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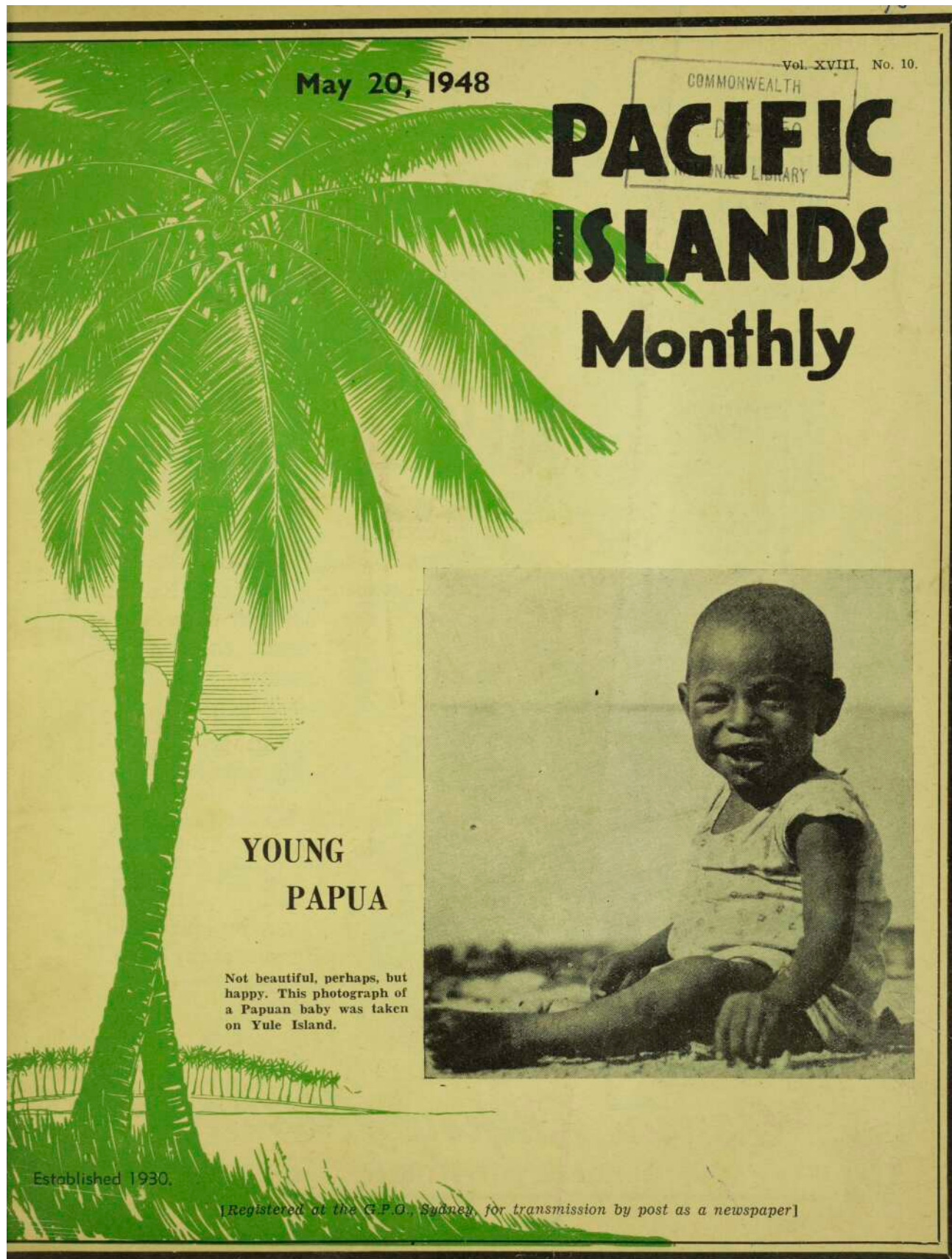
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PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY—MAY, 1948

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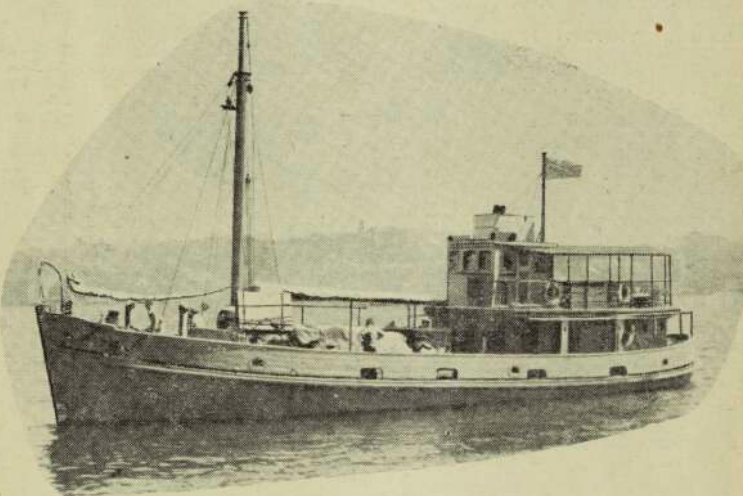
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HEIR TO TONGA'S THRONE

THERE was an important event in the Royal family of Tonga on May 3, when a son was born to Prince and Princess Tugli. The Prince was married last year to Princess Mata'aho. Prince Tugli, as the eldest son of Queen Salote, is heir to the throne; and his eldest son, of course, is in the direct line.

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MAY 20, 1948

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THE SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION IS INAUGURATED

WITHIN the tropical region of the
South Pacific there are the fol-
lowing separate Territories:—

Administered by	Territory	Approx. Pop'n
BRITAIN	Fiji	250,000
	Solomons	100,000
	Gilbert, Ellice	30,000
FRANCE	N. Caledonia	30,000
	Fr. Oceania	30,000
	Wallis-Futuna	5,000
AUSTRALIA	Papua	275,000
	Norfolk Is.	1,000
N. ZEALAND	Cook Is.	14,000
HOLLAND	Indonesia	60,000,000
	Dutch New Guinea	300,000
UNITED STATES	E. Samoa	10,000
BRITAIN (Prot.)	Tonga	27,000
AUSTRALIA (Trus.)	New Guinea	1,000,000
	Nauru	1,000
N. ZEALAND (Trus.)	W. Samoa	50,000
BRIT.-FRANCE (Cond.)	N. Hebrides	40,000

Except in the case of the British Territories and, perhaps, the French, no attempt was made prior to World War II to co-ordinate administrative policy in these 17 Territories—there was not even an exchange of experiences and ideas. Each administrator, with his own watertight set-up, went his own way; until 1940, he seldom was checked or interrogated by London or Paris, Canberra or Wellington.

Yet, to the extent of perhaps 80 per cent., the obligations and problems of administration in all the Territories are the same, or very similar. In every case, except Tonga, we

had a European bureaucracy ruling, with supreme powers, over friendly and tractable islanders. Problems relating to native health, native education, European and native agriculture, contact between missions and natives, transport, indigenous and introduced labour, Asiatic immigration, are similar all across the South Pacific, from Dutch Indonesia to French Oceania, with only minor differences caused by racial differences.

WITH the outbreak of World War II there came, without any apparent reason, a remarkable development of sensitiveness on the part of white nations responsible for the government of coloured races. Developments in Asia Minor, North Africa, India and Indonesia are still "front page news."

In the South Pacific, this sentiment has taken shape in the plan for a South Pacific Commission, which was constituted in Sydney on May 11 by two delegates from each of the six countries named above, and the purpose of which is the exchange of experiences and ideas, and the co-ordination of administrative policy. It is a move that is overdue; and the credit for its initiation goes to Dr. Evatt (Australia's Deputy Prime

Minister) and Mr. Fraser (NZ Prime Minister).

The Commission will have its headquarters in a South Pacific centre—Suva, Auckland, Sydney and Port Moresby have been suggested—and it will have an expert staff whose members will move freely among all the Territories of the South Pacific. They can do a great deal of good. Conversely, if the wrong men are selected, they can do incalculable harm by treading on the toes of administrations who see nothing wrong with their own performances and records.

AN examination of the history and background of the delegates who assembled for the Commission's first session suggested that, among them, there were too many bureaucrats and professional men, who have lived sheltered lives and who have had little personal experience of the rough and tough side of Islands conditions. No man can get a well-balanced view of Islands life—especially the essential relations between Europeans and natives—if his knowledge of Islands conditions has been gained as a Government official, a missionary or an anthropologist. Some of the men who assembled on May 11 were gentlemen of great distinction in their particular fields; and such men are an essential part of the Islands set-up. But so, also, are the planters and traders, the schooner captains

and the miners; and, in all the proceedings which have attended the creation of the SP Commission, the voices of these men have not been heard—we do not think they have been even consulted.

That is a bad start. Private Enterprise may be anathema to the Socialist directors of the countries which have constituted the Commission; but unless the Commission goes to its new task with goodwill and some co-operation from the planting, trading and industrial interests which make the economic wheels go round in the Islands, it is likely to meet difficulties, and frustration, and even failure.

THE Commission, we hope, has been set up for all time. It definitely has a job to do. It would be a deplorable thing if the powers which brought it into being continue their policy of ignoring private enterprise in the Islands. Private enterprise will still be functioning in the Islands long after the Socialist Governments have disappeared, or had their wings clipped; and private enterprise has as much to contribute to the ultimate well-being of the natives as has the whole range of distinguished officials, missionaries and theorists.

That is the only criticism we have to offer the South Pacific Commission. Its introduction is welcome. May good fortune attend its labours.

British Scholarships For Fiji Students

FOUR candidates in Fiji have been awarded scholarships under the United Kingdom Colonial Development and Welfare Act. Applications were invited in November from officers in the Civil Service and from prospective new entrants. The successful candidates are: **Adrian Rood Tarte**, a clerk in the Secretariat, Suva (three years for an Arts course at a New Zealand university); **Brian Frazer Derrick**, now studying engineering at Melbourne (three years for a degree in civil engineering at an Australian university);

Anthony Foster, Printing and Stationery Department, Suva (three years at the London School of Printing);

Ghananand Mishra, a secondary school teacher two years at the London Institute of Education and a period of School Inspection Work in Britain.

DEATH OF NOTABLE NEW CALEDONIAN

M. Gaston Jeanson

M. GASTON JEANSON, a distinguished New Caledonian, recently died in Noumea hospital, at the age of 75.

He went to Noumea originally as a lawyer, and was, for a long time, a member of the Conseil General.

He left politics to enter the magistracy and was President of the Appeal Court, first at Noumea and then at Dakar (Africa). Later he became a judge in the Condominium Court in the New Hebrides (at Vila).

He had a reputation for scrupulous conscientiousness and great independence of character.

New Medical Centre For Fiji

Building to Begin

A GRANT of £185,000 has recently been made to the Fiji Government by the United Kingdom under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act.

The grant will be used to make a beginning on the new Fiji Medical Centre which will incorporate the existing Colonial War Memorial Hospital and auxiliary institutions.

The Centre will be built in three stages. The £185,000 now granted will build the first stage and one item from the second.

The work covered will be: New Central Medical School and student hostel (£60,000); nurses' training school and hostel (£80,000); extension of existing obstetric wing (£15,000); new out-patients department at Colonial War Memorial Hospital (£30,000).

METHODIST MISSION PLANS FOR FIJI

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, May 3.

THE latest Methodist Missionary Review states that a big building programme is planned for the mission in Fiji. These plans include the building of the Centennial Church to replace the Jubilee Church, in Suva. Shortages of materials will probably delay the work for a considerable time.

The Review records that in 1947, £92,116 was spent in the mission districts. Of this £12,152 was expenditure in connection with the Fiji Church, and £9,325 was spent on work among the Indians in Fiji. This was in addition to £50,900 spent in the mission districts from funds raised in those districts. Of this sum £30,248 was found by the Fijians and £13,571 by Indians.

JAIL FOR NATIVE FORGER

From Our Own Correspondent

PORT MORESBY, April 20.

IN the Supreme Court of Papua-New Guinea on April 14, Guba Guba, a native clerk of Elevala Village, Port Moresby, was tried by Mr. Justice Gore on four charges of forgery.

He was found guilty on all charges and sentenced to imprisonment for three years.

Over a period of several months, the accused, who was Treasurer of the Elevala-Tanobada Co-operative Society (a native consumer co-operative), forged Commonwealth Bank withdrawal slips and thereby obtained over £200 from the Society's funds, without authority.

FIJI'S COST OF LIVING AT NEW RECORD

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, April 9.

THE Labour Department's scale of cost-of-living of Indian workmen which is published quarterly, is not really needed to rub in the fact that Fiji's cost of living is still soaring to previously unknown heights.

However, it is useful to be told, officially, that on April 1, the index number was 210 for Suva and 237 for Viti Levu, excluding Suva. In each case the figure is a record.

It means that the cost-of-living of Indian workmen in Suva is now 110 per cent. above 1939, and 137 per cent. above 1939 in the areas outside Suva.

Search for Oil in Papua Is Continuing

THE APC party in Papua, having ceased to bore for oil at Kariava after drilling to a depth of 12,621 feet (nearly 2½ miles), was engaged in April in retrieving the casing from the deep bore. New sites for drilling have been selected at Hohoro, Upoia and Orio, and preparatory construction work is proceeding at those points.

N. CALEDONIA'S TRADE AND COMMERCE FOR 1947

NEW CALEDONIA'S exports during the year 1947 were as follows:—

	Tons	Value. (In Francs)
Trochus	1,179	19,134,000
Chrome	43,754	46,709,000
Nickel mattes	1,500	44,677,000
Coffee	1,224	34,418,000
Copra	828	6,617,000
Skins	400	4,542,000
Essence of Niaux	41	7,842,000
Other goods	4,086	28,876,000

Principal purchasing countries were:— France, to the value of 135,214,000 francs; French Colonies, 15,478,000 francs; the USA, 21,140,000 francs; and Australia, 17,142,000 francs.

PRODUCTION of minerals for the year was as follows:—

Nickel matte	1,782 tons
Chrome	95,570 "
Nickel	50,530 "
Gypsum	2,705 "

If New Caledonia could increase her chrome output it would enable the USA to buy less chrome from Soviet Russia. Last year US imports from the USSR were about 54 per cent. of her total chrome imports. In New Caledonia the labour supply for the mines is a major difficulty. Once this is increased, the industry will expand.

LIFE OF LATE SIR HUBERT MURRAY

AN authoritative, factual and very interesting account of the life of the late Sir Hubert Murray, Lieutenant-Governor of Papua, was given to the Royal Australian Historical Society on April 27 by Mr. Lewis Lett.

During many years, Mr. Lett was a close personal friend of Sir Hubert, and he undertook many commissions for the Administrator. No one is better qualified to tell the story of the career of that distinguished man. It is time, as a matter of fact, that a book was written on the subject, because the Murray era in Papua was unique, and adds much to administration; and we understand that Mr. Lett is now engaged upon this work.

FIJIAN SOCIETIES BUILD CULTURAL CENTRE IN SUVA

A NEW Fijian centre, built, designed and furnished by Fijians, has been opened in Suva.

It was carried out for the Young Fijian Society and the associated Fijian women's society, Mata-ni-siga. The centre consists of a large modern hall with a stage as well as a boarding establishment which will house 40 Fijians who are without permanent homes in Suva. The executive offices of the two societies are also housed in the building.

The architect was Tomasi Tawake, and the contractor Aporosa Tunitoga of Kadavu.

SAMOA'S NEW ASSEMBLY

Official Opening By NZ Prime Minister

THE New Zealand Prime Minister, Mr. Frazer, who was supported by a party of members of Parliament and Government officials, formally opened the first session of the Legislative Assembly of Western Samoa.

The Assembly takes the place of the old Legislative Council, and its constitution is described by New Zealand as a new step forward in the gradual process of conferring self-government upon the Samoans.

The Assembly is composed of the Administrator, who acts as president; the three Fautua (leading chiefs of Samoa); 11 members nominated by the Fono of Faipule (an advisory body representing the common people of Samoa); five representatives of the European community, elected under adult suffrage; and six official members (mostly heads of departments).

The five Europeans, who were elected at the end of April, are: E. F. Paul, J. Helg, G. D. F. Betham, A. Stowers, W. Stowers. They really represent the Euro-nesian community of about 5,000, who have the status of Europeans. There are only about 200 full Europeans now remaining in Western Samoa. Voting was:

ELECTED	
Eugene F. Paul (UCP)	568
Jacob Helg (UCP)	510
Fred Betham (UCP)	468
Amando Stowers (Lab.)	436
Willie Stowers (UCP)	383

NOT ELECTED	
A. M. Gurau (Lab.)	342
Sammy Meredith (UCP)	330
Emil Fabricius (Lab.)	226
G. J. Pritchard (Lab.)	129
P. L. M. Morgan (Ind.)	118
D. Crichton (Lab.)	75

Native NG Servicemen Share Aust. Gratuity Benefits

THE Australian Parliamentary Subcommittee on War Gratuities, which has been deliberating for some time, has decided that New Guinea native Servicemen, as well as Australian, should share in the more liberal terms which they propose for the payment of gratuities.

The Committee's report was tabled in the House of Representatives in Canberra in May. A rate of 5/- for each month of service is proposed for each native Serviceman, the gratuity to be payable in March 1951, or earlier, in special cases.

The gratuity for natives who have died will be paid in accordance with native custom.

SAMOAN COPRA GOES UP AGAIN

From Our Own Correspondent

APIA, April 8. THE price paid for Samoan copra, by the British Ministry of Food, f.o.b. Apia, has now reached the record price of £55/19/4 (NZ currency).

The purchase price to native producers throughout the Territory has been adjusted accordingly.

AUSTRALIAN INSULT TO POLYNESIANS

NZ Takes Up Defence Of the Maoris

IN the Canberra Parliament, at the end of April, Mr. Gullett, Liberal, asked the Australian Government for some information on the way in which the White Australia Policy was being enforced.

He said that recently a Tongan woman married to an Englishman was ordered to leave Australia. An Australian woman married to a Maori soldier wanted to bring him to Australia from New Zealand, and he asked whether the Maori was a prohibited immigrant.

The Australian Minister for Immigration, Mr. Calwell, said the Maori would not be allowed to settle in Australia. The rule generally was the same for Tongans as for all other Polynesians.

This was immediately cabled to New Zealand, and it brought a very angry and indignant comment from the NZ Prime Minister, Mr. Fraser, who said that Maoris were equal in all respects with New Zealanders of European descent. He added, "Any discrimination against our Maori fellow citizens will be indignantly and bitterly resented as an unforgivable insult to our country and to every one of us."

The matter was again raised in the Australian Parliament on May 5. The same Minister (Calwell) said that the NZ High Commissioner in Australia had taken up the matter with him; and a long explanatory letter had now been written by his Department for the Prime Minister of New Zealand. He did not indicate that the Australian attitude had been relaxed in any way.

It was later disclosed, however, that the Australian ban on Maoris has been completely removed.

The "Sydney Morning Herald," on May 6, condemned Mr. Calwell's attempt to apply his regulations to Maoris.

EDITORIAL NOTE

What the newspaper properly says about Maoris necessarily applies to all Polynesians and near Polynesians—Maoris, Samoans, Tongans, Tahitians, Hawaiians, Fijians, Gilbertese, Nauruans. It is indeed unthinkable that these people, with whom we have lived in terms of friendship and mutual trust for 100 years, and with whom we are racially akin (there is a lot of Aryan in the Polynesian) should be debarred from the shores where, hitherto, they always have been welcome.

The fault does not lie with the White Australia Policy, which was designed and implemented to keep out of empty Australia the countless millions of overcrowded Asia. It lies entirely with the interpretation of that policy by the Minister (Mr. Calwell).

There are thousands of part-Polynesians married to Europeans, and living in Australia as honoured and respected citizens. Australia's doors always have been open to Islands natives, generally, and that hospitality has never been abused; and they will be open in the future, long after the Australian Socialist Government, with its quaint eruption of Wards and Calwells and what-not, has been wiped out and buried by the indignant electorate.

It is to be hoped that the NZ Prime Minister will become the champion of the Polynesians in this matter. The Samoans and the Cook Islanders, who are the direct responsibility of NZ, are just as much entitled to consideration as are their cousins, the Maoris.

SHIPPING CONTROL

New Guinea Services Restored To The Owners

From Our Own Correspondent

PT. MORESBY, May 6. IT was announced last week that the Commonwealth Directorate of Shipping has relinquished control of ships on the Australian-New Guinea run.

The first reaction of those of us here who know how the service has deteriorated was one of mild rejoicing, for the Directorate has received most of the blame for the crudities of Island travel since the war. The Directorate, however, has replied that the agents, and not the Directorate, has been responsible for the details of the accommodation on the ships.

Now, however, Territorians are wondering whether it might not have been better for the Directorate to have retained control. Simultaneously with the change-over, the fare from Sydney to Port Moresby was raised from £21/10/- to £25—and the prompt 14 per cent. increase has not been at all favourably received.

Trans Oceanic Plane Forced Down In American Samoa

A SUNDERLAND flying-boat, belonging to Trans Oceanic Airways, of Sydney, when on a charter flight from Tahiti to Western Samoa, was forced down by engine trouble on the lagoon at the western end of the island of Tau, in the Manua Group, American Samoa, on May 4. It came to no harm, repairs were effected by the crew, and the plane got away again, to Apia, two days later.

The plane left Sydney on April 18, for Noumea, Suva, Apia and Tahiti, on a charter flight connected with a film enterprise. It carried a crew of six, and among 17 passengers were half a dozen, or more, round-trip tourists. The Administrator of Western Samoa, Lieut.-Colonel F. W. Voelcker, joined the plane in Apia, for Tahiti, and was returning in it to Apia when the mishap occurred. Captain Brian Monckton, managing director of Trans Oceanic Airways, was in charge of the plane.

The Americans at Pago Pago sent a naval vessel at once to the aid of the plane, and that vessel took the passengers from Tau to Apia, where the plane, after resuming its flight, picked them up.

US-AUSTRALIAN DEAL IN N. GUINEA

Surplus War Equipment Purchased for 1½ Million Dollars

THE Australian Government recently completed a deal with the United States for the purchase of the remaining American equipment and war stores in Manus and other US bases in Papua-New Guinea.

It is understood that Australia will pay America £387,000 and that the equipment includes a pipeline, various buildings, small-craft and stores.

Much of the material bought is at Manus, where the Americans spent an enormous sum on an air and sea base and which Australia plans to carry on

TO CO-ORDINATE ADMINISTRATION IN SOUTH PACIFIC

Six-Nations Commission Opens Sessions In Sydney

THE South Pacific Commission, constituted by six nations (Great Britain, France, United States, Holland, Australia and New Zealand) held its first meetings at St. Georges Heights, Mosman, Sydney, commencing on May 11.

The plan for the Commission developed as a result of the Anzac Agreement, made between Australia and New Zealand, in 1944. It was the conception of Dr. H. V. Evatt, Australian Minister for External Affairs, supported by Mr. Peter Fraser, Prime Minister of New Zealand.

THE next step was taken when a Conference was held in Canberra in January, 1947, and delegates of the six nations named decided unanimously to set up the Commission. A good deal of delay occurred then—probably the result of disturbed international relations—but finally the Commission was constituted as follows:—

Great Britain.—Sir Brian Freeston, KCMG, Governor of Fiji and High Commissioner for the Western Pacific; and Mr. S. S. Vaskess, CMG, OBE, former Secretary of the Western Pacific High Commission.

United States.—Professor Felix Keesing, of Stanford University; Dr. Karl Leebrik, vice-president of the Hawaii University; Mr. Milton Shalleck, of New York; and Dr. Ruth E. Bacon, special assistant to the directors of the Office of Far Eastern Affairs, Washington.

France.—M. Jacques Lassalle-Sere, Inspector-General of Colonies for Noumea; and M. Georges Dubois, of Noumea.

Australia.—Mr. J. R. Halligan, secretary of the Department of External Territories; Dr. J. W. Burton, formerly general secretary of the Methodist Missionary Society. Alternate Commissioners: Colonel J. K. Murray, Administrator of Papua-New Guinea; Mr. E. W. P. Chinnery, anthropologist, formerly a senior public servant in New Guinea.

Holland.—Pending the arrival of the delegation, Dr. J. A. de Ranitz, of the Dutch Legation at Canberra, was present. The delegation comprised: Mr. E. G. Bevers Luis; Mr. J. P. K. Echout; Mr. M. A. Pellapessy; and Dr. W. C. Klein; with Mr. Kayardo and Dr. A. Loosjes as advisers.

New Zealand: Mr. C. G. R. McKay (formerly secretary of the NZ Department of Islands Territories) and Brigadier F. L. Hunt (who has had administrative experience in the Islands).

Sydney was decided upon in January, 1947, as the temporary headquarters of the Commission, after the rival claims of Port Moresby and Suva had been debated, and it was intended that a final decision regarding this and other matters should be made within six months. Colonel John Kerr was appointed temporary organising-secretary, and accommodation for the Commission was provided at the School of Tropical Administration, St. Georges Heights, near Mosman, in Sydney. But sixteen instead of six months have elapsed since then. The nations have been so preoccupied with international crises that they have had little time for consideration of the more-or-less academic affairs of the South Pacific.

Formal Opening

THE formal, official opening of the commission's sessions took place on May 11, at St. Georges Heights.

When the delegates assembled, the meeting was called to order by the Organising Secretary of the Interim Organisation, Colonel John Kerr. He was assisted, in the interim organising work, by Mr. Raymond Watt.

The chair was taken by the senior Aus-

tralian Commissioner, Mr. J. R. Halligan.

An address of welcome was given by the Rt. Hon. H. V. Evatt, PC, MP, Australian Minister for External Affairs. He was greeted warmly, as the originator of the plan for a Commission. He briefly outlined the history of the movement, which had commenced while World War II was actually in progress. Their object was to pool their administrative experience and ideas, for the benefit of the large numbers of native people who lived in the Islands under their care. He said the Australian Government would assign one full-time Commissioner to the work of the new organisation. "Here" he concluded, "in this new Commission, is one

The SPC, on May 14, decided that Noumea or Suva should be headquarters. A Committee will investigate rival claims of the two cities.

practical expression of international co-operation and goodwill, to function in a world that is literally crying out for co-operation and goodwill."

A goodwill message from Mr. Fraser, Prime Minister for New Zealand, referred to the high purpose of the Commission. As evidence of its possibilities, he spoke of the way in which New Zealand had co-operated with the Government of Fiji in creating a far-reaching health organisation in that part of the Pacific. Through the Commissioner similar co-operation could be extended to education, agriculture, transport, and so forth. He said that it had been clear, for a long time, that such problems of administration could best be solved by joint action; and he paid a tribute to other nations—especially the United States—for their readiness to co-operate in this plan.

Sir Brian Freeston said that, in his view, the basic object of the Commission was to reconcile economic and cultural unity with the political structure in the South Pacific, and yet not intrude upon the political authority and control exercised by the six constituent governments in their respective areas.

Professor Keesing, for the United States group, expressed full support of the high purposes of the Commission, and paid warm tribute to the Governments of Australia and New Zealand for bringing the Commission into existence. The United States was already participating, with France, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom, in the Caribbean Commission, thus demonstrating its sense of the importance of this type of international co-operation on a regional basis.

"Our immediate agenda must of necessity concern itself primarily with organisational problems," said Professor Keesing. "It is essential that the Commission, both for its own effective work and to inspire public confidence, should bring into existence as rapidly as possible its administrative, research, and consultative instrumentalities."

"Amid the onerous problems of or-

ganisation, however, sight must never be lost of the ends to which these tasks are the means. This Commission is charged with serious and difficult tasks relating to international co-operation and human welfare. We are concerned, not just with a set of workpapers, but with the island populations who are to be helped to work out their economic and social destinies in a world which can no longer pass them by. The best of technical know-how and scientific research must be focussed upon the problems falling within our scope. Furthermore the peoples themselves must be drawn into creative tasks, such as by way of the South Pacific Conference."

Brief, cordial speeches, assuring the Commission of goodwill and co-operation, were made by the Commissioners representing France, New Zealand and Holland.

The proceedings, which lasted 40 minutes, then terminated. The remainder of the sessions were held in private. The delegates applied themselves immediately to such matters as the selection of a site for headquarters; the appointment of officers; general organisation; and "measures to contribute to the economic, social and educational advancement of the South Pacific peoples."

Sessions were still in progress when this journal went to press.

Another New Governor For N. Caledonia!

GOVERNOR-GENERAL COURNARIE, the new Governor of New Caledonia (where he succeeds M. Parisot), is on his way out from France and is expected to reach Noumea shortly. He left Marseilles in March.

M. Cournarie was one of the African officials who rallied to Free France. He will meet an old friend of his African days in M. Henri Sautot, former Governor of New Caledonia and of Ubangui-Chari in Central Africa, who is now Mayor of Noumea.

Governor-General Parisot, who replaced Governor Tallec, has been in New Caledonia less than 18 months. He was appointed in December, 1946, but did not reach the Colony until some time later.

In recent years a new Governor for New Caledonia has been almost a yearly event.

INVESTITURE AT PORT MORESBY

AT Government House, Port Moresby, on April 13, the Administrator (Colonel J. K. Murray) invested Squadron-Leader D. J. Sullivan with the Distinguished Service Order.

The citation, which was read by Wing-Commander Townsend, of the RAAF Station, Port Moresby, referred to Squadron-Leader Sullivan's work in heavy-bomber raids on German targets.

"Des," as he is known to most of the people in Moresby, joined the Administration after the war, as a clerk, and is now Chief Clerk in the Department of District Services and Native Affairs.

Besides the DSO he holds the DFC and other honours.

DISABLED SHIP IN FIJI WATERS

THE British phosphate vessel "Langlee Gale" which lost a screw about 1,000 miles north of Fiji, was in early May, towed to Suva by the Norwegian tanker "Lilford."

The "Lilford," answered a call for help sent out by the "Langlee Gale," which is a 6,000 ton vessel owned by the Medomsley Steam Shipping Company of London and under charter to the BPC.

GOLD-SEEKERS DISAPPOINTED

New NG Field Now Called A "Washout"

LATEST advices from New Guinea indicate that the so-called gold discovery in Central New Guinea, near Wabag, is a complete "wash-out."

Various persons interested, including the Leahy Brothers, are believed to have gone into the area from Mount Hagen in late March or in April, and have returned with the report that the gold-bearing area is small, and not rich.

One man has remained in there, working the known deposits, but he is faced with a serious problem of supply. He apparently will have to depend on supplies parachuted from planes. It is said of him that "he will be lucky to make enough to pay costs."

It was originally proposed that permits to enter the uncontrolled areas westward of Mount Hagen should be issued on April 1. Then, for administrative reasons, this date was postponed to May 1.

Meanwhile, it was reported, the prospectors had gathered at Mount Hagen. They were supposed to include the brothers Leahy, Mr. John Black (who resigned his position in the public service in order, it is supposed, to follow up the gold discoveries he and Taylor made in the Taylor-Black expedition of 1938), members of a Bulolo Gold Dredging party, and others.

It was also stated that the Director of Health, Dr. Gunther, and other officials directly interested in the wellbeing of the natives, were in the Mount Hagen district, and were making careful inquiries to ascertain what measures would be needed to protect the natives in the event of a gold rush.

Next development was the report, late in April, that some men had gone in without a permit and were deeply disappointed at the poor prospects they found. The Administrator, Colonel J. K. Murray, then stated publicly that the latest information did not bear out the report of a rich gold find.

THE Government Secretary (Melrose) on May 3 said that no date had yet been fixed for the issue of permits to enter the controlled area west of New Guinea, in which gold has been found. At or about May 1 had been fixed, but had later been cancelled.

It is believed that the discovery was not supported when it was found. The Department that there was a dysentery epidemic spread in the area concerned, and when the discovery was not supported, the trial was taken when it was found. The Administrator told the in Sydney that all the information had to last not support the report of a before the field having been found west not guilty Hagen.

The "wash-out" story is accepted by fact that Mr. Black, regarded as a man of good judgment, resigned his Service in order to go back gold-breach to the region that he formerly ex- by requires some explanation. Histories disbelievers also say that persons are "on" to rich gold, and want to encourage a rush, will unhesitatingly report of failure into circulation, and will direct gold-seekers to the "real" area.

It is stated that the BGD party is pursuing Mr. Black's elusive find, but out on a general search for gold-bearing country, not necessarily high-grade, as which the BGD dredges can be traced out when the Bulolo flats are worked out.

TOURIST OFFICE ESTABLISHED AT NADI

THE Fiji Publicity Board is to establish an information centre at Nadi in the port.

Mr. R. A. Howlett, of the Fiji Public Relations Office, has been seconded to the Board by the Government of Fiji and will be stationed at Nadi, where he will be in charge of the new office. In addition to providing general information about the Colony, Mr. Howlett will help to make travel and accommodation arrangements for tourists arriving by air.

TIMBER

Trial

Bulolo Valley, New Guinea; that Garden assisted Parer's application; that Garden, Garden Jr., Parer and Farrell formed a syndicate to sell these leases to an Australian timber firm, Hancock and Gore, for £100,000; that the firm, believing that the leases had been granted, paid out £50,000 to the syndicate; that the basis of the firm's belief was a letter signed "E. J. Ward, per J. S. Garden," dated November 20, 1945; that Ward denies that he ever approved of such a lease being granted, and that he at no time authorised Garden to write such a letter; and that Garden interfered with correspondence between the firm and Ward when the firm became anxious about its rights and approached the Minister direct. All these events extended over the years 1944-47.

The Crown Prosecutor, in opening this present case, said he understood that Garden would say in his defence that he had Mr. Ward's authority to write the letter of November 20, 1945, and that Mr. Ward had acted on receiving a bribe of £5,000.

The Minister for Territories, Mr. Ward, was in the witness box on May 7, 10 and 11, and for part of the time he was under gruelling cross-examination, relating mostly to his relationship with Garden.

THE hearing became more sensational after the Crown case was concluded, on May 12.

The judge stated that he would direct the jury to acquit Garden of the first two charges, arising out of the letter of November 20, 1945. His Honor evidently took the view that, whatever else the letter was, it was not forgery or falsification. The trial of Garden on the third charge continued.

