo, who went to Port Moresby, where they will join the Administration Medical Service. Miss J. E. Brown, who went to Port Moresby, Papua, where she will be attached to the Education Department. Mr. R. K. Hicks, well-known patrol officer of New Ireland, returning to the Mandated Territory, after a holiday in Western Australia. Mr. J. Fitzpatrick, a former war correspondent, who will make a documentary film of native life in Papua and New Guinea for the Australian Government.

ANGEMUNDE-McMILES WEDDING



Matron Angemunde, a nurse formerly well-known in Fiji, was married recently in Sydney to Mr. W. McMiles, a resident of Burwood, Sydney. This photograph shows the newly-married couple just before they left for their holiday home at Wyong, NSW.

ABOUT ISLANDS PEOPLE

Mr. Wymberley de R. Coerr, has been appointed United States Consul in Fiji in succession to Mr. Winfield H. Scott. Mr. Coerr arrived in Suva on the July "Marine Phoenix."

Bishop Vesters, formerly of the Roman Catholic Mission at Vanapope, New Britain, recently paid a short visit to his former Bishopric and to Port Moresby. He is at present living in Australia.

The Rowe brothers, well-known planters, of Kokopo, New Britain, have imported a de-hydration plant. This will be used for drying copra; but can be utilised for the drying of other vegetable products. The experiment is being watched with interest by other New Britain planters.

Mr. Tex Roberts, who is well-known on the New Guinea Goldfields as well as in New Britain, was in Rabaul in early August. His interests are many and varied and he has been kept busy rehabilitating them.

Mr. and Mrs. Widdings, of Rabaul, will soon be transferred to Kavieng, where Mr. Widdings will be in charge of the Overseas Tele-Communications radio station there.

When he addressed members of the Methodist Women's Auxiliary to Overseas Missions in Brisbane, recently, the Rev. C. F. Gribble (a Methodist Missionary in Tonga) spoke of the immense strides which education had made in Tonga. The Tongans, he said, were very anxious to learn English and that in order to meet their wishes, the school curriculum had been revised. Special courses in hygiene and child welfare were also being conducted.

The Islands were well represented in Australia's big Rugby Union match on August 9—Great Public Schools (11) versus Duntroon Military College (14). D. Freeman, of Fiji, represented the GPS—he was vice-captain; and Under-Officer Ted Swinbourne (son of a well-known retired officer of the Gilbert and Ellice Colony) was a prominent player for the Military College.

The Mt. Dore nickel mine Good Luck, belonging to M. Lafleur, who now represents New Caledonia in Paris, stopped work on July 1. In two years it has produced 20,000 tons of ore, with a working staff of six Europeans and 45 Javanese.

Death of Mrs. Madeleine Hayward

MRS. M. HAYWARD who died in Suva on June 5, was the popular wife of Mr. W. H. Hayward, proprietor of the Club Hotel.

She was a New Zealander and both she and her husband went to Fiji in 1933 to take over the Club Hotel. She was affectionately known to many Fiji residents as "Marama".

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12 Spring Street.

Mr. E. H. R. Paul, of the Administration staff on Nauru (where, apart from the Jap invasion, he has lived for 20 years) has resigned in order to take over the management of a large motor business in Auckland.

Mrs. Gordon Marshall, of Papua, arrived in Sydney on a health-recruiting trip in August. She returned to Papua over two years ago. "Life is tough and conditions are muddled, there," she reports. "Tea at 6/6 per lb., and butter at 3/6 are examples of the things that have got the planter worried."

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EXPORTING TO PACIFIC ISLANDS SINCE 1893

SHIPPING AND PLANE SERVICES

THE following sea and air services are running to schedules in the Pacific. Not all of the regular services which were suspended, owing to war conditions, have been restored; but preparations are under way for their early reintroduction. As they become available they will be announced here.

New Zealand—Cook Is.—Niue—Samoa

THE motor vessel "Maui Pomare," owned and operated by the NZ Government, maintains a direct service between Auckland and Rarotonga (Cook Islands), with alternative calls at Niue and Apia (Samoa).

Auckland	Aug. 14	Sept. 11
Rarotonga	Aug. 20-21	—
Apia*	—	—
Niue*	Aug. 23-24	Sept. 18-20
Auckland	Aug. 30	Sept. 22
		Sept. 28

Sydney—Norfolk Island— New Hebrides

THE SS "Morinda," Burns Philp & Co., Ltd., runs at approximately six-seven weeks' intervals from Sydney to Lord Howe Island, Norfolk Island, and main ports of the New Hebrides, and return. A regular fixed timetable is not yet practicable.

("Morinda" has gone into dock in Sydney and is not expected to be back on the run until at least November.)

