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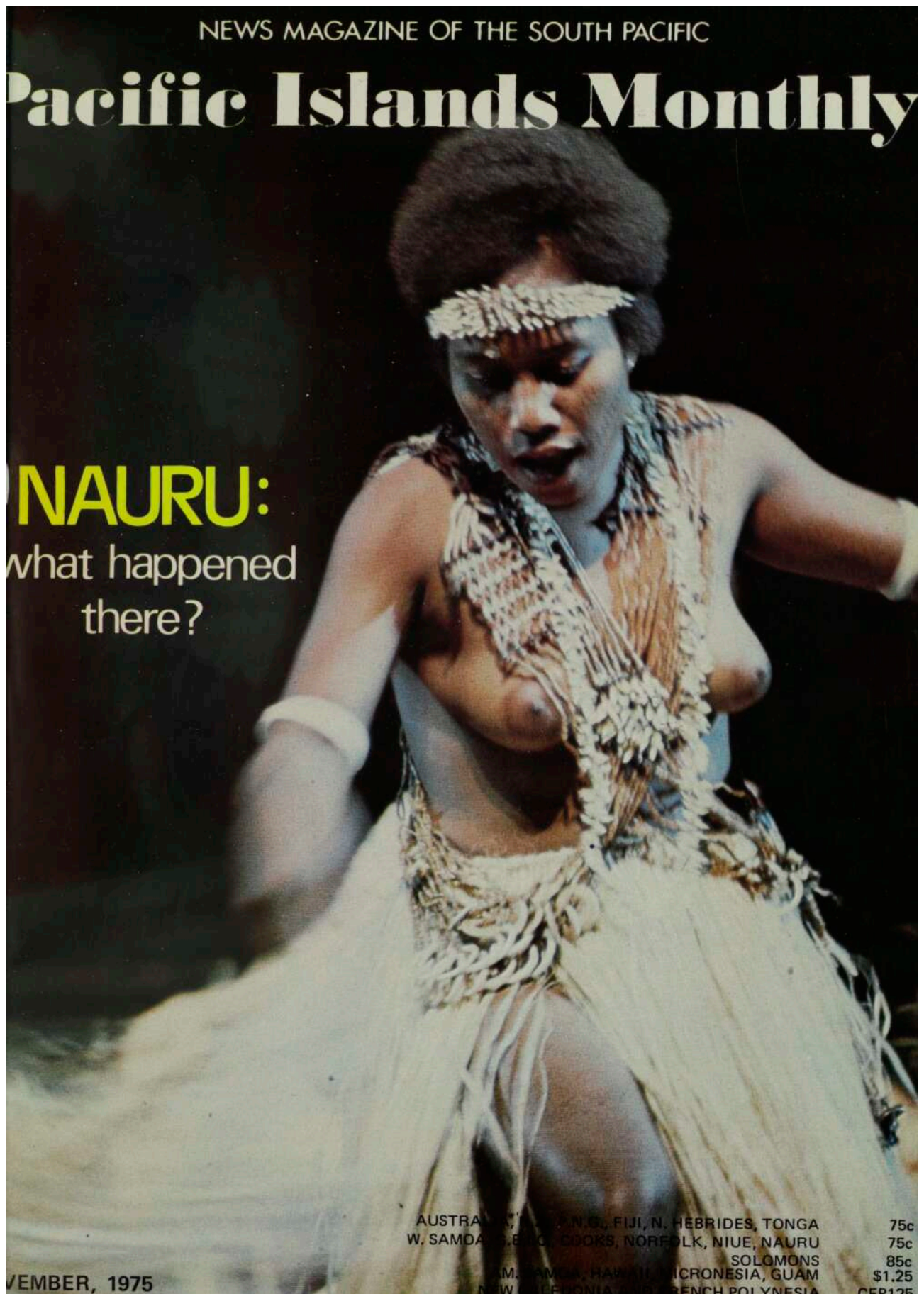
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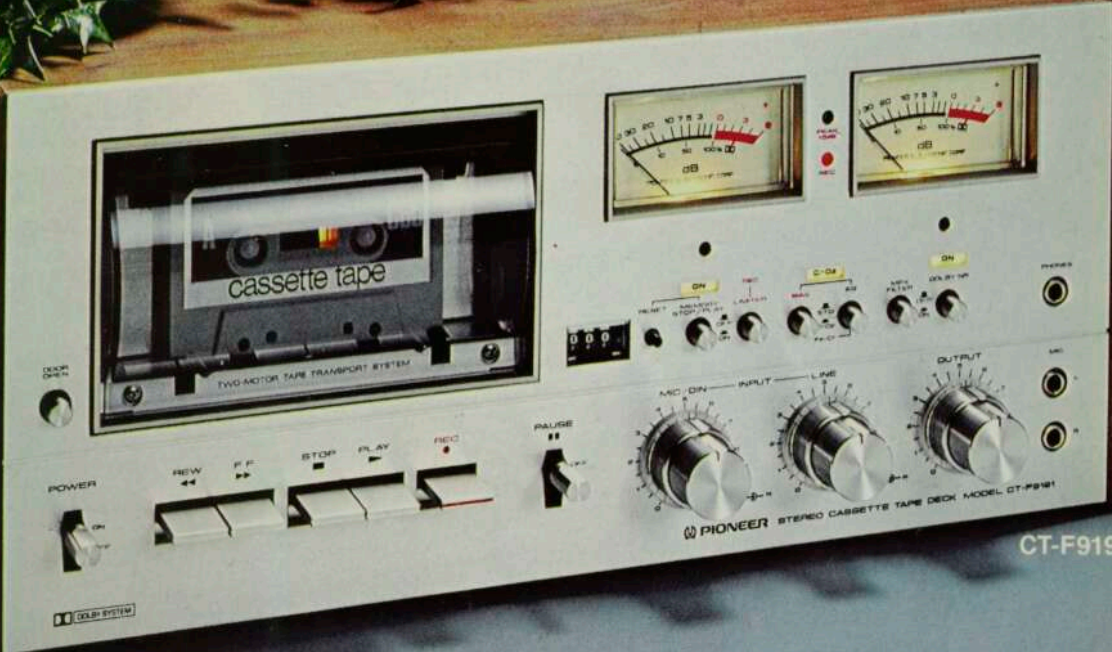
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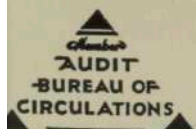
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November, 1975

PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY—NOVEMBER, 1975



Up Front with the Publisher

Written on NAURU

I PUT my slim, smart executive-styled briefcase on the bar table next to John Moses, who had been waiting to see me, and ordered a gin.

"That attache case is not YOU," exclaimed Moses. "What in heck has happened to your battered old crocodile-skin bag?"

He seemed almost incredulous.

In 20 years of Island hopping, that bulgy bag and I have been inseparable, but not until that moment in Suva the other day did it occur to me that anyone would have thought it worthy of comment.

Well, it's gone, and I have to admit to myself that I loved that bag—in the same way I loved a battered Volkswagen I drove for 12 years. The bag burst for the last time at the end of Papua New Guinea's Independence celebrations only a week before I flew to Suva. I suppose it was a fitting end to a bag that has done such loyal work in the Islands, and one whose skin probably came from Papua New Guinea anyhow.

For 20 years that crocodile skin bag was continuously being stuffed with reports, notes, photographs, manuscripts, proofs and letters on Island affairs from hundreds of sorties out of Sydney. It's been crammed with books and whisky bottles. One pouch in it permanently held a plastic raincoat that has saved me from a thousand sudden Island showers.

The end of that bag also happens to coincide with the end of a personal era for me. From October 1, I passed over PIM editorship to John Carter, which is why this column is from the Publisher, not the Editor. I have had the chair for 18 years. John has been assistant editor for the last few, but for many years before that he was chief reporter for The Fiji Times, in Suva, and in his many years of Island travel he has long since become completely identified with the Pacific and its problems, and with PIM. I will continue to contribute to PIM as publisher, under John's competent editorship.

PORT MORESBY is a place where I feel immediately at home as soon as I get off the plane. Within the hour I am wearing the town like an old comfortable pair of boots, as if I had always lived there.

That rather special feeling I have for Port Moresby is now, somewhat

to my surprise, shared with Nauru. I'm surprised because this visit to cover the conference is only my third to Nauru, and the previous one was almost seven years ago during Independence.

But there is the same feeling of warmth here, or personal friendship and of a general generosity of spirit. Like Papua New Guineans, Nauruans away from home can take on a certain reservation and formality, but at home on Nauru I am surrounded by cheerful faces that I realise I have known well for many years. Around the streets I am continually greeting or being greeted by old friends.

Perhaps, because of Hammer DeRoburt's paternal but positive leadership, Independence has brought a confidence here that I find comfortable. Thus, I own a second pair of favourite old boots, with Nauru's name stitched into the leather.

IT'S not true, that I've visited every island in the South Pacific, or that I ever will. Among those that have escaped me are Rotuma, north of Fiji, and Ocean Island, east of Nauru. I have been reminded of both of them here on Nauru. Among the South Pacific Conference visitors are Q. Weston and his wife Jill, whom I first met in Levuka, Fiji, in 1958, when Q. was Commissioner Eastern and Rotuma was part of his responsibility.

He was then about to depart by smallship for Rotuma for a few days and invited me along. I declined, saying I had a few other things to do and "would catch up with Rotuma the next time around". Naturally, that was the last opportunity I have ever had of visiting Rotuma.

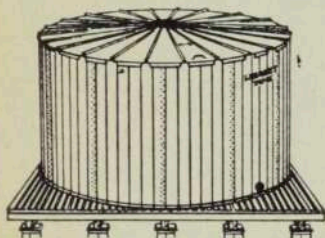
This week on Nauru when I was given the opportunity to visit Ocean Island aboard the Nauruan ship Eigamoiya, I discarded all my previous plans and grasped the opportunity with four pairs of hands. I enjoyed the 14-hour voyage there, and the 14 hours back.

But what I saw of Ocean Island I saw with the aid of the ship's glasses, because the weather was too bad to enable me to land. I wonder if it will also be the last opportunity I have of visiting Ocean Island, before the phosphate is exhausted and it sinks into oblivion.—Stuart Inder

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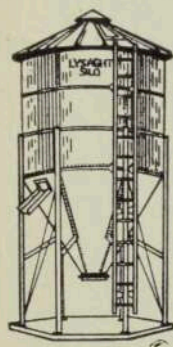
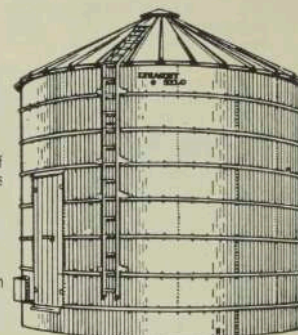


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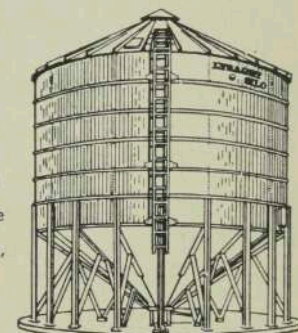
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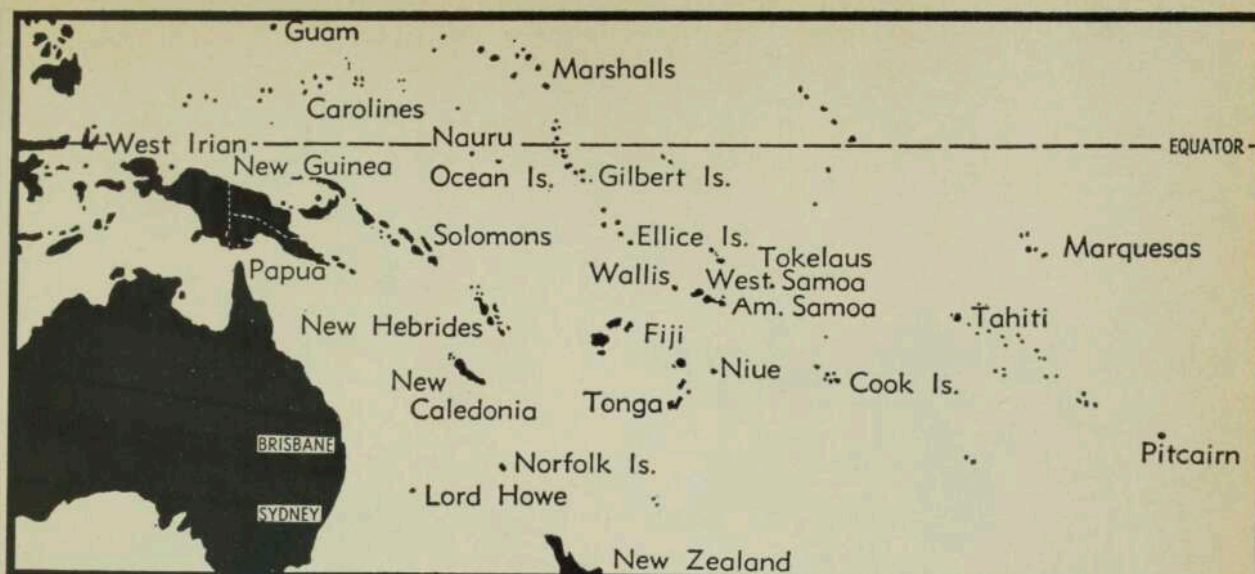
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OUR COVER

Poetry in glamorous motion "frozen" by the camera held by Ukraine-born photographer Stan Goik. The dancer, from the Solomon Islands, was performing at the Sydney Opera House.

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'SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION NEEDS A HEART TRANSPLANT'

From STUART INDER, on Nauru

The South Pacific Commission is sicker than any of us thought, and it needs more than a blood transfusion to recover. I suspect it needs a heart transplant.

That's my diagnosis after having sat through the 15th South Pacific Conference, held here on Nauru from September 29 to October 10.

I've never attended a South Pacific Conference so depressing in its frustrations, or in its inability for most of its sitting days to stir itself into any kind of action.

When it did, only in the final day or two, it made the one significant decision of the whole meeting. And that was to set up a review committee to re-evaluate urgently the entire function of the South Pacific Commission!

Having thus recorded that result, I don't intend to bore you, as we were all bored silly at the conference, with a point by point description of the meeting's tedious progress; about who said what, and who drafted what amendments to already thrice-amended draft resolutions on matters of no special significance anyway.

Simply accept my word that there was the greatest percentage of wasted wordage at this conference than in any previous, and probably the great-

est weight of unread paper. Although there was so frequent a reference to doing things "the Pacific Way" that the term finally became a bad joke, it was a most un-Island conference.

There was too much formality in the conference hall itself, too many un-Pacific expressions such as "in deference to the Distinguished Delegate from . . .", and "Yes, I agree with my Distinguished Friend on his valuable contribution to debate, but might I suggest we make this minor amendment to read as follows . . ." The simple digging stick was replaced by a bulldozer fitted with a grading blade, and we were all covered in a continual dust cloud.

Papua New Guinea's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Sir Maori Kiki, once exploded in one of the conference's too-infrequent moments of plain speaking, "We have had an ear bashing! If people have nothing to say they should just shut up!"

Another time, Mahe Tupouniua, there as an observer in his capacity of director of the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation, said when asked for information on a particular matter, "I have brought no paper on it because there is too much paper here", and proceeded to offer instead a stinging verbal blast

about the conference's lack of direction, and action.

Looking back at the recent history of both the SPC and the conferences, which have now become identified as the one package, we perhaps should have realised that this conference would meet trouble. It was after all, two or three years back that people first began to count all the words and the money spent, and measure them against the commission's achievements. Clearly, nobody had liked what they saw.

But last year at Rarotonga there was a false summer. The delegates had finally whittled down the influence of the colonial powers to acceptable levels, and had streamlined procedures to such an extent that PIM man John Carter was able to report from that 14th Conference, "Sweet reason permeated the atmosphere like at no other conference in SPC history".

The SPC had really run out of red blood corpuscles without anybody noticing, and the sweet reasonableness was in fact a sign of approaching semi-coma. Which is surely why the 15th Conference met on Nauru with such awful lethargy.

Yet it started on a hopeful note in Nauru's magnificent new \$4-million Civic Centre, with President



Island style. Fiji's Prime Minister, Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, dancing with Miss Ofa Panapasa, of the SPC Secretariat staff at one of the conference's many social functions. Opposite page, the conference in session.

DeRoburt being aware of differences of opinion on the work of the commission but stressing that Nauru was not of the school of thought, if it existed, "which considers that the commission has had its day".

Where else but through the commission, he asked, could the metropolitan and Island countries meet as friends and equals? He said the SPC was not unresponsive to constructive criticism, but it was the responsibility of the conference to ensure that the Islands got value for money from the commission, and this could be done by delegates "approaching the agenda with a view to securing clear-cut decisions".

One soon began to suspect that there was to be no immediate clear-cut decision-making despite the President's warning. But things did again begin to sound promising next day when Fiji's Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, the only Prime Minister at the conference, pitched in with criticism on the lack of a grass roots approach within the SPC.

He suggested the larger donor countries might still exert too much influence on projects; the commission was not attuned to assisting Islanders on the basic need of shelter and food, of using their local resources,

of improving their subsistence economies. If the SPC was not meeting the basic needs of the village (and Ratu Mara left no doubt that he thought it wasn't) then it should be re-examined, he said.

French Representative Henri Nettle agreed to the extent there was need for the SPC to concentrate on practical, consolidated programmes.

But soon after this injection of spirit, and after a game of golf, Ratu Mara flew back to Fiji, leaving his criticism to fester.

With the patient being, as we now know, in a weakened state through anaemia, reaction was slow. Especially as by now the whole conference was adrift.

It was sent occasionally a few yards in this direction or that by the indeterminate paddling of Dr Joseph Williams, Cook Islands' Minister of Health and Education, and Palauni Tuiasosopo, Assistant to the Governor of American Samoa. Dr Williams had the kind of precise, carefully modulated delivery that appeared to prevent him from stating anything briefly. He also appeared fascinated by the theory and practice of the resolution, and could be depended upon to draft resolutions, move them, second them, amend them, speak to them and otherwise pay homage to them in all their parts.

Mr Tuiasosopo, I suspect, simply liked talking, and it's time his best friend took him aside.

Both men did have many useful contributions to make, especially in committee, but in the final analysis I believe that their verbal trigger-happiness over the entire course of the conference probably had the effect of despatching at birth some

worthwhile comments by Islanders which otherwise may have seen the light of day and sparked much-needed debate and interest.

As it was, we usually only heard these sorts of matters being discussed privately, in small groups over drinks during the busy social rounds that accompanied the conference. Thus the frustrations grew, and fed on each other.

Conference chairman Kenas Aroi had the authority to put better order into affairs, and to encourage greater distribution of speakers. But surprisingly in a man with the reputation of being a competent, firm Speaker of the Nauru Parliament, he never appeared comfortable or confident, and the conference heard most from the conference chairman via the whispered exchanges on procedure between him and SPC secretary-general Fred Betham that were picked up by the sensitive microphones.

And so, drearily, to the major business.

The SPC Budget took a great deal of time to dispense with, despite the work of the Planning Committee which had met in Noumea earlier this year, and a conference ad hoc committee established to re-examine the figures in light of later information on income and costs. The ad hoc committee chopped thousands from the budget estimates with an unexpectedly firm hand (see separate story on the next page). Without the work of the committee, the drift-

Senator Douglas McClelland, leading the Australian delegation (right) intently follows a discussion with Peni Naqasima, of Fiji (left), and M. L. Taulealo, of Western Samoa.



ing vessel may actually have filled up and sank without trace.

Proposals on establishing a South Pacific Regional Development Bank and a Pacific Law Centre, both survivors of earlier conference deliberations, a battered survivor in the bank's case, were again shelved—which as much as anything indicates the difficulty of getting consensus on significant issues at any South Pacific Conference, let alone following them through.

Another agenda item, that of replacement of Fred Betham as SPC secretary-general by Dr E. M. Salato, of Fiji, following Mr Betham's retirement in November after four years, was achieved without debate only because Dr Salato's name was the only one put forward.

Dr Salato's appointment is for three years, and when in his acceptance speech he referred to his "challenging years ahead", he sounded as if he meant it.

He referred to Ratu Mara's grass roots call, and said the SPC needed not only money and staff, but full and active support "moulded in the crucible of tolerance and tempered with the spirit of true co-operation and partnership".

Later in the conference it was sug-

TWO BIG MEETINGS FOR 1976

There will be two large SPC conferences in 1976—a review conference and the 16th South Pacific Conference.

The review will be undertaken by a committee of senior government and territorial representatives who will meet in Nauru about May. Their report will go to the 16th Conference, which will meet in Noumea in October.

The October conference will not be at SPC headquarters in Noumea, but at another site yet to be announced. This is because the invitation for the conference to meet in Noumea has been made officially by New Caledonia, which thus becomes the host country, and will supply the conference chairman. Vice-chairman will be David Kausimae, of the Solomons.

Members of the Review Committee for the May meeting have yet to be decided. All governments and territories are eligible to send representatives, but they have until this November 30 to decide if they want to participate.

Meanwhile a two-man commission is to be appointed by the Secretariat to carry out an independent investigation into functions appropriate for the SPC and to report to the Review Committee. Also working papers will be solicited from Fiji, Australia, New Zealand and any other government or interested organisation.

One of the tasks of the Review Committee will be to consider a change of name for the SPC.

gested unkindly that perhaps the SPC needed less money and fewer staff. The suggestion came from the leader of the Australian delegation, Senator Douglas McClelland, when talking in support of a paper earlier circulated

by Australia suggesting a review of the SPC agreement and of the working of the organisation. This paper had been promised at the Rarotonga conference.

Senator McClelland, who introduced himself happily to everybody simply as "Doug McClelland of Australia", supported Ratu Mara's contention that aid was not always concentrated on practical projects.

He said there appeared also to be a scattering of resources through many small items of expenditure, and he continued: "Several members of this conference have said that the regular programme items and special projects are not really the answer to the region's needs. If this is so, clearly there are fundamental functional faults. I pose these questions:

"Does the aid respond in a practical and modern way to what the people of the Pacific region require? For instance is it still appropriate to keep a permanent team of experts in Noumea? Should major projects, with long-term financial implications, go into the work programme? Should outside agencies be responsible for specialised meetings?"

The senator said the Australian paper had suggested an SPC review meeting for 1977, but "in fact we feel the date may almost have been overtaken".

He continued: "It appears to be the mood of this conference that the aid function of the SPC requires examination well before 1977. The Prime Minister of Fiji has posed the question whether the commission's aid programmes respond to grass root needs. This is not a question which

THE MONEY THEY'LL SPEND

The South Pacific Commission's regular budget for 1975-76 gives it a total income of \$2,000,578—all of which will be spent. The income is made up of \$1,841,950 contributed by the nine participating governments, plus a special grant of \$50,000 from Nauru, some other grants, \$8,000 from reserves, and \$7,000 from the sale of publications.

During the new year the SPC plans to spend \$362,000 of its income on administrative services, and \$1,638,000 on the works programme and services. The works programme expenditure includes \$582,000 on programme direction, \$169,000 on health, \$259,000 on social work, \$235,000 on economic matters, \$107,000 on the publications bureau, \$99,000 on general expenditure, \$90,000 on the next South Pacific Conference, and it will have \$95,000 in a reserve fund, mainly to deal with expected inflationary costs.

Here is the money that each government has given towards the general budget:

Australia (30% of the contributions) \$552,586; Fiji (1%) \$18,419; France (14%) \$257,874; Nauru (1%) \$18,419; New Zealand (16%) \$294,712; Papua New Guinea (1%) \$18,419; United Kingdom (16%) \$294,712; United States (20%) \$368,390; Western Samoa (1%) \$18,419.

In addition, the following territories and countries, who are not participating governments in the commission, have given these amounts, all in Australian currency:

American Samoa \$1,968; Cook Islands \$2,875; French Polynesia \$1,000; Gilbert Islands \$1,723; Guam \$5,512; New Caledonia \$2,000; New Hebrides \$2,300; Niue \$1,254; Solomon Islands \$1,900; Tokelau Islands \$779; Tonga \$1,000; Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands \$1,968; Tuvalu \$1,000; Wallis and Futuna \$165.

On top of this income, the SPC also has a special projects budget, funded by voluntary contributions. For 1976 the income for this will be \$551,875, comprising \$250,000 each from Australia and New Zealand, \$50,000 from France and \$1,875 from Nauru. Of this total, health projects will get \$191,000, social \$68,000, economics \$199,000, and general projects \$43,000.

should be left unanswered. When we get the answer, everyone will be in a better position to consider in what other ways the structure of the commission should be changed."

Doug McClelland of Australia then built on an earlier proposal by Dr Williams, of the Cooks, that a committee of review be established to report back to the 16th conference in Noumea next October. So the pieces now began to come together, until with various helpful, and sometimes unhelpful, comments from various directions in the next day or two, the conference decided to set up a review committee to meet in Nauru about May next year, "to conduct an exhaustive re-evaluation of the total function and organisation of the South Pacific Commission, with the view towards recommending changes necessary to enable the organisation to respond more positively and effectively to the changing times and needs of its members".

The resolution also said the review committee should consider a change of name for the South Pacific Commission. This was something which had come out of the 14th conference, where it had been agreed that the name South Pacific Commission didn't adequately describe the geographical scope of the Pacific Islands represented by the commission, as some of the islands were north of the Equator.

So at the request of that conference, the SPC earlier this year conducted a competition for a new name among residents living within the region, with a \$100 first prize. The SPC received a total of 375 names, got it down to a short list of 22 and submitted this to the 1975 Planning Committee meeting in Noumea, which in turn submitted four of the names for a final decision by the Nauru conference.

In order of preference by the SPC, the recommendations were: Pacific Islands Commission; Pacific Islands Organisation; Pacific Regional Commission; and Fono Pasifika.

When the matter came up in Nauru, Papua New Guinea's Sir Maori Kiki was all for getting the decision over with and said the first preference was good enough for him. But when it appeared there were going to be a few other brave souls ready to nail their colours to the mast the debate was shelved.

Among those who helped push the conference finally towards a full SPC review was 30-year-old Niue Minister for Education, Agriculture and Development, Mr Young Vivian. During the deadly course of the conference he had become increasingly annoyed at the lack of action, and, one afternoon, he had been particularly in-

censed at hearing the big countries repeating one after another that they would give a percentage increase in their grants, "so long as others also did so".

There were no strings to Niue's grant, among some others, and Young Vivian said: "It has been very disappointing, humiliating, disgusting, frustrating, to hear the donor countries say they will give their increase if Joe down the road does the same. Now I know what a monkey feels like when a banana is held up to him outside the cage! We are small. Do you have to make us feel smaller? We have increased our percentage from last year, just like the little Tokalaus. We are making no problems about it."

The conference listened in silence as Young Vivian told about the efforts of Niue, population 3,000, to support itself and to survive in a big world. He said Niue had on its rugged island an area occupied by crabs and birds, which people were absolutely forbidden to enter, because it was set aside by tradition for the hungry times. In hungry times the people would be told they could forage there for food.

"Niue has little faith in the future," said Young Vivian. "Where would we go if the New Zealand housewives said they didn't like our passionfruit? Where would we go then and what would we do?"

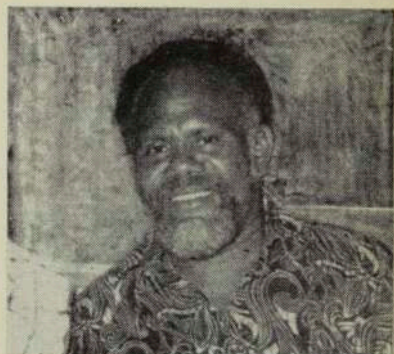
The man from Niue said a review was certainly needed of what the SPC stood for, and added, "Once as a child I had a little prayer which said, 'Oh Lord, renew a right spirit within me'. I say now, 'Oh Lord, renew a right spirit within the conference!'"

Outside the hall he was warmly congratulated.

To help stage the review conference the Nauru delegation announced that Nauru would make a cash gift to the SPC of \$50,000. This moved 32-year-old Bwebwetake Areieta, Minister for Communications, Works and Utilities in the Gilbert Islands, who felt Nauru's generosity rather showed up the big powers.

"It seems to me," he said, "that if the commission collapses tomorrow

Faces at the conference, from top, Bwebwetake Areieta, of the Gilberts; Rene Harris and Kinza Clodumar, of Nauru; David Kausimae, of the Solomons; Luciano Perez, leader of the three delegates from the Tokelau Islands. David Kausemai was elected vice-chairman of the 16th conference, scheduled for Noumea next October.



because it hasn't got enough funds to continue functioning, our biggest brothers would be hesitant to come to its aid. As far as I'm concerned, very little has been done by the bigger powers to help develop Islands' territories in the South Pacific. Most of their aid has been pouring into the Middle East, South-East Asia or in nuclear weapons or nuclear tests.

"This is my second time at a conference, the first was in 1971, and during all this time people have always been talking about regional co-operation. I think we are not practising the true concept of the term."

Areieta said that if they talked about a regional bank then it had to be helpful to the Islands and not confined to the already richer countries. If they talked regional trade, then all exports shouldn't go to Europe.

"In the Gilberts we find it very expensive nowadays to buy a pound of sugar from Australia, and I'm sure it would be cheaper to buy in Fiji".

Some people thought he was a bit hard on the bigger powers about their contribution's policy, with New Zealand for instance putting in voluntarily \$NZ300,000 in addition to 16 per cent of the budget, and Australia putting in \$A250,000, in addition to 30 per cent of the budget. But there was no doubt he was striking the right note on the need for a better distribution of resources among the Islands of the South Pacific. There was certainly need for a new trade pattern. But how to do this?

The conference resolved this by making other recommendations, this one a direction to the SPC secretariat "to investigate in consultation and collaboration with the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation and other interested organisations, the possibility of creating a South Pacific Common Market Board and other means of actively promoting regional trade, and to submit its findings to the 16th South Pacific Conference and the 1976 Meeting of the South Pacific Forum".

Thus, again, the South Pacific conference had not done anything. It had merely talked, and put the thought aside in the hope that someone else might do something.

It's an appropriate note to end with. But, as a postscript, and as President DeRoburt referred to Women's Year, it's worthy of note that there were only nine women members of delegations out of a total of 87—a secretary with the Australian team, an adviser from the Gilberts, three delegates from Nauru and one each from Niue, Papua New Guinea, the United Kingdom and Western Samoa.



At one of the many social functions, Tongans Mahe Tupouniua, director of the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation, now living in Suva, and Sione Kite, programme administration officer of the SPC, now living in Noumea, photographed with Miss Sonya Broquet, secretary to the SPC secretary-general.

