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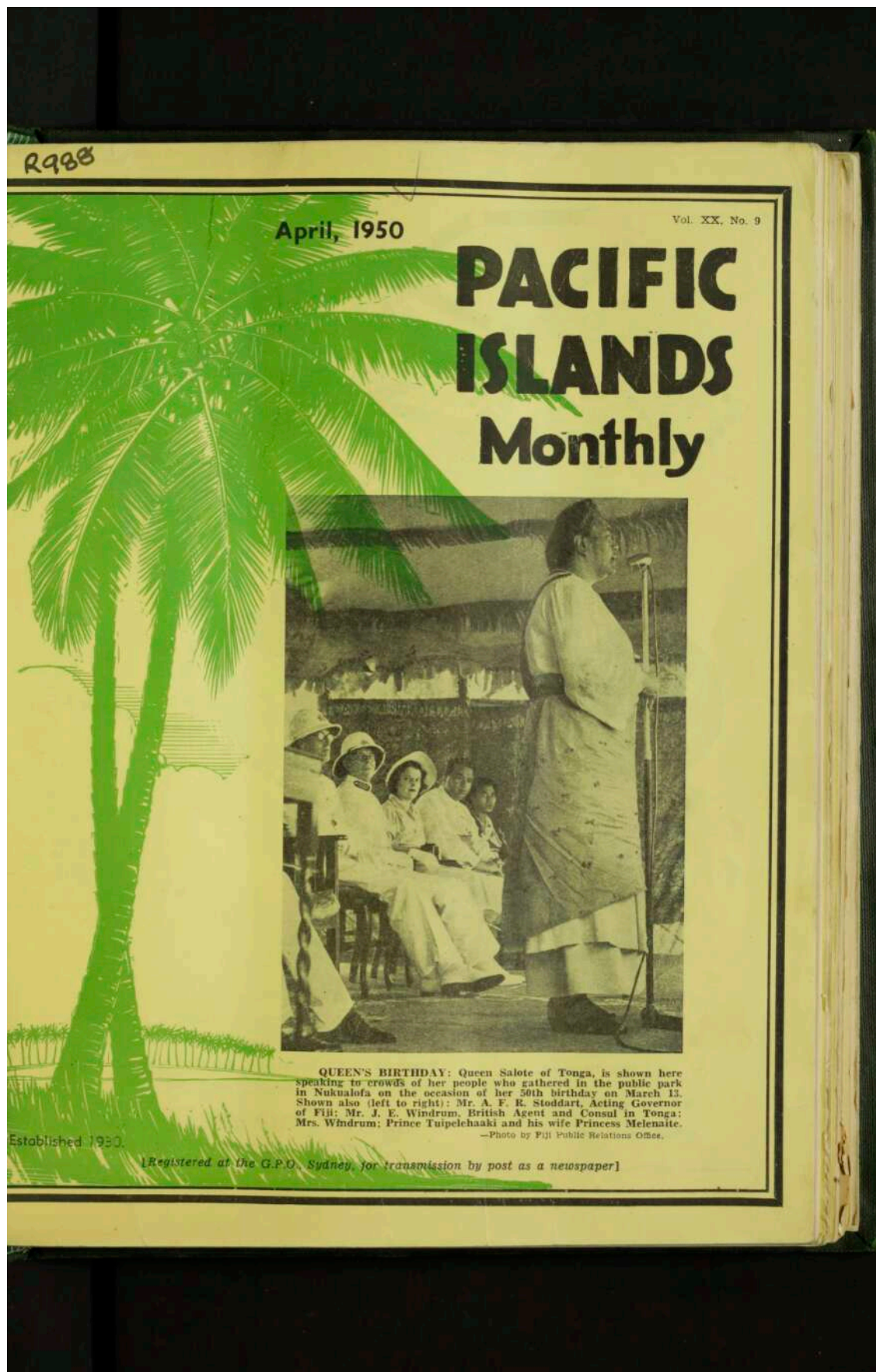
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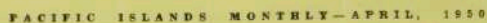
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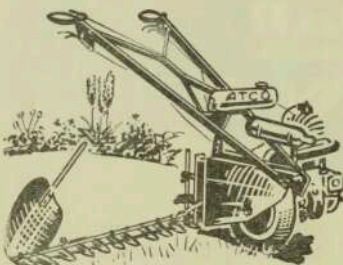
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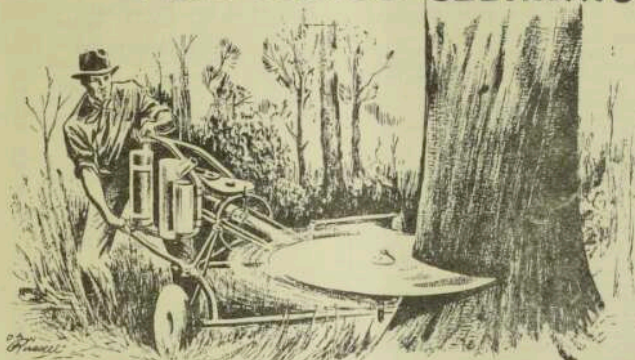
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Mr. Spender's New Guinea Plans May Have Wide Background

THE energy and vision displayed by the Australian Minister, Mr. Spender, in statements during his inspection of Papua and New Guinea, suggest that, when he makes his promised announcement in the Australian Parliament on policy in relation to Pacific Territories generally, some interesting developments may be indicated.

Australia's intentions regarding Papua-New Guinea, as an Administrative task, are outlined in an article elsewhere, describing Mr. Spender's visit to the Territories. Behind all this there probably is a bigger plan, of significance to all the Pacific Territories eastward of New Guinea.

Australia seems destined to play a bigger and bigger part in South Pacific affairs. In the world-wide ecological struggle that is developing, it probably will be Australia's responsibility to impose a barrier between the thousand million people in Asia, now in a ferment of nationalism and Communism, and the score of lands communities to the eastward, who have modelled their national life according to patterns brought to them by Western Democracy.

The proudest achievement of the United Nations up to date is the destruction of that model of colonial administration, the Netherlands

Indies. In its place the United Nations has given us the calamitous "United States of Indonesia"—which already are disunited and in process of collapse, and likely to become a happy hunting-ground of Asiatic Communism. Under the Dutch regime, the Netherlands Indies would have been a barrier between Asia and Australia. Under the new regime, Indonesia brings aggressive Asiatic nationalism to the very doors of Australia—a menace to our peace and security which will become greater as it becomes more Red.

IT is not surprising, therefore, that the new Australian anti-Communist Government should see, in New Guinea, something more than a problem of administration. New Guinea, as was shown in the Pacific war, is an essential part of the defensive arc of Islands which Australia must hold as a part of her defences. That arc starts in Timor, north-west of Australia, and extends through Dutch New Guinea, Australian New Guinea, the Bismarck Archipelago, Bougainville, the British Solomon Islands and the New Hebrides, to New Caledonia; and if defence of Australia is a primary consideration in Australian policy in relation to the Pacific Islands, then Australia must have a voice in the administration, not only of Eastern New Guinea and

the Bismarck Archipelago, but also of most of the other Islands named.

A political struggle is developing over the future control of western New Guinea. The Dutch hold it, and the Dutch want to retain it. The Indonesians covet it and, apparently, are prepared to fight the Dutch for it. It should be held by the Dutch; but, failing that, it must be controlled by Australia, for Australia's safety. A realist Australian Government can take no other view.

A question is arising, also, in relation to Timor and the future use of those little groups of Islands (Tenimbar, Aroe, and Kai) which lie in between Dutch New Guinea and the Australian coast. Australia cannot, with equanimity, witness the development of those places as Indonesian strongposts—they are far too close to her northern coasts. Some of the most destructive Japanese air raids on Australia's northern ports in 1942 came from Jap bases in the Aroe and Tenimbar Islands and in Timor.

MR. SPENDER is a man of vision and lively imagination. It is not to be supposed that he is blind to these considerations and implications. There is probably more than a little significance in the fact that, having completed his New Guinea tour at Rabaul, he returned to Australia through the Solomons, New Hebrides and New Caledonia Islands—all vital eastern links in the islands chain that is of so much importance in any scheme of Australian defence.

Some statement from the Australia

lian Prime Minister, or from his Minister for External Affairs and Territories, dealing with the foregoing matters, may be expected within the next month or two. It will be of interest to all communities in the South Pacific. Australia, alone, cannot be expected to hold back the masses of Asia, if ever we should come to World War III; but Australia's preparations, in making provision for defence, and in co-operating with the United States and the Western Democracies in a plan for the protection of the Pacific generally, are of great importance to all of us.

NEW PRICE FOR P-NG COPRA?

It was reported in Sydney, as this journal went to press, that the rates to be paid to New Guinea planters for copra during the current year were under consideration in Canberra.

It was expected that, while there would be no change in the British contract price, the price paid by the Production Control Board (or whatever instrumentality succeeded it) to the planters would be increased.

It is believed that the Minister (Mr. Spender) when recently in Port Moresby, reached an agreement with the PCB and that this is now likely to be implemented from Canberra at an early date.

The main trouble facing Canberra is the fact that about half the production of copra in Papua-New Guinea is now consumed in Australia. The Government is quite agreeable that NG planters should get the highest possible price—but it is not anxious to raise the price now being paid by Australian crushers.

POSITION IN CEYLON

It was reported from Colombo on March 21 that Ceylon's Minister of Commerce is considering a United States offer to buy Ceylon's entire exportable surplus of coconut oil up to June 30, 1961. Negotiations for a new copra and coconut oil contract between the British Food Ministry and the Ceylon Government failed last December.

Ceylon's Minister of Commerce said on March 20 that the American offer vindicated his policy of not entering into the proposed new Copra Contract with Britain (£48/10/- per ton, during 1950).

MP VISITS NORFOLK IS.

MR. HOWSE, MHR, Parliamentary Under-Secretary to the Australian Minister of External Territories, arrived on Norfolk Is. by Skymaster on April 6 and left on the 11th for New Zealand where he will have unofficial talks with the Dominion's Prime Minister and the Minister for External Affairs.

Mr. Spender was unable to visit us following his recent visit to New Guinea and Mr. Howse deputised for him. While here, the visitor was the guest of the Administrator, Mr. Alex Wilson. Residents met Mr. Howse at an afternoon tea on the afternoon before his departure and many availed themselves of the open invitation.

and besides, would not be interested in the development of an Island over which The latest rumour is that Mr. Howse, while in New Zealand, will endeavour to put Norfolk Island before the authorities as a potential supplier of citrus fruits and bananas to the Dominion. This has been tried before with little success. NZ is too heavily involved in the Cook Islands she has no jurisdiction.—V.W.

CYNICAL!

Fiji's Attitude Towards S. Pacific Conference

From a Special Correspondent

SUVA, April 10.
THE general attitude of the Europeans in Fiji towards the first South Pacific Conference, which is to open here on April 25, is one of cynicism and indifference.

"I can see much possible good in a conference of Polynesian races, or in a conference, perhaps, of Melanesian races," said one observer here to-day. "But I cannot see how a conference of Polynesians and Melanesians can achieve anything or get together on any subject. They are centuries apart."

So far as Fiji is concerned, I think that the Governor made a blunder when he insisted that an Indian delegate should attend this Conference of native peoples. The Indians did not want a delegate; the Fijians certainly did not want an Indian speaking for Fiji; and Europeans, as the third and most important community in Fiji, naturally resent being ignored—although they would have been quite happy about an all-Fijian delegation.

To be logical and consistent, there should be a Chinese delegate from New Guinea and another Chinese delegate

from Tahiti. In principle, those Asiatic communities are just as important in these Territories as are the Indians in Fiji.

All progress in the Pacific up to date has taken place under European guidance and stimulus. A group of people completely inexperienced in international affairs are not going to produce anything monumental by just sitting around a table for a couple of weeks.

However, I am keeping an open mind and, if something really worthwhile does come out of the South Pacific Conference, none will be better pleased than the people of Suva.

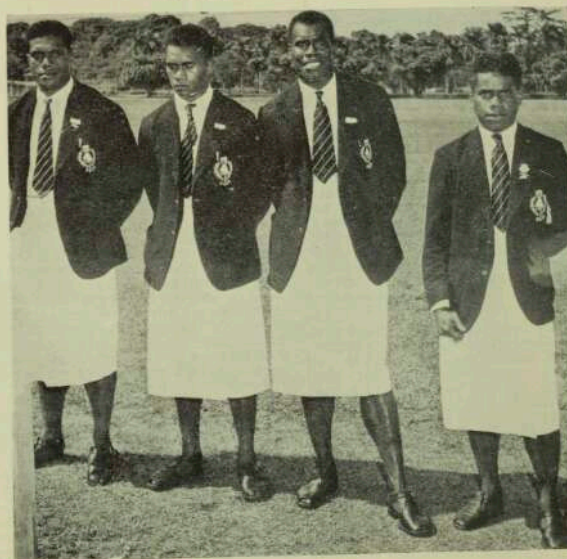
RAROTONGAN ELECTIONS

ELECTIONS for the Rarotonga Island Council were held in Rarotonga on March 31, with the following results:

Messrs. W. Watson (European member), Ua Turua, Vaevae Tamarua, W. P. Browne, Piri Maotea, Pu Tamaiva and Rauti Iro. In addition, the council includes six Arikis.

Mr. W. Watson was returned unopposed as European Member of the Rarotonga Island Council and the Legislative Council.

Fiji's Empire Games Team



Left to Right: Mataika Tuicahan, Orisi Dawni, Mahana Nukuvou, Luke Tanabuna.
—Photo by Fiji Public Relations.

THE four Fijian athletes who represented Fiji (for the first time) in track and field events at the British Empire Games returned from Auckland in the Matua on March 18 and were given an enthusiastic welcome.

After making something in the nature of royal progress from the King's Wharf

to Albert Park in a decorated truck, preceded by the band of the Fiji Military Forces, a short public ceremony was held at the park. Later the athletes were honoured at a large-scale Fijian gathering at the home of Ratu Sir Lala Sukuna and Lady Maraia, and in the evening the band provided the music at a crowded taralala at the Suva Town Hall.

TEAL NOT ON SUVA SERVICE YET

TASMAN Empire Airways, Ltd., was not able to take over the operation of the Auckland-Suva flying-boat service from NZ National Airways Corporation on April 4, as was originally anticipated. The date for taking over has now been moved on, provisionally, until early June.

Postponement is said to be due to delays in delivery of equipment which would have allowed the company to continue with its night flights between Auckland and Sydney (which operated for the recent summer). TEAL's trans-Tasman service is now back on a daytime schedule and this has complicated maintenance, and makes it difficult for the company to provide aircraft for the Auckland-Fiji service.

It is hoped that all difficulties will be ironed out by June 1.

NG SHIPPING

No Early Improvement Foreseen

ALTHOUGH "restrictions" are off private shipping in Papua-New Guinea, it is unlikely that there will be any rapid improvement in the coastal transport position.

Government ships will continue to run in competition with private ships; but there are now very few private ships to enter the trade.

The big firms are not at all enthusiastic at the idea of restoring their pre-war shipping and stevedoring organisation. They have suffered too much at the hands of Socialist officialdom. Before they undertake any heavy expense and obligations, they will want guarantees in relation to the future which the Government is not likely to give.

Another angle was presented by a representative of the Government Shipping Office in Port Moresby:

"Our ships now will operate on a strictly commercial basis.

"In the past, our ships have made unprofitable trips simply as a service to planters. Now we'll be flat out to beat private ships to the most profitable jobs. The small planter who cannot provide a full load will be out of luck."

Governor Back in Fiji

THE Governor of Fiji, and High Commissioner to the Western Pacific, Sir Brian Freeston, arrived back in the Colony by air on April 1.

He had been on leave to the United Kingdom.

Mr. and Mrs. N. Foxcroft celebrated their Silver Wedding, with family and friends in Melbourne, on April 11. Mrs. Foxcroft is the popular president of the New Guinea Women's Club of Sydney and both are well-known in New Guinea where Mr. Foxcroft, before the war, was with Amalgamated Wireless (A'sia), Ltd. Although now permanently living in Sydney, the Foxcroft couple still regard themselves as Territorials and are tireless workers for any New Guinea cause.

The Rev. Father J. Schwab, of the Society of the Divine Word Mission (headquarters at Alexishafen, New Guinea) was in Sydney in early April en route to Rome and Europe. He will visit his homeland, Austria, for the first time since leaving there 16 years ago for New Guinea.

FIRST SOUTH PACIFIC CONFERENCE Delegates Assemble In Suva

BY April 20, the representatives of 16 major groups of South Pacific Islanders were assembling in Suva, to attend the First South Pacific Conference, which will be opened there by the Governor of Fiji on April 24. It will discuss political, social and economic problems.

The Conference will make recommendations to the fifth session of the South Pacific Commission which will sit in Suva on May 10.

The South Pacific Conference is the first of its kind ever held, and in future will be convened at intervals of not more than three years.

The South Pacific Commission, a fact-finding, technical and advisory body set up to protect the interests of non-self-governing peoples in the Pacific, is supported by six Pacific Powers—Australia, New Zealand, France, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States.

It is sponsoring and financing this Suva Conference of native leaders so that they shall have full opportunity to formulate a common policy, and make their needs and views known to the world.

The first Conference may be of particular topical interest because the Dutch Papuan delegates are expected to declare strongly that surrender of sovereignty in Western New Guinea to the Indonesian republic would be inimical to the interests of the natives.

Delegates, who have been chosen in accordance with the constitutional practice of their territories, will come from Papua, Dutch and Australian New Guinea, Nauru, New Caledonia, French Oceania, American and Western Samoa, the Cook Islands, Fiji, the British Solomon Islands Protectorate, the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, the New Hebrides, the Tokelau Islands, and the Kingdom of Tonga.

These territories will also send advisers. Commissioners representing the six participating Governments, and members of the South Pacific Commission's Research Council, will also attend as observers.

The chairman of the Conference will be Sir Brian Freeston, who is Governor of Fiji, High Commissioner for the Western Pacific, and senior Commissioner for the United Kingdom on the South Pacific Commission.

Delegates

FRENCH OCEANIA

Delegates: M. LUCIEN VAYSSIERE, Professor Technique, Chief of the Public Education Service. M. PAUL BERNIERE, West Coast Delegate to the Representative Assembly.

COOK ISLANDS AND NIUE

Delegates: MRS. MAKEA NUI TEREMOANA ARIKI (Rarotonga), ROBERT REX (Niue). Alternates: RONGOMATANE ARIKI (Aitutaki), ALBERT R. HENRY (Rarotonga).

AMERICAN SAMOA

Delegates: HIGH CHIEF TUPELE, County Chief of Fitiuta County, Manu'a; Member of Governor's Advisory Council; Member of The House of Alii, Legislature of American Samoa (aged 52 years). HIGH CHIEF TUTILELE of Lealata County, Tutuila; Member of the Governor's Advisory Council; Member of the House of Alii, Legislature of American Samoa (aged 31 years).

Advisers: HIGH TALKING CHIEF MARIOTA P. TUTIASOSOFO, Speaker of The House of Representatives of the Legislature of American Samoa and High Talking Chief of Sui and Vailanua Counties of Samoa (aged 45 years). LIEUT. EDWARD V. P. HORNE, USN, Assistant Attorney-General, Government of American Samoa.

WESTERN SAMOA

Delegates: HON. TAMARESE, Member of the Council of State. HON. MALIETOA, Member of the Council of State. Alternates: HON. TUALAULILEI, Member of the Legislative Assembly. FAIPULE ANAPU, Chairman of the Fono of Faipule.

GILBERT ISLANDS

Delegates: Cadet Administration Officer, I. G. TURBOTT, Acting Co-operative Societies Officer, TUTU TEKANENE, Senior Assistant Medical Practitioner.

ELLICE ISLANDS

Delegates: Assistant Administrative Officer, F. PENITALA TEO, Acting Administrative Officer, Ellice Islands District. JOSEFA, Acting Headmaster, King George V. School.

FIIJI

Delegates: HON. JOELI RAVAI, Fourth Native Member of the Fiji Legislative Council. HON. VISHNU DEO, MLC, Indian Member for the Southern Division. Alternates: HON. RATU E. T. CAKOBAU, MC, MLC, Fifth Native Member. HON. M. S. BURKH, MLC, Indian Nominated Member.

NAURU

Delegate: JACOB. Alternates: RAYMOND GADABU, Adviser: T. H. CODE.

BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS

Delegates: M. BELADE, Senior Dresser, Medical Staff. BALHASAR GINA, Honiara Post Office. Alternates: MR. M. J. FORSTER, Administrative Officer, in Charge of Central District. DR. J. S. MACKENZIE-POLLOCK, Senior Medical Officer.

NEW HEBRIDES

Delegates: M. SUVA-PETERO (Fr.), Catechist at the Marxist Mission, Tanna. JOHN KALSAKAU (Br.), Assistant Medical Practitioner.

NEW CALEDONIA

Delegates: M. RAPHAEL BOUANANI, M. MAOU DJOEL. Alternates: M. LESCAN DU PLESSIX, Director of the Native Affairs Service.

PAPEA

Delegates: Willie Gavera, Bondai Pita. Alternates: Frank Aisi, Miria Gavera, Aina Gu'u. Adviser: Dr. J. T. Gunther.

NEW GUINEA

Delegates: Waleu Ahnon, George Kasai. Alternates: Kamone Wale, Aiseli Salin. Advisers: R. H. Boyan, S. H. Christian.

NETHERLANDS NEW GUINEA

Delegates: M. M. POS, E. J. ARIKS. Alternates: DR. J. V. DE BRUYN, Netherlands New Guinea Civil Administration. P. J. ERKELIJN.

TONGA

Delegates: HRH TUNGI, Premier of Tonga. HRH TUPELEHAKE, Governor of Vava'u. Adviser: P. A. RICHARDSON, Secretary to the Government of Tonga.

Observers

DR. HAROLD J. COOLIDGE, Pacific Science Board, National Research Council (USA). DR. J. D. COTTRELL, World Health Organization.

DR. J. VAN REUSEKOM, Division of Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories of the United Nations Secretariat. MR. ANDREW HAMMOND, Caribbean Commission.

REV. C. F. GRIBBLE, MA, National Missionary Council of Australia. ARCHDEACON HANDS, National Missionary Council of New Zealand.

Commissioners

FRANCE—M. R. Lusselle-Sere and M. Pierre C. J. Bonnard.

NETHERLANDS—Mr J. B. D. Pennink.

NEW ZEALAND—Lieut.-Col. F. W. Voelcker.

UNITED KINGDOM—Mr. H. H. Vassess.

UNITED STATES—Dr. Felix M. Keating, Mr. Milton Shallick. (Advisers: Mr. Robert R. Robbins and Mr. Claude C. Ross.)

AUSTRALIA—Details to come.

PAPUA-N. GUINEA UNDER REVIEW

Visiting Minister Promises Many Reforms and Clear-Cut Policy

NOT since Australia assumed control of New Guinea, over 30 years ago, has the Territory experienced anything like the visit in April of the Hon. P. C. Spender, Australian Minister for External Affairs and External Territories. Mr. Spender arrived in Port Moresby on March 29, on his way back from an official visit to the Philippines; and he departed from Rabaul on April 13, to return to Australia via the Solomons, New Hebrides and New Caledonia; and, within that period, he visited nearly all the districts of Papua and New Guinea by air, met hundreds of Europeans, Chinese and natives, talked frankly and informally with scores of them on Territories problems, and made a number of official statements in relation to the Administration of the Territory, and Australian policy on same, which cleared the air considerably.

In the past, the Australian Pacific Territories portfolio has been held by minor Ministers (except Mr. Ward) and those Ministers (including Mr. Ward) rarely visited the Territories and, when they did, all of them (including Mr. Ward) never by any chance expressed an opinion concerning Territories affairs or gave any indication of policy.

In that respect, Mr. Spender's visit has been notable and refreshing. He has reserved one or two tricky matters for reference to his Prime Minister and for Cabinet discussion; but in a broad general way, he has given Territories residents a clear indication of what the new Australian Government intends to do with the Territory.

A summary of Mr. Spender's official announcements, made in several speeches and Press interviews, is published hereunder.

General Policy

AUSTRALIA does not regard New Guinea only as a Territory, with a limited interest for Australia, and from which Australia may shortly withdraw. Australia must in all circumstances remain in New Guinea, and encourage the proper development of the Territories of Papua and New Guinea, because Papua and New Guinea serve a strategic purpose vital to Australia's security.

Private enterprise will be encouraged to take a larger part in future development. Australia's obligations in relation to the Territories were such that Australia must in the future provide substantial sums for development; but, in order to assist the country towards self-support, the Government would give all reasonable encouragement to private enterprise,

operating under proper safeguards designed to protect and advance native welfare.

Emphasising Australia's interest in maintaining the security of Papua-New Guinea, the Minister said the Administration would watch for any signs of Communist influence or infiltration, and he particularly asked all loyal ex-Servicemen to report to the Administration or to him personally anything they observed indicating Communist activity.

Future Administration

THE Minister, at the end of his tour, paid a high tribute to the District Officers and Patrol Officers, who were doing a splendid job in difficult and often dangerous circumstances.

"But," he added, "I believe that the Territories are too big and their problems too urgent to have only one man dealing with them. There must in future be a greater delegation of authority from Canberra to the Administration in New Guinea; the men on the spot must have greater authority to deal with problems as they arise from day to day; the Government must clear the Administrative debris from the lines of communication which at present, in many ways, are unnecessarily cluttered up."

"For their proper and more efficient government development, the Territories need greater freedom of action within the general policy laid down by Cabinet. The Administration must be freed from a great deal of the red tape which at present encumbers it."

The Minister said he was in favour of the appointment of a Deputy Administrator whose place would be in Rabaul (or whatever centre took the place of Rabaul); and he added that an early appointment was likely.

The Minister also expressed himself in favour of the establishment of local District Councils, to advise District Officers.

"It will be remembered that local District Councils were one of the various Administrative reforms suggested to the then Minister for Territories in Sydney by the Pacific Territories Association at the end of the war; but the suggestion was ignored by Mr. Ward."

Welfare of Natives

THE Minister said that while Australia was most conscious of its obligation to protect the natives, and help them to a higher standard of life, it was apparent that even the most advanced natives had a long way to go before they could govern themselves. The advance-

MINISTER'S TOUR IN PAPUA-N. GUINEA

THE Minister's official itinerary in Papua and New Guinea was as follows, but was altered in some cases owing to local conditions.

March 29-April 2.—At Port Moresby, with visits to Samarai and to Gulf Districts.

April 2-3.—Goroka, on New Guinea Highlands.

April 3-4.—Lae and district.

April 4-5.—Bulolo and district.

April 5-6.—Wau and district.

April 6-7-8.—Madang and Wewak.

April 8-9.—Manus (Mamote).

April 9-10.—Kavieng and district.

April 10-11.—Rabaul and district, with visits to Kapepe, Vansope, Kapepe, Bita Paka.

April 11-12.—Honiara, in Solomon Islands.

April 12-13.—Sanio (New Hebrides) and Noumea (New Caledonia).

April 13-14.—Arrive Sydney.

ment of the natives and the economic development of the Territories would call for the expenditure by Australia of large sums of money.

"New Guinea," he said, "quickly and desperately needs wharves, storage sheds and base, district and sub-district hospitals."

"The European and native hospitals in these Territories have to be seen to be believed," he added. "I regard them as a blot on our administration."

"If we don't work with the natives and develop these Territories, there are other nations prepared to take over that responsibility and that development," he said, on another occasion.

"Australia is faced with a tremendous task in lifting these native peoples—many of whom have never known any form of modern civilisation—to reasonable standards of hygiene, education, technical aptitude and ethnological development. It will be many decades before these people can take responsibility for their own government and protection."

Referring to the large parts of Papua and New Guinea which are still officially "uncontrolled," the Minister said the Government intended to greatly extend the area of control within the next five years.

European Settlement

WHEN referring to the need for the economic development of Papua and New Guinea, the Minister said that it would be in the best interests of Australian Security, and in the interests of the natives themselves, that more white people should be encouraged to settle in the Territories.

The Government would encourage private enterprise and the investment of Australian capital. He quoted the search for oil, now proceeding in Papua as an example of what private enterprise could do under Government encouragement. The Co. had spent millions of pounds on the search. He could find no justification for the charge frequently made in Australia that private enterprise consistently exploited the natives in New Guinea.

Discussing possibilities of development, the Minister said he was giving close attention to the idea of encouraging Soldier Settlement. He agreed with those who suggested that preference should be given to ex-Servicemen over non-British residents, in the purchase or lease of Expropriation Board properties.

The Minister said that the Government would give attention to timber and agricultural leases, and a policy in relation to them would be announced soon.

In a subsequent newspaper interview, he said that private enterprise would be encouraged to develop New Guinea timber resources, in accordance with plans now being made.

(Continued on Page 105)

FLYING-BOAT TRAVELLERS TO FIJI



Air travellers to Fiji recently included (left to right): Mr. C. D. Barford, new manager for the Bank of NZ, Suva; for the last 12 months he has been of the Bank of NZ, London, as assistant manager. Mr. R. Waugh, who arrived in Fiji from Dunedin, NZ, to join the staff of Armstrong & Springhall, Suva. Miss R. Burnward, who has joined the nursing staff of the Lautoka Hospital. Mr. K. R. Lambie, Director of Education of Western Samoa, returning to Samoa from an education conference in NZ.

INDONESIA

Increasing Signs of Confusion and Revolt

ALL reports from Indonesia, only four months after the Dutch were forced, by the United Nations, to surrender sovereignty over the Netherlands Indies to "the Republic of the United States of Indonesia," agree that there is a rapid deterioration in conditions there. In the past month, the following things have occurred.

On March 19, the Government of Indonesia announced that all money in circulation, as well as in the banks throughout the country, lost its nominal value at mid-day, and decreased in value 50 per cent. Only currency notes of two guilders, 50 cents and less, as well as coins of 2½ and 1 cent retain their full face value. The left-hand half of each note becomes legal tender up to 50 per cent. of its value. The right-hand half serves as an application voucher for obtaining bonds in the 3 per cent. Government loan and also loses half its face value.

This, of course, threw all financial and commercial organisation into confusion. It has been announced that of the 15 States of the Netherlands Indies, which joined with the "republic of Indonesia" (really, Java) to form the Federal "United States of Indonesia," only two or three have retained their independence of Java. All the others have been absorbed by the Java State, the Government of which apparently plans to dominate the entire Federation (or United States).

ON April 5, the State of East Indonesia which has its headquarters at Macassar, in the Celebes, revolted against the Federal (or Java) authority, captured the Federal garrison, and defied the Federal authority to send ashore two shiploads of troops which were waiting off the port.

On April 14, the Indonesian authorities in Java induced Captain Aziz, leader of the Macassar revolutionaries, to fly to Jakarta, on promise of safe conduct, to discuss the situation. He was promptly seized and gaoled. On April 17, East Indonesia was still defying the "Republic," and there was talk of war.

There was reported to be an Islamic revolt in West Java and disaffection in West Borneo and Sumatra.

On April 2, Ministers of the Netherlands-Indonesian Union, meeting at Jakarta, set up a commission of three Indonesians to inquire into the future of Dutch New Guinea. They are to report to both Governments before July 1, and give their findings to the United Nations Commission on Indonesia—which mischief-making body is still busy in the East Indies.

On March 25, President Soekarno was reported to have said: "Tell Australia we do not want Eastern New Guinea, but we must have Western New Guinea." On March 29, Prime Minister Menzies said that "the Australian Government has the liveliest interest in all parts of New Guinea."

AUSTRALIAN correspondent Osmar White—about the only well-informed writer on Indonesia—says that Indonesian efforts are being directed to getting control of the KNIL (Dutch-trained Indonesian soldiery) who hate the Indonesian Republic set-up, and who are awaiting demobilisation, but who refuse to demobilise unless they can take their arms with them.

White says that, as the trained Dutch administrative personnel move out, and untrained, greedy and unscrupulous Indonesians take over, the whole vast

THREE NEAR MISSES

Fiji Hurricane Season Officially Over

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, April 10.
AT the end of the (official) 1949-50 hurricane season, Suva and other parts of Fiji look back on three near-misses but no major disaster comparable with the December, 1948, hurricane which devastated much of the Lau Group.

Western and south-western Viti Levu suffered a severe buffeting on March 30 when a hurricane circled round the island, leaving a fringe of damage in many Fijian villages, in the Lautoka area and at Nadi, where the airport was given a short, sharp blast.

The wrecking of land communications led to the unusual fact that Suva's final warning from the Meteorological Office at Nadi reached the capital after the radio message had been picked up by Apia and relayed to the AWA radio station at Laucala Bay. In the end, the storm missed Suva completely but hit parts of Kadavu, where the police station at Vunisea was very nearly flattened.

DEATH OF CAPTAIN C. O. ANDERSEN

THE death occurred some months ago of Captain C. O. Andersen, who was well known and esteemed in Papua for more than 50 years.

Captain Andersen arrived originally in Papua as an officer on a small ship, the SS Ysabel, owned by the German New Guinea Co. The Ysabel was stranded on Ostrich Reef, between Cooktown and Papua, but was subsequently floated and sold to Burns Philp & Co.

Captain Andersen later got his Master's ticket and entered into partnership as a trepang fisher, in the islands east of Papua, with another famous old identity called "German Harry." Then Andersen and John Clunn, of Cooktown, owned a schooner, which ran between Cooktown and Woodlark Island. Later they had the AMV Papua built for them in Sydney, but she was destroyed in a petrol explosion alongside a wharf at Cooktown.

After that Captain Andersen bought a sailing cutter and, with his family, settled down in Samarai. He leased a couple of islands and planted them with coconuts, and Mrs. Andersen lived there for a time. Captain Andersen returned to the sea and commanded a number of vessels on the coast of Papua—SS Keira, for Whitton Bros., SS Wakefield and SS Tambar, for BNG Co. and SS Queenscliff and SS Papuan Chief for Steamships Trading Co.

After the Papuan Chief was stranded and sold, Captain Andersen was in charge of a smaller vessel, the Moto. Following a serious illness, he took charge of a couple of plantations, until the evacuation in 1942. He lived in Brisbane during the war and served in the United States Navy for a while.

region of 70,000,000 people is likely to fall into chaos. Already, there is serious threat of famine.

An Indonesian named Yamin, who frequently speaks for the Government, has urged the Philippines Government to make common cause with the Indonesians in freeing the whole of Borneo from "white imperialism".

Mr. Bourke, a Labour member of the Australian Parliament, has suggested that Australia should buy Dutch New Guinea from the Dutch, just as United States bought Louisiana from the French and Alaska from the Russians.

CHALMERS AND FIJI'S SUGAR

Hold-Up In Cane-Growing Contract

From a Special Representative

SUVA, April 8.
THERE are possibilities of trouble in the Fiji sugar industry, where the CSR Co. has not yet been able to complete agreements with the Indian cane farmers in relation to contract price for cane.

By now, the CSR Co. would probably have got all the growers' unions together in a reasonable agreement regarding the terms of the new contract—probably with a general rise of 10% per ton—had it not been for N. S. Chalmers, who can only be described as a thoroughly mischievous influence.

He is president of the Indian cane-growers Union called Kisan Sangh, and he has persuaded that body to stand out of discussions with the CSR Co., and even has been urging them to refuse to plant cane at all. Other Indian leaders—especially Mr. Patel and Mr. Vishnu Desai—are watching the antics of Mr. Chalmers with amusement—but probably are awaiting an opportunity to pop in with some claims for which they can take full credit. This is election year.

There has been little sugar planting so far—but that is really due to the exceptionally wet weather. We shall see the effect of the Chalmers' campaign within the next few weeks.

Mr. Chalmers, once a Government policeman, and for years a practising lawyer in Ba, may be described as a thoroughly frustrated man who, all his life, has wanted to be big and important. He belongs to that most irritating type of public man—he is woolly-minded. His speeches generally are long, rambling, and full of irrelevances. When he wants to quote figures he scrambles among a pile of papers—and usually finishes up with the wrong paper—that type of man.

As a propagandist he is not impressive—but he somehow persuaded the Kisan Sangh to make him President and to pay the expenses of a visit first to Australia, and then to India, and to England. Overseas journalists knowing no better, quote him as a representative of the cane-growers of Fiji. The Auckland Star made a complete fool of itself recently by publishing a piece of nonsense in the shape of an interview with Chalmers, who was returning from England. Chalmers was permitted to inform Auckland—and, through the Press Association, the Empire generally—that there would be a strike unless the Fiji sugar industry was nationalised by June. An utterly ridiculous statement.

Chalmers, back in Fiji, has denied that he said it.

Private reports received from London say that Chalmers had a very poor reception in the Colonial Office—mainly because of his vague statements and general "woolliness".

So far, the Government of Fiji has kept out of the argument. The Governor evidently takes the view that this is not a Government fight—that the industry itself must try to settle the dispute over the contract price—and the Government will interfere only as a last resort.

Two doctors recently arrived in Fiji from Canada to join the medical staff of the South Pacific Health Service. They are Dr. G. O. Hallman and Dr. H. W. Conran. Both have been posted to Fiji. Dr. Conran is to relieve Dr. J. Taylor, Medical Officer of Health, who is to go on leave shortly. Dr. Hallman is to be posted to Tavuni to replace Dr. B. H. B. Upton who will also shortly go on leave.

COPRA PRICE UNDER FIRE

Complications Caused By Depreciation of Sterling

THE Copra Agreement has been under fire lately.

The Agreement was framed in 1948, by the British Ministry of Food; and it was brought into operation, as from the beginning of 1949, between the Ministry and various British Colonies and Dominions—especially Fiji, the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, the Solomons, and the Australian Pacific Territories. It has a currency of nine years. In 1949, the price was £48 Sterling, FOB; and it was agreed that, in the subsequent years, the price—to be arranged each year—would not rise or fall more than 10 per cent.

The merit of this plan, it was claimed, was that it stabilised the hitherto uncertain copra market for nearly a decade.

But trouble developed at the end of 1949 because the British Ministry wanted to revise the copra price downwards, while the tendency of the free world price was upwards; and also because, during 1949, Britain had de-valued Sterling. Obviously, if Sterling were depreciated in value in relation to gold, the amount of Sterling paid for copra (which holds its value in relation to gold) should have been correspondingly increased. Copra is an international and not a British commodity.

One British Dominion, Ceylon, rebelled against an obvious injustice, and broke away from the Agreement, and went on the free market. Ceylon produces the world's highest quality copra.

The difficulties of the position were effectively set out by Mr. Charles Sullivan, well-known South Pacific merchant, of Sydney, in a letter which he sent to the Sydney Morning Herald on March 22—and which the Herald, for reasons of its own, did not publish. Mr. Sullivan said:—

"It was reported on March 22 that Ceylon's Minister for Commerce is considering a United States offer to buy Ceylon's entire exportable surplus of coconut oil, up to June 30, 1951, and that this vindicates his policy of not entering into a contract with Britain at the price the British offered last year.

"It is also reported that Canberra officials say that the Australian Copra Agreement with the British Ministry of Food provides a price-stabilisation scheme over a long period, and gives growers an assured price, even if open market prices drop.

"They omit to mention that when negotiating the Agreement they apparently overlooked the possibility of currency depreciation; and, as a result, New Guinea and other Pacific Islands producers are getting 30 per cent. less for their copra than the growers outside the Agreement.

"Incidentally, shiploads of copra sold by Australia under this Agreement have gone direct from the Islands to dollar markets, so that Britain is getting not only the profit but the dollars also, while Australia is losing the handling of millions of dollars badly wanted for development here.

"Since Stafford Cripps, after solemnly assuring the world that he would not allow any depreciation in the pound sterling, allowed it to be depreciated 30 per cent., it will be noted that goods manufactured in England from foreign raw materials—such as cotton, etc.—have advanced sharply in price (as was only to be expected); but Australia is not protected against this.

"If the pound sterling declines further in terms of the dollar (which is probable, seeing that in the free currency markets of the world the dollar now sells for more,

and the pound for less than the "official" rates) it will mean that the real money value received for our copra will be even less than it is to-day, when compared with copra sold in the free market.

"It would appear that the officials of the Ceylon Government showed far more business acumen than their Australian confreres. In my opinion the Menzies Government would be justified in demanding that this copra contract with Great Britain be reviewed in the interests of copra producers and Australia generally."

AUSTRALIA RENEWS AGREEMENT

IT would appear, however, that the Australian Government is not awake to the unfavourable developments caused by the depreciated currency, as set out in Mr. Sullivan's letter. On March 24, we received the following letter from the Department of External Territories, dated March 22:—

"I desire to advise you that agreement has been reached with the United Kingdom Government regarding the price to be paid during the second contract year,

commencing on March 1, 1950, for copra purchased from the Territory of Papua and New Guinea under the Australian-United Kingdom Copra Agreement.

"The new price for fair merchantable sun-dried grade copra, f.o.b., Territory ports, for shipment to the United Kingdom, is £52g.48/10/- per ton. This represents an increase of 10/- Sterling per ton in the price for the previous contract year. The price is subject to a premium up to 4/5/- for superior grade and a discount of 12/6 per ton for smoke-dried copra.

"Prices payable to producers in the Territory are being reviewed in the light of this increase and the new Territory price will be effective from March 1, 1950.

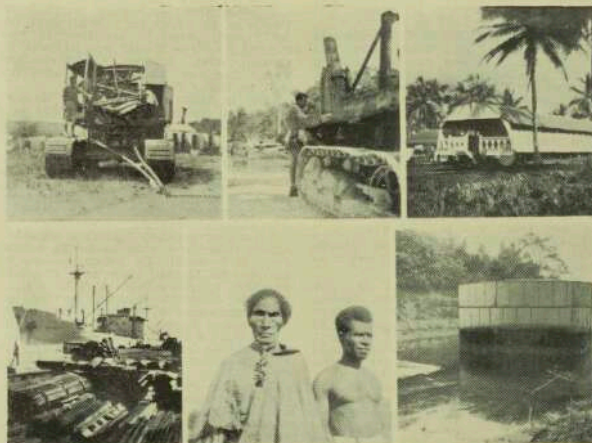
"I note that the February, 1950, issue of the Pacific Islands Monthly makes the following statement:—The British-Australian contract was made in March, 1949, and was retrospective to January 1.