Sydney—Auckland Airways

TASMAN Empire Airways, Ltd., operate a flying-boat service between Rose Bay, Sydney, and Mechanics Bay, Auckland. Large flying-boats, capable of carrying 30 passengers, are employed. The trip is comfortable, and takes approximately 8 hours.

The flying-boats leave both Sydney (7 a.m.) and Auckland (8 a.m.) every morning, including Sundays.

Bookings may be made at the Auckland and Sydney offices of Tasman Empire Airways.

New Zealand—Fiji— Samoa—Tonga

Monthly Service by MV "Matua"
SERVICE CONDUCTED BY UNION SS CO.,
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NOTICE

(After her August trip, "Matua" will be withdrawn for survey; she will be off the run for approximately one month.)

Auckland	Sept. 25	Oct. 25	Nov. 25
Suva	Sept. 29-30	Oct. 29-30	Nov. 29-30
Nukualofa	—	Nov. 1-2	—
Vavau	—	Nov. 3	—
Apia*	Oct. 1-4	Nov. 3-6	Dec. 1-4
Vavau	Oct. 6	—	Dec. 6
Nukualofa	Oct. 7-8	—	Dec. 7-8
Suva	Oct. 10-11	Nov. 9-10	Dec. 10-11
Auckland	Oct. 15	Nov. 14	Dec. 15

*Western Time.

New Caledonia

THE New Caledonian Government has subsidised and maintained the coastal shipping services. The East Coast, the West Coast, and the Loyalty Islands, under present conditions, receive 10 round trips per annum. The ships call at the following ports:

EAST COAST.—Yate, Ounia, Tilo, Nakety, Cansla, Kouaoua Kua, Moneo, Ponerihouen, Tibarama, Poindimie, Wagap, Touho, Tipindje, Hienghene, Tao, Oubatch, Pouebo, Balade, Pam, Arama, and return.

WEST COAST.—Pouembout, Kone, Temala, Voh, Ouaco Gomen, Kourmac, Tangaiou, Tiebaghi, Nehou Pounme Baaba, Belep and return.

LOYALTY ISLANDS.—Mare (Tadine), Lifou (Chepenche) Ouvea (Pajaoe, St. Joseph) and return.

The steamer "Neo Hebridaïs" runs regularly between Noumea and Sydney, with occasional trips to the New Hebrides (mostly Anietyum). The owners are Societe Maritime et Maniere Hagen, Noumea. Sydney agents: H. C. Sleigh, 254 George Street, Sydney.

Pan-American— Trans-Pacific Service

PAN-AMERICAN World Airways planes are now running twice weekly between Sydney and San Francisco, and a weekly service between Auckland and San Francisco. Both services go via New Caledonia, Nadi (Fiji), Canton Island and Hawaii. Skymaster planes are used.

Planes leave Sydney every Sunday and Thursday and San Francisco every Wednesday and Friday. Planes leave Auckland northbound every Wednesday and Friday, southbound to Auckland, every Friday.

Fares are approximately the same as ANA. (See below.)

Free baggage allowance is 55 lb. Excess at 1 per cent. of the one-way fare for each kilogram of excess (1 kilo = 2.2 lb.).

Sydney-Vancouver ANA Service

AUSTRALIAN National Airways Pty., Ltd., on behalf of the British Commonwealth Pacific Airlines, Ltd., are now operating a weekly trans-Pacific service from Sydney, via Fiji, Canton Island, Honolulu, and San Francisco to Vancouver, and a fortnightly service between Auckland and Vancouver via the same airports. They are now permitted to pick up and set down passengers in American territory.

Planes leave Sydney every Sunday evening and Vancouver, on the southbound trip, every Thursday. Planes leave Auckland every alternate Thursdays and arrive in Vancouver the following Sunday. This southbound trip commences from Vancouver on alternate Saturdays. Fares are (in Australian currency), Sydney-San Francisco, £200 single and £365 return, Auckland-Vancouver, £A198 single; Auckland-Nadi (Fiji), £A39.

Skymaster aircraft carrying 36 passengers and a crew of 10 are used on the service.

Sydney—Noumea—Suva

ONCE weekly the Qantas flying-boat "Coriolanus" leaves Sydney in the early morning, and after calling at Brisbane heads out over the Pacific to Noumea. Every second week the plane goes on to Suva, Fiji. From Sydney to Noumea is a journey of about 11 hours. An overnight stop is made in Noumea, and Suva is reached the following afternoon.

Intending passengers should book through Qantas offices in Australia. Burns, Philp (South Seas) Company, in Suva; and Messrs. L. H. and W. A. Johnston in Noumea.

Fares: To Noumea, £35 single. To Suva, £52/10/- single.