Dancing, feasting into the Nauruan dawn

Roast pigs from the Solomons, fruit from Japan, Island dance teams from Micronesia, a band from the Cook Islands, T-shirts from Hong Kong, book matches from Australia and drinking water from all over the Pacific. These are some of the imported ingredients which went to make the social arrangements for the 15th South Pacific Conference the most successful, and probably the most colourful, of any conference.

Although the debates within the conference itself were less than satisfactory, the hospitality and generosity of the Republic of Nauru and the many arrangements made for the reception of the 140 delegates and observers and their entertainment after conference hours, were a huge success. They brought nothing but praise from the visitors, many of whom were frankly astounded at the detail of the arrangements.

Nauru had been working for 12 months to make itself a worthy host to the conference, but in recent months there had been greatly increased activity as the republic's own ships and airlines brought in equipment and supplies from all points of the compass.

The Nauru Civic Centre, begun in March last year on the site of the old hospital and social hall, was rushed through to the point where the conference could occupy the

main function hall and offices, although a cinema and some other facilities of the \$4-million complex have still to be finished by the Honolulu firm of builders.

The main air-conditioned hall, where the conference took place, is magnificent in design, with every kind of comfort and facility, including an up-to-the-minute communications system that allowed delegates to move freely about the conference and still hear proceedings in either French or English through individual electronic ear-pieces, issued to each participant.

The old Hotel Menen, at Anibare Bay, where most of the VIP delegates stayed, had been improved and extended (it now has a total of 58 rooms) at a cost of \$3 million and is of top standard in design and facilities. A day and night shuttle service of small, fast buses moved delegates between the hall and the hotel and to other accommodation made available to them at nominal cost in government and Nauru Phosphate Corporation housing. Cars and drivers were made available to delegate leaders.

The republic had also rushed through work on widening and sealing the round-island road of 12 miles, done by Japanese contractors in six months at a cost of \$1.6 million. A whole new modern telephone system, Japanese built, was put into the

island to coincide with the conference.

Although most SPC member governments put on social functions during the conference, the Nauruan nights were easily the most memorable and Island in atmosphere—especially a night of feasting and dancing put on by President DeRoburt in his other capacity of Head Chief of Nauru.

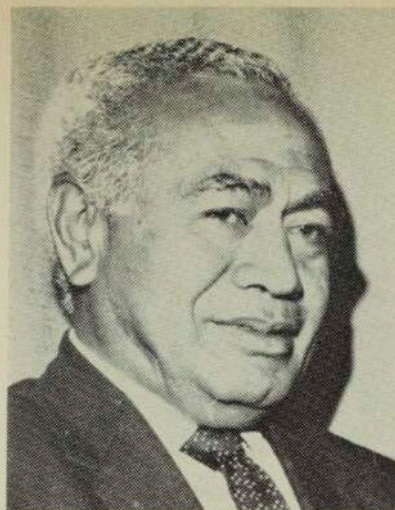
The Head Chief directed all the arrangements himself for the feasting, which was in the grounds of his own house near the conference hall, and he was still working when the first guests began arriving, so he had no chance to change out of his working shorts. That party went on all night, helped by dancers from Truk and other areas of the US Trust Territory of Micronesia who were flown in by Air Nauru to put on some of the most fascinating dancing seen at any Conference.

Food had also been flown to Nauru from other parts of the Pacific, and delegates danced to the rhythm of Jake's Band. Jake (Rarotonga fireman Jake Numanga), with brothers Tamatoa and Ti Short, who run a plantation when they are not belting out the rhythm, were brought by air from Rarotonga as guests of Nauru, and played on no fewer than seven evenings during the conference, twice going right through the night until 1 am and once until 7 am. But Jake agreed that the daddy of them all was the Head Chief's party, which finally finished at 10 am the next day in a house several miles away, with President DeRoburt as the leading participant.

Other Island entertainments that took conference delegates into the dawn hours were feasts put on by the leader of the Nauruan delegation, Kuraro Detudamo, who is also Nauru's Minister for Works and Community Services, by the three ladies of the Nauruan delegation, and by the managing director of the re-public-owned Nauru Phosphate Corporation.

The NPC was a vital link in the supply of food and also of water to the conference visitors. NPC catering supervisor Alex Waugh, with a staff of 15, including kitchens, bakery and butchery, worked round the clock, supplying more than 5,100 meals in addition to extra meals put on in regular mess-rooms, and the meals supplied to the hotel.

At the big party at the NPC's Cliff Lodge, Waugh's staff started at 4.30 pm and were still cleaning up at 1.30 pm next day. Stewards and kitchen staff on Nauruan-owned ships offshore were also pressed into service and they sent ashore a stream of



If the SPC is sick, then, maybe, the new Secretary-General, Macu Salato, is the very man to attend to it. He's a doctor. His new job means he's embarking on his third career—doctor, diplomat and now the SPC's chief executive. Born in Fiji's Lau Group, Dr Salato won three gold medals out of four in his final examinations at the Fiji School of Medicine in 1935. Then he got his Diploma in Health Education at London University and was with the Fiji Medical Department from 1936 to 1972, with the exception of two years World War II service in the Fiji Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve. He was Mayor of Suva in 1970 and in 1972 left for overseas as acting Fiji High Commissioner in London and Ambassador to the EEC in Brussels. He was awarded a CBE in 1973.

meals and savouries to help out the staff at the hotel and hard-working Tongan waiters there under chief steward John Tonga.

Nauru has insufficient water supplies of its own and imports water by ship to keep the island's storage tank topped up. But as Nauru was currently in the grip of a drought, extra supplies had to be brought in to meet this in addition to the extra needs of the conference delegates for a fortnight.

The largest single quantity of water shipped in during the conference, and the biggest ever single load to reach Nauru, was 30,000 tons aboard a new Japanese tanker, the Silverway, directly out of a Japanese shipyard and en-route to Australia. It was chartered especially by the NPC as a water carrier.

Most delegates were not aware of Nauru's water problem, and with true island hospitality their hosts didn't bother to draw it to their attention, let alone mention the cost to the republic of its importation.

It was a quiet birth for Tuvalu

From STUART INDER, on Nauru

There was no flag-waving or fireworks on Tuvalu on October 1. When my Air Pacific aircraft put down at the capital, Funafuti, at mid-morning, the new-born colony was clearly taking its new status in the manner in which it can be expected to approach its future—with quiet reserve.

October 1 was Constitution Day—the day that the Gilbert and Ellice Islands became legally separated and the Ellice changed its name. There was a small crowd at the airport to welcome Mr Tom Layng, who had been Deputy Governor of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony until the previous day, but who now is Deputy Governor of the Gilbert Islands and Her Majesty's Commissioner in Tuvalu. He would be from that afternoon, anyhow.

Mr Layng had been in Fiji and we were on the same plane, together with—Mr Layng hoped—a parcel of printed Constitutions for Tuvalu which he intended to distribute publicly after being sworn in and officially proclaiming the Constitution that day. As it happened, there was no parcel in the freight compartments, so he made do with the single copy he had, pinning it up on the wall of the meeting house that afternoon after he had read it out.

Among the crowd at the airport, whose surroundings were still showing signs of the ravages of Hurricane Bebe three years previously, were six of the eight members of Tuvalu's new House of Assembly.

The assembly is to have its first meeting on October 28, during which the eight elected members will be joined by the Attorney-General and Financial-Secretary, as ex-officio members, and will elect a Speaker from their numbers. The elected members represent eight of the nine former Ellice islands, the ninth, Niulakita, being tiny and regarded as part of Niutao anyway. The name Tuvalu is the old name of Ellice and means 'eight standing together'.

The welcome of the parliament-

arians for Tom Layng was a warm one. Mr Layng will continue to live at Tarawa, in the Gilberts. In fact there will continue to be much to-ing and fro-ing between Funafuti and Tarawa at least until the new year, while the two territories satisfactorily complete their separation.

From October 1 to January 1, Tuvalu is still administratively linked to Tarawa so as to make the separation formalities as smooth as possible.

From January 1, Tuvalu is set adrift, with direct access to Britain going through Her Majesty's Commissioner. She is then a separate colony of Britain in just the same way that the Gilberts are.

Of the six members of the new House I saw at the airport there was a possibility that one would become Tuvalu's first Chief Minister the next day, when the election was to be held from among the eight members. The two missing men were Isakala Paeniu and Tau Finikaso.

The information I had was that the Chief Minister would either be Isakala Paeniu or Toalipi Lauti. Some time earlier, front-running had definitely been given to Isa, but I heard on Funafuti that morning that Isa had lost his chance because he had for too long preached the gospel of non-separation of the two groups.

The fact was that the Ellice Islanders had been overwhelmingly in favour of separation during the referendum of August-September, 1974, and now appeared quite prepared to paddle their own canoe despite the obvious need for some furious baling.

The seven of us talked for half an hour while the search went on in the aircraft compartments for the parcel of Constitutions. The six members said they knew very well that Tuvalu had ended up with little in a material sense out of today's separation. They would get one small ship, the Nivanga, absolutely no money from the Ocean Island phosphate royalties, a fish and coconut economy virtually at subsistence level for their population of 7,000, and a promise of a handout from the UK.

They were at least their own man, and the choice had been theirs, they said—but surely Australia and New Zealand could do something for them? We discussed it. We discussed what I had heard discussed many times over many years by these same islanders, that is, the need for tempo-

Her Majesty's Commissioner in Tuvalu, Mr Tom Layng, on his arrival at Funafuti to proclaim the constitution of the new British dependency.



Toalipi Lauti, 44-year-old ex-schoolteacher who is Tuvalu's first Chief Minister. He was born in Papua New Guinea and his name, Toalipi, is a corruption of Toaripi, in the Papuan Gulf, where his father, Lauti Kae, was an LMS missionary. He was educated in the Ellice (Tuvalu), Fiji and New Zealand.

rary or permanent migration to Australia and New Zealand.

Tuvaluans, they said (and one should add, Gilbertese) should be able to benefit like the Niueans, West Samoans and Cook Islanders, who lived or worked in New Zealand and sent much-needed money home. Tongans weren't New Zealand citizens, but they worked in New Zealand. What could Australia do for the Tuvaluans? Surely aid was going to be needed?

I don't speak for Australia, but I reported that Australia had set itself against temporary migration for workers, and that there was evidence that the strength of the unions in Australia saw to it that the government would continue to operate this policy.

This unofficial open-air meeting of the new Tuvalu House of Assembly was not particularly impressed by my explanation, and I could hardly blame them.

My aircraft flew north to the great

lagoon of Tarawa, headquarters of the new separate colony of the Gilbert Islands, population 43,000, and then to the Republic of Nauru, population 7,000, only about 3,800 of them being Nauruans (most of the others being Gilbert or Tuvalu workers in the phosphate).

On October 2 we heard the results of the Tuvalu elections. There had been two nominations, that of Toalipi and Isa. Isa got two votes, his own and that of the Member for Nukufetau. Toalipi got six.

Tuvalu heard the details in the very first broadcast of Radio Tuvalu, with an interview by Faimalanga Luka with the new Chief Minister, who said he had this message to give to all the people of Tuvalu:

"We have now a Chief Minister, and that's me. I do not want to be famous but I want to serve you as your servant, so that we can obtain what we have been aiming for. We should be united to achieve a common good for Tuvalu. For those things which we do not yet have and wish to have, I assure you that I shall do my best to make the Government of Tuvalu a good one so that we can get them. There will be difficulties, but we should never be disheartened and give up all too easily".

It was a simple and honest message which he repeated two days later at the South Pacific Conference here at Nauru, when he arrived to take the seat that had been reserved for the Tuvalu delegate.

He was given an extremely cordial welcome by President DeRoburt, an old friend who later described the new Chief Minister to me as a fair, honest and very capable man. The President should know, because for 12 years Toalipi Lauti was Labour Relations and Training Officer on Nauru, first for the British Phosphate Commissioners and then with the Nauruan Phosphate Corporation. He left Nauru last year only because his people asked him to come home so they could elect him unopposed to the GEIC House of Assembly as Member for Funafuti. By then, sepa-



ration was in the air, and he was needed.

Toalipi told the conference in his maiden address that he was pleased that the birth of Tuvalu had been so readily accepted, and that Tuvalu was now able to work out its destiny on its own. Meanwhile Tuvaluans thanked their Gilbertese friends and could assure them they would continue to maintain and extend their good relations.

Toalipi's new cabinet is Minister for Social Services, Taui Finikaso, and Minister for Commerce and Industries, Tomu Sione. As Chief Minister, Toalipi also holds the portfolio of Home Affairs.

At a news conference he explained that Tuvalu had decided to go separately because democracy was a rule of the majority, and the Ellice would always have been a minority in the GEIC. The people had to retain their identity.

Yes, he would like to see self-government—which Tuvalu now had—followed by independence as soon as possible—possibly in two or three years.

Meanwhile, they depended upon Britain, who had promised development money to make it possible to build administration offices and staff housing and get the new government running. From 1975 to 1978, the UK had promised about \$4 million, but this presumably would drop when there was no further need for establishment costs.

He expected that total internal revenue for the first year would be no more than about \$400,000, from taxes, some copra sales and sale of postage stamps. Projections were that as much as \$300,000 might come from stamps the first year.

"We have been assured we can be independent without being financially independent", he said, "But I don't like that. It's got to be real independence".

There is also untangling to be done of the joint GEIC co-operative, so that Tuvalu can get continuity of supplies as it moves over to dealing with suppliers direct. And then, of course, there's the physical disruption caused by moving Tuvalu public servants from Tarawa to the new headquarters.

Probably most men's families will be transferred before housing is ready for them, because now that the split has been made the public servants are anxious that it be completed before relations deteriorate. There are resentments on Tarawa about the transfer of allegiance, because Ellice Islanders have been important to the proper functioning of the GEIC public service.



Mr Justice Megarry, aloof as befits a High Court judge, as the Eigamoiya approaches Ocean Island.

From the Middle Temple to the South Seas

It's now almost 40 years since Gilchrist Alexander wrote his autobiographical book of reminiscences of a British barrister from London's Middle Temple who became a Fiji magistrate, titled *From the Middle Temple to the South Seas*. If they should get a copy of the book, some of Alexander's experiences would probably be of interest to British High Court Judge Sir Robert Megarry and a small group of London barristers and solicitors who in October made their own quick dash from the Middle Temple to the South Seas. The Middle Temple is one of the Inns of Court, the centre of the British legal profession.

The occasion was the case of the Banaban people of Ocean Island who are suing the British Crown and the British Phosphate Commissioners over their past use of the island—a case which has been going on for some months.

Mr Justice Megarry, who is hearing the matter, agreed to adjourn the London court for a special visit of inspection to Ocean Island.

With him went a large part of the court, including Sir Robert's clerk, Mr Arthur Bradford, who at 65, is the same age as the judge; Mr John Vinelott, QC, who is the counsel leading the Crown case, with Mr Roy Price, the Treasury solicitor instructing him; Mr Donald Rattee, the barrister representing the British Phosphate Commissioners at the hearing, with his instructing solicitor, Mr

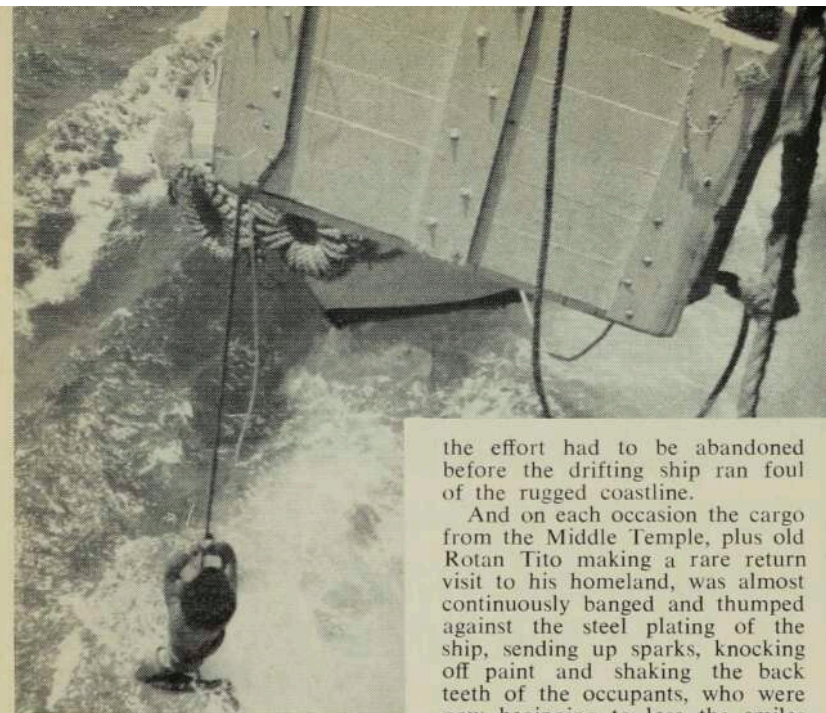
George Clarke; Mr John McDonald, barrister leading the Banaban case, with his instructing solicitor, Mr Keith Hollis.

The court first spent a couple of days looking at conditions at Rabi Island, including the state of the villages, and plantations. They were accompanied by Mr Richard Turpin, lands courts officer for the Gilberts and Tuvalu. The judge remained appropriately aloof during this inspection, as he did later on Ocean Island.

On October 8, the party left Suva by Air Pacific for Honiara, in the Solomons, transferring there to Air Nauru for a flight to Nauru, which is 160 miles west of Ocean Island and has the closest airstrip to it.

There is no regular shipping service to Ocean Island, but it had been planned that the High Court judge and his party would be met at Nauru by a small island trading vessel owned by the Banabans for the voyage to Ocean Island. When they arrived, the trader had already departed with a BBC camera team.

But Mr Justice Megarry was lucky. The island trader would have been too slow and uncomfortable for the voyage, but its unscheduled absence had been reported earlier that day to President DeRoburt of Nauru, who, as a friendly gesture, made available Nauru's 4,425 ton Eigamoiya, which happened to be waiting off Nauru to load. Within 30 minutes of their arrival on Nauru, the



judge's party was comfortably embarked on the 14-hour overnight voyage to its final destination. Also aboard was Rotan Tito, the Banabans' leader.

While the legal group thankfully relaxed in the bar, Mr Justice Megarry walked the deck alone, watching the flying fish. The voyage paralleled the equator, only about 30 miles south of it, and this was the real mid-Pacific—empty, and with a warm and balmy breeze.

But next morning, as Ocean Island came up on the horizon, it was obvious on the bridge that getting the judge ashore would be a hazardous undertaking. Strong winds and choppy seas made it impossible for the Eigamoiya to moor at the island.

Captain Phil Brimley decided to have the ship's derrick hoist the party over the side into a heaving barge which had come out from the island. A special container with wooden seats was prepared on deck and half the party was locked into it. Mr Justice Megarry was to go in the second group.

The judge was again in luck, because three times that first group was hoisted from the deck in their box and swung far over the side like a funfair hurdy-gurdy in an effort to lower them into the pitching barge below. On each occasion, winds and currents played havoc with the timing, and

the effort had to be abandoned before the drifting ship ran foul of the rugged coastline.

And on each occasion the cargo from the Middle Temple, plus old Rotan Tito making a rare return visit to his homeland, was almost continuously banged and thumped against the steel plating of the ship, sending up sparks, knocking off paint and shaking the back teeth of the occupants, who were now beginning to lose the smiles they had put on for this fun-occasion.

During one attempt, as the box made yet another desperate plunge towards the heaving barge, it knocked one of the hard-working Gilbertese barge crew into the sea, where he took a battering for several minutes before dragging himself back on board with the help of a trailing rope (above).

Mr Justice Megarry, from the rail, closely observed all these novel events with what appeared to be judicial impartiality, but judges must also have their private thoughts.

After the third attempt, the exercise was abandoned. The legal party was released from its cell and given time to recover its collective wind and, no doubt, to wish it were back within sight of the Inns of Court.

The Eigamoiya now headed for the open sea, where it put down a gangway on the lee-side and called up the barge. The legal party, including the judge, singly made its way gingerly down the steps and jumped at the appropriate time aboard the pitching barge. They were then faced with a wet two-mile journey to shore.

Mr Justice Megarry is probably not the man to make any public announcement about the manner of his first and no doubt last arrival on Ocean Island. But his comments might be worth reading should he ever decide to write his own book of reminiscences.

Gilbertese, Banabans try to sort their differences

The Gilbertese Government and the Banaban people of Ocean Island were to come together at Tarawa in the middle of October for vital discussions on the future of Ocean Island. The conference was being chaired by Fiji's Prime Minister, Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara.

The Banabans currently have a High Court case progressing in London (see story opposite), but the Tarawa talks are separate. They have been called to discuss the demand by the Banabans for (1) immediate independence for Ocean Island, and (2) for the income from the phosphate deposits still remaining.

These deposits are being mined by the British Phosphate Commissioners and only have a few years to run. The Gilbert Islands, within whose boundaries the island lies, obtains most of its income from taxing the phosphate, but a smaller amount in the way of royalties is paid to the Banabans, who are the land owners, and who currently live on Rabi, in the Fiji group.

The Gilbertese have declared that although they will discuss future arrangements with the Banabans, they will not permit Ocean Island to become independent.

The Banabans have insisted that this is their number one requirement. They say they intend to live on Ocean Island, and they have a draft constitution drawn up for the new Banaba, which is the old name.

Leading the Banaban delegation is Rotan Tito, head of the Rabi Council, and Chief Minister of the Gilberts, Naboua Ratieta, will lead the Gilbertese delegation.

Britain is frankly concerned about how to handle the dispute, and is hoping that some sort of Islands' style compromise will be worked out at the Tarawa conference with the help of Ratu Mara.

The Gilberts, Tuvalu and the Solomons are all an embarrassment, because none of them looks economically viable. Britain is, behind the scenes, working on Australia and New Zealand to take greater financial responsibility in those areas—particularly with the Gilberts and Tuvalu.

In London there is some suspicion that Britain may in fact want to dump these colonies before time, and is already working to a timetable which will make the Solomons independent in 1976, the Gilberts in 1977 and Tuvalu in 1978.

Party strife and racial parades light a fire under Fiji's political pot

From ROBERT KEITH-REID in Suva

Balmy days of unchallenged power look like being over for Fiji politicians who have been cock of the roost for longer than most voters can remember.

The months of August, September and October saw more excitement generated than at any time since the general election of April, 1972.

A new political party made a stealthy appearance as a breakaway group from the largely Indian-backed National Federation Party, holder of all but one of the seats on the Opposition side of the House of Representatives. And an Alliance Party rebel, Mr Sakiasi Butadroka, dismayed and alarmed the vast majority of Fiji's 550,000 inhabitants by leading supporters of his Fijian Nationalist Party in a procession through Suva in which placards telling Indians to get out of Fiji were displayed.

August saw the tour through the country of a Royal Commission of three British lawyers, who, at the end of this year, will issue a report recommending what changes, if any, should be made in Fiji's complex voting arrangements.

The new party is the Fiji Social Democratic Party. Despite its name it's not a left-wing organisation. A month after making its presence known there was still not much revealed about its true leadership and objectives.

But rumours—and the Nadi areas of western Viti Levu, where it was formed, was seething with them—indicated it was the baby of some Hindu businessmen and farmers who declare they are fed up with the NFP's leader, Muslim lawyer Siddiq Koya.

The party was inaugurated at a private meeting at Nadi attended, it is said, by about 30 people.

Afterwards, pamphlets were scattered about Nadi Town saying the party had been formed by followers of the late A. D. Patel and wanted to "clean up" Fiji's politics.

Mr Patel was an India-born lawyer who founded the NFP and died in 1969, a year before the arrival of Independence.

The pamphlet's invocation of his name heightened speculation that the SDP's mystery president might be

brother, Raojibhai Patel, Speaker of the House of Representatives and holder of the Ba Indian communal seat on an NFP ticket.

But Raojibhai Patel, who a few days earlier had created a stir by issuing another pamphlet, would not say yea or nay when asked point-blank if he was involved with the new party.

Like his dead brother, he is a lawyer who has often acted for sugar-cane growers in contractual disputes.

Just before the appearance of the SDP he openly affronted the NFP by putting out a pamphlet urging farmers to accept a plan under which they would contribute to a sugar cane price stabilisation fund as insurance against low sugar prices.

The NFP had been loudly backing the farmers, who were dead against contributing to the fund at up to \$2.50 a ton for each ton of cane sold to the government-controlled Fiji Sugar Corporation.

In deciding to support the cane price insurance scheme, Patel went along with Swami Rudrananda, an elderly Hindu monk who, for years, has held much sway among Fiji's mainly Indian cane farmers.

Despite his oft-proclaimed non-involvement in local politics, the saffron-robed swami, as a close confidante of A. D. Patel, was a significant force in events which led to the formation of the Federation, later National Federation Party.

Both he and Raojibhai Patel are known to have become thoroughly annoyed with A. D.'s successor as NFP leader, Siddiq Koya.

But in plumping to support the cane price scheme both the swami and Raojibhai Patel came a cropper.

A few days after the publication of Patel's pamphlet the acting Independent Chairman of the Fiji Sugar Industry, Mr Faiz Sherani, said that because of overwhelming opposition of farmers expressed at meetings in the cane districts attended by him, he would advise the government to defer the insurance idea indefinitely.



Ex-Speaker Raojibhai Patel . . . affably vague.

Mr Sherani's decision was greeted with glee by NFP officials, one of them describing it, and indeed it was, as a "big slap in the face" for Patel.

While leaders of the SDP continued to lie very low, and excitement over the prospect of a NFP split was stirred by yet more rumours and newspaper speculation, Raojibhai Patel continued to stave off queries with displays of characteristic affable vagueness.

When he had read newspaper reports of his alleged association with the new party, he said, "I gave a hearty laugh".

A session of parliament opened in Suva on October 2 and as the morning newspaper, The Fiji Times, put it on its front page: "A question mark will hang over the Speaker's chair when its occupant, Mr Raojibhai Patel, takes it at the opening of the House of Representatives meeting at 10 am today. The question is whether Mr Patel will still be Speaker when the House ends its meeting in two weeks".

The answer to the question came much more quickly and dramatically than any newspaperman or politician had expected.

After prayers and the moving of the minutes, Mr Patel, sitting in his long wig and red gown, said he wanted to make an important announcement.

He had, he admitted, been in the news in the last couple of weeks and it was only right to take the House into his confidence as to what he had been doing.

To a rising chorus of protests from NFP members the Speaker proceeded to read into Hansard a translation of the pamphlet in Hindi he had put out to sugar farmers.

"I refuse to listen to you, sir" bawled the acting Opposition leader, Mr Chirag Ali Shah, a cane farmer himself, and stamped out of the Par-

liament Chamber, after angrily thumping his desk.

His pamphlet safely in the parliamentary record, Mr Patel continued: "I am now going to tell you that I solemnly and seriously declare that from today I am out of the National Federation Party".

And since he had quit the party that had got him into parliament, he added, he felt impelled to also resign from Parliament also.

Mr Patel took his final bow as Speaker on the brink of tears. In fact so overcome was he that he had to be brought back after what should have been his last exit from the Chamber because he had forgotten to make the formal adjournment.

Later in the day, the ex-Speaker was his chirpy self again as he spoke to reporters. But he was still skating round the question of: "Are you with the SDP?"

"You're assuming that I am playing a role in the new party", is all that he would say.

Back to his lawyer's practice in Ba he went, and a couple of days later the first SDP official to publicly admit to being such, Mr Ram Sami Pillay, denied that Mr Patel had anything to do with his party whatsoever.

So ended, at least for the present, Mr Patel's career in the House. It has had its purple patches, notably when, during a stormy debate in May, 1973, on trade unions, he locked all the MPs out of the House.

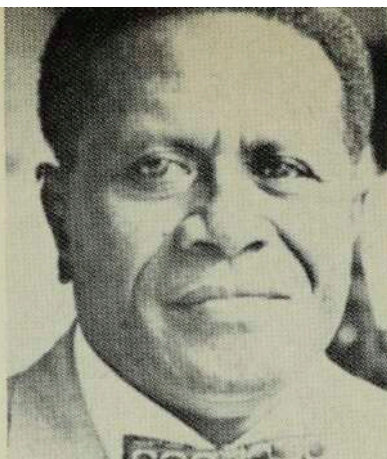
Prime Minister Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, who missed the resignation as he was at the South Pacific conference in Nauru, said in commenting on the affair, that as a statesman he didn't like the idea of the Fiji Opposition being fragmented by the arrival of a new party.

But as a politician—well, an opponent was an opponent.

News-making as Patel's resignation was, even more space in Fiji's dailies was being won at the time of it by Mr Sakeasi Butadroka, an avowed nationalist who has set up the Fijian Nationalist Party with the slogan of "Fiji for the Fijians".

Formerly an Assistant Minister for Co-operatives, he was dismissed by the Prime Minister and then slung out of the Alliance for open defiance of the party and its leader. He became an embarrassment to the party as his speeches in the House of Representatives became more openly racist, and anti-Indian in particular.

Mr Butadroka's bitterness appears to lie in the failure of a public company, Rewa Provincial Development Ltd, which he formed as a vehicle



Mr Sakeasi Butadroka . . . prepared to kick his way to the Prime Minister.

for getting Fijians into business. Based in the Rewa area, which is also his communal constituency, the company has a disastrous financial record.

Its efforts at running a bus service have been unhappy and Mr Butadroka has decided that the cause has not been Fijian, and his own, business inexperience, but "unfair" competition from Indian bus companies and the alleged refusal of the government, and particularly the Prime Minister, to give a Fijian enterprise special help.

Despite claims by him that the party is a growing one, support is probably restricted to a small area of the Rewa district and its followers probably amount to little more than the ailing company's shareholders.

But Mr Butadroka is a man who knows the value of publicity and how to go about getting it. He's organised a couple of processions through Suva, the most recent being in September when he decided to present a petition to Ratu Sir Kamisese one Saturday morning.

The petition cited a number of "grievances" ranging from the problems Fijians have in getting loans from the Fiji Development Bank, to a protest against a recent government decision to permit doctors, who have qualified at certain universities in India, to go into medical practice in Fiji.

Mr Butadroka got permission to hold a march through Suva and forecast that about 5000 people would take part in it. Less than 200 did so, but this was quite enough to send a chill running through the country when the "Indians—quit Fiji" placards appeared.

The day before, Ratu Sir Kamisese had announced that neither he nor any officials of his department would be at Government Buildings to re-

ceive the petition on Saturday morning as requested by Mr Butadroka.

The reasons: The Prime Minister's office was not normally open on Saturday; Mr Butadroka's request had been received only the day before the march; and the PM and his staff, in any case, were already tied up with other matters.