Garden, on May 13, gave evidence that Ward was a member of the syndicate and that Harcourt Garden "dummied" for him; that Ward was a party to negotiations between the syndicate and Hancock and Gore; that Ward was to get 20 per cent. of the amount paid by Hancock and Gore, which was expected to be between £75,000 and £100,000; that all that had been done had been done with Ward's knowledge and approval.

The hearing was proceeding when this journal went to press.

PASSENGERS ON APRIL "MONTERO"



Some of the passengers who left Sydney in the SS "Montoro" in April for Papua-New Guinea:—

(TOP): Mrs. K. Roberts, of Port Moresby, and Mrs. G. C. Smith, of Kaitaki, returning after holidaying in Australia. Mr. A. Wallace, who was going to Morobe goldfields area. Mrs. R. Duncan, of Bulolo. Joan Duncan. Mrs. M. Wilson, whose husband is with Bulolo Gold Dredging. Judith Wilson.

(LOWER): Mr. R. Matchem, who was on his way to Edie Creek. Mr. F. B. Godson, of Itikinumu Plantation, returning after a holiday in Australia. Mrs. R. M. Kelly, who will visit her daughter, Mrs. C. D. Lega, of Bulolo. Mrs. C. D. Lega. Janice and Susan Lega (with doll). Mrs. L. A. Gilmore and son Bruce, of Lae.

THE FIJI £ TO CO-ORDINATE ADMINISTRATION SOUTH PACIFIC Six-Nations Commission Opens In Sydney

THE South Pacific Commission, constituted by six nations—France, United States, Holland, Australia and New Zealand—opened its first meetings at St. Georges Heights, Mosman, May 11.

The plan for the Commission developed a 25 per cent. under sterling, all but dismembered in a tug-of-war between the Australasian banks, which wanted it to go down to the Australian level, and the Government, which wanted to maintain it on local advice the Government took the middle course of a devaluation of 10 per cent.—mainly to help the export of copra and of the boot is on the other foot, which is booming while the cost of living was begun to frighten even the strongest exporters.

THE next step was taken when a Conference was held in Canberra in January, 1947, and delegates of the six nations named decided unanimously to set up the Commission. A good deal of delay occurred then—probably the result of disturbed international relations—but finally the Commission was constituted as follows:—

Great Britain.—Sir Brian Freeston, KCMG, Governor of Fiji and High Commissioner for the Western Pacific; and Mr. S. S. Vaskess, CMG, OBE, former Secretary of the Western Pacific High Commission.

United States.—Professor Felix Keesing, of Stanford University; Dr. Karl Leebrik, vice-president of the Hawaii University; Mr. Milton Shalleck, of New York; and Dr. Ruth E. Bacon, special assistant to the directors of the Office of Far Eastern Affairs, Washington.

France.—M. Jacques Lassalle-Sere, Inspector-General of Colonies for Noumea; and M. Georges Dubois, of Noumea.

Australia.—Mr. J. R. Halligan, secretary of the Department of External Territories; Dr. J. W. Burton, formerly general secretary of the Methodist Missionary Society. Alternate Commissioners: Colonel J. K. Murray, Administrator of Papua-New Guinea; Mr. E. W. P. Chinnery, anthropologist, formerly a senior public servant in New Guinea.

Holland.—Pending the arrival of the delegation, Dr. J. A. de Ranitz, of the Dutch Legation at Canberra, was present. The delegation comprised: Mr. E. G. Bevers, Luis; Mr. J. P. K. Echout; Mr. M. A. Pellapessy; and Dr. W. C. Klein; with Mr. Kayardo and Dr. A. Loosjes as advisers.

New Zealand.—Mr. C. G. R. McKay (formerly secretary of the NZ Department of Islands Territories) and Brigadier F. L. Hunt (who has extensive administrative experience).



Among passengers who left Sydney on the SS "Montoro" on April 9 were:—

(TOP): Mr. J. W. Lukin and sons Brian and Peter, returning to Port Moresby after three months in Australia. Mrs. F. J. English, returning to Port Moresby. Mrs. W. R. Humphries, also returning to Port Moresby, after five months in Australia. Mrs. J. Hunter, returning to Wau, after a holiday in Australia.

(CENTRE): Mrs. A. J. May, wife of Dr. May, Moresby's medical officer, returning after a holiday in Australia. Mrs. P. H. Abbott, who will visit the W. G. Royals in New Guinea. Mrs. R. Brearley, who will visit Mrs. C. Reason, of Cape Rigney, near Madang. Mr. P. H. Abbott (see Mrs. Abbott, above).

(LOWER): Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Wood, returning to Port Moresby, after leave. Mrs. L. E. Martin, who returned to Port Moresby. Mrs. E. Martyn, to visit the E. J. Wauchopes at Madang. Mrs. D. O'Connor and Patty, returning to Port Moresby.

DIPHTHERIA IN PORT MORESBY

PT. MORESBY, May 2. IN a broadcast to the people of Papua-New Guinea, the Director of Public Health (Dr. John Gunther) to-day announced that diphtheria had broken out in Papua. Two children had died, he said, and others were in hospital. Cases had been reported from the Moresby, Abau and Samarai areas.

Explaining that diphtheria was unusual in the tropics, and had not, to his knowledge, been previously found in these areas, Dr. Gunther said that some places were without the appropriate serums for the treatment of the disease, or for immunisation from it. Supplies would be distributed from Port Moresby as soon as possible, he added.

Dr. Gunther then announced plans for the immunisation of children in the Moresby area. He urged all parents to have children immunised immediately, and to report sore throats without delay.

NEW GUINEA COCOA

AUSTRALIAN confectionery manufacturing firms are taking a keener interest in the production of cocoa beans in New Guinea, since it became difficult to obtain supplies from other parts of the world. Some of these firms, prior to 1939, were doing what they could to assist the New Guinea industry, and one of these was Mac Robertsons, Ltd., of Argyle Street, Fitzroy, Melbourne.

A high executive of that company, writing to the "PIM," says, "We would appreciate at any time your putting us in touch with growers of cocoa in the Territory. Although, owing to controls, it is a little difficult at present to deal direct with the grower, we may be able to make some useful contacts."

New Guinea growers who wish to develop cocoa-production should write direct to Mac Robertsons.

BANK OF NSW REOPENS IN RABAU

THE Rabaul Branch of the Bank of New South Wales, which was closed when invasion threatened New Britain in early 1942, reopened on May 10.

This will be a great convenience to residents of the District, the majority of whom have been Bank of NSW customers for years.

Mr. E. H. S. Hill is manager of the branch.

COSMOPOLITAN HOTEL, RABAU

IT is notified in the Papua-New Guinea Gazette that the publican's license held by Mr. P. F. Bailey, for the Cosmopolitan Hotel, Rabaul, is being transferred to Cosmopolitan Trading Co. Ltd.; and that Miss Dorothy Stewart, as hotel manageress, will represent the Co. in conducting the licensed premises.

ADDRESSES SOUGHT

ANYONE who may know anything of the fate of Arnold Davies, formerly of Wewak, New Guinea, is asked to communicate with L. F. D. Carter, storekeeper, Marawah, Tasmania. Mr. Carter, and his friend, "Blue" Horton, are trying to trace Mr. Davies; and they also seek the present address of Ken Nettleship, who was a Customs official in New Guinea before the war, and who was taken prisoner in Greece early in World War II.

NO PROGRESS

Dutch and 'Republicans' At Impasse in Java

LITTLE progress has been made in political discussions in the Netherlands Indies—or Indonesia, as it is most frequently, but erroneously, called. The Dutch would have cleared up the situation there long ago, had it not been for the persistent interference of a section of the United Nations.

The prime mover against the Dutch has been Australia. Australia's policy—in relation to Indonesia at any rate—has been dictated by the Waterside Workers' Federation, a strongly Communist organisation which went to the length of tying up Dutch ships in Australian ports. Finally, an Australian judge headed a small Commission which went from the United Nations to Java, and induced the Dutch to cease their military measures against the so-called "Republicans" (a Javanese rebel set-up organised by the Japs before they were defeated) and engage in conversations.

ON May 4, the following statement was issued by the Netherlands Information Bureau, in Melbourne:

So far, no progress whatever has been made on important issues during the Dutch-Republican negotiations now being held at Djocjakarta, under the auspices of the UN Good Offices Committee.

Although it is not considered that a deadlock has been reached, it is difficult to see what purpose can be served by further negotiations, unless one side or other makes concessions on points of principle.

The main stumbling block is the question whether or not a plebiscite will have to be held in the territories under Republican authority. The Renville agreement stipulates that after a period of not less than six months, or not more than a year after the signing of the agreement for the settlement of the political dispute in the islands of Java, Sumatra and Madoera, "free elections will be held for self-determination by the people of their political relationship to the United States of Indonesia."

The Republic now contends that the elections should not be held in Republican territory, but only in those parts of Java, Sumatra and Madoera which are occupied by the Dutch.

The Netherlands delegation considers free expression by the population, made under conditions of complete peace and security, an essential condition for the healthy construction of the future United States of Indonesia. Self-determination is one of the most important points of the Linggardjati Agreement.

THERE is political trouble only in Java. In all other parts of the Netherlands Indies the Dutch or Indo-Dutch Administration is in full control, and the whole vast Territory is moving steadily towards the consummation of the plan for forming the United States of Indonesia.

Meanwhile, the Territory as a whole is making increasingly rapid progress in rehabilitation and economic development, and the overall position is improving every month.

There is great interest in Indonesia (and in other places) in an article by Australia's "Foreign Minister," Dr. Evatt, published in the "New York Times" of April 4, wherein he says: "The best solution, for the time being at least, would be some arrangement, which would give

a complete or considerable self-government to the native populations, while permitting a continued Dutch participation in the political and economic development of these regions."

N. GUINEA TIMBER CASES

J. S. Garden on Trial

THE trial of Mr. J. S. Garden, in what are called the "New Guinea Timber Lease Cases," commenced in Sydney on May 4, and was expected to last nearly two weeks. Garden, before the Quarter Sessions, has pleaded not guilty to—

- Having forged a letter issuable by the Department of External Territories at Sydney, on November 20, 1945.

- Having fraudulently and in breach of his duty falsified a letter issuable by the Department of External Territories at Sydney, on November 20, 1945.

- Having forged a letter, dated November 10, 1947, deliverable to the Department of External Territories, and addressed to the Minister for External Territories, Commonwealth Bank Building, Martin Place, and signed H. G. Foreshaw.

In the first few days, the evidence was simply a repetition of that given in the lower court, and fully reported some three months ago. It was expected, however, that there would be "fireworks" when Garden entered upon his defence.

Another trial will follow this one. In the next one, J. S. Garden, Harcourt Garden, Ray Parer and Farrell will face a series of charges (arising out of the same circumstances) alleging that they conspired to defraud a Queensland timber firm of £50,000.

Garden, one of the most prominent Leftist Labour politicians in Australia, had been very closely associated with Mr. E. J. Ward—first, in politics; and, later, when Mr. Ward became a Labour Minister, departmentally. He was an official in Ward's Department of Labour. He had no official standing in the Department of External Territories, but he was in close contact with the Minister—his office, in the Commonwealth Bank, was alongside Ward's.

It is alleged that in 1944-45, Ray Parer, well-known as a New Guinea pioneer aviator, applied for timber leases in the

Bulolo Valley, New Guinea; that Garden assisted Parer's application; that Garden, Garden Jr., Parer and Farrell formed a syndicate to sell these leases to an Australian timber firm, Hancock and Gore, for £100,000; that the firm, believing that the leases had been granted, paid out £50,000 to the syndicate; that the basis of the firm's belief was a letter signed "E. J. Ward, per J. S. Garden," dated November 20, 1945; that Ward denies that he ever approved of such a lease being granted, and that he at no time authorised Garden to write such a letter; and that Garden interfered with correspondence between the firm and Ward when the firm became anxious about its rights and approached the Minister direct. All these events extended over the years 1944-47.

The Crown Prosecutor, in opening this present case, said he understood that Garden would say in his defence that he had Mr. Ward's authority to write the letter of November 20, 1945, and that Mr. Ward had acted on receiving a bribe of £5,000.

The Minister for Territories, Mr. Ward, was in the witness box on May 7, 10 and 11, and for part of the time he was under gruelling cross-examination, relating mostly to his relationship with Garden.

THE hearing became more sensational after the Crown case was concluded, on May 12.

The judge stated that he would direct the jury to acquit Garden of the first two charges, arising out of the letter of November 20, 1945. His Honor evidently took the view that, whatever else the letter was, it was not forgery or falsification. The trial of Garden on the third charge continued.

Garden, on May 13, gave evidence that Ward was a member of the syndicate and that Harcourt Garden "dummied" for him; that Ward was a party to negotiations between the syndicate and Hancock and Gore; that Ward was to get 20 per cent. of the amount paid by Hancock and Gore, which was expected to be between £75,000 and £100,000; that all that had been done had been done with Ward's knowledge and approval.

The hearing was proceeding when this journal went to press.

A second artist to arrive in Noumea from France in recent weeks is **M. Charles Demangeot**. He has already exhibited some of his works.

OTHER "MONTORO" TRAVELLERS

(TOP): Mr. F. B. Gunnarsson Hagman, of Sweden, has recently completed a visit to Norway and Scotland; he will now work for Burns Philp, in Port Moresby. Mr. S. Bradford, of Bulolo, who has been on leave in Australia, Miss Lurleen Hill, of Aiyura, NG, who has been in Australia.

(LOWER): Mrs. F. W. O'Hara and Caroline, of Bulolo, New Guinea. Mrs. G. Shutt, also of Bulolo, NG, who has been in Australia. Miss June Ninnes, who will visit her family in Port Moresby.



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37 Killed in NG Air Tragedy

Canberra Howls About "Natives As Air Freight"

WHEN a Lockheed Hudson plane, under charter to New Guinea Air Traders, crashed shortly after leaving Lae, New Guinea, on April 18, 37 people were killed. This is the biggest air fatality New Guinea has ever had.

Four of the men killed were crew members; the remainder were native labourers being transported to the gold-fields.

Subsequently, it has been found that the plane was not licensed for passengers and that the natives were being carried as freight. This has roused certain Australian Ministers and officials to a frenzy of statements and protestations. Mr. Ward has stated that no aircraft has Government approval to carry natives as freight, and that there would be an immediate investigation to see whether this had been permitted by Civil Aviation officials.

The fact that the natives were not provided with safety-belts has also caused a storm of disapproval. As the plane burst into flames immediately on hitting the ground, it would be interesting to know how safety-belts would have helped matters.

It is obvious that Mr. Ward and other departmental heads feel that it is necessary to find some scape-goat; but while

there may have been negligence on the part of someone connected with the tragedy, it is futile to blame it on the fact that the natives were not provided with seating accommodation, like regular airline patrons.

Air-accidents in New Guinea, it will be noted, have not been fewer in the post-war period, when many more commercial flying regulations have been introduced. Before the war, New Guinea's record for air-safety, in spite of the climate and geographical hazards, was unique.

It has always been the custom in New Guinea to carry native labourers as air-freight. It is obvious that if they had had to be paid for at full rates, few, if any, would have been transported in this way and the majority would have been required to walk.

As far as this goes, most Europeans who travelled by air were also virtually regarded as freight, in that they sat in a transport-plane on their gear and took what was coming to them. They were glad to do this, lack of seats and safety belts notwithstanding.

The only real difference between the service given them and that given natives was that while they paid several pounds for the privilege of travelling thus, natives were weighed and charged for at the rate of 3d. per pound.

A spokesman for Air Traders has denied that the plane was overloaded. He said that newly indentured New Guinea natives averaged about 100 pounds in weight each, and that total weight of crew and natives was well within the limit allowed the Lockheed Hudson.

New RC Bishop for Pacific

The Most Rev. J. D. Lehman of Sertei (Cook Is.)

THE Cook Islands Roman Catholic Mission has now been elevated to the status of Vicariate Apostolic. Its first Bishop is the Most Rev. John David Lehman, DD, who has served there for the past 33 years. Bishop Lehman was consecrated titular Bishop of Sertei in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Auckland, on April 18.

There was a large congregation at the ceremony, including many Cook Islanders, and representatives of the New Zealand Government and Department of Islands Territories.

Bishop Lehman is a Dutchman. He is a member of the Picpus Fathers and his territory, which he has served so long, comprises islands scattered over hundreds of square miles of tropical ocean.

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Public Notice

EDWIN GEORGE DAWSON (or George Dawson) and JACK DAWSON (or John Dawson).

Will anyone knowing the whereabouts or having any information as to the above-named sons of the late John Dawson and Rachel Ann Dawson (formerly Barker), late of Mansfield and Woods Point, Victoria, and one-time of Toluse, Victoria, and Broken Hill, New South Wales, please communicate with the under-mentioned solicitors.

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42 St. George's Terrace, Perth, Western Australia.

TO PAPUA-N. GUINEA BY SEA

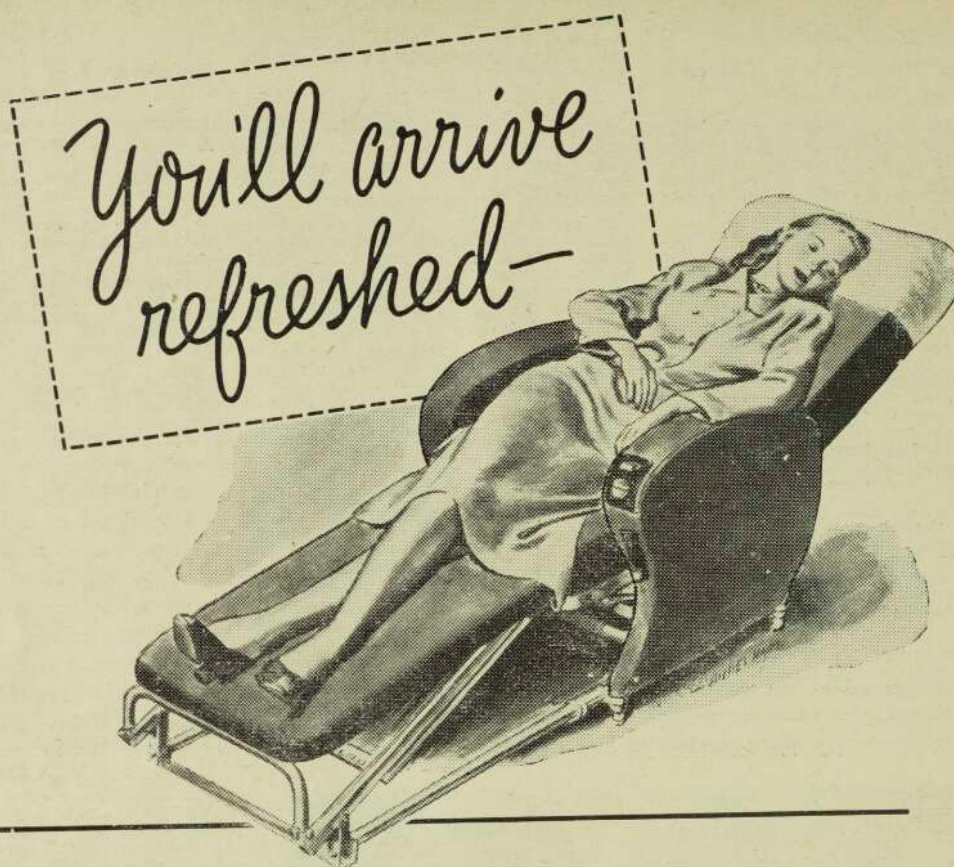


These passengers left Sydney by SS "Montoro" on April 16 for Papua-New Guinea ports:—

(TOP): Mr. J. H. McDonald, Assistant Director of District Services for Papua-New Guinea. Miss D. M. Maclean, who went to Madang. Mr. A. W. Courtney, to take up a position in Port Moresby. Mrs. C. A. Rigby, returning to Port Moresby, after three months' holiday in Australia.

(CENTRE): Mr. C. A. Rigby, of Port Moresby. Miss B. Wiseman, who was going to Port Moresby. Mr. H. W. Evans, of Native Labour Department, Madang, returning after leave in Sydney. Mrs. Evans.

(LOWER): Lynne and Patty Evans. Mr. H. H. Meyers, of SDA Mission, Port Moresby. Mrs. E. A. James, of Port Moresby, returning after holidaying in Sydney. Miss Lorna James, of Port Moresby.



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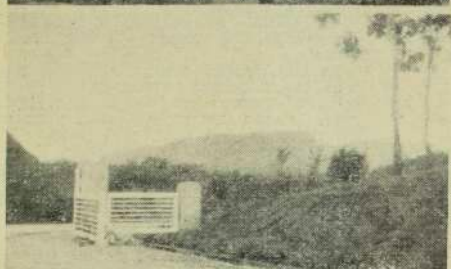
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PAPUA'S WAR GRAVES



These photographs, by Sean Keogh, show part of Bomana War Cemetery, in the Owen Stanley Foothills, Papua, where a dawn service was held on Anzac Day (see below); the gates of the cemetery; and the grave of the former Papuan Government Anthropologist, F. E. Williams, who was killed in a plane crash during the war.

Anzac Day In Moresby

From Our Own Correspondent

PORT MORESBY, April 26. PORT MORESBY'S Anzac Day was commemorated with a dawn service at Bomana War Cemetery, and, later in the morning, a parade and service at the Memorial Gates, Ela Beach. Both functions were broadcast.

Over 300 people, including the Administrator (Colonel J. K. Murray) and Mrs. Murray, attended the service at Bomana, which is beautifully situated in the shadow of the Owen Stanleys. Mr. S. E. Reilly, local President of the RSL, gave a short address.

Veterans of both wars, including members of the Papuan Infantry Battalion and the Royal Papuan Constabulary Band, marched along Ela Beach to the Memorial Gates for the second ceremony of the day, which was also attended by the Administrator and Mrs. Murray.

The address was given by Padre G. S. Crouch. Townspeople later adjourned to the RSL clubrooms for refreshments.

There are hopes of an early start of the pearl culture industry among Torres Strait Islanders. According to the Premier of Queensland, the industry will be developed jointly by the State Government and the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. The industry will assist in the rehabilitation of the

800 Torres Strait Islanders who had served in the Forces during the war.

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N. Caledonia May Still Get Jap Labour

IN their search for indentured labourers, the New Caledonian representatives in the French Parliament report that they have had talks with the Dutch Ambassador in Paris about the resumption of recruitment of Japanese; also that they are again approaching General MacArthur with a view to the eventual recruitment of Koreans or Japanese. They refer also to the efforts they have

made, and the promises of the Minister of Finance, to maintain the Pacific franc, which was recently threatened with devaluation, which would have had a disastrous effect on the Colony.

Saibai Island, about 100 miles north of Cape York, and Boigu Island, approximately 50 miles due west of Saibai have been menaced by tidal erosion caused by storms during the summer. Reports have indicated that the islands were nearly completely submerged. They have a native population of 350 and 160 respectively.

Rapid Recovery Of Indonesian Trade

HONGKONG, April 20.

EXPORTS from Indonesia, in 1948, will be almost triple last year's exports, the Far Eastern Economic Review reports. (The following figures are United States dollars).

Shipments in the current year are expected to approximate US\$350,000,000, as against \$125,000,000 in 1947, according to the Review.

The publication said rubber exports in 1948 will be 250,000 tons, valued at \$120,000,000 and in 1949 will reach 350,000 tons. Tin production will be 35,040,000 tons, valued at \$80,000,000, which the Review said is "Near pre-war production."

In the current year, petroleum, copra and black pepper would reach 50 per cent. of prewar production, the Review said. Copra production this year was given as 250,000 tons, and palm oil as 60,000 tons, rising to 200,000 in 1949.

Only about five per cent. of pre-war white pepper is available at the present time, but black pepper shipments this year would be 8-9,000 tons.

Tin mining already has reached half its prewar output, and by 1950 should again be at the 1939 level of 50,000 tons, the Review said.

The production of bauxite also has considerably improved during the past year. An initial shipment of 8,000 tons has been made to Japan which contracted for a total of 100,000 tons some time ago.

"Since the end of last year the economic position of Indonesia has ameliorated to a large degree," the publication declared. "It can be paying its way in three years and within five years should be in a position to reduce its debt commitments."

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Sulfa Drugs for Leprosy

New Treatment to be Given At Makogai

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, May 3.

SUPPLIES of sulphone drugs, which have been proved to be extremely effective in the treatment of advanced cases of leprosy at the Carville Leprosarium, Louisiana, are on the way to Fiji and will be used at the Central Leper Hospital, Makogai.

This information was given by the Medical Superintendent at Makogai (Dr. C. J. Austin) on his recent return from the fifth International Leprosy Congress at Havana.

Dr. Austin said that the sulphones will supplement the chaulmoogra oil treatment now in use. He was impressed with the results of sulphone experiments in Jamaica, where, incidentally, Sisters Zita and Germaine, formerly of Makogai, are now stationed.

BATTLE WITH PITCAIRN'S SURF

WHEN the "Ruahine," en route from Panama to New Zealand, called at Pitcairn Island recently, to pick up two passengers, it took two hours' battle with the surf before they were embarked. The passengers were Mrs. Hilda Young and her six-year-old son Alaric, whom she was taking to NZ to attend a school for deaf and dumb children.

Luggage that Mrs. Young intended to take with her had to be left behind as it was considered that the extra weight in the long-boat would endanger their lives.

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A PLEA FOR THE FIJI-INDIAN

Is Government Doing All That Is Possible to Solve Urgent Problem?

YOUR December number is only just to hand, and I should be grateful if you would allow me to make a few comments on the report in this on the "Indianization" debate in the Fiji Legislative Council and your leading article dealing with this.

As to the historical part of your article, I will only remark that I very much doubt if the Government of India would have ever agreed to an indenture system with no provision for eventual settlement of those who chose to remain; or if such a system could have succeeded in the long run.

The system followed has had unforeseen consequences, and, among others, two grave defects, which have had last-

ing results—pronounced sex disparity in recruitment, and enlistment from many different Indian races.

You agree that but for Indian aid economic progress in the Colony would have been very slow. (Prosperity is, in fact, still very largely dependent on it.) And surely it must be admitted that Indian farmers, both in the sugar area and elsewhere, have contributed something by their industry and enterprise. They have made the Sugar Company's ten-acres farm system a success and they have developed the production of rice and other crops with little outside help. And, moreover, the rents they pay have played an important part in Fijian progress.

WITH war-time developments I am too imperfectly acquainted to make any comment. It is, I am afraid, clear that, in the eyes of others at any rate, the community has a good deal to live down; and the more surprising that its leaders should have chosen this time to launch an aggressive campaign of selfish demands.

For good or ill the destinies of the Colony are now in the hands of two, not three, very different races, with Fijian interests necessarily paramount as hosts of the other two. And it behoves all three to make the best of it.

From this point of view Sir Lala Sukuna's speech is of great importance. While protesting strongly against unreasonable demands, he very wisely appeals for more co-operation and greater recognition of Fijian difficulties. And he points out how Indian culture can help towards common ends. I gather that he recognises the difficulties of educating children of different races together. But he would like to see much more co-operation, cultural and otherwise, at later stages, possibly by joint societies of different sorts and eventually, the establishment of a local college open to all races.

But, if the Indian community is to make its proper contribution, it seems clearly necessary to improve conditions of progress and give its leadership a saner outlook on public affairs. To my mind, the key to this lies in concerted effort to foster agricultural progress outside the sugar area. (This can probably be trusted to solve its own problems.)

I doubt if it is recognised how much there is to be done to improve production among the independent farmers, give these more outlets for intelligence and enterprise, and the great bulk of community much more of a leadership drawn from its own main business.

It has been remarked by high authority that feelings of frustration and discontent must arise among peasant farmers treated as a purely "static" body. A colony which neglects this principle does so at its peril.

As things stand at present, though there are exceptions, leadership is largely in the hands of those with little or no practical or personal interest in farming. This must result in a tendency to impatient idealism, and narrow-minded concentration on sectional and political questions.

AS it happens, I have recently suggested some measures to improve matters in connection with the Fiji Development Plan, including the creation of a well-equipped Indian Branch of the Agricultural Department, both to foster crop production, and to make close contact with the requirements of Indian farmers and their mentality and practice. For they differ very materially from Fijians in these respects.

Also, I suggest funds for improving settlements, and access to them; measures to establish a co-operative organisation to foster corporate action and check the evils of improvident borrowing; a resettlement fund for the benefit of those who may lose their farms; and, to promote agricultural leadership, steps to give Indians practical proof that farming in its higher branches can offer a satisfying and remunerative career.

From figures I saw recently I gather that Indian primary education still lags seriously behind Fijian. This may be the reason for the demand for more schools of this class.

But one outstanding need is, I think, a really good Indian secondary school under Government control, with a strong

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practical tinge and possibly with overseas scholarships for further agricultural and technical training, to mitigate the present obsession with academic pursuits, for which there are such limited openings in the Colony.

FIJI is not yet making the best use of its Indian element. It remains for it to give this larger scope and guide it on the right lines.

But to do so the administration must be adequately equipped on the Indian side. And I regret to learn, from a reliable source, that at the present moment there are practically no European officials with a competent knowledge of Indian languages to keep touch with locally published and imported literature, or take an intelligent interest in what the people are thinking and talking about among themselves.

This cuts both ways. It means inadequate control of Indian affairs. And, from the Indian point of view, it must generate a feeling that their concerns and interests are not thought to be worth worrying about. This is very far from Sir Lala's principle of enlisting the aid of Indian culture for common ends.

Unless I am misinformed about this matter, there would seem urgent need for improvement. No Colony can hope to be reasonably well governed, if its European officials lack an adequate knowledge of the language of half its population.

I am, etc.,

J. R. PEARSON,
Secretary for Indian Affairs, Fiji,
1927-32 (C.I.E., I.C.S., ret'd.).
Auvesque, La Rocque,
Jersey, Channel Islands,
March 26, 1948.

DEATH OF M. HIPPOLYTE DOBRITZ

A CALEDONIAN citizen, member of one of the old colonial families, with a distinguished career in the French Colonial Service, died recently at Toulon, aged 78.

He is M. Hippolyte Dobritz. He joined the service in Noumea at 18 and was, for many years, in charge of the Finance Bureau. In 1909 he was appointed to a higher grade and sent to Lake Chad, in the Congo. Later he served for a time as Acting Governor of the islands of Reunion and Martinique, and was awarded the Legion d'Honneur.

In 1940 he lost his son Pierre who was killed fighting the Japanese at Langson, Tonkin, Indo-China.

EGGLESS SUVA FINDS EGGS FOR "MATUA"

From Our Own Correspondent

EVERY year, from about the end of January until well into May, people in Suva, and a large part of Fiji generally, are compelled to forget that ordinary hens' eggs are edible.

The black market, of course, can usually find eggs at any time. It can also charge for them at golden-goose rates. Notwithstanding these shortages, however, on April 27, a supply of eggs was found at Suva for the "Matua," just arrived from Auckland.

It seems that there was a blackout on eggs in Auckland, and that after the crew had held the ship back for an hour, by an unsatisfied demand for eggs, someone promised them eggs at Suva.

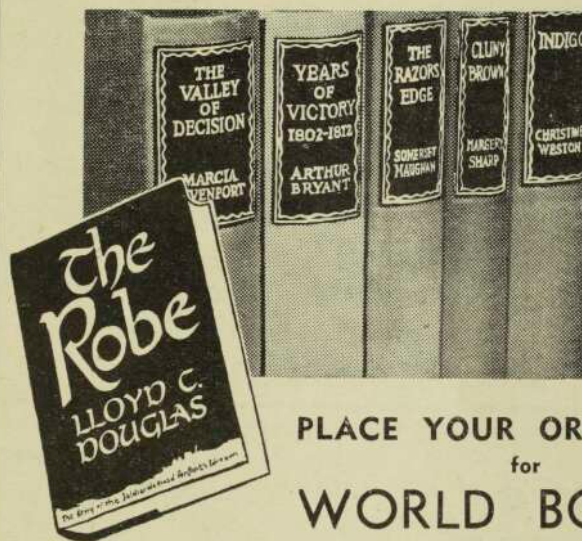
The Aero Club of New Caledonia, which ceased its activities on the outbreak of war, in 1939, has been reformed and now has 1550 members. A first course for a pilot's certificate is to be given by M. Vernon. A New Hebridean colonist has donated a plane for the use of members.

Members of the New Caledonian General Council, including the President, M. Bonneaud, recently spent six days in the North of New Caledonia inspecting damage done in the recent cyclone and floods. The Colony's Permanent Commission recommended a grant of 555,000 francs as flood relief.

Miss Ivy Laphorne of the Methodist Mission, Fiji, arrived in Sydney on leave in April.

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THE PRINCESS'S THANKS

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, April 9.

THE secretary of Fiji's Princess Elizabeth Wedding Gift Fund committee (Mrs. G. K. Roth), has received a letter from the Princess expressing warm appreciation of Fiji's gift—a trinket box and a double-clip hibiscus brooch, both

made in London from gold mined in Fiji.

The Princess also expressed pleasure at the arrangement by which portion of the fund is to be used to provide a film projector and sound equipment for the Tamavua tuberculosis sanatorium.

The Rev. T. C. Carne of the Methodist Mission, Fiji, returned to Suva by plane from Australia in April.

WESTERN PACIFIC AIRLINES

Sydney-N. Hebrides-Solomons

VILA, April 15.

THE Trans Oceanic Airways flying-boat arrived here yesterday with about 30 passengers from Sydney and Noumea, and left on its return flight to-day.

It is stated that Qantas Empire Airways intend to run a service to the New Hebrides and that a trial flight will be made very soon.

No Trapas planes have been here since the hurricane seriously damaged the French Company's two planes in Noumea in March. It is hoped that the service will be resumed—it gave us a useful and regular connection with Noumea.

QANTAS SERVICE PROMISED

IT was announced in Australia at the end of April that planes of the Government-owned Qantas Company will shortly inaugurate a regular service between Sydney, the New Hebrides and the Solomons. An application by Trans Oceanic Co., to establish a regular schedule on this route has been refused. Trans Oceanic is permitted to run only Charter trips.