Sydney—Queensland— New Guinea Airways

QANTAS Empire Airways, Ltd., employing DC3 planes, operate a regular service between Sydney, Port Moresby, Lae and Rabaul, and return, via Brisbane, Rockhampton, Townsville and Cairns.

This service is now known as the "Bird of Paradise" Service. DC3 aircraft, carrying 21 passengers, are used.

Planes leave Sydney on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays at 10 a.m., and arrive at Lae at noon on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays. The plane which leaves Sydney on Wednesday and arrives at Lae on Thursday then goes on to Rabaul. It returns on Friday.

Planes leave Lae at 5.45 a.m. on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays, and arrive in Sydney at 10 p.m., accomplishing the Lae-Sydney run in a day.

The return plane from Rabaul leaves at 1.30 p.m. on Fridays.

Bookings may be made at Qantas offices at any of the towns named. At present, berths are available only to passengers holding official permits to visit Papua or New Guinea.

RNZAF Services In Central Pacific

(RNZAF Pacific Regional services are operated for the New Zealand National Airways Corporation and the Dakota that makes the monthly trip, via New Caledonia, is based at Fiji for four weeks to operate services connecting with the Sunderland flying-boat. Details of services can be obtained on application to Railway Transport Officer (Air) at Auckland, Wellington, and Christchurch Railway Stations, or to Air Movements Officers at Aerodromes concerned, or to Air Department, Wellington.)

NAUSORI (SUVA)-NADI (WESTERN FIJI): Plane leaves Nausori each Tuesday and Friday, returning same day. Single adult fare £3 (Fijian). Baggage, 35lb.

LAUCALA BAY (SUVA)-AUCKLAND: Flying boat leaves Auckland for Fiji each Friday and

returns on Monday. Single fare, £25/5/2 (F.). Baggage, 60lb.

FIJI - TONGA - SAMOA - COOK ISLANDS: A Dakota transport aircraft leaves Nausori each Saturday for Western Samoa. On alternate Saturdays the schedule includes Tonga and Cook Islands (Aitutaki and Rarotonga), an overnight stop being made at Apia, Western Samoa. Single adult fares: Fiji-Tonga, £6/12/11; Fiji-Samoa, £8/17/3; Fiji-Aitutaki or Rarotonga £18/3/4. Baggage, 60lb.

FIJI - NORFOLK ISLAND - NOUMEA - NEW ZEALAND: A Dakota transport aircraft leaves Nausori once every four weeks for Whenuapai, N.Z., via Norfolk Island and Tontouta, New Caledonia. Because accommodation at Norfolk Island is limited special arrangements are necessary before through bookings can be accepted. Single adult fares: Fiji-Norfolk, £16/7/11; Fiji-Noumea, £16/7/11; Fiji-New Zealand, £25/5/2. Baggage, 60lb.

Pacific Travellers

PASSENGERS who arrived in Sydney from Papua-New Guinea by Qantas Airways:

JULY 9: Mr. R. Dickie, Mr. R. Gaywood, Mr. Wylie, Mr. H. Ward, Mr. Bowen-Jones, Mr. D. O'Connor, Mr. C. E. Rich, Mr. J. Trounson, Miss G. Richer.

JULY 12: Mr. R. M. Farlow, Mr. L. Truitt, Mr. O. J. Clinton, Mr. Ballartyne, Mr. I. Tenenbaum, Mr. C. Halvorsen, Capt. E. F. Clay, Mr. S. W. Conlon.

JULY 13: Mr. Cross, Mr. O'Connor, Mr. P. Middleton, Mr. E. K. McGrath.

JULY 16: Mr. W. Turner, Mr. W. Pascoe, Mr. K. Colyer, Mr. T. Elliott, Mr. B. Perriman, Mrs. M. Russell, Mr. J. W. Hinks, Mr. J. Hughes, Mr. I. A. MacRae, Mr. R. Sowerby, Mr. J. M. Lang, Mrs. E. Marsden (and infant), Mr. R. Barker.

JULY 17: E. J. Thomas, Mr. G. Young, Mr. J. Queen, Mr. J. McLaughlan, Mr. C. Morgan.

JULY 19: Mr. R. Rigby, Mr. J. McCauley, Mr. J. D. Bryan, Mr. T. Kepner, Mrs. Bernard (and two children), Mr. E. C. Brown, Mr. E. Bignold, Mr. A. Afflick.

JULY 20: Mr. R. McMullen, Capt. Helmken.

Miss W. Garrett, Mrs. J. Leahy (and daughter), Mr. A. McLellan, Mrs. Allen, Mr. Dowe, Capt. Crabbe, Mr. L. C. Glenwright, Mr. R. R. Bell, Mr. H. Lyons.

