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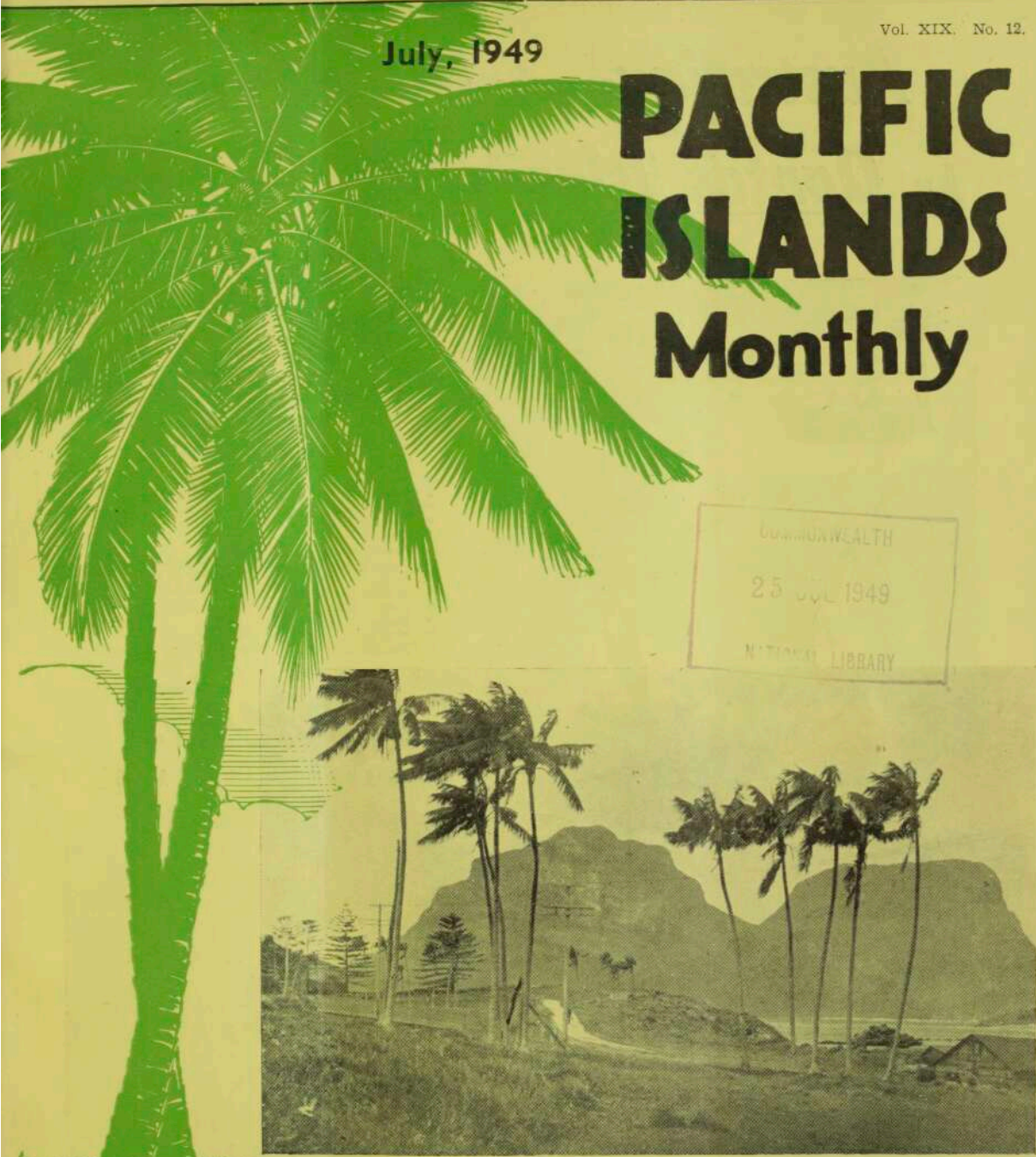
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July, 1949

Vol. XIX. No. 12.

PACIFIC ISLANDS Monthly

COMMONWEALTH
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THIS is Lord Howe Island, 300 miles off the NSW coast; and Lord Howe is a part of New South Wales; and someone once won a bet that coconut palms grow in New South Wales by quoting Lord Howe Island. In this striking photograph of Mounts Gower and Lidgbird, the wind-torn palms in the foreground look like coconuts; but, actually, they are the ornamental *Kentia* palms. From the sale of *Kentia* seeds, as well as from the accommodation of holiday-makers, who crowd in on the Qantas and TOA flying-boat services—and (occasionally) on the SS "Morinda"—the 200 people on the island make their living. Lord Howe has the world's most southerly coral reef—but no coconuts.

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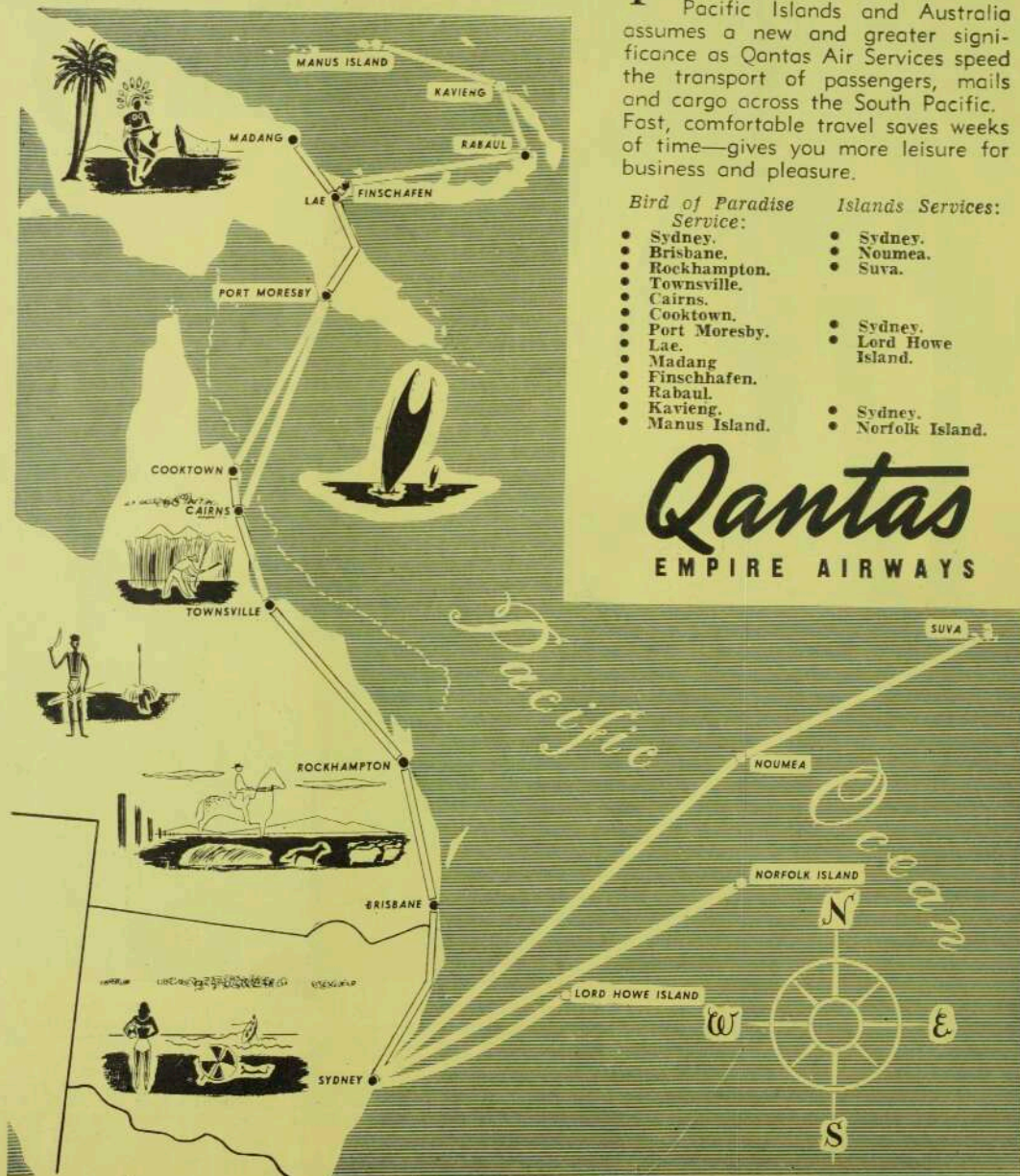
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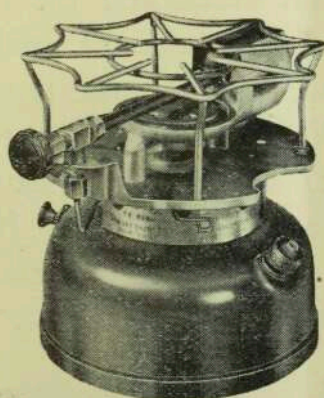
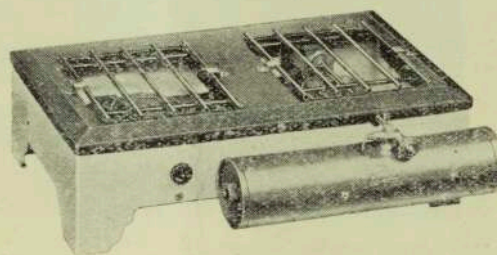




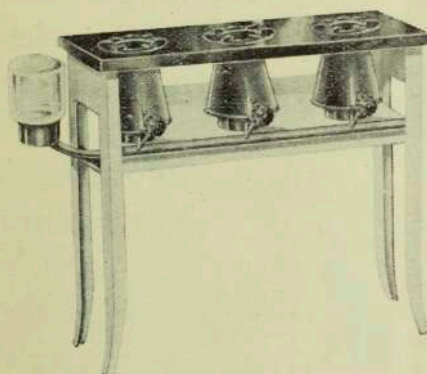
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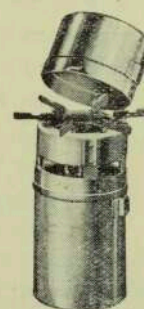


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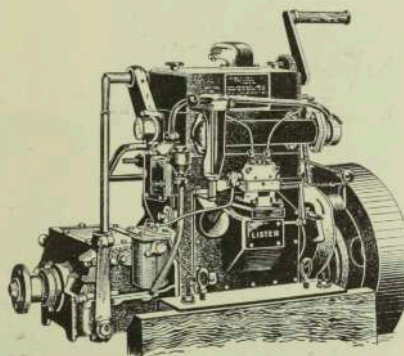
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The Real Issue Before This Tortured World

FROM now on, owing to general strikes in Australia and elsewhere, goods and services will be in very short supply in Pacific Islands Territories. . . . The real cause of our troubles is not the demands of organised labour, but a Communist conspiracy against Western civilisation, made possible by the dithering weakness of Socialist administration in the British Empire.

NEVER in our recorded history did the stars gaze down upon a madder world. To-day, wherever we look, we see empires and nations and communities being torn apart in political, or racial or economic conflict. Every day, the situation grows worse. Civilisation is moving to some sort of crisis.

The United States and Russia seem to be quite openly preparing for the inevitable fight for suppression between two utterly irreconcilable sociologies—Democracy, based upon the freedom of the individual, and Communism, upon which is based the Slave State. In this conflict, every nation on earth will be involved. From this, there may emerge a civilisation worthy of the human being at his best—or else all human institutions, as we know them, will go down in utter chaos, into a Dark Age of horror and misery, which easily may last for hundreds of years.

There may not seem to be any connection between the persecution of

Catholic prelates in Middle Europe, the racial disturbances in Africa and Southern Asia, the struggle in Western Europe and elsewhere between the Dollar and the Pound, the paralysing strikes in Britain, Australia and Canada, the submergence of China by incredible waves of Communist armies, and the growing economic unbalance throughout the world; yet they all fit into the one general pattern. They are part of the Cold War, by which the Communist hierarchy hopes to overthrow Western civilisation, and bring the whole world under the Red Flag.

Within the Communist countries, there are great discontent, indescribable human misery, ruthless oppression; but over them all is the merciless grip of Moscow, which keeps all the "satellite" nations quiet, and apparently united. Throughout the non-Communist States, because we insist that all political creeds shall have freedom for argument and clamour, there is no united front, no agreement, no peace—and no security.

IF, as some fear, Western civilisation is approaching collapse, then we laid the foundations of our own destruction in 1945 when, instead of accepting the responsibilities and obligations placed upon us by our overwhelming victory over Axis Totalitarianism, we of the British Empire rushed off into an adventure with Socialism.

In 1940-41, by their staunchness and courage, the British people saved Western civilisation. In 1942-45, the Anglo-American Alliance, helped considerably by the Muscovite armies, destroyed utterly the three Great Powers of Germany, Italy and Japan, and so became completely masters of the world. Never in history was the prestige of the English-speaking nations greater than it was then. Never did we have a greater opportunity. Although the destruction throughout the world, both material and spiritual, was appalling—even terrifying in volume and significance—most thinking people faced the future with quiet confidence. They felt that in the United States and the British Empire they had nations and institutions capable of policing the world while it was restored to orderliness and good government, and that we had more than sufficient military strength to cope with all combinations and emergencies.

A few men looked closely at Russia—and did not like what they saw. Here was a ruthless and brutal force that, unchecked, could be far worse than Hitlerism. They looked also at Southern Asia, and saw there that nationalist and anti-European movements, shaped and put into action by Japan in 1935-45, might react dangerously against world peace. But the magnificent, organised strength of the world-conquerors, United States and British Empire, acting together as one force in the preservation of human rights and human decencies, seemed to give an assurance that all would be well in the hard, cruel years of reconstruction and rehabilitation that lay immediately ahead.

AND it was then, in the moment of their proudest triumph and greatest responsibility, that three of the most important units of the British Empire—Britain herself, and Australia and New Zealand—chose to launch themselves into a mad whirl of social and economic experiment.

The world's most urgent needs, from 1945 onwards, were intensely hard work, to make good the incalculable ravages of war, and ruthless police action, to preserve order in scores of countries that were tottering on the brink of politico-economic collapse. The world was offered, instead, the economic and industrial nostrums of the Bloomsbury Planners, and the Brown Brother system of settling racial troubles in Asia, Africa and Indonesia.

It was bad enough that Australia and New Zealand—just at a time when they might have gained prosperity beyond belief from the post-war troubles of the old world—should have gone plunging into Socialism; but the Empire's outstanding calamity was the rejection of Churchill by the British masses, and the establishment of a band of Socialist nonentities as the Government of Britain. It was not only a calamity for the Empire—it was, as the history of 1946-49 has proved, a disaster for the world. And we have not yet seen the end of the disaster.

IN relation to world affairs—and especially the affairs of Africa and Asia—the two Powers which stood supreme after the 1945 victories, Britain and the United States, are very differently constituted.

The United States is homogeneous, united, tightly organised, and, standing four-square with Canada in the North American continent, incredibly powerful.

Britain, in both a geographical and economic sense, is exactly the opposite of the United States. The British Empire is spread right across the

world. There are great British Dominions in five out of the six continents, a British Territory literally in every sea. Because of these things, British influence in inter-continental affairs, like United States economic strength at home, is very great.

The two things together, British influence and American economic strength, surely could have ruled the world, for the good of the world. Had the two Powers stood together, Russian activity would have counted no more in 1945-49 than it did in 1935-39.

But the British Socialist Government went jazzing off into a realm of economic fantasy. Vital needs of rehabilitation and reconstruction were sacrificed to vast, far-reaching schemes of "social security"—as if there can be social security without economic stability. The need for sternly holding the Empire together, until the inevitable economic blizzards and racial storms of the post-war period had passed, was ignored, and the trained men of the British Colonial Office saw their policies shaped by long-haired visionaries from Chelsea and addle-pated writers from New York and Chicago. The Socialists withdrew the Union Jack from Burma and China, India and Ceylon; and with it went the centuries-old prestige of the Britisher—and most of the immensely valuable markets which had belonged as of right to the British manufacturer for a hundred years, and on which much of Britain's home economy was built.

There was only one way to restore the economic strength of the United Kingdom, and that was to give private enterprise its head: British trading genius would have done the rest. But that was of no use to the Attlee-Morrison-Cripps combination. Just when the country was least able to bear it, the Socialists shackled and hamstrung private enterprise, and made confusion worse confounded by nationalising the biggest industries.

VIRTUALLY deserted—in spirit, if not in fact—by Britain in their joint task, the United States has made a sorry muddle in the maintenance of world order. Hitherto strictly non-interventionist, USA was not equipped for the delicate job—it lacked traditions, and a corps of trained diplomats. Yet none can say that the Americans have not brought an eager and unselfish spirit, and enormous material wealth, to the job of trying to bolster up Western civilisation. The blame for their failure goes to the British Socialist Government—not to the Americans.

For example, the Marshall Aid which they gave Britain (in other words, a free gift of billions of dollars) would have sufficed, under normal government, for the restoration of a safe balance between Britain's exports and imports. But under Socialism, which just naturally discourages individual effort and reduces per capita production, Marshall Aid has failed to restore British

economy; and the Americans, who hate Socialism, are unwilling to increase Marshall Aid. In consequence, we have to-day's "Dollar Crisis"—and no solution in sight, while Socialism rules Britain and the British Empire.

MOSCOW, which could have been controlled easily enough in 1945-46, has taken rapid advantage of Anglo-American helplessness and dithering, and her agents now have

AUSTRALIAN STRIKE—NO MAGAZINE SECTION THIS ISSUE

ALTHOUGH a coal strike in Australia has paralysed industry and caused commercial chaos, the printers of this journal have been able to keep going, with the aid of an auxiliary power-plant. As it was necessary, however, to reduce the size of this issue, and as the process-block-makers can supply only a skeleton service, the Magazine Section has been cut out. This popular feature of the "PIM" will be restored in the August issue—if the Australian strike then is over.

penetrated almost every corner of the civilised world which they plan to control. Their mischief-making propensities are endless; and the stupidities of Socialist Governments—as in Australia and Britain—create for them most favourable opportunities for the advancement of their work—which, of course, is the destruction of all our most cherished institutions, and the enslavement of the individual.

The strikes which now are paralysing Australia and Britain clearly are part of the world-wide operations of the Muscovite Communists. Even the Attlees and Chifleys are beginning to realise that, and are proceeding, in divers futile ways, to "fight" the Reds.

While Socialists are in charge of our Governments, there is no hope of the Communists being controlled in British countries, or in international affairs.

The world situation has deteriorated so much in 1946-49 that one almost despairs of its recovery. We have only one hope. The average Britisher, in his heart, loathes Communism—or the things that Communism stands for. Perhaps, by now, he has "had" Communism, and realises that its swift underground extension across the world became possible through the weakness of Socialist Governments. Maybe, within the next few months, in the coming general elections, in Britain, Australia and New Zealand, he will throw the Socialists out of office, and elect truly British Governments, which really will co-operate with other democratic Governments in policing the world for a while, until the nations settle down to some sort of orderly system. Perhaps—we can only wait and see.

PUBLISHER'S ANNOUNCEMENT

SINCE 1946, the cost of producing the "Pacific Islands Monthly" has increased by about 50 per cent.—wages, paper and services of all kinds have risen steeply. The latest new impost is a sharp increase by the Australian Post Office in the cost of transmission by post—the charge has nearly doubled, as from July 1. As a consequence, the publisher has decided, with reluctance, to raise the subscription rates by 2d. or 3d. per copy, commencing with the August issue. This will not cover all the recent rises in production costs—the balance will be taken care of by a larger volume of advertising. . . . The "PIM," this month, completes 19 years of continuous publication.

COPRA PRICE WHEN MILLED IN FIJI

A LARGE and important proportion of Fiji's production of copra is withheld from direct export and is dealt with by the copra-crushers in Fiji, which now constitute a valuable industry. Instead of sending away all raw copra, the Colony exports an increasing quantity of coconut oil and coconut meal.

This, in turn, created a new problem for the Colony. Most of Fiji's copra goes overseas to the British Ministry of Food, at a price arranged last year under a nine-years' guarantee. The issue arose, as to whether the local copra mills should receive copra from the Fiji pool at rates which are less than are paid for the copra that is being shipped abroad.

The argument developed in the Management Committee of the Copra Board between Mr. J. M. Hedstrom, representing the direct-shipment interests, and Mr. W. G. Johnson who, as managing director of W. R. Carpenter and Co. Ltd., represents the copra-milling interests; and the point was referred to the Copra Board.

The Board, on June 28, by 8 votes to one (Mr. Hedstrom) upheld the Management Committee's decision that the copra mills should get copra at a reduced rate, provided that the price represented the same nett return to growers.

The original decision by the Committee (challenged by Mr. Hedstrom) was that the price paid by crushers should be adjusted, so that copra for local milling should not cost the local crushers more than the equivalent quality of copra, under equivalent circumstances, would cost United Kingdom crushers; but that, at the same time, the price paid by Fiji crushers must not yield a lesser return to producers than producers would receive if their copra were shipped as copra to the Ministry of Food.

The Management Committee decided that when copra was delivered to crushers in Suva direct from local vessels' slings, £3/11/- a ton should be allowed off the Ministry of Food's f.o.b. price. This total of £3/11/- was made up of such charges as cartage and labour from wharf to store and store to wharf, weighing in and out, storage and supervision, tipping, returning empty sacks, interest on purchase money, insurance, Port and Customs Service Tax, wharfage and shrinkage.

All these charges would be payable by the Board in respect of copra ultimately shipped to the Ministry of Food, as copra—but they were not incurred if such copra was taken by the local crushers immediately on arrival at Suva.

In the case of copra taken by local crushers from the stores of the Board's agents, at some time between the copra's arrival in Suva and the time of an overseas shipment of copra, the rebate to local crushers is £1/15/7 a ton. This represents a sharing of charges between the Board's agents and the crushers.

Mr. Hedstrom, opposing the new arrangement, contended that the Board should charge local crushers, for copra sold at any stage, the full f.o.b. price charged to the Ministry of Food, without any rebate, allowance or reduction.

APIA STORE DESTROYED

From Our Own Correspondent

APIA, July 12.
THE general store owned by Mr. John Fong was completely destroyed by fire to-day.

Taro Disease in Fiji, Now

FURTHER to our report in June "PIM" that a disease (Phytophthora Colocassias) was threatening taro crops in parts of BSI, it now appears that the same disease is causing concern in Fiji.

The disease is a fungus that first attacks leaves and stems, causing them to wilt and die; the rest of the taro following after. The spores of the fungus are carried by the wind or rain drops and live in the soil. The disease spreads quickly, particularly in wet and windy weather.

It can be controlled by spraying with Bordeaux mixture. The Department of Agriculture of Fiji takes a serious view of the outbreak and has asked growers to contact the nearest Department officer if any sign of the disease appears on their properties.

The Department will supply materials and equipment for spraying and, whenever possible, supply officers to carry out the necessary treatment.

Taro (or Dalo as it is called in Fiji) is one of the principal foods of the Fijians.

It was suggested by our BSI correspondent in June, that the opinion in the Solomons was that matters would right themselves and that the outbreak was a passing phase.

ELUSIVE FALCON

Spectacular Appearance In 1912

Letter to the Editor

I WAS much interested to read, in the March "PIM," the article about elusive Falcon Island—that island in the Tongan group which, as a result of volcanic action, keeps on rising high above the sea and then disappearing under the sea for a time.

In 1912, when I was aboard the Oceanic liner, "Sonoma," we passed close to Falcon Island, which was then a volcano high out of the water, in full eruption. Vomiting flames and pumice, it gave a marvellous display. Captain Trask made a special report on the phenomenon to his company, which attracted attention from mariners and geologists, as the island had been alternately appearing and disappearing below the surface of the ocean for over 200 years.

Soon after the above spectacular appearance of Falcon, I was surprised to read in a Sydney newspaper that it had again disappeared from view. Although, for some years subsequently, the "Sonoma" continued to pass over the same spot in the Tongas, we never sighted land in the vicinity of Falcon again.

I am, etc.,

OSCAR G. NORDMAN.

Tahiti, 16/6/49.

Aotearoa II Soon on Tasman Service

THIS is Tasman Empire Airways' new flying-boat, Aotearoa II, which will soon be on the Sydney-Auckland service.

Aotearoa I had a warm place in the hearts of Island residents. During the war and immediate post-war years, she and her sister ship carried them across the Tasman on the last leg of the Islands-NZ-Sydney journey. At that time there was no direct sea or air connection.

Aotearoa II is the first of several new Solent flying-boats which will replace the present TEAL fleet. She was christened recently at Bel-

NOT SO 'GIANT'

Jap Snail Menace In N. Guinea

ALTHOUGH they are a great nuisance, and destroy much green foliage wherever they are, the giant snails released in New Guinea by the Japs, during the invasion, to provide a food supply, have not become the menace that first was anticipated.

When the snails were first reported in the three infected areas—Kavieng district, Rabaul district, and Hansa Bay (westward of Madang)—they were increasing at an appalling rate, were spreading rapidly across the countryside, and had attained sizes that were almost incredible. Now, some five years after they were released, they are reported to be spreading much more slowly, and their shells now rarely attain a size larger than half of a Communist salute (the clenched fist!).

Nonetheless, it is still regarded by the New Guinea Department of Agriculture as a serious infestation, and it is receiving all the expert attention that can be provided. The Department, however, is looking hopefully for help across the northern horizon where, in the Caroline and Marshall Islands, the Americans are dealing with the same sort of infestation. The Americans are believed to have sent scientists to Africa, to seek the snail's natural enemies; and if they can find some control of that kind, the Australian problem in New Guinea will also be solved.

The Japs brought the snails in as a protein food, and they and their prisoners are believed to have eaten this food. But neither the Caroline nor the more primitive New Guinea natives have admitted the creature to their diet; and it does not seem to be preyed upon by anything in New Guinea. It simply is a nuisance, and a source of serious loss to the natives who cultivate gardens.

Retirement of J. H. McDonald of Papua-New Guinea

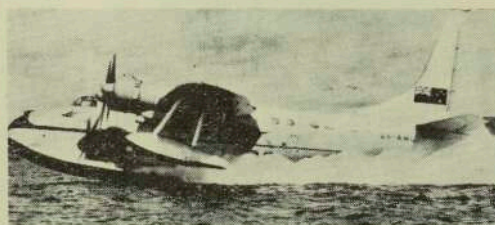
From Our Own Correspondent

PORT MORESBY, July 5.

AFTER 28 years in the Territory, Mr. J. H. McDonald left Moresby on the "Bulolo" for Sydney, where he will live in retirement. Mr. McDonald, who was Assistant Director of District Services when he retired, came here with the Expropriation Board after World War I. He joined the Administration on April 25, 1925, and after a short term as a patrol officer became an Assistant District Officer and later a District Officer. Most of his service was in the Serik district, Madang, Manus, New Ireland and Bougainville. He was with ANGAU during the war and was appointed Assistant Director of District Services soon after civil administration resumed.

fast by HRH Princess Elizabeth.

The new aircraft will seat 44, have a cruising speed of 200 MPH and will provide a very high standard of comfort for trans-Tasman passengers.



PULLING AUSTRALIA'S NEW GUINEA LEG Communist Larrikins at Trustee Council

COMMUNIST delegates enjoyed themselves very much, at Australia's expense, at the Trusteeship Council meeting, at UNO headquarters, in the early part of July.

We, who know New Guinea, sometimes criticise the Australian Government for spending far too much time, effort and money on the primitive Melanesians of Papua and New Guinea, instead of giving more thought to the welfare of the Europeans domiciled there. It is amusing to read of Australia defending herself against charges that she does not do enough!

The Russian delegate condemned Australia's administration of the territories in general. He said Australia had taken no steps to give the natives a share in administration; that Australia's administrative union of Papua and New Guinea was incompatible with the basic aims and ends of the United Nations; that both the goldmining and plantation industries were completely in the hands of Australian companies, which "received enormous profits by exploiting the inhabitants."

He urged the abolition of all alleged discriminatory measures against the native population and the provision of more money for education and health.

The Russian delegate was Mr. A. A. Soldatov, a mischievous type who spent some time at the Soviet Embassy in Canberra, and evidently collected just enough information there about New Guinea to give himself a nuisance value, and annoy the Australians.

The Filipino and Chinese delegates also criticised the Australian administration—on racial grounds, of course. The Filipino urged that the policy of peaceful penetration be revised; that more native officials be used in the administration; that native councils be given more authority; and that indentured labour, corporal punishment, and racial discrimination be abolished, and the tax system revised.

The Chinese said that the White Australia policy was being applied to New Guinea.

The Australian representative, Mr. John Hood, defended and explained the Australian policy and activities in Papua-New

Guinea, and pointed out that "this is the most primitive of all territories held under trust," and that the admission of natives to self-government could take place only gradually. He said the Russian's picture of native living conditions was "highly extreme and unwarranted."

Britain, France, New Zealand and Belgium defended the Australian administration.

The Council's criticism of Australian administration in Nauru is referred to elsewhere.

It is time that Australia grew up, and refused to allow the Communists thus to harass and annoy her at the Trusteeship Council, and, generally, pull her leg.

LATER: It was announced on July 14 that a Trusteeship Council delegation is coming soon to inspect New Guinea and Nauru.

INDIAN COST-OF-LIVING FALLS

FOR the first time in two years, cost of living figures for Indian workmen in Fiji have shown a decline. This was in respect of the period April 1 to July 1—and was three points lower than for the previous period.

However, taking the base years as 1939 and giving it an index of 100, the index figure for April-July, 1949, is 207—indicating that the cost of living in Fiji is still depressingly high.

RABAU DROUGHT

From Our Own Correspondent

RABAU, July 7.
CONTINUED dry weather in Rabaul is causing local concern.

There is no town water supply, residents depending upon tanks which are now mostly empty. Emergency supplies are available from wells but water-tankers cannot cope with the sudden demand.

The Commonwealth Department of Works and Housing is sinking more wells.

PAPUA-NG COSTS AUSTRALIA £3,000,000 PER ANNUM

Letter to the Editor

OUR Administrator, Colonel J. K. Murray, gave us a short broadcast address on the evening of July 4, relative to the commencement of the New Era in Papua-New Guinea—the establishment of the permanent administration. We were not impressed.

His Honour dealt very briefly with the achievements of the Provisional Administration. Probably, owing to lack of material, he could not have said much more, anyway.

His Honour thanked one and all for their assistance and co-operation in the past. But we noticed that there were no thanks for either the Australian taxpayers or the non-official residents of the Territories. He did mention, however, that our Civil Service has increased three-fold since the war, and that the Commonwealth grant, which pre-war was around £50,000, is now over £3,000,000.

Reference was made to the dazzling promise of a Legislative Council, to function some day—carefully designed to keep the people who earn the revenues (or would like to do so) in a small minority.

When are we going to hear something about the development of these Territories on sound economic lines, so that they can at least become part-supporting? Surely the Administrator does not imagine that Australia is prepared to go on indefinitely finding £3,000,000 per annum for the kind of set-up we have here now!

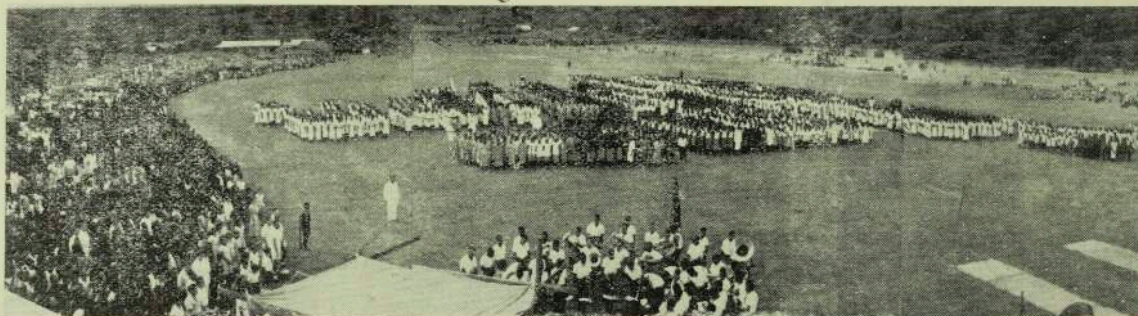
I am, etc.,

EXPLOITER'S MINION.

Papua.

Mr. and Mrs. E. V. O'Brien, of Madang, New Guinea, returned to their plantation home in mid-July. Mr. O'Brien spent several weeks in a Sydney hospital, receiving treatment for an unsatisfactory heart; but he has recovered sufficiently to get his doctor's permission to leave "the land of strikes and palaver" for a few months.

Rabaul's King's Birthday Choir Competition



THIS photograph shows native choirs, which took part in the King's Birthday Competition, massed on Rabaul's sports ground.

The Choir Competition has been held each year since the war—so we can almost state that it is an annual event; this is the third year. Each year the choirs have increased in numbers, and in quality, until this year 3,000 natives participated and each choir was limited to 60 members.

There were choirs of all little tots, who won everybody's heart; choirs of bigger boys and girls, from schools; and the village choirs of men and women combined. The most popular of all were the girls from the Vunapope Mission dressed in their New Look outfits of white blouses and blue skirts. This choir was conducted by a native mission sister.

The Village Choir Shield was won by Kabakada Village Choir (two songs in native language); second place, Nodup

Village (one song native language, one in English); third place, Matupit Village (two songs native language).

The School Choir Shield was won by Central Boys' Catholic School; second, Vunapope Catholic Girls' Technical School; third, Tavui Government School.

—From Our Rabaul Correspondent.

PAPUAN RUBBER INDUSTRY AT POINT OF COLLAPSE

From Our Own Correspondent

PORT MORESBY, July 5. THE Papuan Planters' Association has got nowhere in its efforts to re-open the Australian market for Papuan rubber. In a last attempt to save the industry from collapse the Association plans to make a direct appeal to the Minister for External Territories (Mr. Ward).

In answer to a request for an interview, Mr. Ward said he would see representatives of the Association as soon as possible. But no date has been fixed yet.

The President, Mr. E. V. Crisp, flew south on July 2, on business and he hopes to see the Minister during his stay. The Secretary, Mr. E. A. James, may also fly down.

Papuan planters have sold no rubber for three months, and they say that unless the Federal Government gives them a temporary subsidy, or some other assistance immediately, they will have to close down their plantations.

THE trouble began at the end of March when Australian manufacturers said they would not want Papuan first-grade smoked sheet rubber for some time—unless planters were prepared to sell it at the price of second-grade rubber.

At the time, this meant a difference of about four-fifths of a penny a lb., and planters refused to sell. Since then, hundreds of tons of rubber have piled up at plantations and storage centres in Papua. Mr. James said to-day: "The position is very serious. Even if the manufacturers agreed to take all our output immediately, on the usual basis, we would still lose heavily on the accumulated rubber as prices have dropped considerably since the trouble began."

"Prices are now below the cost of production in Papua, and planters can't carry

on without Government aid. They want a temporary subsidy to see them over their difficulties, preference over foreign rubber, and a stabilisation scheme. Otherwise, the industry will collapse."

Planters point out that Papua's rubber production was very important to Australia during the war, when supplies from other countries were cut off.

The Administrator is understood to be greatly concerned about the position.

The Australian Government's promises to develop the Territory's resources will become ridiculous if the rubber industry is allowed to collapse.

DOWN £140 PER TON

New American Price For Pearl Shell

A FALL of £140 a ton for pearl shell has resulted from agreements signed by leading Broome and Thursday Island pearlers late in June with Mr. Allan Gerdau Co., New York, the world's chief shell-buying firm.

