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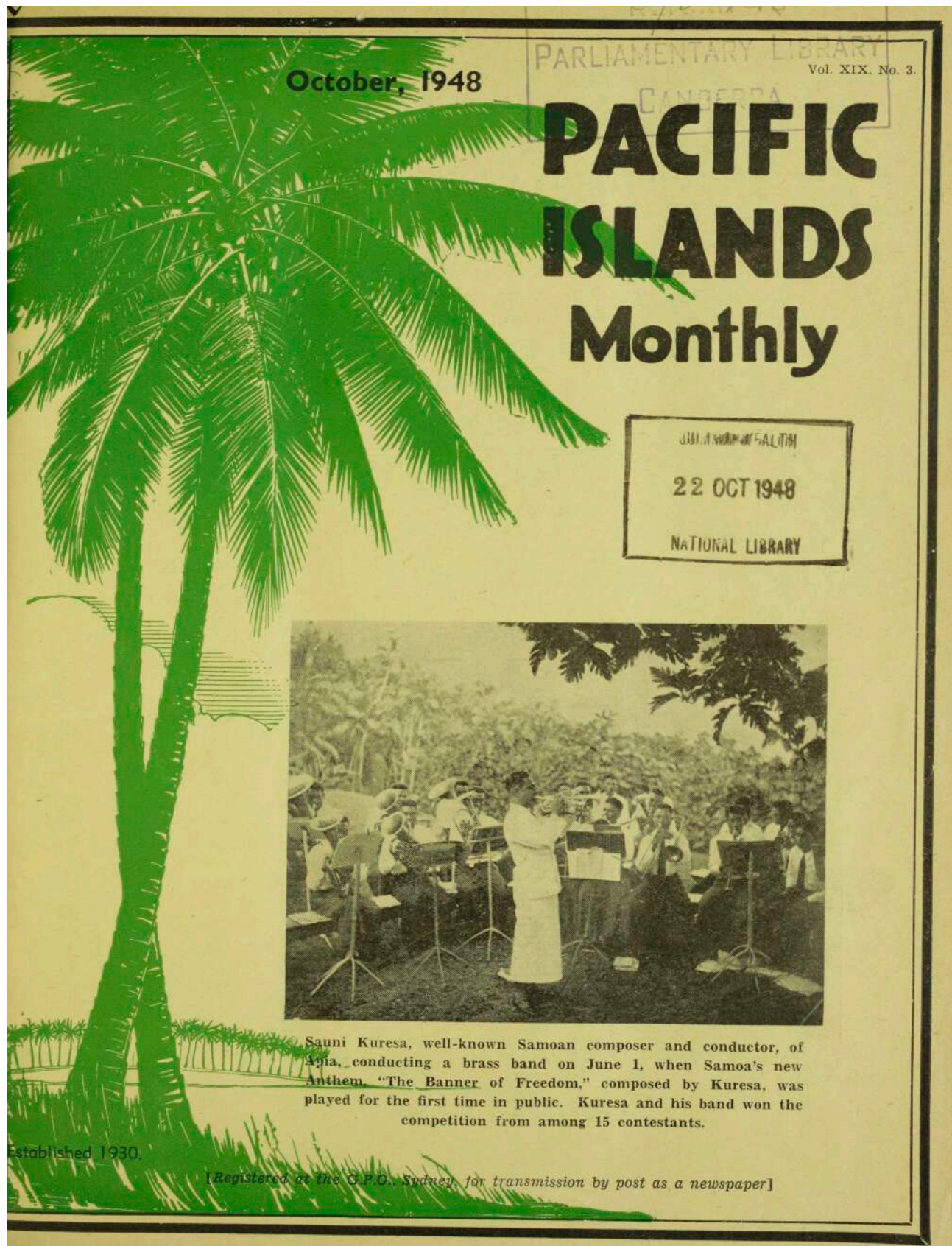
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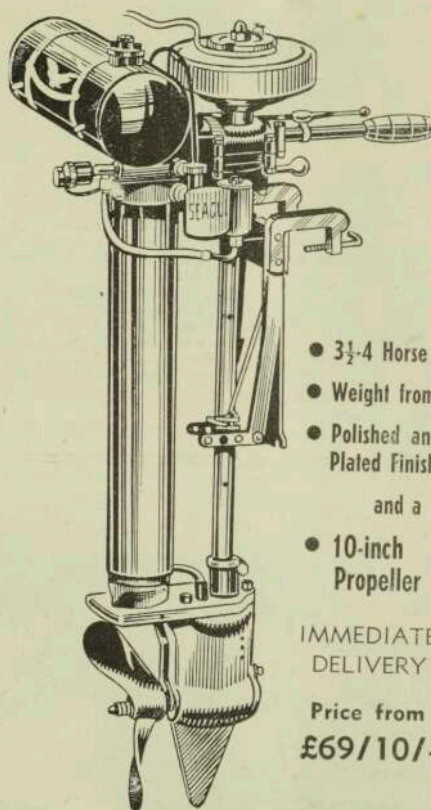
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No 'Little India' Will Be Tolerated In The South Pacific

WE make no apology for referring again to the problem of the Indian in Fiji. It is the ugliest and most difficult problem in the South Pacific. It is brought again to our notice by recent events and developments. Here are some of them:—

- The High Commissioner appointed by the new Government of India, to go to Fiji to attend to the interests of Indians in Fiji *who are not permanent residents of that Colony* was greeted on his arrival at Nadi by about 250 carloads of mostly permanent Indian residents, who gave him an enthusiastic welcome.

- Mr. A. D. Patel, who is not regarded as an Indian leader friendly to the British—and who, in fact, is neither liked nor trusted by British and Fijians—has been appointed (on the nomination of the Indian community) to the Governor's Executive Council.

- Of the 7,161 criminal cases dealt with in the Magistrates' Court of Fiji in 1947, 5,057 represented charges against Indians.

- Of the £6,218 extracted from individuals by the Income Taxation authority in Fiji by way of penalties, £4,883 was paid by Indians. The Europeans paid £69. Of the total Income Tax paid by individuals last year, £72,260 came from Europeans and £38,914 from Indians.

- Of the 2,500 men who went on overseas war service from Fiji in World War II, 2,313 were Fijians and the remainder were Europeans and part-Europeans. **Only one Indian served overseas—he was a Medical Warrant Officer.**

- There are only 2,000 Indians out of the 125,000 in Fiji who describe themselves as Christians. But the Christian Mission Schools in Fiji, for some decades, have been over-run by Indian children. In other words, Fiji-born Indians accept Christian education but reject the Christian religion.

- At any one time there may be 150 Indian patients receiving attention in the hospitals of Fiji. They are attended by European and Fijian nurses—there are

no Indian nurses. The only explanation given is that the Indians refuse to allow their women to do the "dirty work" involved in the training of a nurse.

These appear to be wholly disconnected facts and incidents. But they add up to one very important and disconcerting conclusion—namely, that the Indian community has no record of achievement or service or good citizenship to support its demand that it be given a large and increasing and permanent part in the government and development of Fiji.

THERE is the acute and growing problem of Fiji—the problem of knowing what to do with the Indian community. It has been ignored for too long. Some policy must be adopted and some course of long-term action decided upon. The Indians, by their record in Fiji, and by their growing arrogance, not only contribute nothing to the solution of the problem—they add constantly to the difficulty of finding a solution. The latest development certainly does nothing to lessen the local embarrassments of Fiji's most conscientious Governor.

In the old days, before India received its present status, the Fiji Administration was often embarrassed by representations made to the Colonial Office by the Indian Office, which in its turn was reacting to the petty complaints of the Suva Indians. When India achieved independence, it was feared that there would be repercussions in Fiji; and so it has proved. Within the year, we have the spectacle of Delhi trying to deal directly with the Fiji Indians, and sending to Suva a High Commissioner whose purpose clearly is to be a trouble-maker. We now may expect the opening of an era in which the Indian community in Fiji will cry, ever more loudly, for a larger and larger share in the administration of the Colony.

The British in Fiji, official and unofficial, who are the guardians and protectors of 120,000 native Fijians, must keep the facts constantly in mind, and be prepared to assist the Governor by resisting this Indian campaign in every way required of a balanced and just administration. Unfortunately, the Fiji Government to-day must take its instructions from the Socialist set-up which temporarily holds power in Britain, and which is responsible, among many major blunders in relation to Southern Asia, for the minor stupidity of allowing Delhi to send this High Commissioner to Fiji.

The British Government responsible for the change-over in India and Burma and Ceylon is quite capable, in its ignorance and fatuity, of admitting the Indian community at once to a larger share of Fiji administration. That would be for the whole of the South Pacific a calamity almost beyond calculation. Indians may, perhaps, be able to govern themselves; but they must never, in any circumstances, be allowed to govern other races. And all the other Governments of the South Pacific, including Australia and New Zealand, certainly do not want an Indian-dominated Fiji Government in their midst. That is why it is important that we keep fresh in our minds all the circumstances surrounding Indian settlement in Fiji during the past half-century—and especially the events of the last ten years.

THE latest argument produced by Fiji Indian spokesmen—that they, as our loyal fellow-subjects of the King, should be allowed to share with the British the trusteeship over the Fijian race—is not a convincing one—in fact, it is almost revolting.

There are sections of India's vast population (about one-fifth of the human race are classed as Indians) for whose qualities we can have nothing but admiration and respect, of whose loyalty to our King during the long period of Anglo-Indian association we unhesitatingly make

acknowledgment; with whom it might have been possible to share Fijian responsibility. But *they* are not the classes of Indians whom we find in Fiji. *They* would not have sent a Patel to the Executive Council. *They* would not have taken every chance of spitting upon the Union Jack, or flaunting their adherence to Mother India on every public occasion.

THE British Colonial Office should not—dare not—allow this Fiji problem to remain where it is. Some attempt must be made to find a plan that may lead to a solution.

The simplest and the most just way of dealing with it would be to remove the whole Indian community from Fiji, and leave the future of the rich archipelago in the hands of the Fijian race, which now is steadily increasing in numbers, and becoming every year more capable of governing itself. But that does not seem to be a practicable thing. Before we turn to the drastic remedy of repatriation and deportation, we should examine some other alternatives.

The solution may lie in those swarms of bright, healthy and happy Indian children which, everywhere in Fiji, so impress the casual visitor. They are as attractive, in their way, as are the merry youngsters of the Fijian villages. Their fundamental qualities are good: they could grow up as good Fiji citizens. The tragedy of it is that, as soon as these Indian children reach formative years, most of them come sharply and irrevocably under the influence of traditions and practices imported from ancient India; their mental development is cramped and warped; and most of them grow up, not as free people with an outlook suitable for the citizens of a clean young country, but as moral slaves to imported creeds and practices, and bound to the narrow prejudices and restricted social usefulness of the Gujarati race. In a sentence: We do not want Gujaratis and Gujarati culture in Fiji. If we must have Indians, then let us have Fiji-Indians, with all that that implies.

THERE is another aspect of this problem that we may not ignore. The Fijian people are adapting themselves rapidly to Western civilisation. The Fijian leaders, to an increasing degree, with our respect and goodwill, are being admitted to equality with Europeans. The day soon will come when Fijians will demand the right to deal with "the Indian problem"; and, after so long trying to protect the Fijian against the Indian, we yet may have to protect the Indian against a somewhat belligerent Fijian. That is all the more reason why the solution of the Indian problem should be hastened.

The situation calls for long and close inquiry and a report by a Royal Commission, composed of experts on colonial affairs, with a special knowledge of Indian migration and settlement; and on that Commission both

Fijians and Indians should be represented. Here, the new South Pacific Commission may be able to assist—especially if its headquarters are to be in Suva.

In the meantime, we should demand, on the part of the British Government, strength and uncompromising firmness in handling the situation, and a clear indication that any interference or mischief-making in Fiji by the Government of India, and its innumerable official and unofficial instrumentalities—whether High Commissioner (representing "only non-resident Indians") or Madrassi Sangam (headed by a Gujarati lawyer) or Gujrati Sanatan Dharm (which apparently wants only the ways of ancient India)—will not be tolerated.

We are not going to permit the establishment of any "Little India" in the clean and happy countries of the South Seas. We may, however, have to accept a Fiji-Indian community. When the Indians accept that distinction, we shall be on the way to a solution of the problem.

RED ACTIVITY IN COOK IS.

SOME extraordinary statements were made to the "New Zealand Herald" lately by Mr. Barnett Otene (organiser of the NZ Maori Labour Party) when he arrived in Auckland from the Cook Islands after a three months' visit.

Mr. Otene said that the Communists had had "opportunity to spill their deadly poison among the inhabitants of the Cook Islands" but he thought the political trouble was now all over. He said the Cook Islands Progressive Association was no longer "Communist inclined" and had expressed confidence in the New Zealand Government. The Association had been led astray by one or two men in New Zealand. Now it was not prepared to listen to anything "but the removal of the Workers' Union from the Cook Islands."

As the Workers' Union is an orderly body and was established by non-Communist interests to check the arrogance and activity of the CPA, the statement of Mr. Otene is a little difficult to understand.

PAPUA-NG SHIPPING SUPERINTENDENT RETIRES

CAPTAIN HEYEN, Papua-New Guinea Superintendent of the Commonwealth Directorate of Shipping, retired on September 30, after 18 months in the Territory.

Before the war Captain Heyen was well-known in the Central Pacific. He served on Burns Philp ships in the Gilberts, later transferring to the British Phosphate Commission, for whom he commanded the Commission's flagship, "Triaster," on the Nauru and Ocean Island run. During the war he participated in landing operations in New Guinea, and other Pacific war areas.

The headquarters of the Directorate are to be transferred from Rabaul to Port Moresby, and Mr. O. J. Leighton has succeeded Captain Heyen as Superintendent.

Captain Heyen and Mr. Leighton recently returned from a tour of New Britain, where they inspected shipping facilities.

New Regulations Cover Fijian Affairs

SUVA, Sep. 29
THE Native Regulations which had been in operation (with frequent amendments) since shortly after the cession of Fiji to Britain were completely overhauled in the session of Fiji Legislative Council just ended. The new Fijian Affairs Regulations, which will replace the Native Regulations, were introduced by Ratu Sir Lala Sukuna and received the unanimous approval of the Council.

Among other amendments introduced in the new regulations is that pertaining to the election of Fijian Provincial Councils, and the selection of unofficial representatives to the Council of Chiefs. This will now be by secret ballot (a system used by the Council of Chiefs for the past 25 years for selection of names to be submitted to the Governor who chooses five Fijian members of the Legislative Council). The same system will in future, apply to the selection of unofficial members to Provincial Councils by Tikina Councils; and the selection of members of the Tikina Councils by Chiefs and Turaga-ni-Koro.*

Another innovation is the provision of an unofficial majority in each of the Councils—the aim being to allow greater scope for individualism.

All Fijians have certain community obligations, which were compared, by Sir Lala, to the payment of rates for essential services received in a European community.

Under the Regulations the social services required from Fijians are:—

- Making and maintaining unproclaimed roads. These include inter-village tracks which only Fijians use and certain roads which all members of the community use. For the maintenance of the latter, payment is made by the Government.
- Building and repairing houses.
- Planting and upkeep of food crops.
- Supplying Fijian visitors with food.
- Transporting Fijian Administration officials when travelling on official duty.
- Assisting in surveys of native land boundaries where such land is the subject of inquiry under Native Land (Native Reserves) Regulations.
- Conveying of sick persons.
- Carrying Fijian Administration letters or messages.

A NEW principle has been introduced in the carrying out of these services, however. Villagers who are now gainfully employed on their own account or living outside the village community may pay £1 in substitution for the services which they owe their particular community. Those employed in periodic jobs of an essential nature, for example the punting of bananas, may pay a rate of 1/- per day for the actual social service they missed.

*Fijian villages are grouped to form Tikina, which in turn are grouped to form Provinces. The headman of a village is called a turaga-ni-koro; the Fijian Administrative head of a Tikina is called a buli. The head of a Province, a roko.

Papua-New Guinea Cost of Living Investigation Completed

From Our Own Correspondent

PORT MORESBY, Oct. 5

THE committee investigating cost of living in Papua-New Guinea has completed its work in the Territory, and a report is expected soon.

It is reported in Port Moresby that the committee has been startled at some prices here. Local residents feel that only a bold and imaginative salary increase can hope to ease the situation.

Marshall Aid For New Caledonia

NSW Loses Valuable Coal Trade

By Our Noumea Correspondent

HAVING suffered severely because it could not get adequate supplies of NSW coal, the nickel industry of New Caledonia (which provides 75 per cent. of NC's exports) is seeking relief in various directions—and, more especially, from Marshall Aid.

The French Colony hopes to get coal supplies later on from Queensland. Meanwhile, through Marshall Aid, it is this month getting 4,400 tons of coal from America, per the Nickel Company's new Canadian-built collier "Quebec."

The company is also developing its own hydro-electric smelters at Yate, which turn out a ferro-nickel fonte which can be re-smelted at Noumea with much less coal.

Coal has been the life-blood of the nickel industry. The failure of the NSW miners to cut adequate supplies has done harm to many communities other than those in Australia. The coal exports from NSW to Noumea, once a most valuable trade, are steadily disappearing.

Figures for 1938 and estimates for the present year form an interesting comparison. In 1938, NSW sent 87,000 tons of carbon and 50,000 tons of coke, the equivalent altogether of 162,000 tons of coal, which produced 8,193 tons of nickel matte, of 77 per cent. metal content. So 25.6 tons of coal were needed to produce a ton of pure nickel.

But, this year an estimate of only 45,000 tons of Australian coal is available, a decline of 117,000 tons. However, with this, thanks in part to the preliminary smelting at Yate, 3,157 tons of metal will be produced, an average of 14.3 tons of coal to a ton of nickel.

It is hoped that the reopening of Yate will result in a lessening of from 25,000 to 30,000 tons of Australian coal needed annually by the industry.

And there is talk of improving the Yate hydro-electric supply further by constructing a second dam on the Plaine des Lacs, though this may take years to complete.

Lack of transport, due to the sinking of colliers by enemy action has been another factor delaying output.

Ore production has been confined to two groups of mines, at Thio on the East coast, where 31,000 tons of ore were produced, of a teneur of 3.55 per cent.; and at Pin-Pin, on the other side of the Central Chain, which turned out 18,650 tons of ore of a teneur of nearly 8 per cent. In actual fact this is far the highest teneur per ton of any mine in the world. In Canada and the United States, the teneur of nickel ores is generally below 2 per cent., and this is to-day declining.

MONTHLY production of Caledonian ore, affected by the departure of Javanese indentured labour, has dropped from a pre-war average of 23,000 tons to something like 7,000 tons. All the same, the use of additional machinery for extraction, and the use of white labour, has increased production from under 9 tons to over 17 tons per man per month. Salvation for the industry is looked for in increasing use of machinery which it is hoped will now be purchased in the USA with Marshall Aid.

For 1949, a minimum of 93,000 tons of coke is being asked, partly from Australia and part from the United States, and with the work done at Yate, fonte should be produced containing 6,000 tons of metal, nearly twice as much as in 1948.

NG Timber Lease Trial on Nov. 8

THE New Guinea timber lease case has again been postponed owing to the continued illness of Edward Farrell, one of the four men charged.

The case was originally listed for hearing on August 3, at the Sydney Quarter Sessions but was adjourned for one month when medical certificates proving Farrell's illness were produced.

Four men, John Smith ("Jock") Garden, Harcourt Garden, his son, Ray Parer, well-known New Guinea aviator and miner, and Edward Farrell are charged with conspiring to cheat and defraud Hancock and Gore Ltd., timber merchants, of Brisbane, Queensland in respect of an alleged timber lease in the Bulolo Valley, New Guinea. Jock Garden is already serving a three year sentence for forgery in connection with the same case.

In October, in Sydney, Judge Lloyd fixed November 8 for the hearing of the case. He said that the trial would probably last two months and should begin as soon as possible. Mr. Simon Isaacs, for the two Gardens, asked that the hearing be delayed until December. He said that Farrell is a material witness and that his clients would be seriously prejudiced if he were not available.

The trial of Garden on a forgery charge earlier this year was one of the most sensational in recent years. Great public interest, both in Australia and New Guinea, is attached to the coming trial, now listed for November 8. Some of Australia's outstanding legal talent has been briefed and will appear as follows:—

Mr. W. J. Shand, KC, and Mr. J. W. Smyth, for the Crown; Mr. W. R. Dovey, KC, and Mr. R. J. Marr for Ray Parer; Mr. J. E. Cassidy, KC, and Mr. G. Amsberg, for Farrell; Mr. Simon Isaacs for both Gardens.

NO PLACE IN NG FOR GUINEA AIRWAYS

GUINEA Airways Ltd. made application for permission to resume operations in New Guinea—the Co. was driven out in 1942 by the Jap invasion—but approval was withheld.

The matter was again before the Australian Department of Civil Aviation recently; and the Co. was informed that the Australian Government proposed to extend its operations in New Guinea through its own operator (Qantas).

Therefore, although Guinea Airways pioneered and successfully developed air transportation in New Guinea, it looks as if there is no place there for the Co. under the present administration.

AIRFIELD AND MOVIES FOR TAVEUNI

A NEW airfield on the island of Taveuni, Fiji, built by Mr. J. V. Tarte at Ura, was used for the first time on September 11, when two light aircraft made a successful landing after flying from Nausori.

The return flight was made on the following day. A large crowd of Fijians and Indians from nearby estates and villages watched the arrival and departure.

In addition to constructing an airfield on Taveuni, Mr. Tarte has built a theatre in which he intends to have regular screenings of 16 millimetre films. The Theatre was to be officially opened on October 2, by the District Officer, Taveuni, Mr. P. A. Snow.

SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION

Second Session This Month

THE delegates of the six nations interested (Britain, United States, France, Holland, Australia, and New Zealand) are gathering in Sydney this month to attend what probably will be the most important meeting of the South Pacific Commission, up to date.

The Commission will assemble in its temporary offices at Middle Head, Mosman, Sydney, on October 25, and its meetings will extend over at least one week. Since the inaugural meeting of the Commission (in Sydney, last May) the Commission's activities have been mainly those of preparation.

A special Committee visited Suva and Noumea, in August-September, to report on the rival claims of those Islands' towns to become the headquarters of the Commission; and applications have been invited from persons competent to receive appointment to the chief executive positions.

When the Commission assembles on October 25, the most important matters to be dealt with will be:

- Appointments to the Secretariat, including the office of Secretary-General;
- Appointments to the Research Council;
- Selection of a location for the headquarters of the Commission.

The chairmanship changes at each Session of the Commission. The countries represented take the chairmanship in alphabetical order. In May, Mr. J. R. Halligan, as senior delegate representing Australia, was appointed chairman until the next Session. France, as next on the list, will supply the chairman for the next Session, and it is expected that Monsieur R. F. Lassalle-Sere, leader of the French delegation, will take that office.

It is not expected that there will be any important change in the personnel of the delegations.

Proceedings generally will be in English, as the language of four of the six nations taking part; but, probably, much of the more formal discussion will be translated into French. The Dutch probably will not seek a translation—Dutchmen usually are familiar with both French and English.

DEATH OF MR. R. SPEIGHT OF TALEVU

SUVA, Oct. 3.

THE death has occurred of Mr. Roy Speight, a well-known Talevu dairy-farmer, at the age of 54.

He came to Fiji from New Zealand in 1913 as a working jeweller, served in the First World War and was severely wounded.

When he came back to Fiji in the early 20's he built up one of the best of the Talevu dairy farms.

He was a director of the Rewa Co-operative Dairy Company, and was chairman for many years, as well as a prominent member of the Returned Sailors' and Soldiers' Association.

He is survived by his wife, one son in Fiji, another with the Vacuum Oil Pty., in China, and a married daughter in New Zealand.

NEW WAR AGAINST FILARIASIS

French Oceania Starts Campaign :: Famous Scientist Brings Miracle Drug

Special Article By Our Tahiti Correspondent

AS a result of the visit to French Oceania of Dr. Galliard, an eminent French scientist, and of a united effort by leaders in French Oceania, directed by the Governor (M. Maestracci) there are prospects that the scourge of Polynesia, Filariasis (or Elephantiasis) will be brought under control, and perhaps wiped out.

The Pacific Islands are divided, roughly, into east and west by the 180th degree of Longitude. Westwards of that line, there is much malaria, but little filaria. Eastwards of the line, there is no malaria, but a great deal of filaria.

In proportion to population, filaria is not nearly so common as malaria, and perhaps it does not kill to the same extent. But nonetheless it causes a great deal of sickness, and the horrible disfigurements called Elephantiasis (a grotesque swelling of the limbs and organs, generally of the lower part of the body) have been seen by every traveller in Polynesia.

Like malaria, filaria is introduced to the human body by the bite of a mosquito. A knowledge of the history of the disease has been acquired only in recent years. It is caused by a minute parasitical worm which blocks up the lymphatic glands. It does not appear that a casual bite from an infected mosquito will permanently infect a human being—the latter seems to acquire the disease seriously only when he is "bombarded"—when he lives under conditions which subject him to frequent, repeated attacks by the mosquito. Once having acquired the disease, a cure seems to be difficult. But the disease can be checked if the sufferer removes to a colder climate.

Filaria seems to become more general, as one moves eastward. It is known, but is not common, in Fiji. Cases are more frequent in Samoa and Cook Islands. Filaria is common in French Oceania, where perhaps 75 per cent. of the people are affected.

DR. GALLIARD is Professor of Parasitology in the University of Paris, and is a recognised world authority on Filariasis. He gave the medical world much new and valuable information when, as French delegate, he attended the International Congress on Tropical Maladies in Washington in May, 1948. His arrival in Tahiti a few months ago is an important event in the history of the French Colony.

With Governor Maestracci in the lead, the heads of all the communities of French Oceania rallied to welcome and assist the Professor, and to promise co-operation in every possible way.

Dr. Galliard has suggested that the campaign should shape in three practical directions. He urged the creation in French Oceania of an organisation to combat the Filaria mosquito, and thus reduce infection to a minimum; the establishment in Papeete of a centre for the expert, scientific study of the disease; and an invitation to the medical organisations of all Pacific Territories in the filaria area to co-operate with the Papeete centre in fighting the disease.

Very practical help came early in a generous donation from an American, Mr. William Robinson, who some years ago circumnavigated the globe in his cutter "Svaap," and who has settled

in Tahiti. As a result of Mr. Robinson's help, it became possible not only to establish in Papeete "the Medical Research Institute of Oceania," but also to equip it properly. On July 24, the foundation stone of the Institute was laid by Governor Maestracci, in a ceremony at which Dr. Galliard was an honoured guest, and which was attended by representatives of practically every institution in French Oceania.

The Institute will deal generally with tropical disease, but Filariasis will be given particular attention in the well-equipped laboratory.

The President of the Chamber of Commerce, M. Albert Leboucher, in a speech, described the good that would be achieved if we could check the disease. He described the economic loss caused because the natives in French Oceania suffer heavily from it—they call it "fifi."

Medical-Colonel Bonneaud, head of the Health Department, said the new Institute will be spacious and modern; and the medical men of all countries interested—he referred especially to Britain, United States, Australia and New Zealand—would be very welcome visitors there.

AT the invitation of the Governor, representatives of most of the chief institutions in French Oceania assembled in conference, to discuss anti-filaria measures, on August 4.

Dr. Galliard was introduced formally by Colonel Bonneaud, head of the Health Department.

Dr. Galliard, in simple, non-scientific language, described how the disease is transmitted, and said that if the people would co-operate in clearing out the mosquitoes, they would stop the infection which, already, has affected two-thirds of the population of French Oceania.

A large proportion of the people now carried the disease in their blood, said the professor; and they, of course, had only to be bitten by mosquitoes to become a potential source of infection to others. But a great step forward would be taken if this reservoir of infection were destroyed. And it could be destroyed. There was available a new drug, Hetrazan, which was taken through the mouth, and which within seven days would destroy the parasites in the bloodstream. This drug, even in high doses, was not toxic, and would not harm the organs. In fact, said Dr. Galliard, the action of the drug was miraculous, and they had great hopes that by its use, combined with an attack upon the mosquitoes' carriers, the filaria disease could be wiped out or very markedly reduced.

The professor then when on to advise all local bodies as to the best ways to clear out the mosquito. All vegetation around the houses, wherein the mosquito reposes during the day, should be cleared away. There must be no stagnant water permitted—this was the breeding-place of the insects, of course. All the usual anti-mosquito measures must be employed. Finally, by education and instruction, they must get the goodwill and co-operation of the natives in these matters.

The fight against Filariasis was a difficult and complex thing, he said, calling for the co-operation of every department of public administration; but, properly directed and maintained, there was no reason why it should not be completely successful in the Pacific Islands.

THE war against "the scourge of the eastern Pacific" has been happily and successfully launched by Dr. Galliard. We hope that it will be strongly maintained.

Accompanied by Dr. Mille (who is assistant to Colonel Bonneaud, and in charge of the new laboratory and of the anti-filaria campaign) Dr. Galliard left Tahiti for Fiji by the "Awahou" late in August.

Dr. Galliard has returned to Paris, and Dr. Mille is now engaged in a special study of the anti-filaria methods employed by the Medical Department in Fiji.

UN Children's Appeal Has Good Response in NG

PORT MORESBY, Oct. 3.

THE Papua-New Guinea campaign to raise funds for the United Nations' Children's Appeal is well under way. Progress figures show that already over half of the Territory's £10,000 target has been subscribed.

The outstanding feature of the campaign, to date, has been the response from Wewak, Sepik District, where one of New Guinea's smaller communities has raised £2,200—more than any other town in the Territory. Port Moresby has so far raised £1,760. (See elsewhere this issue). The response has also been good from most of the smaller District Stations.

There has been a poor response from some other areas, however.

EXTERNAL TERRITORIES SECRETARY VISITS PAPUA-NEW GUINEA

From Our Own Correspondent

PORT MORESBY, Oct. 5.

MR. J. R. HALLIGAN, Secretary of the Department of External Territories, has returned to Australia after spending almost a month in Port Moresby and other parts of the Territory.

The principal purpose of Mr. Halligan's visit was to represent the Department at a conference on shipping and port facilities held in Port Moresby in September. Others who attended the conference included officials of the Directorate of Shipping, led by the Commonwealth Superintendent, Mr. McKay, and officers of the Queensland section of the Commonwealth Department of Works and Housing.

No announcement has been made of the results of the conference, but it is understood that new wharf facilities for Port Moresby were on the agenda.

Mr. Halligan also met various sections of the community and discussed their problems. Many people who have been waiting for over a year to gain the ear of the Minister, Mr. Ward, took their cases to Mr. Halligan instead.

In Port Moresby, Mr. Halligan met members of the Public Service Association, promising to submit their arguments to the Minister. The subjects covered were:

- Anomalies in the payment of fares for officers proceeding on leave.
- The newly announced superannuation scheme for pre-war officers who have returned to the Provisional Administration.
- The question of permanent promotions. Officers are only acting in jobs senior to those they held before the war.
- Provision for the secondary schooling of Territories' children in Australia.

INTERESTING CHANGE-OVER IN NEW GUINEA COPRA CONTROL

Unconfirmed Reports That Agriculture Dept.'s 'Project Scheme' Will Encourage Native Production

THE nature of the organisation which is to be set up in Papua-New Guinea to take the place of the Production Control Board (the pending demise of which was announced some three months ago by the Australian Minister for External Territories) was still a mystery in the early part of October.

The Territories' copra producers were naturally most interested; but the Department of External Territories would vouchsafe no information. Up to the present, the PCB is continuing to buy all copra at the equivalent of about £40/17/6 Australian, in store, Rabaul.

The general belief among Sydney copra interests, in early October, was that all controls would be taken off European-grown copra at an early date; that such copra would be handled through the usual trading channels; but that the Government would retain full control over copra produced by natives.

The "PIM" has been informed, on what appears to be good authority, that a section of the Papua-New Guinea Department of Agriculture called the Project Scheme, is being organised to take over from PCB the responsibility of buying and shipping all native copra produced in the Territories. The Project Scheme will organise and encourage the native communities to produce copra, and will buy their product. "Project Officers" are being sent out to various Territories centres.

Mr. Ian MacDonald, native plantation inspector under the Agricultural Department, has been appointed head of the Project Scheme. He has been recently in Sydney and Canberra, and has been in conference with Mr. Fred Archer, head of PCB. That gave rise to a report that the Department of Agriculture is to take over from PCB; but there is no confirmation of this.

An official announcement is expected soon to clarify the position.

THE New Guinea Planters' Association is hoping that it may be given an opportunity of taking some part in the matter, once the PCB control is lifted. It is known that Australia, as a whole, requires about 25,000 tons per annum of NG copra; and, as the production is now about 40,000 tons per annum, and increasing steadily, the combined planters think they may have a chance of influencing the marketing overseas of the 15,000 tons or more, surplus, and getting thus the benefit of either the higher British price (at least £10 per ton better than the Australian-controlled price) or the world price (which may be anything from £20 to £30 per ton better than the British-controlled price).

The New Guinea Planters' Association suffered recently a severe loss in the sudden death of its secretary, Mr. W. R. B. Thomas; and it in consequence is under some disadvantage in dealing with the foregoing situation. It is reported to be seeking the services of an organising-secretary, at about £1,000 per annum.

It is not to be expected that the Australian Government, in removing PCB control, will surrender also the right it now has to pay NG producers whatever price it thinks fit for the copra wanted for Australian consumption.

Australia wants 25,000 tons per annum; and, presumably, the NG growers will have to supply this to Australia at Aus-

tralia's price. The balance (about 15,000 tons per annum at present) will go overseas, at a higher price. How are the NG planters going to get the average of the two (or more) markets? No one knows, yet. It looks as if there will have to be some sort of pool.

Probably, when the Australian Minister makes his announcement he will say something about that stabilisation fund. Canberra, for a year or more, has been taking £6 and £8 per ton from the price paid to the NG and Papua planters, for some vague purpose called "stabilisation of the market." There must be now between £100,000 and £200,000 in that fund. What is the total? Who is holding the fund? How is it to be distributed, in the event of its (a) being needed for "stabilisation"; or (b) not so needed?

These are questions which ought to be answered—otherwise, the whole set-up will begin to look "queer."

BRITISH MINISTRY'S PROPOSED GUARANTEE

IT was announced in "PIM" in September that, with a view to stabilising the copra industry in Fiji, Gilbert and Ellice, Solomon and Tonga Groups, the British Ministry of Food had offered coconut planters a guaranteed price, as follows:

For 3 years (1949-51)—£51 Sterling per ton for 1949; and not less than £43 in 1950 and 1951; OR

For 9 years (1949-57)—to start at £48 Stg.; and the price in each succeeding year to be negotiated, but not to move up or down in any one year by more than 10 per cent.

The matter has been under consideration by the Fiji copra-growers. By an almost unanimous vote, the Suva Chamber of Commerce, in September, advised the copra-producers to accept the nine-year purchase contract offered by the British Ministry.

The idea of a guaranteed copra price has been received with great interest throughout the Pacific; and the eyes of

growers in the Australian Territories have been turned hopefully on Mr. Ward. He had made no move up to October 12, however.

The PCB now pays NG producers £40/17/6, in Rabaul. It bears the following Costs: Export duty, £3/1/6; stabilisation fund, £8/5/0; freight Rabaul-Aust., £3/6/0; handling, etc., £5/10/0; total, £20/2/6; grand total, £61. The copra is sold in Australia at £61.

FIJI'S NEW COPRA BILL

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, Sep. 12
FIJI'S second Copra Bill will not be introduced until the November session of the Fiji Legislative Council. By this date, it is hoped, Fiji planters, will have an effective organisation which will represent them in negotiations with the Government.

COPRA PRODUCERS INCORPORATED —NEW FIJI ASSN.

AT a meeting held in Suva on September 20, an association—Copra Producers Incorporated—was formed to protect and further the interests of copra growers in Fiji.

Major W. E. Willoughby Tottenham was elected president and Mr. G. D. C. Sandiford, vice-president. Committee members are Messrs. G. Barratt Senr., J. S. K. Borron, J. M. Hedstrom Jnr., W. G. Johnson, W. G. Mackay, G. C. McGowan and C. G. O. Parr. Mr. C. R. Stephen was elected auditor and Mr. T. Taverner secretary.

Membership of the association will be open to producers of five tons of copra or more a year, who have freehold title or a leasehold or who are producing copra under a licence or arrangement with the owner of such land.

In reply to a question by Mr. S. H. Wilson it was stated at the inaugural meeting that under the rules Fijian producers could become members of the Association, and that they would be welcomed. Fijians produce about 60 per cent. of the Colony's copra.

At the end of 1946 the reserve funds of Fiji were as follows: General Revenue Balance, £987,474; Emergency Reserve Fund, £140,000; General Revenue Fund, £140,000; Total, £1,267,474.

TONGAN PARLIAMENTARIANS



This group shows the "People's Representatives" in the present Parliament of Tonga.

