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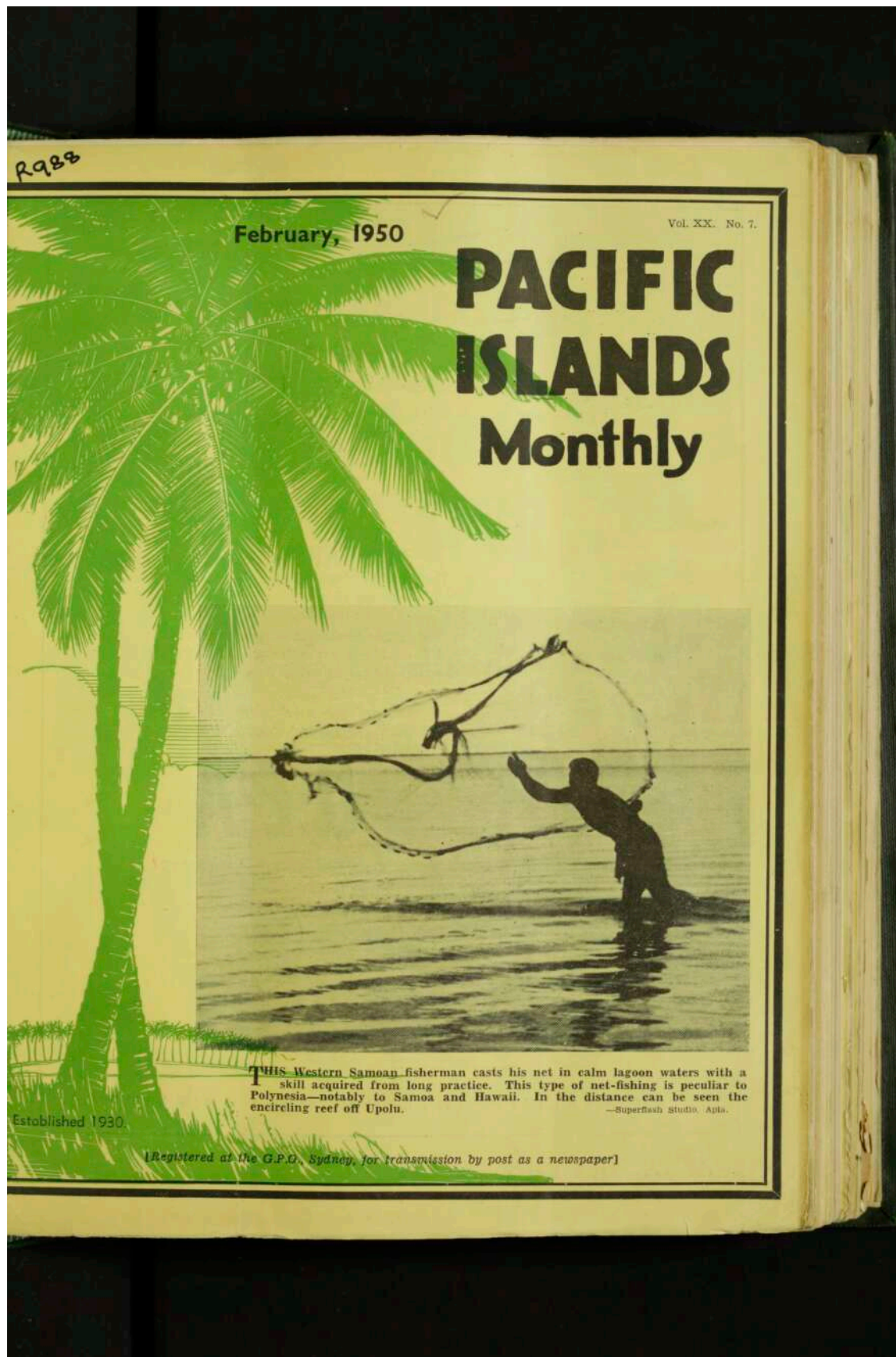
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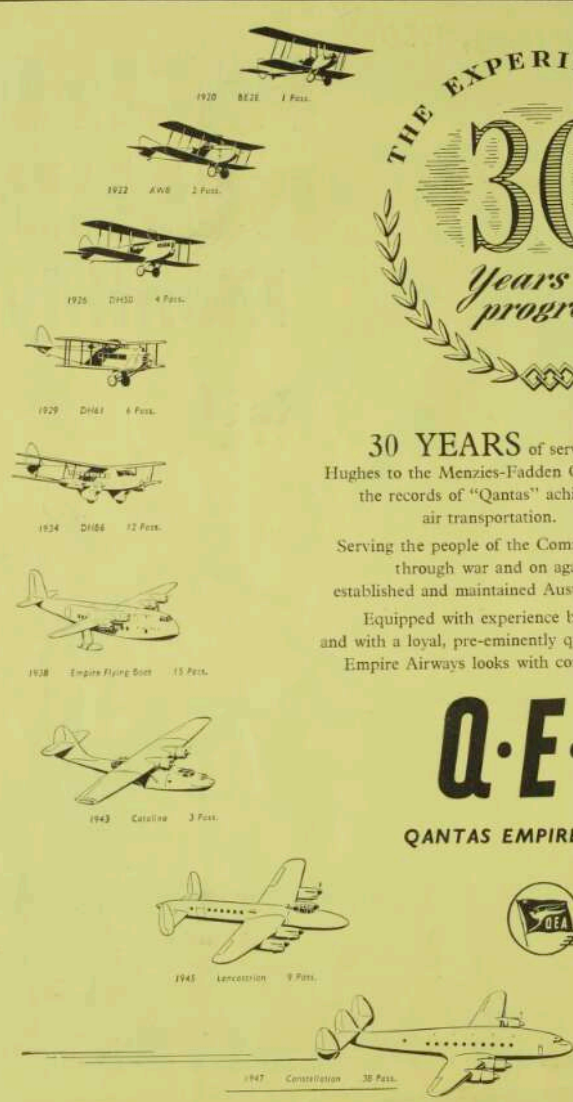
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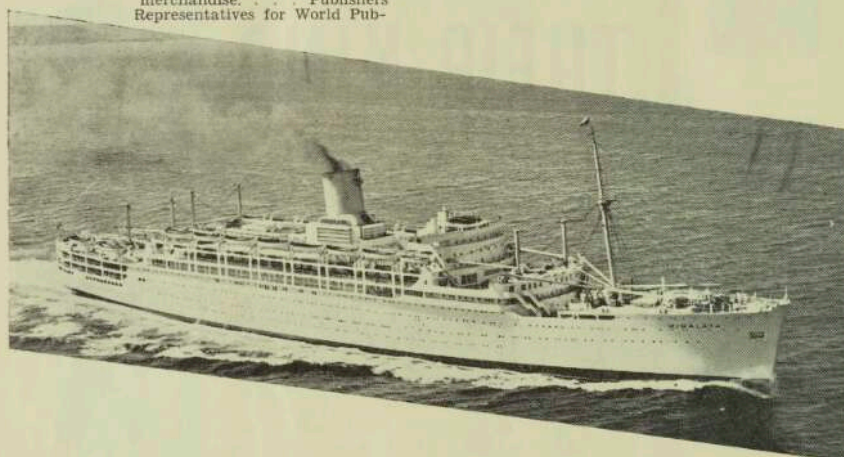
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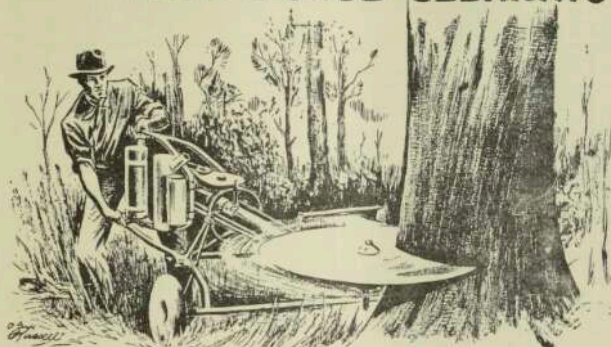
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The new manager of the Suva Branch of the Bank of New Zealand, Mr. C. D. Barford, arrived from the United Kingdom in early February. He has been on the staff of the London Branch of the Bank. In Suva, he will replace Mr. B. C. Carpenter, who will leave shortly for New Zealand on transfer.

Bishop Foley left Suva in the Aorangi on February 4 for Canada, on his way to Rome by way of the United Kingdom and Ireland. He is making the Holy Year Pilgrimage to Rome and on his way will visit his parents in Kent. He expects to return to Fiji from the United Kingdom by plane towards the end of April.

Major and Mrs. T. Upson, of Manus Island, NG, have been in Brisbane for many months where Major Upson has spent a lot of time in hospital as a result of a motor accident on Manus. Both expect to return to New Guinea shortly. Their son, T. W. J. Upson, usually known as Tommy, has joined the Australian Army for a term of 9 years. He will spend the first three at the Army Apprentice School at Balcombe, Vic.



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Political Fun and Games In The New State of Indonesia

AS was anticipated, the appearance
of "the Republic of the United
States of Indonesia," in the Western
Pacific, on January 1, 1950, has had
a disturbing effect upon other Pacific
communities—not so much because
of the establishment of a new State,
as because of the arrogance and
stupidity of the Indonesians.

When Holland and Indonesia finally
reached agreement at The Hague last
November, it was provided that Dutch
New Guinea (the western half of the
big Island) should for the present re-
main a Territory of the Netherlands.
It was further provided that the per-
manent future status of Dutch New
Guinea should be decided before
December 31, 1950.

It is plain to anyone that Dutch
New Guinea is not in Indonesian
territory. Racially, geographically,
historically, culturally, there is no
connection whatever between Indo-
nesia and Dutch New Guinea. It was
only for convenience in administra-
tion that Dutch New Guinea was
tacked on to the Netherlands Indies,
and governed from Batavia.

Within two or three days of the
hoisting of the Republican flag in
Batavia (the name of which was
changed immediately to Jakarta—a
good example of Indonesian men-
tality) the leading lights of the new
government announced that, before
the year was out, Dutch New Guinea
would be added to the Indonesian
Republic. That made a very bad im-

pression in the outside world—it was
so typical of the way in which this
type of Asiatic regards an agreement.

THE next development was the
appearance in Western Java of
a private army controlled by Captain
"Turk" Westerling—a former Dutch-
British Commando leader, and the
adventurous son of Dutch-Turkish
parents. He suddenly descended upon
the important Java town of Bandoeng,
sent the Indonesian soldiery scut-
tling across the countryside and
occupied the area. Having completed
his demonstration, and made the
Indonesians look ridiculous, he re-
tired.

The origin and purpose of the
Westerling activities are not clear;
but they seem to be definitely pro-
Dutch and anti-Indonesian. About a
quarter of a million Dutch and part-
Dutch people have been left high and
dry in Java by this Republican
arrangement; and there are indica-
tions that many Dutchmen are rally-
ing to the Westerling flag to fight as
guerillas, and that supplies and mun-
itions are reaching the rebels from
Australia and other countries. Wes-
terling is likely to provide, for
Indonesia, in every respect, what the
Americans call "a pain in the neck."

Then the newspapers were stirred
to a new excitement by a gentleman
named Mohammed Yamin, described
as "an official in Jakarta." He de-
clared, on January 29, that Australian

New Guinea, as well as Dutch New
Guinea, should become part of the
United States of Indonesia, and that
Australian New Guinea would be first
on the list of Indonesia's list of terri-
torial claims after Indonesia had
acquired Dutch New Guinea. He also
voiced Indonesia's wish to control all
Borneo, and to take over Portuguese
Timor.

Although it was soon made clear
that Mr. Yamin was merely a super-
bureaucrat, and did not speak for
the Government of Indonesia, it was
generally suspected that he was ex-
pressing the sentiments of the
Government.

The Australian Minister for Ex-
ternal Affairs, Mr. Spender, expressed
Australia's view in two crisp sen-
tences: "Indonesia has not the
slightest shadow of a claim to Aus-
tralian New Guinea on any ground,
ethnic or otherwise. Any such claim
would not admit of a moment's con-
sideration and would be immediately
rejected."

Osmer White, Melbourne Herald's
correspondent in Batavia, reported
on January 31, that Yamin's state-
ment: " . . . has evoked howls of
ironic laughter from Europeans
throughout Java. They are struck with
the humour of a situation in which
a Government, unable to maintain
order 25 miles from its own capital,
nurtures dreams of an empire. . . .
Mohammed Yamin, left wing philo-
sopher and adviser to the Indonesian
Government at The Hague Confer-
ence, genuinely expresses the opinion
of an influential section of Indo-
nesian politicians. The Government
has disavowed him, but the situation
here is 'Who will be the Government

to-morrow?' Even scoffers and ostriches, who wanted to believe that all was well with Dr. Soekarno and his boys, to-day ruefully admit that the Westerling affair is not finished."

A few days later, the Indonesian newspapers in Java were demanding the deportation of Osmar White.

IT seems certain that much will be heard of Dutch New Guinea in the future, and equally certain that Australia will have a good deal to say about it. Australia's interest is threefold:—

- Dutch New Guinea represents half of the great Island of New Guinea—the other half of which is Australian Territory (subject, of course, to Trusteeship). Australia would be very disturbed to think that her frontier was shared with Indonesia, a State that, it seems certain, will be penetrated by Communism sooner or later.

- The maintenance of the arc of islands which run from Timor through New Guinea, New Britain and the Solomon Islands to the New Hebrides, as a defensive barrier for Australia against possible aggression from Asia, is a first principle of Australian Government. Australia contemplates, with equanimity, a government of Western New Guinea by the Dutch; but she will certainly resist the appearance there of the Republic of Indonesia.

- And, finally, there is oil. The new oilfield, found in 1939 at Sorong, at the western tip of Dutch New Guinea, and developed since the war, is now in production, and the crude oil is being treated at the new refinery, built recently at Altona, Melbourne, at a cost of £1,000,000—a most important thing for Australia. Neither the Dutch nor the Australians see any reason why they should surrender this valuable oilfield to Indonesia.

Meanwhile, the United States—as part of its policy of erecting economic barriers against the spread of Communism from Asia—has made a large dollar loan to Indonesia.

BUGLER DUNNE DIES IN SYDNEY

MR. JACK DUNNE, better known as Bugler Dunne, died in Sydney in February. He won fame as a bugler at the Battle of Colenso, when as a teen age youngster he sounded the advance instead of retreat, with the result that the battle was a victory for the British troops. After the Battle of Colenso he was presented with a silver bugle by Queen Victoria.

Bugler Dunne lived for a number of years in Fiji. In Levuka he was for a time licensee of the Polynesian Hotel, and in Suva he named his home in Gorrle Street "Colenso" after the Boer War battle.

He served on a number of inter-island ships, then became a steward on a vessel trading between Fiji and Australia. Later he served in the same capacity on Burns Philp ships on the Sydney-New Guinea run.

PACIFIC FRANC

Conference Pending On Thorny Subject

From Our Own Correspondent

NOUMEA, Jan. 20.

SUBJECT to the approval of the French Administration, a French Pacific conference, to be attended by a number of General Councillors from New Caledonia and Tahiti, and the French Syndicat Agricole in the New Hebrides, will be held shortly in Noumea to consider and make recommendations on the exchange value of the Pacific franc.

This is regarded as one of the most important financial questions of the day.

MOUNTING TAX BURDEN ON FIJIAN COMMUNITY

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, Jan. 8.

IN 1948, the Fijian people paid £26,569 in direct taxation for the education of approximately 26,000 Fijian children. In addition to this tax-burden, the Fijian people paid considerable sums privately in fees to mission schools or through special levies approved by tikina councils.

Besides cash payments, the programmes of work in most of the Fijian provinces require taxpayers to give their services in tikina school compounds for a specified number of days a year—never more than two weeks.

In 1948, 25,516 Fijians were registered as taxpayers, a number almost equal to that of the children attending the schools. The cost of each pupil from taxation was therefore about £1.

The direct taxation levy on the Fijians for education has risen steadily since 1938 when it was £7,731 (for 19,314 children).

In 1947, says a report, the annual income of 16,000 Fijian taxpayers was £1,100,000 a year, while the remaining £10,000 received only £110,000, and adds: "It is the hard core which suffers severely from the tremendous rise in the cost of education . . . So far, a practical solution appears to be far away."

Taxes levied by the Fijian Administration were "reluctantly increased" in 1948. The Administration's income from all sources amounted to £79,541, compared with £36,877 in 1938. Total expenditure £79,489, compared with £39,675. Revenue from rates was £27,872, compared with £27,271 in 1936.

In Sunny Fiji—and A Few Other Places

Prospective Crew, to Shipowner: You pay me Seamen's Union wages?

S. O.: Sure.

P. C.: You feed me according to Marine Board ration list?

S. O.: Too right!

P. C.: You supply me with drugs, as Marine Board say?

S. O.: Yes, yes.

P. C.: How lavatory accommodation—he OK?

S. O.: Er — yes — O yes.

P. C.: Is the space in the crew's quarters up to standard according to the regulations?

S. O.: Look, you can come aboard and run the ruddy ship, and I'll go and catch crabs on a beach somewhere!

INDENTURED NT LABOUR—AND DOLLARS

THE Administrator of Australia's Northern Territory (Mr. A. R. Driver) who was a Chifley Government appointee, has asked the new Australian Government to lift the ban on indentured labour from Koepang and Malaya. He says that if the ban is not lifted the Darwin pearling industry is finished.

He said: "Darwin master pearlers rely to a great extent on Asiatic labour. I have taken up the case of the pearlers with Canberra, and urged that an early decision is vital."

"A decision must be reached before the end of the month, when Koepangers are due to be repatriated."

"Every pearl shell fished in Territory waters helps in our fight for dollars. All the shell is sold to America and thousands of dollars are involved."

"I believe in encouraging enterprise in the north and I would be most disappointed if the Darwin pearling industry is allowed to die."

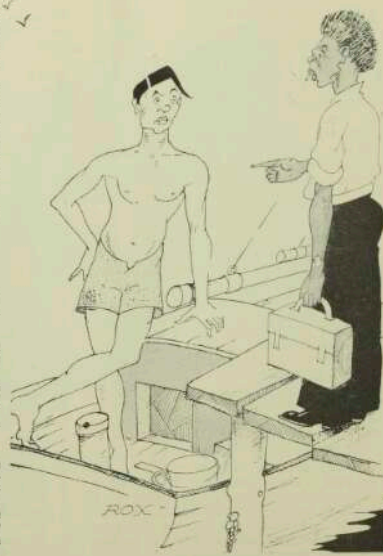
Since the Pacific war, when Japanese went out of the industry, the Socialist Federal and Queensland Governments have placed all the emphasis on making Northern Territory and Torres Strait pearling a native industry.

Asiatic Pearlers to Carry On in Darwin

THE new Australian Minister for Immigration (Mr. Holt) has reversed the attitude of Mr. Calwell who ruled that coloured labour could not live within 30 miles of Darwin.

This means that Darwin master pearlers can now engage new crews of indentured Malay and Koepang labour before present crews are compulsorily repatriated at the end of February.

Mr. Holt reached his decision after conferring with the Administrator of the Northern Territory and others.



COPRA PRICE

New Guinea Planters Await Information

OWING to general elections and the disturbed state of politics in Australia and Britain, there still is some uncertainty about the price which South Pacific planters are going to get for copra, under the agreement with Britain, during the year 1950.

Towards the end of 1949 (the first complete year of the 9-years guarantee given by the British Department of Food) Britain announced that the 1950 price would be somewhat less than 1949. Government officials and planters in the South Pacific apparently were prepared to accept this.

But Ceylon—which produces the best copra and the largest amount of copra in the British Empire—would not agree. A delegation from the British Ministry of Food flew to Ceylon in November. Bargaining went on for a week. The British delegation would not offer more than £5 under the 1949 price, and this for 1950 only. Ceylon would not accept this.

The Colombo correspondent of the Crown Colonist reported on December 3 that the talks had broken down and that, commencing in January, the Ceylon copra market would be free. The correspondent added that fresh coconuts were bringing phenomenal prices—200,000 nuts had been exported to Britain at 514 rupees per 1,000 nuts.

Following this breakdown, the British MOP price to Fiji for 1950 was revised to £48 10/- stg. (£53 14/3) and this has been accepted by all interests in Fiji and the High Commission territories.

Since December, Ceylon copra has been selling in a free market for about £60 stg. (£55 Australian) per ton.

The point made by Ceylon—and various other critics—is that the British guaranteed price of around £48 or £50 stg. is so far under world parity that the British may possibly be able to re-sell South Pacific copra to America and make a profit in dollars. The free market price—that is, the American price, which is based on gold—is reported variously to be between £70 and £85 Australian per ton, which is at least 25 per cent. more than Britain has been paying.

MEANWHILE, Australian planters in New Guinea are receiving the British MOP price of £48 stg. at Territories port, which was the price that ruled in 1949.

Although there is a new Australian Government in office, the usual veil of bureaucratic coyness obscures the copra market position, and no one knows whether there has been any negotiation between Australia (which, through the Production Control Board, takes over all New Guinea copra) and Britain (which buys all the surplus copra from Australia, under the MOP plan) regarding the price for 1950.

The British-Australian contract covering copra was made in March, 1949, and was retrospective to January 1; so it is presumed that nothing is to be done about the 1950 price until March.

But events in other parts of the world seem to give New Guinea planters a pretty clear indication that their copra price for 1950 will be at least £48 stg. per ton, less Australian deductions. It could quite properly be more.

There still is no indication from Canberra of whether the Australian deductions will continue to include the 25 or 26 per ton for "stabilisation," as in Mr.

Ward's day; or of what is to be done with the "stabilisation fund" of £400,000 or £500,000.

It is expected that a statement covering the whole position will be made in Australia within the coming month.

Inferior Copra Shipped From N. Guinea

Administration Warns Planters UK Price May Fall

From Our Own Correspondent

PORT MORESBY, Feb. 2. THE Administration has warned Papua-New Guinea copra producers that, unless the quality of their copra improves, the British Food Ministry may ask for a reduced price when the United Kingdom agreement is reviewed shortly. The agreement, which covers a period of nine years, provides for an annual review of the price.

According to a statement by the P-NG Government Secretary's Department, the British Food Ministry has found that, in general, Territory copra is below pre-war standard. The statement adds: "Shipments received show extreme variation in the size of individual pieces, with a considerable percentage of decomposed and overheated copra. It is somewhat similar in grade to mixed Dutch East Indies copra. While the United Kingdom agreement assures the Territory industry of a firm market during the currency of the agreement, the development and maintenance of good standards of quality is of obvious importance. It is of immediate importance in regard to prices owing to the provisions in the agreement for premiums or rebates according to quality."

The Administration says that it intends to start copra inspections as soon as possible, but meanwhile producers could do much to improve their copra. "Unless this is done," says the Administration, "the Commonwealth Government may find itself at a disadvantage when the agreement comes up for review shortly."

Carelessness by some producers and the shipping shortage are blamed by the Production Control Board for the drop in quality. The Board says some producers apparently are being careless about supervising the curing of their copra. Also, in areas short of shipping, the piled-up copra is deteriorating before it reaches collection centres. Producers should recondition this copra shortly before it is shipped, says the Board. The Board reconditions some copra itself for a small fee but cannot cope with all the inferior copra it is getting.

Although copra production is rising steadily, it is still many thousands of tons below pre-war figures. In the year which ended June, 1949, PCB received 48,000 tons in Papua and New Guinea. Exports from NG in 1936-39, 73,345 tons; from Papua, 1936-37, 13,600 tons.

Two Years in Sydney For Some P-NG Official

APPLICATIONS from members of the Papua-New Guinea public service for secondment to the South Pacific Commission as assistant for the Member for Social Development closed at the end of January.

The Member for Social Development is stationed in Sydney; the period of secondment is for two years (without loss of seniority) and the salary between £600 and £800 sterling. There should, therefore, be no lack of applicants who have had "practical experience of native administration or education and an interest in native social development."

The Tuna Won't Co-operate

Headache for SS Marine Products

SUVA, Jan. 22. ALTHOUGH hitherto unpublished, there is no secrecy about unofficial reports that the tuna-fishing industry of South Seas Marine Products, Ltd., has encountered formidable technical difficulties.

At no time have any of the reports suggested the slightest want of enterprise, foresight or any other necessary quality in Mr. Harold Gatty's solidly-organised endeavour to turn big fish into big business in Fiji. The trouble is the awkward fact that in that area of the South Pacific of which Fiji is the centre, fish refuse to be caught in quantity by methods used in other Pacific waters.

The Senrosi, one of the company's vessels, is now trying out a mammoth purse-seine net somewhere in the Yasawa Group. This is the latest of the company's tireless efforts to solve its problem. The net, 1,800 ft. long and 180 ft. deep, is equipped with a purse-line operated by a winch. The idea is to draw the net like a bag round large schools of fish.

SURVEY IN W SAMOA WATERS

From Our Own Correspondent

APIA, Dec. 19. THE South Seas Marine Products tuna canning factory at Pago Pago was to be opened at the beginning of the year and all preparations were completed. But the company hit a snag and it appears that the most essential thing was lacking—large shoals of tuna could not be found. Up to the present the canning factory has still not started work.

But Mr. Gatty and his friends have not given up hope and are now looking for new waters in which to search for the elusive tuna. According to an official announcement by the Samoan Government, permission has been granted Mr. Gatty and his company which is registered in Fiji, to conduct an exploratory survey in Samoan waters with a view to ascertaining the seasonal movement of fish, particularly the tuna. The expedition will be completely self-contained and two vessels (one carrying a small aircraft) will arrive in Samoan waters on or after December 17 for a stay of about a week. A further short visit will be paid during January, at the conclusion of which it is expected that all necessary data will have been obtained.

It has been made clear to the company that the visit is to be purely exploratory and that the Government of Western Samoa will not necessarily grant fishing rights in Samoan waters. The expedition will keep the Government informed of its day to day movements in Samoan waters, and no personnel will be landed other than at the port of Apia or at the airport at Faleole.

NEWSPAPER FOR PORT MORESBY?

REFERRING on February 13 to a gathering of ex-servicemen, Sydney Daily Mirror said: "Leslie Brodie, ex-Canadian long-distance newsman, sat at the head of the table, told the boys he's starting the first paper at Port Moresby since before the war in a matter of weeks."

Ratu Mara has been appointed Administrative Officer in Fiji. He began a course in Medicine at Otago University, New Zealand, later went to Oxford University, where he gained an Arts degree last year.

Sabotage Alleged in Catalina Explosion Case

AFTER two days in the Sydney City Coroner's Court, the inquiry into the explosion on a Qantas Catalina at Rose Bay, Sydney, in the early hours of August 27, was adjourned until February 16.

Bryan Wills Monkton, managing director of Trans Oceanic Airways, was in Court charged with maliciously causing damage (estimated at £24,000) to the flying-boat.

Monkton was charged in the Sydney Central Court on October 12 and remanded until December 7. Application for a further remand, until February 7, was then asked for by the Police Prosecutor on the grounds that a Crown witness, unnamed, would not be available until then.

In the Coroner's Court on February 8, the police witness was revealed as Douglas Bennington Lindsay, business manager of the Peninsula Hotel, Hongkong, and previously, between March, 1947, and about mid-1949, business manager of Trans Oceanic Airways, in Sydney.

Lindsay said that about 20 months ago while he and Monkton were at Rose Bay, Monkton said that they (TOA) must do something to get rid of the Qantas opposition on Lord Howe run. Lindsay said that Monkton said to him: "If you will stand guard at Rose Bay one night I will go out in a dinghy and enter the Catalina. I will break the glass tube of the flow meter and the petrol will flow on the floor. Then I will set one of the machine flame floats, and you know how they work. When the water comes up and sets the flame flow off, igniting the petrol and fumes, I will go out in a dinghy and puncture a fair-size hole in the boat beneath the water-line."

LINDSAY said that he had told Monkton that it was "an idea" but that neither of them would gain by it. Some time later Monkton again approached him with the idea of getting rid of a Qantas Catalina. He was not sure whether he was serious or not.

Cross-examined by Mr. J. W. Shand, KC (for Monkton), he said that he had resigned from the TOA board in November, 1946, and thereafter was not friendly with Monkton. He was in Hongkong when he first heard that a reward had been offered for evidence leading to the discovery of the person or persons who damaged the Catalina. The reward had not induced him to come to Sydney.

Giving evidence on February 9, the proprietor of a Rose Bay electrical goods shop, Peter Joseph Allen, said that an assistant had sold a man a six-volt battery a short time before the Rose Bay explosion. The man had said that he wanted to throw a spark on some oil through a Ford coil. After the explosion, Allen had given a description of the man who had bought the coil to police and said that he later identified Monkton as the man when he saw him with two detectives at the CIB on November 11.

Norman William King, a QEA superintendent in charge of Rose Bay Flying Base, said that a coxswain had found an alarm clock, a six-volt battery and a Ford coil wired together and mounted on a small board in the wreckage of the Catalina after the explosion. The device could have ignited petrol and caused the explosion.

Jack Vernon Yeaman, who had been employed as a shop assistant in a hardware store in Rose Bay before the Catalina explosion, said that he had sold an

alarm clock similar to the one found on the Thursday before the explosion. A man had come into the shop and said he wanted a clock that was very accurate as he wanted to wire it to a battery to set off some apparatus. Yeaman had recommended a German clock which the man had bought. When Yeaman had seen a photograph in a newspaper of the clock that was found in the wrecked aircraft he had communicated with the police.

Yeaman said that he could not identify Monkton as the man who bought the clock—Monkton "did not mean a thing to him." The man he sold the clock to had an "ordinary" accent—not an English accent like Monkton.

King, of QEA, said that he inspected the wreckage of the Catalina with police and found that the cock on the flow meter and the fuel cock were both on when they should have been turned off. One flow meter had the glass broken.

ON February 16 the Coroner committed Bryan Wills Monkton for trial at Sydney Quarter Sessions, March 1, on a charge of having maliciously damaged a Catalina at Rose Bay on August 27, 1949.

Monkton pleaded not guilty and reserved his defence.

BAN ON POLYNESIANS WILL BE REMOVED

ON the way back from the Colombo Conference in January, the New Zealand Minister for External Affairs and Islands Territories, Mr. F. W. Doidge, spent a day in Sydney.

The Minister told the editor of the PIM that he would inquire concerning the operation of the ban placed on Pacific Islanders by the former Australian Socialist Minister for Immigration, Mr. Calwell. It is likely that an announcement about this matter will be made by the Minister, before long.

Originally, Australia imposed a ban against all Polynesians. They were allowed to enter the country, but they could not reside there permanently. Immediately there was an angry protest from New Zealand, on behalf of the Maoris. The Australian Minister very hurriedly then made an amendment in his ruling—Maoris did not come under the ban.

The PIM then sought to ascertain from both the Australian and New Zealand Socialist Governments why Maoris should be admitted to Australia, and an embargo placed upon Tongans, Samoans, Tahitians, etc., who were all of exactly the same race. We got the usual evasive replies from the politicians—but the stupid ban remained.

It may be taken as certain that the non-Socialist Governments of Australia and New Zealand will now see that the ban is lifted.

Mr. S. H. Yeoman of Papua-New Guinea Civil Administration (he was ADO Kokoda) returned to Papua in the February Malaita after several months' leave in Australia. Mrs. Yeoman will return on Bulolo—when she sails.

Mr. W. E. Ryall, a director of Nelson & Robertson Pty. Ltd., recently completed 44 years with the company. In early March he will leave Sydney for an extended tour of Hong Kong and the East, calling at Rabaul, NG, on his return voyage to Australia.

Report That Jap War Criminals Freed

IN a despatch to the Sydney Sun on February 7, special correspondent Richard Hughes stated that at least 90 Japanese suspected war criminals who had been charged with murder, torture, beheading and other atrocities in Papua, New Guinea and New Britain between 1942-45, were to be freed in Japan on February 20.

Their crimes were against planters, missionaries of British, American and Dutch nationality, natives, and civilians. Hughes says that the Australian Government has ordered their release because their crimes were not against military personnel but "only" against civilians.

New Guinea residents who are not blessed with short memories remember how two young European women of the Anglican mission in Papua were brutally treated and finally murdered in Buna in 1942; how missionaries and nuns from the Madang district were treated before, during and after their removal to Hollandia by the Japs, and a score of other atrocities against similar civilians. They naturally wonder how much truth there is in this story.

No other Sydney newspaper has printed it. And the Army Minister in Canberra has "refused to comment."

DEATH OF MR. HENRY KUPER

From Our Own Correspondent

HONIARA, Feb. 10.

MR. HENRY KUPER, planter, of Santa Anna, San Cristoval, died suddenly at Santa Anna, on February 8.

Mr. Kuper was born in Hamburg more than 70 years ago. He spent his youth serving in sailing ships and came to the Solomons about 50 years ago, and settled at Santa Anna. Deeply interested in and aware of native customs and the pagan religion of Santa Anna, for which he had a great understanding and respect, he had the distinction of holding a position of authority over followers of the old religion and at the same time was much liked and respected by the Missions. Well-educated, tolerant and widely read, Mr. Kuper had a keen sense of humour and a great gift for telling entertaining stories of early days in the Solomons. His death leaves another gap in the dwindling ranks of Solomons pioneers, and a sense of irreplaceable loss among his friends.

Almost blind from cataract for several years, Mr. Kuper nevertheless carried on as usual with his plantation work. A successful operation six months ago restored his sight and he had intended to write some of the stories of his early years for permanent record. It is believed that he did not have time to do this before his death.

Mr. Kuper leaves a wife and daughter and three sons, Messrs. Geoffrey, Albert and Charlie Kuper, all living in the Solomons.

New Appointment for Mr. J. D. Simpson of BGD

MR. J. D. SIMPSON has been appointed a Director of Placer Development, Limited and Bulolo Gold Dredging, Limited, to fill the vacancies occasioned by the death of Mr. Frank R. Short. Mr. Simpson left for Vancouver in January. He had been Field Manager of Bulolo Gold Dredging, Limited, New Guinea, for the past five years and is being succeeded in that position by Mr. L. W. Bergstrand previously Assistant Field Manager.

Dispute Holds Up Bulolo

BURNS Philp's 6,000 ton motor-vessel Bulolo, which should have sailed for Papua and New Guinea from Sydney on January 27, was held up by a dispute over the dismissal of two seamen. She did not sail until February 15.

The dispute began on January 9 when the vessel returned from Papua-New Guinea and the chief officer dismissed two seamen for "good and sufficient reasons." Two Unions thereupon became involved—the Seamen's Union and the Merchant Service Guild (ships' officers). The Company also refused to reinstate the men.

The ship had 150 passengers booked for the voyage who experienced all the usual inconveniences of finding accommodation in overcrowded Sydney. A full cargo was on board on January 27.

Food Shortage Reported

IT is reported that, as a result of the Bulolo hold-up, a serious food shortage is developing in Papua and New Guinea.

The Minister for External Territories (Mr. Spender), has called for an investigation and has stated that, if necessary, the Government will fly food in to the Territory.

Bulolo will carry three thousand tons of frozen meat, vegetables, potatoes and groceries. Malaita which left Sydney on February 11 does not usually call at Port Moresby, nor will she on this trip. Port Moresby, for once, seems to be in a worse plight than outports.

Bulolo For Sale?

IT is rumoured in Sydney that Burns Philp are trying to sell Bulolo for £800,000, but that so far there have been no offers.

Bulolo is a 6,400 all-white motor vessel. She was beautifully appointed and described as a miniature Queen Mary when she was first put into commission on the Sydney-New Guinea run in 1938. She was taken over by the British Admiralty at the outbreak of war in 1939, was reconverted, at the cost of £1,000,000, and came back to the New Guinea run in August, 1945.

Burns Philp & Co. lost £73,000 on their island shipping last financial year. This is due to (a) wages and running costs that have doubled or trebled since 1939; (b) the fact that ships now spend two weeks in port for one at sea—instead of one in port and two at sea as in pre-war days; (c) subsidies paid to Burns Philp for services to Papua-New Guinea, BSI, Norfolk Island and New Hebrides which ceased at the outbreak of the Pacific war, were never restored.

Some months ago BP threatened to omit calls to Norfolk Island and Lord Howe if subsidies were not paid by the Australian Government.

We understand that the Government has not yet done anything about restoring these subsidies, although the Morinda has continued to call at these islands every second trip. Presumably, the company has decided to give the new Australian Government a chance to do something.

The Chifley Government ignored the just claims of shipowners, although inadequate shipping has done more to retard the rehabilitation of Pacific Territories than any other factor. Burns Philp, or any other shipowners, are under no moral obligation to run ships at a loss simply for the convenience of residents of the Islands or of their Administrations.

It would be a shattering blow to the economy and convenience of any of the Pacific Territories if any of the overseas shipping services now operating were withdrawn or curtailed. And Papua-New

NEW MINISTER FOR TERRITORIES

Important Decisions Soon

AUSTRALIA'S new Minister for External Territories, who is also Minister for External Affairs, had planned a quick trip to Papua and New Guinea between his return from the Colombo Conference at the end of January, and the assembling of the Commonwealth Parliament on February 22. He was so deeply immersed in External Affairs, on his return home, however, that the visit had to be postponed.

Mr. Spender now hopes to make a quick visit to the chief centres of Papua and New Guinea early in April—during the Easter recess of the Commonwealth Parliament.

Meanwhile, the Minister is dealing almost daily with Territories affairs. He is not acting hastily—already, he has called for and received some detailed reports concerning conditions in New Guinea.

An unofficial conference between the Minister, the Administrator (Colonel Jack Murray) and high External Territories officials will begin in Canberra soon after Parliament meets on February 22. Important decisions will be taken then.

It appears likely, however, that one or two matters of importance to the Territories will be dealt with by the Minister before then, and announcements made through the press.

The Minister has intimated that he is deeply concerned about conditions in New Guinea, and wishes to make reforms, where necessary, as soon as possible.

An announcement regarding the appointment of Parliamentary Under-Secretaries (actually, Junior Ministers) is expected at any moment. Mr. Paul Hasluck probably will be External Affairs Under-Secretary; but this does not necessarily mean that he will be also Under-Secretary for External Territories. Mr. Spender will, however, be assisted in External Territories by an Under-Secretary.

Fourth Judge for Papua-N. Guinea

Mr. Andrew Kelly, Pre-War Rabaul Resident

A FOURTH Judge has been appointed to the Supreme Court of Papua-New Guinea. He is Mr. Andrew Kelly who, from 1930 to 1939, practised as a solicitor and barrister in Rabaul, N.G., where he and his charming wife were held in high regard.

After leaving Rabaul he joined a firm of Brisbane solicitors. He was with an administrative branch of the RAAF during the war.

It is not known yet when he will take up his new appointment.

The three other Judges of the Papua-New Guinea Supreme Court are B. Phillips, R. T. Gore and E. B. Signold. Judge Signold was appointed recently.

Guinea residents, at least, will have no faith in the alternative—Government-owned ships. Government monopoly of inter-island shipping has brought commerce in the Territory almost to a standstill.

OIL FROM DUTCH N. GUINEA

First 4,000,000 Gallons Arrive In Australia

IN January, 1950, the first shipment of 4 million gallons of crude oil left the new oilfield at Sorong, at the western end of Dutch New Guinea, for the Vacuum Oil Co.'s refinery at Altona, near Melbourne.

This oilfield was discovered in 1939; was left alone during the war period; but is now in active production. It produces an oil called "Klamono Crude" which, under refinement, gives 71 per cent. petrol, 20 per cent. high-grade diesel oil, 30 per cent. bitumen and 42 per cent. light and heavy lubricants.

In an official statement on February 12, the Vacuum Oil Co. said that this oil from New Guinea would meet at least 14 per cent. of Australia's crude-oil needs and, as it would not require dollars, it was a new economic factor of first-rate importance.

Australian motorists will be receiving New Guinea petrol within a few weeks.

The Vacuum Co. said that a second refinery, costing £1,000,000 or more, would be built in Australia as soon as the Sorong production justified it.

DEATH OF MR. S. D. MASTAPHA

A WELL-KNOWN, retired Civil Servant of Fiji, Mr. Samuel Aaran Mastapha, died in Levuka Hospital on December 27, aged 73. The wide respect and esteem in which he was held were shown when all Levuka's flags were flown half-mast, and all sections of the community attended his burial, according to Christian rites.