Although certain increases in Territory copra prices were made retrospective to January 1, 1949, the Australian-United Kingdom Copra Agreement is actually operative from March 1, 1949."

OFFICIAL STATEMENT IS DUE

IT is hoped that, as a result of his visit to the Australian Territories and his conversations with planting interests, the new Australian Minister, Mr. Spender, will realise that an official statement, clarifying the copra position, is much overdue. New Guinea copra producers most definitely want to know:—

INTERESTING SALVAGE AT MANUS



ALTHOUGH various salvagers had already "picked the eyes out" of the enormous quantities of valuable stores and equipment at the abandoned American base in Manus (north of New Guinea Territory), the Australians (who have taken over the base and are adapting it to their own purposes) are gathering up and using a lot of valuable material.

When United States offered the Manus plant to Australia, and Australia showed no interest, the Americans sold the stores to the Chinese Government; and the Chinese removed many shiploads of priceless goods. After that, a firm of speculators took away much material. However, the jungle around the base still contains

countless abandoned machines, which may be brought into use.

TOP ROW (from left): A crane barge and a bulldozer shovel, which have been salvaged. A Quonset hut, re-erected for use of married staff.

BOTTOM ROW (from left): Although this Swedish ship is loading metal junk for removal to the stores of some speculator, Australia is bringing iron from Japan into Manus, for building operations. The cloak worn by this old native is really a scarlet parachute. The Australians have salvaged and are making use of no less than 50 of these huge iron oil-tanks.

The photographs were kindly loaned by Mr. W. L. MacGowan.

• Why should they accept a reduction of 25 per cent. in the price paid by Britain for their product (the result of British devaluation in 1949 of the £Stg., and of Mr. Chifley following suit with the Australian £) when copra has retained at least its full value in terms of gold (that is, as an international commodity)?

• Why should Britain be permitted to sell New Guinea copra, bought with a depreciated currency, in the world market for dollars, thus getting the full benefit of the 25 per cent. currency depreciation?

• In view of the extraordinary position created by devaluation of the English and Australian £, & of the Australian Government not to let that the 1950 copra price of £48.0 - Stg. should be adjusted?

• When is the Australian Government's instrumentality, the Production Control Board, going to cease deducting the "stabilisation tax" of at least £6 per ton from payments due to planters, and when will it give an accounting of the £500,000 now believed to be accumulated in the Copra Stabilisation Fund?

New Guinea planters could get no satisfaction from the late Minister, Mr. Ward, in relation to these things. That is the sort of cavalier treatment that all private enterprise can expect from Socialist Governments. But they do expect more consideration from the Government represented by Mr. Spender, which is supposed to treat all classes with impartial justice.

INTEREST IN FIJI AND SOLOMONS

PLANTERS in the other South Pacific Territories—especially Fiji, New Hebrides, Tonga and Solomon—will be interested in any official reply in Australia to the first three questions set out above. They also are getting the equivalent of £48.10 - in a devalued currency.

All copra-producers within the Sterling area, knowing what their copra is worth in the free market, as a dollar-earner, must feel that they have experienced something resembling a confidence trick at the hands of the Food Ministry of the British Socialist Government.

Mr. A. H. Green, who is well known in several South Pacific Groups, and has lived recently in Malaya and Thailand, left Australia for a holiday trip to the UK and Europe in March.

Nadi May Still Be Fiji's Main Airport

THERE will be more conferences soon between the United Kingdom, Australia and New Zealand as to whether or not they will go on with the plan to build an international airport at Suva, Fiji—or change their minds again to Nadi.

Fiji's international airport is the most argued about aerodrome in the world. Apart from innumerable conferences between the governments who will pay for it (about £3 million) it at one time caused almost civil strife in Fiji between supporters of the present airports at Nadi and Nausori.

Nadi is in the dry zone of Viti Levu, but is about 150 miles from Suva, the capital of Fiji; Nausori is only 17 miles from Suva, but is built on the banks of the Rewa River in the wet zone of the island. Both aerodromes were built during the war.

Successive teams of air experts from the three governments which will have to foot the bill inspected Nadi and Nausori and finally fixed on a brand new airport to be built at Suva Point—evidently taking the view that it would cost

COMING OUR WAY

UN Mission for Trust Territories

FOUR members of the Trusteeship Council of the United Nations left New York on April 5 to visit the following Pacific Trust Territories:—

- United States Trust Territory of Caroline, Marshall and Mariana Islands.
- The British-Australian-New Zealand Trust Territory of Nauru.
- The Australian Trust Territory of New Guinea.
- The New Zealand Trust Territory of Western Samoa.

The mission is the first of its kind to function in this way. It was appointed by the Trusteeship Council in January, 1950, and is to report back in August. Nothing is known of its itinerary. It is expected to spend some weeks in Micronesia.

Its peregrinations are not viewed with any favour by the new non-Socialist Governments of Australia and New Zealand (responsible for New Guinea, Nauru and Western Samoa) who do not welcome interference in their already difficult problems of Administration. Certain elements of the Trusteeship Council have an unenviable reputation as mischief-makers, in connection with "colonial" administration; and their fame has preceded them.

HAWAII HOPES SOON TO BE THE 49th STATE

From Our Own Correspondent

LATE in March electors of Hawaii went to the polls to appoint representatives to a special Convention, which will draft a Constitution for the anticipated transition of the Territory into a new state of the Union. Some 117,000 citizens are eligible to vote for the 200 candidates for the 63 seats.

The bill for the elevation of Hawaii to a State has passed the House of Representatives at Washington, and is before the Senate.

The fight for statehood has been a long and uphill one. Hawaii's chief obstacles to admission to statehood have been its distance from the mainland United States, and its rapidly increasing Japanese population. Improved means of communication, and the fine record of Hawaii-born Japanese soldiers in the late war, have gone far to overcome these obstacles.

very little more to build a new establishment right in Suva, than it would to bring the Nausori drone up to international standard.

It appears that the Australian and UK experts were in favour of Nadi but bowed to the wishes of New Zealand which was strong for Suva as this worked in with its own regional Pacific Islands air services. And Nadi, NZ said, was required for defence purposes by the RNZAF.

Since then there have been more conferences, engineering, financial and other wise, and the three Governments now seem to be wryly considering the estimated cost of the project, and indulging in second thoughts.

Nadi is believed to be again the favourite choice—and UK and Australia hope that this time New Zealand will play ball. Meanwhile the three trans-Pacific air services are quite happily using Nadi airport and the Fiji government has been preparing to resume the land at Suva Point and working out a way to do it in order to cause the least trouble to the people whom they would have had to evict.

PAA TO USE STRATO-CRUISERS SOON

THE Australian Government has given Pan American Airways permission to operate Strato-cruisers on the Sydney-San Francisco run from next July. They will operate on slightly reduced loadings until Pacific airports are enlarged to take them.

In preparation for the coming of this sky giant, the airstrip at Tontouta, New Caledonia (which services Noumea) is now being lengthened by 1,200 feet. Don Conklin, PAA specialist who's been looking after the work at Tontouta expects to wind up his phase of the work shortly and go to San Francisco for reassignment. Murray, of PAA's Sydney office, is now temporarily in charge of the PAA office at Noumea.

The Strato-cruiser, which PAA has used successfully for sometime on its Hawaii-USA service, is built by Boeing in Seattle and will materially increase the passenger and cargo loads that can be carried on the run to Australia. PAA, at present, is using Douglas DC-4's on this flight.

—Special Correspondent.

FIJI OFFICIALS AT QUEEN SALOTE'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, March 15.

THE Acting High Commissioner for the Western Pacific (Mr. G. D. Chamberlain), with Mrs. Chamberlain and with Mr. Hill as ADC, have returned to Suva by plane from Tonga after attending celebrations in honour of the 50th birthday of Queen Salote.

An inscribed silver salver was presented by Mr. Chamberlain on behalf of the WPHC as a birthday gift to Her Majesty.

The Acting Governor of Fiji (Mr. A. F. R. Stoddart), accompanied by Ratu Edward Cakobau, MC, as ADC, and by Messrs. L. G. Usher (Public Relations Officer) and R. Wright (PRO Photographer) also went to Nukualofa for the celebration.

As a gift to Queen Salote, from the Government and people of Fiji, Mr. Stoddart presented a tortoiseshell writing set, each piece bearing the Queen's letter monogram in gold.

Ode To Queen Salote

THE oldest European inhabitant of Tonga—Mr. A. Cowley, who will be 91 years old on May 3—wrote the following ode to Queen Salote, to greet her 50th birthday on March 13:—

Hail, Queen Salote! We, thy people pray
Life's richest blessing may be yours to-day.

Enriching heart and mind and soul with joy

And love to all mankind without alloy.

Thus, Queen, we greet thy fiftieth Natal Day.

And pray no harm shall mar thy gracious sway.

Wife, Mother, Queen, life's duties thou

didst face

With courage, dignity, and queenly grace.

With wisdom thou didst guide thy country's pace

Toward love and brotherhood for all the race.

We pray that love and brotherhood grow stronger

And thy unique domain once more be Holy Tonga.

A. COWLEY.

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RABAUL ROUNDABOUT

From Our Own Correspondent

THU Administrator, Col. J. K. Murray paid a special visit to Rabaul during the last week-end of March in order to officially open the new RSSAILA Club. The President, Mr. E. V. Smythe and Mrs. Harry Reid, wife of the vice-president welcomed his Honor, who was accompanied by District Officer and Mrs. J. K. McCarthy. A buffet tea followed the opening ceremony and the many guests had a very gay party.

MRS. TOM AITCHESON, wife of the DO, Manus, paid an unexpected visit to Rabaul recently and was the guest of the DO and Mrs. McCarthy for a week.

Mrs. Aitcheson had been called to Port Moresby for a DCA Court of Inquiry. Mr. Aitcheson was recently appointed DO, Manus, succeeding Mr. K. W. T. Bridge, who has retired, and had been ADO, Madang, since the War.

Mrs. Aitcheson and her children are very happy at Manus and to her delight, a small school has been opened, which is attended by her two small girls, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Steege, and several Eurasian children.

AT Namanula Hospital, Rabaul, on March 6, a son was born to Mr. and Mrs. McSkinnling, of the Methodist Mission, Duke of York Islands.

MRS. J. K. MCCARTHY loaned her home at Namanula to the Church of England Ladies Guild for a card evening on March 20. This successful

function netted £12 for the Church Council Building Fund.

MRS. IAN SKINNER, wife of ADO Skinner, Talasea, New Britain, has not been in good health for some time and came to Rabaul recently for medical attention. She underwent an appendix operation at Namanula Hospital on March 21 and is progressing satisfactorily. She hopes to return home by the next QEA Catalina for Talasea.

RABAUL was busy with shipping this month. Burns Philp & Co., had three large ships in port in a fortnight—Malaita, Merkur and Bulolo.

The Bulolo was a particularly welcome ship—owing to her delayed departure from Sydney fresh food supplies had been exhausted. There was the usual influx and exodus of Territorians returning and going on leave. The Merkur was an unexpected ship to the Territory ports.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Niall (the is DO, Lae) were passengers on the Bulolo proceeding on leave. Others leaving on Bulolo were Mr. and Mrs. Max Lees of Kokopo and Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Doyle. Mr. Doyle has been very ill and was going to Australia for health reasons.

MR. E. W. P. CHINNERY passed through Rabaul during March en route to Kavieng. He was a former Government anthropologist and Director of District Services in the Mandated Territory during the years 1924 to 1937. In 1937 he resigned to become Director of

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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.

The book has been enlarged to take care of a great deal of additional matter. There are, for example, new sections dealing with Air Transport, the Trusteeship Territories, the South Pacific Commission, the new market background behind the Copra Industry, and so on.

Every Territory and Islands Group is described in detail—geography, history, administration, population, commerce, education, health, etc.

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TOP: The Administrator opens the RSSAILA Club in Rabaul. BELOW LEFT: The Krazy Kapers ballet, led by Mrs. Lenore Pound. BELOW RIGHT: Blake-Ross wedding group (from left to right): Miss A. M. Patterson, Mr. Bailey, Mrs. J. Hownt, Mr. A. Brown, the bride and groom, and the three Ross children.

—Photos by C. H. Meen.

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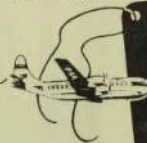
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Native Affairs, Northern Territory, and advisor on anthropology to the Commonwealth Government.

His present visit to New Guinea is to make a detailed native census of the east coast of New Ireland. His last very careful census was in 1930, and as the Administration is now concerned by the gradual decrease in the native population in that area, Mr. Chinnery has been asked to make another census. He expects to be in New Ireland for about four months and during his patrol will be accompanied by various members of the Medical Department.

Miss Malcolm, nutritionist attached to the South Pacific Commission is also going to New Ireland for several months to investigate and advise the native peoples on their food supplies. She will work in conjunction with Mr. Chinnery's patrol.

Mr. and Mrs. Chinnery now reside at Brighton, Victoria, and shortly expect to move to a new home, at Black Rock, Victoria.

Two of their daughters are married, the other two, who are Air Hostesses, are to be married at the end of this year and will live in Adelaide.

AT the little Methodist Church, on the corner of Mango Avenue and Malaguna Road, Rabaul, on March 21, the two children of Mr. and Mrs. Eric Peterson were christened. Their son, aged 31 years, was christened Kim Eric; and daughter, aged eight months, Jennifer. The Rev. Mr. Young of the Methodist Mission officiated.

A WEDDING of wide island interest took place on March 16 when Mr. Charles Blake and Mrs. Marjorie Ross were married at the Methodist Church, Rabaul. Both are well-known Territorians of long residence.

The bride, who was given away by Mr. William Bailey, was attended by Miss Peterson, and Mr. A. Brown attended the bridegroom. The reception was held at the home of Mr. Bailey.

PRODUCED by Mr. Kerry Leen, a member of the District Services staff at Rabaul, a revue, Krazy Kapers, was presented to appreciative Rabaul recently. The super-heavyweight male ballet and the professor who failed to escape from the strait-jacket all added to the general

hilarity which shook the town as much as our more usual gurias.

A bevy of fair maidenhood clad in the traditional costume that is generally associated with Hula dancers were led by gifted danseuse Lenore Pounds. The show was for the RSL Club and was staged in the excellent open-air theatre in the grounds of the Catholic Mission.

Mangola On (And Off) Moresby Reef

From Our Own Correspondent

PORT MORESBY, April 7. AFTER being on the reef at the entrance to Port Moresby harbour for 19 hours, the Burns Philp cargo ship Mangola (3,352 tons) floated off a few minutes before midnight last night.

The Mangola went aground at 5 a.m. yesterday while making for the gap in the reef. All available ships went to her aid but after trying all morning to pull her off, they had to wait until high tide last night.

Meanwhile some of the Mangola's cargo was taken off to lighten her.

She seems little the worse for the experience, apart from a slight leak which is being fixed here, and will continue her voyage.

Her skipper is well-known islands ship master and artist, Captain Brett Hilder, who is making his first trip to Port Moresby for a year.

Steamships Trading New Issue

A PREMIUM of 10/- a share is imposed by directors on the issue by Steamships Trading Co., Ltd., of Papua, of 66,666 £1 ordinary shares.

Ordinary shareholders will be offered the new shares at the rate of one new share for every share held on April 24.

In 1948, when the company made its last issue of new shares, the premium was 13/- a share.

Major John Brown Reid, of Madang, New Guinea, who has been on furlough in Australia for the past six months, left Sydney by air on his way back to the Territory during the second week in March. Mrs. Reid will join the Malaita for the Territory later in the month.

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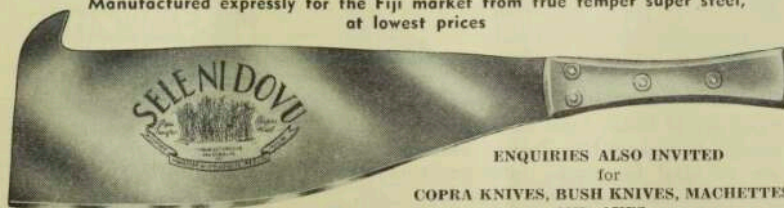
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MARIPOSA TO RETURN?

RUMOURS are again current that the Matson liner Mariposa will return to the North American-Australasian trade late this year or early in 1951.

Mariposa and Monterey, sister ships of the line, were on this run before the war. During the war they were troop carriers and after the end of hostilities, went into dock for reconversion to the passenger trade. In 1947 work on the ships was suddenly halted for economic reasons and for two years they remained out of ser-

vice while various negotiations proceeded as to their ultimate fate.

The Monterey, it appears, has been sold recently to the American President Line and will be used in the trade between San Francisco and the Philippines.

Work on reconverting Mariposa was recommenced at the end of last year.

The Bishop in Polynesia, the Rt. Rev. L. S. Kempthorne, spent the first three months of 1950 in Tonga. During his stay, the Rev. and Mrs. E. Webber departed for Australia because of Mrs. Webber's ill health. Mr. Webber's place will be taken by the Rev F. C. Bastian, from Victoria.

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Jute Growing Experiment in NG

IT was announced from Canberra in mid-March that the possibility of growing jute commercially in New Guinea was being investigated.

Experimental plantings had already been made and "results are encouraging."

Jute, the raw material for sacks and bags, has been in short supply for years—with periods of acute shortage. This is due to a large extent to the cold war between India and Pakistan—Pakistan grows the jute and India processes it, normally, but apart from the general touchiness between the two countries since partition, some added dispute over jute prices arose last year.

Various substitutes for jute have been tried from time to time but it still seems to be the best medium for certain sacks and bags. If New Guinea could grow the fibre commercially (it is a quick growing crop, reaching maturity in about a year) it would help to solve not only the Territory's own copra-sack difficulties but find a ready market in Australia for all the fibre it could produce.

Death of Ata

Former Tongan Premier

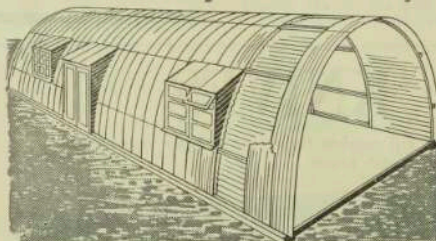
ADVICE has been received from Nukualofa, Tonga, that the Hon. Ata, formerly Premier of Tonga, died there on March 27.

He retired from the Premiership a year or so ago (and was succeeded by Prince Tungi) and has been living quietly. In earlier years he was successively Minister of Police and Minister of Lands.

He was educated at the Wesleyan College in Tonga and at Newington College, in Sydney.

He was one of the top-ranking nobles in Tonga and until his retirement, devoted his life to the service of the Kingdom.

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SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION

Research Council to Meet in Sydney in August

WHILE members of the staff of the South Pacific Commission and the Research Council have been busy with preparations for the South Pacific Conference, in Suva, late in April (see article elsewhere), the Commission and Council have carried on their normal activities.

The Secretary-General (Mr. W. D. Forsyth) announced that the Research Council will meet in Sydney in the second and third weeks of August, opening about August 7.

By courtesy of the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Sydney (Professor Stephen H. Roberts), the meetings will be held at the University, and administrative arrangements are being made between the Secretariat of the Commission and the Registrar of the University (Mr. Maze).

The meeting will be attended by the four permanent Members of the Research Council, and fifteen associate Members. Observers from some international bodies and scientific institutions will also attend. The Council will consider, among other things, the further development of the Work Programme of the Commission, and possibly the question of technical assistance in economic, health and social matters in the South Pacific Territories.

Headquarters:
Anse Vata
Noumea, New
Caledonia

It is also probable that some recommendations from the South Pacific Conference (being held in Suva this month) will be referred for consideration by the Research Council.

Native Health

Research in New Guinea

IN Papua-New Guinea, a Research Council team is seeking the best techniques with which tuberculosis can be diagnosed under field conditions. The techniques sought include the processes of X-ray, clinical and laboratory examination, and tuberculin testing in circumstances requiring mobility of equipment in the field.

Before this work was undertaken, the Council Member for Health, Doctor Emile Massal, and the Director of Health in Papua-New Guinea, Dr. J. T. Gunther, visited Kavieng and the east coast of New Ireland, where part of this field survey for diagnostic techniques will be conducted with the help of the Administration on a cross-section of the native population.

The preparatory work was begun by Miss Balfour, a bacteriologist from the University of Melbourne, and Mr. Love, an X-ray technician from New Zealand, prior to the arrival from France of Dr. Guilleman, who is leading the team. It was intended that the team should con-

tinue to work in the vicinity of Port Moresby until April 10, and then on New Ireland until about May 15. The team will then return to Port Moresby and proceed to New Caledonia, to continue its work.

Miss Malcolm, who will conduct a survey on infant diets and nutrition, arrived at Port Moresby on March 18. With Dr. Joan Refshauge, she planned to go immediately to New Ireland, and they will work there in the same area on the east coast as the diagnostic research team.

This survey will be enhanced by a further study to be made by Mr. E. W. P.

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"Edgell" Julienne Carrots, 16 oz. tin, 12/6 doz.	
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Chinnery, former Director of District Services in New Guinea, who made a similar demographic survey of the East Coast peoples 26 years ago, and has returned to the Territory for a comparative investigation in the same area.

After some months, Miss Malcolm will proceed to the Trobriands to continue her work on nutrition.

Dr. Massal returned to Noumea at the end of March, after discussions at Canberra about the work of the Commission

with Dr. Brock Chisholm, Director-General of the World Health Organisation.

Filariasis

IN the filariasis research programme, the first step was the collection and correlation of results of all the work done previously in the South Pacific area, including the investigation carried out during the war years by the US Navy Department.

The Commission is now conducting its own survey in New Caledonia. The object of this work is to find areas where there is sufficient infection to warrant further research. This research will be done so that the best methods can be employed in its future investigations throughout the South Pacific region.

Social Development

Seeking A Vehicle For Teaching of Natives

MR. A. L. MOORE, MA, BEd, completed his tour of the Central and Eastern Territories, and returned to Sydney on March 29, having visited New Caledonia, Fiji, Tonga, Western and American Samoa, Cook Islands and New Zealand. He has been engaged on Project S2, for a survey of visual means of education to promote literacy.

In each of the Territories, he gave demonstrations of the most modern methods of visual teaching to teachers and others, and gathered a comprehensive amount of information for a report to the Commission. Mr. Moore is now engaged in completing his recommendations, which are expected to be tendered to the Commissioners in June.

It seems likely that his experience of visual aids required in the various Territories may suggest the need for the organisation of a Film Production Unit, for the common use of Administrations, and also for the institution of a central film and film-strip library for the South Pacific.

Mr. A. R. Derrick, MBE, AMISE, commenced the SI Project, for technical training, on April 1. Arrangements were made for Mr. Derrick to visit the Kingdom of Tonga, the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony, and New Zealand before

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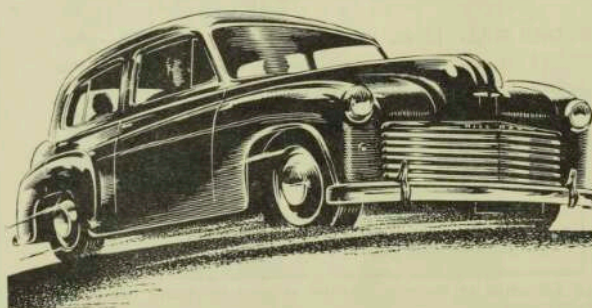
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attending the South Pacific Conference, after which he will visit Western and American Samoa, and the Cook Islands during May, and make a comprehensive tour of the Western Pacific.

Dr. A. Copell, Ph.D., a well-known authority on Pacific languages, has returned to Australia after making a field survey, in connection with Project S8, of the Northern New Guinea coastlands from Madang to Hollandia. It is hoped that this will fill in the main gaps in the knowledge of New Guinea languages. He is now engaged on his report, which will have special reference to the best method of recording a language in written form, consideration of the method of teaching the reading and writing of it, and the development of a literature which will supply the basic needs of the people.

In March, the Member for Social Development, Mr. H. E. Maude, was preparing his report and recommendations to the Research Council second meeting. During the latter part of the month, he conducted surveys of community development work and research activity in the South Pacific.

Miss Helen Shields, of the University of Sydney, who was recently on the staff of the Australian School of Pacific Administration, and editor of the publication, "South Pacific," has been appointed a temporary assistant in the Social Development Section.

Islands Economics

Some Problems of Production

IN the field of Economic Development, progress has been made with the plant introduction gardens at Naderolulu (Fiji) and Port Laguerre (New Caledonia). Leguminous ground cover and pasture grasses have been planted, and trees for reforestation, were planted on the hill slopes by the Department of Forestry. A soil survey is also being conducted on the North-East and North-West coasts.

The Member for Economic Development, Dr. Howard G. Macmillan, had discussions at Canberra with the Australian Director of Plant Quarantine, Dr. T. H. Harrison, and the Senior Plant Introduction Officer, CSIRO, Mr. Hartley, on quarantine policy in relation to the plant introduction programme. These discussions were necessary to ensure that insect pests and plant diseases could continue to be excluded from areas where they do not now exist.

Future of Vegetable Oil Prices

DR. MACMILLAN has continued his investigations to determine the future prospects for cash crops, particularly copra and coconut oil, rice, rubber and cacao.

It appears that the world shortage of fats and oils is gradually diminishing, and present prices may fall as the greater volume of supplies reaches the market. The time when this may occur, and the extent to which prices may decline, is not clearly defined at present. However, some animal fats are no longer in short supply.

Copra is not endangered at the moment; but, while this opportunity prevails, the Commission hopes to encourage an outlook in which minimum high standards of grading and quality will be universally accepted throughout the South Pacific region. This is one objective in the Commission's Project E3.

It is pointed out that considerable weight is added to this view by the warnings published recently by the British Food Ministry and the Administration of Papua-New Guinea about inferior copra shipments.

Rice

AN evaluation of local conditions is being made in several localities to determine the prospects for rice pro-

duction. It may not be feasible there to grow rice for export purposes, but domestic crops may do well.

Cocoa

OPINIONS are being sought on the feasibility of growing more cacao in the South Pacific. As yet, it appears to be a crop for plantation cultivation, but cacao could become a crop suitable for native growers. This proposal may take some time to develop, and the problem of finding suitable varieties of cacao, involving the introduction processes, will have to be investigated. However, the development of cacao in the South Pacific appears to be warranted by the increasing demand, and a declining world acreage, due to diseases in the African crop.

Project E4, for a pilot land-use survey, to study forest, crop, pasture and soil resources, has not yet been launched. Careful preliminary examination is necessary, and it is essential to secure the best available personnel.

Economy of the Atolls

ONE of the economic projects (E6) provides for a study of the economy of the atolls and low islands, to improve the cash and subsistence crops and handicrafts of their peoples, and thereby promote their commercial opportunities and greater security. Dr. Macmillan sees advantage in expanding this project, and is looking into the possibility of the Tech-

nical Assistance programme in this connection.

Other Activities

ANY comprehensive study of fisheries methods involves great expense, and the possibility of such work being conducted as a Technical Assistance project is also being examined.

Information is being accumulated slowly on Project E10, which aims at devising the means of extending commercial sources of credit for development in the hands of indigenous peoples. The success of this project may depend on local conditions and the natives' ability to fit in with modern commercial practices.

The agricultural census, to be carried out in 1950 under the auspices of the World Food and Agriculture Organisation, was commended by the first meeting of the Research Council (May, 1949). New Guinea and Samoa, for example, are participating.

A knowledge of the research already accomplished, of current research work, and of concrete plans for research contemplated, is essential to the formulation of a realistic work programme. In its Project E13, the Commission appealed for detailed information on past, present and future research investigations, having a direct application to the South Pacific region. This basic information, from which the future work programme can be developed, is now being accumulated.

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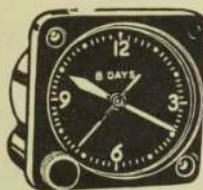
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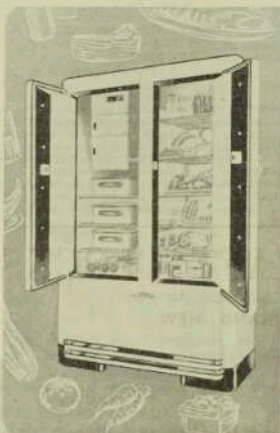
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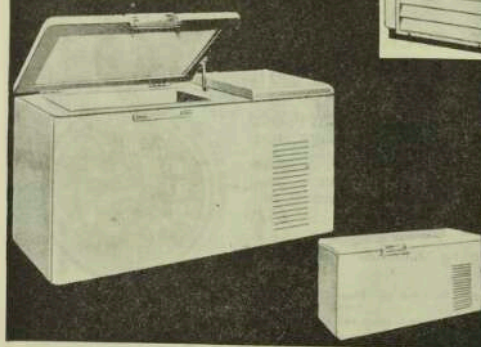
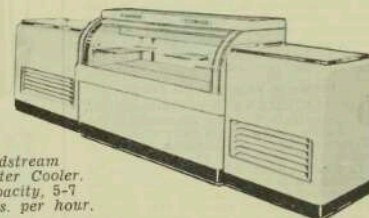
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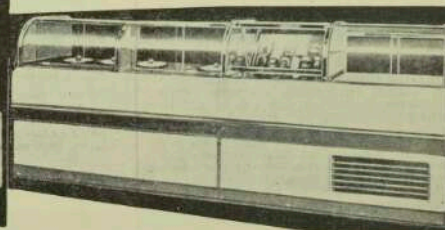
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NOTES FROM THE TORRES STRAITS

From Our Own Correspondent

THURSDAY IS. March 15.
A NAVY boat arrived at Thursday Island at the beginning of March. Its crew will assist in the disposal of live shells and bombs, war-time relics, which are on the sea floor at the end of the main jetty.

The presence of these explosives has prevented the dredging of the channel and consequently overseas boats have been prevented from tying up.

With the explosives gone, dredging will commence and residents are looking forward to seeing overseas liners, on their voyages between Australia and the Far East, tying up once more at the main jetty as they did before the war.

:: :: ::

THE Thursday Island police are anxious to ascertain the whereabouts of one Tommy Hughson, a coloured man who resided in Townsville for some years. He was last seen on "Ti" on the night of March 6 but has since disappeared. This has caused some distress to his relatives.

:: :: ::

ONE by one the old residents of Thursday Island are leaving us. Two of the latest to depart for South are Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Vowels. Mr. Vowels was the popular host at the Grand Hotel and had other interests on the Island. He was a member of the First Australian Garrison Artillery and was posted to Thursday Island in August, 1914. He married Miss Mona Corran and remained on the Island after the war ended.

Miss Corran is a daughter of the late Mr. A. Corran, printer and pioneer of

Thursday Island. He arrived here in 1894 and with the aid of his daughter, Mona, printed what was known as the Torres Strait Daily Pilot—probably the smallest and most expensive daily newspaper in the world. It was printed on one side of a single sheet of foolscap and sold for 6d.

The Pilot was printed for 58 years continuously—after Mr. Corran's death by Mr. Vowels—but it became a war casualty in 1942 as did many other pleasant institutions. Mr. Corran, incidentally, held what is believed to be a world record for mayorship—he was mayor of Thursday Island for 25 years continuously.

Mr. Vowels was mayor from 1940 to 1942 and on the re-establishment of local authority in 1948 he was again elected to office. He took a keen interest in all Thursday Island public affairs—Chamber of Commerce, Progress Association, Torres Straits Pilots, School Committee, town

band, hospital, Masonic lodge and a dozen more which have all had the benefit of his ability and energy.

In an interview prior to his departure on the *Elsanna* Mr. Vowels said that when he first arrived here in 1914, the pearling industry was dead, but the Japanese, as our allies in the 1914-18 war, were here after trochus shell. He had seen the place grow to become an island paradise, but on his return in 1946 after four years in the South, he found the place sadly depleted of buildings by the army, and he was appalled by the general neglected appearance of what was once one of the beauty spots of Australia. Streets and allotments were overgrown by weeds and littered with rubbish. He hoped to see the place return to normal, but from the time of his return until his departure on the *Elsanna*, he could see very little alteration on Thursday Island except for the construction of more Government buildings.

Residents of the island wished to tender Mr. and Mrs. Vowels a public farewell but they would not hear of it. However, at numerous private gatherings they were presented with farewell gifts and

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showered with good wishes for their future.

THERE is considerable controversy here over the new pearling agreement. Members of the Pearshellers' Association are divided in their opinion of it but there seems to be general dissatisfaction with it. A copy of the new agreement will be published for the benefit of PIM readers, as soon as available.

NZ Co-Operates With Fiji in Interesting Cattle Experiment

AN experiment unique in animal study is to be carried out in Fiji and New Zealand to determine the effect of tropical climatic conditions on dairy cattle of European type.

Eight sets of identical twin calves have been selected by the Ruakura Station, NZ. Eight of these calves will remain in New Zealand, at Ruakura, and their twins have been sent to the Sigatoka Experimental Station in Fiji (they arrived in the March Matua). Both sets will be reared in exactly the same way—their food will be grown in New Zealand and shipped to Fiji so that the only difference in the upbringing will be the influence of the climates of Ruakura and Sigatoka.

The rates of growth of the twins will be studied and they will eventually be brought to the stage of producing milk. Then their milk yield and butter-fat production will be carefully recorded, and the results of the sets of twins in New Zealand and Fiji compared.

If both sets of animals perform equally well, the effect of tropical climate will be ruled out and the spot-light will, therefore, be thrown upon the nutrition of cattle in Fiji as the most obvious cause of present low production of milk.

Identical calves have been selected because research has shown that these twins are more efficient as experimental animals than cattle selected at random as they possess exactly the same inheritance due to their mode of development.

The Shell Company's tanker, Cyrena, arrived at Honiara, BSI, on March 15. After discharging 2,130 drums of petroleum products, she sailed for Lae on March 17. She arrived at Honiara just in time, as stocks of petrol were almost exhausted.

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From a Special Correspondent

HAWAII'S papaya (paw-paw in South Pacific) promises expansion from a present crop worth about a third of a million dollars per annum to several millions.

This forecast is based largely on the bottling, for export, of papaya juice which in all respects is comparable in popularity to that of pineapple.

Highly marketable features of the papaya, which are now being plugged by the advertising agencies concerned, include the fact that it contains more vitamin A than carrot, more vitamin C than orange; that it contains a vegetable enzyme called "papain" and can be fed to infants as well as adults.

Production is comparatively simple. The tree begins to bear after ten months. Its principal requirements are low altitude, good drainage, and a warm, even temperature.

Editorial Note

PAW-PAWS grow as easily as weeds in all South Pacific islands and in the tropical and sub-tropical regions of Australia.

They are marketed commercially in Australia where they are a popular breakfast fruit, or are used in salads or eaten with ice-cream. But no attempt has been made to grow them commercially in the Islands. About 500 new paw-paw plants spring up wherever the seeds of a mature fruit are scraped out. But, although they are so easy to grow, no one in the South Pacific has ever shown any desire to exploit the fruit or its by-products. Certainly, no one in these southern latitudes has ever gone for paw-paw juice in a big way. It seems likely, anyway, that this, as a drink, would lack the tang of pineapple or citrus juice. Perhaps we are not fruit-juice-minded as are the Americans—and particularly not canned fruit-juice-minded. At all events, the canned variety of fruit juice, made in Australia, is far more expensive than beer, which most Australians and Island residents prefer.

Hawaii, Too, Imports Trout

From a Special Correspondent

AS an important step in attempting to build up the fresh water fish in streams and reservoirs of Hawaii, the Territorial Board of Agriculture and Forestry has brought Dr. Paul R. Needham, of the University of California, to the islands to make a stream survey.

For many years the Board has imported trout eggs which it has hatched and released in streams on the island of Kauai. The fish, however, have not reproduced in quantity, and it has been necessary to restock the streams as the fish are caught.

The Board hopes that the survey will point to the cause of the failure of the trout to increase, and enable it to plan a more practical and economic programme for stocking territorial streams and reservoirs with trout and other fresh-water fish.

(Trout fry were recently released in streams in the New Guinea Central Highlands by the Hallstrom Trust.)

SAMOA'S STEADY FLOW OF EXPORTS

From Our Own Correspondent

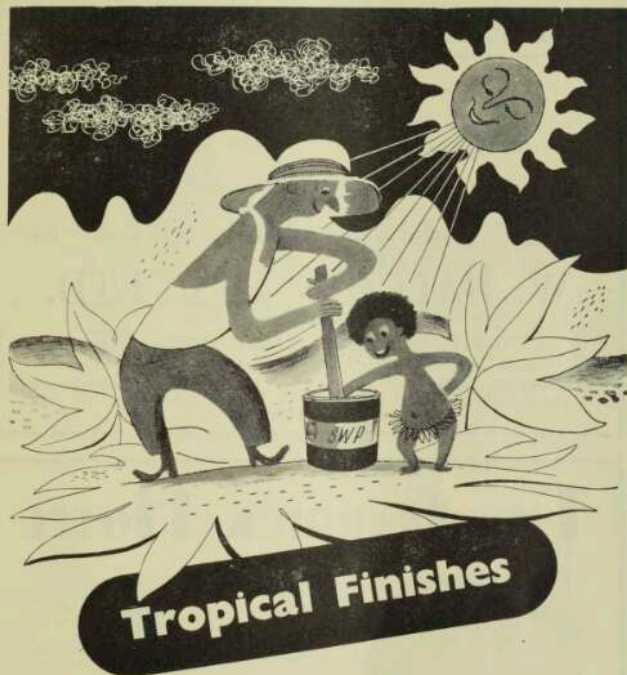
APIA, April 6. **D**URING the past fortnight three overseas vessels called at Apia.

Matua left on March 29 with 10,000 cases of bananas and 1,000 cases of desiccated coconut for Auckland. She took 25 tons of cocoa beans also.

Taybank left on April 3 with 3,500 tons of copra and 250 tons of cocoa beans for England; and Thor 1, which brought a

cargo of petrol from USA and general cargo from USA and Canada, lifted a further 33 tons of cocoa beans.

The marriage took place recently, at St. John's Anglican Cathedral, Brisbane, of Miss **Angele Petters** to **Mr. Georges Zelenina**, son of Princess Marie Natutchevansky, of Paris and Beirut, and of the late Mr. George Zelenina, of Stockholm, Sweden. The bride has been a resident of New Caledonia. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. M'Farouhar Petters (England). Her father built the famous Burma Road in 1896.



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DROP IN COCOA PRICE

From Our Own Correspondent

APIA, April 7.
DURING the last few weeks the cocoa price has dropped on both the American and English markets from £230-240 to £200-205.

This fall affects Samoan producers very little at present, as there will be no appreciable crop coming in until towards the end of the current year.

PAPUAN CONSTABULARY BAND FOR AUSTRALIA

THE Royal Papuan Constabulary Band and a party of native riflemen will visit Australian eastern States between April 19 and May 1.

They will probably participate in the Anzac Day march in Sydney on April 25. The visit has been arranged at the suggestion of the RSSAILA, NSW Branch. RAAF planes will fly the party from Port Moresby to Brisbane on April 19.

DOUBLE TAXATION RELIEF

Agreement Between UK and Fiji

AN agreement has been entered into between the United Kingdom and Fiji to provide relief from double taxation of the income of individuals and companies. Details of the agreement were discussed when the Fiji Commissioner of Inland Revenue (Mr. R. B. Ackland) visited the United Kingdom recently.

Companies resident in the UK and operating in Fiji through a branch establishment will be taxed by Fiji on branch profits only. Similarly companies resident in Fiji and operating in the UK through a branch establishment will be taxed by the United Kingdom on branch profits only.

Shipping and air profits are taxable by the country of residence only. Dividends are exempt from sur-tax in either country.

The arrangement makes provision for avoiding double taxation on royalties, pensions and the remuneration of persons from one territory visiting the other territory either on business or on holiday, or for the purpose of lecturing or teaching, or as students or apprentices.

The arrangement takes effect in the United Kingdom from the year of assessment beginning on April 6, 1949, (for sur-tax, the year beginning April 6, 1948) and in Fiji for the year of assessment beginning on January 1, 1949.

The arrangement is for an indefinite period terminable by notice on or before June 30 in any year after 1950.

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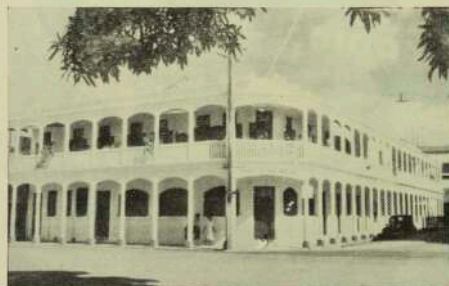
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CEREMONY AT SITE OF SUVA'S NEW CATHEDRAL

SUVA, March 27.
THE foundation stone of the Lady Chapel of the new Anglican Cathedral of the Diocese of Polynesia, at Suva, was laid on March 25 by the acting Governor (Mr. A. P. R. Stoddart). (The foundation of the cathedral itself was laid by a former Governor, Sir Harry Luke, in 1940).

The order of procession from the old cathedral to the site of the new was: Churchwardens, with their vergers; the Cross, carried by a Fijian returned soldier (L. Nalgulevu); the Choir; the Vestry; the People; the Municipal Council, represented by the Mayor (Mr. Alport Barker), and Crs. Cheng, Gopalan and Grant; the architect, and other technical advisers; the Lay Members of Chapter, the Presbyterian and Methodist clergy; the Diocesan clergy in copes; the Acting Governor (Mr. A. P. R. Stoddart) and his ADC; the Bishop, in cope and mitre, carrying his Staff, attended by two deacons-of-honour.

TREES IN KIETA, TNG

I WAS much interested in Charles Barrett's photograph of Kieta in a recent PIM (writes Dr. C. M. Deland, of Adelaide). The trees in the foreground are Poinciana and Jacaranda, alternately.

When I first went to Kieta in 1929, the foreshore was lined with a double row of huge old Ficus trees, and the resultant avenue was dark and dank. So I had those trees removed, and we planted the Poinciana and Jacaranda in 1931. It is good to see how they have survived, and how well-grown. The line extends from the native hospital, at the end of the bay, to Chinatown, at the other end.

SOLOMON ISLANDS

Copra Price Is Now £46A Per Ton

From Our Own Correspondent

HONIARA, April 2.
COPRA price per ton at main shipping ports in the British Solomon Islands has been increased to £46 Australian as from April 1, 1950, consequent on a recent rise in the price paid by the Ministry of Food for Solomon Islands copra.