From left: Hon. S. Puli'uvea (Vavau);

Hon. S. V. Lino (Tonga); Hon. H. Vete (Tonga); Hon. M. Finau (Tonga); Hon. P. Vi (Haapai); Hon. V. Molofaha (Vavau). Kneeling: Hon. V. L. Tu'aki-hekolo (Haapai).

Minor Official Revolt Reported In BSI

Old Honiara-Tulagi Argument May Come To A Head

DEVELOPMENTS during the past two or three weeks indicate that something approaching a minor revolution is taking place in connection with the Administration in the Solomon Islands. (See also article on page 27).

It was expected that, with the departure of the Resident Commissioner (Colonel Noel), by the October "Morinda," on long leave, Major Trench would act as RC, as he has done on previous occasions. Instructions, however, came from London and Suva that Mr. Germond, Commissioner for the Southern Solomons, should act as Resident Commissioner.

Mr. Germond and Mr. Hughes (District Commissioners respectively for the Southern and Northern Solomons) are recent arrivals from Africa, and both are credited with infusing some new energy into the BSI Administration.

This change has brought about other changes. Major Masterman, who was acting as Secretary of the Administration, has returned to his position as Commissioner for Labour; and Mr. Davidson, a former Navy man, has been appointed Secretary under Mr. Germond.

The rival claims of Tulagi (the former "capital"), and Honiara, to be permanent headquarters of the Administration, have been debated for a long time. Some people now expect that Tulagi will come into favour because practically all BSI transport moves on the water and, while Tulagi is a good port, Honiara is held by mariners in high disfavour.

Honiara was selected in 1946 by that section of officialdom which thinks BSI should be developed mainly by native agriculture.

There is a general report—as yet unofficial and unconfirmed—that the Government Trade Scheme has been found unsatisfactory, and that certain of the big firms have been invited to take it over on the old profit-making basis.

The report states that the Government Scheme is heavily overstocked, and that the Administration has disclosed a lack of efficiency in handling commerce generally—namely, the export of copra and the import and distribution of goods. But there is no confirmation of this.

It is expected that, under the new regime, shipowners will be encouraged to send ships to the Solomons and so solve some of the Territory's most acute problems. It is stated in an article elsewhere in this issue (defending the Administration) that the Group's worst problems have been caused by lack of transport—but it is not stated there that transport is missing because of an apparent attempt to run the BSI Administration on a Socialistic basis, in which private enterprise generally has been severely discouraged.

Although more than three years have elapsed since the war ended, rehabilitation in BSI has been very slow. The planting industry has been resumed only by Levers Pacific Plantations Ltd., the Fairmead Co. (which is closely connected with the South Seas Evangelical Mission), the Mission bodies, and a few private planters. It is not expected that copra production in the next twelve months will exceed 5,000 tons—which does not give the group a very interesting trade turnover.

The lack of trading facilities in BSI is causing much irritation. There are indications that the Fairmead Co. (whose General Manager is Mr. C. A. N. Young)

THREE MILLIONS FOR PAPUA-NEW GUINEA

Cost To Australia of Socialist Policy In Territories

IN the year ended June 30, 1948, the Australian Government spent on the Territories of Papua and New Guinea approximately £2,300,000 out of Australian funds—that is, over and above the sums earned in the Territories by local taxation.

This year, it is proposed to spend just on £3,000,000 on the Territories, also out of Australian funds.

These figures emerge from a close examination of the Australian Estimates submitted in September by the Australian Treasurer, in presenting his Budget.

The figures are startling—but they are not new. Again and again, since the Ed-Wardian era commenced in New Guinea and Papua, the "PIM" has pointed out that, whereas in 1920-1940 the Australian Pacific Territories, with the encouragement of private enterprise, were practically self-supporting, under Socialist conditions they represent an increasingly heavy drain upon the Australian taxpayers.

The following table shows the expenditure proposed, and, for comparison, the amounts spent under the same heads in 1947-48:

	Proposed 1948-49	Ex- pend- ed in 1947-48
Territories Dept.—		
Salaries	36,900	25,164
Casual Employees	23,100	19,607
Extra Duty Pay	2,000	2,592
Travelling Expenses	1,500	1,246
Incidental	5,343	6,500
Department's Total	70,000	55,112
Grant to Cover Miscellaneous Services in Papua and NG (1)	2,500,000	1,840,698
Interest on Loans, etc., Papua	4,630	4,533
Interest on Loans, etc., NG	2,830	2,725
Printing of Territories Laws	10,000	11,793
Anthropology Chair, Sydney University	1,750	1,750
School of Pacific Adminis- tration	16,000	16,225
Payments on Behalf of Former Administration (2)	22,250	22,243

is proposing to enter in a big way upon trading, as well as planting.

The method of controlling the production, sale and shipment of copra has been under consideration, and the BSI Copra Board has been holding meetings. It is reported that BSI planters have been given a choice by the High Commission of the Western Pacific of two or three different methods of controlling the industry in the future; but the matter is still under consideration. The BSI Copra Board pays producers only £40 Australian per ton, and there is an export duty of 15 per cent. Copra producers are shaken by the report that copra in the group next door (New Hebrides) is worth £70 per ton.

The general position in Honiara about October 7 was reported to be "confused." If there really is a serious move to shift headquarters to Tulagi, it may indicate that the more or less Socialistic set-up in BSI, which has persisted for three years and which has discouraged private enterprise and "exploitation," is to be abandoned in favour of something more practical and helpful.

Restoration of Plantations, Roads, etc.	80,000	50,711
Library Services	1,000	1,342
Survey of Agric. Potentialities with Brit. Overseas Food Corporation (3)	20,000	—
Aust.-NG Production Board (3)	—	100,000
Grant to Administration, Dis- posals Equipment	—	26,824
Public Service Classification Investigation	—	158
New Vessels for Coastal Services, Papua-NG (4) ..	100,000	—
South Pacific Commission ..	14,000	18,361
Conveyance of Mails, Aust.- New Guinea (5)	?	38,015
New Guinea Civil War Pensions and Education Benefits	23,500	23,301
Native Training and recon- struction, Papua-NG (6) ..	100,000	75,564

(1) This is all brought together as "grant to Administration towards expenses, including native welfare, development, war damage and reconstruction."

(2) No explanation or details.

(3) Intriguing—but no explanation.

(4) Evidently, plans are afoot to provide vessels for coastal and inter-island work—and not before time. No details.

(5) This is now lumped in with payments to contractors in domestic air services, £606,000. A new grant, £32,000, for "payment to mail contractor, Australia-Pacific Islands," is not explained; but it is additional to the New Guinea air-mail subsidy. The former regular annual grant of £12,000 for conveyance of mails by sea to the Islands, has been cut out.

(6) No details of what is proposed. £130,000 was appropriated in 1947-48, but only £75,564 was spent. This £100,000 is in addition to the grant of £2,500,000.

It is noted that £403,450 was paid for "American surplus property at Manus Island and elsewhere."

This outpouring of Australian taxpayers' money, on behalf of the Territories, does not matter very much while the Australian Socialist Government is engaged in an orgy of wasteful expenditure. Two or three million pounds scarcely count, against a total dissipation of overburdened taxpayers' funds running into scores of millions.

But what will happen when the Australian taxpayers rebel—as they surely will? The whole Papua-New Guinea economy will have adjusted itself to an annual Australian subsidy of around £2,500,000—and then that subsidy is withdrawn. What then?

Maybe, by 1952, or thereabouts, they will be burning Mr. Ward in effigy on the green slopes of Konedobu!

PAPAIN UNDER EXAMINATION IN NEW GUINEA

THE possibility of developing the papain industry in the Pacific, to which references have been made in this journal during the past year, is under examination in Papua-New Guinea.

The Department of Agriculture there has been in touch with various oversea authorities on the subject. It has received detailed advice from the Queensland Department of Agriculture. A reference sample of "Reference Papain" has been received from the Pacific Islands Trading Co., of San Francisco. Samples of the seed of the short-stemmed variety of paw-paw has been sent to the Department from Tanganyika.

A circular, for distribution to planters, is being prepared by the Department, and some of the junior staff presently will be instructed to do preliminary field work in relation to papain.

Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Cahill, of Madang, New Guinea, arrived in Brisbane recently on an extended holiday.

TO COMBAT 'NUTFALL'

Remarkable Use of Solomon Is. Ant

SUCCESSFUL research by scientists into the nutfall disease which causes serious losses in British Solomon Islands coconut plantations has recently been concluded.

Lever Bros. sent Mr. Leach, plant pathologist, from England to the Solomons, to reopen investigations made by scientists before the war. The Fiji Government co-operated by sending Mr. O'Connor, Government Entomologist, with Mr. Leach.

The present research team confirmed earlier scientific opinion that the nutfall trouble is caused by an insect, *Amblypelta*, which feeds in the same manner as a mosquito, and pierces the young coconuts to suck their juices. Injury to the young coconut is caused by a toxic fluid which the insect injects while it feeds; the damaged area turns brown and soft; and the nut falls prematurely.

Maturing nuts are also damaged, though these do not fall.

Messrs. Leach and O'Connor conducted their investigations in plantations which, before the war, were almost entirely ruined by nutfall. They found that these estates, once kept clean and tidy, were now overgrown with vines and small shrubs, and that the coconut trees, though some of the old coconuts were heavily marked with *Amblypelta* scars, had recovered and were bearing very large crops of healthy nuts.

Pre-war, scientists discovered that the large yellow ant, *Oecophylla*, was present on nearly every good bearing tree, and that it disturbed and attacked the sucking bug. This ant builds its nest out of leaves, preferably at the top of a tree, and comes down the tree to cover a wide area in its search for food.

The recent research disclosed that this yellow ant is attacked by two other species of ant, neither of which will harm the sucking bug, *Amblypelta*. One of these enemy ants (*Pheidole*) nests in the base of the coconut trees, and the other (*Iridomyrmex*) in depressions in the trunk and in the crown of the palm.

In plantations where only the ant living at the base of the tree was present, it was found that the overgrown state of the plantations had resulted in the yellow ant being provided with natural bridges from the ground to the upper trunk of the tree, so that it was not subject to the attack of its enemy at the tree base. Transplanted colonies of the yellow ant readily made their way up and down the trees against which coconut fronds had been placed for their use, and the yellow ants were also observed to be travelling along the natural vines which have sprung up near the trees.

Palms examined six weeks after a colony of ants had been introduced and provided with artificial bridges were already bearing healthy young nuts.

Messrs. Leach and O'Connor were not able, in the time available, to find any way of countering the second variety of ant (*Iridomyrmex*) which destroys the yellow ant. *Iridomyrmex* is found all the way up the trunks of trees, and at their tops.

In plantations affected by *Amblypelta* and therefore subject to nutfall, where *Iridomyrmex* is present, it is con-

sidered that the yellow ant cannot be successfully established, unless *Iridomyrmex* is previously eliminated from the palms. Further work may show that this ant could be destroyed by reasonably economical methods.

In the meantime, dusting or spraying, for direct control of *Amblypelta*, appears to be indicated.

However, in plantations affected by *Amblypelta*, where only the ant (*Pheidole*) which nests at the base of a palm is present, nutfall should be a thing of the past, provided that coconut plantations are not kept too clean, and that provision is made for the yellow ant to bypass *Pheidole*.

Areas in the BSIP mainly affected by nutfall before the war, were the islands of Guadalcanal, Malaita and Ngela. It was then estimated that an average yield of only 2 cwt. of copra to the acre could be produced in affected areas; while in the unaffected Russell Islands Group the average yield was 15 cwt. of copra per acre. Copra is at present returning about £40 gross per ton to the Solomon Islands producer, and increased production is badly needed to alleviate the world-wide shortage of fats.

HOW TO DEAL WITH WAR DAMAGE CLAIMS

NOW that the Australian War Damage Commission has ceased to function, it is notified that all matters relating to claims may be dealt with generally by the Commonwealth Treasury officials in the various capitals; and especially—

In respect of all New South Wales matters and Queensland, Papua and New Guinea claims, by The Officer in Charge, Commonwealth Sub-Treasury, War Damage Section, 1st Floor, M.L.C. Building, 44 Martin Place, Sydney;

In respect of inquiries in Papua and New Guinea in relation to claims, by Mr. E. A. James, Local Representative, Commonwealth Treasury, War Damage Section, Cuthbertson Street, Fort Moresby, Papua.

P.I. Society of Sydney

THE next meeting and social gathering of the Pacific Islands Society will be held on October 27, at History House, 8 Young Street, Sydney. Guest speaker will be Dr. E. Morris Humphrey whose subject will be "Ships, Past and Present."

New members who have joined the Society since the last meeting are Captain and Mrs. James Marr.

WELL-KNOWN NG FAMILY

A recent photograph of the Deland family, now of Adelaide, but also well known in New Guinea. Front row: Mrs. Deland, Dr. C. M. Deland and Curtis Deland, holding his small sister Marion, newly christened. Back row: Michael, Raymond, Peter and Donald Deland.



"EFFRONTERY!"

Indian Insolence Again Rouses Fijian Anger

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, Oct. 1
RATU EDWARD CAKOBAU, a major in the Army during the war, winner of the Military Cross in the Solomons campaign, and not long returned to Fiji after completing an administrative course at Wadham College, Oxford, provided one of the bright spots in the just-ended session of Fiji's Legislative Council.

Almost incredibly, the Indians had had the temerity to come up with another bland reference to the fact that as "loyal subjects of his Majesty in Fiji" they believed they had absolutely equal status with the British in the trusteeship over the Fijians conferred on Queen Victoria by the Deed of Cession in 1874.

Eyes were turned from the Indian facade of smooth assurance to what seemed to be the contemptuous indifference of the five Fijian members.

Later, a spectator in the public gallery said that he had sat "petrified with fear that the Indians would be allowed to get away with that insult again."

When Ratu Edward rose to speak (the debate was on the "constitutional" motion that misfired) he dealt with the motion and went through the points raised by other speakers with unassuming efficiency. Then, without warning, out it came:

"How a race which, just three years ago, not only made no contribution to the war effort but even sabotaged the war effort, has the effrontery to claim equal relationship with the British in trusteeship of the Fijian people is past comprehension," said Ratu Edward, in a tone that expressed Fijian anger at this repeated insolence even better than his carefully-chosen words.

There was a moment's pause before he went on to score a point off an Indian who had spoken of the Secretary of State for the Colonies as "the greatest dictator of the age, who sits in 10 Downing Street."

Ratu Edward put the Indian member right about the address and informed him that the "dictator" happened to be an elected member of the House of Commons.

But for all that there is no assurance anywhere that the Indians will not persist in their trusteeship theory, more particularly as regards the Fijians' ownership of land.

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HIGH COMMISSIONER OF W. SAMOA

Mr. G. R. Powles to Succeed Colonel Voelcker

THE next High Commissioner of Western Samoa will be Mr. Guy Richardson Powles. He will succeed Lieutenant-Colonel F. W. Voelcker, DSC, MC, who will complete his term next February. The appointment was officially announced on September 27 in Wellington, NZ.

Lieutenant-Colonel Voelcker took up the position of Administrator of Western Samoa in February, 1946, and became the first High Commissioner on the coming into force of the Samoa Amendment Act, 1947. He had served with distinction in the New Zealand forces in Fiji. He was appointed to command the Third Battalion, Fiji Infantry Regiment, in 1942. The regiment took part in the Solomon Islands campaign in conjunction with United States forces.

MR. POWLES is now counsellor in the New Zealand Legation in Washington. He was born in 1905, and graduated bachelor of laws at Victoria University College. He practised as a barrister in Wellington between 1928 and



Lieut.-Col. Voelcker.

1940. Enlisting early in the Second World War, Mr. Powles was a brigade major of the Second Brigade Group from 1940 to 1942. He was instructor at the New Zealand Staff College with the rank of lieutenant-colonel from 1942 to 1943, and later joined the Third New Zealand Division in the Pacific as a battery commander. He was in action with that formation and was in command of a field regiment. From 1944 to 1945 he was Director of Personal Services at Army Headquarters, Wellington.

Mr. Powles has always taken a keen interest in international affairs and was secretary and later president of the New Zealand Institute of International Affairs. He was appointed to the External Affairs service in December, 1945, and posted to Washington to assist in the work of the Far Eastern Commission. Mr. Powles has been intimately connected with the work of the commission as the New Zealand representative since that time. He attended the British Commonwealth con-

Two Men Charged With Papuan Killing

IN September, two men, now resident in Australia, were charged with the killing of a native police constable named Hala, in Misima, Papua, in March, 1942. It was alleged Hala was shot, and died of wounds.

One of the accused is Albert Edward Downey, a mining engineer. He was charged in Sydney Central Court, on September 21, and remanded, pending extradition to Papua. The other is Arthur Louis le Bouffillier, a contractor. He was charged at the Brisbane Police Court, and remanded to Port Moresby.

Police-Inspector T. P. Gough and Sgt. M. J. Guise, of the Royal Papuan Constabulary, attended the courts in Sydney and Brisbane in connection with the matter.

NEW DIRECTOR OF FIJI MEDICAL SERVICES

DR. J. C. R. BUCHANAN has retired from the post of Director of Medical Services, Fiji. He will be succeeded by Dr. J. N. Cruikshank, OBE, who is expected to arrive in the Colony from the United Kingdom in February, 1949. He is a Canadian; has served as Director of Medical Services, Bahamas, and as a Medical officer with the RCAF during the war.

Dr. Buchanan will become Assistant Medical Adviser to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Giving the Cooks Better Communications

THE provision of a small Administration vessel for service among the Cook Islands has been approved by the New Zealand Government. Communication within the Group has been maintained by two trading schooners.

Cook Islands residents are hoping that the TRAPAS New Caledonian-Tahiti air service will be recommenced shortly. Preliminary flights were made by the company, with a call at Aitutaki, early in the year, but the commencement of a regular service has been delayed by damage sustained by the company's Catalina aircraft during a hurricane in New Caledonia.

"Bounty" Descendant in Victorian Will Case

MRS. NORAH JANE MITCHELL (nee Christian) of Norfolk Island appeared in a Melbourne Court recently to contest the provisions of the will of her late husband, James Frederick Mitchell, formerly of Melbourne.

Mitchell left his widow a small annuity and a car; the residue of his £21,000 estate went to his daughter, Patricia. Shortly after his death, Mrs. Mitchell gave birth to a son, but there was no provision in Mitchell's will for a posthumous child.

Mr. Justice Barry granted Mrs. Mitchell £2,000 in cash from the estate, increased her annuity, and directed that the two children should share the residue.

ference on the Japanese peace settlement in Canberra in 1947, and has represented New Zealand at other international conferences.

INDIAN COMMISSIONER IN FIJI

Spectacular Welcome At Nadi Airport

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, Oct. 1

ALTHOUGH the newly-appointed Commissioner for the Indian Government in Fiji (Mr. S. A. Waiz) will officially act only for those Indians in the Colony who are not permanent Indian residents, a procession of 250 cars, the property of permanent Indian residents, swept up to Nadi Airport early to-day to greet the commissioner on his arrival from India by way of Australia.

All the Indian political and other leaders were at Nadi and there was the usual display of national flags.

After spending to-night at Northern Hotels' newly-opened hostelry at Nadi, Mr. Waiz will come to Suva to-morrow.

No announcement has been made as to where the Commissioner will live. The plan to buy the Oceanic for him seems to have fallen through. But it is known that, despite the desperate housing shortage, a surprising number of Indian property-owners have been eager to put houses at the disposal of their Commissioner, at very generous rentals. An equally surprising number of prospective landlords have said openly that they want payment in advance.

Earlier this month, an Indian member of the Legislative Council was required to make a retraction in both the English and Indian press, of a statement he had made at an Independence Day gathering. He had declared that the Commissioner would act for all the Indians living in Fiji. He spoke in Hindustani, and it was not until an Indian paper published a report of the speech that the surprising mistake became non-Indian property.

WHY ARE AUSTRALIAN CANNED GOODS RESTRICTED IN FIJI?

AUSTRALIAN manufacturers of canned goods are disturbed by the fact that there are restrictions upon the import of their products into Fiji, and representations are now being made to both the Australian and Fijian authorities on the matter.

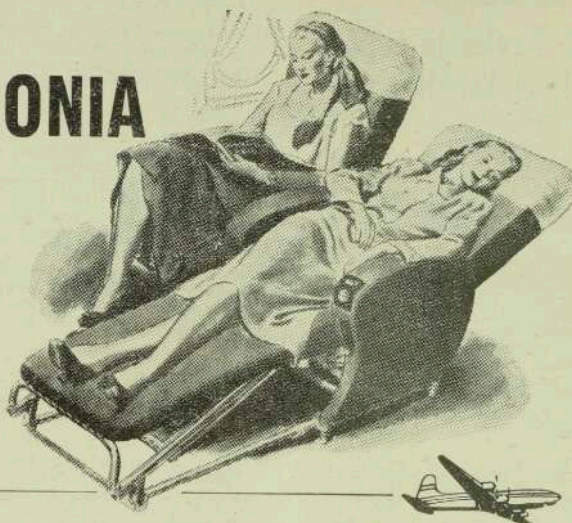
The disability was discovered recently by Mr. Rowe, representative of Heinz Products Ltd., who visited Fiji and who discovered that Fijian importers could get from their Government only a limited license to import canned meats, baked beans, etc. The quota permitted is based on 1945 imports, and in that year importations were very low.

There seems to be no reason for the restriction. The population of Fiji is growing, and every Tuesday is a meatless day in the Colony, when the people turn towards canned foods. The people of Britain would not be affected in any way if a larger quota of Australian canned goods were admitted to Fiji.

Fiji officials gave no reason for the restriction upon the importation of Australian canned fruits into Fiji, but when the matter was taken up between London and Canberra, the embargo was removed. The same thing could well be done in relation to other canned goods.

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Rarotongan Temporary Makea-Ship

From a Special Correspondent

WHILE British law has long recognised the fact that the Heiress-presumptive to the Throne is deemed of age and competent to succeed at 18, that right is denied to the legal successor of the Makea Nui Ariki of Rarotonga.

The New Zealand Government, curiously, has kept silent on a recent decision by the Native Land Court of the Cook Islands respecting the appointment of the new Makea, until prodded for information by Mr. W. J. Broadfoot, a member of the Opposition.

The last Makea, Takau (the elder daughter of Makea Tinirau), died in September of last year, and the office was vacant until recently. It has been awarded by the Court to her sister, Teremoana (Mrs. Cowan), and the installation of the latter, it is known, has taken place in Rarotonga.

Mr. Broadfoot asked whether Mrs. Cowan's appointment was for life, or merely temporary; also whether the rights of succession of the daughter of Takau and the late Lt.-Colonel Tiwi Love (the first Maori commander of the Maori Battalion) had been preserved.

Mokoroa, the eldest of Takau's daughters, who was educated in New Zealand with her father's family, is now 18 years old.

The Prime Minister (Mr. Fraser), who is also Minister in charge of Island Territories, read the judgment of the Court delivered on May 3, that: "The title goes to Teremoana, and she will hold office until Mokoroa attains the age of 21 years. Mokoroa is now 18 years of age, and Teremoana will thus hold office, in the first instance, for a period of three years, and she will continue to hold office until Mokoroa can show that she is ready to take over the duties of Makea Nui Ariki."

"It will be seen, therefore," Mr. Fraser added, "that the judgment preserves the right of succession to the eldest daughter of the late Makea Nui Ariki Takau, provided she is competent."

Who is to decide whether Mokoroa, on reaching 21 years, is competent? Presumably, she will have to go to the Cook Islands Court and establish her competency. The law of Rarotonga, in this regard is certainly open to criticism.

Mokoroa has been carefully reared and educated by her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Hapi Love, of Petone, who are highly respected members of the Maori race, and there should not be any doubt as to her "competency" to succeed her mother.

Sir Peter and Lady Buck To Visit NZ In January

From a Special Correspondent

WITHIN a few weeks of the decision of the University of New Zealand to confer an honorary Doctorate of Literature upon Sir Apirana Ngata, comes news from Honolulu of the award by the University of Hawaii of the same honour to Sir Peter Buck. He already held an honorary doctorate in science from the University of New Zealand.

Sir Peter and Lady Buck are due in New Zealand in January, at the Pacific Science Congress. Extensive preparations are being made by Maori communities to welcome them.

Ngati Porou tribe of the East Coast are restoring the old meeting-house near Ruatoria which has associations for Sir Peter. It was there, when a schoolboy at Te Aute College, he was called upon by the Ngati Porou elders to reply to their welcome, and Te Rangihiroa (as Sir Peter is known to his Maori people), had to acknowledge that he could not do so in Maori. Then he determined to master the language and customs of his mother's people, and he became a master of both.

It is possible that the KCMG which was awarded to Sir Peter will be personally bestowed upon him by the King during the Royal visit in March.

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US Pacific Medical School Transferred

THE medical school which the United States Navy department set up on Guam for the training of native medical practitioners on the lines already in operation at the Central Medical School, Suva, has now been transferred to Moen, at Truk Atoll.

Dr. Karl C. Leebrick, of the University of Hawaii, who was recently in Suva, Fiji, with the South Pacific Commission's headquarters site investigation committee,

said that on Moen it was felt that students will be more in touch with the people whom they are to serve. There were too many disturbing influences at Guam—these included coco-cola, movies and automobiles.

The small Burns Philp motor vessel "Muliana" left Sydney this month for the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, via the Solomon Islands. She expects to make a call at Christmas Island (on the Equator, southward of Hawaii) before returning to Sydney.

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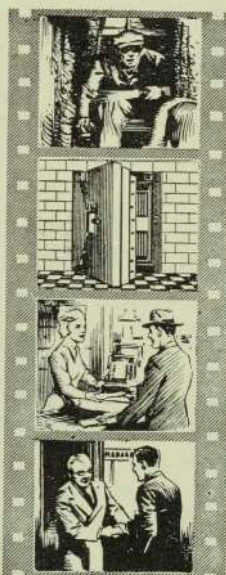
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Possible Effect of Change on Fiji Gold Mines

THE flutter caused in South Pacific financial and trading circles last month by New Zealand's decision to bring the New Zealand £ to par with Sterling has generally died away; but the position still is regarded tensely in Fiji, where it is believed that some change will occur, sooner or later.

Fiji, with its currency 12½ per cent. under Sterling, is in a somewhat vulnerable position, between Britain and New Zealand on the one hand and, on the other, Australia, whose currency remains at 25 per cent. under Sterling.

Fiji commercial interests are strongly in favour of a move to par with Sterling; but the Government, taking its instructions from the Colonial Office, is not favourable to any change. It probably is influenced by the fact that the establishment of Fiji currency at par with Sterling would gravely affect the Fijian gold-mining industry. The local costs of producing gold in Fiji have increased sharply during the past two years, and some believe that if the gold export from Fiji is to lose its present exchange advantage of 12½ per cent., it will be impossible for the gold-mining industry to continue.

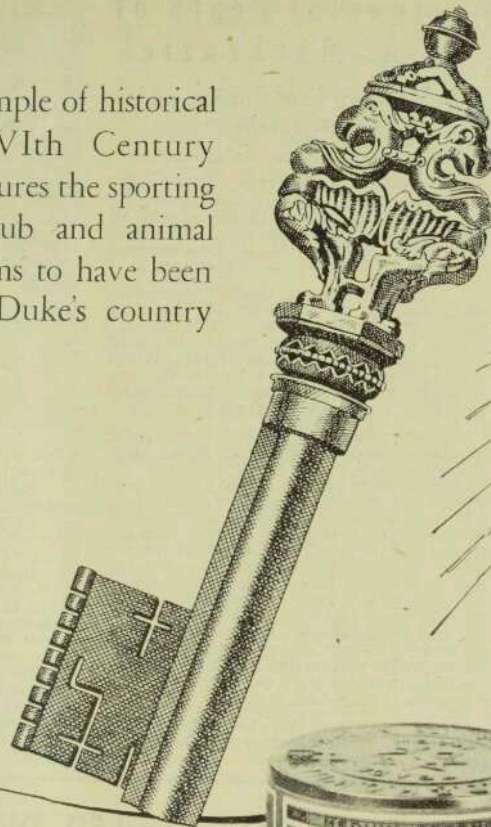
The Fiji gold industry now ranks as one of the Colony's first three industries, and the gold mining town of Vatukoula, with a population of 4,000 is Fiji's second largest town.

NEW HOME FOR ISLANDERS



THESE two photos show former residents of Niuafu Island, Tonga (better known as Tin-Can Island), who are now settled on Eua Island. The entire population of Niuafu was evacuated after the disastrous eruption in 1946 which devastated the island. Those Tin-Can Islanders who are now settled on Eua have built homes and are cultivating extensive gardens. But due to lack of transport, the great majority of the evacuees are still in temporary camps on Tongatapu.

An ornate example of historical keys, this XVIth Century French key features the sporting motif in its club and animal carvings. It seems to have been the key to a Duke's country lodge.



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Fiji's imports from Canada and the United States between January 1 and June 30 totalled £F542,386. Exports in the same period totalled £F1,084,731.

One of the two Catalinas belonging to the French Pacific Trapas air service, which was seriously damaged by a cyclone earlier this year, recently sank at its moorings in a bay in Noumea harbour and has not been recovered.

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Accidental Death of H. A. Mackenzie

Well-Known Territorian and
Coast-Watcher

(See also tribute on page 66, this issue)

NEW GUINEA residents—particularly those of the pre-war period—learned with deep regret of the death of Lieut.-Commander Hugh Alexander Mackenzie, DSC, L of M, after an unusual accident, in Sydney, on September 19.

At the time of his death he was 49, and attached to the staff of the Flag Officer in Charge, Sydney. But he was also a well-known and greatly esteemed Territorian, with an outstanding World War II record achieved when he was one of the top-ranking members of Commander Eric Feldt's Coast Watching Organisation.

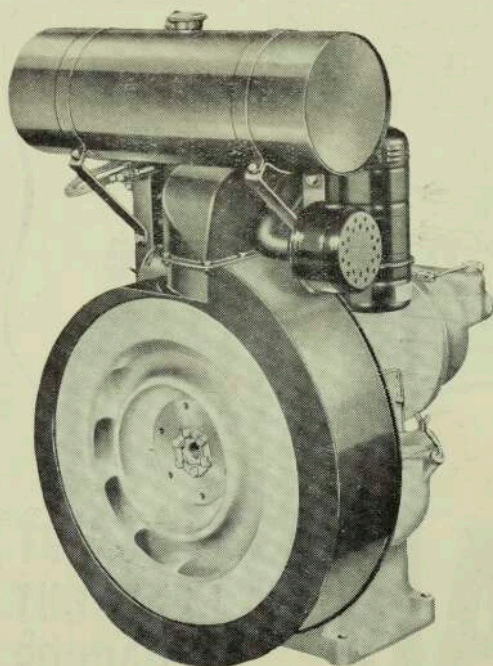
On September 15, Lieut.-Commander Mackenzie was on duty at Naval Base Headquarters, Pott's Point, Sydney. He had apparently gone to bed in a room provided for officers at the establishment; but, in the early hours of the morning he was found severely injured beneath the balcony of the room in which he had slept. He said that he remembered nothing after going to bed, but believed that he had fallen while sleep-walking. He had fallen 20 feet and sustained fractures of legs and arms. He was taken to Concord Military Hospital and was believed to be recovering, but his condition suddenly worsened on September 19, and he subsequently died.

He is survived by his wife, Betty Mackenzie, now of Sydney and also well-known in New Guinea.



YOUNG Hugh Mackenzie, a lad of 14, joined the Royal Australian Naval College as a cadet in 1913. With him in the same term were Eric Feldt, who was to become Commander Feldt, OBE, RAN, the organising genius behind the Coast-Watchers; and R. B. M. Long, who was to become Commander Long, OBE, RAN, who was Australian Director of Naval Intelligence during World War II. Mackenzie saw some service in the Grand Fleet in World War I, and retired from the Navy in 1920 as a Sub-Lieutenant.

An orthodox existence did not appeal to him and, like many other young men of that type, he was attracted to the newly-Mandated Territory of New Guinea in the 20's. At first he led a sort of rolling-



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stone existence—mostly in island schooners and in trading—then he settled down as a planter at Megigi, in the Talasea District of New Britain. He had a likeable personality and was held in high esteem by fellow Territorians. He later proved himself an able leader; a man other men would follow.

He was at Megigi when the Second World War began. In November, 1940, he was appointed assistant to Commander Feldt, head of the Coast Watchers, who then had his headquarters at Port Moresby. Feldt, in his book, "The Coast Watchers," describes him as . . . "Conscientious and thorough in an unsystematic sort of way, and, occasionally, he would do something quite illogical. He had none of the qualities of salesmanship or showmanship, whatsoever. In appearance he was of medium height, fair and sturdily built, looking, then, much younger than his 40 years."

Mackenzie's first task in his new job was to collect information when two German raiders had marooned prisoners on Emirau Island (off New Ireland) in December, 1940. He was later appointed Naval Intelligence Officer, Rabaul, and he was there when the Japs landed in January, 1942. During the subsequent evacuation he helped to save the lives of many who otherwise, out of sheer inexperience, would have perished in the New Britain bush.

When the retreat began from Rabaul, he collected his small Naval party and drove them to the end of the Toma Road; from there it was a matter of taking to the jungle. Realising that they would have to fend for themselves he gave orders that the telaradio should be destroyed so that the party of 10 would be, as far as possible, unencumbered. He gave them their choice—they could remain with him, under his leadership, or, unprepared for what lay ahead, rush off

with the troops still streaming by. To a man they elected to stay under his guidance and, with his example, they remained, in the midst of chaos, calmly preparing for the hardships of the journey. While they were preparing food-packs they were joined by a military party which included Lieutenant P. Figgis, Military Intelligence Officer of Rabaul Force. They travelled together, following the native pads, up mountain slopes, through dripping jungles. Ahead of them inexperienced troops blundered on, some to fall out by the roadside to perish; some into the hands of the Japanese, to be massacred at Tol.

MEANWHILE, J. K. McCarthy was organising an escape route along the north coast of the island, rounding up the desperate, despondent troops and, with the help of worthy assistants, bullying and cajoling them, by stages, to Talasea. When McCarthy learned that some troops had escaped by the southern route he despatched a timber-man, Frank Holland, to the South Coast, to contact them. Holland walked day and night across New Britain's central mountains to reach these men. When Mackenzie received McCarthy's message, he sent his party back with the indomitable Holland but decided to stay himself to assist those troops who were too far away to take part in McCarthy's evacuation plans. Figgis remained with Mackenzie.

McCarthy finally commandeered the small Burns Philp ship "Lakatol," which was hiding in Witu from the Japs, and got his troops, and those who had come back with Holland, safely away to Australia.

A signal was sent to Port Moresby stating that more troops (Mackenzie's Party) were on New Britain's south coast, near Palmamal, and Lieutenant Ivan Champion, in the "Laurabada," sneaked across from the Trobriands and took them

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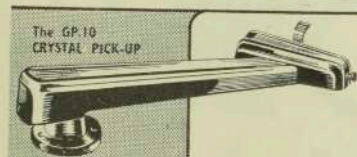
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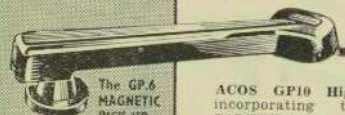
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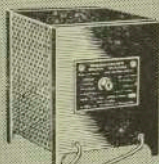
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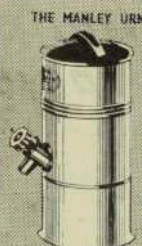
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AFTER leave and a short period in headquarters in Townsville, Mackenzie was sent to Noumea as Deputy Supervising Intelligence Officer (SOPAC) Forces.

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and he later moved on to Vila and BSI where, on Guadalcanal, he established a radio station just seven days after the US Marines had landed.

This station was to pick up warnings of Jap movements from Coast-Watchers further north (particularly from Paul Mason and W. J. Read, in Bougainville) and pass them on to the forces on the spot. The radio post was first established in a captured Jap dug-out, a mere hole in the ground, at the edge of the airfield. Here Mackenzie and his assistants spent their time in rain, mud and acute misery; but they had the satisfaction of knowing that the post rapidly became the pivot on which the Solomons campaign swung—the field headquarters to which, at one time, 11 Coast-Watchers in the Solomons were sending reports.

Due to speedy dispersal of messages, which this arrangement allowed, the US forces were warned of impending Jap attacks hours before the Jap's Rabaul-based planes could reach Guadalcanal.

During this time, Mackenzie was instrumental in rescuing F. A. Rhoades and L. Schroeder, who were at dangerous coast-watching posts on North-west Guadalcanal and whose position, due to the landing in the vicinity of Jap reinforcements, was becoming untenable. Mackenzie sent a launch to their aid and took off, as well, 13 missionaries and one shot-down American airman. For this independent action he earned the displeasure of General Vandegrift, of the US Corps of Marines, whose sole purpose was to hold the perimeter established by his Marines near Henderson Field and who, for some reason of his own, appeared to consider Rhoades and Schroeder "expedient."

During the heavy bombardments that preceded the Jap attempt to recapture

Guadalcanal in October, 1942, Mackenzie and his staff had many narrow escapes from death; and some did not escape. But during that time of activity Mackenzie was organising fresh coast-watching posts, particularly on Vella La Vella, Choiseul and in the Russell Group.