Mr. Mastapha was born in Rangoon, where his father was a fruit merchant, and his grandfather a catechist in the Baptist Mission. When his father died, over 60 years ago, this Indian Christian came with his family to Fiji, as an indentured labourer. The missionaries

helped the English-speaking lad to a better position, where he learned Hindustani (he already spoke Burman and German) and helped the Methodists in mission work among the Indian coolies. He was a valued helper of Miss Hannah Dudley, and his name is on the foundation stone of the Dudley Memorial Church in Suva.

Later, he became a CSR overseer, and a solicitor's clerk, and in 1900 he was appointed clerk and interpreter in the Police Court, Suva. In that capacity he served also in Levuka, Nadi, Taveuni and Ra, but eventually he settled in Levuka. When he retired in 1932, he went to live on his own property near Levuka. He was twice married, and is survived by a large family. There are eleven children of his second marriage alive—Ruth, Christian, Richard, Andrew, James, Daniel, Beatrice, Lawrence, Justin, John and Frances.

Mr. G. A. Loudon, a well-known rubber planter of Papua, has settled down, for 12 months, at an attractive spot near Narrabeen, near Sydney, on the NSW coast. His two married daughters are residents of United States—one in Ohio and one in Michigan.

TEA FROM NONDUGL

Sydney Newspapers Think It Won't Be Long, Now

BEFORE he left for a 10-day visit to the Central Highlands, New Guinea, on January 31, Mr. E. J. Hallstrom, Sydney refrigerator manufacturer and owner of the 700 acre experimental sheep station at Nondugl, N.G., said that he had bought land adjacent to Nondugl and would soon start an experimental tea plantation.

He was of the opinion that New Guinea could supply all Australia's tea requirements; that experts had said that the Highlands area was suitable and that he would obtain suitable plants in India, or Ceylon after a visit to Europe in a few months.

He expected that natives under European supervision would soon begin planting the first 20-acre plot.

These statements Mr. Hallstrom made to Sydney newspaper reporters on the eve of his visit to New Guinea. They were duly reported under large headlines which indicated that it was only a matter of months before New Guinea native tea growers would be flooding the Australian market with a first grade product.

As Mr. Hallstrom is no doubt fully aware, the problems of establishing a tea industry in New Guinea are formidable and for the next generation are not likely to amount to any more than an interesting hobby to prove that it can be done.

The Papua-New Guinea Administration had an expert make a thorough survey a year or 18 months ago. It was agreed that there were several localities suited to tea culture but that problems of labour and transportation were so great as to almost make the scheme economically impracticable. There is, in addition, the problem of getting seed. None of the great tea-producing countries—India, Ceylon or NEI—are anxious to set another country up as a potential rival.

Tea Seed Smuggled Out Of India —Then Lost

IN the Melbourne Argus on February 1, the Commonwealth Tea Controller, Mr. H. A. Bennett, told a remarkable story of how he smuggled young tea plants and seed out of India in 1946, in order to start tea planting in New Guinea. His enterprise has, however, availed us nothing as the plants have apparently been lost.

It is known that test plantings have been made in the NG Central Highlands—so maybe some of Mr. Bennett's seeds were saved.

He says that attempts to establish a tea-growing industry in New Guinea would be seriously hampered by the total prohibition on removal of tea plant seed from India and Ceylon.

"In about 1946, when I was leaving India after a visit, I got hold of some young tea plants and some seed and brought them out of the country hidden in my luggage.

"I gave them to the Government agriculture people in Canberra, and they sent them up to New Guinea and appointed a former tea planter from India to look after them.

"I got several letters from him and then I heard no more. As far as I know, they lost the tea plants and the planter went back to India."

THE stealing of protected plants and seeds from one country by a citizen of another is usually looked upon as a crime of honour. If you get away with it, good luck to you. It is doubtful, however, if the New India will have such a highly developed sense of honour in this regard.

The story is often told of how the late George Murray, Director of Agriculture in New Guinea between 1932 and 1941,

caused to have smuggled out of the Netherlands Indies through a friend in Batavia, the cinchona seeds that started the plantations in the New Guinea highlands area. Cinchona is, of course, the source of quinine and at that time NEI had a virtual monopoly and guarded the seeds ferociously. The bad results of this monopoly were not seen fully until the Japs overwhelmed NEI in 1941-42 and the world was suddenly cut off from supplies of this essential drug.

Tens of thousands of young cinchona trees are now growing near Aiyura in the Central Highlands of New Guinea.

NEW GUINEA SCHOLARSHIP FUND IS NOT CLOSED

SINCE the New Guinea Women's Club of Sydney decided some months ago not to work to extend the Memorial Scholarship to New South Wales, and Mrs. Clare May wrote to the PIM on the same subject, there seems to be some misunderstanding in some quarters regarding the Fund.

We have been asked to state that the Fund definitely has not closed. The Hon. Secretary of the Fund, on the contrary, will be pleased to accept your donations large or small. The secretary is, of course, Miss Dorothy Stewart, Cosmopolitan Hotel, Rabaul, New Guinea.

Donations to the Fund are even more welcome now than ever as it is expected that four children will, this year, be benefiting from the Fund in Victoria.

To date, the scholarships have been tenable only in Victoria, as each Australian State has a separate education scheme of its own and it was in Victoria that the idea of a Fund originated. The children who benefit in the first instance are those who lost a parent (or parents) during the war.

About last October Miss Stewart wrote to New Guinea women's organisations in other States of Australia suggesting that they might work for a scholarship in their State (presumably drawing to some extent on funds already collected). The idea was turned down by the New Guinea Women's Club of Sydney for reasons already published in PIM. But the Brisbane New Guinea Association has decided to participate and to endeavour to raise some money with this in view.

It is calculated that by approximately 1956 there will no longer be any children domiciled in Australia who are eligible and then the scholarship will be available in Papua-New Guinea for the children of ex-servicemen. When this time comes the administration of the Scholarship will be much easier.

Fires In Copra Driers Annoy Planters

From Our Own Correspondent

SOHANA, Feb. 8.

WITHIN a short time of one another three fires have occurred in copra driers at Kessa, Karoola and Jame Plantations. These fires have caused serious concern among Buka planters, who do not know whether to attribute it to extreme carelessness on the part of native attendants or deliberate action by some fire bug.

Destruction of driers gives a plantation a severe financial set-back as well as reducing the district's copra production. Material for rebuilding the driers is also extremely difficult to obtain.

The District Officer has been asked by the Bougainville Planters' Association to make a full investigation immediately.

Flying-Boat's Polynesian Cruise Postponed

THE "aerial cruise" to Noumea, Suva, Apia, and Tahiti, planned to commence on February 23, by a large Sunderland flying-boat operated by Trans Oceanic Airways, of Sydney, has been postponed. The Co. could not get permission to land in either Western Samoa (New Zealand) or Eastern Samoa (American); and it was not considered practicable to fly from Fiji to French Oceania in one hop.

There are numerous islands between Fiji and Tahiti with open lagoons, normally safe for a flying-boat; but places like Apia, Nukualofa, Aitutaki—all well-known air-stations situated on lagoons—might not be suitable in the north-west or hurricane season, which extends from December to March.

Vavau, in Tonga, and Pago Pago, in American Samoa, have landlocked harbours, where flying-boats should be perfectly safe at any time; but Vavau lacks shore accommodation, and Pago Pago is American, and a naval station, which means that Australian tourists would have to have dollars, and they would not be wanted on a naval station, anyway.

There is no doubt that "luxury air cruises" to Polynesia will become a regular thing, eventually; but they demand a lot of preliminary organisation.

SANTO SEAS YIELD BURIED TREASURE

By JOHN ROLLEY

BEFORE the Americans left the island of Santo, New Hebrides, where they had been encamped 85,000 strong, they dumped into the sea at the eastern end of the Second Canal, many thousands of dollars worth of machinery, vehicles, and equipment. It seemed a wanton waste. Why should not the English and French settlers have had access to it?

However, now, through the initiative and direction of Monsieur A. Naturel, a quantity of useful material has been reclaimed from the sea bed where it has been lying for more than four years.

A young diver named Keith Solway, who gained his experience with the Admiralty Salvage section of the British Navy, has been key-man throughout the operations. At depths varying from 10 to 100 feet, diver Solway has explored the vast subterranean dump.

After a week on the job the following material has been hauled to the surface and piled on a barge: Two bulldozers, six huge Caterpillar lighting plants, several trailers, a giant excavating scoop and various other earth-moving implements.

Tyres on some of the vehicles were found still inflated and in an apparently perfect state of preservation. The precaution was taken of sluicing everything with fresh water to stop excessive rusting.

Diving is always a hazardous undertaking, but in the waters around Santo, there are added dangers of sharks and gropers. Two gropers, each about five feet long, were encountered lurking about the dump, but fortunately neither the diver's equipment nor his operations were interfered with.

Work is to be resumed when the value of the reclaimed material has been assessed.

Dr. W. E. H. Stanner, an anthropologist who did research work in the South West Pacific in 1946-47, has been appointed to the Department of Anthropology, National University, Canberra.

FIJI SUGAR

New Eight-Year Agreement Should Give Stability to Industry

TERMS of the sugar agreement made between the United Kingdom and Fiji were released in Suva on February 1. Details are as follows:—

THE Fiji delegation to the Commonwealth Sugar Conference in London has accepted the British Ministry of Food's offer of an eight year agreement to buy the greater part of the sugar exported from the Colony.

The United Kingdom Government guarantees to pay a "reasonably remunerative price" for all sugar exported from Fiji in the years 1950-1952, and for up to 120,000 tons of sugar from Fiji in each of the years 1953 to 1957. The price offered for 1950 is £30/10/- sterling a ton, which is £3 5/- above the 1949 price of £27 5/- sterling.

In addition to the 120,000 tons which the United Kingdom Government guarantees to buy each year from 1953 to 1957 at a previously agreed price, Fiji will be free to sell 50,000 tons in the United Kingdom and Canada at the open market price plus Imperial preference.

When making an offer to buy a total of 1,100,000 tons of sugar from all the sugar producing Colonies at a guaranteed price, the United Kingdom Government asked that total exports from 1953 to 1957 should be limited to 1,350,000 tons a year. Fiji was asked to limit her annual production for export to 170,000 tons and the Fiji delegation's acceptance of the Ministry's offer is based on the assumption that at any future date the total colonial quota is raised Fiji's share will also be raised.

Editorial Note

ALTHOUGH some Empire sugar producing countries (notably West Indies) were unhappy about the outcome of the Sugar Conference in London, Fiji sugar interests should be reasonably satisfied with results.

Although Fiji has been asked to limit her exports to 170,000 tons per annum, the Colony has, in fact, never reached those figures in previous years and this restriction should therefore impose no immediate hardship.

These figures give some indication of exports in pre-war years: 1929, 72,275 tons; 1932, 131,202 tons; 1936, 140,864 tons; 1938, 134,415 tons.

In 1942, 131,204 tons of sugar were exported; and in 1948, 149,494 tons.

Since early in the war years, the United Kingdom Ministry of Food has been purchasing the whole of the Fiji sugar output and allocating it—mostly to other Empire countries. It is, however, interesting to compare the destination of Fiji exported sugar in 1938 with that of 1948—particularly with regard to New Zealand.

In 1938, Fiji sent 75,296 tons of sugar to the UK; 57,983 tons to Canada, 1,111 tons to New Zealand, 20 tons to Tahiti. In 1948, 17,738 tons went to the UK; 65,476 tons to Canada, 63,746 tons to New Zealand and 1,699 tons to Tahiti.

Before the war New Zealand bought over 2/3 of its sugar requirements from the Netherlands East Indies; over 1/6 from Central and North America and only about 1/46 from Fiji.

Since the end of 1941, firstly because the Japs invaded the NEI, and lately when the Indonesians have been more interested in politics than production, the NEI has been cut out of the sugar industry. However, unless the economy of NEI breaks down completely, it is likely that more interest in sugar production will be taken from now on. NEI sugar exports

NATIVE LABOUR IN N. GUINEA

Use of Men From Highlands

THE decision of the Administration to make the natives of the Highlands District of New Guinea available as labourers in other parts of the Territory came as a surprise to employers generally—but a welcome partial solution of their labour difficulties.

A leading New Guinea planter states that there are at least 250,000 natives in the Highland areas affected by this decision, and a sufficient number of men should be available therefrom to ease the labour situation, without interfering with the natives' own social structure.

He states that the Highlands natives are men of good physique, and above the New Guinea natives' average intelligence. New Guinea people feared that the introduction of Highland natives to coastal areas would subject them to a risk of malaria and TB, but the medical department has given much thought to this angle and has been able to combat the risk with (a) the use of the new drug pauridine and (b) special measures against TB.

Highland natives are already at work in the mining areas and in some of the plantations, and employers speak well of them.

New Guinea employers' main headache at the moment is the restricted indenture (one year). They point out that when they use primitive natives on the job, a large part of the year contracted for is used up in bringing them in and repatriating them; and giving them a sufficient knowledge of European ways to make them useful.

It is not anticipated that the old 3-years indenture system will be restored. However, certain Papuan employers, after much thought and consultation, have produced a "Native Employee's Agreement" which, it is believed, will provide against some of the difficulties and handicaps imposed by the present system. It is claimed that the Agreement provides all the protection given to the native under the present system, while making it easier and simpler for the employer to make more effective use of native labour. The proposed agreement has been submitted to the authorities.

to New Zealand alone, in 1938, were worth £500,000 to them. If this sugar producing country again becomes active it is likely that the Fiji industry will be glad of the agreement that has lately been concluded in London.

WANTS ANOTHER INQUIRY INTO FIJI SUGAR INDUSTRY

MR. N. S. CHALMERS who has been one of the members of the Fiji Bowling team at the Empire Games in Auckland, is on his way to London. There he will ask for a commission to "inquire fully into the sugar industry in Fiji."

Mr. Chalmers, a European, is the president of one of the Fiji sugar unions. He claims to represent 11,000 Indian cane growers.

(Fiji had a sugar inquiry a few years ago, when Dr. C. Y. Shephard of the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture at Trinidad spent a considerable time in the Colony. Dr. Shephard's arrival in 1944 followed the cane fields trouble that commenced in 1943. His report was issued in July or August, 1945, and made a number of recommendations. Briefly it condemned the cane growers' strike, showed the CSR Co. in a very favourable light and suggested a series of practical plans to improve relations between the Government, the company and the growers).

UN Will Investigate NG

and Nauru

THE United Nations Trusteeship Council at the end of January appointed a four-man mission to report on Australian-administered New Guinea and Nauru.

It is expected that they will commence their "tour" in April.

This follows Russia's nuisance-making accusations in the United Nations that the New Guinea natives were not being educated or propelled along the way to self-government fast enough.

The Chiefly Socialist Government and Dr. Evatt, whose pet child the United Nations was, were absurdly sensitive on the petty criticisms made by Russia. It is exceedingly unlikely that the present Australian government will be likewise disposed.

It might be remembered that during the debate last year on the Bill to amalgamate the territories of Papua-New Guinea, members of the present Menzies' government, then in Opposition, clearly showed their annoyance at Russia's interference in what they believed to be Australia's own affair, and were censorious of the then government for being influenced thereby. Liberal-Country Party members at that time were disposed to tell Russia, and the United Nations generally, to "mind its own business."

THE TROUBLES OF A YOUNG GOVERNOR

MR. RONALD GARVEY, formerly well known and favourably known in the British Territories of the Pacific, gained no security when, a couple of years ago, he was appointed Governor of British Honduras.

Ever since he took office, belligerent gentlemen from adjoining States have been more or less camped on his doorstep, trying to start a war with Great Britain on some question of disputed territory. Now, there are other troubles. This is from the December issue of Crown Colonist.

In British Honduras the Governor, in an address to the Legislative Council took a very grave view of the economic position of the colony, partly as a result of the severe drought and partly because of the depressed state of the mahogany and chiclé industries.

DEATH OF MRS ANA GOEDICKE

THE death occurred on December 5 of Ana Muunga Helu, the Tongan wife of Mr. F. T. Goedicke, of Haapai, Tonga. Mr. Goedicke is a very old resident of Tonga. A few years ago, as the result of the death of a kinsman in Holland, he became the Count van Asten, and adopted as his name, Count van Asten-Goedicke. Mr. Goedicke married Ana in Tonga 56 years ago, and their marriage, right to the end, was a remarkably happy one. Ana had the affection and goodwill of all who knew her, and her death is a sad blow to her husband, who is now far advanced in years. Ana was 80 years old.

As a child and youth in old Imperial Germany, Mr. Goedicke was closely associated with the Royal family. One of his correspondents, at the present time, is Frederick William, the former Crown Prince of Germany—known affectionately to the English-speaking world, before 1914, as "Little Willie." His father, the former Kaiser, died in Holland between the Wars.

WHO CONTROLS SHIPPING IN TERRITORIES?

A CORRESPONDENT points out that, in its forthright denunciation of the shipping services in Papua-New Guinea (January issue) the PIM is not quite accurate in allotting the blame.

The Australian Directorate of Shipping is officially responsible for the conditions in the Territories. The Director of Shipping in Port Moresby exercises control over the shipping there; he is responsible to the Minister for External Territories; and the latter, in turn, passes responsibility to the Australian body.

The first Director of Shipping in Papua-New Guinea was Mr. Jack Thurston; but he resigned the job in order to attend to his own affairs. He was succeeded by Captain Hayer; and, when he retired, he was succeeded by his Deputy, Mr. Leighton. It is stated that these men gave of their best, and Territories residents are indebted to them for the way in which they kept the services going, under severe post-war difficulties.

EDITORIAL NOTE: The PIM learns with surprise of the extraordinary delegation of authority. Most people imagine that the Territories Director of Shipping is responsible only to the Territories Minister—few can see the hand of the Australian Directorate in the unfortunate set-up. And Mr. Leighton was a former political associate of Territories Minister Ward; and he did irritate a lot of people by assisting Labour Party propaganda in Port Moresby while he occupied a high public service position.

The control of the Australian Directorate of Shipping over the Burns Philp and other overseas ships running to New Guinea ceased early in 1948, and it was generally supposed that that was the end of the Australian shipping control. What does the Australian Directorate of Shipping do, anyway?

Fiji Empire Games Team One First, Two Seconds and a Third

CONSIDERING the fact that Fiji had one of the smallest teams at the Empire Games in Auckland, NZ, in February, it can be said that they put up a good performance.

Mataika Tuicakau won the Shot-put with 48 ft. 01 in.

Luke Tunabuna gained second place in the Javelin throw.

Mataika Tuicakau gained his second placing when he came second in the Discus throw.

Mr. L. F. Garnett was placed third in the Bowls singles.

The Fijian yacht O-Vuka proved something of a disappointment and was not placed in any of the sailing events.

NEW HOTELS IN NEW GUINEA

AFTER years of discomfort, there are indications that travellers in New Guinea soon will have improved hotel accommodation.

The foundations of Mrs. Pio Stewart's new hotel in Lae have been laid and the work of erection is making some progress.

Mrs. Stewart made plans three years ago for the building of a new hotel, but was consistently frustrated by officialdom and by post-war conditions in New Guinea generally.

The erection of a new hotel in Rabaul for Mr. A. W. Brown has made good progress, and it is hoped that the hotel will be opened for business in April next. This is the concern in which Mr. Gilbert Renton is interested.

Port Moresby, which was not destroyed in the war, has two good hotels in operation—and both have been run at capacity since the return of civil administration.

The Hurricane That Didn't Arrive

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, Feb. 6.

A HURRICANE that failed to materialise as expected on February 2 has stirred up a brisk controversy over the almost-perfect hurricane warning system built up by Fiji's weather service.

The service won universal commendation in December, 1948, when a hurricane was charted, plotted and forecast well in advance from the time it developed to the west of Rotuma until it moved out of Fiji to the south-east after devastating much of the Lau Group.

This time a tropical depression developed to the west of Samoa on February 1, and by the early hours of February 2 was moving over the Koro Sea with Suva directly in its path. At 10 p.m. on February 1, Suva, the south-eastern part of Viti Levu and several islands to the east were given a preliminary warning, and at 8 a.m. on February 2 the Lau Group was given a final warning, and at 10 a.m. the black "final" flags went up at Suva.

The immediate result was something approaching a panic in Suva, the general stampede being led by the Civil Service, which emptied itself out of the Government buildings in record time. The banks put up the shutters and the big shops were not far behind them. Long before mid-day Suva was virtually a town under siege, the only open doors being those of the Indian tailors, the Chinese cafes, the hotel bars, the radio station, the cable office and the Fiji Times.

Having batten down to the point of suffocation, the town waited for the impending disaster. But beyond a series of moderate squalls throughout the day, nothing happened. When still a comfortable distance from Viti Levu, the storm wheeled to the south, missed Kadavu and petered out after giving the liner Aorangi, en route from Auckland to Suva, a heavy buffeting in which several passengers were injured.

At 5 p.m. the Suva area was given the all-clear and the post-mortem set in. Critics (mainly business men whose staffs went in advance of the wind) claimed that the final warning should not have been given until it was clear that the "tropical storm" was growing into a "cyclonic hurricane." Others, headed by people who have dealings with ships, large or small, have risen in angry defence of the weather service, maintaining that Fiji's experience of hurricanes has been too tragic to warrant any criticism of an occasional misfire in the weather forecasts.

CARGO PILLAGE IN BSI IS SERIOUS PROBLEM

BSIP residents and the Protectorate Government are concerned over cargo pillaging which has been occurring either in Sydney or Honiara.

Shipping is still infrequent to BSI and when long-awaited cargo is short-landed weeks elapse before replacement orders can be obtained from Sydney. This, in addition to the monetary loss, which in some cases has been considerable, is causing much heartburning.

Precautions have now been devised and these it is believed will reveal how the short-landing has occurred and enable future losses to be prevented.

Colonel H. T. Allan, a well-known planter of Rabaul, New Guinea, arrived in Sydney early in February, seeking a medical overhaul. He does not expect to return to the Territory at an early date.

RABAU BASEBALLERS



The season's Baseball Premiership at Rabaul was won by the Commerce team, comprising (left to right): BACK ROW—L. Corbett, G. Black, D. Lister, H. Hugo, E. Burke. FRONT ROW—C. Dunn, J. McKenzie, A. Moore, V. Pearson (capt.), P. Shreeby.

THE MONTH IN MORESBY

From Our Own Correspondent

PORT MORESBY, Feb. 2.

HOUSES now being built for the natives of Hanuabada and Elevala Villages, Port Moresby, are bigger and better than some European houses now lived in in the Territory.

The Administration is building the houses for the natives to fulfil a promise made in 1944 by the Chief Minister for External Territories, Mr. E. J. Ward, when he visited the Territory.

Mr. Ward told the natives that he would have new homes built for them to replace their grass huts which were burnt down during the war. The scheme has been more often ridiculed than supported, but the Administration is determined to carry out Ward's orders.

Criticism of the apparent favouritism shown these two villages is met with the reply that, unlike other villages in the Territory, Hanuabada and Elevala didn't get war damage compensation.

A total of 335 houses is to be built at a cost of about £250 each. A grant of £118,000 has been made for the job.

Since work started on November 1, one house has been finished, 10 others need only the weatherboard walls and the foundations are down for 11 more.

Native carpenters are doing the work, supervised by two Europeans. Originally it was intended that the villagers should do the work, using materials supplied by the Administration.

Now, however, all that the natives of Hanuabada and Elevala have to do is sit on the front steps of their tin shacks and watch their new homes appear. The houses are 36 feet by 18 feet, built of timber and weatherboard, with iron or asbestos roofs. Water and power will be supplied at the usual rates.

First house built had a bathroom, kitchen and pantry, but when it was discovered that the cost exceeded the allotted £250, the design was reduced to one room and a verandah.

Many local residents are living in crowded conditions in old Army huts and flimsy, paper-walled houses. They are not happy at the thought that their native servants will soon have better homes than they themselves.

EMLOYERS in many parts of the Territory are rushing the Native Labour Department with applications for labour from the Central Highlands. Following the opening up of the

Highlands to restricted recruiting, labour began to leave the area on January 17 and already several hundred natives have been flown out. The Moresby district received most of these but the flow of Highlands' labour to New Guinea centres is swelling rapidly. The native Labour Department reports that applications are "pouring in," particularly from plantations. It is estimated that 20,000 labourers are available in the Central Highlands—enough to meet the Territory's present needs and with some to spare. Employers describe the opening up of the Highlands as one of the most important happenings here since the war.

POWER rationing continues in Port Moresby but public indignation has cooled considerably since the Administration yielded to demands and gave "flat rate" consumers a one-third price reduction. The reduction applies from when rationing began (about September 1) until it ends. Hundreds of pounds will be refunded by the Administration, as it is estimated that 45 per cent. of Moresby power consumers are still paying at the flat rate. These consumers objected to paying normal rates when the power supply is far below normal. People with meters pay only for what they use and are not affected. The Administration's decision to grant a rebate came after a protest meeting of Three and Four Mile residents.

PPRICE control became part of the Administration's set-up on December 30 when the Prices Regulation Ordinance 1949 came into operation. Up till that date the Commonwealth Prices Branch handled price control in the Territory under the National Security Regulations, which have expired.

The change from Commonwealth to Administration control seems to have made little if any difference in prices. Mr. T. A. White, who represented the Commonwealth Prices Branch here, has been appointed the Administration's Price Controller. Mr. N. E. Nisbet, formerly of Perth, is Deputy Controller, stationed at Rabaul where a branch prices office was opened recently.

THE Administration's amendment to its restrictions on the native passenger capacity of coastal ships has not

aroused much gratitude among planters and other employers.

Attitude of most employers is that the amendment, although "a help," will improve matters only slightly. The amendment doubles the number of natives that may be carried on a trip, provided they are not at sea on two successive nights. Employers say the increase will be handy on short trips but will apply to long voyages only when it is possible for the natives to break their journey every second night. Few ships are expected to change their schedules in order that natives can break their journey in this way. Full effect of the restrictions is not being felt yet but some idea of the trouble ahead may be gained from the fact that the Doma's native passenger space is booked out well ahead for its western trips from Moresby.

SAMARAI children received six of the 12 bursaries awarded recently by the Education Department and by the Port Moresby and Samarai RSL branches. The bursaries were given this year for the first time to help parents give their children secondary education in Australia. Winners of the Education Department's bursaries were Beryl Gavin and Clarence Burke (Samarai), Lorraine Leggett (Rabaul), Judith Bayley and Shirley Francis (Lae), and Doreen Crawley (Sogeri). The RSL bursaries, awarded to children of ex-Servicemen and Women of Papua, went to Lawrence Robertson, Peter Foldi, Robert Gavin and Winston Schulz (Samarai), Donald McDonald (Sogeri), and Robin Darbyshire (Moresby).

THE Administration has placed an order for 50 English prefabricated houses with the Works and Housing Department, Melbourne. So far, however, it's not known whether the houses are available. The frames of six pre-cut houses and parts for eight more arrived in Moresby on the Mangola recently. Other sections still have to come before most of the houses can be erected.

TEN building blocks on Lawes Road, Port Moresby, and one on Paga Hill were allotted recently. The Lawes Road blocks, which are on the Konedobu side of the gap, went to Steamships, F. S. Edwards, W. H. Fitness, Mrs. M. G. Thomas, E. Kriewaldt, L. Brodie (3 blocks), W. F. Jones and L. J. Dawe (1 block) and R. C. Boles. Mr. A. Hopper got the Paga Hill allotment.

(Continued on Page 97)

THREE BRIDES CUT CAKES IN PORT MORESBY



Recent weddings in Moresby included (left to right): Mr. and Mrs. Whitmore, who were married in St. John's in December; Mr. and Mrs. Carl Mayoh (bride formerly Miss Betty Baylis), who were married in the Catholic Church in November; and Mr. and Mrs. M. Magridge (bride formerly Miss Ruth Malkin, of England), who were also married in November.

—Photos by Papuan Prints.

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FALL OF RABAU

Anniversary Kept in New Guinea and Australia

THE eighth anniversary of the fall of Rabaul, N.G. to Japanese forces on January 23, 1942, was remembered in Australian cities where groups of ex-Territorians now live, and in Rabaul.

In Sydney, members of the New Guinea Women's Club and other ex-New Guinea residents gathered at the Cenotaph in Martin Place about 8.15 a.m. on January 23 and placed wreaths on the monument in memory of the fallen. This hour has always been chosen as that nearest the time when the Japs actually landed in Rabaul.

In Rabaul and in Melbourne, the anniversary ceremonies were held on January 22.

Territorians now living in Melbourne join forces each year with the 2.22nd Battalion which was the AIF unit in Rabaul at the time of the invasion. This year, in commemoration, the Brunswick Salvation Army Band played in the Inner Sanctuary of the Shrine of Remembrance as a tribute to its predecessors. When the 2.22nd Battalion was formed in 1940, members of the Brunswick Salvation Army band joined up en masse and became the regimental band. Only one of these handmen came back, the rest were lost with the majority of the 2.22nd, only the remnants escaping from the Japs and the New Britain jungle.

The Service at the Melbourne Shrine was conducted by survivors of the 2.22nd and by relatives and friends of those who fell at Rabaul.

Rabaul Services

TWO services were held in Rabaul on January 22. One at the obelisk near Vulcan Island, where the Japs landed in 1942, and the other at the Montevideo Maru obelisk at Colyer Watson's old wharf, Rabaul, from which the ill-fated prisoner-of-war ship is believed to have sailed about mid-1942.

The service was at 5.30 a.m. at Vulcan, where Father Ormond addressed the 40-odd people present.

Wreaths were placed on the Stone by Mrs. E. Britten on behalf of New Guinea Women's Association, Melbourne; by Senator Kendall, then visiting Rabaul, for Brisbane New Guinea Association; by Miss Dorothy Stewart for New Guinea Women's Club of Sydney; Mrs. Una Adams, for NGVR; and by the president of the Rabaul Branch of the RSSAILA and by the District Officer, members of trading firms etc.

At the Colyer Watson wharf service, which followed that at Vulcan, there were many personal floral tributes to those who had lost their lives.



At the Rabaul dawn service. Inset, the Vulcan Obelisk.

New RC Arrives In Honiara

From Our Own Correspondent

HONIARA, Feb. 8. THE new Resident Commissioner of the British Solomon Islands Protectorate (Major H. G. Gregory-Smith) arrived at Honiara by Qantas aircraft, via Lae, on January 6.

He was met at the Honiara aerodrome by the Acting Resident Commissioner (Mr. J. D. A. Germond) and heads of



Major H. G. Gregory-Smith.

Government departments. A Guard of Honour of the Armed Constabulary was inspected at the aerodrome, and Major Gregory-Smith then drove to the Residency at Honiara.

On February 7, discussions were held with various Heads of Departments, and a cocktail party was given at the Residency in the evening to enable the new RC to meet Government officials and their wives.

Mr. Ian Colin Chester, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Chester, who are well-known Papua residents, passed his final dentistry examination last year. He was born in Port Moresby and hopes to practise there shortly.

PACIFIC ISLANDS YEAR BOOK

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Since the end of the Pacific War, in 1945, practically every Territory in the Pacific has been subject to far-reaching changes of a political, social and commercial character. Consequently, the 1944 Edition has been completely revised, so as to show these numerous changes.

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FRENCH AIRWAYS IN PACIFIC

From Our Own Correspondent

NOUMEA, Jan. 29.
THE French Government, having now authorised the construction of the Magenta airport, right at Noumea's doorstep, the Colony's General Council has decided to name it the Richard Bernier airport, in honour of the man whose activities carried the project through.

Work on the 1,400-metres-long landing-ground will soon be started.

The annual subsidy voted to Air France-Trapas for one round trip per month, Paris-Bora Bora, by the Tahitian Representative Assembly, is 1,200,000 francs. If the flights are increased to two per month, this sum will be increased to 1,500,000 frs.

PAPUAN RUBBER

Koitaki Shows Loss But Prices Rise in UK

A LOSS of £367 for the year ended June 30, 1949, was disclosed by Koitaki Para Rubber Estates Ltd., of Papua. In the previous year a profit of £4,164 was made.

At the end of the year under review, all Papuan rubber producers were engaged in a price-war with Australian manufacturers who had refused to take No. 1 grade rubber at No. 1 grade prices.

No rubber was shipped from Papua for about five months, during which time about 800 tons accumulated in store. In August the Australian Government arranged to buy Papuan rubber at Singapore prices (13.1 pence first grade) and sent an expert to investigate the position. The results of the investigation have never been disclosed. At the time, Papua rubber planters said that cost of production in Papua was far above 1st Grade Singapore prices. Koitaki in their balance sheet disclose that cost of production was about 15d. per lb. in the year under review. In the previous year it had been only 11.6d.

Since June rubber prices have tended to rise. Rubber has recently been selling in London for 15.5d. stg. per lb.—the highest price for 21 years.

New NZ Government's Air Plans

AS New Zealand now has a new Government, considerable interest is attached to its plans for civil aviation. The New Zealand National Airways Corporation is to be reorganised into a public corporation by offering a portion of the capital, not to exceed 40 per cent., for public subscription so as to widen interest and obtain wider representation on the board of directors.

Private operators are to be licensed, in appropriate cases, to run subsidiary services and aero clubs and others are to be encouraged to undertake charter, taxi and feeder services. An aerodrome of international standard is to be constructed in each island and at Rongotai, Wellington, an aerodrome is to be constructed which will meet all internal traffic requirements.

Encouragement is to be given to the establishment between Australia and the South Island of an alternative trans-Tasman service operated with handplanes.

—Whites Aviation.

Two Australian Companies Apply for Australia-Christchurch Route

TWO Australian air companies (Australian National Airways and Ansett Airways) have applied to operate air services between Australia and the South Island of New Zealand. Presumably their applications will be considered by the governments concerned in due course.

In Opposition, the present New Zealand Government pressed for Harewood, near Christchurch, to be brought up to the standard required for an international airport. The then Minister for Civil Aviation said that this would cost about £400,000. He was accused of "hedging."

NEW SECRETARY FOR MELANESIAN MISSION

MR. H. W. BULLEN will succeed Major H. S. N. Robinson, who recently retired from the position of Secretary of the Melanesian Mission after 25 years' service.

Mr. Bullen was secretary to Bishop Baddeley for some years before the war.

Mr. F. S. Wigley has arrived in Fiji. He has been transferred from Leeward Islands as a Superintendent of Police.

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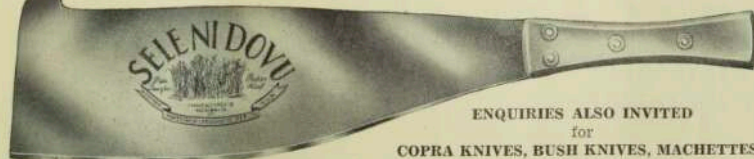
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FIJI'S MARGARINE IS SPELT WITH A "J"

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, Jan. 17.
SUVA-MADE margarine of a high standard, which will be on the market shortly at 9d. for a 1 lb. packet at Suva and 10d. elsewhere in Fiji, is officially called and spelt "marjarine."

Insistence on the "j" is believed to be a means of avoiding slightly distressing implications in one of the various languages spoken in Fiji.

Senator Kendall Has Unofficial But Instructive Visit to NG

MR. ROY KENDALL who was well known in New Britain where he was a schooner master before the war, was elected to the Senate as a Liberal Member for Queensland at the last Australian elections.

In January he paid a visit to Rabaul where he was warmly welcomed as the first representative of the new Australian

Government. His visit was quite unofficial, but he gathered much information as to the present condition of the Territory which, no doubt, will be of great value to him and to the new Government when it goes into action in February.

Senator Kendall is a "Royal Navy type." He was a reservist who was called up at the outbreak of World War II, and later, with the rank of Captain he was in charge of RN Intelligence in Brisbane. He did not return to New Guinea after the war—only reason, no doubt, being that under the Ed - Wardian socialist regime, private ships were not permitted to operate freely in Territory waters.

As reported in the January PIM, coastal shipping in the Territory is at the point of complete collapse. Residents have not been backward in acquainting Senator Kendall of this fact. His reputation for direct methods and for getting things done leads them to hope that the present situation will not be permitted to exist much longer.

Senator Kendall.
Photo by Meen.



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RETIREMENT OF MR. TOM LOWNEY

AFTER 25 years in the Public Service of Papua and the combined Territories, Mr. Tom Lowney, of the Administrator's office, Port Moresby, has resigned. He will leave for Sydney on the next Bulolo and does not intend to return.

Mr. Lowney had been on the Administrator's staff for 22 years of his 25 years' service. He was private secretary to pre-war Administrator, Leonard Murray, and after the war he became the present Administrator's private secretary. This title was later changed to Official Secretary. Mr. Lowney's successor has not been appointed yet.

The PIM representative who visited Papua and New Guinea in 1946 remembers Mr. Lowney as the most harassed official in the two Territories.

There were two or three telephones on his desk in his office in Government House grounds, Port Moresby, and they rang incessantly. As well, he had a constant stream of callers who wished to bring large or small matters to the attention of the Administrator.

At a stage of the Territory's post-war reconstruction when everyone was disposed to let things wait on the morrow, Mr. Lowney appeared to be on tap all the time.

He served three Murphys in his 25 years in Papua—Sir Hubert Murray; Mr. Leonard Murray, nephew of Sir Hubert; and, since the end of the war, Colonel J. K. Murray—no relation to his two predecessors.

Mr. P. A. Snow's book, *Cricket in the Fiji Islands*, with a foreword by Ratu Sir Lala Sukuna, and an introduction by Sir Pelham Warner, is on sale. The edition was practically sold out in advance and those who have not bespoken a copy should get in touch with Mr. G. A. Robertson, Suva, at once.

SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION

Conference In Fiji In April

PREPARATIONS for the South Pacific Conference, to open in Suva on April 24, have been advanced; but full details of representation of territories are not yet available. Representatives of all native races in the South Pacific will be present.

Papers to introduce various subjects for discussion are being prepared by the administrations of the various territories. For example, an Australian paper on Mosquito Control, a French paper on Fisheries Methods, and a United States paper on the Healthy Village.

The Research Council will hold its second meeting in Sydney in August. Associate Members selected by the Commission at the Fourth Session have notified their acceptance of membership.

Long-Term Plan of Research

IN addition to carrying out the present projects of the Commission, the Deputy Chairman and full-time members of the Research Council are working out plans for submission to the Commission and Research Council, for further development of the work programme.

The plans will take into account, where possible, the needs of the next five years. The Commission, at its last session, suggested such long-range planning, in order to provide for continuity and to in-

Headquarters:
Anse Vata
Noumea, New
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dicade to the participating governments the approximate financial requirements of the Commission's work for some years ahead.

Technical Assistance

In connection with this long-term plan, the research members, in co-operation with the Secretary-General, are formulating a draft programme of technical assistance for the area.

The Commission and the Research Council, at their respective meetings—in May, at Suva, and in August, at Sydney—will consider whether benefit for the area, in the form of expert assistance in technical problems (e.g., in agriculture, fisheries, technical education) can be secured in connection with the programme of technical assistance which is being arranged by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

Future of Plantation Products

THE Member for Economic Development, Dr. Howard G. MacMillan, returned to headquarters at the close of the year, after visiting the United States and England.

A principal purpose of the visit was to examine present and future marketing possibilities for copra, cacao and some other products of the South Pacific Territories, and to formulate an opinion on production possibilities.

Dr. MacMillan had discussions in Washington, DC, with various authorities in the US Department of Commerce, Department of Agriculture and other

agencies, also with large commercial firms in San Francisco and London, and authorities of the Colonial Office and the Imperial Institute.

Copra and Coconut Oil

In respect to copra and coconut oil, Dr. MacMillan found that experts were generally impressed by the following factors affecting prices:

* There has been a great scarcity of all fats and oils, but stimulated production of several vegetable oil plants, aided

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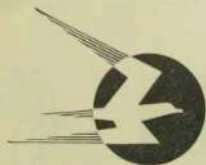
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by the return of considerable acreages neglected or out of control during the war, would point to a coming surplus of fats and oils.

•Tallow prices are down, but coconut oil is three or four times pre-war prices.

• There is a large production in other oil seed plants.