At a cost of over six million francs, the Little Quay in Noumea Harbour is to be enlarged to a total length of 120 metres to permit of the berthing of coastal vessels; and a warehouse is also eventually to be constructed for storing merchandise. Two projects for the work have been submitted, one by the Jules Mary Enterprise, and the other by the Nickel Co.

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HOTEL FOR LAE

Some Movement At Last

P. MORESBY, April 26.
AT last, apparently, the town-planners have completed arrangements to allow Lae a new hotel in place of the present institution, which has been run under great difficulties by the well-known Territorian Mrs. "Flo" Stewart. It is understood that Mrs. Stewart has for some time been seeking permission to build a new structure.

Tenders have been called for the lease of two blocks of land in the Lae township area. The conditions prescribed are that the lessee shall use the land solely for the purpose of conducting a hotel, and that a structure costing not less than £17,500 shall be erected within 12 months from the granting of the lease.

The Acting Secretary for Lands, Mr. E. Washington, has also announced that sites for other purposes will be made available soon.

"Viti" Handed Over to New Owners

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, April 26.
THE Tasman Steamship Company, a co-operative organisation of New Zealand ex-Servicemen, which has bought the Fiji Government ship "Viti," will take delivery shortly. Captain L. B. Lindsay, who will be master, and Mr. A. E. Goodrich, who will be chief engineer, are now in Suva.

The company, which has 16 members, already owns the former minesweeper "Wakakura"; and the "Viti," like the "Wakakura," will be employed in the Tasman trade. She will be converted into a refrigerated cargo vessel.

"Viti" was launched in Hongkong in November, 1939, but has only occasionally fulfilled her original purpose of an official passenger ship. In April, 1941, she was commissioned as a Naval vessel and as HMS "Viti" she performed notable war service that took her all over the South Pacific. In each of her last two years of war service she sailed more than 40,000 miles.

Lieutenant-Colonel T. A. Doran, formerly a private practitioner at Craill, Fifeshire, and, after 1925, in the Indian Medical Service, has been appointed to the British Colonial Service as a medical officer in Fiji.

Mr. John C. Woodmansey, of Cairns, has resigned from the Queensland Police Force, and has been appointed an Assis-

tant Sub-inspector in the Police Force of Papua-New Guinea. Mr. Woodmansey will take up his new position this month.

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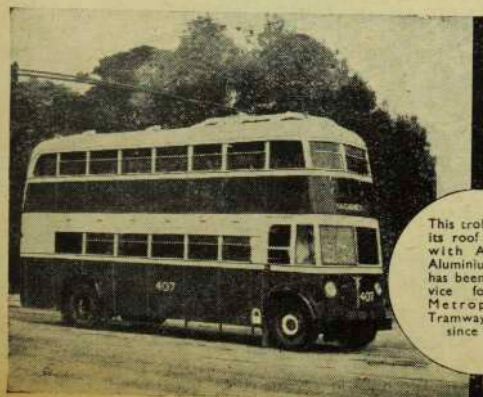
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Ratu Penaia Ganilau, who was an officer in the Fiji Military Forces during the war, went to England in 1946 to attend a Colonial Administrative Course at Oxford. He returned to Fiji recently and on April 9, gave an interesting talk over station ZJV Suva of his experiences in the UK. During University vacations Ratu Penaia volunteered for harvesting and farm work. He developed a profound admiration for the courage of the British people, and their readiness to face all difficulties.



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No More Beef!

Suva Faces A Steak Famine Soon

SUVA, April 26.
ON April 24, one of the largest Suva butcheries (Leylands) announced that after May 1, it will supply no more beef. By that date the firm will have used up all its available cattle.

On the same day it was officially announced that a committee had been set up to investigate and report on the beef situation in Fiji. The committee consists of the Acting Chief Veterinary Officer (Mr. A. Hall), the Controller of Prices (Mr. R. W. Parkinson), and Messrs. C. F. Corbett, R. P. Little, Harm Nam, and Sarda Nand Maharaj.

The "Fiji Times" has reported that a prospective cattle-buyer last week saw a small herd of Indian-owned cattle on the roadside outside Suva. He calculated that they would be worth between £60 and £70 in the days when cattle prices were controlled, and offered the owner £80. He was laughed at and told that the Indians expected at least £125 for them.

Second Scholarship For Brilliant Fijian

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, April 26.
RAVUAMA VUNIVALU, who won the first Morris, Hedstrom Scholarship in 1944, and last year completed the Bachelor of Arts course of the University of New Zealand, has been awarded a scholarship under the British Colonial development and welfare scheme.

He will enter St. John's College, Cambridge, for a year's post-graduate course in economics. This will be followed by six months' study of the organisation of co-operatives in the United Kingdom.

Soap from Petroleum

Shell Co.'s Second UK Detergent Plant

OF great interest to all producers of vegetable oils, is the recent announcement by the Shell Oil Company that it will soon be operating a chemical plant in England, which will, amongst other things, be producing synthetic soaps and wetting agents. (See article on page 66, April "PIM").

A Shell plant near Manchester has been in operation since 1942, producing detergents which have been much in demand in soap-rationed Britain—so much so that it is expected that manufacture will be doubled to 50,000 tons, in this plant alone, by the middle of this year.

The Teepol range of products—as these are known—is manufactured from petroleum by a process developed by Shell research chemists as far back as 1931.

These detergents are now used in increasing quantities in the cosmetic, textile, laundry, leather and furniture industries, or wherever large volumes of water are used for industrial processes. But it is expected that in the future their use will spread to the domestic field. They will be put out as special washing powders and will be used for dish-washing, laundry work and cleaning paint, silver and glass.

In the present state of UK domestic economy, this synthetic "soap" is particularly useful, as it releases large quantities of vegetable oil for human consumption. It is unlikely, therefore, that the demand for copra will fall off for some time to come. If the new detergents become firmly established in public favour, however, coconut planters in the years to come may find a diminished market for their product.

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Pro-Red Commentary From Port Moresby Radio Station

From a Special Correspondent

PORT MORESBY, April 26.
AT 7.11 p.m. on Monday, April 26, listeners to station 9PA, Port Moresby, were told that they were about to hear "an extract from a commentary on overseas affairs." The announcer then read a script which contained the following main points:—

■ At the moment there is a good deal of frenzied talk of war, similar to that which followed Munich. The two most common assumptions are, firstly, that war is inevitable, and secondly, that England must side with America.

■ Recent events in Czechoslovakia do not represent the usurpation of power by a handful of Communists with Russian aid, but rather a decision by the working-class to abandon the techniques of western democracy in favour of those of the Communists.

■ Physical warfare between Russia and the United States is not as imminent as many people imagine; a declaration of war by America would mean the immediate occupation of all of Europe by Russia.

■ In the present political warfare between America and Russia, in which the Italian elections provided a major battleground (resulting in victory for the "Clericalists" over the Socialists and Communists), England is not obliged to take sides with either country.

■ The development, during the three years or so before war is likely, of a strong economic and social union of Western Europe, determined to demonstrate that the welfare of the working class can be furthered by democratic methods, could provide a third party strong enough to stand between the "rival fanaticisms of Washington and Moscow."

This script was followed by the announcement that listeners had been listening to "an extract from a commentary on overseas affairs." The announcer then read the weather information.

As this appears to be the first time that views of this sort have been read over the ABC station without reference to their origin, local listeners are intrigued to know whose views they are, and how they came to be read without acknowledgement.

ABC Does Dirty Work For "Fellow-Travellers"

THIS is a good example of the way in which the Australian Broadcasting Commission is carrying on propaganda for the "Fellow Traveller" section of the Australian Socialist Government. It is well known that the ABC is honey-combed with Chifley-ites, ranging from Pinks to ardent Reds; but it is seldom that we get so clear-cut an example of it.

The P. Moresby broadcast set out to combat "two common assumptions"—that war is inevitable, and that England must side with America. It defended the seizure of Czechoslovakia by the Reds; argued that war between United States and Russia is not imminent; insisted that, in any event, Britain need not support America; and declared that Western Europe could develop a middle party which could stand safely between the rival systems.

This, of course, is the most damnable rubbish that could be put into circulation. It has, all over it, the marks of the most cunning type of Moscow propagandist. But it is so subtle that it easily can be accepted as sound argument by the careless and uninstructed.

Unless the Communist attack upon the

Democracies ceases, war is inevitable; and there is no sign at present that Russia will change her character and her activities. No compromise whatever is possible—we must either accept Communism, or fight for the Democratic system, which guarantees our individual liberty and the Anglo-Saxon way of life. If we do not take sides with the United States—one of the two great forces in the world to-day resisting the Communists (the other, of course, is the Roman Catholic Church)—we shall inevitably be overwhelmed by the Muscovite horror. And we then shall deserve, for our spinelessness, all we get.

The overwhelming majority of English-speaking people are not only anti-Red, but they will be happy to fight and smash the Russian Communists, and restore decency and peace and security to the world—once they are satisfied that Russia is our mortal enemy. It is the purpose of the Reds to delay our general recognition of that fact as long as possible.

The Socialist Governments are completely out of touch now with public opinion—they were elected long before this Russian menace developed. They all will be thrust into oblivion within the next two years.

Meanwhile, Socialist dithering in Canberra gives the "fellow travellers" (like the Pinks and Reds within the Australian Broadcasting Commission) a chance to do their dirty work for Moscow. The only way to meet them, pending a general election, is to turn the full blast of publicity upon their methods and activities.

AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT OF N. CALEDONIA URGED

ACCORDING to the Washington correspondent of the New York "Times," the special committee of the US House of Representatives has recommended that France should cede exploitation rights in New Caledonian nickel and chrome deposits in exchange for strategic material.

If the time should be inopportune for such a concession, it is suggested that US private capital might be allowed to interest itself in the country's economy and that contracts for a period of 25 years for delivery of New Caledonian ores might well be studied.

The view of many is that nothing better could happen to the Colony—save perhaps an agreement with Australia to develop her iron resources.—H.E.L.P.

At the invitation of the Suva Men's Hockey Association, an Auckland provincial representative hockey team will visit Fiji in June, shipping permitting.

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High Cost of Living Means More Resignations in N. Guinea

THE wife of an Administration Official in New Guinea says that the Administration is in danger of losing its most efficient and experienced men—and for these reasons:—

LIVING costs soar while wages stay at minimum! The defence of Administration officials throughout the Territory is to resign before they can no longer obtain credit, or to adopt the less dignified but better understood "strike" methods if something is not done immediately to make salaries sufficient to meet the 100 per cent. rise in living costs over the past 12 months.

To reduce the cost of food would probably also prove a solution. Imagine living on £400 a year with these costs to handle: bread 4/- a loaf; butter 3/5 lb.; milk 7/4 a tin; flour 25/- a bag; eggs 5/6 a dozen, and all other necessities on the same scale.

Bread and butter for a family costs over £2 a week. Eggs and milk would be about £1 and meat at a minimum cost would be £1. £4 are then gone out of £8 a week before one thinks of other foodstuffs, medicines, money for children's education and insurance and the care of native servants. How can a person make £8 a week spin out when men without children find it impossible to make £16 a week provide adequate comfort or savings?

I know of one man on £600 a year who is not in a position to take his leave. I know of others who can go on leave only provided they can find accommodation with friends or relatives.

Believe me, too, women in the Territory are not working because they want relief from boredom, but because they cannot make their husbands' salaries meet the cost of living.

There are rumours in the Public Service of a proposed rise of 25 per cent. on salaries after deduction of the basic rate, but few have faith that it will eventuate, and in any case those in most need will benefit least. I expect there are few white men in the Administration who have not turned to outside means of providing money, sent their wives to work or have drawn, to the limit, on their capital.

KETCH UP ON REEF

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, April 26.
THE auxiliary ketch "Loloma," an interisland trader owned by Mr. George Barratt, of Suva, went on the submerged Frost Reef, eight miles from Mango Island, on April 13. On April 20, the ketch "Tui Walevu," owned by Mr. D. Simpson, Sr., of Savusavu, arrived at Suva with the "Loloma's" personnel and as much of the cargo and movable gear as could be salvaged. The "Loloma" is now considered a total loss. The keel had been stripped off and the bilges stove in, and all that could be done was to get her off the reef and to abandon her in the lagoon at Mango.

Mr. J. Robert Story, of the Unevangelised Fields Mission, Papua, is at present on a lecture tour of New Zealand. In Wellington recently he said that his mission carried the Gospel to regions of Papua hitherto untouched by Christianity and although the work was difficult they had made some advances.

Progress on Nauru and Ocean Island

Cantilever Near Completion

ACCORDING to Sir Albert Ellis, New Zealand's full requirements of phosphate should be met this year from Nauru and Ocean Island.

In the "New Zealand Herald" in mid April he said that the giant cantilever at Nauru, which was destroyed by the German raider in 1940, and suffered again at the hands of the Japanese, would soon be completed and that it would then be able to load a 10,000-tons ship in one day.

Since the island was reoccupied and the phosphate workings reopened, about two years ago, all loading of ships has had to be done by lighters—a slow process, with Nauru's lack of harbour facilities.

The usual delays of the post-war period have held up the work of reconstructing the cantilever but the first arm will be in operation soon. This will be used to fill phosphatic rock into one hold of a loading ship. The ship will then be moved at her moorings to bring another hold directly beneath the cantilever. When the two arms of the cantilever are complete however, both holds will be loaded simultaneously.

Sir Albert will visit both Nauru and Ocean Island in July. He reports that operations on Ocean Island are also progressing satisfactorily.

"LEVUKA" BECOMES "TRIADIC"

The 7,000 ton, former Carpenter ship "Levuka," will be handed over to the BPC shortly and will serve in the Australasian-phosphate island trade as the "Triadic." The original "Triadic" was one of the three BPC ships sunk off Nauru in 1940. The "Trienza" was the only one

of the four ships of the line to escape on that occasion. A new "Triona" was built in Glasgow in 1943, but so far there is no new "Triaster."

QUEEN SALOTE'S RETURN TO TONGA

From Our Own Correspondent

NUKU'ALOFA, April 6.

WHEN the inter-island motor vessel "Matua" steamed up the harbour early this morning, the Royal Standard of Tonga was flying from her mast. Queen Salote was on board as a passenger from New Zealand, where she had been on a health trip since last November.

A large crowd assembled at the waterfront to welcome their Queen. Crown Prince Tupouto'a-Tungi and Prince Tu'i Pelehake, with the Premier and Minister of the Crown, went to the wharf, where a guard of honour was provided by the Royal Guards and the Government College band. A royal salute of 21 guns greeted the Queen when she stepped off the ship's gangway to the wharf and the band struck up the Tongan national anthem.

After the official welcome, the Queen drove from the wharf to the Palace through enthusiastic crowds and students from the various colleges and schools who flanked both sides of the royal route from the pier to the Palace gates.

Girl students showered the royal car with flower posies.

Judging from the Queen's appearance, the long rest had been of great benefit to her.

American fountain pens (nothing special) averaged £6 each at a Suva sale of Customs seized goods on April 10, and an unspectacular pen-and-pencil set went at £12. Women's wristlet watches were £10 and up.

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Not Ready For Self-Government

Ratu Edward Says Native
Peoples Should Wait

RATU Edward Cakobau, one of the younger leaders of the Fijian people, is back in Fiji after about eighteen months in the United Kingdom. He attended the first post-war Colonial Administration Service course there.

Ratu Edward went back to Fiji via New Zealand, where he stayed long enough to play cricket with the Fiji team then touring the Dominion. During this time he was interviewed by the Auckland "Herald." He said that the course had

lasted from October, 1946, to December, 1947 and that 120 had attended it. For the first half of the course, members were divided between Oxford and Cambridge; they then came together at the London School of Economics for the remainder of the time.

There were four representatives of native peoples—himself and Ratu Penaia Ganilau from Fiji; one student from

Hong Kong and another from Malaya. At the second course, which is now proceeding, there are a number of Africans.



Ratu Edward Cakobau.

Ratu Edward said that the trend in all the underdeveloped territories was from colonial administration, through trusteeship to partnership. This in turn led to a true approach to the welfare of colonial peoples.

Understanding of the requirements of the native mind was vital in this, making it necessary either to have Europeans who were thoroughly trained or, better still, to use natives themselves.

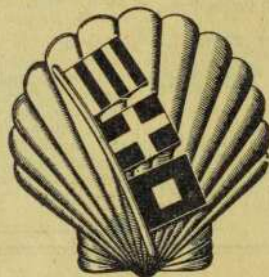
Asked whether it would be possible to do this training in New Zealand, Ratu Edward said he thought it was necessary to look at the Pacific, as it were, through the wrong end of a telescope to be able to appreciate the problems. British colonial administration was so well developed that only in England was it possible to appreciate the full field and to receive the benefits both of the services of world-famed experts and of the example of the great experimental field of Africa.

However, he thought much could be learned from the experiences of the Maoris, who, living in a progressive country, were a step ahead of all the other native Pacific peoples. The effects of social security, aspects of social welfare and the land question were points which could be studied with special benefit. Achievements and mistakes here would teach them much, although elsewhere there were complications such as the plural society—Fijian, English, and Indian—which gave his own country special problems of its own.

A great deal was being talked of self-government among the native peoples, but he felt it should wait until the natives had developed the necessary mental stature. In this transitional stage it was important to have Europeans behind all the work, for all the surrounding world, with its economics and other practices, was European.

The Rev. Kolinio Saukaura, a Fijian who has spent the past 10 years in the Northern Territory of Australia with the aborigines, is now on his way back to Lautoka for his first leave. He has worked on isolated Methodist Mission stations in the NT since leaving his home in 1938, and he has learned aboriginal tongues, and has great faith in these people who, he says, can be taught any trade, and will work well. Kolinio hopes to take his family back to the NT when he returns from his leave.

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HOW WHITES ABUSED BLACKS IN NG IN PRE-ED-WARDIAN DAYS

Interesting Lecture to Students By Anthropologist
Hogbin (Lieut.-Colonel)

THE following is an exact copy of a report which appeared in the *Union Recorder* of April 29. The latter is a newspaper, published in connection with the University of Sydney, and presumably is read by many students.

ON Wednesday, April 21, Dr. Ian Hogbin's talk to the Anthropological Society on "Race Relations in New Guinea" contained a wealth of incident and anecdote, which, stemming from his wide knowledge of life in New Guinea, more than effectively bore out his central theme of race prejudice.

Dr. Hogbin began by pointing out that there were Europeans in New Guinea who had no racial prejudice and to whom skin pigment was a matter of indifference. These people were usually to be found in official or mission circles, and among the independent miners were men who learnt to appreciate the native as a human being by working at his side.

Most of the European residents were, however, extraordinarily sensitive about what they referred to as "white prestige." They proclaimed themselves to be superior by virtue of their lighter hue and insisted that those otherwise endowed should on all occasions show them deference. Though the natives' homage had to be sought, understanding and such everyday virtues as sympathy, kindness and consideration are looked upon as handicaps in dealing with them.

Dignity was best upheld by ignorance, discourtesy was thought to be indispensable, and there were those who advocated positive brutality.

During the war, Dr. Hogbin said, certain ANGAU officials who had previously

lived in the country had done their best to impose the principles of "white prestige" on the troops. Instructions were issued that natives were not to be picked up by jeeps—where of necessity they would have sat in close proximity to a European—unless they were travelling on army business. A further striking illustration of the popular attitude occurred in Madang immediately after its recapture, where two tanks were installed for drinking, both full of the same chlorinated water, but labelled respectively "European Personnel" and "Natives Only."

All coloured persons fell under the ban irrespective of their background and education. Natives travelling to Australia by plane to complete their training as teachers received none of the food served to the white passengers, and had to be content with biscuits, even though they paid full fares.

THE use of the word "boy" for the native was indicative of the role to which he was assigned. He was expected to revere the white man in the way that a child looked up to his elders. In 1947 the Administrator's order that the expression must not in future appear in official documents, was the butt of much jeering from the "old hands" at what they judged to be administrative fatuousness. "Boy" was justified by some on the ground that the Melanesians were

a child race incapable of mental development after the age of twelve.

These were the persons who opposed higher education for natives as a ridiculous waste of public funds, an attitude which was responsible some years ago for the cancellation of the permit granting seven natives the opportunity for medical training in Australia.

Rough speech was not infrequently accompanied by the use of strong-arm methods. In the booklet "You and the Native," prepared by the Allied Geographical Section, South-west Pacific Area, officers and NCO's serving in the Pacific Islands were advised, when dealing with a recalcitrant native, to "crack him." The booklet was written by a man who had lived in Papua for 20 years.

Dr. Hogbin believed that the simpler manifestations of the prevailing attitude had their origin, in part, in economics. Each of the natives' tentative advances touched the pocket and endangered someone's livelihood.

Of importance also was the fact that white men were a tiny minority, and it was just possible that sexual jealousy might also be involved. The young labourer was often a better physical specimen than his master was willing to acknowledge.

HE then went on to describe the reaction of the natives to the white attitudes.

Before the war the native, it seemed to many, accepted his inferiority. He was self-effacing and obedient, and neither answered back nor defended himself from cuffs and kicks; in other words, he knew his place. In those days they knew from experience how unpleasant the consequences of opposition were likely to be. But even then one had only to gain their confidence to realise the absence of any spontaneous regard for the white man.

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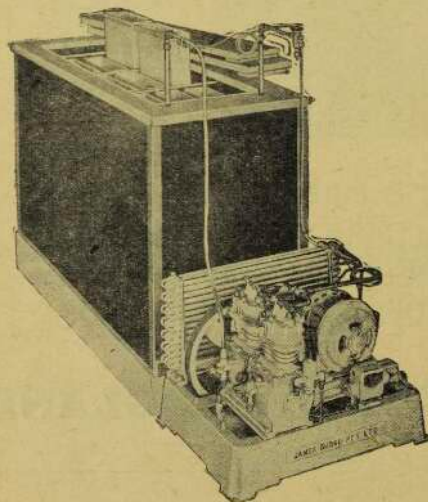
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whites' knowledge was attributed merely to opportunity and nowhere was it looked upon as a fundamental quality of genius inevitably associated with a light skin. Indeed even the least sophisticated natives considered themselves to be the white man's intellectual equal. The groups living in the more remote areas, where information about our economic system had not yet penetrated, ascribed superiority of technical equipment to magic.

"White prestige," and the claim which accompanied it, thus had had the reverse effect from what was intended—the result was not respect, but resentment. Europeans were painfully aware that the old esteem, or what they took to be esteem, was no longer forthcoming. The people displayed no great keenness to enter employment. They reported assaults, asked for high wages and even went on strike when these were refused.

The chief reason for the change, Dr. Hogbin believed, was that for the time being the natives were independent. Cash was far more plentiful than it used to be in 1939. Good wages were earned during the war, high prices were paid by the troops for curios, and generous payments had been handed over as compensation for war damage. The supply of goods in the trade stores, on the other hand was extremely meagre, and there was little incentive to go on piling up more money. It was often said that the troops "spoiled" the natives, a view which one could only counter with the query, spoiled them for what?

History of Dr. Hogbin

THE comments which we should like to make here are probably the comments that will be made by every European resident of the Territories, official and non-official, who has resided there long enough to understand Territories conditions, and the native mind. Therefore, we shall refrain from the employment of language that might become offensive in character.

But perhaps our readers would like to know something about the gentleman responsible for these very remarkable statements.

Dr. Ian Hogbin is a gentleman in middle age. He was born in England, and educated in Australia, and he has been for many years a lecturer in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Sydney. He has done a good deal of what is called anthropological research work in the South-west Pacific—Melanesian natives seem to be his preoccupation—and he has written copiously about his work. He is a good looking bachelor, of charming manners.

Activities of this kind are necessary, in an academic sense, and the gentlemen who engage in them can do little harm—unless they are put into positions where they are given authority to enforce their idealistic and generally impractical ideas. Then they become a super-nuisance.

That is what happened to Dr. Hogbin. When that notable Trades Hall product, Mr. Eddie Ward, became Minister for Territories, and proceeded to knock corners off hated Private Enterprise and create a Socialist Paradise for Stone-Age Natives, he gathered around him a little group of what he called "experts," to instruct him on Territories affairs. The group included some notable academic planners and dreamy theorists, but not one man of practical Territories experience. Prominent in the group was Ian Hogbin, Doctor of Philosophy and professional anthropologist.

The group was given a high-sounding name—Research Bureau, or something like that—and attached to the Army; and all the members were awarded high Army Commissions. The head of it was a medical student from the University—he became a full Colonel. Dr. Ian Hogbin was created a Lieutenant-Colonel, and he travelled around Australia and the Terri-

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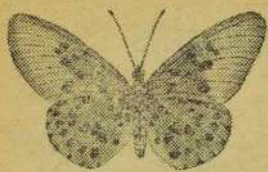
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tories, fully appraised as a Lieutenant-Colonel and doubtless enjoying the usual pay and privileges of a battalion-commander. He was never a combatant officer, in any shape or form, and it is ridiculous that a mere anthropological investigator should have had that rank and uniform; yet he now doubtless wears a returned soldier's badge, and he certainly is described in "Who's Who" as having served in the AIF. He is legally entitled to all these things, having been selected for favour by the Canberra Socialists; but that does not prevent old Territorians from being exceedingly bitter on the subject of "Lieut.-Colonel" Hogbin. They will not feel any better after reading the above report!

After the war, Dr. Hogbin apparently remained in the highest councils of the Territories Administration. Not long ago, he travelled around Eastern Papua on the "Laurabada" with the Administrator, but few could describe his status, or say why he was there.

THIS journal always has expressed the belief that there was nothing wrong with Australia's treatment of the New Guinea natives prior to 1940—that the native policy, measured in terms of native progress by decades, was sound and justified. A point probably had been reached in 1940 when it was desirable that the native policy be reviewed, to see if (a) the Territory's rich revenues could not be more advantageously used for native welfare and (b) whether the system of indentured labour could not be more closely tied in with plans for technical training of natives.

That was an evolutionary move, and it was interrupted by war. There was no justification whatever for the mad-headed invasion of the New Guinea administration by Messrs. Evatt and Ward,

on the grounds that the natives had been enslaved, and the European companies guilty of ruthless exploitation. That move had its origin in Socialist politics. It was undertaken by Australian Socialist interests eager to develop a political advantage, irrespective of truth; it was forwarded by Mr. Eddie Ward, as a matter of lifelong habit and as an outcome of his psychopathic hates; and it has been eagerly supported by Lieut.-Colonel Ian Hogbin, Doctor of Philosophy and professional anthropologist, and various Pink Planners who have contributed so much lately to world chaos. Judging by the pernicious stuff in "Union Recorder," Dr. Ian Hogbin is still carrying on his work for Mr. Eddie Ward.

FIJIANS WANT MORE SAY IN RUGBY CONTROL

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, April 9.

SIGNS of the times appeared at a meeting of the Suva Rugby Union this week when, according to the constitution, four European and two Fijian members were elected to the management committee.

In view of the fact that Rugby in Fiji is overwhelmingly Fijian as far as numbers are concerned, it was not surprising that Ravuama Vunivalu (first Morris, Hedstrom Scholarship winner, recently returned from New Zealand) raised the question of representation and suggested that four Fijians and two Europeans on the committee would be more in order.

The president (Mr. Alport Barker) said that the union realised the necessity for a revision of the constitution, and that he would bring Ravuama's proposal before the new management committee.

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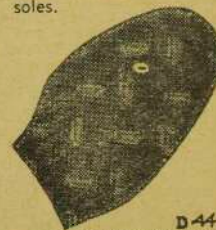


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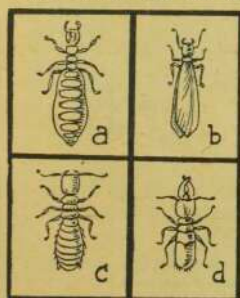
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Sister Edith Bromhall, who has been with the Anglican Mission in New Guinea for three years, was staying with her parents at Redcliffe, Queensland in April.

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"Matua" Incident in Suva

Crew "Explains"

THE crew of the Union Company's motor vessel "Matua" has denied that they threatened in March to black-list Suva and walk off the ship if the Governor (Sir Brian Freeston) were allowed on board. (See April "PIM").

The incident occurred on the March voyage of the "Matua" when owing to the infantile paralysis epidemic in New Zealand, no through passengers or crew were permitted ashore from the "Matua" while she was in Suva. Queen Salote of Tonga was on board and Fiji's Governor, armed with the necessary permits from the local Health Department, proposed to pay her a visit. (Sir Brian said later that he intended to report to the health authorities every day after his visit to the ship for as long as they required.) The crew of the "Matua" were alleged, however, to have informed the captain of the ship that if Sir Brian came on board then they would leave the ship may go ashore, and that Fiji shipping would be completely disorganised.

The crew now says:—
"The crew of the "Matua" emphatically denies any suggestion that the port of Suva should be declared 'black'."

"The crew's action was based entirely on the fact that whether the Governor had the requisite medical certificate or not, he was boarding a vessel that in every sense of the word should be quarantined."

"Far from being the cause of continued hold-ups the crew is only too willing to co-operate in the prevention of sickness provided those in authority do the same."

Immediately after the incident, the members of the crew who had signed the statement forwarded to Queen Salote a telegram apologising for the cancellation of the Governor's visit through their action, and assuring Her Majesty that this was no reflection on her but merely a protest against the continual breaking of quarantine restrictions by the Fiji Government.

Queen Salote accepted the apology.

EDITORIAL NOTE: The crew's statement simply bears out the correctness of the original report of the "incident." Briefly, it means that the crew of the "Matua," in its wisdom, saw fit to override local Health authorities who presumably were agreeable to the Governor visiting the ship. The Governor, having visited the ship, was prepared to place himself in the same position as passengers disembarking at Suva, who must report regularly to the Health Authority. Since when did crews of trading ships become competent to decide the merits of cases like this?

PROPOSED RISE IN FIJI CIVIL SERVICE PAY

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, April 20.
IT is rumoured that the Fiji Government is dallying with the idea of a 10 per cent. boost in Civil Service salaries.

Meanwhile the cost of living is still climbing majestically; price control is working effectively only up to a point (but even controlled prices rise almost continuously in the face of overseas pressure); the prices of uncontrolled essentials are out of sight when compared with the pre-war level; and one of the economic effects of the shelving of Fiji's Ten-Year Plan is that there have been scores of Public Works dismissals.

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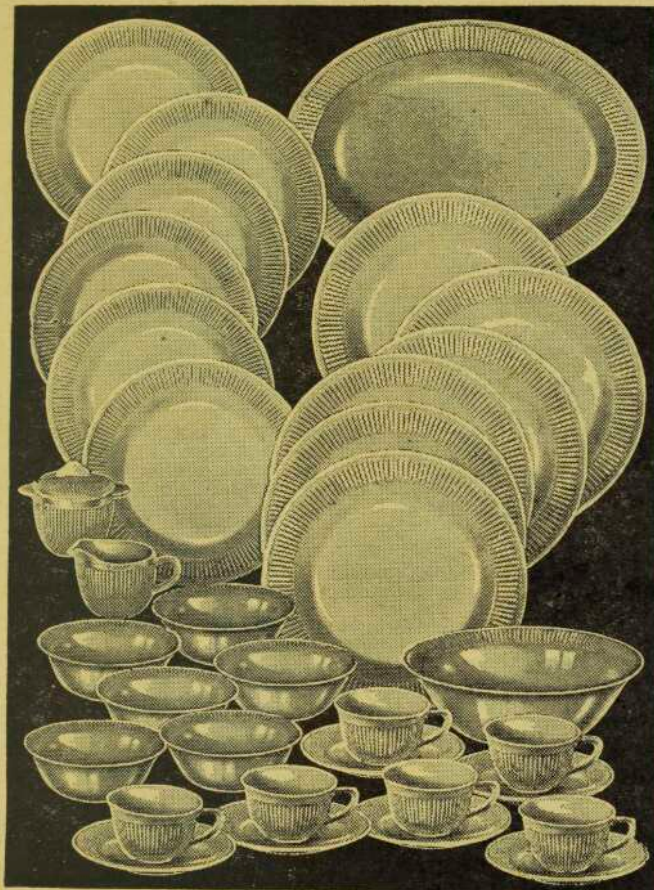
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By MAJOR-GENERAL B. M. MORRIS.

Natives of
Papua and N. Guinea

A COMMON mistake, made by many people, is that they think, after a few months' residence in the Territory, they are qualified to speak with authority on the natives of New Guinea. During the recent war the Rev. Stanley Romney Maurice Gill, Archdeacon of the Mampa, in the Anglican Mission in Papua, told me that after 34 years in that Territory he had learned sufficient about the natives to know that he really knew very little about them.

With this introduction it may seem an impertinence for me to write about them. My excuse is that anyone who has knowledge, however slight, may be able to educate non-Territorians on the matter and thus be of benefit, not only to the natives themselves, but perhaps to Australia. For over four years, I had excellent opportunities of moving about the two Territories and seeing and studying the various peoples who inhabit them.

It is quite wrong to think of all the natives of the Territories as one people, who can be similarly treated. There is as much difference between the sophisticated tribes near Port Moresby, or Rabaul, and those of the Mount Hagen plateau, or the Makolols of New Britain, as there is between university dons and the boors of our Australian bush.

Social customs and ways of life generally differ. The colour of skins vary from a honey-yellow to the jet black of the Bukas of Bougainville. Members of the District Services staffs who have been stationed in various parts can tell at a glance a Sepik, a Manus, a Kiwai or an Orokaiva and, having identified him, they will probably have a fair idea of his character and how he must be treated to get the best results.

THE unspoiled natives are a delight to meet. They are proud and independent people. Prior to 1942, except for a few isolated cases in the vicinity of Port Moresby or Rabaul, I had never seen a native beg. They are entirely different from the fellaheen of

Egypt, or the lower classes of India or, indeed, from the types of Australian aborigines that may be seen on the Trans-continental railway line.

About the middle of 1942, lectures were freely given to our Australian troops, who had arrived from the Middle East, in which these differences were pointed out. However, there were too many to educate thus, and the influx of many thousands of Americans, in addition, made the problem insuperable. The result was that,

EARLY in World War II, Major-General Morris was in command of the military establishment in Papua and New Guinea. Then, when the area came under the control of General MacArthur, Major-General Morris took charge of ANGAU, and thus was responsible for the administration of the two Territories, until civil administration was restored. He now is retired, and lives at Beaconsfield, Victoria.