The firm has agreed to take the entire production for 1949 and the succeeding two seasons at £325 a ton for "sound" shell, and £221 and £125 for inferior grades.

The average price last season was between £450 and £475 a ton.

Mr. Gerdau stated in Darwin on June 27 that the use of plastics after the war, when pearl shell was scarce, had created formidable competition for the pearl button industry. At present more shell was being supplied than could be used.

A leading Darwin pearler said that the new price would represent a drop of £140 a ton on last year's averages—a reduction

the industry could not stand in view of the high cost of labour and the shortage of competent divers. He believed that, on this price, many pearlers would be forced to sell their shell to sterling area buyers. Most of the production was now being sold for dollars, but it is understood that, under the new arrangement, under certain conditions, pearlers may sell to sterling buyers.

PASSENGERS IN JUNE "MATUA"

These Island residents returned from NZ in MV "Matua" in June (left to right, top): Mr. and Mrs. McCown, of Fiji, who had been on a motor tour of NZ; Miss H. Chapman, returning to Fiji, after a holiday in NZ. Centre: Mr. J. Brown, Sub-Inspector, Fiji Police Force; Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Martin, of Fiji. Lower: Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Marks, Suva, after a tour of Australia and NZ; Mrs. R. Barber, who had been visiting relatives in the Dominion.

Planting Co. Selling BSI Properties

THE plantations of the Solomon Islands Development Co. Ltd. (controlled by Burns Philp and Co. Ltd.), are being sold with the ultimate purpose of winding up the company.

Tenders for the plantations were called early in the year and closed on April 30. The plantations (all in BSI) are: Neal Island, together with a small plantation on the mainland (Guadalcanal); Tetipari (Montgomery Island); Manning Straits; and Lutee (Choiseul).

The Solomon Islands Development Co. Ltd. was formed in March, 1908, but the enterprise has been subjected to all the headaches general to copra planting in the British Solomons.

After a few years of comparative prosperity during World War I and the early 20's, came a fall in prices due to competition with other vegetable oils, and then the depression of the 30's, when world price of copra was less than the cost of producing it. In the early years of World War II there was no shipping available to lift Pacific copra and in 1942 the Japs entered the war and overwhelmed the Solomons and its plantations.

Unlike planters in other South Pacific territories, planting interests in the Solomons have been unable to take advantage of the post-war boom in copra—firstly because there was no adequate Government scheme to assist in rehabilitating planters and their plantations and (as yet), no war damage compensation as enjoyed by planting interests in Papua and New Guinea; secondly, because the Solomons, for the first two post-war years, were left virtually without shipping of any kind, and even at this date, inter-island communications are difficult; and thirdly, and as a direct result of the war, the reluctance of the local natives to engage in regular labour.

But, on the other side of the ledger, it is probable that the worst of BSI's planting troubles are over, in that the Protectorate has now a copra agreement with the British Ministry of Food whereby the price is guaranteed for the next nine years; also, the labour position appears to be easing.

There still is no indication that plantation owners will receive war damage compensation from the British Government. It was made clear, some time ago, that this compensation hinged on reparations from Japan, to be paid to Britain and these do not appear to be materialising.

In any event, war damage compensation would not assist the purchasers of the four Solomon Islands Development Co. plantations—the company has made it a condition of sale that any future payment of war damage claims will accrue to the company.

FIJI CESSION DAY CELEBRATIONS

OCTOBER 10 of this year will mark the 75th anniversary of the cession of Fiji to the British Crown and plans are being made to celebrate the occasion fittingly.

Local committees are to be set up in centres outside Suva by District Commissioners and District Officers to organise local celebrations. In Suva, the organisation will be in the hands of the Director of Education, assisted by a committee.

Special commemorative metal boxes have been ordered from England and these will be distributed to school children throughout the Colony.



SOME ASPECTS OF THE REHABILITATION OF MR. 'EDDIE' WARD

His Relationship With Mr. 'Jock' Garden

THE findings of the Australian Royal Commissioner who inquired into the circumstances of the New Guinea Timber Lease scandal are published on another page.

They completely clear the Australian Minister for External Territories of the charges that he had some monetary or improper interest in the attempt made by the Jock Garden-Edward Farrell-Ray Parer-Harcourt Garden syndicate to obtain a timber-lease concession for Hancock and Gore, the Queensland timber firm; and that he received some portion of the £50,000 paid to the syndicate by Hancock and Gore.

Mr. Justice Ligertwood is a front-rank jurist; and his findings may not be challenged in any respect. But there was certain ground that was not covered, by this inquiry, because it was not within the reference terms of the Royal Commission.

None who followed the evidence will quarrel with the judge's opinion that this was a bare-faced fraud worked upon Hancock and Gore, Ltd., by two crooks, Edward Farrell and Jock Garden.

Farrell's record speaks for itself; he had been involved in various shady transactions, and he had been fluttering around the New Guinea goldfields for some time, before the war.

It was common report that Jock Garden, during the time he was a high official of the National Service Department, was involved in a "racket" under which men could get release from manpower call-ups by paying a bribe to certain officials. (The editor of the "PIM," since 1943, has held details of how a man avoided a call-up by making a payment of £100, of which Garden's share was believed to be £25.)

BUT few of those who know about the far-reaching crookedness and corruption that exist, as between venal bureaucracy and greedy commerce, will accept the judge's apparent opinion that Hancock and Gore, in permitting themselves to be defrauded by Farrell and Garden, got just what they deserved. The suggestion is that Hancock and Gore were so eager to get those NG timber leases, and thus secure an advantage over all competitors, that they were ready to become a party to a very improper "arrangement" with Garden and his Minister; and, if they were prepared thus to tolerate corruption, they cannot complain if the crooks robbed them.

There is another side to this, however. The Hancock and Gore people probably

knew that Farrell and Garden were crooks. But they also knew that Garden had been, for a very long time, a close and trusted political and Departmental associate of Mr. Ward. Garden was involved in a racket in the National Service Department, and Ward was his Minister; and, although the racket was common knowledge, nothing ever was done about it.

They also knew that Garden still held some sort of mysterious position close to the Minister. Ward was no longer Minister in charge of National Service, but now had charge of External Territories, with which there was no possible connection; but Garden still was so close to the Minister that he occupied the office next-door to Ward in the Commonwealth Bank, although he was paid, apparently, by the National Service Department.

THERE is so much corruption in the relationships between commerce and some public instrumentalities that Hancock and Gore, Ltd.—a well-known, old-established private company—may be pardoned for believing that the only way in which they could get a lease of the valuable New Guinea timber area was to "work it" through Jock Garden, the Minister's offside. Many, many Australian firms, who value their probity and good reputation, have done the same sort of thing. They speak of these matters with reluctance, and apparent shame; "but," they say, "if we refuse to touch this dirt, we have competitors who have no such scruples, and we are left standing."

It is an evil thing which has developed during the past 25 years of political deterioration—ever since political power has been given to men whose only qualifications for public life is their subservience to party machines.

Not only did Hancock and Gore know of the Ward-Garden connection with the National Service Department; they also knew that the negotiations between the Garden-Farrell syndicate and themselves had been going on for a long time—the better part of three years—and it was surprising to them (as it was to many others) that the Minister knew nothing of them.

The nature of the discussions was so well known that, on page 23 of the "PIM" of October 1945, this paragraph appeared:—

"The dithering and uncertain attitude of the Department of External Territories, in relation to the forest resources of Papua and New Guinea, have caused a host of rumours, in

MORE PACIFIC AIRLINES

France-Noumea and India-Fiji

TWO more new airlines for the South Pacific Islands are expected to commence operations shortly.

Air France has made formal application to Australia for landing rights in Australia in connection with a projected new French service, in which planes will fly between France and New Caledonia, via Indo-China (French) and Australia.

It is expected that Australia will grant permission. Australia recently refused a permit to Air Ceylon, to run a service from Ceylon to Sydney; but Air France is in a different category, because the terminal will be in Noumea, and not in Australia.

A plan for a service by Indian Airlines, from India to Fiji, via Australia, is under consideration, and it is expected that Australia will give permission also in this case, and for the same reason.

Indian interests seem determined to develop trade between India and Fiji, in every possible way.

PLANTERS' MEETING IN BOUGAINVILLE

From Our Own Correspondent

SOHANO, July 12.

THE Bougainville branch of the New Guinea Planters' Association, held a well-attended meeting in Kieta on July 8 and 9.

Mr. Claude Campbell was elected president.

Delegates were appointed to forthcoming general meeting in Rabaul.

Members keenly supported a cooperative buying plan.

Leading planters present also formed a Bougainville Association, with Mr. Fred Archer as president, with the object of dealing promptly with local problems, working in conjunction with the District Officer and other appropriate administrative heads.

which Mr. Ward and his Department are accused of all kinds of bad practices, from Socialism to secret commissions.

"One report says that the Government—or at least four minor Ministers, representing a little-respected section of the Government—has been carrying on discussions with a 'local syndicate,' headed by a Wau dentist and a New Guinea aviator, and that the negotiations had gone a considerable distance."

(Continued on Page 79)

HOMeward-BOUND IN MV "MATUA"



Passengers who travelled in MV "Matua" from Auckland, NZ, to the Islands, in June, included (left to right): The Rt. Rev. L. S. Kempthorne, Bishop in Polynesia, and Mrs. Kempthorne; Mr. L. Genge, returning to Fiji, after holidaying in NZ; Mr. L. C. Shirling, who also had had a holiday in NZ; Mr. Malcolm Brodie, of Suva, who had visited Australia and New Zealand.

PAPUA MURDER

Death Sentence For Two Natives

From Our Own Correspondent

PORT MORESBY, July 5. TWO young native men were sentenced to death in the Supreme Court here on June 24 for the brutal murder of 72-years-old Tom Kessick Bowes, on April 21.

One native, Nikula Marapai, battered the old man to death with a heavy stick while the other, Hariha Mehea, kept watch. Then they stole a few pounds' worth of clothing and a few shillings in cash from his house, which is in a lonely area 16 miles from Moresby, on the Rouna road.

Mr. Justice Bignold pronounced the death sentence on Nikula and recorded it against Hariha, which amounts to a recommendation that the sentence be carried out in Nikula's case and commuted to imprisonment in Hariha's case.

The Administrator may commute either or both sentences; but only Canberra can authorise the carrying out of a death



The two murderers.

sentence. No native has been hanged in Papua-New Guinea since the war.

The story unfolded during the five-days' trial was that on April 20 Bowes engaged the two natives to do odd jobs around his house, in which he lived alone. After working a few hours they left; but, next day, while Hariha kept watch near the road, Nikula went to the house and attacked Bowes in the backyard with a heavy stick.

With the first blow the native broke the old man's wrists, leaving him defenceless. After the natives had robbed the house they saw Bowes trying to rise and Nikula hit him again. His body was found next day, and the murderers were arrested on April 23.

Mr. Bowes was manager of the Govern-

ment's Kemp Welch plantation, near Rigo, for many years. He came to Moresby when he retired.

This was the first murder of a white man by Papuan natives for many years. But, in New Guinea, Mr. A. Robinson was murdered only last December while on a recruiting trip in New Britain. Three natives are now serving gaol terms for the crime.

EDIT'L NOTE—EUROPEANS SHOULD INSIST ON THE DEATH PENALTY

THE policy of the Australian Socialist Government is not to carry out the death penalty against white men; and, as it insists on putting the Papuan and New Guinea natives in the same category as white men, presumably it will not hang the murderers of Mr. Bowes.

If this should prove to be so, the European residents of the Territories should take steps to register the strongest possible protest against this kind of official stupidity. The majority of these natives are quite incapable of understanding the Brown Brother approach. Generally, in all our dealings with them, we must show strength and firmness amounting almost to ruthlessness; anything else is regarded by them as weakness. This is especially important in relation to the protection of human life. Unless these people are shown, without any exception whatever, that the death penalty is imposed upon any man taking the life of another, Europeans in the Territories will not be safe. There has been too much weakness in the Administration in this respect in recent years—and too many examples of an inclination on the part of young natives to show disrespect to white men.

FISH, FLESH AND COSTLY SHIPPING

Planters' Grievances in New Guinea

NOTICE that Mr. Pennefather has had something to say about the enormous cost of shipping stock to New Guinea" said a veteran Territories planter in Sydney, recently.

"It is about time someone made a protest. The Japs destroyed practically all our livestock; and when we claimed war damage compensation we were allowed around £5 per head. Yet in 1946, when I brought a bull and two heifers in from Australia, the shipping charges alone were £54. They have increased considerably since then.

"If there is to be real European rehabilitation in New Guinea, we must have livestock; and we cannot afford these enormous transport charges. The Government does not hesitate to spend hundreds of thousands of pounds on the natives, who are not asking for it. Yet it will not spend anything in subsidising the transportation of suitable stock from Australia to New Guinea, which it well could do.

"The Administration policy towards the European planter is hard to understand. We are supposed to provide each of our native labourers with three pounds of meat per week. But Australia cannot supply the meat—we have great difficulty in getting it, even at the high prices ruling. So we sought permission to dynamite fish. We have thousands of miles of coasts, swarming with edible fish, and a plug of dynamite will give our labour lines an ample supply of food. But the only reply we can get is that dynamiting of fish is forbidden. Why? No one knows. There is so much coastline, and so many fish, that if every European spent all his time dynamiting, it would have no effect on the fish supply."

TOURISTS NOW WANTED FOR TAHITI

New Governor's Interesting Plans

From Our Own Correspondent

PAPEETE, June 20. TOURISM—the handy French word which means that profitable industry which caters for and encourages the tourist traffic—is to be assisted in every reasonable way by the energetic new Governor of French Oceania, M. Armand Anziani.

M. Anziani has informed me that all irksome restraints regarding the admission to the Colony of visitors are to be removed, and the slogan "Come to Tahiti" is being broadcast to the world as an invitation to visit the "Pearl of the Pacific."

Governor Anziani (formerly Directeur Adjoint of Economic Affairs in the Ministry of French Overseas Possessions) comes to his new assignment with experience well fitted to a successful administration at this time of international unrest. Cordial and easy of approach, having had experience with America and the American way of life, his administration is calculated to go far to make the sojourn of foreigners in Tahiti congenial, and to make French Oceania attractive to overseas visitors.

As regards the tourist business itself, Tahiti stands in about the same position as did Hawaii forty years ago. To prepare for an anticipated influx of visitors, the formation of a Bureau in Papeete, consisting of French, American and British residents experienced in the development of tourist trade, is under consideration.

To this Bureau will be assigned the duty of promoting steamer and airplane traffic between Tahiti and the rest of the world. It will also undertake the development of facilities for accommodation and entertainment.

While Papeete already possesses a number of small hostels, notably "Les Tropiques," Rivnac's "White Beach" and the "Royal Tahitian" in the suburbs, Governor Anziani is investigating the possibility of creating and erecting a well-equipped modern hotel of one hundred rooms. He is also considering establishment of a refrigeration plant for storage of quality foods and the formation of a colourful tourist band to welcome steamers and airplanes.

The project of setting in order the Bora Bora airstrip is also engaging his attention, together with installation of gasoline storage tanks, a hotel, and small airplanes to transport visitors from Bora Bora to Papeete.

Already Trapas Air Company is operating monthly from Noumea to Papeete, via Fiji, Samoa and Cook Islands. It is anticipated that before year's end, air service will be established out of Honolulu to connect at Fiji or Samoa with Trapas planes, which service will effect long-time isolation of French Oceania.

NG Women's Club Meeting—Date Changed

BECAUSE of the Australian coal-strike and electricity restrictions, the date of the annual general meeting of the NG-Women's Club, Sydney, has been changed from the evening of July 22, to 11 a.m., Thursday, July 28.

Mr. Robert Munro, well-known solicitor in Suva, has been appointed Consul for Norway in Fiji.

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A Visitor Looks At Lae

(Contributed)

I HAVE just visited Lae, New Guinea. These are my impressions, as a casual visitor.

Arriving by air, one is transported to what is known as "Hotel Cecil". This consists of an accumulation of ex-army buildings in a state of advanced decay, due to collapse at any moment.

All honour to the proprietor, who has, I am told, struggled for three years under appalling conditions. Some time ago she was allocated a site in the "New Township" and duly paid £100, plus survey fees, but cannot obtain possession as Government Buildings occupy part of the site for which the Administration accepted the fees. She must still carry on at the old site until something can be done to alter this strange position.

As a visitor I wanted to see as much of Lae as I could—I did, through the kindness of a local resident who ran me round in his Jeep. I have never seen anything like the roads; pot holes were everywhere, but my friend said, "Don't worry, I have got to know every one of them," as he dodged here and there to avoid them.

Crossing a bridge near the town he said, "Better keep your fingers crossed, its due to go any old day now," and from its appearance, I believed him.

The wharf at Milford Haven has collapsed, its timbers are floating around and some are washed up on the beach. Piles are dangling, and the whole site is a desolation.

Temporary houses made of sawn timber and covered with tarred paper add beauty to the landscape, while here and there one sees a more imposing dwelling, usually occupied by a Civil Servant.

A VISIT to the school was interesting and instructive. There were about 30 children in a small improvised building which had no windows, no hooks on which to hang hats, no means of washing. All grades were accom-

modated in this structure, and I wondered how the teacher could work under such conditions.

I understand that a hospital is to be built in the future. The present structure is a series of military huts, running right and left, off a concrete path.

One felt respect for the medical profession there, both doctor and nurses, who carried on under such conditions.

A planter on the Markham Road told me that he had to drive along a road of which part is virtually swamp, while bridges and culverts are blocked up with debris preventing the free flow of flood waters. These sweep over the roads during heavy rains.

I was disappointed with Lae after three years of Civil Administration, especially when I considered the millions of pounds of the Australian tax payers' money which has been poured down the drain in New Guinea, with no visible results.

Residents tell me that the art of passing the buck has reached perfection in Lae. No one seems to care; no one seems to be able to alter the state of frustration which blankets everything. There is no agricultural development programme; no one knows where they are.

The whole set up, to my way of thinking, can be likened to the parable of the servant who hid his talents in the ground.

RABAUL RSSAILA

From Our Own Correspondent

RABAUL, July 7.

At a lively meeting in Rabaul on June 29, local members of the RSSAILA decided to hold the annual general meeting on July 22, and executive officers were elected pro tem—E. V. Smythe, president; P. J. Chapman, secretary; J. Whippy, treasurer.

An active sub-committee of younger members is organising a ball for July 20, and initial steps towards securing land for a club have already been taken.

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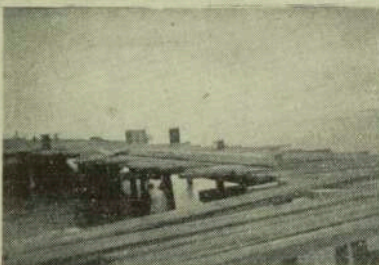
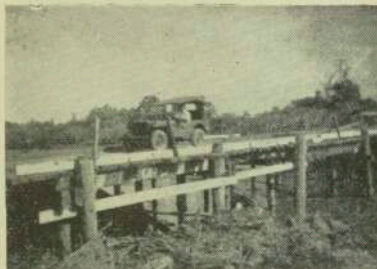
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Photographs show: Top left, bridge over Butibum River; top right, another bridge, near Lae. Lower, left and right, wharf at Milford Haven. The round piles in the picture on the left are eaten off at water line and swing with the tide.

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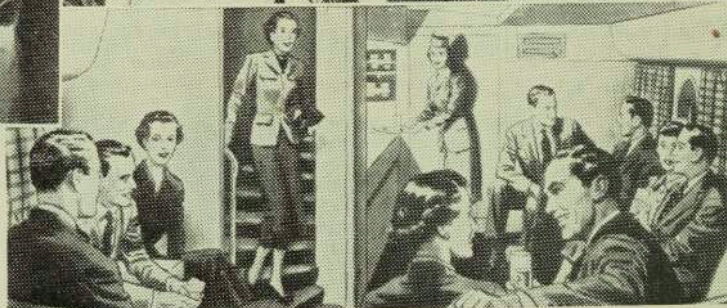
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SIR MAYNARD HEDSTROM

To Remain as Chairman of MH

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, July 2.
SIR MAYNARD HEDSTROM, principal founder of Morris, Hedstrom, Ltd., retired from the salaried service of the company on June 30. Two years ago he relinquished the post of managing-director and became chairman of directors, continuing to work for the company and drawing salary.



A wartime snapshot of Sir Maynard and Lady Hedstrom.

At Sir Maynard's request, the directors now have relieved him of this regular work, but have asked him to continue to be associated with the company as chairman of directors for an indefinite period.

In a footnote to the directors' annual report, Mr. Robert Crompton, CBE, KC, points out that Sir Maynard was a foundation director of the company when it assumed its present form in 1910. He was managing director from 1914 until 1947.

The footnote adds: "Sir Maynard Hedstrom has given a lifetime of hard and devoted work to the company, of which he was the principal founder. The directors, most of whom have been his colleagues for many years, wish to place on record to the shareholders in this way their very high appreciation of Sir

Maynard Hedstrom's services to the company."

Sir Maynard was not very well when he returned from South Africa a few months ago; but he recovered quickly in Suva, and was president of the company's 39th annual general meeting on June 30, when he gave his usual interesting analysis of trading conditions in the South Pacific.

VISIT OF AUSTRALIAN GG TO P-NG

From Our Own Correspondent

PORT MORESBY, July 6.
THE visit to Papua and New Guinea this month of the Australian Governor-General (Mr. McKell) has been responsible for a few minor improvements around the town; but, on the whole the visit is being awaited quite calmly.

Some people say it is a pity the King is not coming—then we might get the new swimming-baths and the dozens of other things that would make Moresby more pleasant to live in.

Of course, we have got the new bus, which looked like going to the natives at one stage. One of the old buses is to provide a service for natives.

Miss Angela Eaton, step-daughter of Mr. J. Maxwell, British District Agent in Santo, New Hebrides, has arrived in Sydney to join the "Maloja" for England. Before departure, she was entertained by

friends at the home (on Venue Island) of Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell.

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OLD NEW GUINEA RESIDENTS NOW IN DARWIN

A REUNION dinner of pre-war New Guinea residents was held at the Hotel Darwin, in Darwin, on July 5. After dinner on the lawn, a silent toast was drunk to the memory of friends and relations lost in the war years.

Friendships were renewed and tales told, new and old. It is anticipated that a New Guinea Club will be formed in Darwin.

Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Moy, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. O'Neill, Mr. and Mrs. Mackin-

non, Mr. and Mrs. Mackenzie, Mr. and Mrs. Matthews, Mr. and Mrs. Farthing, Mr. and Mrs. Halliday, Mr. and Mrs. Stevens, Dr. Deland, and Messrs. Austin, H. S. Taylor, Muir and McGuire.

Treadwell-Lonergan Wedding

IN Port Moresby, Papua, on June 14, a member of the European Hospital's nursing staff, Sister Margaret Treadwell, married Mr. John Lonergan, of APC. Mr. Roy Barwick was best man and Sister Bishop was bridesmaid. The reception was held at the Port Moresby Hospital.

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The Mill Stone Again

Some Very Early Recollections

SINCE a photograph of the Marquis de Rays' mill-stone appeared in the February issue of "PIM," a number of interesting comments have been received from readers. One of the most interesting comes from Count van Asten-Goedicke, of Haapai, Tonga, who states that he saw the old mill-stone at Port Breton over 60 years ago.

In early January, 1884, he was engaged by the German Consul in Sydney as an assistant to Herr von Oertzen, then Imperial German Commissioner for the Bismarck Archipelago, who was to proceed to New Britain to select a suitable site for the Capital.

"... We left Sydney on January 6, by HIMS 'Albatross,' commanded by Count von Baudisin and arrived in Mioko, Duke of York Islands, on January 15. Mr. R. Parkinson was asked by von Oertzen to join us as guide as he had visited most of New Britain and New Ireland. On January 18, 1884, we landed at Port Breton, New Ireland, a place which showed signs of recent habitation, but was then deserted—a place covered with rubbish. There was an old boiler, I remember, some old broken tanks, several street names, such as 'Rue de Rivoli, L'Hotel de ville,' etc., and the old stone which Mr. Parkinson pointed out to us, expressing the opinion that it was to have been used for crushing copra.

"Mr. Farrell, who is referred to in the February article, assisted only the last settlers who arrived at Port Breton. He sent them to Sydney in his schooner, 'Elenore,' having made a very suspicious agreement with the captain of the barque, 'Marquis de Rays' whereby Farrell took the barque and everything left at Port Breton in exchange for getting the colonists to Sydney. During my time in New Britain, the barque was on the beach in front of the DH and PG office at Mioko. The firm intended to fill her with sand and stones and use her as a wharf."

BANK OF INDO-CHINA

A FRENCH financial paper says that, now the Bank of Indo-China (which operates in the French Pacific as well as in the Colonies) has had its right to issue banknotes withdrawn, it will enlarge its ordinary banking activities. The bank, closely allied to the Banque de Paris et des Pays Bas, has greatly extended its activities in regions other than the Orient, including Africa and America. Capital has been raised from 127,500,000 francs to 510,000,000 francs by a new share issue on conditions most favourable to shareholders.

WEDDING IN SAMOA

APIA, June 28.
MISS ANNIE EILEEN KING, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. P. King, of Apia, was married here on June 16 to Mr. L. C. Palmer, of New Zealand, who is a member of the Education Department staff in Samoa. Best man was Mr. Roy G. Wills and the groomsmen were Mr. Warren G. Chalmers; while the Misses Joyce M. Moors and Moira Macdonald acted as bridesmaids, and Frances Wiggle and Josephine Moors were flower girls. The Rev. C. L. Whonsbon-Aston officiated at the wedding ceremony.

Mr. L. Dwyer, of the Papua-New Guinea Department of Agriculture, was on leave in Australia in July.

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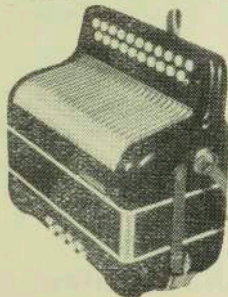
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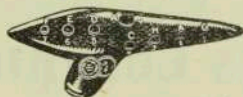
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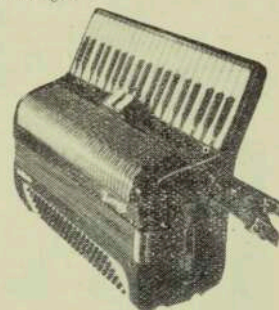
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NEW HOTEL IN PAPUA

Holiday Resort On The Kokoda Trail

From Our Own Correspondent

PORT MORESBY, July 6.
THE Kokoda Hotel, which has been
built on the Kokoda Trail, between
Kokoda and Buna, in Northeast
Papua, as a holiday resort, will be ready
for the reception of guests in December.

It has been planned and built, to pro-
vide accommodation for at least 16 guests,
by the Kokoda-Buna Tourist Co., a sub-
sidiary of Sangara Rubber Plantations
Pty., which operates plantations in the
vicinity. It will have all modern ameni-
ties; will be surrounded by gardens, a
golf course and tennis courts (now being
laid out); and, as it will be at least at
a height of 1,000 feet, on the cool side of
the mountains, it should be a favourite
week-end resort for Port Moresby people.

The hotel has been built of local tim-
ber, milled by the Sangara people; and
the furnishings and fittings will be simi-
larly made. The hotel has been granted
a liquor license.

The Administration plans to reopen the
Popindetta air strip (5 miles from the
hotel) which was the first air strip used
here by the Allies when they attacked the
Japs in the Buna-Gona region.

The place is expected to become a
popular resort for Australian visitors.

Another Hotel?

A BIG, new hotel is planned for
Moresby, but we have no details yet.
Residents who have heard about it
say they hope that the competition will
result in lower prices at all three hotels—if
the third one does eventuate.

White "Matua" to Become Bronze-green

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, June 22.
REPROACHES are likely to be heaped
on the USS Company of New Zea-
land for its decision to paint the
famous Islands ship, "Matua," bronze-
green after two more Fiji-Tonga-Samoa
round-trips.

Bronze-green is the Union Company's
traditional liner colour, but except for
the war years, the "Matua" has been
gleaming white (with the company's red-
and-black funnel) ever since she came
into the Islands service towards the end
of 1936.

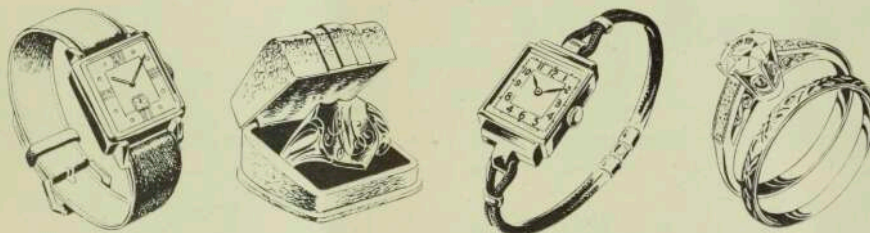
During the war she won a high place in
Fiji in the affection of residents by keep-
ing open, single-handed, sea communica-
tion with New Zealand. Her appearance,
late in 1945, with a new white dress re-
placing the wartime grey, was hailed in
the Islands as one of the first tangible
signs that the war was actually over.

Rabaul Chess Club

RABAU (NG) chess players have re-
formed the chess club that existed
before the war and are now meet-
ing regularly in the Administration mess
hall.

Club fees have been fixed at £1/1/- per
annum. Sets of chess men have been
ordered from Sydney and learners' classes
have been formed.

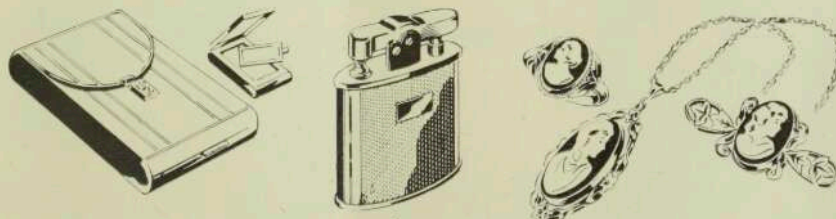
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TERRITORIES PLANTATIONS FOR SALE

AMONG the estates of deceased persons, being advertised for sale by tender, are the following plantation properties in Papua and New Guinea:

A freehold on Sudest Island, carrying 50 acres of coconuts, and an agricultural lease with 37 acres of coconuts.

An agricultural lease on Rossel Island, with 30 acres under coconuts and an agricultural lease on Moturina Island with 50 acres under coconuts.

The above were part of the estate of the late Mrs. E. Mahony, and have not been worked since 1939.

Tomalabatt Plantation, 434 acres on Tabar Island, carrying some 16,000 mature coconut palms, but under heavy secondary growth. The building was destroyed by the Japs. Formerly owned by the late Mr. J. S. Talmage.

Sumuna Plantation, 625 acres on Djaul Island, of which 350 acres were planted before the war in coconuts and cocoa.

Panapau Plantation, 1,000 acres near Sumuna Plantation, only 120 acres planted.

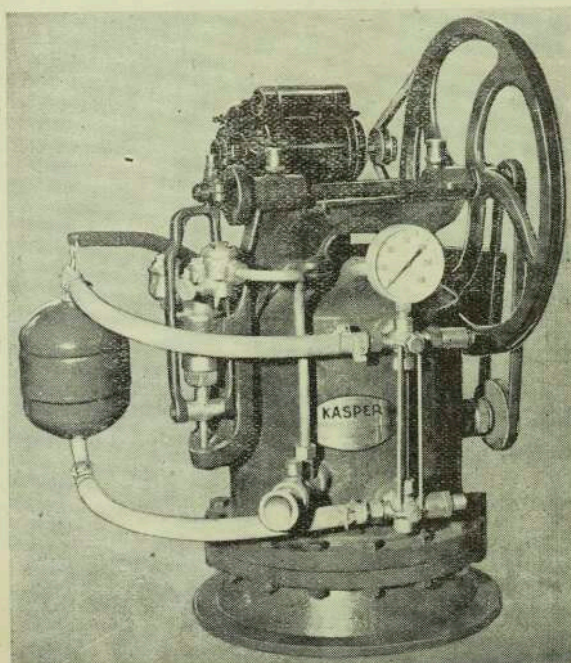
Both of the above, now heavily overgrown, were owned by the late Mr. L. Hamilton.

Brien-O'Malley Wedding

MISS VERE BRIEN and the new District Officer at Kerema, Papua, Mr. J. O'Malley, were married at the Catholic Church, Moresby, on June 23. Sub-Inspector Tom Gough gave the bride away, Mr. Pierre Donaldson was best man, and Miss Alison Lambden was bridesmaid. The reception was held at the Papua Hotel.

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'PERMANENT' ADMINISTRATION

End of Papua-NG 'Provisional' Set-up and New Plans for Public Service

From Our Own Correspondent

PORT MORESBY, July 5.
IT is notified, for general information, that the Papua and New Guinea Act, 1949 was proclaimed to come into operation on the first day of July, 1949."

With the appearance of this notice in the local Government Gazette of July 1, the long-awaited Permanent Administration came into being.

In a broadcast speech, the Administrator (Col. J. K. Murray) said: "I hope the new Administration will bring happiness and prosperity to the inhabitants of the Territory and promote the cause of international peace."

The Executive Council, he said, would be functioning in a short time; but the Legislative Council would not be operating before August, 1950.

He mentioned the proposed appointment of a Public Service Commissioner, who, he said, would be outside all departments and able to take a broad view of public service matters. At present, the Acting Government Secretary, Mr. S. A. Loneragan, is the Acting Public Service Commissioner.

Briefly, the new Act provides for the administrative union of Papua and New Guinea; the formation of an Executive Council, consisting of not less than nine Government officers, to advise and assist the Administrator; and the formation of a Legislative Council of 29 members, comprising the Administrator, 16 Government officers, three non-official members to be elected by the public, three mission representatives, three non-official native members and three other non-official members.

IT also provides for the continuance of the Australian School of Pacific Administration and the appointment of a Chief Judge of the Supreme Court of Papua and New Guinea.

Mr. Justice Phillips took the oath of office as Chief Judge on July 1 and, together with Mrs. Phillips, he left Moresby the same day on the "Bulolo," on leave.

Residents greeted the arrival of the permanent administration with satisfaction but of more immediate interest to most of them were the developments affecting the public service.

The Public Service Ordinance, 1949, was proclaimed on June 22. It provides for the appointment of a Public Service Commissioner to control and administer the public service, and the formation of an Appeals Board to hear appeals against appointments, promotions and punishments. The Board has not been set up yet.

(Continued on page 23.)