• At the moment, however, there is a shortage, variously estimated up to a million tons, which may be modified by the effective demand.

Cacao Prospects

In Washington, also, Dr. MacMillan discussed the situation in regard to cacao with the agencies carrying on disease investigations, crop improvement and other experimental investigations.

It was felt that because of the serious losses in Africa from virus disease there is the prospect of an accelerated decline in production in the face of increasing world markets for chocolate in all its

forms. The South Pacific chocolate has a good reputation among the manufacturers in America.

In all matters relating to tropical agriculture there is a very great fund of information and experience available in London in the Colonial Office and the Imperial Institute. The facilities of these agencies were generously offered. The US Department of Agriculture has many projects under way in the Caribbean region, Central and South America, in addition to a large fund of information on world problems in general.

UNSCUR

While in New York, Dr. MacMillan attended the United Nations Scientific Conference on the Conservation and Utilisation of Resources, from August 17 to September 6, 1949, at Lake Success. This conference brought together many of the principal authorities of the world for the presentation of papers and discussion on land, water, forests, wild life and fish, minerals, fuel and energy, and innumerable problems under these general headings.

Mr. B. E. V. Parham, OBE, Senior Agricultural Officer, Suva, Fiji, attended the Conference as observer on behalf of the South Pacific Commission. During Dr. MacMillan's visit to London, Mr. Parham was also present and contributed valuable experience and advice to the discussions with the British experts.

A number of useful personal contacts were made with scientists from many countries. The papers presented were available on all subjects and contributed much material, new approaches to old problems, fresh points of view, which should be of great advantage in attacking the problems of agriculture, forestry, and fisheries in the area of the South Pacific Commission.

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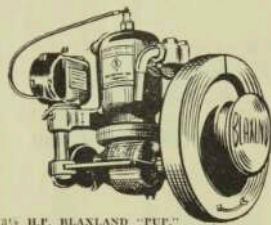
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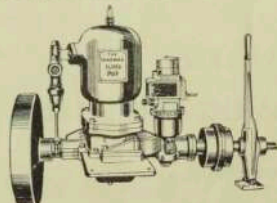
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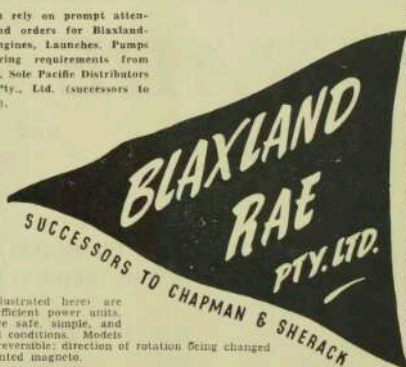
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Introduction of Economic Plants

IN connection with project E.1, the Commission has made grants-in-aid to the Fiji and New Caledonia administrations for introduction gardens at Naderolulu (Fiji), and Port Laguerre (New Caledonia). The latter represents a combined effort of the Departments of Agriculture and Forestry and the Veterinary Service of New Caledonia, who will develop a tract of land of about 1,300 acres, together with a farm school—the southern part as an introduction garden (about 400 acres). The Commission will give technical advice, in addition to financial assistance.

Ways in which the Commission might assist similar work in Australia and Netherlands New Guinea are being considered.

Lists of plants and seeds needed have been sent to various persons and institutions. These lists included trees for re-afforestation, pasture grasses and leguminous ground-covers.

The tribe of the "Col de la Pirogue" gathered almost a thousand kilograms of seeds of *Leucaena glauca* (the "acacia" of the settlers) to serve in the first attempts at re-afforestation in New Caledonia.

The Forestry Experiment Station at Buitenzorg, Java, is making available several kilograms of seeds of *Pinus merkusii*, the valuable fire-resistant Sumatran pine, as well as seeds of other economically valuable plants.

Land Utilisation

A report on land utilisation and conservation measures in other tropical countries has been prepared.

The Governor of New Caledonia has consented to the carrying out of a pilot land-use survey in New Caledonia north of Bourail.

The team to carry out this work will consist of a forester, a soil scientist and a surveyor. Appointments are under consideration.

Control of Pests and Weeds

A list of noxious weeds of the South Pacific region is in preparation.

Particular attention is being given to the guava, which was introduced as a fruit tree in Fiji in 1857, and later in the more Western region, and which has become a major pest. A Member of the Research Council made a study of the extent of this calamity in the region of Poya, New Caledonia, where, with the collaboration of a grazer, it is hoped to make experiments with weed-killers of various types.

The Director of the Institut Français d'Océanie, Dr. P. Bugnicourt, is making a study of fungous parasites of rice grown in the South Pacific, and the Commission's Research Staff will assist in this study. The Institut is assisting the Commission in other ways, for example it has provided laboratory space for investigations incidental to Commission projects.

Health—Food—Nutrition

THE Member for Health, Dr. Massal, has defined his plan for work in the important field of diet and nutrition.

The work proposed includes detailed surveys of the diet of infants and young children, and of the effects of new foods on their health and growth.

The work will include comparisons of growth and health of two similar groups, one being fed according to customary methods, with customary foods, and the other fed with foods prepared according to new formulas.

An Australian nutrition worker, Miss S. Malcolm, is being sent to New Guinea, the New Hebrides, and the Solomon Islands to carry out work of this kind. During the course of these investigations on infant diet it will be possible to collect data on the diet and nutrition of older children and adults.

Tuberculosis

The tuberculosis research team began to assemble at Port Moresby in the first half of February. The team will consist of—

Dr. Guillermin, of the French Colonial Health Service, seconded to the Commission for one year.

Mr. W. H. P. Love, from New Zealand, X-Ray Technician;

Miss B. Balfour, bacteriologist, from the laboratory of Professor S. Rubbo, Professor of Bacteriology, University of Melbourne.

Professor Rubbo will accompany the

team for about two weeks initially, in order to give technical advice.

The programme of the team is as follows:—

Papua-New Guinea, 4 months (two months on the coast and two months in the Central Highlands);

New Caledonia, 2 months;

A short visit to Fiji and American Samoa;

Western Samoa, 2 months;

French Oceania, 2 months.

In Tahiti, the Representative Assembly has set aside a substantial sum for the purchase of mobile X-Ray equipment, and has sought technical advice from the

(Continued on Page 85)

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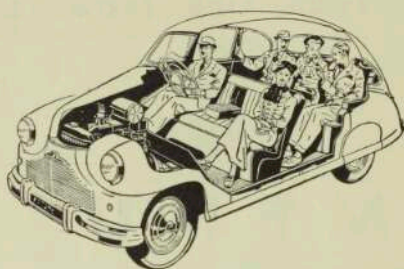
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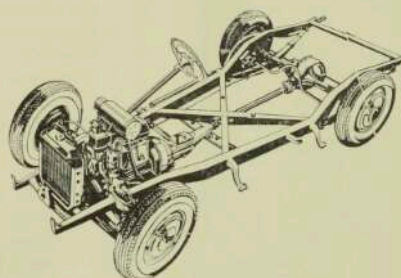


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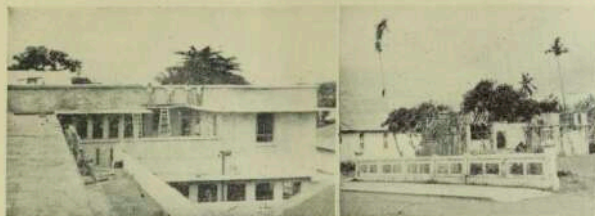
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BUILDING ACTIVITY IN APIA



As reported elsewhere in this issue, Morris, Hedstrom, Ltd., are building a new modern store in the wharf area, Apia, W. Samoa. The two photographs on the left show the building in course of erection. A block of modern flats (shown top left) is incorporated in the building which is to cost £50,000. Work commenced in November, 1948. It is expected that it will be completed by May, 1950. At right is new Methodist Church at Mafalele in course of erection. Its estimated cost is £10,000. Samoan Methodists are giving their labour free.

—Photos by Superflash, Apia.

RAIN AND REACTION IN SUVA

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, Jan. 17.
THE usual post-holiday depression in Suva during January is rather more marked than usual. Christmas in all parts of Fiji probably constituted a peacetime record—people are still asking

where the money came from—and the Colony is now in the throes of reaction.

Suva's weather is carrying on the 1949 tradition, and the Suva Cricket Association has had only two playable Saturdays in the 1949-50 season to date. The January 14-15 week-end provided about 8 in. of rain, 7.23 in. of it in a few hours on Sunday.

NORTHERN HOTELS LTD. BUY ANOTHER HOTEL

NORTHERN HOTELS, LTD. of Fiji, have bought the Sigatoka Hotel from Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Monk and will add it to the chain of five hotels already controlled in North-western Viti Levu.

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More Fijian Cane Farmers

THE production of sugarcane which was cultivated by Fijians increased from 20,000 tons in 1947 to 31,673 tons in 1948.

An illustration of how Fijians are increasingly turning to cane-production is provided by Toga Island, in the Rewa River below Nausori. Here certain lease-

holds recently reverted to the Fijian owners and during 1949 three small village communities set to work to demonstrate that the passing of formerly leased cane-land to Fijian control need not involve a reduction in production.

Led by P. V. Hunt Sila, widely known as the first Fijian individual farmer to establish a successful dairy-farm on a substantial scale, the villagers brought more than 100 new acres into cane-production during the year.

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MANGAIANS EXPECT A FRUIT WAR SOON

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

MANGAIA, Cook Islands.

WHEN local pineapple growers held out for £1 per case (instead of 13/-) it was rumoured that the November call of the Maui Pomare to Mangaia would be cancelled.

However, she arrived in due course although the NZ Marketing Division would not raise the price.

Most of the pineapples were kept for the CIPA Fairmile which is to transport them to Rarotonga for trans-shipment to New Zealand where they will be marketed through private channels—or so we are told.

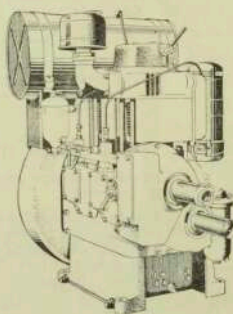
CIPA adherents on Mangaia believe that the big fruit "war" will begin next orange season and that the Association (or Society as it is now called) will take over from the IMD and established exporters.

If the New Zealand government abandons the IMD and leaves fruit importation and distribution to private enterprise the situation may be interesting here in the Islands.

NZ Delegation to Minister for Marketing

THE president of the New Zealand Fruit and Produce Merchants' Federation and members of the executive waited in a deputation on the Minister of Marketing, Mr. Holyoake, on January 19, with a request that the Government make an early decision as to whether it proposes to implement its policy of free enterprise with regard to the importation and distribution of imported fruits, which mainly consist of oranges, mandarines, pineapples and bananas.

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Dr. Vernon Remembered At The Mission In The Mud



Upper, Wards; Centre, Dispensary; Lower, Orderlies' House, and House for Aged Papuans.

THIS is the Vernon Memorial Native Hospital on the Bamu River, Western Division, Papua. The idea was Mrs. Eva Standen's; the work has been carried through by her husband, Harrie Standen, and herself. Their inspiration was the late Dr. G. H. Vernon together with the knowledge of the urgent medical needs of the primitive natives who dwell in the mud swamps of the Delta regions of Papua.

Possibly, to the orthodox, these native-material buildings do not look very much like a hospital. Probably the Standens' methods have not always found favour with those who proceed by the book of rules. But the great thing is that they have actually accomplished something—and that, in Papua to-day, is a minor miracle in itself.

Eva and Harrie Standen are supported by a missionary council in Sydney but these two literally are the undenominational Bamu River Mission—known better as the Mission in the Mud. And the Mission in the Mud describes it exactly, for it is an unattractive area of tortuous rivers and streams, crocodile infested swamps, mud and tidal waters. The rainfall is heavy and the natives are primitive—more at home in their dug-out canoes than on dry land.

In writing of her hospital Mrs. Standen says, with truth, that the country is not conducive of elaborate buildings and that it was felt that the hospital should be

as much like a native house as was wise—the Bamu native, who loves dirt, would be completely at sea and deeply suspicious in anything so grand and white as a conventional hospital ward.

The buildings at present erected consist of a consulting and treatment room, with store and outpatient department under one roof—this is built externally of native material and internally of European material and is completely gauged-in. There are, in addition, two wards of native material; a house for orderly trainees; and a house for sick or aged Papuans who may live there, or go there temporarily for a holiday or treatment.

THE Mission in the Mud was established long before World War II, and during it Mr. Standen went on war service and Mrs. Standen nursed in a Sydney hospital. Her heart was still on the muddy Bamu, however, and she dreamed of getting back there as soon as possible and, with the new interest in New Guinea natives that there was at that time, of perhaps establishing a hospital for the inhabitants of the area.

(Continued next page)

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In 1946, the war over and in Port Moresby awaiting transport to the Delta, she talked over her hopes with Dr. Vernon who was waiting for transport in the opposite direction. The doctor had spent a number of years in the Delta and his advice and encouragement had meant much to the Standens.

Before Mrs. Standen had got to Daru, however, news of the doctor's sudden death reached her and it seemed then that it was only fitting that the hospital that she had in mind should be dedicated to the memory of the man

who had endeared himself to thousands—Papuan or European, all suffering mankind had a claim upon him. During the war his special job was the native serviceman—but countless Australians and Americans have a place in their hearts for the Old Doc., who walked the Kokoda Trail with them and who was never too tired or too busy to help them on their way.

A fund was opened by the Standens and donations from Papua and Australia, with Administration grants, finally reached £800. Included in this amount

is a sum given by the AIF 11th Light Horse Brigade of World War I, of which Dr. Vernon had been medical officer—they felt that this was the kind of memorial of which the doctor himself would have approved.

As the fund grew slowly, sites for the hospital buildings were inspected and visits up the central and upper Bamu revealed that some land was a little higher than the then headquarters of the Mission on Maipani Island where monthly spring-tides covered most of the land. In early 1949, therefore, the headquarters were moved up near the junction of the Bamu and Wawoi Rivers and a start made on the Vernon Memorial Hospital under what were seemingly impossible conditions. Lack of transport and workers and material, local wars among the people, climatic disturbances, the breaking away of the river banks on the best sites all meant delay and hard work. But the will to do is everything and to-day the hospital is a going concern. Already many infants and others in the area owe their lives to the treatment they have received there.

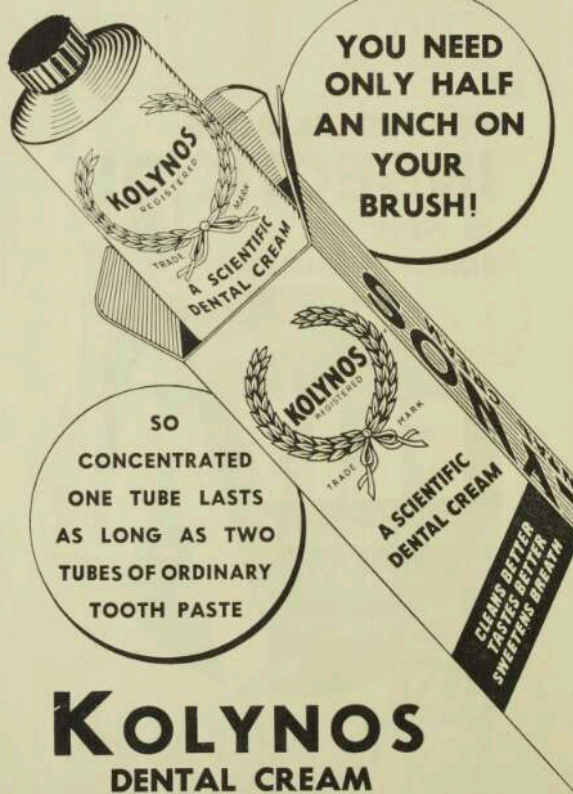
At the end of last year the Administration sent along Dr. Joan Refshauge to see what was being done; her encouragement has meant a great deal to the Standens, their medical trainees and helpers.

IN the three months between September and December, 1949, 2,254 treatments were given to outpatients; 78 infants were examined and treated or put on special food; and 900 injections for yaws were given.

Capital expenditure from the fund amounted to £342. A sum of £205 has been set aside for future building and £250 for current running costs. In comparison with the huge sums necessary to establish a more orthodox hospital this all seems absurdly modest and out of all proportion to the good work done.

The Vernon Memorial Hospital can still do with your help, however: your spare shillings will always be welcome. (See story of Dr. Vernon, page 82, this issue.)

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TASTES BETTER — CLEANS BETTER — LASTS LONGER

HIGH WAGE BILL FOR NATIVE GOVT. EMPLOYEES

NG Administration Fixes Scale

IN the Papua-New Guinea Gazette of January 25, the approved wage scale for "Administration Servants" (that is, native employees of the Administration) is published. Monthly wages range from £1 per month for 1st year probationers (presumably native employees learning some trade or occupation) to £20 per month for 3rd year Co-operative Inspectors.

Whether or not native employees should receive high wages is a matter of personal opinion. However, this enormously increased wages bill for native Administrative employees must play some part in turning what were, before the war, virtually self-supporting Territories into a liability to the Australian taxpayer to the tune of £3 or £4 million.

In the lower income brackets among these natives are Interpreters Grade I at £1 per month; Laundrymen with a maximum of £5 per month; messengers and cleaners at £3/10-. At the top of the tree are foremen mechanics at £18 per month; forestry assistants, maximum at £17/10-; laboratory assistants (Agric.) £17/10- max.; Ship's master, £20; Supervisory teacher, £20 max.

Comparatively few employees are on maximum wages, of course. Average wages are more likely to be £7 or £8 per month.

No Mariposa Yet

It seems unlikely that the Mariposa will come back soon to the Pacific service—as was indicated some months ago. On October 17, the United States Maritime Commission informed the Matson Navigation Company, that it was willing under certain conditions, to pay the "outstanding re-delivery obligation" on Mariposa and Monterey in a lump sum, this to be used for the completion of Mariposa only.

The president of the Matson Company said in November that this was at variance with the company's original proposal to the Maritime Commission and contained no provision for the disposition of Monterey. He said that the company would enter into further negotiations with the Commission in an effort to find a solution to the problem but that this would take considerable time and no results could be expected in the immediate future.

(The "outstanding re-delivery obligation" referred to above apparently means the sum granted by the US Maritime Commission to the owners of Monterey and Mariposa for reconversion of the two ships after war-time duties. Reconversion work was proceeding on the ships on the American Pacific coast but was suddenly halted in July, 1947, when work on the Mariposa was about 60 per cent. complete. The reason given by the Company was that costs were so much higher than anticipated that putting the ships back on the San Francisco-Sydney run had become uneconomic. It has always been understood that the grant allowed by the US Government (through the Maritime Commission), was considered inadequate to meet these costs. The ships have therefore remained in dock for the past 2½ years. The slow turnaround of ships in Australian ports, dollar restrictions and consequent lack of trade between America and Australasia, and

the development of trans-Pacific aviation have combined to make the running of a shipping service between USA and Australia even less attractive than it might have been.)

Another step forward has been taken in the establishment of the new Suva Medical Centre which is included in Fiji's Development Plan. Tenders have been invited for the building of a Medical School to replace the existing Central

Medical School at which Assistant Medical Practitioners are trained. Tenders were recently invited for the home for local nurses in training.

A hundredweight of yams and a hundredweight of dalo (taro) were shipped by the Matua to Auckland at the end of January by the Fiji Amateur Sports Association. The vegetables are for the four members of the athletics team which represented Fiji at the British Empire Games.



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CHINESE RESIDENT OF RABAU KILLED

ONE of Rabaul's best known Chinese residents, Mr. Chen Hein was killed in January when the jeep in which he was riding came into collision with a large truck driven by a native. Before the war he owned plantations on New Ireland and his schooner, Kwong

Chow, was one of the best pre-war vessels in the area. Chen Hein was universally liked and respected and his funeral was attended by all sections of the Rabaul community.

Mr. W. Talby, Resident Commissioner of the Cook Islands, with Mrs. Talby and Miss Margaret Talby, was on leave in New Zealand in January.

MOTHER AND DAUGHTER HAVE THEM WORRIED

RABAU, New Guinea, has no more mother-in-law trouble than any other town. But it is seriously inconvenienced by the Mother and her two Daughters, named, respectively, North and South.

The Mother and Daughters are, of course (with Matupi and Vulcan) the volcanoes that ring Rabaul around and it is due to their interior rumblings that the town experiences frequent earth tremors. Some are severe and some are very slight but they are a permanent feature of life there, carrying with them always the possibility of a full-scale eruption (as in 1937).

There are various standing-orders in Rabaul as to "What to Do if an Eruption Occurs," and more recently, a manifesto was issued giving hints to householders in order that they might guard against the run-of-the-mill, or common, consequences of the tremors.

They are advised to:

- (1) Brace all foundation piles and posts diagonally.
- (2) Brace all tank stands.
- (3) Hook all tall items of furniture back against solid sections of the wall. Fasten battens across shelves in which crockery and bottles are stored.
- (4) Avoid hanging heavy pictures and ornaments on walls in the vicinity of beds.
- (5) Extinguish all kerosene refrigerators at the first sign of a disturbance and evacuate the house carefully taking the fire extinguisher (which has been regularly checked) with them.

It all makes for a little interest in the boredom of the daily round.

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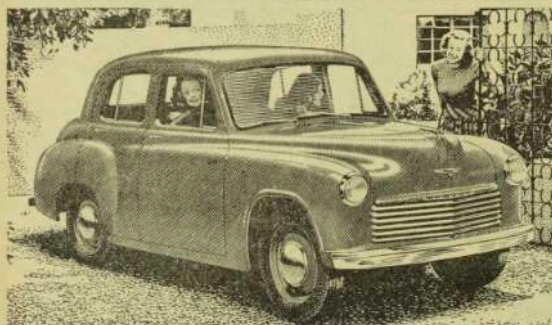
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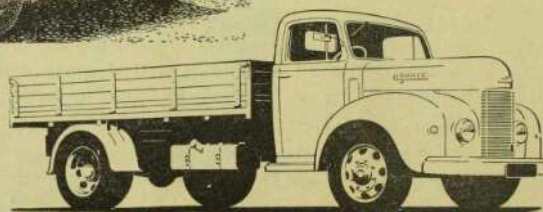
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Where Do The Manihiki "Panamas" Go?

From Our Own Correspondent

MANGAIA, Cook Islands.
THE Australian or NZ city-dweller who, in the hot days of summer, wishes to obtain a Panama hat, finds the article hard to get, and often of very poor quality. Pre-war exports from Japan to this end of the world have ceased; and a genuine South American Panama was rare even before Hitler put on warpaint and went off the reservation. One wonders why the finely-woven hats of Manihiki Island (Northern Cooks) are not exploited, to fill this market vacuum. The prices would surely be good in Auckland and Sydney. Every well-dressed C.I.-er wears one of these Manihiki hats, which are made from palm-frond material whitened to the appearance of small quills, recalling the famous peacock-quill headgear of King Kamehameha of Hawaii. They are long-lasting, with reasonable care, and have been bought, at prices as low as eight or ten shillings.

Surely this C.I. industry deserves encouragement, and a wider market than mere inter-island custom? It is a constant source of wonder to observers that so little use is made of marketable C.I. products other than fruit, copra, and MOP.

EDITORIAL NOTE:

SO-CALLED "Panama" hats have reached epidemic proportions this year amongst Australian men. We are told that demand is at least as great as supply; that the unblocked straw "hoods" come from Central China (that is what the salesman will tell you, anyway); that they are blocked and trimmed in Australia and sell at from 35/- to 45/- each. The only way to find out if Manihiki hats could compete against this type of hat would be to send a shipment to interested manufacturers. The current crop of "Panamas" are feather-light, but in quality bear little resemblance to the original Central American product.

CYANIDE, SUNKEN TRACTORS AND AIRCRAFT ENGINES!

P-NG Still Selling War Disposals Goods

TENDERS were called, at the end of January, for a miscellany of war disposals goods at various centres in Papua and New Guinea. The strange thing is that 4½ years after the war ended, and after being raked back and forth by all manner of dealers, there is anything left to dispose of.

The collection now offered by tender includes 15 tons of scrap copper wire, packed in 44-gallon drums at the wharf, Samarai, wrecked aircraft and aircraft engines (number unspecified and they must be removed within six months) located in the Rabaul and Kokopo areas of New Britain; three tractors of unknown make and size, which are located somewhere in the sea, in the vicinity of Milford Haven wharf, Lae; and 376 two-hundredweight drums of cyanide at Salamaua.

Presumably the tractors were driven off the wharf in a fit of military exuberance before civil administration took over control of the Territory. After being at the mercy of the salt-sea waves for four years it is unlikely that they will be of much use for the purpose for which they were originally intended.

It is said of the cyanide that 20 per cent. of the drums are losing their contents through rusting. Salamaua is, of course, a completely deserted village as far as European residents are concerned, but unless a strict guard is kept upon it the disintegrating drums of cyanide seem to be as great a hazard to the health of local natives as is the square mile of bombs at Tadjil in Northern New Guinea.

It would be interesting to know for what purpose the 38 tons of cyanide were required in Salamaua in the first place. We have never heard that the Japs released rabbits to eat up the country-side, as they released Giant Snails.

TANKER FIRE AT PAGO PAGO

ALTHOUGH it happened in October, details of a tanker fire at Pago Pago, American Samoa, have just come in. Cause of the fire is unknown. The tanker was tied up at the wharf discharging petrol to shore installations when, at 1.30 a.m., two explosions rocked the harbour. The explosions were of such severity that windows were shattered in Government House on the opposite side of the harbour. Fire engines could do little but keep the flames from spreading from the wharf area. After burning for 22 hours the tanker sank alongside the wharf. Casualties included six men killed.

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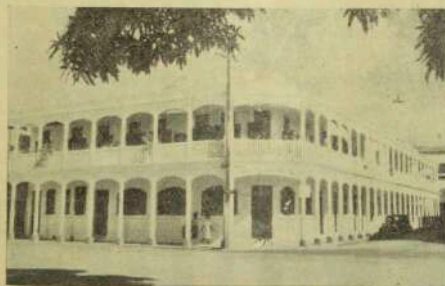
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Western Samoan Newsletter

From Our Own Correspondent

APIA, Jan. 21.

A WEEK before Christmas, the wet season set in with torrential rains pouring down day and night. Bad weather conditions, however, did not seem to interfere with the Christmas buying and business generally was reported to be very bright with Europeans and Samoans spending freely. Good prices are being obtained for copra and cocoa, and the Apia stores offered a good variety of seasonal goods.

However, as a result of the devaluation of the fmg. and the increase in import duties on dollar goods through the change in the conversion rates, imports of goods from USA and Canada are decreasing rapidly, with the exception of essential goods not obtainable elsewhere (lumber, oil, tyres and motor vehicles). The Collector of Customs has circulated importers warning them that dollar allocations for 1950 have to be drastically cut down.

Two steamers with large cargoes arrived in Apia just before Christmas—the Waikawa from Sydney and the Waihera from Vancouver. It is unfortunate that shipping services from Sydney are so irregular, as local importers are eager and willing to increase their orders from Australia for goods which cannot now be imported from the USA.

DONATIONS collected by Apia firms and Government departments for the Makogai Christmas Fund, for the leper patients at Makogai, Fiji, amounted to £184.14/7, of which the firm of O. F. Nelson & Co., Ltd., collected £145.

TEN Samoan schoolchildren have been awarded New Zealand Government scholarships to attend New Zealand schools in 1950. Of the ten children,

seven are Samoans and three local-born Europeans of mixed descent.

A PLEASANT little function took place on December 9 at Aleisa land settlement for local-born European settlers, when the new Government School for the 140 children of the settlement was officially opened in the presence of the Hon. Pautia and representatives of the Government. Whilst the Government had contributed the materials and supervised the work, the actual labour had been done voluntarily by the Aleisa settlers and the roomy and attractive school building reflects the greatest credit on all concerned.

A musical programme was given by the school-children under the direction of the headmaster, Mr. R. Collins and his three assistant teachers. The school orchestra played light music. School certificates were presented to pupils by the Director of Education, Mr. D. R. Lambie.

DURING the absence of the High Commissioner in New Zealand and the secretary to the Government, Mr. J. B. Wright, on leave, the Chief Judge, Mr. C. C. Marsack, has been appointed Acting High Commissioner and Mr. L. M. Cook Acting Secretary. Mr. R. S. Agnew has been appointed Collector of Customs.

Four of the ten Western Samoan Scholarship winners who are now in New Zealand.

Photo by Superflash, Apia.



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MR. D. G. McCracken, headmaster of Avele Boys' School, left Samoa for New Zealand by the last Matua after terminating his term of engagement in the Territory. His departure is regretted by Europeans and Samoans alike. His successor is Mr. R. G. Hoare who has been teaching at Avele School for several years.

THERE is considerable building activity in and around Apia at the present time. Morris, Hedstrom Ltd's, new

premises are nearing completion now and when finished will greatly enhance the Custom House area.

The large building of the Methodist Mission, near the Apia Post Office, is also in course of construction. At Motootua the buildings of the Intermediate School and the Malifa Infant School, as well as a special building for school broadcasting purposes, are going up, while a number of dwellings for teachers and officials in the same suburb are also under construction.

Apia is at present a bustling and very busy place and the general appearance of the town and its surroundings is bound to be greatly improved as a result of the work now being done.

NEW FIJI GOVERNMENT POSTS CREATED

PROVISION is made in the Fiji Estimates for 1950 for a separate Inland Revenue Department, and a separate Stores Department. The work of these departments has hitherto been controlled by the Accountant-General. Mr. R. B. Ackland has been appointed Commissioner of Inland Revenue and Commissioner of Stamp Duties.

Provision is also made for two Assistant Colonial Secretaries instead of one as at present. One Assistant will be concerned with general administrative matters and the other with the progress of the Colony's Development Plan and the Public Works programme.

Mr. P. H. Nightingale has been appointed Assistant Colonial Secretary (Development) and Mr. E. R. Bevington will continue to act as Assistant Colonial Secretary (Administration).

The posts of Registrar Supreme Court and Registrar General have also been separated. Mr. H. Y. Anderson will continue to be Registrar General. Mr. M. N. Cochrane, District Magistrate, is acting as Registrar Supreme Court.

Mr. Charles Luckman who has been president of Lever Brothers Co. has resigned because he could not agree with other directors on the future policy of the American company.

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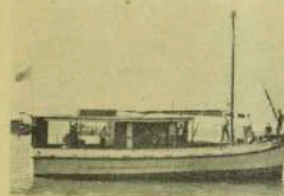
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Apia Motor-Cutter Disappears Youth's Misplaced Urge for Adventure

From Our Own Correspondent

APIA, Jan. 20.
A SENSATION was caused in Apia on January 2, when it was discovered that during the early morning hours, the motor-cutter, Gaumata, belonging to Messrs. O. F. Nelson & Co., Ltd., had been taken from her anchorage by unauthorised persons and had disappeared. Police investigation showed that the boat had been taken out about 2 a.m. and that four youths employed on ships



Gaumata.

or on the waterfront were also missing. They were Lolisea, Moti Pereira, Pe'au (nightwatchman of the Gaumata) and Mago, all of whom had been seen together on the evening preceding the theft of the vessel.

As far as is known the vessel carried only sufficient gasoline for a trip of 300 miles, and a small quantity of food. A dinghy belonging to Messrs. C. Bartley & Son's was also missing, but was later recovered in a damaged condition at Soleole beach, east of Apia.

An American plane from Pago Pago was asked to search for the missing vessel, and spent two days unsuccessfully looking for her. Search was hampered by poor visibility and bad weather conditions.

Two of the boys who are missing with the cutter had taken part in the theft and subsequent loss in the Solomon Islands of the motor vessel, Wyben (belonging to Messrs. A. O. Smyth & Co., Ltd. of Apia) in 1947. They were Lolisea and Moti Pereira, and at their trial, after that incident, they pleaded that they were "forced" to take part in the theft. The case against them was dismissed.

Bad weather and rough seas on the days following the theft of the Gaumata may have caused the total loss of the cutter and its crew. No trace has been found to date.

APIA, Feb. 3.
The Gaumata has been found, safely at anchor, at Tau, in American Samoa. The crew have been arrested.

Police and a new crew have been sent to bring her back to Apia.

Indian Youth Drowned In Labasa Flood

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, Jan. 17.
DURING heavy flooding in the Labasa district of Fiji, on January 2-3, an Indian youth was swept away and drowned while trying to salvage a large oil-drum. At least one other Indian was swept away but saved himself by clinging to a mangrove.

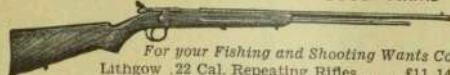
Labasa had nearly a foot of rain in

24 hours. The CSR Co.'s mill was flooded but escaped serious damage.

Mr. R. R. C. Caten, of the Fiji Public Relations Office, has returned to Fiji from the United Kingdom where he has been

on leave. For a portion of the time, he was a guest of the British Council and was able to visit many places of interest in the fields of music and drama. During the latter part of his leave he attended one of the training courses arranged for the staff of the British Broadcasting Corporation.

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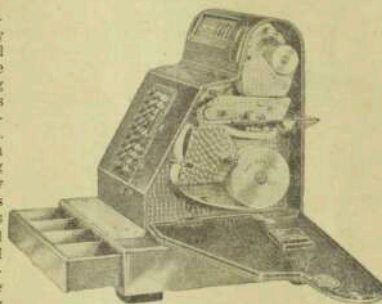
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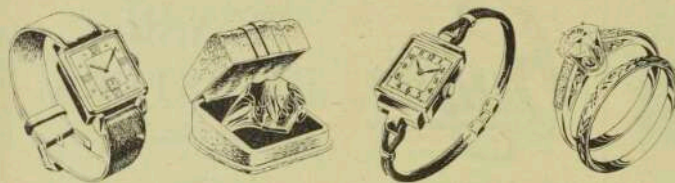
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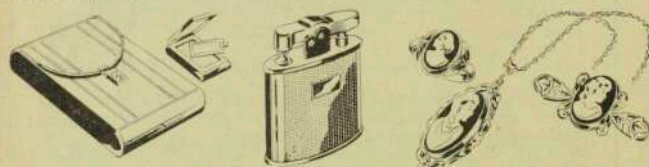
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SAMOAN SUN-DRIED COCOA PREFERRED IN UK

Hot-Air Was "Smoky"

From Our Own Correspondent

APIA, December 19.
REPORTS on various brands of Samoan cocoabeans supplied to the London market, together with samples of chocolates manufactured from Samoan and other cocoabeans, were recently received by the Acting Director of Agriculture, Mr. H. S. Newton.

A large proportion of the cocoa sent to London for report was from Samoan growers. This (sun-dried), was pronounced first class and seems to be preferred by London buyers to the various brands of hot-air dried cocoabeans shipped by European planters and the New Zealand Reparation Estates. A large proportion of the latter samples was marked "smoky" and chocolates manufactured therefrom retained a smoky taste which is apparently difficult to eliminate. To a great extent, this smoky taste is due to carelessness in processing the beans or to faulty driers and every care should be taken by producers to attain a universal high standard of quality in the interests of the whole industry.

The report also commented on a large proportion of Criollo (high class cocoa-beans) amongst the Samoan cocoa samples. Presumably these Criollo samples originated in Savaii where there is a good proportion of pure and hybrid criollo cocoa still grown.

The New Caledonian Governor-General has withdrawn the licences of five traders found guilty of selling alcohol to the natives.

Civil Administration for Eastern Samoa?

IT is believed that the United States Department of the Interior will take over control of American Samoa sometime this year and that, ultimately, only a small Naval garrison will be retained in Pago Pago. (By agreement between Germany, Britain and the United States, in 1899, Eastern Samoa became American territory. Control was delegated to the Navy Department and the Governor has always been a Navy officer appointed by the US President. The harbour of Pago Pago was ceded to USA as a naval and coaling station as long ago as 1878).

In recent years the Samoans have gained an increasing amount of self-government but there has been amongst

some sections, an agitation for civil administration.

It seems now that they are likely to get what they want but whether they will find it as much to their liking as they think, remains to be seen. Eastern Samoa has no economic importance whatever—the only export is copra (about 1,700 tons per year, pre-war) and such prosperity as it has enjoyed has derived from the naval establishment which received a substantial grant. Whether the Department of the Interior will be correspondingly generous is doubtful.

It is believed that a Civil Governor will take up his job about mid-1950. Thereafter the USA will tend to centre its defence establishments in the former Japanese Mandated territories.



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MORE THAN £1,000,000 FOR FIJI'S 1949 COPRA

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, Jan. 22.
APPROXIMATE figures for copra-production in Fiji in 1949 (the final figures for Savusavu and Rotuma were not available) have been supplied to the Suva Chamber of Commerce by the Copra Board. They give the Colony's approximate total production as 33,417 tons, and the price paid to planters as £F1,969,253.

Shipments of copra totalled 13,932 tons, valued at £729,942 f.a.b. The two Suva oil mills took 8,579 tons, and stocks on hand on December 31 made up the balance.

In 1948, copra-production totalled 34,637 tons. The hurricane in December, 1948, which devastated the Lau Group and dealt severely with Taveuni, Rotuma, and other islands, is blamed for the decrease in 1949.

Three American technicians arrived recently in Papeete, Tahiti, to install a dry dock.

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"OPERATION BANG"

A RAAF demolition team is now at work at Tadjil, near Aitape, New Guinea, disposing of 3,000 tons of bombs which were a legacy from the New Guinea campaign. It is expected that the job will be completed by about the end of February.

It was planned, originally, to explode the whole 3,000 tons at once. This created interest all over the world among scientists, geologists and others who wished to make seismic recordings. However, in the interests of safety this big bang was called off and it was decided to explode the bombs in smaller lots.

But even under the new plan it is expected that the explosions will be considerable and precautions have been taken to see that local natives will be out of the danger area.

The original bomb dump was one square mile in area. After the war ended it quickly became overgrown and clearing out this undergrowth has been perhaps, the most difficult part of the job.

SEARCH FOR NEXT OF KIN OF A. R. REED

THE Curator of Interstate Estates, Papua-New Guinea, is searching for the next-of-kin of Arthur Ridley Reed, who was a dairyman in Rabaul, N.G., before the Japanese invasion. He was lost in the sinking of the Montevideo Maru.

Prior to living in New Guinea, he held property on the main Warwick-Ipswich Road, near Boomah, Queensland and it is believed that he had lived in South Africa prior to his arrival in Australia.

Sale of Oceanic series of stamps in metropolitan France brought to the Tahitian Post Office the sum of nearly six million Pacific francs during 1948.

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NG Natives for RAN

FIFTY Papau-New Guinea natives are to be given a chance to serve in the RAN. This was announced by the new Minister for the Navy, on January 25.

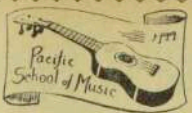
The natives will be based on Manus (known to the Navy as HMAS Seeadler), and presumably will not serve outside Territory waters. Their uniform will consist of white or blue square-necked shirts and lava-lava with RAN insignia thereon.

All Australian armed services are below desired peace-time strength, therefore the recruitment of natives may help to solve some Naval problem in New Guinea. However, it will take more than 50 Papua or New Guinea boys to revitalise the once great Manus Naval base.

of the American Seamen's Friends Society of New York, 1851, and at this date again in charge of Sidney Hayden of Windsor, Connecticut. The record is signed by Levi Hayden.

The Bible was presented by the Hayden family to the Connecticut Historical Society, which in 1948 in response to Mr. A. W. Mowley's request, handed it over to the British Ambassador at Washington to be returned to Pitcairn Island.

Mr. E. A. Spowart, of Suva, Fiji, who is studying medicine at Otago University, New Zealand, visited Sydney during early February. He hopes eventually to complete his medical studies in Edinburgh, Scotland. His father, Mr. E. Spowart, has been manager of the Dominion Fruit Co., Fiji, for the past 15 years.



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Bounty Bible Goes Back to Pitcairn

AFTER many adventures and an absence of 110 years, the original Bounty Bible is on its way back to Pitcairn Island. That it is going back at all is due to a request by Mr. A. W. Mowley, headmaster of Pitcairn Island school, to the Historical Society of Connecticut, USA.