Butadroka got very angry when he got to the glass door of Government Buildings and found that some police officers were the only people waiting there. So he smashed the door with a kick and, as he told Suva Magistrate's Court later, he was prepared to kick his way up four floors to the PM's office.

He was arrested and the court fined him \$300 and said, for an MP, his behaviour had been atrocious.

A few days later he was in court again, this time on 14 traffic charges for which he was fined over \$125 and disqualified from driving for a year.

Three days later he was in the news again when he led a party of Fijian landowners to a small farm at Raralevu, near Nausori, whose Indian tenants, he claimed, were behind with the rent.

Unless the money was forthcoming at once, he warned, the house and the family in it would be fenced in. The Fijians he had taken to the farm sat round it while, inside, a terrified housewife telephoned her husband at Nausori to get the money.

Police were called in but did not intervene directly, and finally the Fijians left after money was paid.

But, said Mr Butadroka, at least another 100 tenants in the same district were in arrears also because the Native Land Trust Board could not, or would not do its job properly. These would get the fence-in treatment also unless they paid up promptly.

Both the NLTB, which controls the leasing of all Fijian land and collects rents for the Fijian owners, and the NFP were quick to condemn Butadroka's latest ploy.

Blasting Butadroka for usurping the NLTB's functions, the board's general manager, Josefata Kamikamica, said: "What Mr Butadroka and his followers have done to the board's tenant is more dangerous to the Fijian people and the country than the verbal attack by some other politicians to dismantle the NLTB."

"To destroy this trust as Butadroka has done is to introduce the seeds of chaos into this country".

The NFP leader, Siddiq Koya, demanded immediate government action to curb Butadroka's rent collecting campaign.

Unless this was done, he said.

● Continued on p 84

First big job for Papua New Guinea's Prime Minister, Mr Michael Somare, after the smoke of Independence Day's fireworks had blown away, was to ask the United Nations Assembly in New York for membership for his country. It was granted and Mr Somare, in an impressive speech of thanks which earned the plaudits of the world assembly, outlined Papua New Guinea's political charter. Below, PIM repeats it in full as a document worth treasuring.

HOW PAPUA NEW GUINEA SEES HER ROLE IN WORLD AFFAIRS

Twenty-four days ago, Papua New Guinea became an independent state. Now, as my country takes its place in this organisation, this is a second great moment in our history.

These events have taken time—not because there was any great opposition to our progress towards nationhood, but because the accidents of history and geography have combined to delay the formal birth of our nation.

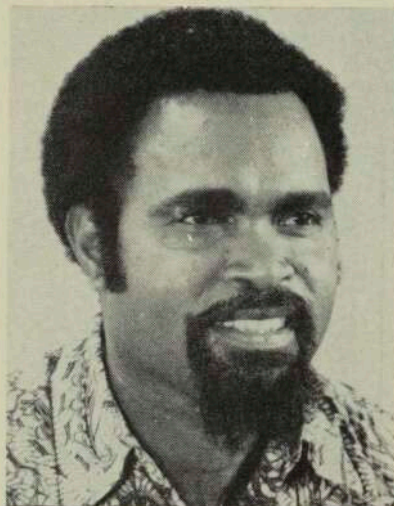
Despite these difficulties, we are now a sovereign nation. Our people now have a national identity. This is the most significant achievement in our history, and we will prize and protect the territorial integrity of our new nation.

I wish to acknowledge our debt of gratitude to others who have made possible the emergence of Papua New Guinea as an independent state. This debt is owed primarily to Australia, which assumed the responsibilities of an administering authority within a few years of its own attainment of statehood, and later accepted further obligations under a League of Nations mandate and again under a United Nations trusteeship agreement.

Probably because she was a new state herself, Australia did not inflict an authoritarian colonialist policy upon my country. This is shown most clearly by the fact that today 90 per cent of land still remains under traditional ownership.

After the Second World War, Australia's role became less and less that of an overlord. As our political autonomy increased at our own insistence, Australia took up a new role—as a generous and sympathetic donor of aid.

It has guaranteed that this role will continue in our new relationship as partners and neighbouring states in the Pacific. But it is my sincere hope that the relationship of the past years will provide the basis of a continuing close bond of friendship and co-operation between our countries in the future.



Mr Somare . . . our first priority is the welfare of our own people.

I also express our gratitude to the United Nations Trusteeship Council and the Committee of Twenty-Four for their role in our progress to nationhood, and to you, Mr President, and to those who have co-sponsored our admission to this distinguished body, because our acceptance represents a culmination of that progress.

Because I represent a new country, and a new member state, I wish to say a few words about the way in which Papua New Guinea sees her role in world affairs. Our every action and attitude will be dominated by our realisation that our first commitment is at home. We must consolidate our programmes of social and economic development.

As the leader of a new Third World government, I state, without apology, that our first priority is the welfare of our own people. We wish to advance in conditions of peace and security, and realise that to achieve this, we must also take our position in world affairs—even though our influence will be limited

by size and inexperience on a world stage.

We understand the increasing interdependence of all member nations of the world family, and, for this reason, see the United Nations as the main hope for the Third World. Within the limits of our slender financial means and human resources, we hope to play an active and positive role in this world body, and in its subsidiary and affiliated organisations.

Papua New Guinea has had a long, historic connection with the Commonwealth of Nations. Already we have found friendship and understanding with our fellow members.

Our geographic location concerns us with the affairs of two regions—the South Pacific and South-East Asia. Ethnically, and culturally, we are a South Pacific people. We believe in close co-operation among the Islands' peoples for the protection of our environment.

The strength of this conviction is shown by our intention to co-sponsor, with New Zealand and Fiji, a resolution in this assembly to make the South Pacific a nuclear free zone. It is appropriate that this should be our first contribution to the work of the assembly. Our further commitments to this region have been expressed through our participation in the regional organisations to which we belong.

At the same time, we share a common border with our close neighbour, Indonesia, and no part of South-East Asia lies very far from our shores.

Our priorities at home give us a direct concern for the peace and security of these two regions and the progressive social and economic development of their people. The attitude we will adopt in our relationships with other countries will be best described as 'universalist'.

We seek no involvement in conflicts that have originated in past history—a history to which we did not contribute. Similarly, if I may paraphrase the words of the distinguished

● Continued on p 84

Messages of congratulation and goodwill poured into Papua New Guinea from all parts of the world as the country became independent. Some national leaders, in PNG for the ceremonies and celebrations, also passed on goodwill messages.

The British Prime Minister, Mr Harold Wilson, in a message to Mr Somare, said PNG was a young country with much to look forward to. She was fortunate to have great potential in human and material resources. Her people had a record of notable achievements in recent years, and faced exciting challenges ahead.

"On this day, we extend to you, your colleagues and all the people of your country, our congratulations on Papua New Guinea taking her place as a sovereign independent state and partner in the Commonwealth, and our sincere best wishes for the future," he said.

Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, Prime Minister of Fiji, in a message to Mr Somare said PNG and Fiji had many similar experiences and common interests, and it was in their interests to work together. It would be an advantage to face the challenge of national development and involvement in regional and world affairs together.

"As we endeavour to realise our full national potential for the improvement of the standard and quality of life of our people, and as partners in the South Pacific, in the Commonwealth and in the wider international community, we look forward to the further strengthening of our friendship and co-operation in the years ahead," Ratu Sir Kamisese said.

Mr James Callaghan, British Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, in a message to Sir Maori Kiki, Minister for Foreign Relations, said he looked forward to a new association as PNG was now a member of the Commonwealth.

Mr E. G. Whitlam, the Australian Prime Minister, in a radio message said Australians regarded Papua New Guineans as brothers, valued neighbours and lasting friends. Independence signalled the end of a special kind of association between the two peoples.

"But there are certain things which will not come to an end." He said:—"The friendship between us, the trust and confidence between us, the support that Australia has given you and will continue to give, the goodwill that our peoples have shared and will continue to share. We wish you peace and prosperity in the years ahead."

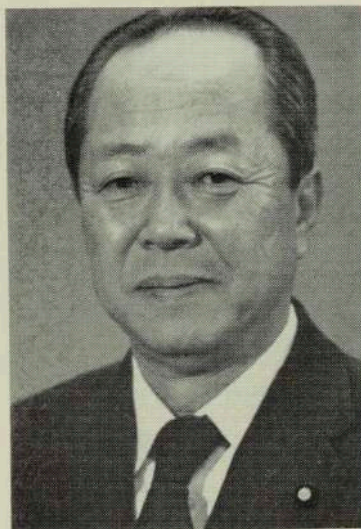
Japan hopes for 'vigorous trade growth' with PNG

President Marcos, of the Philippines, through the Filipino Envoy, Mr Modesto Farolan, said the Philippines would do all in its power to lend co-operation and assistance to PNG. He extended greetings to the people, and wished them success in discharging the heavy responsibilities of freedom and independence, and congratulated them on their achievements.

Mr Salim Ahmed Salim, of Tanzania, the chairman of the United Nations Committee of 24 (the decolonisation committee) sent a letter

of congratulation, saying the independence ceremonies signified the culmination of untiring endeavours and the irrevocable determination of the people of PNG to secure their freedom and independence.

Colonel Ignatius Acheampong, head of state in Ghana, sent this message: "The government and people of Ghana rejoice in the fact that the government and people of Papua New Guinea have been able to achieve their independence through constitutional and democratic process."



From the Japanese Foreign Minister,
MR KIICHI MIYAZAWA

On the auspicious occasion of the independence of Papua New Guinea, I take great pleasure in offering my heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to the people and Government of Papua New Guinea on behalf of the people and Government of Japan.

We sincerely welcome the birth of an independent Papua New Guinea, our neighbour and friend in the Asian and Pacific community. The achievement of sound nationhood by Papua New Guinea

introduces a new chapter into the history of our bilateral relations, broadening the scope of co-operation in various fields. Indeed, the complementary character of the economies of our two countries assures a vigorous trade growth in the future, but I am no less confident that there will be a marked increase in the cultural and personnel exchanges. Aware of the need to promote a wide range of interflow and to develop diverse avenues of dialogue between the two nations, I will do my utmost to this end.

I highly commend the people of Papua New Guinea who, under the leadership of Prime Minister Michael Somare, have made remarkable strides towards self-reliance and self-determination. It is these worthy efforts that have today earned them a rightful place in the community of nations.

Convinced that a viable and stable Papua New Guinea will grow into a key cornerstone for the peace and progress of the Asia-Pacific Region, I wish the best of success in their endeavours for the building of the nation and for the advancement of their welfare.



Tropicalities

A costly haircut

To cut a boy's hair when he's in a New Zealand detention centre must be an ordinary job but not if the boy happens to be a Niuean.

An eight-year-old Niuean boy, who was placed in the Owairaka Boys' Detention Centre, had shoulder-length hair, so somebody at the centre cut it. There was a hair-raising row when his parents saw his close-cropped head because his long hair had a potential value of several thousand dollars.

The clippers had cut right through Niuean custom under which all males grow their hair long until they're around 12 or 13 years old.

Then it's ceremoniously cut in the traditional ceremony when all the relations and friends give money. The last such ceremony in New Zealand raised \$7,000.

The parents were upset and complained to the Pacific Islanders' Advisory Council, which has taken the matter up with the NZ Government and is claiming compensation and an assurance that such a breach of Niuean custom won't happen again.

A Niuean member of the council, Mr John Kolo, said: "They should respect our culture. These people have lost an investment they were banking on, because they would have lost several thousand dollars at the ceremony."

To more poor soakers

The action of the rich in "soaking" the poor on Saipan will stop, says a Micronesia Congress release through PMS.

PIM reported in Tropicalities last month (p 27) that rainwater which collected in the new Continental Hotel car-park was flooding into

nearby houses—"A classic example of the rich people getting richer at the expense of the poor people," said Congressman Herman Guerrero.

Mr Guerrero arranged a meeting between the hoteliers, the wet and aggrieved residents and half a dozen boards and authorities. As a result, holding ponds and drainpipes will be installed to stop the flooding both at the Continental Hotel and the now-building Intercontinental Inn.

Treasure under the bed

There's buried treasure all over the Islands—old coins that have been stashed away in boxes and under beds in readiness for that inevitable rainy day.

The hoarders are now bringing out the treasure and banking it or changing it for new currency, as in Papua New Guinea, without, in many cases, realising the enhanced value.

The changeover in PNG from Australian currency to the kina and toea is literally unearthing a fortune. Reports of German marks and old British and Australian coins being handed in to banks have been received.

One coin collector, while being shown a new shipment of coins just arrived at the Rabaul branch of the Bank of PNG, was offered a few old "holey" PNG shillings. The collector bought all 12 offered at face value—one kina, 20 toea.

He reports that four of the coins, dated between 1935 and 1945, are in mint condition, except for mild oxidation. The other eight had suffered damage from the soil which had obviously been their owner's bank vault over the years.

A similar story is told by Mr Ted Britton, manager of the New Hebrides Co-operative Federation Bank in Vila, who says there's a steady stream of gold sovereigns and half-sovereigns coming into the bank's agencies scattered throughout the condominium.

The coins are sent to Mr Britton's office and he arranges for their sale

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to collectors. The money raised, in many cases a considerable sum, is deposited to the credit of the person who handed in the coins.

Says Mr Britton: "In a few instances, people haven't realised just how valuable these coins are. If they have no immediate need for money, they should keep the gold coins as they are assets which will grow in value over the years."

Looking after Noumea's anchors

An Australian anti-corrosion product could be used to preserve old anchors retrieved from New Caledonian waters and exhibited as historic relics around the city of Noumea.

One of the most famed is the one displayed near the Visitors' Pavilion on the main tourist wharf. This anchor was set in place only last year as part of the celebrations marking the bi-centenary of Captain Cook's discovery of New Caledonia in 1774.

In its present state of disintegration, the anchor may last less than a year through exposure to the sea air. The same fate awaits the anchor of the sunken sailing ship *Aventure* salvaged recently from near the Isle of Pines.

However, certain rust control agents, produced by Emery Chemicals Pty Ltd of Australia were recently demonstrated in Noumea. Such rust converters and heavy duty primer can apparently last up to 10 years and it is hoped they will give a new lease of life to the historic anchors.

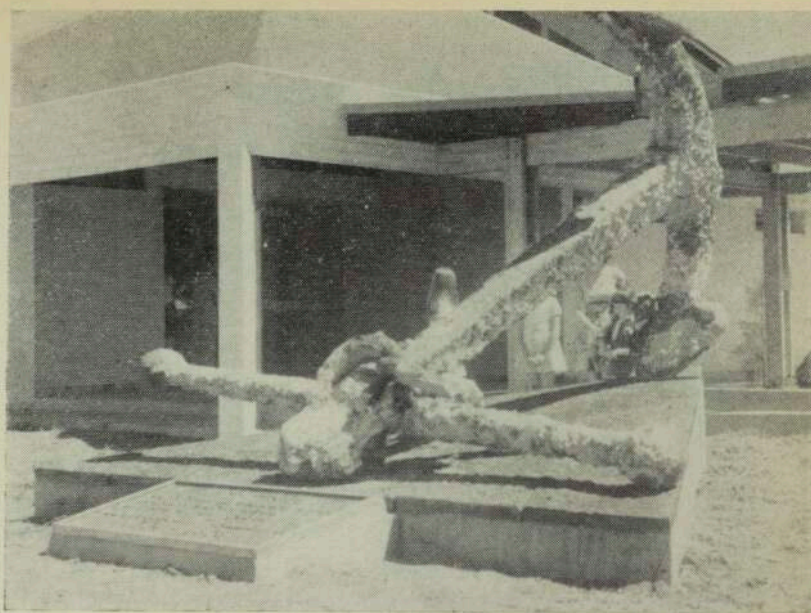
Salvation for Islands

The Salvation Army in New Zealand is expanding its activities in the South Pacific with the establishment of new centres in Fiji and Papua New Guinea. The Army is also making contacts in Niue.

Commissioner Ernest R. Elliot said in Wellington that the Army is now working in 83 countries and is looking forward to the three South Pacific countries joining them.

Officers from the Eastern Territory are now working in Kainantu in the Eastern Highlands of Papua New Guinea. Among them are five New Zealanders who are teaching, running a clinic and flying the Missionary Aviation Fellowship aircraft.

Lieutenant and Mrs David Major are running bible courses in a newly-built Vocational Bible School; Cap-



This is the "Cook" anchor, a memorial in Noumea to Captain Cook, which is in danger of disintegration through corrosion. It is believed to have no connection with Cook as it was dredged up from the side of the island that he never visited.

tain Dorothy Elphick is running the clinic at Mesapo, in the bush of the Eastern Highlands and Brother Ted Croford and his wife are flying the aircraft at Wapenamanda.

And in Fiji, Commissioner Elliot said, "We opened two years ago when a family said they were interested in the group. Captain Brian McStay and his wife are working there now and a local man, Lieutenant Inia, was commissioned in September, 1974. They are now building a training centre.

"A man is interested in Niue and we are sending him booklets and other stuff to help him study about the teaching of the Army."

The Salvation Army is very active in New Zealand, helping alcoholics, supplying goods to people who have suffered from flood, hurricane, earthquake and fire and housing the homeless.

They run emergency lodges in Wellington, Dunedin, Christchurch, Masterton, Palmerston North and Auckland for women with children who have difficulty in finding places to stay; a 200-bedroom People's Palace in Wellington, another in Christchurch and the Railton Hotel in Auckland. They are also running free farm training courses.

"And we maintain 15 Eventide Homes because there is desperate urgent need in New Zealand for elderly people, for whom old age has become a time of lonely panic," Commissioner Elliot said.

Pitcairners sail home

There's hope for the Pitcairners, all 60-odd of them, who were afraid that, because of a shrinking population, they would have to leave their island. The population graph, reports the islanders' news sheet *Pitcairn Miscellany*, is showing an upward trend. Six Pitcairners, who had been living in New Zealand, have returned in the ship, the *Chilean Reefer*.

The Reefer doesn't normally carry passengers but permission was given for the exiles to return in the ship which is on charter to the New Zealand Apple and Pear Marketing Board.

The six who've returned are Royal and Michael Warren, Brian Young, Irma Christian, Janet Young and Copernicus Andrew Young—all good Pitcairn names.

The *Miscellany* also tells a story about Pervis, the island's Magistrate, who boarded the *Ogden Clipper* off the island with some bananas for the captain.

He gave the bananas to a Chinese steward and accompanied him down a steep companionway. Pervis was following the steward when he noticed that a piece of rope tied round the bananas had become entangled in one of the companionway rungs.

"Realising that if it should grab, the Chinese steward could have a



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nasty fall, Pervis whipped out his knife and yelled 'Hey'. The steward turned round and all he could see was six foot four inches of Pitcairn Islander with a knife in his hand towering above him.

"With one almighty yell, the Chinese dropped the bananas and ran for his life."

Says Miscellany (editor Peter C. Shea): "Funny—I never could make out why. What's more, we didn't see him again the rest of the time we were on board."

Sleep at the Hurling Moose

The Hurling Moose Youth Hostel opened its doors late September to young travellers visiting American Samoa.

Located on the Cable Car Road in Utulei, the three-room hostel is operated by Dave Wood, 22, a Canadian, and Gary Milici, 21, a United States citizen.

The unusual name for the hostel came from the name used by Wood and a group of college friends at Queens University, Ontario, Canada, who brewed beer under the Hurling Moose label.

It was Wood's idea to start a youth hostel in American Samoa because, "When I came here in July I got off the plane at 4 am, just like everybody else. I was given the alternative of sleeping at the airport or paying \$27 at the Americana".



Dave Wood hangs up the shingle on the hostel in American Samoa.

Wood chose the former and began thinking about less expensive alternatives than the local hotel.

He camped at Utulei beach until the Immigration Office and the Attorney-General's Office put a stop to that. Then he moved in with Milici and soon plans to make the house into a hostel were underway. Milici worked in a hostel in New Zealand and Wood had stayed in many hostels in North America.

The Hurling Moose charges \$2 a night and for that visitors get a foam rubber pad to sleep on, restroom and kitchen privileges.

The price is comparable with those of other hostels around the world.

Wood said the hostel could house a maximum of 10 people. He expects, however, to average about two or three per night.

The pair will not be paid for operating the hostel, and revenue will go towards the rent of the house.

Wood said he hopes to join the local hostel with the International Youth Hostel Association.

He has received a lot of "private" encouragement but little official backing from government officials.

Business for the first month has been good, Wood said.

When one man's meat . . .

The Constitutional Conference which the Micronesians are holding at Saipan has heard some unusual resolutions but none as strange perhaps as one introduced by a Marshalls delegate, Dr Isaa Lanwi, although it won't sound strange, perhaps, to those well-versed in Island customs.

Dr Lanwi called for a law restricting the government from regulating a person's diet unless the regulation related to health, welfare, ecology or the conservation of natural resources.

The regulation he was talking about was regarding the prohibition of the consumption of some food solely because it might be an insult to the custom of the people of the area.

Dr Lanwi commented: "In Kusaie, for instance, it is an insult to their custom to eat fresh or salt water eels. Eels are very nourishing and if an outsider comes to Kusaie and wishes to eat eels because it is a delicacy at home, he should not be prohibited from doing so just because it is against the custom in Kusaie."

"There are many other foods throughout Micronesia which are really nourishing, but because of custom people cannot eat them. This is also true of the Marshalls where I come from."

The resolution isn't likely to get far.

Many people have similar customs, some of them a question of etiquette like the time the writer had dinner with two Fijians. One seemed embarrassed when offered pork and he explained later to his host that it wouldn't have been right for him to have eaten pork in the presence of the other Fijian whose family totem was the pig.

But the other Fijian enjoyed it. It wasn't prohibited so far as he was concerned.

French Navy finds an old wreck

The French Army and Navy in Noumea are kept occupied in many tasks, from patrolling the water and airways, rescuing accident victims, to diving inside the coral reef in search of anchors from shipwrecked sailing vessels.

The French Air Force landed its first Alouette II helicopter in Noumea in July. The gendarmerie already makes extensive use of helicopter flights to bring sick and injured persons to the capital for emergency treatment.

Now the nautical brigade of the gendarmerie has been equipped with two Boston Walther boats which, equipped with 85 hp engines, should be among the fastest craft on the lagoon.

As far as the navy is concerned, with no foreign invasion or internal rebellion to trouble it, one of its chief interests recently was a mission to find and recover any remains of the *Aventure* which was wrecked on the coral north of the Isle of Pines in April, 1855.

This corvette, about 42 metres long, was commanded by Joseph du Bouzet, then Governor of French Establishments in Oceania, based in Tahiti. Relics of his wrecked vessel were found when divers from the mine sweeper *Dunkerquoise* discovered eight anchors, several cannon and various pieces of metal.

The 120-year-old remains were firmly encrusted with coral and it was not without considerable difficulty that an anchor was finally hammered free and brought to the surface, together with a small cannon and scraps of metal.

It is hoped that other pieces may be retrieved later to be displayed in the central courtyard of the Noumea Museum, amid relics of other early French ships, the *Boussole* and *Astrolabe*.

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The Editor's Mailbag

BALLAD OF CHARLIE GOUGH

I was most interested to read the story of my friend, Pita Lus, MHA and Minister of Police in the Government of Papua New Guinea (PIM July, p 10).

The mention of how Pita Lus's mother killed a white man at Leihinga brought back many memories for I was very closely concerned in the matter—in fact, I have described it rather fully in my book, *Patrol into Yesterday* in the chapter, *The Ballad of Charlie Gough*.

There are several errors in the article. Charlie Gough was the European killed at Leihinga and his death occurred in 1936—and not 1934 as mentioned in the PIM account and was not killed as he slept but was killed when he was approaching the village.

In 1935-36 I was Assistant District Officer at Aitape. The District Officer there were no district commissioners (those days) of the Sepik District was G. W. L. Townsend and the headquarters was at Wewak. Charlie Gough, then aged about 52, had a store at Aitape and had formerly been suspected for gold at Wau and Milne Bay. He still dreamt of finding gold and occasionally recruited labourers for work in other parts of New Guinea. His Aitape store was successful but Charlie never missed an opportunity to make a bob and his love of money was to be the cause of his death.

The area, now known as Maprik which Leihinga village was a part, was then prohibited country. The administration had declared it a "closed area" and no Europeans, other than official patrols, were permitted to enter it without a permit. In 1936 I was on patrol on the border of this restricted area. To my surprise I learned that Gough was camped in a nearby village; unknown to me he had followed me in. I went to the place and found that Gough was using one of the village headmen, medical *tultul*, to recruit labourers. This was strictly illegal and I warned Charlie and the *tultul* about it and told the latter back to his village. I also warned Gough that he was near the uncontrolled area border and was not under any account to enter it. Charlie was all apologies and promises when I left him and continued with my patrol.

Early next morning, at Amom

village, there were rumours that Gough had been killed and soon some of his carriers arrived to tell me the story. The *tultul* had returned to Gough as soon as I had left his camp and had suggested to him that he (the *tultul*) should go to Leihinga, in the uncontrolled area, and try to recruit natives. Gough would remain at Ilahaup village and the *tultul* would bring the recruits to him. Gough agreed to this and off went the man to Leihinga, whose people he said he knew. Later, the *tultul* returned bringing with him a youth, aged about 14, named Lanuwan. Charlie was delighted to see him and to bind the bargain gave him a present of an axe, a knife and a lavalava. However, Lanuwan's absence from Leihinga was soon discovered and Ulabuli, his father, set out to get him back. At Ilahaup Ulabuli called to his son from the bush surrounding the village and young Lanuwan obeyed him. He decamped, taking his presents with him.

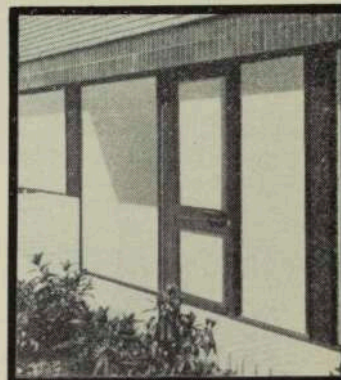
Charlie Gough was very angry at the loss of his recruit and his trade goods, which were worth about 12/6—say \$1.25—as I say, he hated losing money.

"No damned boy puts it over me!" he roared and he determined to get the boy back.

Gough had 10 carriers with him—men from the coastal areas—and he had five shotguns and a Winchester .44 rifle. He distributed the shotguns amongst his carriers and gave them two cartridges each and armed himself with the rifle. They set out for Leihinga and by late afternoon had reached the outskirts of the village. Across the track a tree had been felled and two spears were planted in the ground—an ominous sign of hostility and some of his carriers begged Charlie to go no further. Gough cursed them as cowards; uprooted the spears and went on. A man's voice from the bush called upon them to go back but Charlie was a determined man. He demanded that either Lanuwan return to him or that the axe and knife be handed back. A spear whistled through the air as Gough reached the clearing before the *haus tambaran* and then there was a shower of arrows. Gough fired his rifle and a spear pierced his thigh. The carriers fired too, but were soon out of ammunition. "More cartridges in my pack," gasped Gough

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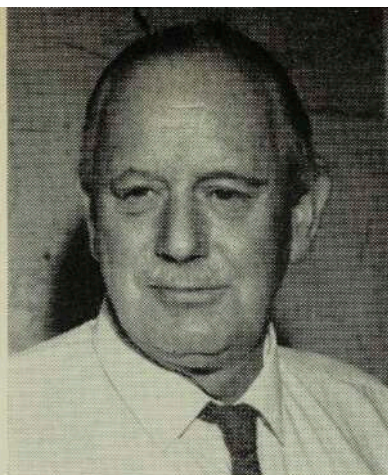
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now badly wounded and those were his last words. A man rushed at him and his spear went through Gough's neck. It killed him instantly and now the carriers fled but no attack was made on them. Apparently the white man who had come to take their child was the Leihinga's only enemy.

My feelings were mixed as I heard the story. I felt sorry for Charlie Gough for I knew him well but I also had a sympathy for the men who had killed him.

In a few days "Kassa" Townsend, the DO, myself and young Kyngdon, a cadet, returned to the Maprik area. Leihinga was a large place and as we expected it was utterly deserted. Some remains of Gough's gear, a few tins and a toothbrush were in the empty houses and in an hour we found Gough's body. It had been dragged from the clearing and lay under some bamboo. There were many wounds in the corpse and his rifle was missing. We buried him nearby and fenced his grave. Poor old Charlie, he had faults like the rest of us but he was a courageous, if foolish, man.

Later, the Soaniimbi gave us information and it came bit by bit over many patient talks. Walamini had speared the white man in the thigh and Kumbul had led the attack. Ulabuli, father of the boy Lanuwan,



Keith McCarthy, a picture taken when he was director of the old Native Affairs Department.

had killed the white man by a spear through the neck and Ambob had also been in the attack.

Kumbul surrendered voluntarily and the arrests of the other three men followed a similar pattern. When Ulabuli surrendered he brought with him his son, Lanuwan. He pushed the youth behind him and pranced in front of him, gesturing as though he held a spear to protect the boy;

a graphic pantomime and I saw which way the defence would go should the men stand trial for Gough's killing.

The four men eventually stood trial for the murder of Charlie Gough and I was a witness. I hoped that my evidence would show that the reason for the killing was a father's love for his son and my hope came true for the judge reduced the crime to manslaughter and in sentencing Ulabuli, Walamini, Ambob and Kumbul to five years imprisonment he said that he would be prepared to recommend their earlier release after a reasonable period.

And so my friend, Pita Lus, is a brother of the youth, Lanuwan—according to the PIM article. I did not know this, nor did I know that his father was Ulabuli. At the time of the Gough killing, 1936, Pita Lus must have been an infant, being born in 1935. But none of the four men of Leihinga died in prison, as mentioned in the article, there appears to be some error here.

As for Mr Pita Lus, I have known him since his election to the PNG House of Assembly in 1964. During that parliament I was Deputy Speaker and Chairman of Committees and so we met frequently. If I may say so,



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Mr Lus was sometimes pretty fiery in his speeches but I remember that he was often goaded by the taunts of some Europeans who were members of the House at the time.

This is a pretty long-winded epistle, typical of a *lapun* who is apt to babble on, but I hope Pita Lus reads it for I am sure that it is in his generous nature to appreciate that at least there were some white men who had a sympathy for men, like his brave father, Ulabuli.

J. K. McCARTHY.

Mt Eliza, Vic.

THE PANGU PATI

In 1967, Mr Oala Oala Rarua described the Pangu Pati as a white man's party, run by white men—Messrs Abel, Holloway, and Voutas.

Jackson's characterisation of Pangu today—"an empty shell, the creature inside has perished" (PIM, July, p 10)—suggests it was indeed a white idea.