Ministry of Food price is now £60/12/6 Australian. Out of this comes a Copra Export Tax of £9/2/- per ton and an Agency Fee for handling, shipping, etc., of £4/18/-, bringing the net amount to £46/12/6. Of this, 12/6 is retained by the Copra Board as a contingency provision, leaving a net amount of £48, the new buying price at main ports.

MORE PEOPLE COMING IN

BIG influx into the Solomon Islands occurred early this year, with new appointments, and people returning from leave. Passenger list for May Morinda was expected to include Mr. E. S. Cook (Accountant, Public Works Department) and Mrs. Cook, Mr. R. F. Calvert (Wireless Officer) and Mrs. Calvert and daughter, and Mr. P. G. Eades (Mechanical Engineer PWD)—all returning from leave in Australia or New Zealand. Mrs. Eades accompanied her son on a visit to Honiara.

Mr. F. Lambert, new headmaster for the BSI Government School for Solomon Islanders at Auki, Malaita, arrived by Qantas plane on April 3, accompanied by his wife and four children.

The Chief Magistrate and Legal Adviser, Mr. W. T. Charles, with Mrs. Charles and two children, are due back from leave early in May. Three new Cadet Administrative Officers, Mr. A. A. MacKeith, with Mrs. MacKeith, Mr. M.

B. Hamilton, with Mrs. Hamilton, and Mr. H. G. Wallington, arrived from the UK recently.

Mr. Cole, Civil Engineer for the Public Works Department, arrived by April Qantas, and another new PWD employee is expected shortly.

PLANTERS' ORGANISATION

SECOND post-war meeting of the BSIP Planters' and Commercial Association was held at Honiara on March 27.

There is a growing demand among planters and businessmen in the BSIP for an active body representative of their interests. The objects of the Association, as recorded in the Minutes, are "to represent and protect the interests of

planters and commercial resources in BSIP and to ensure proper liaison and co-operation with the Government in matters of importance to the welfare of all residents of the Protectorate."

All members of the Association who are producers or purchasers of copra will pay a levy of 2/6 per ton on all copra produced or purchased, and private individuals and commercial companies not engaged in copra production will pay an annual subscription, to provide the Association with necessary funds.

Business was confined mainly to preliminary reorganisation of the Association, including election of office-bearers for the current year. Mr. R. C. Symes was elected president. Committee members for the year are Messrs. J. C. Ham-



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mett, L. P. Gill, O. Bergin, J. A. Johnstone, K. H. D. Hay and Father Palmer. Mr. R. G. Hodge, of Guadalcanal Plantation and Trading Co., was elected Honorary Secretary and Treasurer.

THE SOUTHERN CROSS

THE Melanesian Mission ship Southern Cross left Honiara on March 26 for New Zealand, via the Reef Islands and the New Hebrides. The voyage, which will include visits to various Mission headquarters en route, is expected to take at least six weeks.

Messrs. Bruno and Oscar Schwarz, both of whom were well and favourably known in New Guinea before World War II, but who, as German citizens, were interned in Australia during the war, are now working a mining enterprise in the Armidale district of New South Wales, where they produce antimony, scheelite and gold. These two old miners, however, are eager to return to New Guinea, and it is probable that they will be seen in the Territory before long. The brothers secured naturalisation as British citizens about two years ago.

BULOLO GOLD

Fall in Value of Ground Treated

IN March, New Guinea's big gold-producing company, Bulolo Gold Dredging Ltd., published a set of figures, showing the result of operations in the nine months ended February 28 last, as compared with the same nine months of the previous year:—

	9 months 1950	9 months 1949
Yardage Dredged ..	10,757,740	7,359,815
Oz. Fine Gold ..	56,247	52,235
Value at \$30 US per oz.	\$1,698,645	\$1,528,225
Value per yard in US Cents ..	18.30	24.84

The last line is significant. It shows, apparently, a progressive reduction in value per yard of ground dredged. In the three months ended February 28, 1950, the value per yard was 17.82 cents compared with 21.04 cents in the three months ended February 28, 1949.

One of the Co's most useful dredges turned turtle and sank, as the result of an accident three or four months ago. Salvage operations are making satisfactory progress, but some further time will elapse before the extent of the damage done to the big machine will be known.

Douglas Warren, 19 year old Pitcairn Islander arrived in New Zealand in March to undergo hospital treatment. Six years ago he developed osteomyelitis and became a bed-ridden invalid. He went to Rarotonga for treatment but his case was described as hopeless. The Western Pacific High Commission then interested itself in Douglas' case and has sent him to Wellington, NZ.

TAHITI

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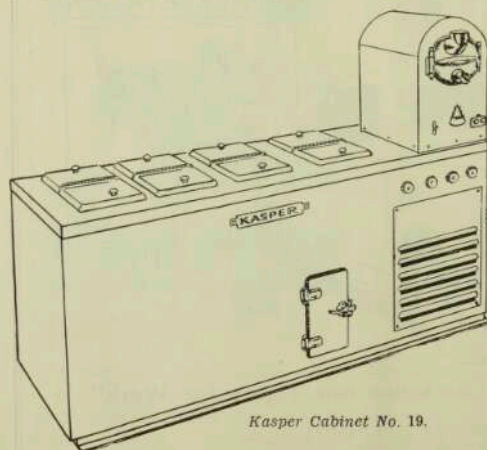
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AIR FRANCE FOR TAHITI

To End Irritation Caused By Broken Promises

From Our Own Correspondent

PAPEETE, March 20.
DISSATISFACTION is being expressed in Papeete regarding failure of TRAPAS Airline to fulfil its obligation to provide Tahiti with a regular monthly service. The non-arrival of planes from New Caledonia, with European mails, causes great inconvenience to the general public, and falls particularly heavy on local merchants, who report inconvenience and loss of business therefrom.

TRAPAS benefits by a monthly subsidy of 100,000 francs from the Tahiti Government, granted on the express condition that it maintains a regular service to Papeete. Not only did it fail to make its February visit to the Colony, but there is little prospect that it will be able to do so in March.

In Defence of TRAPAS

PAPEETE, March 25.
SEVERAL statements have been made in rebuttal of the criticism of TRAPAS. It is claimed that the trouble is not due to TRAPAS, the local Aero Club, or Government. In the course of a public statement, M. J. Arbelot, General Secretary of the Aero Club of Oceania, said: "The excessive censure of TRAPAS is unjustified. Certainly TRAPAS promised us a regular service. But promises, which have not been fulfilled, were also made to TRAPAS. Where are the three Catalina planes which were to be placed at the disposition of TRAPAS by the end of 1949?"

"As to our Aero Club being accused of lack of initiative and negligence during three long years, such charges are not justified by facts. At all times the club has been vigilant in its efforts to promote aerial transportation, not only by correspondence and interviews with Government officials, but even to the extent of an endeavour by its members, as late as December, to purchase a bimotor hydroplane for local use."

Following an interview with Governor Anziani, an announcement was made that the Club had purchased a hydroplane.

New Service Announced

NOW comes the official announcement that Air France will make its long-anticipated survey visit to Bora Bora on March 28. Among its 23 passengers will be Vice-Admiral Nomy, Inspector of Aeronavale; Monsieur Thouvenot, Director of Aerial Transportation; Representatives of the Governor-General of Indo-China and New Caledonia; Officials of Air France; journalists and photographers.

Transportation of the party between Bora Bora and Papeete will be by TRAPAS airplane to arrive a little earlier. Governor and Madame Anziani, accompanied by military and civilian representatives, will welcome the visitors at Bora Bora.

SYDNEY, Apl. 20.—Owing to unsatisfactory survey flight, Air France service has been postponed until August. TRAPAS is suspended indefinitely.

TO assist local school committees with the construction or extension of primary schools, £10,000 has been made available for the current year under Fiji's Revised Development Plan.

Strict conditions govern the type of accommodation which must be provided if financial assistance is granted.

COLIN SIMPSON'S NG BROADCASTS

A RADIO feature, called This is New Guinea, prepared by Colin Simpson, was broadcast from 2FC, Sydney, on April 4. It set out to give something of the geographical, political and economic background of the Papua-New Guinea Territory.

Colonel J. K. Murray, Administrator of Papua-New Guinea, told of the Administration's plans for native welfare; and PIM editor, E. W. Robson, was introduced as the "champion of commercial interests."

Two other Colin Simpson features on New Guinea will be broadcast from 2FC on April 18 and May 9 (they will, at a later date, be repeated from 9PA, Port Moresby). The first feature is entitled The Amiable Island of Skulls, and the second, Coral Sea Cruise.

Mr. Simpson, in April, was covering the South Pacific Conference in Fiji, for the ABC.

Mr. M. M. Brodie, manager of the Pacific Biscuit Co., Fiji, arrived in Sydney by the March Aorangi on a business trip.

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Bishop Aubin, of the Roman Catholic Mission in the BSIP, has recently been in hospital. The Bishop, who is over 70, returned last year from overseas leave during which he visited Rome and spent some time with his people in France. He is regarded with affection by all who know him for his kindness, his quick mind, and his unassuming and courtly manner, and the good progress he has been making in hospital is very welcome news in the BSIP.

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MODERN BEACH-COMBERS

Tahiti Has A Problem

From Our Own Correspondent

PAPEETE, March 10.
ARISING out of the drive for tourists conducted by the Governor of Tahiti, an unfortunate condition is developing, and assuming serious proportions, regarding the arrival of small yachts in Papeete.

Some of these vessels arrive here manned by crew members who are working their way without pay, in order to get to the glamorous South Seas. Upon arrival here, they abandon the ship without funds, live among the natives and, in some cases, become public charges.

Often, these gentry possess such articles as cameras, typewriters and firearms, upon which customs duty should have been paid. These they smuggle ashore and peddle around. With the proceeds they eke out a hole-and-corner existence on the black market, and on the fringes of respectability until, perhaps, they ship out, again as non-pay crew members, on another tramp yacht for a distant port.

This is the type of "tourist" which Tahiti emphatically does not want.

Recently, a young woman arrived in Papeete, from Honolulu, as crew member of a yacht. Without sufficient funds to deposit the "caution money" required by the Government of all new residents she was in a serious predicament, until she was fortunate enough to be allowed to sign on as stewardess on an outgoing passenger steamer.

In another recent case, several young men arrived here by yacht. As they were not able to satisfy the authorities here that they were desirable visitors, on their

departure they were refused permission to call at Bora Bora. On the pretext of repairs to their mast they, however, effected a landing there. Ashore, they staged a drunken orgy with the natives before they left.

Again, the other day, a yachtsman was caught surreptitiously loading a small engine he had not declared to the Customs onto the car of a resident of Papeete.

All visitors to Tahiti who come here in legitimate ways and who abide by port regulations, are courteously received by the authorities, and experience no unnecessary inconvenience.

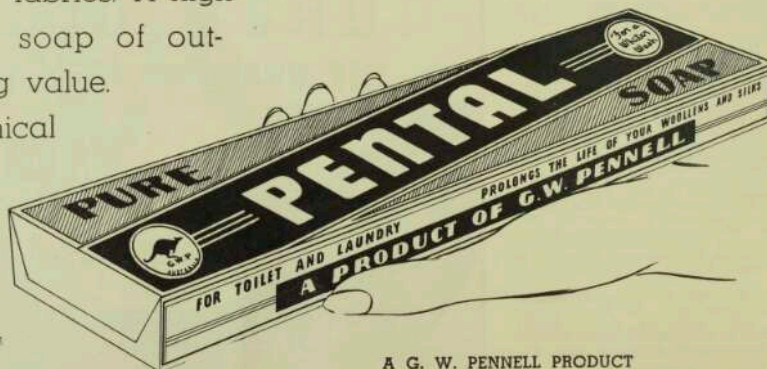
ANOTHER PHASE is that yacht agents, as bondsmen, are liable for the malpractices described above. After selling bonded goods and departing, defaulting crew men leave a legacy of liabilities behind, for which their unfortunate agents have to make good.

While the arrival of undesirable newcomers is unfortunate for Tahiti, it is particularly so for legitimate foreign yachtsmen who contemplate a visit to French Oceania. It is to be hoped that effort will be made among them to check these unfortunate practices before drastic measures are taken by port officials.

Yachtsmen arriving in Tahiti should declare all their supplies, including packages with which they have been entrusted by friends to deliver in Papeete. They should also see that crew members, coming ashore, possess sufficient funds for current expenses, that they remain attached to the ship while in port, and leave with it when it departs.

In particular, it should be remembered that no firearms or ammunition may be landed in Tahiti nor may newcomers remain as residents without the Governor's sanction.

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(g) **WOMEN'S MILLINERY.** Up to the second styling, all hats on French blocks.

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(i) **CORSETRY.** Corselettes, lightweight corselettes, girdles, corsets and brassieres.

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(k) **CHILDREN'S UNDERWEAR.** Boilable cotton athletic vests, underpants; girls' cotton singlets and bloomers; wool and cotton lines.

(l) **MEN'S Fashion shirts, sports shirts, work shirts, undershirts.**

(m) **MEN'S FOOTWEAR.** Everything from lounge shoes and dressy brogues, golf shoes and elastic side riding boots to work-boots and rubber knee boots.

(n) **MEN'S MERCERY.** Handkerchiefs, half hose, athletic vests and all forms of cotton, wool and cotton underwear.

(o) **PIECEGOODS.** Guaranteed colorfast plain and printed linens, haircords and dimities. Check, stripes, spot cottons in all colors. Nursery winceyettes and cambrics. Colorfast cottons from 3/8 per yard (Australian) up! Every imaginable woollen.

(p) **MANCHESTER.** Colorfast towels and bath mats, sheets, pillowslips, tea towels, art-needlework on pure linen.

(q) **NAPERY.** Tablecloths, bungalow cloths, chenille bedspreads.

(r) **HABERDASHERY.** The latest laces, ribbons and braids. Guipure, Vals, Broderie Anglaise, Ribbonhole insertions, Sewing cottons and Embroidery silks.

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and 17; 14, 16 and 18;
14½, 16½ and 18½. Post-
age weight, 1 lb. 2 oz. **23/11**

② T206. "SUNBURST" BORDER PRINTED
SEERSUCKER BY "CAESAR FABRICS".
Deep double border on magyar-
sleeved bodice and full skirt. Un-
pressed pleats at side waist, back
and front. Washable seersucker.
Cyclamen/Green/Grey, Blue/Green/
Yellow on White. 13, 17;
14, 16, 18; 14½, 16½, 18½.
Post weight, 1 lb. 5 oz. **37/6**

③ A360. "SUDS'N'WATER" CANDY-
STICK STRIPED COTTON. Self con-
trast on peter-pan collar, "money-
bag" pockets and pocket and collar
bows. Vertically striped bodice,
contrast cuffs and belt, diagonally
striped skirt. Colorfast cotton cam-
bric. Red, Blue/White.
13, 17; 14, 16, 18; 14½,
16½, 18½. Wgt., 1 lb. 5 oz. **36/9**

④ A361. HAIL-SPOT COTTON. A
"SUDS'N'WATER" spot with prin-
cess-fitted bodice with razor-sharp
collar peaks, and six stitched down
pleats in flared skirt. Back skirt is
pleat-free twin panel. Colorfast Eng-
lish cotton cambric. Pink, Blue,
Green, White Spots. 13,
17; 14, 16, 18. Post-
age weight, 1 lb. 5 oz. **32/6**

⑤ A362. BOIL-TESTED "SUDS'N'
WATER" COTTON LINENE with high
rolling collar (French canvas inter-
lined to keep crisp roll permanently).
Dart-fitted bodice with action-free
magyar sleeves. Flared semi-circle
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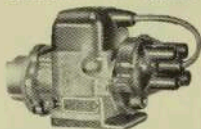
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Waist	26	26½	28	27½	30	29	30	32
Seat	35	36	37	38½	38½	37½	40	40½
Length	46	46	46	47	46	48	49	47

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MISIMA SHOCK

Cuthbert's Mine Closes Up

IN an official announcement, on April 1, the directors of Cuthbert's Misima Goldmine, Ltd., which has an extensive property on Misima Island, Eastern Papua, said that mining operations had ceased; and the company is at once going into voluntary liquidation.

Recently, the Directors appealed for fresh capital amounting to at least £30,000, and offered the company's debentures in exchange. The response fell far short of requirements and, as the company's cash resources were exhausted, it was decided to close down.

This is a most unexpected end to an enterprise that, a few years ago, was often referred to as "Freddie Cuthbert's Bonanza." The late Mr. Cuthbert privately worked a rich vein before forming the present company and there was a period of some years, just before World War II, when the mine paid fantastic dividends. When the Jap invasion of the South-west Pacific forced evacuation of Misima, it was assumed by those interested that profits would be resumed as soon as mining operations were resumed.

But it did not work out that way. Although the company was compensated for war damage over the years 1942-44,

and every assistance was given by the Administration in the task of rehabilitation, the mine did not get back to satisfactory production. The management was handicapped by the prevailing difficulty in getting labour, by the infrequency and high cost of shipping, and by the ever-rising costs of all goods and services. On top of that, it presently became apparent that the mine, somehow, had lost the line of the once enormously-rich lode—or it had unexpectedly petered out. The engineers were sure they could find the lode again; but cash resources gradually dwindled—with the result stated above.

An article in the PIM of November, 1937, said that three companies were operating on the rich lode on Misima—Orovile (then apparently moribund) at the southern end, Cuthberts, in the centre, and Gold Mines of Papua (working busily towards profitable production) at the northern end. Quartz Mountain, a New Zealand concern, was testing out some leases near the south coast.

Cuthberts, employing 30 Europeans and 500 natives, was in very profitable production; and Gold Mines of Papua, with 30 Europeans and 400 natives, expected to be in production within a year. Some time after that, GM of P announced that they had lost the lode; but the Cuthbert production seemed to become ever richer.

Orovile and Quartz Mountain had faded out, even before the war. Since the war, GM of P have been trying to get started again, but with indifferent success. But no one dreamed that Cuthberts would collapse in this fashion.

In terms of Australian currency, gold was never more valuable. Unquestionably, there still are rich reefs to be developed on Misima. If there is one thing more than another that Papua needs, it is some alternative to rubber—either oil or gold—or both. It is hoped that the Administration will take any steps desirable to keep the gold-mining industry going on Misima. It would be a calamity if the Misima field became just another memory, like Lakekamu and the Yodda.

FATAL AIR CRASH AT LAE

Young Couple and Pilot Die

WHILE making a test-flight near Lae, New Guinea, on March 25, a Hudson aircraft crashed into a house, killing a young man and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Flarey.

The pilot, Harold Gibson-Lee, DFC, was badly injured and died in Lae hospital 10 days later. Collin Wren and Jack Brown, two engineers who were in the Hudson, were shot from the tail, which broke off, and were uninjured.

The plane belonged to Mandated Airlines. Trouble appeared to develop right after take-off on a test flight and when about 400 feet above Lae drome, black smoke was seen to issue from one of the aircraft's motors. The pilot made a low curved approach back towards the strip, but the plane seemed to get out of control, ploughing through a clump of bamboo which tore off a wing. It then careered across the adjacent road, wrecking a truck. It appears to have been at this stage that the roof of the cockpit was torn off. Gibson-Lee hurried out and the two engineers shot from the tail.

The Hudson then swerved into the house, under which Mr. and Mrs. Flarey were standing, and burst into flames. The young couple were badly injured and burned. Mrs. Flarey died 20 minutes later in hospital; her husband died the following afternoon.

Gibson-Lee held the rank of Wing-Commander in the RAAF during the war. He won the Air Force Cross for making blind-flying tests and the DFC for operations in the Battle of France.



BAKERS OF THE BEST BISCUITS

5/9620

THE MONTH IN MORESBY

From Our Own Correspondent

PORT MORESBY, April 7.

SWINGING a sixteen inch bush knife, a native on March 27, went berserk in a hospital on Fergusson Island, Papua, killing three native medical orderlies and injuring three others before he was shot dead. It is believed that the officer in charge of the hospital, Medical Assistant Beatson, shot the native, but to date there are few details of the tragedy.

A doctor and the ADO Samarai went to Fergusson immediately the news was received on the mainland.

CRAYFISH are not likely to be popular with Moresby residents for a long time. Sixty people recently had food poisoning as a result of eating this "delicacy." Only a few had to go to hospital but the effects suffered by the others were far from pleasant.

The Director of Health, Dr. Gunther, warned people not to eat crayfish unless they were alive just before being cooked. Some residents obeyed these instructions but still they got sick. So Dr. Gunther has come to the conclusion that local crayfish are poisonous at this time of the year. "It is well known among natives that some fish which are edible during one season become inedible during another," he said.

TERRITORY residents will have a shorter wait for air passages to Australia now that there are two Skymasters on the run each week. The Skymasters carry 50 passengers compared with a DC3's 19. Skymasters now arrive at

Moresby on Wednesdays and Sundays, returning south on Thursdays and Mondays. Already the number of people waiting for passages to and from the Territory has been considerably reduced. Qantas is now running twice-weekly Dragon services to Popondetta and Kokoda.

MORESBY'S office shortage has eased considerably since a building, erected in Hunter Street by Mr. W. Wyatt, is in use. Top part of the building has been divided into five offices and business premises. More offices are to be built underneath. Occupants of the existing offices are Mr. R. E. Eginton, who has opened a barber shop staffed by an experienced native; Hornbrook Construction Company; Mr. Jack Wilson, builder; Mrs. Roy Barwick (Lenwick Clothing Factory) and Masters' Radio Service.

WHEN the truck they occupied crashed into 38 feet of water at Moresby recently, Mr. E. Palmer and Mr. S. Clark found themselves upside down, under water. Luckily the windows were open and they were able to crawl out. Driven by Palmer, the truck was going from Moresby to Konedobu when it skidded on the wet road. Palmer overcorrected the skid and the utility went into the sea. Both men were taken to hospital but only Palmer was admitted. He was in hospital a week.

A PARTY of geo-physicists led by Mr. Ken Tait arrived in Moresby recently to make a survey of areas leased by Mandated Alluvials. This company mined copper and gold near Moresby before the war.

THE Advisory Council's attempt to get the Administration to build a swimming pool in Moresby has failed. "At the present stage the Administration is unable to appropriate funds for the provision of a swimming pool," said the Government Secretary in a letter read at the last Advisory Council meeting. "The

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Administration will give the fullest possible support in a material way to a community effort to provide swimming baths."

Mr. J. Lyons told the Council that a public meeting would be held soon to organise a campaign for funds to build a pool.

This marks the Council's first big setback since its formation. On all other matters the Administration has either taken action or supplied the Council with

satisfactory information. For instance, in reply to an inquiry by the Council, the Government Secretary advised that plans were in hand for an automatic telephone exchange in Moresby. The Director of Health, Dr. Gunther, in response to a request from the Council, extended hospital visiting hours. Replying to the Council's complaints about Moresby's roads, the Government Secretary reported that separate organizations were being set up to handle road maintenance, street clean-

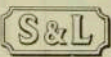
ing, etc. As yet, there are few visible results of the Council's efforts to improve the town but it has obtained much valuable information about the Administration's plans.

A CONFERENCE at Lae last week-end at which Mr. Bunting, of Samarai, represented Papua, agreed to combine Territory RSL bodies into a single State Branch. In the past there has been a Port Moresby branch as well as a New Guinea State Branch.

Under the new set-up Port Moresby will become a sub-branch and will send delegates to annual meetings of the State Executive. At the annual meeting of Moresby RSL recently, Mr. P. Edwards was elected president, Mr. L. Lyons, vice-president, Mr. J. Buckridge, secretary, and Mr. J. Aynsley, treasurer. Retiring president (Mr. S. E. Reilly) and secretary (Mr. P. Bosgard), were made life members. The councillors are: C. L. Anthony, P. Bosgard, L. Elliott, J. Grimshaw, C. Marr, J. A. Miller (snr.), W. Watkins and N. White.

FORMER Rabaul barrister and solicitor, Mr. Andrew Kelly, was sworn in as a judge of the Papua-New Guinea Supreme Court at Moresby on March 27. He arrived from Australia with Mrs. Kelly a few days earlier. Judge Gore presided at the swearing-in ceremony and made a welcoming speech, which was supported by Messrs. Watkins, Cromie, White and McCubbery.

TWO new engines for the local power house should by this date have reached Australia from England but even when they do arrive in Moresby they will be useless. Someone forgot to send the alternators without which the engines cannot operate. We have now to wait for the alternators to come from England before we can expect much improvement in the power supply.



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MR. T. OLSSON'S milk bar in Port Road, Moresby, has closed down but residents won't be without milk-shakes for long. The milk bar at the foot of Lawes Road, which served the town previously, will be re-opened in a week or two under the management of Mrs. M. Thomas, who at present is employed at the European Hospital.

RUGBY League football, which was introduced to Moresby last year, promises to become the town's favourite sport. Already it draws more spectators than any other local sport and the number of players is increasing. At present there are only two teams, Paga Hill and the Maganis, but DCA is trying to organise a team. In the first match of the season an improved Paga Hill team defeated the Maganis by 5 to 3. Players are particularly keen this season because of the prospect of a trip to Wau. Two representative teams from Moresby are going to Wau for the King's Birthday week-end in June.

MR. and MRS. W. R. FRAME won the first competition of the new season—a mixed Canadian against par—at the Moresby golf course on April 1. In second place were Mr. and Mrs. Mason with G. McLeod and Miss E. Henderson third, and Miss L. Steege and R. Knight fourth. A mixed Canadian flag competition on April 2 was won by J. Gilmann and Mrs. G. Evans, with N. Gorringer and Mrs. Mason second.

SUNDAY, April 16, has been fixed as the starting date for the Moresby Aquatic Club's 1950 season. Ten or twelve boats are expected to contest the first event and several new boats will be built during the season. Some skippers will try out spinners this season.

MISS LYN NICHOLSON and Mr. Reg Thomson, both of the Education Department Port Moresby, were married at the Moresby Registry Office on April 4. Miss Joy Hill was bridesmaid and Mr. B. Westmore bestman. Fifty people attended the reception at Pandora Crescent Women's Hostel.

Port Moresby's District Officer, Mr. M. J. Healy, is transferring to Higaturu. Mrs. Healy recently returned from Brisbane after taking their daughter, Jennifer, to college.

Mr. Geoff Hill, NSW co-operative inspector who has been on loan to the Administration for the past year, has returned South.

Two shillings was retrieved from the stomach of 2-year-old Phillip Haughan, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Haughan, at the Moresby Hospital last week. Phillip swallowed the coin when no one was looking.

District Scouter for Papua, Mr. C. C. Baines, recently returned from a 400-mile walkabout in central Papua. Photos and curios which he collected on the trip will form the basis of a lecture he will give to Queensland University students this month.

NZ NAVY FRIGATE FOR ISLANDS

THE New Zealand Navy frigate, Pukaki, will leave Auckland in early April to make a short visit to several South Pacific islands.

Pukaki will carry stores to the meteorological station on Sunday Island then visit Nukualofa (Tonga), and Niue, returning to New Zealand by Campbell Island. The voyage will take about one month.

New Legal Officer for Moresby

MR. MICHAEL CAHILL, a well-known Perth, WA, barrister, has been appointed legal officer assisting the Crown Law Officer in Papua and New Guinea and Crown Prosecutor in the same territory.

Dr. L. Achmatowicz, a graduate of Warsaw University, arrived recently in Suva to join the South Pacific Health Services. He is temporarily attached to the staff of the Colonial War Memorial Hospital, Suva.

M. and Mme. Louis Girault, of Papeete, in January, were receiving congratulations on the birth of a daughter. Mr. Girault is Government Secretary in French Oceania.

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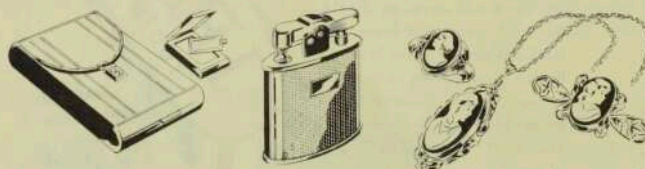
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EGYPT VISITS THE SOUTH SEAS

Riot in Papeete

From a Special Correspondent

WHAT started out as a two-man name-calling altercation in a Papeete nightclub recently, threatened for a while to become an island-wide riot.

On February 20, the steamer, Al Sudan, owned by the Egyptian Navigation Company at Alexandria, and chartered for one trip by the French company, Messageries Maritimes, called in at Papeete, Tahiti. That night the Egyptian officers and the Sudanese crew of the ship came ashore and, attracted by the bright lights, headed for Quinn's Tahitian Hut, Lionel's and the Au Col Bleu—all topdrawer nightclubs along Papeete's Rue du Commerce.

Midway through the evening, two French passengers on the ship got into an argument in Quinn's. Pistols flew. One of the Egyptians in the club sided with one of the passengers and the affair became three-sided. Taku, burly native Tahitian policeman, happened to be on the dance floor, off duty and in civvies. He stepped between the fighting men in an effort to separate them. For his efforts he received a blow on the head with a steel folding-chair that was wielded by another Egyptian. The Tahitian natives in the place rapidly came to the aid of their beleaguered fellow and the fighting spread like a chemical chain reaction.

Eddie Lund and his orchestra continued to play music for dancing in an effort to quieten the uprising, but to no avail. Chairs, tables, bottles, knives and razors came into play with the Egyptians fighting in anything but a gentlemanly fashion.

The brawl spread outside where there were bicycles, stacked three and four deep.

They were picked up by the Egyptians and hurled into the crowd. All up and down the main street of Papeete, separate and distinct skirmishes broke out like a heat rash. Mob rule reigned. Word spread rapidly and the Tahitians, marshalling their forces, soon outnumbered the Egyptians and drove them back to the dock area. There further fighting broke out. Other scraps took place outside of other nightspots. At one point, two men fighting at close quarters on the ship's gangplank fell over the side and hit on the concrete dock 15 feet below.

Later the chief officer of the Egyptians returned to Quinn's to "settle scores." He said that his men had not been given a fair break and offered, personally, to take on anybody in the place. Whereupon he was set on by a number of Tahitians, who beat him to a pulp. The natives were angered by the fact that a number of them had been cut by knives and razors.

The following night the crew was restricted to the ship, but on the third night

they again came ashore. However, by this time all of the Colony's police officers had been alerted and properly armed to prevent any recurrence of the outbreak.

JAPS AT THEIR TRICKS AGAIN

It is reported in Australian newspapers that Japanese exporters are back at their old pre-war game of giving trick trade marks to small manufacturers. Example is "Made in USA" for products made in the small town of Usa, in Kyushu.

It will be remembered that before the war, thousands of small products, such as valve springs for automobile tyres, were so branded. Packaging was an exact copy of American goods—and so was the trick trademark, at a cursory glance.

The Japanese Trade Ministry recently stated that it will create a permit control for export goods that "might violate foreign industrial trademarks."



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SAMOAN OFFICIALS WILL BE BUSY

OFFICIALDOM in Western Samoa will have a busy year. Coming political events include the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the raising of the American flag in American Samoa in April, which will be attended

by numerous representatives and visitors from Western Samoa; the sending of a delegation from Western Samoa to the South Pacific Conference at Suva in April; the flag raising anniversary at Mulinu'u, Apia, on June 1, at which the New Zealand Minister for Island Territories, the Hon. F. Doldge, and Mr. Patrick will attend; and the expected arrival of a UN Trusteeship Council Mission in July.

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No Mission Competition In New Guinea

Letter to the Editor

IN the Pacific Islands Monthly of January your columnist Tolala refers to the fact that the Baptists are beginning work in New Guinea.

While I fully agree with his remarks regretting the evils of mission competition; and while I also fully agree that out of consideration for the natives, zoning should be observed, I feel that it is unfortunate that the announcement of the arrival of the Baptists in New Guinea should be the introduction of this subject. One cannot fail to get the impression that, somehow, the Baptists are connected with this regrettable situation.

Protestant missions in New Guinea have, as far as I know, always been in favour of zoning, or "sphere of influence". That is also so with the Baptist missionaries. I say this from personal knowledge. They are our "neighbours" here in the Central Highlands. Before they began work they came to us, informing us where they intended to establish themselves, and seeking mutual agreement on boundaries between our fields. Though we had originally regarded the area they selected as one of our future fields of expansion, we have reached a friendly understanding.

From the foregoing your many readers, especially missionaries, will be assured that our Baptist friends are doing their utmost to avoid the evils of mission competition which Tolala rightly deplores.

I am, etc.

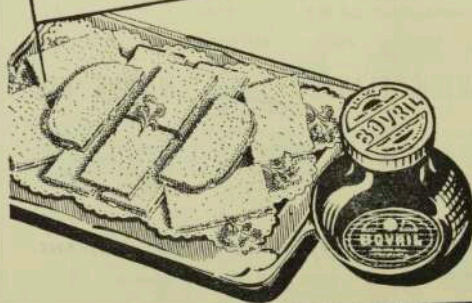
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'Operation BCG'

**Fast Work by Air Companies
Makes N. Guinea Anti-TB Work
Possible**

MEDICAL history is believed to be in the making in the Central New Guinea Highlands where large-scale anti-TB vaccination is being carried out with the new drug BCG.

A doctor and two assistants are doing the job which entails dealing with up to 1,000 patients per day. Men, women and children are being vaccinated but the measure is designed, mainly, for the protection of those Highlands men who are going to the coastal areas for the first time as indentured labourers.

Fast work by air transportation companies is necessary in order that the Highlands anti-TB campaign can be undertaken at all.

BCG vaccine has a life of only eight days. It is made by the Commonwealth serum laboratories in Melbourne, leaves that city in the small hours each Friday, picks up the New Guinea plane in Sydney and arrives in the NG Highlands late on Saturday afternoon. The medical team then has a week to get rid of it before its useful life is over.

Expanding Mexican Cocoa Production

THE following article on Mexican cocoa production was published in the London Public Ledger in mid-February. The Ledger is a daily newspaper devoted to reports of raw materials and commodity markets.

MEXICO'S 1950 production of cocoa beans is expected to reach an all-time record and to exceed the large 1947 production of 15,518,000 pounds. The 1949 crop has been unofficially estimated at 13,228,000 pounds and the 1948 crop was officially reported at 14,330,000 pounds.

Although cocoa is indigenous to Mexico and was grown there before the Spanish Conquest, it never has developed into a leading commercial crop despite the fact that Mexico possesses the natural resources necessary for large-scale expansion. It has been estimated that in Tabasco and Chiapas alone, which produce more than 95 per cent. of the cocoa grown in Mexico, there are at least 250,000 acres of rich land suitable for cocoa cultivation, most of which is as yet undeveloped agriculturally. There also are promising areas for the expansion of cocoa cultivation in the States of Campeche and Veracruz.

It has been only recently and as a result of war-time conditions, that an active interest has been taken by the Mexican Government and growers in the protection and expansion of the cocoa industry. The Mexican Government inaugurated during the war a cocoa development programme designed to encourage extension of acreage and to increase the yield per acre by replacing the low-yielding Criollo variety by high-yielding Forasteros and Criollo hybrids.

Domestic consumption in Mexico is estimated at 11,023,000 pounds annually. Of this amount about 4,400,000 pounds is absorbed by two factories producing cocoa butter. The balance is used by the chocolate industry. Thus, the potential supply for export from the 1949 crop is 2,200,000 pounds. An additional quantity, also estimated at about 2,200,000 pounds, has been stored for many months by the Union de Credito Agrícola e Industrial de Tabasco waiting for higher prices.

Worst Air Disaster, Ever

ALTHOUGH the air disaster in South Wales on March 12 resulted in the death of 80 people, it was not the world's worst air disaster, as has been claimed.

Only now has the story of a higher deathroll (127) been brought to light. It was on Jackson's Field, Port Moresby in 1943 and was killed by the war censorship of the time.

A Liberator with bomb load up got out of control and crashed into the 2/25 Battalion, AIF, as they were waiting for an air-lift into the Ramu Valley.

Mr. J. O. Clark, who for two years from 1945 was legal officer, Crown Law Office, Port Moresby, has been appointed Warden of Gungahlin, the Hall of Residence of the Canberra University College.

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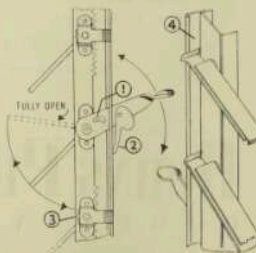
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New Chinese Consulate at Papeete

From Our Own Correspondent

PAPEETE, March 1.
THE new Chinese Consular building for French Oceania was opened with great ceremony at Pare Ute in the environs of Papeete, on February 17.

The inauguration was presided over by Consul and Mrs. Yao Ting Chen, who welcomed their guests dressed in brilliant, yellow silk robes. Governor and Mrs. Anzani attended, together with a large gathering of Government officials and prominent local citizens. Champagne and other refreshments were served.

The Chinese community of Tahiti at present numbers about 6,000 and constitutes an important factor in the economic life of the island. Besides supplying workers for most manual employment, it includes merchants and importers and maintains its own schools, sports and benevolent societies.

At the same time as the opening of the Consulate, the Chinese of Papeete celebrated the first day of their New Year. During a week of festivities, historic dramas were presented and good-fellowship prevailed.

In addition to China, other nations maintaining Consuls in Tahiti are Great Britain, Belgium and Sweden. At the present time, the United States administers its affairs in French Oceania from Noumea, New Caledonia.

Another Book From

J. Norman Hall

From a Special Correspondent

MUCH has been written about where the Polynesian peoples originally came from and how they migrated about the Pacific. Yet one more book on that subject is due before too much longer. The author, this time, will be the capable and well-known James Norman Hall, of Tahiti, who is known best for the famous stories about the Bounty mutiny which he wrote in collaboration with the late Charles Nordhoff.

Hall is at present at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Nancy Rutgers, in Honolulu, where he has access to the research files of the Bishop Museum and the Honolulu Public Library, both well-stocked on Polynesian lore. It is expected that the book will be published by Little, Brown and Company, who have published many of Hall's books.

While in Hawaii, Hall, now 63, is doing some work on his autobiography, which the same firm will publish.

Mrs. Hall, who stayed behind at their Tahiti home when her husband left for Honolulu last October, recently went from Tahiti to Suva on the Al Sudan and then flew on to meet her husband and daughter in Aiehaland.

ONE NEW JAP EVERY 11.6 SECONDS

ONE Japanese is born every 11.6 seconds and one Japanese dies every 33.2 seconds, according to Government figures published recently in Tokio.

Deathrate is lowest in Japanese recorded history and is the result of sweeping health reforms introduced by General MacArthur.

Total Japanese population is now (approximately) 82,200,000.

Paul Gauguin Art Shrine

From Our Own Correspondent

PAPEETE, March 1.
AMONG other means to recreate the long-dormant tourist trade of Tahiti, effort is now being made to direct attention of newcomers to places of local interest during their stay here.

In addition to its many historic sites, Tahiti abounds in the former homes of eminent creative artists whose shades now seem to hover around Tahiti's beauty spots.

Into this category comes the outcast Paul Gauguin, whose genius immortalised the beauty of the land he loved so well. Gauguin first visited Tahiti in 1891. After a brief return to Paris, he came back to Tahiti in 1895. There, marrying a native woman, he purchased property in Punaauia District and established a home. He died in the Marquesas Islands in 1905. In the space of these ten brief years he created paintings and carvings which evoked the bewildered admiration, enthusiasm and censure of fellow-craftsmen throughout the world.

On the verandah of his humble one-storey abode in Punaauia, within sound of the roar of the Pacific and in view of the eternal hills, Gauguin, with savage joy created many of his epoch-making canvases. Among these was "D'ou venons-nous? Que sommes-nous? Ou allons-nous?" into which he stated he had injected the whole of his energy and passion.

LITTLE noticed now, by the wayfarer along the historic Broom Road, and long abandoned to neglect, is the Gauguin property, restoration of which is reported to be about to be commenced. It is hoped to make his old home in Punaauia a shrine where something of the inspiration of the artist may be recaptured, and where art students may go to do homage to the genius of the man to whom they owe so much.

"Where come we? What are we? Where are we going?"

SEA SWALLOWS ISLAND OFF PAPUA

From Our Brisbane Correspondent

SAIBAI, an island just off the south coast of Papua, west of Daru (but included in Torres Strait Islands for administration) is disappearing into the sea. Consequently, its colony of 600 natives is being shifted to a settlement on Cape York.

Sea erosion has reduced the tillable land to an area which cannot support the natives who are agriculturists.

They, with other Torres Strait Islanders when transferred, will settle in a mainland village with modern amenities.

The Queensland Government has a reserve of 44,500 acres on Red Island Point, in the Cape York area, for the settlement of aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders.

When finished, the village will include sanitation and drainage; water supply and electric light; school and recreation reserve; civic square; church reserve; shopping centre and picture theatre; garage and workshop.

(It is, of course, unnecessary to point out that this, like other "model villages" we could mention, is still in the blue-print (or dream) stage).

Life-membership of the Victorian Wheat and Wool Growers' Association was conferred on Mr. Alex Wilson, Administrator of Norfolk Island, at the Association's recent conference.

(Mr. Wilson was an Independent member for Wimmera, a Victorian country electorate in the Australian parliament, before he retired for "health reasons" at the end of 1945. He was appointed Administrator of Norfolk Island for seven years from January, 1946. Liberal-Country Party members, then in Opposition, said it was a political appointment "for services rendered."

Mr. Wilson's vote with the Labour Party had helped to keep that party in office at a precarious stage of their affairs before the 1943 elections).

The New Caledonian Health Officer reports that, in the first nine months of 1949, 25 of 75 patients hospitalised in Noumea for tuberculosis had died. In considering this relatively high percentage it has to be borne in mind that most of the natives did not gain admittance to hospital until they were beyond hope of a regular cure.

If an atomic bomb ever rocks Oahu Island what can Honolulu police do to minimise the death and destruction that would follow in its wake? When they finish a series of 18 lectures now being given on basic training in radiological defences, every member of the department will have the answers to that question.



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NORFOLK ISLAND NOTES

By Vernon Wheatley

DEPARTING: Mrs. Dorothy and Miss Violet Hooker have left Norfolk for their home in Santo. During their six months' holiday on the Island, Miss

Hooker paid a short visit to Sydney for medical treatment.

COMING HOME: Mr. Bill Sanders also successfully underwent medical treatment over a fairly lengthy period and was recently discharged from hospital after a few skin grafts on his leg. Junior readers in Fiji will remember Bill who attended High School there.