In early January, the Bible had reached Suva. It was to be taken on to Pitcairn soon after by Mr. H. A. C. Dobbs, of the Western Pacific High Commission, who was due to make a routine official visit of the Island. The Bible was given a special locally-made display case of selected Fijian hardwood, and, as the original binding was worn to tatters, had been skilfully re-bound by the Public Records Office in London and brought, as nearly as possible, to its original form. A description of the re-binding is given in a portfolio which accompanies the Bible. The Bible itself will be placed in the top section of the display case, which has a plate-glass top, and the portfolio will be housed in a drawer below. Both compartments will be fitted with locks.

The title page and the first two or three pages of the Bible are missing, but the dedication shows that it was printed some time between 1761 and that day in December, 1787 when the Bounty set sail on her ill-fated voyage. It was probably used by Captain Bligh in church services on the vessel.

IT was taken ashore with the ship's papers when the surviving mutineers burnt the Bounty at Pitcairn, and during the quarrelsome and riotous first years it must have lain unheeded somewhere on the island.

When Young and Adams were the only survivors, Young began to use the Bible to teach the women and children the rudiments of reading and writing. When he died, Adams became deeply religious and he modelled the small community on the precepts he found in the Bounty Bible.

In 1839, 21 years after the descendants of the mutineers had been discovered on Pitcairn, and the aged Adams had been pardoned, the American whaling ship *Cyrus* of Nantucket, called at the island. Her carpenter, Levi Hayden, came ashore for a few days and he became very friendly with John Adams, grandson of the original mutineer. When Hayden left, Adams gave him the Bounty Bible, and the record made by Hayden in pencil inside the cover can still be clearly read. It is headed "The Mutineer Bible of 1789," and reads: "Presented by John Adams, grandson of the patriarch of Pitcairn Island, to Levi Hayden, February, 1839 and held by Peletiah Perit, President

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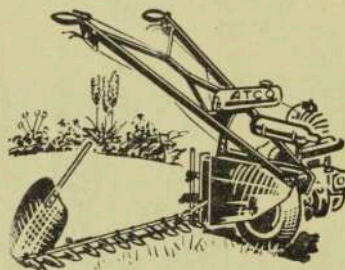
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HOSPITAL STAFF, TAMAVUA, FIJI, 1949



FRONT ROW: S/N N. Ligairi, Str. S. Miles, Str. A. B. Thomson, Miss Butt (Matron), Str. R. Bamford, Str. G. Devery, Str. M. Groume, S/N L. Maharaj. SECOND ROW: Koini E., Sera V., Vasenai V., Asena R., Mere Q., Vasemasa L., Veniana V., Makereta T., Asilika B. BACK ROW: Maria M., Lusiama K., S/N A. Lewatu, S/N R. Narube, S/N V. Bayacarego, S/N J. Viloa, S/N J. Tabua, Eleni R., Makereta L.

Miss D. T. Pederson has resigned from the post of Nursing Superintendent, Fiji, to join the staff of the World Health Organisation, one of the Specialised Agencies of the United Nations. She will be employed on contract for two years as a Regional Nursing Adviser for South

East Asia. Her headquarters will be in New Delhi and the area with which she will be concerned will include India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Ceylon and Burma. She expects to leave Fiji in February and will re-visit her home in New Zealand before going to India.

The London Missionary Ship, John Williams VI, made its first visit to Pago Pago, American Samoa, on New Year's Day. Many residents took the opportunity of inspecting the well-appointed little ship.

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THE STORY OF MAUL, DEMI-GOD

THE story of Maui, ubiquitous demi-god of the Pacific area, has been ably assembled and analysed in a recent Bernice P. Bishop Museum Publication, "Maui of a Thousand Tricks: His Oceanic and European Biographers."

The author, Dr. Katharine Luomala, professor of anthropology at the Univer-

sity of Hawaii and Bishop Museum research associate, has pursued the trail of Maui for the past fifteen years, assembling data and comparing the stories of this Pacific Islands hero of the common man. While the Maui cycle is a part of the folklore primarily in Polynesia, the stories are also found both in Micronesia and Melanesia. Most frequently associated with Maui are tales involving the snaring of the sun, the bringing of fire to

man and the fishing up of islands from the sea.

Dr. Luomala recently spent several months doing ethnological field work in the Gilbert Islands, through a grant from the Viking Fund and under the auspices also of the University of Hawaii and the Pacific Science Board. The results of her studies will be published later by the Bishop Museum.

Other material on the Pacific prepared by Dr. Luomala which has appeared recently includes the Polynesian section for "Encyclopedia of Literature" edited by Joseph Shipley and selections for the Pacific Number of the Journal of American Folklore.

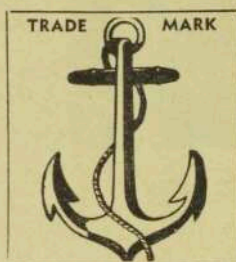
DEATH OF APIA RESIDENT



The late W. M. Burnett, of Apia, W. Samoa, whose death was reported in November PIM.

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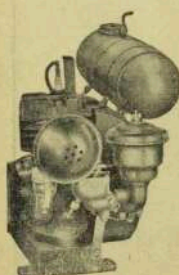


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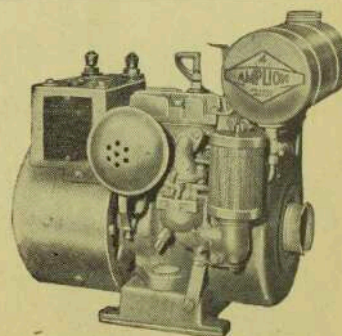
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NZ Medical Research in Rarotonga

From Our Own Correspondent

RAROTONGA, Jan. 20.
UNDER the auspices of the Department of Island Territories and the Medical Research Council of New Zealand, four members of the staff of the University of Otago are at present engaged in research work in the Cook Islands. Every possible facility has been placed at their disposal by the Administrative staff of the islands, and the islanders themselves have been extremely friendly, interested and co-operative. Work is being concentrated on the island of Rarotonga in the two villages of Ngatangia and Arorangi.

The most common disease in the Cook Islands, as indeed in a large part of tropical Polynesia, is Filariasis, a term covering a variety of complaints resulting from an infection of a small nematode worm. The worm is transmitted from an infected to a healthy person by the bite of a mosquito, so that the cure for the complaint in its most efficient form, lies in the elimination of the mosquito. Up to the present, all efforts have been concentrated on the destruction of breeding sites, such as coconut shells, meat tins and similar small containers, but it has been found by a recent survey that the number of infected persons on Rarotonga is so great, that although the diminution in numbers of the mosquito has made for more comfortable living, the number of infections has not been appreciably reduced.

Dr. G. H. Satchell, who arrived a fortnight before the main party, is investigating the possibility of residual spraying with DDT to control the disease. It is possible that this spraying, when concentrated in dwelling houses, will reduce the number of new infections by killing the mosquito before it reaches the infective stage. The problem hinges on the proportion of infections which occur in the house, as compared with the proportion derived in the open air. It is hoped that the study now proceeding will determine this factor.

Sir Charles Hercus, Dr. Faine, and Mr. J. A. Samuels, assisted by Dr. T. T. A. Davis and his staff locally, are engaged in a survey of the health conditions of a number of family groups in the village of Arorangi, this with a view to determining the most important problems confronting the people generally and medically. Clinical studies are being correlated with laboratory findings and surveys of family environment and general living conditions.

While it is yet premature to discuss results, the contention of the Medical Service that there is an undue amount of preventable illness is already fully confirmed. Filariasis, parasitic diseases of the intestine and diseases of the teeth and gums appear to be almost universal. However, despite the abundant evidence of financial stringency among Cook Islanders it is reassuring to find that there is no evidence so far of serious malnutrition, and the long-held belief that the natives of this island have a protein-deficient diet is not born out by blood examination.

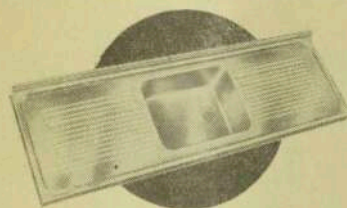
It is believed that the value of the present study will not be confined to Rarotonga but will be generally applicable to the various Islands of the Cook Group.

Mr. Charles Godhard, who has been tutor to the Bull children of Dreketi, Vana Levu, Fiji, has now joined the staff of Burns Philp (SS) Ltd. at Lautoka.

Because of engine trouble, a BCPA DC6 airliner had to leave its 18 passengers on Canton Island on February 1 and fly on to Fiji on three engines. Some of the passengers were picked up the following day by a PAA Skymaster; the remainder waited on Canton for the next BCPA plane. The disabled plane reached Sydney about 7 p.m. on February 2, still flying on three engines. Because of bad visibility Mascot aerodrome was closed

and the plane had to be diverted to Brisbane.

Fiji's Towns Ordinance has been amended 12 times in 14 years, and much of it still relates mainly to Suva. On the recommendation of its new chairman (Mr. E. F. Corbett), the Lautoka Town Board decided on January 12 to ask the Government for an entirely new Ordinance for the control of Lautoka.



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SMASHED ON A CORAL REEF

Description of a Wreck in the Tongan Islands

BY PASTOR W. G. FERRIS, OF SDA MISSION, MASTER OF THE ENDEAVOUR

THE Government despatch boat was away in Suva, and so we in the Endeavour assented gladly to the request of the authorities that we sail from Nukualofa, 160 miles, to the northern islands, to bring back the Chief Medical Officer and the Government dentist, who were wanted for urgent duties in Nukualofa.

We left on December 17, in lovely weather. After visiting Vavau, we went to Pangai, and thence set out direct for home.

We set course through the only channel to the outer seas. The sails were hoisted, and with the engine running we were making sure and steady progress. We had negotiated this channel successfully many times, and had experienced no difficulty. For eight miles the channel took us past reefs on both sides. Darkness quickly fell and the wind changed rapidly from north to north-west, and came with force. Anxiously we watched the log tick out the miles, till we should enter deep waters.

I warned the boys to watch for any sign of reef. On dark nights surf shows fairly clear. No surf showed; but an oily spot seemed strange—and then all called for a turn to starboard: reefs were ahead. Surf appeared close to port.

Then there was the horrible sensation of crunching coral under the ship, and a sudden stop. Things happened quickly.

The wind velocity increased, and enormous breakers lifted the Endeavour,

with all sails set, high up on top of the reef and brought her down with a sickening thud. The engine stopped.

The sails were lowered and a second wave lifted her again, taking her further in onto the reef. We dropped anchor, hoping to bring her head into the wind. This quickly broke away.

Successive waves pounded the ship further and further across the reef, every fibre of her timber shuddering at each bump.

We then realised that she would rapidly break up and immediately lowered the dinghy. It sank, and the oars were lost in the darkness.

The main anchor was dropped, but it dragged with the ship, which was now half full of water, so that it was difficult to walk in the cabin.

IN the darkness it was hard to find anything. What could we take? A boy rescued the dinghy and, with great difficulty, bailed it out. I passed out a tin of drinking water for the dinghy; it was washed out of my hands and floated away. I staggered up with a tin of biscuits, and it also went to sea, as did the luggage.

Mr. Edwards bravely struggled to save the ship. The doctor passed out lifebelts and blew up his air mattress.

My boy, Elwin, kept asking me if I thought the ship was sinking. I tried to assure him that we were safe and that he would see his mother again. Little Percy Kamea, from Vavau, clung tightly to his lifebelt and a few of his clothes. Mr. Franzen, the dentist, could not

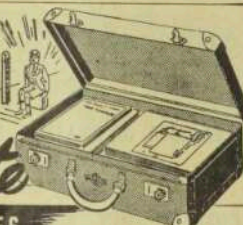
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swim. We secured a life belt tightly around him and he clung to the top rigging.

I entered the cabin again and the once friendly cupboard came shooting up at me as the ship's side hit the reef at the rear of a passing wave. The water was up to my waist.

The ship righted herself again and we tried once more to get her off the reef in the hope of reaching an island we could see in the distance. She would not

move. Larger waves came and drove her further onto the last ledge of the reef. She had come about a quarter of a mile over the reef in less than twenty minutes.

The actual height of water, at that tide, was eighteen inches; but the sea came across with terrific force, as if all the demons had stirred it up for the last blow.

A FINAL whopper turned the Endeavour over, with her mast under water, and

all on board were thrown into the boiling sea.

The two small boys swam to the dinghy. Mr. Franzen struggled in, while dangerous firing wires tried to trap those in the dinghy into a partnership dive.

I took an awning batten as an oar and gave to Mr. Franzen the oar we had been able to rescue. Mr. Edwards floated on the cockpit matting; the doctor was on his air mattress; and the two boys shared the wooden stairs from the cabin.

They all decided to stay that way, pushing at the stern of the dinghy, while we rowed. There was an island to the east, and towards this we struggled.

On touching the reef again, Mr. Edwards trod on some poisonous creature, which left splinters in his foot and caused severe pain.

We must have been nearly an hour reaching the island. We carried the dinghy up to the top of the steep, sandy beach, and dropped it in tall grass. We lighted a fire, and with the dinghy turned up to give protection from the wind, we sat down to dry our clothes. The island was just a dot with a beach all around and without one coconut tree. There was no water. This was most disappointing.

The party curled up around the fire and tried to sleep. Mr. Edwards tossed in agony; but some ointment soothed his injured foot and he finally slept.

As daylight came, with low tide, we scanned the ocean for a sign of our ship. Sure enough, there she was on the edge of the long reef, turned upside down, leaving engine and keel on the bottom and the rudder raised like a black flag of death.

We reasoned that the strong north-west winds, in combination with the rise of the tide, had produced a tide-rip of over four knots, on which we had not calculated in setting our course. This caused the fatal striking of the reef in the darkness. That

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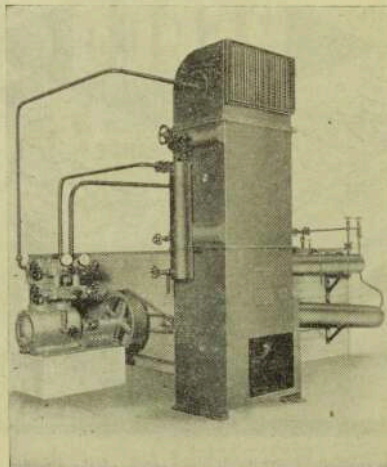
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same rip would make it impossible for our small dinghy to negotiate the dangerous waters back to the mainland. So here we were without water or food, and practically with only the clothes we were wearing.

ANXIOUSLY, we searched the sea for a sail. About 7 a.m., a small ship was sighted on the horizon. Our fire was stirred up, a big SOS was trumped into the sand, and a frantic waving of shirts began when the craft seemed at its closest.

Its course was away from our island; but, when it was about three miles to the north of us, those on board happened to see us waving ashore.

They were crowded, in the usual islands' way but they came to investigate our position.

It was possible that no other ship would come that way for days, so we accepted their offer of a return trip to port. They had no food; but a coconut was good drinking. We scrambled in among the passengers of their 15 ft. sail-boat.

The wind was again at gale force, and coming from the north. This meant a head-wind, and we were six hours covering the eight miles. We were wet all that time, and the sun was furious in its assault upon our faces. Lips were sore and swollen.

It was a relief to reach civilisation again. Everyone was sympathetic. Mothers made trousers for the boys, and we were offered valises to wear while our few rags were washed and ironed.

Launches went to the wreck next day and brought back some battered, twisted gear, the mast, and some clothing. They are there now, as I write, trying to salvage the engine. The chance of getting it is remote, unless dead calm weather permits an approach.

The doctors went off on a sailing ship and took more than two days to reach Nukualofa. The rest of us remained for the police inquiry and now, nearly a week later, we are on our way home on another sailing ship.

The ribs of our upturned ship revealed an alarming amount of decay, and to us it was a wonder that they held the craft together at all. Had we gone through another hurricane at sea I feel certain that the keel would have fallen off. Who knows—some worse tragedy may have been averted.

NEW MEDICAL VESSEL



This is a photograph of the Hekaha, a new medical patrol vessel—really a floating dispensary—which was placed in service in Eastern Papua at the end of 1943. Already she is doing useful work. She is a converted trawler. Another trawler is being converted into a similar medical patrol vessel, for use in New Guinea.

Head Dog in Monapi

Beagle, a four-year-old pup recently left Brisbane by the Malaita for Monapi, New Guinea. There, he will keep wild dogs away in place of a terrier which was taken by a crocodile. According to his master, the Rev. Norman Crutwell, Anglican missionary, Beagle will have his work cut out, for in Monapi, there are more wild, half-starved dogs than there are natives. Mr. Crutwell said that the wild dogs will come and take food off your plate, and your hens did not stand a chance if you did not have a good watch dog. Until six months ago, he had a three-year-old terrier Bambi, who was undisputed canine king of the Monapi district, but a crocodile ended his career as he was swimming across the Monapi Creek. Mr. Crutwell has been a missionary in Monapi for three years, and returned there for a second term after six months furlough in Australia.

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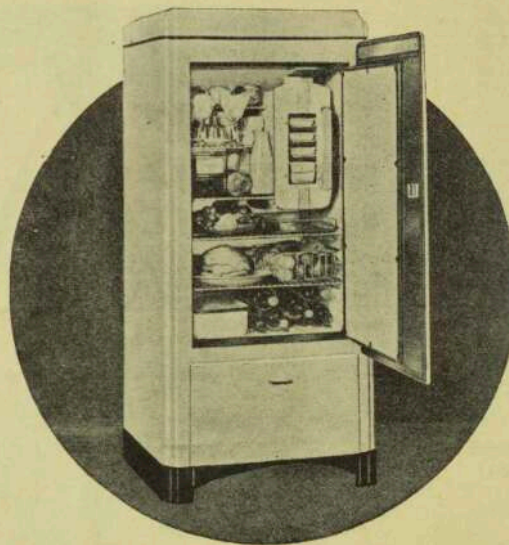
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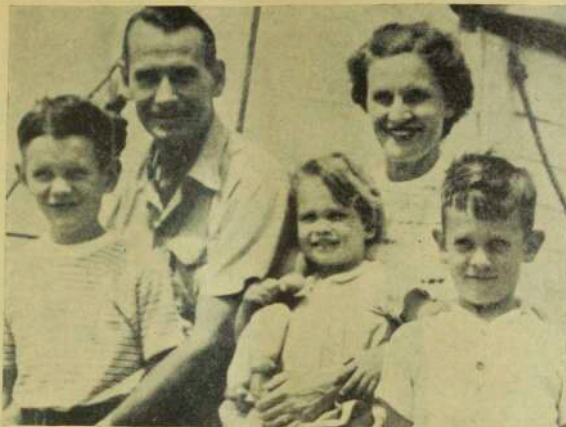
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The steamer, Union Star, which is completely staffed by 47 Chinese, arrived in Sydney in December with 3,000 tons of Army disposals gear which had been picked up in Pischhafen, New Guinea, and Milne Bay, Papua.

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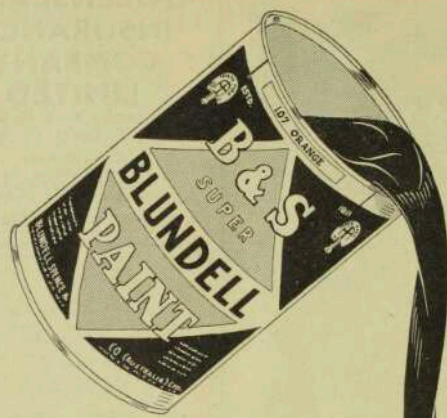
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COOK ISLANDS NATIVES

New Plans for Co-operative Association

RAROTONGA, Dec. 3.

IT is claimed that 9,000 natives, out of a total of 15,000 in the group, are now members of the Cook Islands Progress Association. The organisation has been somewhat re-formed, and is now better known as the Cook Islands Producers' Co-operative Association.

The members are small shareholders, and the Association is trying to improve the economic conditions of the people generally. It has struggled on for years, in spite of derision, scandal and open opposition.

In June, 1949, the Association acquired a 112 ft. Fairmile, the La Reta, which has earned good revenue in carrying freight and passengers between the islands. Those profits have been invested in trade goods, and an increasing amount of trading is being done, for the benefit of members.

Two Europeans are prominent. Captain D. S. Macleod runs the La Reta; and Mr. M. Franklin, a qualified accountant, manages the headquarters in Rarotonga.

The first general meeting of delegates from all the islands was held in Rarotonga in September, and it was announced that the Association had committed itself to the following plans:—

- A scheme for the propagation and re-planting of bananas is to be put into force immediately. Since the cessation of banana exports in 1944, the supply of young shoots has deteriorated alarmingly, there having been no incentive to continue or extend planting. Now the CIPA has ordered that each producer shall plant out 200 banana shoots.
 - The increase in the numbers of native rats, particularly in Penrhyn Island, has become a menace to the copra, peanut and kumera crops. There is now to be a week devoted to rat extermination, at regular intervals throughout the year.
 - A scheme is in force to propagate coconuts and pandanus palms, to improve native housing. With the dying out of the pandanus palms, natives have made their houses of plaited coconut fronds. This damages the palms and restricts bearing capacity and the material, as used in house-construction, is very short-lived, requiring replacement every 2 years.
 - In order to encourage care and pride in crop cultivation and native arts, an Agricultural Fair is to be held in 1950. Prizes and trophies will be awarded in each island for the best exhibits in divisions of agriculture, mat-making, weaving, carving, etc.
 - It is hoped that as soon as finances will permit, the CIPA will select young students to send to NZ for training in specialised subjects.
 - A selected group of CIPA members will collect and review traditional native customs, to encourage and modify those considered beneficial to the present mode of life and to forbid those harmful or dangerous.
 - A market is to be established in Rarotonga to handle goods for exchange with outer islands and to deal with the processing for export of surplus crops. This should open up a small canning industry in the Cook Islands.
- It is hoped thus to prepare for greater production, and that in 1951 a larger ship with full refrigeration will be calling regularly at Rarotonga.

MR. BORRON AND THE NEW ZEALANDERS

Letter to the Editor

IN the November issue of the PIM Mr. J. S. K. B. Borron, of Mago, Fiji, makes some criticisms of the New Zealand service personnel in Fiji.

Mr. Borron's inference is that the New Zealand servicemen who served in Fiji and the Solomons were undisciplined and inefficient.

New Zealand is, fortunately, no longer a "Socialist paradise" and New Zealand servicemen were noted, wherever they served or called during the war, for their quiet dignity and soldierly bearing—to mention a few places, England, Canada, Greece, Perth, Durban and even Fiji where the majority of people, including the Fijians, will undoubtedly disagree with Mr. Borron's opinion. There were some exceptions, of course, but they will obviously be found in any army.

I am not sure of the nature of Mr. Borron's contribution to the war effort, other than the use of his property in Suva as a Headquarters; but I do hope that he did not receive any assistance from the Catalinas of the RNZAF after the hurricane in the Lau Group in December, 1948; and if at any time in the future Mr. Borron becomes seriously ill and it is necessary for his quick removal to hospital in Suva, I trust that he will think twice before accepting transportation in a Catalina which will be flown by some of those undisciplined, etc., personnel.

And, when the next war comes, I dare say Mr. Borron will be found sitting in the tallest coconut on Mago with his field glasses, searching the southern horizon for the convoy from New Zealand which

cannot now arrive too soon for him.

I am, etc.,

O. A. D. JOHNSON.

Wellington, NZ.

(A letter from Mr. Borron on this subject appears on another page.)

Mrs. J. Backhouse, who has been visiting her parents in Brisbane, recently returned to Rabaul by plane.

Messrs R. L. Munro, D. J. Warren and A. D. Leys, practising as Barristers and Solicitors at Suva and Lautoka, announced recently that they have admitted to partnership Mr. R. G. Q. Kermode, Barrister and Solicitor, who has been associated with them as the managing clerk of their Lautoka Office. The practice will be continued under the name of "Ellis, Munro, Warren and Leys" as hitherto.

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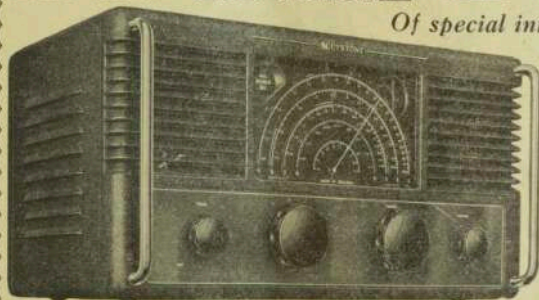
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MAGAZINE SECTION

Territories Talk-Talk

By "Tololo"

MOHAMMED YAMIN, created a bit of a furore at the end of last month by some tall talk about the newly-created US of Indonesia absorbing not only Dutch New Guinea, but the Australian portion as well. We are inclined, naturally, to place western interpretations upon eastern verbosity, which invariably doesn't add up.

These dusky political leaders remind me of the old British Official who, in by-gone days, in an endeavour to impress upon a native chief the expanse of the British Empire and the comparative insignificance of the chief's small isle in the Pacific, unrolled a map of the world and pointed a speck in the Pacific, then showed him the red-coloured countries of the world. "There you are, you see," said the Official, somewhat pompously. The chief was unimpressed, cynically inquiring: "But who made the map?"

It is a great pity that the political change-over in these dark countries cannot be effected in slow-motion, and with every degree of amity between the old and the new governing bodies. These Javanese centry have no experience in handling delicate national affairs that have global repercussions.

FEATURED in a recent Press message from London was an annual report of the Colonial Office, touching on the Gilbert and Ellice Islands: "With no public debt, no housing shortage, no crime, no unemployment, no trade unions and an income tax of 1/3 in the £." What a paradise it sounds compared with civilised centres. But how does it agree, I wonder, with the recent proclamation issued by the Resident Commissioner there, in which landowners of the G. & E. are taxed 550 tons of copra (PIM, Jan., p. 34)?

An interesting statement, taken from the same report is to the effect that although the Japs occupied the islands during the war, there is no known case of mixed Jap and Micronesian blood.

It would be interesting to know how many cases of mixed Jap and Melanesian blood are to be found in New Guinea following the war years. I would not put the figure high.

SO there is to be a CMP unit in P-NG, according to a statement by Army Minister Francis. A somewhat different approach to the time when the NGVR was silently and secretly formed by Johnny Walstab when hostilities broke out in 1939. Anything suggesting an armed force in the Mandated Territory was very hush-hush. It is different in these days when, under the Trusteeship arrangement, a suggested armed force makes headline news. The Army Minister calls it an "infantry battalion," yet the name suggests it to be a rifle unit. There used to be a difference when I was soldiering-on. Incidentally, Press reports refer to the prospective unit as Papua-New Guinea Voluntary Rifles. Why not "Volunteer Rifles" to perpetuate the famous NGVR?

The fact that it is to be restricted to white residents has already started adverse criticism and plugging for brown brother to be included in its ranks. If it is thought necessary to train the native in the barbarities of modern warfare, as

an adjunct to our western civilisation, let a separate and distinct unit be formed. Nothing can beat the NG native in guerilla fighting but combined peace-time training of European and native is not a system to be encouraged, as all old Territorians well know.

ANOTHER martial step is mooted from Navy Minister Francis when he announced 50 natives would be recruited for the RAN and trained at HMAS Seeadler. (Pity they did not use the native name for the harbour, instead of that very Teutonic handle.) Navy training is nothing new for natives from the old German area of NG, for many of them served in "Siestern" and "Komet" during the German regime, mostly as stewards and galley hands.

IT all makes rather a grim picture, nevertheless, and tends to bring to the fore the strategic significance of our northern bastions, "our first line of defence": of war just around the corner—somewhere, and making the naturally peace-loving inhabitants of these "Pacific" isles so martial-minded. And the irony of it all is that natives are liable to be placed in durance vile for a spot of tribal fighting! Why can't we be consistent?

I THOROUGHLY enjoyed "That Cook Boy" story (PIM, Jan., p. 51), though it is difficult to imagine such a resourceful person as Mrs. Keenan being put out of her stride in such a situation. Cook-boy yarns are legion in the Territory, naturally. I always like the one about Steve Whiteman's boy who made a slight faux-pas back in War I days when Steve was showering his usual hospitality on officers of the garrison in Rabaul.

By way of a change Steve staged an al fresco lunch in the Rabaul Botanic Gardens with the usual lashings of liquid refreshments. The party developed a desire to gamble when the dessert was half consumed, so Steve called out to his boy to "ketchem bokus dice he come. He stop long house belong me." His enunciation may have been a trifle foggy owing to the activities of the drink-boy. At any rate the party waited and waited impatiently for the arrival of the dice-box from the Whiteman domicile on Casuarina Avenue. Another youth was despatched to "make him hurry up, too much." And still another, and yet no appearance of the messenger. Eventually there came into sight, struggling across the green sward of the Gardens, half-a-dozen boys carrying Steve's large ice-box, carefully strapped to carrying poles. Steve took no notice as the huge ice-box was deposited near his seat in the summer-house, but calling his boy over to him, quietly remarked: "Me no likem bokus ice, me likem bokus dice, savvy?" The lad nodded. "Me savvy now, Masta," and half an hour later the dice-box arrived. The vagaries of Pidgin!

ALL the argument about the late Sir Hubert Murray being an anthropologist or not (PIM, Jan., p. 38) wouldn't worry Sir Hubert were he still here. Actually he knew more about practical anthropology than many people who have steeped themselves in the theories of the science. And this fact was generally acknowledged, sufficiently so at any rate for Sir Hubert to have been President (on more than one occasion) of the Anthropological Section at meetings of the Aus-

tralian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science, and his presidential addresses were always packed with good practical observations, as only one in his position was capable of doing.

Another Sir Hubert is what we want in the Territories at the moment.

AND talking of Murrays: It was rather a relief to read what JK said in his Christmas message (PIM, Jan., p. 18): "... for not only development of the native people, but also ... economical development of the Territory ... It's good to hear that the economic development is receiving some thought after these years of uneconomical administration.

BITS AND PIECES: Off to England last month by Orcades was Mrs. Gladys Clark, a well-known pre-war

CALVARY GROUP IN PAPUA



THERE is an unusual story connected with this Crucifix, which is now erected on a remote corner of Sudest Island in Eastern Papua.

It is reported that this Cross, together with the figures which make up a Hill of Calvary group, was originally erected at the Catholic Mission Station, on Milne Bay, Eastern Papua. When war came that way, the figures were hidden in a hole in the ground. Immediately after the war, a European member of ANGAS staff retrieved the figures and took them to Sudest, where they were re-erected in the manner shown.

It is stated that the Crucifix now stands over the grave of a missionary—priest—name unknown—who died on Sudest.

Cat, Crab or Cabbage—What's in a Name?

THE question is—how far can one believe the printed word; Residents within the Pacific area sometimes go so far as not to believe it at all. And in this connection there is the case of Lucille Beckhart, who writes for the American magazine Coronet, and that of Mr. Leopold G. Blackman, who has written to the PIM. If we are to believe Lucille, are we also to believe Mr. Blackman? And vice versa?

We leave it to you. Here is what Lucille says (in Coronet):—

DOWN in the South Pacific near Tahiti is an island paradise you may have for the asking. Soft waves lap against its coral shores and tall palm trees bow a graceful welcome in the tropical breeze. There is fresh water in deep springs and lush fruit hangs from leafy tropical trees.

But before you hasten to apply for ownership of Cat Island, heed this warning: a military invasion would be required to drive out its inhabitants. For Cat Island belongs to cats—hundreds of mean, lean, ferocious felines that have so far proved more than a match for any human foe.

This strange Pacific kingdom dates back a hundred years to a day when rats, escaping a ship wrecked on the reefs, swam to the island. At first, natives ignored the uninvited guests, so the rats multiplied rapidly.

Soon they literally challenged the human population to battle; and although the natives tried various extermination methods, the rats won. Forlornly the vanquished residents packed up and left.

French colonial officials in Tahiti sent several expeditions to clean out the rat nests honeycombing the island, but neither poison nor traps nor smoke were effective. In desperation, the authorities finally offered the island—as a gift—to anyone who could defeat the rodent enemy.

An enterprising Frenchman visiting in Tahiti made a study of the problem and came up with a practical solution—cats. Promptly he rounded up 500 alley felines, loaded them on a ship and set off for the little island. He turned the animals loose on the beach, then calmly sailed back to Tahiti and sat down to await developments.

Talk-Talk

(Continued from previous Page)

hostess in Rabaul. Son John Leeuwink, after a period in post-war Rabaul, has settled down in Sydney with his English bride. Roy Kendall, of Induna Star fame (especially during the eruption in 1937) but now a full-fledged politician in Queensland, paid a visit to Rabaul recently. Bill Upton, of the pre-war Medical Services in TNG, who has now a small farm near Ingleburn (NSW) has been receiving hospital attention during the past few months. Arthur Reneke, steward on Bulolo, won the first prize in the NSW lottery around about New Year time. He now plans to open a restaurant at Cronulla. Betty White, of Honiara, BSI, was wedded to Ronald Baker, of Auckland, on January 27. The Bishop of Melanesia made a special flight to Honiara in order to tie the knot. Biddy Gleeson, of North Bondi, was married to Sam Fernan, of Brisbane, on January 24. They will make their home at Lae.

50

SOME weeks later, when the Frenchman returned to inspect his promised island, the cats were sleek and fat and happy; the rats, those that still remained, were in hiding. The pleased officials in Tahiti kept their promise and deeded the island to its deliverer.

Now sole owner of a South Sea paradise, the Frenchman started a copra plantation and poultry farm. For a while all went well: the cats worked hard, and business prospered. But while the rats disappeared, the cat population kept growing. Soon, the hungry felines began to attack poultry.

The distraught Frenchman tried all the tricks that had been formerly used to rout the rats, but nothing worked against the new usurpers. In desperation, the disillusioned owner packed his bags and said good-bye to Cat Island.

The kingdom of cats now started to thrive in earnest. Soon the feline population became fierce and wild, living in burrows and eating crabs and fish. Even giant sea turtles coming ashore fell prey to the vicious creatures.

To-day, the South Pacific natives fear Cat Island, for any human trespasser would be ripped to bits by claws and teeth. Occasionally, sight-seers row their boats close to Cat Island. But they turn and bend their oars quickly when they see the mass of snarling, spitting cats crouching at the water's edge, ready and able to defend their savage domain.



MR. BLACKMAN now brings up his heavy artillery and gets down to business, thus:—

THE accompanying article which appeared in the American magazine Coronet, in July, occasioned no little stir in Papeete. Immediately, Captain Charles E. Williams, of the 147 ton schooner yacht, Seaward, then rendezvousing in Tahiti waters on a pleasure trip, inviting Messrs. Alexander Taran, Oscar G. Nordman, and William Pennington to accompany him, set sail to investigate the story regarding Cat Island.

Arriving there in the early morning the voyagers proceeded by long boat to reconnoitre. When they entered the lagoon through the pass, their ears were assailed by an unaccountable, loud clicking sound as of the clashing of machinery. As they rowed forward cautiously, the whole surface of the island appeared to be in movement, as though covered by gray masses of rapidly moving soldiers brandishing menacing weapons above their heads. Closer inspection revealed the island to be in possession of an army of land crabs, of an unbelievable size and ferocity, who were preparing to attack the invaders of their island.

The waving weapons they bore aloft were now seen to be enormous claws, the snapping of whose vice-like jaws had oc-

casioned the uproar already mentioned and which still continued to deafen the ears of the visitors.

After struggling ashore through hordes of infuriated crustaceans, from whom all of the visitors received severe flesh wounds, a deplorable scene of desolation was witnessed. Through the ravages of the crabs all other animals on the island had been devoured, leaving the shore literally carpeted with cat bones.

Only too glad to leave such an inhospitable shore, the members of the expedition returned to Papeete.

THERE the matter was taken up by a meeting of the legislature, convened for the purpose. An impassioned appeal for help to exterminate the crabs of Cat Island was delivered by Mr. Nordman, who declared that the unfortunate island was experiencing the same misfortune that had befallen Paris during the memorable siege of 1870, when its inhabitants had been put to the extremity of eating rats in consequence of the latter having been able to breed unmolested by reason of the fact that the citizens of Paris had eaten all the cats the previous year.

After a long session, the legislature decided not to dispatch a military expedition to exterminate the land crabs as yet, but to try the expedient of sending there several shiploads of hogs from Eipoa. This latter island, having in former years been populated solely by donkeys and hogs, and the latter animals having turned carnivorous, the donkeys had disappeared. It was therefore predicted that the hogs would mop up the land-crabs of Cat Island.

The question was then debated as to what should be done with the island when hogs were in possession. After a heated debate it was decided that the island should then be renamed Hog Island. It was also decided that when the hogs had successfully established themselves there, Chinese pickling cabbage, known to be poisonous to hogs, should be planted on the island and the latter placed on Admiralty charts under the more romantic designation, Cabbage Island.

Sa Karobo mai

The sun incarnadine in the west
Throws stark against his fiery orb
The palm fronds weaving to and fro
In serried grandeur, row on row
Along the purpling shores.

Now cooling zephyrs breathe upon the land
As rose-tipped night-wrack steal across
the sky
Trailing their shadows o'er the slumbrous seas
Where, like tired travellers in the evening breeze,
White sails pause, and go by.

The hills in purple silence stand
Aloof and hear the breezes sigh—
Kissing the pools that lie along the shore
Clear in the white moon's slow unfolding flower
Like starry fragments fallen from the sky.
In sullen splendour wanes the long warm day.
And Viti dons the sable shawl of night,
As, soothed by songs of silent stealing streams,
Her troubled thoughts all now displaced
by dreams,
She sleeps—secure from all affliction.

—CPG

—“So Karobo Mai” is Fijian for “It is getting dark.”

FEBRUARY, 1950—PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY

Bird's-eye View of New Guinea's Atolls

By F. P. A.

WHEN the Administrator of Papua-New Guinea (Colonel J. K. Murray) visited Bougainville at the end of last year he, with his party, intended to take in the Mortlock and Tasman Groups—outlying atolls that are included in the Bougainville district for Administrative purposes. Colonel Murray and his party tried to make these interesting Polynesian outposts of Melanesia, but nature thwarted them.

FPA, who went along, tells the story, and reflects on some of the more recent history of the atolls.

THE lonely Mortlocks lie about 140 miles east of Bougainville, with the even more lonely Tasmans another 100 miles further east—and nothing in between. In the old days, sailing and auxiliary schooners often set out to seek them, were buffeted by contrary winds and strong seas, were unable to find them and returned to base to report that the group had probably sunk!

These are true atolls and are inhabited by people of Polynesian strain. There is the usual formation that is found in all atolls—a lagoon enclosed by a ring of reefs, and small sandy islands connected by reefs, and with occasional deep channels allowing entrance to the lagoon. The islands are all very low, entirely of sand and coral, and planted with coconut palms. The population of the Tasmans—pre-war—was between 300 and 400, and that of the Mortlocks about 250. In former years, island trading vessels made calls with goods and collected copra but, since the war that has not occurred.

The party which went from Sohano, on the Catalina, comprised Colonel Murray, Dr. Gunther, the Director of Public Health, Dr. May, Assistant Director, Mr. R. Cole, A District Officer of Bougainville, Dr. K. Pike, Medical Officer of Bougainville, and Mr. Gordon Wilson of the Agricultural Department. Colonel Murray gave me an invitation to join the party as I had known the Tasman and Mortlock natives of pre-war days.

The Catalina took off from Sohano soon after 8 a.m. and headed for the Tasmans though the weather did not look very promising. It was a bumov trio, in parts, and we went through some very heavy rain squalls. Some of the party decided to "take it easy" and reclined as best they could.

Suddenly we arrived right over the Tasmans—good navigation, that—and, coming down fairly low, circled the group.

Among those present in the plane was a Tasman native, who had been picked up nearly two years previously at the Group, given a course in medical matters, and was to be returned to minister unto his fellow islanders. He craned his neck as he looked down on his well-beloved "home town", though no natives were to

be seen, only some native-built huts among the palms. Probably they were frightened at the plane's appearance and suspected evil, as they cannot have seen many planes, not even during the war.

THERE they were below us—those lonely isles where a number of Europeans I had known had had their lonely being, and some had died lonely deaths from blackwater fever.