Papua New Guinea, we are frequently told, is a unique country. However the major component in its government lacking grass-roots support can hardly be one of the more encouraging special features it has.

One can appreciate why Pangu's leaders should be grateful for what Toni Voutas has achieved for them, and that gratitude has now been expressed in a very tangible fashion (PIM, August, p 5).

While no one doubts his personal sincerity—proven by his practice of always stepping down—the benefits of what he believed in, worked for, and has seen come to pass, have yet to be demonstrated for the ordinary people of Papua New Guinea.

JOHN R. HORNE.

Dunedoo, NSW.

GOLDEN SAIL FOR GUAM?

Reading this article (PIM, Sept, p 5) did astound all yachtsmen of French territories of the Pacific. How come a magazine with the importance of yours is so misinformed about what happened to sailing in Guam? Why was this other scandal pushed? To spare Nelson's glory or maybe in a true commercial aim? . . .

So, we must settle up things, so as not to leave any ambiguity which might be prejudicial to sailing. When sailing was accepted in the First South Pacific Games, the territories decided, by a democratic vote, to choose the FIRE-BALL.

Although not having that kind of dinghy, the French territories, in respect with the committee decisions, bought quite a few Fire-balls and started practising with them.

We always did respect the Games Charter.

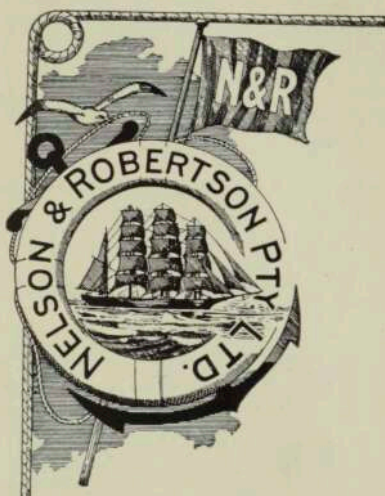
The Guam Committee, after sending several contradictory advices, even letting us think that it would be possible to sail with Fire-ball, as long as we took care to bring our own dinghies, decided a few months before the Games that the race would be performed with the LASER. The Laser, which, of course, the French territories didn't have . . . Why not sailing - rollerskates or SUNFISH? What is the good of buying Fire-ball and training young ones if the Guam precedent is to be renewed?

So we have decided, in agreement with New Zealand, New Caledonia, New Hebrides and Australia, and if the Federation agrees, to organise a

high-level competition in the South Pacific, with the name of Sailing Challenge of Southern Pacific. The technical and sporting level of such a competition will be of no comparison with the Guam one, thanks to the sharing of Australian and New Zealand crews.

All interested territories of the South Pacific are most welcome. The chosen groups are as follows: Optimist Class—cadets; 420—juniors; 470 and Fire-ball—juniors and seniors.

The first challenge took place from August 20 to 30, 1975, in Noumea. Sixty-eight yachtsmen joined that beautiful race. This will happen again



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Letters

from August 20 to 30, 1976, in French Polynesia, the organising territory.

As for sailing, consideration as discipline of the South Pacific Games, the Guam way of action in 1975 is bound to have it banished to its leisure side, which does not interest our youth. Remember the 1971 Games, when Tahiti took all three medals, despite very hard and unpredictable conditions.

JEAN CAMPISTRON.
(Technical sailing adviser for French Polynesia and delegate at large (UNCL) for French Pacific Territories.)
Papeete, Tahiti.

YACHTING AS AN EVENT

With reference to your editorial comments (Up Front with the Editor, p 3) in the September 1975 issue of the Pacific Islands Monthly regarding the 1975 South Pacific Games at Guam, your comments

prompt me to correct some incorrect assumptions made from your obviously isolated viewpoint.

Your mention of some sports eg yachting as not being a necessary sport to be staged is an example of the bigoted uninformed opinions usually to be found in issues of PIM 20 years ago.

People do live on Guam. They had, and many still have, a limited knowledge of the rest of the Pacific Islands. The yachtsmen and their families and friends on Guam have been exposed to the friendly exuberance of the Papua New Guineans, the gentle, good-nature of the Fiji team, the dignified beauty of American Samoa in the person of Faave Foi-Fua, Western Samoa and the New Hebrides contributed two gentlemen who were a credit to the areas they represented.

We do not know or care whether they were expatriates or black, brown or spotted in colour; we recall it was a pleasure to meet and compete with them and long after their names or colour are forgotten here, the areas they represented will be remembered with affection.

Your comments sir, do nothing to assist the spirit of any future Games.

If your closing paragraph is sincere, I ask you in your examination, to seek out some of the competitors so that they may fill the large vacuum that obviously exists in your mind.

MICK WOOD.
(Commodore, Marianas Yacht Club).

Agana, Guam.

● *Stuart Inder did not say that yachting is unnecessary. He suggested several sports should be reviewed, and if we continued with yachting why not add canoe racing.*

PIM'S COVER

Was PIM employing sarcasm, or did it really think, of the numerous photos it must have had available, that the one chosen for the September cover was the most appropriate?

PIM could not have chosen a more non-Pacific representation in its choice of the New Caledonian 'golden girls'.

VAESSA GRIFFEN.
Suva, Fiji.

● *The cover was a tie-in with the South Pacific Games story inside and was chosen, not for skin colour, but for the colour of the many medals won by the girls.—Editor.*

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'THE TIME HAS COME FOR LAND REFORM' SAYS TONGA'S KING

From RUTH LECHTE, in Nukualofa

A penetrating commentary by King Taufa'ahau Tupou IV on Tonga's land problems set the pace at an extraordinarily successful exchange of views on land and migration matters, held in Nukualofa at the end of September.

Tonga's king left listeners in no doubt that he thought the time had come for some changes. And his audience followed his lead by recommending wide-ranging action in an effort to overcome the kingdom's artificial land shortage.

The occasion was a seminar on land tenure and migration, organised by the Tonga National Council of Churches, and attended by delegates from churches around the Pacific, including Australia and New Zealand, from the UNDP, ILO, CORSO and CARE, the regional YWCA office, and from the Australian, NZ and US governments (represented by officers from the Australian High Commission and US Consulate, Suva, and the NZ Foreign Affairs Department, Suva).

The seminar lasted a week, during which the delegates discussed and debated papers by Professor Ron Crocombe, S. A. Afeaki, Futa Helu, Mana Latu, Bishop P. Finau, Rev Dr Sione A. Havea, Rev S. Siupeli Taliai, Laitia Fifita, Clive Edwards, Mr Justice Roberts, Taniela Manu, the Hon Ma'afu and Miss Maris King. Miss King is Deputy High Commissioner for Australia, in Suva, and was the Australian Government representative at the seminar. She found herself on the receiving end of some frank comments.

The seminar opened on a high note with the king's speech. He traced the history of the great changes in law and the constitution over 100 years, the allocation of land to all Tongans over the age of 16, and the appointment of nobles with land rights. He indicated that today's problems called for a new set of far-reaching changes, as population increases had outstripped available land.

He referred to the leasing of tax allotments, at 10c per acre, with the older paying only 80 cents for eight acres—probably with that money sent to him anyway from a relative working overseas for bigger money—and then leaving the land unused, and was reverting to bush.

If everybody did that, the king said, food production would fall considerably and the country would be depressed. Already the price of food had risen because few people were cultivating their tax allotments. If all allotments were cultivated there would be a surplus.

The king continued: "Not only is food presently scarce, but what we are producing in our gardens we share with other countries . . . Our produce goes to countries who are financially better off than we are here in Tonga. Because they are economically strong, they buy our produce, from which they get a lot more money".

He said that it should be realised that land had a value.

The king's theme recurred frequently in the seminar, during some hard-hitting debates, which finally

resulted in the seminar making some important recommendations, calling for allocation of more nobles' land to the people, with a land tax introduced to increase the income of the nobles as compensation and also as a way of ensuring fuller land use.

"This seminar declares its conviction", said a recommendation, "that a review of land tenure policy and practice in Tonga is an urgent necessity. As new conditions made it necessary 100 years ago, so at this time new conditions make it necessary again. Increasing population produces inevitable land shortage. New aspirations and styles of life, not related to a subsistence economy, require new land policies. New ideas about the people's role in society, and new concerns of Christianity for right dealings between sectors of society produce new convictions about the ordering of society. Another period of tremendous change has begun. These changes should be directed to the welfare of all the peoples of Tonga".

The recommendation said land tenure issues had to be considered not in isolation but "in the context of the people's political, economic and social aspirations", and therefore it asked that a royal commission be appointed by the government as soon as possible to advise the government on a desirable future land policy for Tonga.

Tonga has never before had a royal commission, although the constitution makes it possible for their establishment.

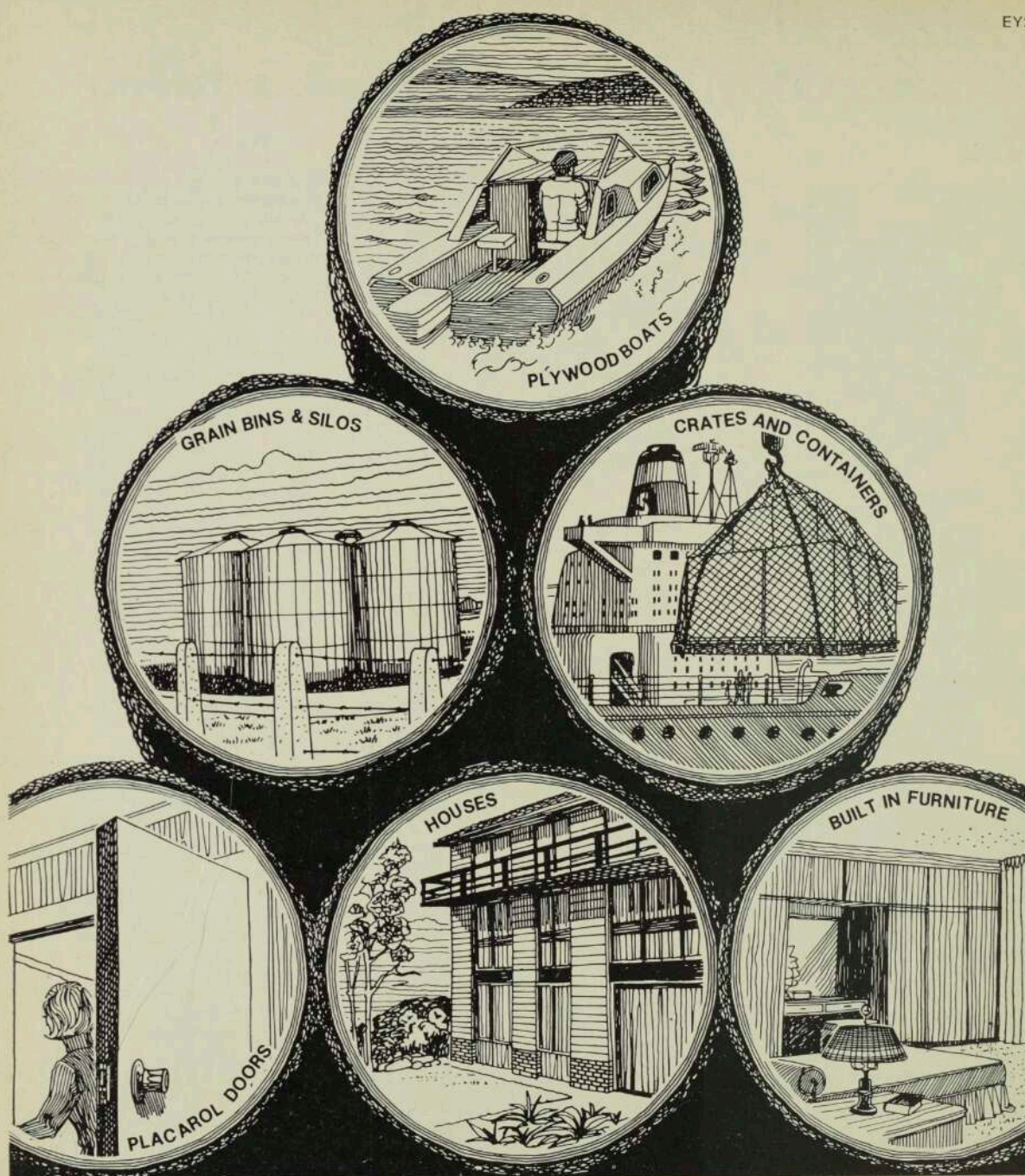
But this important seminar was not all on land.

The second part of the session, on migration, shifted the emphasis of attack from a purely domestic one within Tongan society, to the metropolitan governments represented and also to the Tongan Government for not having safeguarded the rights of its citizens in the wider world. Land tenure had raised great interest, but blame was apportioned fairly equally through all sectors of society.

One day was spent on the matter of temporary migration, the next on permanent migration. Australia and the US have set their faces firmly against the former. In Australia's case racist unions took most of the blame at the seminar, though a racist



King Taufa'ahau Tupou IV of Tonga . . . a new set of far-reaching changes called for.



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society might be equally responsible. Permanent migration in all three countries could only be for those with developed skills, thus representing a brain drain in the very countries that receive overseas aid.

The nonsense of the migration policies exposed in the seminar made some delegates wish that the audience was less polite! The churches of Australia and NZ were in fact less polite, and made it quite clear during the debates that they did not agree with their governments policies.

In a joint statement they said, "We (Australia and NZ) hold economic power within the region. We believe that this power should be exercised with responsibility towards our Pacific neighbours. Therefore, we do not accept the principle of contribution to the national economy as the sole criteria of immigration. While accepting economic quality as a social goal, we do not think that migration should be limited to those who are within reach of it before they arrived".

The statement said that the Australian and NZ churches, "representative of the views of large numbers of Christians within our countries", believed in cultural pluralism and, as immigrant communities themselves, wanted to continue to receive enrichment of a wide range of cultures. It asked that the Australian and NZ governments allow immigration of a wide range of age groups, and added, "We protest at the narrow definition of skills as applied to migration, and point out that when skills are applied solely to the technological or economic needs of the recipient country they rob that nation of the rich heritage of social and cultural gifts with which the migrating people are endowed".

The seminar itself declared its conviction that the review of all aspects of migration and its effects

Tonga was an urgent necessity. "With limited resources to support the rising aspirations of a rapidly-increasing population in Tonga, migration is seen as a very important economic and developmental necessity", it said.

It asked that the Australian and New Zealand governments be approached to initiate "more liberal and flexible attitudes to the whole migration question", and that NZ increase the number of Tongan migrants to NZ from 150 to 300 annually.

● Funds for the seminar came through the Foundation for the Peoples of the South Pacific, the Board of Global Ministries United Methodist Church and British Christian Aid in London.

Stalemate reached in Micronesia?

By PAMELA G. HOLLIE on Saipan

Micronesia, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, is the last remaining United Nations trusteeship. And, it seems, it will be the only one of the original 11 UN trusteeships which will not be resolved with independence.

The reason is that the 2,100 diverse islands would not be able to support themselves as an independent nation.

There is no industry in Micronesia. The US's commitment to help the islands toward economic self-sufficiency has been a failure, due to neglect. Americanised-Micronesia is a consumer economy, not a producing one.

The islands' dependency upon the US for its revenue, jobs, education and imports is a major factor in their consideration of future political status. The US supports most of the economy. The US Congress provides nearly 90 per cent of the trust territory's revenue. The 1976 budget, ending next June 30, will easily top \$US80 million.

Supporters of self-government have long been concerned with the effects of Micronesia's economy—or lack of one—on the islands' self-determination. Since 1967, the US and Micronesia have had talks concerning the fate of the territory after the trusteeship ends in about 1981. There was never much hope for independence. After Micronesia rejected a US offer for commonwealth status in 1970, negotiations for "free association" began. Talks came to a halt last December.

Some Micronesians, recognising the territory's economic problems, have come to the conclusion that for military reasons, the US wants to keep Micronesia dependent.

Congress of Micronesia representative Sasauo Haruo of Truk maintains that the US had been "placing obstacles in our way".

"It's obvious," he said, "the intention is to continue to perpetuate and to limit our economic development so we will continue to be dependent on US assistance".

"One thing is clear," Haruo said. "The United States is not sincere when it talks about self-sufficiency and self-reliance for Micronesia".

Haruo is one of more than 50 delegates to the Micronesian Consti-



Sasauo Haruo . . . The United States is not sincere.

tutional Convention (Con-Con) now nearing the end of its 90-day session on Saipan in the Marianas.

The Con-Con can't ignore the US role in the convention because it provides nearly half of the \$1 million for the Con-Con. The rest of the money, appropriated by the Congress of Micronesia, is essentially US money too.

America wants the Con-Con to succeed—that is, unite the district so that they can come to an agreement on what they want for themselves and from the US. The Con-Con is expected to provide new blood for future status talks.

But, the six districts are divided. While there is little doubt that the US and Micronesia will be linked, the districts can't decide how. Only the Marianas District has made its wishes clear. The islands voted to become a US commonwealth last June.

The rest of Micronesia is under pressure to resolve its status. Member nations of the United Nations Trusteeship Council want a quick solution to the political status question in the trust territory.

The US would like to comply, but Micronesia, after 28 years as a neglected trusteeship, wants to make sure its 115,000 people get a fair deal under a new political arrangement.

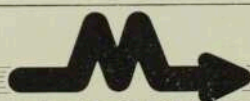
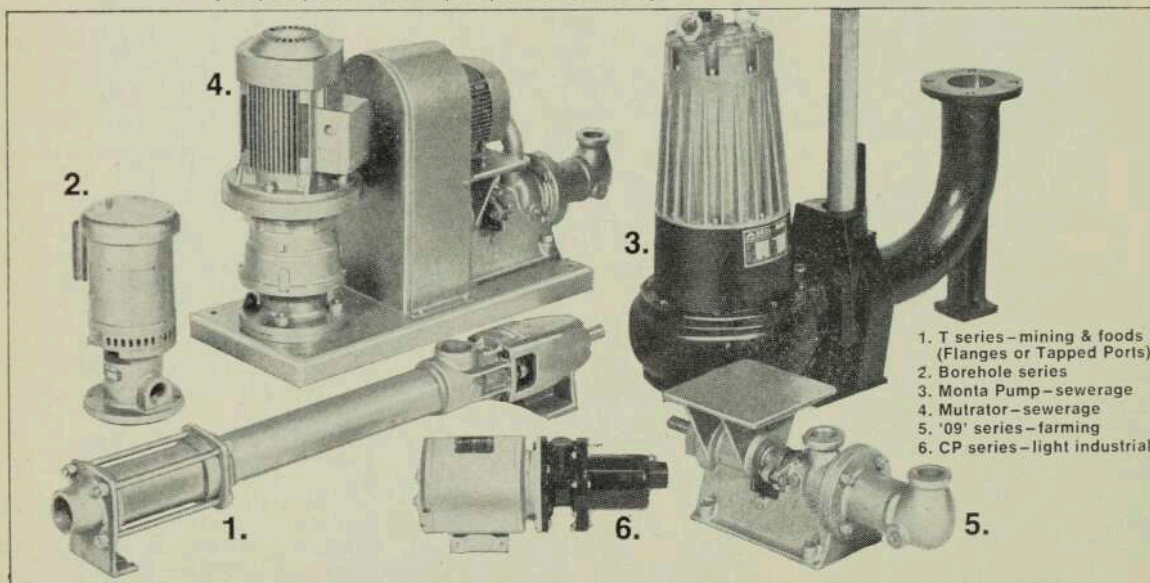
Micronesia has become sceptical of US motives. Friction between the US and Micronesia has developed over the use of islands as a strategic trust under the trusteeship agreement.

The US has never disguised the fact that its primary interest in Micronesia is military, and its status negotiating team has reflected the military's strong concern for the area. The team is headed by former President Richard M. Nixon's personal envoy, Franklin Haydn Williams, who has been associated with the Defence Department's International Security Affairs unit and with the Asia Foundation, which was exposed in the late

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1960s as a Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) funded organisation.

Micronesia has been using its strategic military possibilities as a bargaining point. The islands have little else to attract outside interest. In terms of dollars and cents, the islands will need about \$150 million from the US in 1980 to support its current standard of living as they produce much less than one-tenth that amount in taxes and exports.

Micronesia's current economy is based almost entirely on the operations of the Trust Territory Government. US funds were not spent on the most obvious economic projects, which would have encouraged self-sufficiency.

What US spending did was to create an artificial economy centred around a government in which a very talented man can make more than \$5,000 a year. The average Micronesian government worker makes \$1,000 a year, about the same money received from husking 100,000 coconuts to make 28 tons of copra or from catching about 2,240 tuna fish weighing 10 lb each. The minimum wage in the trust territory is 80c an hour, a recent hike from 60c.

Micronesia imports nearly 90 per cent of all the goods it consumes. Copra is the largest export, but in the best year, exports of copra have only reached about \$4.5 million.

The Government has proved an acceptable industry for Micronesians, who have mastered the rhetoric of bureaucracy. Young Micronesians, lured by job-finding junkets, leadership grants and a good income, have become less and less prepared to lead Micronesia towards independence. Instead, as more and more Micronesians graduate from American universities with political science and law degrees, the deeper the dependency on the US has become.

US-Micronesian ties have not always been close. For many years,

the US wasn't interested in Micronesia. Except for the brief use of the islands as a top-secret CIA training ground,

the US generally neglected its financial obligations to the trust territory. In the first five years of the trusteeship, Micronesia received about \$1 million a year. Later expenditures rose to about \$5.5 million annually.

Expenditures began increasing in 1963 when the late President John F. Kennedy launched a programme to "Americanise" Micronesia. The underlying motive was to solidify the islands' allegiance to the US at a time when Vietnam focused military attention on South-east Asia and the Pacific.

In 1963, the budget for the trust territory jumped to \$17.5 million

Women's Lib! Not here

The drafters of Micronesia's constitution face a formidable modern-day problem that threatens to permanently disrupt the islands' male-oriented society.

The question is: Should the new government of Micronesia allow discrimination against women?

The Micronesian Constitutional Convention (Con-Con) is nearing the completion of its 90-day session. The \$1 million convention is charged with the task of writing a constitution for the island districts of the US-administered Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

Among the most controversial social issues being considered is women's rights. Opening up the society to all Micronesians, regardless of sex, threatens the basis of island traditional customs and laws, which maintain that women are inferior to men.

Carl Heine, chairman of the Con-Con's committee on civil liberties, believes that it is time for Micronesia to accept "sweeping changes" in some of its practices. "This is the 20th century. It is only proper and fair to give equal rights to all citizens of Micronesia."

Heine maintains that the new government of Micronesia must "eliminate all forms of slavery and servitude in Micronesian society".

Although the Micronesian society is matrilineal and some women hold titles and great power,

the males are the active and visible members of the society. Micronesian women are supposed to be submissive. As a reminder, throughout Micronesia, it is a custom for the female to show respect to men and elders by assuming a lower position—either bowing or, if necessary, crawling to be lower than a man who is seated on the floor.

But, things are changing. After 28 years under US influence, the islands of Micronesia are Americanised. While Women's Lib hasn't swept the islands, Micronesian women have readily adopted western ways.

In the Marshalls, for instance, women have entered politics. The district elected the first female representative to the House of Representatives of the Congress of Micronesia last year. Another Marshallese woman is the only female delegate to the Con-Con.

Ironically, the Marshall Islands are known for their "love universality" on the island of Arno. There, women once trained in the art of lovemaking. Upon graduation, the legend says, the women were given grass sleeping mats.

It is not likely that an equal rights clause in the new Micronesian constitution will have much of an immediate impact. What the addition of such a clause does do is recognise that a modern constitution for a modern nation must include equal rights for women.

from \$7.5 million two years before. By 1968, the US was spending \$35 million in Micronesia.

When South Vietnam and Cambodia fell to the communists, the US began making plans for Micronesia. Micronesian bases would make up for other US bases lost in South-east Asia.

Micronesian bases seem to fill the US military's basic requirements. They can be isolated and shielded. For a small investment, the local population will be co-operative. Micronesian bases along with bases in Japan, the Philippines, Australia and Diego Garcia form a strategic ring around Asia.

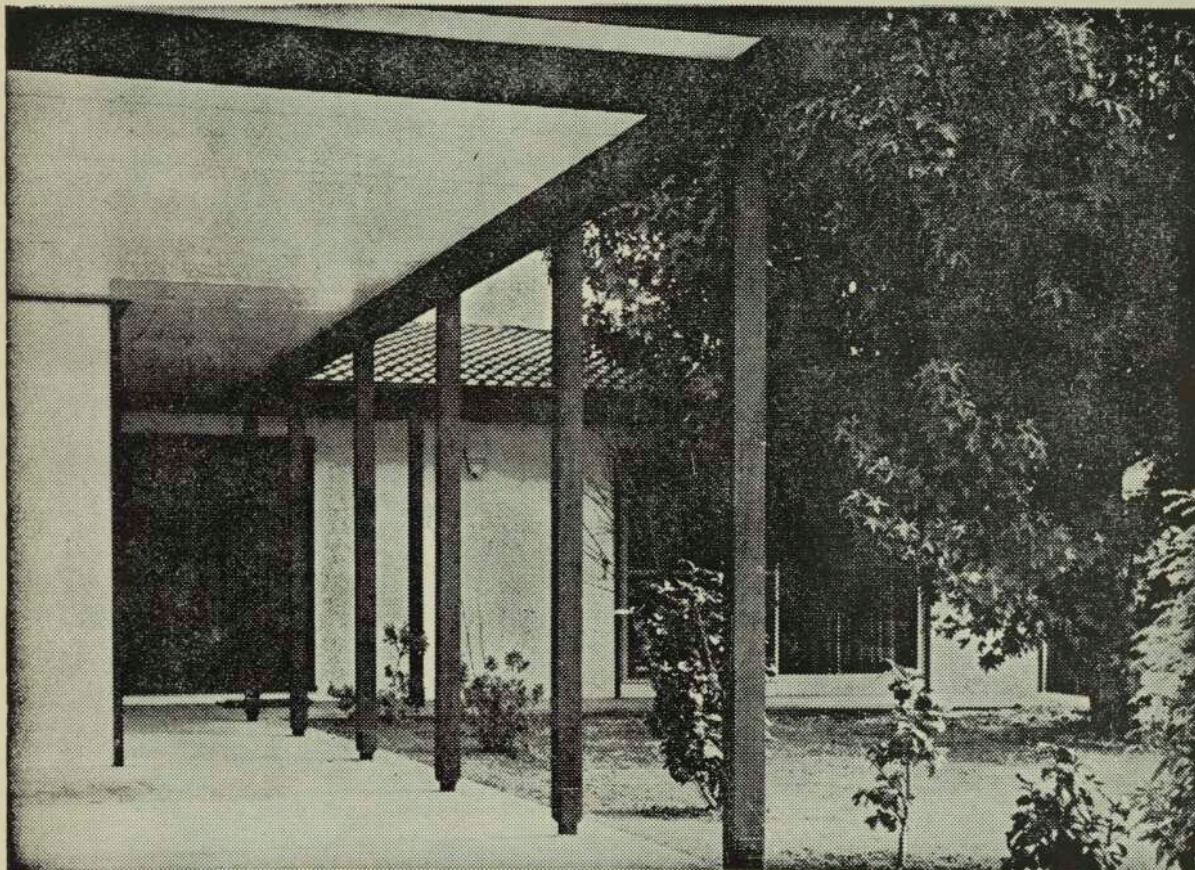
The US military's need for Micronesian bases to close the ring gives Micronesia more clout than the

islands would normally have had, if South-east Asia hadn't been lost. Yet, the US's economic hold on the islands precludes discussions of a political status outside of one ensuring a "close association" between the two. So, Micronesia is locked into an irreversible dependency upon the US. And, the US has made a commitment it can hardly ignore.

Micronesia has about five years before the trusteeship ends to settle its future political status. During that time it is inconceivable that it will ask for less US money or that the US would give the trust territory less.

As the dependency on US funds grows, Micronesia's chance for independence lessens. It is a dependency—that for better or worse—neither the US nor Micronesia have attempted to change.

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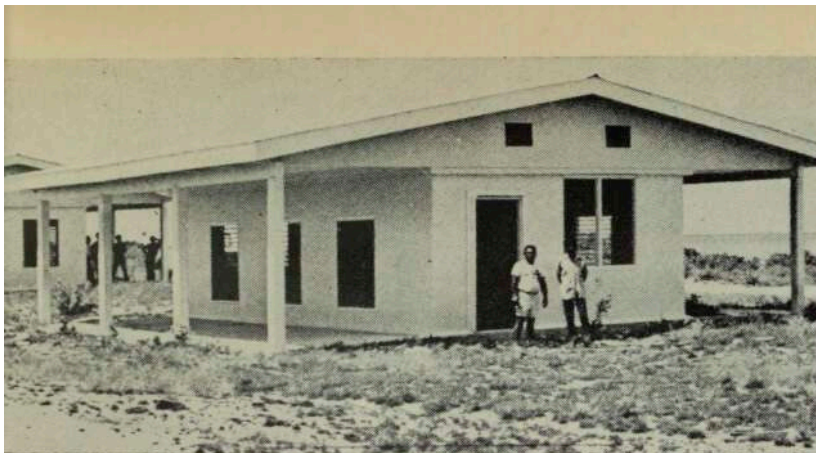
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The houses are ready for the Bikinians but the land's too hot.

Bikini, a home too hot for its people

From MIKE MALONE at Saipan

The displaced people of Bikini Atoll, in the Marshall Islands, removed from their home islands almost 30 years ago to make way for nuclear testing by the United States did not go home in September as planned—their homeland is still hot.

A postponement was officially announced by the US Department of Interior so that "analysis and evaluation of the latest radiological survey" could be completed. But a preliminary US government report in August warned that foods grown on Bikini are unsafe for human consumption and "should not be eaten".

The survey, taken in June by the Energy Research and Development Administration (formerly Atomic Energy Commission) revealed gamma ray exposure rates "considerably higher" than on neighbouring islets that surround Bikini's 200-ft deep lagoon, where a fleet of ships sunk in the 1946 tests still lie.

And, despite an extensive \$US4 million clean-up, rehabilitation and agricultural replanting programme undertaken on Bikini since 1968, including construction of 40 concrete houses and community buildings, the report said Bikini "should be considered of limited use".

After Bikini was declared "safe" by the Atomic Energy Commission in 1967, President Johnson pledged to return the Bikini people as soon as a massive clean-up programme was completed. Moon-like craters were filled in, and over 40,000 trees,

mainly coconut, planted in neat rows on the atoll's two principal islands, Bikini and Enyu.

Interior Department officials called the former nuclear test site "the best planted island in the Pacific" and enthusiastically described Bikini as a future "showcase island".