AGRICULTURE: Bean seed growers were well pleased with the returns on the consignment freighted by the last Morinda. Growers who are despatching by the April Morinda, are wondering how the seed will fare after a trip to the New Hebrides and back to Sydney, as the vessel is not calling at Norfolk on her return trip. According to an expert, the germination will not be affected.

WHALING: The season will be starting in a couple of months. Capt. K. Hansen is in New Zealand conferring with the directors and during his absence, Mr. Max Picard paid a flying visit to the Island. Mr. Picard is one of the directors of the Company.

UNUSUAL: Recently I observed a common brown hawk perched on the limb of a tree surrounded by ten to fifteen terns. The gathering was amicable and my small daughter was moved to remark that it looked like a birdies parliament. I did not make the obvious remark that the birds looked more intelligent, for the entire assemblage took off and indulged in some aimless gliding until out of sight.

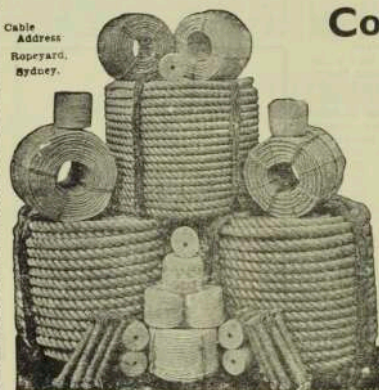
I have seen hundreds of hawks but this is the first time I have seen one accompanied by other species of birds.

ADMINISTRATIVE: The Administration, in conjunction with the Department of Works and Housing is greatly improving the surface and width of the roads. Some tar-sealing has been done and the experimental patch near BP's store has stood up well. After approximately two years, the surface is still in good condition in spite of heavy use. It is reported that even the road to the Cable Station, usually impassable after a couple of hours of rain, is to receive some treatment.

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The teaching staff of the Marist Brothers School at Apia, Western Samoa. Seated second from left in front row is Brother Pamphilius; first on right, front row, is Brother Alfred. Bishop Darnaud is third from right, front row.
—Photo by Superflash.

Popular Teachers Receive Congratulatory

ON March 20 the Hon. Jacob Helg, European elected member of the Legislative Assembly, of Western Samoa, dedicated a special broadcast over 2AP to two of Samoa's best known and most respected residents—the beloved teachers of the Marist Brothers Boys' School at Apia, Brothers Alfred and Pamphilius. Brother Alfred was 70 on March 20, and Brother Pamphilius 76 on the 27th. The broadcast conveyed to them the congratulations and good wishes of past and present pupils who are now living in Western and Eastern Samoa and in New Zealand.

Both Brother Pamphilius and Brother Alfred are natives of Switzerland and chose at an early age to enter the Marist Order and devote their lives to the education of youth. Brother Pamphilius has given 60 years to teaching—13 years in France and 47 years in Samoa—Brother Alfred was the first of the Marist Brothers to celebrate his 50th anniversary of teaching in Samoa. That was four years ago and he can look back on a residence of 54 years in the Territory. During all these years he has been away only one month, in New Zealand. He went to Samoa at the age of 16.

In spite of their age and their long tropical service, the two Brothers are still in good health and are at the present time teaching large classes of boys at the Marist Brothers School at Apia.

FIJI RESIDENTS DON'T LIKE GRAPEFRUIT

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, March 20.
FIJI'S Agriculture Department reports that growers of grapefruit have difficulty in disposing of their crops. The department has expressed surprise that this fruit, regarded as a luxury in some overseas countries, is apparently not wanted at Suva.

Suva greengrocers, it is said, are not interested in excellent grapefruit delivered at 1/6 a dozen, and growers have had to sell at the uneconomic price of 6d. a dozen.

(It was later discovered that the retailers were selling at 3/- and 4/- a dozen.)

Mr. Sid Ashton, of Kerema, Papua, arrived in Australia, with Mrs. Ashton, in March, on furlough.

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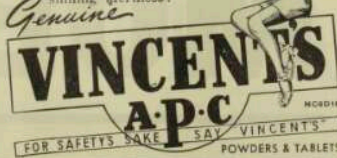


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OPENING OF THE NEW MALUAFOU BOYS' SCHOOL



—Photo by Superflash.

THE official opening of the London Missionary Society's new premises of the Maluafofou Boys' School, a third grade school with 400 Samoan boys on the roll, took place on March 8 in the presence of a large crowd and representatives of the Government, including the High Commissioner and the Hon. Fautua.

The new building, situated on the Vailima Road, near the Apia Radio Station, was started in August, 1948, but, owing to difficulty in obtaining building materials, was completed only in March, 1950, at a total cost of £4,800. It contains six spacious class rooms and an assembly room.

The architect was a local-born tradesman, Luluaso, and the builder a Samoan, Villiamu; throughout Samoan labour was used.

The opening ceremony was followed in true Samoan tradition, by a feast. Later, High Chief Mataafa unveiled a new drinking fountain donated by the Old Boys' Association of the School.

AT the close of the function a farewell was given to the Rev. and Mrs. H. W. Whyte, of the LMS, who deserve much credit for the completion and supervision of the new buildings and who, after 11 years of devoted work for the mission, left Samoa in March for Australia.

BSI Advisory Council

HONIARA, March 20.
THE meeting of the British Solomon Islands Advisory Council, which was to have been held in March, has been postponed until July or August.

Non-official members this year are the Bishop of Melanesia (Rt. Rev. S. G. Caulton), Mr. L. C. Thomas (General Manager of Lever's Pacific Plantations) Mr. R. C. Symes, and Mr. L. F. Gill.

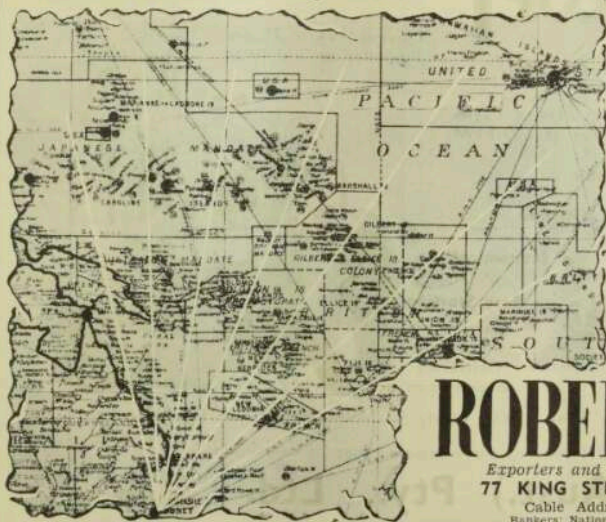
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Before a large gathering in Shell House, Brisbane, on March 24, the Rev. A. H. Abbott delivered an interesting address based on his 16 years experience as missionary in the Solomon Islands. He went to BSI at a time when cannibalism was still practised, but he had lived to see many heathen and cannibalistic tribes converted to Christianity. Mr. Abbott has been living at Woolloowin, Brisbane, now for many years.

CHINESE INFLUENCE IN NEW GUINEA

Sydney Bulletin Writer Fears Communist Contacts

IN a scathing review of the conditions created in Papua-New Guinea by the Evatt-Ward regime, Malcolm H. Ellis, in Sydney Bulletin of April 5, accuses the late Socialist Government of Australia of giving away the Australian Territory of

Papua to the United Nations instead of tying New Guinea more tightly to Australian control, for the sake of Australia's future defence.

Mr. Ellis expresses anxiety concerning the future role of the Chinese community in New Guinea. "There have been Chinese in New Guinea ever since the German times," he says. "As everywhere in the tropics, they have the upper hand in the store trade. There are about 2,500 in Rabaul, 500 in Madang-Lae, 300 in Bougainville."

"While the argosies of the Australian Shipping Board have been able to carry little except cargoes of red-tape, boats arrive about every three weeks from China waters, mostly worked by Chinese or Malayan crews."

"There appears to be nothing whatever to prevent the Communist agents of the New China from infiltrating into New Guinea. There is certainly nothing to prevent them, once there, from fading into the country and spreading Moscow's glad news to their hearts' content, since the old-time walking patrols which used to saturate the whole land far from the coast with authority have become a thing of the past. The new bureaucracy apparently is incapable of motion except on wheels, walking being officially considered as undignified for the new apostles of culture as pickaback riding is for visiting Cabinet Ministers."

"New Guinea now has no Army, Navy or Security Police, and the only real defence measure which appears to have been taken for some time in the scandalously-wrecked Manus base, which has been in process of digestion by the jungle,

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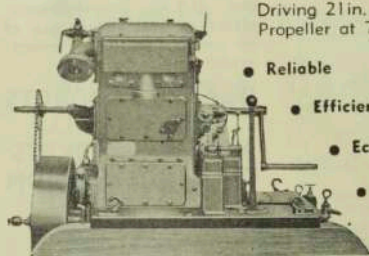
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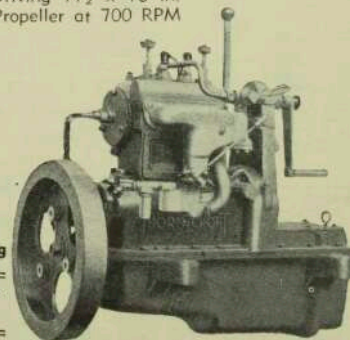
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is its renaming as Tarangau, which means "blue-hawk," in place of Lorengau, by which the local district station used to be called before the war.

"There is not even the skeleton of a defence force—there was before 1939, thanks to the patriotism of the planters and others. There are no weapons, and the Malayan situation is quite possible of duplication within the next two or three years, and in an even more disastrous atmosphere.

"Local Chinese, some in the third generation, have suited their sails to the new Communist breeze. As in the German time they suddenly ceased to be imperialists and plumped as one man for Sun Yat-sen, so now they have liquidated the Kuomintang overnight and waded out the Nationalist party. Their very existence depends on trade with China, and if they expect to continue to live and thrive they must dance to the Chinese Communist tune.

THIS facet of the situation is doubly dangerous because of the property position. It is an axiom in the archipelagoes south of Asia that as soon as the Chinese begin to own the land they begin to own the country. The Germans knew that, and they restricted Chinese ownership of plantations to the west coast of New Ireland opposite Rabaul and to Manus in the Admiralties.

"The Australian Government, until the Ward-Evatt era, followed the same salutary policy of restriction. But now that we are all Asian brothers it would be against UNO's theories of racial equality to give the British and Australian imperialists privileges denied to Hottentots and kongkongs. So now the big and rich Chinese merchants are having a merry time buying up plantations—freehold, of course—from which Australian returned soldiers have been driven by the policies of Ward and Co. and fellow-traveller advisers. There is cause for relief that Stalin does not want to buy land in New Guinea. He could scarcely be denied the right.

"New Guinea is a glorious example of how democracy triumphs—over the white man—in the tropics. The richest areas are rapidly becoming provinces of Mao's Peking Soviet Union. The eyes are beginning to be picked out of rich districts, and especially those near Rabaul.

"Samo plantation, one of the best in the Territory, recently was sold to the Chinese for £24,000 cash on the nail. Herron's plantation near Rabaul has been leased for £2,900 a year—no European bid higher than £1,600 came in. Chinese outbid all Europeans 100 per cent. in competition for 10 blocks of land near Rabaul. As far south as Bougainville the Chinese have begun to buy plantations and trading-stations.

"Meanwhile the coirra industry shivers when it thinks of what will happen on the arrival of a lower scale of prices.

"The possible huge timber industry of this Great Dominion, which has a total area larger than that of NSW, is moribund. With gold at a peak price the gold industry languishes, prospecting especially.

"New Guinea, including Papua, indeed has been gradually sinking to the level of Portuguese Timor, except in the bungalows of the New Order, made comfortable through the fact that unskilled meddling with the native goes hand in hand with an atmosphere of restful toil, in which a small servant is still called a "monkey"—manki to the New Order itself—and the wherewithal is always available to officials to ward off the birau and the binafank."

A daughter was born in Madang (New Guinea) recently, to Mr. and Mrs. Len Barnard, of Mt. Hagen.

DEATH OF W. H. MILLER

MR. W. H. MILLER, who died recently in London, is well remembered by all oldtimers in the Solomons and other parts of the Pacific.

He went to the Solomons in 1926, after six years' service in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, and was posted at various times to Vanikoro, Fula, Ysabel and Gizo as District Officer. He remained in the BSI from 1926 until the evacuation in 1942, and on his arrival in Sydney was engaged in essential war work.

Friendly and generous, he was noted for his hospitality wherever he went and was popular with both Europeans and natives.

Mr. A. I. Baker will be secretary to the Civil Service Salaries Commissioner (Mr. E. Mills), while he is in Fiji. Mr. J. G. Garnett will take Mr. Baker's place temporarily as Office Superintendent, Medical Department.

The Rev. A. M. Chiles, recently ordained in Melbourne, will soon take up duties at the Presbyterian Mission, Paama, New Hebrides.



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What Shall We Do With Our New Guinea Natives?

Few men have had a wider experience of Bougainville natives than Paul Mason. As plantation manager, plantation inspector and internationally-famous and heavily-decorated Coast-Viewer, he has spent many years among the New Guinea folk, before, during and since the war. He has a warm regard for and understanding of natives—his plantations have always been noted for their "fair deal"—but he does not close his eyes to their faults and shortcomings.

AS everyone with any common sense knows, the welfare of this Territory depends on the welfare of the people in it. A country is only as great as the people, their resources and their industry are great.

What is the policy of our Administration? "To teach the natives to govern themselves in fifty years time," the Administrator once told the natives of Nagavisi. "But," said the bewildered natives, among themselves, "we did that 10 years ago, and are mostly doing it to-day."

I have been over most of Southern Bougainville in recent times. Many places had had no patrols since ANGAU days. Our District Services are tied to their offices, trying to catch up with the Paper War that is raging, and writing their own version of the progress in their areas. Like all successful "Paper Generals," only the good they believe they have achieved is recorded.

Much money has been spent by the CRTS (Commonwealth Rehabilitation Training Scheme), and the Administra-

tion, on native education, but I doubt if much more has been done—outside Academic Education—than would have been accomplished by Commerce, had they been allowed to train these natives.

I have had great difficulty in getting a truck driver, a carpenter and an engine attendant, besides the many trained natives necessary for plantation

work. Even copra-cutters cannot be obtained. I have Hot Air Driers, but have been forced to build Ceylon Driers—so that husked half nuts can be dried, instead of cut copra—and I find them much slower in production than Hot Air Driers.

Natives on a monthly (casual labour) basis do not learn plantation work, or any other work for that matter. Pre-war experienced copra cutters are cutting six times the amount of copra cut by new labourers (who will never learn). All green copra here is weighed, and so my records show the difference clearly and indisputably.

(Continued Next Page)

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ALTHOUGH I have only employed casual labourers (who can leave without a moment's notice), since opening up the plantation, this sort of employment is bad for young, single, natives. One has only to go into any village, which supplies this labour, to see its effect. A native does a month, or two, or even three months' work. He returns home and loaf around until he gets bored, doing nothing, and then returns to

work, or is chased away by public opinion. He was not away long enough to earn enough to get married and settle down, but enough to be able to give a few presents round to stop public opinion forcing him to take up his role in village life.

I am referring only to unattached young, single men. For married men, established in village life, casual employment allows them to get away from

wives and home ties, for a month's break and, perhaps, does both him and the community good.

Even a term of twelve months is not sufficient for a youngster to accrue sufficient wealth to establish himself, without considerable help from his people, in most native communities.

It is important for the well-being of the native, as well as for the economy of the Territory generally, that a boy of sixteen be permitted to make a contract, with his guardian's consent if necessary, for a three-years period. I do believe that it is bad for the already-settled married man to be taken away from village life for more than a year—that is, bad for the native community life. And, as I have said, the good of the Territory, generally, goes hand-in-hand with the people in it, and these communities have every right to be protected against themselves and against immediate commercial interests.

The Education, and Three Year Contract, too, are most important. We are obliged to serve at a trade for a varying number of years. All professional men have to serve their term, to be able to graduate, and all skilled labour has to serve some form of apprenticeship. Yet we do not now allow a native to serve more than a year, and even discourage him from serving that long!

Young men who leave village life get good food, good discipline, and a training in our way of life; in other words, an "education" to take back to their own life and villages. I do not mean that this education in "good living" will be practised naturally, without due encouragement, on their return. Practice shows that it is soon forgotten, without that encouragement.

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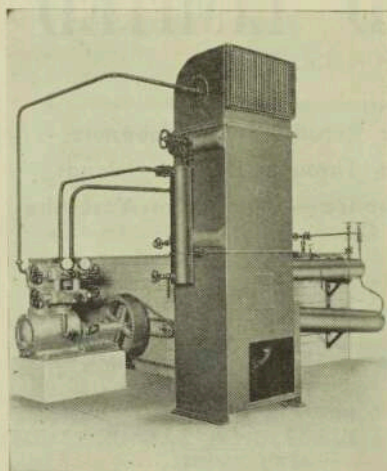
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ANOTHER important point that should be borne in mind by our Policy-Makers is: Australia should hang its head in shame over its treatment of the aboriginal! It is most important that our people—I am a Territorian—should be taught to be good citizens, self-reliant, and have a pride in themselves and in their work. Instead of this they are being taught to look to the Administration for "Free Everything."

As we all know, the "Dole" demoralises European communities; and so do Free Issues and Services to natives. They, of course, require much help and medical treatment, but they should feel that they are not getting it entirely free. I would suggest a direct tax.

Admittedly, when this Territory again becomes self-supporting, and is no longer a burden on the Australian taxpayer, the natives, by their work, will contribute directly, and indirectly, to the Territory's income. But this present insidious, unseen taxation does not place any of the burden, and encouragement, on those who are getting the free services. Therefore, those services are not appreciated!

Further, a Head Tax, or some other such tax, would mean patrols, and not an office report written "through the District Office window"—which is about all that the District Services see of native life these days.

VERSATILE SAMOAN TRIES LAW, DETECTION, JOURNALISM, ETC.

From Our Own Correspondent

APIA, Feb. 25.
YOUNG Samoan named, appropriately, Napoleon A. Tuteteleapaga, has proved to be an outstanding representative of the younger generation of present day Samoa, and a pioneer in fields previously unexplored by Samoan youth.

Napoleon, who is at present employed as interpreter and Samoan editor of the monthly news-sheet "O le Fa'atenu" at Pago Pago, American Samoa, in 1948 completed a correspondence course in law at the University of Hawaii with an elaborate and interesting thesis on the "Legal System of Samoa" describing traditional old laws and legal practices of the Samoans and the impact of European law on the Group.

Napoleon also successfully completed a correspondence course of the American Detective Training School of New York and received a certificate of graduation. He knows shorthand and has devised a method of writing it in Samoan.

Though he has no intention of going into law professionally or being a detective, he says that he wants to prove to other Samoan youths that by study, hard work and "follow through," Samoans, like Europeans, can achieve success in any profession.

Napoleon is a former student of the Teachers' College of the University of Hawaii. In addition to his other accomplishments this versatile young Samoan is also a self-taught musician and composer.

Miss Joan Beglen joined the staff of the Melanesian Mission Mothercraft School at Pamua, San Cristoval, BSI, in February.

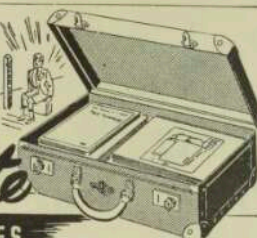
The appointment has been announced of Mr. R. A. Malone, former Treasurer and Collector of Customs in the Western Samoan Administration, as the first Public Service Commissioner of the Samoan Government. An assistant Public Service Commissioner will be appointed later.

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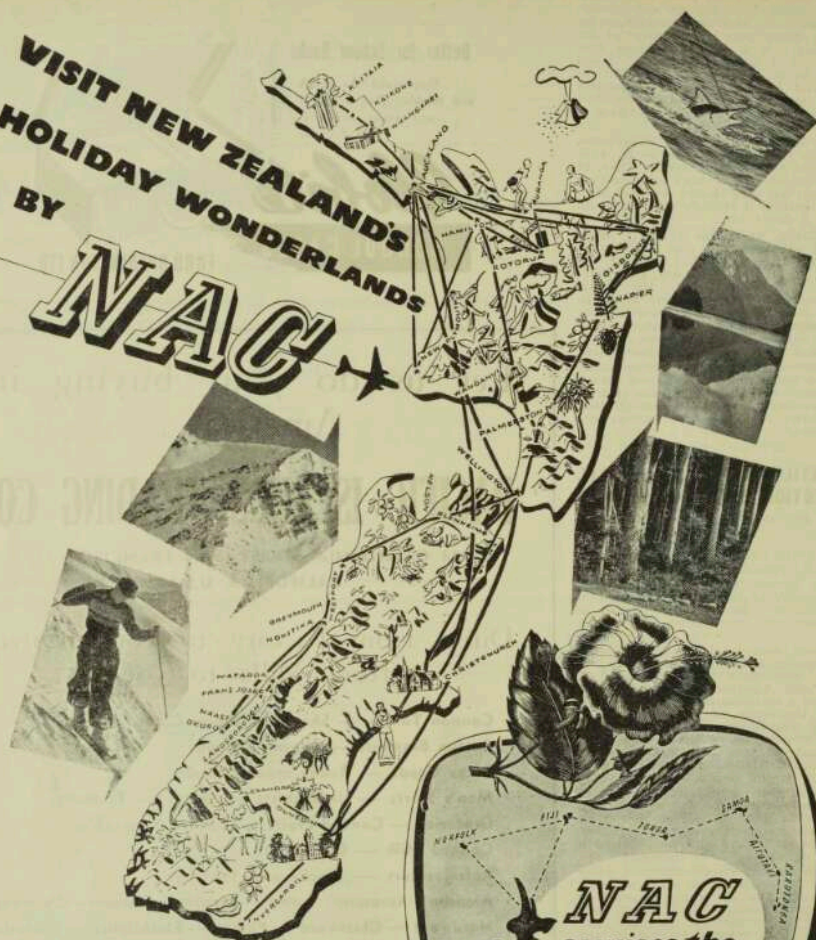
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MAGAZINE SECTION

Territories Talk-Talk

By "Tolala"

"HANDS Off New Guinea," declared a front-page head-line in a Sydney daily, recently, when referring to remarks made by Minister Spender to a meeting of business-men in Port Moresby at which he pointed out the Territory's strategic value to Australia. As I read the head-line the hands of Time spun back twelve years and I heard Little Digger William Morris Hughes give voice to the same phrase, and his words: "What we have, we hold," caused a flutter in the Canberra dovecots. WMH had just arrived on the inaugural flight of the WRC airlines, and Rabaul and its wife greeted Billy in true New Guinea fashion on the Top Drome, while over in Europe one Adolf Hitler was clanking his sword and demanding his colonies back.

THERE have been many Parliamentary visits to NG, but it's pretty safe to say that Mr. Spender's tour will be the most important, and it's odds on that he'll make the tour with all the necessary dignity which is essential in that country. It is a mistaken idea, put into practise by too many itinerant politicians, that the native expects to be slapped on the back and treated familiarly, as an overgrown child.

One of the first Australian parliamentary parties to visit NG was in 1923, when Senator Crawford brought up a senatorial team, with one lone MHR attached—the then little-known F. M. Forde, Labour Army Minister until the 1946 elections and now minister to Canada. The party showed little regard for sartorial correctness, as they met officials and native chiefs in their unpressed pants and braces and crumpled shirts, while one or two sported bandana handkerchiefs around their necks.

Natives were not favourably impressed. Visiting parliamentarians should realise that dignity is a natural characteristic of NG headmen and their people expect chiefs from the white man's country to possess that same quality. A very discriminating gentleman is the NG native, and none more able to appraise a white man's value than he.

It was on this visit that broadcast history was made at Bitapaka, near Rabaul. The party listened-in to a broadcast made by school-boys from Missionary Goldie's Rubina station, picked up by the AWA at Bitapaka. It was quite an event.

THE P-NG Territory's consumption of twist tobacco is causing a few headaches in Canberra because of the dollar short-

ages. In 1949, there were 277,333 lb. imported from USA, and the price is over a dollar a pound. Something will have to be done about it. The amount of tobacco used now has not increased much in the last ten years—a mere 14,000 lb., which is remarkable considering the natives' greater buying power, plus his war-damage and higher wages.

What a pity that we cannot plumb the secret of the fastness of the product from these Virginian tobacco factories. Time and again attempts have been made by local NG growers to turn out a home-made twist, but it has never proved popular with the native connoisseur of the weed.

What a country NG will be when it can produce, for home consumption, its own twist tobacco, rice, sugar, cotton and tinned fish, to say nothing about tea, coffee and cocoa. White Territorians don't seem to appreciate the value of home-grown foods. Often in Rabaul stores I have noticed housewives look with suspicion on locally produced desiccated coconut and coffee, and deliberately choose the imported article at twice the price. I remember one man, who wanting to treat his dog for a certain ailment, sent

to Sydney for areca nut. He was quite surprised when he was told he could have got the same medicine from a betel-nut palm growing in his backyard, or from his cook-boy's dilly-bag.

If ever a country could be self-supporting it is New Guinea with its range of climates and its fertile soils.

WITH all the publicity being given to the natives around Nandugi, as a result of the Hallstrom Trust, artist William Dobell and one thing and another, it is surprising to me that the kanda-swallowing gents around Bena Bena have not come in for some recognition. A talent-scout from one of the world's circuses would do well up in that area. The ease with which the expert pushes a couple of feet of rattan down his gutlet is really remarkable.

THERE was a broadcast review last month, over the ABC network, of Lewis Lett's latest book on Sir Hubert Murray. And a most disappointing affair it was, at any rate insofar as the review went. Rather was the book used as a peg on which to hang propaganda for a socialistic rule amongst the Papuans. Sir

"Home is the Sailor . . ."



This photograph was taken from Mt. Vaea, last resting place of Robert Louis Stevenson, and shows the reef that forms the somewhat unsatisfactory harbour of Apia, Western Samoa. Apia itself is centre right of the picture; and, at the point of land shown top centre, is Malina'u, seat of the native Government.

—Photo by Superfish Studio.

Hubert's fine work of thirty years ago was criticised in the light of present-day New Deal methods for the natives, which is by no means a fair comparison.

IT would be interesting to know exactly why it is that the Territory of P-NG is not permitted to have its own postage stamps as in pre-war days. Both the Papuan and TNG issues were then much sought after by philatelists all over the world, and no inconsiderable revenue flowed into the Treasury coffers when commemorative series were issued. And when, and if, they come let the designs be as picturesque as they used to be.

BACK again to that hardy annual-indentured labour. During the course of a conversation on the matter with a post-war Territory official recently, he said that one of the main objections to the system was transporting the native so far from his own district. In reply I contended that in all TNG districts, at any rate before the war, the majority of labourers were employed in their own respective districts. Later on I turned up some records which bear this out and are of general interest.

Ten years ago (1938-39) the 41,000-odd indentured natives were distributed in the following districts: Kieta, 2,897 (2,783 born in Kieta district); Madang, 5,049 (4,054 born in Madang district); Manus, 1,392 (696); Morobe, 12,972 (7,097); New Britain, 11,374 (5,499); New Ireland, 5,578 (2,648); and Sepik, 2,365 (1,931).

The death-rate amongst them was 1.5 per cent, and of the 18,463 natives who were paid off in that year, 9,652 made new contracts. That doesn't sound much like "slavery" does it?

IT was good to hear H. B. Gullett, MHR, in Canberra last month remark, in effect, on the fact that United Nations was sticking its neck out a bit too far with regard to our administration of TNG. "Such interference," said the Liberal member, who was a major and won the MC in the last war, "was unnecessary and wrong." . . . It's about time Australia told the Trusteeship Council to "pull its head in." Australia has always been too long-suffering and complacent where these international set-ups have been concerned.

She trembled with fear in the League of Nations days when one of the Permanent Mandates Commission ventured to criticise the TNG administration, even as she does to-day when its successor, the Trusteeship Council, passes adverse comment on some internal matter in the Territory, which concerns nobody but Australia.

Japan worried little about the League of Nations when they had the Carolines—and they got away with it. South Africa similarly is certainly not to be pushed around in regard to the African territories. One good thing is that Australia, NZ, Britain, France and Belgium have had the gumption to refuse to fly the United Nations flag alongside their own in territories under their trust and administration.

It's time that Australia grew out of this inferiority complex regarding her territories, and stopped dancing every time a member of UN (mostly ill-informed) piped a tune.

SERVICE medals seem, somehow, to have lost their old-time value, if one can judge by the thousands of Diggers who never claim them when they are available for distribution. But there is a certain pride in their possession still for those more sentimentally inclined; more especially when the winner has paid the

The Story of the Bounty Bible

By Myrtle L. Ward, of Pitcairn

TO Pitcairn Island with the Bounty in 1790 came a copy of the Bible. Probably it was little thought of at the time, but ten years later it was taken from the old sea chest and eagerly read. It gave solace and courage to the only survivor of the fifteen strong young men who came ashore when the Bounty was run aground and burned.

Only one of those young men had died from natural causes, and that was Edward Young, who had for some months been helping Alexander Smith in his effort to educate the rising generation. They had for a textbook only the Bounty Bible with the Prayer Book in the front.

As Smith read the Bible he was led to become a Christian. Having experienced a change of heart, even his old name no longer seemed to fit. He must be a new man entirely. So he changed his name to John Adams. Wholeheartedly he gave himself to training the young folk and ordering the little group according to the instructions in the Good Book, and great were the results. Early visitors, after the rediscovery of the remnants of the mutineers, tell of the model community they found on this isolated spot.

John Adams died in 1829, honoured as the patriarch of the island family. Ten years later the American whaler, Cyrus, called at the island and the Bible was given to Levi Hayden, the carpenter, as a parting gift. After some years it passed into the care of the Connecticut Historical Society.

A few years ago, recalling that mention had been made of the Bounty Bible in a New England library, Margaret Eaton Saunders "searched in files, catalogues, attics, records and boxes" until she found the old Bible and Prayer Book. She copied the letters and notes that were in the Book, passing them to her daughter, Margaret M. Prowse of Honolulu.

The following year, 1947, Mrs. Chester Prowse wrote to Mr. and Mrs. Roy P.

Clark, on Pitcairn Island, giving them the information obtained by her mother. Having read this correspondence, Mr. A. W. Moverley, the then recently-appointed New Zealand teacher on Pitcairn Island, approached the Connecticut Historical Society, who generously agreed to part with its treasure, handing it to the British Ambassador, who sent it to England.

There the Bible-Prayer Book was repaired and rebound. The pages of the Prayer Book were very much worn—as also were the Psalms. Most skilfully the old worn pages were split. Parchment was placed between the two parts and all placed together so that we are able to read both sides as when new. The new binding holds the Book together so it is again strong. In England, the King and Queen took a great interest in the Bible, examining it reverently.

Mr. Cottle, of the British Colonial Service, took the Bible to Fiji and while the Book was in Fiji, a handsome glass-topped box of Fijian woods was made in which to keep it. Fitted into the box is a drawer in which are placed the old original cover and pictures of the Bible as it was and as it now appears, as well as clippings and letters dealing with it.

From Fiji the Bible was taken to Pitcairn Island by Mr. H. A. C. Dobbs, of the Western Pacific High Commission. Reaching the island on February 19, he was present at a public meeting on the 22nd, where he officially presented the Bible to the Chief Magistrate (Mr. Warren C. Christian) for the people of the Island.

As this was a very special and happy event—the return of the old "John Adams" Bible—a welcome home service was held for it in the church the following Sabbath. There was special singing and Mr. Dobbs gave a talk on special features of interest in connection with the return of the Bible. Others who had part in the service were Mr. Roy P. Clarke, Mr. Fred M. Christian and Mr. P. P. Ward, the pastor of the church.

Resting now after its long journey, this unique volume has an honoured place on the pulpit. More of a relic than a book in daily use, as it was in the early days, it will always be revered and loved.

The Rev. Brother Alphonsus, one of the most prominent figures in Roman Catholic education in Fiji, celebrated his 85th birthday at Suva on February 20. He was born near Maitland, NSW, and joined the Marist Order in 1893. He went to Fiji in 1898 with Brothers Harvey and Vincent and started a small school at a rented house in Waimanu Road. This was the beginning of an enterprise that at present includes the big Marist Brothers' High School, as well as the Sacred Heart School, St. Felix College and St. Columba's School at Suva, and other schools in other parts of Fiji.

Mr. J. D. A. Germond, OBE, and Mrs. Germond will arrive in Sydney in May en route to the UK on leave. Mr. Germond was Acting Resident Commissioner, British Solomon Islands, from the departure on pre-retirement leave of Colonel O. C. Noel, in October, 1948, until the arrival last February of the new Resident Commissioner, Mr. H. G. Gregory-Smith.

PEARLS AT A PRICE



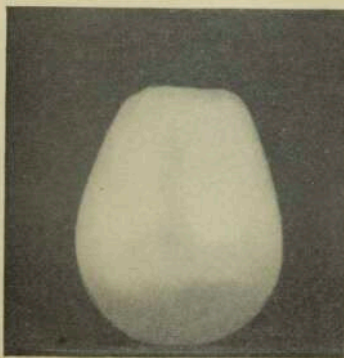
Sunset, Thursday Island.

SOMETIME this month, the worst of the monsoon over, 90-odd pearling luggers will leave Thursday Island after their annual refit and set sail for the pearling grounds of Torres Strait.

Old-timers will tell you that pearling in the North is not what it was, since the Japs have gone and there are only Torres Strait Islanders to take their place as divers. But, in the 1949 season, pearls from the Torres Islands alone (sold at an average price of £400 per ton) brought £500,000. As most of it goes to the United States, that means a million dollars for the Empire dollar pool.

Pearls themselves are just a by-product of the pearling industry. A diver who finds a pearl keeps 75 per cent. of what it brings on the market and the lugger owner gets the rest. That, at any rate, is the theory. In practice most of the pearls found in oysters opened by divers later turn up on the Continent and the lugger owner is no wiser, and certainly no richer.

However, there were some beautiful gems (total value £8,325) turned in during the last season—including those shown in photographs here. The teardrop pearl was found by a Torres Islander employed on one of Burns Philp's luggers. It weighs 40 carats and was sold for £800.



At left, perfect 40-carat pearl, found by diver Tom Whap, of a Burns Philp lugger. It was sold for £800. At right, the freak flask pearls—the bottom one of 12 carats and the "stopper" of 6 carats.

The other is a freak pearl (or pearls) which has been called Neptune's Cup—but which could have been called with even more aptness, Neptune's Flask.

The lower pearl has a jet-black band around its top, forming a cup. The top pearl, which forms the stopper for the "flask" or cup, is a flawless gem of beautiful lustre. When found, the pearls were resting just as they are shown in the photograph. They are not for sale—for the time being. They are a museum piece.

ONE post-war development, a direct result of the Pacific war, is the establishment by the CSIRO of a pearl culture research station at TL. Artificial pearl culture, formerly one of Japan's most closely guarded secrets, will be tried out there, under the direction of Mr. L. T. Craig who has been two years in Japan studying just how to make young oysters convert a piece of grit into a valuable pearl.

THE Japs, who were our Allies in the 1914-18 war, put the North Australian pearling industry on its feet between the wars after it had been languishing for many years when the shallow grounds had been worked out.

During the Second World War these Japs were interned and later deported

and the Torres Strait pearling industry was suspended. This five years' rest for the pearling beds was a blessing in disguise, however, and when pearling recommenced in 1946 they were well stocked with shell. Pearling boomed—mostly to supply the starved American pearl-button trade, and prices zoomed up to £700 per ton for shell. In the last season they had fallen to between £300 and £400 per ton which meant that many of the new-chum, get-rich-quick pearlers quit the industry and went back down South.

But the well-being of the industry depends primarily upon the calibre of its divers and the good-natured Torres Islanders are not the men that the Japs were, nor have they the careless disregard for life that characterised the Nipponese—a sight to see in the Thursday Island cemetery are the rows of graves of Jap victims of the pearler's worst hazard—the paralysis (usually referred to as the "bends") that overtakes the deep-sea diver when brought too quickly to the changed atmospheric pressure of the surface.

About 80 feet is the limit to which the Islander will dive. The best Jap divers frequently (and, apparently, eagerly) went down four times that depth for good shell.

Japan would like to come back to Australia's pearling grounds but even the master-pearlers of Thursday Island, who have a profound respect for the Nip as a deep-diver, are not keen on that. Yet the shallow pearling grounds of Torres Strait are fast being worked out. Who will open up the deep pearling grounds, of which, in the past, the Japs alone have been masters?

A small shipment of Fiji timber has been sent to London by air to be used in making a conference table for the new House of Commons. The table, which has been designed by the architect, Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, is to be of English oak, edged with an inlay of woods from the Colonies. Light and dark woods will be used alternately in the design.

Five pieces of timber have been collected by the Fiji Conservator of Forests. The light-coloured timbers are Rosawa and Dakua and the dark timber is Yaka, which is light with darker streaks.

Arrangements have already been made for the presentation, by Fiji, of a silver ink-pot for the use in the room of the Secretary of State for the Colonies in the new building. The ink-pot will be made from silver mined in the Colony.



European residents of Nukualofa entertained Queen Salote at the Club. Left to right: Mrs. J. E. Windrum, wife of the British Agent and Consul; Mr. C. D. Chamberlain, Acting High Commissioner for the Western Pacific; Queen Salote; Mr. A. F. R. Stoddart, Acting Governor of Fiji; Mrs. Chamberlain and Crown Prince Tungi.



Tongans bringing in gifts for their Queen—these are carrying a piece of tapa cloth. Making tapa is a craft at which Tongans excel. Nowhere else in the Pacific are such long lengths made.

—Photos by Fiji Public Relations Office

QUEEN SALOTE CELEBRATES HER BIRTHDAY

MARCH 13 was a day of thanksgiving and rejoicing in Tonga in honour of the 50th birthday of the little Kingdom's Queen, Salote Tubou.

The celebrations had their centre in the Group's capital, Nukualofa. From early morning group after group of Tongan men, women and children brought gifts of food, kava, tapa and mats to the Royal Palace. Whole roasted pigs were carried on wooden platforms and fish and native vegetables were brought in baskets to join roots of kava laid out in the grounds of the palace to be counted and acknowledged by the Matapules, or spokesmen, of the Queen.

Pieces of tapa, hundreds of feet long and ten or twelve feet wide were carried into the palace grounds supported at the edges by lines of shouting men, women and children, the tapa billowing as it was caught by the strong wind blowing from off the sea.

Every hour from 8 a.m. to late at night had its ceremony—the firing of signal guns; calls upon the Queen at her palace by Tongan and visiting officials; parades of the Palace Guard, the presentation of gifts.

A message of congratulation was received from King George VI and read in the public park. The Western Pacific High Commission was represented by Mr. G. D. Chamberlain and Fiji by the acting-governor, Mr. A. F. R. Stoddart.

The highlight of the afternoon was a feast on the Mala'e given by Prince Tungi and Prince Tupelehake and their wives. A foliage-covered shelter formed three sides of a rectangle. The total length was close to two hundred yards and along the full distance roast sucking pigs were placed nose to tail in a continuous line. These were flanked with poultry, lobsters, baked fish, yams, kumalas, and native puddings. There was coconut milk to drink and table napkins were squares of tapa. The guests were served by Tongan girls wearing skirts in the national colours of Tonga, red and white.

A three-tiered birthday cake was wheeled on to the mala'e on a platform on which a map of Tonga had been made from blocks of turf in which miniature coconut and banana-palms had been placed. Three hours of dancing by successive groups followed the feast.

A future ruler of Tonga—Tanta Ahau, son of Prince Tungi and Princess Mata'aho, drives his pedal car in the Palace grounds.



Some of the 300 pupils of the Queen Salote Methodist Ladies' College who perform Tongan dances at the feast.



Tropicalities

THESE "Fijians" with the strange-sounding names!

Right now in Sydney is a young gent—down here to study optometry at the Sydney Technical College—with the fascinating name of Asad Asgar, passing himself off as a Fijian. I say "passing himself off as a Fijian" with some conviction, although I have not seen Asad—if any self-respecting Fijian gave that Indian name to his son, then I'm willing to believe I'm an Eskimo. Our friend from Fiji arrived at a week-end when things are dull in the news world. He therefore got a very good press as the first "Fijian" to study optometry. Moreover, in the following week, the ABC which is usually more knowledgeable, introduced him into its News Review session—still as a Fijian. Facing up to the microphone, Asad Asgar went off like a gusher, talking at a speed unlike any English-speaking Fijian I have met. He said all the usual things—that he was the son of peasant farmers; that his people were so very poor, couldn't afford glasses, and that when qualified he was going back to Fiji to improve their hard lot, etc., etc. He carefully did not say that he was a Fijian; but neither did he say that he was an Indian. With that flow of speech it should have been easy to convince even an Australian newspaper reporter.

Since the war, Fijians have been incensed on numerous occasions by perambulating Indians who have allowed themselves, for reasons of their own, to be known abroad as Fijians. These are the people, let it be said, who in Fiji would renounce the Empire for Mother India. It doesn't make sense.

Australasians, it seems, have progressed somewhat from the days of Captain Cook when everyone with a brown skin was called an Indian, and gone so far into reverse as to call everyone so-coloured a Fijian. Nothing can be done about it then, in Australia or NZ. But plenty can be done about it in Fiji. Asad Asgar, of whatever his name is, has a permit to stay in Australia for a year—so boys, with any luck in just one year from now Asad should be sailing right back to Fiji!—J.

MAYBE the Australian Minister for the Navy does not read Tolala's Talk Talk, but I was interested to see that he had fallen in with a suggestion made in that column (Feb. PIM) and changed the Teutonic name for the RAN base in Manus to one of Papuan origin.

HMAS Seadler now becomes HMAS Tarangau—and according to the minister both names mean the same thing—a sea eagle.

The original HMAS Tarangau was the RAN station at Finschhafen which has now been closed down.—B.

THE Malayan rubber shoe industry has started a big drive to export more sports shoes to the UK market. Malaya, since the war ended, has developed this industry until they are producing an average of a million pairs of various types per month. In the last summer thousands of pairs of Malayan rubber sandals were bought in Australia at prices ranging from 5/- to 10/- Australian currency. They are the cheapest sports shoe on the Australian market and, as such, were a tremendous success.