While we circled I recollected the story of how the fabulous "Queen Emma" decided to plant up the island which, until then, had been only a trading station. She sent out a ship from Rabaul with a German overseer aboard, some 75 native labourers, and necessary supplies. They duly landed but, unknown, one or two of the labourers had dysentery. Some months later one of "Queen Emma's" ships called at the Tasmans and found the German overseer weak and at death's door, only 25 of the native labourers alive and a large portion of the island population dead—all from effects of dysentery.

As we wheeled and circled, I thought too, of the row of graves down there that I had seen—of Connelly, away back in 1923, who was three months' dead, and still in his bed, when the ship called.

Also of poor Alf Jones, who went out there to save money to take him back to England to see his people. He developed fever, which turned to blackwater, and, as he daily felt himself getting weaker, he prayed that he might last until a ship arrived to succour him. But the ship arrived three weeks after his death. Kobramor, his personal servant, told me all about it and how they used to pray together.

When Johns died he made a coffin for him, dressed the body in white clothes,



Spider-patterns of coconut trees in native village, Tasman Islands. House shows Melanesian influence.

put socks and shoes on the feet, and put £10 in silver in the coffin, so that he could pay his way in the next world. Then he buried him between two other graves, so that he would not feel lonely, and at the graveside he offered up a simple prayer: "God, you please look out good along Master belong me. Amen." And that was that.

Somewhere down there was Kobramor and his mate, Mogatiro, and the kids. I wondered how they fared.

Just at that stage of my reflections the pilot announced that it was too rough to land in the lagoon, and Dr. Gunther told the Tasman medical orderly the sad news. This native had been away from home for two years and had been keenly looking forward to getting back. His face showed his bitter disappointment, and he turned away, putting his head on his arms whilst his shoulders shook.

NOW we headed back to the Mortlocks with bad weather accompanying us. We circled the group and I noted the well-remembered entrance to the lagoon. Natives were visible on the beaches and an orderly row of houses showed on the main island.

It was 10 years since I had been in the lagoon, but I had been over it in war-time, with planes of the NZ air

(Continued on Page 55)



Tasman Islanders have Polynesian physical characteristics.

They are digging up strange artifacts in N.G. Highlands, now

Culture predating the present Native People is suggested by "Daika"

AN interesting—but by no means unusual—discovery, in Central New Guinea, recently, brought to light more of the stone objects whose origin is unknown, and which lead one to believe that long before the white man set foot in this vast and fascinating region, there were here a people whose culture was different and perhaps better developed than that of the present inhabitants.

The artifacts have been found by hundreds, and they were prized as souvenirs by members of the Australian Military Forces stationed in the Highlands during the war. They also have been collected by missionaries and settlers. The fact that these objects are so common has not helped to solve the mystery of their origin. Many of us have formed theories,

but the fact remains that no scientific explanation has yet been published.

Artifacts so far discovered range from round, flat stones, each with a hole in its centre, through stone mortars and pestles, to almost perfectly-fashioned birds. The latter are the rarest of the artifacts yet found.

The most common are the round, flat stones, which are believed to have been used as fighting clubs. They range in size from 2 inches in diameter to 6 inches in diameter. The hole in the centre is generally about half an inch in diameter, and the centre thickness of the stone would be about the same size. They are not limited to any one type—the specimens found so far are of limestone, sandstone and basalt. The hole is bevelled perfectly on both sides; and if the accepted explanation is correct, it would take the handle of the club.

The main argument against these objects having been the heads of clubs is the fact that the stick that would fit such a small hole would hardly be strong enough to withstand swinging, let alone a solid blow. This argument is perhaps answered by the fact that there are trees from which it is possible to select handles which are as capable of withstanding as much hard usage as the stone itself.

Another argument against the stone being a weapon is that it was used as currency. This, probably, is because artifacts of a similar appearance, but many times larger, found elsewhere in the Pacific, were used for this purpose.

Yet another theory is that they were used for personal decoration in much the same manner as the natives now use shells.

As there are no established facts, any or all of these theories could be correct.

One argument in favour of the club theory is that there is still one uncontrolled tribe in the interior, using weapons of a similar nature, to this day. This, as far as I can ascertain, is just conjecture, because the recent use of any of these club weapons does not appear to be on record anywhere.

That these objects formed some part of the daily life of their owners is strongly indicated by the fact that they have been so widely distributed. Natives in most portions of the Wahgi Valley have found these objects—and have benefited accordingly, through the white man's eagerness to acquire them.

In the early days, when missionaries entered a native hamlet, they were faced with this type of artifact mounted on sticks, and fastened to the headman's house. At first, they were not allowed to touch them as the "big-men" considered themselves to be recipients of special favours from the Tambarans (Spirits). Lesser men were forbidden to touch the objects, lest they be punished by the spirits.

As European influence spread, the big-



This is a photograph—side view—of the strange object, shaped like a duck, found recently by natives in the N.G. Highlands, and described in the accompanying article.

men slowly but surely lost their superstition regarding the stones, and began to sell them. It was a long time, however, before the rank and file members of the tribe plucked up courage to handle the objects.

Missionaries inquired about the origin of the artifacts, but, as a general rule, they were unsuccessful. It was found, however, that in some areas the natives used them in supplications to the spirits, to aid their planting efforts, and as good-luck charms in inter-tribal battles.

In all interrogations of natives—from no matter what area—the answer was always the same: "We do not know what these objects are. They are the work of the spirits." This was always accompanied by a shrug of the shoulders, as much to say, "Why meddle in these affairs—no good can possibly come of it." Maybe they are right. But, as yet, no harm has come from it either.

OF the same culture, there have been found other stone objects which, conceivably, could have been used either as stone axes, or as weapons for hand-to-hand fighting. These objects are flat, between an inch and two inches in thickness, and have concave indentations on the two long sides. The hole in the centre is larger than in the circular stones, and it could accommodate the two middle fingers of the hand. On the face of the stone is found two grooves which apparently take the index and little fingers. Thus, the correct grip of this artifact would be: the two middle fingers through the centre hole, the index and little fingers placed along the grooves, the thumb around one side and the concave surface (unsharpened) fitting into the palm of the hand.

In some stones of this type, it is found that there has been another hole formed which would appear to take the index finger. In this stone also, there is a groove at the bottom to accommodate the little finger.

The blade of the stone is half rounded, and has an edge that has been ground down to knife-like sharpness.

However, as there is as little known about this object as about the round stones, its use is a matter of conjecture. But the thought of receiving a blow from a weapon of this description is not pleasant.

That it was used as a tomahawk is doubtful, because the hand using it would have to be exceptionally strong and tough, and the time taken to chop down one small tree would make house-build-



In these three photographs are shown some of the mysterious artifacts described in this article.

Examples of the round, flat stones, with holes in centre, are shown in all the photographs. Examples of the sharp-edged hand-chopper are seen in the front of the top picture, the left of the centre and the left of the lower.

Parts of the mortars are shown at the back of the centre picture, and centre of the lower picture.

ing a bigger problem than we have in Australia at the present day!

Natives of the Mingende area have experimented with this object, and their opinion is that the stone was used as a weapon.

It is thought probable that the artifacts were made by some long-extinct people, and they have no relation at all to the present occupiers of this region. Early missionaries and settlers could find no indication whatever that this kind of work had been carried on by the present race of natives.

The tools used to manufacture these and other artifacts have yet to be discovered. There have been chisel-shaped stone objects found; but when experiments were made, these fractured under light blows. To have shaped these specimens, the tool would have to be tougher than flint.

THE mortars and pestles seem to indicate that the people of the earlier era were not content to live wholly and solely on root vegetables. Mortars so far found do not follow any set pattern. They have been found in fairly large numbers, but are much harder to acquire than the flat, round stones mentioned earlier. Most have decorations of some description, particularly round the base, and the stone they have been fashioned from appears to be much harder than in the other artifacts.

Sizes vary considerably, from some with a height of two inches and a diameter of five inches, to those with a diameter of 2½ inches and a height of five inches.

That they were used for the grinding of some type of grain or similar substance appears the obvious conclusion; unless these pre-historic and extinct people had their apothecaries and alchemists!

If the supposition is correct that the mortars and pestles were used for the grinding of a grain food, then it would appear that the tribes of that age were further advanced in the matter of agriculture than the people of this area today, who have sweet potatoes and root vegetables as their staple diet. Grain-growing would also indicate that the people were not a nomadic type, and that they lived more in groups than do the present population.

Some of the mortars found had been used to such an extent that the bottoms had worn thin, and in some cases, had been worn completely through.

It is considered likely that there are more of these artifacts to be found because there is so much ground that has not been worked by natives for hundreds of years.

ARARE and extremely interesting artifact is a carving (?) of a bird which has been recently discovered. As with the other objects, this one has a controversy attached to it. Some say that it is carved from stone, and others are of the opinion that it was modelled from clay, and baked.

The bird is almost perfectly formed, stands approximately three inches high, has about the same length, and it appears to be very old. It was found by natives who were hunting for possums in a patch of jungle, and it was embedded in the bottom of a small mountain stream. At first, they were disinclined to touch the object.

The natives thought they might have stumbled onto an old burying ground, the decorations from which had been washed away by heavy rain. However, they finally decided to risk the spirits' displeasure, in view of the good price they could obtain from the local missionary.

There was no sign of a burial ground. Other natives later searched the locality, but nothing else was found.

The bird has the appearance of a duck, with its wings folded, and, when made, it was sitting on a pedestal or base of some description. There are signs that the base has recently been broken off, but no amount of searching could bring it to light. Whether this interesting object was used as a grave decoration as the present-day natives seem to think, or

whether it was a house decoration, is unknown.

It is assumed that this artifact belongs to an unknown people and age, along with the shaped stones and the mortars.

AN inquiry here should not be a hard job for trained men. So far as is known, there has never yet been an anthropological survey of this Highlands area. If one were done, some interesting facts would be brought to light, and some of our questions answered.

It has all been done before!

THE above notes on the discovery of forgotten native crafts in the New Guinea Highlands are interesting as they link up with similar discoveries recorded in Papua and New Guinea in the thirties. They add to our knowledge of past ages in a Territory of which we know little and the natives can tell us nothing.

It is usual, however, after discoveries of primitive artifacts, about which present populations have no knowledge, to attribute them to some other race that inhabited the land long, long before. This is natural enough, as the idea appeals to the romantic in us, but rarely is it borne out by scientific investigation. In this connection, there is what is known uni-

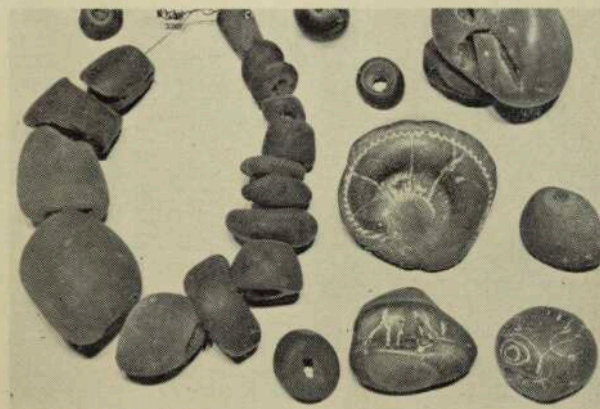
versally as the "mysterious" Haamonga of Tonga—two huge stones set on end with a third across the top and morticed into the others to form an arch 17 feet high and 14 feet wide. This is said to have been erected by some race (mysterious), which preceded the Tongans. The belief is based on the fact that the present Tongans remember nothing about it. Sir Peter Buck (Vikings of the Sunrise) says:—

... The material was cut from a cliff face near the site. The worked blocks were dragged over skids up an inclined earth ramp and lowered into position. The trilithon was named Haamonga-a-

(Continued on Page 69)



At left, pestle and mortars, found on Lakemba River, Papua, in 30's. At right, object found at Edie Creek, N.G., in 1927. (See Page 69.)



The stones found in Strickland River in mid-thirties.

Tropicalities

ONLY six members of Fiji's first contingent of 56 volunteers in the First World War, who sailed from Suva 35 years ago (on January 1) are now living in the Colony. They are Messrs. H. J. Meham and B. J. Marks (Suva); V. Abrahams (Nadi); A. Spears (Lautoka); G. Beddoes (Nausori); and G. Harness (Taveuni). Four others are living overseas—Messrs. R. H. Court and W. Gray at Sydney, and L. Day and McKay in New Zealand.

Of the 56 volunteers, 20 were killed in action and 29 were wounded, most of the casualties occurring in the Second Battle of Ypres. Forty-four men of the first contingent took part in the battle and only four came out of it without injury.—S.

THAT former officer of the Murray administration in Papua, Mr. Sydney H. Chance, FRGS, is still patrolling, although 57 years old, and not perhaps as sprightly as he was when he climbed around the Owen Stanley razorbacks. On January 10, over 4000 ft., he gave one of his most interesting talks—"From Charleville to the Carnarvons." He was a member of a small expedition which penetrated the rugged country some hundreds of miles north-west of Charleville, and found some remarkable things. He pointed out that in that region no less than six rivers have their origin in an area of less than 100 miles by 50 miles, and some of them flow right across Australia, via the Darling and the Murray. They photographed also relics, and identified some interesting orchids.

FROM the NZ Herald: Women members of the Canadian British Empire Games team in Auckland are supplied with grey slacks as part of their informal costume. Recently one of them, the champion broad-jumper, Miss Elaine Silburn, entered an ironing room at the Games village in her slacks, and was amused to discover a massive male member of the Fijian team hard at work pressing his grey skirt.

AMEL, who used to write delightful stories of Fiji and Rotuma, has not been with us much of late. She now writes from Pago Pago, American Samoa, where she and her husband have been for about two years. She says that they are very happy there, and that husband Tom has acquired quite an American accent—although more by way of making himself understood than for any other reason. She likes American tastes in food. "Cookies with ice-cream, cranberry jelly with fowl, pickled peaches with roast meat and marshmallows with sweet-potatoes."

But however adaptable he might be over the language, her husband refuses to co-operate over the food—such unorthodox combinations nauseate him. Being an Australian, observes Amel, he probably prefers boiled mutton, black tea and bread and treacle.

IF any PIM reader has ever heard of a (or the) "coco vore" let him speak up. Any information thereon would be of interest to the PIM, a certain gentleman in Sweden, the Swedish Charge d'Affaires in Wellington, NZ, the Consul for Sweden in Fiji, and the latter's unnamed friend in Apla, Western Samoa.

It has been said that the PIM used the phrase in an article published in recent years. If so, we have no recollection of it—so little in fact, that the Assistant Editor, thinking it referred to some disease in cocoa did a considerable amount of research along these lines before being put on the right track.

A Mr. G. Ekstam, now of Sweden, started the rabbit running. Last October he wrote to Apla asking to be put in touch with people called the coco vore, who are supposed to be formerly sick people driven to the South Seas to live a healthy, simple life. The idea appealed to Mr. Ekstam who is something of a vegetarian.

Coco vore thereupon were pursued back and forth across the Pacific through various Swedish legations, officials and their friends. We now join the chase, although the editorial memory is blank on the subject apart from the fact that we are often approached by various groups of American or European rainbow-chasers who would fain find a Pacific isle there to dwell in health, peace, harmony and a state of nature. We think that a year or so ago a group of Americans hit this rainbow-trail, asked us where they could find an island and live on fruit. Were they the coco vore?

MORE about Tonga's Royal Tortoise:

Mr. Herbert J. Rumsey, of Dundas, NSW, gives us another version of the story of Tonga's tortoise (January PIM). He says that in a book published in England (The Road to Bath) in a passage that describes Sir Joseph Banks' home, there is a story of a tortoise presented to the King of Tonga (about 1777) by Captain Cook; but, the story goes on, this animal was later given by a successor to the King to the then Governor of New South Wales. The author of the book records that someone had written on the back of this tortoise, "I knew Captain Cook."

As the tortoise that still lives in Nukualofa is believed to be a Captain Cook original, Mr. Rumsey asks were there two tortoises left in Tonga and was the Sydney tortoise of a later generation bred in Tonga? He would also like to know to which NSW Governor the tortoise was given, and when.

There is no doubt at all that there is a Sydney tortoise. Mr. Rumsey can remember him (her or it) in an enclosure in Sydney Botanical Gardens about 1875. It is believed that it was later offered to the local zoological society but for some reason the gift was spurned. Three months ago he saw it again in the Sydney Botanical Gardens, where it is in the charge of a Mr. Whitecross—who believes that it is the one Captain Cook once left in Tonga.

Can any reader give us any more information on the subject?

MAKING an unscheduled visit to Perth, Western Australia, in January were Mr. John C. Clunies Ross, 21-year-

PIM Crossquiz — No. 2

(Solution on Page 72)

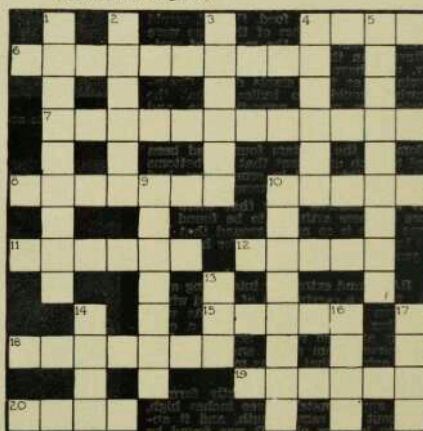
ACROSS

- 4—What is the name of a government and also certain foods?
- 6—What is the term for mercy killing of humans?
- 7—Darius became known as Lord _____?
- 8—What is another name for typhoid fever?
- 10—On which island do immigrants to the USA land?
- 11—What is the art of painting murals on wet and freshly laid plaster?
- 12—Who was Tonio in Pagliacci?
- 13—What character was portrayed by Margaret O'Brien in "The Lost Angel"?
- 14—What is the plural term of the size of usual letterhead paper?
- 15—What name has been given to Tiziano Vecelli, a famous Italian painter?
- 16—In poultry farming, what is the term for a hen rejected as being a non-layer?

DOWN

- 1—What is the business of a farmer?
- 2—Which region in SE Europe has been divided between Greece, Turkey and Bulgaria?
- 3—Which acid, found in oak trees, is used in medicine on account of its astringent properties?
- 4—Who interpreted the "Writing on the Wall" in the Bible?

- 5—Which adjective means boiling up or agitated?
- 6—What are being investigated at White Sands, USA?
- 10—In grammar, what is a figure of syntax by which a word or words are left out and implied?
- 12—What is French for step?
- 14—What is a small two-masted fore-and-aft rigged sailboat?
- 16—When combined with a metallic oxide, what will form a salt?
- 17—What does a person do to dictate?



old "King" of Cocos Island, and 17 companions.

They had been picked up by P & O Co's Strathaird which had gone to the island to drop mail. The two boats in which Clunies Ross and party had gone out to the liner suffered a series of mishaps and there was nothing for it but to pick the men up and take them to Fremantle.

Six of the party were Europeans—besides Clunies Ross, an Administration officer, Mr. A. Robson; Mr. C. Millar of Cable and Wireless Ltd.; Mr. P. Barker of the Admiralty; and Messrs. D. Jones and E. L. Lertners.

The 12 others were Malays.
All have now returned to Cocos.

BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF NG ATOLLS

(Continued from Page 51)

force, when dropping propaganda leaflets in Pidgin-English. Again it was too rough to land on the lagoon.

As we went round the islands, flying low, I thought of the row of graves on the foreshore. I recollected how Jock Goodson had put in seven years in the Mortlocks and how he talked, endlessly, when a ship called there, and how he used to say: "God, but it's nice to speak English again." He had a neat house, built of coral boulders and coral lime, and paths all bordered with coloured crotons. Jock had been a sailor in his day.

And, again, I remembered, with respect and admiration, Mrs. Calder—who, though later several times married, had gone there as a bride "in the earlies" and who later returned to end her life there. She had been dynamiting fish on the edge of the reef when the charge exploded prematurely and inflicted very bad injuries to hand and face. Though gravely hurt, she managed with some help to get to her house. Just then—wonder of wonders—the three-monthly trading ship entered the lagoon and anchored.

A Government Medical Assistant from Kieta was on board and he quickly got to the bedside to render whatever assistance he could. While doing so Mrs. Calder spoke to a native servant, who went away to return soon with a bottle of whisky. Then the dying woman turned to the medical man and his companion saying: "Please have a drink, gentlemen. I am sorry to be giving you so much trouble."

They got her aboard the ship and the Skipper headed direct for Kieta, where there was a hospital, but Mrs. Calder died on the way. So passed a pioneer and a brave spirit.

Seeing that we could not come down at Mortlocks we sped away for the Cartaret Group—another atoll, some 40 miles north-east of Buka. On arrival there we found it was still too rough to come down, but as we flew around we saw plenty of natives on the beaches waving to the plane. The population is about 400, of dark-skinned and very friendly people.

During the war a Flying Fortress was shot down, north-west of Nauru, and the crew of 10 Americans drifted, in two rubber boats, for 16 days, until they got to Cartarets. This was an estimated distance of 650 miles.

On arriving at the group the natives treated them well, found food for them out of their own scanty supply and gave some of their medical treatment. Then, as has previously been recorded in PIM, the native medical orderly, Goni, fixed up a canoe and steered five of the Yanks down past heavily-parisoned Buka, and landed them at Choiseul Island, in the British Solomons. There they contacted an Australian Coast Watcher, who sent

Kik-e-pau

By KATHLEEN
WOODBURN

OLD SOPHIE sat rocking to and fro under her mango tree. Her shrill, intermittent wailing was the only break in the silence that brooded over the house. The trade-wind whispered through the coconut palms and softly stirred the air at the corner of the verandah where the empty chair stood. But the sun shone as usual on the uplands and the wide sweep of country beyond the watercourse and on the long slope of grassland to where it rose in an ever rougher jumble to meet the skyline in Uvetumungkum, Wovis and The Hill Without a Name.

Down below, in the river gorge, the Valley Village was also hushed. The long wash of the waves where they met the river-bar and lapped along the shore alone broke the silence—a restricted silence, hanging more heavily than that of the open lands above, where the sun's rays were not bounded by the cliffs—but through the stillness ran a sense of subdued movement, for the Valley Village was preparing for a feast, a feast unprecedented in its history.

MARSTHER was dead. Marsther, who for nearly half a century had lived as an uncrowned king amongst them, calling them his boys and girls and ruling them with wisdom and discretion. Their disputes had been referred to him and he talked them out of their anger or cannily played a waiting game, advising them to wait till "Govmint" came along—by which time all would be forgotten, or, if really serious, would pass into official hands.

They had loved him, and now he was dead. The news had come by the Talkie Machine up at the house, at which in his absence, Abell officiated as High Priest. Marsther was dead, but repetition failed to bring realisation of the stupendous fact. He used to talk about it jokingly to the boys and to his great amusement

they, waxing eloquent, had promised him their best—the biggest funeral feast the island had ever known. They were children, detribalised children who, deprived of their age-old religion of ancestor worship, had little to live for but their periodic feasts. They seized any excuse to slip a little extra interest and excitement into a purposeless life. Not that they wanted Marsther to die, but if he must, well, they would honour him and enjoy doing so.

BUT now that the news had come, unexpected and sudden, grief was paramount, although the excitement of the coming great feast ran through their sorrow. An added thrill was given by the announcement, through Abell and the Talkie Machine, that Marsther was to return from the sky and stay on his island in spirit to watch over them, and to minds steeped in ancestor-worship, this added touch of the supernatural was quite in accord with their traditions.

What the Talkie Machine had actually told Abell was that on this day a plane would scatter Marsther's ashes over the home he had loved so well, but Abell's translation added local colour to the plain announcement.

So they went about their preparations in silence with one eye on the sky and one on the business in hand. For such a feast special arrangements must be made. The older men had slaughtered one of the wild cattle that browsed on the slopes of Uvetumungkum. Others were preparing wild pigs. Fresh banana leaves lay on the ground as wrappings for native puddings containing crabs, coconut grated with the midrib of the palm leaves, taro, fish, yams, native cabbage, mangoes, paw-paw, bananas . . . everything there was to hand on an island blessed with a good supply. Coconut milk, of course, and salt water to give the flavour. The Valley Village gave full rein to epicurean anticipation, but with attention fixed on the sky, nevertheless.

Ovens were scraped out, the stones replaced and fires lighted above them, and the white smoke drifted softly up through the palms as preparations advanced and the morning drew on.

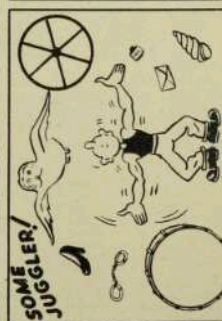
Noon came, and the heat beat down on the gorge, bringing the direct rays of the sun to light up the scene, but the white tropical sky remained empty and there was no sign of Marsther's spirit coming to bless his feast. Canoes appeared, bringing natives from the south, who had heard the news and were coming for the ceremony. Never was there such a preparation. Marsther's spirit should have a welcome that left no doubts as to its sincerity.

THE afternoon shadows lengthened and the sun slowly sank towards the horizon. The hard white sky became a tender green, and rose and apricot clouds, dappled with silver, formed a halo for the central splendour that increased as it neared the rim of the earth and touching it, sent a golden path pulsating across the sea towards the beach. Then, out of the glory, came a great silver bird, a bird with a voice that shook the sky, and swooping over the island, it circled, dipped its wings in salute and sped away, leaving behind a soft trail of white which slowly settled over the green of the island, becoming one with it.

Marsther had come home to his people. "Kik-e-pau," they called and settled happily to the feast.

"Kik-e-pau" (literally "My love to you") is a New Hebridean greeting.

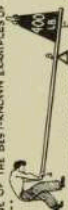
PASTE BABY ONTO SOME THIN CARDBOARD AND WHEN DRY, CUT HER OUT CAREFULLY. WHILST SHE IS DRYING, COLOUR HER CLOTHES TO



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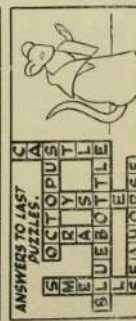
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"Jonfrum" is New Hebridean "Cargo Cult"

Part II of an article translated by H. E. L. Friday, Part I of which appeared in January issue

THIS did not end the movement, however. In December, 1941, Resident Nicol reported an anti-British feeling in Tanna. The natives had had wind of Pearl Harbour and were saying, "Britain he lose, Germany he win." He recommended expulsion of the hostile element, and asked for a permanent police force. During the next year 20 natives were sent to Port Vila as disturbers of the peace. A message from Vila was intercepted and translated by Dr. Armstrong. It was from a Tanna police boy in Vila, Joe Nalpin, addressed to a chief of the West coast and two others. Nalpin was serving a nine months' sentence for some breach of trust, but pretended he was trying to unmask Jonfrum. Mr. Nicol regarded him as more dangerous than Manehivi.

In January, 1942, three so-called "sons" of Jonfrum, named Isaac, Jacob and Latuani were active at Ipikel, Sulphur Bay, a model village with its own football ground. The rumour ran that they had been landed by plane at Siwi, a beach near the volcano. (The natives had noted the passing of the Australian Catalinas based on Vila, out on patrol). There were junketings by night and day and the claim was put forward that they were to govern certain parts of Tanna. They were going to America, it was said, to meet their father, the "king" of America (the Americans were just making their first appearance in the Group).

The natives were told to use up their English money and there was again a run on the stores, one store taking £300 in January from natives who previously bought very little. Meat, sugar, rice, knives were bought.

Again Mr. Nicol intervened, questioning young girls who had been waiting on the "sons" of Jonfrum. They agreed that a young Sulphur Bay native named Slaka was the "son" who called himself Isaac, and he and three others were sent to Vila for a year's detention.

"Vila," went the new rumour, "is full of Americans. They are coming in large numbers to Tanna. These Americans are black, and their dollar is our new money. They are going to rule us, free our prisoners and pay their wages." This rumour accounts for the good response in August, 1942, when the Americans asked the Tanna men to go and work for them in Vila. Mr. Nicol reported that nearly

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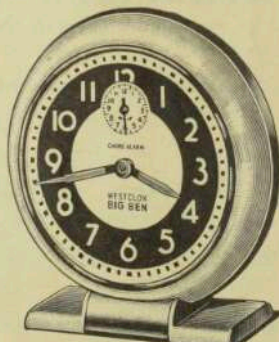
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all the Tanna men were ready to go. They were certain that Jonfrum was on the way from America and Mr. Nicol felt that only time and a stay in Vila could rid them of the idea. Certain of his 1941 prisoners were set at liberty and he agreed to their return to Tanna, with the exception of Mahevehi (alias Jonfrum), Karaua

and Joe Nalpin, whom he regarded as undesirable but who were engaged at Vila as free workers with the US Air Force. The natives were still absenting themselves from the Tanna missions, holding dances and kava parties, especially on the East coast. Before handing over his duties, for three months,

to Mr. A. Rentoul, former Papuan official, Mr. Nicol sent a few away to Vila "to think things over."

FORMER Jonfrumists in custody asked Mr. Rentoul to let them out one Sunday to attend a Presbyterian service, and receiving permission they went along in their Sunday best. On October 6, a hundred West coast native notables asked permission to visit the Residency to "make it up with the Government."

On October 11, Mr. Nicol returned on the Morinda from Sydney, and a few days later he was cabling Vila: "Important. New Jonfrum demonstration in the North of Tanna. The police, sent to make arrests, received by eight natives armed with guns and others with clubs. Send reinforcements."

On the 18th, Vila received another message: "Jonfrum, alias Lolag, in prison. His supporters feverishly occupied building an airfield for the Americans. Please send 20 police boys and a US staff officer to convince them that their work is quite unnecessary. Lolag completely mad."

Later the same day another message: "Lolag supporters number about 250. Natives forced to run away to avoid being pressed into work on the airfield. Five who resisted have been wounded. Natives of the region are hostile and can't be counted on. Have been forced to take action at Whitesands against natives trying to free Lolag."

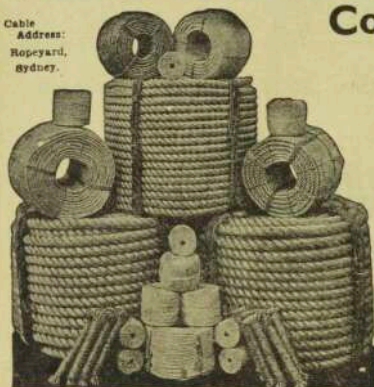
On the 19th, another message: "Position becoming untenable. Nearly the whole island making common cause with Lolag supporters. Send 100 men as soon as possible."

Two days later the Echo reached Tanna from Port Vila with police reinforcements and two US officers.

The next day, Nicol led an expedition

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to Ikolau, in the North, where the natives were levelling their landing field for the arrival of the alleged Jonfrum planes. About 200 men were working there. They and a number of natives hidden in the vicinity were surrounded. Eleven guns were taken from them. Eight of Lolag's supporters were arrested, and 42 told to account for their actions to the authorities the following day. Major Patton, one of the US officers, spoke to the assembled natives in Pidein English, which was also translated into Tanna dialect. He said: "The Americans don't recognise Jonfrum and do not need an airfield on Tanna. Americans, British and French are fighting together against Japan. Fighting is going on to the North of the New Hebrides."

The police then gave a demonstration of Tommy-gun fire which blew to bits a Lolag-Jonfrum announcement nailed to a tree. Alarmed by the fire the natives ran into the bush. Finally the police set fire to the hut specially built for Jonfrum. Next day a so-called court of inquiry was held.

On the 18th Mr. Nicol, after arresting Lolag, had been menaced by natives trying to set him free.

Lolag, the new Jonfrum, was a man in his thirties from the village of Lomaper, Nossim (Tanna). He pretended that he was the "king of America" and that he had been charged by the Americans to construct a landing-field which would enable his father to fly in with all sorts of trade-goods. The airfield, he said, was urgently needed so that everybody was needed to work for him. He had a police force of his own numbering 45 whom he authorised to round-up native labour, and he threatened that his planes would come along and bomb them if they did not set to work at once.

As proof of his mission, Jonfrum II pretended that, although an unlettered heathen—he had never attended mission school—he could read the New Testament and was able to write. This pretence had damaged his reputation among literate natives, for it was noticed that when he paid a visit to a school of his own that he had started, his pretended knowledge consisted only of mumbling the ABC and counting up to 9.

At all events the Tanna natives of Greenhills had had enough of school, Jonfrum or Presbyterian. What attracted them to the movement was the prospect of uninhibited love, kava drinking and the dance.

On October 25, the Echo left for Vila with 46 prisoners. Lolag was sentenced to two years' imprisonment; ten of his disciples to one year; and the rest to three months. Lolag also was found to be mentally unbalanced. Later, he was to escape from custody, spend three years in the Efate bush living on taro and wild pig, and then, on April 29, 1948, give himself up. He was sent to the asylum on Ile Nou, Noumea (New Caledonia), as a bad case of acute mania; and is reported to be there still.

MR. NICOL ended his October 1942 report on the Tanna voodoo outbreak with the words: "There is no question of the Jonfrum movement being only that of one man or of a single small tribe—it is the subject of general belief affecting the whole island."

In 1943, Mrs. Armstrong tried to restart the mission classes at Lenakel, but these were not attended as well as formerly. Scarcely 50 children could be collected in a district numbering 2,500 persons. But beyond-the-pale dances, orgies of kava drinking and communal junketings went on unchecked. The villages lost their clean appearance, becoming untidy and dirty. After Mr. Nicol died in 1944, the French, for the first time, appointed a representative on the island, whose English representatives were now Messrs.

Gordon White, Johnson and Peter Colley.

Monsieur Jocteur, in February, 1945, sentenced two natives named Malouine and Nemarka as Jonfrumist agitators; and his colleague, Mr. Johnson, in September, 1946, notified his chief in Port Vila of a revival of witch doctoring. The Port Vila prisoners were still in touch with their supporters in Tanna, and others exiled to Malekula were causing trouble for the district officers on that island.

On April 11, 1947, the Anglo-French officers on Tanna learnt that natives of Locati and Lalabu villages, in the Waisiai district on the East coast, had raided Mr. Bannister's store at Whitesands, climbing

over the counters and tearing off the price tickets on goods. Mr. Bannister had caught one native named Nakomaha with

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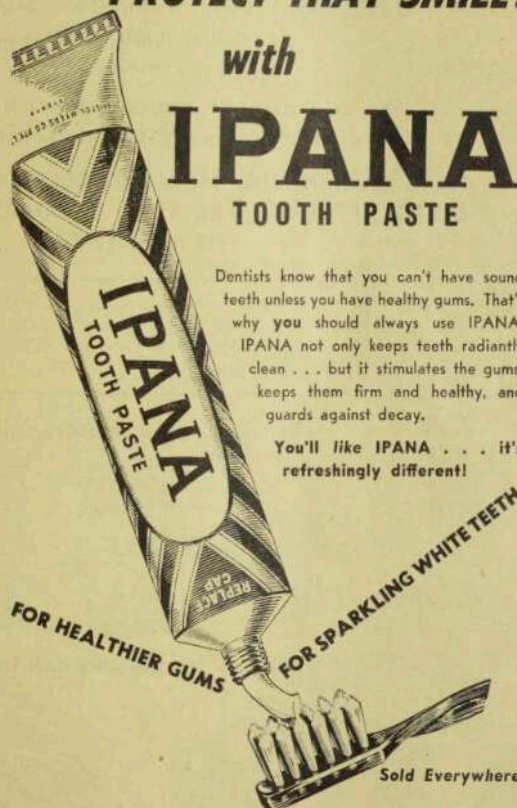
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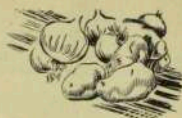
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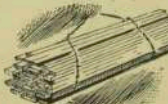


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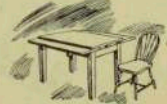


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LEATHER BENDS,
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a fist full of these tickets and had asked him what he was doing with them.

It was an order from Jonfrum, was the reply. "All tickets all the same blood (red), all same sick (blue), all same death (yellow) me take away. Jonfrum say so. Jonfrum like black now white, that's all."

The local officers, English and French, left Lenakel during the night with what police boys they could muster, and were at Latabu next (Saturday) morning at 9 o'clock. Here they arrested 14 natives involved in the raid on the Bannister store. One of the 14 was Jonfrum III, a new pretender, whose name was Tokaeye. He and two companions named Nakomba and Keyasi got five years prison. Their accomplices got two years to be followed by five years' banishment. All 14 had been involved in the disturbances of October, 1943.

This prompt action nipped the movement in the bud, and the British officer, Mr. Colley, thereupon practised a policy of calm and appeasement. He called the chiefs together and pointed out to them the impossible nature of their Jonfrumist aspirations. Before they left he bound them over to be of good behaviour.

But towards the end of 1947 the banished Jonfrumists tried to revive the movement. On September 7 of that year, Mr. Colley found that the Ipekell villagers of Sulphur Bay were renewing their illegal activities. The Tanna exiles at Port Sandwich, Mallicolo, through natives at Port Vila, had sent their Tanna supporters four coconuts with instructions that they were to be planted on the sites of four houses at Nampas, Malles, Nemarka and Namaig demolished on orders of the Europeans. Questioned, the Tanna men involved tried to make Colley believe that the coconuts were a new species sent to improve the local plantations.

They were, in fact, a sort of message to the effect that, "Even if our bodies are at Mallicolo our spirits are with you at Tanna. Go on with the good work." Colley therefore had the coconuts dug up.

THE Catholic priest, Father Patrick O'Reilly, visited Lamap in October, 1948, and learnt a great deal about the exiles, who were in charge of the

French District Agent, M. Jean Guedes. He had given them gardens on mission ground. It was clear that they had been carrying on Jonfrum propaganda on Mallicolo since their arrival. Lists of supporters had been compiled, there had been secret nocturnal meetings with roddo and dance. They had also built a meeting hut of their own three miles away.

To check their activities they were for-



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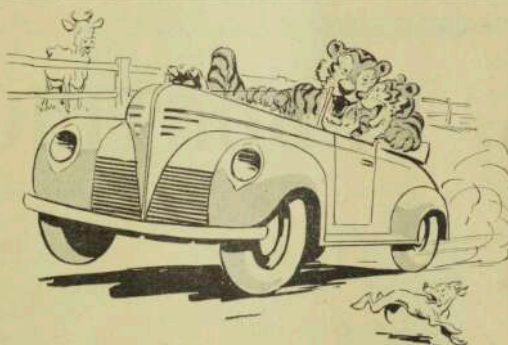
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bidden to wander more than a mile from the mission. It seems too, that the people of a Presbyterian village named Curo on Ambrym, who used to visit Port Sandwich, were being used as proselytes of Jonfrumism. They had put up notices outside the village: "Stop!" "Moula!" and created their own village police; had built a hut where, they said, they would store the goods which the Messageries Maritimes ship Polynesian was to bring them. Their belief that a ship was to bring them un-

told wealth which the white man wanted to rob them of, was the same as the Cargo Cult beliefs of tribes in Bougainville and other of the Solomon Islands—the frustrated Melanesians' conception of a coming era of liberty or licence free from white man's leading-strings; a vision of a future Melanesian terrestrial paradise.

Father O'Reilly, who has collected all the evidence possible, written or verbal, on the Jonfrum events in Tauna, remarks

that to get to the heart of the matter is difficult for a white investigator. With one exception, that of Dr. Armstrong, all those from whom he was able to obtain information, no matter what may have been their clear-sightedness, their knowledge of the natives and of their psychology, were able to communicate with the natives only in Pidgin-English. None knew the native language or had lived among them; none had gained their confidence outside of their official capacity.

What struck this keen inquirer, is that Jonfrum is not a movement influenced by one man, but a communal state of mind, brought about, it seems, by a longing to return to the ways of paganism. The missions have too strictly applied their "Thou shalt nots." The natives have had enough of being deprived of their dances, their kava, their feasts—the new Messiah must restore the Isle and its people to a state of ancestral liberty.

Father O'Reilly notes that it has not been the real heathens, nor the most fervent Presbyterians, who have been the most involved, but those who have come in contact with mission ways without having altogether abandoned heathenism. And as it has been the Europeans who have introduced the "school" and its restrictions, the movement became one of "Tanna for the Tannanese."

They denounced the Convention of 1912, by which the Tanna chiefs accepted the Condominium. The chiefs in 1912 had received a certain sum in gold, in recognition of their loyalty. This money was restored to circulation at the start of the Jonfrum movement, as though the natives wanted to resume freedom of action in the spirit of: "Here is your money back—now release us from our pledge."