The results of the latest unpublished report, however, said no more homes should be built on Bikini, but instead on nearby Enyu, four miles away, where radioactive levels are lower. Fish, birds, bird eggs, and coconuts were declared safe to eat, but the report said final analysis of the June survey might not be available until early 1976.

Bikini, part of the Trust Territory, has been administered by the United States since taken from Japan in World War II.

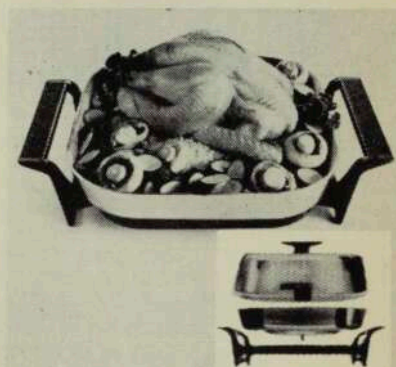
Early in 1946, Bikinians were persuaded by the US Navy to leave their atoll for what they believed would be a short time. Taking only what personal belongings they could carry, the islanders were moved to isolated Rongerik, an uninhabited atoll islanders say possesses many poisonous fish.

The Bikini people nearly starved.

In 1948, they were evacuated to a "tent city" on Kwajalein, then a navy base; today a top-secret missile testing range for the US Army. Eight months later, the Bikinians were moved to a tiny, uninhabited island called Kili, which is one-seventh the size of Bikini. Lacking a lagoon and adequate farmland, food on Kili has

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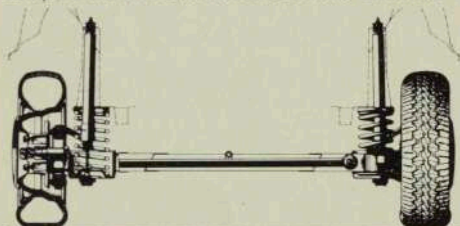
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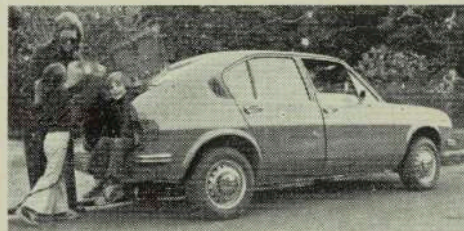
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Ataji Balos . . . we have the trust, the Americans have the territory.

been air-dropped by military aircraft from Kwajalein.

Today, the gentle Bikini islanders speak of their former homeland with a strange mixture of nostalgia for the old days and resentment of the United States' treatment during nearly three decades of exile.

Many of the old people still hope

they will be laid to rest near their ancestors. The young, on the other hand, have never seen this place called Bikini, which their elders speak so fondly of.

Adverse world opinion prompted the US Government to set up a \$300,000 trust fund in 1956 so the islands could receive an annual dividend. But, in 1973, Bikinians filed a lawsuit against the Trust Territory Government because the fund had diminished by over one-third.

The Bikini people's representative in the territory's national legislature, Ataji Balos, led a delegation of Bikini leaders to Washington last year demanding \$3 million in compensation for their long years of hardship. The *ex gratia* payment was recently authorised by the US Congress.

Balos, a member of the Congress of Micronesia, has grown accustomed to dealing with Americans over the years and has championed the causes of other displaced islanders in his constituency, including Kwajalein and Eniwetak atolls. On Kwajalein, displaced Marshallese live in a 63-acre ghetto while their islands serve as a target-range for incoming missiles launched from Vandenberg Air Force Base, in California.

Like the Bikini people, the displaced people of Eniwetak also saw

their islands turned into a nuclear test site and for years have demanded to be returned home.

Calm and soft-spoken, Balos summarised America's treatment of the Marshall Islands people as part of the vast Pacific Trust Territory:

"We islanders have the 'trust'; the Americans have the 'territory'."

An attorney for the Bikini people, Theodore Mitchell of the Micronesian Legal Services Corporation, described the postponement as "doubly tragic". He said that all US government agencies involved have "utterly failed to carry out President Johnson's promise of 1968", and specifically blamed the Atomic Energy Commission for failing to gather adequate radiological data long ago to make sure Bikini would be safe for re-settlement today.

Now after nearly 30 years of waiting, the Bikini exiles are being told they must wait again.

● The leaders and owners of Roi-Namur, an island in Kwajalein atoll, Marshall Islands, have filed a suit in the US Court of Claims, Washington, for \$10 million, for the alleged "unlawful and uncompensated taking and continued use" of the island. The plaintiffs also claim damages for relocation and dislocation expenses.

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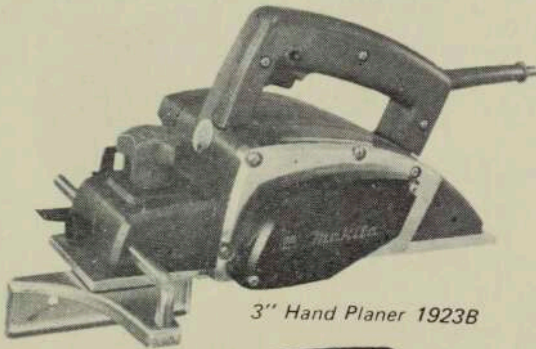
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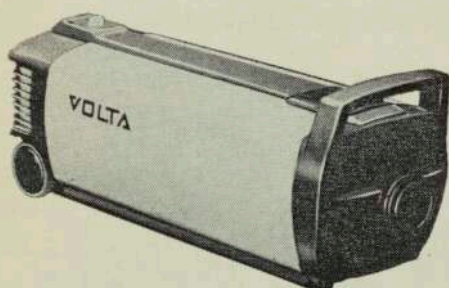
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THE TRAVELLER LANDED ON TONGA'S 'HYPOCRITICAL SABBATH'

By a Traveller in Tonga

"The Sabbath Day shall be sacred in Tonga for ever and it shall not be lawful to work, artifice, or play games, or trade on the Sabbath."

The words come from the Tongan Constitution of 1875 and still today they stand as the law of the land. I think there are few people—even among the tourists, who are usually regarded as an irreligious lot, who would disagree with the spirit of the regulation, but, after spending two Sundays in the kingdom recently, I cannot help feeling that its modern application has led to nothing but religious hypocrisy and chicanery.

Awakening on my first Sunday at Nuku'alofa to the sound of church bells, I decided to attend a service. The sermon, in Tongan, was, of course, incomprehensible, but, like so many other visitors to the kingdom, I found the singing of unsurpassable beauty and listening to it was a rare spiritual experience.

Again, like many other visitors, I found the Tongan hospitality unexpectedly warm and welcoming for, after the service, a smiling man approached me and invited me to come and eat with his family.

The home to which he led me was poor compared with many we passed, but the feast that was spread before us was filled with all the good things of the land—with pig and chicken and fish and all sorts of vegetables. I wondered how my host could possibly afford it all, but he nudged me and said proudly, "From my bush—except the fish. I catch that last night".

When the final grace was over, my host said, "You must excuse me now. I will take some of this food to the hospital. My second son is there with a broken leg, but there is nothing wrong with his appetite".

I remembered—on my way into town from the airport having seen the fine new hospital that serves Tongatapu. I remembered, too, that it was a long way out of town. "You'll go by bus?" I asked.

He shook his head, "The buses do not run on Sunday. I shall walk".

"Let me get you a taxi," I volunteered, hoping to be able to repay in some small measure, his hospitality, but he shook his head again. "Taxis are not allowed to work on Sundays," he said.

Walking back to my hotel shortly

afterwards along the beach road, I found myself constantly dodging automobiles and motorcycles. Tongans, whom I questioned, affirmed my suspicion that, although the buses and taxis which would have enabled people of moderate means like my host of the morning to go on errands of mercy to the hospital, were against the Sabbath law, there was no restriction at all on the movements of anyone fortunate enough to own an automobile or a motorcycle. Obviously Sabbath observance was not so much a matter of principle as of wealth.

The following Sunday I observed an even greater show of governmental hypocrisy. I had sailed the night before for Vava'u on the 'Aoniū, a Tongan ship which is clean and excellently run. As we pulled into the port of Neiafu about sunset on Sunday, I went into my cabin to check my luggage—a suitcase and several cardboard cartons of food and miscellaneous household goods which I had brought for the friend with whom I would be staying.

Outside, the decks sprang into life as crewmen ran to ready the ship for anchoring and to throw the ropes to

the shore crew. I followed them and spotted my friend on the wharf. Soon he was on the ship greeting me and following me into the cabin.

"Is all this yours?" he asked looking at the pile of boxes in the middle of the floor. I nodded and he shook his head. "There's no trouble," I said, lifting a couple of boxes. "We can take them between us."

"We can," he said, "but I don't know if we'll be allowed to. I'll go and see."

I went with him onto the deck where a smartly got-up young policeman was sitting. In reply to my friend's question he said abruptly, "No, you can't take it".

I had been told that the cargo in the hold would not be worked until Monday morning and thinking he had mistaken by luggage for cargo, I said, "It's just the things from my cabin that we're talking about . . . not things in the hold."

"You can't take it," the policeman repeated and, looking at us as if we were the most unregenerate criminals added, "It's Sunday. You can come back for it at midnight."

My friend explained that we had to

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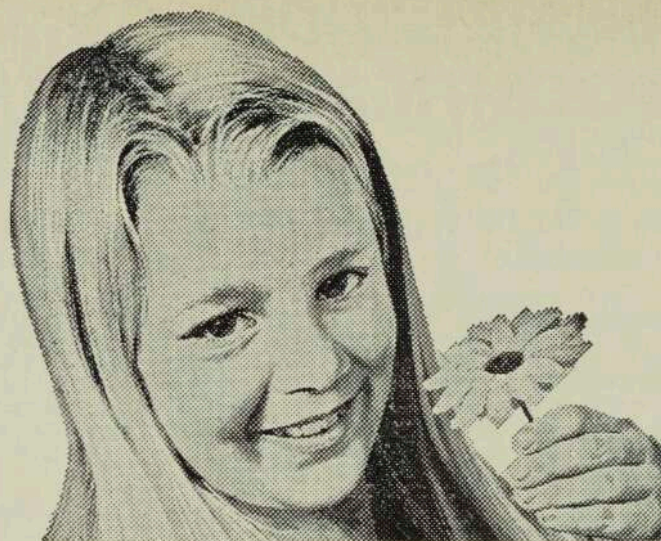
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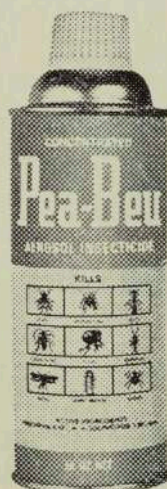


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"He said to them, "What man of you, if he has one sheep and it falls into a pit on the sabbath, will not lay hold of it and lift it out. Of how much more value is a man than a sheep! So it is lawful to do good on the sabbath."

(Matt. chap. 12).

go to one of the outer islands and that running back and forth the length of the harbour was—particularly during the present benzine shortage—a great hardship. The policeman was not moved. "If I let you take your luggage everyone else would expect to do the same."

"And so they should," I said. The remark was logical, but scarcely wise, for the policeman shouted arrogantly at us, "Go with your body. That's all you'll take. Your own body. This is the Sabbath."

True, it was Sunday, but did the refusal to let passengers take their own luggage ashore add to the holiness of the day? There is no waiting room in Neiafu, no shelter where passengers can sit to wait the striking of midnight. Is it a Christian act to force people to wait around on an open wharf which is cold and often wet or to force them, as an alternative, to make double trips down the long harbour?

I submit that if the Tongan Government wishes to be strictly logical, private cars as well as taxis should be forbidden to move on Sundays and, as the last stroke of midnight rings out on Saturday night, the engines of all Tongan vessels should be stopped and the ships should be allowed to drift at the divine will until midnight Sunday ends the sabbath. Needless to say, men should not be suffered either to throw ropes from the ship nor to catch them on the wharf on the holy day.

In pointing out the blatant hypocrisy of the Sabbath laws of Tonga, I mean no irreverence. Certainly the churchgoing of Tonga and the quiet observance of the day is something the rest of the world might well emulate, but I suggest that, in view of the fact that Tonga is a part of the modern world, it should recognise that modernity is not necessarily evil.

I suggest further that the lawmakers have another look at the Bible which they claim as the supreme law for all men. It says there, "The sabbath was made for man not man for the Sabbath".

'THERE IS BUT ONE LAW FOR ALL'

Writing in the *Tonga Chronicle*, the editor, Siosua H. Fonua, stressed, "There is but one law in Tonga for chiefs and commoners, Tongans and Europeans. It is as difficult for us to accept this provision as it is for Europeans to accept some of our codes. I refer again to the Sunday laws which very few Europeans find easy to adapt to. However, it is becoming increasingly common to hear of Tongans landing themselves in trouble overseas because they are not aware of the provisions of the law there. Fortunately, in time they learn to abide by the law, and equally fortunate, the expatriates here in Tonga learn that there can be no exception where they are concerned. Perhaps the most important thing is the realisation that there is but one law in Tonga, and also the fact that there is but one God in Heaven and earth. When we apply those principles to our everyday thinking and actions, the spirit by which His Majesty King George Tupou I included this particular clause in the Constitution is made clear to us".

For people who value tradition.

Dewar's "White Label"—it never varies.

From the Islands Press

From the Arawa Bulletin:

And on the subject of weddings, why do people who rarely go to church have to be subjected to singing three or four lengthy hymns known only to the parson and the organist (if that). Becomes one of the more embarrassing moments of maritalisation when one has to sing about fighting the good fight, when all one knows is Waltzing Matilda.

From a letter by M. B. Taite, in News Drum, Solomon Islands:

I am an enthusiast for soccer. I love everything of it. I follow it even if it means paying 80c taxi to watch it.

From a court report in The Fiji Times:

A businessman convicted in Suva Court of obtaining money by false pretences commended the detective inspector and other officers assigned to the case for their quick work in tracking him down. Mahendra Prasad Shandil (18), of Lakeba Street, Samabula, pleaded guilty to 10 counts of false pretences . . . Shandil told (the magistrate): "I would like to congratulate Detective Inspector Sahindra Kumar Singh and his party for their quick work in tracking me and finding out about my offence" . . .

Ronald Martin reports in the Papua New Guinea Post-Courier:

Village social nights are beginning to be "too sociable" according to Asaro Watabung councillors. The councillors will move to abolish social nights because they are doing more damage than good to the lives of the village communities, they say. Illegal sales of beer at exorbitant prices and a high rate of pregnancy among unmarried women are among problems brought into village communities by social nights, councillors say . . .

From a letter by Katy Ceal in The Solomon Islands News Drum:

. . . the Solomon Islands are getting worse. Murdering, stealing, raping girls and other crimes are growing more and more. Especially in recent years when we have learned that our Solomon Islands are going to be independent.

The risk of being a reporter as reported in the Samoa Times:

A Samoa Times reporter was threatened with bodily harm by several members of the Apia rugby team last Saturday following an article which appeared in this newspaper recently. The reporter . . . was unexpectedly jolted when an Apia player walked off

the field and grabbed him by the hair. The reporter fended off the player's hand, inquiring what was wrong. The player replied with a threat. "You will be beaten up if you ever write anything bad about the Apia rugby team in your paper again" he told our reporter . . .

From submissions made to the Royal Commission on Norfolk Island's future constitution by Administrator Air Commodore E. T. Pickerd: as reported in The Norfolk Islander.

"... there may be occasions during my appearance before the Royal Commission when my attitudes and reactions as either the Administrator, and/or the Chairman of the Norfolk Island Council, and/or a private individual may not be in consonance. Should this occur, I shall make my position on each occasion quite clear so as to leave no doubt as to which hat I am wearing at the time . . .

Mr Apisai Tora, Fijian politician, trade union leader and stirrer, in The Fiji Times:

It all boils down to the fact that both Mr James Raman and Mr Joeli Gavoka don't exactly like the look of my face. And I don't blame them because I'm merely black and not exactly beautiful.

The Cook Islands' Premier, Sir Albert Henry, speaking on the 10th anniversary of self-government, as reported by the Cook Islands News:

. . . Remember today we have allowed ourselves to enter into the world of political and industrial strife—a real world. It is a world of fact, a world of realities. There is no place for imitation, it is a world where a banana is a banana, a coconut is a coconut—there is no place for dreams . . . when we look at the world we marvel, and we say to ourselves what a hell of a world this is. Who made it so?—Greedy human being full of bamboozaly ideas, all over the world . . .

From the Tohi Tala Niue:

After waiting 16 months for the glue for Fibre Glass Tanks they have arrived but no good to be used as outside the tins it says "Use before April". What it contains in them were hard and only little can be used.

From an interview in the Atoll Pioneer (GEIC) with Mr Mulikihaamea Matekitoga (named and adopted by the King of Wallis), president of the Tonga Trading Co:

"... He came into this business because of his desire to help his people (meaning the people of Wallis, Tonga and other Pacific Islands such as us) from being exploited by foreigners. 'I am disgusted', said Mulikihaamea, at the way some of the tourists carry on bargaining down, lower and lower the price of art work from a poor islander". . . .

From The Fiji Times Flotsam and Jetsam column:

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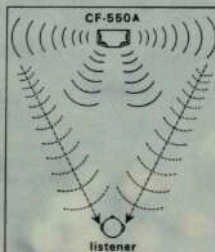
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PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY—NOVEMBER, 1975

49

The first Loco.

Early shipments.

OLD OCEAN

The Manager's house.

The Manager's office — Palatial!

Landing stores.

50

PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY—NOVEMBER, 1975



Magazine Section

Seventy-five years ago, Mr (later Sir) Albert Ellis discovered that Nauru was a vast heap of phosphate and his discovery urged him on to look for more. He found it on Ocean Island. Today, Ocean Island and its people, the Banabans, are the centre of a multi-million dollar action in the British High Court and a subject for discussion by the United Nations. Late in 1900, the first shipment of phosphate left Ocean Island. Three years later, a small girl, Albert Ellis's daughter, arrived on Ocean Island. Now, so many years later, as Mrs Joan Milne, of Khandallah, Wellington (NZ), she writes his story for PIM.

IN THE DAYS WHEN OCEAN WAS OLD OCEAN AND NAURU WAS A PUP

By JOAN MILNE

KO-NA-MAURI and Te Akabo—over the years a fair amount has been written about Ocean Island mostly in newspaper articles, agricultural journals, magazines, as well as in the odd book. Its very early history is sketchy and it was not held in any importance. It appears in Admiralty charts under the name of Paanopa being named after a British vessel which "discovered" it in 1804. The name over the years evidently became Banaba and the inhabitants Banabans. It had, supposedly, no commercial value; it was subject to droughts; it was isolated but carried a moderate population for its size and at times a few of the beachcomber types of those days.

The story of the finding of the vast phosphate deposits has been told and it does not need repeating, but I would like to stress that Albert Ellis, my father, was a prospector and he was respected on many islands for phosphate as an employee of the Pacific Islands Company.

Because of experience and a trained eye he recognised a certain piece of rock for what it was. At no time during his long career in the phosphate industry did he work on his own behalf. The work of shipping phosphate started from scratch, began remarkably quickly; equipment used being brought from other workings. Indeed, the other workings were an all-time low so Ocean Island was a life-saver. Late in 1900 Ocean Island's people saw the first shipments arriving.

Three years later, a small five-week-old baby girl arrived by ship

with her mother. I suppose one remembers incidents back to the age of three and as I was 5½ when I left, a few indelible memories remain and they are memories, not hearsay.

Also because of those fleeting early years, there was forged this strong and lasting love for a small sea-girt isle and its inhabitants. Nostalgic thoughts? Yes. Emotional? Yes—and somehow a strong, continuing yen. It is because of these I have an understanding and certain sympathy for some of the desires of the Banabans at the present time quite apart from the money aspect.

Ocean was old Ocean
When Nauru was a pup.
Ocean will be old Ocean
When Nauru's swallowed up.

ran the old ditty only it doesn't seem to be working out that way.

One would naturally begin with one's mother and father. My father was always a quiet, unassuming man. Recently, I have read two criticisms of him which have shown that the writers did not know him at all. He was described as a 'merchant adventurer' and the other suggested that he was a selfish man.

The first is absurd. His whole pattern of life refuted that: his books are completely straight-forward, uncomplicated and speak for themselves. As for being selfish, he was a good New Zealander who was convinced the farmers of his country needed phosphate in fertiliser form for their farms and that they needed it at low cost. In that aspect, maybe, he had a one-track mind.

Over the intervening years, perhaps phosphate has been used extravagantly but that was not his department.

He had a number of sayings. Some that come to mind are: "That will spill the milk in the coconut: it's good to bear the yoke in one's youth: you can't make omelettes without breaking eggs: give way in little things but not in big".

When travelling one either 'roughed it' or 'suffered in comfort'.

In the days when Albert Ellis and his brother George were prospecting through the Islands for guano and phosphate deposits they really did rough it. Sailing ships, schooners, brigantines, storms, becalmed, camping, coping with rats, cockroaches, lice of all varieties—it was all very much in the pioneering class.

My dad had many stories he could tell and every now and then they fitted into daily life. He took a dim view of complaints regarding food and would call to mind trips when all biscuits had to be tapped to release livestock and there were horrid stories about evil-smelling butter and doubtful salted meat.

Two stories used to thrill me and were in constant demand. One, how his rug 'woolly' saved the life of a native chief and the other the sighting of a small open craft in mid-ocean with some French escapees who by that time were in sore plight. They were taken on board, murderous weapons and all. But all his tales of adventure have been factually written with no straining after effect. Early upbringing and his wandering pros-

pecting years left a profound faith which he kept through life.

"They that go down to the sea
in ships
That do business in great waters
These see the works of the Lord
And His wonders in the deep."
—Psalm 107.

The manager's house at Ocean Island had a verandah running right round it and all the rooms opened out on to it. Directly opposite the office was the telescope on its stand. That was the first of all memories of my dad—looking out to sea through the telescope; that, and endless pacing up and down. Many anxious days and nights were spent when there was a possibility of wind change—whether a ship could be brought in or another have to slip the buoy and put out to sea.

The phosphate was loaded off the jetty into baskets on the lighters which, in turn, were towed out to the ship riding out at the moorings, always of course with steam up.

On the later trip, I found it a never-ending fascination to watch the Island labour at work, loading and, if there was a good surf running, marvel at their incredible skill in handling the lighters. The roar of the waves, the constant shouting of the workers; somehow, the shouting was so much part of the excitement, clouds of phosphate dust, sun, blue sky, blue sea, and the ship riding out beyond the reef. Unforgettable. But it was always the verandah—life was largely spent on that wide, shady verandah that caught the sea breezes.

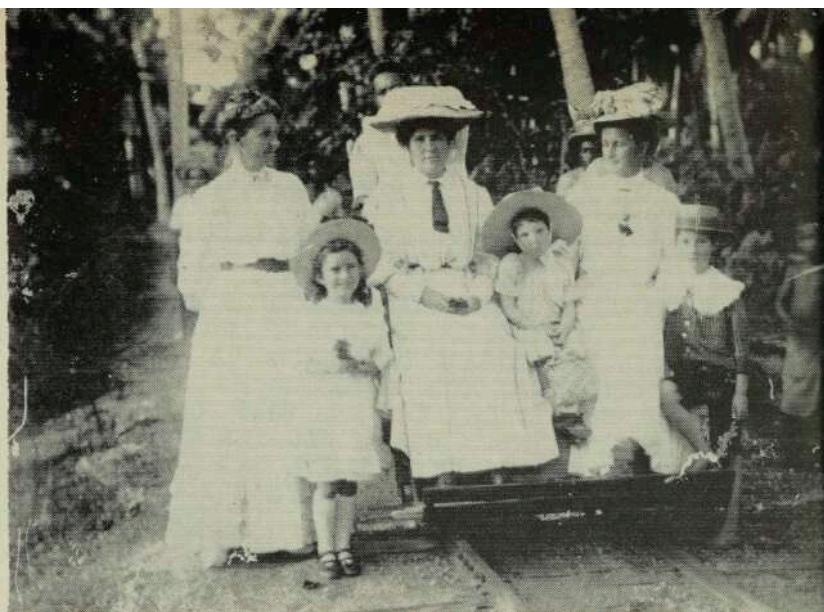
How the enormous coconut crab was brought on to the verandah to claw its way around I don't know. No doubt, it was lured into one of the native coconut twine kits but eight pounds of crab creaking round and its huge pincers periodically doing a wave around its head made a small girl keep well to the rear.

Not so spiders—big black furry ones could be tickled into activity with a stick.

My father always had a dog or dogs. Gip and Joey I remember—fox terriers. They were wonderful playmates especially Gip who suffered herself to be dressed up and yet could turn into a ball of fury if any of the village dogs skulked around the house. Flying feet, yelps, battle and without fail a triumphant foxy returned.

Always before breakfast, my dad and the dogs would take a turn out to the phosphate fields and, somehow, even at that hour of the morning, he always wore immaculate whites which naturally brings me to the washing women—the Janies.

They plied their trade under the



A family outing on the man-powered rail truck. Joan (Mrs Milne) is the small girl at front left with aunt Mrs George Ellis behind. Her mother, Mrs Albert Ellis is at right.

house, that large open expanse of shade and air. They must have really worked as from memory everyone wore white and all whites were starched and ironed.

They worked, laughed, and lived their days through and were a vital part of the life of the house.

When my mother died, I didn't understand much of what was happening till the weeping and the wailing of the Janies told of their burden. The Gilbertese and Banaban 'Boys' were fun—always very vocal and good-humoured.

The Gilbert Islander who kept an absolving and brotherly eye on me when I was out and around was always 'My Boy Jimmy'.

He spoilt me, putting up with a lot. Tears were shed on both sides when the final *Ioanie you birre naku te kaibuke eh?* "You going away in the big steamer."

The arrival of ice was always a big time. Precious blocks wrapped in blankets and slung on poles were carried up from the boat harbour by a couple of boys. No refrigerators in those days and very few steamers equipped with the necessary but when available, a block of ice always came to the manager's house—then butter, instead of being spooned as oil, was spread.

'Ballee butter' squealed an excited little girl. Another very vocal time was the rare occasion of a fire. A worrying and terrifying time. Water was scarce—only tank water available, and most precious, so, if fire, alas, broke out, it was attacked and beaten with coconut leaves and, sort

of, guided on its course to an open clearing or the beach.

The vivid mental picture of night, a band of leaping crackling flames, dark figures, darting, lashing, always yelling, beating—excitement without bounds.

To this day, I can't bear to see water wilfully wasted and have kept this fascinated terror of fire.

To go to the reef was the highlight of living.

We would walk between the high pinnacles and there, believe it or not, was Jacko, the Teasing Monkey's Cave. I really believed he lived there; scurried up the coconut trees and I always popped something through that round hole for his next meal.

The reef had pools with a wealth of small, coloured fish and when the water surged out there was coloured coral. Mermaids were always part of the dream.

Two more big sea moments.

Being carried down the side of the ship to the waiting plunging boat and my father nearly losing his footing. The remark of his secretary, a man who was no friend of mine, "My word Joanie the big shark nearly got you that time".

No doubt, I'd asked for it but the big shark threat was very real and even on land I'd throw hurried glances to see if IT was or was not following me. Then the final trip.

My mother had died and I was being taken back to relations in Auckland. A grey morning, mountainous seas and the blood-chilling cry 'Man overboard'. The command 'stay put' the rush of feet, clinging to look out of the porthole, the shudder as

engines changed to astern, the slow wing round: the tiny little boat with men rowing, climbing up those mountains—endless time. He's safe, thank God, they've got him.

My father was a very helpful actor in that rescue. Rushing to the bridge, he spotted the man and, clinging to the rail, held at arm's length a handkerchief always pointing to that dark spot in the grey ocean. He had excellent long sight. I remember later in the day looking with great awe at the man who had literally been in deep waters.

My mother was a greatly-loved woman. Being a registered nurse, she naturally served throughout the community and occasionally I was allowed to go on rounds with her. When moving around the Island one travelled on the railway.

Normally, a Walt Disney type of boat pulled the rake of trucks from the phosphate workings to the crushers. However, when used by us things were different, a seat being fixed to a platform on wheels, and we were poled along by two Gilbertese.

If the visited patient was a child sweetie was generally popped into his mouth. She was also the manager's wife and, having come from a family of strong-minded homemakers, that flair was well to the fore and everything was fittingly done.

Hospitable, she was gay and had a tremendous sense of humour.

The dining-room must have been restful and cool on the hottest day. It had three walls of trellis with a shelf right round holding crotons and such-like with their variegated leaves. The light shade was the dried stretched skin of a porcupine fish.

The kitchen was ruled over by a Japanese cook named Sato and his wife was my long-suffering nurse-maid.

Thinking back, I realise what a blest little girl I was. Looking at old photographs, one wonders how the women could tolerate the clothes they wore compared with the Mother Hubbard and patio dresses of these days. Those dresses were long, had tight waists, long sleeves and high collars. The women seemed to wear this type of dress even to picnics.

Fish and skinny poultry would certainly be the mainstay for diet, otherwise we were dependent on tinned food. I don't think my mother had good health and imagine the lack of fresh foods we take so much for granted had a lot to do with this.

Papaw and sour-sop are the only fruits I remember growing there. That she was remembered by the Banaban population with love was forcibly brought home to me when we had the great pleasure of visiting Rabi

Island about 11 years ago. Why else did the name of Florence occur so frequently? Why else did the older women suddenly brim over and, when I asked what they were saying, the answer came, "They say you are like your mother". Also at Rabi we met Ben Corrie, my father's interpreter from long ago and, I imagine, my oldest friend. We had an emotional time together. My mother had nursed him back to life after a severe accident.

We had a wonderful and generous welcome from the Banaban community. Whatever their feelings are now, it was obvious the memories of the past, my father's visit to Rabi and all past links were strong with respect and affection on both sides. This one-time *ooma* woman felt at home and welcome.

Ocean Island—it's all a very different scene today. Big business, modern houses, refrigerators, clubhouse with swimming pool; cantilever-loading, sophisticated machinery and as near-perfect method of mooring buoys as can be devised: bougainvillea, frangipani, iced beer, frozen foods, all mod cons. Still a little sea-girl isle. Still the day-long, night-long boom of the surf, the rustle of coconut trees, the white beaches and the magic that makes dreaming possible.

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mana



MANA is a vehicle for Pacific Islands' writers and artists to publish their work. It is an organ of the South Pacific Creative Arts Society and its editorial committee comprises writers from many islands. Material for publication must be sent direct to MANA's editor, Marjorie Crocombe, South Pacific Creative Arts Society, Box 5083, Suva.