They should be popular in the Pacific Islands where the cheap sandals of pre-

war days have not yet returned. New Guinea women still have fond memories of the good old days when canvas sandals could be bought in Chinatown for 3/4 a pair.

ABRETT HILDER drawing of Mr. A. E. (Gus) Martin of Norfolk Island, who came to the South Pacific in the wake of his great-uncle Captain



James Paddon who was trading in the New Hebrides and New Caledonia in the 1840's. Captain Paddon was known as the only honest trader in those parts in those early days—but that did not prevent him from being a very astute and successful businessman. His qualities are evident in his nephew, Gus, who is agent for Vacuum Oil and Yorkshire Insurance at Norfolk.

A MEETING of some coincidence took place in Sydney one afternoon late in March when two men, from opposite sides of the world, both of whom had called in at the PIM offices to say hello to Editor Robson, discovered that they knew each other.

One of the men was H. K. Murray, of Kavieng, New Ireland, in Australia on business. The other was Clifford Kruse, a free-lance American journalist just arrived in Sydney from Tahiti, Fiji, the New Hebrides and New Caledonia.

Murray was a Coastwatcher in the New Ireland-New Guinea area during the recent war and Kruse was a combat pilot with the US Marine Corps. They had known each other on Green Island, when both were up there fighting the Japs.

HEARDED this one from Kar Kar Island (near Madang, New Guinea):

Master, surrounded by group of new recruits, is filling in papers for Native Labour Department. He is dealing with one recruit who happens to be a deaf mute.

Master: What's your name?

Deaf mute: Silence.

Master: Someone answer for him.

What's his father's name?

Group: Silence.

Master: Come on now—someone answer!

One recruit, rather embarrassed: It's like this, Master—his mother went into the bush and he "came up nothing."

Master: Don't be foolish, now. Tell the truth.

Group: Silence.

Master: Come on, now—come on!

Embarrassed one: Well, Master, if you have to put something down, just put "Allman bilong Kar Kar."

(The above is a free translation from the Pidgin).—JS.

APPARENTLY few American servicemen retain a post-war interest in our South Pacific—it was so far removed from the Hollywood version that the disillusionment was total, in most cases. But one Yank who is still interested is Mr. Burney Burger, New Castle, Virginia, USA, who writes us:—

"In 1944 I sailed into Milne Bay on a troop ship, we stayed there two weeks, from there we sailed to Oro Bay, then to Finschhafen where we unloaded. I spent a few months in Finschhafen and went from there to Dutch New Guinea. Some day, perhaps, you will run an article on Finschhafen, as it is now.

"I shall always be interested in New Guinea and its people. If any of your readers care to correspond I will be glad to answer them. I am a bachelor and work for the post office as a Rural Letter Carrier."

If any New Guinea reader would like to do something to further good Anglo-American relationship, here is a chance.

AN American journalist from that country's agricultural Middle West has followed with keen interest the story that Coronet magazine ran about a Cat Island near Tahiti, and which PIM reprinted in its February issue, along with a new slant on the story by Tahiti's Colonel Blackman.

Blackman, you will remember, suggested calling the island either Crab Island or Cabbage Island, seeing that, according to his version, the crabs had killed the cats, and the crabs had in turn fallen to the conquering hogs, who were about to be exterminated by planting the island in Chinese pickling cabbage.

Our American friend now suggests, that inasmuch as the new chemical weed-killer, 2-4D, is known to destroy the Chinese cabbage, the honour belongs to it, and that the island should henceforth be called 2-4D Island, rather than Cabbage Island.

Now who can suggest something further?

The journalist points out that there never was a speck of truth to the Cat Island story from the beginning. As well as he has been able to trace it down, the story began back in the 20's when an American dentist, name of Wilson, was spinning yarns over a Dr. Funk in Papeete's Cercle Bougainville. The doctor, owner of Tetiaroa reef, some 30 miles north of Tahiti, was speaking with his tongue in his cheek. But the story about the cats on Tetiaroa caught on. In the early 1930's it appeared in America's Esquire magazine as part of an article about Tahiti.

Mrs. J. Hindle, wife of the Commissioner of Lands, BSI, arrived in Sydney on the Morinda in mid-March with her two young daughters. She will stay in Sydney for the next year and her daughters will go to school there. Mrs. Hindle said that there were at least 15 European children in Honiara of school age, but no school. Most of them received lessons by correspondence from NSW or New Zealand.

It All Has Changed Since Those Old Sonoma Days

So OSCAR NORDMAN, of Tahiti, tells R. W. ROBSON

THE afternoon shadows were lengthening in Victoria Parade, Suva, one day last month (March), when a square-built man strolled along from the port district, and sat himself down in the shade of the flamboyant tree—a favourite spot near the fire-brigade station, on the edge of the lagoon.

He sat here for some time, enjoying the cool air from the reef, and looking across the road at the busy life of Suva's main business street. His mind went back over the memories of 30 years ago, and he laughed; and this is what he wrote that evening to his wife in Tahiti:—

"Away back before World War I, when the Sonoma was in Suva, I used to go and sit in that same place, beside the lagoon. I was young and handsome then, and I had a nice uniform, and my beam measurement was not anything like what

he was a gay and care-free young pursuer, with the overcrowded, bustling metropolis of to-day.

He did not like what he found. He thought, for example, that he could book straight into a hotel.

He slept in four different beds on four different nights, before he could find a place to accommodate him for a week. He departed, with outspoken relief, at the end of ten days. His most vivid memories centre around the rushing, discourteous people who walked upon his feet.

It was when he tried to describe the Sydney he knew that the little incident of the Suva flamboyant-tree came out. The stories he told me of the Sydney-San Francisco sea-lanes of 40 years ago—and his comparisons between the leisurely, happy travellers of those days, and the grim-faced little parties who now rush across the Pacific Ocean at 200 and 300 m.p.h.—did suggest that in achieving the Air Age we have sacrificed something of a rather delightful character in Trans-Pacific voyaging.

In so many words, Oscar was not kindly disposed towards air-travel. In his view, it had contributed to the ruin of a once lovely world. But his Nemesis overtook him.

To catch his ship and get back to his beloved Tahiti in reasonable time, Oscar had to travel from Sydney to Vila by air. I saw him off at the air-port. I still laugh as I recall Oscar's expression when he was introduced to this—to him—new form of transportation. But I know Oscar, and I know what will happen. Sooner or later, our alert Papeete ship-chandler will be a leading agent in the sale of air-travel.

I agree with Oscar, however, that the Trans-Pacific steamship lines of the era before World War I had a colour, gaiety and romance that can never be recaptured by these super-efficient air-lines.

I urged Mr. Nordman to write, for the PIM, something about his feelings as he returned to Sydney after so many years. He sent us the following article:—

MY long-cherished dream was realised (wrote Oscar Nordman). I was back again in Sydney, after an absence of half a lifetime. And I arrived almost exactly 37 years, to the day, after we sailed out through Sydney heads into a very famous storm.

We sailed on the old Sonoma at 4 p.m. on March 13, 1913, and, before we got to the Heads, we were meeting heavy rollers and shipping green seas. I saw an Orient and a P and O liner returning, and I thought we might anchor. But Captain Trask said, "The mails must go through"; and we went out into the teeth of it.

I never knew worse seas—again and again I thought we were gone. Our aerial was carried away, and Sydney radio lost contact with us. Then a man stationed at Sydney Heads reported that he had seen the Sonoma turn turtle, as she met the full force of the storm.

The Sydney papers, next morning, pub-



Suva's flame tree in Victoria Parade.

lished alarming reports about the Sonoma, and there was much anxiety. But, by 2 a.m., we had run into quieter water; when daylight came, we repaired our aerial; and the Sydney afternoon papers reported that the Sonoma was safe and referred to "Trask, the navy Yankee skipper."

The Sonoma landed her mails, at the due hour and date, in San Francisco.

WHEN I went ashore in that place, in Sydney, exactly 37 years afterwards, the first person I saw was Editor Robson, of the Pacific Islands Monthly. Next, I renewed acquaintance with the Brazilian Consul, Dr. Carlos Zalapa, who, over an excellent lunch, asked after his many Tahiti friends.

I wanted to see Joseph Birchall, one of the Pursers who was with me on the old Sonoma, and I finally located him at 18 Apsley Avenue, Kingsford. I wouldn't have missed it. His house was adorned with the name of a ship on which he and I served, the old Alameda. We had not seen each other for 34 years. It was a happy meeting and we exchanged some lively memories. I learned that one of the old Pursers who still is on the lists of the living is Dannie T. Mehigan, retired and living at 711 Walla Vista Avenue, Oakland, California. Joseph Birchall, Dannie T. Mehigan, Captain E.



Oscar Nordman, "snapped" in Sydney on March 25, 1950, within a few yards of the place where he was photographed 37 years earlier. (See other picture.)



Oscar Nordman—from a photograph taken in Sydney on July 29, 1912, when the Sonoma arrived to inaugurate the United States mail service between Australia and United States. It was called "the Sydney Short Line," and it brought mails to Sydney 29 days after they left London.

it is now. In those days, I had only to sit there by myself for a few minutes, and some of those pretty Suva girls would come along and talk to me. There was always something to do. Do you remember?

"To-day, I sat there for an hour, and not a soul spoke to me. How I wished I were back in Papeete, with you!"

:: :: ::

On Tuesday, March 21, Oscar Nordman arrived in Sydney, making his 34th entry into the famous port. It was 25 years since he made his 33rd entry, and he was eager to compare the Sydney of his Oceanic Steamship Company days, when

R. Johanson and I are about the only survivors of the old Oceanic days.

While I was at Port Vila, I had the pleasure of meeting again Mr. and Mrs. Henri Lestel who, during the last war, was a member of the staff of the Tahiti Territorial Forces. Now, Mr. Lestel is one of the heads of the Compagnie Franco-Neo-Hebridais.

This was my first visit to Port Vila and Noumea, where I met several Tahiti people. I made a special call on the Mayor of Noumea, Monsieur Sautot, once Governor of French Oceania and famous as New Caledonia's Governor in 1940. When I entered his office he came forward and held me in both arms, a la accolade. We talked of the old days, and he wanted to be remembered to all in Tahiti.

I always think of the good old days, when I go places. Reminiscences and memories of the past crowd in upon me. The first Sunday I was in Sydney I had the blues. I kept thinking of our little children in Tahiti, and here in this great city I was alone.

I could not forget that when I was here before, I was young and happy, and of how, on all the departures of the Sonoma from Sydney, our ship's band, composed of the stewards and myself, watched the people on the wharf as they played "Good-bye Sydney Town," "Auld Lang Syne" and "Aloha Oe" the latter being the farewell song of Hawaii, now known the world over.

On my last Sunday in Sydney, after I had attended Mass at the famous Cathedral, I walked over to one of my favourite parks and rested on one of the old benches. I could swear I heard one of the benches say: "Hello, Oscar! Where have you been all these years? And where

are the little sweeties you used to bring along, to while away the leisure hours?"

"COME TO TAHITI!"

AS I leave for home, I want everyone in Australia to know that our slogan is "Come to Tahiti."

There is not a word of truth in the statement that French officials are hostile towards visitors. As long as you play within the law, you may stay and play as long as you like.

We Tahitians have a great respect for France. We are just as happy a lot under the French law as you are under the British Crown.

Papeete will celebrate July 14 (the Fall of Bastille) this year, in a big way. Governor Anziani has added a Poire Exposition to the Festival and it will last two weeks. You will find hula dances, songs of the old days, canoe and cutter racing, customs and dresses of days gone by, merry-go-round and ferris-wheel, dance-halls, bars, restaurants, etc.; and, when you are ready to leave, numerous young girls will crown you, on the wharf, with garlands of flowers, so that you will say, "I shall return to Tahiti."

If you want to see Tahiti, let the Governor know you are coming to spend one or two or four months. Get yourself a return ticket, enough funds to keep you while in the Islands—and that is all that is necessary. The Governor will answer your telegram—you pay for the reply. No one is allowed seeking work and no beachcombers—known better as Banana Tourists.

These precautions are necessary, because we try to keep out what we call Banana Tourists—persons without sufficient resources, who become beachcombers, and batten on the Tahitians.

FPA's Tankard And Mr. Courtenay

I WAS pleased to see, in the November issue of PIM, a letter from Mr. William Courtenay, of the London Daily Graphic, which conveys an apology to me for certain inaccuracies, concerning my domestic affairs, that were contained in his account of the loss and recovery of my old Charles the Second silver tankard. Mr. Courtenay has now made honourable amends so my ruffled feelings have been smoothed and soothed. I trust that, as he suggests, we may one day meet and talk things over!

I was present among the audience at the Brisbane Town Hall in March, 1943, or thereabouts, when Mr. Courtenay lately from the ardours of the famous Kokoda March—and still looking ill from the effects of dysentery—gave a talk on that episode. Sir Leslie Wilson, Governor of Queensland, and himself a soldier of considerable merit, introduced the speaker. The graphic description, and the sincerity of the tribute paid to Australian courage and tenacity, greatly moved the audience. At the same time some of Damien Parer's documentaries were shown, which depicted the difficult terrain encountered—mountains, rivers, swamps and then some.

NOW a few final remarks about the tankard. It was brought out to Tasmania by my great-grandfather, who settled there with his family and chattels in the early part of last century. The old gentleman had spent most of his life on the seven seas—sailing and fighting for the East India Company. Then, apparently, feeling that the service was going to the dogs he quit and sought new lands. Thereafter he stayed ashore but, what's bred in the bone is born in the flesh and two of his grandsons went back to the sea. They joined up with the King's Navy and both got along quite nicely as each acquired Admiral's rank and a knighthood.

The tankard sits in its place in my leaf-thatched house. It is squat, dour looking, and with its silver darkened by the sulphurous fumes that sometimes blow this way when Bougainville volcanoes are restless. According to family legend its original owner, in the 1690's, was a gay cavalier who drank deep. The old tankard has seen some merry times and functions, at some of which, so they say, the Merry Monarch himself was present. Once, when I was in mellow mood, I took the liberty of addressing a few questions to it about those days of silks, satins and high wassail, but, like the famous Tar Baby, "She jes' sat thar and said nuffin'!"

—F. P. Archer.

Mrs. Elizabeth Williams, an American woman who served during the war with a US Red Cross Unit on Guadalcanal, BSI, is back again for a five-year visit to that island and other parts of the South Pacific. She has already visited Penryhn, Manihiki, and Puka Puka (in the Cook Islands), Tahiti, and 249 of the 250 islands in the Fiji Group—she had bad luck with the 250th; her boat got stuck in the mud. In Australia at the end of March, she was planning trips to Papua-New Guinea, BSI and Singapore. Finally she will settle down in the French Riviera, which should be quite a change.

Mr. David Ferris, SDA missionary in charge of that mission's leper hospital in the New Hebrides was on leave with his family in New South Wales in March. He has been on various stations in BSI and New Hebrides since joining the Mission in 1931.

Mr. and Mrs. John Watts and their two children, of Nauru (where Mr. Watts is a pharmacist in charge of the Chinese hospital) are on three months leave in South Australia.

PIM Crossquiz — No. 4

(Solution on page 77)

ACROSS

5.—Which influential paper has for its slogan "All the news that's fit to print?"

7.—Where did the term "thugs" originate?

9.—Through the mouth?

10.—In physics, what is roughly defined as that which has weight and occupies space?

11.—Two and a half times four-fifths?

12.—Flower in the eye?

13.—Who founded the science of eugenics?

15.—What is usually between Jack and Jill?

16.—Who discovered the X-rays?

18.—What does an archer often take?

19.—What creeping perennial has fallen from favour since it unaccountably lost its smell?

21.—Who said "There is a fool born every minute?"

22.—Pur-bearing marsupial?

DOWN

1.—Who founded Pennsylvania?

2.—What is the scientific study of rivers?

3.—Capital of Penryn?

4.—Where did William Allen White print his famous country newspaper?

6.—Which adjective is derived from the name of a famous playwright?

8.—What ancient philosopher lived in a tub?

11.—After whom was Thursday named?

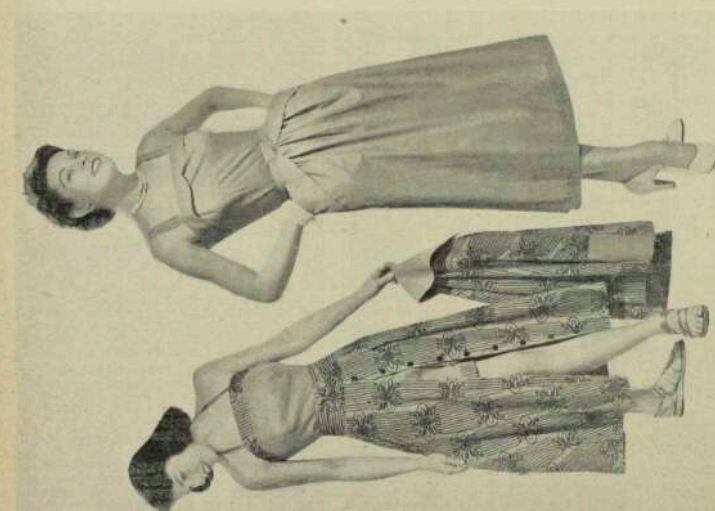
14.—Which creature is subject to pellagra?

15.—What is a body of troops in concealment?

17.—Was this chief in India named after a North American shilling?

19.—Who was Queen of the Fairies?

20.—Where are the Royal Botanic Gardens situated?



fashion . . .

TWO cool outfits with the bare-top look. At left is a New York designed "play costume" of shorts and halter-bodice made in one piece, with a button-front skirt and a flaring hip-length jacket. The cotton sun-frack on right has interesting cuff-top pockets and a straight gathered skirt.

CORNER FOR THE CHILDREN

CANINE CROSSWORD

EVEN IF YOU HAVEN'T A PUP OF YOUR OWN, YOU'LL ENJOY FITTING THE NAMES OF THESE DOGS INTO THE CROSSWORD. DOWN FOR INSTANCE, IS CHOW-CHOW, NOW YOU DO THE REST.

ANSWERS TO LAST PUZZLES

THE QUEUE WAS WAITING TO SEE LAURENCE OLIVIER

THIS LITTLE GIRL IS SEEING A FRIEND OFF ON A LONG JOURNEY. WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO KNOW WHERE THE SHIP IS GOING? WITH YOUR PENCIL FOLLOW THE STEAMER FROM THE SHIP TO HER AND WRITE DOWN THE LETTERS YOU PASS ON THE WAY. NOW RE-ARRANGE FOR THE ANSWER.

FAREWELL!

YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THAT - THEY'RE SO BIG

WHERE DO THEY FIND ELEPHANTS?

MOLLY AND ME

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IN DEFENCE OF TABITEUEA

Letter to the Editor

I HAVE been a constant reader of your very interesting PIM and I never came across more insulting words about the people of Tabiteuea than those used by Mr. Brett Hilder, in your May, 1949, issue.

I am a native of Tabiteuea, now living in the Caroline Islands. I know my people better than any white man who may visit the atoll of Tabiteuea, and then goes home and writes long stories to the world that he had visited a most unpleasant island with unlovable people, who are dirty, precocious, faithless and opportunist to Europeans, etc. These statements really hurt the more because they are untrue. They need early correction; if they are left alone, they would bring disgrace and shame to the future generations of Tabiteuea.

Mr. Hilder said in one paragraph that "the women of Tabiteuea were averse to cleanliness, and that if they were carefully scraped down there would be enough black soil to fill all the babai-pits on Tabiteuea."

Does the writer think that the women of Tabiteuea are dirtier than pigs? Because, if 3,000 pigs are carefully scraped down (hairs and dirt), I don't think their dirt would fill all the babai-pits on Tabiteuea. It is fortunate that the women-folk of Tabiteuea may not be able to read the PIM. If they should know about these statements, I believe, on sight of the writer, apply his statement on himself, and "scrape him down to the bones."

The white man's idea is that the atoll's lack of fresh water and soap would cause the natives to be dirty. But Nature has supplied them with the open sea-water ground-dug wells and fresh-water ponds. The natives use, instead of soap, fumes from coconut husks, to scrub the dirt off their bodies. I believe the natives have long learned how to be clean. Otherwise, the missionaries and especially the Medical Department of the Gilbert and Ellice Colony, are not doing any good in educating them.

Western civilisation's shower-baths and toilet soaps, face-powders and perfumeries, with starched and well-ironed clothes and dresses, are not known to the women of Tabiteuea. They still wear grass skirts and very little clothing, which is about the best thing they could do—but that does not mean they are averse to cleanliness.

What does the writer mean by the word "precocious"? I understand that nearly all the races in the Pacific are precocious. Does the writer have any special point in calling the natives of Tabiteuea precocious? Or was he merely trying to make his story more interesting and amusing to other white people, who have never visited the islands?

THE writer also used the word "faithless." Did he not know or hear of a former Native Magistrate, Noa, a native of Tabiteuea, who was decorated with a medal from His Majesty the King George V for faithfulness to his duty? The natives of Tabiteuea all believe in Christian faith, as in any other atolls in the Gilberts and elsewhere.

Another remark was "opportunist to Europeans." The natives are opportunists not only to Europeans but to all strangers. That "opportunist" means kindness, and to give aid. I don't think they ever harm Europeans, except that they are willing to help carry your luggage or even carry a visitor ashore from a stranded boat or canoe. Those little actions that you call being opportunist are their kind-heartedness and hospitality, but in a primitive way according to your European standards.

Another remark was: "No man can

truthfully call them a lovable people." Only egoists say such things. Did the writer stay and live long with the natives of Tabiteuea, to understand the truth about them and their ways of treating their visitors? Among themselves they are very happy, and live an easy-going life. Throughout the Gilbert and Ellice Islands the people of Tabiteuea are known as the kindest people to strangers, and would give them anything to help strangers, without payment.

Tabiteuea natives are quite satisfied with their present mode of living. In the writer's pictures, accompanying his story, we saw the roads were kept clean, the meeting house "maneapa" was also clean and tidy. Pictures of children showed that they were perfectly healthy and clean-looking even though a few were naked, while some wore loin-cloths only around their waists.

It is known that foodstuffs are quite scarce in the Gilbert Islands, as on Tabiteuea, and that is why a native has to work hard on his plantation and babal-pits to satisfy his requirements—otherwise, he is contented with what Nature has given him.

The writer closed his article with "Farewell without regrets to the natives of Tabiteuea." We, the natives of Tabiteuea, warn him to keep away from Tabiteuea in future, otherwise he will depart with even fewer regrets.

I am, etc.

A. HICKING.

Kusaie, Caroline Islands,
18.1.1950.

At the conclusion of the annual general meeting of the NSW Branch of the Royal Empire Society on March 24, Mr. E. J. Hallstrom will deliver a lecture "A Journey through Unexplored New Guinea," illustrated by a film.

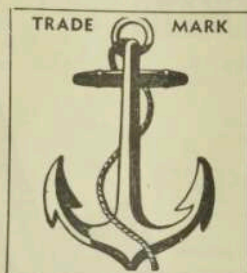
Visitors to Tahiti in January were Mr. and Mrs. George N. Whiting of Los Angeles. Mr. Whiting had been here before World War I, but it was Mrs. Whiting's first visit; they had, however, many friends on the island who entertained them royally.

Mr. M. B. Knowles, one of the Principal Actuaries in the United Kingdom Government Actuaries Department, spent several days in Fiji in February,

on his way to New Zealand to take part in an International Conference of Social Security Experts. He was accompanied by Mr. C. G. Denny, Under Secretary of the United Kingdom Ministry of National Insurance, and Mr. P. J. Keady of the Ministry of Social Welfare of the Republic of Ireland. Mr. Knowles will discuss arrangements for a proposed actuarial examination of the Widows and Orphans Scheme for civil servants in Fiji.

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BSI TOO, WILL HAVE A BIG BANG!

HONIARA, March 21.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS, like New Guinea, has its full share of bomb dumps, dud shells, etc., left over from the war. There is a large ammunition dump a few miles from Honiara, and a dump of several hundred large aerial bombs was discovered last year on the property of a planter in the Western Solomons, near a native village.

What to do with these and other known dump areas has been an awkward problem and was not solved without the assistance of experts. Several fatal accidents have occurred among natives—one only a few months ago—and grass fires have been a source of anxiety in any prolonged dry spell.

The Australian Government now proposes to send a bomb disposal team to the Solomons—some time in May, and the team's welcome visit should remove a very real source of potential danger.

Decoration for Soldier-Pioneer

THERE appears to be a certain amount of confusion amongst the Murrays of the New Ireland-New Britain area of New Guinea. One member of the clan is Mr. H. G. Murray (known as Harry Murray) who has been managing Ball Plantation but has now taken over the lease of the late Mrs. Gladys Baker's property at Witu. And the other is Harold John Murray (known as Harry Murray), owner of the well-known Lakuramau Plantation, near Kavieng.

The photograph we publish herewith is of Mr. H. J. Murray, of Lakuramau, on the occasion of his receiving the Military Cross (won for his services as a Coast-watcher in the last war) from the Administrator of Papua-New Guinea (and another member of the clan) Colonel J. K. Murray.

Harold John Murray is a two-wars man and an Anzac. After the evacuation from Gallipoli he served in France and in 1917 was awarded the DCM. Back in Australia after the Armistice, he found life too tame and went to New Guinea for the Expropriation Board. In the early 20's he bought his plantation near Kavieng.

In early 1942 war caught up with him again. The Japs invaded New Britain and New Ireland and he was with the only party to escape from Kavieng (the other members of the party were Messrs J. McDonald, Dean, W. R. Thomas, M. Jones, H. Waters and Farthing).

From the time of his escape in 1942 until 1946, Mr. Murray served with AIB during which time he made several landings from submarines on the coast of New Ireland and on adjacent islands which were then held by the enemy. For his exploits he was awarded the Military Cross by Australia and the Silver Star by the United States.

Recently Mr. Murray suffered the loss of his wife who was one of the first European women to live in the New Ireland district.

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BAD WEATHER IN SAMOA

From Our Own Correspondent

STORMS, squalls and heavy rains have seriously interfered with copra cutting in Western Samoa and with local and overseas shipping and have also seriously affected the cocoa plantations.

The British steamer, Taybank, loading copra at Apia, had to interrupt opera-

tions on March 21 owing to the threatening weather conditions and cruise for three days outside the harbour before being able to return and resume loading. The MS Matua is reported to be delayed in Fiji for two days on her way to Tonga, Niue and Apia.

The new Director of Public Works, Fiji, Mr. J. P. Bruen, expects to leave England for Fiji early in April.

SUVA SLUM CONDITIONS AGAIN ATTACKED

SUVA, March 5.

THE wretched tenement houses of Suva with their overcrowding and insanitary conditions, constitute a grave health and social problem, states the annual report of the Commissioner of Labour, Fiji.

"In urban centres building activity does not keep pace with the rising population. Four years ago the Post-War Planning and Development Committee recommended the expenditure of £250,000 over a five year period on industrial housing—little enough in relation to the then need—but nothing has come of this proposal and the need grows larger and more urgent each year.

"The continuing high cost of materials and labour deter private investors from risking capital on housing schemes which may ultimately produce an inadequate return.

"No serious contribution to the solution of this housing problem can be expected until money can be made available at a low interest rate or schemes large enough to enable other substantial economies to be made—that is, by standardisation and prefabrication."

DEATH OF R. F. KRUSE

ON March 21, Mr. Rudolf Friedrich Kruse, branch-manager of Messrs. O. F. Nelson & Co. Ltd., at Faga, Savaii, Western Samoa, died in Apia, after a short illness.

He was 56 and a well-known and respected resident of Savaii. He was the son of the late Captain Kruse, a former harbour pilot of Apia, under the German Administration.

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NEW OILFIELD IN DUTCH NEW GUINEA

Three Oil Strikes In Vogelkop Peninsula

IT was announced, in this journal, in February, that the first 4,000,000 gallons of crude oil from the new oilfield in Dutch New Guinea had reached the Vacuum Company's new £1,000,000 refinery at Altona, near Melbourne, in January, and that there thus had been initiated an industry of great importance to the South Pacific. The oil is producing 7½ per cent. petrol, 20 per cent. high grade diesel oil, 30 per cent. bitumen and 42½ per cent. light and heavy lubricants. The following article, from the November, 1949, issue of the West Australian Mining Review tells the story of the discovery and development of the new oilfield.

IN 1936, the N. V. Nederlandsche Nieuw Guineesche Petroleum Maatschappij was granted a contract to explore certain areas located in the Netherlands part of New Guinea. Shell has a 40 per cent. interest in this company.

At that time (1936) the geological knowledge of this territory was still insignificant, while reliable topographic maps did not exist. Therefore the prospecting of the exploration territory was commenced by air-mapping the entire area on a scale 1:40,000. The topographic maps obtained in this manner formed the basis for geologic reconnaissance.

By studying the air-photos stereoscopically, valuable data was furthermore obtained concerning the geological structure. Thus it was possible to reduce considerably the time required for regional geological reconnaissance.

Up to 1939, the territory suitable for surface exploration, had been geologically reconnoitred and a number of structures in the Vogelkop (the western part of the Netherlands New Guinea) had already been detailed to such an extent that locations for wildcats could be set out.

A large part of the territory to be explored, however, is occupied by extensive swamps and quaternary regions, which could only be explored by geophysical methods. Before World War II a gravimetric reconnaissance of approximately a third of this area had been completed, while seismic reconnaissance had been confined to a few smaller areas in the Vogelkop and in the northern part of Bomberai.

AT the time of the Japanese invasion NNGPM had explored several structures in the Vogelkop by means of wildcat drilling. In three of these wildcats, oil was struck—viz., Klamono in the western part, Wasian and Mogoi in the eastern part of Vogelkop.

Before the invasion, 14 wells had been drilled in Klamono—a small structure along the Klasafet River, which is navigable for small craft—and eight of these proved to be producing. Due to the absence of storage facilities and the difficulty of shipping the oil via the river, conclusive tests could not be made. The oil was found in a Miocene limestone at approximately 600 ft. depth, under thick strata of marly clay with intercalations of young Miocene marly limestone.

Although the Japanese carried out geological work in this territory they did not do any new drilling nor did they create facilities for the transport of crude oil.

At the end of the war the NNGPM resumed the task of developing the area and—after rebuilding the living accommodation—started to do some more drilling at Klamono and to construct a connecting road to Sorong, and to lay a pipeline from the Klamono field to Sorong to transport the crude oil to the coast.

In the two other structures, Wasian and Mogoi, the oil was likewise found in the upper part of the Miocene limestone. Here, however, this limestone was covered by series of marly clay of Pliocene age. The oil in Wasian and Mogoi was found at approximately 3,000 ft. and 1,200 ft.

respectively. The results of the drilling activities in these structures, however, are not yet of a conclusive nature and further tests will have to be made to estimate the value of these structures.

The access of these exploration areas along the tortuous Temboenie River entailed great difficulties, so that the construction of a 30-mile road for the further development of this region was taken in hand.

SORONG (the port on the western coast of Vogelkop peninsula) is now the centre of NNGPM organisation. The construction of temporary housing accommodation, storage, shops, electric power stations and other facilities has been pushed ahead, while plans have been drawn up to erect permanent living quarters.

At Klamono and Steenkool (where exploration activities are at present being carried out) the improvement of accommodation is also a task of high priority. To safeguard the health of their em-

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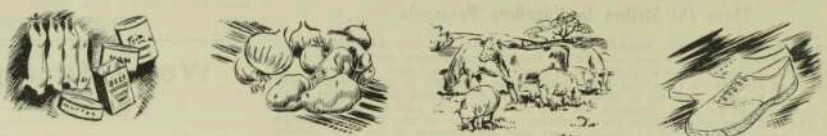
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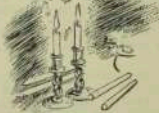
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employees NNGPM are waging an active and successful anti-malaria campaign, including DDT spraying from aircraft.

The construction of the necessary roads—which will form the principal traffic artery in territories in the hinterland which have so far been inaccessible jungle—is a costly undertaking. Furthermore, progress is checked by various post-war circumstances, such as insufficient supply of materials and lack of shipping facilities.

However, the road Sorong-Klamono was completed in November, 1948. The 8 in. linepipe was finished as well and in the first half of December the pumping of the Klamono crude oil to Sorong started. The daily rate of production of Klamono was temporarily fixed at 4,000 barrels, which production is expected to increase when the new wells to be drilled will be contributing their share too.

MORE FEVER DISEASES IN FIJI NOW

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, March 29. TYPHOID cases are still occurring in the Suva area, and it has been stated that the enteric group of fevers is increasing in incidence in Fiji generally. The comparatively new disease of paratyphoid, unknown here until a year or two ago, is now "being found with disturbing frequency," according to an official report.

During the current hot season a new form of dysentery, known as the Newcastle variety, has been "causing transient havoc."

Undulant fever is also present, and this has led to support for reported official discussions on the feasibility of a milk-pasteurisation plant for the Suva area.

KADAVU EARTHQUAKE TAKES SLICE FROM MOUNTAIN

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, March 15. AN earthquake felt at Suva and other parts of Fiji on February 13 is believed to have been responsible for a severe knocking-about suffered by Namukalevu (Mount Washington), the 2,750 ft. peak at the western end of Kadavu.

On March 8, Captain H. M. Prewen, of the vessel Melanesia, reported that the configuration of the mountain had been greatly altered by an avalanche which had carved out a sizable gully on the north-western side, while much of the heavy forest covering of the mountain had been stripped off.

Captain Prewen attributed the changes to recent hurricanes, but the Suva Meteorological Office, while not contradicting this theory, has pointed out that reports from New Zealand and other seismological observatories throughout the world show that the February earthquake was centred close to Kadavu, an area where deep-sea earthquakes are not uncommon.

Fiji War Pensions Less In 1949

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, March 29. EXPENDITURE on war pensions in Fiji in 1949 totalled £16,917, compared with £18,404 in 1948.

Second World War pensioners totalled 467 Fijians and 56 Europeans and part-Europeans, and there were two Fijian and seven European and part-European pensioners of the First World War.

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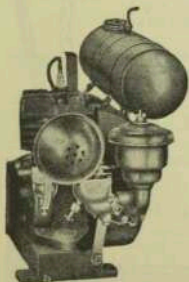
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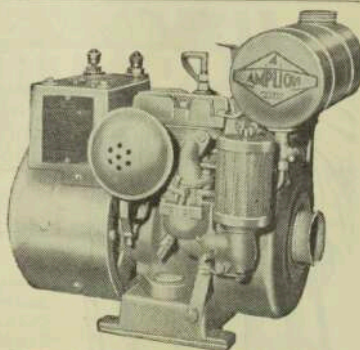
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BSI Resident Commissioner on Tour

From Our Own Correspondent

FIRST visit in BSP of new Resident Commissioner (Mr. H. G. Gregory-Smith) was to the Gela group of islands towards the end of February. His patrol ship was met by decorated canoes and he was given a traditional

welcome with gifts, including red and white shell-money and much food including a pig. Rarely seen native dances were performed for him.

Mr. Gregory-Smith toured Malaita in March with the District Commissioner, Malaita (Mr. S. G. Masterman).

Mr. William Effe, governing director of Hiro Plantations, Ltd., and Piliakora Plantations, Ltd. (BSI), died in Brisbane recently. He was 79.

MADANG NEWSLETTER

From Our Own Correspondent

OVER the past few weeks, Madang has seen many changes in official places. But most people who managed to return here from leave seem glad to be back in "good old Madang." Living costs are still on the up-grade but the arrival of a price commissioner raises our hopes a little.

The long felt need of a local library is at last to be met. Miss Joyce Wedd will be librarian. If she makes as good a job of running the library as she did the school, we will all be quite happy.

Meetings have been called to promote a kindergarten in the district. Mr. Dave Rees suggested the scheme which will be organised in the district by RSSAILA, aided financially by the Social Club. District Officer Charles Bates has promised support. Probably one building will eventually house library, kindergarten, RSSAILA and other approved organisations.

In the eastern bay near the district officer's old house, a swimming pool has been erected. At the moment much training in all sports is going on in preparation for proposed trip of local sporting team to Rabaul at Easter time.

With an energetic committee, including Mr. A. J. Clark, secretary, and Mr. A. Ashton, treasurer, the Social Club is functioning well. The recent acquisition of a billiard table pleases men members.

Burns Philip are at present engaged in building bulk stores and main store on their land close to the wharf. Mr. Jack Sherry, local accountant for the Firm, has gained the envy of the town by his recent acquisition of a racy little cream car. He returned recently from leave.

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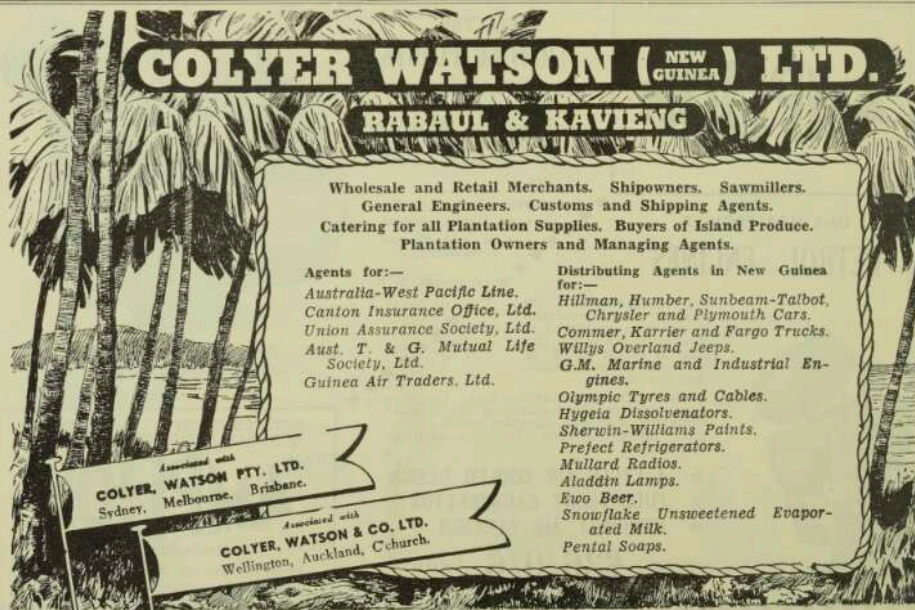
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Mr. Jack Sedgers, director of New Guinea Company, Ltd., has just returned from a tour of inspection.

Fishing for Sydney's Taronga Park aquarium is being carried on enthusiastically at Siar, under the supervision of Captain Bill Wilding of Malaita.

Many types of fish have been taken South in the Malaita's tanks from Madang. As well, Captain Bill takes orchids, snakes, birds or any other type of four-footed, legless or rooted object.

MRS. MARK PITT'S efforts to provide accommodation for travellers have been a great success. Everyone says "jolly fine kail." Mrs. Pitt is to be congratulated on the extraordinary amount of work and talent she has expended on the venture. Madang now has no hotel, although it is the jumping-off place for many outer islands, the Sepik River, Wewak and points further north. Lack of accommodation has been an embarrassment to many travellers in the past.

Travelling through the port recently en route to Wewak were Mrs. W. Scannell; and Mr. and Mrs. Feinburg, with infant daughter, on transfer from Madang to Wewak.

Arrival of MV Merkur in port coincided recently with a Saturday night ball in aid of the sports team's Easter trip to Rabaul. Arrival of about 60 passengers added to the general fun and merriment. Great bowls of curry and rice were served for supper. Among Merkur's passengers was Miss Betty McKell, daughter to Australia's Governor-General. On board, too, was Mr. Carthie, of Paramount News Service. He spent some time at Siar filming native sing-sings and village life.

Madang wharf continues to receive minor repairs but there are still many traps for the unwary on the unrepainted areas. A Quonset hut is being erected for a customs shed near the wharf. Mr. Jack Goad takes over, as Collector, from Mr. Don Cameron on completion of leave.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Paisley, of Kar Kar Island, caused some consternation in Madang when lost for eight days. Apparently their 16 ft. launch's engine gave up the struggle on the way over to the mainland but, hoisting sail, they were lucky enough to make Bagabag Island. Planes circled round Bagabag looking for them on the day they left that island to sail back to Kar Kar and the next day a plane circled Kar Kar and located the launch safe on the eastern shore of the island.

MR. JERRY TOOGOOD, ADO of Kainantu, was in town recently making preparations for a tour into the Ramu Valley covering uncontrolled Territory. On part of his route he will go over the border into Papua. The area will be mapped.

The Lutheran Mission Conference at Baltabag caused great interest in the Territory. Mr. W. C. Groves, Director of Education, flew from Port Moresby to be present at the conference.

Police are searching the Saidor area for a native who attacked his wife with an axe. Dr. N. P. Wood made a great effort to save the woman's life but she later died.

Several overseas ships have taken Madang's copra to England.

A quiet but attractive wedding was that of Sister Kremer to Mr. Tony Dunn. Mr. Don Cameron gave the bride away; Mr. Maahs officiated at the ceremony; Sisters McElna and Kowitz made the cake, while Mrs. C. Bates prepared the rest of the feast. After a fortnight's honeymoon, Sister is back at her job of ministering to the sick.

Madang's Chinatown has been display-

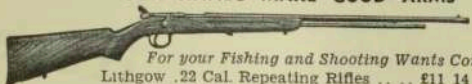
ing (and selling) various Eastern goods. Included in the last shipments were camphorwood chests, materials, shirts, trinkets and various lingerie. It was like pre-war days to see the shops full of Europeans anxious to obtain the artistic handiwork of the East.

Endeavouring to establish himself as a professional collector of butterflies and

other insects, Mr. Keith Slater has had some recognition of his work from overseas specialists and museums. Hampered by lack of bottles, and other supplies, Mr. Slater has not allowed these drawbacks to kill his interest in his work.

It seems a pity, however, that so much is being sent out of the Territory in the way of live animals, fish, reptiles, bird

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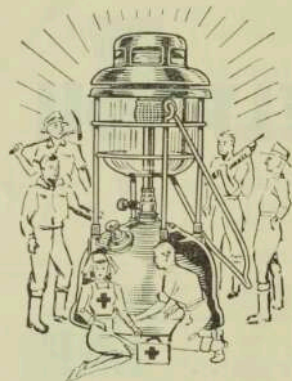
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and plant life, natural-life specimens and native objects-art while the Territory is making no provision for museums, or zoos or collections for the instruction of future generations of its own people. Trees planted by Mr. Roy Vicary are already throwing some shade on the Modillon Road. It is hoped that the work of planting ornamental trees, started so enthusiastically by Mr. Vicary, will be carried on by other enthusiasts. The Vicarys are returning to the Territory with their new daughter on April Malaita.