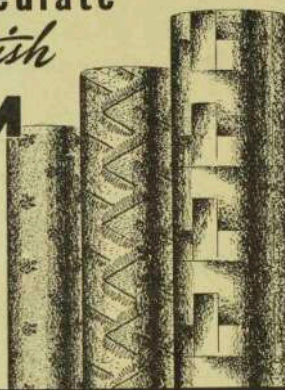
"I am convinced," writes Father O'Reilly, "that outside influence is negligible in this affair. It is a spontaneous native movement. There are, to all in-

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tents and purposes, no Tonkinese, Javanese, or Chinese on Tanna. On board the ships where they sign on as crew, the Tanna men may sometimes meet up with an Australian trade-unionist or communist, but that does not explain the Jonfrum demonstrations.

Jonfrum must be linked, however, with the prophetic and xenophobic movements reported from the Solomons and New Guinea before and since the war; and which has again manifested its force on Malaita in the last few years. It is hard to see how these different manifestations of unrest are connected. They seem to possess the character of a common origin and, without doubt, some connection exists. There is a common basis of native life in the different parts of Melanesia, a common interpretation of the happenings that come within his orbit, things which strike him because they appear extraordinary. In this connection the planes, the war, the Americans. He sometimes mixes his observations with a touch of craziness. From all this comes these fundamentally native demonstrations, containing something mysterious which emerges from time to time in primitive communities. The best reply to them is sane education, united to political and economic development."

Shipwrecks In French Oceania

Grim Record of 75 Years

From Our Own Correspondent

PAPEETE, Dec. 31.

THE following list of wrecks in the South Eastern Pacific has been supplied by Mr. Julien Levy, a retired master-mariner, of Tahiti, to whom grateful acknowledgement is made. It was compiled at the request of the local Bureau of Information. It does not include French ships.

As will be noted, most of these disasters occurred around the Dangerous Archipelago (Paumotu Islands) whose bad reputation among mariners earned for them their unenviable name.

1875.—British three-masted barque *Ada Iredale*, after catching fire of the *Marquesas*, was some weeks later picked up some six miles off Paen, and was towed to Papeete and refitted. After sailing to San Francisco she was some years later purchased by Captain William Matson, and became the four-masted auxiliary schooner, *Annie Johnson*. Being put on the Mahukona-San Francisco sugar run, she was sold to Captain Ozanne and renamed the *Bretagne*, under French registry. Later, becoming waterlogged, she was abandoned at sea, 1923.

1902.—British four-masted barque, *Pyrenees*, caught fire at sea and was beached in the harbour of Rikitea, Mangareva Island. Refloated, she was brought to Papeete, refitted, and sailed for San Francisco, where she was renamed the *Mangareva*, under American registry. She was lost in World War I when on a voyage from America to England.

1902.—Danish three-masted barque, *Vernande*, struck the reef as she entered Papeete Lagoon. Assisted by the French Navy vessels, *Durance* and *Zelee*, she was towed free at high tide and anchored off the British Consulate. That night at 11 o'clock she sank and for many days thereafter presented a desolate sight, her hull only being submerged and her masts rising high above the water.

1903.—British three-masted barque *John Gamble*, laden with sugar, ran on the reef at Arue, Tahiti, while the captain was ashore, and became a total loss.

1904.—Union SS Co.'s steamer, *Mawera*, ran on the reef at the island of Apataki, and became a total loss.

1906.—British four-masted ship, *County of Roxburg*, was thrown on top of the reef during a cyclone and still is a prominent landmark on the island of Takaroa.

1909.—About this year, a three-masted barque, flying the Chilean flag, was picked up some hundred miles from Papeete and towed to port. She proved to be the former vessel, *Eaton Hall*, British built, which had been dismantled in a gale. After being anchored in Papeete harbour for some time, during World War I, she was towed outside the reef and used for target practice. Having drifted back, she piled on the reef on the north side of the entrance to Papeete Harbour.

1916.—The Norwegian steamer, *Ocean Queen*, on its maiden voyage under the house flag of the British Phosphate Commission, ran on the reef at the Phosphate Island of Makatea and became a total loss.

1913.—The American three-masted, bald-headed schooner, *G. W. Watson*, piled on the reef at the entrance to Ururo Harbour, on the island of Ralatea.

1916.—About this year, during World War I, the German raider, *Sea Adler*, commanded by von Luckner, ran on the



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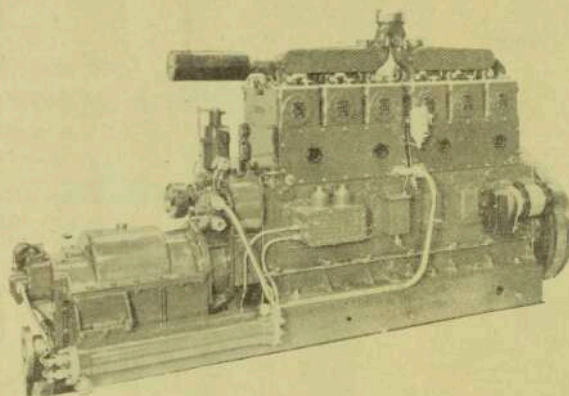
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reef while having her bottom cleaned at the island of Mopella.

1920.—The American four-masted topsail schooner, *Edward R. West*, was wrecked on the island of Fakarava in consequence of the lighthouse-keeper there failing to show his lamp.

1921.—American three-masted barquentine, *Retriever*, waterlogged and abandoned 200 miles off the Marquesas Islands, was picked up by the Union liner, *Talune*, and towed to Papeete, where her lumber cargo was discharged. She was afterwards towed to New Zealand by the Union steamer, *Walkawa*, and finished her career in the Waitemata River, Auckland. It is not generally known that the *Retriever* figured prominently in the novel, "Cappy Hicks."

1927.—The Chilean four-masted topsail schooner, *Anatila* was towed into Talohae Bay by the French gunboat, *Cassiopee*. There, waterlogged on account of her dragging anchors in the heavy surf, she became a total loss. The *Anatila* was formerly the American schooner, *Annie M. Campbell* of Seattle, Washington. Ship and cargo were bought by Oscar G. Nordman, of Papeete. The day the ship ran ashore, an infant daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Nordman, and named after the ship. *Anatila* Nordman is now travelling in France.

1939.—The American schooner-yacht, *Malabar*, was wrecked on the island of Kaukura, Tuamotu Islands, while on her way back to Los Angeles.

1949.—The American schooner-yacht, *Leifer*, was wrecked on the island of Tetiaroa, 30 miles from Tahiti, while returning to Honolulu.

The Rev. Norman G. F. Cooke has been appointed NSW secretary of the Australian Board of Missions.



The Papua-New Guinea Police Band.—Photographed by A. and K. Gibson, in Port Moresby, October, 1949.

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French refugees from Formosa, Mr. Ernest Muller and family, accompanied by a young Hong Kong born Britisher arrived recently in Brisbane by the 7,380-ton British ship Harpathian. The party was on its way to New Caledonia "in search of peace." Mr. Muller is a marine engineer.

Miss Therese O'Brein, of Madang, New Guinea, will visit Queensland in February before making a trip to England for a long holiday.

Mr. Charles McPhee, well-known artist of Western Samoa was a visitor to Pago Pago at the end of 1949. He held a successful exhibition of his paintings.

Mr. J. Price, planter, of Savusavu, Fiji, visited New Zealand in October. It was his first trip away from Fiji for 21 years and he planned to stay six weeks. The noise, the traffic and the general hurly-burly so irritated him, however, that after two weeks he got on the Matua and went back to Fiji.

PACIFIC FOLKLORE AND MYTHOLOGY

FOLKLORE and mythology of the Pacific area are well presented in "The Standard Dictionary of Folklore, Mythology and Legend," published by Funk and Wagnalls Company in 1949. Twelve years of research have gone into the selection of material for this opus, edited by Maria Leach. Thirty folklore authorities have contributed to the publication which is world-inclusive in its scope. Volume I carries the study up to and through the Letter I of the alphabet. Volume II, now in preparation, will complete the Dictionary.

Material on the Pacific has been prepared by Dr. Katharine Luomala of Bernice P. Bishop Museum and the University of Hawaii. In Volume I Dr. Luomala has dealt with Australian Aboriginal and Indonesian Mythology. She will outline Micronesian, Polynesian and Melanesian Mythology in Volume II. In addition to major discussions of mythology and folklore of peoples, there are paragraphs covering numerous specific references.

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NG ARTIFACTS DISCOVERED

(Continued from Page 53)

Maul (Burden of Maui), the two uprights being likened to burdens supported on the ends of a carrying pole. It was built by Tutuatu, eleventh Tui Tonga, as a monument to his two sons. The form and size of the memorial are so unique that imaginative writers have advanced the theory that it was made by some archaic civilisation that preceded the Tongans. Sir Peter, therefore, does not see anything mysterious about it and I, for one, prefer to stake my faith in his profound knowledge of Polynesia rather than in the credulity of tourists.

In May, 1937, an article was published in PIM with two photographs of stone artifacts. It was stated that "... They seem to have little, if any, connection with the present races of primitive aborigines (in Papua and New Guinea), and suggest a connection with an extinct and higher culture." It is odd how it is always assumed that such people must necessarily have been of higher culture. If we are to believe at all in the theory of Pacific migrations, it is obvious that the first wave of people to reach Papua and New Guinea, later to be absorbed and/or pushed inland by following waves, were by no means superior.

The two photographs which were published with the May, 1937, article are reprinted here. One photograph shows quite clearly that the artifacts that came from the Lakekamu River (Papua) and Edie Creek (New Guinea) are similar to those now found in the Highlands. The other stones, from the Strickland River area and found Jack Hides and David Lyall (both now dead) are somewhat different. The small round stones with the holes in them, it was stated, could be used for whistles. These Strickland stones were given to the National Museum in Canberra.

It was stated also, that in a shipyard in Port Moresby at this time there was a curiously shaped piece of rock which could represent the head of an eagle. No one knew where it came from or what it was, although it was believed to have some connection with Papua's primitive past. The natives used it to anchor small boats.

As Melanesia was populated by a succession of waves of people, the most primitive coming first, it is likely that there have been also successive cultures. The people have, however, all been of the same basic stock and there seems nothing in a few stone artifacts to suggest that a superior race of beings once roamed those parts.

In our own European history we have had different phases of culture—much of which would have been forgotten long since if we had not been capable of keeping written records. The natives could not write and relied on memory which is, at best, fickle. Even in the last 30 or 50 years, Europeans who have lived among them have seen old crafts and customs thrown into the discard. The natives "don't savvy" any more; they have forgotten. Most Melanesians act dumb when questioned about past history or any aspect of their culture.

Take the carved, wooden Tambarans—grotesque caricatures of man or woman, a foot or two long, daubed with natives' paints and, in the minds of the old-fashioned missionary, obscene. In 1939 it was impossible to purchase one of these in the coastal villages between Wewak and Aitape where the mission church had taken the place of the House-Tambaran. But inland, between Maprik and the mountains, where mission influence had not penetrated, I bought many of them over a period of a year or so. I do not know the significance of these things; they were brought in with many giggles and coyly wrapped in banana leaves but

that they had no particular spiritual meaning is obvious from the fact that the men were willing to exchange them for salt or trade beads. Perhaps the era of the Tambaran was ebbing even out there, for these were no artifacts whipped up for my edification but old, begrimed with the smoke of many house fires, and genuine enough. Since then there has been a war in those parts—Jap soldiers and Allied and now a new deal for natives. I do not know how the elaborate, towering House-Tambarans, with their brightly painted facades have fared; or if one may still buy the crude little figures, but if their days have not passed at least they are numbered. And, no doubt, 200 years from now, some Pitt Street scientist will unearth one from the ruins of a deserted native village and

say: "Ha! This proves without doubt that way back before the dawn of history another and more highly cultured race lived hereabouts."—JUDY TUDOR.

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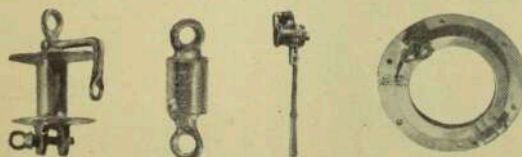
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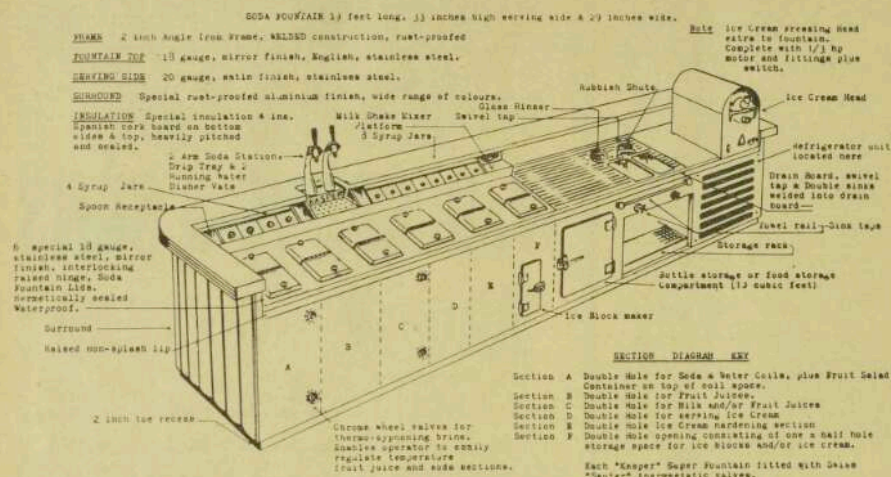


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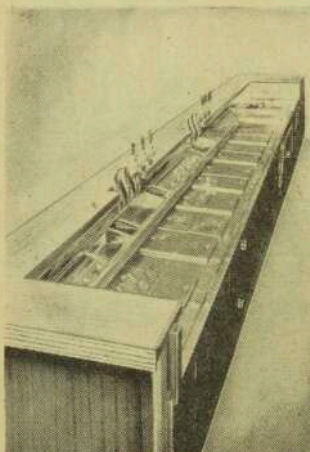
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LAST Saturday, at 10 a.m., my Samoan wife, Sieni, and I attended a Pa'al-poi-poga Samoa; or a wedding in Samoan style. Well-known and popular Doctor Maka Sapolu, of Vailala (Padiava) Village, married a nurse, Laga'an Uele, of Talefa. Both are attached to the Apia Hospital.

The wedding took place in a picturesque and historical spot, some two miles from the Hospital, on the Vailala Road, on the way to the late Tusitala's home. The church was the lovely little coral limestone building of the LMS.

A premarriage ceremony was held in a Pale Ofoiau (meeting house), built of native wood, with earthen and stone floor, over which was a thatched roof of Lau Tolo (leaves of sugar cane). These houses are thoroughly rainproof and have blinds of Pola to be let down round the sides, in wet weather.

The Pa'alpou-poga ceremony begins with the Tamafai-ai-pou (bridegroom) taking his place, with two Tamauosili (groomsmen) in the rear of the Pale and to the left. The wedding cake of lovely design, consisting of seven tiers, was placed in the centre of the house. Behind the bridegroom and groomsmen, a sheet of Siapo (Tapa) was stretched across the bark of the house. This Siapo is the bark of the Ua tree, and is beaten out till it becomes quite thin, and looks, at a glance, like heavy cloth. This, in turn, is dyed in contrasting designs, and the finished article is indeed a lovely piece of work. Frangipani and Hibiscus flowers (Pua and Aute to our Samoans) were in abundance and, together with leaves of

the Pa'i and Niu (banana and coconut) artistically placed, the Pale was made very beautiful and suitable for the happy occasion.

At the rear of the Siapo, the Teinefa'ai-pou (bride) was attended by her Teine-ouosili (bridesmaids); in this case, nurses of the Apia Hospital. The bridegroom's groomsmen were fellow doctors (Drs. Oti-sene and Mr.) also of Apia Hospital.

After the guests were assembled, Samoan fashion, on the many mats of lovely designs—these mats are pre-wedding gifts and take many weeks to complete—the bride and her two pretty bridesmaids took their place, to the left of the groom and his groomsmen.

The bride wore a lovely white satin gown and white veil and the bridesmaids were in pink—these lovely dresses displaced the siapo of bygone days.

The Faifeai (native ordained minister) then appeared and seated himself directly in front of the bride and groom, and facing them, proceeded to fill in the particulars of the marriage certificate.

Then, contrary to European custom, the couple signed the register, and their signatures were duly witnessed by the two groomsmen. During this occasion, should anyone desire to wish the couple health and prosperity, he may do so. Throughout all this, gifts of all kinds were arriving continually, and were accepted by a friend of the bride.

THE bride and groom, together with their attendants, then proceeded to the little church through a guard of honour, formed by the nursing staff of

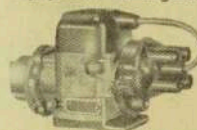
Apia Hospital (Samoans). The couple went to the front of the church, where they were seated on fine mats (fetoga). These mats take up to one year to complete, and are finely woven from the leaves of the Lauie tree. The mats I saw were woven as fine as the average tablecloth, and no fault could be seen when examined closely.

After all guests were seated, the short and lovely little service in Samoan was

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conducted by the minister. Hymns were sung, prayers were said—the "Ote Faia" ("I Will"), the passing and placing of the Mama Fa'apolo (wedding ring) and final prayer, and they departed, man and wife.

They went with their guests to the Fale Ofolau. There were hand-shakes and "Ta Manuia Oulua" ("Health to you two!") and other tokens of goodwill and greetings.

Songs and dances occupied the next

three hours. Typical among these was the Samaan Siva, which is their native dance, just as the hula is that of the Hawaiians. During the Siva, bride and bridegroom were the centre of attraction—they performed this dance excellently.

At 3 p.m. the names of the guests were read out and they were called to the Aiga (feast) and what a feast it was! Food was prepared in the Umu (native oven) and consisted of pig, pigeon, fowl, yams, talo, ulu (breadfruit) and hosts of other

things. The food was laid out on the Malae (lawn in front of the Fale Afolau) and placed on banana leaves. Overhead, trestles of wood had been erected, and coconut leaves were arranged thereon to keep out the sun.

At the conclusion of the feast came the cutting of the cake by the bride, assisted by her husband, and it was nicely dissected and handed out to the assembly. During this ceremony speeches were given and there was a reply by Dr. Toto'a. Throughout the entire festival no word of English was spoken—the whole thing was conducted in Samoan.

When they returned to the Fale Afolau, songs and dances were again the order of the day—and this happy band of Islanders danced and sang into the early hours of the morn, when bride and groom adjourned to their quarters.

—LEAGA TONU SAMOA.

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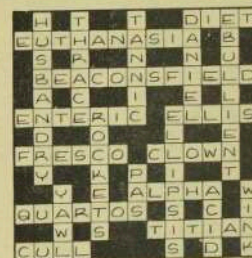
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Solution to Crossquiz, Page 55



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Norfolk Island Notes

BY NORMAN WHEATLEY

HISTORICAL: An interesting sidelight on the recent Pedel-Buttett wedding (November 23, 1949) is the fact that the bridegroom is a descendant of the Reverend George Hunn Nobbs, who went to Pitcairn in the year 1828. The Rev. Nobbs was ordained at Fulham, England, on November 30, 1832, moved to Norfolk Island with the Pitcairners in 1836 and remained here until his death. The bride is a descendant of John Buffett, who visited Pitcairn Island in the whaling vessel, *Cyprus*, in 1823. The Pitcairners prevailed on him to remain and act as school teacher, which he did and eventually married Miss Dolly Young. They, too, came to Norfolk to settle in 1856.

FRENZIED FINANCE: The *Mulama* was scheduled to make a trip, arriving just before Christmas. If hopes were extinguished when it was learned that the owners required a substantial sum, over and above normal freight charges, for the 140 tons the vessel would be carrying. Roughly, this meant that the freight worked out at £15 per ton. The stores rightly jibbed at this proposal, for this would put the retail price of goods up even higher than their present astronomical level. The vessel also required an additional payment of £175 for each day's delay. So—we wait for the next normal run.

BIG BUSINESS: The local Lighterage Company has hit the headlines. The last NZ ship (*SS Holmburn*) together with the *Morinda* (Australia) discharged approximately 800 tons of cargo. Lighterage charges are £1 per ton. Several residents and business people claim that the charge is excessive and out of proportion to the work done and equipment supplied.

WHALING: The whales have left the vicinity. During the summer, an occasional sperm whale will be seen, but the Whaling Company will only be interested if whales more or less ask for trouble. The Company have extracted approximately 2,200 gallons of oil during the past season. With luck, it could have quadrupled this figure. A couple sank after being killed, and some got away.

INDUSTRY: The butter factory is running full time, but has been troubled with a couple of minor breakdowns which have been speedily repaired.

SACKED: The "to do" about the Hospital here was brought to a satisfactory conclusion by the intervention of the Administrator who disbanded the Hospital Board. Residents felt that things were coming to a pretty pass when certain Board members attempted to interfere with the doctor, the matron and the economy of the Hospital itself.

ON LEAVE for six months—Mr. Towner and family, formerly of Suva. Mr. Towner is on the Cable staff and will eventually proceed to Fanning Island. Mrs. Towner and the two children will reside in Sydney.

WARFARE: About 150 adults gathered recently at a public meeting to pass a vote of no confidence in the Norfolk Island Hospital Board. Shortly afterwards, a vote of confidence in the Matron was passed. Both motions were unanimous and very enthusiastic. It was also learned how the Board got back into office—be it ever so temporary! It seems that the Board, as individual members, wrote out their resignations (with one exception) and handed them to the Board, as a Board. The Board, as a Board, then refused to accept their own resignations. Mr. Ripley please note.

RUMOUR: Current one—with an element of truth—is that the Department

of Works and Housing are curtailing their projects here. Maybe we won't get the new Hotel after all.

AGRICULTURE: I can't get to the bottom of this, but I hear whispers that a NZ firm is interested in NI's bananas as whole fruit as well as dried. Dried bananas from the Islands have been on sale in NZ for a few years past and the last price I paid was 1/8 for a 1 lb. cellophane-wrapped packet.

The bean seed season here has been entirely successful and good crops were reported. The Fumigation Shed has opened for business. I hear, too, that the

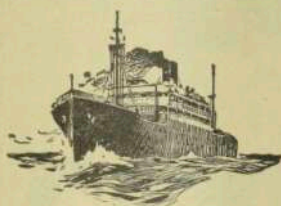
passion-fruit industry is to receive some rejuvenation. Existing vines are nearly played out and fruit collected this season

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will go mostly towards replanting. A great many of the wild fruits are marred by pests.

SIR CHARLES ROSENTHAL, an ex-Administrator of NI, has disposed of his interests and has been reported to be leaving the Island. Sir Charles and Lady Rosenthal will be greatly missed. Sir Charles will always be remembered for his forthright manner and efficiency in his administrative duties.

Strange Sight in NG Skies

ABOUT 7.30 p.m. on November 28 the natives rushed to our dining-room at Angoram, Sepik River, New Guinea, asking us to have a look at an unusual phenomenon in the skies.

In the western sky, about 30 degrees high, lay a huge red "snake" making two turns down towards the horizon. It was quite a spectacle in the otherwise cloudless sky.

Next day I started off on a two weeks patrol from the Sepik to the NW coast and inland. From village to village I was asked whether I had seen the big snake in the sky. Some natives who knew I was about to visit them had even drawn sketches on a piece of paper to show me what they had seen. They told me the same story everywhere. A red flame shot up from the horizon; soon transforming itself into an enormous snake. Eventually it faded away.

It would be interesting to know over how large an area this phenomenon was observed. About 100 miles up the Sepik River and some 30 miles radius from its estuary it was quite a sight.—Astronomos.

Mr. N. G. Cassidy, newly appointed Senior Chemist in the Department of Agriculture, has arrived in Suva.

DEATH OF FATHER ELIE IN TAHITI

From Our Own Correspondent

MANGAIA, Cook Is.
WE have recently learned of the sudden death in Tahiti, of the Rev. Father Elie Marie Cavalier of the Sacred Heart Fathers.

Father Elie, with Father P. van Megan (now at Honolulu) pioneered Catholic mission-endeavour upon this island.

A Frenchman, the late Father Elie was noted for his geniality and had many friends at Mangaia outside of the sphere of his labours. The building of the first Catholic Church was one of the monuments to Fr. Elie's three years' stay, this native-built edifice being now replaced by a permanent concrete church, upon the same site. He was transferred to

France about 1894, and remained in his homeland for a period before taking up a station in the Societies.

He was skilled in many branches of carpentry and mechanics, which enabled him to use native materials to the best advantage in his church. He was also an amateur electrician, and would advise on the wiring of the local picture-show of that period, while sewing-machines in need of repair would likewise be given his attention.

The versatile little French priest was a fluent English linguist; his address of welcome to the guests at his "church-warming" is still recalled by those who had the pleasure of being present at a dinner memorable for excellence and lavish hospitality, and remarkable in that the majority of the guests were Protestants.

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DEATH OF EDMUND STEHLIN

AN old and respected resident of Western Samoa, Mr. Edmund Stehlin, died recently at the Apia Hospital after a long illness. He was 72.

He was the son of a Swiss pioneer who went to Samoa in the 70's. Mr. Edmund Stehlin had, for long years, been a trader at Salafutu, Savali. He leaves a large family of nine children and 34 grandchildren.

Fijian Stenographers Becoming More Numerous

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, Jan. 30.

SIGNS of the times: A Fijian girl and two European girls head the list of passes in the January examinations in shorthand and typewriting conducted by the Government with a shorthand speed of 120 words a minute.

Five Fijians, two Indians and one Polynesian are included in the 14 passes in all sections.

POLYNESIAN CLUB OF SYDNEY

DURING the last few months of 1949 members of the Polynesian Club of Sydney met new arrivals and also greeted some old friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Kurt von Reiche came from Apia—Mr. von Reiche making his first visit to Sydney, and his wife, Ainslie, returning after an absence of 17 years. These two have since returned to Samoa via New Zealand. With them was their aunt Mrs. Olga Page and her husband and Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Smith. Mrs. Smith was formerly Anna Laurensen, a resident of Apia.

Another visitor from Samoa was Mrs. Teresa Theobald, who, with Mrs. Smith, entertained with a programme of graceful Samoan dancing.

From Tahiti came James Te Hotu, another old friend revisiting the Club for the first time since war years when he was a matelot in the French ship Cap des Palmes.

Among Fiji people were Polly Wilder and Fred Hennings, both young people from Suva. A local "salu salu" was presented to Ruth Bunker at a farewell evening and the company sang the nostalgic Fijian Isa Lei.

Other departing friends were Maori member Mrs. Ina Mahomet and her daughter Hinemon, who sailed for New Zealand on a holiday trip to their own home district, Rotorua.

Sir Henry Scott, KC, has been re-appointed Legal Adviser to the Fijian Affairs Board for 1950. He has been Legal Adviser to the Board since its establishment in 1945.

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Notes From Talasea

From Our Own Correspondent.

TALASEA, New Britain, Jan. 4.
MRS. MARIE SKINNER, wife of ADO Ian Skinner of Talasea, is something unique in hostesses in that she expected no visitors at the Station for Christmas and yet was able to provide Christmas dinner for 10 adults and four children without batting an eyelid or losing her usual piquant charm. Although the boat which was expected to arrive with Christmas stores did not arrive, she managed to have gifts for all the visitors and a merry time was had by all.

Mrs. Phil Page, patrol-officer's wife gave a party for the entire station at which all guests received a present from the Christmas tree.

One or two outlying plantations did what they could to help Talasea's gaiety along—vegetables, fruit and eggs from San Remo; oysters, pig, and fish from Numundo.

To the desolation of all, and of his wife in particular, ADO Skinner was requested to make a patrol of Witu over the Christmas period—the area had not been patrolled since 1944. One wonders what ghastly fate would have overtaken Witu had the patrol been delayed into early 1950.

CHRISTMAS sing-sings were held at plantations, villages and mission stations. A huge sing-sing was to have been held at the Government Station, Talasea at New Year and all villages for miles up and down the coast were to participate. Canoes were pulling into the station from every direction and great was the excitement and clamour. However, the rains came to these parts sooner than expected and the sing-sing was not the success planned.

MR. ROD MARSLAND of Nagenda and Mr. Bill Wills of Volupai took off in their boat on a recruiting trip before the New Year celebrations but before they left they gave a party at Nagenda to which the whole district was invited.

Reports from Nagenda and Walindi plantations indicate that coconuts are doing well there, the main problems being lack of labour and a small red parrot which causes minor devastation among the young pods.

GARUA ISLAND, managed by Mr. Cameron is doing exceptionally well with coconuts. The Cameron family have gone south for leave. Meanwhile the plantation is being looked after by Mr. and Mrs. L. Searle of Walindi. Mrs. Searle has only one regret concerning Garua—that is, living on top of a hill she can never know what is going on

down below unless she first walks down and that, of course, means that she has always to walk up again.

THERE are rumours of Cargo-Cult in the Nakamal District although the Catholic Mission says that there is

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"nothing to worry about."

A native by the name of Batari, who was pro-Jap and a considerable annoyance during the war is believed to be involved. He is the local Luluai sanctioned by the Administration, notwithstanding.

THE Phillips-Verkes on Numundo are over-run with rats both great and small. They (the rats) have eaten

sheets, clothes, towels, table cloths, as well as the more usual fodder, and have even gnawed through the mosquito nets to get at the sleeping Phillips-Verkes.

Numundo is a Coconut Products plantation and CP are forwarding bullocks, pigs, goats and horses in the near future. European Medical Assistant Johnson of Talasea will then rush down to Numundo complete with hypodermic and anti-tetanus serum, purely in the interest of

science and to safeguard the lives of the Phillips-Verkes.

TWO FIJIAN CONVICTS OF MISUSING FUNDS

From a Special Correspondent

SUVA, Jan. 17. AN appeal against the decision of the Chief Magistrate (Mr. G. J. Horsfall), who sentenced Ratu Apakuli Nanovo, Roko Tui Kadavu, to 18 months' hard labour on a charge of converting to his own use £30/19/-, the property of the Fijian people of Kadavu, has been lodged by counsel for the defence (Mr. H. Maurice Scott).

The money was part of a fund raised by the people to build a school at Richmond, Kadavu, and the magistrate held that "the matter was treated with a laxity which is not uncommon with Fijians in handling their money affairs." The Roko had previously refunded the money.

Later, Bull Epeli of Naceva, Kadavu, was sentenced to a year's hard labour for the fraudulent conversion of £47/8/6, the property of the people of Kadavu. This money had also been refunded, but the magistrate said he was satisfied that if there had not been an inquiry originating with the people themselves, nothing would have been done about it. Defence counsel (Mr. A. I. N. Deoki) gave notice of appeal against the sentence.

SUVA HOTEL RATES

VISITORS to Suva, Fiji, will probably be interested in the daily rates charged in local hotels since price control was lifted last year. Here they are (in Fijian currency): Grand Pacific Hotel, 30/-; Metropole Hotel, 22/6; MacDonald's Hotel, 22/6; Melbourne Hotel, 20/-; Garrick Hotel, 22/6; Club Hotel, 17/6.

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How Our Films Can Influence Native Communities

BY LEX HALLIDAY

WITH the South Pacific Commission at present investigating the value of visual aids to native education and social development, and in view of its proposed intention (subject to the report of Mr. A. L. Moore) to use motion picture sound-film to further its aims, the effect that Hollywood entertainment films already have had on native audiences is worth special consideration.

About January, 1948, one of the leading film companies began to supply 16 millimetre entertainment programmes to the RNZAF at Lautoka Bay, Fiji. This was the beginning of the rapid expansion of 16 mm. film distribution throughout the Pacific Islands and ultimately it brought films to the eyes of more natives, in more widely scattered corners of the Pacific, than had the war-time American "invasion."

Within a matter of 12 months, small theatres sprang up in the Fiji Group, Tonga, Samoa and Cook Is., adding to those already well established in New Guinea. In some island groups (Tonga and Cook Islands) exhibitors established touring circuits of 14 or more villages each, and these were in addition to the bigger theatres already screening in island capitals and other large towns.

This rapid development was due mainly to the characteristics of 16 mm. film which in contrast to its big brother of 35 mm. width, is non-inflammable, much lighter (about one-fifth the weight) and consequently easily transported about the islands. Equipment for screening 16 mm. film too, is small and portable.

MAJORITY of the films supplied in the initial stages were too sophisticated and over the heads of the average native who was, of course, handicapped by the language difficulty. Various attempts with microphone translations in local dialect involved much work for the exhibitors and, mostly met with little success. But it soon became apparent that there was something greater than the language difficulty influencing a film's popularity in the eyes of natives—namely, the lack of simplicity in production. If the movements and actions of actors and the plot were simple and self-explanatory, the film would be a success. Thus, cowboy and Tarzan films because of their simplicity and preponderance of action sequences, were in constant demand, and in order to ensure sufficient profits to exhibitors and themselves, the film distributors endeavoured to meet this demand by supplying as much of this type of film as possible. The peak of "perfection" was reached with the supply of action serials which each week now keep native audiences agog with excitement and, despite a good or bad feature film (that is, good or bad according to native ideas) on the same programme, keen to return next week to "see what happens." In some cases the natives sit through the serial episode and leave the theatre when a non-action feature appears on the screen—a feature which, if properly handled and explained to them, would possibly be of considerable educational value. However, as we shall see later, this may prove to be a blessing in disguise.

It is a paradox that the greatest educational medium invented by man for reaching the largest number of peoples throughout the world has attained this position of importance and high degree of mechanical efficiency, not through the efforts and research of governments and educationists, but through the initiative and enterprise of private industry. Over the past 25 years astronomical amounts have been spent on equipment research and the actual production of films for

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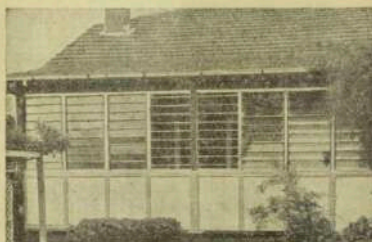
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Illustrated: Typical Suburban Home. Verandah (Sydney) glassed in with Cooper Louvres.

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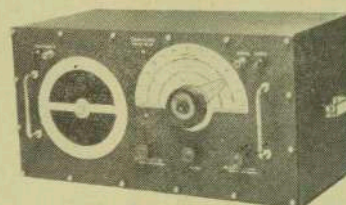
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Mr. S. H. Christian, of the Malaria Survey Party, Goroka, via Lae, has used his set for some twelve months and carried it with him on all patrols. We have received a number of interesting letters from Mr. Christian, in all of which he stressed the excellent trouble-free performance.

Mr. Christian returned on furlough a fortnight ago and called to see us. He mentioned that he had brought his "Tropic Eagle" to entertain him. During conversation, Mr. Christian suggested that we might care to take the set down to ascertain how it was reacting to extreme humidity. We leapt at the opportunity, and Mr. Christian was an interested spectator. Careful examination revealed that the interior of the instrument was as clean and bright as when it left our works. Individual tests of components proved them to be equal to new. Mr. Christian exclaimed: "It would certainly seem that this set will be good for another ten years or more." What a tribute this is to our Infra Red Ray Tropic proofing, our completely sealed cabinet, and moisture absorber.

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entertainment, without taking into consideration the amount of capital invested in theatres throughout the world and money spent enticing the public to attend those theatres. The whole of this huge (now America's third-greatest) industry is financed by the admission price you and I pay at the box-office. Little wonder then that these magical words, box-office, have driven some of the best brains in the world to frantic effort to appease public taste, to give us what we want, and as much as we want of it, and not necessarily that which is good for us. The film industry has, therefore, become of necessity a keenly competitive business, primarily interested in commercial gain and trading on the public's desire and willingness to be entertained.

In the eyes of some, particularly educationists, it seems unfortunate that the type of entertainment offered by the film industry, may, in view of the film's power to reach audiences both literate and illiterate, the world over, have a profound effect on certain sections of them. The medium of film has a dual role—that of providing entertainment and that of affording education. Where these two functions overlap is the point that brings us back to our original discussion—the effect entertainment films may have had on native peoples who have received the minimum or no formal education.

Because box-office success is the principal aim and purpose of most entertainment film production, distribution and exhibition this has led to a maximum exploitation of the comparatively harmless Western and action type of feature with little or no effort given to developing a native appreciation of our better class films. In the writer's opinion this is just as well. The film industry, through purely unrelated motives, has unintentionally spared Pacific Islanders much

confusion and possibly, harm: What the native sees on the screen, he believes; once he understands a sequence in a film, he accepts it as fact. The danger of inadequate or inaccurate translation of the language, as well as of the motive of a film can be readily seen. It is here that the function of education should take over from entertainment and such translation, if desired, be handled by experts with native welfare in view.

It seems, then, that the rapid development of entertainment film distribution throughout the islands has had but small superficial influence on the lives and habits of natives and will no doubt continue that way provided the island censors remain vigilant and ban all scenes of brutality, sex and those which discredit Europeans in the eyes of natives. But from this development we can learn a number of very important points. Firstly, natives from Polynesia to Melanesia are so fond of action films that they will pay money to see them; perhaps educational films produced for natives could best develop their themes around action plots. Secondly, leading film companies have already established vast distribution systems throughout the islands, their advice and co-operation, even practical help, could be solicited. The co-operation of exhibitors is already assured for most of them, at present, screen British Government Documentary Films free of charge, as they became available. Thirdly, large audiences can now be reached in the old and newly established theatres which are in effect, "ready-made" for educational purposes; perhaps island governments or the SPC could consider encouraging distributors and exhibitors to open up in even more remote situations by providing occasional transportation, etc. Theatre halls are an asset to any island community and can be used for a variety of purposes apart from entertainment.

In time, deeper research may reveal that some entertainment films are having undesirable influence on the habits and thoughts of native peoples; if so, any such trends should be immediately checked. Full co-operation at this stage between governments and film distributors in the islands would not only put a brake on these trends at an early stage but help establish film distribution, both educational and entertainment, on an economical basis, without one field of

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activity perhaps undermining the work of the other. What is most important, it would result in Pacific Islanders receiving the film fare that is best for them from all points of view.

Mr. F. L. Smith, formerly manager of the Suva branch of the Bank of New Zealand, has returned to Fiji to become Financial Adviser to the Fijian Affairs Board.

Death of Mr. C. Jacobsen

MR. CHARLES JACOBSEN died at Rotuma, Fiji on January 24. He was a clerk and interpreter in Rotuma from the early years of the century until about 1931. He was 68.

Mr. Frank Hoeter has been appointed Goaler at Kila Prison, near Port Moresby.

THE JAPANESE WIFE

A Wartime Memory of "Doc" Vernon

THE story of the long, lean, grey old doctor who haunted the Kokoda Trail in the days of the Australian retreat before the invading Japs, and then went back with the first parties of Australians and Americans when they smashed the Jap infiltration (first told in the PIM) is likely to become a legend.

He was Dr. G. H. Vernon, who grew rubber and other things in Papua before the war, and practised medicine when patients were around. When evacuation was ordered in 1941-2, and they saw that the Doc's years totalled something over three score, they tried to ship him South. But the Doc wouldn't go. Eventually, they tied him in somehow with the forces, to give medical service to the organisation of native carriers and labourers; and, in that capacity, he walked the weary tracks between Kokoda and the top of the Owen Stanleys, carrying his medical supplies in a knotted towel, giving his service unstintingly to the sick and wounded Europeans and natives, helping wherever he could, and living miraculously on an occasional cup of cocoa.

He died very soon after the war ended. He was unhonoured—in the manner typical of the old Doc, he just wasn't around when the medals were being handed out—but he was neither unwept nor unsung. There are many men in Papua, of all colours, who will not forget G. H. Vernon.

The editor has just received a letter from Mr. William Courtenay, MM, Aviation Correspondent of the London "Daily Graphic" and Gumsley Newspapers, and a former War Correspondent with Australian and American forces in the South-west Pacific Area, 1942-46. Courtenay was

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with the Australians on the Kokoda Trail, with the famous 7th Division, and he sends us the following little story of his encounter with "Doc" Vernon.

THE old "Doc," whose gaunt skinny figure I well remember, must have been our oldest companion on the Owen Stanley march, and I think he found his lack of weight a great advantage during the long toiling days up the "golden stairs" and over the razorbacks.