After the failure of the Japanese to recapture Guadalcanal and after he had been in the thick of things for many months, Mackenzie visited Vila and Noumea, where he met Admiral Halsey, who expressed his admiration of the job being done by the Coast-Watchers. Mackenzie was, about the same time, promoted to acting Lieut.-Commander; and when Feldt became ill in March, 1943, Mackenzie appeared to be his logical successor as Supervising Intelligence Officer.

Mackenzie arrived in Sydney on leave in May, 1943, but during it he developed blackwater fever and for many weeks had to fight for his life. In the meantime, Lieut.-Commander J. C. McManus was appointed SIO.

For his work in the Solomons, Mackenzie was awarded the US Legion of Merit.

Mr. J. P. Barron, who has been appointed Executive Engineer to the Fiji Public Works Department, recently arrived in the Colony.

Recent news of Dr. and Mrs. A. G. Rutter, who left the BSI early in the year, is that they are living in Middlesex, England, while Dr. Rutter takes a post-graduate course at Hammersmith Hospital. Dr. Rutter went to the BSI as medical superintendent for the Methodist Mission in the 1930's and in 1944 he became chief medical officer of the BSI administration.

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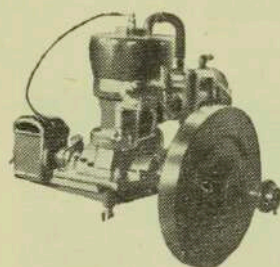
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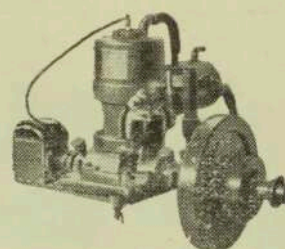
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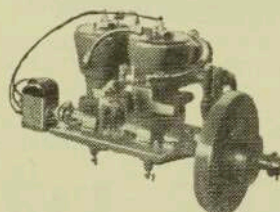
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FIJI GOVERNOR'S FORTHRIGHT REPLY TO 'DICTATORSHIP' SUGGESTION

Constitutional Issue Clarified :: Committee To Report

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, September 27.

DENOUNCING the present system of government in Fiji as a "veiled dictatorship," Mr. A. A. Ragg introduced a motion in the Legislative Council proposing a new constitution with, among other things, an unofficial elected majority in the council and Fijian representation on an elective basis.

Mr. Ragg, in the course of an 80-minute speech, accused anybody who was likely to oppose the motion of being a "reactionary." He said that the Fijian Regulations—just overhauled, brought up to date and, on the motion of the Secretary for Fijian Affairs (Ratu Sir Lala Sukuna) unanimously approved by the council half an hour before Mr. Ragg's

speech—as "a code as reactionary and oppressive as has ever been devised by the mind of man," and admitted that if ever the Indians secured political domination in Fiji it would be the end of the Europeans as a political force, while the Fijians would be "thrown to the wolves."

Mr. Ragg's motion was enthusiastically hailed by the Indians, who, however, accused the mover of flinging mud at them and clamorously denied any thought of trying to dominate anyone or even of entertaining "political aspirations" at all. But Sir Hugh Ragg, Mr. Maurice Scott and Mr. S. H. Wilson, with all five Fijian members, tore the motion (and almost included Mr. Ragg in the dismemberment) to shreds.

The only non-Indian to support the motion was the seconder, Mr. F. G. Archibald.

The major sensation came when, at a point when the debate seemed likely to degenerate into a verbal brawl, the Governor (Sir Brian Freeston) interposed with what he described as an impromptu expression of his views.

Previously an Indian member, Mr. Vishnu Deo, had moved an amendment proposing that the whole question of Constitutional reform should be referred to a committee of unofficial members to make a report, and in the course of his statement the Governor supported this suggestion.

GOVERNOR'S STATEMENT

I AM not going to deal at length with the speech of the honourable mover," said His Excellency. "I have the greatest personal regard for him. I respect his long career of service and I acknowledge the disinterestedness with which he personally approaches this question."

"So it is neither kind nor, fortunately, is it necessary for me to expose from this chair the inconsistencies and inaccuracies which were implied in his address."

"He has been dealt with faithfully by his unofficial colleagues and I have no wish to add to his discomfiture."

"But I cannot refrain from observing that at an early stage in his remarks he undertook to approach this question realistically."

"He then proceeded to paint a picture of the present state of constitutional affairs in Fiji which can be described only as fantastic. We were invited to believe that the present government of this country is sheer dictatorship; that the Governor, secure of the support of his embattled officials on the back benches, habitually enforces his will on the country without regard to the wishes of its inhabitants."

"We were further given to suppose that the Fijian people are groaning beneath the yoke of the chiefly system and is bitterly oppressed by a system of regulations to which the honourable member himself had given his assent half an hour previously."

"Now if this view so eloquently expressed had been based on the first-hand researches of the honourable member, if it was derived from long personal discussions conducted by him with the Fijians in their own language, or in the inland villages and the outlying islands, it would be entitled to the fullest respect and consideration."

"If, on the other hand, it had no such solid basis I can only describe it as misleading, if not indeed as mischievous."

"What in fact is the true position of the Governor under our present constitutional framework? So far from being an absolute dictator, the Governor never takes a single decision of importance, whether in executive matters or in matters of legislation, without first seeking and

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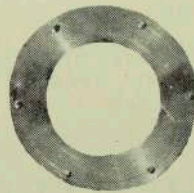
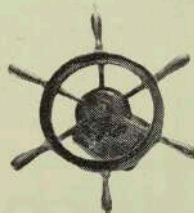
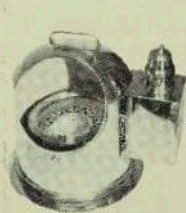


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considering advice. He derives that advice from two sources, his officials and his unofficials.

"Now my Executive Council contains unofficial members of whom some are also members of this Council and I feel sure that if asked they would admit that whatever they say on these matters in Executive Council, although under the oath of secrecy, is taken into full account by the Governor before he makes whatever decision he does make on the matter in question.

"Under the new procedure for nominating unofficial members of the Executive Council the Governor will, I hope, have a greater assurance that the unofficials are such as are in close touch with the feeling of the country.

"There will be at least a closer nexus, a closer contact between the views of the legislature and the views of the unofficial members expressed in the secrecy of the Executive Council.

"I CHALLENGE the supporters of the motion to produce one single instance in the last five years where the Governor of the day has used his official majority to over-ride the unanimous opposition of the unofficial members," proceeded the Governor.

"If such a case can be found I feel confident that it must have been in relation to that type of subject which under any scheme for constitutional reform and unofficial majorities is reserved to the Governor for the exercise of his gubernatorial powers.

"The fact remains, none the less, that the constitution of Fiji as it exists today is ultimately dependent on the existence of the official majority, 16 votes to 15, and that this might in certain circumstances be used to override the united views of the unofficial members.

"The official majority in my view is the greatest possible and most effective safeguard that any one of the three

peoples could hope for against being treated unjustly, shall we say, by a combination of the other two races in league against it.

"It safeguards the Fijian absolutely against any attempt that might be made by a combination of the other two races to curtail or encroach upon the rights secured to the Fijian people by the Deed of Cession.

"It safeguards the European against the consequences of his numerical inferiority; it is the lifebuoy which will prevent him from being swamped by weight of numbers. It protects the Indian community from any possible combination of the European and Fijian which might act to their detriment.

"Until the process of assimilation between the interests, views and attitudes of the three races has proceeded a good deal further than the stage it has reached up to the present, nothing will persuade me that it will be in the interests of the Colony for the Governor to be deprived of that ultimate power to hold the scales even.

"WHILE I have been here various ways have occurred to me in which our present constitution might be improved, might be made more effective, more representative and might approach in some ways nearer our ideal of government of the people, by the people, for the people.

"For that reason, far from opposing the amendment which is still under debate, speaking for the Government I say that I should welcome it.

"I am not prepared at this moment to go into it in detail, but, in principle, a

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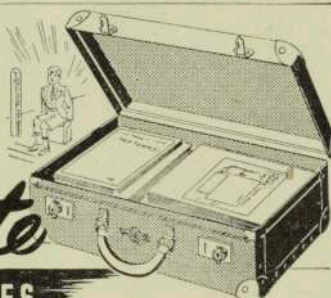
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committee composed of unofficial representatives of public opinion of the three races which takes evidence from outside persons or bodies, and which takes into account such racial interests as are hitherto entirely unrepresented in this Council could, I think, produce a very valuable and helpful report.

But I hope I have made it clear—I must repeat it again—that the Government is not, and cannot be pledged in advance to accept the recommendations of such committee, and further that if the recommendations of such a committee included anything which tended to whittle away the existing safeguards for Europeans, Fijians and Indians, I should feel it my duty to reject the advice and to advise the Secretary of State in London against it."

At the conclusion of the debate, Mr. Ragg withdrew his motion.

Mr. Vishnu Deo's amendment then became the motion and was carried. Three Europeans (Sir Hugh Ragg, Mr. Scott and Mr. Wilson) voted against it, as did two of the five Fijian members.

At the conclusion of the sitting, the 15 unofficial members held a meeting and submitted the names of two Europeans, two Fijian and two Indian members to serve on the committee, the Governor reserving the right to add other unofficial committeemen to represent communities (such as the Chinese) not included in the three main racial groups.

A concert party of 37 Cook Islanders will arrive in New Zealand shortly. Their leader is Piri Macate. The party will visit Maori tribes and express the goodwill of their kinsmen in the Cook Islands. They will also give public performances of Rarotongan traditional dancing and singing. Their visit will last several months.

Tokelaus To Be Part Of New Zealand

THE remote and tiny Tokelau Islands or Union Group, will, from January 1, become part of New Zealand.

Since 1916, although the Tokelaus have been administered by New Zealand through Western Samoa since 1925, they have been officially a British possession.

The Group consists of three main islands, Fakaofu, Nukunono, and Atafu, all of atoll formation. The total land area is about six square miles, and they lie 300 miles north of Samoa. They were administered by the High Commission for the Western Pacific, together with the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony. But they were awkwardly placed from an Administrative point of view and New Zealand, in 1925, was asked to take over. Warships from the New Zealand station occasionally visited them, as also did the Administrator of Western Samoa. For the most part, however, the people were governed by their own chiefs.

The present population is about 2,000. The people speak a dialect of Samoan, and they are quiet and noted for their hospitality. Their only contact with the outside world is through Apia, their port of entry, by small cutters.

Chief industry in the Group is the making of copra. They also excel at mat weaving and other native handicrafts.

Although the Group will become part of New Zealand, the existing laws of the islands are to continue and the statute law of New Zealand will not be applicable unless expressly stated.

This year the Group was given its first official postage stamps, through the

benevolence of the New Zealand Government. If philatelists respond as they have in the past to stamp issues made by other isolated Pacific islands, New Zealand's new territorial acquisition should not impose any strain on the Dominion exchequer.

WORLD PRICE OF RUBBER

SPOT rubber was quoted at 1/2% (sterling) per pound in London recently and was still rising. This was caused mainly by heavy Russian buying. The Soviet, up to July, had bought over 70,000 tons of rubber in London, compared with 35,000 tons for the same period last year (which was about normal pre-war intake).

The London price (equal to nearly 1/6 Australian per pound) is considerably under the price being received by Papuan rubber-growers.

Papua Is Back To Normal

POLICE-INSPECTOR Thomas Patrick Gough, who arrived in Brisbane recently on official duties, said that conditions in Papua were practically back to normal; and that the natives had been remarkably helpful during the reconstruction period.

Housing was still a problem, according to the Inspector, but supplies were increasing and general conditions were satisfactory.

Despite the influences of the war years, the natives in Papua were well behaved and they had little crime.

Inspector Gough said there were now 2,500 native police in the Papua-New Guinea area, headed by a staff of 45 Australian police officers.

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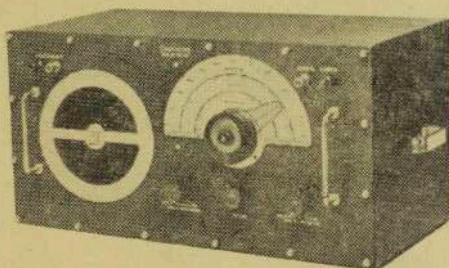
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THE AMERICANS LEAVE CHRISTMAS IS.

EVER since the end of the Pacific war a United States garrison has been maintained on Christmas Island.

Christmas Island is one of the Line Islands (Washington, Christmas, Fanning, Palmyra, etc.) which lie close to the Equator eastward of the Gilbert and Ellice group. The Americans on different occasions have laid formal claim to practically all the Line Islands; but up to the present the British have maintained their hold over them. They now are valuable for two reasons—they provide landing places for planes in that rather empty region between Hawaii and French Oceania, and they maintain considerable plantations of coconuts.

Communications between Honolulu and the American party on Christmas Island has been maintained for the last two or three years by a weekly plane service. However, the American garrison is now moving out, and evacuation is expected to be complete by October 15.

The Gilbert & Ellice Islands Colony, which is responsible for the administration of Washington, Fanning and Christmas Islands, will then take care of the communication with Christmas Island by means of an occasional vessel from Tarawa. The British Administration officer on Christmas Island is Mr. H. A. Markham, who until the Japanese invasion was the owner of one of the best known plantations in the Solomons.

The Burns Philp motor vessel "Muliana," from Sydney, is scheduled to visit the Gilbert and Line Islands in October.

(To avoid confusion, it should be noted there are two Christmas Islands in the news at the moment—the one referred to above, and the phosphate island in the Indian Ocean, south of Java. Now that the latter is entering the Australian-NZ economy, the name of one or the other should be changed.)

ANTI-CHRISTIAN INDIANS IN MISSION SCHOOLS

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, Sept. 20.

"It would seem that the Indians want our schools for the sake of what we can give them in the way of secular education, but they are not interested in becoming Christians," said the general secretary of the New Zealand Church of England Board of Missions (the Rev. W. S. Southward) in a report made after a tour of some of the main centres of the diocese of Polynesia.

All Christian bodies in Fiji are faced with the same problem, the report states.

There is a flood of Indian children in the mission schools, but they are surrounded by a wall of indifference or hostility to any form of Christian religious teaching. Out of Fiji's 120,000 Indians only 2,000 profess Christianity.

The report adds: "The general attitude of the Indians is largely coloured by the political situation. To become a Christian is in their eyes to become pro-European, and thus a traitor to their own people."

Mr. Charles Ross, who spent a lifetime in the New Hebrides, and who owned a plantation on Efate Island, died recently in Melbourne.

BSI REHABILITATION FALLS SHORT OF EXPECTATIONS

WPHC Report Tells of Post-War Difficulties

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, August 30.

THE Western Pacific High Commission issued a detailed review of post-war developments in the British Solomon Islands Protectorate, in August. The review is complete and, considering the fact that the WPHC is usually shy of making its activities public, very candid.

There is, it admits, a grain of truth in some of the criticism that has been levelled at the BSI Administration; and it concedes that achievement has fallen far short of what was hoped for, at the end of the war.

The following are the main points in the statement:

When the administration returned after six years of war it found chaos. There was little evidence of the former British administration, and the task of the returning administration was not lessened by the fact that areas of the country were (and still are) in United States occupation.

The first problem was to service the Protectorate; to bring in and to distribute supplies which were essential for rehabilitation. A small ship was purchased to ply between Honiara and Suva and a Government trade-scheme was established locally to procure and distribute the food-stuffs and trade goods which the Protectorate needed. This organisation, con-

siderably expanded, will tide the Protectorate over until the return of commercial interests, but it has its disadvantages and is regarded only as an

expedient. For example, early this year the Government vessel broke down and it was necessary to make expensive temporary arrangements for supplying the Protectorate.

No actual shortage of essential food resulted, but the variety available to Europeans was restricted and they were obliged in some measure to live off the country.

THE problem of restoring adequate shipping communications is serious and could be solved only by the return of commercial shipping.

In this connection a vicious circle had to be broken: ships would not come unless there was produce for them to

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82

take away; produce was not forthcoming without incentive goods; and incentive goods had to be brought in ships.

Now, however, the Administration has made arrangements for a proportion of its copra to be sold in Australia, thus providing a backload for shipping coming in with supplies. One shipping company had recently placed a vessel experimentally on the Sydney-Honiara run, and it is hoped that others will follow.

To restore the administrative machinery, the Government re-established and re-built its outstations and collected a fleet of small craft for local transport. It built a well-equipped temporary central hospital at Honiara, with rural hospitals at San Cristoval, the Western Solomons and Malaita, and established a District Dresser service. It set up an agricultural department and a rice farm, established

an educational department and arranged for a forest-survey.

Last year all the missions operating in the territory publicly accepted the principal of co-operation with the Government and with one another in educational matters.

A native administration experimental school will shortly be opened in Malaita with the object of educating the more intelligent boys, particularly those selected by the native administrations, to a higher standard than the missions can at present attempt.

The Protectorate's Ten-Year Plan, parts of which are already in operation and which will cost nearly £1,500,000 to carry out, makes provision for administrative reconstruction and development, improved transport and communications, increased medical and health services, and new developments in agriculture, education and forestry.

One of the largest plantation-owning companies will establish model villages on its plantations and the Government will endeavour to settle labour, on a family basis, in the villages.

It is hoped in the near future to establish on the Guadalcanal plain a 1,000-acre farm to grow rice, groundnuts and mixed food crops.

TO encourage plantation-owners to return, interest-free loans were offered.

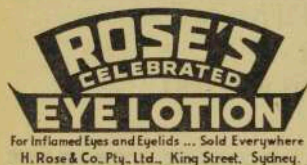
The response was not good—"but plantation-owners may be forgiven for boggling at the immense task of restoring derelict plantations in the face of considerable labour difficulties and the unprocureability of essential supplies. Some did return, however.

"Other plantations were worked by natives on a contract basis and all possible encouragement and incentive was given to native producers. The result is that copra production, which was 115

tons per month a year ago, has now reached the level of 467 tons a month. This is still a good deal below the pre-war figure of 21,000 tons a year, but it is not bad."

Of last year's Marching Rule disturbances the statement says: "The people, unsettled and disturbed by their war experiences and dazzled by the sight of such lavish expenditure of men and materials for war purposes, fell an easy prey to agitators who promised them a post-war Utopia if they would boycott the British Government and set up one of their own. They have learnt their lessons now, but much valuable time and energy was lost in the process."

"It is idle to pretend that the Protectorate Government did not hope to go faster and further than it has; but it would be unjust to give no credit to a hard-worked administration for the difficulties that it has overcome and the plans that it has laid for the future."



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CINEMA AS FACTOR IN NH LABOUR SUPPLY

From Our Own Correspondent

SANTO, August, 22.

SATURDAY, August 21, saw the movies established in Santo—for the first time since the US forces were here.

There is a growing demand for such entertainment. Begun by Mr. Tom Harris, well-known storeman and identity along the Canal, the project is causing some unexpected repercussions.

Planters who are in a position to tell prospective labour that they will provide the boys with transport to the pictures each week have a decided advantage over those who cannot. Labour is so difficult, these days, that any inducement to obtain it is eagerly sought.

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DEATH OF W. R. B. THOMAS

THE death occurred on September 10 at Rabaul, of William Ross Barnard Thomas, well-known in New Guinea. He died after a serious illness and operation, aged 62.

In his passing, New Guinea loses one of its most conscientious and public-spirited citizens, who at all times gave unsparingly of his time and energies in the interests of the planting community of the Territory. As an officer of AWA (and later Overseas Telecommunications) he was held in high esteem by his colleagues and by the public generally.

Mr. Thomas was appointed Radio Telegraphist at Rabaul in July, 1922; and his considerate manner and pleasing personality soon won him a place in the community which he maintained throughout the years. Always ready to give his support to any movement for the development of the Territory generally, he took an active part in several prominent sporting and commercial organisations, particularly in the Rabaul and Kokopo districts; and, later, when the Expropriation Board properties were sold, he became personally interested in several plantations, including estates in Manus, Buka and Bougainville.

Shortly before the Japanese invasion in 1942 he was transferred to the Kavieng Radio Station as Telegraphist-in-Charge. When the Japanese invaded Kavieng, he escaped into the interior of the island and, with other Europeans, he played a prominent part in organising a successful escape from New Ireland by small schooner to Port Moresby, where the party arrived in May, 1942.

After recuperating from the privations experienced during his escape, Mr. Thomas was stationed at La Perouse and, later, at the Central Office. He was transferred, after the war, to Lae, in 1946, and in December, 1947, he was appointed Officer-in-Charge of Rabaul Radio. He retired from the service in June this year, and had planned to devote his energies to developing his planting and trading interests in New Britain.

The passing of "Bill" Thomas (as he was popularly known to New Guineans) leaves a place in the community which will be very difficult to fill. His able work as Secretary of the New Guinea Planters' Association during the difficult period of post-war rehabilitation will always be remembered. All Territorians extend their sympathy to his widow and family (a son, Theodore, and daughter, Marjorie—Mrs. Colin Marr).

BOOM DAYS GONE IN FIJI Imported Goods Remain in Bond

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, September 13.

SHORTAGE of funds and materials is responsible for the Fiji Public Works Department employing some of its workers on a week-on-week-off system. With the present cost of living some of the lower-paid workers are finding it difficult to keep their families going during the weeks-off.

Another sign of the times is the falling off in the consumption of cigarettes. Many, which were believed to have gone stale in Fiji shops, were recently burnt. Others are still in bond.

It is also reported that many Indian storekeepers, feeling the economic pinch, have large quantities of imported goods lying in bond.

100 YEARS OF MISSION WORK

Presbyterians Mark Centenary In N. Hebrides By Inaugurating A New Church

By REV. WILFRED F. PATON

MANY Pacific travellers who have done the round trip on the "Morinda" may have seen one of the loveliest spots in the New Hebrides (or anywhere else)—Tangoa.

This tiny coral island, about a mile long by half a mile wide, lies only a couple of hundred yards off the south coast of the mainland of Santo, a dozen miles from Segond Canal, where the Americans built up an advance base of very large proportions during the war.

Here, the Centenary Synod of the New Hebrides Presbyterian Mission met on June 22 last.

The setting is superb. One noted the orderly arrangement of the various buildings of the Native Teachers' Training Institute (which celebrated its Jubilee in 1945), the park-like slopes, the neat mission houses, the notably clean and well-set up native village; and looking over to the mainland, one views the mountains of Santo's massive hinter and, with Mount Tabwemasena towering about 6,000 feet away to the west.

Things have certainly changed since 1848, when John and Catherine Geddie, the pioneers of the New Hebrides Presbyterian Mission, landed at Anietyum after a voyage of many months from Nova Scotia. In 1948, delegates from the Presbyterian Churches in New Zealand and Australia landed at Santo from a flying-boat, less than two days out from Australia.

Among them was a grand-daughter of Dr. Geddie.

The Presbyterians were not the first white missionaries in the New Hebrides, for (as everyone knows) Williams and Harris, of the London Missionary Society (Congregational), had been martyred on or near the beach at Dillon's Bay, Erromanga, in November 1839. The Samoan teachers, who bravely carried on to plant the Gospel on Anietyum and elsewhere, share with those early martyrs the honour of being the original pioneers of the Gospel in what has proved to be a tough and savage Group.

However, Dr. Geddie's arrival on Anietyum in 1848, followed by the slow and sacrificial consolidation and spread of the Presbyterian Mission in the New Hebrides, fairly gives to the Mission a true spiritual succession to the earliest Christian pioneers.

A CENTURY'S aims and toils, service and sacrifices, errors and achievements, disappointments and successes, can only be hinted at in a short account, such as this.

But, in the writer's considered opinion (after a dozen years in the Mission's service) among the most miserable of pursuits is that of the "debunkers" of the early missionaries. Such writers surely cannot have stood quietly, as I have done, in some of the places filled with historical

significance; such as the memorial stones near the Williams River, at Erromanga; old empty mission houses in spots no longer able, or deemed essential, to be manned (with pieces of furniture, or utensils, left as if for use at any time); or one of the many mission graves, that speak of human loss bravely borne, often in deep loneliness.

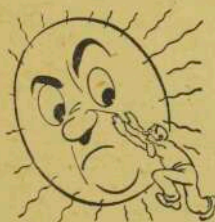
To mention names would be invidious; but the NHPM is a fellowship of service, to belong to which any of the younger men of the present time counts it a great honour.

From earliest days, native converts have taken their place as helpers and leaders and teachers.

From almost every island, since the beginning of the Training Institute at Tangoa in 1895, have gone selected lads and men for a course of training; and many of these, after returning to their islands, have given years of steady service in the villages. Some (like Apon, shot some years ago by the Big Nambas tribesmen in northern Malekula) proved "faithful unto death." Many such men, trained and untrained, have been leading their own people towards the ideal of a true and worthy future for their race.

All non-natives who have lived in the Islands know that they have numbered among their real friends many a dark-skinned man or woman. The present writer recalls, for instance, the bravery of a man who deliberately risked his own life to protect him; and a man who does that for you is your friend.

NOW, for the second century, it becomes plainly necessary that the people of the New Hebrides themselves must increasingly take their part in all development.



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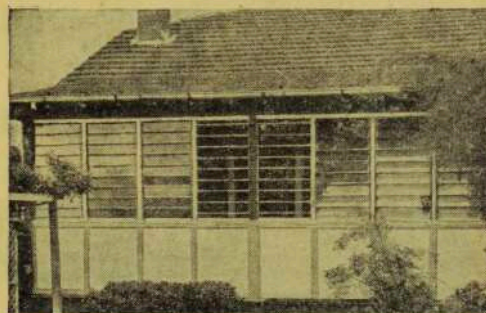
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Illustrated: Typical Suburban Home. Verandah (Sydney) glassed in with Cooper Louvres.

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On July 1, 1948, a hot but lovely tropical day, as the fruit and climax of the Centenary Synod's deliberations, a solemn service for the Inauguration of the "Presbyterian Church of the New Hebrides" was held in the open air at Tangoa.

After some years of thought and re-

search, work and prayer, a "Constitution," precise enough to safeguard the essentials, and simple enough to be understood by native leaders of average ability, had been formally adopted. Here in solemn and cheerful assembly, native Pastors taking their place

with the white missionaries and the representatives of the Churches in Australia and New Zealand, the formal founding of another recognised branch of the Christian Church Catholic was carried out.

After a prayer of Inauguration, the Moderator of the Centenary Synod read the following Declaration:

"In the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, the only King and Head of the Church, I hereby declare the Presbyterian Church of the New Hebrides to be inaugurated to the Glory of God and also for the spiritual upbuilding of the people of the New Hebrides."

A newly re-erected Quonset Hut was appropriately dedicated for use in training native Pastors; and an eloquent address was given.

Thus the second century of the Mission's work in this Group dawns with good hope. The Presbyterian Church of the New Hebrides, an infant as yet, instinctively knows how much it needs its parents' guidance, and even restraint, for many years to come. It shows many signs of good health and strength and promise of maturity; and there are many of us who believe that, while the difficult problems of the clash of cultures have in some organic life, to be developed and unfolded within the clear guidance of the Christian Church, there will be found their only sane and happy solution.

W. Samoa Cocoa and Copra Prices

Effect of New Exchange Rate

From Our Own Correspondent

APIA, Sept. 23.
WHEN New Zealand brought her £ to parity with sterling and Western Samoa fell into line on September 1, local copra buyers and traders held large quantities of copra bought at the old, higher rate.

At an emergency meeting of the Legislative Assembly it now has been decided to create a fund to reimburse these buyers. The amount involved is reported to be in the vicinity of £20,000.

Meantime, a higher copra price has been offered by Canadian interests and in future copra shipments will, in part, be directed there instead of to England. The difference in price obtained for Canadian shipments as against British will, however be paid into the Emergency Fund until the money refunded by the Administration to the copra buyers is repaid.

The new rate paid to producers of copra in the Apia district has been fixed at 24/- per 100 pounds, as against the old price of 30/- per 100 lbs.

Cocoa prices have dropped from £300 per ton FOB Apia, to between £200-£210 per ton. The new season's bumper cocoa crop is now being harvested and will be all in by December.

RABAU TO MANUS PLANE SERVICE

IN July last, Qantas Ltd., in co-operation with the Administration of Papua-New Guinea, commenced to send a plane, once each week, from Lae (New Guinea) to Rabaul, Kavieng and Manus. The plane makes the return journey from Lae to Manus and back, in the latter part of each week.

This is not a regular commercial schedule—it is carried out under a special arrangement between Qantas and the Administration. The plane carries mails and Administration personnel.



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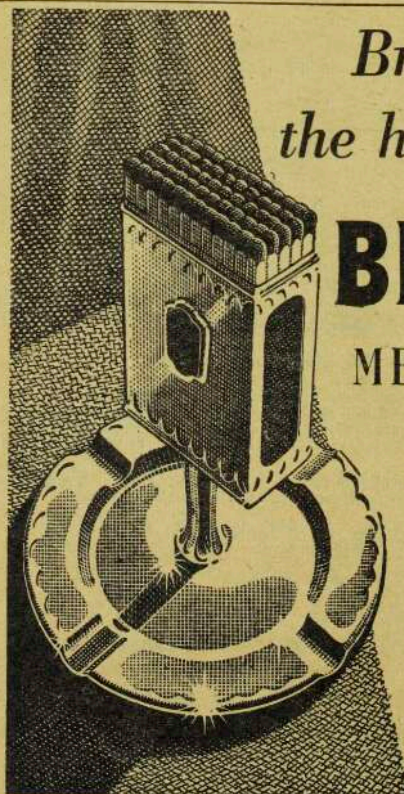
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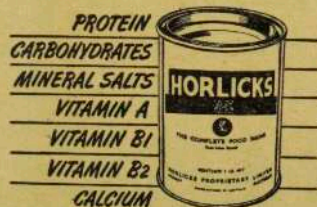


Our champion Australian golfer, Norman Von Nida has always studied his health carefully . . . keeping physically and mentally fit during and between the big tournaments. Von knows the great value of Horlicks. He enjoys that full satisfying flavour . . . and he has proved that Horlicks at night and during the day gives him the extra energy he needs every day. "Horlicks is the most nourishing food drink of all," he says.

That full, satisfying flavour of

Horlicks comes from a careful blend of fresh, full-cream milk and the nutritive extracts of malted barley and wheat. It is *Nature's* flavour . . . that's why you never tire of it.

Many people drink Horlicks simply because they enjoy that distinctive flavour. Others drink Horlicks because they need it to build them up . . . to nourish the body and nerves . . . and to induce deep, refreshing sleep. But — whatever the reason — everyone enjoys Horlicks. Get some today.



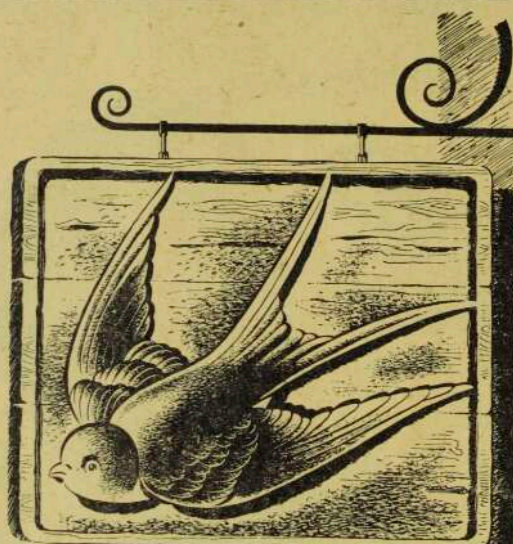
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DEATH OF MRS. KATARINA DARLEY

MEMBERS of the Polynesian Club of Sydney recently suffered the loss of a fellow-member, in the sudden passing of Mrs. Katarina Nehua Darley, who formerly lived in the Bay of Islands District, New Zealand. She was a chieftainess of the Ngapuhi people of North Auckland, and was a direct descendant of Eruera Maihi Patuone, a chieftain of

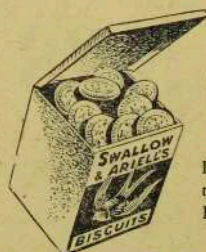
the Ngatihao of Hokianga. Patuone and his famous elder brother, Tamati Waaka Nene, through their chiefly position and Maori eloquence, did a lot towards persuading other Maori chiefs to sign the Treaty of Waitangi, over a century ago, whereby New Zealand came under British rule. Mrs. Darley was a sweet singer, and was expert with the Maori Poi; and, with her five daughters, she made many appearances with the Club's Concert Party, which entertained at so many military camps and hospitals during and after the War.



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Last Chinese Go From Samoa End of a Long Period of Forced Repatriation

THE last party of indentured Chinese labourers, numbering 126, has been repatriated from Western Samoa by the British ship "Yunnan." The remaining 159 of the 2,600-odd Chinese who were there when New Zealand took over the Territory from Germany, have been permitted to remain.

Chinese indentured labourers and Melanesians from the Solomons were brought in to Western Samoa by the Germans for plantation work which neither Samoans or Euronians would do. Both Chinese and Melanesians liked Samoa and married freely with Samoans. They were consequently reluctant to return home.

When Samoa was given to New Zealand as a Mandated Territory, a rigorous policy of repatriation was carried out. In the first 15 years all but 80 of the original 1,000 Melanesians had been sent home and all but 700 Chinese.

When the present New Zealand labour Government came to power in 1936, it announced that the remainder of the Chinese would be repatriated without fear or favour. And, despite vigorous protests by planters and traders, they were sent home, by the boat-load. When war broke out in 1939, about 300 still remained. The war, and consequent lack of shipping, gave these men a reprieve of almost 10 years and provided some sort of labour force for a rapidly dwindling number of European planters.

The labour problem in Western Samoa is worse to-day than ever. Samoans are violently opposed to taking regular work of this kind and it is estimated that less than three per cent. are so employed. However, the New Zealand Government apparently feels that by banishing the last of the Territory's small labour force "for social and economic reasons" they are keeping Samoa safe for the Samoans.

The 72 Melanesians who still remain in the Territory are employed by the New Zealand Reparation Estates—a Government concern.

Chinese Were Cocoa Industries Key Men

From Our Own Correspondent

MOST of the Chinese labourers, those who have been repatriated and those who have been allowed to stay behind, were key men on European cocoa plantations, and the New Zealand Reparation Estates' cocoa and rubber plantations. They were in charge of plantation blocks and areas with Samoan labourers working under them. Nearly all of the men had married Samoan women and have large families.

Those who are married and who left on the "Yunnan" will be allowed to return to Samoa at their own expense, if they so desire, but will have to work on plantations again in Samoa.

European planters have been hard hit by the repatriation and had previously tried their utmost to retain the Chinese. New Zealand government policy, however, and a portion of the Samoans, insisted on repatriation.

It can hardly be maintained that less than 300 Chinese in a population of 50,000 constituted a serious economic problem. On the other hand, the progress and prosperity of the cocoa industry is due in no small measure to the Chinese labourers, their good work and their industry.



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".

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PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY—OCTOBER, 1948

35

NEW MISSION ESTABLISHMENT IN TAHITI

THE missionary organisation of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, of Salt Lake City, USA (commonly called the Mormon Church), on August 14 laid the foundation stone of an important group of buildings (chapel, assembly rooms, class rooms, missionary quarters) at the corner of Prince Honoi

and Commandant Chesse Avenues, Papeete.

The mission record of this Church in French Oceania is over 100 years old. Three Elders, Addison Pratt, Noah Rogers and Benjamin Grouard, established the first mission station on Tubuai in 1844. The mission now also operates in Samoa, Tonga, Hawaii, as well as several islands in French Oceania.

The new Papeete establishment is to cost 200,000 dollars, and everything is

supplied, without charge, from Salt Lake City. It will be a beautiful structure, set in special landscaping.

The photograph shows the ceremony of setting the corner stone. From left to right: Mr. Frank J. Fullmer, building project manager; Mr. Dee Lou Savage; Mr. Leland Carver, building project manager; Mr. Rulon Cook; Elder Matthew Cowley (holding trowel), president of Church's Pacific Islands Missions; Mr. Carlos Levy, who presented some of the building materials; Mr. E. Bentley Mitchell, president of the Tahiti Mission.

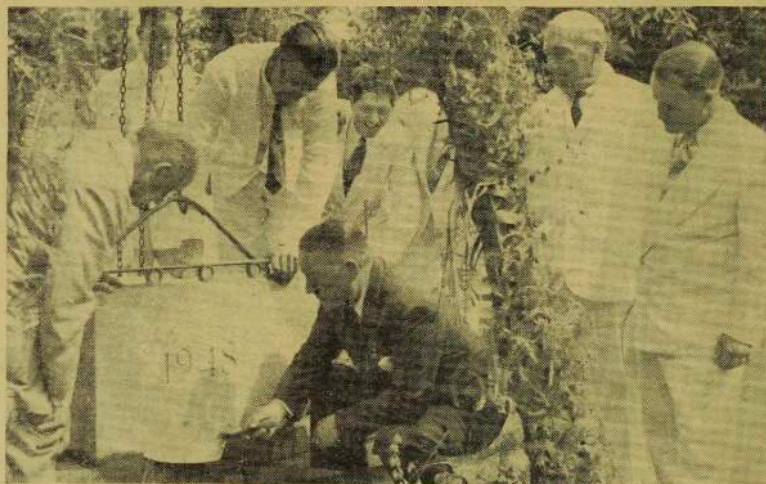
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Mechanical Fault Caused Lae Air Crash

Inter-Department Inquiry Not Made Public

THE breaking of four teeth in the main cog wheel of the blower equipment of the port motor caused the crash of the Guinea Air Traders' Lockheed aircraft near Lae, New Guinea, on April 18, with the loss of 37 lives.