'I BURIED HIM'

Grim Tale of 50 Years Ago

From Our Own Correspondent

HONIARA, April 2. SOMEWHAT grim tale of the early days in the British Solomon Islands was recalled recently when a new arrival sought information about one of his relations, known to have been in the Solomons with a trading venture some 50 years ago, and never heard of since. When an old hand was asked if he had ever heard of the missing man, the answer came back: "I buried him."

The story is that five, out of the handful of traders then in the Solomons, were waiting together for a ship, and while away the time with gin and water.

One of the five had fever, and gin and water was the only available treatment. After a time the sick man left the party. It was assumed that he had gone away to bed, and no particular notice was taken of his long absence, until something in the atmosphere led the rest of the party to investigate. Then it was found that he had died of blackwater fever, quite some time before.

The planned to bury him early next day, and the four remaining members of the party were to carry the coffin. But the night was long and wakeful, and the way to the grave was uphill. Most of the party were themselves carried up to the grave, in the morning.

They had no prayerbook, and nobody could remember the burial service. But they put him in the ground, and they sang what they could remember of "Abide with Me."

No address was found to which news of his death could be sent home, and no word of him ever reached his family, until chance brought the story to light recently, and news that he had died was sent to his now aged widow.

ANOTHER FORTUNE IN THE MAKING

From Our Own Correspondent

HONIARA, March 28. LAST American Army material available on Guadalcanal, BSI, has been bought by a Melbourne syndicate, reported to be acting for an American company. Purchase comprises camp fittings, fixtures, buildings, equipment and machinery at Camp Guadal, where a very small detachment of US Army troops has been caretaking until recently. All other abandoned American material and equipment on Guadalcanal not required by the Protectorate Government was recently acquired by a Melbourne firm operating on Guadalcanal under the name of South Pacific Traders.

Mrs. Ashton Rhodes, of Rabaul, NG, whose husband, Lieut.-Commander Rhodes, was recently appointed chief intelligence officer at Manus Naval base, was visiting Sydney in April.

YACHT TROPIC BIRD

THE Australian yacht, Tropic Bird, 20 tons, Captain H. Georgetti, with a crew of two, has been cruising in South-West Pacific waters. Tropic Bird arrived at Vanikoro, BSI, via Espiritu Santo, in March, and after a short stay at Vanikoro planned to visit Honiara, BSI, calling at a number of islands in the British Solomons en route.—Honiara Correspondent.

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High Infant Mortality Rate in Polynesia Mostly Caused by Ignorance, Says Correspondent

ONE of the major headaches of local doctors, nurses and AMP's is the Polynesian who, by reason of personality or lack of education, is unfit for parenthood.

MANGAIA, CI.

One such case, typical of its kind, occurred recently in the country district of this island. A wayward village girl, who persisted, in spite of her condition, in normal activities with total disregard of natural signs that should have been a warning, gave birth to a child, alone and unattended, upon the inland highway. Cases of this kind are common enough and the girl in question appears to have had the intelligence to perform the usual offices for herself.

Afterwards, she made her way, with the

newborn babe, into the bush, where she was later found. Brought into the beach settlement and made comfortable there, she should have been all right. Not long after, however, the child born thus inauspiciously died from choking.

THE combination of waywardness and ignorance, among a certain type of village girl reflects little credit upon Island education and family discipline. A compulsory pre-natal clinic, at which pregnant girls are compelled to attend for medical advice, might be one means of insuring that such incidents would not occur. The ignorant, who persists in gadding about—almost till the last moment, are a danger both to their own health and to that of the coming child.

Another factor making for infant mortality, even where native children are well cared for, is the "gum lancer." This functionary is generally an elderly woman of the village, who makes a speciality of cutting the gums of teething Polynesian infants with a small knife—often a rusty pen-knife. The number of unexplained deaths, probably due to tetanus or to a septic condition, has never been investigated. In the writer's view, these insanitary practitioners should be sternly prohibited, and the "lancing" done, where the need is indicated, by the local nurse or NMP.

Although we now have a Child Welfare movement here, the scope for investigation and remedying of the causes of infant mortality is great: incompetent parenthood, insanitary huts, wrong feeding, and the "lancers" cited, all contribute to a potentially high death-rate, to the detriment of healthy increase in the native population of the island.

Miss Doreen Leech, a new nursing recruit to the Melanesian Mission, was due to arrive in the Hebrides from the UK early in 1950.



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AUSTRALIA AND SOUTH PACIFIC TERRITORIES

New Minister Makes Statement of Policy

IN the course of a statement on Australia's international relationships, made in Parliament in March, the Australian Minister for External Affairs and External Territories, Mr. P. C. Spender, said that the following (extracted from an official report) was Australia's policy towards (a) Papua-New Guinea, (b) other Islands groups immediately north and northeast of Australia and (c) the Islands generally of the South and Southwest Pacific:—

FUTURE OF NEW GUINEA

IRRESPECTIVE of whether or not a regional defence pact should turn out to be feasible, Australia has a duty to itself which must not be neglected. This is the duty of ensuring by every means open to us that in the island areas immediately adjacent to Australia, in whatever direction they lie, nothing takes place that can in any way offer a threat to Australian security, either in the short or the long term.

These Islands are, as experience has shown, our last ring of defence against aggression, and Australia must be vitally concerned with whatever changes take place in them. It is not to be assumed by anyone that should fundamental changes take place in any of these areas, Australia would adopt a purely passive role.

I have in mind particularly, but not exclusively, New Guinea, which is an absolutely essential link in the chain of Australian defence. The Australian people are deeply interested in what happens anywhere in New Guinea.

As regards Australian New Guinea it is our duty to ensure that it is administered and developed in a way best calculated to protect the welfare of the native inhabitants and at the same time to serve Australia's security interests.

Honourable Members will recall that an unofficial spokesman in Indonesia recently declared that Australian New Guinea should be incorporated in Indonesia. I thought it desirable to make an immediate rebuttal of any such claim, and I was pleased to see that the Indonesian Government lost no time in disclaiming that it enjoyed any official support.

TIMOR-NEW HEBRIDES-NEW CALEDONIA

NEW GUINEA happens to be the largest and most important of those island areas that are of direct concern to us.

But in the same way we cannot be passive observers of any developments in Timor, the New Hebrides and New Caledonia that might have unwelcome consequences for Australia.

But that is negative; we are prepared positively to join with the governments of these countries in arrangements of mutual economic and security benefit. There is no question of interference in the affairs of others; it is simply a matter of common prudence and mutual co-operation.

SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION

I SHOULD like now to extend the horizon, in a slightly different context, to the South and Southwest Pacific. We propose to continue and develop the co-operation that has been established with our neighbours who are responsible for the administration of territories in the area.

The South Pacific Commission, which is representative of the Governments of the United Kingdom, the United States of America, New Zealand, France, the Netherlands and Australia, is a tangible and effective form of such co-operation.

The objectives of the Commission are the social and economic development of the non-self-governing territories administered by the Governments mentioned. The Commission is not concerned with defence or political matters.

The economic and social development of the territories in the area is vital to each territory and has a wider significance for the future advancement and

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Visitors from the Pacific Islands to Sydney, or persons interested in Islands affairs, are invited to communicate with the Honorary Secretary of the above Society which was formed to constitute a social centre for those interested in the Pacific Islands.

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peace of the whole Pacific area. The experience of co-operation in the Commission may also have lessons which could be applied in other areas important to Australia.

The work of organising the Commission is now virtually completed and experts are already engaged in field work in the territories, examining problems of education, including technical training, economic development and health, with a view to making recommendations to the member Governments.

These recommendations will undoubtedly be helpful to the Governments and Administrations. We stand to gain from them because New Guinea and Papua are the largest and most populous of the South Pacific territories and their developmental problems are formidable.

The Australian Government alone is responsible for action taken in its territories, but the advice of the Commission on the questions within the scope of its proper functions will be welcomed and we will support it and co-operate in its work.

Representatives of the native peoples of the Australian territories will be attending a South Pacific Conference which is to be held in Suva in April under the auspices of the Commission. Here, for the first time in history, representatives of the peoples of these territories will meet together, along with their administering authorities, to learn what is being done for them by the Commission and by their governments, and to make whatever comments or suggestions they wish.

CHILD SPECIALIST FOR PAPUA

DR. MARIE JANOUSEK, formerly a child health specialist in Czechoslovakia, has been appointed by the Papua-New Guinea Administration to its medical service. She has gone to Port Moresby where she will open a baby health clinic and teach natives hygiene and nursing.

Dr. Janousek and her husband, a lawyer, are refugees from Communism and went to Australia two years ago as migrants.

Neither could practise professionally in Australia and Mr. Janousek has a job in a Sydney sporting goods factory.

He will remain there but hopes later to be able to qualify in Law at an Australian university.

RNZAF MAKES MORE MERCY FLIGHTS IN FIJI GROUP

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, March 20.
FOURTEEN men of Moala, Lau, were swept away in a canoe and two small boats when the craft were caught in an exceptionally strong current on March 6. All were found to have landed safely at Totoya when an RNZAF Catalina search-plane visited the island on March 12.

On the previous day, a Catalina had made a mercy flight to Tavuni to bring a complicated Fijian maternity case to the CWM Hospital at Suva.

On March 13, an RAF Sunderland, attached to the RNZAF at Laucala Bay, went in search of a Fijian who, with three children, had been missing in a small boat from Lautoka for more than a week. A launch containing a policeman and six other men had set out to search for the missing party and had gone missing itself. Both the missing parties were found sheltering at the island of Lolololai.

On March 15 a plane searched for a launch containing 30 Indians which left Labasa several days previously and failed to arrive at Ellington, where the passengers were to have landed to travel by road to Ba and Lautoka. (The launch later arrived safely at Ellington).

According to Mr. C. Merillon, who arrived in Brisbane recently by Air France Skymaster, the Pacific service of Air France (from Paris to Noumea) may be extended shortly to New Zealand, Tahiti, and the New Hebrides. Mr. Merillon has been in Saigon for the company for the past 2½ years.

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Traffic Accidents Increase In W. Samoa

From Our Own Correspondent

AP^IA, March 24.
MOTOR traffic is increasing rapidly in Western Samoa and in spite of the greatly improved and extended road system, there are many motor accidents. On February 18, a truck of the NZ Reparation Estates carrying labourers from Apia to Falefa struck the Fagali'i bridge railing and several of the passengers on the truck were injured.

On March 9, a six-year-old Samoan girl was accidentally killed at Tuamamato when struck by a taxi driven by a Samoan, Asalemo. She was bouncing a ball on the roadside and, running to the opposite side of the road, was struck by the approaching taxi and killed instantly. On the following day, March 10, a Samoan youth, Tavita, was accidentally killed at Leulumesega on the cross-island road when he ran out in front of a banana truck.

On March 13 a Gold Star bus ran off the Main East Coast Road owing to defective steering and dropped over the rocky incline to the sea. A number of the passengers suffered slight injuries.

NO PARADISE FOR TOURISTS

From Our Own Correspondent

HONIARA, March 26.
AN airways company is planning to bring batches of tourists for a month's stay in Honiara, British Solomon Islands.

BSIP residents are wondering just what the tourists will expect when they arrive. The Protectorate has been too busy getting on its feet again after the destruction of the war years to have had time or building material or labour available for a residential hotel, or any organised facilities for tourists, and conditions are officially described at present as "Somewhat Primitive."

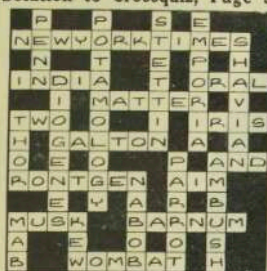
General opinion seems to be that if the tourists like roughing it for a bit they could enjoy themselves, but if they were all out for lotus-eating in a technicolour paradise with home comforts and Cook's tours laid on, they are due for something of a shock.

Suva's Rain Still Breaking Records

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA'S wettest consecutive 12 months on record ended on January 31, with a total rainfall of 226.48 in. Twenty-four wet days in January produced a total of 24.11 in., 12.25 in. above the average.

Solution to Crossquiz, Page 59



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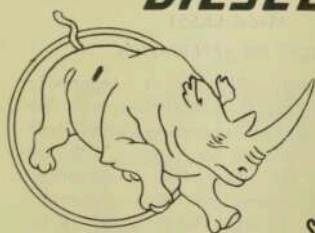
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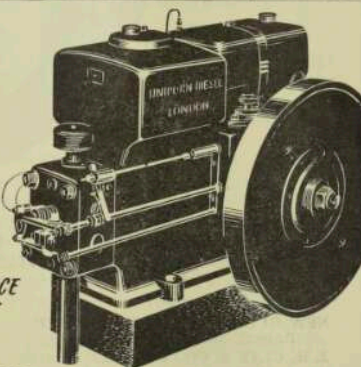
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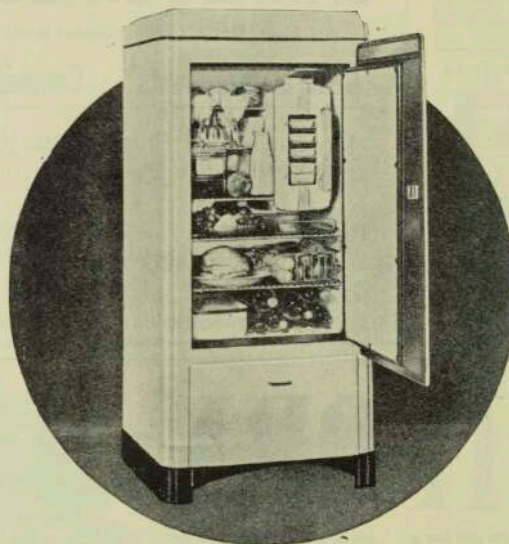
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KAIULANI

The Wartime Story of A Sailing Ship

THE strange story of how an old San Francisco windjammer plugged an awkward hole in the supply lines for the New Guinea campaign was revealed by a San Francisco shipping executive (said a writer in the San Francisco Chronicle in March).

The bark "Kaiulani"—last American square-rigged ship—and the vessel which Mayor Elmer Robinson wants brought home for permanent preservation in an Aquatic Park maritime museum—is the heroine of the story.

George Bradford, general manager of Sudden & Christensen, Inc., told how decomposed coral altered the strategy of the Buna (Papuan) Campaign. Bradford, then a colonel, was serving as water transport officer for the Army Service Forces.

"We had to get supplies to Buna; it wasn't going too well for our forces there," he recalled. "What they needed most of all was tanks. But there was no way for ships to reach Buna without detouring up into Jap-held waters near Rabaul. Finally, in desperation, we decided to send a vessel on a short cut through the coral reefs.

"WHAT that ship found out altered the whole strategy of MacArthur's campaign up the New Guinea coast. Butting her way through, she found out that the reefs that had frightened mariners for 50 years were not the kind that tear the bottom out of a ship, but what they call rotten coral. It was soft.

"With this knowledge we were able to

develop that short cut into a major channel for war material. We took Buna, and turned the airstrip there into a major weapon against the Japs. Rabaul was by-passed. The gasoline for the planes came up that shortcut through the reefs.

"But to deliver that gasoline we had to have ships. This was early in the war, before Henry Kaiser was rolling. We scoured Australia, and bought anything that floated and could move under its own power.

"We had fishing boats, ferryboats, island steamers, auxiliary ketches, and paddle wheelers. Talk about your evacuation of Dunkerque—we didn't use our splinter fleet for just a week as they did, we had to keep patching it up and operating for better than a year.

"AMONG those ships was a whole flotilla of coal burning steamers—Dutch and British vessels. So we had to buy a coal hulk with special loading machinery to fuel them. As luck

would have it this hulk was sunk in Milne Bay. We needed a replacement right away.

"And that is where the Kaiulani the Mayor's ship enters the picture.

"This beautiful sailing ship had come wandering into the war, and was tied up in the pretty little port of Hobart, Tasmania. But war is war, and aesthetic consideration had to go by the board. The Army bought her and stripped her of her spars. I had to give the orders to do the job, and I hated it!

"So we made Kaiulani into a coal hulk, and sent her to New Guinea. She followed the war up the coast, to Finschhafen and Hollandia and she did yeoman service. If any ship ever felt the stirrings of patriotism, it was that old windjammer. She sacrificed her beauty to get the job done.

"I think the Mayor's proposal to rescue her from oblivion is excellent and deserves every support. She is the last of the American sailing ships, and that makes her of national importance."

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DEATH OF MRS. FLORENCE MURRAY

THE death occurred at Innisfail, North Queensland, on February 14, of Mrs. Florence Irene Murray, one of the first Australian women to pioneer the New Ireland district of New Guinea, shortly after the First World War.

Mrs. Murray was the wife of Mr. Harold John Murray, of Lakuramau Plantation, near Kavieng. She went to the Territory

in 1922 and to New Ireland about two years later when her husband purchased Lakuramau. With periods away for holidays she lived there until the general evacuation of the Territory's women and children in December, 1941, about a month before the Jap invasion.

After the end of the war she went back to Lakuramau but owing to ill health returned to Australia in 1948 and spent her last days at a beautiful home which she had established on the Johnstone River, Innisfail.

AUSTRALIAN REP. IN DUTCH NEW GUINEA?

IN view of the vital importance of Dutch New Guinea, both strategically and commercially, to Australia, will the Minister of External Affairs give consideration to the appointment of a representative at Hollandia, Dutch New Guinea?" asked Senator Murray in the Australian Parliament in March.

Mr. Spender gave the following written reply:

"The Government is conscious of the importance to Australia of Dutch New Guinea and of the need to keep in the closest touch with developments there. The Government does not, however, consider it necessary at this stage to appoint an Australian representative to Hollandia."

"The Government will, however, keep this matter under review and, should the circumstances warrant it, would consider seeking the agreement of the Netherlands authorities to the appointment of an Australian consul in Hollandia."

MISSION DOCTOR NEEDED

THE Melanesian Mission is urgently appealing for a doctor for the Solomons.

They have been without a qualified medical man since the retirement of Dr. George R. Hemming several months ago.

Dr. Hemming, early in his career, was a teacher in Queensland. Then he entered a theological college and in 1934 he took Holy Orders; while a curate he studied medicine, qualifying in 1940. For the next six years he was attached to the Suva War Memorial Hospital then devoted three years to medical missionary work in BSI.

At the end of 1949 he returned to Fiji to take up private practice in partnership with Dr. W. Paley.

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FIJI SEAMEN'S UNION OBJECT TO CARTOON

Letter to the Editor

THE cartoon, "In Sunny Fiji—and a Few Other Places," in your issue of February, is referred to. We believe that you are merely treating this subject in a spirit of banter; but even jokes can be misleading if all the facts are not known to the readers.

For example, Fijian seamen to-day do not dress in the manner you depict. They did dress in that way (but without the wrist watch) during the War, because the Government paid for the clothes whilst they were serving at sea in naval vessels. We are not sure whether the reputable shipowners of Fiji will be pleased or otherwise by your depicting a shipowner in the accepted rig of a beachcomber.

Regarding wages, the principal shipowners welcomed the "Seamen's Union Agreement," as it protected them from unfair competition by the type of shipowner shown in the cartoon who, apparently, is approved of by you.

Regarding the reference to rations and medicines: the regulations were made by the Marine Board, the membership of which includes the managers of the two largest shipping companies operating in the Pacific. The eight hundred odd seamen in Fiji are not represented on the Marine Board. Such regulations have existed in the United Kingdom, Australia and New Zealand for half a century.

Regarding lavatories and space in crew's quarters; perhaps, when voting in favour of these regulations, the shipowners' representatives on the Marine Board not only knew of the existence of similar regulations elsewhere, but had also learned, during the recent anti-TB campaign, something about the incidence of tuberculosis among Fijians and the causes contributing thereto. Furthermore, the regulations would hardly apply to the type and size of vessel you depict.

We assure you we can "take it," and can appreciate the humour in the cartoon. We hope that you in turn will "take it," as follows:

At various times you write laudatory articles regarding the exploits of Fijians and express approval in words of the principle of giving attention to the welfare of Pacific Islands natives. We appreciate this. But we have observed, with regret, that when something tangible is done for the welfare of Island natives, you become a severe critic of such measures. We feel that we should advise you that such action on your part is steadily building up among natives considerable illwill towards you and the journal you edit.

Finally, we earnestly request that in future you ascertain the facts before publishing matter damaging to us, and which in the end will be even more damaging to you. You would also then be spared the embarrassment of having to make the number of corrections you have been obliged to make of late.

This letter has been approved by the Committee of the Union, all of the fifteen members of which are native Fijians.

KITITONE RAVULU,

Vice-president, Fiji Seamen's Union.
Suva,
20/3/50.

Editorial Note

WE hold the qualities of certain Pacific Islands races—especially Fijians—in high regard; but that does not mean that we approve of all they do.

The introduction of trade-unionism among Pacific Islands people is an absurd and indefensible thing. The trade union may have some merit as a means of collective bargaining with employers—although that is arguable—but the main

objection to it is political. In all Western nations it already has paralysed, and is steadily destroying, the system of Western Democracy, evolved in a thousand years of sociological struggle.

The trade union, instead of limiting its activities to its original purpose, has become the unit of the Socialist Party's political organisation. Through the trade unions, our Parliaments have been invaded and, in many cases, swamped by a peculiar class of uneducated, one-eyed and intensely class-conscious demagogues.

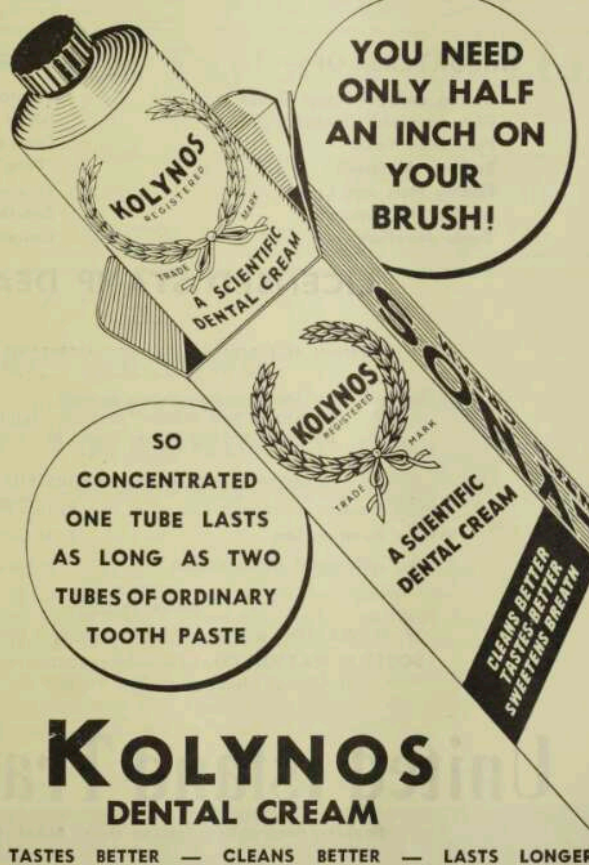
(Continued on Page 83)

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They are incapable of thinking for themselves, and they surrender their judgment and their votes to an anti-Parliamentary machine, called a caucus, which takes all major decisions out of the hands of what is nominally the People's Parliament. The end of the free Parliament means the end of individual freedom.

The trade unions created the Labour Party; the Labour Party, within two or three decades, went over completely to Socialism; and, in the ultimate analysis, there is no difference between logical Socialism and Communism—and Communism means the end of everything that is decent and worthwhile in human contacts and communal organisation.

Nothing now can stop the process—it has gone too far. To-day's shrewdest thinkers believe that Western civilisation is headed for collapse, and humanity must go through the fire and horrors of another Dark Age, before it can cleanse itself spiritually and socially, and resume the long, painful climb to a better life.

We do not suppose that the Fiji Seamen's Union will subscribe to all this—or even understand it. But that is why we don't like to see trade-unionism in the Islands. It opens the door to cheap politicians and mischievous office-holders.

CONCERNING A BULL

Letter to the Editor.

I NOTICE, in the December issue of your magazine, a photograph of myself, with a bull.

The item is perfectly correct—except that (a) the bull is not mine, (b) his name is not Amethyst, (c) he is not a prize bull, (d) the plantation is not Sumu and (e) I do not spell my name that way.

Maybe, your correspondents should temper their enthusiasm with a little regard for facts.

I am, etc.,
A. H. RUSSELL.

Apia, Samoa.

SAMO PLANTATION

George Hanson's New Ireland Property Brings £24,000

SAMO PLANTATION, Namatanai, New Ireland, probably the largest area (1,500 acres) of coconuts planted in New Guinea under Australia's government, was sold recently to Chinese interests.

Mr. George Hanson commenced planting Samo in 1925 and successfully brought the estate into bearing. His partner, Mr. A. Priebe, joined him on the property in 1933. Just prior to the Japanese occupation Samo's output of copra was 54 tons per month, and a fair area had yet to attain full production.

The well-known South Seas identity, Mr. "Kar Kar" Schmidt (the nick-name derives from his taming and planting of Kar Kar Island) spent the last of his 42 years in New Guinea managing Samo Plantation; and, on behalf of Mr. Hanson, he handed over the estate to the Chinese purchasers.

Mr. Hanson had previously acquired his partner's share of the plantation. The

purchase price is reported to be £24,000, cash.

Mr. Hanson was travelling in Europe with his wife in 1939, when World War II started, and they were caught and interned in Germany for six years. Mr. and Mrs. Hanson now reside on a property they purchased last year at Erina, near Gosford, NSW.

DEATH OF MRS. GERTRUDE CHRISTIAN

MRS. ELIZA GERTRUDE CHRISTIAN, one of the oldest people on Pitcairn Island, died of a stroke on February 12. She was 82.

Her father, Samuel Warren, a sailor from a whaling ship, married Agnes, the daughter of Thursday October Christian, on Norfolk Island in 1864—the year the second party went back to Pitcairn Island from Tahiti. They had made part of that company.

Of Gertrude's brothers and sisters only one, George, is still living. She leaves a son, Thornton, and a daughter who now lives in New Zealand.

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For further particulars contact Robert Gillespie Pty. Ltd.

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Miss Ida Leeson, former head of the Mitchell Library, Sydney, went to Noumea last year for the South Pacific Commission. She spent some months on the classification of the Commission's library, and returned to Sydney in April.

Mr. Jacob Raliman, son of Mr. and Mrs. P. Raliman of Suva, Fiji, is a student in first year Dentistry at Otago University, New Zealand. He is an expupil of the Marist Mission's Secondary School, Suva.

Fuzzy-Wuzzies on the Boogie-Beat!

JIVE and jitter-bug can be expected to become the rage among the Hanuabadians following the first Native Peoples' Ball held in the village (near Port Moresby) recently.

The ball caused something of a stir in Moresby and in Australia where it was featured in evening newspapers. Some

European residents of Port Moresby disapproved of the whole thing; some were amused—evidently taking the cynical view that as the Administration is bent on emancipating the poor fuzzy-wuzzy with the least delay—why not a ball?

The ball was run by G. G. Smith and Co. as part of its efforts to attract native customers, and was held in their newly-opened store at Hanuabada. The company already holds an annual sports meeting for natives and will follow up the ball with regular dances. It also plans to start roller skating at Hanuabada.

Music for the ball was provided by a European band and reports indicate that the natives and half-castes took to jazz as to the manner born.

Hundreds attended to try out the new dancing and partake of supper and soft drinks at 5/- a double ticket. Dressing appears to have been mixed. One Australian newspaper reported two girls in petticoats and one in a pink silk night-dress. But that might be just a newspaper story.

Jazz, with its African luscious origin, has gone back to the jungle—in Papua.

Mr. Bruce Kerkham, of the Queensland Insurance Co., Ltd., recently arrived in Sydney, from Suva, Fiji, on transfer to the Company's head office staff.

The British Government research ship Discovery II will leave Britain in May on a research voyage to the Australian, Indian and Pacific sectors of the Southern Ocean. Main purpose is to round off a general oceanographical survey which was nearly finished when war broke out in 1939.

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BOUGAINVILLE NOTES

From Our Own Correspondent

A LETTER from Mr. R. E. P. Dwyer, Acting Director of Agriculture, Stock and Fisheries, Port Moresby, has been received by Mr. F. P. Archer, president of the Bougainville Association, containing an invitation to nominate a member of the Association to attend meetings of the Rural Production Advisory Council at Port Moresby. In view of the vital matters which are to be dealt with by the Council this suggestion is much appreciated and a representative will shortly be nominated by the Bougainville Association.

The Mangola is expected to come to Bougainville ports at the end of April to lift copra. This will be of great assistance in dealing with the accumulation of copra at the various plantations which owners and managers had almost despaired of ever getting away. The Administration have been asked to supply 80 labourers to do the stevedoring work.

SOME of the coroner's inquests into the causes of the recent destructive fires in Buka and Bougainville copra driers have been completed and two yet remain to be done. The verdict in the matter of the attempt to burn down the Teopasno, Bougainville, drier was one of attempted arson by a person, or persons unknown; and in the case of driers at Jame, in Buka and Numa Numa in Bougainville, the causes were found to be "neglect of proper care by the native attendants." The papers in connection with the inquests have gone to the Crown Law Officer, at Moresby, for perusal and an opinion.

The matter of routing the Douglas plane (which proceeds from Rabaul to Honiara, British Solomon Islands, every second Monday) via Buka Passage, instead of via Torokina, is one that is engaging the attention of the Bougainville Association. It would be needful, first of all, to recondition the Buka airstrip but this should present no difficulties if a bulldozer and grader were put on the job.

The routing of the plane to Buka would mean that the District headquarters would, in combination with present Catalina service, get a weekly service instead of a fortnightly one, and, additionally, it would be a convenience to the travelling public, and citizens who have business to do in both Bougainville and British Solomons. Torokina is merely an old army dump which will, in the not distant future, have very few residents. The matter will be taken up with Hon. P. Spender during his visit, to Sohano.

ARRIVED this week in Bougainville, after a twelve months tour of England, Scotland, Ireland, Europe and United States, the Seventh Day Adventist teacher, Salau. He had accompanied veteran Pastor Stewart, well known, through the South Seas, as a missionary. Salau was enthusiastic about his trip from Sydney to Liverpool in the Georica and from Le Havre, France, to New York in the Mauretania.

London and New York, he said, took his breath away. The fast, stream-lined trains of the USA were another marvel, and finally, the long trip across the Pacific by plane—from San Francisco, via Hawaii, and Fiji, he said, was beyond his powers to describe. Salau is joining the ranks of the Seventh Day Adventist Missions in New Guinea, relating his experiences and impressions to others of his faith. He remarked that his wrist watch—presented to him in Switzerland—was "quite a good one, you know." But,

despite this trip, he is still the quiet mannered, retiring native of former years.

We hear, with regret, that our popular Medico, Dr. Ken Pike, is shortly going to another assignment. The district will be the poorer for his departure. It is safe to say that his cheerful and willing attention to all people, European, Chinese and natives, combined with his skill, has

gained for him the respect and confidence of the entire community. No more popular Medical Officer has ever been stationed in Bougainville District.

The wireless installation at Sohano was recently out of order for two weeks; meantime outgoing, and incoming radios piled up. This state of affairs caused a good deal of inconvenience to Adminis-

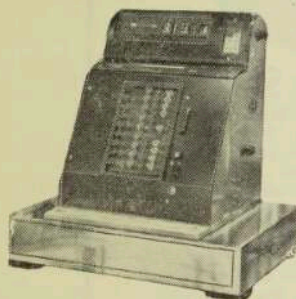
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trative officials and residents. The matter is being taken up with the authorities to see if something can be done to avoid these recurring black-outs which are considered to be too serious to be humorous.

On leave in New South Wales in March and April was Mr. Philip Brosgrath, of the Papua-New Guinea Department of Agriculture. He was taking something of a busman's holiday and visiting country agricultural shows as well as the Sydney Royal Show.

Delay In Third Party Insurance For Fiji

COMPULSORY third-party insurance for motorists in Fiji, which was to have operated from April 1, has had to be postponed.

Reason is the difficulty of getting the necessary forms printed in Australia.

Insurance companies in the Colony will probably not now receive the forms until the second half of this year and third-party insurance cannot come into operation until they do.

SOUTH SEA SUPERMARKET

US Idea Operating in Papeete

From a Special Correspondent

THE American supermarket has reached the South Seas. Baldwin Bambridge, youthful, idea-seeking head of Etablissements Baldwin, which has many irons in Tahiti's commercial fires, has set up the first assembly-line type of retail merchandising in Tahiti.

While on a lengthy business and holiday trip through France and America in 1949, Bambridge arranged contracts with firms in those countries whereby he would receive refrigerated fresh fruits and vegetables of a kind not found in the islands. Produce arrives in the huge refrigerated lockers of the American Pioneer line ships, which now have a regularly-scheduled stop at Papeete on their New York-Australia run. (This new much-needed transportation schedule was also arranged by the enterprising Baldwin, who is acting as agent for the line.)

As soon as the vessel arrives, the firm advertises in the local newspapers and on the local radio station, listing the fruits and vegetables available. Orders begin pouring in immediately.

Baldwin's huge motor garage (among other things, Baldwin has a taxi service, a gasoline pump, a you-drive car service, motor boat rentals, a theatre, and an ice cream plant) has been converted into a store that resembles America's huge A & P and National Tea supermarkets. All that is lacking are the go-cart shopping baskets.

A 100 ft. long counter fronts the store, while the produce (mostly Washington state apples, Oregon pears, California grapes, Arizona tomatoes, Michigan celery, Indiana plums and Georgia peaches) is stacked ceiling-high in crates to the rear.

Two men are kept busy opening the crates, while three or four clerks wait on customers. Another clerk does nothing but weigh up goods and package them; another issues ticket stubs, which list the shoppers' wants, and at the end of this well-oiled assembly-line sits the cashier. As many as 500 people are queued up waiting their turn to buy the highly-desirable produce.

CIVIL SERVICE SALARIES COMMISSIONER FOR FIJI

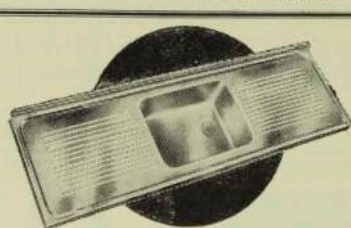
MR. E. MILLS, a retired member of the Colonial Service, has been appointed a Commissioner to inquire into Civil Service salaries in Fiji.

He is expected to arrive in Suva by air on May 8. His terms of reference will be:

To review and make recommendations upon the remuneration of officers in permanent posts in the Civil Services in Fiji (other than those on hourly or daily rates of pay), with special reference to the need to attract and retain professional and other staff of a standard necessary to maintain an adequate public service.

Mr. Mills has just completed a similar survey in Jamaica. He was born in 1892 and in 1920 was appointed to the Colonial Administrative Service in Palestine.

When he retired in 1947 he was Commissioner for Migration and Statistics. He spent a further year in Palestine as a Commissioner on Special Duty and in 1949 began the salaries revision in Jamaica.



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Mendaco works quickly to relieve your Asthma or Bronchitis, yet contains no narcotics or habit-forming drugs. It acts in three ways—

- (1) Loosens and relaxes thousands of tiny muscles in throat and bronchial tubes so that you can breathe freely and deeply, and thus get the benefits of health-restoring air and oxygen in your lungs.
- (2) Removes the mucus or phlegm which poisons the system.
- (3) Drives out the poisons and irritating factors and helps to refresh and build up the blood, thus increasing energy and so fortifying the system against recurring attacks.

MENDACO HELPS MILLIONS.

Millions of former sufferers from Asthma and Bronchitis are now enjoying sound, refreshing sleep all night and every night, because in Mendaco they have found the one medicine which truly gets to the root

of their trouble and relieves the terrible suffering. Men and women who had at one time to sit up all night long, unable to sleep, vamped up to choose their food carefully and could never enjoy life—say that, thanks to Mendaco, their pancreas have stopped, and that they can now sleep soundly the whole night through, eat any kind of food, and feel younger and stronger than they have for many years.

If you are one of the millions subject to cough after meals and cold after cold, and cannot shake them off, beware Bronchitis and Asthma. Mendaco, because it cures breathing and gets air to your lungs, helps to attack the cause—a stifled respiratory system, and the medicines in Mendaco fortify and strengthen your system further.

REAL RELIEF IN 24 HOURS.

Mendaco starts circulating through the blood in 3 minutes, and within an hour or so you can feel that your stifled tubes are being freed so that you can breathe easily and freely. Most Mendaco users say they sleep soundly free night, and feel like a new person within 24 hours. No doses, needles, stumbers or irritations. Get Mendaco from your chemist to-day under the guarantee to give you satisfaction or money back.

Mendaco

Mother Mary Agnes of Makogai Retires

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, March 27.
THE Rev. Mother Mary Agnes, MBE, Mother Superior at the Fiji Leprosy Hospital, Makogai, celebrated her 80th birthday on March 21 and simultaneously retired after 33 years' devoted service at the island.

A brilliant organiser and untiring worker, Mother Mary Agnes has played a key role in the building of Makogai into a hospital-community which is regarded as a model of its kind both within and outside the Empire.

The acting Governor (Mr. A. F. R. Stoddart), the Secretary for Fijian Affairs (Ratu Sir Lala Sukuna), the Director of Medical Services (Dr. J. M. Cruikshank), Sir Henry Scott and Messrs. L. Neer and W. E. Donovan went by flying-boat from Suva to attend an official ceremony.

Sister Hilda will succeed Mother Mary Agnes as Superior at Makogai.

In speaking in appreciation of Mother Agnes' work, Ratu Sir Lala Sukuna said: "In this world we are given to evaluating services. We regard those who serve their country—such as sailors, soldiers, airmen or even civil servants—as doing a fine job of work, but fair targets for the venting of our spleen. We consider those who without thought of reward serve their people in looking after the sore and afflicted as also doing splendid work, and we seldom criticise them. What then do we think of those who so willingly give up their lives to serve the cause of humanity in ministering to stricken peoples of alien and backward races,

peoples with whom they have little in common. This is the highest form of service. And that is just the work that the Rev. Mother has been doing for over thirty of the best years of her life. Rev. Mother, may I on behalf of the Fijian people whom you have served so well, who hold you in the highest esteem and respect and who are a silent people, wish you many years for work, leisure and happiness."

THE nursing staff of the Makogai Leprosy Hospital is supplied by the Roman Catholic Order of the Sisters of Mary of whom Mother Agnes is a member.

She went to Makogai from her native France in 1916, five years after the hospital was opened.

In 1937 the MBE was conferred on her for her great work.

(Continued on Page 89)

GEORGE KUI



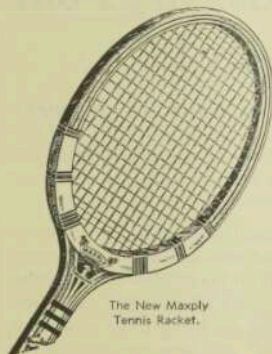
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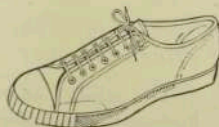
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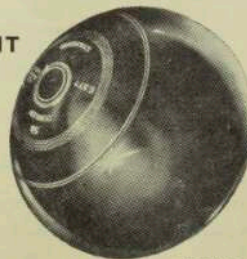
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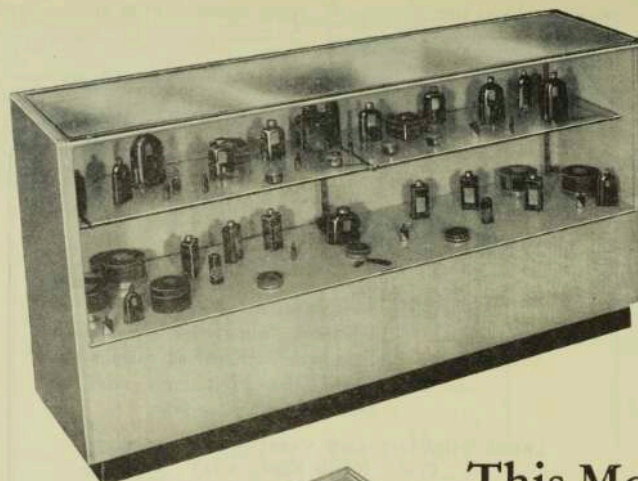


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Extra for 10-inch additional shelf and brackets (if required):

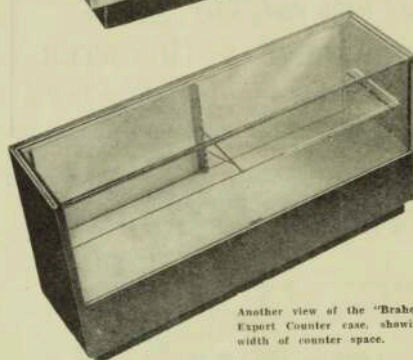
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Packing and Transport to Wharf:

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(For cases shipped in quantities, packing is at greatly reduced rates).

The display case is securely packed in two substantial crates occupying shipping space of 32 cubic feet. Total weight, when packed, 5 cwt.



Another view of the "Brahol" Export Counter case, showing width of counter space.

BRIEF SPECIFICATIONS

To help you get an accurate picture of the "Brahol" Special Export Glass Counter Case, here are the main specifications: Overall size is 6 feet long x 1 ft. 9 in. deep x 3 ft. 3 in. high. Made from first-class, well-seasoned Queensland Maple, hand french polished, wax finished, in natural maple colour. Glass parts are 1/4 inch British plate glass.

The inside is lacquered ivory colour, and the recessed base is lacquered burgundy.

There is a pair of solid core sliding doors, and one glass shelf, 14 inches wide, on adjustable nickel-plated brackets.

Storage space below is 11 inches high.

The plate glass front is 22 inches high.

This Modern Display Counter will Help to Sell Goods in *Your* Store!

(and it's specially built for Export)

As smart as those in leading Australian city stores, and built by a firm that has been making fine store and office fittings for over a third of a century.