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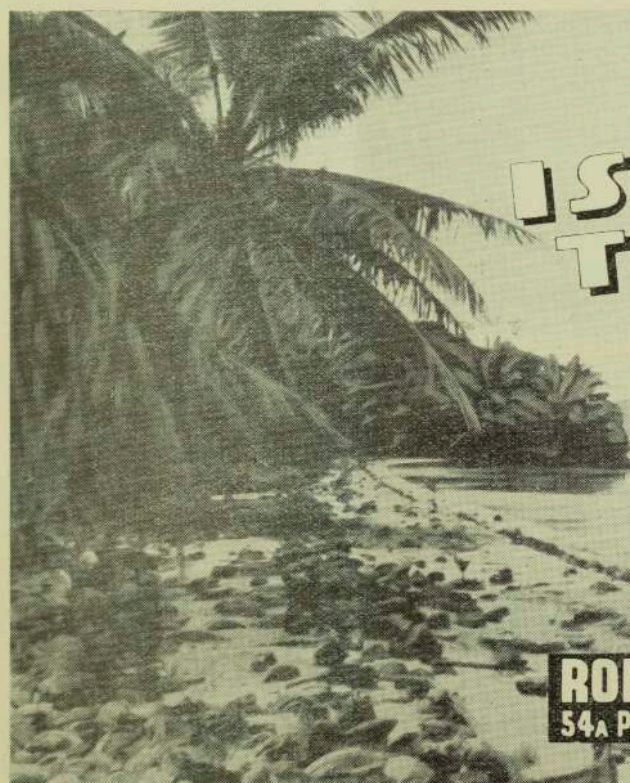
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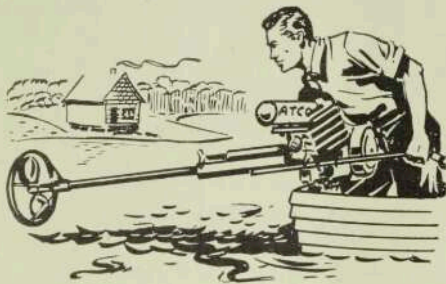
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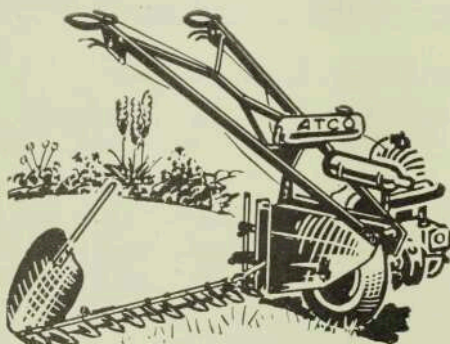
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PUBLIC servants in Moresby had a clearer picture of the general position after a meeting at which the President (Mr. Anthony) reported on the recent visit to Canberra by himself, the Secretary (Mr. J. H. Irvine) and Mr. E. E. Washington. Here is a resume of Mr. Anthony's report under the various headings:—

Superannuation and pensions: The deputation convinced officers of the Department of External Territories that the Superannuation Ordinance, 1949, was not giving fair treatment to a number of public servants, particularly Papuan officers. The Department agreed that superannuation should be paid on present salaries, with pensions for old Papuan officers, at the old rate, up to a salary of £804 a year, and up to £1,250 a year for New Guinea officers. If the Treasurer approved, the ordinance would be amended along these lines.

Superannuation ordinance for new officers: Now being prepared. Will be on the unit system and retirement age will be 60; but it will be possible to retire at 55 on a smaller pension. Pensions and premiums not worked out yet.

Re-classification: Provides for increased salaries in most cases, and now being examined by heads of departments.

Cost of living: Any variation in the Commonwealth cost of living since January 1 last will be added to salaries in the classification. On May 5 the Commonwealth cost of living was increased by £12 for men and £8 for women.

Price fixing: Copy of ordinance not available. The deputation asked what was going to be done about controlling the activities of the big firms and examining their profits, and was told the degree of control would depend on the ordinance.

Inspection of freezer storage facilities: Deputation made "rather caustic comments," but was told this was a domestic matter.

Pay in lieu of furlough: No provision made for furloughs in new ordinance. Was explained to deputation that this ordinance was made under the Provisional Administration and actually furlough would be on the same basis as in the New Guinea ordinance.

Separation allowance: External Territories officers said they could see no reason why this should not be granted again in the case of a wife who returned to Australia, but they added that it was the Administrator's privilege to decide such matters.

Seniority List: Now becomes a matter for Public Service Commissioner.

Public service arbitration: Will be independent of Australia, and a judge of the Supreme Court will be appointed part-time Arbitration Judge.

Medical expenses where suitable treatment not available in Territory: The Minister said the Administrator could make a recommendation for expenses in any particular case, but no provision would be made in the regulations.

Accommodation: Better accommodation was sought and reference made to the "unsatisfactory" housing committee; but the deputation was told that control of materials now rested with the States and not the Commonwealth.

Air travel insurance: The deputation was told that the treasurer would not increase the £2,000 air insurance granted to officers travelling on duty.

Five day week: External Territories officers pointed out that present working hours were adopted as a result of medical opinion and they felt the association should be cautious in its claim for a five day week. The association has referred the matter to Dr. Gunther.

Fares and freight charges for new appointments: The Department agreed that the Commonwealth allowance should be paid. Mr. Anthony explained that a Com-

monwealth officer pays £7/10/- for fares and £10 for freight and the Government pays the rest.

Education: The Director of Education (Mr. Groves) told the meeting that although his department preferred a universal system of bursary grants, it had accepted an offer of six Commonwealth bursaries worth £50 a year each. Examinations would be held among children in grades six, seven and eight and, with the help of teachers' reports, the six bursary winners would be chosen. They could make use of their bursaries next year at any approved secondary school in Australia. Mr. Groves added that he was still awaiting approval of a proposal to build a secondary high school in the Territory, probably in the Wau area.

Payment of leave fares: Mr. Anthony said nothing definite was agreed while the deputation was in Canberra, but it was likely that the administration would pay a bigger share of fares.

Married officers allowance: Minimum

salary for married officers was now £520 with a special allowance of £70 on top of their salaries, dating back to January 1 last. This special allowance would continue until it was overtaken by increments under the new classification. The special allowance for single officers was £45.

In conclusion, Mr. Anthony thanked the Administrator for making possible the deputation's visit to Canberra.

COST OF AIR TRAVEL

NOUMEA, June 20.

THE New Caledonian General Council recently asked the administration to inform them of air fares to Paris. The reply was:—

Noumea-USA-Paris by Pan-American, 54,727 Pacific francs (£342A).

Noumea-Saigon-Paris, by French airline, 55,300 Pacific francs (364A).

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At present, undergoing field tests, is a further addition to the Tropic Eagle range. The new model will be known as S.W.O TROPIC EAGLE. The letters stand for SHORT WAVES ONLY. Seven band coverage together with band spread have been provided for. Weight of this new, all metal, moisture and insect proofed receiver will be approximately 28 lb.—measurements, 20 x 11 x 10. Speaker and batteries are housed in separate case, measurements, 12 x 8 x 7½. Weight is approximately 18 lb., including three heavy duty batteries.

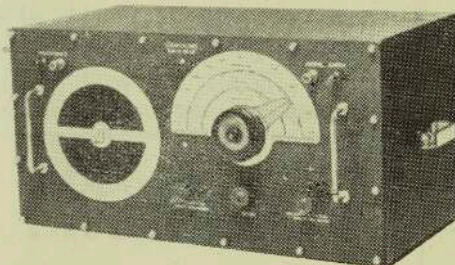
This receiver has been developed at the suggestions of many residents of the Territory of New Guinea, who require a powerful, compact and reliable instrument. As usual, Crammonds have the answer.

Write for particulars to-day.

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Write for particulars and illustrations of the famous Crammond Range:

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No. 8 Queen Street, BRISBANE

Vanikoro Logs Reach Australia After Many Mishaps

AFTER an extraordinary run of misfortunes, the small steamer "Paul Carl" reached Melbourne in early June, with the first post-war cargo of Kauri logs from the Vanikoro Timber Company, Santa Cruz.

It also carried 40 tons of trochus shell from Mr. Bill Jones, of Reef Island.

When the ship tied up at South Wharf, Melbourne, she had a crumpled mast, bent derricks, a dent in her bow, a sapling for a radio aerial, and the sick wife of the second engineer badly in need of medical attention—she had become ill five days previously and an ambulance was waiting to take her off.

"Paul Carl's" troubles began when loading logs at Vanikoro—a five ton log snapped the main stay of the main mast, which collapsed and bent the steel loading derricks. The crew rigged a wooden jury mast for the radio aerial and the ship sailed.

Two days later it called at Noumea where there was a delay of five days while four of the crew were down with malaria. They sailed on May 31, leaving one of the crew still in hospital and 200 miles off the Australian coast ran into bad weather which caused them to lie-to for two days. When "Paul Carl" finally reached Melbourne, something went wrong with the tug they had signalled and she crashed into "Paul Carl" leaving a dent in her bows.

The Vanikoro Timber Company, which cuts valuable kauri timber on Santa Cruz, is a Melbourne company. Although Australia is so desperately short of good milling timber, post-war difficulties have made it impossible for the company to produce any timber for years.

It is understood that the "Paul Carl" will return to Santa Cruz to lift other cargoes of logs.

MALARIA DANGER IN FIJI

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, June 20.

THE danger of introducing into Fiji the Anopheles (malaria-carrying) mosquito has again been urgently stressed, this time by Mr. M. Laird, MSc, a New Zealand University Research Fellow and advisory entomologist to the RNZAF, who is now conducting research in the Colony.

In a broadcast at Suva on June 17, Mr. Laird said that the sea barriers between the New Hebrides and malaria-free Fiji, New Caledonia and New Zealand had so far prevented the spread of Anopheles but there was every chance that fast, modern aircraft would provide transport for the mosquitoes.

After outlining experiments in the transportation of caged mosquitoes in planes flying from Japan to New Zealand and tests conducted for the RNZAF in the South Pacific, Mr. Laird emphasised the importance of mosquito-breeding control near airports and the insecticidal spraying of all incoming aircraft.

Two officers and eighty non-commissioned officers of the New Zealand Regular Forces will shortly go to Fiji as part of the training unit which New Zealand has undertaken to supply for the Fiji Defence Force. The unit will eventually consist of eight officers and 23 other ranks.



Pick up This Pilot Now

Like the skipper who takes chances in unfamiliar waters, the private executor lacks first-hand knowledge of the difficulties ahead. The administration of an estate — never a simple matter these days — is doubly difficult for the man who lives in the Islands. Sound advice on finance, taxation, and investments must be available at all times. The appointment of Burns Philp Trust Company Limited as executor or trustee secures this advantage, together with the collective first-hand knowledge of experienced directors and efficient officers.

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FARMERS FOR NEW CALEDONIA

From Our Own Correspondent

NOUMEA, June 20.
THE New Caledonian Agricultural Department has been investigating the suitability of three properties suggested for the establishment of the Colony's new Farm School. One is on the Paladini property at Paita, one on the Renard property at the Dumbea, and the third is the ancient convict farm school at Nemera near Bourail. It is reported that members of the General Council will favour the last named.

In the hall of the Aero Club, in Paris, M. Edouard Berge, president of the Information and Study Office for the French Pacific, recently delivered an address on New Caledonia, to a distinguished gathering. He appealed for hard working French colonists for New Caledonia, as well as for investors interested in developing local plantations and industry.

HE KNEW!

SUVA, July 2.

IN a BBC broadcast, from London, Ravuama Vunivalu, who is studying the workings of co-operatives in Great Britain, related that at one of the Colonial Month exhibitions in London a group of spectators was discussing a 5 ft. picture of a smiling Fijian girl in dancing dress.

"What beautiful teeth!" said one member of the group, "I wonder if they're real or false."

"Oh, they're not false," interposed Ravuama, in a meek voice.

"How do you know?" asked the first speaker.

"Well," Ravuama explained, "she happens to be my wife!"

Mr. J. Cavanaugh, of the Kerevat Saw-mill, Rabaul, is at present on 6 months' leave in Australia.

WESTERN SAMOA EN FETE ON JUNE 1 AND 2

From Our Own Correspondent

APIA, June 10.

THE first anniversary of the raising of the Samoan flag was celebrated as a public holiday on June 1, and was followed by the celebration of King's birthday (by special permission of His Majesty) on June 2. There was the usual kava ceremony at Mulinu'u fono house, attended by the High Commissioner (Colonel G. R. Powles), the Hon. Fautua, members of the Legislative Assembly and the fono of Faipule; and, as guests of honour representing the Prime Minister and the Government of New Zealand, the Hon. A. G. Osborne (private secretary to the Prime Minister) and Mr. R. T. G. Patrick (secretary of the Island Territories Department, Wellington).

Returned Servicemen's Association and numerous school children, in their picturesque and colourful school uniforms, took part in the flag-raising ceremony which was followed by a Samoan luncheon (taumafataga).

At the kava ceremony, Mr. Osborne read a message from the Prime Minister (Mr. Fraser) conveying his good wishes on behalf of the New Zealand people. A message was also read from the former High Commissioner (Col. F. E. Voelcker) who represents New Zealand at the South Pacific Commission.

In the afternoon, Samoan dances and entertainments were given by the districts of the island of Savaii.

The King's birthday celebrations on June 2 began with a function at Apia Court House attended by European and Samoan representatives, at which the Hon. Malietoa and Hon. Jacob Helu addressed the gathering, and at which the Royal Salute was fired by the saluting battery at Matautu point. Fautasi and canoe races attracted a large crowd of excited spectators. The fautasi races were won by the Manono and Malua boats.

In the afternoon, a monster garden party was held in the beautiful grounds of the High Commissioner's residence at Vailima (the former home of Robert Louis Stevenson) where some 1,000 people saw Samoan dances by the Atua and Tuamasa districts of Upolu.

Messrs. Osborne and Patrick extended their stay in Samoa for a fortnight and visited many places on both islands.

THE FIJIAN POLICEMAN IS NOT ONLY PICTURESQUE

SUVA, July 2.

THE spectacle of 23 prisoners, on their way back to Suva Gaol after their day's outside work, clambering out of the covered gaol truck and lining up near the Town Hall to watch the traffic police test the vehicle's brakes, might once again have inspired the comment: "Where but in Suva could this happen?"

The incident occurred at 4.20 p.m. on June 30, after a collision between the truck and an Indian youth on a bicycle at the Victoria Parade-Macarthur Street corner.

Within a few minutes a large crowd had materialised and three lines of traffic were entangled at the corner. A handful of Fijian policemen materialised as promptly as the crowd and, within another few minutes, the ex-cyclist, with a minor head injury, had been sent to hospital, the traffic straightened out and the crowd moved off the roadway. The brake-investigations were a side-issue.

Which was another demonstration of the stupidity of the parrot-cry (still heard occasionally) that the picturesque Fijian policeman is mainly ornamental.

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Qantas Completes S-W Pacific Airways Circuit With Lae-Honiara Service

From Our Own Correspondent

RABAU, June 15.
THE inaugural flight of the Lae-BSI Qantas air-service returned to Rabaul, en route Lae, to-day. Ten passengers were carried.

This flight is to be run fortnightly, commencing from Lae on alternate Mondays. Calls will be made at Rabaul, Torokina (Bougainville), Munda (Kolombangara, BSI) and Honiara. The plane will stay overnight at Honiara and return to Lae, by the same route, on alternate Tuesdays. DC3 Aircraft will be used.

Not only does this bring an extra mail service to Rabaul, but it gives such isolated spots as Torokina and Munda, swift, modern communication with the outside world. And, by linking up with the Qantas Sydney-New Hebrides-Solomon Islands service at Honiara, makes it possible for travellers to make a Sydney to Sydney trip calling at Port Moresby, Lae, Rabaul, Bougainville, BSI, New Hebrides, New Caledonia—without covering the same ground twice.

The apprenticeship system in Fiji is to be studied by a newly-appointed committee comprising the chief manager in Fiji of the Colonial Sugar Refining Co. Ltd. (Mr. E. H. Griffiths), the general manager of the Associated Gold Mining Companies (Mr. N. E. Nilsen), the Supervisor of Technical Services (Mr. R. A. Derrick) and Messrs. J. Mercer and N. F. C. Cowan. The committee will examine the present arrangements for training apprentices and other juveniles in industry and will advise whether a uniform and controlled system of apprenticeship should be established.

DEATH OF SISTER CECILIA 57 Years' Work In Samoa

APIA, June 28.

THE senior member of the Marist Missionary Sisters, Sister Cecilia, died recently, aged 79, at the Catholic Mission at Moamoa, near Apia. Sister Cecilia, born in Australia, was a member of the St. Julian family, well known in Fiji, and came to Samoa at the age of 22, in 1892, to organise the religious and educational activities of the Marist Sisters in Samoa.

Together with the late Sister Joseph (a member of the Swann family, also well known in Fiji and Samoa) she founded the Marist Sisters' Girls' School at Savalalo; and, later, from 1905 to 1933, she taught at the Marist Sisters School at S'alelavatu, Savail. From 1934 to 1942 she again taught at the Savalalo (Apia) school, retiring in 1942 to Moamoa, where she spent the last years of her life.

Sister Cecilia was greatly respected by the European and Samoan communities and revered by generations of girls who had been educated and influenced by her during her long residence of 57 years in the Territory.

Mr. J. B. Wright, after acting for several months after the departure of the former secretary to the Samoan Government, Mr. W. R. McCulloch, was recently appointed secretary to the Samoan Government. Mr. L. M. Cook, formerly of Rarotonga, Cook Islands, succeeds Mr. Wright as Collector of Customs.

NOUMEA'S AIRPORT

THE French technical expert, M. Mazin, who has been studying the project to enlarge Noumea's Magenta airport, estimates that the work will cost about 45,000,000 Pacific francs (less than £300,000A) plus 10,000,000 francs for buildings. The Colony's share of the cost will be limited to 15,000,000 francs.

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WARD EXONERATED—GARDEN AND FARRELL WERE THE CROOKS

Judge's Findings In The New Guinea Timber Lease Inquiry

THE report of the Australian Royal Commissioner (Mr. Justice Ligertwood) on the New Guinea Timber Lease Inquiry, made public on June 24, contained no surprises. As was pointed out by the "PIM" in April and May, the nature of the evidence placed before the Commission made it certain that the Commissioner would completely exonerate the Australian Minister for External Territories, Mr. E. J. Ward, of any charge involving corruption or an improper interest in the alleged sale of a New Guinea timber concession to the Queensland timber merchants, Hancock and Gore Ltd.

The Commissioner's report covered 95 pages; but the substance of his findings is in his answers to the five terms of reference, as follows:—

1. What were the real transactions involved between Raymond Parer, Harcourt Garden, Edward Farrell, and John Smith Garden, or any of them, and Hancock and Gore Limited, or any of its directors, employees or legal representatives, in relation to timber rights in Papua-New Guinea?

FINDING: The transaction embodied in the two deeds was a barefaced fraud by Farrell and J. S. Garden upon Hancock and Gore, Ltd.

By false pretences they induced Hancock and Gore to buy a non-existent timber concession and to pay them £50,000 on account of the purchase money.

Raymond Parer and Harcourt Garden

were involved in the transactions, and their conduct was morally censurable, but a jury had acquitted them of criminal complicity.

The working directors of Hancock and Gore, Ltd. (which did not include Mr. E. R. Crouch nor Sir William Glasgow), were induced to enter into the transaction by their greed for timber and by their desire to get into Bulolo Valley ahead of their rivals.

They were prepared to enter into a secret transaction which, because of J. S. Garden's position as a public servant, was improper.

They were aware of the impropriety, and were ready to take advantage of it, seeking to save their consciences with the reflection that they were dealing with the syndicate, and were paying full value for the timber, and that the means by which the syndicate became possessed of the grant, and what they did with the purchase money were no concern of theirs.

So much did they realise the impropriety of the transaction, that for three and a half years, notwithstanding the fact that £50,000 was involved, they were afraid to approach the Minister of the Department to see if there was any substance in what they thought they had bought.

Hancock and Gore's solicitor (Mr. E. E. Biggs) co-operated with the working directors in negotiating the transaction with similar knowledge of its impropriety. He failed in his duty to advise

the company properly and to secure it against loss.

The company's logging manager (Mr. H. G. Forshaw) also assisted in negotiations with knowledge of the impropriety of the transaction.

2. Was the Minister for External Territories (Mr. E. J. Ward) a party to any of the transactions?

FINDING: No.

3. Did the Minister sign or authorise John Smith Garden to sign any notification that the grant to Raymond Parer of any timber licence in the Bulolo Valley had been or would be approved by the Minister?

FINDING: No.

4. Was the Minister promised any financial benefit from any of the transactions mentioned or did he receive—either directly or indirectly—any financial benefit from that company?

FINDING: No.

5. Was the Minister (a) financially interested—either directly or indirectly—in Sydney Pincombe, Ltd.; (b) did he receive—either directly or indirectly—any financial benefit from that company?

FINDING: No.

CONCERNING MR. FARRELL

Mr. Justice Ligertwood said that the authorities should consider criminal prosecution against Edward Farrell.

He added: "There were many indications that Farrell was the master mind in carrying out the Hancock and Gore transaction."

"Medical evidence showed that since 1948 his health had improved considerably."

When John Smith Garden, Harcourt Garden, and Raymond Parer came to trial in November last year on charges

(Continued on Page 31)

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of conspiracy. Judge Holt adjourned a similar charge against Farrell because of Farrell's ill-health. On January 7 last, after a jury had acquitted the Gardens and Parer, the Crown dropped the charge against Farrell.

CONCERNING MR. GARDEN

Mr. Justice Ligertwood commented on the position and status of John Smith Garden and Royden Murray Service (former manager of Army Inventions Directorate).

He said: "Each of them was brought temporarily into the public service and was given a responsible office.

"Each of them was allowed a measure of trust and discretion outside the routine of the department to which he was attached.

"Each of them betrayed his trust. "The necessities of the time and the sudden expansion of the Public Service may have made it desirable, if not necessary, to create offices like those held by Garden and Service.

"But this inquiry has emphasised that the utmost care should be exercised in selecting persons to fill such offices and defining and supervising their duties and activities."

CONCERNING MR. HALLIGAN

"In marked contrast was the secretary and permanent head of the Department of External Territories (Mr. J. R. Halligan) who, over a long period, faithfully discharged his administrative duties.

CONCERNING MR. WARD

Mr. Justice Ligertwood said that he saw no reason to doubt any portion of Mr. Ward's evidence. He added:

"Mr. Ward gave his evidence openly and frankly, and with an air of sincerity and truth.

"Allegations that Mr. Ward was a party to the corrupt transaction and received

£5,000 on account of his share of the purchase money depend entirely on Garden.

"I find it impossible to give credence to Garden's story. It comes from a man who, in its very telling, confesses himself engaged in the most corrupt transaction.

His story shows signs of having been designed to fit in with the indisputable facts and of having been changed from time to time to meet new facts.

"In marked contrast was Mr. Ward's evidence."

MR. WARD RESUMES

Mr. Ward immediately resumed control of the Department of External Territories. He was, at his own request, relieved of that portfolio six months ago, pending inquiry by a Royal Commission.

(Our editorial comment upon this case is published elsewhere in this issue.)

MELANESIAN CHIEF WEDS TAHITIAN

NOUMEA, June 20.

KAKOU KOUMA, son of the grand chief Kakou, of the Tawainedre district of Mare, Loyalty Islands, recently married a pretty Tahitian girl named Vaitupari Apimata.

This is the second time the son of a Mare chief has married a Tahitiienne. In 1911, Billy, son of Naiseline, the most powerful chief on Mare, then a sailor on the gunboat Zelee, married a little wahine, with whom he settled down in Tahiti and raised a large family.

DIESEASE IN TAHITI

NOUMEA, June 20.

A HEALTH campaign in Tahiti recently gathered in, for treatment, 570 tuberculosis patients, and 1,609 syphilitics. Lepers are being given a new French treatment known as Promisole.

NOSTALGIA

Letter to the Editor

I HAVE often wondered how many countries, other than those listed on its title page, the "PIM" reaches. It would be very interesting to know.

I always have a copy or two with me on my trips to Siam (or Thailand, as it is again officially called—"Land of the Free") where my work often takes me, and they have been appreciated by friends of mine in that country.

Incidentally, I have been a reader since the first issue in 1930, when I lived in Apia.

I like this part of the world well enough; but my heart will always be in the Islands. A few days ago, I swam at a Siamese beach, in the Bay of Bengal, where a really magnificent surf was thundering in, and I thought of the beautiful, sequestered spots I know in the Pacific, where I spent many happy hours, 20 and 30 years ago—the first Islands beach I knew, at Ela, and, later, the beaches of Ysobel and Marau Sound—the lovely little beaches at Utu-goke, Nuku Island, Neiafutahi, and at the foot of the Ha'alafuli Liku. Mulinu'u and Faleula, on moonlight nights, come then readily to my mind, and Saweni and Sigatoka. Then later, during the war years, the grimmer but not less beautiful Gona and Scarlet Beach, and back to the country where I commenced with, Ela.

And now, when I'm past 50, I swim along the sundrenched beaches of Penang and Thailand, and still enjoy life. But the days of my youth in the Islands were the days of zest. I hope to see them all again sometime, and I know I would meet well-remembered friends, for I often see their names mentioned in the "PIM."

I wish you many years of continued success.

I am, etc.,

ARTHUR H. GREEN,

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AMERICAN CONSUMPTION OF COPRA

Battle Between Margarine and Butter

BATTLE in Congress, over a change in laws to favour the manufacture and sale of oleomargarine, is watched by oil and fats experts here from the standpoint of potential international commercial effects.

For historical reasons, the fight between domestic oleomargarine versus butter producers is of special concern to producers of copra and coconut oil. African palm oil can be, but is not now used here in margarine manufacture.

Edible whale oil is an important ingredient of margarine manufacture in Europe and Japan, but is not a factor in United States production. Chemically and industrially, whale oil could be processed in this country, but established custom and a high tariff will prevent its use within the known future.

However, the expanding margarine industry here is absorbing ever-greater quantities of domestically-produced fats and oil, hence the volume of vegetable oils available for export might be curtailed, to the indirect advantage for whale-oil sellers there.

The House of Representatives has already approved the Bill removing the excise taxes on oleomargarine. Dairy-state senators in the Senate will make a long and bitter effort to frustrate action by the House, or to moderate its terms if possible.

From the industrial standpoint, the fight for margarine grew out of the expanding national production of cottonseed oil, soybean oil and peanut oil, raw materials, and

improved processes of manufacture.

The use of cottonseed oil in margarine manufacture increased from 108,106,000 pounds in 1936 to 452,691,000 pounds in 1948; and the use of soybean oil increased from 14,261,000 pounds in 1936 to 252,728,000 pounds in 1948.

The interest of many cottonseed and soybean producing States gave the margarine group, for the first time, sufficient Congressional support to challenge the long-existing preferential status enjoyed in butter-producing States in the excise tax structure.

Meanwhile, the use of coconut oil in United States margarine plants declined from 150,465,000 pounds in 1936 to zero in war years 1943 to 1945. Since the war, such use has been: 14,507,000 pounds in 1946, 21,214,000 in 1947 and 5,471,000 pounds in 1948.

Because the Philippine Republic has a preferential status in United States imports of coconut oil, under the Philippine-United States Trade Act, the changing situation tends especially to affect that country. At present, imports of Philippine coconut oil are used chiefly for soap manufacture.

The United States also imports copra (raw material for coconut oil) in large quantities from the Philippines. Copra is duty free from all countries, but the United States maintains an excise tax on the first domestic processing of coconut oil. Before the war this tax was three cents per pound against the Philippine product, and five cents against other foreign countries.

The rate was made uniform at three cents per pound during war years when there were no imports from the Philippines. The Philippine Republic, according to trade sources, is now trying to renew its former preferential status. This could be accomplished legally by presidential proclamation to restore the five cent rate against other foreign countries.

Generally, the United States, after war-time shortages, again has abundant supplies of vegetable oils and animal fats. Effects of changed margarine laws on international trade may therefore not be appreciable in early years. Total United States stocks of oils and fats increased from about 1,200,000,000 pounds at start of 1948 to 1,600,000,000 at the year's end.—United Press.

OLD JAP AMMUNITION STILL CAUSING DAMAGE

From Our Own Correspondent

RABAU, June 12.
ALTHOUGH the war has been over four years, casualties in lives and equipment, are still occurring in Rabaul.

Recently when a native was handling old Japanese ammunition one of the cartridges exploded and caused his death. In early June, at Mr. J. Chipper's saw mills in Rabaul, one of the main breaking-down saws struck a 50-calibre machine-gun cartridge deeply embedded in a mill log. This resulted in more than £300 worth of damage being done to the mill. The loss of production as a result, is causing concern as sawn timber is still in short supply in Rabaul.

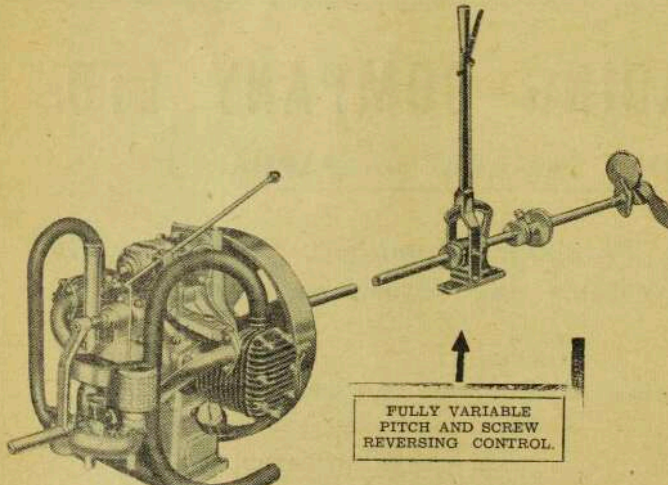
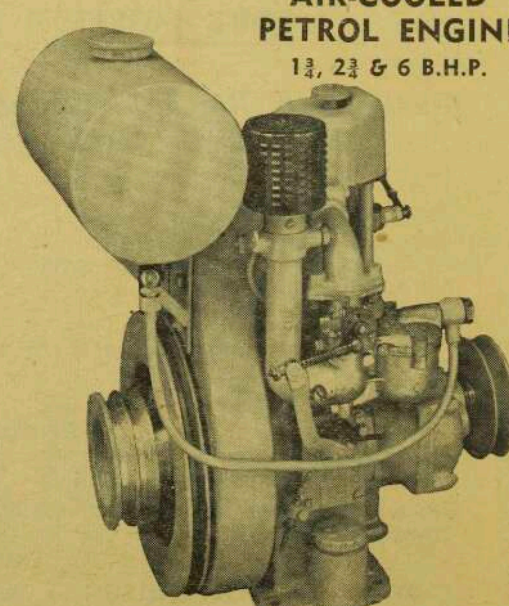
The New Caledonian Medical Association has published a handsome booklet of 125 pages about New Caledonia's new thermal spa of sulphur water at La Crouen. There are photographs and plans of the intended spa centre, and an excellent map. In addition to useful information by doctors, surveyors, geologists, chemists and other experts, many local people testify to the good the waters have done them.

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How Nonga Graduates Assist NG Health Programme

From Our Own Correspondent

RABAU, June 26.
THE Medical and Hygiene Training School for natives, situated at Nonga, about three and a half miles from Rabaul township, is built in an ideal setting on the foreshores of the north coast of Gazelle Peninsula. It was established in February, 1948, for the purpose of training natives to be Medical Assistants or Hygiene Assistants.

The present enrolment is 150 students of whom 25 are native women. Fifty of them are now studying for their final examinations which commence at the end of June. The successful candidates will then be considered ready to return to their villages as either Medical Assistants or Hygiene Assistants—whichever was their chosen study.

The Medical Assistants will be equipped with drugs and instruments with which their trading has made them thoroughly familiar; the Hygiene Assistants will be equipped with DDT spray and the tools required in their special work. They both will be on the payroll of the Department of Public Health.

The normal hours of the school are 23 hours each week but in an all-out effort to pass their examinations most of the students are studying from between 50 to 60 hours at the present time. With such enthusiasm surely great benefit will be derived from these people when they return to their villages.

Nonga is one of the schools set up under the Commonwealth Reconstruction Training Scheme.

Mr. Harold Williams, missionary associate, has arrived safely at Ndul Ndul, New Hebrides.

USE OF COCONUT FRONDS FOR BAGS

AS a further contribution to the discussion about the destruction of coconut fronds in Tonga, Mrs. Cameron, of Nukualofa (now a resident of Sydney) says that the practice grew up because the merchants refused to supply the native villagers with sacks for their copra. The villagers consistently used the sacks for domestic purposes—especially for the cooking-ovens—and the merchants got weary of it.

Unable to get sacks, the villagers made their own bags out of coconut fronds. "PIM" correspondents say that this practice has weakened the palms and reduced their production of nuts. Mrs. Cameron does not agree with this—she says all coconut palms should be more or less pruned.

The Public Works Department in Fiji has made it clear that workers are free to join a labour union or otherwise as they feel inclined. In a notice it was stated that the Government's policy was to encourage its employees to organise in order to facilitate collective bargaining and the composition of differences with employing departments. At the same time, any employee of the Government who brought pressure to bear on any other employee, or interfered with his freedom of action in the matter, was liable to disciplinary action.

Rabaul Baseball Assn.

From Our Own Correspondent

RABAU, June 30.
AT the annual general meeting of the Rabaul Baseball Association, at the end of June, the following office bearers were elected:—

Mr. Keith Chambers, president; Mr. G. Lange, vice-president; Mr. D. Briggs, secretary; Mr. Roger Hall, treasurer.

The retiring president, Mr. R. Dobbie, reported on the past season's activities which were handicapped by equipment shortages and the transfer of players to other districts.

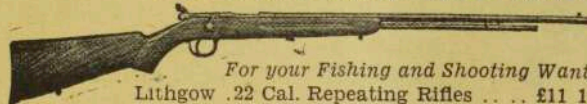
The 1949 season will commence in August. It is not known yet how many teams will compete but it is anticipated that a team from Kokopo will enter the competition for the first time.

Garnett—Suters Wedding

AT Suva Holy Trinity Pro-Cathedral on June 15, Miss Mavis Kathleen Garnett, younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lionel F. Garnett, of Suva, was married to Mr. Thomas William Suters of the Bank of New South Wales, Suva. The Rev. H. W. Figgess officiated.

The bridesmaids were Miss Joan Garnett and Miss Mary Green. Mr. Wilkie Simmons was best man and Mr. J. Rogers groomsmen.

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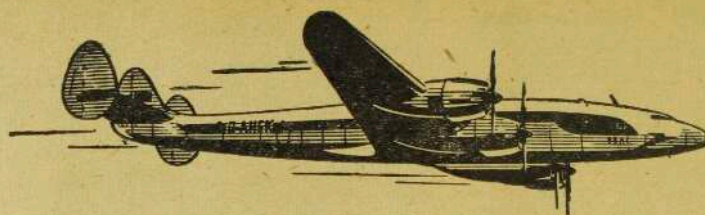
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Keen Rivalry Between Pidgin Newspapers

From Our Own Correspondent

THERE were three European newspapers in Papua-New Guinea before the war (published in Port Moresby, Rabaul and Morobe) but there are none to-day. Consequently many Europeans and Chinese are driven to reading the four Pidgin English newspapers that now flourish in the Territory of New Guinea.

The Rabaul paper is called, "Rabaul News"; the others are: "Lagasai" (published in Kavieng), "Garamut" (Lae), and "Buka News" (Bougainville).

The "Rabaul News" was started on September 21, 1946, by Mr. F. Boisen, District Education Officer, and Mr. M. Foley, at present Assistant District Officer, Gasmata. Like the three other papers it is now a roneoed sheet; it is edited by Waiau Ahnon.

The circulation was at first 500, but this has leapt to 1,500 copies per week, with the demand still growing—it is anticipated that by November, 2,000 copies will be in circulation weekly.

The "News" is printed every Friday night by Waiau and his staff of six natives assisted by volunteers from Malaguna Commonwealth Reconstruction Training School. Distribution gets off to a flying start at the native market on Saturday mornings, and 10 copies for every village in the Rabaul district are left with the Assistant District Officer, who gives them to the Lulual of each village during the usual Saturday combined conference of native officials.