This information was given privately in September by the manager of the company.

The Civil Aviation Department sent its report on the crash to the Minister for Air two months ago but to date it has not been released to the public despite repeated requests for it. This has led to a suspicion that the Government is trying to suppress it.

The breaking of the cog-wheel, said GAT manager, had caused the motor to fail suddenly. The pilot had done everything he could to counter the failure but it was thought that the aircraft, which had just left Lae, had not gained sufficient height.

Four of the 37 killed were crew members; the remainder were newly-indentured native labourers who were being transported to the gold-fields. It was said that the natives were being transported as air-freight (as had long been the custom in New Guinea) and that they had not been provided with seats or safety-belts. This caused a howl in Departmental circles in Canberra. While not explaining how seats or safety belts would have helped anyone in this instance, when the plane had burst into flames immediately on hitting the ground, and the occupants had been killed instantly, Mr.

Ward and other Departmental heads had obviously been looking for a scapegoat. Mr. Ward said, at the time, that no plane in New Guinea had Government approval to carry natives as freight and that he would be amazed if this "pre-war practice were continuing against Government orders." There would, he said, be an immediate investigation to see whether this had been permitted by Civil Aviation officials.

It was suggested, at the time, that the plane may have been overloaded. This was denied by a company official.

As several months have elapsed since the report was given to the Minister for Air, it seems likely that this, like many

such documents, will sink out of sight in some Canberra pigeon-hole.

In the interests of Guinea Air Traders and New Guinea aviation generally, the findings of the committee of inquiry should be made public.

(In the House of Representatives, in Canberra, on September 8, Mr. Ryan (Lib., Vic.) asked the Minister for Civil Aviation, to state the reason for the unprecedented delay in announcing the result of the inquiry into the air disaster in New Guinea; and would he make the report available to members of the House. In reply, the Minister said that the report had been handed to him "only last Saturday week," that it was very extensive,

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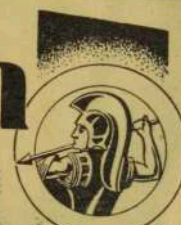
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and that he was going to read it again to determine what action was necessary to deal with the matter. When Mr. Ryan asked, again, when members might see it the Minister replied, "I am not proposing that the honorable member shall see it at all."

The Governor of New Caledonia, M. Cournaire, recently paid his first visit to the outlying Loyalty group, where live 12,000 native subjects of France who are generally regarded as the most active and intelligent of all Melanesians. He also visited the Isle of Pines, where the Marist Mission, in August, celebrated its hundredth anniversary.

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LATE MR. A. WITHEROW WAS PROMINENT FIJI SETTLER-PRODUCER

MR. ALFRED HANCOCK WITHEROW, one of the best-known of Fiji's settlers, died at his home at Walla, Rewa, on September 10, at the age of 76.

Born and educated in New Zealand, Mr. Witherow went to Fiji in 1894. After a period as a sugar-cane cultivator on the Rewa, he took up banana-growing on a large scale during the "banana boom" and became one of the largest individual shippers to Australia and New Zealand. At times his shipments exceeded 6,000 cases (12,000 bunches) to Sydney alone, and on one occasion he shipped 20,000 bunches to Sydney in the ship "Levuka."

When Australia ended Fiji's banana trade with the Commonwealth Mr. Witherow maintained shipments to New Zealand, but concentrated mainly on dairy-farming, while still maintaining small areas under sugar-cane. He was prominently associated with the Rewa Co-operative Dairy Co., Ltd.

For two terms he was the elected member of the Legislative Council for the Southern Division. In his younger days he was a noted athlete and a keen rifleman. In the days when horse-racing was popular in Fiji, he was a successful owner.

In 1904 he married Miss Lily Bailey, daughter of the late Mr. Richard Bailey, one of the few survivors of the sailing ship "All Serene," lost near Fiji in the late 'sixties.

Mr. Witherow is survived by his wife,

two sons—Messrs. Joseph and Tom Witherow, both of New South Wales—and four daughters—Mesdames Jean McLeod (Gosford, Australia), Phyllis Evans (Labasa), Pat Farrar (Labasa) and Loma Miller (Ohio, USA).

Cairns as Port of Call for New Guinea Ships

CAIIRNS (Qld.) businessmen are again urging that the town be made a port of call for vessels in the New Guinea-Sydney trade. They allege that the town is in a position to supply many goods wanted in New Guinea and now brought from Sydney.

The local Chamber of Commerce had previously approached the Minister for External Territories and Burns Philp and Company but had not received satisfactory replies.

Before the war, Burns Philp ships made regular calls at Cairns and Townsville on their way to New Guinea but at that time they were subsidised to do so. Since the war the subsidy had been withdrawn and, it is stated, the volume of trade is such that calls there are unwarranted without it.

The Chamber of Commerce was of the opinion that if ships made regular calls, then the volume of trade from Cairns would grow accordingly. They decided, at their August meeting, to make a further approach to Burns Philp and Co., Ltd., and, if necessary, to ask the Federal Government to reintroduce the subsidy paid to the Company before the war.

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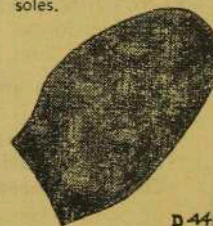


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AFRICAN GROUNDNUT SCHEME UNDER FIRE

Better Results By Utilising Existing Facilities

A SPECIAL correspondent in the August issue of the "British Trade Journal and Export World" is of the opinion that the East African groundnut scheme is a missed opportunity, in so far as helping native and European agriculture and getting results in terms of food production, is concerned.

In the last 30 years, he says, East Africans generally have responded well to our efforts to get them to grow cash crops with the result that considerable quantities of cotton, groundnuts and coffee were exported. But, generally, agricultural development of the three British East African territories (Kenya, Tanganyika and Uganda) have been ham-strung by the fact that there was never enough money to provide trained staff to carry out the work of teaching the natives Western methods of agriculture. In many cases, one or two Europeans and 20 so-called native instructors have been appointed to areas the size of Wales—the natives, who are without qualifications, receiving only from £12 to £48 per year in salary.

For years, conscientious agricultural workers have cried out for more money and staff to teach and guide and increase production and have longed for the time when the Home Government would wake up to the potentialities of these overseas territories.

But when the dream was at last realised—what happened? Twenty-three million pounds were voted, not for these starved Colonial Agricultural Departments but for the Overseas Food Corporation which will rip up distant uninhabited bush country which the overwhelming majority of the five million natives will never see.

It is to be wondered why the technical departments of the East African governments did not protest; or why the European settlers and planters did not cry out for subsidised assistance to be given to them in return for the production they could so easily have brought into being.

It could be that the groundnut scheme was too rushed, and that those who should have been most interested were not aware of what was happening until too late.

Had the money and present staff employed by the groundnut scheme been shared by the Agricultural Departments of the three territories it would have been possible to put native agriculture on a sound basis and obtain a total export of nuts of over 50,000 tons in 1947 and 100,000 tons in 1948, from native production alone.

Had the European settlers and planters been assisted with guidance, fertilisers and machinery they alone could have produced a quantity of nuts equal to that of the

native population, and in the same time. The production of groundnuts by experienced farmers could have been increased in leaps and bounds and would not

have met with the setbacks and the impossible targets of the present scheme. The muddle that has occurred is typical of Socialist planning everywhere.

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UNHAPPY CONDITIONS IN NEW GUINEA

Anonymous Writer Outlines Impressive Practical Policy For 'Cinderella Territories'

Letter to the Editor

FOR the most part, the New Guinea Europeans are a likeable crowd—I've worked, fought, drunk and played with them for nearly fifteen years—but they are not in the tropics for their health, they are little better informed on fundamental New Guinea problems than the average man in Australia, and their ideas on the country's future start and finish with the necessity for a cheap, plentiful and docile supply of native labour.

Incidentally, I've long since learned that mere length of residence in the Territory is no criterion of knowledge—it hasn't even taught many of the old-timers to speak decent Pidgin.

At present, your views on New Guinea would seem to be as follows:—

(a) Strategic considerations necessitate Papua-New Guinea being developed as an Australian bastion against future Asiatic aggression. (This cannot be disputed).

(b) This development can best be achieved by energetic young Australians operating as free private enterprise assisted by native labour.

(c) The world is crying out for edible fats and produce, which P-NG can produce in appreciable quantities if given the chance.

(d) Government's function is to maintain law and order and promote social services, but above all to facilitate development by free enterprise, the revenues from which can make the country even more flourishing than was TNG (allegedly) prior to the war.

(e) The interests of the primitive stone-age native population can best be served by hitching their waggons to the star of private enterprise. In this way they will acquire our civilisation and its concomitant skills, and at some decently remote date will automatically rise to

social and economic levels sufficiently high to warrant their being granted some measure of political responsibility.

(f) The above programme has been completely disrupted—firstly, by the war, and then by the advent of the Socialist-Labour regime at Canberra, whose ill-chosen Territorial Minister, Ward, has made New Guinea the victim of his personal Left Wing prejudices and a testing-ground for the ideas of woolly anthropological and Socialist theorists who are his advisers.

(g) Accordingly, native interests have been made supreme, private enterprise has been strangled by bureaucratic red tape, starved of supplies, and ham-strung by foolish native labour legislation. The development of the country has been brought to a stand-still and a state of affairs produced which can only be cured by a change in Government.

If that is a fair summary of your views, PIM, then you are either grossly dishonest, or just as woolly as the arm-chair theorists you deride.

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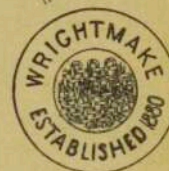
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NOW let us get down to some cold, uncomfortable facts. The retention and development of NG is vital to Australia. If we don't do it, then, sooner or later, the Asiatics will. Thus far we have hardly scratched the surface.

NG is the only country in the world which apparently can be developed without constructing roads and railways. Apart from the New Ireland East Coast road (a German job) and the Wau-Labu nightmare (which opens up little agricultural land) there is not a developmental road in the country.

Any idea that NG can be developed by air transport is arrant nonsense. No industry, save gold, can stand air-freight charges, and the country's future lies not in gold but in agriculture. Admittedly, much of the terrain precludes road-building, but there are still tens of thousands of acres of fertile land lying idle which could readily be made accessible.

This lack of transport not only makes the per capita cost of administration one of the heaviest of any colony in the world: it also prevents the establishment, in areas adjacent to labour supplies, of the variegated capital enterprises essential to economic stability; and finally—for all the rubbish talked about a New Order—it effectively bars the bulk of the native population from ever playing the substantial role they must if the islands are to remain ours and theirs.

NG is an agricultural country, but is not making the slightest effort even to support itself in foodstuffs. Two of the most serious problems facing employers are the shortage of supplies and the terrific cost of imported foods. The shipping-space position would be considerably eased, and the planters' overhead considerably reduced, if that food were grown within the Territory, as it should be.

Meantime, instead of tackling these problems of transport and food production, Government policy (sic) seems to be concentrated on over-loading the country with staff which can't even be housed, let alone gainfully employed.

NO one but a pipe-dreaming Socialist would dispute that introduced capital in the form of commercial enterprise is an essential to NG's development; but it is equally false to believe that this development can be achieved by the colonial plantation system alone. Such theories have been already well tried and found wanting in other colonies—the West Indies and the Netherlands Indies are cases in point.

In NG, the theory breaks down right at the jump when considered in terms of man-power—white and black—alone. We haven't the white man-power willing and able to develop tropical Australia, let alone NG. In the TNG of 1940, after nearly sixty years of settlement, there were only 272,000 acres (less than ¼ per cent. of the total area) under plantation cultivation—most of it planted up in German times in a few constricted areas. Control of the majority of these holdings has long since passed into the hands of the Big Firms, and no one can maintain that a plantation system run by hired managers, with absentee shareholders as the real landlords, ever provided a sound basis for genuine agricultural settlement anywhere.

And even if we had large numbers of your Australians anxious to become yeoman settlers, and a Government willing to assist them (we have neither), the development of plantation agriculture under present methods still depends on an adequate supply of native labour. Sufficient labour is not available; but the underlying reasons for its scarcity involve much more than the blunderings of Government policy under the Wardist regime.

THE native labour supply in TNG was inadequate for that Territory's needs in 1940, when 40,000 indentured labourers were employed. Most of the accessible tribal areas had then been tapped, many had been closed to prevent the complete disappearance of man-power from the villages, and future development depended largely on recruiting labour from the limited new areas which

(Continued on page 52)



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MAGAZINE SECTION

Territories Talk-Talk

By "Tolala"

A CENTRE, better known to Territorians than to any other section of the community, folded up at the end of last month—namely, The Australian War Damage Commission. Controller Battersby, who actually has carried out a huge and difficult job in a splendid way, despite the opinions of a few disgruntled claimants, goes back to Queensland and his insurance interests; while Mr. Les Roberts (better known for many years as Assistant Secretary for Lands at Rabaul) takes over the reins in the box seat, to wind up the few straggling outstanding claims.

Funds amassed by the WDC verge on the £16 millions mark; claims and interest amounted to about £10 millions; and, after expenses are deducted, about £5½ millions are still reckoned to be lying in kitty. There has been some speculation as to how this surplus will be distributed, seeing that it was derived from premiums paid by Australian property-owners as war insurance. It is to be absorbed in a reserve fund for the payment of Australian war gratuities. This is probably as good a way out as any. A *pro rata* rebate would have given everyone a headache, and war gratuities sound much better than Consolidated Revenue.

SOME people have the idea that native war damage—"compensation" in Papua and New Guinea is being paid through the WDC. This, of course, is incorrect. Australian Post-War Reconstruction is the milch-cow for that particular expenditure, and it comes directly out of the pockets of Australian taxpayers.

ACCORDING to a well-known Sydney columnist, whose information is usually reliable, a "clandestine round-robin" is going the rounds among NG Europeans praying the Commonwealth Government to pass over NG Administration to either Britain or the United States. If this be so, then it is not the first time such a step has been suggested as a means of side-stepping the Ed-Wardian "new deal."

I can't see Britain eager to shoulder more responsibilities in the way of showing the torch of civilisation to dependent dark races. She has her hands full for some years to come. The US was certainly interested in Manus, but from a purely strategic viewpoint only. It has no territorial expansion policy; though when Dewey is elected next month (as no doubt he will be) there might be a change of policy.

But a US native policy in NG might not be so popular, after all, with white interests, bearing in mind the fact that the experience of the US in the Pacific has been gained solely from its contacts with the Micronesian and Polynesian peoples, and the Americans know little of the ways of the more primitive Melanesian.

Perhaps, after all, the devil you know is better than the devil you don't know.

EARLY next year the more or less isolated Aitape area will be in the news for a few days at least—perhaps for longer, if anything goes awry—when the 3,000-tons bomb dump at Tadiji is touched off. Geo-physicists reckon that New Guinea's guinea-pig may have some interesting results.

Anything may happen. Some of the old bores put down by the oil-searching companies around Matapau might start something; or there might even be a repetition of the big *guria* which buried half-a-dozen villages in the Aitape district back in the 1930's. Anyway, Director of the Sydney Observatory is to be thereabouts with a score of seismograph recording stations dotted over the landscape. The Aitape dump is less than half as big as the amount of explosives used to wipe Heligoland off the map in April '47. But the earth's crust in New Guinea is considerably thinner than on the other side of the world.

A COUPLE of months ago I mentioned the Papuan lad who wrote to a Melbourne Football Club and scored a free football; and I deplored cock-eyed charity towards natives well capable of paying. Recently, a Sydney columnist quoted a somewhat befuddled letter addressed to a Sydney firm from an Indian in Fiji concerning pouches. The native wording resulted in the Indian receiving free tobacco pouches. This sort of thing can easily develop into a racket by sophisticated dark-skins and, as I said before, gives them a false impression of Western economics.

TING's old PMO, Knight Raphael Cilento, certainly gets about. His HQ now are in NY as OC UNO Relief Workers. Latest developments have taken him to Haifa, where Arab and Jew refugees face a grim time. Lady Phyllis (well-known also to Territorians) has joined Sir "Ray" in NY this year, taking with her daughter Diane and son David. Artist Margaret, who won an Art Travelling Scholarship, was already camped in the Big City when they arrived.

MAURICE PERRONNET, owner of a coconut plantation on New Britain, according to a recent Sydney Sunday paper, was a news feature on account of his apparent indifference when he lost £500, which he inadvertently left in a telephone booth. Said one report: "There must be an awful lot of coconuts in New Britain."

And so the impression remains that Islands planters, in these days, are on a par with the Rich Uncle from Fiji of fifty years ago. Their reputation for free-spending is probably the cause of this.

Which reminds me of old Peter Hansen, when he was known as King of the French Islands (the old name for the Witu Group) in the real good old days. Peter did things in the grand manner when he came to Sydney on holidays: Frock coat and top-hat. But his favourite celebration was to take the Tivoli ballet out *en masse* for an after-the-show supper, with champagne. Fortune was not smiling too sweetly on him in his latter years, but he had no regrets. "I have lived," he used to say. And he had.

(Continued next page)

MISS POLYNESIA



This attractive lass with the wind-blown hair, has brains too. She is Miss Johnny Frisbie, whose book "Miss Ulysses of Puka-Puka" was reviewed in "PIM" recently. As a background our Island Lorelei has the township of Avarua, and the spiny ridges of Rarotonga, Cook Islands.

ANTHROPOLOGIST Ian Hogbin (call it Ho Bin, please) sailed last month for England. It has not been officially announced, but it is presumed in certain quarters that he will spend some of his time in the Old Country as a lecturer at some of the English universities under the newly-organised exchange system recommended at the conference of Universities of the Empire held at Bristol and Oxford.

FOR reading: Quentin Reynolds has written a factual story of interest to Territorians. Title: "Seventy Thousand to One"—all about the experiences of an American airman who bailed out over New Britain during the war, and remained hidden with the natives for nine months. A book of war historical interest.

THE Grim Reaper has been busy with his scythe in the last few weeks and, as is his custom, his sweeps invariably take our old-timers in threes, in quick succession: Wally Digby, well-known Morobe goldfields identity, passed over in a Lewisham private hospital; Jack Spence, another goldfields personality, died at Lidcombe; and now G. St. Clair Low, accidentally killed at Moresby. Then came the sad tragedy when Lieut.-Commander Hugh A. McKenzie, so well-known amongst the Coast Watchers, passed away at Concord hospital; Planters' Secretary W. R. B. Thomas went to his rest in Namanula hospital at Rabaul; and Peter Forster (husband of Nari Campbell) died as a result of burns in Bougainville. . . . May they all rest peacefully.

BITS AND PIECES: Ian Innes (son of Mr. and Mrs. Allen Innes) and his good wife are receiving showers of congratulations on the birth of twins. Mrs. Innes was Gwen O'Keefe, of Melbourne. Ian spent his childhood in NG and did a good job in the air during the last war. . . . Dr. and Mrs. Michael Read have returned from England. He takes up a position at the PSA at Mosman. . . . Drummond Thomson, of Numa Numa, Bougainville, is down on leave, spending it in Sydney and Melbourne. . . . Assistant CLO Watkins hurried back from leave in WA to catch "Bulolo," only to find he had to cool his heels in Sydney owing to the ship's sailing being delayed. . . . Colin Darbyshire, of the Moresby Titles Office, is down on leave with wife and daughter Robin. He aims to return in January. . . . Harry (Red) Murray is in Sydney on leave from Bali plantation, which he manages for Harold Coldham. . . . Wally Tait, well-known stevedore from Moresby, is down on a spot of leave.

With boom prices for the copra of their productive island, prosperous Rotumans are now taking holidays in Suva. The owners of the inter-island ship "Yanawai" (Burns, Philp) had to announce that the ship due to leave Suva for Rotuma on September 3, could take no passengers on the return voyage—which includes calls at Vanua Levu and Taveuni ports—because it had been booked out by Rotumans. This means that more than 80 islanders went to Suva.

The Rev. R. A. Donne, who has been rector of Holy Trinity Pro-Cathedral, Suva, for 3½ years, is returning to Australia. Mr. and Mrs. Donne were farewelled by a large gathering at the Parish Hall, when Mr. F. E. M. Warner, People's Warden, made them a presentation.

INCIDENT on MALDEN

By "Periti"

LYING lonely and almost forgotten, just four degrees south of the equator, in mid-Pacific, little Malden Island has a history of mystery, tragedy, and frustrated hopes. Someday, perhaps, someone will write the interesting story of Malden.

A truly desert island in all respects, Malden is normally uninhabited—that is, unless one counts the tens of thousands of sea-birds which have made the isle their sanctuary. The chief interest of Malden to the outside world, apart from its mysterious ruins of "temples," that seem to indicate earlier Polynesian inhabitants or visitors, has been the working of the extensive guano deposits.

This entailed the importation of native labourers who, with European overseers, usually spent a period of one or two years on the isle. Everything necessary for their support had to be imported—food for long periods, fuel, even a water-condensing plant—for apart from fish, with which the sea teems in these parts, the isle is totally desert and unproductive.

It was just after World War I that the following incidents were added to Malden's chequered history.

A PARTY went up to the island per schooner. They comprised fifty or so natives, two European overseers, and the usual miscellaneous stores and equipment. Things went along smoothly for a long period, but trouble was ahead.

The relieving schooner was long overdue; lack of adequate food undermined the health of everyone; the loneliness became oppressive. It ended with one of the Europeans becoming "queer." He would walk around muttering to himself, flourishing a rifle and talking wildly about "shooting that B—, the Kaiser." Anyone who interfered or remonstrated with him was likely to be threatened as well.

It culminated one stormy night when shouts out in the dark were followed by sounds of shooting. In the morning there was only one European on Malden.

Things settled down again; but, some time later, a second tragedy was narrowly averted. Becoming seriously ill with dysentery, the remaining European reached a stage of complete exhaustion. While he was delirious, his native personal servant deserted him, leaving him to his own resources; and, at the same time the boy spread the story that the second "papa'a" was "neneva te mimiti," or queer in the head. Consequently, no native would venture near the European house, and the sick man, being too weak to fend for himself, was faced with practically certain death from starvation.

When the position had become really desperate, a strange thing happened. Awakening one morning to an unusual noise, he found that an inquisitive hen had strayed into the room. There happened to be an old, white door-knob lying in one corner of the room, and the little hen was proudly announcing to the world that an egg now rested alongside the door-knob. No doubt a white door-knob made as good a nest-egg as anything else!

That egg looked good to the sick man, and he was later able to crawl across the room to it and dispose of it. The next day, friend hen repeated the performance, and a second egg went the way of the first.

According to his later account, this nourishment marked the turning point of his illness, and he was soon afterwards able to reach some food in the house and so, gradually, regain strength.

It was soon afterwards that the relieving ship appeared and returned the party home. But, carried affectionately in the pocket of one passenger, was a small white door-knob which he maintained was responsible for his return passage from Malden.

SONG OF THE ISLANDS

We haven't any winter, we only have the sun,
We haven't any city crowds, we only have our fun—
Oh, life is lovely in the Islands!
We haven't any worries, we haven't any cares
No fear of sitting down too much (we haven't any chairs)—
Oh, life is lovely in the Islands!
No little things that worry you or make you feel upset;
No fears about our cargo—it's safe in Sydney yet—
Oh, life is lovely in the Islands!

We haven't any bills, because there's nothing here to buy;
No ship to bring us letters, so there's no need to reply—
Oh, life is lovely in the Islands!
We never do the washing, so there's nothing much to do;
We haven't any water and we haven't any blue—
Oh, life is lovely in the Islands!
We never see the papers, so we never have to think.
We never get a headache since there's nothing here to drink—
Oh, life is lovely in the Islands!

We're never very thirsty since there's never any ham.
We could live off the country but there isn't any yam—
Oh, life is lovely in the Islands!
The boys are slow at copra, the Manager has said,
But we don't stop to worry, since we haven't any shed—
Oh, life is lovely in the Islands!
We never have a blackout, since we haven't any oil.
We never have a strike because we've got no boys to toil—
Oh, life is lovely in the Islands!

—NOELLE TAYLOR.

Rev. W. F. Paton, who has given many years of his life to the Presbyterian Mission in the New Hebrides—he is at present stationed in Ambrym—has been ordered away by his doctor; and he and his family will proceed next month to Australia, where they will make their future home. Three generations of Patons have served as missionaries in the New Hebrides: Pioneer was Dr. John G. Paton, who was in the southern islands about 90 years ago.

Twin daughters, Gai and Sue, were born to Mr. and Mrs. Ian Innes, of Sydney, on September 3. Mr. Innes is the son of Mr. and Mrs. G. Allen Innes, of Vacluse, Sydney, and formerly well-known residents of Fiji, Papua and New Guinea.

Tropicalities

THIS sturdy specimen of Australian 14-years-old boy-hood has his roots deep in New Guinea. He was born in Rabaul and his father is Alf Priebe who, with George Hanson, established the now profitable Samo plantation in New Ireland. Mr. and Mrs. Hanson (she was a Samarai Ballantyne) were caught in Germany by the war, and spent six weary years there—part of which time Samo was given over to Japs and undergrowth. Mr. Priebe, however, was one of the first planters back into New Ireland in 1945; and Samo came good again. Mrs. Alf Priebe was Miss Dorothy Eekhoff, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry G. Eekhoff, of Lae, favourably known to two generations of New Guinea mainlanders. Mr. and Mrs. Priebe are at present residing at Zillmere, Queensland, and Mr. and Mrs. Hanson are living on an orchard property they have acquired near Gosford, NSW.



NEW CALEDONIANS do not know whether it is prophetic, but at the first of the season's race meetings in Noumea, a horse named de Gaulle ran third.

Among the rules of this racecourse, known as the Hippodrome Henry Millard, is one that goats and dogs found on the track will be shot. This is the brand new course at Anse Vata beach, built to replace the pre-war course at Magenta which the US Marines turned into an airfield during the Solomons campaign. —P.

IT happened in one of Suva's restaurants. It was one of those places where the Indian proprietor, instead of providing a menu card, preferred to air his English for the benefit of patrons.

We had safely steered through the first course and then our Indian appeared and announced: "By Christ—Bitch pie."

Well, my friend was new to Fiji and not conversant with the language "as spoke," so he was rather taken a-back, but he managed to stammer "I beg your pardon?"

"By Christ—Bitch pie," repeated the waiter.

It was then time, I thought, for me to interpret. I explained that our next course was to be "Pie crust—Peach pie!" —"Periti."

FROM the diary of an Administration official in Sarawak:

The Courts of Requests, no longer existing, were looked on by the Chinese as a cheap debt collecting agency.

One case I heard was that of a rather attractive Melanau girl who was sued by a Chinese shopkeeper for a long list of articles. Weary and bored (I had been in Court for three hours) I wrote down the list as stated by the Chinese.

"Five kati of sugar?"—"Yes" (from the girl).

"Two depa of blachu?"—"Yes."

"Ten roti cabin?"—"Yes."

"Three depa of kainu perlas?"—"Yes."

"One silk sarong?"

"NO!" from the girl most emphatically.

A slight squabble, and the girl admitted that she had not bought it.

The Chinese had given it to her.

"Why," asked the tired magistrate.

"Oh, think for yourself," replied the girl.—"North Borneo News."

HAVING heard two old-time Fiji residents arguing about the correct pronunciation of "copra," I looked it up in books of reference. Webster says that the word can be spelled also cobra (which is the pronunciation still given by many old traders), coprah, coppra and copperah.

All authorities agree that the word came originally from the Malayan "kopparah" or the Hindustani "khopra" (with the "o" pronounced broadly).

It is indicated that the dried kernel of the coconut first became known to Europeans in Indonesia as an article of commerce, and it was there that it picked up its name, now known all over the world.—R.



A BRETT HILDER sketch of Oscar Newman, an up-and-coming trader and planter of the New Hebrides. He was in Sydney in September buying a copra-catching craft. He was born on Pentecost, NH, in 1907. His father was Norwegian and his mother formerly Miss Pearl Baxter, of Sydney. He has two

sisters and the whole family is distinguished by their striking similarity and lively popularity. They are bi-lingual, equally at home in French or English. Their favourite expression is, "Now listen, You!"

THE plaque bearing the Fijian coat-of-arms has been removed from the bow of the former RCS "Viti" (picture in July PIM) and has been presented to the Colony by the new owners, the Tasman Steamship Company, of New Zealand.

At the opening of the Suva Yacht Club's new clubhouse recently the Governor of Fiji (Sir Brian Freeston) handed the plaque over to the care of the club.

IN relation to spelling and pronunciation, there is no more ridiculous language than English, with its total lack of rules and orderliness. Foreigners who are obliged to write the language may be excused for falling into errors. The following example, therefore, is not offered as a reproach to the person concerned, but it is presented as an example of delightful unconscious humour.

When the Fiji Legislation Council met on September 17, the Indian member for the Eastern Division put in a written question concerning lack of transport facilities on Vanua Levu; and he used this sentence:

"The bridal tracks are the only means of excess on the Island."

FROM an "old-timer": "I was in Papua not long ago. It is a different Port Moresby from the place we knew. Now there are 1,900 Europeans crowded into the place—and too many of them are women! I met old friends George Lupson and Jack Yates; Tom Nevitt was in hospital. Ellis Turner (formerly of Levers and BP's) and Percy Batham are at the oil area. McCarthy, once postmaster at Samarai, was at Yule Island, in charge of a store. Bruce Hamilton is around Port.

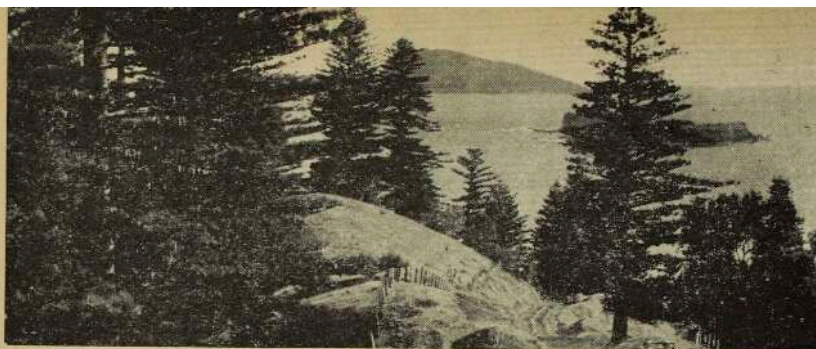
WE have received a letter from 15-year-old Gordon A. Pickup, of 68 Windsor Crescent, Bridlington, E. Yorks, England, who is a prominent member of the League of Pals.

The League of Pals, which apparently was formed in 1932, has for its aims (in spite of World War II and the present melancholy state of the world at large) the promotion of international friendship and goodwill everywhere. It has a membership of over 65,000 in 98 different countries. Anyone over the age of 11 may join. There are many members over 60.

If you think that world peace can be achieved by pen-friendships, international camps and exchange visits (and we do not) you can contact Gordon at the address given. He will give you any information you require and enrol you as a Pal.

CORRECTION: During the production of September "PIM," four lines of an article on "Bully" Proctor (p. 46) were dislodged and became attached, at the beginning of page 47, to the short-story, "Nunu-Penni and a Tralala." We apologise for this, as it marred the continuity of a good story.

In 1947 Fiji's Magistrates' Courts dealt with 7,161 criminal cases and 7,801 accused persons. They were: Fijians, 1,572; Indians, 5,057; other races (Europeans, part-Europeans, Chinese and Polynesians), 1172.



The plane gives us Norfolk, super holiday isle . . .

By R. W. ROBSON

THE year 1948, and aviation, has given the travel-conscious world a new Norfolk. The dark-green, park-like island, that you see standing placid and beautiful amid turbulent blue waters, as you descend from the skies, is not the grim and forbidding place which sea-voyagers encountered for over one hundred years.

To-day, you alight on the island's wide table-top, among lovely pinetrees and lush meadows. You get an impression of perpetual summer. But yesterday, as you approached Norfolk across the ocean, you saw only very high and ugly cliffs, with huge waves breaking at their feet. You probably were sea-sick as your ship came to a hazardous anchorage in Sydney Bay. And you got a dismal wintry impression as you were ferried ashore through tortured seas, to leap dangerously onto the battered old pier at Kingston, surrounded by gaunt hills and a mile of grey ruins.

TO get the airfield that makes possible to-day's happy introduction to Norfolk, they had to sacrifice the island's outstanding feature—the mile-long Pine Avenue, planted by Governor John Price about 1853. "They" were the Americans who had taken over in 1942 the protection of all South-west Pacific countries from the invading Japs.

There had to be an airfield at Norfolk. An American who says he ordered the destruction of Pine Avenue, so that there might be a 2,000 yards airfield, with an adequate cross-strip, was one Lieutenant James A. Michener, whose "Tales of the South Pacific," published in 1947, is one of the most readable war books. He tells of how he spent some days, crawling all over the island with a yard-stick trying to find another place for the airfield, and of his feelings as he finally instructed the gangs of waiting Australian engineers to begin cutting down that unique avenue of mighty trees, 6 feet through and from 80 to 100 feet high. Probably fiction—but it could have been something like that.

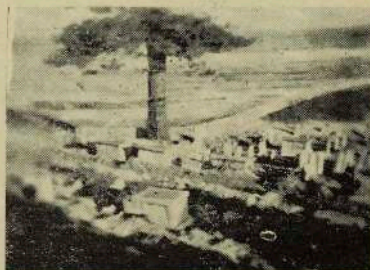
The Governor who planted that avenue, a century ago, knew what he was doing. Winds straight from the Antarctic hit

Norfolk's south-west coast, and sweep up over the cliffs. From about 1860, for long decades, they were deflected and broken on the double row of pines, and all the rest of the island basked in the lee of the avenue. To-day, the South-westers again come moaning across the plateau, with little interruption; and the old hands say that the removal of the avenue has altered Norfolk's climate.

But there could have been no airfield unless the avenue was sacrificed; and there could have been no new economic development for Norfolk without this new system of transportation. Air transport has altered everything. One day, some organisation with enterprise and money, co-operating with an Administration with some imagination, will turn Norfolk into a great holiday resort.

IT is interesting to reflect that the European history of three of the most beautiful and pleasant places south of the equator—Sydney Harbour, South-east Tasmania and Norfolk Island—had its beginning in the same kind of horror—the establishment of convict settlements, where thousands of British men and women, classified as incorrigible Criminals, were imprisoned under conditions of unbelievable cruelty.

Norfolk, climatically perfect, on the borderland between tropical and tem-



Part of the old Kingston Cemetery. The grave of the murderers of Bloody Bridge can be seen as a mound beyond the tree.



TOP LEFT: Typical Norfolk Island scenery. The road leads to Bloody Bridge. **ABOVE:** The famous avenue of pines that were cut down to make way for the aerodrome.

perate zones, is probably the only large and fertile isle in the Pacific which, prior to discovery by Europeans, had never been inhabited. There were not even animals there—only birds. It was unique, also, because of the magnificent pine-trees which covered every acre of its 14 square miles, of a species not known anywhere else.

In this Paradise, the British in 1788 planted a minor hell—the settlement at Kingston, on the south coast, where many hundreds of what were called the worst criminals were encamped, to grow food for the larger and hungrier settlements at Botany Bay and Port Arthur. In the course of the next fifty years, they built a small town of stone, painfully cut on nearby Nepean Island (Norfolk, a vast heap of red, volcanic soil, has little stone) and ferried across into Sydney Bay; they cleared the pines from all the hillsides around Sydney Bay; and they built roads and bridges everywhere. Then the penal settlement system was wiped out, and NI was abandoned—until, in 1856, the surplus English-Tahitian population of Pitcairn was transferred to this lovely place.

VOLUMES could be written about the horrors of the convict settlement; about the comings and goings of the Pitcairners; about the development of this large community of closely inbred Anglo-Tahitians, all answering to the "Bounty" and post-"Bounty" names of Christian, Adams, Quintal, Young, McCoy, Buffett, Nobbs, Edwards. But there is not space for it here.

PILOTED by Mr. S. R. Reynolds in his handy motor-truck, I wandered all across the park-like plateau where bonny little farms and orchards and sprawling boarding-houses and an occa-

sional store lay hidden among the pines and the masses of semi-tropical flora; and then I descended the steep hill into tree-less Sydney Bay, which seems to be a trap for every southerly wind. And, before I recognised my reaction to the grim, bleak place, I was shivering. This was Kingston, the original convict settlement.