Vili Vete, a Tongan student at the University of the South Pacific, is the author of the short story which heads this month's MANA. For Change is not without some significance as it's an honest assessment of the hold tradition has on an individual. The other short story, Was It True?, is by Una Sitaba, who is also a student at the USP. This month's poets are Samoans Ruperake Petaia and Tate Simi, the latter a student architect in New Zealand in verse for the first time, Mildred Sope, May Rona Ligo and Kaltakau Kalse, all from the New Hebrides.

FOR CHANGE

By VILI VETE

SIONE sat on a tree trunk surrounded by his newly-harvested yams and vegetables. He kept slapping his thigh and shaking his head as if he could not believe that so much good fortune lay around him.

"There will be enough to pay somebody to help me replant the field with kumala and bananas," he said, "and to keep what we want."

"I shall need to buy a new uniform for our son Tevita, a pair of trousers for you, and some cooking utensils," Ana, his wife, said.

"Yes," Sione said. "There will be enough money for all this, you will see. God in His mercy has given us another chance."

"First the marketing," Ana said, "then the plans."

Then and there, in a fever of impatience, they wove baskets for the yams and set to calculating quantities and prices.

As born farmers there was nothing to equal the deep satisfaction of a rich harvest. Later that night they went and offered their prayers at the church.

After the evening meal, Sione went straight to bed. Ana tidied up. The food scraps and banana leaves were put in a basket for the pigs. She then went to bed. She found Sione still awake. She knew he was calculating the profits and how they were to spend it. Ana stretched herself out beside him in the dim light of the kerosene lamp placed on the big chest in which they kept their valuables.

Sione turned abruptly towards her. Their hearts were full of joy. The silence was broken by the sound of a lali from the village. Sione reached out from under the tattered tapa and put out the light. In the straining darkness she felt his body moving

towards her, his hands on her were trembling, and she felt her senses opening like flowers to his urgency. She waited for him to come to her.

Next morning, Sione went to market. The horse-driven cart was laden with baskets of yams, talo, cabbages and bunches of bananas. The earth had yielded richly.

It was early afternoon when Sione started back home. He had sold all his crops. He was whistling, and ignored the hot sun. When he was passing the 'Eiki of his village's home, somebody called out. "Sione, Sione, stop a minute!"

Sione stopped the horse. "What is it?"

The man came closer and said: "I have good news for you. The 'Eiki heard that you had a rich harvest. He sent me."

"So, he sent you to congratulate me? Is that the good news?"

"No," said the man. "His son arrived yesterday from the city to spend his school holidays here."

"That is good news for everybody," Sione said warily. He was thinking of his own son, hoping to see him at home that day.

"Yes, of course!" the man said. "The 'Eiki wants every farmer on his land to produce a basket of yams. You are to bring a puaka toho (biggest pig) for the celebration." Sione didn't know what to say.

"What's wrong, Sione? Aren't you proud to be honoured with such a task? Every person here longs for that honour."

"Nothing wrong," said Sione.

He wanted to strike the man; he wanted to ram the words down into his throat. But he managed with great effort to control himself.

The man left. Sione drove on.

When he reached home it was late afternoon. Ana came out of the cooking shed. Smoke had forced tears out of her eyes. She hurried to him as he jumped down from the cart.

"You are early, Sione! What happened? Did you manage to sell everything?" she asked. Sione didn't say anything.

"Sione, are you all right? Are you ill?"

Sione didn't answer her questions. "Damn it!" he said loudly. "I am getting sick of it."

Ana was very surprised. She stared at him. For the 15 years of their marriage she had never heard him say such words. She thought that he had been drinking.

SIONE quietly unharnessed the horse. He repeated the words. After tying the horse to a coconut tree he hurried into the house. Ana was worried. Sione called out that he was hungry.

Ana went to the nearest banana tree and cut out a leaf. She took it to the cooking shed and placed it in the middle of the earthen floor. She then took the baka from the fire, poured the water out into a kumete and distributed the food on the banana leaf.

From a box at the corner, she took out a big basin which contained luau that had been cooked in coconut milk. She put some in a coconut bowl and placed it on the opposite side. Sione came in, sat down on a dried coconut leaf, and faced her.

"You say the grace, Ana. I am not in the mood," he said.

"Bless the food which we are about to receive, make it for our good use, for Christ's sake."

"Amen." Sione started to eat. Ana watched him. He said nothing. There was a pained look about him which spoke of the deep hurt he had suffered. He had always wanted to own his own land. Through the years there had been the hope, growing fainter each year, that one day he would be able to call a small portion of land his own. Now, even his son knew it would never be. Like his father before him, Ana broke the silence by asking what had happened. He was sure now that he was not drunk.

"On my way back I was stopped by Ohule, the 'Eiki's matapule. He told me that the 'Eiki wanted our baka toho for the feast to celebrate the arrival of 'Amanaki Lelei, his son; after his first term at secondary school."

"So," Ana said, "we are finally honoured."

"We are being robbed again."

CITY

By TATE SIMI.

*Bald lights hang suspended
Over shadows growing out
Of concrete lawns
To guard half-frightened streets.*

*I walk through the wilderness
Of neon signs—past the bus
shelter pocketing the bottle bought
with his pension—to the station
Where the Black Power congregates
In their black misery eating chips
And sharing their insecurity.*

*Like them I took the bait
Of the promised land.
I carry a briefcase to hide
My poverty and the purse
That holds my life.*

"What do you mean?" Ana said as she started eating.

"Ana, don't you understand? We, the eaters of the soil, toil from sunrise to sunset to get enough to feed ourselves, pay our son's school fees, and to have some for other purposes. But that 'Eiki he does nothing, but just eat, shit and sleep." Ana listened patiently. "Last week we sent him the best of our harvest and your new tapa. This week he wants the puaka toho which we were going to sell and pay for Tevita's school fees. That old . . ."

"He is not human," Ana declared. "He has no love in him. He has always demanded our best, ignoring the needs of us poor creatures."

THE memory of their son, who was going to arrive at any moment, came to her mind. She thought about his future. This brought tears to her eyes, hot and bitter, flowing and flowing as if the very springs of sorrow had been touched in her body.

Sione listened to her but it was a sham, poor, shabby pretence to mask his feelings.

"Well, what . . . ?" Their dog barked and ran outside.

"Somebody is coming," Sione said.

The sound of the cart became louder and finally stopped outside the fale mohe. Sione stood up and, without a word, walked out with long, quick strides. Ana followed him.

Outside were two men on a cart. Both were dressed traditionally to show their status. They both leaped down. The one who was tall and burly did all the talking and the other one, who was thin and insignifi-

cant, stood silently and agreed with what his companion said.

"Malo lelei, Ana mo Sione."

Sione didn't speak, his face was overlaid with misery and anger.

But Ana managed to speak up. She seemed to have completely forgotten her earlier comments. She now showed the typical island custom—eager to show any wealth and disguising hurt with an easy-going manner.

"Malo lelei, ongo matapule," Ana said. "How are you?"

"Sai pe," the two men replied, one after the other. And before they spoke of their visit, Ana spoke up again.

"Come in, come into the house and make yourselves comfortable." She turned to lead the way, but the tall man stopped her.

"It's very kind of you Ana, but because we are in a hurry I will explain the purpose of our visit."

"Do not speak of your visit. We expected you. My husband had told me. We are proud. Bring the cart to the other side of the cooking shed."

SHE turned to Sione and commanded him to get the ripe bunch of hopa which was being kept for Tevita, their son. Sione slowly turned to do what he was told.

"Is that the pig?" asked the thin man.

"Yes, that big one," Ana said, still watching her husband go.

"MAUMAU mo'oni!" he said.

"It's all right," Ana said as she went close to the pig. "We fed him up for two years now. We had intended to sell it to help finance our son's studies."

"So, we better leave it, and take another one," the fat man said.

"No, you take it, you know, our duty comes first, even though we are poor," Ana said.

The two men looked at each other, and then acted immediately. They tied the pig's feet together and loaded it onto the cart. They both leaped up to go.

"Wait," Ana stopped them. "Sione! Sione! Hurry up!" Sione came with the kau hopa and lifted it up to the fat man.

"Malo 'aupito," the fat man said. "Mo nofo a." The horse moved and the wheels turned.

"Mo o ā," Ana replied.

As the cart disappeared, Sione went and fed the pigs and chickens. Ana went into the cooking shed to tidy it. She found that all the food scraps had been eaten by the pigs. She put the basin into the pot and hung them on a nail on a corner post. It was late evening. She felt hot and decided to bathe. She went to the fale

kaukau and got the empty kerosene tin which they used to fetch water and went to the well.

When she went into the fale mohe, Sione was already in bed. She took the comb and a bottle of coconut oil from the pola of the wall, sat beside him, oiled her hair and then combed, plaited it. Sione turned to her.

"Ana."

"Yes? What is it?"

"You know, I was afraid."

"You mean, you are afraid of me?"

"NO, Ana, I am not afraid of you—I love you."

"But what do you mean?"

"I mean, I was scared to say anything when the two matapule were here."

"Why?" Ana asked as she stretched herself on the other side of the lamp which was between them.

"I don't understand—probably I was very tired—but no,—I hate them all."

"Sione, I always found you a man of courage and love, but since this occasion, I noticed the change in you," Ana wearily said.

"Yes, Ana, you are right—but not enough courage, as those young educated people have—you know,

it was in my mind since the birth of our son . . ."

"What was in your mind?" Ana asked.

"That one day, I would speak to the 'Eiki of the village about it—but I couldn't—I couldn't because there is so much of our ancestors in me—so much tradition."

"I don't understand what you are talking about, Sione."

"I am talking about that fat man in the village and his authority. He uses it wrongly. I might call him a senseless, selfish person."

"But, Sione, you forget that he owns the land."

"And God owned us and the land," Sione said. "If we believe that there is God—God of Love—who demands nothing for us but to love our neighbours as ourselves, then we should act likewise."

"Then you are wrong, Sione, for you hate your neighbour, the 'Eiki of our village."

"That is different, for he was not asking but confiscating."

"I can see what you mean now," she said.

"Hard labour has taught me to think and understand you know, I always think, that, more than half of the problems in our community are

caused by misunderstanding. People sometimes say, that white collar jobs are discouraging young people from farming, but I disagree. There were lots of talented farmers who gave up farming because of that misunderstanding. They looked for other jobs or migrated to other places." The memory of their son came into his mind. He kept silent but Ana asked: "Do you think that Tevita would like to be a farmer?"

"I hope not," Sione said. "Unless God helps those men change from brutality to love and understanding our needs."

"No!" Ana said. "Not those old men. They are hard as iron. We hope their successors are better."

"Yes! yes," Sione said. "I hope that our son be changed too."

"And be successful in his studies, so he can get a job in town," Ana said.

The lamp ran out of fuel and Sione put it on the chest. Sounds of singing and laughter from the 'Eiki's celebrations were heard.

Ana drifted into uneasy sleep. In her dreams, she saw her son sitting behind a desk, with a line of pens in his pocket. He was talking to two black men in a language she couldn't understand.

MY

By MILDRED SOPE.

*My body you carry a heavy load
My head you are there to keep my shape
My brain you tell me when to act
My eyes you tell me where to look
My ears you tell me where the sound is
My nose you tell me where the danger is
My feet you carry me to my destination
My heart you are big
 you feel the pain
 you receive the warmth
 you keep the love
My spirit when will it be your turn.*

AT THE COFFEE BAR

By TATE SIMI.

*He questioned me thru' bleary alcoholic eyes,
'What do you think of me?'
'I think you're decent'—admitting his
Indecency. I cursed him in my brain
For the familiar tattered loneliness
He wore on his face.
'Of course I'm decent.' He blurted
Angered by my lie. Silently
We sat watching each other
In each other's faces.*

THE OLD

By MAY RONA LIGO

*The old thatched roof stood
At the foot of the hills
And here passes the whiteman's highway.*

*Thrice a day, smoke rises
Vertically but worriedly
Through the old thatched roof
As the old man cooks his meal
Over the yellow flame.*

*His occupation is his garden,
His money his crops,
His friends the unseen spirits,
His supporter his walking-stick,
But where is everyone else?*

*The young ones, where are they?
In the towns, of course.*

GOVERNMENT

She drinks the
national sweat in gulps
while her people
feed on a pile of promises.

She gets so fat and clumsy,
everytime she waddles along
she stumbles on
potholed-roads and high
living costs.

At times she gets very sick
and makes quite a number
of unnecessary visits overseas
seeking financial treatment
Some people say her sickness
is incurable and she will
die soon).

HYPOCRITES AND GODS

They have sat
in churches with
hypocrites doing
fashion show
and
have worked in
an office where
ordinary men grow into
stiff, starched-white gods who have
to wear spectacles
to see their miracles.

Some poems by Ruperake Petaia

DEAR

GRANDMOTHER

On your 70th birthday
I would if I could
have bought you a
flash Datsun
Pick-up, auto-controlled
for your every comfort.

I would if I could
have built you the
finest of all fale—palagi,
For your delight
a refrigerator and
an electric stove
a 21 inch colour T.V. set
On the verandah
a rocking chair to creak
your aging bones to rest.

And if I could I would
have changed your life
for what I though was
best for you.
Your new day would have
strictly consisted of
three meals, two baths
and evening Pick-up ride,
and early to bed.

Yet it seems so
pointless to try
and change you,
when you are
so happy and real.

Self-Betrayal

I ate myself to hunger
for the ready-made
miracles of the Papalagis
(I can't afford anymore
tinned meals and
artificial pleasures of
the miracle makers).

The quest for these introduced—
pleasures,
burned within my eyes
until at a point
I had no choice

I sold myself in
the market-places
and in the streets I
posed for
the technicoloured fascinations
of the tourist cameras.

Soon . . .
my prideless, sacred
way of life, fashioned
by my ancestors not
for sale, was torn
worldwide. My worth
got cheaper and cheaper
day after day . . .
I knew it too late that
I was dead while living
I fell
in shame for I have
lost my moorings
my canoe has drifted
away from the fleet
Today
I can only try to salvage
the wreckage dispersed
on foreign shores.

WAS IT TRUE?

By UNA SITABA

IT was on a Wednesday. How well I remember that day. I was in form five then, and I was nearly 17. Our class was right in the middle of an English lesson, our first for the day, when the school clerk came into our room. The teacher stopped. We all waited.

After a while, our teacher called out, "T. Talolo, Miss Marke wants to see you in her office". All the eyes turned to me. Slowly I got up and walked out.

It was a warm morning, and I was thankful for that, for I was trembling with fear. The clerk turned to go. I ran up to her and asked, "What does she want me for?"

"I don't know," she replied.

"But I've already paid my school fees," I repeated. She didn't reply but walked on.

When I was near the office, I saw a taxi. My father's older brother and two of my cousins were there talking to Miss Marke. She turned to me and said, "Run to the dormitory and get some clothes. You're going home for a few days".

I looked at my uncle. He wasn't looking at me, but I saw that he was tired and frowning. I quickly looked away. I ran to our dormitory, grabbed some clothes, stuffed them into my school bag, and ran down to the waiting cab. I got in it. We left for Suva.

I questioned by cousins. They began to cry so I shut up and looked away, wondering. My uncle was sitting with the driver, but I daren't ask him. As we neared the bus-station, I heard my uncle asking the driver to stop there for a while. Both he and the driver got out and went towards the market.

I questioned my cousins again, so one of them said, "Draiba".

"Why do you come to get me?"

"Tata Inoke wants you to come."

"I don't want to go." They didn't reply but looked away. They sat like that until the other two returned. I sat quietly till we got to Draiba.

SUDDENLY I heard women crying. A lot of women were cooking, outside, and men were making a *lovo*. Others were drinking *yaqona*. Tata Inoke came and said, "Go inside to your mother".

"What for?" I asked suddenly.

He didn't reply, but turned and walked away, puzzled. I saw that everyone outside was looking at me. I was still in my green school uniform and a black pullover.

So I stayed there. I didn't want to go into a house full of wailing women. Tata Volau, my father's younger brother, came, held me and said, "Lewa, your father . . .," he started and stopped, looked at me, then walked away, rubbing his eyes.

"What's wrong with Ta?" I called after him.

Suddenly, I saw everything. It wasn't possible. Ta had been in hospital for a week. So what? People stay longer than that and still come out well. How long I stood there I couldn't recall, then I heard my mother's voice calling me from inside.

I walked in. She fainted when she first saw me. I gave her some water. I came and sat beside her. She was all in black. How I hated that colour. I looked around the room. I recognised most of my aunties sitting around on mats and *kumi*. My mother told me that Ta had died with my name on his lips. I looked at her, but not seeing her, only the face of Ta, the last time I visited him in hospital.

I thought, "These people must be mad. Ta is not dead. Why cry? He is still in hospital waiting for me to come and visit him. I won't and don't want to believe otherwise. Unless I see him, I won't believe what you say about him. Na must be mad to have believed them so easily".

I sat there, staring at and cursing those crazy women. I felt hot so I went outside. What was I expecting? I didn't know. I just waited.

At two o'clock he arrived. Some of my male cousins brought him in. They wanted to see him for the last time, so the coffin was opened.

It was my turn to go and kiss him good-bye. He was dressed in his best Sunday suit. A little smile parted his lips. Na fainted repeatedly. She tried to wake him up, calling his name.

I bent down to kiss him. The coldness shot through me, and I felt sick, weak all over. I wasn't the courageous girl anymore. I hugged Na, and for the first time that day, cried bitterly.

Ta was buried at three o'clock.

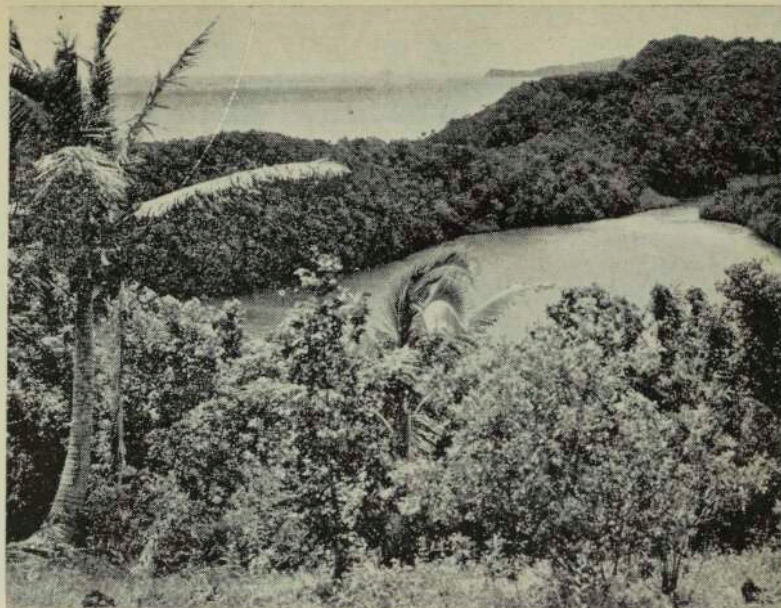
Ta—father. Tata—uncle. Na—mother. Lewa—pet name for girls. Lovo—earth oven. Yaqona—kava. Kumi—tapa.

The Decision

By KALTAKAU KALSE

*Who will you choose,
Me, the revolutionary,
Or him, the conservative?
Education is a friend of mine,
Custom is a friend of his;
My tools are pencils, books, rulers;
His tools are leaves, stones, magic.
Modern world is mine.
Old world is his.
Oh my people,
Who will you choose
Me, the politician
Or him, the preserver?
The decision is yours.*

he story of one of the unsolved marine mysteries of the century began to unfold when the small island trader, Joyita, 70 tons, was found floating and derelict, about 70 miles north of Labasa, Fiji, on November 10, 1955. There was no sign of the crew, and there has never been, in spite of a report of inquiry and official and unofficial investigations. The Joyita left Labasa for the Tokelau Islands, two days away, carrying a complement of 25, and was not found for five weeks. After being found she was towed to Malau and then Suva where she was sold at auction to Mr David Simpson, a Vanua Levu planter. She seemed to be dogged by a hoodoo after being reconditioned. She went aground on Horseshoe Reef in the Koro Sea early in 1957. The Joyita, beached and rotting at Levuka, later passed into the hands of author H. C. Maugham.



Nabavatu Harbour on Vanua Balavu (the Long Land), "the dismembered part of Fiji".

Yesterday

Instead of trying to settle several thousand Eurasians from Indo-China in New Caledonia—if there was any serious intention of doing so—the French Government should look rather towards the New Hebrides, where at least 100,000 hectares of land were owned by the French Government, some New Caledonia people claimed, according to a PIM report. The suggestion that New Caledonia might be regarded as a potential home for the displaced Eurasians followed the reported possibility that 20,000 troops might conceivably be transferred from Indo-China to New Caledonia. Consensus of opinion in New Caledonia was that such a move would be more than unfortunate for the island, as most of the Eurasians were believed to be without capital, or agricultural or industrial training.

There was consternation in Papeete when Chief of Police Waksomouth issued a warning that there was a danger of an explosion from a dump of petrol drums on the waterfront. The dump of 1,000 empty petrol drums had been built up for some weeks preceding the arrival of the Thorshall, which was to load them. Drums with a trace of petrol were said to be more dangerous than full drums, especially when packed in the blazing sunshine. A police guard was posted day and night around the dump to keep smokers away from the ship arrived to take them away. Then Papeete relaxed.

"For mercy's sake do, or say, something about the merciless dismemberment of Fiji that is going on in the Australian Press", wrote an anguished Suva correspondent to PIM. One cause for complaint was a colourful two pages in a Sydney weekly depicting part of the large and well-known island of Vanua Balavu in Lau. PIM said: "Possibly for purposes of picturesque romanticism, the seldom-used name 'Exploring Isles' (for Lau) has been revived, and the publication quotes none other than Sir Gordon Taylor as speaking of three island groups—New Caledonia, Fiji and the Exploring Isles, the latter described as 'a British colony under the Governor of Fiji' and obviously an almost unique place 'almost like Tahiti before the Bounty'. As far as is known, no move towards the secession of Vanua Balavu, which is an integral part of Lau Province, from the Crown Colony of Fiji has ever been thought of by anybody".

The implementation of the new Western Samoa customs tariff caused a disturbance among drinkers. When the new tariff came into force there was a sharp rise in liquor costs. Scotch went up to \$2.50 a 26 oz bottle and \$3.70 a 40 oz bottle, and Australian whisky to \$1.90 a 26 oz bottle. The new price of Jamaican rum was \$2.50, 26 oz. English gin went to \$2, French brandy to \$2.50 and champagne to \$4. There was sharp criticism of the increases which varied from 25 to 100 per cent. A substantial increase in the output of illegal homebrew was forecast.

The world's biggest tea and rubber producing companies would be in New Guinea like a shot if the labour position was not so unfavourable, according to Dr H. E. Young, an Australian rubber expert who had returned home after six years in Ceylon. He said the PNG system under which a native worked under a contract for about two years and then returned to his village was a hopeless proposition commercially. In Ceylon, labour was drawn from families which had lived for generations on tea and rubber estates. In that way, labourers became experts and were not periodically lost to the planter or industry.

Ancient antagonisms involving New Caledonia's Melanesians and the people of Lifou, in the nearby Loyalty Islands, boiled up in a serious melee in the streets of Noumea. One of two skirmishes occurred during festivities commemorating the establishment of French settlement in New Caledonia. Later, what was almost a pitched battle, broke out in front of a cinema. The police were unable to stop the fighting, which ranged up and down the streets with combatants paying little attention to the traffic. Nobody knew how the antagonism originated; it was thought to come from ancient raids by islanders on the New Caledonia mainland. After the latest outbreak the authorities called a meeting of chiefs and other responsible people, and a declaration of peace was signed and witnessed.



Books, Reviews, Writers

DE-SCHOOLING AND RE-SCHOOLING IN THE WORLD'S NEWEST NATION

Geoffrey Smith, who recently spent three years in teaching and research at the University of Papua New Guinea, begins his book on education in the world's newest nation with a salutary reminder that education is not necessarily to be equated with schooling, and that Papua New Guinea had an education system long before it had western-style schools.

He devotes his first chapter—"The Management of Knowledge"—to a consideration of education in pre-contact Papua New Guinea.

"Knowledge was imparted when the learner needed to use it", he says, and adds that to the people of Papua New Guinea "true knowledge was of a ritual character whether it related to the secular or the sacred categories of Western thought". "The transmission of knowledge was efficient", he concludes, "because it associated learning with the need to use what was learned".

Chapter 2 gives us an account of the development of the school system in Papua New Guinea, and deals in turn with the pre-1942 era of mission-operated schools, the post-war development of administration schools, and finally the emergence of a national education system in 1970.

In dealing with the pre-war period, the author quotes a comment of Camilla Wedgwood's: "Above all, after they left school the natives had nothing to read either in English or the vernacular except the Bible and their old school books, so that they lacked the incentive and the opportunity to practise the skill which they had acquired in childhood".

There is, sadly enough, a measure of truth in this, but it is perhaps not the whole truth. Literacy in the vernacular did provide the pupils of mission schools with a means of communication which they made use of in adult life. During the first four decades of this century, when the Pax Britannica and later its Australian counterpart had led to increased mobility, people all along the Papuan coast were writing letters in the vernacular to friends and relatives who

were away from home, and were receiving letters from them in return. These letters were generally conveyed by safe, or sometimes not so safe, hands rather than through His Majesty's mails, but their volume was considerable, and they were a lively and valuable means of communication.

At one period during the war, the turnover of letters written by carriers from the Gulf District to their families at home became so great that a missionary with a knowledge of the Toaripi language was pressed into service to help censor them. This kind of communication was a product of early mission schooling not to be sneezed at.

With the historical background established, there follows a perceptive chapter on "Relevance" and a statistics-packed one on "Efficiency", in the course of which the author expresses reservations about the value of man-power forecasting and cost-benefit analysis to the educational planners.

Saving a tongue

A Tahitian grammar book to help Tahitians preserve their own language has been published by a young Tahitian linguist, Duro Raapoto.

This book of over 300 pages is entitled Te Reo Haohi—Elements of Tahitian Grammar. It has been published with the help of Jacques Drollet of the cultural group FOL and the Protestant Education Department in Tahiti. It is the first time such a work has been published by a Tahitian, seeking to explain the depths of meaning in his native tongue.

The teaching medium for school children throughout French Polynesia is French, and Raapoto's book is seen as part of a movement to reassert the significance of the Tahitian language and provide a basis for island children to be correctly taught the tongue closest to their way of life.

Following a chapter on "Decentralisation and Control", the author winds up his study with a thought-provoking one on "Alternative Futures". These he defines as "more schooling", "de-schooling" and "re-schooling". By "more schooling" he means the further extension of the present school structure. He concludes that such expansion "will not remedy the present dysfunction between the education system and its environment", but recognises that it is what the politicians are most likely to press for.

Under the heading of "de-schooling" he refers to Illich's and Reimer's advocacy of alternative networks for spreading knowledge in place of schools as we know them. Such networks would be, in effect, a return to the kind of education system which obtained in pre-contact Papua New Guinea. But it does not necessarily follow that what was adequate for the Stone Age would be adequate for the Space Age, and, as Geoffrey Smith points out, the proponents of de-schooling provide little guidance on how to move towards it and how to overcome inevitable opposition.

The third alternative, and clearly that which the author himself favours, is "re-schooling", by which he means a restructuring of the school system and its links with society. He explains in some detail how this might be done, and the picture is an attractive one.

However, he does not overlook the fact that re-schooling, no less than de-schooling, will have to overcome opposition. And it must be noted that those who will be shaping education policies for the future will not be those who have cause to be dissatisfied with the present system but rather those for whom it has provided an affluent livelihood in air-conditioned offices.

All in all this is a mind-stretching book which I can warmly commend.
—Percy Chatterton.

(Geoffrey Smith: Education in Papua New Guinea. Melbourne University Press, PO Box 278, Carlton South, Victoria 3053. Recommended price \$3.90.)

European traders, missionaries, officials, miners and planters have been the catalyst of the changes which occurred in Papua New Guinea from the early 19th century until recently.

A Pictorial History of New Guinea (Gash and Whittaker) provides a visual impression of those changes. It emphasises expatriate life and includes little of the kind of illustrations and photographs used in anthropological studies, but one needs no imagination to get the feel of the colonial era before World War II. The post-war years are only briefly dealt with.)

One must, of course, keep in mind that, because of the slow spread of literacy and modern technology among the islanders, nearly all of the written and pictorial information has come from Europeans.

Of the 680 plates, 36 are maps, a few are lithographs or cartoons, and the rest photographs. Edgar Ford, who has drawn or re-drawn the maps, has done a magnificent job, and most of the other material has been expertly reproduced. There is a wealth of visual information, much of it new even to anyone steeped in the literature of the islands. Starting

Camera's eye-view of PNG

with photographs of stone tools and other finds of prehistorians, early maps such as the Mercator of 1569, the plates, accompanied by brief but pertinent texts, take us to the opening of the Legislative Council in 1951.

The co-authors do not claim that this is the pictorial history of the new nation of Papua New Guinea, and their selection is, of course, subjective.

Nevertheless, few readers will quarrel with the choice of such photographs as: Tolai people in the 1870s; Motu students, 1884; Methodist Mission schooner Lord of the Isles off Dobu, 1891; LMS College at Vatorata, 1896; early Lutheran missionaries, 1900; European miners on Woodlark Is, 1905; German Sepik expedition, 1912-13; first postulants of the Handmaidens of the Lord, Yule Is, 1919; Louis Vangeke (who became the first indigenous Catholic

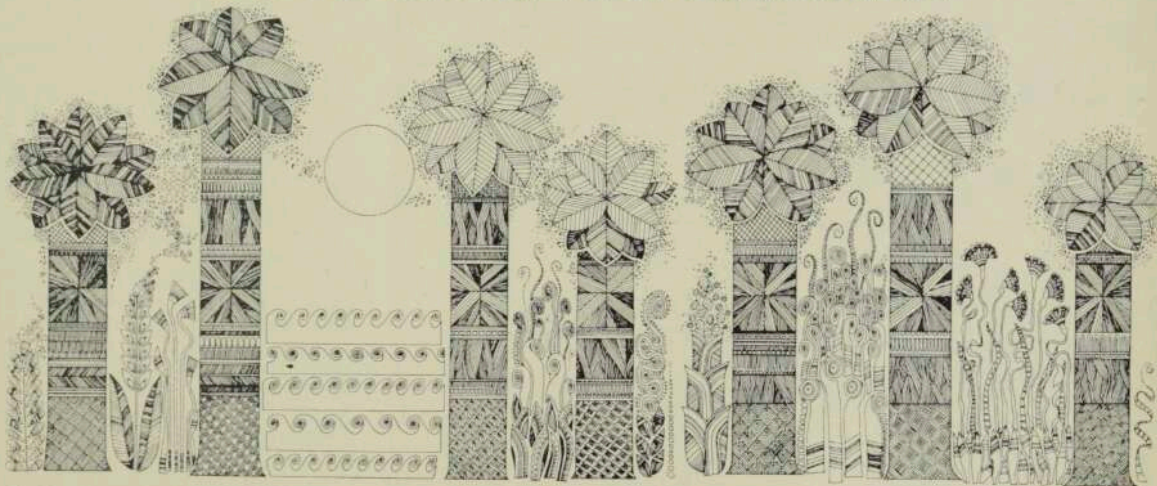
bishop), 1928; and pilot O'Day and assistant district officer Jim Taylor, Hagen-Sepik patrol, 1938.