It is not generally recognised that over one million people—by far the largest native population in the Pacific, outside the Philippines—may be found in the large islands of New Guinea, New Britain and New Ireland. The next largest native population is in Fiji (120,000).

owing to wrong treatment many thousands of natives became completely disgruntled, and lost the happy disposition of their forefathers.

Many newcomers to the Territory thought that, because those in charge of the welfare of the natives did not favour large increases in wages, and so on, they were anti-native. These critics forgot that money has only a relative value. Twenty pounds, to us, is not a fortune; and yet, to the Bedouin Arab, in parts of Palestine, it represents a sum that will keep him in luxury for the rest of his life.

Moreover, education is needed before anyone can handle money to advantage. For example, of what use are a few extra shillings a month to a native of New Guinea who, after finishing a three-years period of engagement, expends the whole of his deferred pay on fireworks purchased in Chinatown, Rabaul? Of course, he had one glorious night's entertainment; but, subsequently, he had little to show for his three years' work.

A CASE occurred before the war, near Rabaul. A "boy" was indentured for three years to a planter at the then ruling rate of six shillings a month (plus rations, quarters, medical attention, etc.). His employer found him to be quite smart, taught him how to look after internal-combustion engines on the property and gradually, as his usefulness increased, augmented his wages until at the end of his period the native was drawing £5 per month.

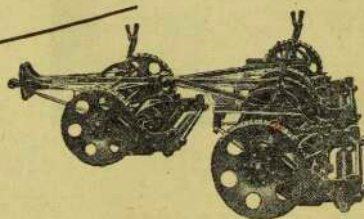
This voluntary increase in wages on the part of the employer should be noted by those ignorant folk who write down all the employers of native labour in the Territories as grasping blood-suckers!

When the time came for the final pay—

(Continued on Page 51)

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REV. G. H. EASTMAN, OBE

REV. G. H. Eastman, OBE, and Mrs. Eastman, of the London Missionary Society, recently passed through Sydney on their way to England. Mr. and Mrs. Eastman have spent 35 years in the service of the LMS in the Pacific, first in the Cook Islands, and for the past 30 years in the Gilbert Islands, where Mr. Eastman has been Principal of the well-known Rongorongo Training Institution of the LMS.

During the war years Mr. Eastman made some adventurous journeys among the islands during the Japanese invasion, and he and Mrs. Eastman were among the first British residents to return to the Gilberts early in 1944.

During the past nine months Rev. G. H. Eastman and his wife have been residing in Suva, where Mr. Eastman has completed the revision of the Bible in the Gilbertese language. This work has been carried out under the aegis of the American Bible Society of New York, who will print the revised version in Gilbertese.

Mr. Eastman has been called home to England to take part in the campaign to raise funds for the new mission vessel, "John Williams VI," which is to be named on August 5 by HRH Princess Margaret; and which will then visit British ports before coming out to take up work in the Islands for the London Missionary Society.

The Bishop in Polynesia, the Rt. Rev. L. S. Kempthorne, left Suva in mid-April for New Zealand, en route to the United Kingdom, where he will attend the Lambeth Conference.

Dr. Francois Mangeney, Director of Meteorological Services in New Caledonia, was French delegate to the International Meteorological Conference held in Wellington, NZ, in April. He is an Alsatian and, as a lad lived under German rule. The family, however, were French in sentiment and when war came the eight sons, including Dr. Mangeney, joined French services. At the time of the outbreak Dr. Mangeney was with the Meteorological Service at Lake Chad, in

Equatorial Africa. He joined the Fighting French air-force and was one of those assigned the task of keeping open the air route along the African coast, via Khar-toum and Cairo. Later he was attached to General Leclerc's forces, and, later still, was posted to Tunis. He received his present New Caledonian appointment in 1946.

Captain J. R. Grey, of Suva, Fiji, a well-known resident of the Lau Group, arrived in Sydney in April.

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Mr. Ted Smith, of Redondo Beach, California, bought the "Vaihinano," a 103-foot APC boat, and was scheduled to leave in February, with a Tahitian crew, for Papeete. The boat is to be sold to a Chinese syndicate in French Oceania, to replace the "Potli," of Raiatea, which went on a reef at Rurutu.

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CIPA Lose Again!

Orange Picking Boycott Fails

From Our Own Correspondent

RAROTONGA, April 8.

WHEN the tumult connected with the Cook Islands Progressive Association's abortive attempt to hold up shipping had died away in March, main talk of the island preceding the arrival of the "Maui Pomare" was the CIPA plan to boycott the vessel by refusing to pick oranges.

As was expected, this did harm to no one but CIPA followers, for the available space was easily filled by non-CIPA growers. A few growers who belong to the CIPA quietly went ahead and picked, in spite of orders not to do so.

It is said that CIPA leaders told their people that Mr. Albert Henry had gone to Auckland to get the "Maui Pomare" declared "black" and that those shipping fruit would be caught in a wasted shipment. (Henry left by plane for Auckland a day before the "Maui Pomare" arrived.)

With the arrival of the "Maui Pomare" on March 26, the CIPA again tried something new in surprise tactics.

The arrival date was Good Friday so the ship was not to be worked until Saturday morning. On Friday evening the Union Steam Ship Co., posted on their notice board a list of workers. As on previous occasions, about two thirds of the names were those of CIPA men. The remainder were members of the Workers' Union.

Whereas on previous occasions the CIPA men had refused to answer their names, now when it came time to start work on the Saturday morning, they quietly came forward and signed on. Then, together with the Union men, they stepped into the lighters and went out to the ship as though intending to start work.

Once aboard the ship however, the CIPA men promptly went on strike and refused to work with the Union men. Their plan was clear: they hoped to thus gain the sympathy of the ship's crew, a factor upon which they have counted with some success on previous occasions. Being already aboard in considerable strength they hoped that pressure might be brought to bear to have the Union minority removed and replaced by a full CIPA working party.

The plan did not succeed. It seems that this season's crew for the "Maui Pomare" has been picked with some care. There appeared to be more annoyance than sympathy with the CIPA's time-wasting trick, and the strikers were forthwith returned to shore. Their places were filled by more Union waterside-workers and the work of unloading the vessel proceeded without further interference.

Members of the Workers' Union are growing impatient at the policy of offering the CIPA the greater share of the work, only to have them spurn the opportunity in continued demands for full waterfront control.

This "appeasement," however, appears to be governmental policy pending further investigations into the Cook Islands problems.

THE "Maui Pomare" completed unloading and left Rarotonga on Monday March 29, for Atiu, Mauke, and Mangaia to pick up oranges.

In spite of all previous talk about the boycott of the vessel in the outer islands, fruit picking and loading in the outer islands proceeded without any trouble. The Resident Commissioner made the round trip.

On amusing story was told of one of the outer islands. The local secretary and another leading light of the CIPA had told the people that oranges were not being picked in Rarotonga, and urged them to refrain from picking. But when it came to picking time the people quietly went out and carried on with the job.

When the two CIPA gentlemen discovered this, they hurried to the office to obtain cargo space for their own produce. They were dismayed to find that all available space was already taken.

The work of loading the ship at Rarotonga on its return from the group was carried out by Union labour, without incident.

Some of the NZ policemen returned home on the "Maui Pomare," leaving only six on duty in Rarotonga, including Senior Sergeant W. Brown.

Miss D. Rowlands, after furlough in Victoria, has returned to her work at the Queen Salote College, Tonga.

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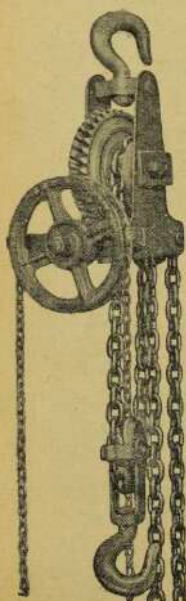
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"JOHN WILLIAMS VI" WILL BE BASED ON SUVA

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, April 9.
THE London Missionary Society's new ship "John Williams VI," now under preparation in England, will be christened by Princess Margaret in August and in September is expected to sail for Suva, where she will be based.

All the ships named after the Rev. John Williams, who was murdered at Erromanga in 1839, have been purchased

and supported by funds collected by children of the Congregational Church in Great Britain, Australia and New Zealand.

The first "John Williams" was launched in 1844.

After visiting Australian and New Zealand ports, in order that the children can see their ship, the "John Williams VI" will take up the mission-station run, which ranges from Samoa to the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, and to Papua.

Mrs. Joe Backhouse, Rabaul, New Guinea, was visiting her parents in Brisbane in April.

End of Fiji's Successful Cricket Season

Returned Team Beats the Rest at Suva

SUVA, April 19.
FIJI'S most memorable cricket season for many years was wound up on April 18, with a one-day match between the representative team now back from New Zealand and the Rest of Fiji at Albert Park.

Fiji won comfortably despite the fact that the star of the New Zealand tour, Ilekenua Bula, as well as other prominent members, had gone home to outlying parts of the Group.

An official luncheon at the Grand Pacific Hotel was presided over by Mr. B. H. Marks in the absence of the president of the Fiji Cricket Association (Ratu Sir Lala Sukuna), who is away from Suva.

Mr. Marks said that the great popularity of the team in the Dominion was due to the fact that it had played the game as a game and not as a life-and-death struggle for a win. He added that the captain of the team (P. A. Snow) had not received sufficient recognition for the way in which he had welded the players into a team and had consistently obtained the best from them.

It is expected now that the financial return from the tour will be considerably better than early reports indicated.

The team's finances were handled by the New Zealand Tourist and Publicity Department, and the guarantee system was not applied in the case of the five matches against the major provinces played at Auckland (two), Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin. For these matches the touring team will receive two-fifths of the gross receipts. This means that, for instance, the Canterbury match at Christchurch netted about £580 for Fiji.

The Hat Goes Round And Round

IN a broadcast review of the Fiji cricket team's tour of New Zealand, the captain (Mr. P. A. Snow) thanked the members of the team and all its supporters in Fiji.

Referring to financial backers Mr. Snow mentioned in particular the Fijian people, whose contributions were "magnanimous."

This, of course, is literally true. But the ungracious cynics may be forgiven for noting that the cricket tour fund, like last years' Tongan Rugby visit fund, and this year's Maori Rugby visit fund (if the visit eventuates) and heaven knows how many other funds, are all heavily augmented by massive Fijian donations for which the uttermost isles are often ransacked.

The word goes forth and the cash comes in—more often than not from people who can ill afford to pay up and who, in any case, have little idea of what happens to the proceeds of this ceaseless passing-the-hat-round. Very few of them have the opportunity of coming to Suva for cricket, Rugby or any other jamboree. But they still pay up, directly or through bazaars, taralalas or whatnot. Why?

Two ex-Servicemen left Brisbane recently on a 1,500 mile journey to Port Moresby in a 114 ft. Fairmile vessel purchased last year from disposals. The vessel, the "Gremlin," carried 1,500 gallons of fuel. Mr. Musicka, one of the crew, served for twelve years with the RAAF and was five and a half years overseas, of which, three years were spent as a Japanese POW. His partner, Mr. Whittaker, spent six years in the Navy.



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MAGAZINE SECTION

Territories Talk-Talk

By "Tolala"

ONCE again the Bitapaka (New Britain) war memorial was, on April 25, the scene of a service to pay tribute to the fallen.

About 80 persons attended the Anzac Day Service there.

In pre-war days a Commemoration Service was held there on September 12, each year to mark the day Australia officially took over Deutsch Neu Guinea from the Germans in 1914. The selection of the Bitapaka site for a war memorial, it is interesting to note, was the result of the first outing of the newly-formed Automobile Club of New Guinea, in 1934. It was the suggestion of the Club's Treasurer (the late Mr. Tom Ellis Sr.) and its Secretary (Mr. Gordon Thomas) that an historic site be chosen as a rendezvous for the thirty-odd cars, and no more appropriate locality could have been picked than that in the vicinity of where the first Australian soldiers fell in the 1914-18 war. Administrator Griffiths realised its significance and made the chosen spot available to become the site of the present memorial. The memorial was designed by W. I. MacGowan, of the Public Works Department.

Incidentally, it was MacGowan who designed the Automobile Club's badge after competitive designs had been submitted.

I saw Mac, the other day in Sydney, on his way back from South Australia, and he proudly produced his own old Club badge, which had survived the 1937 eruption and looked as good as new. It's one of the finest car badges I've ever seen, with a stately coconut palm in the foreground and Mount Mother and the Daughters in the background. The Club might be resuscitated, if only to perpetuate the badge!

PIDGIN-ENGLISH gets around all right. Thus the "Overseas Daily Mail" of February 7:—

This is how New Guinea natives learned about the royal wedding in their own pidgin-English newspaper:

"Good feller news e come up long England. Long Friday November 20 Number One Piccaninny belong King belong you and me, King George Sixth long England, e marry. All e savee long this feller King all time e come up long house picture now you and me stand up (referring to the King's picture shown in all movie houses). Now Number One Piccaninny belong e marry. Im he got two fellow piccaninny misses Princess Elizabeth and Princess Margaret Rose. Now Princess Elizabeth e marry one long feller man name belong Duke of Edinburgh. E hurrah much long this feller Princess.

"All same you an me belong long British Commonwealth feller."

THE Lockheed-Hudson crash at Lae last month, in which 37 deaths occurred, was a grim tragedy resulting in aviation officials' attention being focussed on the old New Guinea custom of carrying natives as freight, which after all, is the only practical method to employ.

Cries to high heaven arose about lack of seats and safety belts, but of what use are these—rather are they a hindrance—when the crashed kite bursts into flames?

(In a recent air crash in Europe the sole survivor was the chap who wasn't tied down with his safety belt.)

If full fares are charged for natives it does not take a Solomon to realise that native labourers will be padding the hoof from the beach to the Fields and vice versa.

IN the House at Canberra (April 22) Minister Ward announced, in answer to a question, that a Bill was being prepared to establish a permanent administration in New Guinea, replacing the present provisional organisation and that it "would give all permanent residents a voice in the administration of the Territory."

Presumably another Legislative Council along the old lines with its preponderance of official bumbledom. What the "Permanent residents" should have, of course, is representation at Canberra, as the Northern Territory has had for years.

In the pre-war years, TNG, especially, had many and varied champions from the Opposition benches. One such notable advocate was the late "Texas" Green, from the West. They certainly helped the business along and gave publicity to local grievances, but the Territory should have its own Member, not have to rely on the representative from an Australian constituency, who has his own voters' interests to look after. On more than one occasion Eddie Ward, then in the Opposition, had a few caustic re-

marks to pass on the Administration of the Territory, and how things should be run.

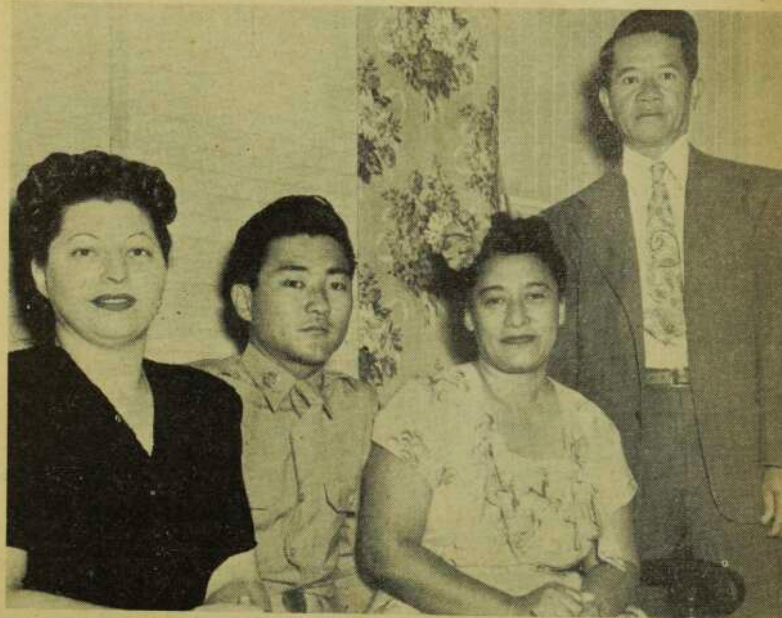
THE kunai wireless tells us that quite a few of the old-time government officials are chucking in their jobs with the idea of fossicking for the elusive 'weight up around the Wabag area. All of which embarrasses—as much as it is possible—the Powers-That-Be, for qualified men with experience are hard to find these days. But it was ever thus and, despite pessimistic reports from official circles, men will go after the nugget even as Cecil Levien did back in the late '20's.

IT certainly seems strange that with a fairly large population gravitating back to Rabaul—Europeans, Chinese and natives—that no steps have been taken to re-introduce the very efficient vulcanological set-up which was operating in this area in pre-war days.

What is Norman Fisher, Vulcanologist and present-day Commonwealth geologist, doing about it? Echo answers: What?

In post-eruption days in Rabaul he did a good job with his installations of seismic instruments and daily checkings of danger areas. As Rabaul is on one of the most interesting seismic centres in the world, observations should be continued, if not for the safety of the inhabitants, then for the collating of scientific data. It's a wonder the CSIR does not take up the matter.

FOUR RACES REPRESENTED HERE



This photograph, taken recently in Honolulu, shows how Hawaii has become the melting-pot of the races.

On the left is Mrs. Hayashi, who was formerly Beatrice Rae De Sandoval, of Sydney. Next to her is Hawaii-born Sgt. Hayashi, who is Japanese, and who is a member of the United States Army, stationed at Fort Shafter. The right couple is Mr. and Mrs. Ah Nee, foster parents of Sgt. Hayashi. Mr. Ah Nee, Chinese Hawaiian, is a fisherman; and Mrs. Ah Nee, a Hawaiian, is a teacher at Likilike School.

Recruiting for a living

By Old Marlburian



Village in the Markham Valley

THE Morobe goldfield was beginning to open up. The demand for native labour was keen. In 1927, I found myself, penniless, on the beach at Salamaua, living in a sac-sac house opposite the Langier Syndicate.

Someone heard I had been recruiting in Papua, and put up the necessary £50 guarantee. He bought trade goods for me from Clem Hendry, lent me a carbine stock Lueger, and sent me away recruiting. He told me there was a report of kanakas dying of some complaint, back of Mapos, in the Buangs.

With 4 boys loaned to me, to carry my trade, I set off along the beach, then climbed inland. Arrived at Mapos, high up in the clouds, I heard a great wailing. The village was really a series of hamlets. Presently a kanaka who could speak Pidgin appeared, and I told him I was out to recruit boys. Towards dusk, there came to the house-kia 8 boys, who said they were scared of dying and wanted to go to work.

In the morning, they arrived, with their poppas and mammas. The parents of each boy received a lap-lap, mirror, axe, grass knife, stick of tobacco, a box of matches and a glass.

Everyone satisfied, I started my return to Salamaua, down-hill, sliding down the red clay washways. Never was there a happier mob of coons, overjoyed at leaving death behind them. Arrived at Salamaua, I sold them to a man who was flying to Wau (who wanted them as cargo boys) at £10 a head.

I now thought I had reached a turning point on the road of misfortune. Unluckily for me, it was six moons before I got paid. Meanwhile, a couple of "blueys" were waiting for me to appear at the District Office — one to show reason why I had not paid my kai-kai bill at the local caravaniserai, the other from one of the firms. I told the DO I was only too anxious to square up, if I got a break, and the cases were held over.

SO off again per launch to Lae, to recruit in the Atzera district of the Markham. This time I had only one carrier. My hat blew off during the 18 miles trip, and it was too rough to turn back. So, from then on, I dispensed with a hat in the Tropics.

I arrived at Lae and was invited to stay with a man working for one of the plane companies, on the drome. Soon after my arrival he went into "the horrors," and the only way he could take a drink was to place his glass on the floor and lie alongside it.

Eventually, carriers arrived from the village of Zalu, who wanted 5/- each and a football. I arrived at Gabsonket to find the house-kia occupied by the "Wafor Syndicate" — more usually known as the "Whatfor Syndicate". They kindly made room for me on the limbo floor, where I rigged my taunam (net) and laid out my solitary blanket, with my haversack as a pillow.

I was invited to evening kai-kai — a grand feed — nothing was too good for the syndicate.

After getting together a likely party of six, with more money than brains, the leader had told them that he had dreamed there was gold up the Wafor River, running into the Wafor. He had made his way up the Wafor, had found some rich ground, had collected specimens, but going back his canoe had capsized and the gold had been lost.

After kai, the leader said he would tell us our fortunes by the cards. I was first; and he gloomily forecast that after one of my recruiting trips I would land in the calaboose! To the members of the Syndicate, he foretold success everywhere, to be crowned with riches, untold.

By the way, the Syndicate had brought up a flat bottomed punt, with an aero engine and prop, to navigate the Markham. The leader did not like walking, weighing some 20 stone.

When I was trying to get carriers, the Tul-tul told me that he was charging 1/- for a small saucepan of boiled bananas. His kanakas had recently carried for a recruiter to Sangau, and their feet were burnt by the hot stones, so I sat down to await events.

PRESENTLY, I heard that there were some pack-saddles in the village, and donkeys roaming around, left there by Yorky Booth, who had gone to Kaindi. Immediately I wrote a note to Yorky, saying I had borrowed his donks. I rounded them up, packed them, and started merrily off. The leader, a sedate little ass, led the way with her bell gaily tinkling.

Towards dusk, we passed the foot of some hills, where there was a seepage. Four donks jumped it, but the last one refused. My boy pulled on his halter, but the donkey sat back contentedly, resting his backside on a wooden spear I was holding. So we off-loaded him (his cargo consisted only of cartons of matches) and left him to graze, sure that he would join his lady love during the night.

I found a dry patch of kunai beside a small pond. I ate a tin of bully, and

prepared to camp, my bed consisting of my blanket on some cut kunai. I could not put up the net, as there was no timber around.

As soon as the sun went down every mosquito in the valley zoomed down to inspect me; as my net was only draped over me, they took their fill. The roccos then began their infernal croaking, in chorus with the bell.

Morning at last arrived, and we were out at dawn to round up the donks. The laggard was not to be seen — but was eventually found eating his way back to Gabsonket. Brought back and saddled, he nonchalantly stepped over the puddle he had balked at the night before.

I heard afterwards that the place I had tried to sleep in was the home of death adders. In those days we knew of Jap River fever, but no one knew it came from rats in the kunai.

Arrived at the Stony Gap, luckily not in flood, we crossed without too many swear words. We camped in a grass hut alongside the track. During the night a spark set off the grass, and in a few minutes the hut went up. I frantically grabbed a smouldering case of 12-gauge cartridges.

We reached the Leron River, which was well up, a swishing mass of dirty yellow water tearing over boulders, on its way to the Markham. The donks would not face this, so I decided to swim the Leron.

With my pocket Ben tied around my neck, and carrying my six-months-old bull terrier Joe, I gingerly stepped out into the swirl, trying to run downwards with the stream. I slipped on a loose boulder and went in head first. After a bit of a struggle I swam ashore on the opposite hungry-looking bank and hoped Joe, whom I could not see, would make it too. He did.

So on again across desolate flat country to Sangau, where an Agricultural Station was flying the flag. En route, I had to wade through mud up to my knees, as a local luluai being annoyed with the "master belong Didiman," had changed the course of a creek, hoping it would flood out the station.

ARRIVED there, I received a hearty welcome and a drink, before sitting down to a meal of roast duck. Relating my misfortunes, I told the official I had left a boy behind with the donks and the packs, alongside the Leron. He was horrified and said "Ten to one it'll rain tonight and up she'll come, washing away your saddles, or rather Yorky's saddles." He immediately sent off a

One Night of Horror in Santo

By Rosa Moore

dozen boys, who returned in the morning with the donks, none the worse for their swim.

Invited to camp for a while, I rested for a few days, and felt that all was not lost.

Leaving the donks, I got a line of kanakas to lift my gear and trade-goods for the mountains back of Onga, where I had been told very few recruiters had been before. On the way we were joined by a deserter, who had tired of the idea of walking to Lae with his recruiter, and had beaten it back during the night.

This deserter told my boys that in his hamlet there were plenty of boys waiting to be signed on. Although feeling this was too good to be true, I set off in high fettle. After two days of solid climbing, slipping in the clay, falling off moss-covered tree trunks, tripping up in tree roots, we finally reached a few houses.

A few jig-greased kanakas appeared and listened to our deserter. A small hut was allotted to me. No women were to be seen. A few small hands of bananas appeared in return for tabac—a change from the green "brus" they smoked in their bamboo pipes, and which smelt like an offensive bon-fire. The clouds swirled around us as the sun set, and an ominous silence reigned.

One of my boys appeared and said: "This place no good. All he savvy kai kai man. More better we go."

I thought so too; but travelling at night was not easy. So feeling everything was on the nose, I fed Joe a can of bullamacow, saw my Luger had one in the spout and a full magazine, changed the position of my blanket, and tried to get some sleep.

Dawn appeared, and only 3 carriers remained. No kanakas appeared, though I sensed I was being watched by hundreds of eyes.

Repacking the loads, and taking one myself, we set off deeper into the mountains, hoping the pigtrack would lead us to a happier village.

After climbing for a few hours, the boys had a malalo, and decided amongst themselves they did not wish to be kakaed by bush kanakas. They came to me: "Me fright. Me go back!"

So there was nothing to it but retreat. When we reached the fork in the track, leading to the hamlet we had slept in, across a small coulee there appeared a swarm of coons, waving spears, and shaking bows and arrows at us and all the time yelling "Wafor" — which in the Markham means "Come!" Refusing their invitation, so warmly extended, we continued our descent, feeling that "Wafor" meant, in this part of the world, "beat it!"

SLIDING along the boulders beside the Wafor River, with high cliffs on either side, we reached the Markham Valley, and found the Markham was up. A nearby village made a raft for us, known as a "bed." When in the water, only the platform on which we sat, and tied our cargo down, remained above water.

Pushing off, with a boy in front with a pole and one behind, we shoved through the shallows. I had heard of several attempts to raft down the Markham in flood. One ended in disaster, and everyone lost his clothes, which were out to dry.

All went well, and I felt I would be one to make it. We bowled along at about 5 knots. Suddenly, the waters formed a bottle-neck, and our speed increased to about 10. This was exciting, especially when a giant tree was seen around a curve. There was no chance of avoiding it. The boys leapt overboard, I, thinking of my precious trade, hung on, till the impact shot me in, and Joe, too.

As we swam downstream, parts of the "bed" soon joined us. We were able to salvage most of the gear, and we paddled

TWENTY-SIX light-hearted passengers left Tulagi by flying-boat, Sydney bound, one Monday morning late in March. Twenty-four hours later, grey-faced and crumpled, they gazed stiffly at the morning shoreline of Santo Espiritu.

Our trouble was that we had emerged from the poliomyelitis area of the British Solomon Islands into the polio-free New Hebrides. And, somehow, the earlier assumption that, as polio contacts, we were all to spend the night, while our flying-boat refuelled, in a hut suitably segregated for quarantine purposes, went entirely astray.

We came down into Santo's harbour in the late afternoon.

Up came officialdom in a launch, waving a yellow flag; officialdom palavered with the flying-boat personnel; officialdom poked a head briefly into the aircraft, shook a black beret disapprovingly and withdrew; officialdom made a statement and chugged away.

Through our preoccupation with overnight bags, a humorous idea obtruded: "What if we have to stay on board all night. Ha, ha!" Followed by another: "Don't look now, but you'll be sleeping tonight in that upright chair of yours."

The aircraft personnel did their best for us and our fate seemed to hang in the balance for some time. But it was so. We could not be quarantined on shore. Men, women and children must curl up cosily on board the plane.

A barge, putting out from the shore, led to the rumour that the inhabitants were on their way over to show that they wouldn't even touch us with a barge pole. But it proved to be the start of our refuelling operations, conducted by a trio of native experts.

Naturally, passengers seized the opportunity for a brisk stroll up and down the little barge as it rocked against the aircraft's side, and naturally they breathed all over the barges; and a few odd visitors later seemed rather to wear other holes in the quarantine precautions.

In a spirit of dignified resignation, we did our best to settle stoically for the night. The baby of the party was philosophical about sleeping in his stroller; two older children were balanced precariously and unphilosophically on suitcases and duffel bags, in the luggage compartment. Several adventurous males went aloft to sleep on the wings.

The rest of us groaned and threshed

about in our chairs. Lights went off at 10 p.m.

IT was one of those long, long nights—brilliant with moonlight, breathless with tropical glamour, broken with snuffles and snorts, and full of the movement of 34 (including personnel) restless souls.

THIS short article is written for your entertainment.

But you are invited to consider the absurdities of the poliomyelitis quarantine, still imposed in some of the South Pacific ports by official Bumbledom.

Clearly, quarantine has been a farce in most places. Where imposed, it has been more honoured in the breach than the observance. If there were any danger of the disease in the Islands, there would have been grave epidemics, long since, in Fiji, Samoa, New Caledonia, Solomons, Tahiti. But there has been no outbreak at all.

Yet the silly procedure described in this article is still being insisted on in some places.

Dark shapes moved heavily as sleepless bipeds stumbled about in search of a better spot. With rhythmic precision they fell over Father W., done up in a cocoon of plaid rug, who slumbered deeply on the floor; or they collided with prone Mrs. Y's toes protruding into the alley-way.

Rain fell, and the adventurous males descended from the wings, fell over Father W., draped themselves on luggage, twined themselves around the gear in the plane's nose, and pillowed their heads pathetically on the bilge.

It was a sad, sad scene to the sleepless—who witnessed in the shafts of moonlight the lurching, the clutching, the sideways slip in the unsympathetic chairs of those in the toils of Morpheus. The air was heavy with uneasy dreams and tortured muscles, yet alive with unconscious sighs.

With dawn's grey light, surrealist shapes writhed erect and turned back into the familiar passengers of yesterday. The horrid night was over. We were intact, if wild of hair, haunted of eye, bent into curious shapes, and filled with self-congratulation.

On Santo's shore, people were thinking of taking baths, shaving, sitting down to breakfast, riding in jeeps; but we had battled with the unknown and the uncomfortable, and needed only the aid of a chiropractor and a masseur to be able to take up normal human attitudes again.

There seems no moral to add to this because, before we removed our offensive presence from that memorable spot, four of Santo's citizens (two of them children) came aboard to travel in our unhygienic midst to Noumea.

And Noumea showed no interest whatever in our contaminated state. Instead, unlike their anxious compatriots in Santo, the French officials sent us to stay overnight in a hotel, and we were allowed to behave like any other tourists in puzzling over the strange ways of the franc.

Except that by now, after our night of horror, we limped about sneezing, and complaining of pains in the back of the neck and the lower limbs—just like any genuine poliomyelitis victim!

Where Are They Now?

Formerly Well-Known Pacific Officers
Are Scattered Far and Wide

BY NA MATANIVANUA

TO the old island resident a browse through that section of Whitaker's Almanack devoted to the Colonial Empire is full of interest, listing as it does, Government departmental officials in each colony—not all of them, of course, but all departmental heads and, in many cases, deputies.

Whitaker's for 1948 shows that colonial officials travel far and wide, and in some cases, frequently—which has often led to their being referred to as birds-of-passage with no real interest in the lands in which they serve.

Here are some of the former island officials whose names appear on the lists for other colonies in the current edition of Whitaker. I do not pretend that it is an exhaustive list—these are merely names known to the writer as those of ex-islanders:

Bermuda: Chief Justice Sir Brooke Francis, who started his colonial service career in Fiji in the early part of this century, and left there in 1921 for British Honduras, subsequently serving in Zanzibar, Tanganyika and Northern Rhodesia.

British Guiana: Director of Medical Services, Dr. H. B. Hetherington, OBE, formerly of the British Solomon Islands; and Director of Public Works H. E. Smythe, formerly of Fiji.

Leeward Islands: Director of Agriculture, R. Johns, OBE, formerly of Fiji.

Trinidad: Under-Secretary, A. R. W. Robertson, until recently Financial Secretary in Fiji.

Windward Islands: Governor Sir Arthur Grimble, KCMG, who was Resident Commissioner in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony in the 20's and 30's, until he went to St. Vincent as administrator.

St. Vincent: Administrator R. H. Garvey, CMG, OBE, probably one of the best known Pacific administrators, for he served in the Solomons, the Gilbert and Ellice and headquarters of the Western Pacific High Commission in Suva before going to Nyasaland, thence the West Indies.

Gibraltar: Captain of the Port G. B. Nasmyth, who served as Harbourmaster both at Suva and Levuka.

Gold Coast: Auditor R. F. Pinder, OBE, once of Fiji and recently of Palestine.

Hongkong: Governor Sir Alexander Grantham, KCMG, until recently Governor of Fiji.

Kenya: Governor Sir Philip Mitchell, GCMG, wartime Governor of Fiji and Chief Secretary J. D. Rankine, CMG, wartime assistant secretary in Fiji and lately

Colonial Secretary Barbados, who seems to be following rapidly in his distinguished father's footsteps.

Rankine is a real islander, having been born in Fiji, the son of Sir Richard Rankine, who started his career in Fiji in 1894, going from there in 1920 to Nyasaland, thence Uganda and Zanzibar, from where he retired in 1937, then being British Resident in Zanzibar.

Also in Kenya is Puisne Judge R. S. Thacker, one time Attorney-General in Fiji.

Malayan Union: Chief Secretary A. T. Newbould, wartime Colonial Secretary in Fiji.

Singapore: Chief Justice C. M. Murray-Aynsley former Chief Justice in Tonga.

Mauritius: Assistant Secretary K. V. Macquire, once of the Fiji Secretariat and at various times a district commissioner in the colony.

Nigeria: Deputy Financial Secretary A. W. L. Savage, who held a similar post in Fiji; Comptroller of Customs W. T. ("Jock") Martin, also ex-Fiji; Public Relations Officer Harold Cooper, who held a similar post in Fiji during the war.