The settlement extends thinly for a mile along the low, flat shore—the only low, flat shore on Norfolk. It starts in the west, at the ancient stone pier, built with the blood and sweat and tears of two generations of wretched men, dead and forgotten these hundred years. It ends at a large mound, under a pine-tree, at the eastern side of the cemetery—and in this mound are the remains of a dozen convicts. They murdered their warders, and concealed the bodies among the stones of a bridge they were building—you can see "Bloody Bridge" to-day. They were seized, marched to the end of the cemetery, made to dig a huge hole; and then they were thoroughly and systematically executed, and buried in that hole. The pathetic mound, unmarked, is just outside the cemetery's official fence.

A large proportion of the old grey stone buildings are in ruins. But enough remain intact to supply Administration offices and provide the staff with quaint residences, erected in the fashion of George III.

It is a melancholy, gloomy place, this Kingston. I am not imaginative; yet I swear that as I walked there, alone, after dusk, I could hear the sighing and occasional pitiful moan of those tortured men who dragged out their lives here. Norfolk is a wonderfully pleasant tropical isle, cooled by constant sea-breezes and most lavishly endowed by Nature, free in an astonishing degree from pests and diseases. But he who knows only Kingston would never Norfolk know—for Kingston is a miserable, bleak and depressing hole.

THREE small sawmills are operating on the pine-trees, which are scattered all over the island, and grow thickly in parts, especially in the north-west.

No one worries much about replacing the pines destroyed. The cones fall freely, and young pines seem to spring up very quickly. Sir Charles Rosenthal, while Administrator, tried to enforce a policy of planting a new pine for every one cut down—they called him "the passionate pine planter"—but that excellent plan has been forgotten. Mr. Wilson, the present Administrator, has been trying to interest the islanders in the planting of hardwoods; but he, also, has not had much success.

Although the island still is very rich in pine-trees which give it beauty and great distinction, one gets the impression that there are many fewer pines growing now than there were 50 years ago.

These pines, the invariable fatness and healthiness of the English cattle and horses, the absence of insect and plant pests, and of every kind of dead timber—all these are features which make the Norfolk Island landscape unique.

NORFOLK may be surrounded by endless leagues of unfriendly sea; but there is compensation in the restless blue waters which make the island one of the hate-themes of mariners. There are two great schnapper-banks there, one north and one south of the island, and if you can persuade the Islanders to co-operate—they are marvellous boatmen—you will catch the world's biggest schnapper—which also are among the world's most edible fish.

There are good fish of all kinds in the seas around Norfolk, but the schnapper

that may be caught there are exceptional. The line fisherman knows nothing better in the sea than big, fighting schnapper; and at Norfolk he will get that kind of schnapper, plus a lot of other pleasant things.

ABOUT 1910, a medical man resident in NI introduced, for his garden, a pretty ornamental shrub. It was the deadly lantana—known to all central and northern NSW coast dwellers as a No. 1 curse.

The NI lantana seems similar to the NSW plant, and it certainly behaves in the same way. It has crept steadily across a lot of NI land. The Administration introduced a bug, with a view to destroying the plant, but the bug died out before it got really established. It was reintroduced about six months ago, and now seems to be doing well. It feeds on lantana foliage and ultimately destroys the bush. If the bug is successful, NI can make a fortune out of selling healthy specimens to New South Wales.

QUEER fragments of the island's tragic history are found in the ancient cemetery, in Kingston. The western end is of recent use, and seems to be full of headstones bearing only the names of Christian, Quintal, McCoy, Evans, Nobbs, and Buffett. But the western end is a small forest of weathered headstones more than 100 years old. Here are the inscriptions from two or three—there are scores like this:

"William Tandy, private soldier in HM 58th Regiment, after long years of faithful servitude to Major Arnev, was accidentally drowned in Emily Bay, December 31, 1815, aged 28."

"1842—James Saye who was to get 100 lashes for mutiny, died at 46 lashes.

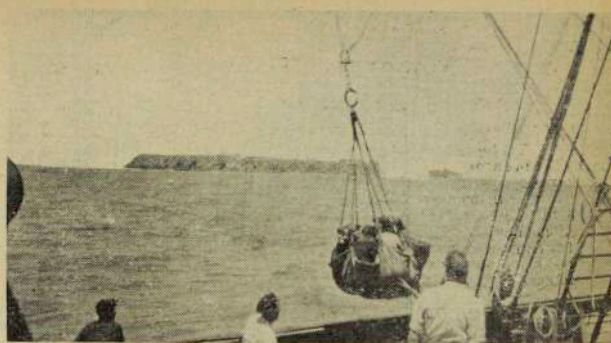
Stop, stranger, stop and meditate
On this man's sad and awful fate;
On earth no more he breathes again.
He lived in hope but died in pain."

"Sacred to the memory of Thos. Saulsbury Wright, native of Frodringham, Yorkshire, who died Feb. 17, 1843, aged 105. He survived 20 lashes when aged 95."

"Walter Burke, executed for mutiny, Sept. 22, 1834."

THE most interesting Pitcairner on Norfolk Island was also the oldest—Captain Fletcher Quintal, aged 80, veteran of Boer War and World War I, a great grandson of the original Quintal and a grandson of the original Nobbs. He was born on Norfolk in 1868.

He told me that, when the Pitcairners came in 1856, there were still a few ticket-of-leave men and some officers there, as caretakers. In his boyhood, Norfolk was thickly covered with pines,



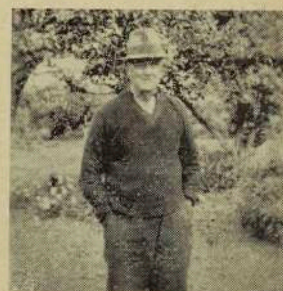
Coming aboard in a ship's sling. Norfolk (in background) as seen from the sea—

—and Norfolk, as seen from the air; Kingston in mid-distance beyond runway.



and Phillip Island (now a bare pile of red clay) also was well wooded. There were even trees on Nepean Island.

The rabbits, which ultimately turned Phillip Is. into a desert, were there when he was a child. He and other boys used to bring them across to Norfolk as pets; it was an amazing thing they did not get loose—probably, Norfolk was saved because there were many wild cats on the island then. There were also oaks growing on Norfolk 60 or 70 years ago—but they all gradually disappeared.



Capt. Quintal, July, 1948.

Fletcher Quintal went away at 18, completed his education in Sydney, and for long was a civil servant in Australia. He married a Miss Nobbs, and he has two daughters—Mrs. Fox Rodgers and Mrs. Westwood. As his photograph indicates, he still is a tall, strong man, who looks more like 60 than 80 years of age.

PACIFIC NATURE NOTES

Written for "PIM" by Charles Barrett, FRZS

"PARADISE ISLAND"

FOR many Birds-of-Paradise, Little Tobago, an isle of the West Indies, became a Paradise early in this century, when they were liberated there by a nature-lover who was anxious to establish a guarded colony of the world's most beautiful birds. When Collingwood Ingram, a son of the owner of "Paradise Island," as it might well have been renamed, visited the sanctuary in 1913, he was delighted to find that the birds from Aru Islands were flourishing. And, 30 years later, an American visitor reported that they were still there.

A reader at Port Moresby asks me for up-to-date information respecting Little Tobago; enclosing in his letter a newspaper cutting, quoting Collingwood Ingram's account (in "Country Life"), of his father's unique project, which deserved success and should keep his memory green among bird-lovers the world over.

After his death, Mr. Ingram's three sons presented the isle to the Trinidad Government, so that the welfare of the Paradise birds passed from private to official hands. I have no later information concerning them than that given by Collingwood Ingram, a few years ago. He considered that their long residence in the island indicated that they had bred there; in which case they could be regarded as satisfactorily naturalised. It must not be forgotten, however, that the greater Bird-of-Paradise was probably a very long-lived species, and it is possible that those still existing on Little Tobago (in 1943) were the ones liberated there in 1909 and 1910.

Wilfred Stalker, who was sent to the Aru Islands by the owner of Little Tobago to collect living birds for the sanctuary, secured only specimens in immature plumage, and doubtless the majority consisted of young males. There were more than 40 of them—all of the same species, the greater Bird-of-Paradise. Surviving the long sea journey, in 1909, they were liberated on Little Tobago, which is about 1½ miles from Tobago, and has an area of less than 300 acres; a hilly, rocky isle, covered in dense tropical vegetation, providing an almost ideal home in the West Indies for birds from the Dutch East Indies.

There are some island sanctuaries in the Pacific. Many more are needed, to ensure the survival of birds and mammals and plants that are becoming scarce. New Zealand has done well in permanently reserving such islands as Resolution, (Taumoana), Kapiti, and Little Barrier as sanctuaries for native animal and plant life. Bellbirds and tuis are safe in sea-girt haunts, where one may hear their enchanting "community singing," and recall Capt. Cook's description of a New Zealand bird concert, heard from the deck of the barque "Endeavour." Cook was hardly a nature-lover, but he had an ear for wild music, and listened-in with delight to bird songs broadcast from the forest of a strange new land.

THE TUATARA

ISLAND sanctuaries have saved the tuatara, most interesting of all living reptiles, from the fate of the moas and the dodo. On rocky isles off the coast of New Zealand the "living fossil" lives on, and its kind, unique in the world, may survive for another century, or longer.

Descendants of the pigs introduced by Capt. Cook were number-one enemies of the tuatara on the main islands; also on many of the small ones, and for years

past it has been restricted to the few haunts where it enjoys protection as strict and effective as that which preserved for posterity Australia's wonder animal, the platypus, another "living fossil."

The late Dr. Frank Blanchard and his wife (also a PhD), of Ann Arbor University, after their visit to Australia, in quest of reptiles, went to New Zealand, chiefly for the purpose of studying the tuatara "at home." On Stephen Island, in Cook Strait, they had a glorious time, despite discomforts and hazardous landing and departure. A permit from the Department of Internal Affairs meant that the Museum of the University of Michigan would be enriched by a specimen of *Sphenodon*, the tuatara of the Maoris—but only one. The New Zealand Government properly values the Dominion's unique little reptile, and even Zoological Gardens in other lands may vainly desire specimens; their export, alive or dead, being prohibited. This is highly commendable.

The Blanchards, with whom I went snake-hunting in Victoria, being true scientists, made their Stephen Island expedition memorable for themselves—and interesting to others—by their writings. They took excellent photographs of *Sphenodon*, and made valuable observations on its habits, its underground living quarters and association with petrels.

Most generalised, in its anatomy, of all known kinds of living reptiles, the tuatara is not, as many people suppose, a lizard—though lizard-like in appearance. It is, Dr. Blanchard says, as closely related to the tortoises as it is to the lizards; and may, as some authorities think probable, have directly given rise to the tortoises and crocodiles.

From true lizards it differs in many anatomical features; and it possesses the "pineal eye," a functionless organ, on the top of the head.

Once upon a time—before Government protection ended the traffic—tuataras were sent overseas in numbers, and London dealers in live animals sold them at prices ranging from 20/- to 30/- apiece. Market value increased to about £15 soon after an embargo was placed upon export, and only a few smuggled specimens could reach England—if there were any smuggling—and dealers' *Sphenodon* stocks became low, soon to be exhausted.

Having seen only two or three living specimens, and those in captivity, I am unable to confirm statements that the tuatara has an "ear for music," and prefers a rousing chorus to a solo! A report published in a Dominion newspaper, some 40 years ago, says that tuataras at the Opawa fisheries would emerge from their holes in the rocks to listen to a song when nothing else would bring them into the open. Some visitors, on one occasion, were giving up hope of seeing the wonder reptiles, when a small girl commenced to sing, and all joined in the chorus of "Soldiers of the Queen." Very soon, the tuataras appeared, and, of course, it was believed that the singing, loud if not too musical, had lured them forth.

TREE-FROGS

THROUGH *Sphenodon* ranks first among reptiles as a primitive, there are scores of others among Pacific Islands of great interest—both snakes and lizards; while some of the most remarkable frogs belong to the Pacific world.

My own special interest is in tree-

Communications from Nature students in the Pacific Islands are welcomed by our contributor—Mr. Charles Barrett, "Maralena," Maysbury Avenue, Elsternwick S4, Victoria.

frogs. I have kept several species as pets in my glasshouse and the bushhouse, where they seemed to be happy enough. Green tree-frogs, among the orchids helped to control pests; besides, they were entertaining, and some kinds rather musical.

By the way, I was once the lucky owner of a "singing" frog from China; and found that it really deserved its reputation as a music maker, though some of my musical friends were not impressed by its oft-repeated little song.

The big emerald-green tree-frog (it grows to a length of about four inches) makes a good pet. No fewer than five lived for several years in my glasshouse; and were as tame as you please, sometimes jumping on to my shoulder, or my head (luckily, I am not bald). Most of the daytime, the Hylas spent squatting on broad leaves whose colour harmonised with that of their emerald green bodies, so that they were camouflaged. Towards nightfall, my pets became active, on the food quest.

The large green Hyla enjoys a wide range, being found in Australia as well as New Guinea.

A queer-looking customer is the toothed frog, of the Solomon Islands, named after a noted authority on the reptiles and amphibians—Dr. Gunther. Should you come across one of these frogs, with "horns"—flaps of skin—projecting above its eyes, and one from the end of its snout, handle it cautiously, for it bears teeth in both jaws, and is ready to use them.

Among New Guinea frogs are several kinds whose tadpoles are never seen wriggling around in swamps and pools—never seen at all, unless one opens up eggs. The change from tadpole into frog takes place within the egg!

SIMELI'S SONG

THE coco-nut has eyes to see.
(You'll note them, little ones!)
The old wives say, when palm trees sway.

Tree people start a-gossiping,
Indignantly a' quivering,
Accuse the wind of blustering,
Like warriors' head-dresses swing.
(Then guard you, little ones!)

The old man says that "nuts can peep."
(But reason, little ones!)
Their good intentions who'd deny?
But step you fast, alert and spry,
Walk warily beneath each palm.
But whisper 'bu' (that spirit-charm)—
Trees greeted thus should do no harm
To cautious little ones.

Still, though the nuts watch where they fall,

I warn you, little ones,
Tree Spirits sometimes hear your spell,
Accept your homage and mean well,
Yet, even so, land on your head!
(For "Cross-eyed" nuts may be misled.)
"Such things have been," the old wives said—

So heed you, little ones!

—ALICE ALLEN INNES.

Mr. D. A. Donald, Agricultural Officer, Fijii, has been appointed Senior Agricultural Officer in BSI.

Short Story:

ELAINE

By C. S. RAMSAY

THE shadows cast by the gently-swaying fronds of the coconut-trees were like patterned lace, as the moon climbed into the clear vault above.

The man let his gaze wander dreamily to the three islands floating in a sea of silver. Then, nearer, to the palm-fringed beach of the lagoon, and the long green slope up to the steps of the verandah.

Yes, it had been worth it. The sneers of derision and the emphatic prophecies of failure had neither proved their accuracy or deterred his efforts. It had been a fight, admittedly a hard-won fight, against the heavy odds of sticky heat, shortage of labour, lush tangle of vegetation, and then the "blow." But he had "arrived." Pride of accomplishment and possession were now as spice to life.

Of course, he had been lonely. After all, no matter how one assured oneself that this was life as it was originally intended to be, there were always days and nights when, clear-cut as the cameo of black shadow beneath that mango-tree, came flashes on the screen of memory. Nights and days on the Continent—Paris; Nice; the tables at Monte Carlo. . . . Dinners with Diana in New York. . . . Three deliriously happy weeks at Palm Springs—twenty-one days and nights of passion-filled ecstasy. . . . Bah! And what had it brought him? Disillusionment and defeat!

No, not defeat. For had he not, when the world—his world—crashed in dissolution around him, retained the elements of his manhood and his sanity? And now he had Motutapu. Moulded, he might say, from the virgin bush by his own hands. Thank God, his work and the beauty of his island home had sufficed to annul the rankling stabs of bitter memories.

AND then, as though to complete his happiness, had come Elaine. Dark, sinuous, graceful as a cat. Love? More than love it was she so freely gave him. It was pure, unadulterated devotion. Each morning as he left for the plantation, she offered her caress. She was always waiting to greet him on his return. Their evenings were spent in quiet and complete companionship. What conversation he had offered was mostly replied to in monosyllables.

Strange, silent creature! For long periods she would sit motionless gazing into the night, her weird, inscrutable eyes half-closed. He had often watched her and tried to read her thoughts, but failed to gain an inkling. Sometimes he had to speak twice to her before she gave him her attention. But she would then invariably rise, stretch herself with feline grace, throw herself into his arms, and pour out such a flood of passionate adoration that at times brought him to the verge of tears for the very wonder of it.

Little enough had he done for her that he should merit it. Certainly, she had come to the island like a piece of flotsam—had stowed away on old Can. Anderson's schooner, a destitute waif—and he had accepted her, dirty and bedraggled as she was, and had given her of his best.

She had crept one night to his house and peered fearfully in at him as he sat reading. Strange that had been! Not a

sound had she made, nor did she offer a word, yet he had felt her presence as plainly as though she had stepped before him. He had looked up—and his whole heart had gone out to her. It was the starvation in her great round eyes and emaciated body which had cut through his surprise and blocked the stirrings of repulsion at her condition.

He had not moved, but had quietly told her to come in. At the sound of his voice she had cringed and half-turned as though to run. Then, gaining confidence as he spoke again, she moved forward to his chair.

From what he could gather later, she has been a waif since she was first able to fend for herself. Of her parentage he could discover nothing. Yet he had been content to accept her as she was, and he had been amply rewarded by the love and gratitude she poured out for him. And they had been happy together.

She was subject to moods. Almost, it seemed to him at times, she was oblivious of his presence. Then, at others, she went into what approached paroxysms of love for him. He would sometimes awaken at night to find her gone from the bed. He would arise and steal out to the verandah to see her sitting staring into the moonlight or the dark. But no matter how quietly he moved, always she sensed his approach, and would rise and come to him even before he spoke.

AND now she was gone! Gone as stealthily as she had come. And he was left to a great loneliness.

God! How he missed her!

Hating to be alone, at the approach of night, he would seek to hold in conversation old black Manu, who had washed and cooked for him since his first coming. Manu had helped him search the island for her without avail. He had offered no comment other than to growl: "I told you you were making too much of her. It never does to let a female know just how she stands with one."

Looking back, the man had to admit that perhaps Manu was right. He had lavished a love on Elaine which had been equalled only by hers for him. Or, could her love have been only assumed? Could she have so convincingly deceived him? Bah! Conjecture was futile. Damn it, she was gone, and to hell with her for a deceitful jade!

But—and his eyes moved to her favourite spot on the verandah—if only he could see her sitting there as she was wont to do. But, curses on it, she was not there, so what was to be gained by useless longings? He should have known better, anyway, than to accept a waif like her on face value only.

There was little doubt she had cleared out on the copra-ketch which left at dawn yesterday morning. Probably—hateful thought—she had at last succumbed to the blandishments of the handsome Samoan Mate. Saipale had always quite openly admired her, and had never troubled to hide the covetousness in his eyes. Often he had said to her: "Elaine, you are as beautiful as a starry night." And of late she was certainly less aloof in her manner toward him. She had seemed to like him better than any of the men who occasionally came to the house. Damnation take the false she-devil! But—

but she had loved him, and it was very lonesome now without her.

Two whole days and a night, and this was the second night. Well, he must just go on as he had before she came. It was maddening, though, how one's thoughts could go on and on around the same circle in endless repetition.

PERHAPS a good stiff whisky and coconut would help. Rising, he kicked his chair aside, strode out to a young tree at the top of one of the symmetrical rows. Selecting a nut from a moonlit bunch, he reached up and wrenched it off. He looked at it as it lay in his palm, cool and rounded like a—yes, like a young girl's breast. . . .

A sudden rustle behind him swung him round. From the black pool of shadow beneath the mango-tree a lithe, dew-soaked form raced toward him.

"Elaine!"

He swooped forward and swept her into his arms.

"You little black witch—I should have expected it! You're the second female in my life to jilt me for—a rat!"

The cat snuggled close against his neck, rubbed her sleek head hard on his chin, and purred in ecstasy.

Concerning Snails . . .

By S.A.G.

YOUR Rabaul correspondent in February, in saying that giant snails were on the increase suggests that DO's should be instructed to make the native villagers gather and burn them, and thinks it might be a good way to set the idle and inactive native in motion again, without too great a shock to his system. But he neglects to allow for the anthropological, ethnological, psychological and biological aspects of the matter, without proper consideration of which no such order could possibly be given! Am I right?

Then the order would have to filter, percolate, or otherwise pass through several Departments before being implemented. So an interval of two years or so would pass before the snails need feel any alarm.

The question also arises as to whether or not the post-war sample of native villager can move fast enough to head off a snail, without an amount of exertion liable to bring on heart failure! Most observers would put their money on the snail.

Supposing that a speedy native did succeed in heading off one of "animiles," there then comes the matter of the muscular exertion required to lift it into a basket and convey same to the funeral pyre, which might be some yards away.

Supposing again that a maddened snail turned and attacked its defenceless pursuer? It would be no small matter to be savaged by one! Is there anything in any existing Ordinance to cover such a happening? I think not.

Under the "New Order" your correspondent's suggestion seems impractical and unkind, and in making it he shows a total disregard for the village native's convenience and leisure! This points to the probability of his being one of the old time planter type, who, as is well known, actually contends that natives should work and, furthermore, that it is good for them!

The last time I was in the Rabaul-Kokopo area there was a most unpleasant odour—in fact a stench—along some of the roads arising from the squashed and defunct snails thereon. The local residents explain, however, that where so much else "stinks" the smell of snail corpses is negligible.

SERVICE SECTION

PACIFIC ISLANDS SERVICE BUREAU

THE Pacific Islands Service Bureau has been established to assist Island 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 Travel and Service Agency, Box 3408, Sydney.

Around Sydney Shops

THERE is not much resemblance between the old pressure-cookers, which most recruiters, miners and patrol-officers carried around New Guinea in the pre-war era, and the streamlined beauties which have become popular in Australia in the last 12 months. But they do relatively the same job.

The old recruiter-miner type were valued mostly because they could make even a recalcitrant New Guinea pigeon—or any other "balus"—tender.

The 1948 version probably can do that too, but their greatest service should be to households in Islands townships where electric power is available but expensive. A pressure-cooker cuts cooking time in half; and, as well, several different kinds of food can be cooked in the one saucepan, at the same time, but the flavours do not mingle.

Australian-made cookers cost round about 95/-; imported British cookers £5/15/-. There appears little difference in efficiency.

The Australian-made jobs almost all have handles like conventional saucepans. The imported ones have lugs, which look very neat. But when it comes to handling a hot saucepan a good, long handle is a blessing.

Spares, such as rubber pressure-rings, pressure indicators, wire baskets, are also available.

Suggestions

A FEW of the requirements of other readers, which we have met over the last month or so, may prove of general interest:

CARDS. Small Printing Jobs: Plain Christmas cards to fit into ordinary envelope, printed to client's requirements. Cost: £1 per 100. The firm which did the job also specialises in printed wedding, birthday, lodge and dance invitations. They can usually turn out an order in about three weeks—which, on present standards, is fast.

BICYCLE TYRES and TUBES: Cost of these—7/6 and 4/7 respectively.

RUBBER ANKLE BOOTS: Cost of these is approximately 18/3 per pair. They have, however, been in exceedingly short supply for some months, although the position will probably improve with the approach of the Australian summer.

GRAMOPHONE RECORDS: These range in price from 2/11 for hot jazz "pops," to 10/6 (and more) for classical numbers. (Note: It is easier to pack half a dozen records than to pack one).

TROUSERS: Jungle-green, herringbone drill at 10/6 per pair. These were a bargain line, but there is still plenty of this class of goods available.

FLOWERS: From eight or nine shillings (for a corsage) and up to anything you like, delivered in any capital city (and some large towns) or to departing ships.

Why Some Men Amok

(From "North Borneo News")

ABDURAIA, a boatman, was the son of a Suluk father and a Bugis mother. On a certain day, some thirty years ago, he obtained from his master the loan of \$5 for the expenses of his marriage to Yasmani, who lived with her sister Lasmina, which does not seem an excessive amount.

On his way to their house, he lost \$4 gambling. Before entering their house, he stopped to listen to a conversation going on inside it, and heard Lasmina tell Yasmani that she was a fool to marry a worthless fellow who had no money.

These two women, one regrets to add, were "of notorious character."

Abduraia did not pursue his matrimonial plan. He returned to his house in a very bitter mood and commenced the sullen brooding, which usually precedes an amok, and decided that life without Yasmani was not worth living. During the following forenoon he had his head shaved by a Chinese barber, and thus parted with a remarkable head of long wavy black hair, of which he was inordinately proud. A dangerous sign!

He then walked a considerable distance to collect a debt of 25 cents, paid a bill at a coffee shop, bought a packet of cigarettes and went home to cook a meal. After that he proceeded to the river to bathe.

On the way he saw Lasmina, who mocked him. That was the last straw! He went home and sharpened his parang to the keenness of a razor. This he took sheathed and, in his other hand, he carried an iron bar with a cross bar, which resembled a sword hilt. Round his head he tied a length of new white cloth, the last act of a man who intends to amok.

He then set forth with the intention of killing Lasmina, and would have done so, had she not, the artful hussey, on seeing him approaching, immediately comprehended what was coming to her, and skipped off into an adjacent mangrove-swamp, and so escaped.

Abduraia was no doubt acquainted with mangrove swamps and was of the opinion that they are no place to chase anybody. He proceeded to kill three people, and severely wound four others, including a small Chinese girl. A policeman then shot him through the back. As to whether he recovered, and in that case, what the sentence was, we do not know.

Pacific Islands Hopping For Fun

Two Americans Sail Tiny Yacht Across Pacific

FAR away to the north of Rarotonga a tiny light could occasionally be perceived. Questions arose as to what it was and when the dawn came the mystery was solved. It was a tiny craft—just 25 ft. 6 in. in length, the "Tai Manu" (Sea Bird), with F. V. K. Budd as skipper and Miss Frankie Hulen as crew.

Back in 1940, Captain Budd and Frank e had a notion that they would like to explore the South Sea Islands in a leisurely way. War intervened, so the project was postponed until April 8, 1947. Then, after much planning the tiny craft left Los Angeles for San Diego, to collect last-minute supplies and get clearance prior to heading for La Paz, Mexico Peninsula 1,200 miles away, which was reached in June, 1947.

On the trip down, "Tai Manu" stopped in at every little bay to explore whatever there was to be explored; swapping one packet of cigarettes for three or four lobsters and so on. They stayed in Mexico until after the hurricane season, pushing off again in December for Nukahiva in the Marquesas Group.

For the next 46 days "Tai Manu" travelled 3,000 miles of ocean without sighting land, ship or fish. However, they did run into 50 whales and had a few anxious moments when one got uncomfortably near. Christmas and New Year were celebrated in traditional style, even stockings being hung above the bunks.

Later they set sail for Tahiti, which they reached in 16 days after the unenviable experience of weathering ten squalls in one night. They stayed there a month for repairs to the engine, and to be restocked.

The Government gave them permission to visit Raiatea, Tahaa and Boroboro. On the 12-day trip from Boroboro to Rarotonga "Tai Manu" was becalmed for one day and hove-to for four days. From Rarotonga she was going to Tonga where the voyage and partnership would end—one partner then to buy the other out.

The 56-year-old captain is a retired electrical engineer who has a liking for the sea and who commanded a ship in the United States Navy during the war.

Miss Hulen is a land-lubber from Oklahoma, where she has done all manner of things, the most profitable of them being beauty culture.

With a snowy-white hull, green decks and bright work of Honduras mahogany, the yacht presents a pretty picture. The cabin, including a separate part for the galley, is barely 15 feet overall but everything fits in.

On the port side of the galley are the little stove and sink, beneath which are deep drawers with partitions.

In the interior cabin are two six-foot bunks, each with pandanus mats as coverings. Between these stands a beautiful Honduras mahogany table. At the end nearest to the stove is the cutlery, and at the opposite end oddments such as pencils, notepaper, etc. Directly above this are the set-in clock and barometer, placed on either side of two small doors which when open reveal a medicine chest. Beneath this are more drawers wherein sit a typewriter, gramophone, records and spares required for all parts.

"Tai Manu" carries 380 square feet of sail and she has a five horse-power Lauson engine which she uses only when an emergency, such as going through a pass crops up. She does not carry wireless.—Reprinted from the NZ "Free Lance."

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UNHAPPY CONDITIONS IN NEW GUINEA

(Continued from page 42)

were left. Those areas did not include the highlands, whose population (at least a third of the total) have no acquired immunity to malaria and hence cannot be brought to the coast.

The manpower available has always been used wastefully. There has been no attempt, either by Government or

private enterprise, to develop mechanical appliances with the object of replacing large staffs of unskilled labourers by smaller numbers of skilled and semi-skilled men.

The copra industry—one of the crudest forms of tropical economic production there is—has never attempted to improve (except in drying) on the simple techniques evolved under pioneering conditions at a time when production needs could be met by adequate numbers of low-waged, unskilled and inefficient labour.

NG planters are now discovering that labour is no longer so cheap or so plentiful, but they are doing nothing to improve managerial efficiency. Meantime, the Government's unbalanced new labour legislation is ensuring that no indentured plantation labourer shall have any opportunity of acquiring any skills.

The current labour shortage is here to stay. There is ample official evidence that the native population was declining slowly pre-war, slumped sharply during the war, and is still declining. Chief causes of this are introduced diseases—particularly influenza and other respiratory complaints—and the slow breakdown of tribal life under the impacts of Government pacification, mission evangelising, and labour recruiting. This decline will continue until the living standards of village natives are raised, which cannot be done by denuding the villages of manpower.

FURTHERMORE, the natives are primitive subsistence gardeners who have never been dependent on wage-earning to live and, generally speaking, have never been keen on exchanging the comparative freedom of village life for the steady work and discipline of the plantation.

Except for the war, forced labour has

been "out" since German times, and would not be a solution even if it were acceptable to international opinion. Prior to the war some economic pressure was applied in the form of native taxation. Since the war, there has been less incentive than ever to work for wages, and the efficiency of labour has sunk from even its modest pre-war level.

Natives are holding large sums of cash and, under the present crazy system of war-damage payments, have still to receive large sums. For reasons best known to itself the Government is making no effort to use this money for native advancement. Most of it is finding its way into the tills of thievish trade-store-keepers who, in return, hand out junk at scandalous prices.

Added to all this, native opinion is becoming increasingly critical of the Government and of Europeans generally. For good or ill, they saw a lot during the war, they placed their own interpretation on it and, irrespective of what party is in power in Canberra, native mentality can never be reverted to what some of us like to think it was in 1940. Large groups are beginning to demand education and economic advancement. Communist agitators are already exercising some influence on the Papuan coast.

READING the utterances in your journal one is led to think that the Wardist regime is pursuing an active policy in NG aimed at getting rid of the whites and uplifting the native.

Well, having just emerged from the thick of it, I maintain that there is no policy operating. The Administrator is a dignified professor, with no previous experience of the problems of colonial administration, who thinks all ills can be cured by speaking to the natives nicely. His Moresby advisers include too many doddering old-timers without a

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constructive idea between them; and his Canberra bosses, headed by J. R. Halligan, the tycoon of the effete External Territories Department, are simply a bunch of Commonwealth Public Service clerks quite ignorant of the special problems involved. Ward himself, having applied his Left Wing prejudices to the Native Labour Ordinance, is now no longer interested.

For all the talk of native welfare, there are few visible signs of it, and the natives are becoming more politically-minded, more impatient and more suspicious every year.

WHAT has to be done, then? Briefly, the Territory has to be developed, and, if events in South-East Asia are any guide, it has to be developed fast.

It is just as foolish to believe that this development can be effected by an expansion of the present plantation system as it is to maintain that the natives were enslaved and brutally exploited before the war.

Continuing pre-war methods, the only way development could be stepped up would be by importing Javanese or Asiatic labour—and we don't have to look further than Fiji to see the results of that course.

How, then, can the problem be tackled? Here are some suggestions:—

- Encouragement of capital enterprise—with Government subsidising if necessary—to grow food, including meat and rice, for local consumption.
- Subsidised research into the development of mechanical appliances for copra production.
- Movement of populations (at present on the road to extinction) living in bad country which has no agricultural future, to selected sites adjacent to the present planted-up areas, where, conditions being suitably safeguarded, they could make a good living wage-earning.
- Government and planters to co-operate in setting up technical training centres in plantation areas where labourers could be taught the rudiments of some technical skills.
- A ten-years programme of road and/or railway construction to make selected fertile and reasonably-populated inland areas accessible from the coast—it will cost millions but there is no alternative.

- Government encouragement of capital enterprise to start agricultural projects (rice, cattle, pigs, coffee, cocoa, tea, rubber, peanuts, etc.) in such selected areas where native manpower is available on the spot.

- Such projects to be mechanised as far as possible, and also to aim at getting the natives to produce economic crops on their own land on a share basis under managerial supervision. (According to one of the ASOPA bright boys, this system has been successfully developed in the Sudan).

- Native taxation to be re-introduced and its revenue expended on native social services.

- An all-out attempt to raise the standard of life in the villages with the emphasis on agricultural development, hygiene and technical training. (This can't all be done by kindness alone.)

This is a long-range, costly and ambitious programme beset with countless obstacles. There is no easy way. Reasonable success would mean the emergence within a generation of a flourishing NG and a rapidly increasing native popula-



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tion which is our one hope of staving off Asia. I regret that the need for official discretion necessitates my using a nom-de-plume.

I am, etc.,
Sydney, Sept. 15.

KIAP.

EDITORIAL NOTE

THIS letter did not show the name of the writer, and therefore it should have gone directly to the wpb. It contained some sharp, but quite effective criticism of PIM articles on New Guinea, and some

practical and useful comments on the present condition and the future of New Guinea.

We have printed "Kiap's" letter because of the value of his constructive criticism; but, as he failed to supply his name, his attack on the PIM (which we appreciate and would readily have published) has been cut out.

"Kiap" makes a summary of what he believes to be PIM policy in relation to New Guinea, and jeers at it; and then, in an excellent, cogently-reasoned article, he gives chapter and verse to justify practically everything we have said about the Territories.

Most people who know the Territories will subscribe heartily to the policy he has outlined—and especially will they appreciate the points he makes about the need for roads and the unreliability of the native labour supply. "Kiap" has made a really worth-while contribution to the discussion on the future of Papua-New Guinea.

The only great difference between "Kiap's" views, and the suggestions offered from time to time by PIM is that "Kiap" apparently does not like the Big Firms, and the encouragement of private enterprise; whereas the PIM insists that the only way to secure the quick and efficient development of these primitive tropical Territories is to give every possible assistance to private enterprise to go in there and get rich. We do not like "exploiters, greedy traders and ruthless money-power" any more than does Mr. Ward; but we keep our feet on the ground, and we know that, human nature being what it is, we can get no pioneer effort worthy of the name in anything, unless the motive force is the desire for profit. Only "starry-eyed planners" would imagine that New Guinea could be developed by public servants as Australia's bastion of defence against Asia.

COMMITTEE TO REVISE FIJI'S TEN-YEAR PLAN

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, Sept. 12.

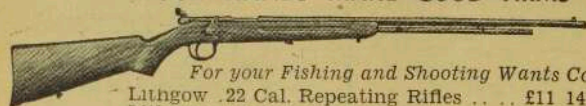
FIJI'S Development Plan is to be revised by a committee which, with the Governor as chairman, will deal with the original ten-year post-war development and welfare plan in the light of the existing financial and economic circumstances.

The main points to be taken into consideration are that the chance of a London loan is nil; that essential construction materials are very scarce; and that non-productive schemes must be deferred.

The committee, which will hold its first meeting after the September sitting of the Legislative Council, consists of the Financial Secretary; the Directors of Medical Services, Agriculture, Education, and Public Works; Mr. P. Costello (Executive Council); Messrs. A. A. Ragg, S. H. Wilson, Vishnu Deo, A. D. Patel, Ratu Edward Cakobau and Joeli Raval (Legislative Council); Mr. H. E. Snell and Mr. P. H. Nightingale. Mr. Nightingale will also act as secretary.

Mr. C. V. Lowney, official secretary to the Administrator of Papua-New Guinea, has been spending furlough in Sydney. He is one of the "old hands" of the Territories—he joined the Papuan public service 24 years ago, and was private secretary to the late Sir Hubert Murray for many years. Mr. Lowney returns to Port Moresby in December.

OUR HANDS MAKE GOOD ARMS



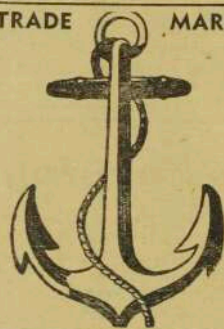
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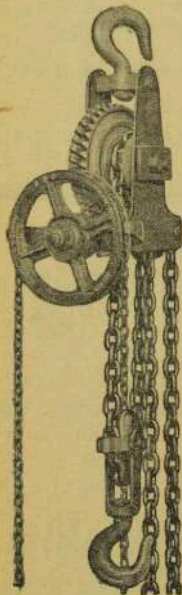


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MR. WARD DESCRIBES TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL'S VIEW OF NG SET-UP

Russia Says 'No' to Papua-New Guinea Administrative Union

IN the House of Representatives, Canberra, on September 21, the Minister for External Territories (Mr. E. J. Ward) made a statement on discussions which had taken place in respect of New Guinea, at the session of the Trusteeship Council of the United Nations, last July.