No one will fail to be moved by the photograph of Aminio Bale, first Fijian missionary on the Gazelle Peninsula, or fail to enjoy the Sydney Bulletin cartoon of 1885, showing an islander telling John Bull and the Kaiser's representative, "How happy I could be with neither". And there are hundreds of other plates of equal historical significance and interest.

In a work of this magnitude there are, as one would expect, a few errors and omissions. The former are mainly misprints, eg Count Pfeil, not Pfel, is correct, while the latter are failures to identify persons who were or are well-known to people still alive. (For example, the unidentified man in Plate 676, a group of people with Governor-General McKell at Rabaul in 1949 is, of course, administrator J. K. Murray; the Papua New Guinea delegates to the South Pacific Conference at Suva in 1950, Plate 679, include the late George Kassi and the late Miria Gavera who made a considerable contribution to their country's development.)

In the context of the achievement which this book represents, those

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What's in Australia for the non-white migrant

errors and omissions are, however, almost irrelevant, and arguments about photographs that ought to have been included in preference to those presented are, of course, purely subjective.

Similarly, that the index contains pagination references when plate numbers would have been more helpful is, as criticism, not much more than a quibble.

Now that Papua New Guineans are citizens of their own, independent country, much of the emotionalism and shibboleths that have bedevilled academics and popular accounts of some aspects of other of their societies, their economics and their politics are gradually being laid to rest.

Good and bad, Europeans have played an important part in Papua New Guinea's history, and although that part is rapidly diminishing, *A Pictorial History of New Guinea*, relatively free of personal opinion and allowing us to see for ourselves, is, therefore, an important contribution to the corpus of knowledge about the new nation. There is truth in the old saws "Seeing is believing" and "One picture is worth a hundred words".

At \$8.95, hardly more than one cent per plate, this book is a bargain. The co-authors and Jacaranda Press deserve our thanks.—*Harry Jackman*.

(A PICTORIAL HISTORY OF NEW GUINEA, by N. Gash and J. Whittaker; Jacaranda Press, Milton, 1975; \$8.95.)

Australia's rapid demographic and economic growth and extensive socio-cultural changes since the 1950s have in no small measure been due to immigration, promoted and considerably assisted by the government. About one in seven of the present population is foreign-born.

One of the pillars of federation in 1901, the White Australia policy has been modified in recent years and "Australia for the White Man" has become politically unacceptable rhetoric. Tens of thousands of Asians and other non-Europeans, including Chinese and 'mixed race' persons from Papua New Guinea, have settled in Australia each year during the last decade or so. Any non-European or Part-European can now become an Australian citizen after the same waiting period (three years) that applies to any other resident.

The Immigration Reform Group (IRG), formed by academics and other private citizens, which presents this book, Australia and the Non-white Migrant (K. Rivett), wants to do away with what remains of the White Australia policy. It accepts that immigration must not be allowed to create racial friction or deprive developing nations of skills in short supply, but stresses that neither caveat is a valid argument against planned settling of non-Europeans, including some from developing nations. Problems of inte-

grating immigrants would be minimised if they were explained to prospective settlers and Australians alike.

Among the IRG proposals are that the intake of non-Europeans and part-Europeans should rise to about 20,000 a year; that the present occupational categories of non-Europeans eligible to immigrate be extended; and that political refugees have a strong claim to enter. IRG believes that Australia's special links with the Pacific Islands warrant an immediate move to let in some migrants from that region, with a view to training and settlement. In other words, some Pacific Islanders ought to be admitted even though they may not possess the occupational skills normally required of immigrants.

Anyone migrating to Australia from a developing country is likely to benefit economically. For the developing country, emigration of unskilled persons, particularly of those from overpopulated areas, is usually advantageous, but the opposite may be the case when skilled people leave.

In 1972 E. G. Whitlam, now Australia's Prime Minister, suggested that before the decade was out Australia was likely to have agreements with Papua New Guinea, Fiji and other Pacific nations under which as many of their citizens could live in Australia as there were Australians living in those countries.

Fiji's Prime Minister, Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, has spoken in a similar vein and Sir Maori Kiki, Papua New Guinea's Foreign Minister, who, believing that his country needs a larger population, is against emigration, also wants formalised agreements. In Sir Maori's case, it is a matter of controlling immigration, to prevent foreigners taking jobs where nationals are available.

A problem common to all Pacific countries with tertiary institutions of a standard comparable with those of, say, such institutions in Australia and New Zealand, is "brain drain", that is, any move by their graduates to seek jobs in other countries. Westerners who claim that an individual should be free to work anywhere in the world forget that it costs about \$30,000 to turn out a BA, and more in the case of, say, a doctor of medicine.

There can be no doubt that nations like Papua New Guinea must consider

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all the effects on their economy and society of skilled or unskilled emigration, and it just does not seem practicable for them to allow individuals free choice where emigration is concerned.

In this book, IRG does not put forward any judgment concerning the suitability as immigrants of people, taking them as groups, from any one country. Any such judgment would probably cause great controversy and earn accusations of racism and the like. Nevertheless, I would have liked to find some details, no matter how imprecise, of the manner in which the intake of Pacific Islanders, "warranted by Australia's special links", ought to be implemented as part of the total immigration scheme. It is my guess that, like the vast majority of my fellow-Australians, the members of IRG know almost nothing of the Pacific and its current problems, and that they are just as ignorant about the people who live in the Islands.

New Zealand's experience has shown that Western Samoans and Tongans do not take long to become integrated, and there is no reason to believe that the same would not be the case in Australia.

Australian business interests have done very well in the Pacific during the last century or more, and it is therefore not merely on humanitarian grounds that people from overpopulated islands—and Gilbertese and Tuvalu (Ellice) Islanders immediately come to mind—ought to be invited to settle ahead of other unskilled non-Europeans. In any case, the term "unskilled" denotes no more than temporary labour characteristics, and the past performance of Islanders in the shipping industry, for instance, points to their adaptability being at least as good as that of people from the Near East, Asia or developing European countries. Many of them do, moreover, have a working knowledge of the English language.

If nothing else, this book is to be welcomed because IRG has already made a valuable contribution to the demise of racism and the building of a harmonious multi-racial society in Australia. It would have been enhanced by much more detail in the proposals, especially where Pacific Islanders are, or could be, affected.
—Harry Jackman.

(AUSTRALIA AND THE NON-WHITE MIGRANT, by K. Rivett. Published by Melbourne University Press, Carlton, 1975. 15.00.)

• All book prices given, unless otherwise stated, are in Australian currency.

The linguistic scene in PNG

More than 17 years research has gone into the preparation of a major language work now being published by the Australian National University.

The three-volume publication is called New Guinea Area Languages and Language Study. Its first volume, Papuan Languages and the New Guinea Linguistic Scene, runs to 1,000 pages and is the work of 10 authors recognised as the top authorities in this field. It will be published in the series Pacific Linguistics by the Department of Linguistics in the university's Research School of Pacific Studies, and is expected to be available from December.

Papuan languages, the researchers explain, are not just those of the area known as Papua. Instead, the term Papuan was a description coined last century for languages in the area be-

tween Indonesia and Polynesia which are neither Australian nor Austronesian. The boundaries of this area stretch from Timor across the New Guinea mainland to the Solomon Islands.

Papuan languages make up one-sixth of the total number of different languages in the world. Until recently, linguists were unaware of the existence of extensive relationships between the non-Australian and non-Austronesian languages in this area. For this reason, the first volume is seen as an invaluable reference work. It actually rewrites previous incorrect material about the Papuan languages.

The two other volumes—The Austronesian Languages (700 pages and 12 authors) and Language, Culture, Society, and the Modern World (1,200 pages and 30-40 authors)—will be published by the end of 1976.



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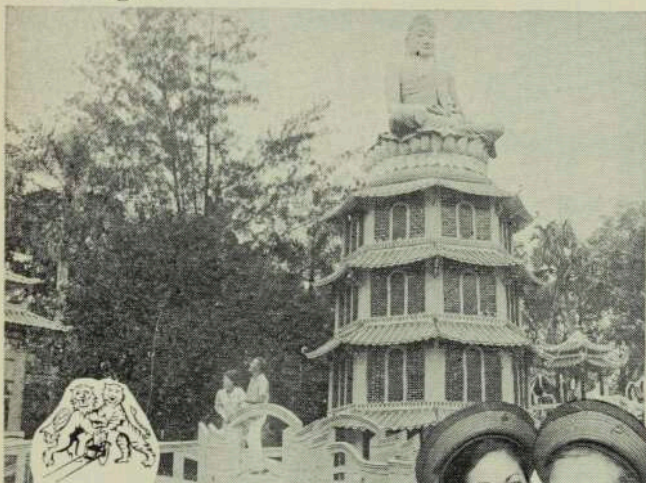
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Pacific Transport

AIR NAURU WILL BE AROUND WHEN ISLANDS PLAN REGIONAL AIRLINE

From STUART INDER on Nauru

South Pacific aviation ministers will be meeting on Nauru at the end of October to discuss their common troubles—and to take perhaps a stage further the greatest of their unsolved problems. That is, does the South Pacific need a regional airline, or will it have airlines of the region?

Will the South Pacific continue to support and further expand the Suva-based Air Pacific as the strong regional airline, or will it be prepared to co-habit with smaller Island-owned flag carriers?

Whatever the final wash-up, it seems quite certain that the company which brought the regional airline issue to a head, Air Nauru, has no intention either of quitting the arena or of being absorbed into Air Pacific. It might be prepared to do some absorbing of its own.

Air Nauru is a fact of life, to be lived with, and delegates to the forthcoming conference will have every opportunity of noting the physical presence of the airline as they sit around the conference table at Nauru's ultra-modern civic centre only a Jumbo-jet length from Nauru's fully bitumenised 5,600 ft strip.

From that strip every day, one or other of Air Nauru's three jets, two F28s and a Boeing 737, head in various directions. The roar of jets overhead is now a familiar sound in the mid-Pacific island, where only a few years ago a poor grass strip was used only for occasional emergencies, and regular contact was by ship to Melbourne.

Independence, of course, made the jet age possible, for Nauru is prepared to spend on itself the kind of money that no big international commercial airline combine could spend in operating through Nauru, even if it wanted such a link.

Air Nauru this year is understood to be budgeting for an expenditure of about \$8.5 million, for an estimated revenue of about \$2.5 million. Last year it spent \$12 million for about \$1 million less, but that included the purchase of the 737.

Utilisation of the F28s is about 4,000 hours a year each on regular services; the 737 hasn't had a year yet but it's planned to use about 3,000 hours. One of the F28s is on a lease-purchase, one on a lease which has just been renewed, and the 737 is an outright purchase.

Air Nauru employs 23 pilots to operate the jets, mostly Australian, and 22 hostesses, mostly Islanders, although currently the hostess staff is below strength at 13 while more are being recruited. The undoubted first-class service that Air Nauru is noted for doesn't seem to have suffered meanwhile.

Air Nauru is operating to an extraordinary variety of destinations, made possible by its central position in the Pacific, only 26 miles below the equator.

It flies:

- Twice weekly between Melbourne-Noumea-Honiara-Nauru.
- Twice weekly Nauru-Tarawa-Majuro-Nauru.
- Twice weekly Nauru-Ponape-Guam-Okinawa-Kagoshima (Japan).
- Weekly Nauru-Wallis-Apia.
- Weekly Nauru-Guam-Taipei-Hong Kong.

The company is planning to add a second service to Hong Kong, making

its schedule twice weekly, but the second service would go Nauru-Manus (PNG)-Koror (USTT)-Manila-Hong Kong.

The Manus link is interesting. It is merely a technical stop, but it does give Air Nauru a foot in the newly-independent state of Papua New Guinea. Following PNG self-government two years ago, President DeRoburt had talks with PNG officials about possible new routes linking PNG and Nauru, and it was agreed that further consideration would be put over until after independence.

Air Nauru still has traffic right difficulties, as it does not have rights at all its stops, and there are restrictions on others.

The republic has rights in Melbourne, Tarawa, Majuro, Okinawa, Kagoshima, Apia and Hong Kong. It has rights in Honiara and Noumea only on southbound flights from Nauru. It has currently applied to the US and Japan for rights Nauru-Ponape, Nauru-Guam and Guam-Kagoshima.

Its varied links are naturally creating interest among South Pacific governments, which wonder which way Air Nauru is headed, and one

Air Nauru has spread its wings much further since this picture was taken in Brisbane in February, 1970, when Nauru's President Hammer DeRoburt arrived there on the inaugural flight from the republic to Queensland via Honiara. The airline was then two months old. The President is being garlanded by hostess Shirley Tebouwa as Ald Clem Jones, Brisbane's Lord Mayor, looks on.



PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY—NOVEMBER, 1975

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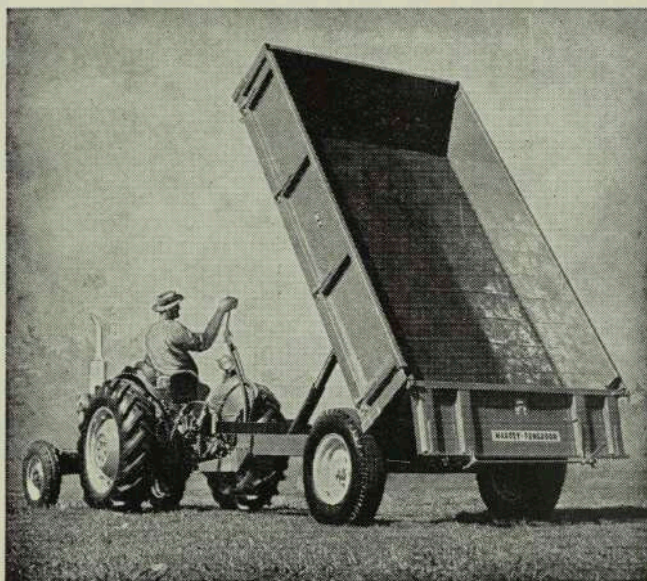
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MASSEY-FERGUSON... WINNER OF TWO EXPORT AWARDS

major decision that is expected to come out of the ministerial conference at the end of October is the establishment of some sort of consultative body that can at least make recommendations on the further development of civil aviation in the islands.

At present all negotiations are government-to-government, with no general organisation responsible for looking at the overall affects that might flow from the granting of rights to various airlines in the region.

If such an organisation can be established, then civil aviation in the South Seas will have reached an important new—and necessary—stage in its development.

President DeRoburt is not unhappy about progress of the republic's airline, which he sees as a necessary adjunct to a small island with big overseas investments which must be serviced and protected. Nauru has to be involved in the world and it can't do that by ship, or by a fortnightly flight of somebody else's airline. And the fact is that Nauru can afford its airline and to support it while it expands.

Its forthcoming rights to Guam will make a big difference to expansion plans.

But more important, an announcement is momentarily expected of affric rights being granted Air Nauru to Nadi and Suva, which will make possible for a direct north-south link from Guam through Nauru to Fiji. This should quickly develop into a lucrative route.

President DeRoburt grins when he reports what some of his pilots are currently saying: "Sir, if we don't watch out we are going to find ourselves making money!"

Crew morale is extremely high, and there is a belief that the early establishment days are now over and the sky is now the limit. Both freight and passenger loadings are improving the month, and the airline is getting better known. Its aircraft are modern, and cabin services are good.

President DeRoburt's view is that there is room for a number of regional airlines in the Pacific, and that Air Nauru is destined to be a major one. He certainly has proved he has the drive and the resources to make it happen.

● Five out of 40 cruise ships which will visit the New Hebrides in 1976, will call at Santo. The Russian ship, Leonid Sobinov, will call twice, and the Fairstar will make three calls. Bookings have been made as far ahead as January, 1977, for the Airsky and the Fairstar to visit the New Hebrides.

Continental wins a round

Continental Airlines has won the second-last round in the battle for the lucrative Saipan-Tokyo route when the US Civil Aeronautics Board voted 4-0 in its favour. The final decision rests with President Ford, to whom an appropriate recommendation has been sent. President Ford may approve the CAB decision, disapprove, or send it back to the board.

The other major contender for the airline was Pan-American Airlines, which had its application supported by the CAB Bureau of Operating Rights, and two administrative law judges who heard evidence in what turned out to be rather a dirty case. A third applicant, Northwest Orient, was never really in the hunt.

The fight for the route had its genesis about 5½ years ago when the US and Japan agreed to allow Japan Airlines, which now serves Guam, to fly to Saipan from Japan. In return, a US carrier was to be allowed to serve the two areas, and to receive landing rights in Japan. JAL now flies unscheduled charter flights to Saipan.

Air Continental is the parent company of Continental Air Micronesia, which operates internal services in Micronesia.

In May, 1973, CAB administrative law judge, Milton H. Shapiro, proposed that PAA should get the route. He suggested only slight weight should be given to local opinion about which carrier should be selected, because such opinion was

devalued by the airlines' intensive lobbying.

The State Department took the view that considerable weight should be attached to the opinions of the Congress of Micronesia and the district legislatures in the Trust Territory. In 1974, another CAB judge, Greer M. Murphy, held hearings on Saipan. He found that the conduct of PAA and Continental Airlines presented a "depressing picture" and a "laminated story of pressure and counter pressure". However, he upheld Judge Shapiro's earlier report in favour of PAA.

PAA, claiming the "predominant support of local civil and government parties" as well as that of elected officials of the Marianas and Guam, mentioned Continental's alleged espionage and surveillance of PAA representatives during the hearings. Continental, on the other hand, claimed the support of the Congress of Micronesia, and representatives of Yap, Palau, and the Marshalls. Continental accused PAA of "unethical conduct, corporate espionage, cover-up and pressuring the people to sign in support".

The CAB Bureau of Enforcement told the CAB that PAA, and to a lesser extent, Continental, merited disqualification from consideration unless they committed themselves to comply with CAB regulations. The bureau recommended hearings, but the Operating Rights Board said the CAB should adopt Judge Murphy's recommendation.

AIR PACIFIC PLANS SERVICES IMPROVEMENT

Air Pacific will step up its services from Fiji to New Zealand and Australia when its BAC111 jet, on lease to Air Malawi, is returned about mid-December. The jet was originally leased because there was not enough work for it in the South Pacific region, and because Air Pacific wanted to cut costs. Air Pacific flies BAC111 services to New Zealand, via Tonga, and to Brisbane, via New Caledonia.

In another move to improve services, the airline plans to introduce Britten-Norman Trislanders to the Nausori-Nadi run. This will release HS748s for more regional work. The airline now has four Trislanders, and is using them to provide a better coverage within Fiji.

These moves followed a recent board meeting in Suva, at which it was reported there was a severe

downturn in revenue, compared with original budget results. It was reported that passenger revenue was likely to be more than \$700,000 below estimates on domestic services. There were also significant cost increases to be faced.

CONPAC EXPANDS ITS PNG SERVICE

Conpac, the Burns Philp-Australia West Pacific line, has rationalised its services from Australia to Papua New Guinea with the Samos and Nimos. The Nimos in future will offer a Sydney-Lae-Port Moresby-Sydney service every 23 days. Previously the Nimos called at Brisbane on northbound voyages from Sydney.

The Samos, which previously sailed direct for Papua New Guinea from Melbourne, will now call at Brisbane on northbound voyages. Her route for the 28-day round trip

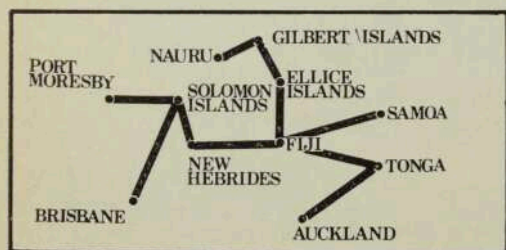
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The Nimos, in October, completed its 100th round trip between Australia and PNG, since it went on to this run under the AWP flag in April, 1969. She was the first ship to offer the unit-load service to PNG, a move which helped to combat rising costs. The Nimos on the 100 voyages logged more than 500,000 miles and carried about 300,000 tons of cargo, embracing practically everything from rice to earth-moving equipment.

AIR NZ TO BEAT SAFETY DEADLINE

Air New Zealand will be one of the first airlines in the world to undertake modifications required by the United States Federal Aviation Administration to limit the effects of any sudden decompression while in flight. The FAA directive, which requires that the modifications be completed by December 31, 1977, applies to all wide-bodied aircraft.

The airline expects to begin a programme of fitting additional side-wall venting outlets between the upper and lower decks of its DC10s in mid-1976, for completion the same year—more than 12 months ahead of the deadline.

HONIARA BUILDS SHIP FOR USTT

A 53-ton fishing ship built by the Honiara Marine and Shipyard Co Ltd for Micronesia, left Honiara on its delivery voyage late in September. The ship will be used mainly in Yap District. It will be manned by islanders under Captain Dewey Huffer, a well-known Trust Territory mariner. Captain Huffer will train an islander to take command of the ship.

The ship, built of ferro-cement, is equipped with fishing storage facilities and freezers. It will be stationed at Ulihi, where a refrigeration plant is being built.

Although primarily designed for bottom fishing it may also be used for tuna longline and troll fishing.

NEW SAMOAN AIR SERVICE MARKS TIME

The new air service between the two Samoas, to be operated by South Pacific Airways, did not start as intended early in September. The Secretary to the Western Samoa Government, Mr Iulai Toma, said that was because SPA was "tooling itself up with aircraft".

SPA had intended to use a Britten Norman Islander, but later changed

its plans to two Piper aircraft. SPA had wanted to operate as a taxi service, but the Western Samoa Government insisted that it operate scheduled services like Polynesian Airlines.

SALVAGE ROW OVER STRANDED SHIP

The Cook Islands cargo ship, Florida, 700 tons, became the centre of a salvage row after it ran aground on a reef off Laucala Bay, Viti Levu, Fiji on September 16. A gearbox failure, just short of the point where it was to pick up the pilot, left it adrift.

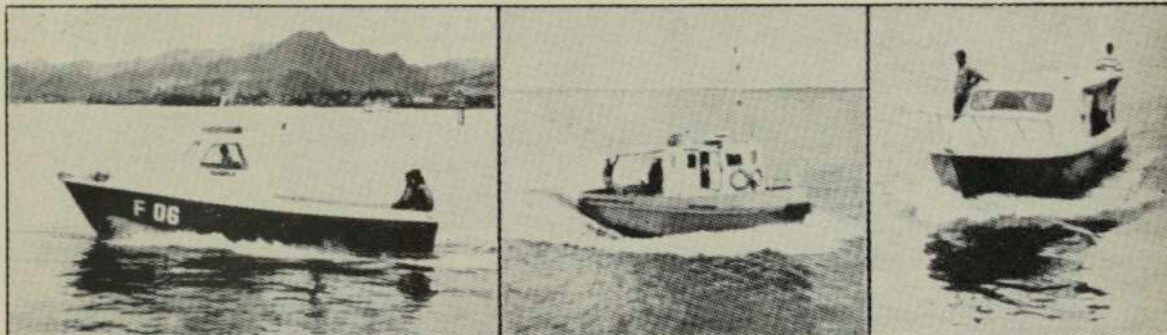
Narain Shipping Ltd claimed it was discriminated against by the Marine Department using the services of Marine Pacific, another salvage and tug company, without asking Narain Shipping to help refloat the ship. The Marine Department was quick to reply that it was not involved in any salvage; its only involvement was safety of life.

The holds of the Florida were filled with 150 tons of water to prevent her rolling over in the surf.

Two tugs, the Wallacia and the Wakaya, pulled the Florida off the reef on October 5 during the October neap tides.

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TRANSPORT BRIEFS

● Airline fares out of Australia will rise by four per cent to nine per cent from November 1. From Australia to the Pacific the increase will be eight per cent. There will also be increases in fares from other countries to Australia.

● Airfast Services Pty Ltd, which operated a helicopter service in Fiji for about five years, took its two helicopters and associated equipment out of the country in September. The company complained about lack of co-operation from the government and other matters. One of the "other matters", the company claimed, was that the Ministry of Transport had allowed another helicopter company to operate under conditions of "considerable advantage".

● A bulldozer came to the rescue of a stranded ship in the New Hebrides in September. The government ship Navaka ran on to a reef between Eton and Rentabour. She was stranded for three days and several attempts to refloat her failed until a public works team brought a bulldozer and pulled her off during high tide. The Navaka was holed in the engine-room.

● The P and O liner, Oronsay, well known in the Pacific for about 40 years, completed her last trans-Pacific voyage in Sydney on September 15. She was then sailed to the shipbreakers in Taiwan. The Oronsay was used extensively in Pacific Islands cruises from Australia, and in passenger voyages through the Pacific to American west coast ports, and later to Britain. She was also used on the Britain-Australia run, via Suez and then via the Cape of Good Hope.

● Sofrana-Unilines, since relinquishing its charter of the Captain Addison a few weeks ago, has entered into a slot charter arrangement with PAD to service Noumea from Australia. The PAD ships, Parella, Ilunga and Pilkara, are providing 21-day service from Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane, and occasionally Burnie. The ships accept cargo for the New Hebrides from all ports, except Sydney. This cargo is transferred into the Captain Cook Noumea for delivery to Vila.

● The Bank Line's Lindenbank, which went on a reef off Fanning Island on August 17, is likely to be abandoned. Even though her bow was partly off the reef, the Lindenbank seemed to settle harder amidships, nullifying attempts of three tugs to pull her off. Some copra was taken ashore, but coconut and palm oil and coconut pellets, which comprised much of the cargo, were lost.

Cruising Yachts

In August and September there was an exodus of visiting yachts from Rarotonga to other Pacific ports.

● **ALKINOOS**, 30 ft sloop from Vancouver, which arrived with single-hander James Duncan, from Papeete and Bora. The yacht left for Tonga on September 17.

● **AMAZING GRACE**, 24 ft motor sailer, also from Vancouver, arrived from Papeete with David Boyes (skipper) and Tim Noot. They left Rarotonga for Tonga on September 17.

● **KYSTENS PERLE**, 25 ft 7 in. sloop-rigged folkboat with Richard Walker and David Anderson on board was at Rarotonga from early July until September 17 when she left for New Zealand where the two men hope to find work and sell the boat.

● **RABBIT**, 37 ft sloop registered at Palm Beach, Florida, arrived at Rarotonga from Papeete and Bora Bora on September 27 with Daniel P. Dyer and Mary Louise Dyer. They planned to leave for Russell in New Zealand's Bay of Islands on October 4.

● **BORN FREE**, 60 ft auxiliary ketch from Longview, Washington, arrived in Tahiti the first week in September, after

cruising from Washington to Honolulu, then on to Palmyra, Penhryn Island, the Samoas, the Cook Islands and the Societies. Owner Warren Hanly bought **Born Free** from the original owners two years ago as his first sailboat. With him in Tahiti was Donald Johnson from Rockland, Maine. Warren's plans will carry him from Tahiti to Hawaii in a few months.

● **CALYPSO**, a German built 22 ft sloop singlehanded by Helmuth Waser, 32, a Swiss from Australia, arrived in Tahiti in July. Helmuth left Yugoslavia in July, 1973 and plans to settle in New Zealand, after spending a year in French Polynesia.

● **DELIVERANCE**, 32 ft Atkins-design double-ender from Santa Barbara which was built by owner Mike Magee, left California in May and arrived in Tahiti mid-September. Sailing from the Marquesas with Mike was Bob Probst of Malibu. Mike planned to spend three months cruising the Societies and then single-hand **Deliverance** to New Zealand, where he hopes to live.

● **HYDROPHILE**, 31 ft sloop designed in Belgium, sailed into Tahiti on August 24 with Christian and Bernadette Lepage and their 3-year-old son Damien. The family, will be in Tahiti for two years while Christian and Bernadette work.

● **FREEDOM**, 50 ft William Garden ketch built in Taiwan three years ago, sailed into Tahiti on September 13. Aboard were owner-skipper Bryant Morris, 43, his son, Scott, 21, Don McNeil and Deidre Park, all of Los Angeles. When **Freedom** left California last February Bryant intended to sail to Europe, but changed his mind in Cosa Rica. They

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planned to cruise the Societies and head for New Zealand, before continuing their circumnavigation.

● **PATRICIA**, 60 ft replica of the Chesapeake Bay oyster fishing boat, was to have left Tahiti early September for San Diego. Bjorn Johansen was at the captain's helm to deliver **Patricia** back home where owner E. O. "Ollie" Olson is waiting to turn her over to her new owner. Also sailing were Bjorn's daughter, Leslie, 14, and crew member Roland Hofer of Basel, Switzerland.

● **PIECES OF EIGHT**, originally a Frazer 42 ft fibreglass masthead sloop, was designed and built by owners Tony and Sandy Challenor, both British and living in Vancouver. They left Vancouver in November, 1974 and sailed to Hawaii, where they stayed for six months before sailing to Christmas Island and Tahiti, arriving in Tahiti on August 7 with crew members Des George, 25, of England and Jan Osborne of San Juan Island, Washington. Their plans were to remain in Tahiti about a month and sail to New Zealand by way of Rarotonga.

● **SEDINA**, 26 ft sloop from West Germany, sailed into Tahiti on August 9 and left a week later for Fiji and Sydney to continue a circumnavigation that has thus far brought owners Manfred and Gaby Wedell from the Netherlands in August, 1974, through the English Channel, across to Spain, Morocco, across the Atlantic to the West Indies and on to the Pacific. They visited the Marquesas and the Tuamotus and liked the gentle winds so much they plan to come back in two years with a bigger boat and see more of the South Pacific.

● **SOLAR WIND**, Cal 48 from San Diego, carrying the Crisp family of Berle, wife Tamra, daughter Desiee, 16 and son Kevin, 15, planned to leave Tahiti on October 1 for Honolulu, after cruising the Societies for several weeks. They left San Diego late June and sailed to the Marquesas, before arriving in Tahiti in August.