Nyasaland: Chief Justice Sir Edward Jenkins, who, as Mr. E. E. Jenkins, was Attorney-General in Fiji.

Palestine: Acting District Commissioner Gaza, W. F. M. Clemens, formerly of the Solomons, and well known for his wartime exploits when the Japanese occupied the group.

Northern Rhodesia: Commissioner of Police J. E. Workman, who was also police chief in Fiji; Postmaster General C. O. Taylor, former Assistant PMG in Fiji; and Auditor L. H. Pope, who was once Fiji and Western Pacific auditor.

St. Helena: Governor G. A. Joy, CMG, previously British Resident Commissioner in the New Hebrides.

Sierra Leone: Attorney-General Ragnar Hyne, who previously served in Tonga, the Solomons and Fiji.

Newfoundland is not, strictly speaking, one of the Crown colonies, and the post of Commissioner for Public Utilities and Supply in that country is a far call from the Pacific, yet it is an Islands man filling the job.—J. S. Neill, CMG, who started his career in Fiji, but probably best known for his many years of service as British Agent and Consul in Tonga, from which post he went to the West Indies.

W. F. M. Clemens.

A. R. W. Robertson.



Sir Alexander Grantham.

THEN there are some who have disappeared from the pages of the current Whitaker. The 1947 edition listed A. Hallam Roberts as Attorney-General in Zanzibar. Roberts, who served as Chief Police Magistrate in Fiji, has presumably retired.

Also in the 1947 Whitaker, under Aden, was listed the name of John Goepel, as chairman of the Township Authority. That post is not listed in the 1948 edition. Fiji residents of the late 20's and early 30's will remember him as a cadet and District Commissioner.

Another who has disappeared from the colonial service pages of Whitaker pops up again in the Peerage—the first Baron Milverton—better known to Fijians as Sir Arthur Richards, one of the most able administrators the colony ever had, whose stay was all too short before he was called to Jamaica, thence Nigeria, whence he retired last year.

C. J. J. T. Barton, CMG, OBE, former Colonial Secretary, Fiji, and last listed as Chief Secretary, Nyasaland, has retired from that post and now appears in the Colonial Office list as a temporary administrative officer.

"WHO'S WHO" is also a source of information concerning former island officials, and here are a few I have come across:

Sir Murchison Fletcher, KCMG, CBE, ex-Governor of Fiji and then of Trinidad, now living retired in London.

Sir Guy Pilling, KCMG, in Fiji from 1907 till 1929, and then in British

Baron Milverton.

Sir Philip Mitchell.



THE BLUE CAVE

By W. E. Newton

WE were talking about the "Blue Lagoon" film, part of which has been taken at the Yasawas. And out of Mrs. Violet Langdale's unique memory of her early days in Fiji, came this true story.

When Mrs. Langdale was about 16—that would be nearly 60 years ago—she visited the Yasawas and explored the Blue Cave there. It is, she says, a sea cave under a towering cliff and was not easy of access. To get into it she had to be lowered about 20 feet, then a swim and a dive underneath a great over-hanging rock took her into the cave itself.

It was not a large cave, but the most completely beautiful that she had ever seen. Sitting on a rock ledge, she looked down into water as purely blue as a Grecian sky under the light that came in from the high open roof, and the classic groups of stalactites and stalagmites were tinted with pastels of all colours.

It was an Elysium of perfect beauty; and, in crude conflict with its remote enchantment, was a cross in the outer entrance leading on to a small strip of beach. It was a rough wooden cross, with stones piled in a high pyramid about it.

Here, obviously, was the mark of some tragedy. Back in the village, Mrs. Langdale made enquiries about it from everyone she met. But no one could tell her why or how the cross was placed there until, at last, she came across an old Fijian who told her this story:

ONE day, many years before, he had gone to the Blue Cave from the village. He smiled secretly when he was asked how he got there from the village which was remote from the cave that could be reached only from the sea. But when she pressed him he admitted that there was an underground passage

and that he was the only one on the Yasawas who knew of its existence.

When he reached the cave, he continued, he saw a vessel dropping anchor outside. It was a well-known American trading-vessel that used to bring timber and provisions to the settlers in the island group. He saw a life-boat leave the ship and come towards the cave. Hidden, he watched it approach.

In the life-boat were three men (one of them the captain of the trading vessel) and a young woman, the captain's wife. The boat pulled in to the cave strip and the young woman and one of the men, a handsome young fellow, were put off with one large saratoga trunk, one small one and a few provisions. The young man was strained and silent; the young woman had her face buried in her hands, crying bitterly; while the Captain upbraided them both. What he was saying was not understood by the old man watching the scene from his hiding place, but it was easy to tell that the Captain was in a great rage and that jealousy had provoked it.

Soon he got back into the life-boat and was rowed back to his ship, leaving his wife and the young man to their inevitable death from starvation and thirst.

The old Fijian was too afraid to let his presence there be known. He went back to the village through the underground passage and kept what he had seen to himself.

Once or twice, after that, unobserved by the lovers, he saw them at the cave, but he dared not seek any communication with them. The captain of the trading vessel was a man to be feared.

But some years after, when the captain no longer brought his ship to the island group, two other white traders came to the village and the old Fijian offered to show them something if they would go with him. Taking them by sea in a canoe to the cave entrance he showed them the skeletons of the hapless lovers, who had unfortunately, not discovered the secret passage for themselves.

The traders piled stones over the skeletons until they were covered, and, making the cross, they placed it on the grave.

The saratoga trunks were intact; and, when the traders opened them they found the woman's beautiful clothes in the large saratoga and the man's fine suits in the smaller one. They were mildewed but untouched by water or insects.

Keeping the jewels, the traders took the trunks into the village and there distributed the clothes among the people. The girls disported themselves proudly and happily in the gay glory of the colourful gowns and pretty shoes, and the men—the old Fijian sighed at the memory of the splendid suit he had worn for years!

Naturally, Mrs. Langdale begged to be shown the secret passage leading from the sea to the village, but the old man could not be cajoled into revealing it. He died still holding its secret safe. And as far as Mrs. Langdale knows, no others had ever discovered the passage for themselves.

Short Story:

The Half-Castes

ONCE on day long ago, a certain Fijian village was seething with excitement. This was the day on which Seniana was due to return from her first visit to New Zealand, whither she had accompanied a European lady from Suva, as maid-servant. She had been away from her "koro" for three years, and her friends and relatives were wondering how she had fared, and how she looked.

THIS story—perhaps a rather fanciful interpretation of how a European could be introduced into Fijian life—is by "Kia Loma." Kia Loma, in Fijian, means half-caste. It is published mainly because it contrasts so strongly with the sentiments of both Mr. Calwell, Australian Minister for Immigration, who is at present indulging in a heresy-hunt among Polynesian people domiciled in Australia (see elsewhere this issue); and also with the sentiments of a full-Fijian reader as expressed in a letter to "PIM" on page 23 of March issue.

Seniana was a beautiful Fijian girl and had been only 18 years of age when she left home three years before.

"I wonder if she will still be able to speak our language?" remarked one. Another said, "I expect she will come back dressed in European clothes."

At last, the signal of Seniana's arrival was given and the rhythmical beat of the lali could be heard for miles around.

Father and mother are, of course, given right of place in these welcomes and there were many tears of joy shed as Seniana, more beautiful than ever, and dressed in her own native costume, was seen embracing her parents and others.

There was great feasting and rejoicing. Everybody was happy and delighted to see their beloved Seniana amongst them once more.

On the following day Seniana informed her parents that she had something important to tell them and asked them not to interrupt her in her story. "When I left you three years ago," she said, "to accompany the white marama to New Zealand, I said to myself, 'I will soon return, and will never leave my home again.' Alas, however, this cannot be. When I was in New Zealand I met many people who were kind to me and did all they could to make my stay enjoyable and happy.

"One day, I met a young man who was good to me and helped me to understand Europeans and their ways. He also taught me to speak their language. I grew to love him. He has asked me to marry him as soon as I can return to New Zealand, and I have promised him that I will. He is a farmer and prosperous. Please do not be angry with me, dear parents. One cannot help falling in love. I am quite sure that I shall be happy with Edward and he says that he will never have any peace until he sees me again."

The news soon spread in the town that Seniana was about to leave them again, and there were many broken hearts among the young men when they heard

(Continued on Page 46)

Honduras, Kenya, St. Helena, and Zanzibar latterly as British Resident, also now retired.

A. A. Wright, CMG, who commenced his service in Fiji in 1912, and eventually became Secretary for Native Affairs before his transfer to St. Vincent and thence St. Lucia as administrator in each case. On his retirement in 1943 he entered the commercial world as managing-director of the Jamaica Starch Milling Co., Ltd., from which he retired in 1946 and is now living in Jamaica.

Sir Percy McElwaine, Attorney-General in Fiji from 1927 to 1930, then in Singapore, where he eventually became Chief Justice. He was interned by the Japanese from 1942 till 1945 and retired in 1946.

Sir Maxwell Maxwell-Anderson, once Chief Justice of Fiji, living retired in Malta.

A. W. Seymour, CMG, Colonial Secretary in Fiji in Sir Murchison Fletcher's time, and later Colonial Secretary Trinidad, now living retired in England.

Last but not least, "Who's Who" reveals that a very famous wartime figure had a link with the Islands. Marshal of the Royal Air Force, Lord Tedder, embarked on a Colonial Service career in Fiji in 1914, but joined up for World War I soon afterwards and never returned to the Colonial service.

Tropicalities

MONSIEUR V. VERLAET, trader, of Aleipata, Western Samoa, was in Sydney in April. He had just returned from Europe on the "Orion."

Monsieur Verlaet, who is a Belgian and has been visiting his brothers in Antwerp, described himself to newspaper reporters as being frightened of civilisation, terrified of cars and hating noises. He said he had exiled himself on a lonely reef in Western Samoa for the past 40 years, where there are none of these things. He wanted to get back there as soon as possible and had no intention of remaining in Sydney (which has noise, cars and "civilisation" in abundance) any longer than necessary.

WITH imported grocery lines going-up in price a little higher each season, it behoves the Islands dweller to seek as many local substitutes as he can devise.

Excellent vinegar may be made from "slushy" bananas, at a cost of perhaps a penny a pint!

You take a clean fifty-pound flour-bag, fill it with over-ripe bananas (the "red" variety is not of any use) and then hang the bag, up by one corner on a hook. Beneath the lowest corner of the bag you place a jar. After a time, the bag begins to "drip" at the lowest corner, and the drip falls into the jar. When full, empty into a larger container and cover lightly. Repeat when jar fills-up again! (A few pokes will assist the fermentation of the slush in the bag.)

In due time, you have the large jar full of a liquid resembling sour wine. A little "professional" vinegar may now be added, and the product, covered over and left to work.

During the working process the brew needs to be strained and decanted a number of times; a second large jar is useful then. At the final stage, which takes a couple of weeks or more, a pure food acid, of the "acetic" persuasion, is found to have replaced the banana-juice you started out with. This is as pure a vinegar as you could buy; it has been made with tropical fruit, at an immense saving in cost; and, in use, is superior to the bottled, dilute acetic acid that is occasionally available in the store.

Admittedly, it is a horribly sticky job; and the pulp in the bag is revolting to behold. But look at the saving!—E.G.

THE "Tiare Taporo," well known trading schooner of Rarotonga, was leaving on her last group trip of the year and the usual round of farewells

saw several of us soon viewing the world through rosy spectacles. Later that evening, however, with the schooner punching into a nasty sea, things were not so good, and the passengers were a most subdued company.

We were a full ship, with the overflow bedded down on settees in the main cabin. But one of our number, an old ex-Army Major, was fortunate enough to have a berth in the trade-room, just forward of the main cabin. Sometime in the early hours of the morning, the old Major, who was feeling very bad, decided that he must have a drink of water, and he started off to navigate his way aft, through our main cabin, to the bath-room.

With the schooner rolling madly and with odd luggage and bits and pieces careering haphazardly across the cabin floor in the darkness, this took a bit of doing, and the Major's temper became frayed. However, he was determined to have that drink and kept repeating, "Water! Water—I must have water!"

Suddenly out of a dim, dark corner of the cabin came another voice: "For Heaven's sake shut up and go back to bed. We don't want water—we want dry land!"

A NIGHT or two later the old Major again gave us a laugh. He suffered from a weak heart, and the unaccustomed motion of the schooner was apparently affecting him. He had been allocated a bottom berth, with the top berth occupied by a Reverend Father on transfer to another island. As the sea got rougher, Major lay in his bunk with his hand on his heart groaning away. "Jesus, Jesus!" he said.

Knowing the Major, we knew that this was no pious plea. But the Reverend Father leaned over and whispered into the bottom berth: "What is it, my son—what is it?"—PERETTI.

DURING the busy shipping days of the thirties, when tourists where commonplace in Suva, there invariably blossomed forth when tourists boats were in, a Fijian of conspicuous presence. He rejoiced in the name of Ratu Bola.

A huge native, well past middle-age, old Ratu Bola felt it his duty as a loyal subject to extend welcomes to visitors and escort them around the town on his personally conducted tours—for a small consideration, of course.

Even for a Fijian his attire was original. He was garbed in an outfit of im-



Ratu Bola.

maculate white ducks, a silk, open-neck shirt and over his trousers he wore socks in plus-four fashion. He was the only Fijian I ever came across wearing shoes. He also wore a panama hat, smoked an enormous cigar and invariably carried a fly-swish nearly as big as a cat-of-nine-tails, which he used with dramatic effect both on flies and on any native children who got in his way.

His self-assurance was colossal, and his penchant for gate-crashing on tourist parties, notorious. A really most superior being was old Ratu Bola who, according to himself, was descended from an impressive, long line of high chiefs. To some tourists he even went so far as to confide, in his own modest way, that he really was the uncrowned king of Fiji.

His claims to high lineage were doubtful although many a native appeared to regard him with a certain amount of deference. I don't know whether Ratu Bola's star is still in the ascendant, for I last saw him in 1937. Perhaps he finds the airports a more fruitful source of income nowadays than the wharves of Suva.—Geoffrey Shepherd.

YOU may be interested to know that James A. Michener, who wrote "Tales from the South Pacific," has been awarded the 1947 Pulitzer Prize for "the most distinguished fiction in book form."

The "Tales" were reviewed in the February issue of "PIM" by J. T., who said that it was the most entertaining book to have come out of the Pacific war. —"MAC."

Several months ago, Captain Fred Giblin sold his plantation and trading station on Nanuya Levu, Yasawa Group, Fiji, to Mr. Alan Thompson, and retired with Mrs. Giblin to their new home in Suva. Captain Giblin is a brother of the well-known Dr. Giblin, who practised in Wau, New Guinea, before the war.



TONGAN TRIPLETS

Triplets are very rare in Tonga, and these three infants (now 6 months old) are regarded with wonder and curiosity by the Tongans. Both parents are full Tongans. There are two girls and a boy (the latter in the centre, held by the mother).

BOOK REVIEW

They Lived in Tahiti

READERS will probably remember the story (published during the war years in "PIM," and later reprinted in "Where the Trade Winds Blow") of how Mr. Eastham Guild introduced birds to birdless Tahiti.

If that story interested them, they will find added entertainment in the book, just published, by Caroline Guild (not pronounced in the British fashion, Guild, as in gilding the lily; but, according to Boston, Mass., as Guild, to rhyme with child), which gives full details of their many other hobbies—globe-trotting, house-building, chicken raising, the taming of tropical plants for garden use; sailing; big game fishing.

A photograph of Mrs. Guild and a sword fish, which she caught off the coast of Tahiti, is reproduced on this page. While on a holiday in New Zealand she caught an 823-pound black marlin which won her the woman's world record.

The Guilds were lured to Tahiti by Frederick O'Brien's "White Shadows in the South Seas." At the time that "White Shadows" caught up with them they were living in Holland, on a sand-dune facing the North Sea. In such circumstances, the lush Mr. O'Brien (who has always given this reviewer a pain in the neck) got in his work with deadly effect and the Guilds left for Tahiti forthwith. They were equipped with an English governess for their four-year-old Martha, a variety of glass beads which they hoped to exchange with the Tahitians for a grass hut, and 42 pieces of luggage.

On Papeete waterfront they were rescued by Tioni, who took them to a "ver" fine hotel, in a narrow street in the back of the town. Maria was their landlady. "She showed us round the first floor . . . then led us up a narrow dark staircase to the bedrooms. They were cubicles along a balcony. There were no doors, only strips of printed calico hanging in each opening. The rooms were furnished alike, with a double-bed, a chest of drawers and a chair. The mattresses were alpine in contour and the pillows a half-and-half mixture of cement and kapok. At my faint-hearted but urgent inquiry about a cabinet de toilette, Maria led us downstairs again and pointed to the one-holer standing next to the shack that served as the kitchen."

Exit Mr. O'Brien.

DUE to New England stubbornness, as much as to an overdrawn bank account, the Guilds stayed in Tahiti. The ubiquitous Tioni sold them a ten-acre tract of jungle in the Paea district, built them a house of proportions never then seen on the island, and at the most opportune moment, assuming the role of water-diviner, produced an inexhaustible spring of mountain water, right at their back door. Here, between 1923 and 1940 the Guilds created their Tahitian retreat, without benefit of O'Brien, that became known not only to Tahiti but to many distinguished (and not so distinguished) globe-trotters and tourists. One of the distinguished was Zane Gray, who clinched their interest in big-game fishing; some of the undistinguished ("White Shadows" to Tahiti), mistook the Guild home for public property, picked flowers and took photographs and even invaded the house where they ordered drinks.

Mrs. Guild's story is a charming one, written with Yankee insight and humour of life among native people who are

simple, lovable and cussed. But there have been other charming stories of such things.

Where the real difference lies in this story, is that it tells of a family who went to a tropic isle and stayed there, not because they fancied that they could get rich quickly, or because they were driven by stern necessity; but because they chose to make a home there, rather than in Holland, or France, or Boston, Mass. Mrs. Guild extols neither the delights of beachcombing, nor the blights and joys of trading or planting—the undertone of most books on the South Seas. By some merciful providence, they were supplied with sufficient of this world's goods to live in comfort, and, this being so, they, skirting the pitfalls of tropical torpor by an avid interest in their surroundings and a succession of hobbies, probably got more out of life in the South Seas than any one before or since.

In 1940, after the fall of France, the Guilds went back to the United States. We do not know whether they have returned to their rainbow's end in Tahiti, or whether they ever will. Tahiti, like

the rest of the Pacific, has changed in many ways. But it is, at all events, nice to know that, in the 1920's and 30's, such a world as Caroline Guild's could exist—especially for the young of the British Commonwealth who know no other life than that which is circumscribed by rules, regulations and prohibitions.

The book is illustrated, somewhat cynically, by Nicolas Mordvinoff, who has lived for many years in Tahiti and who is, obviously, no O'Brienite.—J.T.

("Rainbow in Tahiti," by Christine Guild. Our copy from the publishers, Doubleday & Company, Inc. Price, 2 dollars 75 cents.)

Mr. P. J. Rostance, BEM, who was born in Penkridge, Staffordshire, is at present on leave prior to retirement from the post of Senior Foreman in the Fiji Public Works Department. He has been associated with the Department since April, 1929, and has helped to construct many of the Colony's public buildings and official dwellings. In the early days of World War II Mr. Rostance supervised urgent military construction work on Viti Levu, and in recognition thereof was awarded the British Empire Medal.



Mrs. Guild with 187 lb. Marlin she caught off Tahiti.

SERVICE SECTION

Around Sydney Shops

HOME KNITTERS.—There are plentiful supplies of knitting cotton which is suitable for women's and children's tropical sweaters. Prices range upwards from 8d. per oz. for fairly coarse yarn. There is a fine mercedised cotton in a fair range of colours for 1/11 per 2 oz. hank. Short-sleeved sweaters, for women, take from eight to 10 oz.

For knitters in those parts of the Pacific where a slight amount of winter is experienced, one Sydney shop has fine English crepe boucle wool at 2/1 per oz. The price is over twice that of ordinary Australian knitting wool, but it comes in a range of very beautiful colours and knits well. Australian wool of the post-war era has a fatal habit of brushing up into a tuzz after a few weeks wear. Eight ounces make a short-sleeved sweater.

FOR MEN.—Since the end of the war there has sprung up, in Sydney, a veritable rash of shops called Disposals Stores. They are generally run by gentlemen with strange foreign accents and hooked noses; and they contain a solid conglomeration of clothing, boots and ex-Army equipment from field telephones to tired-looking dummies. Occasionally, however, there are items which would be useful to the Islands prospector, patrol-officer or planter. At present there is a "general release" of oiled-cotton, rain-proof garments—three-quarter length coats, pants, and a sort of combination cape-sou'wester.

There are also, long slickers in the same material but camouflaged in a fine blending of brown and green. At first glance, it might be supposed that they were constructed for an army of hunch-backs, as they have a large hump built into them at the back. After much cogitation, this would-be shopper, came to the conclusion that the hump was there to take care of the pack on an infantryman's back. So if you do not mind looking like a camouflaged version of one of the seven dwarfs, or if you are big-hearted enough to want to protect your carrier-line from the rains and vapours of the jungle, you can purchase these garments for the trifling price of 5/- each.

FOR CHILDREN.—All raincoats for children are extremely scarce; raincoats for wear in the tropics doubly so. There are, however, a few available of rubberised cotton, light-weight and well-made, in various colours for 27/5 for a 22 in. length (and up according to size). Heavy rubberised capes, with hoods, are 13/9 for 24 in. size. Children's sou'westers, in colours, 5/9.

If you would like your little girl to look like a film-star's child, now is your opportunity, and for half the price it would have cost you in the Australian summer. One Sydney emporium is selling Kim's children's clothes at bargain rates. Kim's is an American firm which began operations out here after the war. The designs and materials are American; the workmanship is Australian and first-class. The dresses are made in some cunning fashion so that they open out flat for ironing and the whole effect can best be described in the American word "cute." The only catch was the price—about 37/6 for a cotton frock for a three-year-old. The same frock now, at this particular store, is 18/- or 20/- according to design. A five-or-six-year-old child can have one for about 28/-.

RAINCOATS.—There are a great variety of raincoats for women, and a

great variety of prices. Those suitable for the tropics are: light-weighted oiled cotton in pink, blue, green, or cream with red design, £2/11/5; Dunlop rubberised rayon linen in various colours, £2/12/-; shower-proof satin, smartly cut and in what are now called "the jewel colours" for £5/9/6. If you want to be very elegant, there is a black satin number, with a New Look full skirt. This will cost you over £8. If you want to buy British you can go to almost any lengths for shower-proof silk—12 or 14 guineas.

COTTON FROCKS.—There are many of these about at reasonable prices. In seersuckers and prints they range in price from 25/- to £3 and are very suitable for island day-time wear. Some in stripes (pink and black; yellow and grey, etc.) are a good purchase at 38/-.

EVENING SHOES AND BAGS.—Good silver and gold kid shoes and bags are back but they are not cheap. Imported English shoes, in good styles are from 66/- to 68/9 for silver kid; and 82/- to 87/9 for gold. Joyce has an ankle-strap, wedge evening shoe for the young woman, but not, alas, at a young-woman price. They are 91/3 for gold kid and 71/9 for silver. The same model in black corded silk is only 36/6. Other Australian-made evening shoes range in price from 30/- upwards and are made in all shapes and sizes to suit all tastes.

Evening bags can cost a few shillings or many pounds. A good little utility evening bag, in a flat, round shape with a zipper opening, can be had in gold or silver for under £1.

GIFT.—If you want an inexpensive wedding or engagement present that is away from the electroplated butter-dish tradition, there is a wooden savoury-holder in Mexican design that might fill the bill. Our Mexican sits with bowed head; his large hat is full of small holes to hold savouries impaled on toothpicks. The price is 18/-.

TRAVEL, ACCOMMODATION

Islands travellers arriving in Sydney and wishing to go on immediately to other States should take heed that it is almost impossible to obtain sleeper accommodation on interstate expresses under eight or ten days; seats under three or four days. Plane travel, at present, is easier to arrange.

Hotel accommodation is sometimes quite impossible to obtain at short notice. You should, therefore, make your arrangements as far ahead as possible.

Mr. Hartley Palmer, who has been for some years manager of the Levuka branch of Morris, Hedstrom Limited, has been loaned for two years for service in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony, where he will manage the Government Trade Scheme. Mr. Palmer left Suva for Tarawa in April.

Sir Hugh Ragg left Fiji by plane on April 14, for Sydney where he will join Lady Ragg, who for health reasons, has been away from the Colony since January. They expect to return in June. During the two months' absence from Fiji of Sir Hugh Ragg, **Captain G. B. Eddinott** will be acting chairman of the committee of management of the Fiji Servicemen's After-Care Fund and of the Rehabilitation Board.

PACIFIC ISLANDS SERVICE BUREAU

AS Pacific Islands readers of the "PIM" were informed in March, the Pacific Islands Service Bureau has been established to assist Islands residents who cannot shop for themselves. Briefly, we will perform those services for you, in Australia, which you cannot perform yourself, or are outside the scope of ordinary mail-ordering.

We will purchase and forward goods to you; have repairs made on your behalf; send flowers, sweets, fruits, gifts to friends in Australia for you, or to your children at school in Australia; match materials and sewing accessories; and arrange holiday accommodation and travel.

For these services we charge a small fee—in the case of shopping services, usually 10 per cent. of the purchase price.

If you missed the circular which explains this service fully and which was included in all copies of "PIM" which went to the Islands in March, please let us know and we will send you a copy of the pamphlet, free of charge.

All inquiries should be addressed to:

The Director,
Pacific Service Bureau,
Box 3408, Sydney.

WANTED: RECIPE FOR COMMON SOAP

A GOOD recipe for making common soap from coconut oil is urgently sought by Mr. W. E. Baines, of the SDA Mission, Honiara, British Solomon Islands. Mr. Baines is fortunate in having a good supply of caustic soda, but unfortunate in that all his experiments in soap-making so far have failed. Anyone with a good recipe is requested kindly to send it direct to Mr. Baines at the above address.

(Continued from Page 43)

that their favourite was going to marry a "kai Vavalagi."

SEVEN years passed, and some of Seniana's friends and relatives died. Her parents too, had died from grief a few months after losing their beloved daughter.

One day it was reported that Seniana was returning with her husband and family. Again there were many preparations for her welcome home, and speculation was again rife as to what she would look like and whether she had discarded native dress.

"We don't want any half-caste children in our town," one or two were heard to remark. Others said "Why does Seniana not stay in New Zealand where her husband belongs, and where she has been residing all this time?"

Blood is thicker than water, however, and the majority were eager to see Seniana again and welcome her home.

The beat of the lull announced Seniana's return. "Here she is," they shouted, and almost smothered her in their anxiety to greet her.

Yes, it was Seniana, looking a little older perhaps but as beautiful as ever, with a strong, tall, handsome man by her side, and two fair children.

After the welcome ceremonies were concluded, Seniana and her husband and children were conducted to a new house presented to them by the townsfolk, and it was there that Seniana's husband was appointed "Tui" of the town. There was no need for him to return to New Zealand as he had sufficient money to support his family in Fiji.

This is the way in which half-castes were first introduced in one Fijian village. Seniana's descendants are still to be found there.

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Dr. Verrier Wants A Fijian School of Painting

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, April 20.
WHY should not the Fijian instinct for colour and design inspire a characteristically Fijian School of painting and other arts which would take the place of the picture-postcard products of occasional visiting artists.

This question was raised in Auckland recently by Dr. Lindsay Verrier, of the Medical Department, Fiji, who has been looking into the art of oil painting in Australia, although he says he cannot draw.

The answer to Dr. Verrier is that there is no reason why not except that, for three-quarters of a century, mass-produced commercialism and a ludicrous policy of artificial Westernisation have been doing their best to stamp out every vestige of native artistic genius, together with virtually all the more important native arts and crafts.

Anyway, Dr. Verrier hopes to do something about it. If he can start a movement to bring the almost, but not quite, extinct spirit of Fijian art out of the museums and back into everyday life, he will have achieved something monumental.

In the meantime, Dr. Verrier has been appointed to a "travelling doctor's" post in Vanua Levu—for years one of Fiji's most medically neglected areas. There are districts in the provinces of Macuata and Bua where no Fijian village has sighted a medical officer for a long time because of the Government's inability to secure sufficient medical officers.

NEW LINE FOR FIJIAN TRADE WITH NZ

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, April 20.
THE "Fiji Times" has recently been describing some hitherto little-known but successful all-Fijian enterprises.

The latest is the opening up of a trade with New Zealand in ginger pickled in brine, started by the Fijian Co-operative Market Association in response to an inquiry sent direct to the association by an Auckland firm last year.

The first experimental shipment of six barrels was processed at Auckland and was such a success that the next letter asked for 100 tons of ginger-in-brine. This was too big an order, but the association is sending all that can be prepared.

AWARDED US MEDAL



Ben Bele, a native of Savo Island, BSI, who won the United States Medal of Freedom during the war. When a US airman was forced down into the sea off Savo Island in November, 1942, Bele led a small group of Savo men in canoes to his rescue. Later Bele gave the airman first-aid treatment and hid and fed him until he could arrange for the airman's return to his base.

Mr. Dwight Long, famous pre-war for sailing a small boat around the world, left San Francisco in March for the Pacific, and is believed to be now in Tahiti.

W. Samoa's New Assembly Now Taking Shape

Samoan Members Chosen

From Our Own Correspondent

APIA, April 19. THE names of 11 Samoan representatives for the new Legislative Assembly of Western Samoa were, by request of the Faipule, picked out of a list of 31 candidates by the Hon. Fautua, Tamasese, Malietoa and Mataafa and given to the Faipule who, in turn submitted the names as their own choice to the High Commissioner.

The names of the new representatives are: Tualatulu, Mollo'o, Tulele, Fata, Fonoti, Tualau, Tofa Tomasi, Vui, Leia-taua Soloa, Asiata, Lavea Lala.

The official Samoan name of the members of the Legislative Assembly will be "Taimua," as distinctive from the Fautua, the members of the Council of State, and the Faipule, the district representatives.

An interesting legal point has been raised in connection with the inclusion in the 11 Samoan Taimua, of Tofa Tomasi, who is of German descent and a half Samoan. No former enemy of the King is eligible as representative of the people, as no formal peace treaty has been concluded with Germany. Tofa Tomasi (who was formerly Thomas Nauer) was submitted as a candidate by unanimous choice of the Aana district of Upolu which has a population of 5,000 Samoans.

The position now is that, until further notice, Tofa Tomasi will be unable to take his seat on the Council.

THE European election campaign has started in earnest with meetings, leaflets and radio broadcasts.

Two parties have nominated five candidates each.

The United Citizens Party has chosen Messrs. E. E. Paul, G. F. Betham, J. Helg, W. F. Stowers and F. W. Meredith. The Labour Party has nominated Messrs. A. A. Stowers, A. M. Gurau, G. Pritchard, D. Crichton and E. Fabricius. It is possible that one or two independent candidates will also contest the election which takes place on April 28.

Of the nine members of the United Citizens Party who had declared their willingness to stand for election, all three full European candidates were eliminated in a pre-election ballot, so that all candidates of the UCP are local-born. The Labour Party has nominated one full European (A. M. Gurau) and four local-born candidates.

Opening of New Assembly

A FONON of Faipule has agreed on the new flag of Samoa. This will have a red field with a blue square in the left hand upper corner, with five white stars in the blue square, forming the Southern Cross. The new flag, which is to fly together with the New Zealand flag, on all Government buildings, will be raised for the first time at the official opening of the new Legislative Assembly which has been set tentatively for May 18. Samoan leaders have issued invitations to attend the opening to the Prime Minister of New Zealand, and to representatives of the Maoris, Fijians, Tongans, Rarotongans, and Tahitians. An elaborate programme of water and land sports has been planned, and the historical event will be celebrated by two holidays.

After spending three months' leave in Queensland, Miss T. M. O'Brien has now returned to Madang, New Guinea.

M. Ratzel, who did valuable work for the Allies as Governor Henri Sautot's Chef de Cabinet, has left New Caledonia. His place as a member of the Governor's Private Council has been taken by Dr. Trubert. M. Ratzel had a long career as chief surveyor, and he played a leading part at the head of 300 men of the Huailu tribe in suppressing the revolt by Chief Noel of Kone in 1917. He came out of retirement to rally General de Gaulle in 1940. He re-christened his Noumea house Villa de Gaulle, but was later incensed by the actions of de Gaulle's unpopular envoy, Admiral d'Argenlieu.

Mr. Kevin Adams returned to Port

Moresby, Papua, recently. He will shortly be joined there by his wife.

PACIFIC ISLANDS SOCIETY

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.

Regular monthly meetings are held at History House, 8 Young Street, Sydney.

Address for Correspondence:
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(Continued from page 34)

off the boy was asked if he were returning to his village.

"Nogat, Masta, mi laik wok long Kong." (No, sir, I'm going to work for a Chinaman.)

Now the planter thought that if the boy were going to work for anyone he had a moral, if not a legal, obligation to work for him, as he had taught him all that he knew. So he asked him if he would sign on with him again, if he were to increase his pay to £6 per month.

"Nogat, Masta, mi laik wok long Kong."

"Well, what about £7/10/-?"

"Nogat mi laik wok long Kong."

"Well, supposing I offered you £15 a month?" (although he admitted later that he would not have done so.)

"Nogat mi laik wok long Kong."

So there was nothing further to be said. The boy went off and indentured himself to the Chinaman for three years at the lowest rate of six shillings a month. The whole incident was told by the planter to a magistrate who decided that he had better look into the matter, as it sounded distinctly fishy. He did so, but the only explanation was that there was another boy from the first native's own village recently indentured to the Chinaman and "mi laik wok long wantok bo-long mi." (I wanted to work with my mate.)

Until natives are taught the worth of money and what they can do with it, what do a few shillings more or less (or pounds, for that matter) mean to them? Cases like these and others should be known by those people who are arranging for the future of the natives. Yet in the debate at Canberra on the "Papua-New Guinea Act" in 1945 the most appalling ignorance was shown by members on both sides of the House. How can this ignorance be dispelled?

In the first place it is the duty of the responsible Minister to obtain the best advice available before measures affecting the Territories are introduced.