In accordance with her commitments under the United Nations Charter, Australia had submitted a report on the Administration of New Guinea for the period between July 1, 1946, and June 30, 1947. And, although Australia was not obliged to do so, she had advised the Council, at the same time, of the proposed administrative union of Papua-New Guinea.

Australia was represented at the July session of the Council by Mr. W. D. Forsyth of the Department of External Affairs, and by Mr. J. R. Halligan, secretary of the Department of External Territories.

In his statement to Parliament, Mr. Ward said:—

THERE were two phases of the discussions by the Trusteeship Council. The first dealt with the question of administrative union and the second was devoted to a consideration, based on the annual report and supplementary information furnished by the special representative (Mr. Halligan), of every aspect of life and conditions in the Territory. At the conclusion of its deliberations on these two phases, the Trusteeship Council prepared for the General Assembly a report on New Guinea embodying a brief review of conditions in the Territory, some observations thereon, and the Council's conclusions and recommendations, including its views on administrative union.

With regard to the latter, the Council, in its report, takes the position that the establishment of the union is a highly important problem of serious consequences; and expresses the conviction that an administrative union must remain strictly administrative in its nature and scope, and that it must not lead to a union of a closer, permanent nature with still greater implications. The Council also considered that, insofar as the problem (as to whether or not the proposed union is within the terms of the Trusteeship Agreement approved by the General Assembly) is partly juridical in nature, it might to that extent be resolved by recourse to the appropriate juridical body, the International Court of Justice.

The Trusteeship Agreement for New Guinea provides in Article 4 that the Australian Government will have the same powers of legislation, administration and jurisdiction in and over the Territory as if it were an integral part of Australia.

Article 5 states that in the exercise of these powers under Article 4, the Australian Government "will be at liberty to bring the Territory into a customs, fiscal or administrative union or federation with other dependent territories under its jurisdiction or control," if, in the opinion of the Australian Government, it would

be in the interests of the Territory and not inconsistent with the basic objectives of the Trusteeship system.

At the United Nations General Assembly in 1946, when the Trusteeship Agreement was approved, the Australian Government, in common with other governments administering trust territories, gave an assurance that it did not consider the terms of Articles 4 and 5 empowered it to establish any form of political association between the trust territory and adjacent territories which would involve annexation of the trust territory or would have the effect of extinguishing its status as a trust territory.

Prior to the general debate on administrative union, the Australian representative had informed Council members of the reasons which prompted the decision, and explained that the Government was convinced that the establishment of an administrative union between New Guinea and Papua would not suppress or prejudice the juridical status of the Trust Territory. It would be in the interests of the inhabitants and would facilitate materially the fulfilment of the objectives of the United Nations Charter.

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of New Guinea as a Trust Territory, would not be entered into. All that was intended was a joint machinery set up in the interests of the inhabitants to facilitate the administration of the two territories.

IN the discussions which followed in the Council, France favoured the plan—the representative of that country stating that from a social, economic and administrative point of view, he believed it would be to the advantage of the indigenous population.

The Belgian representative said Australia had indicated its desire to administer both territories in accordance with the provisions of the Charter and he saw no danger of the Trust Territory losing its entity because of an administrative union with Papua. He suggested, however, that the legislation might specifically mention the number of members New Guinea should have on the Legislative Council.

The United States spokesman was doubtful that the proposal did not go beyond mere administrative union and emphasised the need for preserving fully, in practice, the means of the Trusteeship Council's supervision including the submission of complete and separate factual information concerning New Guinea as distinct from Papua.

The United Kingdom representative pointed out that in other trust territories where common administration with neighbouring colonies had been carried on for many years during the period of the Mandate System, the separate identity of the Mandate had never been in doubt. He concluded that there was no doubt of the intentions of Australia to maintain the identity of the Trust Territory of New Guinea and the proposed legislation was clear on the point.

The Chinese and Philippines representatives expressed fears that the union suggested annexation; while the Mexican delegate also feared that the practical working of the scheme would suppress the identity of the trust territory.

The Soviet view was that it would be impossible to envisage independence when all aspects of administration were fused and the plan would, in practice, inevitably prevent New Guinea attaining self-government or independence.

THE Australian representative replied to all points of criticism and objection concerning administrative union, his principal points being:

- Articles 4 and 5 of the Trusteeship Agreement for New Guinea make the administering authority responsible for decisions as to the form of government of the Territory and the powers mentioned in Article 5 are not limiting.
- The proposal is in accord with the Agreement and the declaration of non-annexation made in 1946, and the terms of the proposed legislation make it quite clear that the identity of the trust territory will be preserved.
- The Government of Australia was ready, however, to make its intentions even more clear by incorporating a new clause to that effect, and would consider certain other suggestions advanced by members of the Council.
- The supervisory functions of the Council would be preserved in their entirety, separate factual and statistical information would be submitted and the Council, by means of visiting missions, would be able to satisfy itself as to the manner in which the administering authority was fulfilling its trusteeship obligations.
- The proposed legislation was designed for the present stage of development.

The people were only now emerging from savagery and no concept of New Guinea or its people as an entity existed at this stage or could for some considerable time exist in the minds of the people. Such a concept must be the product of a period of tutelage, as must also any expression of the will of the indigenous inhabitants as a group.

- Australia's aim was the highest standard of administration and welfare both in the Territory of New Guinea and the Territory of Papua. The Council should not frown on benefits indirectly accruing to a colonial territory from the supervision of a neighbouring trust territory.
- The General Assembly had approved the Trusteeship Agreement for New Guinea in the knowledge that administrative union with Papua was contemplated and had also approved other agreements for territories which had long been administered in administrative union with neighbouring colonies.

The nature of the Council's discussions on administrative union makes it clear that any doubts which members had were essentially legal ones; or arose from a feeling that the treatment of the native populations of the two territories as a unit will prevent the growth of consciousness of New Guinea as an entity in the minds of the people of the Trust Territory.

(Continued Next Page)

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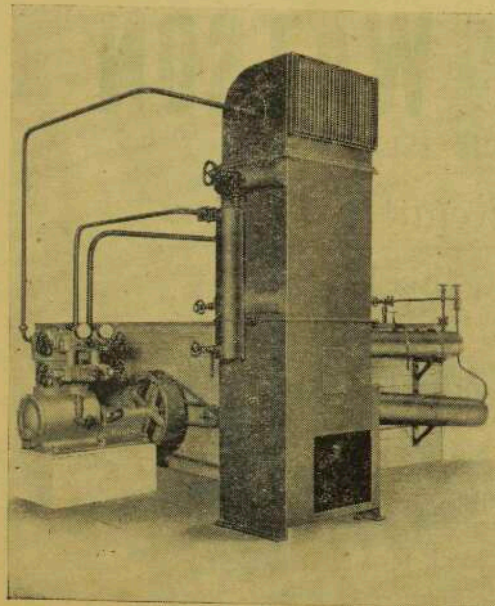
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(Continued from Previous Page)

The Problems of Rehabilitation

In its general observations concerning conditions in New Guinea as revealed by the annual report and the questioning of the special representative, the Trusteeship Council recognised that the administering authority had been confronted, not merely with difficulties inherent in a little-developed country, but also with great problems of reconstruction. The Council, furthermore, declared that the "contributions and sufferings" of the indigenous population during the war, entitled New Guinea to the special attention of the administering authority.

In this and in its recommendations regarding social and political advancement and increased medical and educational facilities for the native inhabitants, the Council was merely reaffirming the policy which the Government had been implementing in Papua and New Guinea since Administration was restored.

This was made clear to the Trusteeship Council by the Australian representatives at all stages of its deliberations on New Guinea.

It was pointed out that, as the first step towards improving the social and economic conditions of the natives, the Government had reduced the period of indenture to one year (with the intention of securing complete abolition of the system within five years); had lowered the working week from 55 hours to 44 hours; increased the minimum wage from 5/- to 15/- per month; and issued a revised code covering working conditions generally, including provision of an adequate and balanced diet and free housing, maintenance, clothing and medical treatment for all indigenous employees.

The formation of native co-operatives was being fostered and the development of native enterprise, both agricultural and commercial, encouraged.

In reply to questions as to whether the interests of indigenous landowners were sufficiently protected by the laws governing the alienation of land, it was pointed out that, with the exception of a comparatively small area which had been alienated in the past, all land belonged to the natives who could dispose of it to only the Administration which, in turn, would authorise the sale only when the native interests would not be adversely affected.

The Council also inquired regarding participation, by the natives, in the political and administrative machinery of their country. It was explained that positive steps towards advancing the political development of the indigenous inhabitants were being taken through the expansion of such native institutions as village councils from which, it was planned, District Councils with wider responsibilities and scope would stem.

Furthermore, there would be native representatives in the Legislative Council and a system of native courts is to be introduced, commencing with the more advanced centres and expanding as the civil sense and political responsibility of the natives developed.

PUBLIC HEALTH

In the discussions on public health, it was emphasised that Australia has concentrated largely on the improvement of the health of the natives and considerable progress has been made in improving the general standard of health

and eradicating many diseases. The plans were being made for a much augmented medical service.

In New Guinea, before the war, there were only 62 positions in the Health Department. Under present plans, New Guinea will have nearly 200 European health officials, including at least 25 doctors, some of whom will be specialists. About 100 officials have already been appointed, and the speed with which the remaining positions will be filled will be governed only by the availability of qualified personnel.

I might add that the European personnel employed in the Department of Public Health of Papua, before the war, comprised four doctors, eight medical assistants and a number of nurses. The present plans provide for approximately 100 European personnel including sixteen doctors. There are in addition in both Territories, large numbers of natives employed as medical orderlies and in hygiene services.

EDUCATION

It was admitted that education in New Guinea was, prior to the war, almost exclusively in the hands of the Missions. The Council was told that a programme

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had now been evolved whereby the Missions will take their part in education, but the direction and control of education generally will be a function of the Administration which will conduct schools in all standards from the village school to the High School and technical school. The Missions will carry out their functions to standards prescribed by the Government. The number of teachers available and the number that can be trained will determine the pace at which education can be brought to the people.

Eventually the establishment of institutions of University standard will be necessary in the Territory itself; but until that stage is reached, natives showing capacity for higher education than that available locally will be sent to appropriate institutions outside the Territory. It is thus clear that in urging improved educational facilities for the natives of

New Guinea, the Trusteeship Council simply echoed the clearly expressed intentions of the administering authority.

The Council was informed that the Government had always considered the economic future and stability of the New Guinea peoples to be based on agriculture and that while the natives to date have in the main, produced only subsistence food crops, they were now being encouraged and assisted to develop cash crops which will be available for export.

The Council also enquired concerning the means by which the Territory obtained its revenue. It was explained that no direct taxation was imposed; but the Council, recognising the very considerable expenditure that will be necessary before the indigenous inhabitants can make adequate progress, recommended the examination of the whole fiscal system for alleviating the burden

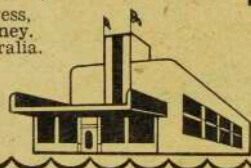
of indirect taxation where it presses unduly; the introduction of direct taxation based on individual capacity to pay, and an increasing participation by the indigenous inhabitants in the Territory's abundant natural wealth.

THE Report of the Trusteeship Council was approved by a vote of 8 to 1 (Russia dissenting), with three abstentions.

Out of respect for the views of the Council regarding administrative union, the Australian Government is prepared to insert certain amendments which will afford further evidence, if that were necessary, of its intention to maintain the identity and status of New Guinea, and to defer presentation of the enabling legislation until the General Assembly has considered the Trusteeship Council's Report.

So far as the remainder of the Council's Report is concerned, the Government accepts it as an international expression of approval for a policy which it has consistently advocated and maintained.

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MY thoughts went back over the long years, as a spectator, I witnessed the wedding of Nance Rae Sefton and Philip Leslie Oakley, in early September. The names of the parents had long been known and esteemed in Papua.

Never had I seen St. John's-on-the-Hill more beautifully decorated; the flowers, the Altar lights, and the red lamp above them gleamed and glowed and blended in a harmony of still loveliness. And never had I seen the church so crowded with familiar faces, each one, as it were, to me, a page out of the past—a past more gracious than the future, alas, can ever be.

Now the organist is playing softly the old melodies; and these, mingling with the murmurs in the pews, give to the scene an atmosphere of solemnity and joy. The Church itself, the music, the people and the gentle wind-borne voices of those outside are one, awaiting assuredly the arrival of the bride.

The moments pass quickly, and then she comes, all in white, beautiful to behold, and passes with her father up the aisle to the handsome airman awaiting her at the altar. A great moment for her, for them—and for us, too, who have known her as and since she was a child. For we in Papua keep a warm place in our hearts for the sons and daughters of the pioneers of this wild land.

"Who is it that gives this woman away," The old familiar imperative question. And soon we hear the familiar answers to this and others; the firm, "I will"; and the fainter avowal that closes a chapter in the book of life for these young votaries.

O world of lips! O world of laughter! (Hope be not fleet, nor love fly after), Of lights in the clear night, and cries, That drift along the wave and rise, Thin, to the glittering stars above, You know the hands, the eyes of love?

Some thoughts like these—and then the organist is playing again. The bride, beautiful and serene, is walking down the aisle with her husband. The white scent of hyacinths chalices the air. As she passes close, the accents of an unforgotten voice come back again, as in a dream, singing, "My Beloved Is Mine, and I Am His."

Ratu Edward T. Cakobau, MC, has been appointed a member of the Executive Council of Fiji.

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TRIBUTES TO THE LATE "TIBBY HAGEN"

I AM continually coming across interesting references to the late "Tibby" Hagen, that most interesting and entertaining of twentieth century traders.

In his chapter on the New Hebrides in his book "The Hot Countries," English author Alec Waugh says how lucky he was to have "Tibby" as a companion. "I found him," Mr. Waugh says, "the best raconteur I have ever met."

Then the last issue of "Etudes Melanesiennes," which reached me the other day, has a three page tribute to Tibby. He far surpassed the average trader or business man in his knowledge of the manners and customs of the natives, and his library was the best private collection I know of on the subject. He was also a member of the Hakluyt Society in Britain and the American Geographical Society, and he knew much more about his pet subject than any of the many writers on island life.

He was able to give the US Forces useful advice and geographical data when the Japanese were expected to land in the Hebrides, and I happen to know that they acted on it.

"Les Etudes Melanesiennes" gives the following account of his career, which his numerous friends in Australia and the islands may like to read:

"John Charles Nicolas Hagen, eldest of a family of nine, was born in Noumea on February 26, 1880. He received much of his education in Australia, and his bi-lingual culture gained him as many friends in Sydney and London as in Noumea and Paris.

"In France for a time, he returned in 1903 on the death of his father to become head of the family and to carry on the business. His name has since been

inseparably linked with the economic development not only of New Caledonia but of all the islands of the Austral Pacific. Trader, shipowner, plantation owner, head of companies which he founded, his unflagging energies as well as his love of risk and danger and enterprise led him to open branches at Epi and Ambryn, at the Banks group, Santa Cruz and the Solomons. His Aneityum Logging Co. was started to exploit kauri timber at Anatom. At the same time he acquired such important undertakings as the Pacific Islands Investment Co. and the Banks Islands Company. Among his numerous Noumea activities was the Societe Maritime et Miniere Hagen (shipping and mining), and he was managing director of the Societe des Iles Loyalty.

"His knowledge of the isles and their populations, based on intimate experience as much as study, was remarkable, and he was always ready to relate some picturesque or amusing anecdote. His good humour, natural affability and willingness to oblige made him greatly esteemed, and he had a real gift for making friends. His popularity in the islands and even in France and overseas was great. He was so well known that one day a cable addressed "Tibby, South Seas" reached him without any delay.

"His life was a continual struggle, but he was never downhearted and was able to surmount all difficulties, thanks to his tenacity and abundant self-confidence. In November, 1946, he was elected President of the Noumea Chamber of Commerce, in whose councils he had actively participated for nearly 40 years, and he was decorated with their gold medal. Right to the last he was as busy as ever, flying off one day to Santo, and the week after to Sydney or Brisbane. But some

time ago he was for some weeks out of action, at St. Vincent's Hospital, Sydney. Back in Noumea, he resumed his normal life, but an attack of dengue aggravated his state of health and laid him low. His death robs this Society of one of the most interesting and active personalities of the South Pacific."—H.E.L.P.

Fiji Collects Almost Half Million In Income Tax

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, September 20.

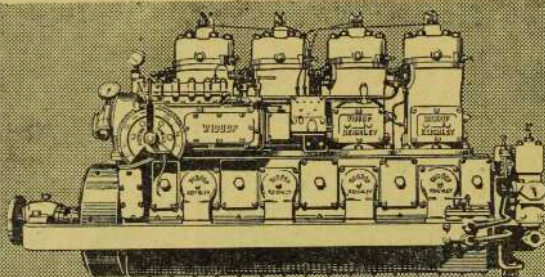
INCOME tax collected in Fiji in 1946 totalled £447,080, and came from 2,319 persons and companies. European taxpayers and companies accounted for a large proportion of the total—£391,138.

Although only £249 was paid in income tax by individual Fijians, compared with £38,914 paid by Indians, Fijian companies paid £1,271, compared with only £1,553 paid by Indian companies.

A total of £6,218 came from arbitrary assessments and penalties, of which Indians accounted for £4,883, Chinese for £1,266 and Europeans for £69.

Racial groups of taxpayers numbered: Europeans 1,666, Indians 455, Chinese 172, Fijians 23, others 3.

Mr. Tom Flower, well-known Territories sawmiller, has been ordered by his doctor to go "South," and he and his family will be making a permanent departure from Port Moresby for Sydney within a few weeks. Mr. Flower has shipped a great deal of lumber from Papua during the past two years.



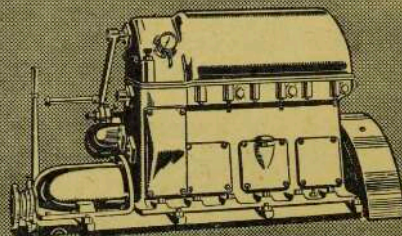
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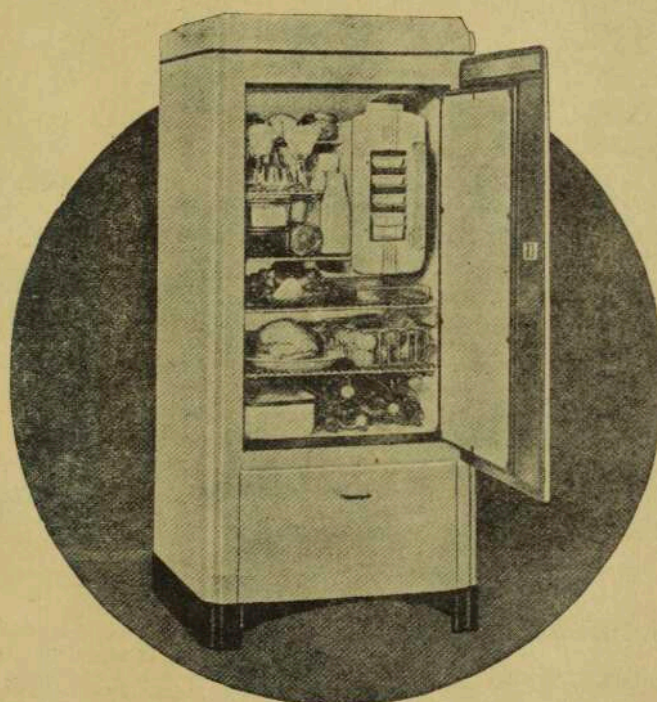
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CONCERNING MR. H. A. WARD AND THE COOK ISLANDS

WE have received from Mr. Harold A. Ward, of Auckland, a letter in which he demands that we publish an "unqualified retraction" of what he calls a "footnote," in our April issue.

We do not seem to have anything to retract, and we do not know what is worrying Mr. Ward.

We have published a good deal of matter about Communist and near-Communist agitation among Cook Islands natives. It appears that some of the Comrades, or their fellow-travellers, used for publicity purposes some material made public through Mr. Ward, when he carried on a campaign against what he considered bad labour conditions among Cook Islanders employed at the French phosphate island of Makatea. A "PIM" contributor, discussing these matters, dismissed some of the conclusions of Mr. Ward by referring to him as a "bird of passage."

A number of people hastened to defend Mr. Ward—praised his character, his activities and his sincere wish to help the natives in every possible way. We published a couple of these letters and then, as the subject seemed unimportant anyway, we sent the rest back. We thought we had made it very clear that Mr. Ward was associated in no way with the Cook Islands agitators: it was just unfortunate that the latter had seized upon some of his work to bolster their attacks upon British institutions.

However, Mr. Ward is still unhappy . . . he seems to think he has been in some way misrepresented. We can only repeat that according to all the evidence

we have Mr. Ward is not a Communist, not a near-Communist, nor a fellow-traveller—he came into the Cook Islands picture merely as a regular New Zealand visitor who goes about among the natives, trying to improve their conditions. He never has been in any way at all associated with subversive or disruptive forces—and we never said he had.

Seven new small-ships have been completed in Sydney for the Seventh Day Adventist Mission and have left under their own power for mission stations in the Islands. They range in size from 45 feet to 65 feet. Six more 45 ft. vessels will be completed within the next few months, and four others have been purchased and are refitting.

Successful Moresby Function In Aid of UN Children's Appeal

AN "Olympiad" was held at the Port Moresby recreation ground on Papuan Foundation Day holiday (September 13), in aid of the United Nations Children's Appeal. It was organised by Mr. T. Flower.

A team from the United States Air Force played Territorians at baseball (and beat them by 13 to 7) in the morning; in the afternoon athletic events were held.

Luncheon and afternoon-tea and other light refreshments were provided at the ground and, in all, £360 was collected for the appeal—this amount included £57 raised by the local golf-club which held a tournament on the same day.

PINEAPPLE CUP

Mr. J. B. Stinson (Suva), champion bowler in 1948 in the Fiji-Samoa-Tonga competition, receives the coveted Pineapple Cup from the President of the Suva Bowling Club (Mr. W. G. Garnett). The Cup originally, was presented by Mr. Malcolm M. Brodie, in 1928 for annual competition. It has been won twice by C. C. Clark (1928 and 1939), H. H. Adecock (1936 and 1943) and G. J. Smith (1945 and 1947).



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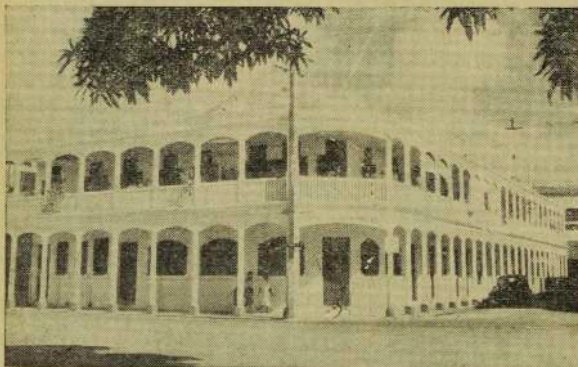
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PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY—OCTOBER, 1948

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'HUGH MAC'

Hero Who Was Without Showmanship

A REPORT of the death by accident of Lieutenant-Commander H. A. Mackenzie, DSC, Legion of Merit (Officer Division), and an outline of his remarkable achievements as a Coast Watcher in World War II, are published on another page.

In the following article, Commander Eric Feldt, who was at school with Mr. Mackenzie, and who selected his old friend to be his right-hand man in the critical coast-watching days of 1941-43, pays this tribute to the memory of a most lovable and an extremely brave man:

PERHAPS Hugh Mackenzie (we all knew him always as "Hugh Mac") had a quality even greater than his courage—and that was his gift for making friends—and keeping them. Those friends now mourn that the Last Post has sounded for him, and they tender their sympathy to his widow, Betty.

He had had four years' training at the RAN Naval College when, in 1917, as a youth of 18, he joined HMS "Glorious" as a midshipman and served in her and other ships for the remainder of World War I. While doing submarine training, he was on board one of the four submarines rammed by our own ships in the disaster in the Firth of Forth, and barely escaped. Many more close calls were to come.

When the war ended, Hugh Mac found the Navy in peacetime too dull, and he retired in 1920. A little later, he went to New Guinea as a schooner-skipper for the Expro Board. After serving two years, he went south and acquired his own vessel. In her, he traded and recruited on the Papuan coast for four years. Back in New Guinea, he skippered a number of small vessels, trading, recruiting and trochus fishing. How many narrow escapes he had in those days is not now known. He was a skilful seaman, but the coasts were unlighted and the reefs always waiting.

In Salamaua, he nearly died of illness—probably scrub typhus, which had not then been recognised. Only his will to live pulled him through.

He married, Betty, his wife, was just such another lover of the sea, and of not seeing the same things every morning when she woke up, as Hugh himself. Together they traded and fished for trochus, living life as they wanted it. Then, when they had savoured roving to the full, they took up land at Megigi, near Talasea, and started a plantation.

When war broke out, Hugh Mac rejoined the Navy, leaving his wife to run the plantation. After service in Port Moresby and Rabaul, and escape from the Japs, he was sent to Vila to take charge of the coast watchers in the South Pacific Area. He landed on Guadalcanal a week after the US Marines had taken it, and set up his radio station in a Japanese foxhole. To him came the warnings of Read, Mason and Kennedy of Jap aircraft on the way, and he passed them on, so that these attacks were met and defeated. In addition, he sent boats to rescue personnel cut off, placed new parties in the field and built up an organisation throughout the Solomons, so that we knew more about the Japanese positions and movements than the Japanese headquarters did themselves.

But it was no office job for Hugh Mac. The position was frequently bombed and

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shelled and he himself was in a covered slit trench which was directly hit by a bomb. The others in the trench went to hospital, but Hugh Mac remained on duty, remarking that he "had a headache." He remained on Guadalcanal for eight months, and was awarded the Legion of Merit (Officer Division) by Admiral Halsey for his services.

In Sydney, while on leave, the hardships he had suffered took toll, and he went down with blackwater. It was a near thing, but he recovered, only to have a second attack six weeks later. His indomitable will and fortitude pulled him through, but it was several months before he was fit for duty again. He was appointed to AIB Headquarters, but could not be kept south. Time after time he went north, to join in operations there. For these, and his former services, he was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross by the RAN.

WHEN the war ended, he remained in the Navy. His plantation had been partly cleared by the Japs for use as an airfield, and when they retired to Rabaul, they mined it. Even he would not undertake putting it in order again. However, his duties frequently took him to New Guinea, where his old friends welcomed him. Life seemed set fair for the future.

It is amazing that, after all this, he, who had watched the scythe of the Grim Reaper pass so closely so often, should meet his death from a fall.

I have described his deeds, but more remains to describe the man. He was fair and sturdily built, with a shambling walk, very handsome of face and looking much younger than his years. I can call him a war hero now that he is dead—he would have punched my nose if I had done so when he was alive. And he was heroic, but that without showmanship or guile of any kind.

In peacetime, he lived his life for the pleasure he could get out of it—cheerful, carefree but not irresponsible, for Hugh Mac was beholden to no man. He expected others to look after themselves; he would help if needed, but had no yearning to direct other people's lives for them. Perhaps he would have appreciated another age—he would have fitted well with the Elizabethans.

His fortitude was amazing. Even as a fourteen-years-old cadet, he had shown it in the ring, taking punishment and coming back for more, till his opponent, beaten by the futility of hitting him rather than by Mac's blows, gave in. In war, he took the hardship and danger as just part of the show, it was there and a man took it. The job had to be done. And, at the worst times, he was cheerful, with never a whinge.

BURNS, PHILP TAKE OVER STORES AT FORBES AND YOUNG

LATEST country store acquisitions by Burns, Philp & Co., Ltd., which continues to invest heavily in this direction, are the well-known general stores of Arthur Hughes & Co., of Forbes, and Hammond & Hanlon, of Young.

Mr. C. N. Perry, a recognised efficiency expert, who spent many years in the islands and in North Queensland in the service of Burns Philp & Co., and who during the war was associated with the Commonwealth Rationing Commission, arrived in Forbes last month to become general manager of the Forbes business.

At Young, Mr. Roy Hammond relinquishes control of Hammond & Hanlon, but will retain a substantial interest in the business.

ANOTHER JAPANESE PEST

GIANT snails, now threatening the well-being of New Guinea native gardens, were not the only pest released in the Pacific Islands by the Jap invaders in 1942-45. The following extract from a District Officer's report was published recently by the "North Borneo News":

"In addition to the fern and lalang the Dayaks now have to compete with a new grass weed, which grows in most prolific fashion on the worst soil and has a peculiar odour. This is known to them as 'aeroplane grass,' because, as it never made its appearance until the Japanese arrived with their aeroplanes, the Dyaks are convinced that the Japanese broadcast it from the skies."

Mr. K. A. Saxby, who was born in Fiji and lived in that Colony until 1939, expects to leave Sydney this month for Manus, New Guinea, where he will join the plantation staff of Messrs. Edgell and Whiteley.



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Mr. Philip MacFarlane, BA, of Tasmania, proceeded to Thursday Island (Torres Straits) in September to take up his new work as a teacher, under the Anglican Mission, on Moa Island. He is a son of the Rev. W. F. MacFarlane, who was a missionary in the Torres Strait Islands for many years. The young man served in the war years as a navigator in the RAAF.

UNIQUE PRESENTATION OF 'MESSIAH' BY TONGAN CHOIR

A MUSICAL event of some interest and importance took place recently in connection with the Annual Conference of the Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga, which was held for the first time for some years in Nelafo, Vava'u. This was a performance by a Tongan choir

of about 300 voices of Handel's "Messiah." r. Helsen, until lately manager of Burns Philp, Ltd., in Vava'u, and formerly a well-known Sydney tenor, rendered one of the solos and gave appreciated help in the practices.

It was found practicable to perform only one solo in each part, three being taken by Tongans—Fakahua (soprano), Sisilia (contralto) and Motua Puaka (bass). All the usual choruses were sung with vigour, remarkable confidence and accuracy, and a pleasing quality of tone. The conductor was Taniela Mafua, and the choirs of Nelafo, Leimatu'a, Holonga and Makave took part.

In between the various pieces the Rev. P. Kongaika read the words, to fill in the gaps caused in the sequence by the omission of the other solos and of the parts usually not included in any present-day performance of this work. Much valuable assistance was given by those who adapted the Tongan scriptural words to the music, and transcribed the English music into the Tongan solfa, and by various conductors in Nelafo who frequently visited the separate choirs during rehearsals. Five or six combined practices were held prior to the performance.

It is probable that a presentation of "The Messiah" by a native choir is an event unique in Pacific history, and, compared with performances in Australia and New Zealand, the standard was surprisingly good.

The choruses were sung unaccompanied and from memory, with the aid of no musical instrument other than a pitch-pipe.

Mr. O. Newman, planter, of the New Hebrides, returned home by Trans-oceanic plane on September 16, after a month in Sydney.

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Samoans Have Prosperity

But No Health Sense or Education

AFTER six months as a relieving medical officer in Western Samoa, Dr. H. D. Livingstone returned to Christchurch, NZ, in mid-September. He had this to say to a Christchurch "Press" reporter:

The NZ Government has done a creditable job in raising living standards in Samoa, thus permitting an increase in the population. But although the population had doubled during NZ's administration, 47 children out of every 1,000 still died before they were 10 years old. This was mostly due to native reluctance to adopt European health measures. Hookworm, malnutrition and typhoid were common and Samoans were particularly susceptible to influenza.

For the population of 70,000 there were three doctors and 20 native medical practitioners. The other two doctors with whom Dr. Livingstone worked were specialist surgeons who had served in the Indian Army. The native practitioners underwent a four-year course at the Suva medical school.

The hospital was well equipped with X-ray plant, laboratories, and dispensary. The matron and sisters were recruited from New Zealand, and Samoan girls were trained at the nursing school attached to the hospital. "They do a good job, considering their lack of education," Dr. Livingstone said.

The average educational attainment of the Samoan was a Standard II education. Educational and health talks were now broadcast from Samoa's local radio station, and nearly all the villages had been provided with free radio sets in order to help spread this knowledge among the people.

Dr. Livingstone considered it would be advisable for some of the more intelligent natives to be sent to University in New Zealand, as was being done with the Fijians. Several Fijians had been to Oxford and had since been able to assume administrative responsibility in their own land.

Speaking of the work of the missions, Dr. Livingstone said that they were very well supported by the native population. There were 43 churches, some of cathedral proportions, near Apia, and about 10 more were under construction. "Without the missions the natives would probably not produce as much wealth from the country as they do. They have a great incentive to work in order to pay for new church buildings."

THE Samoan community was very affluent because of the present high world price of cocoa and copra which were their principal exports.

Samoa was at present flooded with American goods. The cost of living was high for Europeans. The average small European family could not live for less than £70 a month.

It should be possible in the next few years to develop a tourist trade in the South Pacific, for Australia and New Zealand, while other tourist routes were virtually closed. Dr. Livingstone considered Samoa had the scenery, the recreation, and, in the cool months, the climate necessary to attract tourists, but its hotel accommodation needed to be improved and expanded.

At present an effort was being made to raise the general standard of native education in order to train the natives to undertake administrative responsibility in the future, Dr. Livingstone said. But it would appear that they would not be in a position completely to order their own affairs for at least another 10 years.

FATAL ACCIDENT IN NEW GUINEA

REPORTS from New Guinea indicate that a fatal accident occurred at Soraken, Bougainville, recently, wherein Mr. Peter Foster, a well-known planter, lost his life. He was on a copra barge with his wife and child when the barge caught fire. Mr. Foster assisted his wife and child to safety but was himself fatally injured when an explosion occurred.

Mrs. Peter Foster is a daughter of Mr. C. I. H. Campbell, a well-known Bougainville planter.

A visitor to Suva is Mr. F. V. N. Budd, who left Los Angeles in his Seabird-type yacht "Tai Manu" in April, 1947, spent six months on the Mexican coast and then sailed to Apia by way of the Marquesas, Tahiti, and Palmerston. At

Apia he sold the yacht to Dr. C. H. Bliss, and travelled to Suva in the "Matua." He will visit Australia before returning to America.

Gilbert Renton

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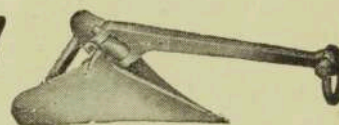
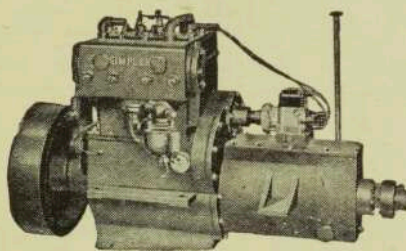
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New Hotel For Fiji

A NEW hotel at Nadi, Fiji, was opened on September 24.

This is the latest addition to the string of hotels owned by Northern Hotels Ltd., of which Sir Hugh Ragg is managing-director.

Modern furnishings are a feature of the hotel which is a two-storied, concrete building in Nadi township.

The new establishment may interest travellers to Fiji by international airlines. It is within two miles of Nadi airport.

**W. R. Carpenters Pay
9 Per Cent.**

**Parent Co. Is Now Purely A
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HAVING made a profit of £75,655 for the year ended June 30 (compared with £71,043 in the previous year), W. R. Carpenter & Co., Ltd., have raised their annual dividend to 9 per cent.

This company now has an issued capital of £775,000; reserves, used generally in the business, of just over £500,000; and funds supplied by subsidiaries of about £180,000—in other words, it employs over £1½ millions. (All figures in Australian currency.) Of that, however, nearly £232,000 is in Australian War Loans, and over £400,000 is in cash.

The company's subsidiaries now operate, quite independently, in New Guinea, Fiji, Gilbert Islands and Solomon Islands. Operations in New Guinea and Fiji are reported as satisfactory; but, in the other two territories, "it has been found impossible to resume activities owing to lack of transport and absence of labour." South Pacific Insurance Company, established by Carpenter interests before World War I, is now doing well and paying 8 per cent. The Canadian Company, established just before the war to crush copra in Canada, is not a member of the group centred in Sydney—it is owned independently by the Carpenter family, and is believed to be highly profitable.

W. R. Carpenter & Co., of Sydney, for so many years an active trading company, very shrewdly and capably managed, is now purely a holding company. It receives profits from its various subsidiaries which, in due course, are divided among the shareholders of the parent company; but each subsidiary now is self-contained and locally managed. All the company's Fiji interests have been transferred to a holding company, Pacific Products Ltd.