JULY 23: Mr. E. Morgan, Mr. A. Phillips, Mr. M. Shean, Mr. G. Watson, Mr. O. P. Blandon, Mrs. H. Hindwood.

JULY 26: Mr. R. A. Battersby, Mrs. F. D. Ross, Mrs. Sutherland Ross, Mr. L. Wilde, Mr. A. Hurrell, Mrs. A. Hurrell, Mr. J. Badley, Mr. J. Anderson, Mr. C. Palmer.

JULY 27: Miss E. Stock, Mrs. E. Morgan, Miss J. Anthony, Miss T. Wright, Mr. H. Hall, Mr. J. McKenzie.

JULY 31: Mrs. W. T. Riley, Mrs. R. S. Carne.

PASSENGERS who left Australia by Qantas Airway for air-ports in Papua-New Guinea:

JULY 9: W. O. Duell, Mr. W. T. Bergan, Mr. R. E. Barrell, Mr. T. Zoffman, Mr. A. L. Dyer, Mr. G. Barry, Mrs. C. Gunther, Mrs. R. H. Gibbes, Mr. L. Hawken, Mr. L. C. Glenwright, Miss J. Ferrier, Mr. M. O. Mellwain, Mr. R. E. Laker, Mr. R. M. Manson, Mr. R. A. Battersby.

JULY 11: Mr. J. Sneddon, Capt. McNeil, Mr. K. B. Mathieson, Mr. J. M. Evans, Capt. R. E. Gilbert, Mr. A. Hill.

JULY 14: Mr. J. Curtin, Mr. C. Alsop, Mr. J. Lawrence, Mr. G. A. Burckett, Mrs. A. Carrington, Miss A. Carrington, Mr. R. J. Lovell, Mr. A. W. Anderson, Miss E. Walters, Mr. H. Lyons.

JULY 15: Mr. C. N. Rees, Miss C. Fay, Mrs. J. McInerney, Miss J. McInerney (4 years), Mrs. J. Jemys, Mrs. G. D. Dainty, Mr. N. H. Glass, Mrs. Gardner, Mr. Brightwell, Mrs. D. Gray (and infant), Miss J. A. Gray (6 years), Mr. S. W. Reeve.

JULY 16: Miss M. E. Guay, Mr. G. McDonnell, Mrs. G. McDonnell, Monsignor Hannan, Mr. Palmer, Mr. R. P. Bradshaw, Mr. K. F. Salmon, Mr. Lesmond, Capt. R. Mant, Mr. R. Wood, Mr. L. C. Roberts.

JULY 18: Mr. G. Nightingale, Mr. G. W. Davis, Mr. F. J. O'Dee, Mr. A. W. Lancaster, Mr. L. K. Elliott, Mr. C. Lun, Mr. J. R. Palmer, Mr. G. S. Smith, Mr. I. Flannery, Mr. N. Wood.

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lands, Mr. D. Franke, Rev. A. Michellod, Mr. D. K. Hosking, Mr. G. Hill.

JULY 21: Mr. J. Trainor, Mr. E. P. Rowse, Mr. W. J. O'Shea, Mr. E. W. Carter, Mr. T. A. Boul, Capt. Crookshank, Mr. J. A. Vawser, Mr. F. W. Craig, Mr. M. Chaperon, Miss D. Webster, Mr. R. D. Dwyer, Mr. R. Kirk, Mr. R. R. Murphy.

JULY 23: Mrs. E. Reid, Mr. D. G. Dewar, Mr. A. Foreman, Mr. E. Kerim, Mr. D. Dobson.

JULY 25: Mr. J. Wilson, Mrs. C. Brown (and infant), Mr. Donaldson, Mr. H. J. Streeter, Mr. J. P. McLaughlin, Mr. L. M. Wilson, Mr. D. R. Marsh, Mrs. P. McMahon, Miss F. E. Henry, Mr. R. L. Geelan, Mr. D. J. Stewart, Mr. J. Queen, Mr. A. W. Collins.

JULY 28: Mr. T. W. Walters, Mr. J. P. Murphy, Mr. E. J. Hallstrom, Mr. G. K. Lansdowne, Mr. C. R. Goyen, Mr. S. W. Lucas, Mr. J. Nicholson, Mrs. J. Nicholson, Mrs. A. Vassie (and child), Miss E. M. Jones, Mr. H. P. Clews, Mr. L. C. Beynon, Mr. D. R. Prowse, Mr. H. I. Moore, Mr. R. K. Frank, Mr. E. Wakeman.