Secondly, in order that all members of the House may be better informed before they cast their votes, a representative in the House itself is an urgent necessity. There seems no reason why the Territories of Papua and New Guinea should not have at least the representation that is accorded to the Northern Territory of Australia.

BUT to return to our native friends. Anyone who wishes to know all the natives thoroughly is faced with an insuperable language difficulty.

True, in Papua one can get along fairly well with a knowledge of Police-Motu, while in New Guinea Pidgin-English is reasonably widespread. But throughout both Territories there are dozens of languages and dialects. This means that the members of one tribe are complete foreigners to those of another who may, geographically, be quite close to them.

As an example, the Poroporena villages around Port Moresby speak true Motu, which is entirely different from the language of Hula, 60 miles to the south-east or, again, from that of the Mekeo, about the same distance in the opposite direction.

In Papua, where the use of Pidgin-English has always been discouraged, a *lingua franca* has been evolved based on Motu. This is known as Police-Motu and has been spread by the members of the Royal Papuan Constabulary and others throughout the Territory. But it is still understood only by those natives who, like the police, have been employed in numbers by Europeans. Except on Government Stations, few women or children use it.

Much the same difficulty exists in the Territory of New Guinea, except that

here Pidgin-English is employed as the medium of expression between whites and natives.

There is a very important exception to

the use of the accepted *lingua franca* by Europeans in both Territories. The members of the various missions, being for the most part concentrated in one area,

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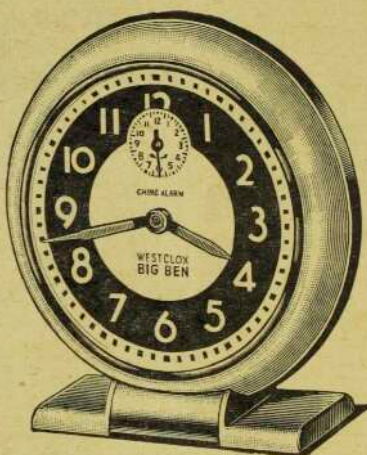
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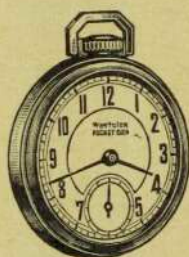
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use the language of the particular tribe amongst whom they work.

In 1945, during a tour of only a couple of weeks, a talk which I gave at various centres in connection with the war situation was successively translated to Hula, Mailu, Suau, Police-Motu, Wedau, Binindell, Pidgin-English, Kiriwinian and Dobu. The translations were variously made by Government officials, missionaries or native interpreters.

While on the subject of language in the Territories it may interest those who have dabbled in Pidgin-English to know that the word for a small boy is not "monkey" but "manki" (or "little man"), while a native woman is not "mary" but "meri."

And a word introduced into the Territories by the troops which is anathema to true Territorians is "boong." The natives have never been called "boongs," although one knows that the word is used when referring to the Australian aborigines at Darwin.

PROBABLY the greatest curse in the life of the natives is the practice of sorcery. It is very akin to the bone-pointing of the Australian blacks. It is widespread throughout the Territories. It is a faith and the natives cannot be argued or laughed out of their belief in it.

If a native is convinced that someone with power has "made poison" against him, to kill him, he will die and nothing can be done about it. If the sorcerer can be killed, of course, his magic will die with him and this fact is the cause of many of the "murders" which come before the District Courts. I must confess that in many of the cases with which I had to deal my sympathies (privately) were with the "murderer."

In one case a sorcerer told a native that he had by magic killed his father, mother, brother and wife (they had all undoubtedly died) and that he intended

to kill him and the rest of his relations. What was the native to do? He was convinced that the sorcerer had to be killed in order to save their lives; and he killed him.

Sorcery is a loathsome business. Of course, there is a law against the practice. But how does this help in the following case?

A native was accused of practising sorcery. He was convicted and sentenced to six months' imprisonment. Later, he returned to his village and said to those who had given evidence against him: "I told you that I was a sorcerer. The Government said I was a sorcerer and put me in prison for it. Therefore I am a sorcerer." That is good logic, isn't it?

At my headquarters, near Rabaul, early in 1946, six natives, including two constables, slept out in the scrub one wet night rather than sleep in the same hut as a third constable, who was a reputed sorcerer.

My police driver (who had been with white folk for twelve years) told me: "He is a bad man, master, and will poison us." (Here the pidgin word "poison" means "make magic against").

As I did not want all my native staff to die of pneumonia (which, of course, they and their friends would have attributed to the magic!) the only course was to change the last arrival.

The only effective answer to sorcery that I know is deportation from the tribal area: a sorcerer has not much power except among his own people.

Miss Barbara Stephens, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Stephens, formerly of Stephens Aviation, Wau, New Guinea, has announced her engagement to Mr. Reg. Williams, of Greenwood Park, Auburn, South Australia. The Stephens family resides at Spring Grove, Auburn, South Australia.

DEATH OF MISS HETTIE KENNEDY

THE death has occurred of Miss Hettie Kennedy, the last survivor of one of the earliest European families in the Ba district, Fiji, at the age of 86. The family came to Fiji from New Zealand in the sixties.

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Mr. C. W. Aidney, who has been Secretary of the Fiji Copra Board since the bulk purchase of copra by the Ministry of Food began in 1942, has resigned because of ill-health.

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FLOATING MINES IN FIJI GROUP

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, April 26.
ALL but two of the crop of live American bombs found some weeks ago at the island of Moturiki, near the hulk of the ship "South Australia" have been exploded. The two survivors are in deep water.

At the other side of Viti Levu, off the Nadi coast, two floating mines were reported last week.

"Parachute Post" Ends Mangaia's Isolation

From Our Own Correspondent

MANGAIA, March 1.
FEBRUARY 11—Ash-Wednesday in the white man's calendar—will go down to history in the local one as "Parachute Wednesday." For the first time since the Days of Hayes, this island's hurricane-season isolation has been broken by a visit from "outside" in February—but by an aeroplane, not a ship. As the off-season was formerly a complete cut-off between December and April, the coming of the "silver bird" has been a nine-days' wonder on Mangaia.

We have no airport yet, so the visitor could not land; but the machine circled gracefully over the beach and cliff, and seven parachutes, carrying containers of necessary drugs for the dispensary, and a small mail, were dropped upon the parade-ground. It is hoped that this arrangement may be repeated every month. Incidentally, the arrival of the first air-mail has caused our villagers to ask why it is that the allegedly-frail aircraft has been able to make this trip, while inter-island schooners hug the safe harbours in the North during the hurricane-season.

An interesting feature of the aerial visit was the behaviour of the fowls and horses of the villages. The former hid; the latter were thrown into a panic as the plane passed overhead.

The mail carried by the plane was necessarily limited to air-letters from Rarotonga and New Zealand; so that the expected ship-mail (or "surface"-carried items), is still in the Rarotonga GPO. The recipients of "first drop covers" were greatly envied by those to whom the plane brought nothing, and their names have gone down to local history, although in many cases all that was received was just a bill.

Mangaia now looks forward to the day when packets, newspapers and even parcels may be parachuted to us. The projected airstrip, at Tavaenga Village, will take a long time to get into operation, the matter being at present not even fully planned, nor a site marked out, though some preliminary surveying has been carried out.

THE parachuting of passengers, in case of necessity, seems quite feasible.

In an epidemic, for instance, doctors could now land at Mangaia in this way, even if no schooner were available—and, of course, the relief by air would be immensely more speedy than transportation of medical staff by sea.

The real solution lies, to this writer's mind, in the helicopter, which would make landing-grounds unnecessary.

TWO FATAL ACCIDENTS IN W. SAMOA

From Our Own Correspondent

APIA, April 8.
A ROAD accident, which caused the death of a woman and her child, occurred six miles out of Apia on March 31. A truck loaded with trade goods, driven by a cocoa planter, R. Ah Sau, collided with a car coming from the opposite direction. The truck left the road and turned over, imprisoning a six-years-old child. The truck then burst into flames. The child was incinerated and his mother was fatally burned in trying to rescue him. Mr. Ah Sau and a passenger, Mr. R. Adam, were also severely burned and taken to Apia hospital. Police are investigating the cause of the accident.

Another fatal road accident occurred on Savali when a Euronesian road-overseer, Tofilau Albert Schwencke, fell from a truck and was killed instantly.

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4541

NATIVE LABOUR INSPECTION

What Plantation Managers Have To Put Up With Under Wardist Regime in N. Guinea

From Our Own Correspondent

RABAU, April 14.

THE following is a copy of a letter written recently by the Acting Inspector of Native Labour, at Talasea, to the manager of a coconut plantation in New Britain:—

Following the recent inspection of your plantation, the following breaches of the Native Labour Ordinance Regulations are recorded against the plantation management:—

- (1) No "Employees Register" is kept vide NLO 96 (1).
- (2) Your employees have not been issued with box capable of being locked.
- (3) Peas, beans, or lentils ($\frac{1}{4}$ lb. daily to each employee) are not issued.
- (4) Whole barley, wholemeal sharps, or wheatmeal ($\frac{1}{4}$ lb. per employee/day) are not issued.
- (5) Tinned meat is not being issued in the correct proportion ($4\frac{4}{7}$ oz. is the correct scale).
- (6) Coconut meat must be issued to ensure that the employees receive a minimum of 2 oz.
- (7) No sugar is issued.
- (8) No tea is issued.
- (9) No salt is issued.
- (10) Fresh fruit or its alternative must also be issued to ensure a minimum of the required amount being consumed.
- (11) Fortified edible dripping is not issued.
- (12) (a) Some employees' sleeping quarters are overcrowded. (b) None of these dwellings allow ventilation as prescribed.

(c) Floors do not conform to the regulations.

(13) Beds are not as prescribed, but may be left in use until a date to be advised.

(14) The person who renders first aid to your employees has no approval from the Director of Public Health to do so.

(15) There is no sick ward provided for employees.

(16) No latrines are provided.

(17) No particulars of employees are kept.

A further inspection of your plantation will be made within the next three months, and I trust there will be no repetition of the above breaches.

THE above was referred to an official of the Planters Union, and the following interesting explanatory notes dated April 10, are appended:—

(1) The NLO 96 (1) is unprocurable at most District Offices.

(2) Boxes are unprocurable in this Territory and the Administration itself cannot supply them.

(3) Owing to the lack of inter-island shipping and shortages of goods generally, these cannot be procured.

(4) Same answer as three. Outport planters cannot even obtain sufficient rice. Neither can the Administration offices, as is witnessed by the fact that the District Officer at Wewak is without rice and has been—like many storekeepers in this district—without it for weeks. No shipping available to transport it. At the moment the inter-island shipping position is in an awful mess.

(5) Tinned meats generally are unprocurable. The quota for New Britain was granted to the larger firms, who appear to have represented that they are supplying the planters' requirements. The firms make sure their own requirements regarding plantations are met first. Applications by planters to the local Cus-

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toms officer either go unanswered or are refused.

(6) Coconut meat is always available to the employees. Does the Inspector expect the planter to attend and see that the employee eats it?

(7, 8 and 9) In many cases these supplies are not available to planters, owing to shortage of shipping. Even limited quantities for personal use are hard to get.

(10) Local fruits are always available to the employees and when supplied as part of their ration issue are thrown away.

(11) Is in very short supply and generally wasted when given. We find it hard to make the natives eat it. We have it, but they don't like it. If they ate the present supply, our stocks would be hard to replace.

(12, 13 and 14) These observations

Notes From Madang

From a Special Correspondent

MADANG, April 27.
ACCOMPANIED by Mrs. Hugh Birch, Mr. and Mrs. J. Sedgers, of Madang, with daughters Jac and Jill and young son Tony, flew by Lockheed to Mt. Hagan for Easter.

Three crash boats from Morotai passed through the port in late March.

Madang now enjoys a regular bi-weekly

could only be made by a person wholly unacquainted with local conditions.

(16 and 17) Appear to be within reason.

mail service, instead of once-weekly, as formerly.

School Inspector Ralph recently spent a week in the District. His happy approach to the children banished the old "inspector bogie." Mr. Ralph met the parents at the District Officer's home on the night of April 5. In addressing the parents, he spoke of the school syllabus, the new bursary scheme and the formation of a Parents and Citizens Association.

The regulation, that if necessary, the Association should arrange accommodation for teachers at a reasonable rate—probably the living allowance provided by the Administration—provoked lively discussion. Dissatisfaction was expressed that teachers, who are Administration officers, should be singled out in this respect. Difficulties, in the way of finance and inadequate accommodation, were put forward against this provision.

The Lutheran Mission have provided the material for the erection of the Chinese school. Mrs. Radke is to be in charge.

Accommodation is still difficult in Madang. With no single men's mess, no hotel and no guest-house in the town, Madang people, mainly Administration folk, after two years of providing accommodation for the hundreds of transitory travellers protested some time ago against private people in the District having to billet travellers. Only one or two people in the town have guest rooms. To continue their former hospitality would mean financial loss and constant inconvenience.

Mr. Harry Shaw, former Medical Assistant, of Manus, and later of Madang, has been having a busman's holiday in Wollongong, NSW, undergoing medical treatment.

The Agricultural Department intends planting 6,000 trees around the waterfront, commencing at the lighthouse. Many people hope that attention will be paid to the wharf area as it not only gives a bad impression of the town to new arrivals, but also is extremely glaring, being made of crushed coral and entirely without shade.

For Club members, a dance and card evening was held on Wednesday, April 14. The occasion was Mr. Alan Clark's birthday, and it was referred to in speeches by Mr. Fred James and Mr. N. Peters, who thanked him for his work as secretary.

First annual ball conducted by the RSSAILA was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. K. McCarthy at Kalibobo on April 23. It was a particularly enjoyable function, and reflected credit on the organiser, Mr. N. Peters. Supper was arranged by the Peters family. Raffle prizes were won by Mr. A. Eames and Mrs. H. Birch.

Mr. Toss Schilling, of Matupi Plantation, while on leave in Sydney, received the bad news that his copra drier had been totally destroyed. It is believed the cause was spontaneous combustion.

Anzac Day was commemorated in Madang by a Dawn Service. Veterans of two wars gathered on the oval to honour their fallen comrades. At 11 o'clock, members of the RSL and personnel from HMAS "Culgoa" marched to the Oval, where a Public Service was held. Hymns and prayers were followed by addresses, the Last Post and the National Anthem. An address in Pidgin was delivered by Mr. McCarthy to the numerous natives. Wreaths were laid at the Saluting Base.



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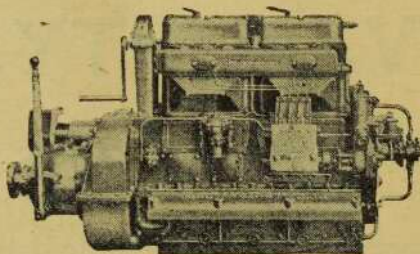
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INDIAN BUILDING SWAMPS ALL OTHERS IN SUVA

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, April 26.
THE Suva Town Board's listed building applications for the first quarter of 1948 indicate that the Indianisation of Suva is going on steadily. The quarter's applications involve a

proposed expenditure of £34,009. Of this £25,342 is Indian and £5,167 is European. The remainder, £3,500, is Chinese. Eleven applications will involve expenditure of sums ranging from £1,000 to £3,980. Ten of these are Indian.

Mr. and Mrs. N. Jolly, of Madang, NG, have a daughter, born on April 24. Mr. Jolly is with the Native Labour Department.

State Funeral For Mataafa

Thousands Pay Last Homage to
High Chief

HIGH Chief and Fautua Mataafa Faumuina Fiaame, who died in Apia on Easter Saturday, was given a State funeral on Easter Sunday. It was attended by members of his family, high ranking Samoan chiefs, Government officials and thousands of Samoans and Europeans. The announcement of the High Chief's death was made over Apia Radio, and buses and launches were despatched to bring in mourners from all parts of the Territory.

After a service in the Mataafa home at Lepea, the largest funeral procession ever witnessed in Samoa moved through the streets of Apia and, following the beach road, came at last to Mulinu'u, the traditional burying place of Samoan royalty.

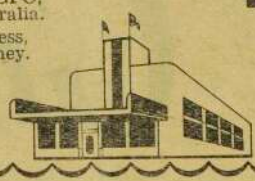
The Rev. H. Whyte, of the LMS, officiated at the graveside; funeral orations were given by the High Commissioner, the Hon. Tupua Tamasese, and other high-ranking Samoan chiefs, who all spoke of the devotion Mataafa had always shown to the welfare of Samoans.

Mataafa was 58. He was at one time leader of the nationalistic movement, the Mau, but later he became chief of the Samoan police. The towering figure of the chief in his police uniform became well known.

Messages of condolence were received from the NZ Prime Minister, on behalf of the government and people, and from the Governor-General. General sympathy was expressed for Mataafa's widow and his sons, the eldest of whom now takes the Mataafa title.



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INFANTILE ANTICS IN THE SOLOMONS

Bureaucracy Is On The Spree!

By "Sunbaker"

THE most polite way for me to describe certain recent happenings in the Solomon Islands is to call them "infantile antics." The phrase has a double meaning.

Last December, a strange sickness broke out in widely separated parts of this island group. Natives here and there found that they could not use their arms or, sometimes, legs. Government Medical officers decided that the sickness was a type of infantile paralysis, and wisely ordered isolation measures in an endeavour to control the outbreak. During the following three months there occurred about 80 cases of paralysis, with five deaths. However, the paralysis was permanent disability.

As neighbouring Governments were informed of the epidemic in the Solomons, all travellers from the Solomons to other territories had to go into quarantine on arrival in those territories. The only exceptions were Australia and New Zealand, where infantile paralysis was already established.

Within the Solomon Islands, movement of natives was restricted to urgent needs only. Moreover, natives from "dirty" areas (where paralysis cases had occurred) were strictly prohibited from going to any "clean" area. But white people could travel from a "dirty" area to a "clean" area with full Government approval. Native crews on small ships going from a "dirty" area to a "clean" area could not go ashore or have any shore contacts, but white people travelling on the same ships could go ashore and freely mingle with everyone.

The infantile paralysis germ at present enjoying a Solomon Islands walk-about is, apparently, a very strange fellow. From local measures taken to control this epidemic, it would appear that this germ can be carried only by dark-skinned people!

BUT that is not the strangest thing about this remarkable germ.

During February, two Government-chartered ships arrived at Honiara, capital of the Solomons, from Fiji. Because the ships cost the Government quite a few pounds for each day whilst under charter, a special endeavour was made to keep the ships "clean" from shore contacts whilst in the Solomon Islands, so that they would not be quarantined on their return to Fiji.

Notices were erected at the entrance to Honiara wharf stating that no one (including white people) could board either of the ships "unless accompanied by a medical officer." Native police were on duty to enforce the regulation.

When the ships pulled in to the wharf, certain Government officers boarded them. A native policeman was stationed on the wharf within spitting distance of the ships—although a paralysis case had been detected in the police lines only three days previously. But, officially, the ships had not been contaminated by shore contact and did not go into quarantine on their return to Fiji.

It thus appears that this strange infantile paralysis germ can be carried by white people, but not by certain Govern-

ment officials, or anyone when accompanied by a medical officer!

More recently, a Mission ship from Australia called at Honiara on its way to New Guinea waters. In order to avoid quarantine by New Guinea authorities, the ship avoided any shore contacts. However, three Government officials boarded the ship, but they (officially) did not carry any paralysis germs!

WE certainly are living in a wonderful age! You know that the Solomon Islands are right next door to the Territory of New Guinea, don't you? Yet, if you had an aeroplane, the quickest way for you to go from the Solomons to the Territory of New Guinea (without quarantine) would be via Australia!

A person can go from the Solomons to Australia without being quarantined and he can also travel from Australia to New Guinea without going into quarantine. But if he travels from the Solomons direct to New Guinea, he must be quarantined. These paralysis germs certainly are remarkable things!

Mentioning "paralysis" reminds me of certain restrictive measures taken by the Solomon Islands Government in March—measures tightening the grip of Government control, which is choking all private enterprise in this group of islands.

The regulations were introduced in March under wartime powers. They prohibit the importation of flour, canned meats, etc., and the export of all but a few items—except under licence from the Government. For instance, there is no qualified shoe repairer in the Solomons and therefore shoes must be sent away for repairs but this cannot be done without first obtaining a Government licence (application to be made in triplicate).

Officialdom, assisted by the continuance of wartime powers, is having a great experimental spree—at everyone else's expense.

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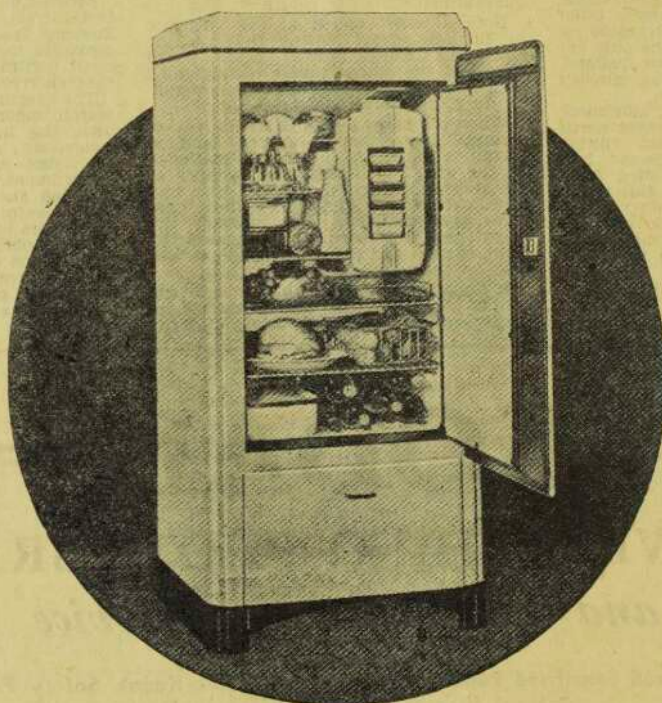
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STEAMER DAY—THEN AND NOW

(Contributed)

WHAT happy memories Territorians in the outposts have of the pre-war highlight of the month—steamer day!

Householders, running low in stores, had visions of filled larders and the means to make up a delectable meal once again; the luxury of a fresh cheese or a few English potatoes or onions. Probably, beer supplies had run out, and there was nothing wherewith to build the mysteriously interesting cocktail.

The whole community met the small cargo vessel. Women in bright cotton frocks made a pretty picture as they gaily chatted, or walked on the grassy slopes or on the wharf over the sparkling, green sea. Men, cool and clean in "whites," organised the squads of natives. Houseboys waited as eagerly as their Sinabadas, to carry home the "specials."

Then there was always the thrill of who may be aboard—the Governor, or the Judge, or even that rare event, a new resident. Now the teleradio in the farthest places tells us all that beforehand. Very handy, but the old thrill is lost.

Unloading was very orderly. The obliging supercargo had already loaded our cargo in separate lots at Moresby, so that Jones' stuff came off all together, the Browns' next, and so on—all being set down carefully (please note that word) on the wharf.

Jones' boys, with their Taubada, quickly checked and cleared their stuff. Brown followed, and then the others, in like order.

Next—usually last by reason of bulk and quantity—Government stores came ashore. Cool-tempered Government

officers rapidly checked and in no time, the wharf was empty and all clear, everybody happy. Then, all aboard the steamer for a yarn and a cool drink. Conversation inevitably centred on copra and rubber prices, on who is where, and on all the gossip from South.

The ladies, after a chat, returned home to supervise lunch, dinner or a cocktail party, worthy of the popular Skipper and Supercargo. They must often have been troubled as to whose invitation to accept, for there was always friendly rivalry. Residents were all anxious to entertain the cheery Captain Anderson, with his twinkling eyes and good stories. It was said of him that he knew the coast so well that he took his bearings while wearing smoked glasses.

In our town, everybody took an evening stroll and met again for drinks and more talk. One big happy family they had their "get-together" on Steamer Day. How we looked forward to it, too.

BOAT day in this same port to-day would just about break the heart of the "old hands." The cheerful, orderly routine is no more. Gone are the laughing, willing, eager natives; gone the chit-chat across the plank and wharf; gone the even-tempered white population. And no wonder!

Natives sullenly lounge round, on any convenient post or case. Jones' fellows mix with Brown's, and finish their cigarette before deigning to start work (if they ever do work!). Our friend Mr. Ward would enjoy our Boat day, if he could watch the boys (pardon, the natives!) slowly and sullenly carry on his union-to-be, no-hurry system.

We miss their old cheery shouts and fun as they work. Everyone is on edge, buzzing how to avoid a broken neck, and how to keep one eye on the goods and the other on the expert native thieves; and how in the world to collect your

own stuff from the great disorderly heap of cargo, thrown like so much rubbish on the wharf.

A further problem, often, is to sort out who owns what in the cases that are burst open in derrick transit.

The Europeans no longer wear smart "whites," for now they work on the cargo as white navvies, and khaki, if not so smart, does not show quite so much dirt.

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net full of cargo, and then down—not so gently. There is no order now in the sending off of goods, it is a jumbled

mixture. The load is disgorged, the net goes, and then there is a mad, wild rush of natives and whites to snatch and sort

out their individual parcels.

Mr. Brown yells: "There's one of ours. Catch this of yours, Jonesy! Come on, you so-and-so coons, lend a hand! That's ours—grab it!"—and so on, until in the general Bedlam everybody is shouting at everyone else. With everybody "all in," backs and heads down in the cargo heap, it's a first-class footer scrum. Usually, halfway through, yells tell us that the sling is coming over again. So, if you have not collected your stuff, it is bad luck. Clear out, or you will be under the new load of falling cargo!

Again the rush into the scrum—and at long last you collect and check your goods—to find that the dear Fuzzy-Wuzzey Angels have pinched one or two of your cases. Who could stop them? No one has a moment to keep an eye on anything but one's own gear.

As for later social entertainment—well, no one is capable, after the day of grab and snatch, or lose.

THIS is all bad enough for the Port dweller. But it is far worse for the outside man, away from Port, with often no boat, no labour, heavy seas in bad weather, no shipping or regular mail facilities. He has to depend on perhaps one available agent—a much harassed man. Heaven alone knows how he survives the day, trying to get his own stuff out, as well as for all who live outside.

Of course, he may be unavoidably absent when the ship arrives, and then—well I leave it to you to imagine how much cargo may be lost, or stolen.

Insurance is rather a myth. A stock insurance answer is: "Your goods were delivered on the wharf safely and that is where the ship's responsibility ends."

Heaven help us when the much-talked-of native labour union starts up, and sleepy natives decide on a sit-down strike in the middle of the scrum! All we can hope is that the derrick man will not strike, too, but will let down the load (none too gently) on their silly, wooden, woolly heads.

Do you wonder that this is dedicated to the departed glory of Steamer Day?

It is surely no credit to the powers-that-be that the more intelligent natives now ask for the "good Judge Murray fashion" again.



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Itching Skin Germs Killed in 3 Days

Thanks to the discovery of an American physician, it is now possible to kill and remove the true cause of most skin troubles. Your skin has nearly 50 million tiny seams and pores where invisible germs and parasites can hide, and which are the true cause of terrible Itching, Cracking, Peeling, Burning, Ringworm, Acne, Psoriasis, Blackheads, Pimples, Foot Itch and other disfiguring blemishes.

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

New Discovery Kills Cause

Former skin sufferers throughout the world are now praising Nixoderm, the discovery of a leading American skin specialist. This remarkable new preparation quickly penetrates into the pores of the skin and kills the germs and parasites responsible for your trouble in 7 minutes, stopping the itch almost instantly. At the same time, this wonderful preparation acts as a tonic and skin food, so that as the cause of your trouble is removed, your skin becomes soft, smooth and clear. This clear, healthy complexion will give you new charm and make it easy to win friends.

Praised by Doctors

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

Guaranteed Results

Get Nixoderm to-day. Put it to the test. In a few minutes you will find that the itching has stopped, and in 24 hours you can see for yourself that your skin is clearer. And it is guaranteed that, within one week, Nixoderm must make your skin soft, clear, smooth and attractive or money back on return of empty package. Get Nixoderm from your chemist or store to-day. The guarantee protects you. So don't delay. Get Nixoderm to-day.

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NEW CITY AND JOURNAL IN BORNEO

THE establishment of the new British Colony of North Borneo (taking the place of one of the last areas administered by a Chartered Company) is fittingly celebrated by the appearance of No. 1 of Volume 1 of the "North Borneo News," established in Sandakan on March 1 and published every fortnight.

It is well designed and well printed. Within the coloured cover and 20 pages there is a compendium of North Borneo and Indonesian news, as well as an impressive array of advertisements. One gets the impression that the new Colony of North Borneo is flourishing and optimistic.

By the time the Japanese had been driven out of North Borneo in 1945, there was little of the city of Sandakan left above ground. Yet, to-day, less than three years afterwards, "a new town, busy and prosperous, has arisen Phoenix like, from the rubble and the ashes of the old. The whole of the old town site, except for a block or two near the Slip-way, is re-occupied."

During her April voyage to the South Pacific, the "Matua" was diverted from Apia to Niue Island to pick up a sick Native Medical Practitioner. A relief NMP was taken to Niue and the sick man taken on the ship to hospital in Fiji.

MISSION WORK IN MALEKULA

Remarkable Change In 30 Years

WHEN I paid my first courtesy visit to the British Administration office in the New Hebrides in 1916, on my way with Mrs. Stewart to take up work on the island of Atchin, off the coast of Malekula, New Hebrides, I was asked by the superintendent of police to which part I was going.

Upon being told, the superintendent observed: "Hm! the toughest place in all the group. If you make any impression on those people in 20 years' time you will do well. They give this Government more trouble than any other native people. I wish you luck."

They had certainly earned a bad reputation. Having murdered the wife of the only European resident on the island, a French trader, a few years before, they decamped for several years into the jungles of Malekula, lying about a mile away, and there defied the Government. They were insolent and hostile. They were armed with muskets and had a supply of ammunition. A party of Presbyterian native missionaries had just been shot a short time before we arrived, and the people of Atchin were charged with the murder.

My predecessor, the late Pastor C. H. Parker, bought the trader's station for use as a mission and had been there for nearly three years, but his health was failing. We made this place our base of missionary operations for seven years, and had the satisfaction of seeing a considerable change effected. While it was recognised as the stronghold of heathenism on that coast, and probably the strongest in the group, the influence of

the Gospel steadily overcame the superstition of the people on the island, still numbering about 450, until to-day the majority have completely renounced heathenism and are endeavouring to practise the principles of Christianity.

This is perhaps clearly demonstrated in their latest effort to carry out the golden rule. When the news was passed along to them that Christian churches in Australia were sending relief to Europe in the way of food and clothing, these native people also took to the idea. In writing of this a few weeks ago, Mrs. Ferris, wife of Pastor David Ferris, who is working among the lepers of that coast and who is herself a trained nurse says: "... Atchin alone raised round the £100 mark for European relief. We thought it good. They aimed at a bag of copra or £2 per man, and the women and children half a bag. One or two heathen joined in with the offering."

Surely, as the Good Book says: "By their fruits ye shall know them." From what was once an almost hopeless situation, where life was lived in fear, ignorance, superstition, and filth, there now has developed this happy, healthy, helpful group of children, youths, and adults, who cheerfully labour and give to assist those who, for the time being at least, are less fortunate than themselves.—A. G. STEWART (Pastor, SDA.)

MACLAREN-KING II LAUNCHED

ON April 22, the Anglican Mission ship, "Maclaren-King II," was launched in Brisbane by Mrs. E. M. Warren, wife of the Australian Board of Missions secretary. The dedication ceremony was performed by Archbishop Halse, who was assisted by Bishop Cranwick.

Canon Warren will skipper the vessel on its maiden voyage to New Guinea. He

is believed to be the only Australian clergyman to hold a master's certificate. The ship is 70 ft. l.o.a. and cost £12,000.

It replaces "Maclaren-King I," which was lost by enemy action during the war, and which was named after two mission pioneers to New Guinea—Albert Maclaren, and Maclaren King.

Sir Maynard and Lady Hedstrom returned to Fiji by plane on April 18, after a health visit to New Zealand and Australia.

HEALTH HORIZON

—a magazine for the
Overseas Reader

April issue includes:

WHY WEAR SPECTACLES?

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Mr. L. G. Usher, Public Relations Officer, returned to Fiji by plane on April 12, after six months' leave in New Zealand and Australia.

Mr. R. A. Howlett, Public Relations Office, Suva, will shortly move, on secondment, to take charge of a newly-established public relations and tourist office at Nadi Airport.

COPRA GROWERS' UNION OF FIJI

ALL Copra Growers are urged to join this Union and form branches in all centres in the South Pacific. Planters! "Unity is Strength"—so guard your own interests.

The objects of the Union are:—

- (1) To unite all Copra Growers; to urge them to express their ideas; and to have one concerted and strong medium through which to express their viewpoint in matters of price, markets, etc.
- (2) To investigate all matters of interest in relation to by-products, offsets for hurricanes, etc.
- (3) To encourage research in regard to new uses for coconuts and associated products.
- (4) To inform Copra Growers of matters affecting their interests: to invite opinions, articles, experiences, etc., from growers, for the information of other growers.

C. G. O. PARR.

Savu Savu,
Fiji.

Prices Up Again In Fiji

Shoe Repairs, Sandals and Soap

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, April 26.
TO have a pair of men's shoes soled and heeled nowadays in Suva costs 13/-, although you can save 1/- by having them rivetted instead of sewn. Soling and heeling of women's shoes costs 9/3.

Under the Price Order fixing these charges throughout Fiji, the maximum prices for making standard-type sandals are also increased. Men's sandals, which before the war were 4/6 at the most, are now 15/-, and it can be said that the quality in most cases has gone down as much as the price has gone up.

To the public at large, whose income does not keep pace with the soaring cost of living, the Price Controller's blows are not appreciably softened by the statement that the increases are due to the rise in the price of leather imported from Australia and New Zealand.

Almost simultaneously came the information that the price of locally-manufactured soap was up 2d. a bar, which brings it to 1/7-1/10. The reason for this is the rise of £8 a ton in copra, plus a substantial rise in the price of imported tallow.