The Education Department has arranged for copies to be posted to such

schools as Sogeri and to other districts where recruited labour from Rabaul might be serving.

The "Buka News" was commenced at the end of 1948, by Mr. F. Boisen, District Education Officer, Sohano. The "Lagasai" published its first issue on March 15, 1947, Mr. E. Gibson, District Education Officer in conjunction with District Services, being at the helm. The Lae "Garamut" was first published on October 11, 1947, the editor then being Mr. J. Doonar, District Education Officer, assisted by Waiau Ahnon. It is now edited by Kenyon Ahnon, Waiau's cousin.

There is intense rivalry between these four publications.

(Editorial Note: Some time ago, the Minister for External Territories, Mr. E. J. Ward, described Pidgin as gibberish and expressed a desire that it be rooted out of the New Guinea scheme of things, root and stem. Only the missions bothered to reduce Pidgin to its written form before the war, but now that the Administration is turning out these news-sheets it appears that the eradication of Pidgin is one dream of Mr. Ward's that will not come true.)

Slight Rise In Fiji's Cost of Living

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, June 22.

ARISE of one point—to 175—is shown in the quarterly index of the cost of living of European families in Fiji.

The index is compiled by Mr. C. H. Carne on the basis of 100 for August, 1939. In the last quarter increases occurred in food, cleaning and lighting and hardware groups. A decrease is recorded in the clothing group, mainly in men's clothing items and household goods, such as sheets and towels.

NO MORE EUROPEAN SETTLERS WANTED IN TONGA

SEVERAL months ago, Mr. J. C. Sampson, of police headquarters, Darwin, Australia, wrote to the Government of Tonga, and sought permission to enter the country, with a view to permanent residence. He received the following letter from the Premier:

"Owing to the difficulties of procuring accommodation and supplies of essential commodities, prevailing in Tonga under post-war conditions, it is regretted that no permits can be issued at present for permanent residence in the Kingdom."

Mr. Sampson is a descendant of the Cocker family, pioneer European settlers in Tonga, and regards the country as a sort of ancestral home.

DEATH OF MR. S. O. MARTIN, TROPICAL SHEEP-FARMER

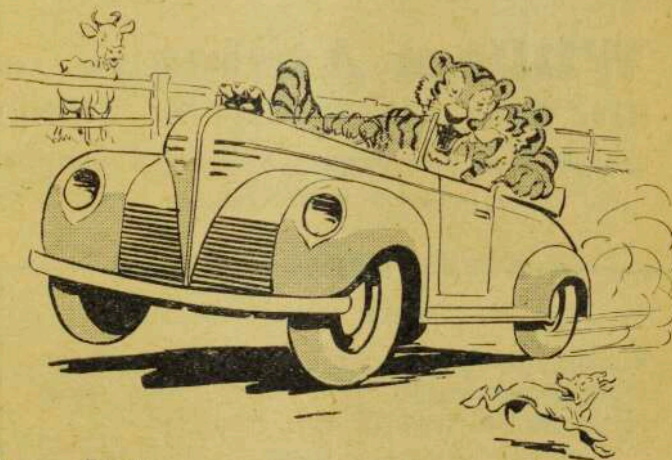
THE death occurred, in Sydney, at the end of June, of Mr. S. O. Martin, who made history by establishing a sheep station on a tropical island, and carrying it on successfully. Mr. Martin introduced Australian sheep to his property on Erromanga, in the southern New Hebrides, some 20 years ago; and they multiplied and flourished. Mr. Martin taught the natives—once notorious for the number of missionaries they had murdered—to become efficient sheep-tenders, and he sold the wool at good prices. Erromanga is a large island, with ranges nearly 3,000 feet high, and the sheep have done well on the plateaus. Mr. Martin was 78 years old, and is survived by his wife and one daughter.

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Norfolk Island's New Newspaper

THE enterprise of Mr. M. S. Reynolds has given Norfolk Island back its local newspaper. The news-sheet begun by the late Mr. A. S. Gassard in 1938, and carried on after his death by his daughter, ceased publication during the war years and since then Norfolk Island has been without any medium of local news and events.

The Norfolk Island News Edition (NINE) got off to a flying start on June 10, 1949, and will be published weekly thereafter. It is a 12-page romeoed paper to the production of which has been given a great deal of industry and skill. Apart from brief items of overseas news, the whole of the paper is devoted to local affairs, with ample coverage of sporting events, social activities, public services and personal items. It will be a boon to residents of and visitors to Norfolk Island,

where there are no concentrated settlements or villages.

In his new enterprise Mr. Reynolds has obviously received the support of local business people who have advertised extensively in the paper.

Papua-New Guinea Prices Spiral

Native Rations Cost 22/- Per Week in Moresby

EMployees of non-indentured labour in Papua-New Guinea were notified recently, in the Government Gazette, that they must apply on a special form (in duplicate) if they wished to make their employees a monetary allowance in lieu of rations.

The notice states, somewhat ominously, that, until further notice, the allowance payable in lieu of rations, in Port Moresby, is to be £1/2/- per week.

SPC Health Expert to Tour S-E Pacific

DR. E. MASSAL, Member for Health, South Pacific Commission Research Council, left Noumea on June 15 for a 2½ months' survey tour in the S-E Pacific.

Following a week in Suva, Fiji, he will fly to Tahiti on June 23. He will leave Tahiti by the end of July, stop in the Samoas for about four weeks and possibly make a short visit to Rarotonga.

He will make arrangements for carrying out the research programme approved by the South Pacific Commission at its Third Session in May. This includes extension of the service for reporting epidemic diseases, and, in this, facilities of the South Pacific Health Service, in Suva, will be used. Standardisation of Quarantine Regulations will be another task.

Dr. Massal also will arrange for the preparation of food suitable for infants during the weaning period, and try to discover whether such foods can be prepared safely in village communities from the usual staples and accessories. Other jobs will be to arrange for TB tests, and to establish liaison between the various field groups now working on filariasis and elephantiasis.

He expects to return to SPC headquarters in Noumea in August.

The Rev. A. J. Thompson, Archdeacon of Samarai and Mrs. Thompson, of the Australian Board of Missions, were on furlough in Melbourne in June.

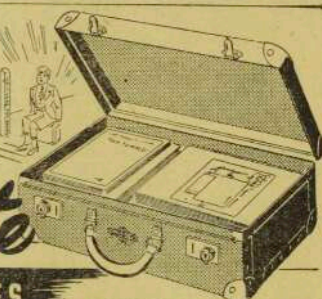
A reception to the Rev. and Mrs. L. D. Fullerton, of the Methodist Mission, Nausori (Fiji) was held in Boans reception hall, Perth (WA) on May 23.

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Fiji, in 1948, Broke All Trade Records

AT the annual meeting of the Suva Chamber of Commerce on June 14, the president Mr. Alport Barker, reviewed Fiji's production and trade for the year 1948.

Generally, it was a prosperous year, although coconut plantations in Lau and Taveuni sustained considerable damage in the hurricane of December, 1948, and it is expected that output therefrom will be affected for the next two years.

Imports and exports attained satisfactory figures and the favourable trade balance of £1,844,678 was a record. While the overall picture for Fiji, 1948, was good, it is as well to remember that the purchasing power of the £ is now less than one half of what it was before World War II and therefore, to assess Fiji's real prosperity, it is necessary to calculate accordingly.

However, it is interesting to compare the figures for 1948 with those for 1939 (just prior to the war) and with 1945, the year in which the war ended:—

	Imports £	Exports £
1939	1,625,054	2,746,207
1945	2,621,403	2,174,237
1948	5,944,834	7,789,513

Revenue and expenditure also showed a great upward sweep since pre-war:—

	Revenue £	Expenditure £	
1939	930,865	1,095,297	(£164,432 def)
1945	1,692,517	1,792,786	(£100,269 def)
1948	2,832,250	2,499,489	(£332,761 sur)

The figures for 1939 and 1945 do not give an entirely accurate idea of Fiji finances as they were two of the five years, since the early 1920's, when Fiji failed to show a surplus.

Income Tax, introduced only in recent years, shows receipts keeping pace with other trade figures. In 1945, receipts were £447,080; in 1947 (last available figures) they are estimated at £770,000.

INCREASED prices received for sugar in 1948 bumped up value of sugar exports to almost three times their pre-war figure. This commodity still heads Fiji's export list:—

	Tons	£
1939	118,470	1,425,704
1945	30,504	536,201
1948	149,494	4,265,406

Figures for 1945 show the effect of the industrial troubles on the Fiji cane-fields between 1943 and 1945.

The Theodore group of mines, during 1948, mined 170,426 tons of ore for a recovery of 93,023 oz. of gold.

Exports of gold for this period were slightly more than recovery figures and compared with other years as follows:—

	Oz.	£
1939	108,113	928,128
1945	72,726	694,956
1948	105,712	1,011,225

Copra exports were 4,000 tons less than in 1947, and about 6,000 tons less than in 1939. Value of 1948 copra exports, however, showed an increase on both years quoted—in comparison with the year 1939, values almost quadrupled:—

	Tons	£
1939	27,361	26,411
1945	23,102	469,100
1948	21,352	992,234

In addition to copra exported, 16,703 tons were crushed locally and yielded oil and meal to the export value of £760,774 and £80,630, respectively.

During the year, Fiji entered into a nine-years agreement with the UK Ministry of Food. The price paid will be fixed by negotiation annually, but will not vary more than 10 per cent. upwards or downwards from the preceeding year's price.

With the exception of a few shipments to Vancouver, Canada, all bananas produced in the Colony went to New Zealand where they were distributed by the NZ Marketing Board which buys them at an F.O.B. price, Suva.

About 65,000 fewer bunches were shipped in 1948 than in 1947, but the value of the shipments increased by approximately £14,000. Compared with other years:—

	Bunches	£
1939	114,580	26,411
1945	156,018	42,954
1948	289,372	94,996

(Continued Next Page)

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During the year canned pineapples to the value of £30,909 were exported (compared with £7,311 in 1939 and £7,850 in 1945). Miscellaneous exports included fresh pineapples, £3,348; citrus, £1,575; water-melons, £385; green ginger, £4,413; coconuts, £115; peanuts, £21,968; rice bran, £4,420; arrowroot, £203; rubber, £2,745.

For Home Consumption

FOODS grown for home consumption were either inadequate to meet all demands or were barely sufficient. The area under rice was increased. Acreage in 1948 was estimated to produce 17,000 tons. While there was no importation of rice, there was, at the same time, no surplus.

Butter production was 555,962 pounds weight, and 6,805 pounds of ghee. This was inadequate and 74,475 lb. of butter, butter substitutes and ghee were imported.

A beef shortage continued throughout the year though 6,247 cattle were slaughtered. There was a slight increase in pork production but not sufficient to meet the demand. Fresh pork was imported to the value of £5,920. Goat meat for the Indian population was also in short supply. Stock importations are being made in an attempt to improve local strains.

During the year, 15,400 gallons of candlenut oil were produced. None of this was exported—it was used locally for the production of paints.

The Fiji Gifts for Britain Fund has allocated another £1,000 for food parcels for general distribution. As well as bulk food distribution the Committee of the Fund has also sent 5,500 express parcels to members of the Women's Volunteer Services in Britain; a large number of knitted garments have also been sent. Secretary of the Fiji fund is Mrs. R. A. Herrick, MBE.

Fiji-Indian Pamphlet Causes Stir

From Our Own Correspondent

A NUMBER of earnest Indians have been trying to impress Fiji residents, including the "PIM" correspondent, that the views expressed by Mr. Gyani Das in the Delhi-published pamphlet, "Fiji—An Indian Colony" (reviewed in the May "PIM") by no means represents the views of the Indian community in Fiji as a whole.

Two Indian journals have suggested, in a roundabout way, that no one would have taken Mr. Das's publication at all seriously if the English language press had not split the beans—allegedly with the intention of sowing enmity between the Fijians and the Indians.

Mr. Leslie Davidson, of Ba, writing to the "Fiji Times," suggested that the Commissioner for the Government of India in Fiji might clear things up by publicly disclaiming the theories and policies put forward in the pamphlet.

Apparently on the principle of least said soonest mended, no authoritative Indian source has made any public comment on the pamphlet which, although published at Delhi in Hindi, has ended up by creating a minor commotion among Fijians, Europeans and Indians alike.

PORT OF SAMARAI

A CORRESPONDENT, referring to a recent photograph showing two ships anchored off Samarai, Papua, says that some ships can tie up at the small wharf there. He says that Captain Wilding usually lays his motor vessel "Malaita" alongside the wharf, if he does not wish to work more than one hold.

DEATH OF MRS. CHARLES FYSH

THE death occurred on June 14, of Mrs. Ethel Fysh, wife of Mr. Charles Fysh, of Norfolk Island.

Mrs. Fysh was well-known to hundreds of travellers as the hospitable hostess of "Torren Glen", one of the best known guest houses on the island. They had a large circle of friends on Norfolk Island.

She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Christian and the grand-daughter of Mr. F. M. Nobbs, a former Chief Magistrate.

The esteem in which she was held was demonstrated by the large gathering at the funeral.—V.W.

NEW NATIVE HOSPITAL FOR RABAU

From Our Own Correspondent

RABAU, June 21.

THE Native Hospital, Rabaul, has now been moved to its new site at the converted War Criminals Compound.

The District Medical Officer, who has had extensive experience in native hospitals, advises that several improved features include individual and supervised treatment in the wards to every patient. In the female section there is accommodation for 200 cases. It is staffed by Asiatic nurses supervised by a Female Medical Assistant.

The hospital has a fully equipped theatre, casualty and labour wards. The recreation hall will be used for church services, schools, sing-sings, and moving pictures. In the grounds are full-sized cricket and football fields.

Mr. P. Costello has been reappointed a member of the Executive Council of Fiji for a period of one year.

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Sensational Newspaper Story Follows Visit of Geologists to BSI

From Our Own Correspondent

MYSTERIOUS St. George's Island, off the coast of Ysabel, in the Solomons, has been investigated by a party of Australian experts—Dr. O. A. Jones, professor of economic geology of Brisbane University, Mr. Roy Hudson, Broken Hill solicitor, and Mr. John Grover, of Bondi, a post-war CRTS undergraduate in final year mining and metallurgy at Sydney University. Their interest was directed to the geological possibilities of the island.

St. George's Island is supposed to be the spiritual home of the Ysabel people when they die. Now and again, according to native accounts, the dead rise for a spree and can be heard singing and dancing while mysterious lights twinkle over the hillsides.

Writing about 400 years ago, Mendana described it as a prosperous island with some 6,000 families living on it. The next historical reference is made about a century later, when it was described as completely uninhabited. What became of the islanders, or what caused them to evacuate their island, is buried in antiquity. Its reputation now, anyway, is sinister—much involved with debbils.

Modern practice, although still respectful towards the ancestral dead, permits Ysabel people to visit St. George's for copra cutting purposes, without ill-effects.

Dr. Jones and Messrs. Hudson and Grover arrived in the Group by Qantas plane in May to make a complete geological survey, and to map the gold-bearing areas of Gold Ridge, in the Guadalcanal mountains. This is to provide the basis for the possible re-opening of mining operations. Messrs. Grover and Hudson made an earlier but brief visit to Gold Ridge in March, 1948.

As a result of ten days' work at Gold Ridge, they shipped 104 bags of various geological specimens by the mid-June "Mullama" for assay in Australia. At the request of the BSI Government they have also examined other near-at-hand, reported mineral occurrences in the Group.

There are possibilities, according to Dr. Jones, of chromite and asbestos being found on St. George's Island, which also has the characteristics of platinum-bearing country. He said that only the surface of the mining potentialities of the locality has been scratched in their month's visit. But he thought that the Protectorate, given the interest of mining enterprise, should have a fertile mining future.

The geologists' last visit was made to Kovogombi, east of Gold Ridge, where they prospected several rivers.

Editorial Note

IT is an interesting sidelight on modern journalism to contrast the above story with the piece of nonsense which appeared in the Melbourne "Sun" on June 21. Under the startling headline, "5,000 Natives Vanished from Hoodoo Pacific Island," was printed the following:—

Out in the Solomon Islands there's a haunted island called St. George, 80 miles north-west of Guadalcanal, where 5,000 natives have mysteriously vanished.

This was stated by a party of Australian mining experts, who returned to-day from the uninhabited "hoodoo"

island, 12 miles wide and five miles long.

One of the party, Mr. J. C. Grover, a Sydney mining engineering student, said that the Solomon Islands Government could not solve the mystery.

Natives of the adjoining Ysabel Island told the party that St. George was populated now only by spirits of the missing natives.

Natives would not land on the island even in the daytime, much less at night.

The party, which included also Mr. E. R. Hudson, of Broken Hill, and Dr. A. O. Jones, of the Brisbane University, tried to induce some of the Ysabel natives to accompany them as guides on St. George.

The natives weren't interested.

Eventually, the party found a Christian native guide, but he would not stay on the island overnight.

The party has been exploring the mineral possibilities of the Solomons.

NO indication is given, in the above, that all this is supposed to have happened about four hundred years ago, and then only on the evidence of Mendana, an unreliable witness.

Mendana discovered Ysabel, Guadalcanal and San Christoval in 1568. He did not make much of an investigation

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but four months later he was back in Peru claiming that he had discovered a region of fabulous wealth. He was given a colonising licence but, for one reason or another, did not start on his second expedition until 1595. This time he managed to miss the Solomons altogether and came to anchor in the Santa Cruz group, to the south. The expedition tried to establish their colony there, but Mendana died and the remnants of them eventually returned home under the guidance of the navigating officer, de Quiros.

No other European visited the Solomons for 200 years, so whether or not St.

George ever had a population of 5,000 or whether it was just another of Mendana's fabrications, no one will ever know.

The thousands of readers of the Melbourne "Sun," however, can be pardoned for believing that this flourishing native community mysteriously disappeared in recent times. The fact that these people may or may not have vanished 400 years ago, is of no particular news value. Presented in such a way that it appears that it might have happened recently, it is startling and has appeal to the sensation-seeking readers of Australian newspapers. The logical consequence of this piece

of irresponsible reporting is for the Russian delegate to ask in the UN Assembly just what the brutal British have done to cause these poor exploited natives to disappear completely from their Island home.

Mass Transportation of Stock by LST

Experiment by NZ Co. Should Assist Planters

A SHIP, designed to land tanks on Pacific Islands beaches was, in June, taking on cattle in New Zealand for the Solomons.

The ship, the "Rawhiti," belonging to the Roose Shipping Company Ltd., caused considerable interest in NZ when she moored up the Tamaki River with her bow-door open on the bank. It was expected that between 300 and 400 young cattle and horses would be loaded for the restocking of plantations on Russell Island, BSI.

This is the second trading voyage of the "Rawhiti." Her first began on March 20 when she left NZ to pick up war disposals equipment at various Pacific Islands. Trucks, cranes and tractors were driven or hauled on board through the bow-doors from island beaches where no wharf facilities exist. The owners praised the vessel as highly satisfactory for this sort of island trade.

On the vessel's second trip, after landing the cattle in BSI, she will proceed to Northern New Guinea to load empty drums for Fiji, then will take on more war disposals goods at Truk.

Apart from this experiment by the Roose Shipping Co., little use has been made of this type of war-time ship. Planters who have complained of the high cost of stock importations into New Britain (June "PIM") should watch this mass-migration of cattle to BSI with considerable interest.

NORFOLK IS. EGGS FOR FIJI?

From Our Norfolk Island Correspondent

EGGS are now scarce on Norfolk Is. The reason is that some people whose love of money outweighs their principles, have been paying above normal prices to corner the market, and the eggs have been flown to Fiji, in company with tomatoes, lettuces, etc.

It would be interesting to know if this produce has been fumigated, etc., and if official sanction has been given in the shape of an Export Licence.

Rabaul Tennis Tournament

From Our Own Correspondent

RABAUL, June 20.

THE results of the first post-war tennis competition, played off at the Rabaul Tennis Club Courts, on June 19, were as follows:—

LADIES DOUBLES: Mrs. H. Lyon and Miss J. Lyndon defeated Mrs. F. Rhoades and Mrs. J. Lange (6-4).

MIXED DOUBLES: Miss L. Bridges and Mr. D. Martin won the mixed doubles over Miss J. Palmer and Mr. A. Moore (6-1).

MENS DOUBLES: Mr. R. Hall and Mr. D. Martin defeated Mr. W. Sievers and Mr. W. Daley (6-0).

A collision between a jeep owned by Mr. J. Allen, of Kokopo, New Britain, and a Chinese resident of Rabaul, on June 29, resulted in a Chinese woman being admitted to Rabaul Hospital. Her condition was not serious.

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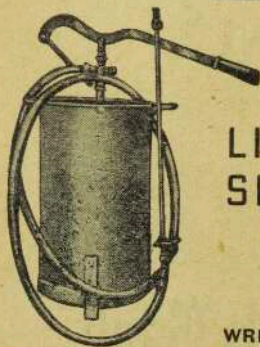
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OFFICIALDOM'S ROUNDABOUT IN FIJI

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, June 22.

ANOTHER temporary move-around among Fiji's high official posts is indicated. The present Acting Colonial Secretary, Mr. P. D. McDonald, will leave for New Zealand on June 27, on his way to Great Britain, where he will spend vacation leave.

Mr. McDonald has been Acting Colonial Secretary since Mr. J. F. Nicoll left to become Colonial Secretary at Hongkong. When Mr. McDonald goes on leave, the Financial Secretary, Mr. R. M. Taylor, will act as Colonial Secretary until the arrival, in September, of the Colonial Secretary designate, Mr. A. F. R. Stoddart, and Mr. P. H. Nightingale will act as Financial Secretary.

It is assumed that during any absences of the Governor, Sir Brian Freeston, from Suva (His Excellency and Lady Freeston will visit Vanua Levu from July 3 to July 10), the Financial Secretary, as Acting Colonial Secretary, will be Governor's Deputy.

MINERALS FROM THE SOLOMONS

A PARTY of geologists and mining students returned in June to Sydney from the Solomon Islands, with samples of ore from the gold bearing areas of Guadalcanal, and of deposits of Chromite, nickel and asbestos from the small St. George Island. The expedition was sponsored by an Australian mining syndicate. Until the samples are assayed, it is not possible to say whether the minerals are there in payable quantities.

(See article on page 39)

DEATH OF MISS M. C. ROY

MISS MARY CLAPTON ROY, who died in Suva in June, aged 89, arrived in Fiji with her parents in the pioneering days. The family resided on various plantations, and finally settled down in Bua (Vanua Levu) on Baulallai plantation. Her only surviving relative in Fiji now is a niece, Mrs. C. E. Pennefather.

The fourth New Zealand frigate, "Pukaki," left Auckland for a cruise in Pacific waters on June 23. Three other NZ Naval ships, "Taupo," "Hawea" and "Kahiere," are already cruising. "Pukaki" will visit the Kermadecs, five islands in the Tongan Group and will then join the three other ships in Suva, Fiji.

Our Civilization Can Be Good Natives, Says Clergyman

THE 6,000 natives who inhabit the 13 Torres Strait Islands within the Church of England diocese of Carpentaria are more Christian in attitude than the people of Melbourne, in the opinion of the registrar of the diocese, the Rev. Peter Bennie, who was on holiday in the southern capital recently.

Mr. Bennie said that 98 per cent. of the islanders were practising Anglicans.

He does not agree with those who think the natives should be shielded from the impact of white civilisation by allowing them to retain their tribal territories and traditions.

"Civilisation, like peace, is indivisible," he said. "White commercialism has a bad effect on anybody, natives included. But to deny natives the right to the good things that civilisation can offer is to regard them as anthropological specimens and not human beings."

Mr. Bennie's diocese extends from the southern New Guinea coast, through Cape York Peninsula to Cairns, and includes the Northern Territory.

He has been registrar, principal of the native theological college, and sub-dean of

the All Souls Cathedral at Thursday Island since August, 1946.

One of the aims of the mission's work is to produce an indigenous clergy, and already six Torres islanders are working as clergy.

At Thursday Island there was a serious deficiency of fresh food, which was causing malnutrition in some of the white children, and tuberculosis among the natives was far too prevalent.

The superintendent of the hospital (Dr. J. H. Barnes) was concentrating on tuberculosis, but supplies and equipment were badly needed.

Mr. Bennie said that the work of the Queensland Government was well intentioned and, despite many mistakes, much was being done. He believes that patience and perseverance will bring their reward.

—From Melbourne "Age."

The Director of Public Works in Fiji, Mr. John L. Brown, has been transferred to Cyprus as Director of Public Works, and will probably leave Fiji in September. He has been in Fiji since 1939.

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Million Dollar Publicity For Pastor Salau in the United States

(Contributed)

PASTOR SALAU, a Solomon Islander, who is at present touring the United States with Pastor A. G. Stewart of the SDA Mission, is receiving much publicity.

Among the churches where Salau spoke in New York was one in Harlem, where there was a congregation of 1,400 Negroes; and another of 800 Spanish-speaking people, who mostly had come originally from Puerto Rico and Cuba. Salau told them that while travelling in England and Europe he had felt lonely, not seeing many coloured people. Since coming to the United States, however, he said he had felt quite at home.

A large department store ran an advertisement in Pidgin English in a New York newspaper during the week Salau was in that city. At one of the libraries in the nation's capital, it was reported that Salau's presence in the country had developed a new and public interest in the Solomon Islands. It was suggested that Pidgin might sweep the land, es-

pecially among the younger set, so universally had Salau's story been published.

The Associated Press in New York estimated the free publicity gained in the extensive newspaper, magazine, radio, television and newsreel coverage at three to five million dollars.

Salau was a guest at Mary Margaret McBride's 15th Anniversary Radio Programme, at Yankee Stadium, where he spoke to an audience of over 43,000. His last appointment in New York was on the night of June 1, in a special broadcast and television programme known as "We, the People," which is nation-wide. Salau appeared on the platform with Lieut. Gordon Manuel, the airman whom the natives rescued and cared for in New Guinea, and whose adventures were recorded by Quentin Reynolds in the book "Seventy Thousand to One." Through Salau this grateful pilot thanked those who had saved his life.

Flying across to Los Angeles from Kansas City, Pastor Stewart and Salau took part in a church gathering of 12,000 people in the Hollywood Bowl, a vast amphitheatre surrounded by wooded hills.

While in Washington, ranking officers of the armed services who had served in the South Pacific had appointments with Salau. Everywhere he went servicemen wanted to do something for him.

Commenting on the welcome and publicity this Solomon Islands pastor has received, Pastor Stewart says: "It is an indication of the interest that America is showing in the South Sea Islanders who did such heroic service in saving some of their unfortunate men during the war."

Pastor Stewart and Salau will be constantly travelling and speaking at church conferences until August, when they expect to sail for Australia.

RETIREMENT OF THE REV. A. W. E. SILVESTER

THE Rev. A. W. E. Silvester and Mrs. Silvester, who have served the Methodist Missionary Society of New Zealand on Vella Lavella, BSI, for a number of years, are leaving the BSI later this year to live in New Zealand.

Mr. Silvester has compiled a new hymn and scripture book in the Bilua language of Vella Lavella. This is being printed in NZ. It will take the place of a former hymn book, copies of which have become worn out.

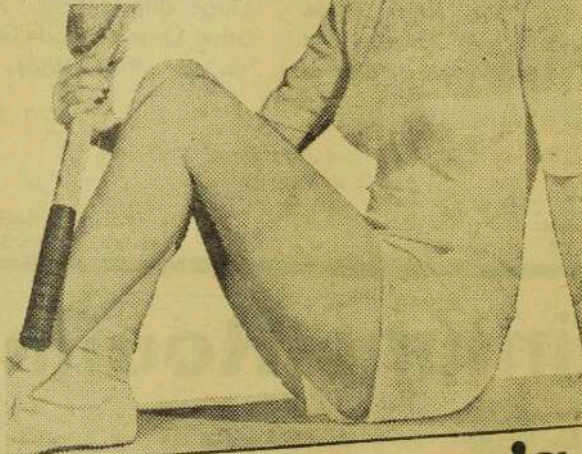
Mr. Silvester has been due for retirement for some time but desires to remain in Vella Lavella until his new hymn book is available to his people. He received help from his predecessor at Vella Lavella, the Rev. A. A. Bensley, now living in New Zealand, who checked the proofs of the book.

Mr. Silvester stayed in Vella Lavella during the Jap occupation in 1942-43. He and his natives rescued many Allied airmen and sailors. For this Mr. Silvester was decorated by the American authorities.

Matron Napier, whose term at the Norfolk Island Hospital has expired, has left for Sydney. Sister Austin replaces her.

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MISSION WORK IN LONELY CHOISEUL

FRRIENDS of the Rev. J. R. Metcalfe, who has been a Methodist Missionary on Choiseul, BSI, for many years, will be interested to learn that he has made good progress in the difficult task of rebuilding the work of the mission.

He had a serious illness last year and was absent in Australia from April to October. He returned to his little-visited island to find that mission work had been carried on well by his assistants, Sister Grace McDonald and Sister Lucy Money.

Welfare work among women and children at the end of 1948 included the care of six infants at the head mission station. This meant extra expense.

"We are glad to learn," writes Mr. Metcalfe, "that at long last the Government is to give us half the cost of milk used for infants. Up to the present we have had to pay for the milk, plus customs duty on it!"

Ten lepers were being cared for by the mission, but Mr. Metcalfe thinks there are probably more unsuspected cases of leprosy on Choiseul.

During his absence the gardens of the mission station deteriorated, but he is able to secure vegetables by barter. One legacy of the war years was that of an Australian pontoon which floated up on Choiseul from the direction of Fauro. It has been used as a bridge across one of the creeks.

In its schools, the mission on Choiseul is insisting that education is not for males only. The mission is seeing that girls eligible to attend school do so, and although there has been some opposition

from parents, Mr. Metcalfe says, "matters are now progressing favourably."

School attendance has been well maintained and there is a big demand for additional teachers. Only six teachers have been supplied although 15 were asked for by villagers.

COOK ISLANDS CURIO TRADE IN DOLDRUMS

From Our Mangaia Correspondent

THE world shortage of caustic lye has put an end to the formerly flourishing trade in shell-beads, peculiar to this island. The minute snail-shells had to be boiled in lye to prepare them for threading on hat-bands, necklaces, etc. There is no caustic now, so there is no "pupu"-market either.

One wonders how many ex-GI homes contain souvenirs of the South Seas of this nature, brought home by servicemen from regions that are still associated in the American mind with hula-dancers, grass skirts and romance a-la Hollywood. It is rumoured that curio shops in Hawaii pass off Cook Island pupu-work, done by the maids and matrons of Mangaia, as genuine Hawaiian handicrafts—and, no doubt, at a vastly improved value.

Locals did not get much for the stuff, whether they sold loose shells by the pound to the dealers who were not slow to take advantage of the GI market, or finished necklaces and hat-bands.

With the pupu went the hoped-for market for locally-made rau mats, which are great savers of city linoleum. No one wants an island mat now, it would appear.

Mangaia has not yet attempted the export of its talent in the form of a troupe of local entertainers. This, from present indications, is the last avenue left for Cook Islanders to make a little money.

'MARCHING RULE' IS NOW NEARLY DEAD

THE "Marching Rule" anti-British movement among the Solomon Island natives, which has caused much unrest since the war, is dying out, Dr. C. E. Fox, veteran Anglican Missionary, told the "New Zealand Herald" recently. He said that the movement had been confined to two islands, San Cristobal and Malaita, the largest of the group. There was still some passive resistance and nearly 2,000 political prisoners were at present in custody. The Acting Resident Commissioner, Mr. A. Germond, who had recently come from Africa, had the situation under control.

Dr. Fox has completed 47 years' mission service in the Solomons. He is now 71 years old, and is an authority on a number of Island languages.

Mrs. N. G. Stephenson, formerly Miss Pat Thomas, of Suva, has had the distinction of being awarded, on the same day as her husband, the degree of Doctor of Philosophy of London University. She is a daughter of the late Mr. A. B. Thomas, and Mrs. Thomas, who lives in Suva. She holds the degree of Master of Science.

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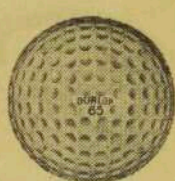
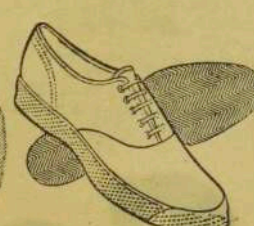
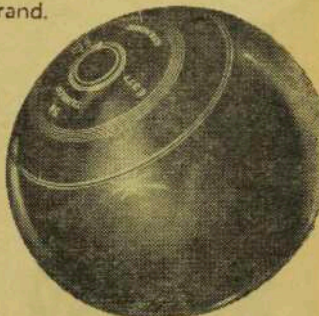
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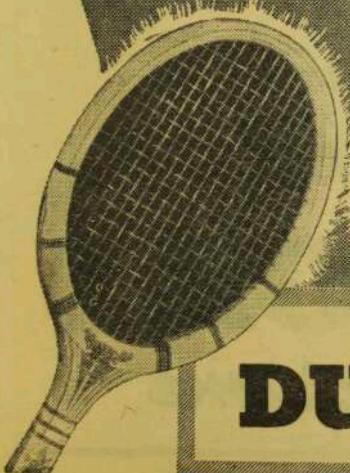
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GERMANS and COMMUNISTS

Strange Discrimination By Australian Bureaucrats

AS an example of how the Australian laws relating to nationality are administered we quote the case of Mr. George Janke, who is now a resident of Sydney.

Mr. Janke was born in Queensland early in this century, and he went to New Guinea with his father in 1906. Therefore he had Australian citizenship, but his father was still a German national, although he had been some years in Australia. His father retired from New Guinea in 1912, to live in Australia.

When World War I came in 1914, George Janke joined what was called the German Citizen Soldiers in New Guinea. He did not fight—he was in another district when the Australians landed near Rabaul. George and his brother were allowed to remain in New Guinea during World War I; they lived there during the long period between wars; and they were brought to Australia for internment in 1942. Later, George was released from Tatura and "manpowered" into a leather factory in Sydney, where he spent the remainder of the war years.

Although George Janke has never seen Europe, and cannot speak any language except English, the bureaucrats insist that he is not an Australian. He has made repeated applications to return to the only country he knows—New Guinea—but the inscrutable powers that be will not permit it, and George is therefore still a more or less skilled worker in the wilderness of Sydney. His brother, however, has been allowed to return to New Guinea.

The case is somewhat similar to that of Mr. O. Soltwedel. Apart from spells in internment during both World Wars, Soltwedel spent 36 years continuously in New Guinea, and finally was shipped

away to a Germany that he had not seen since he was a youngster under Kaiser Wilhelm.

We do not know whether Janke and Soltwedel were Nazis. Presumably, they had expressed pro-Nazi sentiments at some time. But why the Australian bureaucrats should so savagely punish the now defeated Nazis, while tenderly cherishing and protecting Communists—who are by far Australia's worst enemies—is something that no man of ordinary reason can comprehend.

WEALTH FROM NOUMEA HARBOUR BED

SEVENTY-SIX shells of different calibres which had fallen in the sea alongside Noumea Docks, during American war-time loading and unloading operations, have been brought to the surface by a French contractor during dredging work, and handed over to the artillery garrison.

The contractor, M. Mary, has been obliged to cease work owing to the danger of accident.