JULY 29: Mr. N. B. North, Mr. B. L. Mansfield, Mr. A. T. Bishop, Mr. A. G. Brehaut, Mrs. J. Kerr (and infant), Mr. P. S. Taylor, Mr. W. S. Taylor, Mr. F. H. Mott, Mr. D. S. Askew.

AUG. 1: Mr. J. Hughes, Mr. D. W. Morrison, Mr. S. H. Fitzpatrick, Mrs. D. E. Turnbull, Mr. J. H. Ahearn, Mrs. J. H. Ahearn, Mr. A. Joel, Mr. R. K. Hicks, Mr. K. E. Field, Mr. D. C. Goble, Mr. J. J. Kenny, Mr. M. R. Sproule, Mr. D. Bryan, Mr. R. Thorpe.

AUG. 4: Mr. G. W. Neilson, Mr. B. G. Griffith, Mr. C. S. Smith, Mr. R. J. Westrop, Mr. T. F. Kepner, Mr. R. W. Collings, Mr. Osborne, Miss N. Friend, Mr. G. Young, Mr. S. Sevier, Mrs. I. J. Ross.

PASSENGERS who arrived in Auckland, NZ, by MV "Matua" on July 18:—

FROM NUKUALOFA: Mr. C. Brahne, Mrs. M. Haora, Mrs. L. Malafa (and three children).

FROM APIA: Capt. Bell, Mrs. C. Brew (and child), Miss Crichton, Mr. T. Chan, Mr. E. Duke, Miss J. Hunt, Mr. W. Hellesoe, Mr. and Mrs. A. Hawthorne (and three children), Mrs. I. Jessop, Mr. V. Kilipati, Miss K. Kennar, Mrs. R. Morrissey, Mr. W. Meredith, Mr. H. Pritchard, Mr. A. Patterson, Miss C. Ripley, Miss H. Skelton, Mrs. R. Simpson, Mr. S. Schroeder, Mr. T. Tuilefuga, Miss A. Webster, Miss F. Westbrook, Mrs. D. Yandall.

FROM SUVA: Mrs. E. Anderson, Miss C. Anderson, Mrs. M. Andrew, Mr. and Mrs. C. Beckingham, Mr. H. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. D. Clifton-Lewis, Dr. T. Clunie, Mrs. A. Chapman (and daughter), Miss E. Cauty, Mrs. R. Carrick, Master D. Carrick, Mr. E. Cholerton, Miss A. Evetts, Mr. Fong Lum Sing, Mr. Fong Chee, Mr. M. French-Mullens, Mrs. J. French-Mullens, Mr. M. Gallagher, Mr. L. Gray, Miss J. Greenop, Comm. F. Hull, Mr. G. Hewson, Miss D. Heath, Miss N. Hunt, Mr. W. Haywood, Miss K. Hayles, Mr. R. Holcroft, Miss L. James, Mr. A. McMillan, Mr. and Mrs. J. McIntyre, Mrs. W. Ohlson, Miss A. Powell, Mr. and Mrs. L. Pardoe (and daughter), Mr. B. Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. A. Reay (and daughter), Mr. and Mrs. F. Studman (and three children), Mr. C. Sage, Miss C. Simpson, Miss P. Spencer, Mr. and Mrs. C. Wallers, Miss M. Woodhouse, Mr. H. Wilks, Mr. D. Whitcombe.

Mr. and Mrs. E. V. O'Brien, left Brisbane for Madang by the "Montoro" on June 14. They were farewelled by relatives and friends. Mr. O'Brien is the owner of Mililat plantation, Madang. He was flown to Sydney by plane last February to undergo medical treatment. His health has now much improved.

Hired Murderer or Black Magic?

Native Cult in NW New Guinea

THE following notes on the New Guinea cult called "Sangguma" come from an article published, in Dutch, in the European publication "Anthropos."

The original article was written by Father G. J. Koster, a Hollander who was with the Roman Catholic Mission in the Bogia and Potsdamhafen districts on the north-west New Guinea coast for about 15 years prior to the outbreak of World War II. At the beginning of the war, Father Koster returned to Holland and is still there.

The majority of European residents in the Territory are biased against professional anthropologists, says Father Koster, but in order to show that these scientists have a place in better understanding of the native mind, it is necessary to point out only one problem which is called "Sangguma," a mysterious cult that has given more than one patrol officer a headache.

Literally, Sangguma means "force by sorcery" and it is generally understood to be murder by black magic—or in plain Pidgin, "Poison."

The unsophisticated village native does not believe in death through natural causes. By him, death is attributed to supernatural means—an enemy or a resident of rival village makes "poison" against him. But Sangguma is a much more positive business than making black magic, although it is most difficult to prove that it is performed by professional murderers who form a sort of union of underworld gangsters in native style.