Although, in the eyes of the untutored public, the Price Controller's job appears to be mainly concerned with legalising never-ending price increases, the same public undoubtedly has more faith in controlled than in uncontrolled prices.

Not long ago control was reintroduced for vegetables and other produce at Levuka, and there is a growing agitation for controls at Suva.

The Suva markets, under the present system, are a free-for-all for the Asiatic middlemen.

NEW GUINEA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

DONATIONS to the New Guinea Memorial Scholarship Fund during April were:—

Acknowledged to March 31	£3,496 2 1
Mr. and Mrs. Bolan, Brook Cottage, Hepscott, Morpeth, Northumberland, England	2 0 0
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Allen, Kokopo, TNG	3 3 0
Miss Dorothy Stewart (proceeds electric iron rental)	2 0 0

Total to April 30, 1948 . . . £3,503 5 1

Mr. and Mrs. Bolan, who are now living in the United Kingdom, formerly lived in New Ireland.

Miss D. Stewart, Secretary of the Scholarship Fund earned her donation, by purchasing and hiring-out an electric iron at the Cosmopolitan Hotel, Rabaul. At 6d. per time, rentals amounted to £2 in six weeks.

SAMOAN SCHOOLCHILDREN IN DOMINION

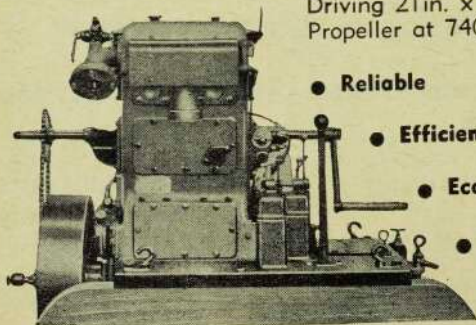
FOUR Western Samoan schoolboys arrived in New Zealand by the April "Matua" to enter boarding schools in Wellington and Christchurch. They are all winners of NZ Government scholarships, which will give them four years' secondary education, with a chance of going on to the university if they show the necessary ability.

Three girls from Western Samoa are already at school in New Zealand under the same scheme.

Mrs. Maynard Lock (nee Miss Lettie Hamphries) of Port Moresby, has a daughter (Marion Jennifer) born at Wohroonga Sanatorium, on March 28.

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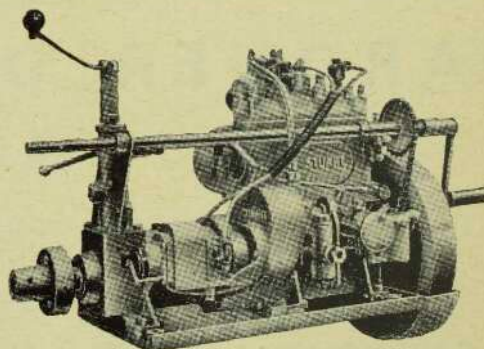
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FARMERS IN OUTER FIJI

Experiments With Goats

THREE European settlers are making what appears to be a successful attempt to promote goat-farming on some freehold land which they have acquired in Bua Bay, at the Western end of the island of Vanua Levu, in the Fiji Group. One of them writes as follows:—

"Each of us has a nice freehold block, free from harassing war-taxes, native regulations, etc. The goats we have introduced are increasing, and will be a good stand-by if the price of copra should flop. Even if there is another depression, our debt-free land, plus goats, will supply us with vegetables, fruit, milk, butter, etc.

"There are three of us here at present, and we hope to get others to join our settlement and acquire freeholds. One of my relations is coming soon from New Zealand—a practical farmer who knows a bit about building, and is being driven out of the country by restrictions and regulations.

"If you know of any European families who would like to come here and settle under conditions which are pleasant and secure, but which offer no fortune, of course, please ask them to get in touch with me. I would be pleased to supply details of any freehold land available. I am not an agent, out after profits—but we should like some congenial neighbours."

Anyone interested should write to Mr. N. C. MacKenzie-Hunt, Nabouwalu, Bua, Fiji.

ALLAN TIMPERLEY IS IN FORM

PAPUA-New Guinea apparently still has some versatile officers in the Service. The following was published recently in a well-known Queensland newspaper—a sporting newsheet at that:—

"During the big game of the day in the city on Saturday thousands of spectators cheered their heads off as a very old favourite threw the ball around with reckless abandon and so completely demoralised the opposing team that a cricket score mounted on the board.

"This half-back, getting more than his share of the ball, gave a grand display and one which, in my opinion, was a lesson to players seeking League representative selection. It is some time since I heard the old cry of "Tiger" used with so much enthusiasm and appreciation.

"You played a grand game, Tim, and it is regrettable that you have decided to pack up your boots and go to the Southern States on a well-earned leave. We hope to see you again before you return north. I smiled when you said 'I am too old for the game now'."

Territorians couldn't hazard a guess as to the player's name. I wouldn't have, either, if I had not seen the game. It was none other than Allan Timperley, an ADO on leave from the Territories.

FIRST FIJIAN OXFORD "BLUE"

SUVA, April 12.
RATU MARA ULUILAKEBA has gained his Oxford "blue" in athletics and has become the first Fijian to win the distinction.

At the Oxford v. Cambridge athletics meeting at the White City, London, he was pushed out of first place in his speciality, the high jump, by a Danish lad who broke a 70-years-old record with a jump of 6 ft. 2½ in. Ratu Mara was second with 5 ft. 8 in., although in Germany with the Oxford team last year he had jumped 5 ft. 9 in.



Changing Times Demand a Changed Outlook

Forty years ago, an executor's principal qualifications were honesty, tact, and good health. A trustee's task was considered an honour rather than a burden. To-day, however, the administration of an estate demands highly specialised knowledge of finance, taxation, and investments. The trustee is no longer a part-time worker; he must devote all his time to dealing with problems as they arise.

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COTTON AND FLOUR IN N. GUINEA

Protest Against Prices Brings
Only Political "Blah-Blah"

THE Australian Minister for Customs (Senator Courtice), on April 29, sent the following letter to Mr. H. L. Anthony, MP. It is self-explanatory:—

I refer to my letter concerning your personal representations on behalf of a number of residents of New Guinea who have approached you protesting—

- (1) against the increase in the Commonwealth cotton subsidy repayment on cotton goods exported to New Guinea. This has been increased from 1/3 to 4/8 per lb.; and
- (2) that although the price of wheat in the Commonwealth is on a home consumption basis, the Government imposes upon residents of the Pacific Islands, under Commonwealth jurisdiction, rates for flour fixed on a high export price.

I would now advise that, as regards (1) above, the standard rates of recovery on cotton piecegoods were increased from 1/8 to 4/8 per lb. from March 1, 1948, in conformity with the increased cost of subsidy being paid. The rate was fixed arbitrarily, but if traders could prove to the satisfaction of the Commonwealth Prices Commissioner that a lower rate of subsidy had been paid, then such lower rate of subsidy would be collected.

A revised scale of recovery, based on the particular types of cotton goods being exported, has since been instituted and this has had the effect of substantially reducing the standard rate of subsidy recovery on cotton material. Traders still have the privilege of repaying a lower rate if they can prove that such a lower rate was, in fact, paid by subsidy in the first instance.

As regards the representations made concerning wheat and flour, I have ascertained that the price of wheat outside the Commonwealth has always been based on prevailing export prices. Within the Commonwealth, since 1938, the home consumption price for flour has been kept constant. This has been managed by a tax borne by consumers when prices were low, which gave the wheat-growers the home price, and when wheat prices rose a corresponding concession was made by growers.

In effect, it was agreed to keep the local price at a reasonable figure, irrespective of world market fluctuations, and at different times consumers have borne the cost of doing this.

In the case of areas outside the Commonwealth there has not been any arrangement of this kind. They had the benefit of low prices for many years and Australian wheat-growers now cannot reasonably be expected to bring them the benefits of an arrangement to which these areas have never contributed.

I would add that the rates for flour are not imposed by the Commonwealth Government, but the flour for the areas mentioned is sold on a basis similar to that which has always operated.

EDITORIAL NOTE: The Minister, in the way of typical politicians, evades the real point of the protest made by Mr. Anthony—namely, that it is grossly unfair that these heavy export taxes should be imposed by Australia upon her own Territories. The Territories are compelled to trade with Australia and cannot go abroad to seek more competition and favourable rates, and they have no voice or representation in the Australian Parliament. Why should the helpless Territories, already sweating under high and increasing costs of living, be treated by the Minister simply as "a place outside the Commonwealth"?

Upsurge of Enterprise Among Post-War Fijians

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, May 3.
IN the post-war period, and particularly in the past year, there has been a quiet but astonishing upsurge of Fijian enterprise in unexpected directions.

In a general sense, it may be said that it is due primarily to the war; but a more immediate cause is the belated discovery, by influential people, that the time for treating the Fijian as an irresponsible child has gone.

There are other factors, including, as the "Fiji Times" said editorially the other day, "the insistent demands made in the Legislative Council by the Indian leaders, who, perhaps unwittingly, are doing the Fijians good service by compelling them to realise that, as a race, they cannot stand still."

As a result of the unsatisfied demand for Fijian products, such as copra, (the Fijians already produce two-thirds of the Colony's copra) and the need for increased production, a suggestion was made recently that a strong, independent, all-Fijian planters' organisation should be formed.

Such an organisation, the Fijian Planters' Association, was started as long ago as 1932, and had seemingly died in infancy.

The Fijian Planters' Association, however, had done nothing of the sort and on April 28, 1947, it held a general meeting of 212 delegates representing 1,600 members in the Suva Town Hall. The managing director, Levani Vanig, was in the chair; William Vulowai, was secretary, and the headmaster of the Rewa Central School (Inoke Cakautini) was

translator of the address given, by invitation, by Mr. H. Maurice Scott, MLC, who was later elected the Association's legal adviser.

"The Government is reserving the best land for you, and this means that you must increase production," Mr. Scott told the meeting. "It is no good sitting and waiting for rents to be paid. With possession of much of the best land, you must produce crops."

It was significant that the Fijian speakers who followed him during the

conference at no stage declaimed about Fijian rights or grievances, but stressed the urgency of the need for Fijian solidarity in a full-scale production drive.

The Australian Government is extending its Reconstruction Training Scheme for New Guinea soldiers to mission activities. Subsidies will be paid for courses in technical work, teacher training and domestic training at all mission schools.

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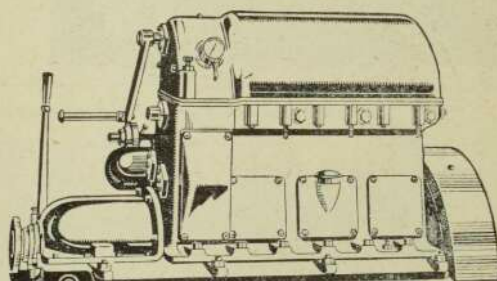
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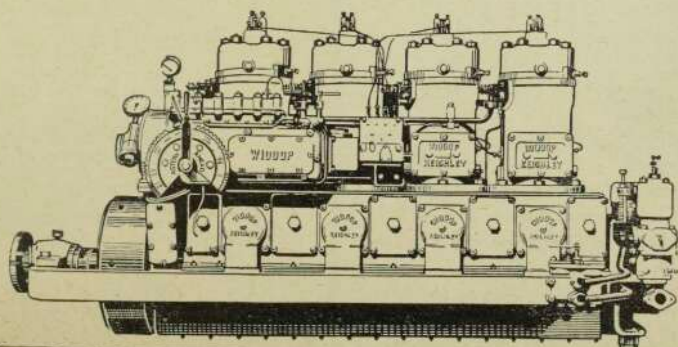
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The Lights of Vila Come and Go

From Our Own Correspondent

VILA, April 15.
AFTER having been out for 6 days, the "lights of Vila shine again." In spite of the 100 per cent. increase in price for current (current now costs about 2/- per unit), granted by the Condominium, the company appears to take no steps to ensure a regular supply. Stoppages, varying from one hour to several days, are a common occurrence.

People with electric refrigerators, the

hospitals and garages with electrical equipment are the greatest sufferers, and the greater part of the population has gone back to pressure oil lamps and irons as being more reliable.

The plant does not appear to be able to supply all requirements, as when the current is "on" for private consumption it is "off" with regard to street lighting—and this in spite of the fact that residents of Vila have to pay a "street lighting tax" which varies in amount according to whether the taxpayer is married single or divorced, and the size of his family. All residents within 3 kilometres of the post office have to pay this tax; and, owing to the configuration of Vila Bay, some unfortunates, who are within the prescribed distance but 3 or 4 miles distant by road, have to pay also, although there are no street lights in their vicinity.

Of course, they can always sit on their front verandah and admire the bright lights of the gay city (that is, when there are any lights).

Even during the war, when a strict blackout was enforced, this street lighting tax was payable. At that period the company, owing to the lighting restrictions, had a lot of spare current on its hands, and this was profitably sold to the American occupation troops. In fact, their demand for current became so great that the plant was forced to deliver more than its rated capacity in order to satisfy the Americans' requirements.

This may be one of the reasons for its present state and the principal cause of the frequent breakdowns. One of the motors appears to be definitely out of commission, and the company is now using an American "Caterpillar" set to generate current.

Nobody seems to know how long this state of affairs is going to continue and the Condominium, although it pays a subsidy to the company, appears to be unable to do anything to rectify matters.

The town is divided into three sections, and the company has lately adopted the practice of cutting off the current for 24 hours in each section in turn. If this practice is to continue, the company will presumably apply for another increase in the price of electricity, because of the drop in revenue.

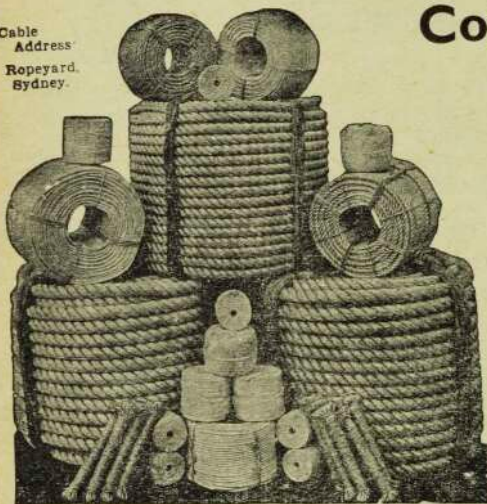
EDITORIAL NOTE: Residents of Vila would feel completely at home in Sydney, where, owing to the post-war inadequacy of the Bunnerong generating plant, black-outs are frequent, and increasing.

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**THE ORIGIN OF THE
"TIN CAN MAIL"**

Letter to the Editor

THE article "Tin Can Mailman," published in your January issue wants an explanation. Mr. C. S. Ramsay, manager for Morris, Hedstrom Ltd., at Haapai, never claimed to be the inaugurator of the famous "Tin Can Mail" at Niuafoou. Nor did Mr. Arthur Tindale adopt this mail system.

Twenty years before Mr. Tindale came to Tonga as a salesman for W. Barnard, at Nukualofa, a Mr. W. Travers was trading at Niuafoa for the firm of Ostermann Dervy & Co., Sydney. He arranged with the Tongan Government that Mr. W. Hettig, Senior, should solder the mail in a kerosene or a biscuit tin, and that Captain Croshaw, of TS "Opulu" would drop the tin overboard when close to the landing-place at Niuafoou and that natives would swim out for the tin.

Mr. C. S. Ramsay was the only European, while living in Niuafoou who swam out to the steamer, and who delivered and accepted the mail. Mr. G. Quensell, who used to trade for Burns Philp (SS) Co., Ltd., at Niuafoou, established the "Tin Can Island Postal System," which became world-famous.

I am, etc.,

F. T. GOEDICKE-VAN ASTEN.
Haapai, Tonga, 11/3/48.

Dismissal of Suva PWD Men

First Effect of Scrapping of Development Plan

From Our Own Correspondent

PUBLIC Works Department employees—officially numbering "approximately 150," unofficially about 170—at the Department's big Suva establishment at Walu Bay, Suva, have been stood down (otherwise dismissed) in the first drastic move in the retrenchment campaign which has followed the realignment of Fiji's Ten-Year Development Plan announced by the Governor (Sir Brian Freeston) on March 19.

The men affected were mostly engaged in building trades and were those with the shortest terms of service.

No indication has yet been given as to how far retrenchment may go.

THE LATE ISLAY McOWAN

A WELL-KNOWN former public servant in Fiji, Mr. J. R. Pearson, writes from his residence in La Rocque, Jersey, Channel Islands:—

"My wife and I have learned with distress of the death of our old friend Islay McOwan. He was a very good friend of ours when we were in Fiji and I, in common with all classes, had great admiration and respect for his sterling qualities. It was very lucky that he was at the helm of Native Affairs during a period of great developments; and with his long experience of the Colony he was ever ready with wise advice on all questions, and was unsparing of himself in his efforts to deal with any extra burdens thrown upon him. Fiji probably owes more to him than to any other officer who has served there in recent years."

UK GOODS FOR FIJI

UNLOADING at Suva, in May was the Direct Line ship "Leicester" from the United Kingdom. She was brought a record cargo of 6,100 tons for Fiji.

Included are 38,000 bags of cement, large quantities of salt and sulphate of ammonia (for the canefields) and general cargo.

BIG PAYMENTS TO FIJI'S CANE GROWERS

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, April 9.

THE Colonial Sugar Refining Co. will pay out more than £400,000 to cane-growers in Fiji in the next few weeks. This represents 8/6 a ton (second interim payment) on the 1947 crop.

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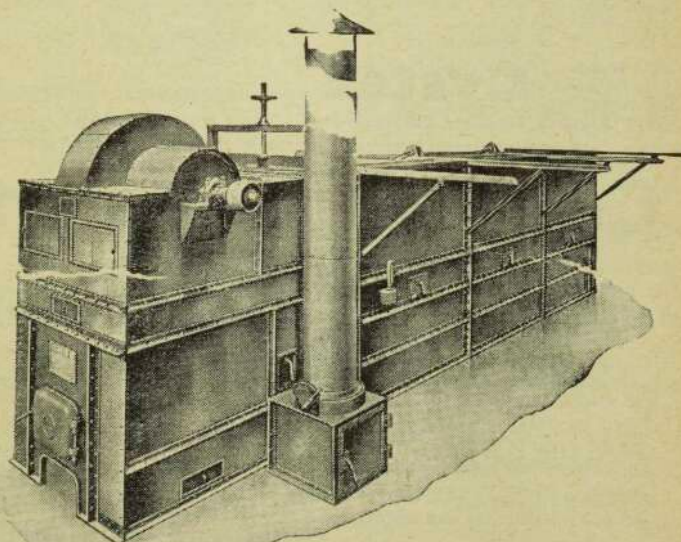
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If you suffer sharp, stabbing pains, if joints are swollen, if shows your blood is poisoned through faulty kidney action. Other symptoms of Kidney Disorders are Backache, Aching Joints and Limbs, Sciatica, Neuritis, Lumbago, Sleepless Nights, Dizziness, Nervousness, Circles under Eyes, Loss of Energy and Appetite and Frequent Headaches and Colds, etc. Ordinary medicines can't help much because you must get to the root cause of the trouble.

The Cystex treatment is specially compounded to soothe, tone and clean kidneys and bladder and remove acids and poisons from your system safely, quickly and surely, yet contains no harmful or dangerous drugs. Cystex works in 3 ways to end your troubles.

1. Starts killing the germs which are attacking your Kidneys, Bladder and Urinary System in two hours, yet is absolutely harmless to human tissue.
2. Gets rid of health-destroying, deadly poisonous acids with which your system has become saturated.
3. Strengthens and reinvigorates the kidneys, protects from the ravages of disease-attack on the delicate filter organism, and stimulates the entire system.

Praised by One-time Sufferers

Cystex is approved by one-time sufferers in 73 countries from the troubles shown above. Mr. Reg Thomas, Townsville, Queensland, recently wrote: "My joints were all stiff, I had leg pains, my back used to ache day and night. My bladder was weak. I had headaches and no appetite. The first dose of Cystex helped me and before I finished three boxes my health and strength came back."

Guaranteed to Satisfy or Money Back

Get Cystex from your chemist or store to-day. Give it a thorough test. Cystex is guaranteed to make you feel younger, stronger, better in every way, or your money back if you return the empty package. Now in 2 sizes—4/-, 8/-.

This is a
GUARANTEED Treatment
Cystex
for Your Kidneys, Bladder, Rheumatism.

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.

SHIP SERVICES

Australia—North America

THE regular passenger Trans-Pacific liners, withdrawn during the war, have not yet been restored.

Canadian-Pacific liner "Aorangi" (Sydney-Auckland-Suva-Honolulu-Vancouver) may resume about July, 1948.

Matson liners "Monterey" and "Mariposa" are being reconditioned, but are not expected back in the Pacific service. Matson ship "Marine Phoenix," carrying passengers, ran on a regular schedule—San Francisco-Honolulu-Suva-Auckland-Sydney; but is soon to be withdrawn.

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).

New Zealand—Fiji—Samoa—Tonga

Monthly Service by MV "Matua"
SERVICE CONDUCTED BY UNION SS CO.,
LTD.—SUBJECT TO ALTERATION WITHOUT NOTICE

Auckland	May 20	June 17	July 15
Suva	May 24-25	June 21-22	July 19-20
Nukualofa	—	June 24-25	—
Vavau	—	June 26	—
Niue*	—	June 26	—
Apia*	May 26-29	June 27-30	July 21-22
Vavau	May 31	—	July 24
Nukualofa	June 1-2	—	July 25-26
Suva	June 4-5	July 3-4	July 28-29
Auckland	June 9	July 8	Aug. 11

*Western Time.

†On return to Auckland on August 1, "Matua" withdraws for survey.

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.

The "Morinda" at present is undergoing overhaul and the small "Muliama" is carrying on the service.

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, Thio, Nakety, Canala, Kouaoua, Kua, Moneo, Ponerihouen, Tibarama, Poindimie, Wagap, Touho, Tipindje, Hienghene, Tao, Oubatch, Pouebo, Balade, Pam, Arama, and return.

WEST COAST.—Pouembout, Kone, Temala, Voh, Ousco Gomen, Koumae, Tangalou, Tiebaghi, Neheue Poume, Baaba, Belep and return.

LOYALTY ISLANDS.—Mare (Tadine), Lifou (Chepenehe) Ouvea (Fajaoue, St. Joseph) and return.

The steamer "Neo Hebridais" runs regularly between Noumea and Sydney, with occasional trips to the New Hebrides (mostly Anelityum). The owners are Societe Maritime et Maniere Hagen, Noumea. Sydney agents: H. C. Sleight, 254 George Street, Sydney.

AIR SERVICES

Summary of Pacific Air Services

PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.—Regular Qantas service from Sydney.

SOLOMON ISLANDS.—Frequent irregular flying-boat service from Sydney by Trans Oceanic Airways.

NEW HEBRIDES.—Frequent irregular flying-boat service from Sydney by Trans Oceanic Airways. Weekly service from Noumea by French plane is suspended.

NORFOLK ISLAND.—Regular service from NZ by NZ National Airways; from Sydney by Qantas.

LORD HOWE ISLAND.—Regular weekly service from Sydney by Qantas and irregular service by Trans Oceanic Airways.

FIJI.—Regular services from Australia by Pan American and ANA (to Nadi); Auckland by NZ National Airways (to Nadi); from Australia by Qantas (to Laucala Bay, Suva); from Auckland by NZ National Airways (to Laucala Bay, Suva). Irregular calls from Australia to Laucala Bay, Suva, by Trans Oceanic Airways.

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Manufacturers who are desirous of obtaining a market in Fiji for their products are recommended to write to Corrie & Co., who are a live and progressive firm dealing with every store of repute in Fiji.

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General Manager: A. E. T. CORRIE.

Manager, Fiji Branch:
C. H. HUNT.



TONGA.—Regular service from Fiji by NZ National Airways.

TAHITI.—Regular service from Noumea by TRAPAS plane suspended in March.

AUSTRALIA-NEW ZEALAND.—Regular service by Tasman Empire Airways.

AUSTRALIA-NORTH AMERICA.—Regular Trans-Pacific services by Pan American Airways and BCPA.

Sydney—Queensland— New Guinea

QANTAS Empire Airways, Ltd., employing DC3 planes, operate a regular service between Sydney, Port Moresby, Lae, Pischhafen and Rabaul, and return, via Brisbane, Rockhampton, Townsville and Cairns.

This service is now known as the "Bird of Paradise" Service. DC3 aircraft, carrying 19 passengers, are used.

Planes leave Sydney on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 9 a.m., and arrive at Lae at 1 p.m. on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. 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, Saturday and Sunday, 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.

Sydney—Noumea—Suva

ONCE fortnightly a Qantas flying-boat (a Catalina), leaves Sydney in the early morning, and goes directly over the Pacific to Noumea. 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, Philip (South

Seas) Company, in Suva; and T. Johnston in Noumea.

Fares: To Noumea, £35 single; £63 return. To Suva, £52/10/- single; £94/10/- return.

Noumea—Suva, £17 single; £31/10/- return.

Sydney—Lord Howe Is.— Norfolk Is.

QANTAS, Sydney, run a Catalina once weekly from Sydney to Lord Howe Island. Fare, single, £12. Return, £24.

Trans Oceanic Airways Pty., Ltd., 14 Martin Place, Sydney, run a large flying-boat fairly frequently between Sydney and Lord Howe Island. Qantas run a land plane about once a fortnight from Sydney to Norfolk Island. Fare, £22 single; £39/12/- return.

(For Norfolk Island, see also under NZ National Airways.)

Noumea—Fiji—Tahiti

TRAPAS (a French company with headquarters in Noumea) runs an air service once a month from Noumea (New Caledonia), via Nadi (Fiji) and Aitutaki (Cook Islands) to Papeete (Tahiti), and return.

It was announced in January that this was to become a fortnightly service; but service was suspended in March owing to hurricane damage.

Noumea—Norfolk Is.— Auckland (NZ)

STEPS were taken in January, 1948, by TRAPAS, New Caledonia, to start this service at an early date.

New Caledonia— New Hebrides

A PLANE based on Noumea runs between Noumea and Port Vila (New Hebrides), with calls at Santo and other places as required, and



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Pacific Island Agents:
Corrie & Co., Suva, Fiji

returns, once each week. (It was suspended in March owing to hurricane damage.)

NZ National Airways South Pacific Services

THE Pacific services run by the New Zealand National Airways Corporation are as follows:—

LAUCALA BAY (SUVA) - LABASA (VANUA LEVU): A flying-boat service on an irregular basis of approximately one return flight fortnightly.

LAUCALA BAY (SUVA) - AUCKLAND: Flying-boat leaves Auckland for Fiji each Saturday and returns on Monday.

FIJI - TONGA - SAMOA - COOK ISLANDS: A Douglas DC3 airliner leaves Nadi (6 a.m.) on alternate Tuesdays for Tonga, Western Samoa and Cook Is. There is an additional service between Aitutaki and Rarotonga (Cook Is.) when sufficient traffic offers.

AUCKLAND (NZ) - NORFOLK ISLAND - NADI (FIJI): A Douglas airliner runs fortnightly on this service, leaving Auckland at 8.30 a.m. on Sunday, arriving Norfolk at 12.40 p.m.; leaving Norfolk at 11.45 p.m.; arriving Nadi at 6.55 a.m. Monday. This service then leaves Nadi at 6 a.m. Tuesday for Nausori, Tonga, W. Samoa and Cook Is. Each Sunday a Douglas airliner flies from Auckland to NI and returns. (At present suspended owing to infantile paralysis outbreak in NZ.)

FARES, single (in NZ currency): Auckland to Norfolk, £12/10/-; to Fiji, £28/10/-; to Tonga,

£31/- to Samoa, £34/- to Aitutaki, £39/- to Rarotonga, £39/10/-, Norfolk to Fiji, £19/-, Fiji to Tonga, £8/15/-; to Samoa, £13/-; to Aitutaki, £29/15/-; to Rarotonga, £31/-, Samoa to Rarotonga, £17/15/-, Suva to Labasa, £4/10/-, Return fares, less 10 per cent.

BOOKING OFFICES: Wellington, Govt. Life Bldg., Customhouse Quay; Auckland, Mercantile Chambers, Customs St., Dunedin, 8-10 Manse St.; Christchurch, Union SS Co., 168 Hereford St.; Gisborne, 74 Peel St.; Palmerston Nth., 107 Broadway Ave.; Norfolk Is., Burns Philp Ltd.; Fiji, NZ National Airways Corp. at Nadi and in Suva; Tonga, Mrs. F. F. Melrose, Fou-amotu Airfield; W. Samoa, NZ National Airways Corp., Apia; Cook Is., Mrs. P. McVeagh, Aitutaki and Mr. J. D. Campbell, Rarotonga.

Trans-Tasman Service Sydney—Auckland

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 (6.30 a.m.) and Auckland (8 a.m.) every morning, except Sundays. On two days each week, two planes leave the terminal points, making eight flights each way per week. Fares: £28 single; £56/8/- return.

Bookings may be made at Tasman Empire Airways in Auckland and at Qantas Empire Airways, Carrington Street, Sydney.

Pan-American— Trans-Pacific Service

PAN-AMERICAN World Airways clippers now provide the following services in the South Pacific, using DC4 planes:—

Planes leave Sydney every Wednesday and Saturday, and fly via Tontouta (New Caledonia), Nadi (Fiji), Canton Island, Honolulu, to San Francisco, and return along the same route, leaving 'Frisco every alternate Saturday and Tuesday.

Planes leave Auckland every Friday and alternate Tuesday, and fly via Nadi, Canton Island, and Honolulu, to San Francisco; and leave 'Frisco for Auckland every Monday and Friday. Fares are given below, in Australian currency:—

	Single			Return		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Sydney-'Frisco	200	0	0	360	0	0
Sydney-Fiji	55	0	0	99	1	3
Auckland-'Frisco	184	1	3	331	5	0
Auckland-Fiji	39	1	3	70	6	3
Fiji-'Frisco	145	0	0	260	18	9

(Time-tables and fares subject to alteration without notice.)

To convert to Fiji currency, reduce above figures by about 10 per cent.

Free baggage allowance is 66 lb. per person. Excess at 1 per cent. of single fare for each kilogram of excess (1 kilo—2.2 lb.).

Sydney-Vancouver BCPA Service

BRITISH Commonwealth Pacific Airlines Limited operate a three trips per fortnight trans-Pacific service from Sydney via Fiji, Canton Island, Honolulu and San Francisco; and a fortnightly service between Auckland and Vancouver, via the same airports.

Planes leave Sydney every Sunday evening and alternate Wednesdays, and Vancouver, on the southbound trip, every Sunday and alternate Thursdays. Planes leave Auckland every alternate Wednesday and arrive in Vancouver the following Saturday. This southbound trip commences from Vancouver on alternate Fridays. Fares are (in Australian currency), Sydney-San Francisco, £200 single and £360 return, Auckland-Vancouver, £A198 single; Auckland-Nadi (Fiji), £A39.

Skymaster aircraft carrying 38 passengers and a crew of 9 are used on the service.

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**SWALLOW & ARIELL
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Master Craftsmen in the Biscuit Industry since 1854

N. IRELAND PLANTER'S DAUGHTER MARRIES



A photograph taken on the steps of St. Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, after the wedding, last year, of Miss Patricia Frances Lussick, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. N. Lussick, of New Ireland, to Maxwell Turner, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Turner, of Rockdale.

MUSICAL EVENING IN RABAU

From a Special Correspondent

RABAU music-lovers had an unexpected treat on the evening of April 28, at the Cosmopolitan Hotel.

The impromptu entertainment was arranged by Miss Dorothy Stewart, manageress of the hotel, when she discovered that a member of a visiting American Fortress crew, Lieutenant John Ginader, was a violinist of note and had played with the Honolulu Symphony Orchestra.

About 120 Rabaul residents attended. As well as the American guest-artist, songs were sung by Mr. Norman White, Jr., Miss Peggy Byron, Miss Stewart and three members of the Fortress crew who harmonised well; Mrs. Smith played a piano solo and Mr. Bill Chapman gave a dramatic Shakespearean item. With the exception of Lieut. Ginader, all performers were rusty for want of practice but they gave an excellent account of themselves and left those who had attended, clamouring for more of this type of entertainment.

NEW GUINEA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION, MELBOURNE

A MOST enjoyable afternoon was spent by the New Guinea Women's Association, Melbourne, at the Business and Professional Women's Club, Collins Street, at their monthly meeting on May 1.

Mrs. Rowe and Mrs. Pickwell, recently returned from New Guinea, were welcomed back by the members; welcomes were extended also to Mrs. Clive Meares, now of Canberra, and Mrs. Bryant and her two small daughters from Port Moresby.

Afternoon tea was served by Mrs. Roy Smith, who was hostess for the afternoon. The opportunity table was well stocked with gifts brought by the members, and the sale of these articles will go towards increasing the Scholarship Fund.

The Association is always glad to welcome visitors to the meeting, which is held on the first Saturday in every month, at the above address.

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A MALGAMATED Hatcheries (Reg.) of Bankstown, near Sydney, N.S.W., can dispatch limited numbers of chicks by

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and all other islands of the Pacific served by present AND PROJECTED air services.

Amalgamated Hatcheries are the largest distributors of day-old chicks in Australia, last year over 1,000,000 chicks being sold by us in N.S.W. alone.

Our scientific method of packing and dispatch has resulted in a loss of less than 1 per cent. of chicks sent by plane.

If any chicks in your consignment arrive dead, we will replace them free, provided the extra freight is paid by the purchaser.

Chicks available are R.I.R., Australorps, and W.L.

Price, £10 per 100, landed at your airport, for unsexed chicks, and £14 per 100 for all pullets.

(Guaranteed 96 per cent. accurate sexing.)

These chicks are the cream of Australia's stock, produced under ultra-violet rays to guard against disease; the adult stock is blood-tested monthly by veterinary officers and each individual order carries a N.S.W. Government certificate that the chicks are healthy and from tested stock.

Payment for chicks should be made by draft with the order, or credit arranged through our Bankers, the Commercial Bank of Australia, Ltd., Bankstown, N.S.W.