A fabulous amount of material was dropped in the harbour during the intense war-time activities which, for two years, turned Noumea into the busiest port in the Pacific after San Francisco. It would probably repay an Australian or American diving outfit to get permission to examine the ocean bed for relics of the US occupation. During the war a US flying officer, in his spare time, took to diving as a hobby and brought up—in the diving and not in the colloquial sense—about 700 bottles of New Zealand beer, which he sold to his mates at a good profit.

In the first five months of 1949, Suva had 134.53 in. of rain. The 57-year average for a complete year is 120.86 in.

DEATH OF W. H. JEFFERSON

THE many Papuan and Islands friends of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Jefferson will regret to hear of the death of Mr. Jefferson—on June 20 at St. Luke's Hospital, Sydney, after an abdominal operation.

He had recently left Malaya, on leave, after many years of rubber planting there, interrupted by the Japanese invasion. He was amongst the first civilians to return to that country and enthusiastically began rebuilding his company's interests there.

"W.J.", as he was known, was born in Tasmania 65 years ago, of pioneer stock. As a youth he joined the Eastern Extension Cable Service and served in Darwin, Cocos, and Singapore. In 1910 he went into rubber in Malaya, later going to Papua, where he was, for 25 years, connected with planting at Kemp Welsh, Ogamobu, Doa, Itikinumi and other estates. He was offered the management of Sagga Estate in Malaya in 1936 and he went back to do an outstanding job in rubber production there.

With a view to ultimate retirement, a property was purchased at Mossvale recently, but W.J. became ill soon after getting established there. Mrs. Jefferson, who is the sister of Mrs. Allen Innes of Vacluse, will live at the Mossvale home.

CHICKENS FOR FIJI

IMPORTATIONS of high-grade poultry into Fiji from Australia and New Zealand are steadily increasing. In 1946, a small number of day-old chicks were sent to the Colony by air from Australia. In 1947, the number grew to 10,013 and in 1948 it was 13,000. Chicks are now arriving by air from New Zealand as well as Australia, and the number imported so far this year is 4,000.

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BSI Palmer Family Has A Floating Home

From Our Own Correspondent

FAMILIAR sight round Protectorate waters these days is the graceful little schooner, "Matoma," in charge of Mr. Ernie Palmer, back again on his pre-war job of recruiting labour. Capable Mrs. Palmer, the five Palmer children and one dog are enthusiastically living on board and enjoying "Matoma" as a home. Formerly the "Loyaute," of Noumea, "Matoma" was built in New Caledonia and has expertly planned accommodation. At one time she was a BP vessel; during the war she was in service for the Navy, then she was bought by Levers' Pacific Plantations Pty., Ltd., and reached the Protectorate under Mr. Palmer's command about three months ago. She carries sail and is powered with a 120 HP Fairbanks Morse engine.

Malaita Labour Now Coming Forward

MR. PALMER is engaged in recruiting labour for Levers' and has been tackling parts of the problem-island of Malaita. A fertile source of plantation labour pre-war, Malaitamen, confused by Marching Rule doctrines, have, up to now, been reluctant to go back to any form of outside work. Shortage of good labour has been handicapping Levers' rehabilitation work in their Russell Island plantations.

In two trips round Malaita in April and May, Mr. Palmer brought in 200 recruits for Levers' and believes that more will follow.

"Matoma," with all seven Palmers on board, left for Rabaul to-day where she

will pick up cargo and bring back to the Protectorate Mr. L. C. Thomas, Levers' local general manager, who is returning from a business trip to Sydney.

FIJI'S 1949 TOURIST SEASON BEGINS

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, June 22.

LATER than usual, Fiji's winter tourist season is reported to be now under way. Visitors come mainly from New Zealand and Australia, although several small parties from Canada and the United States are at present doing the Viti Levu round-trip between planes at Nadi Airport.

Two other parties are touring Viti Levu under the auspices of Whites Aviation, Ltd. and Northern Hotels, Ltd.

Tourists staying for longer periods are making advance bookings for the trip to Labasa by sea, returning to Suva by plane.

ANOTHER TALKIE SHOW FOR MANGAIA

From Our Mangaia Correspondent

THE popularity of the talking picture in the Cook Islands is incontestable, and this isolated isle of ours sighed for many years for a show before Mr. Dick Brown of Rarotonga (one of the well-known Browns of CI, originally a Mangaia family) decided to establish one on the island of his birth. Now, Mr. W. P. Browne, also of Rarotonga (no relation) has sent over a rival talkie outfit, which has been set-up in an open-air theatre erected by Punga Kareros, of Kaumata Village at the upper end of the beach.

What "talkies" will do to our children's English, and to their conceptions of the white man's world, remains to be seen. In Rarotonga, the exploits of Superman, comic-strip hero who, without aid of machinery, flies through the air with the greatest of ease, are regarded as genuine—how could the camera tell a lie?



MY THROAT WAS RAW

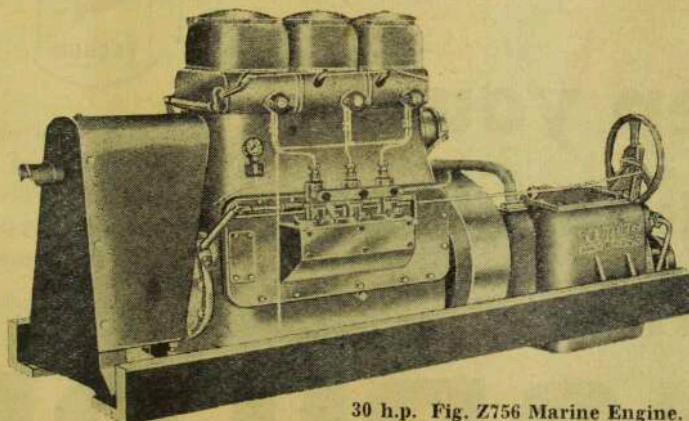
my eyes were red,
My nostrils sore, my limbs like lead;
I could not sleep, I dare not smoke,
And when I ate I seemed to choke.
'Twas influenza at its worst,
'The dog's disease!' a thing accurst;
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Running A Maternity Hospital in BSI

THESE are extracts from letters received in New Zealand from Sister Lucy Money, a maternity nurse who went to the BSI two years ago, to serve with the Methodist Mission on Choiseul.

THIS house is bedlam just at present—there's never a moment's quiet.

To start with, I have two new babies. One arrived about ten days ago aged six days on arrival. The father, grandfather and a few other male relatives brought her overland and took three days over the trip. She was in very good condition and weighed about 5½ lbs. She put on eight ounces last week so I am quite pleased with her.

I'm bringing her up tough. She was put out to sleep in the bathroom at night, right from scratch and frequently sleeps right through from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m.

Then exactly a week afterwards, a party arrived from Vurulata with the information that they had brought me another orphan baby (making a total of five, under two years old). I groaned aloud but was a little cheered when I discovered that it was a child of over seven months, not a brand new one. I was not at all cheered, however, when I saw the infant and asked a few more questions. The mother had died a few days previously of TB and of course had been feeding this infant from birth. He had become infected himself. He is a very sick-looking child, weighs about 10½

lbs. at 7½ months, and is very limp and miserable. A native medical practitioner who has just been round on one of the government boats had a look at the baby before he was brought here and says there is very little doubt as to his diagnosis.

He is a very pathetic little chap with a nasty cough and a rattly chest, but he is not a bit shy and would be rather a pet if well. Meanwhile, of course, he is a bit of a problem as we cannot let him mix with the other children.

That is not the end of my family however. I have Ivy Bui (a teacher's wife) here for a few months, together with her adopted child. She is a godsend of course, specially as she has taken over the sick baby at her own request and is looking after him for me. It isn't a good idea from her point of view as she has a tendency to TB herself, but we are letting her do it for the time being and it does help me out of a hole. One of the younger girls is looking after Ivy's Hena. He is a funny, cross-eyed little chap, but very sturdy now. He does not make any attempt at talking and he is terribly scared of white people.

Ivy is here to get some more maternity experience. The Senga folk are worried about the number of women who die in childbirth over there, and Ivy is keen to be able to help them.

One of the teachers asked the other day if his wife could come here to stay until her baby was born. There are already seven in the family and the youngest is still quite small. So he asked if I would have the youngest child, too, and the eldest girl to help look after it! They arrived on

Monday, so the house is almost overflowing.

Then I have two maternity cases—So what with one thing and another, life is a bit hectic. Also Muli, our senior kitchen girl, is away just now. She went home two or three weeks ago to look after her mother who was not well. The mother quickly recovered, but Muli did not show up again. Eventually she put in an appearance one day last week to say she was not coming back again. She said she wanted to attend to her garden, but we suspect that to be an excuse.

Mrs. Metcalf says either Muli is tired of work, or else she has her eye on some man.

Small-Ships Wharf Speeds Up Turn-Around In Rabaul

From Our Own Correspondent

RABAUL, June 12.

THE work of converting the sunken Japanese ship alongside Rabaul's pre-war, main wharf into a small-ship's wharf, has been completed.

The wharf was a project of the Directorate of Shipping and the construction has been carried out by contractors under Department of Works and Housing supervision.

The purpose of this wharf is to expedite the turn-around of inter-island vessels carrying copra. Two 300-tonners can berth alongside, and since it has been in use, a period of six weeks, it has facilitated the handling of copra in Rabaul. Hitherto inter-island ships could discharge in Rabaul only when there were no overseas ships alongside the pontoon wharf.

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Regular meetings and social gatherings, with lectures, are held at History House, 8 Young Street, Sydney, on the fourth Wednesday of each month, at 8 p.m.

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Box 2434, G.P.O., Sydney.

Two retiring members of the Fiji PWD staff were recently entertained at the office of the District Engineer, Suva. The Director of Public Works, Mr. J. Brown, attended. Mr. George Scott has relinquished the post of road foreman, Nausori, after 26 years' service, and Mr. E. S. Hayles, has been senior foreman at the Walu Bay joinery shop for 21 years.

Mr. W. R. Dyer, who was for some years in charge of meteorological services in Fiji, paid a brief visit to the Colony in June. He was engaged, with other New Zealand meteorologists in a tour of inspection of meteorological stations in the South Pacific.

NORFOLK IS. NOTES

By Vernon Wheatley

SHIPPING. The arrival of the SS "Morinda," at the beginning of June, ushered in that spell of wet and boisterous weather which is rapidly becoming known as "Morinda weather."

The ship departed for Vila still carrying some cargo which will be discharged upon her return.

The residents were pleased to see the "Morinda" as local cows have gone dry, and stocks of imported butter have run out.

THE BUTTER FACTORY will shortly be in operation again. A new engine and compressor have been purchased from the Administration to replace the plant which gave up the ghost some time ago.

POLICE AFFAIRS. Popular Sergeant Jimmie Jones has resigned his position, and the job has been taken over by Mr. T. J. Crommelin, a former member of the NSW Police Department.

We still have no magistrate. Since the last magistrate died some months ago, no new appointment has been made and officialdom has made no statement as to when the vacancy will be filled.

PROJECTS. The Department of Works and Housing is making good progress, in the face of essential material shortages, with plans to modernise airport facilities here. The programme calls for the erection of modern houses for members of the Department of Civil Aviation, a modern terminal building and a licensed accommodation hotel, plus, of course, certain improvements to the strip and the formation of a new taxi-way apron. At last we can see the end of the gloomy hut with the dirt floor where passengers are welcomed or farewelled. It is said that, when the hotel is completed, the Liquor Bond Store will move in.

RUMOURS. Sifting the wheat from the chaff, we find that the foregoing statement explodes the myth that Qantas were planning the erection of a guest house.

BOUNTY DAY. The annual observance of the anniversary of the landing of the Pitcairners on Norfolk Island was celebrated on June 8. The day was fine and clear. The traditional party marched from the pier to the cemetery, placing wreaths at the Memorial, the cemetery gates and also on the headstone of the grave of Mrs. Dinah Quintal, widow of Edward Quintal and eldest daughter of John Adams of the "Bounty." After the singing of "Gethesemane" by the company, the march continued to Government House where the Administrator entertained them at morning tea. Later, a picnic banquet was held by the Kingston ruins but the gathering could not cope with the food supplied—a credit to the ladies responsible. Marching order was: Colour-bearer (Thornton Quintal), Admiral of the Fleet (Consett Christian), Captain (Carty Christian), Lieutenants (Messrs. E. Adams, J. Young, Ben Christian), Chaplain (Pastor Pat Adams), Doctor (Fred Quintal), Company of the Fleet (approximately 45 members, with Midshipmen Evans and Nobbs in the rear), Officer on duty (Ben Christian).

(NB. All titles are "courtesy.")

PRESS. A small star has appeared on our horizon, in the shape of NINE (Norfolk Island News Edition).

The last news-sheet published here was the weekly produced by the late Mr. A. S. Gazzard.

The sponsor of the present service deserves every encouragement.

Mr. W. G. Johnson, managing director of W. R. Carpenter and Co. (Fiji) Ltd., returned to Suva on June 16, after a brief business visit to London.



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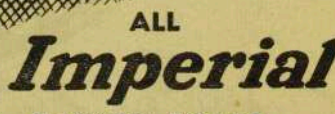


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- Luncheon Pork
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- Pâté de Foie
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The Rev. Kolinio Saukuru, a Fijian who belongs to the Methodist Mission, has been appointed to special deputation work in Australia for a year. He became well known to Servicemen who served in Arnhem Land, and won their high regard.

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From Our Mangala Correspondent

While this may be blamed upon careless stowage in NZ and more careless handling in the Islands, it may also be due to the amateurish packing of the goods at place of purchase.—soft paper was tied around chair legs, etc., and over mirrors. This had no effect at all in taking the force of a drop or blow aboard the ship.

As Mangala has no wharf, the question of claims is not very clear, but it would seem that shippers are able to disclaim all responsibility once any item has left the ship's sling, under the law affecting anchorages and roadsteads. In the case of goods landed, but on opening found "short," there would appear to be no redress for the unfortunate consignee.

There was an exceptionally large cargo this call, exceeding the customary 4,000 cases of a first trip of the orange-season. Secondly, the local labour, like that of Rarotonga, will no longer work even a steamer on Sunday. Schooners never were lightered upon the sabbath, but until recently any steamer or motor-vessel, anxious to complete loading and avoid the loss of costly fuel, was worked after morning church. More devout to-day, the islanders make no exceptions—the ship just has to wait for Monday, lying idle off the reef. The expense to the operators can be imagined; but no protests are of any avail, this island taking its policy, and perhaps its instructions, from the CIPA in matters affecting the conditions and payment of hired labour.

The combination of plety and increased wages is a headache for the Administration, and in turn, the IMD. With wages and prices spiralling, and no Sunday work, the Manganai planter is still wondering why prosperity is still around the corner, although the price he receives for his fruit is higher than ever before.

NEWLY revived, the Suva Local Association of Boy Scouts has elected the following officers: President, Mr. Alport Barker; vice-presidents, Sir Maynard Hedstrom, Sir Henry Scott, Ratu Sir Lala Sukuna, the Rev. M. G. Wilmhurst, Messrs. C. Harvey, A. A. Ragg, Ratu Etuate Cakobau, Messrs. R. Crompton, F. W. Ward, L. Noerr, Hari Charan, J. F. Grant and Kam Chee; chairman, Mr. C. Harvey; secretary, Mr. J. Nesbitt; treasurer, Mr. C. M. Read; auditor, Mr. A. P. C. Warren.

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TAKING CIVILISATION TO NATIVES OF NG HIGHLANDS

Survey of SDA Schools in
Papua-New Guinea

From Our Own Correspondent

DURING the past month, Mr. Alfred W. Peterson, Secretary for Education, accompanied by Pastor Gray, Superintendent of Education for the Coral Sea Union Mission of Seventh-Day Adventists, with Headquarters at Lae, have been making a survey of SDA Mission Schools.

Their itinerary has taken them from Port Moresby to schools located along the Kokoda Trail and to the south-east of Moresby in Papua; then to Lae and up the Markham Valley into the Highlands, followed by a visit to Rabaul district. On June 15, accompanied by Pastor White, Mr. Peterson left for a survey of the mission educational work in the Solomons Group. The first flight of the new Qantas service to BSI via Rabaul made it possible to complete a round trip to Sydney without covering the same ground twice.

Mr. Peterson was impressed with the vast resources of the Territory. He said he found the Inland natives much less sophisticated than their beach brethren, their villages revealing their primitive culture. Some of the people of the Highlands have neither clothes nor blankets, their houses, built to keep out the wind and the cold, are dark and dirty beyond words. To keep them warm during the cold nights, they build fires and lie down on mats on the dirt floor. In these villages most of the children were suffering from colds. There is a vast field for the medical missionary and the teacher.

At Kainantu, a high level of training has been given under the direction of Pastor A. J. Campbell. There, as on all other mission stations, a strong building programme was in progress.

They were erecting school units and other buildings necessary to their work. They had just completed a church which would be a credit to any European community. All the lumber had been pit-sawn and hand-dressed in the school workshop. The interior of this native church had been varnished to bring out the beauty of the native wood. The floor was dressed and polished until it shone. The natives were proud of it, as they might well be. Pit-sawing, dressing timber, building and finishing is splendid education and the experience of erecting and using a good building has enormous influence on the culture of the natives.

At Bena-Bena, Mr. Peterson said, Mrs. Howell had taught the people to knit. Men, as well as the women, were skilfully using knitting needles, and sweaters and pullovers in all stages of completion could be seen. Some of the pullovers reminded one of Joseph's coat of many colours. In that upland country with its cold nights, the natives were learning a skill which would enable them to provide themselves with warm garments made by their own hands.

SO it was at each school; some new art or craft was being taught which would be of practical value. While all of this was being taught, the natives were making gardens and adding to the value of their own culture. Teachers skilled in psychology and methods of

elementary education had taken raw natives and in a reasonably short time had them doing simple arithmetic and reading simple sentences. A new world was being opened to them. The alertness of the younger pupils was arresting. Nothing escaped them. Learning was progressing at a rapid rate.

If human personality is the most valuable asset of a country then the mission schools are making an enormous contribution to the Territory of New Guinea.

Mr. Alport Barker was re-elected president of the Suva Chamber of Commerce at the annual meeting on June 14. Messrs. **J. Trotter** and **W. G. Johnson** were re-elected vice-presidents, **Mr. C. W. Aidney**, secretary-treasurer and **Mr. A. E. Pearce**, auditor.

DEATH OF MRS. E. SMITH

THE death of Mrs. E. Smith occurred at the CWM Hospital, Suva, Fiji, on June 16 after a long illness.

Mrs. Smith, who was only 35 years of age, is survived by her husband, two sons and two daughters. She was the daughter of Mr. F. Hickes and the late Mrs. Hickes, of Sigatoka.

Mr. H. G. R. Mason, New Zealand Attorney-General, and Mrs. Mason, arrived at Suva on June 18 to spend a month's holiday in Fiji.

Mr. K. McFarlane on June 12, retained the Fiji Golf Club's open championship title with two rounds of 74, equal to 148 for the 36 holes.



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MELANESIAN MISSION NOW SETTLED IN NZ HEADQUARTERS

WITH the appointment of a successor to the Right Reverend W. H. Baddeley, who was Bishop of Melanesia for 14 years, the new Bishop, the Right Reverend S. G. Caulton, desired that the offices of the mission should be returned to New Zealand as soon as accommodation could be found. This was completed in October of 1943, and the Mission office is now domiciled in The National Mutual Buildings, 41 Shortland Street, Auckland.

It was natural that some loss of interest in the Mission was sustained in NZ through the long absence of the administrative offices. Bishop Caulton is arranging for the mission vessel "Southern Cross" to visit the Dominion more frequently. A considerable saving is effected by making use of the mission's own vessel in transferring large quantities of stores etc. to the mission field and it is understood that the Bishop hopes that plans may be made for the visit to NZ of missionaries who will be given time, in addition to their furlough, to carry out deputation work throughout the parishes. A considerable amount of stores will continue to be purchased in and sent forward from Australia, notably to the New Hebrides and Banks Islands.

The Centenary celebrations of the Melanesian Mission will take place throughout New Zealand in September and October of this year. The mission

vessel "Southern Cross" will make a goodwill tour of many ports in the Dominion at this time. Bishop Caulton will head the party from the mission field and meetings and services will be held throughout the country.

It is of interest to note that the Northern Archdeaconry of Melanesia, that is, the portion lying in New Britain, where the mission had many stations which were destroyed and where lives were lost during the Jap occupation, is to be taken over by the Diocese of New Guinea which is under the leadership of the Right Reverend P. N. Strong, and is part of the Church of the Commonwealth of Australia. The transfer will take effect from July, 1949.

BIRTHDAY HONOURS FOR BSI

From Our Own Correspondent

HONIARA, June 9.

TWO King's Birthday Honour awards were announced by the Acting Resident Commissioner (Mr. J. D. A. Germond) at the flag parade held in Honiara, BSI, to-day.

Mr. Lloyd Ambler, formerly of the Fijian service and later in the Protectorate as Treasurer, was granted the ISO (Imperial Service Order) for 40 years' faithful service. Mr. Ambler retired at the end of last year and is now living in New Zealand with his family.

Sgt. Iromea, who joined the Solomon Islands Armed Constabulary in the mid-twenties and is at present stationed at Auki (Malaita), was awarded the Colonial Police Medal.

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CI STAMP ODDITY FETCHES £70

From Our Mangaia Correspondent

A COOK ISLANDS stamp of the "Captain Cook" variety, with a centre portrait of the great navigator, issued in the Rarotonga Post Office in 1932 to a European resident, was later found to have Cook's head upside-down. The only stamp so distinguished in a whole sheet, the rarity was noticed by reason of the fact that, no matter which way it was examined, it looked reversed. The item was at length disposed of in collector channels in New Zealand, and has now reappeared at a London stamp auction, where it fetched no less than £70.

Around the CI, stuck in old native Bibles, etc., are many old issues of postage stamps, dating back to the very first. One may assume that many a philatelic gem of purest ray serene lies thus hidden, and ignored, for the simple reason that the native heir who took over Grandfather's "parau" knew nothing of the cash value of any old CI stamps adorning the inside cover (old-timers often kept their "tamepa" safe that way, till they got stuck owing to the humidity).

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INVALUABLE EX-ARMY EQUIPMENT LOST IN NEW GUINEA

Labour Senator Is Critical of Administration

CONSTRUCTIVE criticism of conditions in Papua-New Guinea was made in the Senate of the Australian Parliament, by Senator Reg Murray, of Tasmania, during the debate on the Papua-New Guinea Bill. Senator Murray has spent a good deal of time in New Guinea—he commanded a small ship there during World War II. He is particularly critical of the failure of the government to acquire from the Army, after the war, equipment that would have been most valuable in the work of the rehabilitation and development of the Territories.

The speech was lengthy. The following are noteworthy extracts.

PAPUA and New Guinea have grown in importance, not only from the point of view of defence but also from an economic point of view. I see no reason why the two territories should not eventually become the seventh State of the Commonwealth. New Guinea is one of the largest islands in the world and its strategic importance to this continent is obvious. In World War II, at Madang and Alexishafen, I saw the Allied fleets assembled in preparation for the invasion of the Philippines. Those fleets, which consisted of hundreds of units, were comfortably accommodated in the harbours in that area.

I intend to be somewhat critical of the present administration of both Papua and New Guinea. I base my criticism on evidence which I gained at first hand during my visits to those areas. They were not fly-by-night visits by air. During the period of my war service in those areas I had the opportunity, whilst serv-

ing on small ships, to study conditions from the Fly River right up to Hollandia.

The impression I gained of the present administration of postal and telephonic communications was most unfavourable. During the war all those facilities were organised and controlled by the military authorities. At present, however, postal and telephonic facilities in both Papua and New Guinea are restricted, being staffed by a few European and native officers under the direction of the Treasury. Postal and customs facilities are administered on a joint basis. Telephone services in Papua are very limited. Only one European officer is employed part-time on the telephone services.

After the war, two experts of the Postal Department were sent to New Guinea to organise postal and radio communications and they presented a very sound report. They established schools at Port Moresby and other centres for the training of natives as linesmen and for other post office work. The natives proved to be adaptable and rapidly became efficient. However, the communications organisation is now under the control of the local administration instead of that of the Postal Department, and has become loose, haphazard, and inefficient. The telegraph services are functioning under the direction of the Treasury. That is a remarkable state of affairs, considering the technical nature of the work involved and the very high degree of skill and knowledge required to organise and direct a telecommunications service. The treasurers of both territory administrations have been appointed as chief postmasters, and they exercise full control of postal and telephone services within their areas.

THE entire system of communications was maintained by the Australian Corps of Signals before civil administration was restored, with army equipment and facilities. As soon as the Army moved out, a chaotic situation arose with regard to stores and equipment. Neither the Commonwealth Disposals Commission nor the administration had enough technical officers to check defence equipment that was available for use by the administration. Because of that, the administration sacrificed a wonderful opportunity to acquire large quantities of equipment and materials that could have been used in the territory.

I have seen valuable technical equipment abandoned in the jungle to the ravages of the tropical climate, deteriorating rapidly because of the absence of protective cover. Large concentrations of mechanical equipment, including bulldozers and even small ships, were left behind by the troops. There seemed to be no co-ordinated effort by the authorities to collect and make use of such valuable material.

The Commonwealth Disposals Commission or whatever body was responsible let the Commonwealth down very badly by neglecting to ensure that all such equipment would be made available, as soon as the war ended, to the New Guinea administration or to people who could have used it for the development of their properties in the territory.

Much valuable equipment was lost, stolen or left abandoned where climatic conditions caused such deterioration as to render a great deal of apparatus and plant useless before recovery could be effected. Many of the items that were collected were sold to commercial interests, principally because the administration was not aware that they were available. Burns Philp and Co., W. R. Carpenter and Co., and other trading

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organisations, being aware of what equipment was available and anxious to rehabilitate their plantations, sent representatives to the territory and actually operated in the islands before the armed forces left. They surveyed considerable quantities of equipment which could have been usefully employed by the administration. Unfortunately, the administration was not seized with the importance of getting to work quickly and the commercial enterprises acquired millions of pounds worth of material at a mere fraction of its original cost. I could direct honorable senators to huge dumps of marine stores, including anchors, anchor chain, cable, metal fittings, piping, tanks, and goodness knows what else.

When the parliamentary delegation to Japan visited Finschhafen in August last year, I saw equipment which could have been taken over by the administration and used for the benefit of the territory, still deteriorating in the jungle.

THERE has been a lack of planning for the rehabilitation of New Guinea. I am not attacking Mr. Ward on that account. I am merely referring to things that have happened. No Minister could

direct the development of a territory like New Guinea and Papua efficiently without visiting the territory and seeing conditions for himself or sending responsible representatives as observers on his behalf. If the Minister is too busy to go to the territory, members of this Parliament are available to be appointed to a select committee.

One of the principal weaknesses of the administration of New Guinea and Papua at present arises from the lack of professional officers. Key executive men with wide experience of public administration, accounting procedure and engineering are badly needed. The lack of knowledge of public works engineering in the territory is deplorable. A great deal of reconstruction must be done in the 190,000 square miles of New Guinea, and we need the services of the best available men to expedite the work.

Many major war-time installations could have been absorbed by the civil administration for its own purposes. For instance, large stores and barracks could have been used to provide accommodation for labour forces. A plan should have been prepared before the war ended so

that surplus native labour which had been engaged by the Army could have been diverted to civil reconstruction. The work could have been undertaken as soon as hostilities ended.

I have received disquieting information concerning the organisation of the police force. The training of an efficient native force requires a great deal of knowledge of the natives and their conditions and the ability to command natives efficiently. . . . A minor police official from South Australia was sent to the territory and he immediately promoted himself to the rank of full colonel. He also condescended to grant the rank of lieutenant to his two subordinate officers, who had been working in New Guinea for many years. Appointments of that kind indicate a weakness in the administration.

The native police boys in New Guinea are very efficient. They understand local conditions and have done a remarkably good job.

I have been informed by correspondents that there is a considerable degree of unrest and dissatisfaction in New Guinea as the result of some appointments that have been made to the administration.

IN matters relating to staff welfare generally, the administration has been weak and little interest has been shown in morale or the provision of amenities for Europeans. The Administrator at least should have the right to hire and fire. He does not exercise that prerogative at present. We must have in New Guinea men who have the ability to get on with some of those jobs.

I have had some experience with the New Guinea natives, and, although many of them have a knowledge of pidgin-English, the language most used by the Papuans is Motuan. With a little practice, one can get by with pidgin, but Motuan is a separate language.

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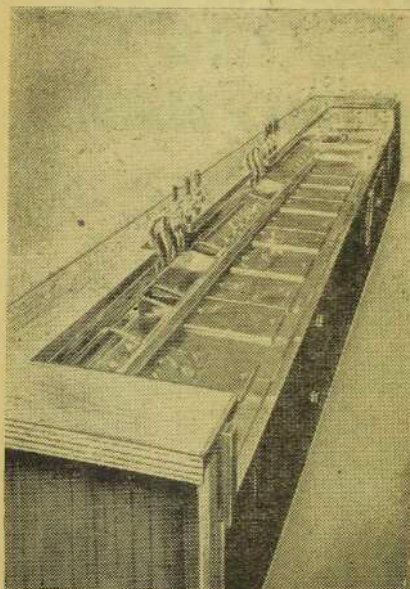
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The natives are of high intelligence, and are capable of acquiring knowledge rapidly. We should get away from the idea that they are merely "fuzzy-wuzzies" who did a good war-time job. With skilled training, they could be of great assistance. It is only right that they should be given a certain measure of self-government. Not only are there to be native village councils to safeguard the welfare of the natives, but also the Legislative Council is to have three non-official native members.

There is an urgent need for proper co-ordination of aerial and marine transport. It must be borne in mind that there are scarcely any roads, and no railways.

The missionaries have done a fine job in New Guinea. They have improved the health of the natives and endeavoured to educate them. The spiritual guidance and material assistance provided for the natives have also been very considerable. The zeal and promptitude of the missionaries, who were quickly on the job as soon as the military authorities vacated any particular area, provided a lesson in efficient administration. They have made the maximum use of abandoned materials. They obtained some fine small craft, which served to replace many of their old vessels, and they were able to purchase a number of Army landing barges, which are particularly useful to them.

THERE are tremendous potentialities in New Guinea and in Papua, particularly the areas around Port Moresby, Samarai and Milne Bay. Samarai is the "Pearl of the Pacific," and during the war it was used as a rest and rehabilitation centre for the United States servicemen. Milne Bay has one of the finest anchorages in New Guinea.

Everyone knows of the importance of gold in New Guinea, but it is not generally known that just inside Dutch New Guinea, 4,000 barrels of oil are produced daily from one area. Any one who is familiar with the topography of Borneo and the Malayan Archipelago must realise that New Guinea is located in one of the world's greatest oil belts, and I forecast that in future years discoveries of oil will be made in New Guinea that will prove of tremendous importance to Australia.

On the island of Karkar some of the finest cocoa in the world is grown. Kapok, which went off the market during the war, is now being produced near Madang, and in the vicinity of the Rai coast. Rubber, which is also an important strategic material, is being grown in the vicinity of Port Moresby. With co-ordinated control I think that we could eventually make ourselves independent of overseas suppliers of strategic materials. One of the finest sources of potential wealth in New Guinea is the Bena Bena Plateau in the hinterland, situated at a height of 4,000 feet. Potatoes, English roses and gladioli flourish.

A great pest is the giant snail, which was brought to New Guinea by the Japanese during the war to provide food for them. This snail at times measures 6 inches to 9 inches across the back, and has a hard shell. If at night time a light is shone in the plantation these creatures can be seen crawling around. They are very hard to eradicate.

New Guinea is very similar to Ceylon and I am astounded that more has not been done, particularly in the higher altitudes, to grow tea. Some years ago, the Australian Government brought a tea expert from Ceylon. I should like to know the result of his efforts, and where he is now.

In my opinion, there are excellent opportunities for the re-establishment of ex-servicemen there. Many have already been established on the land, and in business in Australia. I consider that some of the plantations offer excellent prospects

for a very good and comfortable living for ex-servicemen, provided, of course, that plantations have been surveyed and got ready for them. Whilst some areas in New Guinea are very unhealthy, others are not as hot as north Queensland.

The re-organisation of the two territories should take place as soon as this measure becomes law. There should be co-ordination of control. If there had been a co-ordinative plan, blue-printed and ready to be put into operation as the Army moved out of New Guinea, millions of pounds' worth of valuable equipment and gear that was lying in the jungles could have been utilised in hospi-

tals and for rehabilitation purposes. That would have been preferable to allowing that equipment to become the property of the highest bidder, and to those who had the foresight to send men to New Guinea to "pick the eyes out" of what was available before the Army moved out. We are now actually forwarding to New Guinea goods similar to those that have been allowed to be overgrown by the jungle.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Christian have left Norfolk Island for NZ on their way back to Pitcairn Island.



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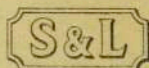
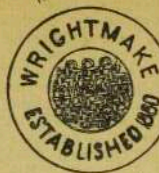
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Fijian Athlete Sets Another Record

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, June 22.

ANOTHER brilliant putting-the-shot performance by Mataka Tuicakau (see May "PIM") has inspired Fiji's Education Department to suggest that the Fiji Amateur Sports Association might be able to send the young Fijian athlete to represent Fiji at British Empire Games to be held at Auckland, in February, 1950.

This time, at a trial held under correct competition conditions at the Teachers' Training College, Nasinu, Mataka put a 16 lb. shot 48 ft. 9½ in. (His April effort was 45 ft. 3½ in.)

Mataka's latest performance beats both the Empire Games record of 48 ft. 0½ in. and the best British figure at last year's Olympiad (48 ft. 6½ in.) with which Giles (Great Britain) established a new home record for England.

NO SHIPS FOR RECORD ORANGE CROP

"Bush Beer" Parties in Rarotonga

IT is estimated that there are 100,000 cases of oranges available in the Cook Islands, as the result of a good season—40,000 in Rarotonga and 50,000 in Mangaia—and New Zealand has a ready market for them; but there is insufficient shipping, and probably not more than 20,000 cases will reach the Dominion.

As there is little else to be done with the fruit, the Cook Islands natives are turning it into "bush beer." Orange juice is squeezed into a container, sugar or other fermenting agent is added, and it is treated and sealed up. The resulting liquor is palatable, and usually it has a high alcoholic content. "Bush beer parties" are a feature of social life among some classes in Rarotonga; but for obvious reasons are discouraged by officialdom.

Inquiry Into Death of Capt. Langdale at Canton Is.

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, June 15.

AN inquiry by the Administrative Officer, Canton Island (Mr. P. B. Laxton), into the death, on the night of May 31, of Captain G. V. Langdale, master of the motor vessel "Maureen," resulted in a finding of accidental death by drowning.

The evidence at the inquiry showed that after dining at the house of the station manager at Canton, Captain Langdale went aboard about 11 p.m. Later a member of the ship's company observed that he was in bed and asleep. This was the last time he was seen alive.

When the captain was missed next morning a search was made and his body was found floating face downwards in the water.

The ship's engineer (Mr. R. Sutherland) gave evidence that Captain Langdale did not sleep well and that at night he frequently went on deck. Inspection of the deck revealed scratches which were consistent with the possibility that Captain Langdale had missed his footing and slipped, hitting the gunwale before falling overboard.

Stamps of four values—2d., 3d., 8d. and 1/6—will be issued on October 10 by Fiji, as part of the arrangement under which Territories throughout the world will issue sets of new stamps to mark the 75th anniversary of the Universal Postal Union.