I met him at one stage near Templeton's Crossing and, by the flickering light of a hurricane lamp, as we both sat in a hastily-constructed Fuzzy Wuzzy hut, he read until a late hour and would not let go the book he had dragged over the mountains till he had ended a thrilling chapter.

He passed it to me to show me what the story was all about.

Apparently, it concerned a pretty Jap girl who had been brought up from early girlhood in Paris, carefully nurtured in European ways, and enjoying a considerable dowry.

A young English gentleman of the pre-1914 society vintage in London fell in love with her and desired to marry her. London Society was shocked at the mere suggestion; relations and friends tried in vain to shake him from his resolve. But he was too much in love with the young thing for reason to exercise any influence.

One Duchess, however, scenting publicity for herself over the matter, decided to back the young man's fancy. She arranged the wedding and, under her patronage, London Society flocked to the fashionable West End Church.

So he married his Japanese butterfly and all went well. She was well educated; cultured; apparently a girl of good family; and she was received in London's exclusive Society with her husband in those pre-World War 1 days.

Came the day when the young husband desired to visit Japan and meet the bride's relations. At this notion, there were stronger protests from everyone including the Duchess. In vain it was pointed out to him that he would never be received in Japanese Society in Tokyo and that his bride would be shunned, too. But he persisted.

On arrival at Tokyo, the husband learned for the first time the true source of his lady's immense income. Her family apparently owned a considerable part of the more fashionable and highly lucrative trade in the Red Light district of Tokyo, with ramifications in every city of Japan!

(Continued next page)

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In this scene at Gore Bay, the oil "installation" is an integral part of the landscape, aptly symbolising how the use of oil products is an integral part of our daily lives. Though simplified here by the

artist's pictorial treatment, these enormous "installations" are in reality highly complex, and a marvel of technical organisation. Lifetimes of Shell experience ensure the efficient economical operation of this important unit in the chain of distribution which brings oil products from overseas to Australia's motor vehicles, power plants, machinery and homes.

Donald Friend's colourful rendition of this illustration will be published by Shell as occasion offers.

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The girl's male relations were by no means pleased with her alliance and were studying ways and means of compromising him with some other lady by "framing him" so that a divorce could be arranged and the considerable wealth which the lady enjoyed could be returned to the family.

Ignorant of these wily Oriental machinations (which doubtless were being carried on with all the stealth of the later approach to Pearl Harbour), the young man was troubled in another direction. Having learnt the dread secret of the source of

his wife's wealth, should he inform her and they together renounce the money, thereby impelling them to a more penurious existence in England? Or should he say nothing and continue to keep his Oriental flower pure and unalloyed while living on the profits of shame?

THE "Doc." would not let the book rest until he had found the answer in the next chapter; but I never got that far in his enthralling yarn of Eastern morals and Western ethics to know what it was.

I found a drama of great interest in the performance of the old doctor, who had toiled so far over the razorbacks just to be among his beloved "boongs" and whose animated interest in the deeper emotions of life were still as warm as those of any of the young Diggers of the 7th Division!

Now, I sometimes wonder what happened to that English husband. But I can't even remember the name of the book!

TROPICAL MEDICINE SPECIALIST IN FIJI

SIR PHILIP MANSON-BAHR, formerly Consulting Physician to the Colonial Office and Crown Agents for the Colonies, and a recognised authority on tropical diseases, arrived in Fiji in January to carry out an investigation into mosquitoes and malaria in the Colony.

He will be joined later by Mr. Telford Work, of the University of California, who will make a colour film on the subject.

Sir Philip Manson-Bahr was in charge of the Stanley Research Expedition to Fiji in 1909 and in a report, published in 1912, he laid the foundations of research into mosquito-borne diseases in the Colony.

Sir Philip's son, Dr. P. E. C. Manson-Bahr, is on the staff of the Medical Department in Fiji.

Mr. A. D. Playfair, export sales superintendent for W. D. & H. O. Wills (Aust.) Ltd., is well known in most of the Pacific Islands through his periodical trips to the various territories in connection with the distribution of "Capstan" cigarettes and tobacco and native trade twist tobacco. He left Sydney on February 3 by PAA airliner for Noumea, New Caledonia.

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SUVA
FIJI

(Continued from Page 19)

Commission on the equipment to be ordered.

Information has been received from Fiji on BCG vaccination. Final results are not yet available, but the potency of the vaccine, and its innocuousness, seem certain.

The chemical concerns, Burroughs, Wellcome (Australia) Ltd., and Specia, Paris, have sent free supplies of Banocide and Notezine, which have been sent to the Institute for Filariasis research in Tahiti, for use in treatment tests.

Other Studies

Various studies are now in progress. For example researches are proceeding into aspects of the diagnosis or treatment of filariasis, tuberculosis, yaws, leprosy, rheumatic fever and other diseases prevalent in the Pacific Islands.

Together with Mr. Legand, of the Institut Français d'Océanie, a study of toxic and venomous fishes in the Pacific has been undertaken.

Social Development

Vocational Training (Project S.1)

THE Government of Fiji and the Commission, have agreed that Mr. Derrick, MBE, AMISE, will begin his survey of needs for technical training in the islands on April 1, instead of January 1. This arrangement has the advantage that it will enable Mr. Derrick to be in Fiji during the South Pacific Conference to meet the representatives from the Territories and make a preliminary assessment of needs.

Visual Aids to Education

Mr. A. L. Moore, MA, BEd., spent five weeks in Papua in November and December with the object of determining the best methods of visual education for Islands peoples. His tour in Papua and New

Guinea was arranged by Mr. W. C. Groves, Director of Education and Associate Member of the Research Council. He was accompanied throughout by Mr. J. Cox, Visual Education Officer in the Department of Education of Papua and New Guinea.

In January, Mr. Moore spent a week in New Caledonia on the same project, and a few days in Fiji. He will later visit Samoa, the Cook Islands and Tonga to demonstrate methods of visual education and examine related problems. It is hoped that he will also be able to consult Mr. F. R. J. Davies, Officer for Islands Education in New Zealand, who is compiling films suitable for presentation to native audiences.

Pacific Islands Languages

Dr. A. Capell, PhD, Lecturer in Oceanic Languages at the University of Sydney, visited Australian and Netherlands New Guinea in January, under the auspices of the Commission, in order to fill in some gaps in the linguistic picture of the region.

A knowledge of the distribution and relationship of the languages of the region is a necessary foundation for a comprehensive attack on illiteracy.

Capell's journey brought him into contact with the languages of the whole northern Littoral of New Guinea, from Madang to Biak (including the islands). By thus supplementing the literature available, and through discussions with linguists such as Dr. H. K. J. Cowan and the Rev. I. S. Kijne, at Hollandia, and Mr. E. de Bruyn, at Biak, he should be able to prepare a rough delineation of the linguistic pattern of northern and north-western New Guinea.

Co-operative Movement

At the Fourth Session (Noumea, October, 1949) the Commission placed high priority on the project and decided to allocate £1,100 to an expert survey of the

Co-operative Movement. Inquiries for a suitable specialist are being made.

Community Development (Project S.9)

A further meeting of the Advisory Group which, under the leadership of Mr. Hayden, is supervising the community development experiment on Moturiki Island, is to be held shortly and it is proposed to commence preliminary work early in 1950. (See Pacific Islands Monthly for December, pp. 61-62.)

(Continued Next Page)

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Facilities For The Commission

IN order to simplify travel through the South Pacific by approved officers of the Commission, the Governments of Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom have formally recognised the proposed Laissez-Passer, in the form and on the conditions approved by the Commission at its Fourth Session.

A draft agreement concerning Privileges and Immunities for the Commission in New Caledonia has been received from the French authorities.

Personnel

Dr. Jacques Kerrest, laboratory specialist, Research Assistant to the Member for Health, arrived at headquarters on January 17. Dr. Kerrest's services have been made available by the Director of the French Colonial Medical Service.

Mr. W. D. N. Johnson, of the Australian Department of Commerce and Agriculture, has accepted appointment as Statistical Officer, and will take up duty probably in March.

M. Rene Ferrand has been appointed Establishments Officer. M. Ferrand is on loan for one year from the New Caledonia Administration.

Miss Leonore Morris, a graduate of Adelaide University, has accepted appointment as Secretary-typist to assist the Member for Health, Dr. Massal.

The national distribution of the technical and administrative staff of the Commission (permanent and temporary), excluding the clerical and stenographic grade, is at present as follows: Australia 5, France 4, Netherlands 3, and United Kingdom, United States and New Zealand one each.

Mr. T. O. U. Stockwell of Lomaloma, has, as a result of declining health, asked to be allowed to relinquish his Commission as a Justice of the Peace for the Eastern District of Fiji.

MARINE ENGINES

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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

Sydney-NZ-Fiji-Hawaii-Nth. America

THE itinerary of the Canadian-Australasian liner "Aorangi" (17,500 tons) to 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	Mar. 2	May 4	Sept. 7	Nov. 9
Suva	Mar. 11	May 13	July 15	Nov. 18
Auckland	Mar. 14-15	May 16-18	July 18-20	Nov. 21-23
Sydney, arr.	Mar. 20	May 22	July 24	Nov. 27
Sydney, dep.	Mar. 30	June 1	Aug. 3	Dec. 7
Auckland	Apr. 2-4	June 3-6	Aug. 7-8	Dec. 11-12
Suva	Apr. 7	June 9	Aug. 11	Dec. 15
Honolulu	Apr. 14	June 16	Aug. 18	Dec. 22
Vancouver	Apr. 21-27	June 23-29	Aug. 25-31	Dec. 29-Jan. 4

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 NOTICE

Auckland	Mar. 7	Apr. 6	May 9
Suva	Mar. 11-12	Apr. 10-11	May 13-14
Nukualofa	Mar. 14-15	Apr. 13-14	May 16-17
Vavau	Mar. 16	Apr. 15	May 18
Niue*	Mar. 16	Apr. 15	May 18
Fago Pago*	Mar. 17-19	Apr. 16-18	May 19-21
Suva	Mar. 22-23	Apr. 21-22	May 24-25
Auckland	Mar. 27	Apr. 26	May 26

* Western Time.

New Caledonia

THE New Caledonian Government has subsidised and maintained the coastal shipping services. The East Coast, the West Coast, and the Loyalty Islands, under present conditions, receive 16 round trips per annum. The ships call at the following ports:

EAST COAST.—Yaté, Ounika, Thio, Nakety, Canala, Kouaoua, Koua, Moneo, Ponerihouen, Tibaranga, Pindimie, Wagap, Touho, Tipidjé, Hienghène, Tao, Oubatch, Pouébo, Balade, Pam, Arama, and return.

WEST COAST.—Pouembout, Kane, Ténia, Voh, Ousco Gomen, Koumac, Tanagerou, Tiebaghi, Behoué, Pount, Baaba, Belep and return.

LOYALTY ISLANDS.—Maré (Tadine), Lifou (Chépehehe) Ouvea (Fajoué, St. Joseph) and return.

The steamer "Néa Hébrides" runs regularly between Nouméa and Sydney, with occasional trips to the New Hebrides (mostly Anellyum). The owners are Société Maritime et Manière (Nouméa, Sydney agents: H. G. Sleigh, 254 George Street, Sydney).

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).

Sydney—Papua—
New Guinea

BURNS, PHILIP LINE motor-vessels "Bulolo" and "Malaita" maintain regular services between Sydney and ports in Papua-New Guinea. "Bulolo" leaves Sydney, northbound, approximately every six weeks; "Malaita" every seven weeks. "Bulolo" calls at Brisbane, Port Moresby, Samarai, Lae, Dregarhafen, Rabaul, Samarai, Port Moresby, Brisbane, thence back to Sydney. The "Malaita's" schedule varies considerably. She calls at Port Moresby only occasionally.

but usually calls at Samarai, Lae, Madang, Manus, Rabaul, Samarai, thence direct to Sydney—ports of call being in that order. Sometimes the order of calls is Samarai, Rabaul, Manus, Madang, Lae, Samarai. Intending passengers should check with Burns, Philip & Co., Ltd., Sydney, or Island branches.

Sydney—Norfolk Island—
New Hebrides

THE SS "Morinda," Burns, Philip & 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. Qantas service also from Lae, N.G. to Honiara, B.M.
NEW HEBRIDES.—Frequent regular flying-boat service from Sydney by Trans Oceanic Airways. Service from Nouméa by French plane runs twice weekly. Qantas plane from Sydney to NH on alternate Tuesdays.

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ACCOMMODATION.—Mrs. Millar, formerly Accommodation Officer of A.N.A., will know the type of accommodation you require, and where to find it. . . . flat, cottage, hotel or guest house. Let her know your requirements early.

TOURS.—The Bureau will be pleased to arrange your tours anywhere in Australia by air, car or tourist coach.

REAL ESTATE.—Perhaps you require a home immediately, or in the near future. A wide range of properties are available. Prospective investors also will be interested in our extensive selection of real estate propositions.

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NORFOLK ISLAND.—Regular service from NZ by NZ National Airways, from Sydney by Qantas; from Fiji by NZ National Airways.
LORD HOWE ISLAND.—Regular weekly service from Sydney by Qantas and Trans Oceanic Airways.
FILII.—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.—Monthly service from Noumea by TRAPAS plane via Fiji, W. Samoa, Cook Is.
DUTCH NEW GUINEA.—Regular weekly service from Batavia by KLM.
AUSTRALIA-NEW ZEALAND.—Regular service by Tasman Empire Airways.
AUSTRALIA-NORTH AMERICA.—Regular Trans-Pacific services by Pan American Airways, BCPA and CPA.
EUROPE-INDO-CHINA-N. CALEDONIA.—Fortnightly service by Air France.

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 11.30 p.m. each Monday for Laucala Bay, Suva (arrives 8.10 a.m. the following day).

The aircraft departs from Laucala Bay, Suva, on the return journey at 7.30 a.m. each Wednesday, and arrives at Mechanics Bay, Auckland, at 4.15 a.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 Tuesday.

AUCKLAND-NORFOLK ISLAND-FIJI-TONGA-WESTERN SAMOA-COOK ISLANDS: A "Douglas" trimmer leaves Whenuapai, Auckland, on alternate Tuesdays at 9 a.m. (Feb. 7, 21, Mar. 7, 21, etc.) for Norfolk Island (arr. 12.55 p.m.; dep. 2 p.m.), Nadi (arr. 8.40 p.m.; dep. 9.40 a.m. Thursday), Nausori (arr. 6.25 a.m.; dep. 7.30 a.m.), Tonga (arr. 10.50 a.m.; dep. 11.50 a.m.), Palaoa, Western Samoa (arr. 4.5 p.m. Wednesday, dep. 8 a.m. Thursday), Aitutaki, Cook Islands (arr. 1.50 p.m. Thursday, dep. 2.30 p.m.), Rarotonga, Cook Is. (arr. 4.5 p.m.).

The aircraft departs from Rarotonga on the return journey at 8 a.m. on alternate Saturdays (Feb. 11, 25, Mar. 11, 25, etc.) at 8 a.m. for Aitutaki (arr. 9.15 a.m.; dep. 10 a.m.), Palaoa, W. Samoa (arr. 2.15 p.m.; dep. 9 a.m. Sunday), Tonga (arr. 10.55 a.m. Monday, dep. 11.50 a.m.), Nausori (arr. 2.40 p.m.; dep. 3.40 p.m.), Nadi (arr. 4.25 p.m.; dep. 5 a.m. Tuesday), Norfolk Is. (arr. 10.35 a.m.; dep. 12 noon), Whenuapai, Auckland (arr. 4.50 p.m.).

*Crosses International Date Line.

AUCKLAND-NORFOLK ISLAND: A "Douglas" trimmer leaves Whenuapai, Auckland, every Sunday at 8.15 a.m. for Norfolk Island (arr. 12.10 p.m.), and departs on the return flight at 1.10 p.m., arriving at Whenuapai at 6 p.m.

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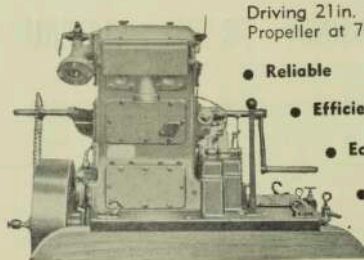
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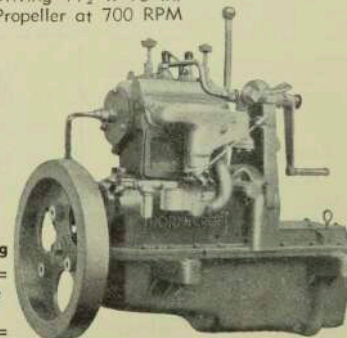
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Propeller at 700 RPM



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FARES, single (in NZ currency): Auckland to Norfolk, £12/10/-; to Fiji, £31/-; to Tonga, £31/-; to Samoa, £34/-; to Alititaki, £33/-; to Haratonga, £29/10/-; Norfolk to Fiji, £18/-; Fiji to Tonga, £8/15/-; to Samoa, £13/-; to Alititaki, £29/15/-; to Haratonga, £31/-; Samoa to Haratonga, £17/15/-; to Alititaki, £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, 154 Gloucester St.; Gisborne, 74 Peel St.; Palmerston North, 107 Broadway Ave.; Hamilton, 8 Alma St.; New Plymouth, Grand Central Building; Egmont St.; Hokitika, Southside Airport; Norfolk Is., Burns Philp, Ltd.; Fiji, NAC at Nadi and Suva; Burns Philp, Labasa and Lautoka; Tonga, Mrs. F. P. Melrose, Fou-amotu Airfield; W. Samoa, Burns Philp (SS), Ltd., Apia; Cook Is., Mrs. P. McVaugh, Alititaki; and Mr. J. D. Campbell, Haratonga.

Sydney—Queensland— New Guinea

QANTAS Empire Airways, Ltd., employing DC3 planes, operate a regular service between Sydney, Port Moresby, Lae, Pischhafen, Madang, Rabaul, Bulolo and Wau, 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 Wednesdays, flies on to Bulolo and Wau on Wednesday 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 Islands—

A Douglas DC3 leaves Lae, New Guinea, every Wednesday, and flies to Rabaul, and Kavieng, and returns to Lae; but every alternate Wednesday the plane goes on from Kavieng to Momo, and returns via Kavieng to Rabaul (overnight) and returns to Lae on the Thursday morning.

Every Wednesday a plane flies from Lae to Madang and Wewak, and thence direct to Rabaul. It returns from Rabaul to Lae on Thursday. This service is primarily for the carriage of native labour to and from Wewak, and Europeans travelling on this service are always advised of the fact.

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.

Each Wednesday a plane leaves Port Moresby for Kokoda and Popondetta and returns following the Kokoda Trail for most of the way.

Every alternate Wednesday, a Qantas Catalina flies from Port Moresby, eastward to Samarai, via Abau; remains overnight at Samarai, and on the following day (Thursday) flies out over the archipelagoes, calls at Esa'ala, Kirivina, and Deboyne Lagoon, and returns to PM, via Samarai and Abau.

Every alternate Monday, a Qantas Catalina leaves Port Moresby for Rabaul, via Moeve Harbour, and Talasea (New Britain); next morning (Tuesday) it flies to Buka, Kieta and Buli (Bougainville) and returns to Rabaul; next morning (Wednesday) it flies to Talasea, Moeve 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; remains overnight at Honiara; and returns to Lae the following day (Tuesday), via Torokina and Rabaul.

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/-.

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- ★ "AGCO" SUPALUVRE WINDOWS
- ★ B.A.L.M. PAINTS
- ★ COMMONWEALTH INSURANCE CO.

WHOLESALE MERCHANTS...MANUFACTURERS AGENTS

Qantas run a DC4 Skymaster alt. Thursdays (returning 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.)

Sydney-New Hebrides

A QANTAS plane leaves Sydney for New Hebrides on alternate Tuesdays. It flies via Noumea and Port Vila to Santo, and returns.

CPA Sydney-Vancouver Service

CANADIAN Pacific Airlines, Ltd., run a trans-Pacific service between Sydney and Van-

couver. For the present there will be one northbound and one southbound trip per fortnight. Stops are made at Nadi (Fiji), Canton Island, Honolulu and San Francisco. The northbound flight commences from Sydney every alternate Tuesday.

Four-engined, pressurised "Canadair" aircraft are used; 36 passengers can be carried and a crew of 7. Flying is done in daylight. Overnight accommodation is provided at hotels in Nadi and Honolulu, which is, of course, complimentary.

Fares are (in Australian currency): Sydney-Vancouver, £289/6/- single, £520/15/- return; Fiji-Vancouver, £210/15/- single, £379/6/- return; Sydney-Fiji, £54/19/- single, £96/17/- return; Sydney-Honolulu, £238/8/-; Sydney-San Francisco, £235/15/-; Fiji-Honolulu, £159/17/- single, £288/8/- return.

Bookings may be made at the Union Steam Ship Company of New Zealand, Limited, Sydney, or Melbourne; Union Steam Ship Co. of NZ, 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, via 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.

B.C.P.A. services make regular connections at both San Francisco and Vancouver for onward carriage, via either New York or Montreal to the United Kingdom or Europe. The through fare from Sydney to London is £325 (Aust.).

Fares are (in Australian currency): Sydney-San Francisco, £285/15/- single and £514/6/- return; Auckland-Vancouver, £246/11/- single; Auckland-Nadi (Fiji), £38/17/-; Sydney-Nadi, £54/19/-; Sydney-Vancouver, £219/6/- single, £330/15/- return.

Douglas DC6 aircraft carrying 48 passengers seated or 37 passengers (in sleepers) and a crew of nine are used on the service.

Pan-American—Trans-Pacific Service

PAN-AMERICAN World Airways Clippers now provide the following services in the South Pacific, using DC4 planes, equipped with Sleepettes—

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No matter how long you have suffered or what you have tried, there is now hope for you in a doctor's prescription called Mendaco. No depec, no smokes, no injections, no stomachs. All you do is take two tasteless tablets at meals and in 3 minutes Mendaco starts working through your blood, aiding nature to remove phlegm, promote free easy breathing and bring sound sleep the first night, so that you soon feel years younger and stronger.

No Asthma in 2 Years

Mendaco not only brings almost immediate comfort and free breathing but builds up the system to ward off future attacks. For instance, J. Richards, Hamilton, Ont., Canada, had lost 40 lb., suffered coughing every night, couldn't sleep. Mendaco stopped Asthma

spasms first night and he has had none since in over two years.

Money Back Guarantee

The very first dose of Mendaco goes right to work circulating through your blood and helping nature relieve you of the effects of Asthma. Try Mendaco under an iron-clad money back guarantee. You be the judge. If you don't feel fully satisfied after taking Mendaco just return the empty package and the full purchase price will be refunded. Get Mendaco from your chemist to-day and see how well you sleep to-night and how much better you feel to-morrow. The guarantee protects you.

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donia), Nadi (Fiji), Canton Island and Honolulu.

The return flights are made from San Francisco every Monday, Thursday, via Honolulu, Canton Island, Nadi and Tontouta; and from Seattle every Monday, via Portland, Honolulu, Canton Island, Nadi and Tontouta.

Planes leave Auckland every Wednesday, and fly via Nadi, Canton Island and Honolulu to San Francisco. They leave San Francisco for Auckland every Saturday by the same route. Fares, in Australian currency, are:—

	£ s. d.	Return.
Sydney-Seattle ..	£285 15 0	£514 6 0
Sydney-Frisco ..	285 15 0	514 6 0
Sydney-Fiji ..	34 19 0	96 17 0
Sydney-Honolulu ..	238 8 0	428 0 0
Auckland-Seattle ..	282 19 0	473 14 0
Auckland-Honolulu ..	215 12 6	397 19 0
Auckland-Fiji ..	38 17 0	68 19 0
Auckland-San Fran. ..	22 19 0	473 14 6

(Time-tables and fares subject to alteration without notice.)

To convert to Fiji currency, reduce above each kilogram of excess.

Free baggage allowance is 30 kilos per person. Excess baggage at 1 per cent. of single fare for figures by about 10 per cent.

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 6 hours.

Flying-boats now depart Sydney and Auckland daily. They make the crossings at night, leaving Rose Bay, Sydney, and Mechanics Bay, Auckland, about midnight. This arrangement allows passengers who wish to travel to other parts of Australia or New Zealand to proceed on the day of arrival.

This service is supplemented by Charter Services operated by DC4 and DC6 aircraft. Fares: £35(A) (£28 NZ currency) single; £63(A) (£56/8/- NZ currency) return.

Bookings may be made at Tasman Empire Airways in Auckland and at Gantas Empire Airways, Carrington Street, Sydney.

N. Caledonia—Tahiti

TRAPAS (Société Française de Transport Aérien du Pacifique Sud-Nouveau) runs a monthly service from New Caledonia to Tahiti. Departing at 8 a.m. from Nouméa, every third Thursday, the plane flies via Fiji (Nadi), Western Samoa (Pago), Cook Islands (Aitutaki) to Papeete, where it arrives at about 11.40 a.m. two days later. One evening is spent in Nadi and one night in Aitutaki. The plane returns by the same route in the following week. Fare from Nouméa to Papeete is 16,000 Pacific francs single, and 28,000 return. (160 Pacific francs equal £1 Australian.) While the plane is at Papeete it runs one round trip between Papeete and Bora Bora.

New Caledonia— New Hebrides

TRAPAS (French Air Line) operates a service between Nouméa and the New Hebrides. The plane leaves Nouméa every Tuesday, and flies direct to Vila and Santo, and returns. Return fare for the journey, Nouméa-Santo, is approximately £42 Australian.

KLM Dutch New Guinea Service

K.L.M. Royal Dutch Airlines run a regular weekly service from Batavia to Dutch New Guinea, via Sourabaya, Makassar and Ambon,

on the following schedule: Batavia dep. Sundays at 10.30 a.m.; Biak Island arr. Mondays at 4.40 p.m.; dep. Tuesdays at 6 a.m.; Hollandia arr. Tuesdays at 8.10 a.m. On the return journey the aircraft leaves Hollandia at 9 a.m. on Tuesdays; Biak Island arr. 11.10 a.m.; dep.

(Continued on Page 93)

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The aircraft used are C47s, a type of DC-3, and the single fares are Batavia-Biak Island £A80; Batavia-Hollandia £A91/15/-; and Biak Island-Hollandia £A11/15/-. Return fares, double single.

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The following is the time-table of the Qantas flying-boat:-

Sydney ... dep. 9 p.m. alt. Tues.
Nooumea ... arr. 7 a.m. alt. Wed.
Nooumea ... dep. 8 a.m. alt. Wed.
Suva ... arr. 3 p.m. alt. Wed.
Suva ... dep. 6 a.m. alt. Frid.
Nooumea ... arr. 11 a.m. alt. Frid.
Nooumea ... 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 Nooumea.

Fares: To Nooumea, £35 single; £63 return.
To Suva, £52/10/- single; £94/10/- return.
Nooumea-Suva, £17/10/- single; £31/10/- return.

TOA Services

TRANS Oceanic Airways run the following Pacific services:-

SYDNEY-LORD ROBE IS: A regular fortnightly service with large four-engine flying-boats from Rose Bay. Fare: £11 single; £21 return. Free baggage allowance 55 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 Nooumea (overnight stop), to Vila and Espiritu Santo. Fare: Sydney-Vila, £45; Sydney-Santo, £56; Nooumea-Vila, £12/10/-; Nooumea-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 Lingatu, in the Russell Islands, and calls are sometimes made at Vanikoro, in the Santa Cruz Group. Fare: Sydney-Tulagi, £45. Free baggage allowance, 60 lb.; excess baggage and freight, 3/6 per lb.

France-Indo-China-N. Caledonia

THE French national airways, Air France, runs a fortnightly service between Paris and New Caledonia, and return. Stops are made at Tunis, Cairo, Baara (forward journey) or Darheim (return journey), Karachi, Calcutta, Saigon, Batavia, Darwin, Brisbane.

DC4 Skymasters are used in the service.

Fare between Brisbane and Noumea (New Caledonia) has been fixed at £A29/2/- (one way), and £A52/18/- (return ticket). Sydney-Tontouta £A35 single; £A63 return.

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, Alotape, Mt. Hagen, Finisshafen, Moresby, Kokoda—in fact anywhere in Papua or New Guinea where there is an air-strip. These planes carry passengers, mails and cargo on regular schedules or charter flights.

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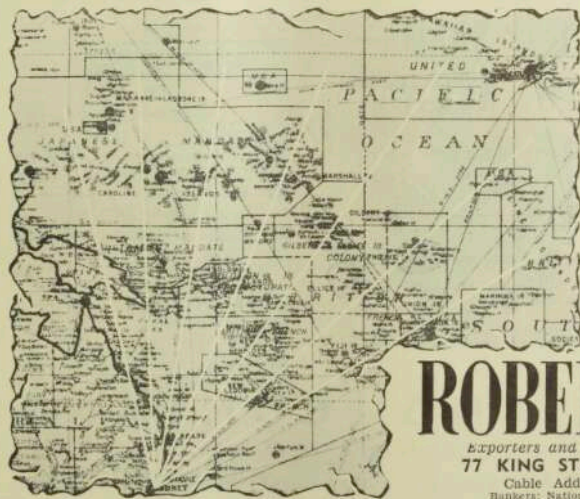
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PACIFIC FOLKLORE

THE July-September issue of the journal of the American Folklore Society, is devoted to myths and folk beliefs of Pacific peoples.

Several well-known anthropologists are represented with articles that cover such islands as Guam, Hawaii, Philippines, and Tuamotus.

Considerable attention is given to the atoll of Kapingamarangi, an interesting speck in the Pacific and the most southern island in the Micronesian area, 400 miles SSE of Truk and 300 miles NNE of Rabaul, New Guinea. The atoll's 520 inhabitants are neither Micronesian nor Melanesian, however, but Polynesian.

Although the Japs had a sea plane base and weather station there during the war, the native life was disturbed very little. However, they can be said to be undisturbed no longer as American ships now call quite frequently to trade.

Wherever Americans have gone in the Pacific, natives have rapidly abandoned their old ways of life. It is a matter of opinion as to whether this is a good or a bad thing.

The Journal of American Folklore is published by the American Folklore Society at 450 Ahnaip Street, Menasha, Wisconsin, USA. Single copies are 1.50 dollars.

NEW OIL SEARCH SHARES

OIL SEARCH LTD., by its new issue of 2,100,000 5/- shares, will, it is understood, be able to take up 282,364 £1 shares in the operating company Australasian Petroleum Co. Pty., Ltd. A further subscription of 194,906 £1 shares in the operating company is likely to be made later this year.

These two subscriptions would be equivalent to the quota of 487,272 £1 shares, which Oil Search was to have taken up at the end of 1949 when APC announced that it would raise a further £3,500,000 capital. However, the share issue of Oil Search Ltd. was deferred after APC had announced that drilling had been discontinued at Orol. This, it was claimed, caused an alteration in the prospectus on which the underwriting agreement was based.

Anglo-Iranian Oil Co., Ltd. and the Vacuum Oil Co., it is announced, have taken up £1,500,000 in £1 shares offered to them by APC. The option to Oil Search, it is believed, was left open until March 31, in which time the company could take up the original quota in the APC share issue or any part of it.

A new prospectus will be issued by Oil Search within a few days. The issue will not be underwritten. —Melbourne Age.

AUSTRALASIAN Petroleum Company Pty., Ltd., reported the following on February 14:—

BOHORO.—The hole has been deepened 1.175 feet from 2,585 feet to 3,760 feet.

UPOIA.—Depth, 2,602 feet. Frozen drill pipe has been side-tracked and preparations are in progress to run 13½ inch casing in order to shut off upper difficult formations.

WANA AND MALALAU.—Big erection is in progress.

OROLOI.—Examination of access routes to the rig site has been continued.

Rheumatism, Ankles Puffy Backache, Kidneys Strained?

No Benefit—No Pay

If you're feeling out o-sorts, have Sleepless nights, or suffer from Dizziness, Nervousness, Backache, Leg Pains, Swollen Ankles, Rheumatism, Excess Acidity, or Loss of Energy and feel old before your time, Kidney Trouble is the true cause.

Wrong foods and drinks, worry, colds or overwork may create an excess of acids and place a heavy strain on your kidneys so that they function poorly and need help to properly refresh your blood and maintain health and energy.

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The very first dose of Cystex goes right to work helping your kidneys remove excess acids. Quickly, this makes you feel like new again. And so certain are the makers that Cystex will satisfy you completely they ask you to try it under a money back guarantee. You be the judge. If not entirely satisfied just return the empty package and get your money back.

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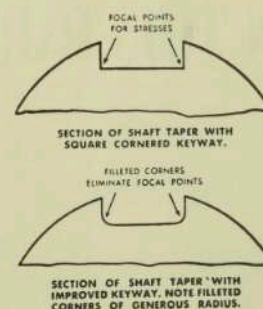
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Suggested Radii for Filleted Keyways

Approx. shaft diameter	Keyway fillet radius
¾" to 1½" incl	1/32"
1½" to 2" incl	1/16"
2" to 3" incl	3/32"
3" to 4" incl	1/8"

RABAU CRICKET ASSN. MEETS

THE Annual General Meeting of the Rabaul Cricket Association was held during December, 1949. The following Office Bearers were elected: Mr. J. R. Keenan, president; Messrs. B. Bailey, D. Jones and J. Allan, vice-presidents; Mr. W. Bourke, secretary; Mr. K. Leen, Asst. secretary; Mr. R. Hall, treasurer. Chief Justice Phillips, District Officer J. K. McCarthy and Lieutenant-Commander A. F. Rhoades were elected patrons of the Association.

The rest of the Committee comprises one delegate from each club participating in the forthcoming season.

The season commenced on the weekend of January 14 and seven teams are competing; they are: Kokopo, Administration, Commerce, Wanderers, Seagulls, Colts and Keravat.

At the opening game of the season at Kokopo presentations for the 1949 season were made by the president of the Association. Father Copas, captain of the 1949 Premiership team was presented with the Premiership Pennant donated by Robert Gillespie Pty. Ltd.; the Bailey Shield presented by Mr. W. Bailey of the New Guinea Company; the Arrow-smith Cup, donated by Mr. R. Arrow-smith of Kokopo to be retained by the team winning three consecutive Premiership matches. The 1949 Season is the second consecutive year in which Kokopo have won. The Premiership Pennant, donated by the Rabaul Cricket Association, to be retained by Kokopo was also presented.

Trophies were presented to Mr. T. Darcy of Kokopo, the winner of the 1949 batting average; Father Copas, the winner of the 1949 bowling average; Mr. B. Cohen for the highest score for the Season, and Mr. T. Darcy for the fastest score for the season.

Mr. J. Allen, on behalf of the members of the Kokopo Cricket Team, presented a bat autographed by all members of the team to Father Copas in recognition of his services as captain and player of the Kokopo team.

PACIFIC NATURE NOTES

MR. CHARLES BARNETT who contributed many interesting articles on Pacific flora and fauna to PIM a year or so ago has received on inquiry on Cereopsis geese from Mr. Hugh W. Budke of Illinois, USA.

Mr. Budke wants to know if it would be possible to buy a pair of these geese.

Mr. Barrett replies: Cape Barren (Cereopsis) geese are protected in Australia because of their scarcity. It would be difficult to obtain a permit to export even one to a private individual. This species is unique and of great interest to naturalists. I have observed it in its Bass Strait haunts and taken several photographs.

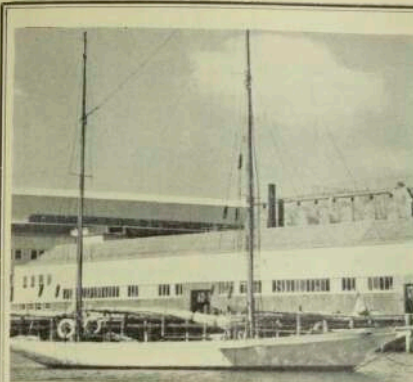
Mr. Barrett is clearing up six months' accumulation of work after his recent long visit to New Guinea. It is hoped that, later on, he will contribute some more Pacific Nature Notes to PIM.

Yonki Creek, NG

THE chairman of Yonki Creek Gold NL (Mr. A. P. Eickart) has been visiting the mine in New Guinea and reports they expect to commence sluicing with the main plant soon.

A 12 months' option to purchase two dredging and sluicing claims, comprising 130 acres, together with plant and equipment thereon and adjoining the company's Orniapinka lease, has been acquired by the company on a deposit of £300.

If the option be exercised purchase consideration for these areas and equipment is £3,000 cash, of which £300 will be considered part of the purchase money.



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M.V. "Waitangi,"
56 ft. x 12 ft.,
schooner-rig, full
suit of sails, new
20 H.P. engine,
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Price, £3,000.

Particulars from: "Waitangi," C/- Box 3408, G.P.O., Sydney.



BAKERS OF THE BEST BISCUITS

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Javanese Repatriated From N. Caledonia

THE Netherlands ship Volendam called at Noumea in February to pick up 1,500 Javanese labourers and their families for repatriation to the NEI.

These Indonesians have been waiting for repatriation since the Pacific war.

Is There an Undiscovered People In Central Guadalcanal?

From Our Own Correspondent

HONIARA, Feb. 1.

NATIVES of Guadalcanal still believe that in the mountainous interior of the island there lives a race of

naked, brown, prehistoric savages who have never even learned the use of fire. They are said to be small and straight-haired with long beards and nails, and to live in caves and gaps in the rock, knowing no weapons and using no tools. They have a strong, disgusting smell, and in the past are said to have taken and eaten stray bushmen. This story was told recently to a District Commissioner on a tour of Central Guadalcanal.

The belief of Guadalcanal and San Cristoval natives in this utterly primitive race is recorded in Dr. C. Fox's "The Threshold of the Pacific" (unfortunately now out of print) in which a similar description of them is given. According to Dr. Fox, they are called the Kakamora in San Cristoval.

Nobody can say for certain whether these stories are only a distant memory of some race which once existed and is now extinct, or whether such people do still exist in the almost inaccessible mountains of San Cristoval and Guadalcanal. Dr. Fox records that once when travelling with a party of natives on San Cristoval they told him that they had seen a Kakamora in a river they were about to ford. Dr. Fox himself did not sight him, but when they came to the river he saw on a dry stone in the middle of the stream a raw, half-eaten fish, and a few small wet footprints on the stone. The natives, who recognise footprints as we do faces, were certain that these were not made by the foot of any known man in the area.



Petrol Motor Mower in 14 to 30 in. sizes.



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Single Furrow Plows in 1, 2, and 3 Horse sizes, with short or long Mouldboards.



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MONTH IN MORESBY (Continued from Page 11)

FORTY-EIGHT members of the Papua-New Guinea native police band may go to Sydney and Brisbane this year. New South Wales RSL has invited the band to the Anzac Day ceremony in Sydney in April and Major-General Nimmo, GOC Northern Command, has suggested that the band attend the Brisbane Exhibition in August. The proposal is being considered by the External Territories Department.

The natives are eager to make the trip. A few of them were in the band when it visited Sydney and Melbourne in support of the Liberty Loan in 1944, but most of them became members after that visit. If they do go to Australia this year, the bandmen will be issued with their first overcoats and probably their first footwear.

THE Port Moresby Musical Society was formed at a recent meeting and rehearsals have started. More singers are needed, however. The society will at first concentrate on choral work but, later, if enough musicians volunteer, it will also do orchestral work. Musical Director is Dr. D. Lincoln-Crow and the Committee consists of Mr. W. C. Groves (chairman), Mrs. P. Frank (secretary), Mr. A. Pollard (treasurer), Mrs. Smith and Mr. Dale. Mrs. J. MacMichael is the accompanist.

MISS DOROTHY ARMSTRONG, of the Health Department, and Mr. Keith Boyle of APC, were married at St. John's Church of England, Port Moresby, on January 7. Matron of honour was Iris Magee and Mr. Max Taylor was best man. Mr. J. Gannon, of the Commonwealth Bank, gave the bride away. After a reception at the Hotel Papua, the couple went to Rouma Falls for their honeymoon.

Miss Nan Eslington, of the Agriculture Department, Moresby, and Mr. Colin McEachern, of the PMG Department, were married quietly at the LMS Mission on January 14. Mr. Len Smith was best man and Mrs. Lambden attended the bride.