Another anthropologist who spent some time in Northern New Guinea, Margaret Mead, believed that the Sangguma organisation contained many indentured labourers and was rapidly diffusing through the indentured labour population of the Madang and Aitap coasts. But this seems open to doubt.

Most Europeans attribute such native deaths to auto-suggestion—for some unknown reason the native in question has been persuaded to give up his natural will to live. A Mr. Johnston, of Banara Plantation, and Father Koster, were the first Europeans to discover that Sangguma was more than sorcery. It came about like this:

While both men were in the vicinity of Dalua village, native women reported having been confronted in the nearby jungle with a number of men with blackened faces. The village men hurried into the bush and found a young man lying on the ground, writhing in pain. He was carried into the village, where Johnston and Father Koster gave first aid, and an examination revealed that small, sharp bones had been driven into the upper arms of the youth, into his thighs and knees. Other bones were removed from other parts of his body, later.

This finding verified the opinion held by some old residents that Sangguma is nothing but hired murder.

Apparently, the victim is singled out and ambushed by hired murderers who render him unconscious in some way. While he is thus powerless, the bones are inserted in his body in such a way that death is sure to follow within a few days. Bones of the flying-fox, or of fish, are usually used, they are inserted between the collar bones, in the upper legs and arms, one in the tongue, and others in vital parts, and they are driven home so as to become invisible. In some cases a long rib of a coconut leaf is inserted in the lower bowel, which it finally perforates.

When these operations have been com-

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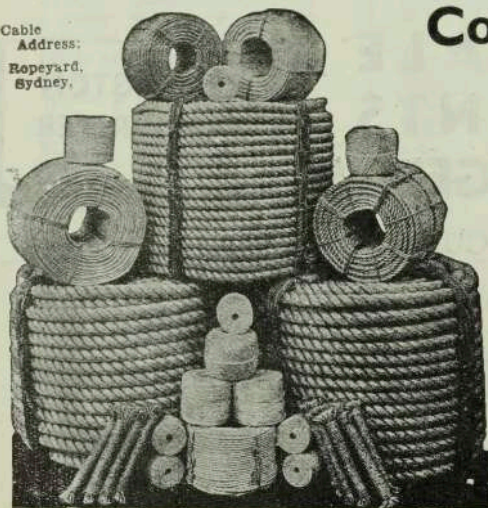
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pleted, the victim is brought back to consciousness and usually is able to return to the village under his own power. Within a week or so he usually dies, his death being attributed to black magic by his relatives, instead of to mutilations of which they are unaware. As he has a swollen tongue, he cannot speak, and being speechless, he is usually regarded as "long-long"—unbalanced.

It would, of course, be easy by post-mortem to analyse the cause of death—

but in a native society post-mortems are not yet the rule.

CHINESE GO HOME

THE 800 members of Rabaul's Chinese Army — a relic of the Japanese occupation — have at last been repatriated. The "River Norman" from Australia called at Rabaul on August 2 and picked them up. They will go to Hong Kong.

NEWSPAPER MEN VISIT HAWAII



Learning of Territorial industries the easy way: United States editors and publishers, complete with leis, are introduced in Honolulu to Hawaiian pineapples. Left to right: J. Loy Maloney, editor of "Chicago Tribune"; Roy W. Howard, chairman, Scripps Howard Newspapers; Mrs. Oveta Culp Hobby, "Houston Post"; Juan Trippe, president of Pan American Airways; M. T. Moore, chairman of Time-Life-Fortune Board; Mrs. Ogden Reid, owner of "New York Herald-Tribune."

Four missionaries from New Caledonia, Fathers Boileau, Miljolla, Luneau and Jossierand, arrived in Sydney towards the end of June to participate in the celebrations of the Pacific Chapter of the Society of Mary.

Mr. and Mrs. Ron. T. Galloway spent their honeymoon at Hayman Island (North Queensland). Before returning to New Guinea, the couple intend spend some time in Auburn (NSW).

The Hon. W. Grainger Johnson, MLC, managing director of W. R. Carpenter & Co. (Fiji) Ltd., paid Australia literally a flying visit in August. He left Suva on a Wednesday morning, spent four days in Sydney, and was back in Suva again on the following Monday evening.

Mr. G. J. Smith, of Vatuakoula, on August 5, won the Pineapple Cup for 1947 — the most important bowls trophy in Fiji. His final opponent was Mr. Walter Smith, of Levuka, and the final score was 20-19. "GJ" won with the last bowl of the last head.

Mr. H. King Irving will shortly retire from the position of manager and attorney for the Colonial Sugar Refining Co., in Fiji. His successor will be Mr. E. H. Griffiths, at present manager of the company's Lautoka mill and well known in north eastern Viti Levu.