Drafts and remittances can be sent direct to Amalgamated Hatcheries, Bankstown, N.S.W., or to the following agents: Messrs. Burns, Philp (South Sea) Co., Suva-Ba-Fiji, or any Island Branch. Also to: Marcel Legras, 38 Rue de Verdun, Noumea.

WRITE BY AIR-MAIL OR CABLE.

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Cold Rooms, Ice Showers, Commercial Refrigerators in all sizes.

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Ruston 4-Cylinder Diesel Engine, 120 h.p., Size 4, Class C.V.R., Engine No. K82631, direct coupled to Lawrence & Scott & Electromotor, Ltd., A.C. Generator, 80 K.W., volts 415 r.p.m. 300, 50 cycles, 3 phase, stator amps 140, exciter amps 25.4, rating cont., exciter volts.

Ruston 4-Cylinder Diesel Engine, 120 h.p., Size 4, Class C.V.R., Engine No. 182630, direct coupled to Lawrence Scott & Electromotor, Ltd., A.C. Generator, 80 K.W., 415 volts, 3 phase.

Lister 4-Cylinder Diesel Engine, 38 h.p., at 1,000 r.p.m., Engine No. 60/359, Spec. 38/4/31, direct coupled to A.S.E.A. A.C. Generator, K.V.A. 25, volts 415, amps 35, cycles 50, 3 phase, rating continuous; Type G.A. 23, No. 399334, exciter volts 110, exciter amps 5, engine has hand starting; unit is complete.

Switch Board, fitted with: Rotary Synchroniser, Frequency Meter, 2 Voltmeters 500 volts, Ampmeter 20 amps., 3 Ampmeters 50 amps, 2 Ampmeters 150 amps (one has no pointer), 2 Ampmeters 200 amps., Ampmeter 250 amps, Ampmeter 300 amps, Ampmeter 400 amps, 2 Kilowatt Meters 12 O.K.W., Power Factor Meter, Frequency Meter, 44 to 56 cycles per second, and necessary Line Switches.

Overhead Running Gantry, fitted with 5-ton chain block.

Inside Fuel Service Tanks.

Outside Supply Tanks, approx. 400 galls. each, engine cooling system is comprised of 3,000 gall. galv. iron tank with sprays, spraying into pond; both Rustons and Lister are equipped with mufflers, but the Murphy has open exhausts.

POWER HOUSE:

Murphy 6-Cylinder Diesel Engine, Model M.E. 650, Engine No. 10318B, 160 h.p., at 1,200 revs., direct coupled to E.M. Synchronous A.C. Generator, 60 cycle, 1,200 r.p.m., 106 K.W., 132.5 K.V.A., 127-220 volt, 348 amps, 3 phase, or 50 cycle, 1,000 r.p.m., 95 K.W., 118.7 K.V.A., 230-400 volts, 172 amps, 3 phase. Generator fitted with E.M. Synchrostat voltage regulator, lub. oil heat indicator broken, no Vee belts on blower drive, no engine amp-meter; radiator and fan are available for this unit; engine fitted with electric starting.

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LINDENHAFEN**Leased By Colonel H. T. Allan**

A LONG lease of famous Lindenhafen Plantation, on the south coast of New Britain, has been taken from Burns Philp & Co., Ltd., by Colonel H. T. Allan. This plantation is capable of producing from 70 to 90 tons of copra per month.

Before the war, Colonel Allan was engaged in goldmining at Wau, New Guinea. He was a World War I veteran, and he served with distinction in World War II, and was decorated. In 1946, he joined with others in establishing a trading firm in Rabaul, and he now has extended his operations.

It was Colonel Allan who went personally to Canberra, about October, 1947, and placed the dismal condition of New Guinea before the Government and the newspapers. As a result, considerable reforms were carried out. Colonel Allan reported recently to friends in Sydney: "Things are much better up here now and we are all getting somewhere."

PACIFIC ISLANDS SOCIETY

MEETINGS of the Pacific Islands Society continue to be well attended by members and visitors. New members are constantly being added.

At the February gathering the guest speaker was Mr. R. W. Robson, who gave a talk entitled, "Colourful Personalities of the Pacific." He described careers of "Queen Emma," "Bully" Hayes, and Charles Savage. Visitors included Sir Maynard and Lady Hedstrom, Lady Ragg, Mr. Landon Smith (president of the NZ Association), Mrs. Landon Smith, Mrs. Merewether and Mr. A. E. Cridland.

In March, the guest speaker was Mr. Colin B. Berckelman, FASG, who, in the presence of a big and attentive audience, gave an entertaining talk on Lord Howe Island, illustrating his address with lantern slides. The visitors included Mr. H. Woolnough, of Lord Howe Island.

In April, the guest speaker, Mr. R. H. Clarke, gave an illustrated address on "Sydney in the Eighties and Nineties"—showing the great changes that have taken place in fifty years.

On May 26, the Rev. R. Piper, well-known Pacific missionary, will show films of Tonga, including a coloured film of the Royal marriage there last year. The Society hopes to have the Rev. Faubula a Tongan Minister, as a guest.

New members: Mr. and Mrs. R. W. L. Trewenack, Mr. and Mrs. C. Wager, Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Collins, Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Stobo, Mrs. Madge Forsyth, and Messrs. Lionel Haynes, A. E. Cridland, Eric Spring, R. Patterson, William R. Wood and Verne S. Taylor.

DEATH OF WELL-KNOWN PRIEST**Father Gonnet, of Fiji**

FATHER GONNET, well-known figure in Fiji for nearly 50 years died at Makogai on April 30.

Father Gonnet arrived in Fiji at the beginning of the century and served at Naiserebagi, Loreto (on Ovalau), the new station of Nabukebuke; and, in 1905, he was recalled to Loreto. In 1910, he became Procurator of the Mission.

In 1914 he moved to Levuka and remained as one of the town's best-known and most highly respected citizens until 1930. In 1934, he was appointed chaplain at the Central Leper Hospital, Makogai, where he remained until failing health forced him to give up active work.

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The French three-masted auxiliary schooner *Oiseau des Iles*, which became familiar to many Aucklanders during her stay of nearly four months for refit,

sailed recently for the French phosphate island of Makatea. The schooner, commanded by Captain Andre Praud, reached Auckland from Papeete shortly before Christmas.

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The Month In Moresby

PT. MORESBY, May 6
WE cannot complain about lack of amenities. First we were given the picture theatre, then the new hotel. A milk bar and ice-cream stand soon followed. And now we have had a taste of the drama!

Perhaps it did not compensate for our misfortune in missing Sir Laurence Olivier and his lady; but nevertheless, "945," a comedy-melodrama presented by the Moresby Amateur Dramatic Players, proved an entertaining trifle. It was enacted for two nights in the RAAF's "Regent Theatre," at Konedobu, and was very successful in every way.

THE Deputy Prices Commissioner has announced an increase in the price of bread; it will now cost 2/7 per large loaf, 1/4 per small loaf.

Shopping in Moresby is quite an adventure—there is always an element of surprise.

As you go into the store your companion nudges you: "I wonder what butter will cost to-day," she mutters. As butter was 3/9 per lb. last week, you make a speedy calculation: "4/3," you reply.

Then you both fight your way to the counter, cross your fingers, and ask, "Three and ninepence," says the man who serves you—and you faint.

ON May 6, the Administrator (Colonel J. K. Murray), with Mrs. Murray and Mr. Justice Phillips, left Port Moresby for Sydney. It was not announced here that they would attend the South Pacific Commission, and it was supposed that their trip was connected with plans for the new administrative set-up. Mr. Justice Gore took over at Government House.

AT the moment sugar is very scarce in Moresby. The stores are limiting sales to European customers—and even then only 2 lb. at a time. Up to date, no European has to our knowledge gone without, but the natives are finding the shortage irksome. Each day a couple of dozen ask us to buy them some of the rare white grains—but it can't be done when we ourselves like two spoonfuls in our tea.

TONGAN STUDENTS IN NZ



These two outstanding Tongans are now at University Colleges in New Zealand. On the left is Sione Tapa, who entered the Auckland Grammar School in 1945, and who, this year, will begin a medical course at the University. On the right is Alo Eva, who had an exceptional record with NZ Medical Corps during the war. He was given a NZ grant for provisional matriculation at Auckland University College. If he is successful there he will study medicine at Otago University.

—Photos by Hettig.

DEATH OF MISS M. I. GRAYBURN

THE death occurred in Suva on April 16 of Miss M. I. Grayburn, a resident of Fiji for 79 years.

Miss Grayburn was born in Dunedin, NZ, in 1868, and came to Fiji with her parents when she was 12 months old. The family lived for some years on Vanua Levu and afterwards settled down in Suva. In later years Miss Grayburn made herself responsible for the wel-



The late Miss Grayburn

fare of many children from country districts who were attending school in Suva.

Miss Grayburn is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Osella Barrack (Suva), and Mrs. Tom Laurie (Sydney).

A TRIBUTE

WITH the death of Miss Mary Graburn, Fiji loses one of its best-known and greatly loved personalities. Tall and dignified, with snow-white hair, she was affectionately known as "Aunt Mary," and she celebrated her 80th birthday on March 31. She was very kind to those in trouble, and she loved to share in the joys of her friends—she was a lady in the truest sense of the word.

For many years she had been a friend to country parents, looking after their young sons, seeing that they had the best of food, and sowing in their young minds the seed of moral discipline to serve them well in later years. Two generations of boys have passed through her hands, and all will recall, with tears of sorrow that she has passed to her rest, the happy memories of the house in Knollys Street.

It is a strange coincidence that our beloved Aunt Mary died on the birthday of her sister, Mrs. Osella Barrack, with whom she has lived for a number of years, and who, with her sister, Mary, is equally loved and respected for kindness to all who need a helping hand.

Mrs. Elliot Lloyd, who is en route from NZ to join her husband in Apia (where he is now director of the new Samoan broadcasting station) knows the Islands well. In recent years she has lived with him in various parts of the Gilbert and Ellice Colony (including Ocean Island, Canton Island and Tarawa) and she was a year in Suva during the war, awaiting permission to join him.

SILVER WEDDING STAMPS

SPECIAL stamps to commemorate the silver wedding anniversary of King George and Queen Elizabeth are to be issued for Fiji, the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony, the British Solomon Islands Protectorate, and Pitcairn Island.

It is expected that supplies of these stamps will not be available for some months; they will then remain on sale for three months.

The design will be the same as that of the Silver Wedding stamps now being issued in the United Kingdom.

Fiji stamps will be in two denominations, 2½d. and 5/-; G & E Colony, in 1d. and 1½d.; BSI, 2d. and 10/-; and Pitcairn Island 1½d. and 10/-.

DEATH OF M. JARDONNET

THE death occurred on April 5, in Tahiti, of M. Etienne Jardonnet, a French pioneer who arrived in Tahiti over 60 years ago.

M. Jardonnet became general manager of Raoulx & Son. That company, however, was re-organised when its principal, M. Raoulx, died while Papeete was being shelled by the German cruisers "Scharnhorst" and "Gneissau," on September 22, 1914. M. Jardonnet was highly esteemed in Tahiti—he spoke well of everyone and had no enemies.

Guns were fired from the saluting battery in Nukualofa and there was public rejoicing on May 3, when a son was born to the Crown Prince and Princess of Tonga. (See page 3.)

DIESEL CARGO BOATS

75 ft. x 19 ft. to lift 80 tons (60 tons copra), 160 h.p. Blackstone Diesel 600 r.p.m., 14 h.p. Crossley Auxiliary, 220 volt lighting system, 2-way radio, very well equipped, coppered bottom, excellent condition, £12,750 nett Sydney.

66 ft. x 17 ft., 40 tons copra, 160 h.p. Superior Diesel, Kohler Auxiliary, coppered bottom, excellent condition, £8,500 nett Sydney.

61 ft. x 16 ft., 30 tons, 120 h.p. Fairbanks Morse Diesel, two Auxiliary Diesels, bottom not sheathed, but have copper in stock to complete for additional £850, fair condition, price as vessel stands, £4,750 nett Sydney.

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FLOUR AND PRISONERS FOR TONGA

From Our Own Correspondent

NUKU'ALOFA, April 6.
THE Tongan Government vessel "Hifofua" left at noon to-day for Suva where she will undergo fumigation before picking up some of our Australian flour left there recently by the cargo ship "Waikawa."

"Hifofua" took about 210 bags of candlenuts from Tonga to the candlenut mill operating at Suva.

The vessel will bring back to Tonga the notorious Tongan prisoner Mahe Tupou, who has escaped from Tonga to Fiji on

three occasions, once on a frail outrigger canoe and twice on small sailing vessels. With him will come his companion Tevita Tau'aika.

The death has occurred at Levuka of **Mr. Rudolf Vollmer**, aged about 68, the son of the late Mr. R. Vollmer, who came to Levuka from Germany in the eighteenth century, and Adi Vasamaca, of Lomaloma. After being educated in Germany, Mr. Vollmer entered a business partnership with the late Mr. Albert Pfeiffer at Lomaloma, later returning to settle at Levuka. He married a Tongan lady and is survived by a large family. His father died in an internment camp in Australia during the First World War. Adi Vasamaca died not long ago at Levuka.

NOTES FROM WEWAK

From a Special Correspondent

WEWAK, April 11.
NEW arrivals in the District include Patrol Officer Jim Sims, from the ASOPA; Patrol Officer Jack Cahill, from Kianantu; Storeman Jack Crockett, from Finschhafen; and OTC Operator Mr. Watson, from Hobart. Mrs. Rupe Haviland, wife of the ADO Maprik, passed through Wewak on her way to join her husband recently.

Visitors to Wewak were fewer but included Flight-Lieutenant Northy and party in a RAAF Dakota from Port Moresby, who are using Wewak as a base of operations for the investigations of the bomb-dump at Tadij Strip, Aitape, which is expected to be exploded some time in September. This explosion, which will be the greatest yet in the Southern Hemisphere, will no doubt cause quite a stir in scientific circles as well as annoying some of the nearer local inhabitants.

Wewak is looking forward to the arrival of its new Native Labour Inspector, Mr. Jack Clayton, and his wife who are being transferred from Rabaul.

On Easter Monday, the spectacle of 30 Europeans and 8,000 natives from near and far gathered together to witness the impressive ceremony of the presenting of the DCM to Ex-W/O Yauwiga by Major H. R. Niall, District Officer, Wewak, was something to be remembered by all those present.

The acquisition of a pianola by the Sepik Club has given us a wider variety of music which adds greatly to festivities at club nights.

During this month Sqd.-Leader Bobby Gibbes will be taking delivery of another "Auster" which will greatly augment the air services within the district and will serve as a further line of communication with our port, Madang.

Mr. Tom Briggs, who was previously holidaying with Mr. and Mrs. Gibbes, returned last week to Sydney to take delivery of the "Auster." It is good to see a friendship, commenced during the war, cemented by Mr. Gibbes' progressive policy. A recent addition to his staff is his cousin, Peter Howse, who hails from Orange, NSW.

Gold Mines of Papua

THE 5/- shares of Gold Mines of Papua Ltd. (a Company holding leases on Misima Island, Eastern Papua) which in recent years have been regarded as valueless, have recently been quoted at between 6d. and 9d., with an upward tendency. The reason for this is seen in the Company's balance sheet for the year ended June 30 last. The Company has an issued capital of £135,000 and it owes to sundry creditors (understood to be mostly the Pratten interests) £38,584. The value of its assets in Misima is placed at £36,493, so that there is a debit at Profit and Loss of over £170,000. But the Directors recently have sent experts back to Misima to resume the search for the valuable lode which they missed in the late 30's, and the market thinks that they have some prospect of success. If they should discover the lode, GMOP might easily become another Eastern Papuan money-spinner.

POPULATION INCREASE IN NOUMEA

STATISTICS, just issued from Noumea, New Caledonia, show that the excess of births over deaths, in the town, in 1947, is a record for recent years.

	Births	Marriages	Deaths
Europeans	364	129	128
Chinese	1	1	1
Japanese	3	1	1

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Stop anaemia making you a suffering invalid without delay. Take Dr. Williams' Pink Pills and soon notice the difference in your eyes, skin, nerves and general health. At all chemists and stores.

INJURED NG RESIDENT REACHES BRISBANE



Mr. Donald Reedy, of Morobe District, N. Guinea, is shown here being lifted from a Qantas plane in Brisbane. He broke his neck in an accident on the Bulolo Road recently and was flown to Australia as a stretcher case.

—“Courier Mail” photo.

SUVA'S SHOWER!

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, April 9.
A SUDDEN shower, typical of Suva's April showers, deposited 3.57 in. of rain in an hour yesterday.

The following week-end ran true to form (Suva is, of course, now in the Dry Season) and in a few hours on Saturday night, a fall totalling 5.55 in. at Suva and 7.03 in. at Laucala Bay roared down mercilessly.

Nausori fared even worse, with a week-end total of 8.65 in.

To the intense disappointment of the Nadi Airport backers, however, Nausori's airfield remained valiantly serviceable until Sunday, when it gave up the struggle with a gurgle. Because both Viti Levu's main highways were blocked

again, the Sunderland flying-boat had to make an emergency flight from Laucala Bay to Lautoka to retrieve mislaid passengers from Nadi.

By Sunday the Rewa River at Nausori was 8 ft. 6 in. above normal at the bridge, the King's Road through Tallevu was blocked by bad slips, and, at Wallotua, was under seven feet of water for a mile.

The Rewa sugarcane-fields escaped, but ricefields disappeared under deep water and the Rewa River was bringing down huge quantities of debris, including many banana plants from up-river plantations. At some points, and mainly at Toga Island in the Rewa, heavy losses of livestock and poultry are reported.

The little Visari River, across the harbour from Suva, burst its banks in the early hours of Sunday morning, swept rice, tapioca and dalo crops, and carried off innumerable drowned poultry.

Along the south coast, the Somosomo bridge was swept away and, near Suva, the bridge at Deuba was under deep water.

By to-day (Monday) the storm had cleared up, but it will be several days at least before the highways are cleared.

March was also showery, with a total rainfall of 18.63 in.—3.90 in. above the normal. On one of the 24 wet days, 3.50 in. was recorded.

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HIGH COST OF LIVING IN TONGA

But Copra is Up, Too

From Our Own Correspondent

NUKU'ALOFA, April 6.
THE cost of living in the Kingdom is still rising steadily, as prices of flour (now £5/1/6 a 150 lb. bag) and the following items, taken at random, show. The figures in parenthesis were the prices ruling when war broke out.

1 lb. tin meat 2/5 (1/-); 2 lb. loaf of bread 1/4 (6d.); kerosene per bottle 8d. (6d.); butter per lb. 3/8 (1/6, 14 oz. tin); fish 2/2 (9d.).

Corresponding with the rise in the cost of living is the rise in price of copra.

Two Tongan youths, Kiteau and 'Unga, heirs to important titles, have gone to Wesley College, Auckland, under the scholarship plan for the sons of Tongan nobles.



Safeguard that Smile!

A tinge of 'pink' on your tooth brush is a warning to *see your dentist*. It may mean nothing serious, but let him be the judge.

He may explain that yours is simply a case of tender gums robbed of resistance by to-day's soft foods. His advice will probably be "more work for lazy gums" and often "the helpful stimula-

tion of Ipana Tooth Paste and gum massage"

Adopt this simple dental health routine . *Brush your teeth with Ipana every morning and evening, followed by vigorous gum massage with Ipana on the finger-tip . . .* Teeth become brighter, more lustrous ; gums firmer, healthier ; smiles more pleasing.

Refreshingly different **IPANA** TOOTH PASTE

DEATH OF GODFREY GARRICK

ONE of Fiji's best known citizens, Mr. Godfrey Garrick, died in Rotorua, NZ, early in May. He was aged only 63.

Mr. Garrick was the son of Mr. Hector Garrick, who practised as a lawyer in the early days of the Colony; and Godfrey succeeded to his father's practice. He owned a great deal of property in Fiji.

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NG Planters' Troubles Concerning Native Labour Recruits

From Our Own Correspondent

RABAU, April 10. IN October of 1947 the Planters Association decided to try and arrange a supply of indentured labour. To date their efforts have been fairly successful, and some 500 recruits have been supplied to members in batches of about 25 per member.

This has very considerably helped the plantations, particularly in the Kokopo area, and Gazelle Peninsula generally. Consequently, production has risen very sharply in these areas.

Bougainville will greatly benefit from this plan, too. Already over 100 employees have been shipped to various plantations in that area, or are on their way. In the case of Bougainville, however, the cost is heavy, owing to the poor shipping facilities.

The outlook for the immediate future, however, is not so hopeful, owing to the scarcity of the issues necessary for each recruit. Blankets, until recently available at about 12/6, are now unobtainable. There are some at 30/ each.

The cost of laplap material, previously available at 1/3 per yard, has been increased to 1/8—and stocks are practically exhausted. It is estimated that a poorer quality material that is coming on to the market this year will be about 3/ per yard.

Interisland shipping facilities are in a bad way, owing to shortage of fuel oil, and this is seriously affecting transport between Wewak and Rabaul. Wewak, the centre from which most of the plantation labour is supplied, is at present so short of food, owing to shipping difficulties, that recruiting of labour may have to be temporarily suspended.

RABAU, April 19. OWING to shortage of food supplies and uncertainty of shipping, the Association's representative now advises that he cannot recruit more labour until the labourers now awaiting shipment have been cleared.

This means that no further labour for planters from this source will be available for at least three months. If suitable and regular transport by sea cannot be obtained soon the Association's arrangements may have to be abandoned.

For some time, the Association has been trying to arrange transport of native labourers by air.

Planters generally may be interested in the following information supplied by a leading insurance Co.

"Regarding insurance of indentured natives being flown to Rabaul from the New Guinea Mainland per aircraft: We are, at present unable to issue any contract of insurance of this nature. We have written our Sydney Office on the subject and, on receipt of their reply, we will advise you as to what measure of indemnity can be afforded the respective employers.

"The enquiry we have made is for an insurance as follows: A flight insurance for £85 per native passenger, to cover the employer's liability at law for death or bodily injury not exceeding £60 plus £25 payable to the employer for charges incurred, such as plane fare and recruiting expenses.

"We regret that we are not able to issue workers compensation insurance to natives, as the Ordinance only compels that European and Asiatic employees be covered."

When it is realised that a planter who orders, say, 30 labourers to be transported by air is liable for an amount of £2,550 in the event of a plane crash, it will be seen that the way of the average planter is very hard, when he or she tries to obtain a labour supply.

The Association has made inquiries regarding insurance to cover indentured labourers whilst being transported by sea; but it appears almost a certainty that this class of insurance also cannot be obtained.

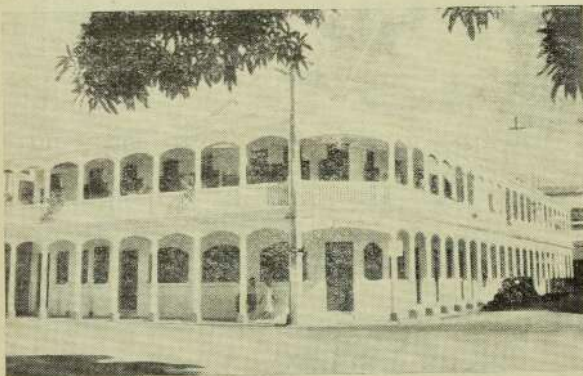
FUTURE OF DREDGES IN NEW GUINEA

THE announcement by the Managing Director of Bulolo Gold Dredging, Ltd., that six of the Bulolo dredges would close down at intervals during the next 6 or 7 years, as the Bulolo flats are worked out, probably is the reason why a BGD prospecting party has been taking a keen interest in the alleged gold discoveries west of Mt. Hagen, in New Guinea. BGD is looking for some gold-bearing flats to which the dredges may be transferred.

The two deep-digging dredges at Bulolo have worked for another 15 years. The other dredges were built before it was discovered that there was a false bottom on the Bulolo flats. When it was found that 20 or 30 feet deeper there was another and a richer layer, the later dredges were built to reach the greater depth.

The Burns Philp Trust Co. Ltd. has applied for probate of the estate of Mrs. Clothilde Phoebe Parkinson, of New Ireland, who died during the Japanese occupation, between 1942 and 1945. Mrs. Parkinson, who was a sister of Mrs. Emma Kolbe ("Queen Emma"), had reached a great age. She has left many relations in the Pacific Islands.

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VINCE COSTELLO,
Proprietor.

New Guinea Offers Few Chances For The Small Man

Letter to the Editor

WITH all our swarms of officials, the Wau road has never been worse, the wharf at Milford Haven holds up by some miracle, the bitumen roads left by US Forces are getting full of holes. The Bitubum bridge will be a world's wonder if it survives another heavy flood. Nearly all the bridges on the Nadzab road have temporary planking on them; water flows over the road after rain. There is no good wharf at Vico for a small boat to tie up or load at.

Most of the men employed as workers by the Department of Works and Housing will work; but all tools, supplies, etc., have to be indentured, and as a rule the result is nil or unsuitable. The office staff is not impressive.

I stayed up here with the idea that, while working and putting a bit aside, I would be able to look round, find something that suited me and settle down. But what do I find? A disturbed land, with the majority of the whites just up here to make a few pounds fast, and get out.

A lot of these whites can't work native labourers, and make disparaging remarks about them, in their hearing. The boys are not fools, and probably understand most of these remarks. Then these people, stripped to the waist, unable to speak Pidgin, push the boys aside and do the job themselves. Naturally, the boys let them.

The wharf at Madang is rotten, and yet

there is only one man to work on it. Inschhafen, Longneck and Dreger all need wharf and bridge repairs, and there are no wharf men there. Lae has seven wharf-and-bridge men. What can they do?

All I want now, after long years of war service, is the knowledge that I can invest my small savings in either a small boat, for cargo carrying and trading, or something that I can make a decent living out of.

But all round is Government control, like a London fog, blotting out progress, trade and prosperity. Yet this Island frontier ought to attract young men to go places and do things. But, apparently, Government-sponsored security has killed the old spirit of adventure.

To put it in a nutshell, I've had it, and these pinheaded, bossing little Hitlers.

—I am, etc.,

EX-AIF.

Lae, 6/5/48.

CLOSE CRICKET MATCH IN N. GUINEA

IN the Leven Trophy cricket series, in New Guinea, in a match at Bulolo, Bulolo beat Wau. In first innings, scores were respectively 165 and 121. Top scorers for Bulolo were: Rudd, 58; Winterford, 39; and Rennex, 20. Best bowler for Wau was Brown—5 for 50. Gross, with 51, was top scorer for Wau, and Winterford was Bulolo's best bowler, with 6 for 15.

In the second innings, Bulolo collapsed—all out for 49. Brown took 5 wickets for 20.

Then Wau, to secure victory, needed to make 94 runs in 65 minutes; but the time expired with Wau just 8 runs short of that total. Winterford took 6 wickets for 30.

Burns Philp (SS) Co., Ltd. Has Another Profitable Year

THE 28th annual report of Burns Philp (South Seas) Co., Ltd. shows a net profit for the year ended January 31 of £97,079. The Company is paying a dividend of 1/9 per £1 share, absorbing £37,500, and is transferring £25,000 to the Reserve Fund (making that £250,000).

This Company's original capital was £750,000; and the total amount of capital now invested in the business, including Reserve Funds and amounts at credit of P/L account, is just on £1,500,000. The Company is in a very strong financial position.

It is registered in Fiji and the directors are Messrs. James Burns, Joseph Mitchell, P. T. W. Black, John Trotter, F. E. Loxton and Sir Henry Scott. It has branches in the six principal towns of Fiji, at Rotuma, at the three chief centres of Tonga, in Apia and Pago Pago, and in Norfolk Island and Niue, as well as innumerable trading stations. During the year the Company transferred its New Hebrides assets to a new company, Burns Philp (New Hebrides), Ltd., registered in Vila. The Company's small branches in the French Islands of Wallis and Futuna have been closed.

MINE-SWEEPING

THE Australian 20th Minesweeping Flotilla, led by HMAS Swan, sailed from Sydney on May 6 to clear areas in the Solomon Islands and Bismarck Archipelago.

These areas are still considered dangerous because of Allied magnetic minefields.

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 TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA

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RACO ALUMINIUM

ISLANDS PRODUCE

(Quotations in Australian Currency)

COCOA

Prices for cocoa beans imported to Australia are fixed and controlled by the Cocoa, Chocolate and Confectionery Committee. These prices, quoted to us as the official Australian fixed price, bear no relation to the ruling f.o.b. Island port price in New Hebrides, etc. We are therefore omitting all quotations—they are misleading.

TROCHUS SHELL

Some parcels have recently changed hands. Nominal quotations in November showed prices at the following levels: Approximately £60 per ton, Sydney. (£35 per ton Suva.)

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 2/1½ per lb.
Indian kapok is being quoted for indent at 1/6 per lb. c.i.f. sg.

COTTON

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.

Purchasers at Full Market
Prices on Assay Value of

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And Platinum Group Metals

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RICE

No quotations.

GREEN SNAIL SHELL

F.a.q., £100 per ton, in store, Sydney. Market in chaotic condition; no orders are being received.

PEARL SHELL

Australian-controlled price:—

"B" Class, £200 per ton. "C" Class, £190 per ton. "D" Class, £135 per ton.
Transactions are unofficially reported.

BUYING PRICES AT SUVA, FIJI.
PRODUCE REPORT

(Fiji Currency)

Copra (Plantation Grade) ..	£46/5/6
Copra (FMS Grade) ..	£46
Kerosene, per gallon ..	3/5
Flour, per 150 lb. sack wholesale ..	59/3
Flour, per 1 lb. ..	5d.
Sharps, per 140 lb. sack wholesale ..	55/3½
Sharps, per 1 lb. ..	5d.
Trochus Shell, per ton ..	£45
Benzine, per gallon ..	3/1

PRICE OF GOLD

Fine	Standard	
oz.	oz.	£9/17/3¼
(Australian Currency)		

COPRA

COPRA PRICES DURING WORLD WAR II
The copra market was controlled by Governments 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 Local Buying Price, in Store, Fiji Currency.

	Plant'n	FMS
June, 1942 ..	£16 0 0	£15 0 0
July, 1942 ..	16 12 6	15 12 6
June, 1944 ..	19 10 0	19 0 0
October, 1944 ..	20 0 0	18 10 0
December, 1945 ..	19 7 6	17 17 6
January, 1946 ..	18 5 6	18 0 0
August, 1946 ..	23 10 6	23 5 0
February, 1947 ..	29 15 6	29 10 0
June 9, 1947 ..	36 19 0	36 13 6
December 8, 1947 ..	38 5 6	38 0 0
March 15, 1947 ..	46 5 6	46 0 0

TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA

ANGPCB Fixed Price at Plantation:

	Hot-air	Smoked
Sept. 28, 1946 ..	£22 5 0	£27 5 0

ANGPCB Fixed Price, Delivered ex Ship Slings:

	Hot-air	Smoked
Jan. 7, 1947 ..	£28 0 0	£27 0 0
June 17, 1947 ..	£31 2 0	
Nov. 23, 1947 ..	£35 10 0	

Increased prices announced on January 7 operated from December 1, 1946. All prices quoted are for copra delivered to ship's 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

London	Para.	Smoked
Price on—	per lb.	per lb.
January 6, 1933 ..	4¾d	2.43d
July 7 ..	5¾d	3.71d
January 5, 1934 ..	4¾d	4.28d
July 6 ..	5½d	7.06d
January 55, 1940 ..	13d	11.6¾d
January 4, 193555 ..	5d	6¾d
July 5 ..	5d	7¾d
January 3, 1936 ..	6¾d	6¾d
June 5 ..	9d	7¾d
January 8, 1937 ..	1½	10¾d
June 4 ..	11d	9¾d

January 7, 1938 ..	7¾d	7d
July 1 ..	6¾d	7¾d
January 6, 1939 ..	7d	8¾d
July 7 ..	7¾d	8¾d
January 5, 1940 ..	13d	11.6¾d
July 5 ..	15d	13¾d
January 3, 1941 ..	13d	12.47¾d
April 4 ..	15d	14¾d
June 6 ..	16¾d	13.5¾d
August 1 ..	17d	13¾d
October 10—Price officially fixed at ..	13¾d	

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

	Aug., 1939	Mid-April	Mid-May
Emperor Mines ..	5/11	s17/8	s17/9
Loloma ..	25/6	s23/9	s24/-

NEW GUINEA

Bulolo G.D.	124/-	s175/-	s170/-
Guinea Gold ..	13/3	N.Q.	N.Q.
N.G.G. Ltd.	1/10	s2/11	s2/9
Oil Search ..	4/-	s6/10	s6/3
Placer Dev.	68/6	s182/-	s175/-
Sandy Creek ..	1/5	b1/6	s1/10
Sunshine Gold ..	6/5	b13/6	s13/-

PAPUA

Cuthbert's ..	16/6	s14/-	s14/9
Mandated Alluvials ..	3/8	s9/6	s2/6
Oriomo Oil ..	5/-	s3/6	b3/-
Papuan Apinalpi ..	4/11	s7/-	s6/3
Yodda Goldfields ..	N.Q.	N.Q.	s1/6

Exchange Rates

THE following exchange quotations show the rates existing in May.

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 0

WESTERN SAMOA

Through Bank of New Zealand:—Australia on Western Samoa on basis of £100 Samoa: Buying, £A99/12/6; selling, £A100/2/6. Samoa on London on basis of £100 in London:—

	Buying	Selling
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Telegraphic transfer ..	—	125 10 0
On Demand ..	122 18 9	125 7 6
30 days ..	122 8 9	125 2 6
60 days ..	121 18 9	124 17 6
90 days ..	121 8 9	124 12 6
120 days ..	120 18 9	—

NEW GUINEA AND PAPUA

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. The Group 1 franc was devalued in January, 1948. Exchange values, in francs, are approximately:—

	£ Stg.	USA Dollar	£ Aust.
Group 1 ..	864½	216	684
Group 2 ..	282.9	70	227
Group 3 ..	200	49.6	160-183

MAY, 1948—PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY

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LAGER

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PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY—MAY, 1948



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