Moreover, it is specially built for export, so that it can be readily securely packed, and assembled by anyone, from simple directions, in an hour, with no tools other than a screwdriver. Retailers all over the world have learned the selling value of modern display equipment, and this "silent salesman" will soon pay for itself in increased sales.

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Sir Arthur Richards, former Governor of Fiji, was so impressed with her work that, when he was transferred to Jamaica he was anxious to introduce her methods to the Leper Home there.

Mother Agnes shortly afterwards went to France on a holiday and on her way back to Fiji called at Jamaica. As a result, a nursing staff of the same Order was appointed to the Leper Home with a nucleus of three Makogai-trained sisters.

Stranglehold on Fijian Boxing May Be Ended

SUVA, March 27. **F**IRST sign of a direct move to loosen the stranglehold of "professionalism" on Fijian boxing is a proposal to form an Amateur Boxing Association as a corporate part of the Fiji Amateur Sports Association.

This development is believed to have originated at the Fiji Teachers' Training College, which took a leading part in last year's sudden establishment of amateur athletics and under the FASA, provided the manager-coach of Fiji's British Empire Games team at Auckland recently as well as the first Fijian Games winner, Mataika Tuicakau.

The college has already staged an excellent amateur boxing programme between its own boxers and Fijian Army representatives. If the new amateur organisation materialises in place of the moribund Boxing and Wrestling Association, one of its objectives will be to develop a team of top-class Fijian boxers for the British Empire Games in Canada, in 1954.

Miss Norma Sullivan, of Bulolo, New Guinea, was in Sydney on leave in April.

HIGHER PRICE FOR FIJI BANANAS IN NZ

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, March 27. **S**HARP criticism followed the announcement that, as a result of New Zealand's decision to pay 14/6 (NZ) a case for bananas from Fiji (which means a rise of about 1/3) a case in Fiji currency) the Fiji Banana Board had decided to pass on 6d. a case to the Fijian growers and 9d. to the shippers.

The Board's decision means that at this date, the prices paid to the growers by the licensed buyers will be 7/- a case in Viti Levu and Beqa and 6/6 elsewhere.

As the New Zealand increase has been granted conditionally on the recent improvement in the quality and case-weights of Fijian bananas being maintained, critics have attacked the Board for not making a considerably larger "incentive payment" to the growers.

The Board (composed of the Director of Agriculture, two representatives of the growers, two representatives of the shippers and two other Government members, plus the Produce Inspector, as secretary) has emphasised that the division of the increase will be reviewed at the end of six months, and has pointed out that the increased costs of transport, cases and materials have been felt more by the shippers than by the growers. The growers, it is added, now receive 44 per cent. of the f.o.b. price and the shippers 56 per cent.

"The board is anxious to give every encouragement to the Fijian growers, and the composition of the board ensures that the rights of the growers are fully protected," says the latest statement.

WPHC OFFICIAL VISITS PITCAIRN

From Our Pitcairn Is. Correspondent

AS Deputy Commissioner to Pitcairn Island, Mr. H. A. C. Dobbs, of the WPHC, Fiji, has been with us since February 19 and is expecting to leave on the Rangitara, which is due to call March 19.

He has been supervising and helping in all Government Departments. We look for a number of improvements as a result of his visit. He also brought back to us the old Bounty Bible and Prayer Book, which has been away from the island for 111 years.

Here's Hope For A Persistent Worry

CONSTIPATION, forerunner of many troubles, affects people of all ages and walks of life and causes much annoyance and worry.

When the bowels refuse to work naturally and regularly, the body absorbs poisons from the waste that remains in the system. Constipation brings sick headaches, biliousness, coated tongue and unpleasant breath. Flatulence, loss of appetite, blemishes and other troubles which quickly upset your health and well-being.

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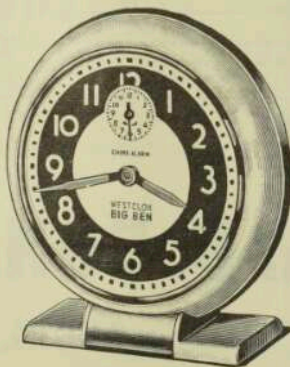
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SHIPPING AND PLANE SERVICES

THE following sea and air services are running to schedules in the Pacific. Not all of the regular services which were suspended, owing to war conditions, have been restored; but preparations are under way for their early reintroduction. As they become available they will be announced here.

SHIP SERVICES

Sydney-NZ-Fiji-Hawaii-Nth. America

THE itinerary of the Canadian-Australasian liner "Aorangi" (17,500 tons) is Sydney, Auckland, Suva (Fiji), Honolulu (Hawaii), Victoria (Vancouver Island), and Vancouver (British Columbia, Canada). Time-table for the Pacific section of her run is—

	RMS "Aorangi"					
Honolulu	May 4	July 6	Sept. 7	Nov. 9	Jan. 11	
Suva	May 13	July 15	Sept. 16	Nov. 18	Jan. 20	
Auckland	May 16-18	July 18-20	Sept. 19-21	Nov. 21-23	Jan. 23-25	
Sydney, arr.	May 22	July 24	Sept. 25	Nov. 27	Jan. 29	
Sydney, dep.	June 1	Aug. 3	Oct. 5	Dec. 7	Feb. 8	
Auckland	June 5-6	Aug. 7-8	Oct. 9-10	Dec. 11-12	Feb. 12-13	
Suva	June 9	Aug. 11	Oct. 13	Dec. 15	Feb. 16	
Honolulu	June 16	Aug. 18	Oct. 20	Dec. 22	Feb. 23	
Vancouver	June 22-29	Aug. 25-31	Oct. 27-Nov. 2	Dec. 29-Jan. 4	Mar. 2-8	

Subject to Alterations Without Notice.

New Zealand—Fiji—

Samoa—Tonga

Monthly Service by MV "Matua"

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Auckland	Apl. 18	May 18	June 20
Suva	Apl. 22-23	May 22-23	June 24-25
Nukualofa	Apl. 25-26	May 25-26	June 27-28
Vavau	Apl. 27	May 27	June 29
Niue*	—	May 27	—
Pago Pago*	Apl. 27	—	June 29
Apia*	Apl. 28-May 1	May 28-31	Jun. 30-Jul. 2
Suva	May 4-5	June 3-4	July 7-8
Auckland	May 9	June 8	July 11

* Western Time.

Sydney—N. Caledonia— Tahiti

LINERS of the Messageries Maritimes maintain a service at about two-monthly intervals between Sydney, Vila (New Hebrides), Noumea (New Caledonia) and Papeete (Tahiti); en route to Marseilles, via the Panama Canal; and they return by the same route.

NEW CALEDONIA—NEW HEBRIDES

THE New Caledonian Government has subsidised and maintained the coastal shipping services. The East Coast, the West Coast, and the Loyalty Islands, under present

conditions, receive 10 round trips per annum. The ships call at the following ports:

EAST COAST.—Yate, Ounias, Thio, Nakety, Canalia, Kouakoua, Kua, Monce, Ponerihouen, Tibarama, Fondimile, Wagap, Taoua, Tipoude, Hingehene, Taa, Ouhatch, Pouebo, Balade, Pam, Arama, and return.

WEST COAST.—Pouembout, Kone, Temala, Voh, Ouaco, Gomen, Koumac, Targalon, Tiebaghi, Neboue, Pome, Baaba, Belep and return.

LOYALTY ISLANDS.—Mare (Tadine), Lifou (Chapene), Ouvea (Fajajoue, St. Joseph) and return.

The steamer "Neo Hebrides" runs regularly between Noumea and Sydney, with occasional trips to the New Hebrides (mostly Aneityum). The owners are Societe Maritime et Maniere, Noumea, Noumea. Sydney agents: H. C. Sleight, 254 George Street, Sydney.

The Messageries Maritimes motor-ship Polyneze calls from Sydney about every six weeks to Noumea, Vila and Santo (New Hebrides) and outports, with occasional trips to the Wallis and Futuna Islands. Details from Messageries Maritimes branch office, in Sydney, Noumea and Vila.

New Zealand—Cook Is.—Niue—Samoa

THE motor vessel "Maul 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, PHILP 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, Dugardhafen, 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, Philp & Co., Ltd., Sydney, or Island branches.

Sydney—Norfolk Island— New Hebrides

THE SS "Morinda," Burns, Philp & Co., Ltd., runs at approximately three-monthly intervals from Sydney to Lord Howe Island, Norfolk Island, and main ports of the New Hebrides, and return.

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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.S.I.

NEW HEBRIDES.—Frequent regular flying-boat service from Sydney by Trans Oceanic Airways. Service from Noumea by French plane runs twice weekly. Qantas plane from Sydney to NH on alternate Tuesdays.

NORFOLK ISLAND.—Regular service from NZ by NZ National Airways; from Sydney by Qantas; from Fiji by NZ National Airways.

LORD HOWE ISLAND.—Regular weekly service from Sydney by Qantas and Trans Oceanic Airways.

Fiji.—Regular services from Australia by Pan American, BCPA and CPA (to Nadi); Auckland by NZ National Airways (to Nadi); from Australia by Qantas (to Laucala Bay, Suva); from Auckland by NZ National Airways (to Laucala Bay, Suva). Irregular calls from Australia to Laucala Bay, Suva, by Trans Oceanic Airways. Regular service from Suva to Labasa by NZ National Airways.

WESTERN SAMOA, COOK ISLANDS AND TONGA.—Regular service from Fiji by NZ National Airways.

TAHITI.—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.

AFRICA-NORTH AMERICA.—Regular Trans-Pacific services by Pan American Airways.

BCPA and CPA.

EUROPE-INDO-CHINA-N. CALEDONIA.—Fortnightly service by Air France.

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. Skymaster and DC3 aircraft are used.

Skymaster aircraft leave Sydney every Tuesday and Saturday at 7.30 p.m., and making a night-flight calling only at Brisbane, arrive at Port Moresby the following morning at 8.30 a.m., and at Lae at 9.30 a.m.

Return trips are made from Lae each Thursday and Monday, leaving at 8 a.m., and, flying via Port Moresby and Brisbane, reaching Sydney at 9.45 p.m. the same day.

DC3 aircraft leave Sydney every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 8.30 a.m. for Lae, calling at Brisbane, Rockhampton, Townsville, Cairns, Cooktown, Port Moresby. An overnight stop is made at Townsville and Port Moresby

is reached at 11 a.m. the day after leaving Sydney.

Return trips are made from Lae to Sydney (calling at the same intermediate airports as on the northern journey) each Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday. Planes depart Lae at 5.45 p.m. and reach Sydney at 10.15 p.m. the same day.

The plane that reaches Lae from Sydney on Tuesdays later that afternoon flies on to Bulolo and Wau and returns to Lae.

The plane that reaches Lae from Sydney on Thursday flies on to Rabaul on Friday, via Pischhafen, returning to Lae the same afternoon.

The plane that reaches Lae from Sydney on Saturday at 12.50 p.m. flies on to Madang, returning to Lae the same afternoon.

Bookings may be made at Qantas offices at any of the towns named. At present, berths are

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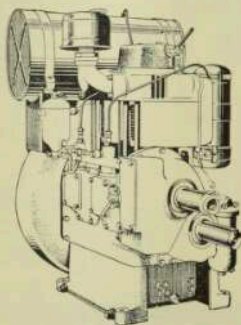
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QANTAS SUBSIDIARY SERVICES IN PAPUA-NEW GUINEA-SOLOMONS

Qantas Empire Airways run the following subsidiary services in Papua, New Guinea, and British Solomons:—

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 Manus, 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 Tule Island, Kerema, Kikori, Lake Kuluha and Lake Murray, remaining overnight at Kikori and returning to PM next morning.

Every alternate Wednesday, a Qantas Catalina flies from Port Moresby eastward (dep. 9 a.m.) and calls at Abau and Samarai before flying out to the Archipelagoes in the afternoon. Calls are made at Bougainville and Lomala (where an overnight stop is made), and the following day (alternate Thursday) at Deboyne Lagoon, before returning to Port Moresby, via Samarai and Abau.

Every alternate Monday, a Qantas Catalina leaves Port Moresby for Rabaul, via Moewae Harbour, and Talamoa (New Britain); next morning (Tuesday) it flies to Buka, Kieta and Buin (Bougainville) and returns to Rabaul; next morning (Wednesday) it flies to Talamoa, Moewae 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.

(Owing to repairs being made to Bulolo and Kolondra airstrips, services to these ports were temporarily suspended in March.)

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 4.10 p.m.

LAUCALA BAY (SUVA)-LABASA (VANUA LEVU): A "Sunderland" flying-boat operates this service on a charter basis. A return trip is made between Laucala Bay and Labasa Tuesday.

AUCKLAND-NORFOLK ISLAND-FIJI-TONGA-WESTERN SAMOA-COOK ISLANDS: A "Douglas" airliner leaves Whenuapai, Auckland, on alternate Tuesdays, at 9 a.m. (April 18, May 2, 16, etc.) for Norfolk Island (arr. 12.55 p.m.; dep.

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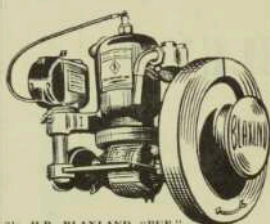
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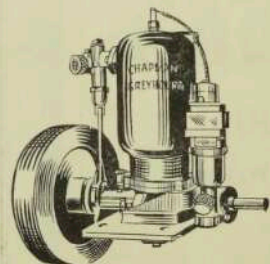
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"My 2 1/2 H.P. Engine, 10 years old, has been under water three times, but is still giving every satisfaction."
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2 p.m.), Nadi (arr. 8.40 p.m., dep. 8.40 a.m. Thursday), Nausori (arr. 6.25 a.m., dep. 7.30 a.m.), Tonga (arr. 10.50 a.m., dep. 11.50 a.m.), *Palolo, Western Samoa (arr. 4.5 p.m. Wednesday, dep. 5 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 30. etc.) for Norfolk Island (arr. 12.55 p.m., dep. (Apr. 22, May 6, 20, June 3, etc.) at 8 a.m. for Aitutaki (arr. 9.15 a.m., dep. 10 a.m.), Palolo, W. Samoa (arr. 2.15 p.m., dep. 3 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. 10.55 a.m., dep. 12 noon), Whenuapai, Auckland (arr. 4.50 p.m.).

*Crosses International Date Line.

AUCKLAND-NORFOLK ISLAND: A "Douglas" strimmer 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.

FARES, single (in NZ currency): Auckland to Norfolk, £12/10/-; to Fiji, £31; to Tonga, £31; to Samoa, £24; to Aitutaki, £29; to Rarotonga, £29/10/-; Norfolk to Fiji, £12; Fiji to Tonga, £8/15/-; to Samoa, £13; to Aitutaki, £29/15/-; to Rarotonga, £31. Samoa to Rarotonga, £17/15/-; to Aitutaki, £18/10/-; Savva 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, 194 Gloucester St.; Otago, 74 Peel St.; Palmerston North, 107 Broadway Ave.; Hamilton, 8 Alma St.; New Plymouth, Grand Central Building, Egmont St.; Blenheim, 13 Queen St.; Hokitika, Southside Airport; Norfolk Is., Burns Philp, Ltd.; Fiji, NAC at Nadi and Suva; Burns Philp, Labasa and Lautoka; Tonga, Mrs. F. P. McEwen, P.O. Box 10, Nuku'alofa; Samoa, Burns Philp (SS), Ltd., Apia; Cook Is., Mrs. P. McEwen, Aitutaki and Mr. J. D. Campbell, Rarotonga.

CPA Sydney-Vancouver Service

CANADIAN Pacific Airlines, Ltd., run a trans-Pacific service between Sydney and Vancouver. 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 night commences from Sydney every alternate Tuesday.

Four-engined, pressurised "Canadair" aircraft are used; 38 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, San Francisco-Los Angeles and Portland-Seattle, £265/10/- single, £477/18/- return; Fiji-Vancouver, £207/10/- single, £373/10/- return; Sydney-Fiji, £58 single, £104/8/- return; Sydney-Honolulu, £217/15/- single, £301/19/- 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 £238 (Aust.).

The fares for the Pacific flight are: Sydney-San Francisco, £A285/10/- single, £A477/18/- return; Auckland-Vancouver, £NZ197/5/- single;

Auckland-Nadi (Fiji), £NZ31 single; Sydney-Nadi (Fiji), £A88 single; Sydney-Vancouver, £A285/10/- single, £A477/18/- return.

Douglas DC6 aircraft carrying 48 passengers (seated) or 37 passengers (in sleepers) and a crew of nine are used on the service.

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33 x 16 FT. BIG GAME FISHER OR COMMERCIAL WORK-BOAT.—80 H.P. diesel, self-starter, 2 berths, toilet: £1,575.

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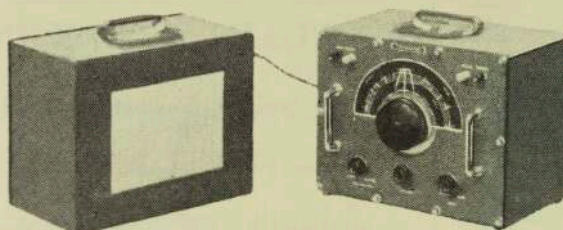
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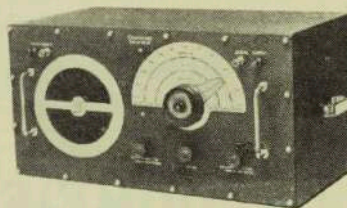
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Pan-American— Trans-Pacific Service

PAN-AMERICAN World Airways Clippers now provide the following services in the South Pacific, using DC4 planes, equipped with Sleep-ettes:—

Planes leave Sydney Monday and Friday for San Francisco, via Tontouta (New Caledonia), 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.	£ s. d.
	Single	Return
Sydney-Seattle	265 10 0	477 18 0
Sydney-Frisco	265 10 0	477 18 0
Sydney-Fiji	52 0 0	104 8 0
Sydney-Honolulu	217 15 0	391 12 0
Auckland-Seattle	240 5 0	443 5 0
Auckland-Honolulu	199 0 0	358 4 0
Auckland-Fiji	39 0 0	70 4 0
Auckland-Frisco	240 5 0	443 5 0

(Time-tables and fares subject to alteration without notice.)

To convert to Fijian 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.

Sydney-Lord Howe Is.— Norfolk Is.

QANTAS, Sydney, run a Catalina once weekly from Sydney to Lord Howe Island. Fare, single, £12. Return, £21/12/-.

Qantas run a 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.

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.

Aircraft leave Rose Bay at 8.30 a.m., and Mechanics Bay at 11.15 p.m.

This service is supplemented by Charter Services operated by DC4 and DC6 aircraft. Fares: £35(A) (£28 NZ currency) single; £63(A) (£50/8/- NZ currency) return.

Bookings may be made at Tasman Empire Airways in Auckland and at Qantas Empire Airways, Carrington Street, Sydney.

N. Caledonia—Tahiti

TRAPAS (Société Française de Transport Aériens du Pacifique Sud-Noumea) runs a monthly service from New Caledonia to Tahiti. Departing at 8 a.m. from Noumea, every third Thursday, the plane flies via Fiji (Nadi), Western Samoa (Pago 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 Noumea to Papeete is 18,000 Pacific francs single, and 28,000 return. (100 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 Noumea and the New Hebrides. The plane leaves Noumea every Tuesday, and

flies direct to Vila and Santo, and returns. Return fare for the journey, Noumea-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.; Bat 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

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Journey the aircraft leaves Hollandia at 9 a.m. on Tuesdays; Biak Island arr. 11.10 a.m., dep. 12.15 p.m. on Tuesdays; and Batavia arr. 5 p.m. on Wednesdays.
The aircraft used are C-47s, a type of DC-3, and the single fares are Batavia-Biak Island £480; Batavia-Hollandia £491/15/-; and Biak Island-Hollandia £411/15/-. Return fares, double single.

TOA Services

TRANS Oceanic Airways run the following Pacific services:—
SYDNEY-LORD HOWE IS.: A regular fortnightly service with large four-engine flying-

boats from Rose Bay. Fare: £12 single; £21/10/- return. Free baggage allowance 50 lb. Excess baggage and freight rate 8d. per lb.

SYDNEY-NEW HEBRIDES: A regular monthly service with large four-engine flying-boats from Sydney, via Noumea, to Vila and Espiritu Santo (overnight stop). Fare: Sydney-Vila, £45; Sydney-Santo, £50; Noumea-Vila, £12/10/-; Noumea-Santo, £18/15/-. Freight: Sydney-Vila, 1/- per lb.; Sydney-Santo, 2/3.

SYDNEY-SOLOMON ISLANDS: A regular monthly service from Sydney via New Caledonia and New Hebrides to Tulagi and Honiara, Solomon Islands. This service is frequently extended to Lingatou, in the Russell Islands, and calls are sometimes made at Vanikoro, in the Santa Cruz Group. Fares: Sydney-Tulagi-

Honiara, £45. Free baggage allowance, 60 lb.; excess baggage and freight, 3/4 per lb.

Sydney-Noumea-Suva

THE following is the time-table of the Qantas flying-boat:—

Sydney	dep. 9 p.m. alt. Tues.
Noumea	arr. 7 a.m. alt. Wed.
Noumea	dep. 8 a.m. alt. Wed.
Suva	arr. 3 p.m. alt. Wed.
Suva	dep. 6 a.m. alt. Frid.
Noumea	arr. 11 a.m. alt. Frid.
Noumea	dep. 12 noon alt. Frid.
Sydney	arr. 8 p.m. alt. Frid.

Intending passengers may book through Qantas offices in Australia, Burns, Philp (South Seas) Company, in Suva, and T. Johnston in Noumea.

Fares: To Noumea, £35 single; £63 return. To Suva, £52/10/- single; £84/10/- return. Noumea-Suva, £17/10/- single; £31/10/- return.

France-Indo-China-Aust.-N. Caledonia

THE French national airways, Air France, runs a fortnightly service between Paris and New Caledonia, and return. Stops are made at Tunis (forward journey) or Marseille (return journey), Cairo, Bahrain (return journey), Karachi, Calcutta, Saigon, Batavia, Darwin, Brisbane.

DC4 Skymasters are used in the service, and Messageries Maritimes are agents in Australia. Fare between Brisbane and Tontouta (New Caledonia) has been fixed at £43/8/- (one way), and £85/18/- (return ticket). Sydney-Tontouta £435 single; £863 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, Alotau, Mt. Hagen, Finschhafen, Moresby, Kokoda—in fact anywhere in Papua or New Guinea where there is an air-strip. These planes carry passengers, mails and cargo on regular schedules or charter flights.

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JAP TRIALS AT MANUS

Court Named

THE trials of suspected Japanese war criminals at Manus Island, which were expected to begin on May 1 now will begin in early June.

Postponement is to give Japanese defence counsel time to prepare their cases. The Court, which was appointed by the Australian Government at the end of March, comprises:—

President: Mr. Justice Townley, of the Supreme Court of Queensland.
Members: Lieutenant-Colonel N. F. Quinton (Vic.); Major E. J. Gerling (NSW); Major N. McLeod (NSW); Major G. G. Schneider (Qld.); Major H. F. Hayes (NSW); and Captain W. E. Clarke (NSW).
The prosecuting team will comprise: Major H. F. Foster (Vic.); Major G. McIntyre (NSW); Major A. D. Mackay (WA); and Major D. B. Hunter (NSW).
The Court will leave for Manus in May. The Japanese defence team was due to sail from Japan in the Taiping on April 4.

MR. JUSTICE TOWNLEY will be released from the Queensland Supreme Court Bench, to which he was appointed last year, to conduct the trials.

He practised as a barrister in Townsville before enlisting as a private in the AIF in 1941. After being discharged as medically unfit he re-enlisted, and served for 4½ years.

In 1942 he received his commission and in 1943 he joined the Australian Army Legal Corps.

In 1945 Major Townley returned from Borneo to Morotai, and was appointed Judge Advocate for the first war crime trials held by the Australian Army. Later, as Acting Deputy Director of Legal Services in that area, he reviewed war crime trial proceedings.

LEOPOLD BLACKMAN'S 50 YEARS IN THE PACIFIC

ON January 31, 1950, Colonel Leopold G. Blackman, of Tahiti, had completed 50 years in the Pacific. He landed in Honolulu from England, on January 31, 1900.

In the ensuing 30 years in Hawaii he was headmaster of Iolani (Episcopal Church School), assistant on the staff of the Bishop Museum and founder and first commander of the Honolulu military academy; and he filled such posts as editor of the Hawaiian Forester, President for Honolulu of the American Red Cross, Inspector-General of the Hawaiian National Guard, and Staff Specialist, Reserve Officers' Corps.

As aide-de-camp to the successive governors of Hawaii, Colonel Blackman met and entertained in this capacity many distinguished visitors such as Trader Horn, General Evangeline Booth, Prince Sonkha of Siam, Prince Carol of Roumania and the Prince of Wales (afterwards King Edward VIII). He has done much writing for well-known magazines and reviews.

In 1941, Colonel Blackman transferred his residence to Tahiti. Here he continues his research work, is correspondent for the United Press Associations, acts as liaison officer to incoming American nationals for the present governor of Tahiti, and is a contributor to the Pacific Islands Monthly.—ON.

The Rev. Samisoni Vungakoto, of Fiji, arrived in Sydney on March 24 and will shortly begin deputation work in that State. Vungakoto is senior minister at the Davui Levu Methodist College in Fiji.

MELVA IN NEWS AGAIN

AUCKLAND, March 20.
WITH water and fresh food exhausted, the motor vessel, Melva, 250 tons, bound from the New Hebrides to Wellington, put into Russell, Bay of Islands, to-day.

Melva left Vila with a crew of 13, on March 3. Three days out the crankshaft of one of the twin diesel engines broke.

The ship, limping along on the other engine, ran into extremely bad weather. Captain G. Halliday said the ship behaved well but was "very lively."

For ten days the crew had a grim time, with bunks wet and cabins awash. One day Melva made only 13 miles.

In June, last year, Melva ran aground on the Queensland coast on her way to New Guinea but was towed off by an Australian naval vessel.

She is a 114-ft. powered lighter, was launched in Auckland in 1946 and is owned in Wellington.

The Rev. Willard and Mrs. Bruce of the Lutheran Mission, Central Highlands, New Guinea, were on leave in Adelaide, SA, in early April.



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P14901

Oil Drilling Progress in Papua

AUSTRALASIAN Petroleum Company Pty., Ltd., reports the following drilling progress in Papua to March 31, 1950:—

HOHORO. The hole has been deepened a further 289 feet from 4,432 feet to 4,721 feet. Reaming preparatory to inserting 9 5/8 inch casing is in progress.

UPOIA. This hole has been drilled a further 1,120 feet to 4,272 feet.

This progress indicates that the company is successfully overcoming the difficulties which previously caused delay.

FRENCH OCEANIA New Dry-Dock For Tahiti

From Our Own Correspondent

PAPETE, Feb. 14.
ENGINEER DUCHARME, of the Crandall Company, of Boston, has arrived to commence construction of our new drydock. He was accompanied by Assistant Engineers Height and Dunn, and by Motor Mechanician Shea. Eighty labourers will be employed. Mr. Ducharme has constructed drydocks in all parts of the world. The one at Papeete will be his 117th.

Material for the work, entirely metallic and mostly from America, has already arrived. A new principle of construction will be introduced, allowing for lateral movement of vessels, thus doubling the effective capacity of the dock from 800 to 1,600 tons. Ships for repair will be hoisted by an electric windlass of 100 horsepower on two parallel railroads.

The structure which the new dock will replace was built in 1928-29. It was preceded by an earlier one of 300 tons capacity.

Cost of the new dock is estimated at 15,000,000 Pacific francs. Of this, 80 per cent. has been furnished under the Marshall Plan.

PACIFIC EXPOSITION FOR TAHITI
ON January 12, a meeting in the office of Mayor Poroi drew up plans for an annual Exposition, to which representative exhibits will be invited from The United States, Hawaii, Australia, New Zealand, New Caledonia, New Hebrides, Fiji, Cook Islands and Samoa.

As time this year is short, it is proposed to confine the exposition this year to local exhibits, to be a feature of the national festivities in July.

Present at the meeting were the following, who will respectively have charge of the sections indicated: Messieurs Bousquet, Public Works; Cassiau, Sports; Carisey, Radio; Gharouset, Industry; El-lacott, Fishery; Roger Juventin and Yves Martin, Industry; Solari, Commerce; Van den Broek d'O'Brien, Tourism; Ysemery, Propaganda; and Ziegler, Administration.

NEW MORMON TEMPLE INAUGURATED

ON January 22, in the presence of Governor Anziani and numerous other distinguished guests, the new Temple of the Latter Day Saints was inaugurated with elaborate ritual at Papeete. This beautiful addition to the

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A New Discovery

Nixoderm is an ointment, but different from any ointment you have ever seen or felt. It is a new discovery, and is not greasy but feels almost like a powder when you apply it. It penetrates rapidly into the pores and fights the cause of surface skin blemishes. Nixoderm contains 9 ingredients which fight skin troubles in three ways: 1. It fights and kills the microbes or parasites often responsible for skin disorders. 2. It stops itching, burning and smarting in 7 to 10 minutes, and cools and soothes the skin. 3. It helps nature heal the skin clear, soft and velvety smooth.

Works Fast

Because Nixoderm is scientifically compounded to fight skin troubles, it works fast. It stops the itching, burning and smarting in a few minutes, then starts to work immediately, clearing and healing your skin, making it softer, whiter and velvety smooth. In

just a day or two your mirror will tell you that here at last is the scientific treatment you have been needing to clear your skin—the treatment to make you look more attractive, to help you win friends. Nixoderm has brought clearer, healthier skin to thousands such as Mr. Bob Weedon, Edmund Street, Fremantle, who writes: "I was troubled with pimples ever since I was 12, and have spent pounds and pounds on so-called cures without results. I then tried Nixoderm with astounding effect. The pimples seemed to fade away, and after a week there was not the slightest trace of them."

Satisfaction Guaranteed

Get Nixoderm from your chemist or store to-day. Look in the mirror in the morning and you will be amazed at the improvement. Then just keep on using Nixoderm for one week and at the end of that time it must have made your skin soft, clear, smooth and magnetically attractive—must give you the kind of skin that will make you admired wherever you go, or you simply return the empty package and your money will be refunded in full. Get Nixoderm from your chemist or store to-day. The guarantee protects you.

Nixoderm

For Skin Sores, Pimples and Itch.



churches of French Oceania occupies a commanding site at the corner of Prince Hinoi and Commandant Chesne Streets. Representatives of the Mormon Church from the neighbouring islands took part in the impressive ceremonies.

UNTIMELY DEATHS

ON January 21, word was received in Papeete that Robert Fougereousse, attached to the French Military Garrison in Saigon, was missing. Next day, his brother, Guy, employee of the Etablissements Herault, while practising diving

in Papeete Lagoon, struck his head on a submerged cement block and was drowned. On January 23, a mass was held at the Catholic Cathedral in memory of the two victims, members of a pioneer family.

M. Marcel Grand, while being entertained by his cousin, Rene, at his country house at Papea, on January 23, fell and struck his head sharply on some cement stairs. He died subsequently, from concussion. He was a promising and popular young businessman and had recently formed an association which under the name of "Les Ateliers des Remparts" was proving successful. During the last war M. Grand served with the Fijian army, and lived there for some years. He married a Fijian girl, and a boy and a girl were born to that union; but they were divorced, and Marcel returned to Tahiti and married a Tahitian girl. He is survived by his widow, the former Miss Dexter, and one child.

M. Oscar Dexter, a popular police officer of Papeete, died at his home, of bronchitis, on January 27. He was of British descent, and members of his family are scattered throughout the Pacific.

TAHITI JUNIOR SPORTS CLUB

THE following have been elected officers of the Young Tahitians' Sports Club for the current year: Honorary President, Mr. Yves Attali; President, Dr. A. J. Tournoux; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. Samuel Chevalier and Louis Galenon; Secretary, Miss Marcelle Lecall; Treasurer, Mr. Guy Juventin; Committee, Messrs. Abel Blouin, Charles Cowan, Peter Cowan, Dumas Hinton and Pierre Sachel.

PAPEETE CUSTOMS CHIEF

MONSIEUR RENE SABOURRAUD, for the past four years Chief Inspector of Customs here, is about to return to France for a well-deserved vacation.

Upon his assumption of duty, his rigid enforcement of all laws pertaining to his office earned for him some unpopularity. Gradually, however, his impartiality, fairness and ready assistance brought a reversal of feeling in his favour. Monsieur Sabourraud leaves his post with the goodwill of the whole community.

Mr. Reg. J. Thompson, of Harrison's Ramsay Pty. Ltd., Islands produce merchants of Sydney visited Papua-New Guinea in April.

Copies of a new magazine are at present being distributed to Fijian villages. The magazine is called E Daidai. It is the Fijian version of Today, which is produced for the Colonial Office by the Central Office of Information. Arrangements have been made for a thousand copies of each issue to be sent from the UK to Fiji unbound, and without the printed letterpress. The letterpress is transplanted by the Public Relations Office staff and printed in Fiji by the Government Printer.

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Merchants, Accountants, Secretaries, Bankers and Business Managers . . . all hold responsible positions with commensurate salaries. You too can enhance your prospects in this ever-expanding commercial field, which yields abundant returns to those with adequate qualifications. H.R.I. prepare ambitious men and women for all business positions from junior to senior executive. Tuition is practical—authoritative—up-to-date—time saving . . . and certain in its successful results. The H.R.I. is available always to advise you—write or wire for information—free and without obligation.

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WHY DOES AUSTRALIA NOT BUY PACIFIC SULPHUR ?

Letter to the Editor

I READ in a recent Sydney Morning Herald that Australia is importing from Italy sulphur worth £2,650,000. I wonder why New Guinea does not send sulphur to Australia—we have huge supplies around Rabaul and at Talasea. There is sulphur in many places along

the Pacific volcano belt, much closer to Australia than is Italy.

I am, etc.,
OLD PLANTER.

Kavieng.
Editorial Note.—A matter of exchange, probably. If Australia buys £2,000,000 worth of Italian sulphur, Italy can buy £2,000,000 worth of Australian wool or wheat. The Pacific Islands, even if they sold so much sulphur, could not absorb the same proportion of Australian products. . . . Once, when international exchange was free, the Pacific Islands, hav-

ing sold goods to Australia, could pass the credit around, for the ultimate benefit of Australia. But to-day's control of exchange, like all other interference with economic law, leads to all kinds of anomalies.

AUSTRALIA SAYS "NO"

UN Flag Not for NG or Samoa

FOR the first time on record, on March 30, the UN Trusteeship Council turned down a General Assembly proposal; and at the same time, the Australian representative for once said "No" to one of the whims and fancies of UN.

Proposal was that administering authorities should fly the sky-blue UN flag alongside their own in trust territories.

Australia, New Zealand, Britain, Belgium and France opposed the motion; and America, the Philippines, Dominican Republic and Iraq favoured it. Argentina abstained.

Australian delegate, Mr. John Hood, said that even if the resolution were passed, Australia would not accept the obligation to fly the flag in New Guinea or Nauru.

The New Zealand delegate, Mr. George Laking, said that Western Samoa already had a flag of its own which was flown alongside that of New Zealand. Samoans were looking forward to the day when there would be fewer, not more flags, in their Territory.

ADDRESS WANTED

WE have an inquiry for the address of Mrs. Matke, a former resident of New Guinea who is believed to be now living in Sydney—perhaps in Belmore. Can any reader oblige? Pacific Islands Monthly, PO Box 3408, Sydney; or ring BW 5037.

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FIJI LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETS

A SESSION of the Fiji Legislative Council was opened in Suva, by the Governor, Sir Brian Freeston, on April 12.

In his opening address the Governor said it would probably be the last session of the present Council as he proposed, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution, to dissolve the Council in July to allow elections to be held in August.

The Governor referred to a number of matters he had discussed during his recent visit to London: **Constitutional Reform:** The new Secretary of State for the Colonies (Mr. James Griffiths) proposes to take no action in the matter of constitutional changes in Fiji until there is evidence that it is desired by a majority in the Colony.

Development Plan: The revised Development Plan has been approved by the Secretary of State and it will now be possible to press ahead with it.

Road Construction: A special allocation of 150,000 dollars has been made for buying heavy mechanical road-making plant from the United States. It is hoped that it will be delivered in the Colony before the end of this year.

Salaries Commissioner: The Civil Service Salaries Commissioner, Mr. Mills, is expected to arrive about May 8. The Governor said that he hoped that his report on Fiji salaries may be received in time for its recommendations to be submitted to the new Legislative Council at its first Session, perhaps in September of this year.

RUBBER PRICES AND PRODUCTION INCREASE

MALAYA'S production of natural rubber is expected to reach an all-time high of 700,000 tons this year—which is about half the world's total production of natural rubber.

Natural rubber, however, is still not supplying all the world's needs and the American synthetic industry is supplying the 500,000 tons gap between natural supply and demand.

World demand for rubber is about 2,000,000 tons per annum and spokesmen for both the natural and synthetic products say that demand will increase rather than diminish.

New uses for rubber—such as in roads and latex foam cushioning—are constantly being found.

At the same time as increased production, in both fields, was announced, prices for natural rubber in Singapore rose to a record level of 61½ cents a pound for No. 1 ribbed smoked sheet.

Kidney Trouble Causes Backache, Puffy Ankles

If you're feeling out o-sorts, have Interrupted Sleep, 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.

Help Kidneys Scientific Way

It has been proven by scientific clinical tests that a quick and sure way to help the kidneys clean out excess acids and poisons is with a scientifically prepared prescription called

Cystex. Hundreds and hundreds of clinical records prove this

No Benefit—No Pay

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.

Cystex costs little at chemists and stores and the money back guarantee protects you.

Cystex for
KIDNEYS
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The Guaranteed Treatment

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Reprints of advertisements appearing in 38 main newspapers in Australia—Truth, Smith's Weekly, Argus, Sun, Telegraph, Courier, Adelaide Mail, Perth Mirror:—

HYPOCRATES

(No hypocrite)

Says in his Precepts:—"In medicine, experience and common sense are far more valuable than scientific theory, however plausible; do not hesitate to enquire of laymen, if their opinions are likely to advance medical science and the treatment of the sick."

Jeremy Bentham (1748-1832), Cobdett (1762-1835), Chadwick (1800-1890), Lord Shaftesbury (1806-1890), moved England to undertake sanitary reform. None of them was a doctor. Neither were Sir H. Davy, Faraday, Dalton, Sir W. Ramsay, Madame Curie, etc. — but many of their inventions have revolutionised the art of medicine, as the great thinkers defined the principles of this science.

ASPAXADRENE

(The answer to the Asthmatic's prayers) was not the result of years of scientific research, but merely the overnight inspiration of a 100 per cent. British Australian chemist — coming of a family of chemists of no little fame, over a period of 115 years — in such places as London, Paris, Brussels, Strasbourg and Mutual Store, Melb.

Aspaxadrene is of course obtainable from all chemists of enterprise and perspicuity — anywhere.



"AN ASPAXADRENE."

Gosh! It makes one think, all right
Over 35,000
outfits of

ASPAXADRENE

(the answer to the Asthmatic's prayer)
have been sold, and over 20,000 written testimonials received.

Think over the untold misery it has saved these thousands of unfortunate sufferers—think of the Asthma Wards that must have been half emptied—of the work nurses have been relieved of (asthma patients are the most trying of all—injection wanted 1 hourly, very often, and then chiefly at night); think of the hundreds of doctors that can now get a night's sleep—generally called out at 2 a.m.—just get to think of the extra time these nurses and doctors have to devote (devote is the word) think of the other patients: rest the whole of the house—hold gets—poor old Asthma sufferers, keep all the house awake with them; think—well we just can't visualise all the good Aspaxadrene does—and so harmless; so when you think Asthma—think Aspaxadrene: just as "black and white," "bread and butter," "fish and chips," "ebb and flow" go together, so do Aspaxadrene and Asthma—but not for long.

Aspaxadrene is used against inflamed capillaries of the mucous membrane — Asthmas, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Hay Fever, Antrum, Sinus, Tonsilitis, Common Colds, 'Flu, etc., etc.; it is also a preventive of them all — naturally so.

Complete Outfit, 28/6 (Aust.)—postage 1/6
Refill Aspaxadrene liquid, 12/6 (Aust.)—post free

Procurable from all chemists of enterprise and perspicuity—anywhere—
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BOX 58, PRAHRAN, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA.

Results of advertising in this journal have been phenomenal—enquiries from all over the South Sea Islands—and only last week from Texas, U.S.A.

NEW IRELAND NOTES

From Our Own Correspondent

KAVIENG, March 15.
THE day that the Deputy Prices Controller arrived here I got a lb. of trade tobacco for 11/6. Now, it's 14/6! He reduced bread from 2/- to 1/9, but it's up again to 1/10.

WHAT is the best present to give a 54-year-old Chinese on St. Patrick's Day? Woo You has amassed a fortune and lived for nearly 40 years in Kavieng without going further afield than Rabaul. He can rightly claim to be our most popular Oriental. He will entertain friends on his birthday (March 17).

IT costs one person about £22 a month to live at Kavieng, excluding rent, liquor or tobacco. Here are some recent prices—

Milk, powdered, "Sunshine" 10/- 3-lb. tin
Rice 11d. lb.
Cauliflower (1-lb. tin) 1/7
Bully Beef 2/4 tin
Onions 9d. lb.
Sugar 10d. lb.
Potatoes 10d. lb.
Kerosene, 4/8 gal. bulk, or 5/1 gal. in 4-gal. tin.

Sand soap 10d. cake.
Beetroot (1-lb. tin) 3/4
Matches 1/3 pkt of 12
Butter, Fresh 5/6 lb.
Soap, common washing 2/9 2-lb. bar.
"Kraft" Cheese (12-oz. tin) 2/9
Fresh meat flown from Rabaul is only for the well-to-do, and even Kanaka fowls are 5/- each and native eggs 4/- a dozen.

KAVIENG Club (1949):—A little progress, but not much. Every effort should be centred on completing a bar as speedily as possible so as to produce immediate income quickly.

OUR post-office now lacks the feminine charm of Mrs. D. C. West, who, with her popular husband, a PWD Works Supervisor, flew South on leave recently. They were given a farewell party at the residence of the District Officer (Mr. Ian F. G. Downs). New post-master is Joe Seeto.