The price of French wine (vin ordinaire Bruno) in Noumea has been reduced to 17.70 francs per litre or 13.70 francs per bottle. American wine costs 25.85 francs the litre, and 19.65 francs per bottle.

Mrs. Doris Booth, of "Cliffside," Bulolo, New Guinea, was in Sydney on leave in August. She expects to spend about four weeks in Australia before returning to her mining property.

ROTUMA BOMB TRAGEDY

IT has been established, in Fiji, that the bomb which exploded in Rotuma on May 6, and killed seven, was a "practice" type bomb, American in origin. These bombs weigh approximately 100 pounds and contain several pounds of black powder which, on explosion, causes a dense smoke for spotting purposes. The balance of the weight is made up with sand filling.

As the powder is sealed in a canister, its explosive properties would be unharmed by long immersion in water. Moreover a spark or friction caused by cutting into the canister with a knife would be sufficient to cause an explosion, even if the fuse were inactive.

It will be remembered that the bomb, which had been found on the reef by Rotumans, had had a long life before a schoolboy, who scraped the nose of it with his knife, caused it to explode, with such disastrous results.

TO SHIPMASTERS

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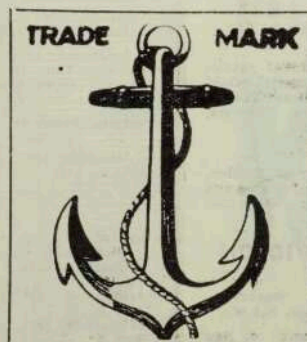
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(Quotations in Australian Currency)

COCOA

Official prices for New Hebrides cocoa beans, controlled by the Cocoa, Chocolate and Confectionery Committee, are as follows:—

Buying (unofficial source): £100 per ton f.o.b. Island port.

Selling: Delivered Sydney. No quotations.

Accra: No quotations.

New Guinea cocoa beans: No quotations.

The above are the "official" prices fixed by an Australian Government Committee. They plainly are ridiculous, and should not be accepted seriously. In mid-February we were informed that owing to the increased price for New Hebrides cocoa beans, no information was being announced on the price per ton delivered at Australian ports. Mid-July: No official information.

Samea cocoa beans: £185 per ton, f.o.b., Apia.

TROCHUS SHELL

Some parcels have recently changed hands. Nominal quotations in April show prices at the following levels: New Hebrides-New Caledonia type, f.a.q., £85 per ton. Straits type, £95 per ton.

COFFEE

No purchases are permitted in Australia without the consent of the Tea and Coffee Control Board, to whom all offers must first be submitted. Nominal quotations as follows:—

New Caledonian: Arabica, £124 per ton (f.a.q.). Robusta, £104 per ton (c.i.f. Sydney).

Mysore: £220 to £240 (c. & f., Sydney).

New Guinea and Papua: £112 per ton (c.i.f.).

Java: No quotations.

VANILLA BEANS

No supplies available. Nominal quotations only.

KAPOK

Very little movement in Javanese kapok. Nominal quotation 2 1/2 per lb.

Indian kapok is being quoted for indent at 1/6 per lb. c.i.f. stg.

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Controlled in Australia. 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., £100 per ton, in store, Sydney. Market
in chaotic condition; no orders are being re-
ceived.

PEARL SHELL

Australian-controlled price:—
"B" Class, £200 per ton. "C" Class, £190
per ton. "D" Class, £135 per ton.

BUYING PRICES AT SUVA, FIJI, PRODUCE REPORT

(Fiji Currency)

Copra (Plantation Grade)	£36/19/-
Copra (FMS Grade)	£36/13/6
Kerosene, per gallon	49/10½
Flour, per 150 lb. sack wholesale	8½d.
Flour, per 2 lb.	46/8
Sharps, per 140 lb. sack wholesale	8½d.
Sharps, per 2 lb.	£35 & £25
Trocas Shell, per ton	2/5
Benzine, per gallon	

PRICE OF GOLD

Fine	Standard
oz.	£10/15/7 1/2
	(Australian Currency) £9/17/3½

COPRA

COPRA PRICES DURING WORLD WAR II
The copra market was controlled by Govern-
ments from outbreak of war in 1939 until the
end of the war in 1945. Controls are still being
exercised in the post-war period.