The Last of The South Pacific Convict System

THE following article, entitled, "New Caledonia," was published in "Chamber's Journal" of August 24, 1895. A copy was recently unearthed in Sydney. It gives a picture of an era long since forgotten.

The last paragraph especially is interesting. It is interesting, too, to know that New Caledonia still suffers from acute labour difficulties, from which she now hopes to escape by bringing in workers from Java.

THE official announcement recently made by the French Government to the effect that it had determined to cease transporting criminals to New Caledonia, has closed a period which to many interests of the South Seas was one of fear and friction.

Negotiations towards some such result as that stated have been going on for many years, the Australian colonies more than once manifesting a desire to force the hand of British diplomacy, so real was the injury they sustained by the nearness of the penal settlement, and so great was the apprehension that that injury would grow in aggravating bitterness as the years went by.

New Caledonia is 730 miles from the coast of Queensland, its capital, Noumea, being 1,050 miles from Sydney; and venturesome spirits, goaded by the system of control on the island, thought little of making a dash for freedom, across these miles of sea. It looked, therefore, as if Australia, which resisted so stoutly the advent of criminals from England forty-six years ago, would in time find itself burdened with numbers of as bad, if not worse, ones from France.

A short while back, seven such escapees sighted Queensland after a perilous trip of eighteen days in an open boat. They had stolen the boat from a publican on the island, stored it with eighty pounds of rice, sixty coconuts, and a small bag of biscuits and committed themselves to the waves. When they reached the Barrier, lying off the Queensland coast, the boat was capsized, and men and provisions were precipitated into the sea. The breakers which capsized the boat washed it over into smooth water, where the men regained it, and, righting it, continued the voyage, but now without a mouthful of food in their possession.

Five days later they arrived at Whitsunday Island, in the sorriest of plights, and were befriended by a tribe of black-fellows, until the Queensland police discovered and arrested them as escaped convicts. Persons arrested on this charge are tried by a special court, and if found guilty, are handed over to the New Caledonian authorities to be redelivered at the settlement.

Escapes like that narrated are numerous, but arrests such as described are seldom so prompt or sure. Convicts have struck the mainland, unobserved, and made their way into the bush, where they have become station hands, or fallen into the ways of the nomadic "swagman," and no particular notice has been taken of them. Sometimes, too, they discover friends of their own nationality, and are helped to successfully disguise themselves and their objects; and usually, if they are found settled down, they are not interfered with. But when they are unlucky enough to put into any large town, they mostly go to the bad, or are caught and sent back.

During the Communist excitement of 1874, the well-known Rochefort, with five associates, escaped from New Caledonia,

and landed at Newcastle, New South Wales, where their history became at once known, and friends and enemies were set in motion.

The ordinary convict who reaches a large town is, however, either tamely caught, or he drops in among the dregs of the population, and applies himself industriously to some form of midnight law-breaking. He mostly takes up the line which originally caused his deportation from France, and often displays skill and presence of mind in his operations. Coining, burglary, safe-robbing, and way-laying the tipsy or belated, are favourite exploits with this class of criminal; and sometimes the work is done with such perfection of detail, that detectives know the nationality of the perpetrator before they lay hands on him.

It may be that these escapes have not been at any time so numerous as the Australian public assert, but seeing that they so often come to light when gangs of thieves are captured, or a course of systematic crime is suddenly stopped, the general impression as to their numbers may not be far astray.

THE French Government classifies its New Caledonian convicts as "recidivists," "condamnes," and "liberes," the first meaning habitual criminals; the second, persons undergoing a sentence; and the third, what we would call "ticket-of-leave men," or persons sometimes who have fulfilled their term of punishment, but who are refused permission to return to France.

The recidivists and condamnes are ever on the watch for a chance to escape. They esteem almost any spot on earth as a better place to live than where they are. Some of the liberes are not very objectionable, and in the days when those of them who would not be permitted to return to France were allowed to go to America or Australia, they frequently be-

haved well, and adopted industrious and lawful occupations. Many of them drifted to the New Hebrides, and are now in independent circumstances there.

But the privilege of leaving New Caledonia for America or Australia was withdrawn some years ago, and hence the convicts must now be kept on the island.

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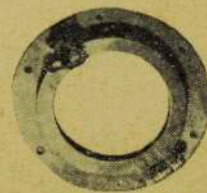
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In 1882 a trading company was formed with the object of transferring some of this convict labour to the New Hebrides. As such a transfer would increase French power in the latter group of islands, as well as make room for fresh consignments of convicts in the old quarters, the French Government took up the idea with zest,

and established as a preliminary two military posts in the neighbourhood. But England, vigorously prompted by Australia, protested against the scheme with such effect that it was abandoned; and six years after, the military posts were abolished.

M. Biard d'Aunet, the French Consul-general at present in New South Wales, visited New Caledonia about a year ago, and discussed with the Governor of the settlement various projects for the termination of transportation. M. Biard d'Aunet was fully possessed of the Australian sentiment on the matter, and the outcome of the conference was a series of recommendations to the French Government, which culminated in the decree of the Chamber of Deputies directing that transportation to New Caledonia should cease, and that in future convicts should be sent to one of the French possessions in Africa.

THE news of the cessation of transportation was received by the business portion of the New Caledonian community with undisguised ill-favour. The mineral resources of the island are very great, and are as yet but partially tapped. Chrome, cobalt, and nickel abound. The soil is fruitful; coconuts, bananas, and bread-fruits growing wild. Sugar-cane and coffee-planting, and other industries of a tropical character, promise to be profitable pursuits.

With quick returns from these sources in mind, employers of labour naturally desired cheap workmen, and the convict system which obtained lent itself admirably to their needs. In 1879 the Government entered into a compact with Mr. John Higginson, a naturalised Frenchman and old Noumean resident, whereby he was granted the services of three hundred convicts for twenty years, at the charge of one penny per day per man, the Government agreeing to feed and clothe them during that period. Three or four similar agreements were entered into with other employers. Seventy Chinese convicts lately landed at Noumea, were immediately hired out to applicants for their services. The sentences on these convicts ran from five to fifteen years, and the applicants paid the hiring bureau a trifling sum per year of sentence, and guaranteed to pay the convicts afterwards at the rate of twelve shillings per month.

Consequently, it is not surprising that the news of the impending change produced a disquieting effect.

But the die is cast. New Caledonia enters the list of free countries. Though the immediate effect may be injurious to some businesses, general business is sure to be favourably affected, and social and political life to be improved.

New South Wales ceased to be a convict settlement in 1839, Van Diemen's Land in 1853, and Western Australia in 1868; and in each case a new spirit appeared to breathe through the country when the convict flag was lowered. Progress, political, social, and industrial, has been the yearly record. There is no reason to fear for New Caledonia.

NG NATIVES ON SYDNEY RACECOURSE

Letter to the Editor

ON page 48 of your April issue you publish a photograph of New Guinea natives on a Sydney racecourse, and say they are from the mission vessel "Hotamara." Actually, the vessel was the "Hotu Maru," running in the service of W. R. Carpenter & Co., Ltd., and those were not mission boys.

The native crew were getting £5 a month and all found (Australian tucker, too), one of the crew told me when I saw him in Madang on his return.

He was strutting around in the clothes he wore in Sydney and he certainly looked big-headed. He wanted to go back to Sydney to work, and eat our food—no more rice for him. Later on, that morning, I noticed him at the Bung, and he was dressed in a red lap-lap, and carrying his little coconut palm-leaf basket.

I am, etc.,

T. K. SLATTER.

Editor's Note: The article referred to was taken, verbatim, out of one of the Sydney newspapers.

PLANNING METHODIST MISSION REBUILDING IN N. GUINEA

From Our Own Correspondent

RABAU, June 17.

THE Rev. C. F. Gribble and Mr. F. Fielding of the Methodist Mission Board spent a busy time in New Guinea in May and June. They surveyed Mission rebuilding requirements.

While in Kavieng they were guests of the Rev. and Mrs. B. Chenoweth. From there they went to New Hanover where the mission house at Ranmeleck was the one Methodist building left standing in the New Britain district after the war. It was, however, so riddled with shell fire to be worthless.

They inspected all mission stations in New Ireland and New Britain and throughout their tour were welcomed enthusiastically by the native villages. At the historic centre at Molot, they inspected the place where Dr. George Brown founded the Methodist Mission in New Guinea in 1875.

On June 17, Mr. Fielding left for Brisbane but Mr. Gribble will visit Methodist Mission stations in Papua before he goes south.

He said that a team of mission builders will shortly arrive in Rabaul to carry out the extensive rebuilding programme that will be necessary.

The headquarters of the London Missionary Society in Australia will shortly be removing from 250 Pitt Street, Sydney, to The Boulevard, Lewisham, where the Rev. N. F. Cocks, secretary in Australia and New Zealand, will reside. The NSW Auxiliary will retain an office at 250 Pitt Street.

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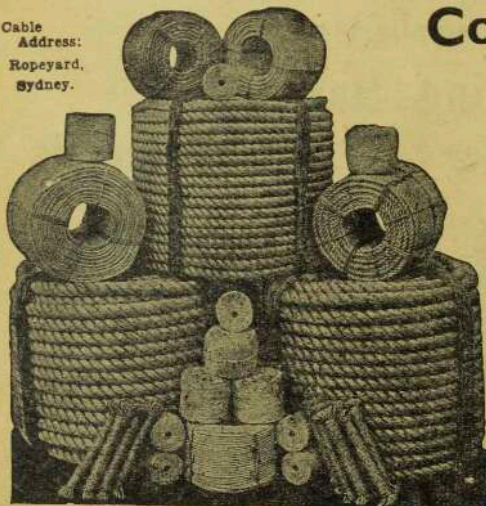
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From Our Norfolk Island Correspondent

MR. DOUGLAS RICHARDS, popular taxi driver, has disposed of his interests on Norfolk Island, and is departing. His yellow and brown jeep station wagon was known to hundreds of tourists.

Mr. Richards, some time ago, shipped an experimental consignment of 50 cases of bananas to the Internal Marketing Division in New Zealand. This body—to explain to the uninformed—consists of a collection of ornate and modern offices and buildings loaded with civil servants, and scattered over the face of New Zealand. Their sole aim, it seems, is to confound the producer and jack up prices.

The Division is similar to those Apple and Pear Boards with which Australia was afflicted.

Mr. Richards's experimental consignment remained experimental, for, it seems, the only financial reward gained was by the Division.

Exceptionally heavy crops of oranges and lemons are noted this season. Tourists—especially from orange-starved NZ—comment bitterly on the fact that the fruit cannot be exported from here to NZ.

Oranges sold in NZ come from the Cook Islands and the supply represents about 20 per cent. of the demand. In addition, the price is ridiculously high. The same applies to bananas.

AUSTRALIA'S BAN ON POLYNESIANS

Letter to the Editor

It has been with great interest that I read recent articles in the "Pacific Islands Monthly" relative to Australia's anti-Polynesian immigration law. The stand the "PIM" has taken is commended by those whose thinking is on behalf of the dignity of man.

European and American people have observed the natural democratic tendencies of the Tahitians which are completely devoid of politics. This is natural uninhibited democracy untainted by any of the isms. When my house becomes stagnant within, I open the windows and admit the fresh air.

As your excellent editorial indicated, 99 per cent. of Polynesians do not consider immigration to Australia worthy of their consideration. But it is interesting to note that thousands of the Polynesians who volunteered to fight in the Pacific War, gave their services directly or indirectly to the defence of Australia against the Japs.

In light of mankind's present efforts toward one world, it behoves popular government to streamline itself by the elimination of racial discrimination, and such ordinances as Australia's Polynesian exclusion law. If we are too bigoted to make these alterations in our thinking and our government, then we may as well change the name of our democracy.

I am, etc.,

DAVID CAVE.

Tahiti.

Editorial Note: Australia does not ban all Polynesians—only those who are without political strength. The ban on Maoris was hurriedly removed when New Zealand showed resentment, but it still remains on Samoans, Tongans, Cook Islanders, etc.

HANDY SHIP FOR COOK ISLANDS

THE twin-screw, wooden motor vessel "Kinabatangan," of 309 tons gross, purchased by the Auckland firm of A. B. Donald, Ltd., for service in the Cook Islands, arrived in Auckland from Singapore, via Brisbane, at the end of June. She will be renamed "Charlotte Donald", after the late Mrs. A. B. Donald, and will be in Auckland for about a month receiving alterations. The vessel will be based on Rarotonga.

Built in Fremantle in 1945, the "Kinabatangan" was purchased from the North Borneo Shipping Company, Ltd., which had registered her at Singapore. She has accommodation below decks for eight passengers.

FIJI-INDIAN STUDENTS GO TO INDIA

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, June 20.

THE Indian Government has selected three Indian students in Fiji to go to India for further studies. The students, who expect to sail from Suva in the "Orna" about the end of June, were chosen from a panel of six recommended by the Commissioner for the Government of India in Fiji (Mr. S. A. Waiz).

They are Mr. Bhagauti Prasad (trained as a teacher at the Government Training College), who is already at the Benares Hindu University; Mr. Hari Ram (formerly a pupil at the Marist Brothers' School, Suva); and Miss Kiran Mishra, of Lautoka.

At the Rabaul District Court recently a native was fined £2 and had his licence suspended for two months for dangerous driving; a European member of the

Works and Housing Department, was fined £5 and had his licence suspended for three months on a similar charge; three natives received sentences of six months each for illegal use of a motor vehicle; and two Fijian crew members of the "Admiral Chase" were fined for being drunk and disorderly and resisting arrest.

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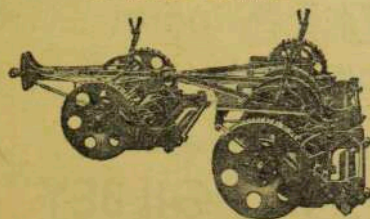
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Territories Talk-Talk

By "Tolala"

AUSTRALIAN Minister "Eddie" Ward came out of the NG Timber Inquiry without a stain on his family escutcheon. But he certainly had a chip on his shoulder during the passage of the miners' legislation in the Federal House.

ONE really has to smile at some of these publicity stunts nowadays launched by the Australian Government to offset adverse criticism of administration in NG. At the beginning of last month an "experimental shipment of cattle" was landed at Rabaul, also some horses, goats and mules, "to test the capacity of Australian stock to stand tropical conditions." Anyone would think that TNG had never known Australian livestock before the war, and that the present authorities were breaking new ground. That is far from being the case. There were some fine herds of cattle on many estates in the Madang, New Britain and Bougainville districts, before the war. Statistics of ten years ago show total cattle in the Territory of 20,565, horses 1,309, mules 8, sheep 1,293 and goats 9,791. Where's the experimental stage?

AND, talking of statistics: In 1947-48 Administration report on TNG, tabled recently in the House, nine natives are shown as convicted of sorcery. Ten years ago, 77 were found guilty of this offence in the Courts for Native Affairs. Other criminal comparisons were: Adultery, 98, as against 195 ten years ago; spreading false reports 11 (28), threatening behaviour 50 (94) and indecent practices 8 (114).

The big decline indicates a more law-abiding native community—or less activity on the part of district patrols in taking

legal action. I'm inclined to think the latter is the reason.

COMPARISONS are odious; but it is interesting to get a glimpse at the cock-eyed trade of the Territory, and explain the economic set-up as it is at present. In the good old days of 1937-38, the Territory imported goods to the tune of £1,610,967, and exported copra, gold and other island products totalling £2,980,360, leaving a nice favourable trade balance of £1,369,393. In 1947-48, the story changes: Imports were valued at £3,105,098, and exports only £1,927,075—a balance on the wrong side of the ledger of £1,178,023. Not so hot! Gold bullion exported for those periods totalled 410,058 oz. and 126,092 oz. respectively. Yes, comparisons are odious, aren't they?

ONE Sydney paper, publishing the gold figures, showed them as 126,092,025 oz. in the '47-48 period, valued at £A815,570! Cheap gold, eh? The decimal point had become a comma—which would be a bit misleading for those earnest UNO representatives studying the report, and accustomed to the metric system.

AS a result of a letter from the Tanga Group—off the east coast of N. Ireland—Deputy Opposition Leader Harrison had something to say in the House at Canberra about the "Cargo Cults" flourishing in Australia's Trustee Territory. He suggested that Government should take action to protect the lives of whites up there.

Strange, how dangers vary in those Isles of the Blest, as the years roll on.

In several of these island groups, off N. Ireland's east coast, 40 or so years ago, the biggest risk a white man ran was in being kidnapped by some of those hefty island females (whose numbers far exceeded the male population) and kept in

duration vile (?) for mating purposes.

That would have been an interesting point for an Opposition Member to raise in the Australian Parliament of those days. But, then, it was Germany's "pidgin," and the Fatherland wouldn't bother about such things. Anyway, there was no polyglot UNO then to criticise what governments did or did not do.

I NOTICE that recordings have been made by the ABC Moresby station of some "sing-sings" around Rabaul. It is to be hoped that the recordings include that old-time sing-sing known as the "Solomon Islands dance." The harmony in the chanting is certainly delightful. The best exponents in the pre-war years were the Matupi natives, who are—or were—well known for their melody-making.

ONE of Minister Ward's first jobs, now he is back in office after the Timber Inquiry, will no doubt be to iron out some of the "anomalies" (good old new-fashioned phrase for anything resembling a whinge) put forward by the Moresby Public Service representatives, who flew down to Canberra to put their case to acting Minister Chambers. He "wanted to do all he could to help the delegation get satisfaction," so the report goes. And that meant, no doubt, keeping the file for Eddie to deal with. If rumours are right it will not surprise me to see that the delegates get some satisfaction from Eddie. It would be well-earned.

WHAT with the coal strike and one thing and another, it is quite on the cards that some Get-Rich-Quick Wallingford will work up the idea of floating a company to exploit the coal deposits in the Namatanal area of New Ireland. But Australian workers would probably declare it black.

(Continued on Page 63)

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HARRY JACKMAN and Grainger Morris, Patrol Officers, are studying co-operative technique in Australia to pass on to their charges in the Territories at a later date. Report has it that 83 native co-operative societies have already been established. A spokesman says the formation of these societies will "teach the native to grow cash crops, like copra and hemp, and thus help the population realise the vast commercial possibilities of NG for themselves." . . . Yes. That's the sort of blah that critical Soviet representatives will swallow . . . Perhaps.

THE news of the sale of the **SID** Company, in the British Solomon Islands will come as a shock to some of the few old-timers who remember places like Berande and Manning Straits in their hey-day; and, despite change of ownership, the shades of old managers like Jim Campbell, Phil Shelley, Alan Campbell and "Robbie" will probably haunt the foreshores for many a year to come. Berande was made famous first by that hospitable pair, Darbyshire and Harding, and later by Jack London, when he blew into the group in the "Snark," and was inspired to write "Adventure." . . . The Solomons without the **SID** will be like Sydney without the GPO.

LATEST target for Russia's criticism at **UNO** of Australia's administration in the Pacific is Nauru, where exploitation of phosphate workers takes place "in the most slavish human conditions." Poppycock, of course! but it influences Australia's policy in these Trustee Territories to counteract such charges, even though there's not an iota of truth in them. The Australian Government is far too sensitive to this sort

of calculated criticism. Trouble is that Australia's poor private enterprise has to pay the price of these palliative policies.

BITS and Pieces: Richard Chugg, the well-known Australian flautist, who has been heard over the ABC recently with Raphael Kubelik, is a brother of R. C. Chugg, of the Territories Health Department. . . . Commander A. W. R. McNicoll, GM, son of the late Sir Walter, has been promoted to the rank of Captain . . . Leslie Anderson passed away at Cawa, Nadi, Fiji, on June 12.

RABAU NATIVE SCHOOLS WORK FOR OWN FUNDS

From Our Own Correspondent

RABAU, June 30. **OTHER** Administration schools are now following the lead of Malubunga in accumulating school funds for the general improvement of their schools and for purchasing equipment. The idea belongs to the natives themselves.

Malubunga funds are provided by the sale of taro and kau kau. The school at Toma has not only developed its gardens to produce both taro and kau kau but each pupil brings in six coconuts on Monday and Wednesday mornings. These are sold to PCB.

Misima Crushing Returns

IN the nine weeks ended June 22, Cuthbert's Misima Gold Mine, Papua, crushed 730 tons of ore, for 113 oz. of gold and 332 oz. of silver.

FIJIAN NURSES COMPLETE TRAINING AT LAUTOKA

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, June 20. **FIVE** Fijian nursing graduates were honoured at a graduation ceremony at the Lautoka Nurses' Training School on June 16. The Medical Officer-in-Charge, Lautoka Hospital (Dr. T. Jezierski) welcomed the visitors, who included the Director of Medical Services (Dr. J. M. Cruikshank) and Mrs. Cruikshank, the Nursing Superintendent (Miss D. T. Pederson), the New Zealand Deputy Director-General of Health (Dr. H. B. Turbott), the Director of the New Zealand Nursing Service (Miss M. I. Lambie, OBE) and the South Pacific Research Council member for Health (Dr. E. Massall).

The winner of the cup for the best all round nurse at Lautoka was Nurse Sainemere Galo, who was top of the class with honours in all subjects. Other prize-winners were Nurses Serena Tora (Public Health), Viva Vakua (greatest improvement in final year), and Mere Tora (best paper in obstetrics).

The other two graduates were Nurses Salete Lewatu and Livia Daubulu.

Five BCPA passengers had a three-day stay on lonely Canton Island at the end of June, when their aircraft was delayed by engine trouble. They stayed at the Pan American Airways hotel there and said that they had been well looked after. On eventual arrival in Auckland they complained of the tropical heat of Canton and said that they had been unable to swim because local waters are infested with barracuda.

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Want A Pacific Island?

ACCORDING to New Zealand sources, there is a 14-acre island for sale in Fiji, 25 miles from Suva. It grows oranges and coconuts, "warm trade winds sough daily through the palms and warm seas crash on the beaches." Price is £100. Many have showed interest but so far there have been no takers.

The agents point out, that it is not all tropical paradise. On the mainland side are vast mangrove swamps that practically join it to Viti Levu.

Formerly the island belonged to Mr. W. H. S. Moorhouse who experimented with rubber there. He last visited it in 1928 and no one appears to have been back since.

Seekers after romantic tropical islands might be interested to know that the New Zealand agent is a firm called Guardian Trust.

NGATAKI'S OWNER AGAIN ON A PACIFIC CRUISE

MR. JOHNNY WRAY who, in the 30's built himself a yacht from driftwood salvaged from around Auckland Harbour, and sailed the Pacific in her, has reached Tonga in another ship which he has called "Walhate."

"Ngataki," his first yacht, after carrying her owner on many adventures—including a trans-Tasman race—was wrecked. Mr. Wray wrote a book about "Ngataki" ("Vagabonds of the South Seas"), which was published in London during the war. Not many copies of the book were distributed and a Nazi blitz destroyed the rest. It was proposed, some time ago, that the book be republished. In the meantime, the author in a new boat—ketch-rigged with an auxiliary motor—is making a leisurely Pacific cruise, lone-handed.

Two young stowaways were discovered shortly after the "Aorangi" sailed from Suva on June 10. The ship stopped outside the reef and the pair were returned by launch. Returning to Fiji in the ship "Wairuna" are two young men who stowed away at Suva when the vessel was on her way to Vancouver.

DEATH OF FIRST FIJI-BORN EUROPEAN

BORN at Nukulau Island, at the mouth of the Rewa River, on December 12, 1860, Mrs. W. S. Cooper, whose death has occurred at Nasavusavu, Fiji, is believed to have been the first European born in Fiji. She was formerly Miss Alice Charlotte Smithyman.

In June, 1879, she married Mr. Walter Stonehaven Cooper, who had come from Wales in 1869 and had settled at Vuni-wallevu in Nasavusavu Bay. They had six sons and three daughters. All but one son survive and live on the family estate.

Mrs. Cooper's brother (three years younger) was the first male European born in Fiji. He became manager of the Government Press at Levuka, was responsible for the building of the first Government printing works at Suva, and, with Mr. G. A. Woods (formerly Premier in the Cakobau Government), founded the "Polynesian Gazette" at Levuka.

ANOTHER WAR-TIME BOMB WASHED UP IN FIJI

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, June 22. CONTINUING a notable career in the disposal of the apparently inexhaustible supply of unexploded American bombs and floating mines which persistently bob up in Fiji waters, Major A. H. Diffey, MBE, Fiji Military Forces, has dealt with a mine washed up near Kabulau Passage, in the Savusavu area of Vanua Levu.

Approaching the mine in a punt, Major Diffey, who was assisted by Sergeant-Major Bryson, held the mine off by hand while he slipped on to it a bridge containing an explosive charge. The party was well away in a launch when the mine exploded.

FIGHTING FILARIA ON MANGAIA

From Our Mangaia Correspondent

THE ever-present beef-can, once seen around local settlements in its hundreds, and left to rust, or be trodden into the soft ground after rain, is to-day no longer a feature of the Mangaian native village.

These empty tins, till they rusted too completely to hold water, were formerly a very convenient breeding-place for the filaria mosquitoes that are responsible for the attacks of chills and fever that many Mangaian suffer after a sudden change of weather. Now the Resident Agent, Major W. H. Ryan, has instituted a system of trucking away the accumulated cans at intervals, this work being done by the Mosquito Control boys who were trained at Rarotonga last year.

The tins are removed to a distant dump, flattened, and buried, thus rendering them harmless.

PAPUA-NEW GUINEA POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS

ACCORDING to the Australian Postmaster-General, in June, discussions between the Postmaster-General's Department and the Department of External Territories are still proceeding with a view to finding the most satisfactory means of control of Papua-NG posts and telegraphs.

He could not say yet what organisation would be set up in the Territory "but the interests of the residents of Papua and New Guinea will be kept in mind."

AUSTRALIAN OR NEW ZEALAND?

Future of Norfolk Island

THERE is a feeling among many Norfolk Islanders that the island would be better off as a dependency of New Zealand than under the care of Australia. (said a correspondent in a letter recently to the "New Zealand Herald").

"Norfolk Island's greatest form of potential wealth lies in its oranges and bananas, but there are many difficulties in the way of their export," adds the writer. "Australia does not want them, fearing their competition with the Queensland products through lower labour costs. On the other hand, the island is faced with the inverse position in the case of New Zealand. The Norfolk growers cannot compete with the lower costs of produce from the Cook Islands, an area which is included within the extended boundaries of the Dominion. The barrier to the New Zealand market involves much more than this, however, going back in the first instance to a dispute between New Zealand and Australia over primary produce.

Banana Growers' Difficulties

ALTHOUGH Norfolk bananas are allowed into New Zealand if accompanied by a certificate showing that they are free of disease, they may be imported only through the Internal Marketing Division or by private firms, subject to New Zealand customs import licences," the writer continues. "The islanders argue that the Internal Marketing Division prices are not sufficient to pay them to handle the bananas, while the customs import licences, it is felt, are

an automatic prohibition. The preference given Cook Island bananas, as a New Zealand dependency product, constitutes another barrier.

"Many Norfolk Islanders, for this and other reasons, regard with regret the decision of the Colonial Office against New Zealand's claim in 1896 to control the island.

"The pro-New Zealand element among the islanders claim that if Norfolk were under New Zealand administration they would be better off in many ways. The island is much nearer to New Zealand than to Australia, and Auckland merchants are more interested in trading there than are their Sydney counterparts. New Zealand shipping firms display far more interest than Australian ones in trade with the island. Also, New Zealand maintains a regular passenger and cargo air service with the island.

White Elephant to Australia

A PROPOSAL to establish fishing on a large commercial basis ended when one vessel from Australia went ashore," says the writer. "A trawler, which was expected to be sent from Aus-

tralia, did not arrive. However, a company formed from New Zealand and local capital proposes to commence whaling this year. This is an industry which was once firmly established at Norfolk.

"It is contended that Norfolk Island has been little more than a white elephant to Australia for many years past and that a community of interest seems to lie with New Zealand. What is only a drag to Australia would be an asset to New Zealand, it is stated.

"Major territorial changes are taking place peacefully not only within the Empire, but elsewhere. For this reason the question is asked: Would it not be possible for two independent countries of the Commonwealth to arrange the transfer of an island, when that transfer would be to the advantage of all concerned."

Madame le Carrou, aged 101, who is now living in Nice, has thoughts of returning to New Caledonia where her three surviving sons are established, two at Bouloupari and one at Foya.

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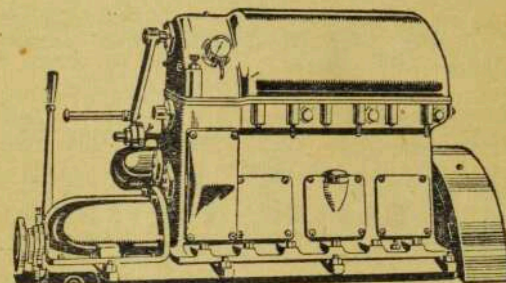
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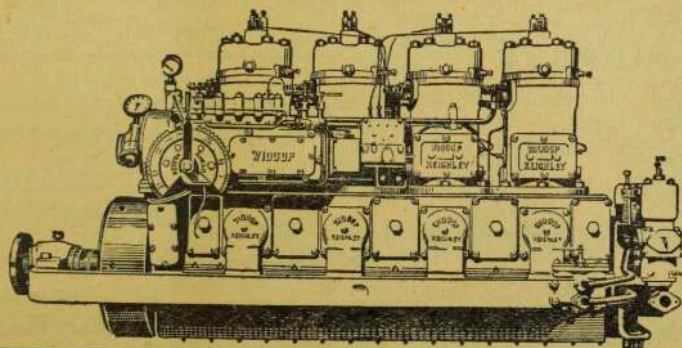
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STRANGE COINCIDENCE

How A Lost American Plane Was Located in NG

A year ago, in a personal letter from Technical Sergeant Robert T. Smith, head of an American Graves Search Unit in New Guinea, the editor of the "PIM" received the following account of a remarkable coincidence. He wrote to Sergeant Smith, and asked permission to publish it. But, in the meantime, Sergeant Smith had returned to the United States and moved around a good deal, and the letter was months in catching up with him. However, we now have made contact with him and have his permission to publish the story.

OUR work in New Guinea is practically finished. In our searches we have visited almost every corner of the great Territory. I must tell you (not for publication) the story of a most remarkable coincidence.

In April and May, 1946, I was sent in with my team, from Bogadim, over the Finisterre Mountains, looking for a particular aircraft. We did not find it.

In December, 1946, and January, 1947, I went into the Yupua area looking for the same plane, and again following a false lead. The parents of the co-pilot apparently had had certain information concerning the place of the crash, and they were dissatisfied with our efforts—and let us know it. I took a personal interest in this search and asked that if any further missions were organised in connection with it, I should be included.

In August and September, 1947, I was on leave in the States, and I obtained permission to visit these people—a family named Scott—and tell them about New Guinea and our work. The first thing the co-pilot's little five-year-old son said to me was: "You couldn't find my Daddy's plane, huh?" He was aged two the day his father's plane crashed.

I spent a wonderful two days with that family. They had a New Guinea map with only one location marked on it. We had been given four locations, but not that particular one. You can imagine that I left with a determination to find that plane, if it was possible.

But when I got back to Manila I found that the Filipino team had already been sent to Lae, to search that area, including the location shown on the family's map. There was no chance for me to be assigned there.

Then—do you remember what happened? There were New Year celebrations in Lae, and Mr. John Scott was killed, and the Filipino team at Lae which was reported to be somehow involved in the tragedy was sent away to Manokwari, in Dutch New Guinea; and the Filipino team I was with (in Western Papua) was also sent away to Dutch New Guinea, to Sorong.

After three months in Dutch New Guinea I returned to Manila for another search assignment. To my surprise, I found I was first on the list to go to Lae

with an All-American team, and my officer had allotted to me the Huon Peninsula including the very area where that lost plane was supposed to be.

Well, my three months' search is finished—and I found the plane, three years and 15 days after it had crashed. It was 11,000 feet up in the Saruvagel Range, in the Uruava area, just about where the parents' map had indicated.

But why did it need a chain of events, commencing with the killing of a Mr. John Scott I had never heard of, to lead me to the remains of the son of Mr. John Scott, in the United States?

THE REDS ANNOY AUSTRALIA ON NAURU CONDITIONS

ALTHOUGH it would be difficult to find, anywhere in the world, happier industrial conditions in an indentured labour community than are to be seen on the phosphate island of Nauru, the representatives of the Communist countries on the Trusteeship Council of the United Nations again launched (on June 29) an attack upon what they called "concentration camp conditions in Nauru under Australian administration."

It is a palpable Communist "stunt," carried on with a view to annoying and embarrassing Australia, Britain and New Zealand (who are jointly responsible for the Nauru Island Trusteeship), and should have been ignored. Instead, Australia has been taking the Red's criticism quite seriously, and going to great pains to answer the charges.

The Russian delegate, Soldatov, declared that the economic life of Nauru was completely subordinated to the British Phosphate Commission's monopoly, which made tremendous profits, and that conditions of virtual slavery existed.

The facts are that the huge deposits of phosphatic rock on Nauru and Ocean Island (180 miles apart) are worked by the British Phosphate Commission, which is virtually a Government instrumentality; that neither Nauru or Ocean Island natives are employed; that the natives of both islands get a royalty on every ton of phosphate taken away, so that they are

the richest native communities in the Pacific; that the Commission employs, on the two islands, some thousands of Chinese and Gilbertese labourers, on an indenture system which provides for their regular repatriation; and all those labourers are well paid and cared for.

A year ago, when a section of Chinese labour was being repatriated, there was a riot among Chinese who did not want to leave Nauru, and in the measures taken to restore order four Chinese were killed. Early this year, some Nauru chiefs complained of conditions there about which they were perturbed; and the Australian Government took the unusual course of sending the Acting Minister for External Territories to Nauru to investigate.

Altogether, there are only some 1,200 Polynesian-type natives on Nauru, and the Banabans of Ocean Island are an even smaller community. The Australian Administration in Nauru Island always has been most careful to maintain good and just relations between the BPC organisation on the islands, and the native communities.

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Mr. and Mrs. E. J. H. Colchester-Wemyss, with their three-months old daughter, were in Sydney in June, en route to Guadalcanal, BSI. Mr. Colchester-Wemyss is in the Colonial Service and will take charge of police in BSI, after six years in Jamaica. Mrs. Colchester-Wemyss said that there was no colour bar in Jamaica and no discrimination against women. She had been attended by the leading gynaecologist in the West Indies who happens to be a native woman.

SOPHISTICATION!

Three Stories From The N. Guinea Highlands

From a Special Correspondent

THE comparatively recent introduction of money (for the payment of native wages) into the Highlands of New Guinea, has had some rather amusing sidelights.

Recently, at an Administration Hospital, the native labourer employed as goat-herd appeared at the back door of the medical assistant's residence accompanied by one of his one-talks. He said that at some time during the night the old billy-goat had broken out of the banis and had destroyed one-talk's garden. He went on to say that, if the one-talk was given a job in the hospital, everything would be forgiven and forgotten, but if he wasn't employed, he would proceed immediately to the Klap and make court.

An investigation was instituted, and it was found that the goat had not broken out, and no garden was destroyed.

Both boys confessed on questioning that they had cooked up the story so that the one-talk could get on the pay-roll.

No job was given.