Capital To Be Returned

IT was announced on October 6 that, as the company now has too much surplus cash, £375,000 will be returned to shareholders, and the Directors recommended that the uncalled liability of 15/- on 100,000 shares be cancelled. By this means, the subscribed capital of the company will be reduced from £775,000 (in 750,000 £1 shares, and 100,000 paid to 5/-) to £400,000, in 1,600,000 5/- shares.

The company's shares now become very valuable. There is nothing to suggest that profit will not be maintained; while there is now only half the capital to share the profits. The £1 shares have been worth around 46/-. The 5/- shares may easily go to 16/- or 18/-.

Sir Walter Carpenter, founder of the group, who has spent most of the last eight years in Canada, presided at the annual general meeting in Sydney on October 6, and received many congratulations on the successes of the companies.

The new issue of New Caledonian stamps has not yet been put on sale in Noumea, but Paris reports say they are in several colours and that they are criticised for resembling designs associated with foreign packets of cigarettes. When they replace the present wartime issue, philatelists expect the older issues to increase in value. It seems that the wartime issue overprinted Wallis and Futuna which is to-day being sold for 2,137 francs is never likely to be put into use.

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Poor foolish wife—to trust just a bath, instead of capping it off with dependable *Mum*.

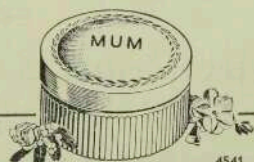
Your bath washes away *past* perspiration but it can't safeguard you against the risk of *future* underarm odour.

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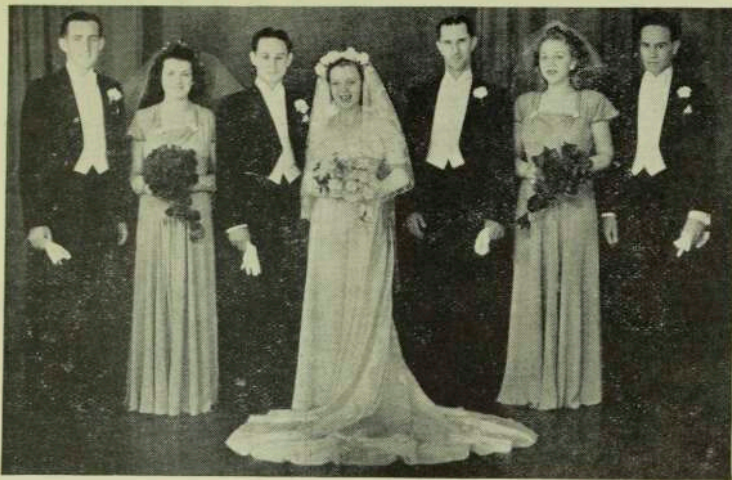
TAKES THE ODOUR OUT OF PERSPIRATION

Mum



4541

LUSSICK-BOTZ WEDDING



A photograph taken at the wedding on December 5 last of Miss Priscilla Botz, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Botz, of Vancouver, Canada, to Mr. Walter Lussick, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. A. N. Lussick, now of Sydney, and late of Kavieng, New Guinea.

Population trends in Tahiti are shown by the latest published birth statistics. In the last quarter of 1947, of the 148 babies born, 79 were Tahitian, 32 Chinese, 31 half-caste and 5 French. In the same period there were 46 deaths and 24 marriages.

In future the Central Leper Hospital at Makogai, Fiji, will be referred to as the Fiji Leprosy Hospital. This follows a decision made at the recent International Leprosy Conference in Havana that "leprosy patient" should replace the name "leper."

Suva Yacht Club now has 11 boats of the New Zealand "Idlealong" type and has held one-class races for the first time. "Vagabond" (J. St. Julian) won the first three of a series of five races for the Wright Barometer.

The proposed Fiji Rugby tour of Auckland Province which was to have taken place in September has been cancelled. No transport to New Zealand was available for the team.

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Fiji Will Test Local Phosphate

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, Sept. 12.

FURTHER investigation is to be made of the deposits of phosphates at the tiny island of Ogeadriki, in the Lau Group.

New Zealand was interested in the deposits during the war when supplies from

Nauru and Ocean Island were cut off. Fifty tons of phosphates were shipped to the Dominion for tests, which were satisfactory.

In July, 1948, 20 tons were brought to Suva for use in field trials in the Colony. Tests of soils have shown fairly widespread deficiency in phosphate. If the trials are satisfactory further plans will be made for developing the Ogeadriki deposits.

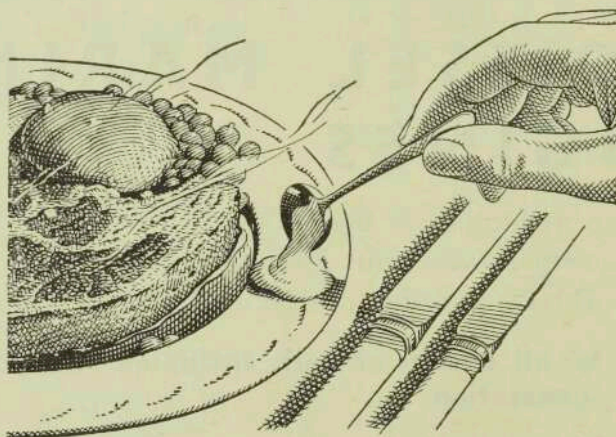
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Ashes of Late Judge Ayson Go Back To Rarotonga

From Our Own Correspondent

RAROTONGA, Sept. 21.

THE ashes of the late Judge H. F. Ayson, CMG, were brought to Rarotonga on September 18 by Mrs. Ayson aboard the "Maui Pomare."

It was Mrs. Ayson's own wish that the ashes of her husband should be interred in the Islands which he loved and for whose welfare he worked so long and strenuously.

The late Judge Ayson, who died in Wellington, NZ, on February 1, 1948, aged 63, devoted 27 years to the Cook Islands—first, in 1916, as Judge of the High and Native Land Courts, and, later, as Resident Commissioner. He was Resident Commissioner and Judge from 1922 until failing health forced him to retire at the end of 1943. He was made CMG in 1930.

IMEDIATELY after the arrival of the "Maui Pomare" at Rarotonga the urn containing his ashes was brought ashore and placed in the Court Room. Later the same morning, the funeral cortege left on foot for the LMS Churchyard.

The urn was carried on a flag-draped stretcher, the pall-bearers being Mr. R. McKegg, Mr. D. Reid and two Rarotongan high chiefs, Vakatini Ariki and Tinomana Ariki. Following was Mrs. Ayson, carrying a magnificent spray of purple bougainvillea. She was accompanied by the present Resident Commissioner (Mr. W. Tailby), Mrs. Tailby and Miss Margaret Tailby. Behind them was a long procession of European and Maori friends.

Companies of Girl Guides and Boys' Brigade formed a guard-of-honour at the churchyard. The service was conducted by the Rev. W. Murphy, of the LMS.

FINAL SEARCH FOR AMERICAN DEAD

SEARCH teams of the American Graves Registration Service have now arrived in New Guinea and Papua to undertake work that is expected to close those Territories to any further searching for unidentified American dead.

In the past two years these searches have been carried on on an individual basis—the men engaged in them going out to inquire only in regions where plane crashes or other casualties were known to have occurred. The teams which are now in the Territories will cover the whole of the area as thoroughly as possible. They will travel on foot, and will make either direct interrogation of natives on the spot, or will have representatives of outlying villages brought to them in central places. This system has proved very successful in Dutch New Guinea and other similar areas.

Teams will be operating during the next few months in Sepik River Valley area (out of Madang) and north and south of Lae (out of Lae), and the Papuan Territory will be worked from Port Moresby. The present operations will be carried out by a small number of personnel, all of whom are Americans.

Any person desirous of giving information to the search teams, which might lead to the identification of unknown dead, should communicate with the Officer in Charge, American Graves Registration Service, c/o The Australian War Graves Commission, in Lae, or in Port Moresby.

THE RACIAL PROBLEM IN FIJI

By J. Abernethy

TO suggest segregation, or mass deportation as a solution to the Fiji Indian problem, is to indulge in a childish form of wishful thinking.

If eviction was considered impossible more than a quarter of a century ago, when the Indians numbered 60,000, it must be even more so now that they number 125,000. Moreover, with the whole world tottering on the brink of ideological uncertainty, any attempt to evict so many Asiatics might help to start the holocaust of War No. 3.

When attempting to account for the presence of so many Indians in Fiji, certain facts must be carefully considered:

1. Before the Indians were introduced into Fiji, Fijian and other sources of Island labour had been tried and proved unsuccessful in plantation work.

2. Following pressure by commercial interest, the Government of India was approached on the matter of labour for plantation work; and, as a consequence, the indenture system, with provision for return passages, was introduced in 1879.

3. In 1888, despite the concern voiced by the Council of Fijian Chiefs, the then Governor, influenced by the vested interests, humanitarianists, and the natural wisdom of expanding the productivity of the colony—an undertaking which the Fijian appeared in no mood for—made provision for a number of Indians under indenture to domicile in Fiji.

4. Although indenture of Indians ceased in 1916, two years later the European elected members of the Legislative Council supported a motion advocating the resumption of Indian immigration. This

was long after the increasing number of Indians domiciled in Fiji had aroused alarm in many quarters.

5. In 1922, yielding to economic pressure in the form of low sugar prices and Indian labour troubles, the CSR Co. embarked on a new policy. Under this new system, the European planters either vanished or were absorbed by the CSR Co. as overseers. Their estates were cut up and parcelled out to the Indians, who became tenant farmers.

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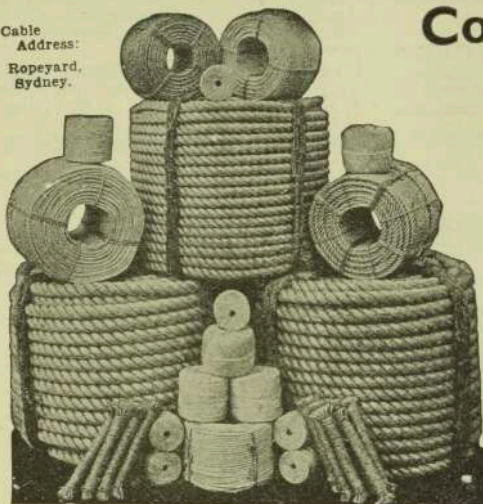
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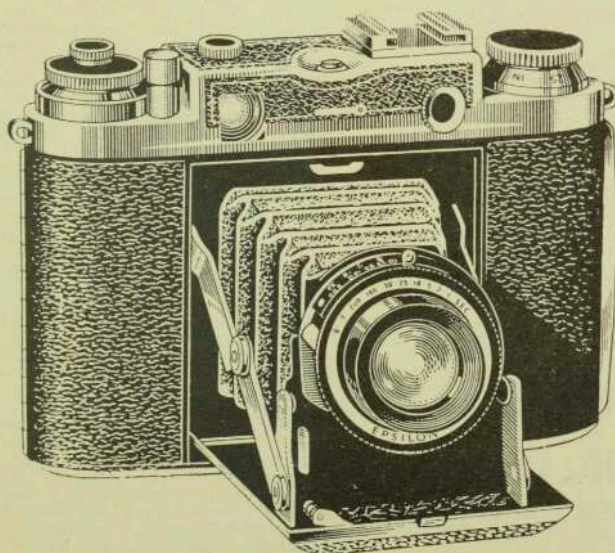
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6. The policy of European capital has, throughout the years, brought about the gradual elimination of the European himself, as an economic unit. The planter, the platelayer, the loco driver, the small trader, the tradesman, the clerk—all have gradually vanished and been replaced with the cheaper Indian. To-day, we have the spectacle of Indian building contractors, financed with European money, underquoting the European firms who

trained them, and building homes for Europeans, and buildings for European concerns. It is indeed a paradoxical situation.

APART from the unwise move by the Government of 1888, the problem of the Indian was created for and aggravated by European interests.

The Indian, throughout, has been a pawn in the game of business (albeit a remarkably adaptable one) and now that the pawn by reason of his adaptability, thrift, energy, and fecundity, has reached the stature of a menace, there are loud cries for the formulation of some policy that will reduce him once again to the level of a pawn.

The presence in Fiji of 125,000 Indians, with the roots of their lives firmly established, is so unalterable a fact that it

becomes unprofitable to regard it in the nature of a problem. The real problem is the preservation of the Fijian race; and if population statistics mean anything there are as yet no sound reasons for regarding the presence of the Indians as a menace.

The preservation and welfare of the Fijian race is a task which has been faithfully carried out by British Governments. And, as long as there is a British Government, be it Labour or Conservative, with power in Colonial matters, that policy will always be religiously implemented.

There are encouraging signs that the high official attitude, while favouring the communal way of life so natural to the Fijian, strongly discourages the continuance of those customs and duties which tend to retard economic progress.

As time goes on the effect of this modification of policy will be made manifest through the excellent work done by the Native Land Trust Board, demarcation of adequate native reserves, child welfare, and the encouragement of Fijians in agricultural pursuits.

Meanwhile it is imperative that a strong core of European life should be preserved to act as a buffer between the two races. This is something which calls for a good deal of thought on the part of Europeans themselves.

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CRIME IN NEW GUINEA

From Our Own Correspondent

PORT MORESBY, Aug. 18

CASES of more than usual interest were dealt with by Mr. Justice Phillips, who has returned to Port Moresby from Lae and Rabaul.

A European officer of the Provisional Administration was sentenced to 2½ years' imprisonment at Lae for misappropriating over £1,000 of Government funds.

At Rabaul, two Chinese employed by the United States Army at Manus again came before the Court, after their case had been adjourned from Inrim. The Chinese were charged with assaulting a native. They had pleaded that the Papua-New Guinea Supreme Court had no jurisdiction over them on the grounds—first that they were members of a friendly armed force visiting the Territory with the concurrence of the local authorities; and secondly, that at the time of the alleged offence Manus was American Territory, having been obtained by conquest from the Japanese.

Judge Phillips held that the Court had jurisdiction. He decided that, even if the accused were in fact members of a visiting foreign armed force, their offence was committed on a private citizen outside their camp area. He also rejected the claim that Manus was, at the time of the offence, American territory.

Each accused was sentenced to six months' imprisonment. Notice has been filed on their behalf in the High Court of Australia of their intention to appeal to the High Court against their conviction.

Nine natives, reputed to be members of the Roman Catholic Mission, were sentenced at Rabaul to imprisonment on charges of "riotously destroying" a school building and a number of houses belonging to members of the Seventh Day Adventist Mission at Bougainville.

A European man at Rabaul, was sentenced to three years' imprisonment for an offence on a European boy.

Dr. P. E. C. Manson-Bahr, newly appointed physician-specialist to the Fiji Medical Department recently arrived in the Colony from the United Kingdom.

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A 1941 INTERVIEW WITH MR. BANNO OF TONGA

THE other day, I received from an old friend in Tonga a memo of something he wanted done. I had dealt with it, and was on the point of tearing it up when I noticed something printed on the other side. This is a photographic reproduction of what I found:

The spelling and typography are worth remembering.

This took my memory back, with a jerk, to those days before World War II, when the "PIM" was always shouting about "Jap penetration of the Pacific Islands," and was just as consistently being ignored by the bright intelligences which direct our governments.

Banno Brothers, of Tonga, was one concern of which we were most suspicious. The firm had started small, and had spread its trading activities all over Tonga and adjoining territories, and there was little doubt that its Intelligence service was working overtime for the Jap war-lords.

After World War II started, the national authorities treated the "PIM's" news-gathering with more respect, and I was able, at times, to render some service to our directors of Intelligence.

One day, late in 1941 (just before Pearl Harbour) I was informed that Mr. Banno, from Tonga, had arrived unobtrusively in Sydney. My informant was anxious to learn something of the plans of Mr. Banno, and to know his answers to cer-

tain apparently harmless questions. Could I assist? I was happy to do so.

I was informed that Mr. Banno was living with another Japanese in a flat in a big building in Elizabeth Bay. That evening, between 6 and 7, I rang the bell. A Jap opened the door. I asked if I might see Mr. Banno.

The Jap stared at me in astonishment. Then he said something to someone behind him.

A middle-aged Jap, grey and rotund, in European clothes—a typical Jap businessman—appeared. I told him my name, and said I was the editor of the "PIM."

ORDeR SHEET

TO BANNO BROTHERS

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and that I'd like to have a chat with him about trading conditions in Tonga.

He smiled, and bowed, and hissed, and invited me in. I smiled and bowed and entered. I did not hiss. I have never learned how.

We sat most uncomfortably on hard chairs beside a dining table. He spoke good English. If his inscrutable face betrayed anything, it was profound wonder as to how I had found him in that maze of flats in that district. But, significantly, he did not ask.

I interviewed him concerning the probable future of the copra market. On the subject of whether Japan was likely to provide a market in the future for South Pacific copra, I was able to frame questions of a particular shape.

The little man was most amiable—but,

in speech, exceedingly wary. It was a battle of wits—I was trying to submit seemingly innocuous questions about trade; he was trying to dodge direct answers, without appearing to be evasive. I was sure he was suspicious of me—he would have been a fool, otherwise. He told me he would be a fortnight in Sydney, before returning to Tonga.

As the interview ended, he showed all his teeth in a beaming smile. He said I must not go until I had had a drink with him.

I accepted with thanks; but my imagination worked busily, and I could feel my stomach contract with sheer fright.

He called out something to the other Jap, and, after some little time, a bottle of clear liquid, and two glasses, were placed before us. By now, I was sweating. He poured me a large drink; and he stared at me intently as I raised the glass of sake (I think it was sake) to my lips.

Mr. Banno and I parted with smiles and (on his part) hissing assurance of goodwill. As I hurried around to my parked car, I was sure I could feel that infernal drink spreading its foul poison throughout my inside.

I reported by telephone the results of my interview, and, still sweating, I lost no time in getting home to the medicine chest.

About 10 o'clock next morning, I got a telephone call.

"There's a ship going down the harbour now, bound for Japan," said a familiar voice. "Your Mr. Banno is aboard her."

I wonder what has become of Banno Brothers. And I wonder whether my Mr. Banno guesses that his quaint business stationery is now being used by disrespectful gentlemen in Tonga as scribbling paper.—R. W. ROBSON.

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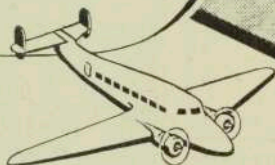
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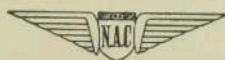
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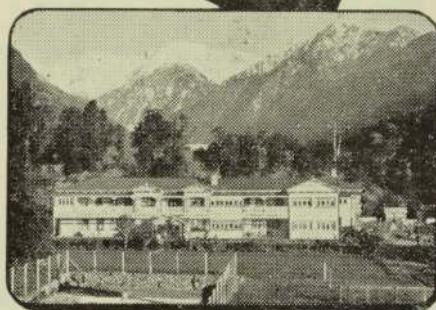


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HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

Comfortable accommodation and attentive service is provided by the Government Tourist Department's Hotel at the foot of the Glacier.

37

ESTATE NOTICES

RE THE ESTATE of STANLEY WALTER GEORGE EDMONDS, in the Will called **STANLEY EDMONDS,** formerly of Sydney, in the State of New South Wales, but late of the Territory of Papua, Project Manager, deceased. **LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION** with the Will annexed granted by the Supreme Court of New South Wales on the 1st day of September, 1948.

PURSUANT to the Wills Probate and Administration Act, 1898-1940; Testator's Family Maintenance and Guardianship of Infants Act, 1916-1938; and Trustee Act, 1925-1942; The **PUBLIC TRUSTEE**, the Administrator, with the Will annexed of the Estate of the said **STANLEY WALTER GEORGE EDMONDS,** in the Will called **STANLEY EDMONDS,** who died on the 15th day of December, 1947, hereby gives notice that creditors and others having any claim against or to the Estate of the said deceased are required to send particulars of their claims to the said **PUBLIC TRUSTEE**, at 19 O'Connell Street, Sydney, on or before the 27th day of November, 1948, at the expiration of which time the said Public Trustee will distribute the assets of the said deceased to the persons entitled, having regard only to the claims of which he then has notice.

P. J. P. PULLEN,
Public Trustee.

Notice to Creditors

IN THE ESTATE of AXEL JOHAN EILERTZ, late of Metlik Plantation, New Ireland, in the Territory of New Guinea, Planter and Trader, deceased.

CREDITORS having claims against the estate of the abovenamed deceased, who died on the twentieth day of September, One thousand nine hundred and forty-five, are called upon to submit their claims, verified by affidavit, to Burns, Philp Trust Company, Limited, of 7 Bridge Street, Sydney, the Administrator of the abovenamed Estate, within two months from the date of publication hereof, after which time the Administrator will proceed to distribute the Estate, having regard only to claims of which it then shall have had notice in writing.

DATED this twenty-third day of September, 1948.

J. IRWIN CROMIE,
Solicitor for the Company,
Port Moresby.

Notice to Creditors

IN THE ESTATE of JOHN SAMUEL TALMAGE, late of Tomalabatt Plantation, in the Territory of New Guinea, Planter and Trader, deceased.

CREDITORS having claims against the estate of the abovenamed deceased, who died on the thirtieth day of November, One thousand nine hundred and forty-two, are called upon to submit their claims, verified by affidavit, to Burns, Philp Trust Company, Limited, of 7 Bridge Street, Sydney, the Administrator of the abovenamed Estate, within two months from the date of publication hereof, after which time the Administrator will proceed to distribute the Estate, having regard only to claims of which it then shall have had notice in writing.

DATED this twenty-third day of September, 1948.

J. IRWIN CROMIE,
Solicitor for the Company,
Port Moresby.

RE THE ESTATE of CHARLES THOMAS ROSS FIELD, late of Rabaul, in the Territory of New Guinea, but formerly of Perth, in the State of Western Australia, Director of Public Works, deceased. Letters of Administration with the Will as contained in a certified copy of an Order to Administer with the Will granted by the Supreme Court of Western Australia to the Public Trustee of Western Australia, annexed granted by the Supreme Court of New South Wales on the 27th May, 1948.

PURSUANT to the Wills Probate and

SOUTH PACIFIC IN DEADLY, GROWING DANGER FROM 'RED' ASIA

Valuable Data Made Available In Two New Books

THE future of all the peoples who live in the Territories of the Pacific, including Australia and New Zealand, is affected profoundly by recent events in Asia.

Across practically every country in Asia there has swept, first, a wave of national-

Administration Act, 1898-1940; Testator's Family Maintenance and Guardianship of Infants Act, 1916-1938; and Trustee Act, 1925-1942; The **PUBLIC TRUSTEE**, the Administrator with the Will annexed of the Estate of the said **CHARLES THOMAS ROSS FIELD,** who became missing on 1st day of July, 1942, and is for official purposes presumed to be dead, hereby gives notice that creditors and others having any claim against or to the Estate of the said deceased are required to send particulars of their claims to the said **PUBLIC TRUSTEE**, at 19 O'Connell Street, Sydney, on or before the 4th day of December, 1948, at the expiration of which time the said Public Trustee will distribute the assets of the said deceased to the persons entitled, having regard only to the claims of which he then has notice.

P. J. P. PULLEN,
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LEASE WANTED

WANTED by two ex-Servicemen, experienced in Tropical Agriculture and all Plantation work, the lease of a Copra property, with suitable House, etc., in Fiji, the Solomons, or New Guinea, Papua. Bank references. Air-mail reply to Box 3408, G.P.O., Sydney.

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Small, well-established Plantation wanted. Must be situated in a healthy, desirable locality, and include a comfortable home, in addition to usual plant and refinements. Purchaser can offer a fully furnished, comfortable, riverside home in Sydney, complete with Swimming Pool, Boathouse, Garage, Billiard Room and attractive Gardens, together with a sound freehold investment, showing £5 week as part payment, if desired, otherwise cash.

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Plant of 8 tons capacity (approx.), consisting of Vertical Ammonia-compressor, double pipe counter-current condenser, fresh water generator, with built-in evaporator and agitator, complete with 7½ H.P. motor, 400v., 50 cycles, 3-phase, 1,440 r.p.m. Plant includes Nash-Jennings centrifugal pump, directly coupled to 5 H.P. C.P. motor, 2,920 r.p.m., 50 cycles. This plant is in good running condition and is available immediately. Inquiries should be addressed to **Philips Electrical Industries of Australia Pty., Ltd.,** Hendon Works, P.O. Box 1, Alberton, S.A.

ism, or conscious racialism, followed immediately by another wave of aggressive Communism. The countries which recently sought—and, for the most part, gained—a large degree of administrative independence are India, Ceylon, Burma, Indo-China, and Indonesia. Immediately after securing "freedom," and under the influence of an under-cover drive directed from Moscow, most of them have swung towards Communism.

Communism already is seen as active in Burma, Indo-China, Malaya and Indonesia, and it is a growing force already in India. In addition, a third of China and half of Korea now are Communist.

Communism, under European conditions, has been described as Socialism with bloodshed. It is more than that—it is the seizure of political power by hoodlums, by means of criminal conspiracy against peace, order and good government. In Asia, Communism is uglier and even more sinister than anything seen in Europe.

Generally speaking, Asiatics are not yet fit to exercise the kind of political power given to the masses by the system of Western Democracy; are still in the condition when they can be most effectively ruled by strength, tempered with strict justice. The action of Britain, France and Holland, in conceding to Asiatics the institutions of Western Democracy, in itself a stupid and short-sighted thing, becomes a world tragedy as the new Asiatic democracies fall one by one before the oncoming wave of Russian Communism.

PRIOR to 1942, the countless masses of Asia—more than half the human race is in that continent—were kept in something like order by the great colonial Powers. Britain guarded the peace in Southern Asia; France and Holland in South-east Asia; and Japan in East Asia. Except in the East, the prestige of the white man was supreme and unchallenged.

Japan made her treacherous attack in December, 1941. Within six months, the Indo-Chinese, Malays, Burmese, Indonesians and Indians saw the white men overwhelmed and driven away by Asiatics. The crushing defeat and surrender of Japan in 1945, and the return of the Europeans, gave us a chance to restore the prestige of the white man. It could have been done by strength, firmness, and a display of ruthless power.

Instead, the blundering Socialist Planners of Western Europe, enjoying temporary political authority, chose this most critical moment to confer "self-government" and "brotherhood" upon the countless millions of South and South-east Asia. Instead of maintaining their hold, backed by implacable force, if necessary, over India, Ceylon, Burma, Malaya, Indo-China and Indonesia, and gradually permitting self-government—but only to the extent that it would not add political and economic disruption to a world already convulsed—they have thrown what they call "national independence" to all those Asiatic countries with both hands. The effect already has been terrifying; but we have not seen anything yet, compared with what is to come.

The Kremlin directors of the Communist "cold war," whether by brilliant discernment of sheer good luck is not yet clear, chose this moment in humanity's tortured history to release upon all the

countries of South and South-east Asia a terrific flood of propaganda, carried and directed by secret agents. Almost before the flags of the new-born nations were unfurled, to receive the maudlin blessings of London and Paris, the political parties responsible for electing the new governments were reacting to the Communist drive.

The rest of the story is known to every reader of the newspapers of 1948. Burma is Communist. India and Siam are honey-combed with Communism. Ceylon is feeling the influence. Pakistan, staunchly Mohanmedan, is resisting it. Communists have started revolutions in Malaya and Indonesia—and, to a lesser extent, in Indo-China and have had astonishing success.

Around the corner, in Eastern Asia, the Chinese National Government is fighting a losing battle against enormous forces of Chinese Reds, backed by the Soviets. The plan to create a new State of Korea is collapsing, because Northern Korea, under Russian influence, is Communist.

To the average man, who sees only the thunder-clouds in the northern sky, but does not understand their origin or significance, the Asiatic situation to-day must seem like a mad-house. He can appreciate the sequence of events only if he goes back far enough, and sees them against the correct background and in their proper order, like this:

- The collapse of France, the battering of Britain and the near-collapse of Russia in 1940-42 greatly weakened the Europeans' hold in South and South-east Asia.

- The successes of Japan, in 1942-44, confirmed that weakness and destroyed the ancient prestige of the white man.

- The accession to power in Western Europe of Socialist Governments, with story-book ideas of racial brotherhood, encouraged all the Asiatic races (still far

from competent to exercise the powers of free nationhood in a complex world) to demand and receive national independence.

- Russia's Communist emissaries came swarming into these new South Asiatic countries, to reap extraordinary success amid the political confusion and economic chaos which they love.

To help the average man to better understand these events and developments, which are of incalculable danger to all orderly communities in the Pacific, two books have been published recently—

"NEW CYCLE IN ASIA," by Harold R. Isaacs, published at \$3 by the MacMillan Company of New York, under the auspices of the Institute of Pacific Relations;

"NEAR NORTH," by Robert J.

Gilmore and Denis Walker, published at 16/- A by Angus and Robertson Ltd., of Sydney.

MR. ISAACS'S book is mostly a selection of all the official documents bearing on major political and wartime developments in Japan, China, Korea, the Philippines, India, Burma, Indo-China and Indonesia; and the notes which accompany each are well-informed and illuminating. A knowledge of the documents, and of the developments so clearly described in this book, is necessary to an understanding of what is happening, and likely to happen, in Southern Asia.

"Near North" supplies an extraordinary amount of information about not only the Asiatic countries to which we have referred, but also the Territories immediately northward of Australia, like Timor,

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the southern islands of the Netherlands Indies, and New Guinea. As a carefully-arranged, well-indexed work of reference,

it should be in the hands of every man who proposes to write or speak about Australian history, the romantic trade de-

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velopments of the western Pacific, or the new and incalculable racial and political developments in South and East Asia. Many writers are quoted. The two well-known Australian journalists who compiled "Near North" not only have given us a volume of fascinating interest, but also something that every Pacific statesman and thinker will find indispensable to his work.

Probably, none of the writers concerned—Mr. Isaacs, and the dozen able men whose work has been collected in "Near North"—will subscribe to the forthright opinions expressed in the early part of this article. I can only say that most of the valuable data they have made available in these compilations leads me to an even stronger belief in the conclusions I have indicated. I believe that all the communities of the South Pacific—and especially the European and part-European peoples—are now in deadly and growing danger—R.W.R.

Labour and Shipping Hamper BSI Copra Producers

THE 37th annual report of Mamara Plantations Ltd. (which has extensive coconut properties near Honiara, BSI, and a paid-up capital of £89,000) says that, owing to bad shipping and labour conditions in the Solomons, only 32 tons of copra were cut last year. This brought £1,145, but did not cover the year's expenses by £24. Future production depends on labour, which will not be forthcoming unless more regular shipping and food supplies are maintained. When the "Ryena" went up on the Queensland coast early this year, communication between BSI and Australia was disrupted, food became scarce and the labour force then on the Mamara plantations practically vanished. The position improved after the small Burns Philp ship "Muliama" went on the Sydney-Solomons run and 23 additional labourers were engaged in September, 1948.

In March this year, formal claims for war damage were lodged by the company with the War Damage Claims Commissioner in Suva, Fiji. Claims totalled £32,630 but no authority has yet accepted any liability. Payment may be dependent upon receipt of reparation payments made by Japan to Britain.

It is estimated that about one-third of the coconut trees on the plantations were destroyed during the war.

MORE PRICE RISES IN FIJI

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, Sept. 12.
DURING the last week three commodities rose in price.

Local butter has gone up to 2/4 per pound in Suva, Navua and Nausori, and 2/5 elsewhere. Owing to the New Zealand exchange, NZ butter will now be somewhere in the vicinity of 3/1 per pound—if anyone has the courage to import it.

Petrol has gone up to 3/2 per gallon at Suva and Lautoka, with the usual additional transport cost for other centres.

The Indian boycott of the Suva markets has at last been ended—with a win for the Indians. The price of most lines of vegetables has now increased.

Development of health work by the Anglican Mission, Papua, includes the establishment of base hospitals at Dogura and Oro Bay.

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 been restored.

Canadian-Pacific liner "Aorangi" (Sydney-Auckland-Suva-Honolulu-Vancouver) resumed running in August, 1948. A sister liner is expected soon. See timetable on next page.

Matson liners "Monterey" and "Mariposa" are not now expected back in the Pacific service. Matson ship "Marine Phoenix," carrying passengers, ran on a regular schedule—San Francisco-Honolulu-Suva-Auckland-Sydney; but was withdrawn in August, 1948.

New Zealand—Fiji— Samoa—Tonga

Monthly Service by MV "Matua"
SERVICE CONDUCTED BY UNION SS CO.,
LTD.—SUBJECT TO ALTERATION WITHOUT
NOTICE

After annual survey in Auckland, NZ, "Matua" will go back on the Auckland-Islands run about the end of October.

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, Ouaco Gomen, Koumac, Tangaio, Tiebaghi, Nehoue Poume, Baaba, Belep and return.

LOYALTY ISLANDS.—Mare (Tadine), Lifou (Chepenehe) Ouvea (Fajaoue, St. Joseph) and return.

The steamer "Neo Hebrides" runs regularly between Noumea and Sydney, with occasional trips to the New Hebrides (mostly Anietyum). The owners are Societe Maritime et Maniere Hagen, Noumea. Sydney agents: H. C. Sleight, 254 George Street, Sydney.

Sydney—Norfolk Island— New Hebrides

THE SS "Morinda," Burns Philp & Co., Ltd., runs at approximately three-monthly intervals from Sydney to Lord Howe Island, Norfolk Island, and main ports of the New Hebrides, and return.

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).

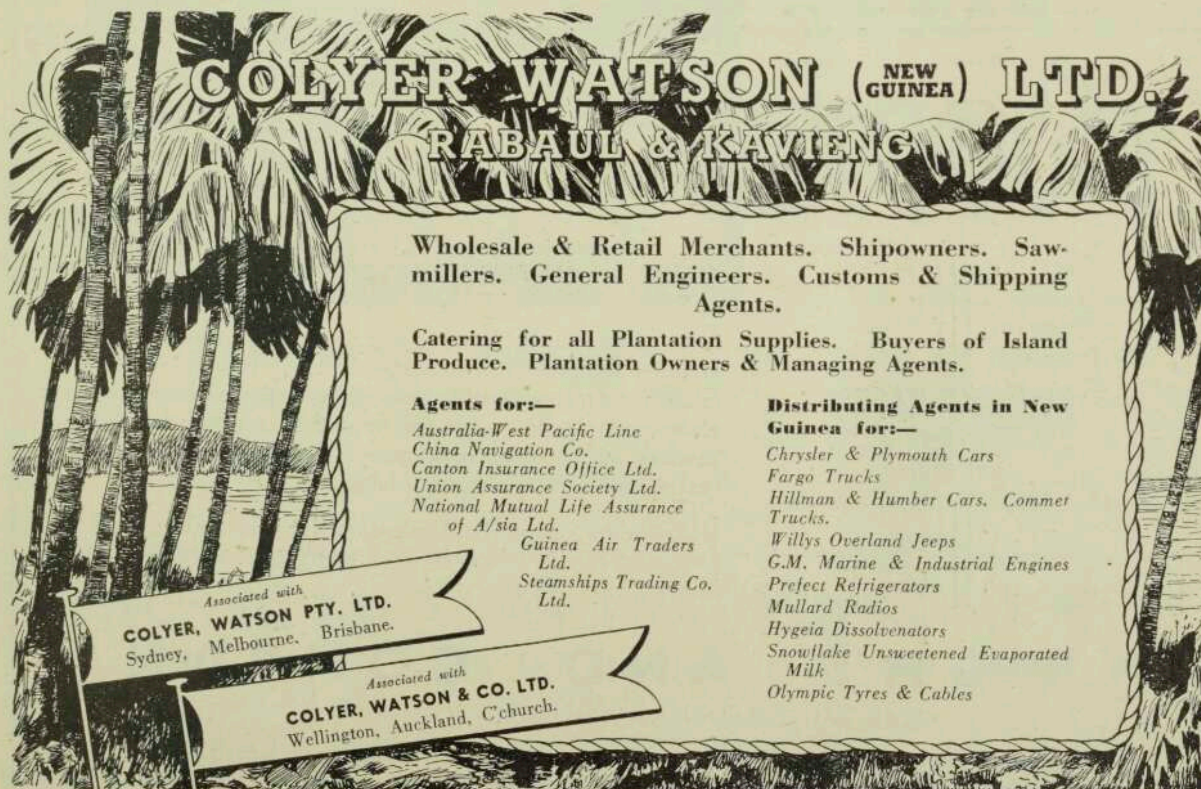
(Continued on Next Page)

The Twinkle in Your Eye

COMES FROM ACTIVE DIGESTION

Good normal digestive and liver activity means good, normal health and fitness. If you are becoming gloomy and feel tired out, the cause may be a congested state of your intestinal tract. So many people are troubled with constipation, which, through the retention of waste in the digestive system, causes sick headache, biliousness, pimply skin, unpleasant breath, irritability, slackness and dull eyes.

Regain your bright and attractive appearance by banishing constipation with Pinkettes. Tiny, perfectly harmless, gentle yet effective, these famous laxative and liver pills painlessly exercise and strengthen the bowels, keep the food tract clean and active, stir the liver, and thus banish sick headache, bilious attacks, pimples, unpleasant breath and gloom. All chemists and stores sell Pinkettes, the perfect laxative and liver pills.