London Fixed Price, per ton, c.i.f., Plantation
Hot-air:

	Sterling
October, 1939—January, 1940	£12 7 6
January—April, 1940	13 5 0
After April, 1940	12 17 6

Fiji Fixed Price, per ton, f.o.b., Fiji Currency:

	FMS
February, 1942	£15 15 0
June, 1942	16 0 0
July, 1942	16 12 6
June, 1944	19 10 0
October, 1944	20 0 0
December, 1945	19 7 6
January, 1946	18 5 6
August, 1946	23 10 6
February, 1947	29 15 6
June 9, 1947	36 19 0

TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA

ANGPCB Fixed Price at Plantation:

	Hot-air	Smoked
Sept. 28, 1946	£22 5 0	£21 5 0

ANGPCB Fixed Price, Delivered ex Ships Slings:

	Hot-air	Smoked
Jan. 7, 1947	£28 0 0	£27 0 0
June 17, 1947	£31 2 0	

Increased prices announced on January 7
operated from December 1, 1946. Prices quoted
are for copra delivered to ships' slings, or to
the Board's warehouse.

Official Prices for NG Copra landed at Sydney.

	Hot-air Dried	Smoked
January, 1947	£36 10 0	£35 10 0
July, 1947	£51 5 0	£50 5 0

RUBBER

	Para.	Plantation
	per lb.	per lb.
London Price on—		
January 6, 1933	4½d ..	2.43d
July 7	5½d ..	3.71d
January 5, 1934	4½d ..	4.28d
July 6	5½d ..	7.06d
January 4, 1935	5d ..	6½d
July 5	5d ..	7½d
January 3, 1936	6½d ..	8½d
June 5	9d ..	7½d
January 8, 1937	1½ ..	10½d
June 4	1½ ..	9½d
January 7, 1938	7½d ..	7d

July 1	6½d ..	7½d
January 6, 1939	7d ..	8½d
July 7	7½d ..	8½d
January 5, 1940	13d ..	11.6½d
July 5	15d ..	12½d
January 3, 1941	13d ..	12.47½d
April 4	15d ..	14½d
June 6	16½d ..	13.5½d
August 1	17d ..	13½d
October 10—Price officially fixed at ..	13½d	

Papuan Rubber Prices Under Australian
Government Control—Payable on Plantation
or Nearby Port, per lb., Australian Currency:

	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3
September, 1943 ..	1/6½	1/4	1/2
September, 1944 ..	1/6½	1/5½	1/3½
July, 1944 ..	1/4½	1/3½	1/1½

QUOTATIONS FOR MINING SHARES

FIJI

	Aug., 1939	Mid-July	Mid-Aug.
Emperor Mines ..	9/11	s19/-	s19/-
Loloma	25/6	b22/-	b22/-

NEW GUINEA

Sulolo G.D.	124/-	b150/-	b150/-
Guinea Gold	13/3	s14/9	s14/9
N.G.G. Ltd.	1/10	s3/-	s3/0½
Oil Search	4/-	s8/1	s9/-
Placer Dev.	66/6	s145/-	s135/-
Sandy Creek	1/5	s1/4	s1/3
Sunshine Gold ..	6/5	N.Q.	s9/3

PAPUA.

Cuthbert's	16/6	s9/-	s14/-
Mandated Alluvials	3/8	s13/6	N.Q.
Oriomo Oil	5/-	b5/-	s4/3
Papuan Apinaipi ..	4/11	s4/-	s9/9
Vodda Goldfields ..	1/3	s8/9	N.Q.

Exchange Rates

THE following exchange quotations show the
rates existing in July:

FIJI

Through Bank of NSW and Bank of New
Zealand:—Australia on Fiji on basis of £100
Fiji: Buying, £A111/2/6; selling, £A113. Fiji-
London on basis of £100 London:—

	Buying.	Selling.
	£ s. d.	£ 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: Buy-
ing, £A99/12/6; selling, £A100/2/6. Samoa on
London on basis of £100 in London:—

	Buying.	Selling.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Telegraphic transfer ..	£122 18 9	£125 10 6
On Demand ..	122 8 9	125 2 6
30 days ..	121 18 9	124 17 6
60 days ..	121 8 9	124 12 6
90 days ..	120 18 9	—

NEW GUINEA AND PAPUA

Bank of New South Wales, which now has
branches in Port Moresby and Lae, quotes an
exchange rate between Australia and NG-Papua
of 10/- per £100.

FRENCH PACIFIC COLONIES

SINCE December 25, 1945, the franc, instead
of having the same value in all parts of
the French Empire, has been given different
values in different parts of the Empire. There
are three groups. Group 1: France, North
Africa, West Indies, French Guiana. Group 2:
All African Colonies, Madagascar, Reunion, St.
Pierre, Miquelon. Group 3: New Caledonia, New
Hebrides, French Oceania. Exchange values, in
francs, are approximately:

	£ stg.	USA Dollar	£ Aus.
Group 1 ..	480	119.1	384
Group 2 ..	282.9	70	227
Group 3 ..	200	49.6	160-163

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