At the same establishment, recently, there appeared six natives, all with fowls. The missus of the house was pleased, as her fowls were sadly depleted. She asked them what they wished in return for the fowls. They answered that the fowls were not for sale, but a present to the master if he would employ them in the hospital. Unfortunately for them, there was no work offering.

A lad from behind the hills came in with his entire savings to buy a Kipa (Goldlip) Shell, and a Talibum (Green Snail) Shell. When the storeman wanted to see the colour of his money, the lad produced ninepence—seven pennies, and four ha'pennies. He was upset and annoyed when he was told what it was worth. He thought he was being "got at," and insisted that it was big money—therefore, big value.

For the third quarter of 1949 Tahiti is to receive 30,000 US Marshall Aid dollars, of which \$10,000 are for the purchase of electric refrigerators.

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SALES AND EXPENSES BOTH INCREASE: REVIEW BY MH LTD.

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, July 2.
ALTHOUGH the volume of sales has been the highest in the company's history, in many departments profit rates have been very disappointing," said Sir Maynard Hedstrom, when addressing the shareholders, as chairman, at the annual meeting of Morris, Hedstrom, Ltd., at Suva, on June 30.

Pointing out that the increase of approximately £41,000 in gross trading profit was not a real increase, Sir Maynard said that in earlier years considerable provision for stock depreciation was made before the figure was struck.

"An increase of some £50,000 is shown in operating expenses," he continued. "In almost every way, particularly perhaps in salaries and wages, the cost of running the business has seriously increased. Despite this increased expenditure on salaries the engagement of recruits necessary for the present and future work of the company has been very difficult, and the staff is working below full strength and to a smaller degree of efficiency than before the war."

Reviewing production in the territories in which the company operates (Fiji, Tonga and Samoa), Sir Maynard said that prices for raw products, with the exception of cocoa, continued buoyant.

"In my last address," he said, "I stated that the total of Fiji's exports and imports for 1947 exceeded by about £4,000,000 the previous record trade year of 1942. That the prosperity of Fiji has continued to increase in 1948 is indicated by the fact that the total of imports and exports increased by a further £2,500,000, the 1948 figure being £13,734,346."

"It is quite generally held that the peak of post-war business prosperity has been reached and probably passed. If this belief is right, the company's profit figures may be reduced in future years."

"But in the areas served by the company it is proper to remember that a certain buttress against adversity is given by the relatively long-term contracts made with the British Ministry of Food for the chief exports of the territories concerned. The shareholders will also appreciate from the published figures that the company is well placed to take advantage of any trading opportunity that may occur."

GREAT FINANCIAL STRENGTH

IN the year ended March 31, the company made a net profit of £94,843—about the same as last year—and is distributing its usual dividend of 10 per cent. on ordinary shares. The company, in its business, employs £739,613 of subscribed capital (£520,407 ordinary and £219,206 preference) and £650,875 of reserves. In addition, it carries over £200,000 in the P/L account—making a total available capital of nearly £2,000,000. There now is not scope for all this money in the business, with the result that some £260,000 is lying in the banks, and about £360,000 is in government and municipal stocks.

There was great growth and development in the South Pacific during the past half century, in which this well-managed company fully participated; but future prospects are less stimulating. The tendency of governments generally is to discourage European enterprise, which appears to limit the usefulness of the big trading corporations. The three or four big companies operating in the islands are all financed and equipped to

handle almost any new development; but, until administrative policies change, the opportunities they want are not likely to present themselves. That, in turn, has a tendency to retard development and progress.

PENSION FUND

THE company's Pension Fund, which has been in existence 22 years, has assets worth £200,000, nearly all invested in a wide variety of stocks. Members pay in over £5,000 p.a., and some £10,000 p.a. is received from MH Ltd., and pensions now being paid amount to £2,078 p.a.

Pastors H. Strauss and Streicher, of the Lutheran Mission, New Guinea, who have been in Australia since the beginning of the war, have received permission to return to the Territory.

DEARER CARS IN FIJI

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, July 2.
THE hopes of people who have postponed their orders for new British motor-cars, in the belief that prices will drop, have been knocked on the head. A Suva importing firm has announced that increased shipping freights will mean an early increase in price of from £30 to £60 per car. It is added that other price-additions may be looked for in the future.

Fairly frequent shipments of British vehicles have reached Fiji in the post-war years.

Mr. Ray Bentley has been appointed manager of the P-N-G Administration sawmill at Kerevat, New Britain.



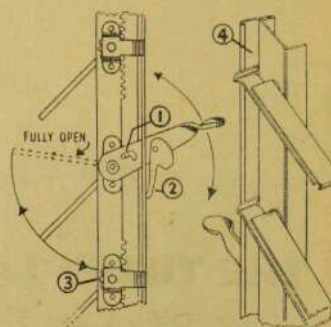
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Fiji: Mr. K. Witherington, 2 Burns Philp Buildings, Suva.

CRIME IN SAMOA

From Our Own Correspondent

APIA, June 28.
UNUSUAL charges of murder and attempted murder were before the High Court (Chief Judge Marsack, and juries of three Europeans and one Samoan) in Apia in June.

Seko To'uala, of Lu'ua, Faga, Savaii, got ten years' gaol, for manslaughter. He had used a cane knife to chop off the head of Lokeni, of Fusi. Lokeni had lived with Seko's sister, who by him had had four children. Then Lokeni neglected the woman, and he resented the reproaches of Seko; so Seko killed him. Mitigating circumstances caused the charge to be reduced from murder to manslaughter.

Ama Saunoagamaali'i was sentenced to death for murder. One evening, in Beach Road, Matefele, Apia, in front of the Methodist Church, Ama had an argument with another Samoan, and suddenly drew a knife and stabbed him fatally in the abdomen, and then ran away. The police chased and caught him. He begged the Court not to send him to gaol, but to hang him. The Court complied with his wishes.

A Samoan woman, Lotu, was found not guilty of attempting to murder her unnamed child by burying it in the sand at the sea shore. Another woman, Faapusa Faumuina, was sent to gaol for four years for murdering her newly-born child.

Lucia Roberts was fined £50, and Joe Steffany £100, for having bought bags of cocoa-beans, the property of the NZ Reparations Estates, knowing them to have been stolen.

Mr. John Stitt, of Sohano, New Guinea, was flown to Rabaul and admitted to hospital on July 5. Old fuses, which he was handling, exploded and blew off some of his fingers.

FIJI MAY TAKE PART IN EMPIRE GAMES

SUVA, June 30.

THE New Zealand Empire Games Association and the organising committee of the 1950 British Empire Games (to be held at Auckland in February) have invited Fiji to take part.

The invitation is addressed to the "British Empire Games Association of Fiji," which does not exist, but the newly-formed Fiji Amateur Sports Association is in the process of getting itself affiliated to the Empire Games headquarters at London.

There is as yet no indication of what representatives of Fiji will be available for the Games. Under the strict definition of "amateur," almost all of Fiji's athletes, including boxers, are "professionals." The reason for this is that with virtually no amateur competitive athletics except swimming, bowling, football, hockey and tennis, people have had to be either "professionals" or nothing at all.

RADIOPHONE BETWEEN NOUMEA AND VILA

From Our Own Correspondent

NOUMEA, June 20.

RADIOTELEPHONIC communications between Noumea and Port Vila will be on a public basis probably within a month, tests having already proved satisfactory.

Charges are 12 gold francs for the first three minutes, with an additional four gold francs for each extra minute thereafter.

The remains of Captain Jean Gilbert, a French officer formerly well known and

much liked in Tahiti and in New Caledonia—where he was placed in command of the naval forces in June, 1942—are to be taken by a French warship to Tahiti for re-burial. Captain Gilbert, who was a Navy air pilot, was killed in a bomber accident in New Zealand during the war.

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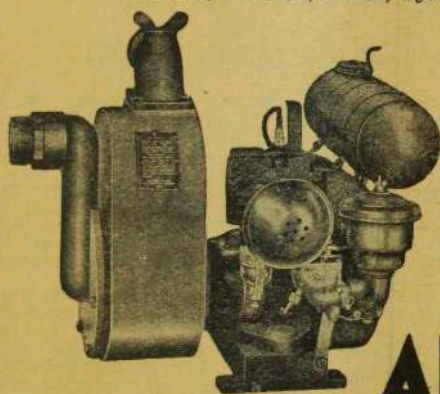
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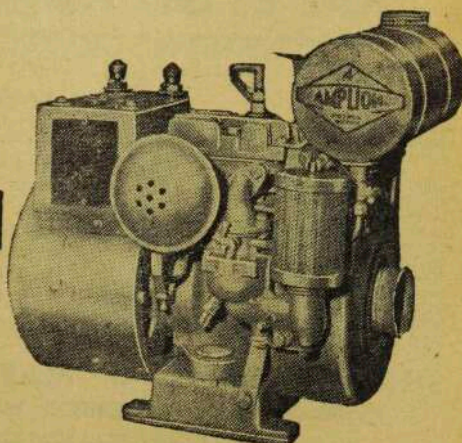
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Mr. Roy Dobbie departed from Rabaul, NG, in June. He has been in the Rabaul Hospital for some weeks, suffering from a skin disorder. His medical advisor has ordered him to spend at least 12 months in Australia. He first went to the Islands in 1933, spent some years in Bougainville

and then went to the Sepik District for the Public Works Department. He served in both world wars and since the restoration of Civil Administration in Rabaul, has been in charge of the transport section. He expects to return to the Territory as soon as his health permits.

Fiji's Coral Reefs Are Little Appreciated

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, June 22.
PASSAGES through coral reefs are not, as is commonly supposed, due primarily to fresh water discharged by streams. Tidal currents play a larger part than fresh water in keeping passages open, and the configuration of the sea floor is an important factor.

These facts were stated by the Supervisor of Technical Services in Fiji (Mr. R. A. Derrick, MBE) in the course of an address to the Fiji Society.

Mr. Derrick said that although Dana, the eminent American geologist, had described Fiji as "one of the grandest regions of growing corals in the world," few people were aware of the extent and the scientific interest of the coral reefs in the Fiji Group. The total length of Fiji's reefs must be measured in thousands of miles.

The familiar forms of the corals were deceptive. The polyps fed only at night and in most cases it was only at night that their tentacles were extended.

Dealing with the establishment of new colonies by larvae, Mr. Derrick said that these minute organisms, swimming feebly by vibrating the fine hairs with which they are covered, may with the help of ocean currents cover distances of from 500 to 1,500 miles during their short free-swimming stage.

Once a colony is established, however, propagation is usually by budding or division, the branching species of corals putting forth buds which develop into new mouths, and become active polyps, and the more massive species multiplying by the division of one polyp into two, each complete in itself.

While fringing reefs are usually narrow, there are many Fiji examples upwards of a mile in width; and off Udu Point they extend for three miles.

The largest barrier reef in the Fiji Group is the Great Sea Reef, which extends from the south-western corner of Viti Levu to beyond Udu Point, a distance of some 300 miles. This reef is unbroken for long distances; and it encloses altogether about 300 square miles of continuous reef grounds.

SAMOAN EXPORTS

APIA, June 29.
THE steamer "Meadowbank" left on June 28 with about 4,000 tons of copra for the British Food Ministry, relieving the congestion of copra stocks in Apia sheds. Another 1,000 tons of copra are to be shipped to New Zealand by the SS "Waikawa" in July.

Last price of Samoan cocoabeans reported locally is about £120-£125 per ton, FOB Apia, netting planters about £95 per ton.

(There is afoot a strong move to induce the United States to resume the buying of various British foodstuffs and raw materials, including cocoabeans, so as to improve the dollar-sterling position. If that succeeds, the price of cocoa beans in Samoa may improve—although a recovery to the 1948 rates (well over £200 per ton) is not expected.)

FATAL ACCIDENT IN PAPUA

MR. MAX ROBERTS, aged 22, was killed instantly at Malalaa, Papua, on June 29, when a heavy log which he was pushing with a bulldozer rolled on top of him in the driver's seat. He was employed by the Australian Petroleum Company.

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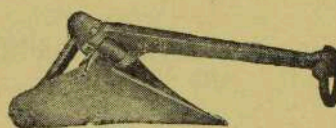
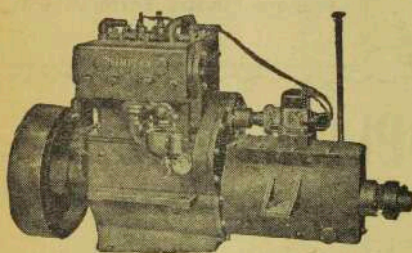
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The Month in Moresby

From Our Own Correspondent

PORT MORESBY, June 30.
THE administration's two latest schemes are—first, to replace native carriers with horses and donkeys, where possible; and, secondly, equip native policemen, in towns throughout Papua-New Guinea, with sandals.

Both ideas have been tried out before on a small scale but this time the Government is aiming at something widespread and permanent.

The "River Fitzroy" recently delivered a few horses and donkeys to various parts of the Territory and if these prove satisfactory for carrying work, the administration intends to greatly increase the number, both by breeding and importation.

One reason for the experiment is that, officially, the administration disapproves of the use of natives as "beasts of burden." Another reason is that as education spreads among the natives, the administration expects them to become more and more reluctant to do carrying work.

Old Territorians think horses and donkeys could be very useful. They are more sceptical of the Government's ability to carry out the idea than of the scheme itself.

General reaction to the sandals scheme seems to be amusement. People say the native police are quite happy barefooted, why go to the expense of giving them footwear?

The administration is having 3,000 pairs of sandals made in Australia and will issue them to town policemen because it thinks their feet should be protected against hard roads.

MEASLES and whooping cough have broken out in Moresby. Several European children either have measles or have just recovered from them, but the Administration is more worried about the fact that measles and whooping cough are spreading among the natives. At present the number of native victims is estimated at "three or four dozen"—the Health Department could not give a more definite figure. The Administration is trying to restrict the movement of natives in and out of Moresby to prevent the diseases reaching other areas.

SOMEONE should tell the officials of the Moresby Tennis Club about the pleasures of night tennis in the tropics. The club has three good courts but many people think it could make better use of them by erecting lights. A common belief is that the Administration has refused to allow lights to be erected because of the power situation, but we have been told officially that the Administration has no objection, and that after 8 p.m. there is plenty of power.

The new Murray Heights Club is putting lights on its tennis court, so why not the Moresby Tennis Club?

The Murray Heights Club has made a lively start with dances and house nights and if all its plans become realities, life will be much more pleasant for residents of the area. A children's playground and a sports oval are among the amenities planned.

AMONG those who returned to Moresby on the last "Bulolo" were Mr. and Mrs. S. Lonergan, Mr. and Mrs. A. de Groen, Mr. M. C. Rich and Mrs. Crisp.

Dr. and Mrs. J. Gunther have just flown south on leave and Mr. J. McKenna is on six months recreation and sick leave. Mr. A. E. Way, District Labour Officer, Samarai, is relieving him as Assistant Director of Native Labour.

THE Government Secretary's Department is recovering slowly from the confusion caused by the fire which destroyed its office at Port Moresby on February 12. The Department moved into a new and much better building on May 31, but the work of replacing lost files will continue for a long time.

After the fire residents of the Territory were asked to forward copies of letters to

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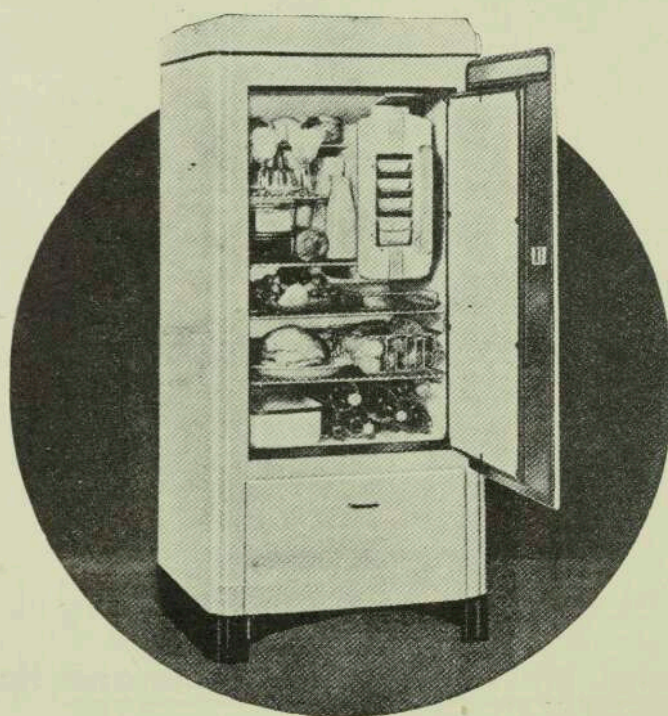
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which they had got no reply and this response is helping the department considerably. Some staff files were charred but readable, but out of 4,000 general files, little more than a hundred were saved. It is stated, however, that, in most cases, copies of correspondence in these files can be obtained.

BIGGEST sporting week-end in Moresby for a long time was the King's Birthday holiday week-end, June 11 to 13, when 56 cricketers, basketball players and golfers came here from Lae, Wau and Bulolo.

The visitors chartered two planes for the trip, arriving on Saturday morning and leaving the following Tuesday morning.

Twenty nine men and women came from Lae and 27 from Wau and Bulolo.

The Lae-Moresby fixtures opened on Saturday afternoon with a women's basketball match, won by Moresby 21 to 6. Moresby also won the cricket match next day, declaring with 8 wickets down for 105 as against Lae's 136. On Monday morning, the Lae men's basketball team plunged about in the mud to better effect than the Moresby team, winning by 12 goals to 10. The rain held off for the second and last women's basketball game in the afternoon and, watched by His Honour the Administrator Colonel J. K. Murray and Mrs. Murray, the Moresby girls won by 13 to 8. The visitors had better luck in the golf, although Moresby scored 20 points to Wau-Bulolo's 12.

In two members' matches Moresby defeated Bulolo 8-3 and Wau 7-0 but Wau-Bulolo won the associates' match 4-3 and the mixed Canadian 5-2.

There was plenty of entertainment for the visitors. The Moresby cricketers and basketball players held a dance for the Lae teams at the Konedobu Club on Saturday night, an informal entertainment at the same place on Sunday night and a ball at the RSL Club on Monday night.

The Moresby Golf Club held a dance at its club house on Monday night for the Wau and Bulolo visitors.

At the ball Mrs. Murray presented a number of trophies, including one to the captain of the Moresby cricket team, Max Taylor, for the best batting average (109 not out); one to Roy Elsemann, of Moresby, for the best bowling average (3 for 24); one to Mrs. Eileen Pollard (captain) for the best and fairest player in the Lae girls' basketball team and one to Mrs. Beth Woods (captain) for the best and fairest player in the Moresby team.

Moresby is hoping to take teams to Lae and Bulolo next September.

HIS SPITTING WAS COSTLY

SUVA, July 2.
FOR many months the police at Suva have been waging war on people who persist in spitting on footpaths. Apart from other considerations, the practice is frowned on as an obvious menace to health, particularly in a land where a majority of the population goes barefoot.

In the Magistrate's Court the fines for the offence have risen from a few shillings to £1. A misguided Indian, caught in the act by a Fijian constable, attempted to save 15/-. He offered the constable 5/- to forget all about everything. The net result, in Court, was a fine of £1 for the spitting and another of £1/10/- for attempted official corruption.

A daughter, Jean Mary, was born in Moresby recently to Mr. and Mrs. J. Gibney. Mr. Gibney is on the staff of the Town Law Office.

A Story of MacGregor

Letter to the Editor

YOUR article on Sir William MacGregor in the June "PIM" was an enthralling account of the life of a remarkable man.

Here is something, in lighter vein, regarding the same gentleman—a story told to me by one of his contemporaries which it is quite possible some old-timer may be able to corroborate.

Sir William—in those days just plain "Mac"—to his mates—was at the time Receiver-General for Fiji; and one of the other departmental heads approached him, told him he had two casks of goods from Sydney in bond, and asked Mac for a clearance. "We are both civil servants," he said, "and why should I have to pay duty?"

A hopeless proposition to put to the incorruptible Macgregor, of course. The

would-be duty evader would not take "No" for an answer, and Mac eventually told him to bring along his invoices.

Upon perusal of these Mac made a sinful-sounding bargain. "If you," he said, "will undertake to saw those two casks in half, point the top of each stave, paint them a nice green and send them along to my quarters for palm tubs, I'll give you a clearance."

This offer was delightedly accepted by the other, who fancied himself as an amateur carpenter.

In due course, the palm tubs were a noble decoration on Mac's verandah.

His partner in sin called. "Are you satisfied?" he asked.

"Yes," said Mac. "And, look ye, mon, read your tariff, read your tariff! Your dom stuff is on the free list."

I am, etc.,

MATA-KIKI-OBO-OBO.

Sydney.

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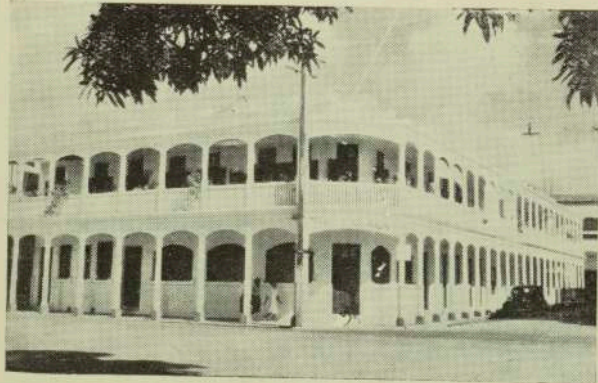
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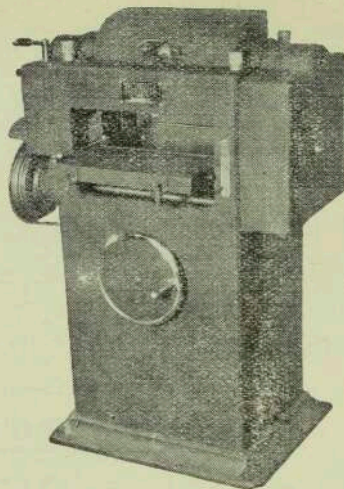
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NEW GUINEA GIRL MARRIES IN SA



A happy snapshot of Mr. and Mrs. Reg. Williams, of Auburn, South Australia. Mrs. Williams, prior to her marriage on February 12, was Miss Barbara Stephens, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Stephens, formerly of Wau, New Guinea, where Mr. Stephens had aviation interests—the well-known air company, Stephen's Aviation.

DEATH OF MRS. IRIS TEBB

MRS. IRIS TEBB, aged 37, of Lae, died in Port Moresby on July 2 soon after the plane on which she was going to Sydney for medical treatment, arrived from Lae.

When the plane reached Moresby it was found that she was too ill to continue the trip: she died on the way to the Moresby Hospital. The funeral service was held next day at St. John's Church of England and the burial took place at the Moresby Cemetery.

Her husband, Mr. R. W. Tebb, general agent, flew from Lae to attend the funeral.

Port Moresby Arts and Crafts

From Our Own Correspondent

PORT MORESBY, July 5.

WOULD-BE Dobells of the town are busily splashing paint on canvas in hopes of winning favourable comments at the Moresby RSL's Arts and Crafts exhibition on August 19 and 20. As well as paintings, there will be displays of sculpture, woodcarving, pottery, photographs, needlework, native art, etc. A special competition is being held for a design for a postage stamp for Papua-New Guinea. The Administration will consider using the winning design when the Territory starts issuing its own stamps again.

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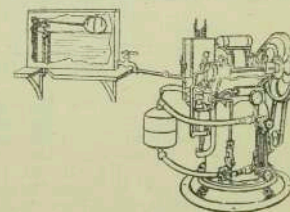
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SHIPPING AND PLANE SERVICES

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 time-table in following column.

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.

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). Time-table for the Pacific section of her run is:—

RMS "Aorangi"					
Honolulu	June 2	Aug. 4	Oct. 27	Dec. 29	Mar. 2
Suva	June 11	Aug. 13	Nov. 5	Jan. 7, 1950	Mar. 11
Auckland	June 14-16	Aug. 16-18	Nov. 24	Jan. 10-12	Mar. 14-16
Sydney, arr.	June 20	Aug. 22	Nov. 8-10	Jan. 16	Mar. 20
Sydney, dep.	June 30	Sept. 22	Nov. 28-29	Jan. 26	Mar. 30
Auckland	July 4-5	Sept. 26-27	Dec. 2	Jan. 30-31	Apr. 3-4
Suva	July 8	Sept. 30	Dec. 9	Feb. 3	Apr. 7
Honolulu	July 15	Oct. 7	Nov. 14	Feb. 10	Apr. 14
Vancouver	July 22-28	Oct. 14-20	Dec. 16-22	Feb. 17-23	Apr. 21-27

Subject to Alterations Without Notice.

New Zealand—Fiji—Samoa—Tonga

Monthly Service by MV "Matua" SERVICE CONDUCTED BY UNION SS CO., LTD.—SUBJECT TO ALTERATION WITHOUT

After completing the voyage which begins from Auckland in mid-July, and finishes there in early August, "Matua" will withdraw for annual survey, and will be off the run for upwards of one month.

New Zealand—Cook Is.—Niue—Samoa

THE motor vessel "Maui Pomare," owned and operated by the NZ Government, maintains a direct service

between Auckland and Rarotonga (Cook Islands), with alternative calls at Niue and Apia (Samoa).

New 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:

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EAST COAST.—Yate, Ounla, Thio, Nakety, Canala, Kouaoua Kua, Moneo, Ponerihouen, Ibarama, Poindimie, Wagap, Touho, Tipindje, Hienghene, Tao, Oubatch, Pouebo, Balade, Pam, Arama, and return.

WEST COAST.—Pouembout, Kone, Temala, Voh, Ouace Gomen, Kourmac, Tangalou, Tiebaghi, Nehoue, Poume, Baaba, Belep and return.

LOYALTY ISLANDS.—Mare (Tadine), Lifou (Chepenehe) Ouvea (Fajaoue, St. Joseph) and return.

The steamer "Neo Hebridaïs" runs regularly between Noumea and Sydney, with occasional trips to the New Hebrides (mostly Anietyum). The owners are Societe Maritime et Maniere Hagen, Noumea. Sydney agents: H. C. Sleigh, 254 George Street, Sydney.

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.

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 and Qantas Airways. Qantas service also from Lae, NG, to Honiara, BSI.

NEW HEBRIDES.—Frequent regular flying-boat service from Sydney by Trans Oceanic Airways. Service from Noumea by French plane runs twice weekly. Qantas plane from Sydney to NH on alternate Tuesdays.

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, BCPA and CPA (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.—Infrequent service from Noumea by TRAPAS plane.

AUSTRALIA-NEW ZEALAND.—Regular service by Tasman Empire Airways.

AUSTRALIA-NORTH AMERICA.—Regular Trans-Pacific services by Pan American Airways, BCPA and CPA.

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. (July 10, 24) for Norfolk Island (arr. 12.30 p.m., dep. 12.1 a.m. Monday), Nadi (arr. 6.55 a.m., dep. 6.40 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 (July 14, 28), 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.).

*Crosses International Date Line.

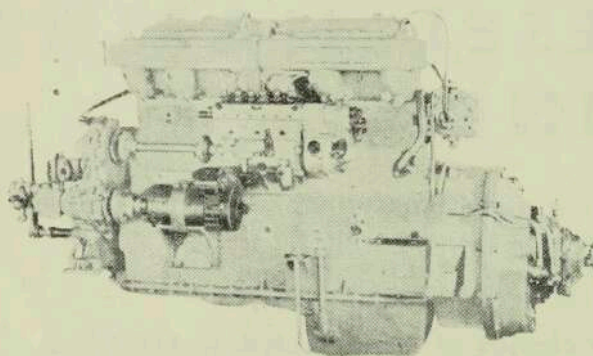
AUCKLAND-NORFOLK ISLAND: A "Douglas" airliner leaves Whenuapai, Auckland, every Sunday at 8.15 a.m. for Norfolk Island (arr. 12.15 p.m.), and departs on the return flight at 1.15 p.m., arriving at Whenuapai at 6 p.m.

FARES, single (in NZ currency): Auckland to Norfolk, £12/10/-; to Fiji, £31; 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, 104 Gloucester St.; Gisborne, 74 Peel St.; Palmerston North, 107 Broadway Ave.; Hamilton, 8 Alma St.; Rotorua, Airport Bld., Fenton St.; New Plymouth, Grand Central Building, Egmont St.; Hokitika, Sunshine Airport; Norfolk Is., Burns Philp, Ltd.; Fiji, NAC at Nadi and Suva; Burns Philp, Labasa and Lautoka; Tonga, Mrs. F. F. Mallose, Fofi-amotu Airfield; W. Samoa, Burns Philp (SS), Ltd.; Apia; Cook Is., Mrs. F. McVeagh, Aitutaki, and Mr. J. D. Campbell, Rarotonga.

CPA Sydney-Vancouver Service

CANADIAN Pacific Airlines commenced a Trans-Pacific service between Sydney and Vancouver in July. For the present there will be one northbound and one southbound trip per fortnight. Stops are made at Nadi (Fiji), Canton Island, Honolulu, San Francisco and Vancouver.



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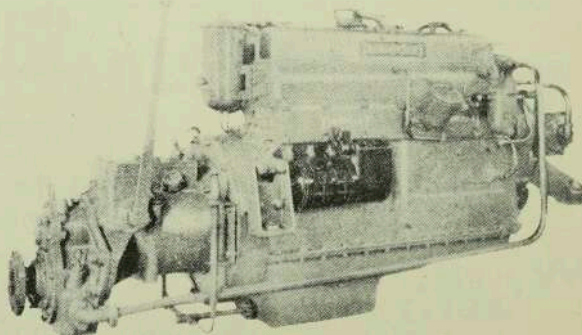
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Fares are (in Australian currency): Sydney-Vancouver, £214 single, £385 return; Fiji-Vancouver, £159 single, £286 return; Sydney-Fiji, £55 single, £99 return.

Bookings may be made at the Union Steam Ship Company of New Zealand, Limited, Sydney; Union Steam Ship Co. of N.Z. Ltd., Fiji; Canadian Pacific Airlines, Vancouver.

Sydney-Vancouver

BCPA Service

BRITISH Commonwealth Pacific Airlines, Ltd., operate a twice weekly trans-Pacific service from Sydney to Vancouver via Fiji, Canton Island, Honolulu and San Francisco; and a weekly service between Auckland and Vancouver, at the same ports.

Planes leave Sydney every Wednesday and Saturday, and Vancouver on the Southbound trip every Monday and Thursday. Every fourth trip from Sydney terminates at San Francisco instead of Vancouver.

Planes leave Auckland every Tuesday and arrive in Vancouver the following Wednesday. The Southbound trip to Auckland commences from Vancouver every alternate Friday. Every other Friday the service commences at San Francisco.

BCPA services make regular connections at San Francisco and Vancouver for onward travel, via either New York or Montreal to the United Kingdom or Europe. The through fare from Sydney to London is £327/10/- (Australian); from Fiji £323/8/8 (Australian).

Fares are (in Australian currency): Sydney-Vancouver, £200 single and £360 return; Auckland-Vancouver, £A198 single; Auckland-Fiji (Fiji), £A39; Sydney-Nandi, £A55.

Douglas DC6 aircraft carrying 48 passengers seated or 37 passengers (in sleepers) and a crew of nine are used on the service.

Trans-American—

Trans-Pacific Service

TRANS-AMERICAN World Airways Clippers now provide the following services in the South Pacific, using DC4 planes, equipped with Sleepettes:—

Planes leave Sydney Sundays and Thursdays for San Francisco, via Tontouta (New Caledonia), Nadi (Fiji), Canton Island and Honolulu; and every Friday for San Francisco, via Tontouta, Nadi, Canton Island, Honolulu.

(Continued on Page 81)

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Some Aspects of the Rehabilitation of Mr. Ward

(Continued from Page 10)

That was not quite correct—but there was enough truth in it to make it clear to anyone that very interesting negotiations were afoot. Many people spoke to us about it—but officialdom ignored it.

Mr. Ward is no drooling innocent. He is a man of outstanding intelligence and ability, with a shrewd and cynical knowledge of the ways of this wicked old world. Those who know anything of Mr. Ward's character and history were astonished to learn that from 1945 until the end of 1947, he was ignorant of the fact that Hancock and Gore, Ltd., were in close contact with his trusted henchman, Garden, and apparently confident of getting a concession.

We may accept the judge's finding that Mr. Ward had no improper interest whatever in the Garden-Farrell-Hancock and Gore transactions. But that does not clear Mr. Ward of most reprehensible conduct in keeping the unscrupulous Mr. Garden so close to him for so long a time, and in ignoring all the funny stories in circulation about Mr. Garden's activities.

THE judge, and others of his status, may deplore the standard of commercial morality disclosed in the attitude of Hancock and Gore in their negotiations with the Farrell-Garden set-up. But what about the standard of commercial morality shown by Mr. Ward, in keeping his old political friend, Garden, in a comfortable job, in a comfortable office, beside him in the Commonwealth offices, to carry out Mr. Ward's ideas and biddings, while being paid by the nation?

The relationship between Garden and Ward unquestionably led Hancock and Gore to believe that Ward at least knew about Garden's discussions with Hancock and Gore; and, therefore, that relationship should have been investigated by the Royal Commission. It was not included in the terms of reference. But the judge did have this to say:

If J. S. Garden had been simply a liaison officer between the Ministry of Labour and National Service and the Unions, he would, no doubt, have been given accommodation at the A.P.A. building. The Department of Labour and National Service had been removed there. But apparently his duties were such that he was useful to the Federal members as well.

He was allowed to remain on the eighth floor of the Commonwealth Bank Building and was assigned a room across the passage from the Minister's suite.

This proximity of his office to Mr. Ward's suite "had several effects, which proved most unfortunate in relation to the Hancock and Gore transaction."

Finally, Garden was left in his office without direct supervision by his Minister or the permanent head of his department.

Consequently, Farrell was able to visit him whenever he wished, and Garden's room at the Commonwealth Bank Building was available for their secret conferences.

I set out these facts by way of narrative only. They are necessary to a full understanding of how Farrell and Garden were able to work the fraud. I am not in a position to criticise them and I refrain from doing so.

To do justice in any such criticism would require a separate inquiry as to Garden's work as a liaison officer and as to how far the exigencies of the military and industrial position required the retention of his services.

One can be pardoned, however, for doubting the efficacy of Garden's work as a liaison officer during the three and a half years in which he was engaged in this fraud.

THEN there is the curious case of Urquhart. Urquhart, at the beginning of the war, was an inconspicuous railway clerk and, apparently, a

close personal friend of Ward. When Ward became Minister for National Service, and Garden a high official in that Department, Urquhart also became an official. It was shown that, during that period, really astonishing sums of money passed through the personal banking accounts of Mr. Urquhart. Urquhart explained this by saying that he had become a consistent racecourse punter—and he was able to produce evidence to show that he had been very busy on the racecourses during those years.

Later, when Ward moved on to another Department, Urquhart (on Ward's strong recommendation) was appointed managing director of a Sydney commercial firm—and is still there.

Garden, in his defence, said that Ward's share of the money paid to the Garden-Farrell syndicate was handed over to Urquhart. The Royal Commissioner rejected that story completely, and indicated that in his opinion Garden was lying. But there were some things in this series of incidents that were not within the terms of reference, and were not examined or explained.

MR. WARD is back in the Department of External Territories, and has resumed Ministerial control of the more or less demoralised Administration of Papua-New Guinea.