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Sydney-NZ-Fiji-Hawaii-Nth. America

THE Canadian-Australasian liner "Aorangi" (17,500 tons) recommenced a trans-Pacific service between Sydney and North America in August. Her itinerary is Sydney, Auckland, Suva (Fiji), Honolulu (Hawaii), Victoria (Vancouver Island), and Vancouver (British Columbia, Canada). Timetable for the Pacific section of her run is:—

RMS "Aorangi"					
Honolulu	Sep. 23	Nov. 25	Jan. 27	Mar. 31	June 2
Suva	Oct. 2	Dec. 4	Feb. 5	Apr. 9	June 11
Auckland	Oct. 5-7	Dec. 7-9	Feb. 8-10	Apr. 12-14	June 14-16
Sydney, arr.	Oct. 11	Dec. 13	Feb. 14	Apr. 18	June 26
Sydney, dep.	Oct. 21	Dec. 23	Feb. 24	Apr. 28	June 30
Auckland	Oct. 25-26	Dec. 27-28	Feb. 28-Mar. 1	May 2-3	July 4-5
Suva	Oct. 29	Dec. 31	Mar. 4	May 6	July 8
Honolulu	Nov. 5	Jan. 7	Mar. 11	May 13	July 15

Subject to Alterations Without Notice.

AIR SERVICES

Summary of Pacific Air Services

PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.—Regular Qantas service from Sydney.

SOLOMON ISLANDS.—Frequent regular flying-boat service from Sydney by Trans Oceanic Airways.

NEW HEBRIDES.—Frequent regular flying-boat service from Sydney by Trans Oceanic Airways. Service from Noumea by French plane runs twice weekly.

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 Trans Oceanic Airways.

FIJI.—Regular services from Australia by Pan American and BCPA (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. Regular service from Suva to Labasa by NZ National Airways.

WESTERN SAMOA, COOK ISLANDS AND 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-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, Philp (South Seas) Company, in Suva; and T. Johnston in Noumea.

Fares: To Noumea, £25 single; £63 return. To Suva, £52/10/- single; £94/10/- return.

Noumea-Suva, £17/10/- single; £31/10/- return.

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-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) ran an air service once a month from Noumea (New Caledonia), via Nadi (Fiji) and Aitutaki (Cook Islands) to Papeete (Tahiti), and return.

(Continued on Page 85)

MONEL

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TASMANIA : **Mr. C. Sellars**, 108a Charles Street, Launceston.

Fiji : **Mr. K. Witherington**, 2 Burns Philp Buildings, Suva.

It was announced in January that this was to become a fortnightly service; but service was suspended in March owing to hurricane damage.

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 returns, twice each week.

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 Saturday and Wednesday and fly via Tontouta (New Caledonia), Nadi (Fiji), Canton Island, Honolulu, to San Francisco, and return along the same route, leaving 'Frisco every Tuesday and Saturday.

Planes leave Auckland every Friday and fly via Nadi, Canton Island, and Honolulu, to San Francisco; and leave 'Frisco for Auckland every Monday. 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 baggage at 1 per cent. of single fare for each kilogram of excess (1 kilo—2.2 lb.).

NZ National Airways South Pacific Services

THE Pacific services run by the New Zealand National Airways Corporation are as follows:—

AUCKLAND-LAUCALA BAY (SUVA): A "Sunderland" flying-boat leaves Mechanics Bay, Auckland, at 7 a.m. each Saturday for Laucala Bay, Suva (arrives 3.30 p.m.).

The aircraft departs from Laucala Bay, Suva, on the return journey at 7.30 a.m. each Monday, and arrives at Mechanics Bay, Auckland, at 4 p.m.

LAUCALA BAY (SUVA)-LABASA (VANUA LEVU): A "Sunderland" flying-boat operates this service on a charter basis. A return trip is made between Laucala Bay and Labasa each Sunday.

AUCKLAND-NORFOLK ISLAND-FIJI-TONGA-WESTERN SAMOA-COOK ISLANDS: A "Douglas" airliner leaves Whenuapai, Auckland, on alternate Sundays at 8.30 a.m. (October 17, 31, November 14, 28) for Norfolk Island (arr. 12.30 p.m., dep. 12.1 a.m. Monday), Nadi (arr. 6.55 a.m., dep. 5.40 a.m. Tuesday), Nausori (arr. 6.30 a.m., dep. 7.15 a.m.), Tonga (arr. 10.45 a.m., dep. 11.45 a.m.), *Apia, Western Samoa (arr. 4.10 p.m. Monday, dep. 7.45 a.m. Tuesday), Aitutaki, Cook Islands (arr. 1.50 p.m., dep. 2.45 p.m.), and Rarotonga, Cook Islands (arr. 4.5 p.m.).

The aircraft departs from Rarotonga on the return journey at 7.30 a.m. on alternate Thursdays (October 21, November 4, 18, December 2) for Aitutaki (arr. 8.50 a.m., dep. 9.45 a.m.), Apia, Western Samoa (arr. 3.35 p.m., dep. 8 a.m. Friday), *Tonga (arr. 11.15 a.m. Saturday, dep. 12.15 p.m.), Nausori (arr. 3.10 p.m., dep. 4.15 p.m.), Nadi (arr. 5.5 p.m., dep. 2 a.m. Sunday), Norfolk Island (arr. 8.10 a.m., dep. 1 p.m.), and Whenuapai, Auckland (arr. 5.45 p.m.).

An additional return service between Rarotonga and Aitutaki is operated on alternate Wednesdays when traffic warrants.

*Crosses International Date Line.

AUCKLAND-NORFOLK ISLAND: A "Douglas" airliner leaves Whenuapai, Auckland, every Sun-

day at 8.15 a.m. for Norfolk Island (arr. 12.15 p.m.), and departs on the return flight at 1.15 p.m., arriving at Whenuapai at 6 p.m.

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/-; to Aitutaki, £16/10/-; Suva to Labasa, £4/10/-. Return fares, less 10 per cent.

BOOKING OFFICES: Wellington, Govt. Life Bldg., Customhouse Quay; Auckland, Airways House, Customs St.; Dunedin, 8-10 Manse St.; Christchurch, Union SS Co, 168 Hereford St.; Gisborne, 74 Peel St.; Palmerston Nth., 107 Broadway Ave.; Hamilton, 8 Alma St.; Rotorua, Airport Bld., Fenton St.; Norfolk Is., Burns Philp, Ltd.; Fiji, NAC at Nadi and Suva; Burns Philp, Labasa and Lautoka; Tonga, Mrs. F. P. Melhose, Fou-amotu Airfield; W. Samoa, Burns Philp (SS), Ltd., Apia; Cook Is., Mrs. P. McVeagh, Aitutaki, and Mr. J. D. Campbell, Rarotonga.

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 airport.

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 30 passengers, in fully-reclining slumber-seats, and a crew of nine are used on the service.

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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. Six flights each way per week. Fares: £35(A) (£28 NZ currency) single; £63(A) (£50/8/- NZ currency) return.

In addition, this flying-boat service is, at present, supplemented by a Skymaster service, details of which are available on application to TEA offices in Australia and New Zealand.

Bookings may be made at Tasman Empire Airways in Auckland and at Qantas Empire Airways, Carrington Street, Sydney.

TOA Services

TRANS Oceanic Airways run the following Pacific services:—

SYDNEY-LORD HOWE IS.: A regular fortnightly service with large four-engine flying-boats from Rose Bay. Fare: £11 single; £21 return. Free baggage allowance 50 lb. Excess baggage and freight rate 6d. per lb.

SYDNEY-NEW HEBRIDES: A regular monthly service with large four-engine flying-boats from Sydney, via Noumea (overnight stop), to Vila and Espiritu Santo. Fare: Sydney-Vila, £45; Sydney-Santo, £50; Noumea-Vila, £12/10/-; Noumea-Santo, £18. Freight: Sydney-Vila or Santo, 2/- per lb.

SYDNEY-SOLOMON ISLANDS: A regular monthly service from Sydney, via New Caledonia and New Hebrides to Tulagi, Solomon Islands. This service is frequently extended to Lingatou, in the Russell Islands, and calls are sometimes made at Vanikoro, in the Santa Cruz Group. Fares: Sydney-Tulagi, £75. Free baggage allowance, 60 lb.; excess baggage and freight, 3/- per lb.

New Caledonia—New Hebrides

A TRAPAS amphibian runs twice each week between New Caledonia and New Hebrides. The days vary, but on the selected day the planes adhere to the following time-table:—

Noumea—dep. 0630.	Vila—arr. 0900
Vila—dep. 0945	Santo—arr. 1115
Santo—dep. 1145	Vila—arr. 1315
Vila—dep. 1400	Noumea—arr. 1630

Papua-NG Local Services

MANDATED Airlines, Ltd., of Lae, New Guinea, and other private operators, run air services between Lae and the New Guinea mainland centres of Wau, Bulolo, Madang, Wewak, Aitape, Mt. Hagen, Finisshafen, Moresby, Kokoda—in fact anywhere in Papua or New Guinea where there is an air-strip. These planes carry passengers, mails and cargo on regular schedules or charter flights.

Under arrangement with the Administration, a Qantas plane, carrying Administration personnel and cargo, flies once each week from Lae to Rabaul, Kavieng and Manus, and returns to Lae by the same route.

Protection of Fiji Lands Extended

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, September 27.

THE Native Land Trust Amendment Bill caused a brisk debate in the Fiji Legislative Council during the September session. This Bill is designed to bring the mortgaging of Fijian land held under lease within the control of the Native Land Trust Board, which already controls other dealings in leaseholds.

The Director of Lands (Mr. W. H. B. Buckhurst) told the Council that one of the primary aims of the proposed legislation was to protect over-exploitation of and damage to Fijian land.

"The best native land in the Colony, aggregating about 300,000 acres, is already leased and must be protected from the evils resulting from reckless borrowers and wilful lenders," he said.

Up rose the Indian opposition, plus one European member (Mr. H. Maurice Scott) to contend that the proposal would interfere with the rights of leaseholders, including those who had erected buildings and established plantations.

The Bill was referred to a select committee, which suggested a compromise plan giving the Government all it wanted in the way of protection of Fijian lands but permitting the lessee of a residential or commercial lease granted prior to the ordinance, to mortgage his lease.

This was adopted and the Bill went through.

Other legislation of particular interest dealt with in this session was the introduction of third party insurance for motor vehicle drivers.

Mr. E. G. Theodore, head of the Emporer and Loloma Gold Mines, of Fiji, who returned to Sydney from Fiji in August, suffering from illness, is now improved in health, but is still under the care of his doctor.



TROPICAL and sub-tropical sun, winds, humidity plus sea-bathing all tend to make the hair dry, dull and brittle.

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THE TONIC HAIR DRESSING

4515

ANOTHER COAST WATCHER PASSES ON

Death of R. A. ("Robbie")
Robinson

THE death, on October 4, at a private hospital in Randwick, Sydney, of Squadron Leader Ronald Albert Robinson, MBE., MID., marks the passing of yet another of that gallant band of New Guinea men who performed such heroic work during the Pacific War, and were known far and wide as the Allied Intelligence Bureau.

"Robbie's" record was outstanding amongst a unit of outstanding men. Although in his middle forties when the Japanese invasion came to New Guinea, he proved his worth from the very start when, in company with Harold Koch, he escaped from New Britain and eventually arrived in Townsville by way of Salamaua, touching at the latter place just prior to its capitulation. He was one of the first members of the AIB, which was formed in June, 1942. His rank at that time was that of Flying-Officer in the RAAF, and he was the first member to be despatched for field work in the BSI.

Referring to "Robbie's" departure for the BSI, Eric Feldt writes in his fine record, "The Coast Watchers":—

First to go was R. A. ("Robbie") Robinson. "Robbie" really wanted to go in the "Paluma," but his knowledge of the Solomons was needed there. Like a good officer, he went uncomplainingly, to make a firm friendship with Mackenzie when he arrived. Next was Alan Campbell, manager of Burns, Philp's plantation interests in the Solomons, a holder of the Military Cross from the last war—far too old according to the books, but commis-

sioned as a Lieutenant, RANVR, none-the-less.

Sadly enough, the three men mentioned in that paragraph, who experienced such death-defying ordeals during the war, have now all passed on.

From November, 1942, to June, 1943, Robbie carried out exemplary work at Lunga (BSI) and from then until October, 1943, he was at Rendova and Munda. In November, 1943, he went to Torokina, and in September, 1944, to Nadzab. At all times he was engaged in the most dangerous of tasks, that of supplying information concerning enemy movements.

But "Robbie's" natural modesty gave never an indication of the valuable work he had performed under the most dangerous circumstances. He was like that in everything. He was known throughout the Territory as a man with a remarkable personality; unselfish, generous to the nth degree in thought as well as in act, and a most popular leader of men.

HE was born in NSW in 1897, and spent his early years as a jackeroo on a station in the Tamworth district.

At the age of 18 he enlisted in the First AIF and saw service overseas, and on his return was engaged in pastoral occupations. He joined the Solomon Islands Development Co. in March, 1926, and was first stationed on the Berande estate (BSI). He was appointed manager at Harapa, in the Shortland Island group; and in 1932 he was promoted to District Plantation Manager of the CPL at Soraken (Bougainville). In 1934, he became District Plantation Inspector of the Mandated Territory for Messrs. Burns, Philp & Co., a position he occupied at the time of the Japanese invasion.

After the war, he returned to New Guinea, and was for a time on loan to the Production Control Board. Then he retired from the Islands, owing to ill-health. The strenuous work of the war years had left its mark, despite the stout spirit which battled against war's legacy. He was living happily at Randwick with his wife when he was admitted to a private hospital in that suburb, and there he passed peacefully away.—G.T.



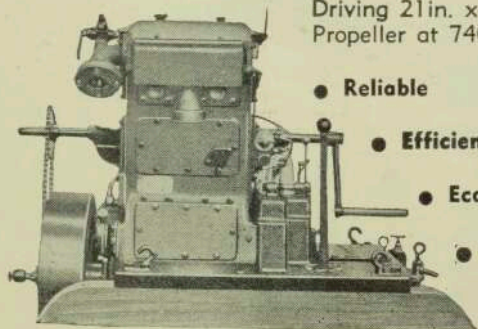
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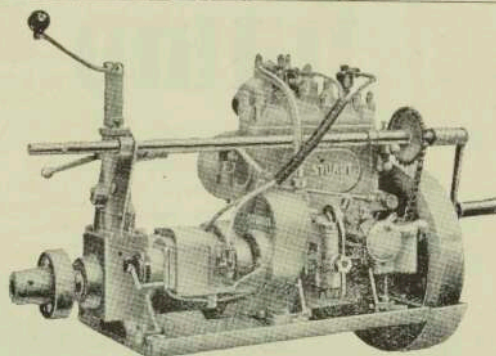
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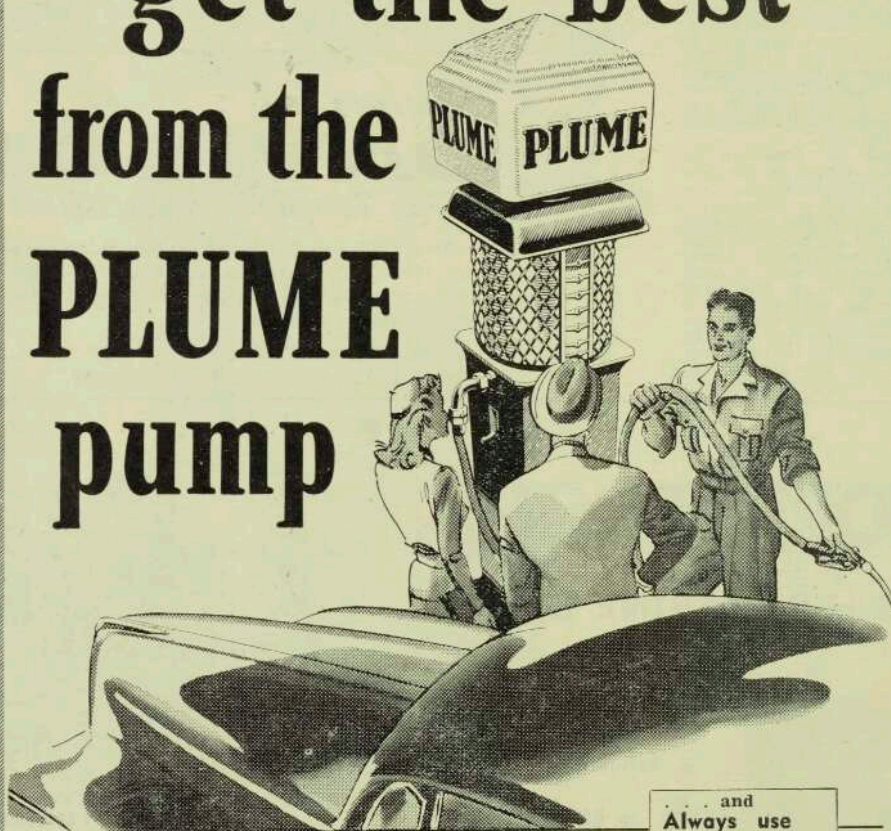
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P475

New Papua-NG Pensions Proposals Under Fire

From Our Own Correspondent

PORT MORESBY, Oct. 5.
THE Papua-New Guinea Public Service Association has received details of the pension arrangements which will be applied to pre-war officers of the Papuan Public Service or the New Guinea Public Service who returned after the war to join the Provisional Administration. Local reaction to the proposals is not favourable.

The proposal is that officers shall receive a pension at the pre-war rates for every year of service, calculated on their pre-war salary, plus one-eightieth of the difference between their pre-war salary and their present salary in respect of each year they have served with the Provisional Administration.

In the pre-war Papuan Service officers were entitled to retire after 20 years' service. They were paid a pension at the rate of 1/42nd of their salary on retirement for each year of service (with a maximum of 28/42nds). Although Papuan salaries, even after 20 years service, were not lavish, the pension scheme allowed an officer to withdraw from the tropics at a comparatively early age, with a useful financial safeguard.

The scheme for officers who have returned to the Provisional Administration is understood to provide for the payment of a pension calculated as follows:—for each year of service until the date of retirement, officers will receive 1/42nd of the salary they were receiving at the date when civil administration was terminated (early 1942); then, for each year of service since the resumption of civil administration in 1945, 1/80th of the difference between their pre-war salary and their present salary.

Many Papuan officers have been hanging on in the Service in the hope that the pre-war pension formula would be applied to their greatly increased, but still not lavish, post-war salaries. They may perhaps have expected too much, but they claim that the new arrangement is far too small; that 1942 salaries are an unfair basis of calculation, as most of them would normally have had promotion; and that, at the cessation of Civil Administration, salaries were under review, and a reclassification was anticipated.

It seems clear that, although officers, at the time of retirement, will have larger salaries than pre-war, in either Papua or New Guinea, their pension payments will amount to less than they would normally have expected from uninterrupted service with the former Administrations, allowing for promotions, proposed reclassifications, etc.

It is understood that the Public Service Association intends to seek legal advice. They claim that they were guaranteed conditions not less favourable than those they had previously enjoyed.

It is rumoured in Port Moresby that many of these frustrations are due to the vetting of External Territories' finances by Commonwealth Treasury advisers.

Suva European and Indian Elections

THE first election for Suva's reconstituted Town Council will probably be held on January 8. European and Indian rolls (there is no provision for Fijian elected representation) are now being completed.

NEW DRUG FOR MAKOGAI PATIENTS

AFTER paying his first visit to Makogai Leper Hospital recently, the Governor of Fiji, Sir Brian Freeston, expressed his personal appreciation of the efforts made over a number of years, by the Lepers' Trust Board Inc. of New Zealand, towards the welfare and contentment of patients.

At the same time Sir Brian was able to advise the Lepers' Trust Board that a special grant has been made for the purchase of Promin for the treatment of leper patients. Promin is one of the Sulfa drugs which is now being used with success on certain types of leprosy.

NZ KETCH TO COLLECT LEPERS

THE New Zealand Government ketch "New Golden Hind" made a special trip to Pacific Islands during September to collect leper patients from the

Cook Islands and Western Samoa for Makogai Leper Settlement, Fiji.

The ketch made her journey via the Kermadecs where she landed stores.

Pidgin Broadcasts From 9PA

NOW that the Port Moresby Regional Station is broadcasting on the short-wave band, the Education Department's Native People's Session has been re-organised to cater for the native listening public in New Guinea. In addition to the hour previously broadcast in Papuan languages, an extra half-hour daily is devoted to broadcasts in Pidgin.

Reports from New Guinea indicate that the new Session is popular. Even in Moresby a few former New Guinea residents surreptitiously refresh their pidgin—a language that has many affectionate adherents.

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If you suffer sharp, stabbing pains, if joints are swollen, it shows your blood is poisoned through faulty kidney action. Other symptoms of Kidney Disorders are Backache, Aching Joints and Limbs, Sciatica, Neuritis, Lumbago, Sleepless Nights, Dizziness, Nervousness, Circles under Eyes, Loss of Energy and Appetite and Frequent Headaches and Colds, etc. Ordinary medicines can't help much because you must get to the root cause of the trouble.

The Cystex treatment is specially compounded to soothe, tone and clean kidneys and bladder and remove acids and poisons from your system safely, quickly and surely, yet contains no harmful or dangerous drugs. Cystex works in 3 ways to end your troubles.

1. Starts killing the germs which are attacking your Kidneys, Bladder and Urinary System in two hours, yet is absolutely harmless to human tissue.
2. Gets rid of health-destroying, deadly poisonous acids with which your system has become saturated.
3. Strengthens and reinvigorates the kidneys, protects from the ravages of disease-attack on the delicate filter organism, and stimulates the entire system.

Praised by One-time Sufferers

Cystex is approved by one-time sufferers in 13 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."

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Easter Islanders' Long Sea Voyage

Other Small Boat Journeys Recalled

From a Special Correspondent in Tahiti

TWO small boats from Easter Island put out on December 23, 1947; but, when a few miles at sea, a sudden storm sprang up and only the smaller of the two succeeded in getting back to the island.

The larger one was carried out of sight of land and, almost six weeks later, was washed up on the shores of Reao Island, one of the Tuamotus, 1,800 miles from its home.

The boat that made this incredible journey is smaller than an ordinary ship's lifeboat; its unwilling passengers were four adults and two children, who somehow managed to live on a meagre supply of fresh water, doled out meticulously by the thimbleful, and on the fish that they themselves caught.

Their sufferings and privations were great. There were long hours when they toiled at the oars in tropic calms, the sea a dazzling sheet of glass by day and an ominous expanse of blackness at night. There were other times when they rode out storms, helplessly tossing at the mercy of the elements. When the little boat reached the French Colony she was equipped only with a badly-torn jib.

When the castaways were reported, the Governor of French Oceania made haste to send a relief ship to bring them to Papeete. They were reluctant to leave the small craft that had sheltered them so long, but were finally persuaded to do so by the captain of the rescue ship.

They are now in Papeete anxiously awaiting a chance to return to Easter Island. Although they are of mixed Polynesian and Melanesian descent, they have few contacts with the rest of Polynesia these days. Easter is a dependency of Chile and the Islanders speak Spanish fluently.

WITH this long ocean voyage by small boat fresh in our minds, it is opportune to recall other hazardous small-boat voyages of comparatively recent times.

One was the journey of the crew of the four-masted American schooner "El Dorado", which had been bound from the American Pacific coast to Antofagasta. She had encountered heavy weather, which had resulted in her abandonment, whereupon her company had taken to the only boat she carried.

A course was steered for Easter Island, where the captain and his men arrived after a run of 11 days. They stayed there for over three months, and then decided to try to get back to civilisation. Once more they put to sea in their lifeboat and, after a passage of 2,500 miles, over open sea, they reached Tahiti.

In that same year another American sailing ship, the four-masted barque "Amaranth", was totally wrecked on Jarvis Island when on a voyage from New South Wales to San Francisco. Her crew, after some time on the island, took to two boats and set a course for Samoa, over 1,000 miles away. In less than two weeks they were safe—one boat made Pago Pago, in American Samoa, and the other got to Apia.

The "Amaranth" had broken in two a few hours after she struck, the boats were launched and the crew reached Jarvis Island. There was grim amusement for them in a sign that confronted them as they struggled ashore. It said:

"This island is leased by His Britannic Majesty, King Edward the Seventh, to the Pacific Phosphate Commission of London and Melbourne. . . All Trespassers will be prosecuted."

Captain Nielson, of the "Amaranth" remarked, when he eventually got back to San Francisco, that it would have taken more than an old sign to keep them off dry land right then. The island, in any event, was deserted and did not look as though it had been worked for years.

Another well-known four-master which was lost at the same period was the "Americana". She, however, was not so fortunate and disappeared completely on a voyage between Australia and America.

NEW GUINEA MINING

BGD Progress in New Guinea

IN the month of August, seven Bulolo Gold Dredging dredges in New Guinea handled 912,900 cubic yards of gravel for a total recovery of 7,212 ounces of fine gold.

SANDY CREEK

ADVICE has been received by the Sydney office of Sandy Creek Gold Sluicing, Ltd., that during the month of August, 1948, 132 oz. 7 dwt. of gold were recovered from 9,870 cubic yards of material treated at the company's leases in the Morobe District, New Guinea.

CUTHBERT'S MISIMA GOLDMINE, LTD.

THE directors of Cuthbert's Misima Goldmine, Ltd., Papua, advise shareholders that the new issue of 50,000 ten shilling shares (£25,000), applications for which closed on September 17, was fully subscribed.

Letters of allotment will be forwarded to the shareholders shortly.

ENTERPRISE OF NG

ENTERPRISE of New Guinea Gold and Petroleum Development, NL, has received a final war damage claim payment of £1,412—this makes a total of £20,110 war damage received. Opening up of mining operations in the Morobe District is proceeding.

Monsieur Alexandre Graffe, of the French Colonial Service, who had been attached to the Department of Justice in Tahiti for many years, died recently at his home there. He was 75, and was a Chevalier of the Legion of Honour.

CAUGHT AN ALLIGATOR ON A GUT LINE

MRS. HEATHER GWILT sends an interesting note from New Britain:

The following episode may interest some of the readers of the "PIM" as much as it did those of us who witnessed it.

My husband has taken over the management of Gavit and Galtum plantations (in the Baining) and this happened when we returned here after visiting Rabaul.

The "Talasea" pulled into Gavit Wharf at about 5.30 p.m. and anchored for the night, with the object of continuing her journey early next morning. On board were a Mr. and Mrs. Weekes, from Melbourne, and ourselves. We disembarked and had a meal, and retired to sleep, leaving Mr. Weekes fishing from the "Talasea," with Mr. Aubrey Ede (acting captain of the "Talasea") who had a gut line, No. 18, with a 5/0 hook on it.

Suddenly, two shots rang out, and we all rushed outside—to find that Mr. Ede had hooked a 7 ft. alligator. Mr. Weekes took over the line, and reeled the puk-puk close to the "Talasea," while Mr. Ede rushed for his rifle and shot the puk-puk. This was what aroused us. The alligator was pulled, still struggling, up on to the coral. He was soon dead.

Later on the boys skinned him and next day they ate the flesh with relish—they firmly believe alligator flesh is a cure for all sores and skin troubles.

Gavit Harbour seems to be a sanctuary for puk-puks, and we can see one lying near the reef nearly every day. My husband has shot two, and they now are

becoming wily, and will not come near enough to let us use the rifle on them.

During the trip into Rabaul, the boys caught a 90 lb. blue marlin. It seems to me these waters could become a centre for big-game fishing second to none in the world, for they are teeming with all sorts of game fish.

FIJI'S TEN-YEAR PLAN BEING OVERHAULED

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, Oct. 3.

THE diluting of Fiji's Ten-Year Plan has meant that instead of budgeting for an expenditure of £4,000,000, the Colony can contemplate development and welfare work costing only about £1,500,000.

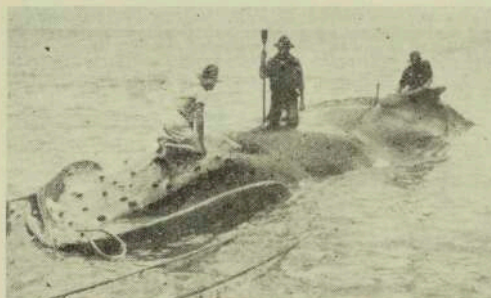
The committee appointed to overhaul

the plan has divided itself into three sub-committees to deal with production, welfare and public works matters respectively.

Correction

IN the August issue of "PIM" our Port Moresby correspondent reported that, at a meeting of the combined Public Service associations in August, it had been announced that parents of secondary school children would receive grants for their education in Australia—the cost of fares and £50 maintenance were mentioned.

This was not the case. The Administration is providing nothing towards secondary education of Papua-New Guinea children in Australia, whether their parents are Public Servants or not. The only provision is for the payment of fares, with a limit of £45.



NORFOLK IS. WHALING

This photograph, which was sent in by Mr. Walter F. Adams, shows a Humpback Whale on a Norfolk Island beach being prepared for oil extraction. The primitive methods used here to harpoon and beach the whale are dangerous, and those who engage in the business are rarely recompensed adequately by the price the oil brings on the market.

Robert Gillespie

NEW GUINEA Ltd.

LAE

Territory of New Guinea

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ISLANDS PRODUCE

(Quotations in Australian Currency)

COCOA

Cocoa beans imported into Australia from the Pacific Islands come mainly from New Guinea and the New Hebrides and are purchased almost wholly by the Commonwealth Chocolate and Confectionery Manufacturers' Association. Their buying price, of course, is based on the current price of Accra beans, now in exceedingly short supply. Latest quotations for sales of cocoa beans are—

New Guinea: £240 to £246 per ton.

New Hebrides: £240/7/6 per ton.

Western Samoa's cocoa production goes to USA where its distribution is controlled by the International Emergency Food Council.

TROCHUS SHELL

Irregular shipments are handled in Sydney by several different Islands trading firms. Nominal quotations show prices at approximately £70 per ton, Sydney. Sales in Suva have been made recently around £45 (Fijian) per ton.

COFFEE

No purchases are permitted in Australia without the consent of the Tea and Coffee Control Board, to whom all offers must first be submitted. Nominal quotations as follows:—

New Guinea and Papua: £120 to £160 per ton (c.i.f.), according to quality.

New Caledonia: Production is being taken by France, at considerably higher than normal rates (in vicinity of equivalent of £200 Aust. per ton for Arabica and £160 Aust. for Robusta).

Java: No quotations at present.

Mysore (India): £200 to £250 per ton (c.i.f., Sydney).

VANILLA BEANS

No supplies available—traders are not making any firm quotations.

KAPOK

Only a small movement in Javanese kapok, with the nominal quotation at 2/1½ per lb. Indian kapok is being quoted for indent at 1/6 per lb. c.i.f. stg.

COTTON

Still controlled in Australia—stocks are being made available to manufacturers at the 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—no supplies have been received from the Pacific Islands by Australian firms since the war.

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Prices on Assay Value of

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RICE

No free-trading in rice at present. The whole of the Australian rice crop goes to the Government for allocation to countries where rice is a staple of the native peoples. Rice shipped to Pacific Islands ports is fixed at a price of £45 per ton White and £49 per ton Brown.

GREEN SNAIL SHELL

Latest dealings on the Sydney market have been at £100 per ton, f.a.q., in store.

PEARL SHELL

Australian-controlled price:—
"B" Class, £200 per ton. "C" Class, £190 per ton. "D" Class, £135 per ton.
Unofficial transactions are reported, however, at considerably more than double these figures—for instance, American firms are quoting £525 per ton for Torres Strait pearl shell.

PRICE OF GOLD

Fine	Standard	£9/17/3¼
oz.	oz.	(Australian Currency)

COPRA

COPRA PRICES DURING WORLD WAR II
The copra market was controlled by Government 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	18 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, 1948	46 5 6	46 0 0

September 6, 1948.—British Ministry of Food has offered choice of two new contract prices for Fiji copra, 1.—1949-51 period: £51 sterling for 1949; 1950-51, £43 sterling. 2.—1949-57 period: £48 sterling for 1949, then probably 10 per cent. up or down for each succeeding year, to be arranged by negotiation. Fiji planters are now considering which offer to accept.

TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA

ANGPCB Fixed Price, Delivered to Ship's 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	
April 8, 1948	£42-£45	

(According to quality)

All prices quoted are for copra delivered to ship's slings, or to the Board's warehouse.

Official Price for NG Copra sold in Sydney.

	Hot-air	Dried	Smoked
January, 1947	£26 10 0	£35 10 0	
July, 1947	£31 5 0	£50 5 0	
April, 1948	£61 0 0	£60 0 0	

RUBBER

	Para.	Plantation
	per lb.	per lb.
London Price on—		
January 6, 1933	4½d.	2.43d.
July 7	5½d.	3.71d.
January 5, 1934	4½d.	4.28d.
July 6	5½d.	7.06d.
January 4, 1935	5d.	6½d.
July 5	5d.	7½d.
January 3, 1936	6½d.	6½d.
June 5	9d.	7½d.
January 8, 1937	1½d.	10½d.
June 4	11d.	9½d.
January 7, 1938	7½d.	7d.
July 1	6½d.	7½d.
January 6, 1939	7d.	8½d.
July 7	7½d.	8½d.
January 5, 1940	13d.	11.6½d.
January 3, 1941	13d.	12.47½d.
April 4	15d.	14½d.
June 6	16½d.	13.5½d.
August 1	17d.	13½d.
October 10—Price officially fixed at		13½d.

PAPUAN RUBBER PRICES

During World War II, Papua's rubber production was controlled by the Australian Government. The following were the fixed prices payable at the plantation, per lb., in 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

Current Rates

Since the price control on rubber was lifted, most Australian trading firms are using the Singapore day-to-day quotations when buying Papuan rubber. The Singapore Exchange gives buying prices for four grades and average rates ruling in mid-September, were:—
No. 1 RSS, loose, 44½ cents. lb. (1/3.12d. Aust.).
No. 1 RSS, baled, 43½ cents. lb. (1/3.04d. Aust.).
No. 2 RSS, baled, 42 cents. lb. (1/2.4d. Aust.).
No. 3 RSS, baled, 39½ cents. lb. (1/1.52d. Aust.).

QUOTATIONS FOR MINING
SHARES

FIJI

	Aug. 1939	Mid-Sept.	Mid-Oct.
Emperor Mines	9/11	b15/9	b14/6
Loloma	25/6	b22/6	b19/-

NEW GUINEA

Bulolo G.D.	s160/-	s142/6	s135/-
Guinea Gold	N.Q.	s15/3	s15/-
N.G.G. Ltd.	b2/6	b2/7	b2/3
Oil Search	s6/6	b6/2	b5/6
Placer Dev.	s237/-	b197/6	b200/-
Sandy Creek	s1/9	s1/10	b1/-
Sunshine Gold	s15/9	b14/-	s14/6

PAPUA

Cuthbert's	16/6	b10/-	s11/-
Mandated Alluvials	3/8	b3/9	s6/6
Oriomo Oil	5/-	b2/10	b3/-
Papuan Alpinapi	4/11	b6/6	b6/3
Yodda Goldfields	—	s1/6	—

Exchange Rates

THE following exchange quotations show the rates existing in Sydney in October:—

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	111 2 6	113 0 0
On demand	111 2 6	113 0 0

WESTERN SAMOA

Through Bank of New Zealand:—Australia on Western Samoa on basis of £100 Samoa: buying, £A123/12/6; selling, £A124/10/9.
Samoa on London, on basis of £100 in London:—

	Buying	Selling
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Telegraphic transfer	100 7 6	101 10 0
On Demand	99 5 3	101 10 0
Samoa on New Zealand, on basis of £100		
NZ:—Buying, £100; selling, £100/10/-		
Samoa on Fiji, on basis of £100 Samoa:—		
Buying, £111; selling, £110.		
Samoa on USA and Canada, on basis of £1 Samoa:—		

	Buying	Selling
	Dollars	Dollars
Telegraphic transfer	4.03736	3.91872
On demand	4.07943	3.92118

The Bank of NZ in Apia pays the following Samoan currency prices for overseas notes received in the normal course of business:—

NZ notes £1 for £1
Australian notes 15/6 for £1A
USA notes 4/9 per dollar
Fijian notes 17/6 per £1F
Silver coinage as accepted at the following rates: Australian 2/- (equals 1/6), 1/- (9d.), 6d. (4d.), 3d. (2d.). Fijian 2/- (equals 1/9), 1/- (10d.), 6d. (5d.), 3d. (2d.).

NEW GUINEA AND PAPUA

Bank of New South Wales, which now has branches in Port Moresby, Lae, and Rabaul quotes an exchange rate between Australia and NG-Papua of 10/- per £100.

Similar rates through Commonwealth Bank.

FRENCH PACIFIC COLONIES

SINCE the end of 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 (nominal only):—

	£ Stg.	USA Dollar	£ Aust.
Group 1	880	216	684
Group 2	508.23	126	409.5
Group 3	200	49.6	159

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