THE 1950 Rugby League season in Port Moresby will start on April 2 with trial games. Efforts are being made to form new teams, in addition to last season's rivals, Paga Hill and the Maganias. The Port Moresby Rugby League Association hopes to send a representative team to New Guinea this year.

SOLICITOR J. Irwin Cromie is back in Moresby after a holiday in New Zealand. Mrs. Cromie, who is now in Melbourne, will return later.

Veteran BP skipper, Captain Vogelmann, paid a rare visit to the Territory last month as relieving skipper on the Mangala.

After running the RSL Club at Moresby for two years, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Penny left on the January Bulolo for Sydney. The new manager, Mr. Victor Snudden, and his wife, arrived from Western Australia a few days later.

Mr. Bill Kerr, who has been acting District Labour Officer at Moresby, is now acting DLO at Wau.

The Director of Agriculture, Stock and Fisheries, Mr. W. Cottrell-Dormer, left this week for Australia on his way to Malaya where he will spend most of his leave. Mr. Cottrell-Dormer will combine his holiday with a study of agricultural methods in Malaya. APC's assistant accountant in the Territory, Mr. L. Bennett, also left for Malaya recently. He will join the staff of the Anglo-Oriental Tin Mining Co.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. J. Dowling, of Jacquinot Bay, New Britain, in Sydney on February 14.

Mr. R. W. Parkinson has returned to Suva from leave in Australia. While on leave he completed the degree of Bachelor of Commerce at Melbourne University, specialising in statistical method. He was formerly Controller of Imports, Prices and Foreign Exchange in Fiji, has now assumed duty as Government Statistician.

If You Cannot Sleep

FEEL FIT FOR NOTHING.

You may be anaemic or bloodless, for this ailment plays havoc with your health and nervous energy. You feel terribly nervous; suffer headaches and dizzy spells; have poor appetite, cannot sleep at night—losing those precious hours of rest and recovery, essential for your health and fitness.

Many people have recovered from these miseries by taking Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, which have reinvigorated, strengthened their systems and banished the vague pains and weariness. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills always help to enrich and increase the blood supply, giving beneficial help to the nerves, tissues and organs of the body. With enriched blood you cannot help feeling happier, sleeping better, becoming reinvigorated.

Stop anaemia making you a suffering invalid without delay. Take Dr. Williams' Pink Pills and soon notice the difference in your eyes, skin, nerves and general health. At all chemists and stores.

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CHINESE CONSUL LEAVES FIJI

ONE result of political changes in China was seen in the recent closing of the Chinese Consulate in Suva, Fiji. The Vice-Consul for China in Suva, Mr. C. C. Chaung, having notified the Government of Fiji that his Consulate would close made preparations to leave Suva for the United States.

The Director of Agriculture, Mr. C. Harvey, returned to Suva in early February from London, where he has been attending the Commonwealth Sugar Conference as one of Fiji's delegates. He is chairman of the Fiji Copra Board and while he was in London he took part in negotiations for the price to be paid for copra in 1950 by the British Ministry of Food. As a result of the negotiations the price originally offered was considerably increased.

NOTES FROM FRENCH OCEANIA

From Our Own Correspondent

PAPEETE, Jan. 20.

TO succeed the late M. Georges Ahnne, as Deputy, to represent the interests of the French Establishments of Oceania, Tahiti voters have elected M. Pouvamaa a Oopa, a man inexperienced in the practices usually considered necessary for the successful administration of that high office.

Boisterous election tactics, lavish expenditure of money, an avalanche of pamphlets, the genius to outflank the tactics of his opponents—these, together with many political promises, have been the points d'appui from which a memorable election has been waged.

SUNDAY morning, November 8, witnessed the long anticipated opening of the skating rink at Patuoa. A large crowd clamoured to participate in the inauguration in Tahiti of this exciting and invigorating pastime. Mr. Robert Vernier, proprietor of the rink, has shown courage in investing capital which affords "something new in Papeete."

THE inauguration of the first house of the Economic Dwelling Centre took place at Hauma, October 20, in the presence of Governor Anziani.

The campaign to decentralise, to healthy suburban sites, the disease-infected districts of Papeete is under way. In the near future the first group of attractive and comfortable cottages, provided with running water and electricity, will be ready for occupancy. Families of workers at Papeete will then find respectable accommodation and the unsightly parts of the city should gradually disappear.



Trawler-Type Boat For Sale

Overall length 45 ft., beam 15 ft., draught, 7 ft.; fitted with 60 H.P. Huda Diesel and 4 H.P. Diesel aux. deck winch; 6-ton capacity ice chest; accommodation for 4 persons; speed 8½ knots; emergency sail; tank capacity sufficient for 1,500 miles.

Built by a Tasmanian professional boat-builder, it has Celery Top Pine planking and deck, and is exceptionally strong in construction. Launched 18 months ago and has had very little use.

Price (in Tasmania), £6,800.

For further particulars, write to:

M. A. McKAY SHIPYARDS, Devonport, Tasmania, Australia.

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"YOGA" TEA, Finest Ceylon & Indian, 6 lb. tin, 2/9 lb. (Plus tin, 1/10 ea.; Export levy, 3/- lb.)	
"CROWN" WASHING SOAP, cases of 50 x 2 lb. bars, 55/- per case. (Export levy, 12/6 per case.)	
COLD CREAM TOILET SOAP, Pink, Lemon & Green, 3 oz. cakes 30/- per gross. (Export levy, 4/6 per gross.)	
"IXL" BAKED BEANS, 4 oz. tin 5/6 doz., 8 oz. tin 9/6 doz., 16 oz. tin 15/- doz.	
"IXL" SPAGHETTI IN SAUCE, 4 oz. tin 6/- doz., 8 oz. tin 10/6 doz., 16 oz. tin 16/6 doz.	
"Edgell" Julienne Carrots, 16 oz. tin, 12/6 doz.	
Table Margarine, 2 lb. tin, 4/6 tin, 52/6 doz.	
Choiceest Butter, 1 lb. tin, 4/3 tin, 49/6 doz.	
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THE United States State Department still has no plans to re-establish a consulate or consular agency in Tahiti. The Department recently announced that consular affairs in Tahiti have been transferred to the American consulate in Noumea, New Caledonia. It declared "from that post, it is expected that consular officers will be able to make periodic visits to the Society Islands."

But Noumea is as far away from Tahiti as is Honolulu—main seat of the US Government in the Pacific.

M. Anziani, Governor of French Oceania, on his return from his recent survey of the Austral Islands, on December 2, reported that he found the health conditions there satisfactory, but the need for additional schools was pressing. His trip was made aboard the French cruiser, Francis Garnier. Tubuai, Rurutu, Rimatara, Raiavavae and Rapa were all visited.

Monsieur Raymond Lehartel, who established a splendid record as a volunteer during the late war, has just been elected Third Assistant to the Mayor of Papeete, in place of the late Mr. Charles Levy. M. Lehartel, descendant of a pioneer French family, is employed in the Customs Service, Papeete.

Monsieur Paul Breniere, Member of the Assembly Representative at Papeete, has been appointed to represent Tahiti at the South Pacific Conference in Suva in April.

ON the afternoon of December 22, over 20 children from Papeete's poorer areas were invited by Madame Anziani, the wife of the Governor, to a Christmas tree at Government House. Each guest received a gift from Pere Noel, and refreshments of cake, lemonade and sweets.

On Christmas Eve, patients of the Colonial Hospital and their friends at-

tended a beautifully decorated tree in the grounds of the hospital. Decoration of the growing tree was the work of nurses at the hospital. Music was supplied by the orchestra of the Church of Latter Day Saints and all patients who were well enough to attend received gifts from the tree. The Governor and Madame Anziani were among the guests.

FOR the first time for 20 years, a Governor of French Oceania has made a tour of the Tuamotu and Marquesas Islands. Governor Anziani, Madame Anziani and their party left Papeete in the Naval vessel Francis Garnier on January 1 and were given a tumultuous welcome wherever they went.

Calls were made at Rangiroa, Kaukura, Apataki, Takaroa and a number of other islands in the Groups. Each call was the occasion for speeches, dancing, singing, and feasting as well as for more formal inspections of schools, buildings and Public Works projects.

Native gifts were showered upon the visitors and at Takaroa the party was given an exhibition of pearl diving in the lagoon. Before leaving this island a visit was made to the wrecked British four-masted ship, County of Roxburg, which has been high and dry on the reef since it was swept there by a cyclone on February 7, 1906.

MR. ANTHONY BAMBRIDGE, Snr., has returned to Papeete after a successful business visit to Australia. He is loud in his praise of the hospitality he received in Sydney, and would like to convey his thanks to those who made his visit there such a pleasant one.

Mr. Bambridge made the round trip in the Messageries Maritimes liner Ville D'Amiens, and in spite of what has been

said in some quarters regarding conditions on this ship, found cuisine and service excellent.

It is generally regretted in Tahiti that the Messageries Maritimes ships will in future omit calls to Sydney. This service will be missed by the travelling public.

(Ed. Note: It was never suggested that the first class accommodation on the Messageries Maritimes ships was anything but excellent. Certain ships of the line, however, did receive bad publicity in Sydney newspapers a year or so ago when they brought European displaced persons to Australia steerage-class. The company refused to take responsibility for the way in which these migrants had travelled. It was, they said, all arranged by some European travel agency).

Papeete's popular Postmaster, Monsieur A. M. Pons, accompanied by his family, left for France on the Ville D'Amiens on January 5. It is expected that he will have a long holiday before taking up other duties. Assistant-Postmaster De Quincey will take over his job in Papeete.

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Buka-Bougainville Has Radio and Labour Troubles

From Our Own Correspondent

OUR tele-radio set at Sohano has been on the blink again and, while outward traffic was held up, attempts were made to receive the incoming messages on a private set. Over the past three years this has frequently occurred. Surely an all-wise Department—if it can be pinned down—will see that the District Headquarters of an important district are provided with the means of keeping in touch with the outside world. Considerable annoyance and some distress has been caused to isolated people in the district to find that, when a Directorate vessel comes along a radio cannot be sent from the ship. Often a ship brings mail needing an urgent reply, or some important cargo has not been shipped. To send a radio from the land station means sending a native on a long journey by foot or by canoe. When the master of the ship, knowing the circumstances, tries to send a message the curt reply comes back: "Only ships' business on the radio." Inquiry in Rabaul revealed that the RTC were quite willing to receive messages, but had strict orders from one of the firms, acting as Agents for the Directorate ships, against it. This seems quite unnecessary. The matter has been taken up with a view to an alteration being made.

Recently the point arose at Sohano as to whether or not an MLI radio could be sent to a registered radio address or not. The sender was advised that it could not and that ordinary rates were required in such a case. Inquiries at Rabaul show

that these radios, at 6/3 for 25 words, can be sent to a registered address. Someone at the Rabaul end had not read the latest regulations!

AN unusual incident happened on the Buka west coast a week ago. A very large school of bonito became

stranded at low water on the reef which connects Jame and Petats Islands. There were many thousands of these fish high and dry and in the rock pools. Natives from nearby villages came with all the canoes they could muster and worked against time to collect the fish and smoke them for bartering purposes. When high water came again the fish were also getting a bit high and thousands drifted off and made a fine feast for the waiting sharks. These fish are the meat of the islands dwellers and there were full bellies and contented smiles for days following the episode. Cases of the sort occur at long intervals on this coast.

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is the storekeeper, Wong You, who has a well-stocked store, has bought a couple of small plantations, also has others leased and is engaged in trading copra and trocas. His work-boat is constantly up and down the coast delivering goods and collecting trade. Two things that increase his popularity are the fine yearly calendars that he hands out, and also the fact that he holds a liquor licence.

That energetic man, Bishop Wade, has been reaching out since the war finished. He bought largely from Americans and War Disposals at Torokina, thus enabling himself to re-establish his mission stations. He acquired water craft for his needs, and has imported a number of his own countrymen to fill the gaps caused by retirement of the older priests, and natives are beginning to learn all about the Star Spangled Banner, which certainly turned the tide in these parts. The Bishop has also acquired Mabiri Plantation and Tearouki Plantation on the Bougainville coast.

The former has been leased to Wong You and the latter turned into a fine mission station. Complete with Quonset huts and other buildings. Tearouki also turns out copra. Now we hear that Bishop Wade has a ten-year lease of Nissau Plantation from Burns Philp and that should give him control of the Group. He has also interested himself in trying to get the natives of central Buka to organise themselves into a co-operative band, to sell their copra collectively and run a trade store. But, if he can instil "co-operation" into these insular and conservative Buka people, then he is a better man than we are. However, we wish him luck!

"FARMING OUT" of plantation areas to village natives is a method of producing copra that is meeting with some success in Kiefa area. Mr. J. Ellis, of Arawa Plantation, probably has the best example of a happy arrangement, and both parties are pleased about it. The method has been tried in Buka but not, up to date, with much success.

The natives joyfully enter into such an arrangement and begin operations, but when they discover that it means work of a continuous nature and that they are expected to honour their agreement, they fade away and are seen no more! They have got so used to War Damages, and such things, and think that "farming out" is some sort of new "War Damage". The shock of realising that "hand outs" do not grow on bushes any more is too much for them. One strong and well populated village completed all arrangements with a local planter to begin operations in the New Year. The date of commencing, the number of natives to toil in the vineyard, etc., was all arranged by the village heads, and news conveyed to the expectant planter. But nothing more eventuated and no explanation was vouchsafed to the planter. Under the present indulgent control this sort of thing continually happens and the natives have no sense of responsibility. The disappointed planter, as the natives would remark, "been have 'im bad luck!"

To those of a speculative turn of mind, and a desire to work things out to a logical conclusion, the problem of the native labour supply in Buka and Bougainville is an intriguing one. Here we have a district, closed to outside recruiting, and with ample natives to handle all the work in their villages and on plantations, yet we have several good producing plantations not yet rehabilitated, and many others only partially producing.

In order to get copra out the plantation owners have to engage labourers from Aitape and Wewak, which are at the extreme north-west of New Guinea, while this district is at the extreme south-east

of the Territory. The natives come this long distance, by plane to Rabaul and ship to Bougainville and Buka, at most expensive rates, and often losing as much as two months of their 12 months' indenture before reaching their destination. Then, after the short period left, they have to be sent back to their mainland homes.

KIETA NEWS

From Our Own Correspondent

KIETA, Bougainville, Jan. 28.
MR. FRANK JONES, our new ADO, is settling into his job with energy and resource, and is keen to foster the cordial relations that have always existed here between the Administration and the Planters and Traders of the District. He has done his first patrol here to Iwi by Numa Numa work-boat, skippered by Sandy Sanderson.

The Catalina which took off from here for Rabaul on January 18 carried the largest number of European passengers flown out since the service was inaugurated. They were: Mrs. J. Joyce, of Iwi Plantation; Mrs. Maclellan and three children, who had been enjoying Christmas at Arawa Plantation; Father Moran, and Sister Juliana, of Tonoru RC Mission; and Mr. K. Hendren, of Works and Housing, Rabaul.

Having completed the big Lezu bridge, and a small bridge at Kiopat in the RC Mission area, Mr. John Cox has now begun the Toneru River bridge, a fairly big job, which he hopes to have well under way before he goes on leave to Australia in mid-March.

Mr. and Mrs. Ian Westerman celebrated the second anniversary of their wedding by giving a party to Kieta residents on the evening of January 29. Present were: A. D. O. Frank Jones, Medical Assistant Gordon Lansdowne, with Mrs. Lansdowne and young Christopher; Pastor Martin, SDA, of Lumba; and Works Supervisor, John Cox.

Over a year ago, one of our most advanced and intelligent local natives, Roval, who won the Military Medal for outstanding gallantry during the Japanese invasion, was encouraged by the Administration to plant a rice crop. He was assured that the Government, through the Department of Agriculture, would provide him with the necessary winnowing and husking machinery. In due course the rice grew on Roval's land at Mogontoro, was reaped and bagged as it ripened, but, alas, after over a year, the rice is still in the bags and is rotting waiting for the promised machines.

NEED FOR BUKA PASSAGE BEACONS

From Our Own Correspondent

BUKA PASSAGE, Feb. 1.
REPRESENTATIONS have been made by the Bougainville Association to the appropriate authorities in regard to the setting up of the beacons in Buka Passage. More than half of the originals have disappeared and those remaining are falling into disrepair.

It has been pointed out that many of the Masters using the Passage are not familiar with its turns and twists, and that the present condition of the beacons causes a good deal of delay and constitutes a danger. Some ships when heading for Rabaul go round the north of Buka rather than through the Passage. Several small ships have had "reef trouble" in the Passage in the last three years, including the *Laurabada* which went up in broad daylight, and recently the *Comworks* had a nasty experience.

RABAUL ROUNDABOUT

From Our Own Correspondent

RABAUL, Jan. 31.
SINCE the severe earthquake in October, 1949, the coastal road between Rabaul and Kokopo has been closed to traffic. The tremor caused heavy landslides which effectively blocked the road for about two miles.

In the meantime traffic has been diverted to the so-called "Burma Road" which follows the hills that surround Simpson Harbour. The many war-time disposal vehicles which are owned by Europeans, Chinese and natives at Rabaul are hard put to it to negotiate the many steep climbs on this inland route, and already there have been several narrow escapes and at least one death when a truck capsized on one of the hills.

The Kokopo natives, and especially those who live in the villages at the side of the coastal road, have been anxious for the road to be opened but to date the Administration has not made any definite promises.

Then the village councils of Kokopo sub-district, with praiseworthy zeal, decided to help themselves—and the country in general. In December the councils collected some £900 from the local villages and then informed the DO, Mr. J. K. McCarthy, that they proposed using this money for re-opening the road.

The councils were informed that the Administration was not in favour of any effort being made in this direction; that a survey would be made during 1950, and after that a decision would be made. In January the councils again brought the

matter up and requested that they be allowed to purchase rice, meat and petrol at the Government price from the Government Stores for labour gangs. The DO informed the councils that no encouragement could be given, and warned them that even if the road were opened there was no guarantee that the Department of Works and Housing would maintain it. They were not, however, prohibited by the DO from going ahead with the scheme.

Ten days ago the councils acted with sturdy self-reliance. They purchased food from the commercial firms in Rabaul and started work on the heavy task of removing the tremendous amount of pumice which blocked the highway.

Apologising to the DO for ignoring his advice, the councils stated that they wished to make an attempt in an effort to assist the public and the Administration. The Councils were fully aware that if they succeeded, the road would be open to the public and all would be free to use it.

In ten days an immense amount of work has been done and there remains only one landslide to be over-come before the road will be open again. This is a large one and it is anticipated that it will take another nine days to clear it.

On a recent inspection visit by the DO, 870 men were found at work shovelling pumice over the cliffs into the sea. The work was well-organised—Native-owned trucks carried the workers to and from the job and food kitchens have been set



Rabaul school children at the December break-up parties. TOP: European school. LOWER: Chinese school. —Photos by Meen.

up. Normally, 200 men are employed, but on one day each week 700 men from other villages have volunteered to help.

AN earth tremor on Friday, January 13, followed by another on the 14th, reminded residents of Rabaul and Kokopo that the Gods of Volcano are not prepared to await the convenience of Ministers and Administration forever.

Because the people are now becoming expert at catching toppling cruckery, etc., no damage was done, except to the nerves of many souls who prefer not to be buried alive.

In the meantime the Administration hopes to obtain the services of a volcanologist who will take up residence in Rabaul.

MR. and MRS. DYSON HORE-LACY, who were married last year in Melbourne, made a hurried visit to their plantation Garua in the Talasea District, New Britain during the month. They have a charming home at Kallista in Victoria, of about 100 acres which is being developed into a prosperous farm.

SENATOR ROY KENDALL, a former resident of New Guinea paid an unofficial visit to the Territory during January to renew old friendships and take a brief glance at New Guinea in general (See elsewhere, this issue). He will be remembered as the pre-war captain of the Induna Star. Now that a former New Guinea man is holding office in the Commonwealth Government perhaps we may look forward to better conditions for the Territory in the future—we look to you Captain K.

MR. and MRS. R. SAVAGE, Kurakukul, Rabaul chose January 8 for the christening of their baby son, Gerald. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Mr. Hand and the godparents were Mr. R. Galway and Mrs. J. R. Keenan. As Mrs. Keenan is on her way to England, Mrs. J. K. McCarthy was her proxy.

MR. J. L. CHIPPER was the host at a large party held at the Island Paradise cabaret on January 5 to bid farewell to Miss Peggy Byron. Miss



Miss Byron in dark frock at left.

Byron has been in the Territory for many years as a member of the Education Department. She spent the pre-war years in Rabaul, the early post-war years in Port Moresby then back to Rabaul, and has now returned to Moresby again.

Miss Byron will be missed by all who knew her, and especially her school pupils for whom her efforts were untiring. A hard worker at all times, she was the organiser of the Rabaul Junior Red Cross Group.

During the party a cheque was presented to Miss Byron by Mr. Chris. Normoyle.

KAVIENG NEWS

From Our Own Correspondent

February 1.

FEARING that foreign planes were overhead, Kavieng residents peered nervously into the blue sky on January 27—they had not forgotten the unexpected and tragic Japanese raid of just eight years ago.

Then suddenly a strange, apparition burst into view, and, feeling along the waterfront in a southerly direction, it rushed past frightened natives, casting a spray of dust in its trail. Those with a keen eye were able to discern the popular manager of New Guinea Co., Ltd., seated placidly on a "wheel-wheel" and being rushed along the magnificent boulevard by a 240-mile-to-the-gallon "Motor-Mini", a neat, compact and newly-imported light-weight motor, that takes no more space on the back of a cycle than a packed rucksack.

AT Kavieng Hospital on January 25, a daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. J. White. Mr. White is District Labour Officer. The happy event was cause for much jubilation.

FIRST concrete foundation post of the Kavieng Club (1949) was poured on January 29. Things do not move in this peaceful haven with the same rapidity as that of an American Landing Force, nevertheless, intermittent and encouraging progress is being made, and within a few months the club should be erected. If we can emulate the success of the RSL Club, Rabaul, which recently took \$500 over the bar in one month, then our future is assured.

EXCITEMENT is gradually being worked up over the forthcoming arrival in March of the Mangola. It will be the first overseas vessel to visit Kavieng since before the war with Japan. The copra shed is packed with 20,000 bags ready for loading.

BREAD is now 1/9 a loaf, instead of 2/-, thanks to the recent visit of the Deputy Price Controller.

THOSE who know Kavieng are aware of the ferocity of the North-West winds and how roofs have to be battened down to prevent them from being blown off. This season, however, has been extremely mild, probably one of the mildest in living memory, and, so far, no material damage whatever has been done.

PACIFIC ISLANDS SOCIETY

AN interesting address was given to members of the Pacific Islands Society and their friends at History House, Sydney, on January 25 by Major F. G. L. Holland, GM, OBE.

Major Holland worked for 29 years among the people of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony, as Director of Education and as an Administrative Officer. He was trapped, along with other Government Officers, at Tarawa by the Japanese a few hours after the attack on Pearl Harbour.

He escaped three months later, and the next year was called to Pearl Harbour to assist with the plans for the recapture of the Gilbert Islands. He afterwards joined the attacking force, was present at the Battle of Tarawa, and then resumed his former work.

He called his address "We were Lucky at Tarawa."

NEW MEMBERS: Major and Mrs. F. G. L. Holland, Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. B. Morisset, Mr. T. Redfern, Mrs. L. Mulvey, Mr. F. F. McLean.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP: Honorary life membership has been conferred on Mrs. E. Marie Irvine for meritorious service.

DEATH OF MR. WILLIAM BAMBRIDGE

MR. WILLIAM BAMBRIDGE, one of the best-known and popular residents of Tahiti, died on January 12, in the Colonial Hospital at Papeete, after a brief illness.

BILL, as he was affectionately called by all, was best remembered outside Tahiti for his role of Hitihi in the film *Mutiny of the Bounty*. When Charles Laughton, who was Captain Bligh in the film, arrived at Matavai Bay for its production, Bill reminded him that Captain Cook, upon his departure from Tahiti on his last voyage, had promised to send Hitihi a naval officer's hat from the King of England. In answer to Bill's request for the said headgear and, to everyone's astonishment, Charles Laughton produced the promised three-cornered hat and presented it to him.

Much of the success of the Island sequences of the *Mutiny of the Bounty* was due to the ability of Bill Bambridge. He also took a prominent part in the filming of *Pagan*. A fine musician and performer on any instrument, he was a member of his brother's orchestra in America.

Entertainer, bon vivant and successful businessman, Papeete loses one of its most interesting and colourful figures.

A NEW GOLD CO. FOR NEW GUINEA

GOLD MINES of New Guinea NL has been formed in Adelaide to investigate and prospect gold-bearing alluvial deposits reported in New Guinea on an old German plan. Nominal capital is £100,000, in £10 shares, on which 1,500 are being offered for public subscription payable £5 on application and the balance shortly after allotment.

The areas to be explored are described as being in the central highlands, and were mapped by an expedition headed by Lauterbach, a German sent to New Guinea by his Government in 1892 to report on industrial and mineral resources. The proposed field party will be headed by Mr. C. Coldham, consulting engineer, who, after examination of the Lauterbach documents, states that the proposition, "although speculative, is justifiable."

Directors of the new company are Messrs. I. McLachlan, W. P. A. Laphorne, H. W. E. Thompson, L. A. E. Evans and J. R. Holden.

Were it not for the strong directorate this might be written off as just another of those old German-pickle-bottle-full-of-gold-stories with which New Guinea abounds.

It is, unlikely, however, that the area investigated by Lauterbach was the Central NG Highlands as we know them to-day. There has never been any suggestion that the Germans ever penetrated that country. The location that will be investigated is probably more towards the Ramu.

The activities of this company will be watched with interest. New Goldmining enterprise in NG has been lacking in recent years.

MR. A. L. Moore, Consultant on Visual Aids to the Director of the Australian Commonwealth Office of Education, in January visited Fiji in connection with a visual education project of the Research Council of the South Pacific Commission. He is to investigate by demonstration and experiment the potentialities of the 16 m.m. sound and silent projector and the 35 m.m. strip film projector as educational media for South Pacific communities.

DEATH OF MRS. DOLLY MESSENGER

MRS. DOLLY MESSENGER, a member of one of old New Guinea's best-known families, died in hospital in Sydney on February 12. She had been in ill-health for some time.

Mrs. Messenger was a daughter of the late Mrs. Phoebe Parkinson, of New Ireland. Mrs. Parkinson, who died in New Ireland at an advanced age, during the Jap occupation, was a daughter of Jonas M. Coe, once United States Commercial Agent in Western Samoa, and she was the elder sister of the late Mrs. Kolbe—otherwise known as "Queen Emma."

Mrs. Messenger was twice married. When World II came she was classed as a person of enemy nationality, and was interned in Australia; but, before the end of the war, she was released and allowed to take a job in Cobar, NSW. Subsequently, ageing and obviously in poor health, she filled various positions in Sydney.

Soon after the French liner Ville d'Amiens berthed in Papete in January, the Governor of French Oceania went aboard and sought out M. Tony Bambridge. M. Bambridge, with Madame and Mdlle. Bambridge, had just returned from a holiday in New Zealand and Australia. His Excellency informed M. Bambridge that the President of France had been pleased to confer upon him the Order of Chevalier of the Legion of Honour—one of the highest distinctions in the gift of France—for services to France and French Oceania. M. Bambridge has received congratulations from hundreds of friends.

Classified Advertisements

BIRTH NOTICE

McKAY.—At Rahaul Hospital, New Britain, T.N.G., on Wednesday, February 1, to Laurie and Robin S. McKay, of Aropa Plantation, Bougainville Island, New Guinea—a daughter (Sarina Jean). Both well.

ISLANDS SOUVENIR

SOUTH SEAS SONGS—Uplifting Poems. Cover: Feathery Palms, Tropical Flowers, Island Girl. Ideal gift or Souvenir. One dollar (8/- Aust.). Post Free.—Dr. W. Swann, 2574 W. Broadway, Vancouver, B.C., Canada.

MOSQUITO NETTING

FOR SALE.—Mosquito Netting, 6,000 yards, green, square mesh, 36 in. wide, 45-yard lengths. Perfect condition. 1/2 per yard. F.O.B., Sydney. Send inquiries to "Netting," c/o Box 3408, G.P.O., Sydney, N.S.W., Australia.

POSITIONS WANTED

PLANTATION MANAGER.—Advertiser, ex-plantation manager in India, experienced with native labour, and possessing administrative ability, desires similar position in the Pacific Islands. Excellent credentials. Replies by air mail to: "Planter," c/o Post Office Box 52, Auckland, New Zealand.

MARRIED COUPLE.—Keen young man and wife desire opening in the Islands in any capacity, both working if necessary. Man has general experience as mechanic and fitter, diesel and petrol engines, and as fitter in machine tool-making shop; knows Islands well. Wife experienced in bookkeeping and general clerical work. Replies to: "Reliable," c/o Box 3408, G.P.O., Sydney.

Theodore, of Vatu-koula, Passes On

WHEN Mr. E. G. Theodore died in Sydney on February 9, aged 65, tributes to his brilliant qualities as statesman, financier and director of commercial organisation, came from all over the world. He was of Roumanian stock, and his beginnings were very humble. But he was Premier of Queensland in his thirties, and Commonwealth Treasurer in his forties. Only the turmoil of politics prevented him from being Prime Minister of Australia.

He arrived in Fiji, in the 'thirties, as the inspiration of the Melbourne group which developed the very successful Emperor and Loloma gold-mines in Tavua; and his genius and human sympathy were never to better advantage than in the organisation of that great industry, and the establishment of the model town of Vatu-koula. There dwell there, now, under happy conditions, three large communities, well paid and well housed, and provided with all reasonable amenities. Mr. Theodore was living there, on the hillside, in his large, beautifully-furnished bungalow, looking out over his prosperous little kingdom, when he was stricken in 1948 with the illness which ended in his death. He was a great man and, in every way, a very good friend of Fiji and the Fijians.

PUBLIC NOTICE

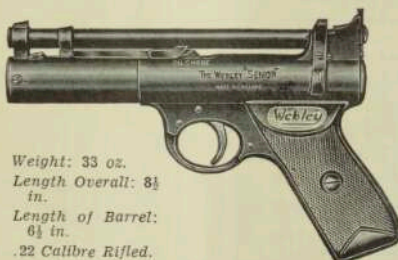
SPECIAL POLICY.—The City Mutual Life Assurance Society, Limited, of Adelaide, South Australia, after one month, intends to issue a Special Policy in lieu of Policy No. 211942 on the life of RAYMOND HILTON HARRIS, declared to have been burnt.—D. W. CHAFFER, Manager for S.A., Adelaide, January, 1950.

A. H. BUNTING LTD. SAMARAI

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WEBLEY SENIOR AIR PISTOL



Weight: 33 oz.
Length Overall: 8½ in.
Length of Barrel: 6½ in.
.22 Calibre Rifled.

The Webley "Senior" Air Pistol is the latest Model de Luxe. It contains the leading points of the "Mark I" Air Pistol, with the following important additions:—

1. Adjustable Backsight (both Lateral and Vertical), which is capable of being regulated.
2. Fitted with a special sear mechanism, which ensures a light pull-off and obviates the necessity of a Trigger adjusting screw.
3. The cocking of the Pistol by means of the barrel has been enormously facilitated by the addition of a patent double joint, which assists in the leverage to such an extent that any young person can easily operate it.
4. The top catch of the "Mark I" is replaced by a Webley Revolver stirrup, this giving an absolute and positive lock.
5. The barrel has been considerably strengthened.
6. Piston is fitted with special Metal Ring in place of Leather Washer, giving increased velocity and durability. Use Webley No. 2 Oil.
7. The butt of the Pistol is serrated to ensure a perfect grip.

Each Pistol is supplied in cardboard box containing Webley Special Pellets, Spare Washer, Cleaning Brush and Instructions.

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). Due to the strong demand for the new season's crop (1949-50), and to the devaluation of the £ stig., prices have risen considerably during recent months.

Accra (quotation by Colyer, Watson Pty., Ltd., Sydney): £227/10/- sterling (equivalent to £232/17/6 Aust.) c.i.f., Sydney.

Western Pacific cocoa beans were quoted on the Sydney market in mid-February at—
New Guinea: £222/10/- per ton, ex wharf.
New Hebrides: £227/10/- per ton, ex wharf.

Most of western Samoa's cocoa production goes to USA, where it is allocated by the International Control Board. The price in Apia fell in 1949 to £110 Samoan per ton, f.o.b., but later recovered under a stimulated American demand. Recently, Samoan beans were quoted at £218 Samoan per ton, f.o.b., and the price was expected to advance even further before mid-1950 (Samoa currency is equal to Sterling).

TROCUS SHELL

Irregular shipments are handled in Sydney by some Pacific Islands trading firms. Nominal quotations are: Thursday Island shell, £45 to £70 per ton, f.o.b.; New Guinea shell, £64 per ton, c.i.f., Sydney; Solomon Islands shell, £65 per ton, c.i.f., Sydney. The market is still in an unsettled state owing to the recent devaluation of the £ stig.—recent sales, though, have been either a little above or a little below the quotations stated.

COFFEE

Overseas prices for coffee produced in British Territories and Colonies increased in late 1949, following devaluation of the £ stig., and Pacific Territories prices for coffee advanced similarly. Nominal quotations are:—

New Caledonia: Production exported to France at higher than normal rates (equivalent to around £250 Aust. per ton for Arabica and £200 Aust. for Robusta).

New Guinea and Papua: Nominally £180 to £240 per ton (c.i.f.), according to quality.
Java: No exports coming to Australia from Indonesia at present.

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VANILLA BEANS

Production of the main South Seas vanilla-producer, French Oceania, mostly goes to USA. Price for Tahiti vanilla beans (White Label) quoted on the Sydney market (by J. C. Merrilees Pty., Ltd.) is 8/6 per lb., c.i.f., Australian ports.

RICE

No free-trading in rice at present—though persistent efforts are being made at present to decentralise it. All the Australian crop goes to the Commonwealth Government for allocation to countries where rice is a staple of the native peoples. Rice shipped from Sydney to Islands ports is fixed at £43 per ton White and £49 per ton Brown.

GREEN SNAIL SHELL

Nominal quotations in Sydney are at £65 per ton, c.i.f., for f.a.g. shell, but there have been no sales during the past 12 months.

PEARL SHELL

By a three-years' contract between the Otto Gerda Company (Principal Mother of Pearl Shell buyer in USA) and the majority of Torres Strait pearlers, the Thursday Island shell prices were fixed in the middle of 1949 at: Sound grades, £A325 per ton, f.o.b., T.I.; "D" grade, £A225; "E" grade, £A125—all prices plus a bonus to be declared by the company (£A24 for the first portion of 1949-50 season). Last season's prices were around £A400 for first-class grades of Torres shell.

Independent quotation: Top grades, £A465 per ton, "D", £A396, "E", £A240.

The Torres Strait pearling season closed at the end of January, until April.

PRICE OF GOLD

The Commonwealth Bank's price for gold bought in Australia is—
Fine .. £15/9/10 oz. .. £14/4/-
Standard (Australian Currency).

COPRA

Copa Prices During World War II

The copra market was controlled by the various Governments from the outbreak of World War II 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	£10 0 0	£15 5 0
July, 1942	10 12 6	15 12 6
June, 1944	10 10 0	16 0 0
October, 1944	20 0 0	18 10 0
December, 1945	19 7 6	17 12 6
January, 1946	18 5 6	18 0 0
August, 1946	23 10 6	22 5 0
February, 1947	29 15 0	29 10 0
June 9, 1947	30 19 0	30 12 6
December 6, 1947	38 5 0	38 0 0
March 13, 1948	46 5 6	46 0 0
January 1, 1949	49 10 6	49 5 0
January 1, 1950		53 14 3

(MOP prices)
Since January 1, 1949, the British Ministry of Food has had a 9-years' contract with the Fiji Government to buy the Colony's copra at fixed prices yearly. Each year until 1958, the price will be adjusted by negotiation.

New Hebrides
From a maximum of £70/12/6 (Aust.), per ton, in 1946, the price of New Hebrides copra fixed in 1949 to around £A38 per ton.

Western Samoa
Samoa has a 10 years' contract agreement with the UK Government—exporters during 1949 received £43 Samoan per ton (an additional £3 per ton being held by the Copra Board towards a Stabilisation Fund).

TERRITORY OF PAPUA-NEW GUINEA

ANGPCB Fixed Price, Delivered to Ship's Sticks or to the Board's warehouse.

	Hot-air	Smoked
Jan. 7, 1947	£28 0 0	£27 0 0
June 17, 1947	£31 2 9	
Nov. 23, 1947	£35 10 0	
April 8, 1948	£40-£45	

	Pt. Moresby	£48 0 0	£47 7 6
Samara	£48 0 0	£47 7 6	
Madang	£48 0 0	£47 7 6	
Rabaul	£48 0 0	£47 7 6	
Kokopo	£48 17 6	£46 5 0	
Kavieng	£45 17 6	£45 5 0	

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	

From January 1, 1949, Australia 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 was £48 Stg. per ton, f.o.b., Territory ports (planters received £48 Aust. per ton). Negotiations now are proceeding to fix the new 1950 price.

RUBBER

Since the Commonwealth Government's wartime price control on rubber was lifted, most Australian trading firms use the Singapore day-to-day quotations as a basis when buying Siam rubber. Recent Singapore Exchange buying prices for four grades and average rates have been—

No. 1 RSS, baled, 56½ cents lb. (17.62d. Aust.)
No. 1 RSS, loose, 56½ cents lb. (17.62d. Aust.)
No. 2 RSS, baled, 49½ cents lb. (17.41d. Aust.)
No. 3 RSS, baled, 49½ cents lb. (17.27d. Aust.)

QUOTATIONS FOR MINING
SHARES

FIJI
Aug. 1939, mid-Jan. Feb. 1
Emperor Mines .. 69/10 814/9 813/-
Leloma 125/6 127/- 127/6

NEW GUINEA
Bulalo G.D. £124/- £100/- £110/-
Enterprise of N.O. £27/8 110/- 112/6
Guinea Gold £12/3 99/9 98/-
N.O.G. Ltd. £17/10 32/- 32/-
Placer Development .. 648/6 914/3 917/6
Sandy Creek £1/5 64d. 61/-
Sunshine Gold £6/5 61/9 611/-

PAPUA
Cuthbert's Mimba .. 116/6 64/6 63/9
Mandated Alluvials .. 63/8 61/6 61/19
Oil Search 53/11 50/1 54/11½
Orion Oil 65/- 62/3 62/3
Papuan Apinipai .. 64/11 64/9 65/-

Exchange Rates

The following exchange quotations show the rates existing in Sydney in mid-February—

FIJI
Through Bank of NSW and Bank of New Zealand—Australia on Fiji on basis of £100 Fiji, buying, £A111/2/6, selling, £A113 Fiji—London on basis of £100 London—
Buying .. 111 2 6 113 0 0
Selling .. 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—London on basis of £100 London—
Buying .. 123 12 6 124 10 9
Selling .. 123 12 6 124 10 9

NEW ZEALAND
NZ—Buying, £100; selling, £100/10/-.
NZ—London on basis of £100 London—
Buying, £111; selling, £110.
NZ—Australia on basis of £1 Samoa (telegraphic transfer): Buying, 2.7901 dollars; selling, 2.7506 dollars.

The Bank of NZ in Apia pays the following Samoan currency prices for overseas notes—
NZ notes 11 for £1
Australian notes 15/6 for £A1
USA notes 7/3 (approx.) per dollar
Fiji notes 17/6 for £A1

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 (using Metropolitan francs): France, North Africa, West Indies, French Guiana. Group 2 (using African francs): All African Colonies, Madagascar, Reunion, St. Pierre, Miquelon. Group 3 (using Pacific francs): New Caledonia, New Hebrides, French Oceania. In September, 1949, when Britain and Australia devalued their currencies, in relation to the US dollar, the franc rate was altered as shown below (nominal only):—
£ Stg. USA Dol. £ Aust.
Group 1 (Metrop.) .. 961 340.20 777
Group 2 (Africa) .. 490 175 348
Group 3 (Pacific) .. 178.37 60 141.73

All quotations are subject to daily fluctuations

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