Papua and New Guinea have been without his services for two years. He went abroad about the middle of 1947; and, when he returned, the Timber Lease scandal broke wide open. In any Government controlled by political decencies, Mr. Ward would then have been relieved of his portfolios, pending inquiry. But Mr. Ward clung to office until the end of 1948. He might as well have been out of office, because he was so busy with the Timber Lease scandal, in all its angles, during all 1948 and part of 1949, that he had little time or interest for the Australian Pacific Territories; and conditions there, in certain respects, went from bad to worse. The worsening of conditions is seen in—

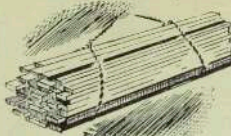
- The continued functioning of the Production Control Board, although its demise was officially announced many months ago.

- Failure to give the Papua-New Guinea planters any information about the Stabilisation Fund—the amount of it, what is to be done with it, and why it is being continued.

- The growing discontent in the Public Service, where men are expected to keep themselves and their families on salaries based more or less on Australian conditions, although the cost of living in the Territories is much greater. (A Public Service deputation was recently in Canberra, trying to get some improvement in conditions. The relief which they now probably will get should have been given two years ago.)

- A whole set of difficult conditions created by the failure of (a) the Wardist plan of controlling native labour; (b) the Wardist plan of keeping private enterprise out of public transport.

However, political developments in Australia probably soon will remove this Socialist genius from the control of a region where Socialism can least be expected to work. But he will not be lost to public sight. His ability, and his consistency as a hater of everything belonging to the Right, makes it certain that he presently will emerge as the leader of the forces of the extreme Left. He is not a Communist—but God alone knows why he isn't.—R.



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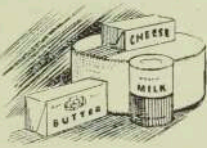
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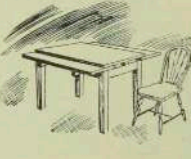
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1/49/P.

The return flights are made from San Francisco every Thursday, via Honolulu, Canton Island, Nadi and Tontouta; and from Seattle every Friday, via Portland, Honolulu, Canton Island, Nadi and Tontouta. Every second Wednesday Lipper leaves Honolulu for Sydney, via Canton Island, Nadi and Tontouta (flight 805 from San Francisco Tuesday offers connection at Honolulu).

Planes leave Auckland every Wednesday, and via Nadi, Canton Island and Honolulu to San Francisco. They leave Seattle for Auckland every Sunday and Friday by the same route. Fares, in Australian currency, are:—

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Sydney-Seattle	200 0 0	360 0 0
Sydney-Frisco	200 0 0	360 0 0
Sydney-Fiji	55 0 0	99 1 3
Sydney-Honolulu	166 17 6	300 6 3
Auckland-Seattle	184 1 3	331 5 0
Auckland-Honolulu	150 18 9	271 11 3
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 fares by about 10 per cent.

Free baggage allowance is 30 kilos per person. Excess baggage at 1 per cent. of single fare for each kilogram of excess.

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 a.m.) and Auckland (8 a.m.) every morning, including Sunday—seven 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 S.A.L. offices in Australia and New Zealand. Bookings may be made at Tasman Empire Airways in Auckland and at Qantas Empire Airways, Carrington Street, Sydney.

Sydney—Queensland— New Guinea

QANTAS Empire Airways, Ltd., employing DC3 planes, operate a regular service between Sydney, Port Moresby, Lae, Finschhafen, Madang, 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, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 9 a.m., and arrive at Lae at 1 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays. The plane which leaves Sydney on Wednesday and arrives at Lae on Thursday then goes on to Rabaul. It returns on Friday. The plane, which arrives at Lae on Tuesdays, then goes on to Madang, returning to Lae the same day.

The plane, which arrives at Lae at 1 p.m. on Saturdays, flies on to Bulolo and Wau on Saturday afternoons, and returns to Lae.

Planes leave Lae at 5.45 a.m. on Wednesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays, and arrive in Sydney at 10.15 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.

QANTAS SUBSIDIARY SERVICES IN PAPUA-NEW GUINEA-SOLOMONS

Qantas Empire Airways run the following subsidiary services in Papua, New Guinea, and British Solomon:—

A Douglas DC3 leaves Lae every alternate Wednesday, and flies to Rabaul, and Kavieng, and returns to Lae; but every fourth Wednesday the plane goes on from Kavieng to Manus, and returns via Kavieng to Rabaul (overnight) and returns to Lae on the Thursday morning.

Every alternate Monday, a Qantas Catalina flies from Port Moresby, westward to Daru, via

Yule Island, Kerema, Kikori, Lake Kutubu and Lake Murray, remaining overnight at Kikori and returning to PM next morning.

Every alternate Wednesday, a Qantas Catalina flies from Port Moresby, eastward to Samarai, via Abau and Milne Bay; and every second trip (that is, every fourth Wednesday) the plane remains overnight at Samarai, and on the following day (Thursday) flies out over the archipelagoes, calls at Esa'ala, Kiriwina, Woodlark and Deboyne Lagoon, and returns to PM, via Samarai, Milne Bay and Abau.

Every alternate Monday, a Qantas Catalina leaves Port Moresby for Rabaul, via Moewe Har-



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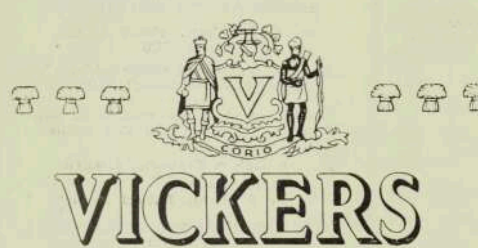
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bour, and Talasea (New Britain); next morning (Tuesday) it flies to Buka, Kieta and Buin (Bougainville) and returns to Rabaul; next morning (Wednesday) it flies to Talasea, Moewe Harbour and Jacquinot Bay, and returns to Rabaul; and next morning (Thursday) it returns from Rabaul direct to Port Moresby.

Every alternate Monday a Qantas Douglas flies from Lae to Rabaul, and continues on to Honiara (British Solomon Islands), via Torokina and Munda; remains overnight at Honiara; and returns to Lae the following day (Tuesday), via Munda, Torokina and Rabaul.

Sydney--Noumea--Suva

THE following is the time-table of the Qantas flying-boat:—

Sydney	dep. 9 p.m. alt. Tue.
Noumea	arr. 7 a.m. alt. Wed.
Noumea	dep. 8 a.m. alt. Wed.
Suva	arr. 3 p.m. alt. Wed.
Suva	dep. 6 a.m. alt. Frid.
Noumea	arr. 11 a.m. alt. Frid.
Noumea	dep. 12 noon alt. Frid.
Sydney	arr. 8 p.m. alt. Frid.

Intending passengers may book through Qantas offices in Australia. Burns, Philp (South Seas) Company, in Suva; and T. Johnston in Noumea.

Fares: To Noumea, £35 single; £63 return. To Suva, £52/10/- single; £94/10/- return.

Noumea-Suva, £17/10/- single; £31/10/- re- turn.

Sydney--Lord Howe Is.-- Norfolk Is.

QANTAS, Sydney, run a Catalina once weekly from Sydney to Lord Howe Island. Fare, single, £12. Return, £21/12/-.

Qantas run a land plane alt. Thursdays (re- turning same day) from Sydney to Norfolk Island. Fare, £22 single; £39/12/- return.

(For Norfolk Island, see also under NZ National Airways. For Lord Howe, see also under TOA.)

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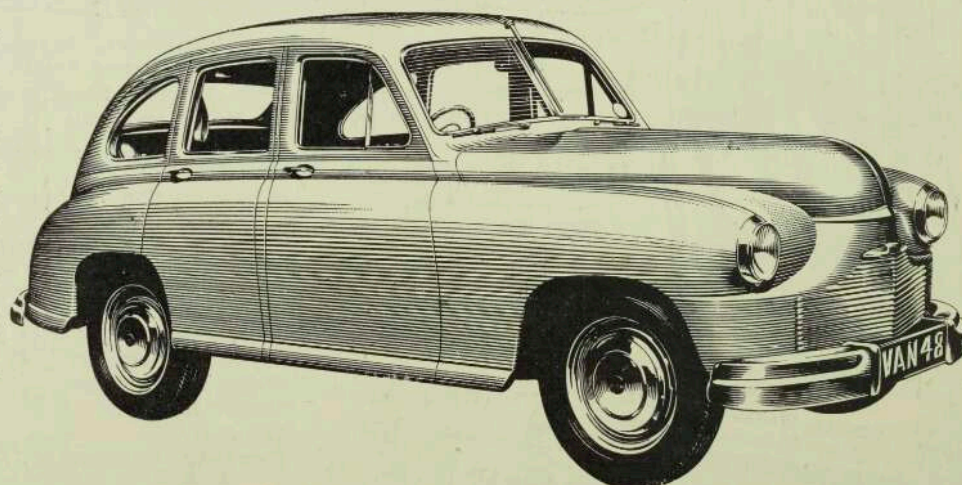
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Noumea-Fiji-Tahiti

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.

The Trapas Co. also runs a service to New Hebrides—see under Caledonia-New Hebrides.

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, £18/15/-; Freight: Sydney-Vila, 2/- per lb.; Sydney-Santo, 2/3.

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 Matigata, in the Russell Islands, and calls are sometimes made at Vanikoro, in the Santa Cruz group. Fares: Sydney-Tulagi, £65. Free baggage allowance, 60 lb.; excess baggage and freight, 3/- per lb.

New Caledonia-New Hebrides—Tahiti

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. 1315
Vila—dep. 0945	Santo—arr. 1115
Santo—dep. 1145	Vila—arr. 0900
Vila—dep. 1400	Noumea—arr. 1630

A TRAPAS plane runs monthly between Noumea and Tahiti.

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, Finschhafen, 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.

(Continued on Next Page)

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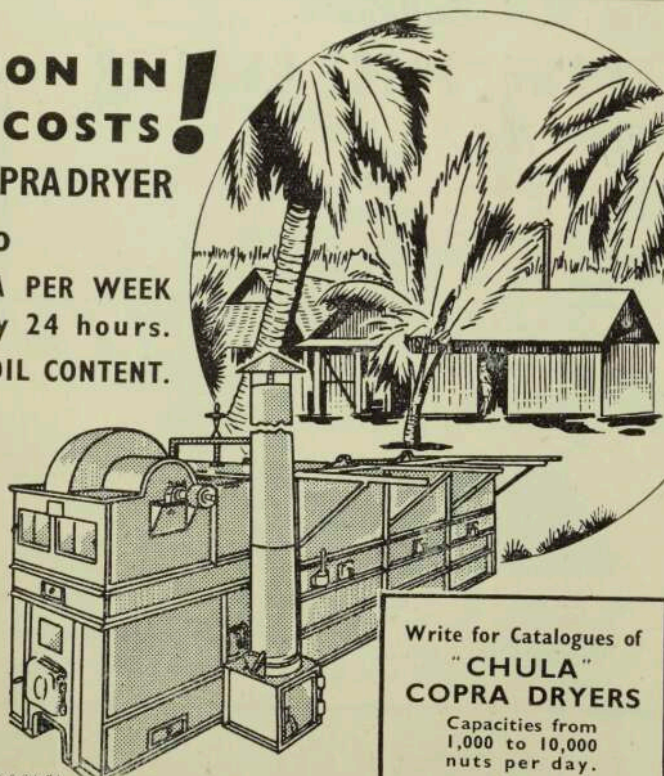
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37

Guinea Air Traders Ltd., of Lae, New Guinea, employ six aircraft on local services, and on charter work.

Under arrangement with the Administration, a Qantas plane, carrying Administration personnel and cargo, and mails, flies once each week from Lae to Rabaul, Kavieng and Manus, and returns to Lae by the same route.

TAHITI NOTES

The Anti-Filariasis Campaign

From Our Own Correspondent

PAPEETE, July 1.

THE American yacht "Varua" owned by Mr. William A. Robinson, sailed from Papeete for Honolulu, via the Tuamotus and Marquesas, on May 5. Many years ago Mr. Robinson made history by sailing around the world in his small ketch "Swaap". He will return late in July.

Mr. Robinson, is responsible for the formation of the anti-filariasis campaign in French Oceania, and last month he collected several thousand francs to fight against the disease. The following are the names of subscribers.

Bambridge, Tony.	Bambridge, B.
Blouin, Andre.	Bordes, Frederick.
Brown, Charles.	Mageta, Societe.
Donald, Etab.	Bredin, Freres
Falkenberg, Sydney	Calamy, M.
Frogier, Pierre	Cassiau, Pierre
Gobrait, Adram	Constant et Hargous
Herve, Robert	Farine, Susanne
Hirshon, Lewis	Farnham, J.
Hollande, A.	Faugerat, Paul
Homes, Frank	Haereraarua, Frederic
Hoppenstedt, Henri	Hart, Ralph
Jacquemin, Andre	Laguesse, Emile
J. P. P. O. Jaunes,	Levy, Julien
Lherbier, I.	Lherbier, I.
Kellum, Nedford	Martin, Yves
Lund, Eddie	Moore, Preston
Martin, Emile	Raoulx, Louis
Mervin, Freres	Walker, I. E.
Nordman, G.	Ah Yun
Nordman, P.	Ah Kul, Snong Yan
Robinson, W. A.	Chin Lee Sang Co.
Sin Tung Hing	Tai Kee Lee
Triere, Yat Lee	Yee On Siong
Ignieray, Adolphe	Wa Hing So.
Bambridge, Lionel L.	Wing Man Hing

The officers and men of the New Zealand frigate "Hawea" were lavishly entertained during a visit here in mid-June; and they took part in local celebrations on the night of the 17th, to commemorate the occasion when French Oceania rallied to General de Gaulle. The Governor, M. Anziani, in a stirring speech, recalled the days of 1940-45. The ceremonies concluded when the Governor presented medals to the widows and members of families of men killed or wounded during the war.

The steamer "Pomare," formerly of the South Seas Shipping Co., Honolulu, arrived here on June 25, via Palmyra, Canton Island and Pago Pago, bringing 250 tons of sugar.

There was much interest in the arrival here of Mr. Hancock, a high executive of Pan American Airways. It is reported that PAA soon will establish an office in Papeete and Bora Bora. Mr. Hancock inspected the former war-time airfield installations on Bora Bora, and will report to his Co. on the condition of that base.

M. Jean Millaud has been elected president of our Representative Assembly. M. Albert Leboucher, who has occupied the residency, became vice-president as from June 5.

Our popular Mayor, M. Alfred Poroi, as returned from a visit to Australia, New Zealand, Tonga and Fiji. He wishes to thank many people in all those territories for their kindness and hospitality. Loaded to capacity with copra, and with a full passenger list, the "Ville d'Amiens" sailed on June 11 for Marseilles. Among the passengers were six students, en route to France to complete their studies in the higher schools.

M. Lassalle-Sere, French member of the South Pacific Commission, was recently created an honorary citizen of Noumea in recognition of the part he played in Australia in 1948 in having Noumea selected as headquarters of the South Pacific Commission. He warmly thanked the Mayor (M. Sautot) for the honour. M. Lassalle-Sere appears to have won the Tahiti poll for the election of a member of the French Senate; but the validity of the poll has been questioned, and Paris is being consulted.

Two Suva girls, Miss Elaine Hoefflich and Miss Lily Jackson, have taken up temporary residence in Washington, USA. They left Fiji in 1945 to work for the American Army at Noumea, and subsequently transferred to Guam for the United States Department. They were holidaying in the United States when they decided to take positions at Washington. Miss Hoefflich is a private secretary with the Joint Services Mission of the British Army Staff and Miss Jackson is with the Agents for the British Colonies.

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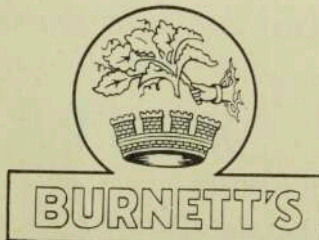
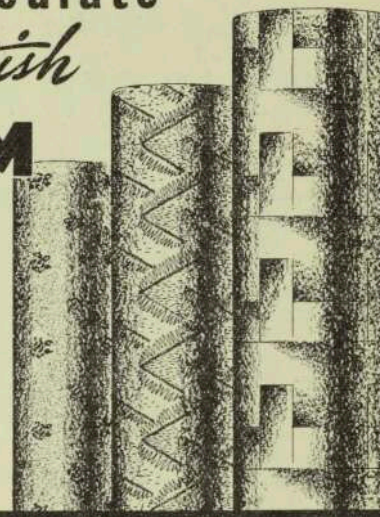
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Griffith-Threlfo Wedding



The wedding of Miss Nola Threlfo to Mr. Brian Griffith took place on June 16 at the LMS Church, Port Moresby. The bride, for approximately one year before her marriage, was a popular Sister at the Port Moresby European Hospital. Mr. Griffith, formerly of Hertfordshire, England, is now with the Australasian Petroleum Company in the Native Labour Section.

The Matron of Honour was Mrs. Claude Donaldson, only sister of the bride. Mr. Frank Rickwood was best man, and the bride was given away by Mr. Reg Donaldson, who has spent many years in the islands. A reception was held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Reg Donaldson. Photo shows (left to right): Mr. R. Donaldson, bride, groom, Mrs. R. Donaldson, Mrs. C. Donaldson (Matron of Honour), Mr. F. Rickwood (best man).
—Photo by Papuan Prints.

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ISLAND owners of home lighting plants may be interested to know that a certain firm in Sydney can supply home appliances such as kettles, toasters, fans, food-beaters, etc., for 32, 50, or 110 volt current.

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in a matter of minutes, costs £23/10/-. These mixers are available in 32, 50, 110 and 240 volt models.

Freight and packing for all appliances is extra.

At the end of June, Mr. K. Bolton, retiring President of the RSSAILA, visited Rabaul and was welcomed at a smoko held in the still-incomplete New Guinea Club. He said that he appreciated the welcome he had received everywhere in Papua-New Guinea; he strongly urged returned men in Papua and New Guinea to unite to form one body—as 90 per cent. of the men in the Territory were returned servicemen, this should give the organisation great strength and vigour.

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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, 1948, 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.

Minister Not Helpful Over Lae Building Muddle

A SERIES of incidents relating to the allocation of sites for particular buildings, in the new town of Lae, New Guinea, indicates that some of the people concerned are either knaves or fools.

Lae, originally, was built on an alluvial flat, at the head of Huon Gulf, near the mouth of the Markham River. It was wiped out entirely by bombs during the war.

When the volcanoes exploded at Rabaul in 1937, the Australian Government decided to remove the Administration Headquarters from Rabaul to Lae. For that purpose a town plan for Lae was carefully made. The removal of Administration Departments was actually going on when the invasion occurred early in 1942.

After the war the Administration proceeded with a plan for a new Lae, but abandoned the idea of placing Administration headquarters there. It seems clear that between 1945 and 1948, when various private persons and institutions were eager to get on with rebuilding in Lae, the Administration was working to a particular plan, in accordance with which it made allocations of building sites.

Two people who were given such allocations were the Reverend W. E. Moren, priest in charge of the Anglican Church in Lae, and Mrs. Florence Stewart, who before the war owned the Hotel Cecil in Lae (completely destroyed). Mrs. Stewart has conducted an hotel in a collection of unsuitable huts over a mile from Lae and, for two years, she has been trying to get permission to build a good hotel on a suitable location.

Both of these well-known people de-

clare that they were given particular sites for their buildings by the Administration, in places that, according to the existing plan, were suitable, from their points of view.

Late in 1948, to their astonishment and anger, they found that the town plan on which they had been working had been scrapped, and that it now was the intention of the Government to build the new township of Lae at a place between 1½ to 1¾ miles from the township site proposed prior to 1948. This, of course, meant that the sites, which were quite suitable according to the pre-1948 plan, were now completely unsuitable.

Both Mrs. Stewart and Mr. Moren protested to the Administration, and asked that they be given opportunity to change their building plans to sites more suitably placed in respect of the new township; but they have been fobbed off ever since with Ministerial evasion and official shilly-shallying.

The statement of Mr. Moren—who did not mince his words—was published in the June "PIM."

IN June, in the Australian Parliament, Mr. Howard Beale (after two attempts) was able to bring this matter before the House. He stated the facts outlined above and demanded an explanation from the Acting Minister for Territories, Mr. Chambers.

This Minister—who is by no means an impressive personality—said that he had interviewed the people concerned when he visited New Guinea last January and that he left them "quite satisfied." He said that the original proposal to build Lae township near where it was in 1941

had been scrapped because it was found that the Markham River was steadily eroding the flat ground; so the township site was moved over one mile back on to a low plateau, and the plan was drawn accordingly. Although he was pressed by Mr. Beale and other members, he insisted that the sites allotted to Mr. Moren and Mrs. Stewart had been chosen in accordance with the later plan—he even said he knew nothing about any earlier plan on which Mr. Moren and Mrs. Stewart might have selected their sites.

This, of course, is in direct conflict with the statement of Mrs. Stewart and Mr. Moren.

The Minister took the opportunity to make slighting references to both Mrs. Stewart and Mr. Moren. He said, for example, that nothing that he could do would make Mrs. Stewart happy; and that Mr. Moren "is completely antagonistic to the present administration." He also said, "I repeat that there has been only one plan for the new township."

There was no indication given by the Minister that he would review the position in order to assist Mrs. Stewart and Mr. Moren out of a serious difficulty.

One of the three people concerned is either a knave or a fool. Our readers can select the person for themselves.

NEW FIJI STAMPS

FOUR special postage stamps in the 2d., 3d., 8d. and 1/6 values are to be issued by the Government of Fiji for three months from October 10 to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the foundation of the Universal Postal Union.

By a coincidence, October 10 will also be the 75th anniversary of the signing of the Deed of Cession which made Fiji a British colony.

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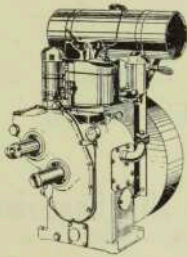
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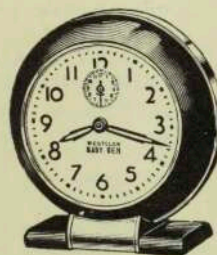
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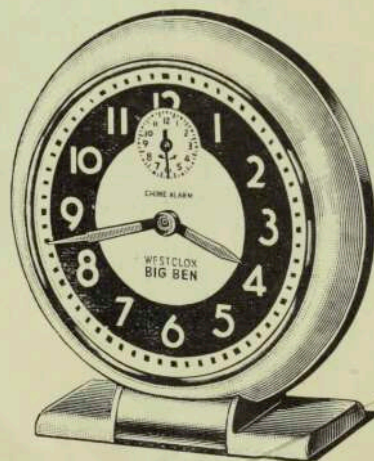
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IN HIS BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S HIGH COMMISSIONER'S COURT FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC.

Civil Jurisdiction

In Probate.

At Vila, New Hebrides, under the Pacific Order in Council, 1893.

NOTICE:

In the Estate of Basil St. Clair NEVEN-SPENCE (deceased).

NOTICE is hereby given that all creditors and persons having claim against the Estate of Basil St. Clair NEVEN-SPENCE, late of Tanna, in the New Hebrides, who died at Tanna, in the New Hebrides, on the sixth day of May, One thousand nine hundred and forty-eight, are hereby required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Administrator on or before the thirtieth day of September One thousand nine hundred and forty-nine. And all persons who are indebted to the above Estate are required to pay the amounts due on or before the thirtieth day of September one thousand nine hundred and forty-nine.

AND NOTICE is hereby given that after the said date the said Administrator will proceed to distribute the assets of the said deceased among the persons entitled thereto having regard to the claims of which the said Administrator has then had notice.

DATED at Vila, New Hebrides, this twenty-second day of June, One thousand nine hundred and forty-nine.

(Sgd.) S. DUBOIS.

Public Trustee for the New Hebrides,
Administrator.

Miss Ruth Watts has been appointed to the Papauta Girls' School, Upolu, W. Samoa.

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Estate John Samuel Talmage, Deceased.

Sealed Tenders endorsed "Tenders Tomala-Batt" are invited and will be received by the undersigned until 5 p.m. on the 31st July, 1949, for the purchase of the following:—

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 - (c) The highest or any other tender not necessarily accepted.
- (6) **Title**—Freehold and the successful tenderer shall accept such title as the Administrator of the Estate now has and without further investigation.
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On acceptance of tender 25 per cent. of tender price to be deposited and the balance is to be paid upon the execution by the Administrator of the Estate of a conveyance of the property or such other document or instrument as the successful tenderer may reasonably require to evidence the sale in the absence of a registerable transfer.

BURNS PHILP TRUST COMPANY, LIMITED,
7 Bridge Street, Sydney.
Administrator of the Estate of John Samuel Talmage (deceased).
Sydney, 9th June, 1949.

LEGAL NOTICE

**IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES
ORDINANCE, 1912-28 (PAPUA) (ADOPTED).**

AND

IN THE MATTER OF THE KAVIENG CLUB.

By Order of the Supreme Court of the Territory of Papua-New Guinea in this matter made the 22nd day of June, 1949, upon the petition of John Hindwood McDonald, sole surviving Trustee of the abovenamed Club, it was ordered that the Kavieng Club shall be deemed to have been dissolved on the 23rd day of January, 1942; that all persons who were at that date members of the Club—that is to say, all persons who were members of one or other of the five classes of members specified in Rules 10 (e) and 10 (p) of the Club, are the persons alone entitled to any assets of the Club that remain surplus after all the liabilities of the Club have been discharged, which surplus assets shall be distributed among those persons in equal shares, the share of any one of those persons who may have died since the dissolution of the Club on 23rd January, 1942, to be paid to his legal personal representative; that the Club be wound up by the Court and that Ernest Alfred James, Accountant, of Port Moresby, be appointed Official Liquidator of the said Club.

All persons who claim to have been members of the said Club on the 23rd day of January, 1942, or to be the legal personal representative of members of the Club at that date but who have since died, are required to submit their claims, verified by affidavit or statutory declaration.

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claration, on or before the twenty-fifth day of November, 1949, to E. A. James, Public Accountant, Cuthbertson Street, Port Moresby, the Official Liquidator.

The Official Liquidator may, at any time after the twenty-fifth day of November, 1949, the date fixed for the submission to him of such claims, proceed with the winding-up and seek the sanction of the Court or a Judge to a distribution of the surplus assets of the Club without further regard being had to any claim not received by him by that date.

DATED THIS SEVENTH DAY OF JULY, 1949.

E. A. JAMES,
OFFICIAL LIQUIDATOR.

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TRADING COMPANIES.—W. R. Carpenter & 3-70; Steamships Trading Co., Ltd., 4-6; on Manufacturing & Export Co., 4-8, 5-8, 5; Burns Philp (NH), Ltd., 6-65; Fairymead ar Co., 6-75; Burns Philp & Co., Ltd., 10-11, 13; Burns Philp (SS), Ltd., 10-79; Morris, Strom, Ltd., 12-13, 12-69; Bank of Indo-na, 12-16.

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A WELL-PRODUCED PLAY

P. MORESBY, July 6.
all the performances of the three-act play, "Night of January 16th," are as good as the one I saw here last night, the producer and cast can congratulate themselves on an excellent job. The is being presented at the Papuan theatre on four nights by a cast of 19 artists and proceeds will go to the Cross. Last night's performance was second.

roduced by Lester Sims, who obviously

knows his business, the play is interesting, smoothly presented and well cast. In most cases Mr. Sims seems to have found exactly the right person for each part—and in a small place like Moresby this would not be easy to do. Some of the artists are surprisingly good; but, as al-

ways, quite a bit of the play's success is due to the many behind-the-scenes workers.

If Mr. Sims and his players can maintain this standard they will have plenty of public support for any successors to "Night of January 16th."

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ISLANDS PRODUCE

(Unless otherwise stated, quotations are in Australian Currency)

COCOA

Cocoa beans imported into Australia from the Pacific Islands come mostly from New Guinea and the New Hebrides and are purchased almost wholly by the Commonwealth Chocolate and Confectionery Manufacturers' Association. The buying price is based on the ruling rate of Accra beans (produced mainly in the Gold Coast Colony, West Africa). The Gold Coast Cocoa Marketing Board, in Accra, recently announced that, owing to increased world production, the price for the next crop will be lower than that of 1948-49. New prices will be fixed before the new crop begins next October.

Western Pacific cocoa beans were quoted on the Sydney market in mid-July at £6 per ton lower than June quotations, i.e.:-

New Guinea: £131 per ton.
New Hebrides: £136 per ton.

Western Samoa's cocoa production normally goes to USA, where its distribution is controlled by the International Control Board. The price in Apia fell early in 1949 to £100-£120 Stg. per ton, f.o.b.

Accra (quotation by Colyer, Watson Pty., Ltd., Sydney): £125 Sterling (equivalent to approximately £156/5/- Aust.), c.i.f., Sydney.

TROCHUS SHELL

Irregular shipments are handled in Sydney by several Pacific Islands trading firms. Recent quotations were: Thursday Island shell, £70 per ton, f.o.b.; New Guinea shell, £64 per ton, c.i.f., Sydney; Solomon Islands shell, £65-£70 per ton, c.i.f., Sydney.

COFFEE

No coffee trading is permitted in Australia without the consent of the Tea and Coffee Control Board, to which all offers must first be submitted. Nominal quotations as follows:-

New Caledonia: Production is being taken by France at considerably higher than normal rates, (equivalent to around £200 Australian per ton for Arabica and £160 Aust. for Robusta).

New Guinea and Papua: Nominally, £120 to £160 per ton (c.i.f.), according to quality.

Java: No exports coming to Australia from Indonesia.

VANILLA BEANS

No Pacific Islands supplies available. Production of the main South Seas vanilla-producer, French Oceania, goes to USA.

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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 from Sydney to Islands ports is fixed at £45 per ton White and £49 per ton Brown.

GREEN SNAIL SHELL

Quotations recently on the Sydney market were firm at £72 per ton, c.i.f., for f.a.q. shell.

PEARL SHELL

Under a new contract made in June with the principal New York Mother of Pearl Shell buyer, Thursday Island shell now is quoted as follows: Grade "AA" to "C." £A325 per long ton, f.o.b. TI; grade "D." £A225; grade "E." £A125. This represents a substantial decline compared with last season's price of £A400 for top grades of Torres Strait MOP shell.

PRICE OF GOLD

Fine oz.	£10/15/3	Standard oz.	£9/17/34
(Australian Currency)			

COPRA

Copra Prices During World War II
The copra market was controlled by Governments from outbreak of war in 1939 until the end of the war in 1945. Some controls are still being exercised in the post-war period.

Fiji Local Buying Price, in Store, Fiji Currency.

	Plantation	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
January 1, 1949	49 10 6	49 5 0

From January 1, 1949, the British Ministry of Food is buying Fiji copra at the above fixed price. For each subsequent year, until the end of 1957, the price will be adjusted by negotiation.

New Hebrides

From a maximum of £70/12/6 (Aust.), per ton, in 1948, the price of New Hebrides copra recently firmed to around £50 (Aust.) per ton.

Western Samoa

Canadian buyers recently were paying £53 (£66 Aust.) per ton in Apia for Samoan copra. Samoa has a 10 years' contract agreement with the UK Government, thereby stabilising the industry.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA-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	£40-£45	

January 1, 1949:-

Pt. Moresby	£48 0 0	£47 7 6
Samarai	£48 0 0	£47 7 6
Madang	£48 0 0	£47 7 6
Rabaul	£48 0 0	£47 7 6
Kokopo	£48 17 6	£48 5 0
Kavieng	£48 17 6	£48 5 0

All prices quoted are for copra delivered to ship's slings, or to the Board's warehouse.

Official Price for P-NG Copra sold in Sydney:

	Hot-air	Dried	Smoked
January, 1947	£36 10 0	£35 10 0	
July, 1947	£51 5 0	£50 5 0	
April, 1948	£61 0 0	£60 0 0	
April, 1949	£66 0 0	£65 7 6	
May, 1949	£66 10 0	£65 17 6	

Australia has agreed to sell a proportion of P-NG's copra production annually to the UK Ministry of Food, for a period of nine years, at fixed prices. For 1949, the price to the UK will be £48 Stg. per ton, f.o.b. Territory ports; the price for each subsequent year will be adjusted by negotiation. Territories' planters, during 1949, are receiving £48 Aust. per ton for this copra.

RUBBER

	Para.	Plantation
	per lb.	per lb.
London Price on—		
January 6, 1939	7d	8½d
July 7	7¼d	8½d
January 5, 1940	13d	11.6½d
July 5	15d	12½d
January 3, 1941	13d	12.47½d
June 6	16½d	13.5½d
October 10—Price officially fixed at	13¾d	

PAPUAN RUBBER PRICES

During World War II, Papua's rubber production was controlled by the Australian Government. The fixed prices paid at plantation, per lb. (Australian currency) were:-

	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 as a basis when buying Papuan rubber. The Singapore Exchange gives buying prices for four grades, prices for which have fallen steadily over the past year. Average rates ruling in June were:-
No. 1 RSS, loose, 32½ cents lb. (11.09d. Aust.)
No. 1 RSS, baled, 32½ cents lb. (11.13d. Aust.)
No. 2 RSS, baled, 31 cents lb. (10.63d. Aust.)
No. 3 RSS, baled, 28½ cents lb. (9.6d. Aust.)

QUOTATIONS FOR MINING SHARES

	Aug., 1939.	June 1	July 1
Emperor Mines	b9/11	b8/7	b8/9
Loloma	s25/6	b15/9	s15/-

NEW GUINEA

Bulolo G.D.	b124/-	b105/-	b120/-
Enterprise of N.G.	b27/6	b17/6	b15/-
Guinea Gold	b13/3	b10/9	b9/4
N.G.C., Ltd.	b1/10	b2/-	b1/8
Oil Search	s3/11	b6/-	b5/8
Placer Dev.	b68/6	b122/-	b124/-
Sandy Creek	b1/5	s1/-	s1/-
Sunshine Gold	b6/5	b11/3	s10/6

PAPUA

Cuthbert's	s16/6	s8/-	b6/9
Mandated Alluv.	b3/8	s1/6	b8d
Orion Oil	b5/-	s2/8	s2/9
Papuan Apinalpi	b4/11	b5/-	b4/3

Exchange Rates

THE following exchange quotations show the rates existing in Sydney in July:-

	Buying	Selling
Through Bank of NSW and Bank of New Zealand:-Australia on basis of £100		
Fiji: Buying, £A111/2/6; selling, £A113.		
Fiji-London on basis of £100 London:-		
Buying	£ s. d.	£ 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	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Telegraphic transfer	100 7 6	101 10 0
On demand	99 9 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 4.03726 3.91872

On demand 4.07943 3.92118

The Bank of NZ in Apia pays the following

Samoaan currency prices for overseas notes:-

NZ notes £1 for £1

Australian notes £15/6 for £A1

USA notes £4/9 per dollar

Fijian notes £17/6 per £F1

PAPUA-NEW GUINEA

Bank of New South Wales, which has branches in Port Moresby, Lae, and Rabaul

quotes an exchange rate between Australia and Papua-New Guinea of 10/- per £100.

Similar rates through Commonwealth Bank of Australia (branches at Port Moresby, Lae, Rabaul and Madang).

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 Colonial Groups. 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 1 860 216 684

Group 2 508.23 126 409.5

Group 3 (Pacific) 200 49.6 159

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Lager.

TOOTH'S
K.B.
LAGER

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