SUB-INSPECTOR of Police, J. H. Theckston and Mrs. Theckston, shortly move off to Wau, where it is hoped the climate will prove a tonic to Mrs. Theckston, who does not take kindly to coastal regions. Born within sound of the "Bow Bells of Wigan," Harry has never lost that Gracie Fields accent.

AT the Singapore Day gathering at Kavieng I met again Jim McGuigan, Senior Medical Assistant.

A few days before the fall of Singapore in 1942, I was wounded and placed in an ambulance for the Base via the Advanced Dressing Post. To my surprise I saw Jim McGuigan directing traffic at this Post (he was a Corporal in the Field Ambulance). A terrific bombardment was taking place; shells, mortars, bombs, bullets—were pitching around him, and he was extremely lucky to get out alive.

I can see him now, at the cross-roads, in dirty jungle-greens, drenched with rain, wearing a tin helmet and smiling complacently as he directed vehicle after vehicle on its journey. He was the coolest man I saw that day—must have been his ex-naval training!

He has just gone on a medical patrol of Tabar Islands.

DISTRICT Officer I. F. G. Downs has gained praise from planters for his personal efforts in keeping open the main East Coast road—the very life-blood of the Kavieng Sub-district.

50th Anniversary Celebrations In American Samoa

From Our Own Correspondent

APIA, April 6.

GREAT preparations are being made at Pago Pago, American Samoa, for the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the raising of the American Flag over American Samoa. Celebrations will last three days—April 17, 18 and 19.

A dancing and singing competition and fautasi races are features of the monster function to which official invitations have been issued to the people and representatives of Western Samoa.

The High Commissioner of Western

Samoa, the Hon. Fautua and a large number of members of the Legislative Assembly are going to Pago by American warship, by plane and motor vessels. Teams of some 250 Western Samoans from the district of Falealili are taking part in the dancing and singing competitions, while a long-boat crew of some 40 students of Malua College is to represent Western Samoa in the Fautasi races.

As Eastern Samoa is short of native foods such as bananas and tara, visitors from Western Samoa are taking Samoan foodstuffs with them.

ARE YOUR REQUIREMENTS
HERE?

DURITE ASBESTOS CEMENT SHEETS

Flat or Corrugated.

FLAT SHEETS—3 ft. x 3 ft.; 4 ft. x 4 ft.; 6 ft. x 4 ft.; 8 ft. x 4 ft.; 3/16th in. thick.
CORRUGATED SHEETS—30 in. wide, 1/2 in. thick, distance of corrugations, 6 in., 4 to 10 ft. long.
Indent orders invited.

PEERLESS LOCKWOVEN SQUARE MESH FENCING

Special types for Pig Fences, Sheep Fences, General Farm Fences and Cattle Fences. Fully galvanised, made of high tensile No. 9 gauge wire, with vertical wires in one piece to form rigid uprights. Inter-sections permanently rigid with Lockwoven non-slip knot. Straining pillars and intermediate standards also available.
Indent orders invited.

40 FT. TRADE BOATS. (For sea delivery)

Standard hull built to first-class specifications. Designed and equipped as work boats for Islands traders, Missionaries, etc. Complete with 30 h.p. Lister diesel. Delivered from Gladstone (Qld.) to any destination within 2,000 miles.
Inquiries invited.

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All materials, including keel, ribbing and planking, cut to exact size and shape for easy assembly of strong, carvel-built Islands vessel. Length 20 ft., beam 7 ft., round bottom, tuck stern. Available with or without 5.7 h.p. Coventry marine diesel.
Prices and approximate delivery date on application.

Also for assembly:

Complete kits for marine plywood light duty craft of beautiful design and immense strength. Kits for 8 ft., 12 ft. and 16 ft. boats available.
Illustrated brochure on request.

COVENTRY VICTOR DIESEL MARINE ENGINE

4-stroke, single cylinder, cold starting, totally enclosed. In unit construction with 3/1 reduction/reverse gear-box. Length, 41 in. Width, 16 1/2 in. Height, 24 1/2 in. Approximate weight, 358 lb. 5/7 h.p.
Indent orders for 3.7 h.p.; also 7.9 h.p. engines invited.

MINIATURE SEWING MACHINES

Substantially built and beautifully finished, this miniature model has all the refinements of a full-size machine. Its reliable chain-stitch will produce perfect work and it can be used for ordinary sewing or decorative embroidery. Supplied complete with table clamp and detailed instructions. All parts replaceable. The machine is supplied packed in a carton.

Weight, 2 1/2 lb. Width, 1 1/2 in. Length, 9 in. Height, 7 in.

Available on indent. Minimum order 6 machines.

INVINCIBLE WHITE COTTON SINGLET

Boys', sizes 22 to 32, 27/- dozen. Men's, sizes 34 to 42, 44/- dozen.
FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY.

PLASTIC RINGS

Assorted sizes and colours. 50/- (Australian) per 1,000. C.I.F. Sydney port. Minimum order 1,000 rings.

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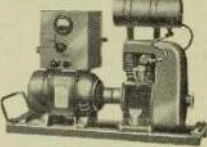
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300 WATT ELECTRIC GENERATING SET

10 HRS. POWER ON ONE GALLON PETROL



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4-stroke
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Engine coupled
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Complete with
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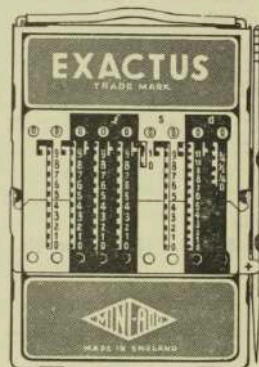
Ball bearing generator delivers 300 watts at voltage which can be varied by a knob on the switch box from 12 to 32 volts. It is a sturdy battery-charging set and is ideal for lighting say 7 x 40 watt globes or 10 x 25 watt globes using either 12, 24 or 32 volt battery.

Weight: 90 lb.
Price: £52.
With Battery
Start, £53/10/-
Plus Sales Tax.

Trade enquiries also invited.

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VEST POCKET ADDING MACHINE

Guaranteed for one year by its English Manufacturer, the EXACTUS rustless metal alloy adding and subtracting machine is invaluable in Office, Shop, Plantation and Home. The EXACTUS will do all that a £38 machine will do.

COSTS ONLY 28/- BRITISH STERLING OR EQUIVALENT.

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Supplied complete with operating instructions and leather type wallet. Weighs only 4 oz. packed. Requires no servicing.

Send your remittance to us for immediate delivery. Shipments arriving from England regularly. Metric models are available.

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All classes of Australian merchandise purchased on behalf of Island clients at best wholesale rates: original invoices provided: prompt and reliable service assured in all transactions.

Representatives Required In most Pacific Territories

Available for prompt shipment:

- General Groceries and Provisions.
- Liqueurs—Wines—Spirits.
- Paints, Varnishes and Enamels.
- Axes, Mattocks, Hammers and Tools.
- Portable Pumping Units.
- Marine Engines 3 to 12 H.P.
- Auto Parts and Batteries.

Price Lists airmailed on request.

NEW GUINEA LAND

Conditions of Purchase

IN the Australian Parliament, on March 22, Senator Roy Kendall sought information about the system under which the Administration buys land from the natives of Papua and New Guinea, and leases it to Europeans. "What," he asked, "is the position regarding the sale of land to foreigners?" He received the following official reply:

"Land may only be bought or leased from natives of the Territory of Papua and New Guinea by the Administrator and no purchase or lease may be made until he is satisfied, after reasonable inquiry, that the land is not required or likely to be required by the owners. Land so acquired is then dealt with under the land ordinances of the territory.

"The price paid by the Administrator for land purchased from the natives is determined by administration officers in discussion with the native owners. Generally the price ranges from 4s. an acre to £2 an acre, according to the class of land, locality and other factors. Land purchased by the Administrator is classified and an unimproved value is assessed under the land ordinances. Rentals range in respect of agricultural and pastoral leases of land from about 2½ per cent. to 5 per cent. of the assessed unimproved value. Rentals for town allotments are higher.

"Leases of land are granted by the Administrator under the land ordinances of the territory, the provisions of which are applicable to persons of all nationalities."

LONE YACHTSMEN IN SOUTH SEAS

WITH a yen for adventure but not for companionship, two young seamen have recently sailed their own yachts single-handed across the South Pacific.

One of the men, 30-year-old Alf Peterson, an American, has arrived in Sydney after a 24 days crossing from Auckland. Peterson, a boatyard worker in the States, sailed his 33 ft. craft, Stormaway, from the Panama Canal to the Marquesas, thence to Tahiti and Rarotonga, Fiji, and then on to New Zealand.

The Kröja, a 24 ft. craft out of Amsterdam, Holland, is now in the Samoa area. Ernst Lamberti, a Dutchman who served with the French Foreign Legion and the French Navy during the late war, set sail from Holland and called in at Portugal, the Azores and Trinidad before going through the canal. From Panama he was 82 days crossing the 4,000 miles to the Marquesas.

Both of the men are on world cruises and will cross through the East Indies waters.—Special Correspondent.

MINISTER'S VISIT TO P-NG (Continued from Page 8)

State Shipping Control Abolished

THE Minister acted quickly in regard to the sea transport position in Papua and New Guinea, which had reached chaotic conditions and was retarding copra production.

Strong representations were made to Mr. Spender by local businessmen as soon as he arrived in Port Moresby; and the following day he announced that all restrictions, which had prevented private ships from competing with Government ships in Papua and New Guinea waters, were to be removed as from March 31.

(Except in special cases the Australian Socialist Government would not allow any privately-owned vessels of more than 25 tons to engage in freight-carrying for other than the owners.)

Present indications are that the Government-owned fleet of coastal ships in Papua and New Guinea will carry on for the present, in competition with privately-owned ships, pending a decision by the Federal Government in regard to Government-owned shipping generally.

The Minister said that while privately-owned small ships would now be free to ply for hire and charter, he would presently review the operations of the Territories Directorate of Shipping, with a view to improving the present Islands service.

Native Labour Contract

MANY representations regarding the operation of the native contract labour system were made to the Minister, and he took the opportunity of obtaining all possible information on this thorny subject, to guide the Federal Government in formulating a policy decision in relation thereto.

The Minister, in a statement in Rabaul,

said that he expected that a policy on the native labour contract system would be announced within two months. He also indicated that he personally was in favour of an extension of the present limit of one year in the native labour contracts.

Manus

HAVING visited Manus, and inspected the huge naval and air base constructed there by the Americans

and abandoned by them after consultation with the Australian Socialist Government, and since taken over by the Australian Navy, Mr. Spender described the place as "a tremendous harbour littered with abandoned equipment."

He added that of the 13,000 natives on Manus it seemed to him that more were receiving attention in the native hospitals there than were working.

(Continued on Page 106)

A Bargain...

A Brand New 110 Volt DC Lighting Plant !

This self-contained Generating Set is economical to run, and can be used as a 110-Volt Direct Lighting Unit for providing power for a theatre, large store, hospital or garage. In addition, it can be used as a battery charger, for charging a series of 6 or 12-Volt batteries. It is operated by a 16 H.P. Air-Cooled "Wisconsin" petrol Engine with control panel, and is mounted on one base, and with sheet-iron housing. Write for further particulars.

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or Box 28, G.P.O., Sydney, AUSTRALIA.

Future of Rabaul

REFERRING to the future of Rabaul, the Minister said that it was clear that the administrative centre for that portion of the combined Territories—in order to be safe from risk of damage by the volcanoes, and to provide a place of security for the Administration records and laboratories—would have to be removed from Rabaul to a new site. He said that the new site had not yet been decided upon, but it was imperative that a decision be made soon and work commenced upon the construction of the new town.

Plans For Defence

EMPHASISING the strategic importance of the Papua-New Guinea area, the Minister referred to the speed with which the Japanese occupied these Territories in 1942, and the menace thereby created to the security of Australia.

He said that as part of plans for the defence of Papua-New Guinea, he was in favour of the immediate formation of a military unit, similar to the pre-war New Guinea Volunteer Rifles, with its own Territories administration. He was also in favour of assistance being given for the maintenance of rifle clubs.

"Overtime Racket"

IN the course of an address in Sydney on his return from New Guinea, the Minister said that while there were many people in the Territories doing a splendid job of work "there are some, I regret to say, who are not doing such good jobs. Indeed, I came to the conclusion that among some people up there overtime had become a racket."

Mr. Spender gave no details—but apparently he has been looking behind the scenes in New Guinea.

Minister's Annual Visit

MR. SPENDER said he would try to visit the Territories at least once a year "to see the extent to which the Government's policy is being carried out, to make contact with the people, both Europeans and native leaders."

"We are confronted with the difficulty of manpower and materials, also the fact that some people don't work as much as they should," he said, in Port Moresby. "One of the things that impressed me is what a little imagination and zeal can do, as in the reconstruction of Hanuabada. Mr. D. J. Sullivan, who is in charge of the project, is to be congratulated on his capacity, drive and imagination. If that was reflected everywhere there would be a better picture in the Territory to-day."

Mr. Spender disclosed that 2½ years ago Bulolo Gold Dredging Ltd. had offered to build a secondary school at Bulolo at cost, but the Labor Government had rejected the offer.

He said he had "a few ideas" about lowering the cost of living in the Territory but would not express them until he had more information.

Buka's Disappointment

SOHANO, April 12. ALTHOUGH a visit to this area by the Minister was originally planned for April 12, it was cut out at the last moment, and the public disappointment was acute.

The largest number of Europeans ever seen here, and many natives, assembled to meet the Minister. Very special preparations were made for the occasion, and many district residents dropped everything and in many cases travelled long distances to the rendezvous. The breakdown in arrangements also was unfortunate from the viewpoint of the district's prestige in native eyes.

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RABAUW WEDDING



A photograph taken after the recent wedding of Mr. Seeta Wah Kenuh to Miss Doris Seeta. Both are members of well-known Chinese families in the Rabaul District.

—Photo by C. H. Meen.

KWATO BOYS LOOK OVER AUSTRALIAN INDUSTRY

MR. Cecil Abel, of Kwato Mission, near Samarai, Papua, was showing two of his brightest boys around Australian industry during March. They have since returned home.

The visitors representing Milne Bay (Papua) villages, it was reported, were investigating the possibilities of opening a canning works for the processing of such fish as tuna. They went to Canberra to interview Government officials and hoped to obtain assistance there in the

way of trawlers to catch the fish. A fish cannery is nothing if not an ambitious undertaking for native enterprise. More than one shrewd European businessman has fallen down on that project. However, there is no telling what may be accomplished these days with Government backing.

The boys also visited furniture factories, tanneries, and a newspaper all with the idea of the economic progress of their own communities at Milne Bay.

Mr. A. L. Abraham has been transferred from Fiji to British Honduras, where he will be Superintendent of Police.

Mary Baker ICE CREAM MIX

Based on the American Army ice cream making formula that became such a favourite during the war years in all the South Pacific Islands, Mary Baker Ice Cream Mix is now made in Australia, incorporating all the latest developments and improvements on the original.

Packed in 16 oz. tins for home servings or in 5 lb. and 32 lb. tins for milk bars and traders with refrigerators, the tasty quick-selling Mary Baker Ice Cream Mix now is available for export to Pacific Islands storekeepers and traders.

Write to-day for a sample—it will be promptly forwarded for your consideration . . . and enjoyment.

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FARRELL LEFT £2,087

EDWARD FARRELL, the villain of the notorious New Guinea Timber Lease Case—who died last November, aged 61, before further legal action was taken against him—left an estate valued at £2,087, to his widow.

Farrell, "Jock" Garden, and probably one or two others operating from Sydney,

obtained altogether some £50,000 from a Queensland timber firm, on an assurance that Garden was getting a valuable New Guinea timber lease from his Departmental chief and former political associate, Australian Minister, E. J. Ward. A Judge, authorised to act as a Royal Commissioner, exonerated Mr. Ward from various charges. "Jock" Garden is still in gaol. No one has ever been able to find out what became of the £50,000.

Valuable Book on the Plants of Hawaii

THE second edition of "New Illustrated Flora of the Hawaiian Islands," by Otto Degener, is a remarkable compilation. It contains no less than 1,200 pages, specially bound, and each page carries a full description and in nearly every case an illustration of a plant that grows in Hawaii. We get here the common English name, the Hawaiian name, and one correct scientific name of each plant. There is an extensive index, a general description of Hawaii, an historical sketch of Hawaiian botany, a glossary of botanical terms—and all sorts of other information which makes the book indispensable to anyone interested in tropical plants.

Mr. Degener says: "This is a war emergency edition printed on inferior paper. The first edition was far superior—but it was completely destroyed by the tidal wave in Hawaii." The book is sold for 6 dollars. An advertisement about it appears in this issue.

DOBELL IN NEW GUINEA

AUSTRALIAN artist, William Dobell, left Australia for New Guinea on April 11.

He will spend a few months in the Territory as the guest of Qantas Empire Airways. The paintings he does will be later exhibited in Australia.

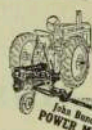
Mr. A. S. Farebrother, of Suva, who recently underwent a severe operation in Sydney, has returned to Fiji. It was intended that he should remain in Sydney for medical attention for a while, but he was forced to leave owing to complete lack of hotel accommodation. Sydney is more overcrowded to-day than ever before in history.



Hand Cutter with 2 Knife Wheel, the wheel designed for easy turning.



Do not let the Brick Shortage worry you. This machine makes five different size Bricks.



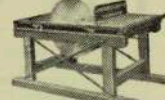
Power Mowers in 5 ft., 6 ft., and 7 ft. sizes. Will fit any make of tractor with power take-off at the rear.



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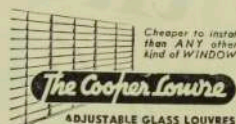
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Keep Hot Sun OUT . . . Let Cool Breezes IN!

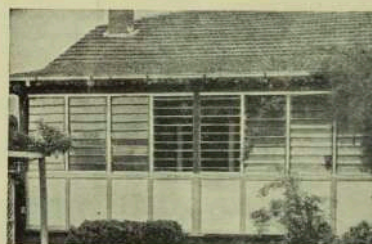
Cooper Adjustable Glass Louvres are the ideal way of securing maximum ventilation with minimum interference from glare. Fitted with non-actinic glass, which absorbs the sun's heat, they are ideal for nurseries and verandahs . . . and amazing though it may seem, are actually cheaper to install than ordinary windows.

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Cheaper to install than ANY other kind of WINDOW

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Imagine it—units of movable glass louvres (plain or figured) in metal frames, giving unobstructed light and air, yet protection from draughts and rain and all with as simple a motion as flicking on a light switch. The price is so amazingly reasonable and Father can do all the erecting, it's so easy.

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

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FLOODS IN NEW CALEDONIA

LIKE many Australian towns and cities Noumea, New Caledonia, has recently been half drowned by sudden floods.

Inhabitants assert that never before has so much rain fallen in so short a time, turning the roads into lakes and making traffic impossible. Many people had to be evacuated from their flooded homes, and the scene of the inundations were visited by the Governor-General, the Mayor of Noumea and the President of the General Council.

Every available pump was kept busy and the Police Commissioner and his helpers patrolled the town (usually so dry and waterless save for open drains) night and day. Whole gardens were washed away.

At Anse Vata, near Noumea, the race-course is a large lake, and the buildings at the Polytechnique stand in acres of water. In the bush torrential rains and river flooding are reported from places as wide apart as Yate, Thio and Houailou.

Executive changes at the Vacuum Oil Company's branches at Lae (New Guinea) and Noumea (New Caledonia) have been announced by Vacuum's Pacific Islands Manager, Mr. W. C. Fraser. Mr. C. R. Heavey has been appointed manager for the Company in New Guinea, in succession to Mr. G. J. Rice (now on leave in Australia), who becomes manager for New Caledonia in place of Mr. F. H. Davey. Mr. Davey returns to Australia for leave and re-assignment, and until Mr. Rice completes his leave, Mr. B. Hamilton of Melbourne Head Office will be acting-manager at Noumea.

The former Director of Shipping in Papua-New Guinea, Mr. Leighton, in a communication to the PIM, says that he did not resign his position because of the change in Government last December, but because of bad health. He was the victim of more than one tropical complaint, and he discussed his condition with the Director of Health in Port Moresby towards the end of 1949. The morning he was due to depart on leave he collapsed, and he was seriously ill in Sydney. Finally, as he could not return to the tropics, he offered his resignation in November, but it was not accepted until some time later.



Samu Kurusa, a Western Samoan, is in New Zealand at present, as a Samoan delegate to the seventh Day Adventist Conference at Palmerston North. He is a staunch churchman, but is also known as a Samoan composer and band-leader. He is held in high regard by both Europeans and Samoans. Samu's sister, Momo Kurusa, is matron in charge of Samoan nurses at Motu Hospital, Apia—the only Samoan to thus far has attained this rank.

Superflash Studio.

TRAVELLERS TO FIJI



Some of the passengers who arrived in Suva by flying-boat on March 11 were: Dr. Cruickshank, Director of the Medical Department of Fiji, who returned from an official trip to New Zealand; Miss D. Shield, who has returned to Fiji to join the staff of Messrs. Burns Philp (SS) Co., Ltd. This is her second term. Mr. N. Barker, assistant traffic manager for TEAL, who is visiting the Lautoka Bay airport in connection with his company's taking over the service from NZ. Misses Kafa, Edith and Ida Head, who will join their parents in Suva and then travel to their home on Niue Island.

You'll Really Enjoy These!!

DIGEST OF DIGESTS

A monthly pocket-size publication of general scientific, medical and personal interest with many other features, including fiction and humour. There are numerous digests, but only one DIGEST OF DIGESTS.

Australian subscription rate, 13/6 per annum.

ADAM

A monthly magazine for men, presenting top-ranking adventure, fiction and cartoons by Australian and overseas writers and artists.

Australian subscription rate, 13/6 per annum.

MAN JUNIOR

A smaller and different edition of MAN. Published every month and contains FULL-COLOUR cartoons and action stories with illustrations for masculine appeal, plus photographic, puzzle sections, etc.

Australian subscription rate, 13/6 per annum.

AUSTRALIAN HOUSE AND GARDEN

A national monthly magazine of distinction which exerts an important influence on the standards of living. Large page size, 12½ in. x 9 in., profusely illustrated, including many pages in full colour. Contents cover—home building—interior decorating—cooking—gardening—handicrafts, etc., etc.; in fact, the greatest association of ideas on homes and gardens ever assembled between magazine covers.

Australian subscription rate, 21/6 per annum.

CAVALCADE

An outstanding pocket-size monthly magazine appealing to both men and women, with all the reader interest through topical articles that a digest magazine has. Also offers photographic, humour and fiction sections plus other brilliant features.

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MAN

"MAN" needs little introduction. It is Australia's magazine for men, and offers brilliantly written man-minded stories and articles plus many FULL-COLOUR illustrations and cartoons, with man appeal throughout. One of the world's most entertaining magazines. Published monthly, MAN is a perfect combination of the best in penmanship and art.

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FOR SALE

TO BE SOLD BY TENDER—Two newly-built furnished weatherboard and fibro-cement bungalows. Situated in exclusive portion of Gasile Peninsula, midway between Rabaul and Kokopo, on the top road. Built on highest elevation of road and having magnificent views of Simpson Harbour, Duke of York Islands, and Baining Mountains. Each bungalow is on one acre of ground. Will be sold separately or together. Title to land has been lost or destroyed during the Japanese occupation, and purchaser shall accept such title as the vendor has.

Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted. Tenders close on May 26, 1950, and should be addressed:

Mrs. Jean Keed, c/o Dudley Jones, Solicitor, Rabaul, T.N.G., where information may be obtained.

Photographs showing panorama as seen from collages may be inspected at office of "Pacific Islands Monthly," Sydney.

POSITIONS WANTED

YOUNG LADY seeks commercial position at Port Moresby, or similar centre in the Territory of Papua-New Guinea. Competent and experienced in general office and hotel reception work. Knowledge of Remington bookkeeping machine. Will pay own fare to the Territory. Replies, by air-mail, to "Office Assistant," c/o Box 3408, G.P.O., Sydney, N.S.W.

PLANTATION ASSISTANT—Experienced coconut planter in New Guinea, Fiji, and West Indies desires appointment as manager or assistant on plantation and/or trading station. Familiar with Pidgin and N.G. dialects; able to control natives firmly. Married, and aged 42. Good knowledge of bookkeeping.—F. R. Bryant, c/o Box 3408, G.P.O., Sydney.

ISLANDS SOUVENIR

SOUTH SEAS SONGS!—Uplifting Poems. Cover: Feathered Palms, Tropical Flowers, Island Girl. Ideal gift or Souvenir. One dollar (8/- Aust.). Post Free.—Dr. W. Swann, 3574 W. Broadway, Vancouver, B.C., Canada.

SOUTH SEA ISLAND

WANTED TO BUY—American writer and explorer would like to buy a small Pacific Island. Will pay to \$1,000 (American), depending upon size and location. In replying, please quote price and give name, registry, location, size, and other pertinent information. The island will, of course, need to be placed in escrow to assure clear title. Write to Mr. D. P. MacLure, Jr., 129 Harvard Drive, Parkmerced, San Francisco, California, U.S.A.

LEGAL NOTICE

MARGARET JOAN FRASER, formerly of Hamilton, Brisbane, in the State of Queensland, but late of "Deven," Norfolk Island, Australian Territory (wife of Alexander Fraser, deceased).

After 14 clear days from to-day The Union Trustee Company of Australia, Limited, of 400 Queen Street, Brisbane, in the State of Queensland, the duly authorised nominee of Alexander Fraser, the sole executor named in the deceased's will, dated June 4, 1947, will apply to the Supreme Court, Brisbane, for a grant of administration of the personal Estate of the said Margaret Joan Fraser, deceased, with her will. Any person interested who desires to object to the application or to be heard upon it may file a caveat in the Registry at any time before the grant is made.

FLOWER & HART, Solicitors for the said The Union Trustee Company of Australia, Limited, 400 Queen Street, Brisbane.

Dated: March 16, 1950.

TENDERS

ESTATE, ERNEST RUSSELL MILLER, DECEASED—Sealed Tenders endorsed "Estate E. R. Miller" are invited and will be received by the undersigned until 5 p.m. May 21, 1950, for the purchase of the following, either wholly or in part:

1.—Bisa Plantation, with which is included Lingit, Man and Goat Island, Pile and Lizon. (a) Situation: Djaul Island, New Ireland, Territory of New Guinea. (b) Area: 504.77 hectares (approximately 1,260 acres), planted with approximately 20,000 coconut palms.

2.—Tsaihi Group Plantation.—(a) Situation: 27 miles north-west of Kavieng, New Ireland. (b) Area: 308 hectares (approximately 1,455 acres), planted with approximately 35,000 coconut palms.

3.—Matanabago Plantation.—(a) Situation: Near Tsaihi Group, approximately 10 miles from Kavieng. (b) Area: 323.66 hectares (approx-

mately 809 acres), planted with approximately 13,500 coconut palms.

4.—Wassanga and Metesong Plantations.—(a) Situation: On west coast of New Hanover, New Ireland District. (b) Area: 762.40 hectares (approximately 1,906 acres), planted with approximately 41,000 coconut palms.

General—Above properties are heavily overgrown with secondary growth. An assessment as under has been made by War Damage Section as a subsidy towards clearing the secondary growth and will be paid to the successful tenderer by the War Damage Section, when satisfactory evidence is produced to it that the work has been completed or well advanced. Buis Matanabago Plantation, £382; Tsaihi Plantation, £831; Matanabago Plantation, £394; Wassanga and Metesong Plantations, £786.

Title—The successful tenderer shall accept such title as the Administrators of the Estate now have and without further investigation.

Terms—All properties sold subject to the consent of the Administrator of the Territory of Papua and New Guinea. Tsaihi, Matanabago, Wassanga and Metesong Plantations are sold subject to the consent of the Custodian of Expropriated Properties. On acceptance of tender, 25 per cent. of tender price to be deposited and the balance is to be paid upon the execution by the Trustees of a conveyance of the property or such other document or instrument as the successful tenderer may reasonably require to evidence the sale in the absence of a registrable transfer. The highest or any other tender will not necessarily be accepted.

BURNS PHILP TRUST COMPANY, LIMITED, 7 Bridge Street, Sydney.

Administrator of the Estate of E. R. Miller, deceased.

Sydney, March 22, 1950.

ESTATE W. C. BOX, DECEASED—Sealed tenders endorsed "Tenders Metewolo, Meteingo and Neipau" are invited and will be received by the undersigned until 5 p.m. May 21, 1950, for the purchase of the following:

(a) **Metewolo Plantation**.—(1) Situation: South-west coast of New Hanover, New Ireland District, Territory of New Guinea. (2) Area: 255.5 hectares (approximately 628 acres). (3) Area planted approximately 94 hectares.

(b) **Meteingo Plantation**.—(1) Situation: South-west coast of New Hanover, New Ireland District, Territory of New Guinea. (2) Area: 292.24 hectares (approximately 728 acres). (3) Whole area planted.

Average pre-war production of above plantations approximately 120 tons per annum.

(c) **Neipau Plantation and Metekahit Trading Station**.—(1) Situation: On New Hanover, New Ireland District, Territory of New Guinea. (2) Area: 131.1 hectares (approximately 325 acres), all planted.

(d) **Lavaogel Trading Station**.—Situation: New Hanover, New Ireland District, Territory of New Guinea.

General—Above properties are "heavily overgrown with secondary growth. An assessment as under has been made by War Damage Section as a subsidy towards clearing the secondary growth and will be paid to the successful tenderer by the War Damage Section, when satisfactory evidence is produced to it that the work has been completed or well advanced: Metewolo and Meteingo Plantations, £1,148; Neipau Plantation, £289.

Title—The successful tenderer shall accept such title as the Administrators of the Estate now have and without further investigation.

Terms—The properties will be sold subject to the consent of the Administrator of the Territory of Papua-New Guinea and the Custodian of Expropriated Properties. On acceptance of tender, 25 per cent. of tender price to be deposited and the balance is to be paid upon the execution by the Trustees of a conveyance of the property or such other document or instrument as the successful tenderer may reasonably require to evidence the sale in the absence of a registrable transfer. The highest or any other tender will not necessarily be accepted.

BURNS PHILP TRUST COMPANY, LIMITED, 7 Bridge Street, Sydney.

Administrator of the Estate of W. C. Box (deceased).

Sydney, March 22, 1950.

Announcing Return Visit . . .



S. WENTWORTH JACKSON

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Optometrist & Optician

185 ELIZABETH ST., SYDNEY

Consultations:

RABAU — JUNE 19 to JUNE 27, 1950

Appointments: Cosmopolitan Hotel

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Appointments: G. G. Smith & Co. LTD.

HAVE YOUR EYES EXAMINED. MAKE AN APPOINTMENT NOW.

Migrants to New Caledonia Should Be Prepared to Take Place of Asiatics

IN answer to numerous requests from potential settlers from France, the New Caledonian Chamber of Agriculture has issued a frank statement on the present state of the Colony. This should do much to answer Paris newspaper criticism and allegations that genuine information is so hard to come by that all migrants go to the Pacific with far too rosy a picture of work potentialities and the sort of life they will be able to lead on arrival.

Says the Chamber:—

IN New Caledonia, as elsewhere, any intelligent working man who is willing to take risks can find his place in the sun, but it is necessary to warn him beforehand that he will have certain difficulties to overcome.

It must not be forgotten that the country is relatively small, that there is already in occupation, a French population of 20,000, as well as 30,000 natives some of whom are in a state of evolution, and that the best jobs and the best land are occupied; also that births are numerous and that the future of the children of the country necessarily is a preoccupation of the public authorities.

So, if you expect to find here, without striving, a job superior or equal to that you already have, there is a possibility that you may be disappointed.

There is little free land open for settlement. It is true that certain properties are for sale, but owing to the exchange position prices are high. Do not forget, that metropolitan francs must be divided by 5.5 and that a suitable property here costs anything from 500,000 to 800,000 Pacific francs.

New Caledonia, however, has some undeniable attractions to offer, a fine climate in which the European can work as well as in France, and a social life exempt from troubles. Also, for young men, married or single, who to start off with are satisfied with a modest situation, there is the possibility of finding work because hitherto much of the work of the country has been done by Asiatics introduced as labourers whose production capacity is mediocre, yet who, because of their birth rate, have threatened to absorb the European population.

This Asiatic labour so far as it is employed in agriculture only gives satisfaction when engaged on a share basis under which the proprietor gets one-third and the share-worker two-thirds of the production. On the coffee plantations the basis of sharing is fifty-fifty.

Agricultural workers receive relatively small money wages, but in addition to their 1,000 Pacific francs (5,500 metropolitan francs) a month they are lodged, fed and clothed. Yet although the pay is not high, such jobs would allow French metropolitan farm workers to know the land and its possibilities so far as they were concerned.

The Chamber of Agriculture therefore with all goodwill extends a warm welcome to metropolitan French and European emigrants, and within its means will do all possible to provide them with contacts and information; but it can at the same time only promise the necessities of life, the "minimum vital", to those who, at the start, are courageous enough to accept work that is now being done by Asiatic agricultural workers, either employed on a wage basis or as share croppers.

Further information can be obtained from the Colonial Agency, 20 rue de la

Boétie, Paris (6me); also the Chamber of Agriculture will reply to correspondents who explain their own particular position.

Mr. and Mrs. L. P. Armit have been down in Sydney from Papua for several months leave. They expect to return to the Territory shortly. Mr. Armit is a Territorian-true; his father, Captain Armit went there in 1883 as the leader of the Argus (Melbourne newspaper) expedition and was probably the first man to walk the Kokoda Trail. L.P. joined the Papuan service in 1902 but has been retired for some years. His interest now is in rubber trees.

NOTICE

The undersigned owns option to purchase his former junk-yacht CHENG HO in good condition in 1932 besides other rights, and invites correspondence with reliable interested parties.

—OTTO DEGENER.

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ISLANDS PRODUCE

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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). Prices for the 1939 crop show a tendency to fluctuate—late in March they dropped to around £200 Stg., but recovered early in April.

Accra (quotation by Colyer, Watson Pty. Ltd., Sydney): £217/10/-, sterling (equivalent to £271/17/4 Aust.), c.i.f. Sydney.

Western Pacific cocoa beans were quoted on the Sydney market in mid-April, at:—

New Guinea: £212/10/-A per ton, ex wharf.

New Hebrides: £215/10/-A 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 disastrously last year (to £110 Samoan per ton, f.o.b.), but later recovered. In mid-April, Samoan beans were quoted at £220 Samoan per ton, f.o.b., after being £200 earlier in the month. (Samoan currency equals sterling.)

TROCHUS SHELL

Irregular shipments are handled in Sydney by some Pacific Islands trading firms. Nominal Sydney quotations are: Thursday Island shell, £45 per ton, f.o.b.; New Guinea shell, £78 per ton, c.i.f.; Sydney: Solomon Islands shell, unquoted. Very little trochus shell has been received in Sydney in recent months.

Fiji merchants recently paid for trochus £760 (£A66/17/6) per long ton on the beach at Suva.

COFFEE

Prices for coffee produced in British Colonies increased in 1949, following devaluation of the £ stg., and Pacific Territories prices advanced similarly. Nominal quotations are:—

New Caledonia: Production exported to France at higher than normal rates (equivalent to around £400 Aust. per ton for Arabica and £350 Aust. for Robusta).

New Guinea and Papua: Nominally £300 to £370 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. Rapente merchants quote 325 francs per kilo (2.2 lb.).

Price for Tahiti vanilla beans (White-Yellow Label) quoted on the Sydney market (by J. C. Merrilies Pty. Ltd.) is 18/6 per lb., c.i.f. Australian ports.

RICE

No free-trading in rice at present. 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 £45 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.s.q. shell, but there has been little shell sold during the past 12 months.

PEARL SHELL

By a three-years' contract between the Otto Gerdan 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., T1, "D" grade, £A325; "E" grade, £A125—all prices were plus bonuses declared by the company.

Independent quotation: Top grades, £A465 per ton; "D", £A340; "E", £A240.

The Torres Strait pearling season re-opened during the first week in April. Contracts now are being negotiated for the independent pearlers' output. One New York firm has offered £A570 per ton for first-class shell.

PRICE OF GOLD

The Commonwealth Bank's price for gold bought in Australia is:—

Fine .. £15/9/10 .. Standard .. £14/4/-
(Australian Currency)

COPRA

Fiji Local Buying Price, in Store, Fiji Currency.

	Plantation	FMS
June, 1942	£18 0 0	£15 0 0
July, 1942	16 12 6	15 12 6
June, 1944	18 10 0	16 0 0
October, 1944 ..	20 0 0	18 10 0
December, 1945 ..	19 7 6	17 17 6
January, 1946 ..	18 5 6	16 0 0
August, 1946 ..	22 10 6	21 5 0
February, 1947 ..	26 15 6	22 10 0
June 9, 1947 ..	36 19 0	36 13 6
December 8, 1947	38 5 6	38 0 0
March 15, 1948 ..	46 5 6	46 0 0
January 1, 1949 ..	49 10 6	49 5 0
January 1, 1950 ..	52 14 5	

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.

From a maximum of £70/12/6 (Aust.), per ton, in 1948, the price of New Hebrides copra has risen to £A50 per ton.

Samoa has a 10 years' contract agreement with the UK Government—exporters during 1949 received £45 Samoan per ton (an additional £3 per ton being held by the Copra Board towards a Stabilisation Fund).

French Oceania
Papete firms are paying planters 9,350 francs per 1,000 kilos for Tahiti copra, which goes either direct to France or to Canada for crushing.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA-NEW GUINEA

ANGPCB Fixed Price, Delivered to Ship's Stairs or to the Board's warehouse.

	Hot-air	Smoked
Jan. 7, 1947	£38 0 0	£27 0 0
June 17, 1947 ..	£31 2 0	
Nov. 22, 1947 ..	£35 10 0	
April 8, 1948 ..	£40-£45	

January 1, 1949:—

	Hot-air	Smoked
Pt. Moresby	£43 0 0	£47 7 6
Samarai	£48 0 0	£47 7 6
Madang	£48 0 0	£47 7 6
Rabaul	£48 0 0	£47 7 6
Kokopo	£48 17 6	£48 5 0
Kavieng	£48 17 6	£48 5 0

April, 1950.—New prices under consideration in Canberra.

Official Price for P-NG Copra sold in Sydney:

	Hot-air	Dried
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

April, 1950.—New prices expected from May 1. From March, 1949, Australia agreed to sell a proportion of P-NG's production annually to the UK Ministry of Food, for nine years, at fixed prices. For 1949, the price to the UK was £48 stg. per ton (planters received £48 Aust. per ton). The new 1950 price has been fixed at £48/10/- stg. per ton, f.o.b. Territories ports.

RUBBER

Since the Australian Government's wartime price control on rubber was lifted, most Sydney trading firms use the London and Singapore day-to-day quotations as a basis when buying Papuan rubber.

An average rate during April for No. 1 grade RMA (Rubber Manufacturers' Association) was: 18/10/- Stg. per lb. (62 cents Singapore), equivalent to 22/10/- Aust. per lb.

QUOTATIONS FOR MINING SHARES

	Aug. 1939.	Mar. 1	Apr. 1
Emperor Mines ..	10/11	11/7	11/9
Loloma	125/6	125/7 1/2	127/-

NEW GUINEA

Buloko G.D.	1124/-	1084/-	1153/-
Enterprise of N.G.	127/6	115/-	115/-
Guinea Gold	112/3	109/3	116/0
N.G.G. Ltd.	11/10	11/6	11/9
Placer Development	108/6	113/0/-	1123/-
Sandy Creek	11/5	11/4	11/-
Sunshine Gold	10/5	10/0	10/8

PAPUA

Cuthbert's Mission	116/8	119/8	123/6
Mandated Alluvials	13/8	12/7	12/-
Oil Search	12/11	14/6	14/10
Orion Oil	15/-	11/-	12/4
Papuan Apinipi ..	14/11	14/10	14/3

Exchange Rates

THE following exchange quotations show the rates existing in Sydney in mid-April:—

FIJI

Through Bank of NSW and Bank of New Zealand—Australia on Fiji on basis of £100 Fiji: Buying, £A111/2/6; selling, £A113. Fiji-London on basis of £100 London:—

	Buying	Selling
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Telegraphic transfer	111 2 6	113 0 0
On demand	111 2 6	113 0 0

WESTERN SAMOA

Through Bank of New Zealand—Australia on Western Samoa on basis of £100 Samoa: Buying, £A122/12/6; selling, £A124/10/6. Samoa-London on basis of £100 London:—

	Buying	Selling
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Telegraphic transfer	109 7 6	101 10 0
On demand	99 9 3	101 10 0

Samoa on New Zealand, on basis of £100 NZ:—Buying, £100; selling, £100/10/-.

Samoa on Fiji, on basis of £100 Samoa:—

Buying, £111; selling, £110.

Samoa on USA on basis of £1 Samoa (telegraphic transfer): Buying, 2.7071 dollars; selling, 2.7580 dollars.

The Bank of NZ in Apia pays the following Samoan currency prices for overseas notes:—

NZ, £1 for £1; Australian, 15/6 for £A1; USA, 7/3 (approx.) per dollar; Fiji, 17/6 per £F1.

PAPUA-NEW GUINEA

Bank of New South Wales, which has branches in Port Moresby, Lae, and Rabaul, quotes an exchange rate between Australia and Papua-New Guinea of 10/- per £100.

Similar rates through Commonwealth Bank of Australia (branches at Port Moresby, Lae, Rabaul and Madang).

FRENCH PACIFIC COLONIES

SINCE the end of 1945, the franc, instead of having the same value in all parts of the French Empire, has been given different values in different Colonial Groups. There are three groups. Group 1 (using Metropolitan franc): France, North Africa, West Indies, French Guiana, Group 2 (using African franc): All African Colonies, Madagascar, Reunion, St. Pierre, Miquelon. Group 3 (using Pacific franc): New Caledonia, New Hebrides, French Oceania.

Exchange values in francs, at present are (nominal only):—

	£ Stg.	USA Dol.	£ Aust.
Group 1 (Metrop.)	100	340.20	777
Group 2 (African)	400	175	388
Group 3 (Pacific)	178.37	60	141.75

All quotations are subject to daily fluctuations.

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