● **TATOOSH**, 81 ft yacht built in Seattle in 1961, and now owned by actor Peter Fonda, arrived in Tahiti on August 22. On board were Fonda, captain Bob Eichelberger, David and Diane Hudson, Bill Crawford, David Welker, Danny Johnson, Portia Crockett and Gail Herrin, all of Maui, Hawaii, which is now the home port for **Tatoosh**. They sailed from Maui to Nukuhiva in 16 days, sometimes getting up to 18 knots, then went to Rangi-roa before sailing to Tahiti. **Tatoosh**, which is named for the Tatoosh Indians in North America and means "breast", is built of teak, White Alaskan Port Oxford cedar and yellow cedar and a huge amount of bronze which was used for all



Tatoosh

the fastenings. Fonda, who bought her 5½ years ago, says the boat is his home. He will leave her in Tahiti in charge of Eichelberger while he flies to Los Angeles to begin discussions on the shooting of a new movie.

● **LE PETIT PRINCE**, a Chilean-built yacht, was put on auction in Tahiti in August, but no one made a bid. The asking price was 1.5 million French Pacific Francs, or \$US18,750.

● **MACUBAH**, 41 ft fibreglass ketch, which left Papeete in March, arrived in Honolulu in June after stopping in Maui. On board were skipper Brooke George of Sydney, and crewman Toby Tyler of Cambria, Canada.

● **NUNAGA**, 50 ft wood sloop, with skipper Peter Francis of Locust, New Jersey, and Roger and Ruth Tuck of London, left Papeete in May and arrived in Honolulu in June. This Marken, Massachusetts-based yacht has travelled 12,000 miles from her home port to date, and has visited the Caribbean, Panama, Galapagos, French Polynesia, and Hilo.

● **SAMARANG**, 55 ft wood schooner, with skipper Jim Wells and Chris Myers of El Segunda, California, plus Jerry Silva of Capitola, California, Marcia Lewis of Carmel, California, and Doug Skelton of Brisbane, Australia, left Papeete in June 1975, and experienced quite a bit of rain before arriving in Honolulu in July.

● **GROG**, 50 ft wood sloop with skipper Don West, Dick Miller, and Lane Remy of Phoenix, Arizona, as well as Tom Dross of San Francisco, California, left Papeete in June and arrived in Honolulu in July, 1975 via Kona, Hawaii.

● **NORSEMAN**, 37 ft wood, gaff-rigged ketch with skipper Peter Lattey of Vernon, British Columbia, Canada, and crewmen Elizabeth Clarkson of Australia and Graham Dickey of New Zealand, arrived in Honolulu in July having sailed 9,000 miles from Papua New Guinea, with a stop in Pago Pago which they left on June 18.

● **FAIRWINDS**, 40 ft wood ketch, carrying David A. Taskett and his wife Beverly of Honolulu, returned home after a 39-month cruise that took them to British Columbia, the West Coast as far as Costa Rica, the Galapagos, French Polynesia, Samoa, Fiji, New Zealand, and back to Tahiti. They left Papeete on June 24 and arrived in Honolulu on August 8.

● **SHAULA**, a 40 ft wood yawl with Gordon and Ruthanne Crawford of the Pago Pago Yacht Club in American Samoa, left Tahiti on July 28 and arrived in Honolulu on August 22 via Hilo, Hawaii.

● **TOLAKI**, an American ketch registered at Friday Harbour, arrived at Rarotonga on September 5 from Tahiti after spending 12 months there. The 34-ton yacht is owned and skippered by Tony Duff, a retired airline pilot, and with him were his wife, Ladia, and their children Paul and Amanda. **Tolaki** took four years to build and gave the Duff family six years of pleasure sailing off Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean Islands. Plans are to leave the yacht in Papeete, then the whole family will fly to Austria for the ski season.

● **KATHI II**, a 22 gross-ton sloop registered at Los Angeles, arrived at Rarotonga on September 7 from Papeete, Huahine and Bora Bora, with James King (captain) and Christine Gray (crew).

● **SWEET THING**, a 53 ft 7 in. British cutter-rigged motor sailer, arrived at Rarotonga on September 7 from Bora Bora with Rene Carstensen, master, and four crew. Next port of call was to be American Samoa.

● **PELAGIC**, a 31 ft 6 in. sloop registered at Seattle, arrived at Rarotonga from Papeete on September 11. On board were William Fierling, and his wife, Katherine, who plan to visit Tonga next.

● **PAI NUI**, a 53 ft ketch registered in Panama, also arrived at Rarotonga on September 12 from Bora Bora, with Captain Ron Hash and three crew. Next port of call was to be Tonga.

● **HAVORN**, a 47 ft 6 in. ex-Norwegian fishing boat, arrived at Rarotonga from Bora Bora on September 12. On board were American owner-captain Lee Ehrheart, his Norwegian wife Greta, their 10-year-old son, Jens, Mike McClure

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and Raymond Naterlin. Mr Ehrheart spent many years in Europe fishing with the Norwegian fleets and doing charter work in the Mediterranean. He converted **Havorn** for ocean cruising and has owned the vessel for 10 years. He plans to call at Niue, Tonga and New Zealand, and sit out the hurricane season in NZ while **Havorn** is slipped for overhaul.

● **ALKINOOS**, a 30 ft sloop registered in Vancouver, arrived at Rarotonga from Papeete and Bora Bora on August 15 with singlehander James Duncan. She left for Tonga in late August.

● **SO LONG II**, a 34 ft sloop-rigged motor sailer, which arrived at Rarotonga from Auckland last June, returned there on August 29 after calling at Tahiti and the Society Islands. On board were Captain Mervyn W. Halsey and four crew members, and plans were to return to New Zealand.

● **NEELEEN**, a 44 ft racing sloop, arrived at Rarotonga from Auckland on August 30 with owner-captain Ralph Neeley, Anne Herring, Peter McKenzie and Robert Vernon. Mr Neeley, an American, is a pilot with Pan-Am and built his yacht in Auckland. He described this voyage as a "shakedown cruise" to try out the yacht. They experienced gales all the way and, when only four hours from Rarotonga, the boom broke in relatively calm weather. They made Rarotonga under jib and storm trisail and, after repairs, intended to call at Tahiti.

● **ERIK THE RED**, a 30 ft yacht of junk design arrived at Rarotonga from the UK and Tahiti on August 3 with single-hander Hugh Donald Buller Riddler. He sailed for Tonga in late August.

● **PALADIN**, a 30 ft ketch registered at Whangarei, New Zealand, arrived at Rarotonga from Tahiti on August 29 with single-hander Frederick W. Smith whose next port of call was to be Tonga.

● **LUTETIA**, a 48-year-old Carol ketch from Charlotte Amalie, arrived at Tahiti on July 23. Skipper Alexander du Prel du Chapois singlehanded the 37 ft yacht from Panama to Hawaii, where his family joined him. Wife, Michelle, son Philippe, 7, and daughter Sophie, 4½ sailed the Hawaiian Islands with Alexander before they all cruised to Palmyra, Penrhyn Island and Bora Bora. In Tahiti, Alexander found a job at the Tahara'a hotel as chief engineer. The family will be in Tahiti for at least two years and are living aboard.

● **MANANA**, 37 ft Seven Seas fibreglass ketch from Melbourne, dropped anchor in Tahiti on August 8, stayed five days and left for Moorea, Bora Bora, Samoa, New Caledonia and back to Australia. Owner George Swinbourne, his friend, Gwen, crew members Mark Denzer

of Honolulu and Jamie Mott of London were aboard. George built the boat himself and when asked when he would finish it, he kept replying "manana". He left Australia intending to make a circumnavigation, and had visited Hawaii and Ahe before sailing to Tahiti.

● **ONDINE**, 79 ft racing yawl owned by Mr S. A. (Huey) Long of New York, was in Tahiti for one week and left August 11 for Capetown via Fiji and Australia. During the past year **Ondine** has won seven out of eight races, losing the Trans-Pacific race from Los Angeles to Hawaii to **RAGTIME**. The streamlined teak and aluminium yacht that has been referred to as a "machine" or a "space ship" by her crew of seven, is completely air-conditioned, has a large freezer, a sauna, fresh water showers and three heads. Long, who is in the tanker brokerage business in New York, said that **Ondine** can be sailed with 8,000 sq ft of sail at one time, including a spinnaker. **Ondine's** itinerary has taken her all over the world. The late Aristotle Onassis sailed with her in Greece during the past year.

● **DIFFERENT DRUMMER**, Islander 40 ft ketch motor sailer from Honolulu, arrived in Tahiti on August 11 and planned to leave September 1 to cruise the Societies, before heading for the Cook Islands, Tonga, Fiji, New Caledonia and Australia for Christmas. Owners Bob Rediske and Paige Vitousek were in Tahiti in 1974 for the Bali Hai race. With them from Honolulu to Tahiti were Lynn Lindquist, 16, and Bobby Midkiff, 21.

● **IMPOSSIBLE DREAM**, 40 ft Morgan ketch-rigged yacht registered in Whistler Bay, Ohio and owned by Dr Roger Mason and wife Elayne of San Diego, arrived in Tahiti on August 14 and planned to stay a week before cruising the Societies for a month. They plan to visit Samoa and then Fiji, where they hoped to be by the end of September.

● **LA MOUETTE OF PARKSTONE**, a 32 ft Hillyard wooden sloop from Poole, England, owned by Australian Graham Holmes, 44, arrived in Tahiti on August 17. Holmes flew from Sydney to England, bought the boat and is sailing it back to Australia. With him is Noi Kosinklang, 28, of Thailand. After two attempts to leave England, the first try failing because of strong gales in the Bay of Biscay, **La Mouette** sailed the Atlantic to the West Indies, through the Panama Canal and on to the Marquesas and Tahiti. They planned to cruise the Societies before going on to Samoa, Fiji and Sydney in mid-September. Graham reports he averaged 156 miles a day for one week just west of the Galapagos. He even managed to make 193 miles one day when he encountered strong currents.

Business and Development

THE HIGH COST OF 'SELF-RELIANCE' IN AN 'AUSTERE' PAPUA NEW GUINEA

One of Papua New Guinea's first tastes of what it is like to be independent came in September with Finance Minister Julian Chan's Budget, which he described as "self-reliant" and "austere". With Australian aid K36 million below what was expected, he announced big cuts in government spending, which will rub off throughout the economy.

Public reaction to the budget was mixed. Some people thought it was fair; one critic called it "terrible", but from whatever angle it is viewed, Mr Chan was obviously on the right track in warning the people that they would have to live within their means, that the next three years could be tough.

The time will come when Australian direct aid will be phased out. Papua New Guinea would probably want it that way, for there is a dignity about independence. Any Australian assistance in the long term is more likely to be through loans than direct grants.

However, the Australian aid offer, although disappointing, could not be refused. The government found itself in a very tough situation, which Mr Chan described as a national emergency.

Mr Chan has restructured the taxation system to abolish most concessions, and increase the general rate by about 12 per cent. He is budgeting for increased departmental spending of about K35.7 million (about 16 per cent), but most of this will go in higher salaries and wages for national public servants, rather than into development projects or a stepping-up of government services.

To gain more revenue he put up new duties on luxury imports, and increased stamp duties on cheques from 4 to 6t. But there were no increases in company tax, duties on cars, liquor or tobacco products. Perhaps he is reserving those for the future, for they are items which finance ministers and treasurers find hard to leave alone. However, an increase of any magnitude in company tax could be counter-productive, by driving away investment incentives.

Mr Chan said PNG was still a poor country, but the hopes of the people had been aroused and demands were mounting for great increases in all

kinds of benefits which only a rich country could afford. There was nothing about political independence which automatically made PNG richer.

He warned that people would have to work hard for the extra benefits they wanted.

Mr Chan replaced concessional tax deductions in favour of a 10 per cent rebate with a maximum limit of K250 for each taxpayer. The minimum taxable income level rose from K12 to K18 a week, an apparent giveaway, offset by the rise of 12 per

New moves in Ok Tedi project

The Papua New Guinea Government and the US mining company, Kennecott, look like patching up their differences over the Ok Tedi copper project. And Australia's biggest company, BHP, may get involved.

The PNG Government and Kennecott have reopened talks. PNG is looking for at least one, and probably two, partners for the project because of the risk capital involved.

The chairman of BHP, Sir Ian McLennan, in his annual address to shareholders, said BHP was having discussions with the PNG Government about a possible involvement in Ok Tedi. Ok Tedi was a major copper ore body with stated reserves of more than 150 million tonnes grading 0.9 per cent copper.

Sir Ian said that was not enough to justify commercial development, but further reserves were likely to be found. More than \$400 million would be required to finance the development. If BHP secured an interest it would be as manager of the project.

Kennecott in six years, spent \$16 million establishing the presence of the 150 million tonnes of copper ore.

cent in general rates. All taxpayers, other than low-income earners, will pay more, with bigger increases for higher incomes. Low-income earners with dependants will benefit from a minimum rebate of K30 for each dependant.

Concessional deductions were largely an Australian phenomenon, and many Papua New Guineans were not aware they could claim them. Concessional deductions which disappeared were those for dependants (except the K30 for low income earners), medical, funeral and educational expenses, life assurance, superannuation, contributions, and gifts to charitable organisations. Deductions for expenses incurred in earning income remain.

Higher customs duties apply to electrical appliances, photographic and sound equipment, pleasure boats and cosmetics. The duty for domestic air-conditioners rose from 10 per cent to 45 per cent. The exemption from duty of basic food items was continued.

Departmental spending is estimated at K216.4 million. The highest departmental allocations were K45.9 million to education, and K27.8 million to health. The allocation for universities is K15.3 million, compared with K13 million last year.

The Office of Minerals and Energy and Ok Tedi Development Co, and the Purari hydro-electric power scheme received allocations totalling K6.5 million. Bougainville will receive K4.14 million for capital works, but the money will be channelled through government agencies because of a breakdown in negotiations with the Bougainville interim provincial government.

Money for the works programme will be K42.2 million, about K10 million higher than last year. The allocation for the rural improvement programme is K6 million.

In an effort to combat the rising

crime rate the budget allocated 15.3 per cent more to recurrent law and order functions. The police force will get an additional K15.1 million. Spending on corrective institutions will rise by \$2.4 million.

The defence allocation is K16.25 million, part of which will be met by a special grant from Australia. The spending on agriculture will rise from K15.2 million to K19.3 million. Agriculture had the highest priority rating in the scale set by the Budget Priorities Committee for the allocation of funds.

Mr D. Clarke, president of the Rabaul Chamber of Commerce, after describing the budget as "terrible" said that increased taxation, added to the naturalisation laws, would prompt expatriates to leave PNG. His counterpart in the Lae Chamber of Commerce, Mr Tim Leahy, said the budget was very fair, and he was supported by Mr Jim Seeto, president of the Lae Chinese Association.

The Planters Association was critical of the tax on speed boats. A spokesman claimed this would send up the cost of operating plantations. For many plantations, a speed boat was not a luxury.

Mr C. Gregory, lecturer in economics at the University of PNG, said the budget would be burdensome for national workers. Expatriate businessmen and villagers would not be seriously affected. He also thought the government should have considered the tax holiday provisions for businesses.

The Public Service Association launched a national campaign against budget policies and what it claimed was a breach by the government of industrial obligations to workers in public employment. Protest meetings and demonstrations were arranged at which the general secretary, Mr Jacob T. Lemeki, and officers of the association were to speak on the implications of the government's financial measures.

The sweet smell of success

The Fiji Government, as a 90 per cent shareholder in the Fiji Sugar Corporation, will be the main beneficiary in the corporation's post-tax net profit of \$6,392,047, in its latest financial year. In the previous year the profit was \$974,458. The corporation recommended a dividend of 10 per cent which requires \$1,850,000. The Fiji Government will receive \$1,665,000 in dividends, which should help Finance Minister Charles Stinson when he prepares his 1976 budget.

The directors report that the industry could face difficulties, unless sugar production increased.

Taxing time ahead as Islands feel the economic pinch

September-October was a taxing time in several parts of the Pacific as treasurers or finance ministers prepared their budgets, or when governments found it necessary to raise more revenue.

The Cook Islands budget was the toughest for 10 years; in Papua New Guinea income taxes and customs duties were raised (see separate report); the New Hebrides hiked duties in pre-budget measures; American Samoa has to decide how best to finance an unexpected drop in tax revenue, and New Caledonia looks like raising local taxes.

In the Cook Islands, income tax, postal charges, and vehicle and driving licence fees went up, along with higher charges for government services. The taxation increases included a 50 per cent surcharge on assessed income and higher import taxes. Government spending is expected to rise 17.6 per cent above the previous year's \$12 million.

In the New Hebrides, in several pre-budget measures, the Resident Commissioners reduced from 15 per cent to 5 per cent the import duties on sugar, tea, coffee, powdered milk, tinned mackerel, oils, margarine and soap. To offset the loss in revenue, and help meet an expected large budget deficit, duties were lifted on petrol (3 francs a litre), beer, cigarettes (12 to 16 francs, depending on brand), wines (20 to 130 francs a bottle, depending on quality) and spirits (40 to 80 francs a bottle).

In another move, designed to give the condominium duty-free status, a number of luxury items became subject to a uniform service tax of 10 per cent only. It applied to cameras, tape recorders, radios and watches. The object is to increase sales to tourists, and make the New Hebrides competitive with Fiji.

In American Samoa, local tax revenue for the 1976 budget will be \$2.63 million lower than expected. The estimate when the budget was passed in June was \$8 million. Now it is \$5.37 million. Local tax revenue has dropped dramatically in the last three years, primarily in corporate taxes.

The government tax manager, Mr Arthur Westervelt, gave three reasons for the decline:

- Since Star Kist opened its own can manufacturing operation, and Van Camp had announced it would

supply its own cans by January 1, the American Can Co planned to close its plant;

- Fishing had been below normal for the last two years and tax revenue from both canneries was down;

- Some other corporations, because of the general decline in business in 1974, overpaid estimated taxes and would claim credit for them in the 1976 tax period.

Both the Bank of Hawaii and Standard Oil were in the overpaid group.

The budget for 1976 totalled \$47.33 million. But only \$31.49 million is considered firm. The additional \$15.84 million depends on a capital improvement request, which is under consideration by US Congress.

American Samoa has three main sources of revenue—direct congressional appropriations, US federal grants, and local tax revenue. Department heads have been asked to suggest how to meet the \$2.63 million drop in revenue. Governor Ruth has sought an across-the-board pruning of 10 per cent.

New Caledonia's territorial budget in 1976 is expected to total 12,000 million CFP (about \$A120 million) based on revenue raised locally, chiefly indirect taxes such as import and sales tax, as well as tax on the island's nickel. The 1976 budget estimates a 20 per cent increase over 1975 expenditure.

Main areas of expenditure planned by the administration for 1976 include \$A65 million for territorial public servants and equipment paid for out of local funds (other public service expenses are met by France). In addition \$9 million is required to repay loans, and about \$A20 million is expected to go to local government councils, with about another \$A20 million earmarked for church schools and social services.

As usually happens, after the public service takes its slice, this would seem to leave only about \$500,000 of local revenue to be spent on infrastructure projects.

Since planned expenditure continues again to exceed estimated revenue, this time by \$A20 million, rather than seek further subsidies from France, the Territorial Assembly will be asked to increase existing local taxes, including certain propositions which last year's autonomist Assembly refused to vote in.

New search for Fiji wealth

A French company, Societe Nationale de Petroles D'Aquitaine, has mapped out areas of Viti Levu and Vanua Levu in Fiji to search for gold, copper, lead, zinc and silver. The areas, which the company has applied to prospect were surrendered by the Barringer group after preliminary investigation. The first year programme covers reconnaissance exploration, including geological sampling, mapping and a study of geological work done by the Fiji Government and other mining companies.

Banks merge in New Caledonia

The oldest of New Caledonia's banks, the Banque de l'Indochine, merged on October 1 with the Banque de Suez et de l'Union des Mines to become the Banque de l'Indochine et de Suez, or more simply, the Bank Indo-Suez. Head office of the bank in Noumea is on the corner of the rue de l'Alma and the Avenue Foch. While the Banque de Suez was principally involved in France and

Europe, the Bank of Indo-China has been particularly active in Asia and overseas from France. The newly-formed Bank of Indo-Suez is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the French company, Compagnie Financiere de Suez. In New Caledonia, the bank has 20 branches and agencies throughout the territory as well as a branch in the New Hebrides.

One reported aim of the new banking group is to engage in international investment projects and assist the expansion of French overseas trade.

Boom year for Air New Zealand

Air New Zealand overcame a generally adverse economic climate in many of its trading areas to turn in a net profit of \$4,365,146 in the year ended March 31, compared with \$4,061,124 in the previous year. The directors recommend a dividend of five per cent, which will go to the owner of all the shares—the NZ Government.

The airline carried more passengers than ever before—825,569, compared with 649,214 the previous year. The amount of cargo carried increased spectacularly from 57.9 million tonnes in 1973-74 to 89.6 million tonnes.

Air New Zealand operates a fleet of five DC10s and six DC8s. Another DC10 was scheduled to arrive in October, 1975, and yet another, which will give it seven DC10s, is due in September, 1976. Air NZ also owns a Britten Norman Islander which is on charter to Cook Island Airways. It holds 380,000 shares in Air Pacific and 20,000 in Polynesian Airlines. It also has investments in hotels.

Fairy godmother to the Islands

New Zealand is being something of a fairy godmother to the Pacific Islands in 1975-76 with aid of \$17,285,000 for capital and expert assistance projects. The 1975-76 bilateral aid programme is likely to involve more than 300 individual development projects, the Prime Minister, Mr W. E. Rowling, said in Parliament recently in answer to a question.

Many projects had started; other had to be confirmed or clarified after discussion with the recipient government. Cook Islands is doing the best with \$3,450,000, followed by Fiji with \$3 million, Western Samoa \$2 million; Niue Island, \$1,950,000; Papua New Guinea, \$1.7 million; Tonga \$1.5 million; Tokelau Island,

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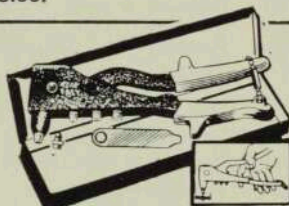
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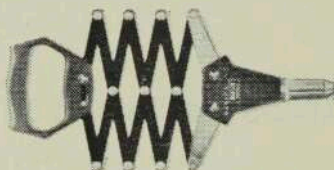
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\$50,000; Solomons, \$170,000; Gilbert and Ellice, and New Hebrides, each \$130,000; other, \$105,000; and regional projects, \$2.7 million. The grant to the Gilbert and Ellice was made before Tuvalu came into existence.

Fiji island sells for \$1.6m

Naisosovu Island, in Nadi Bay, Fiji, covering 114 acres was sold in October for \$1.6 million to an American syndicate, which was formed in Fiji. The island was owned by Mr J. Schofield, an American, who sold it to Cambridge Credit (Fiji) Ltd, a subsidiary of Cambridge Credit in Australia. Mr Schofield repossessed Naisosovu when Cambridge Credit went into receivership.

Head of the syndicate which bought Naisosovu is Mr David Summers, former manager of Soqulu Plantation, Veuni. The syndicate will manage development of the island, and Fiji Overseas X-change Club will run it as a quality tennis resort.

THE GRAPE IS BLOOMING

"A loaf of bread, a jug of wine and thou"—Omar Khayyam's "Persia" may be a long way from the Pacific, but Islanders are learning the wisdom of his words. While not competing with the traditional kava (or yaqona), wine has become a very popular drink in a comparatively short time, which is not surprising as Australia, the chief supplier, offers wines which, say the buffs, are the equal, if not better than those from Europe.

Annual sales of Australian wine to the Pacific Islands are now about one million litres. Growth was rapid for several years. In the last year or so there has been a levelling out in consumption through economic conditions, which has restricted the number of tourists, who helped to boost sales.

Wine has increased in price, making it a little more difficult to sell in competition with cheaper beverages. Also, France is over-supplied with wine, which is being sold at cut prices to clear stocks.

This, however, is a temporary situation, and is not causing much alarm among Australian wine producers.

To counter falling sales, retail outlets are offering bulk wines—in flagons and casks—which is cheaper than single bottles. And people are buying more wine by the glass in hotels, restaurants and night spots. This has had the effect of restricting sales by the bottle.

Australian wines are sold in most countries in the Pacific. An exception is New Caledonia, where the tariff is loaded in favour of French wines. As French wines are in temporary oversupply, some top brands are sold very cheaply at present. One example is Bordeaux wines which are cheaper in the Pacific than comparable Australian wines.

But Bordeaux wines are having to fight for their reputation at the moment. Their bouquet was slightly more than tainted a few months ago by the scandal which rocked the wine world when some French vintners were gaoled for fraudulently passing off cheap "plonk" as the best Bordeaux.

In spite of the twin problems of economic conditions and the oversupply of French wines, Australian vintners are confident that with their "very competitive" prices, they can meet almost any competition in the South Pacific.

Australia's geographical position, with good quality wines and regular shipping services gives her a big advantage.

Heavy duties in some areas have made it difficult to sell fortified wines. This is the deliberate policy of some governments. But any losses in that field are more than offset by a strong demand for table wines.

On a per capita basis, the New Hebrides is the best market in the South Pacific. Most wine is sold in Papua New Guinea, with Fiji next.

Vintners are expecting a fairly rapid increase in sales to the South Pacific market, not in the immediate future, but in 1977 and 1978.

FRENCH PASTIS VERSUS WHISKY

The New Caledonians have lifted the ban on the importation of Pastis, popular French liquor which is especially sought after by metropolitan French residents. The aniseed-based drink had been banned from the island years ago through fear of its harmful effects on the indigenous population. In those days, however, the drink has improved and is said no longer to contain absinthe.

Members of the Territorial Assembly who decided to lift the import ban argued that Pastis is less dangerous than local drinks made from eau-de-logne, boot polish or methylated spirits. The aniseed-flavoured alcohol is milky-coloured in water and sells under such labels as Pastis, Pernod and card. It is drunk as an aperitif in iced water. Those fond of the drink had previously been tempted to smuggle it in from Australia, while it was so possible to enjoy it aboard visiting Australian naval ships and in other ships.

It was argued that the importation of the drink would bolster French trade and Assemblyman Jean-Pierre Aifa claimed "Pastis will certainly be more popular than whisky". The French administration thus had no reason to block the assembly's decision as being "outside its competence".

The effect of the French liquor upon future sales of Anglo-Saxon whisky will now be interesting to watch, especially as whisky prices had been kept well within the reach of Melanesian and other workers, guaranteeing a keen market.

The lifting of the ban, however, brought a wave of late protests from some Melanesian leaders, who called for its revocation.

The leaders, already concerned, as are many in other Island countries, of their fellow Islanders' difficulty in coping with hard liquor, denounced the introduction of pastis as a move destined to "assure Kanaka genocide". They threatened to complete the breakdown and elimination of the Melanesian ethnic group.

The protests failed, however, when it was indicated that the ban would be lifted.

It is believed business interests are planning to invest in a local pastis bottling plant with which they will build up a profitable export trade with their Anglo-Saxon neighbours.

Dole comes to New Caledonia

Unemployment benefits are now available to those in New Caledonia who have lost their jobs under the current economic recession.

After some bitter debate in the Territorial Assembly over whether non-Caledonians, particularly recent arrivals from metropolitan France, should be eligible for benefits, the



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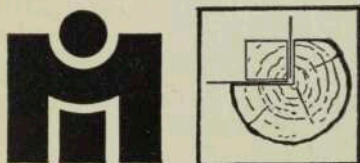
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scheme is now operating. Benefits are available to workers who have been registered as employees for at least a year with the social service authorities (CAFAT) to whom employers pay a payroll tax of about 25 per cent.

In addition, the worker must have been employed fulltime, or specified hours for dock workers, during the six months preceding his request for payments and he must be under 60 years of age. The unemployment benefits may then be paid according to a diminishing scale beginning at a maximum of 50 per cent of the daily basic salary, and continuing for a period of up to six months.

Bad time for The Americana

The Americana Hotel is again going through one of its bad periods. American Airlines, which has been managing the hotel since May 15, 1973, has cancelled its 10-year contract with the American Samoa Development Corporation for the management of the hotel.

Reason for cancellation of the contract was, in the words of the last American Airlines manager for the hotel, Hank Schainek, "breach of contract".

American Airlines gave the ASDC 90 days notice on May 27 and by midnight, August 31 of this year, it had officially ceased to manage the hotel.

While American Airlines was leaving, ASDC sent in its own men, headed by its secretary Holden Olsen, who is now acting-general manager.

Announced Olsen: "We are not considering any major changes. We have retained all the staff left behind by American Airlines, and the procedures will remain the same."

Olsen, who is also chairman of the American Samoan Development Bank, said there is no rush to find a new group to manage the hotel, still named the Americana. "Right now, we will run the hotel ourselves. This may last as long as two, six or even 12 months".

What constituted "breach of contract" complained of by American Airlines has been well hidden. But, according to one source, it amounts to the fact that the ASDC is behind in its payments for services rendered to American Airlines by about \$150,000.

If this is true, then it means American Airlines is losing money by continuing to run the hotel for ASDC.

It is hard to believe that a hotel that charges high prices for its rooms,

alcoholic beverages, food and other services can still continue to operate at a loss.

Probably the answer has been, as the former director of Tourism Faivae Galeai said, the lack of tourists coming to American Samoa.

The Intercontinental had 98 rooms. When it was renamed Americana Hotel, a new block of 90 rooms was added. It seems that the occupancy rate is not high and this explains the failure of the territory's major hotel.

Why the occupancy rate is not high is partly due to American Samoa having second-rate tourism machinery. The Office of Tourism is weak, resulting recently in a shake down, subtle pressure exerted on the Director of Tourism to resign, and the establishment of a Visitor Control Board.

Faivae Galeai blames the government for the present low in tourism claiming that the government is not giving the money needed to promote tourism.

To that the government will probably reply, "We are having a bad time ourselves".

Television for the Loyalties

Plans underway to extend TV coverage in New Caledonia are expected to take programmes as far as the offshore islands by Christmas. Other parts of the mainland, in the north, will not be so lucky and cannot expect to receive TV until mid 1976.

The Noumea television station was opened in late 1965 and, due to the central mountain chain extending the whole length of the mainland, it has been necessary to build an intricate system of transmission posts.

The extension of Tele-Noumea to the Loyalty Islands of Lifou, Ouvea and Mare will be an important new step. The Melanesians living in these islands, the last stronghold of the autonomy movement, will thus inevitably be drawn under the close influence of the administration in Noumea and Paris. Like Radio Noumea, the television is a state monopoly under direct government control.

The distant territory of Wallis and Futuna is also to benefit from improved radio transmission from Noumea. Until now these islands could only receive French broadcast by short wave, but new installations are planned to enable reception of medium wave.

A further step is to have TV news items transmitted to Noumea by satellite from April, 1976.

Australian Engineering Equipment

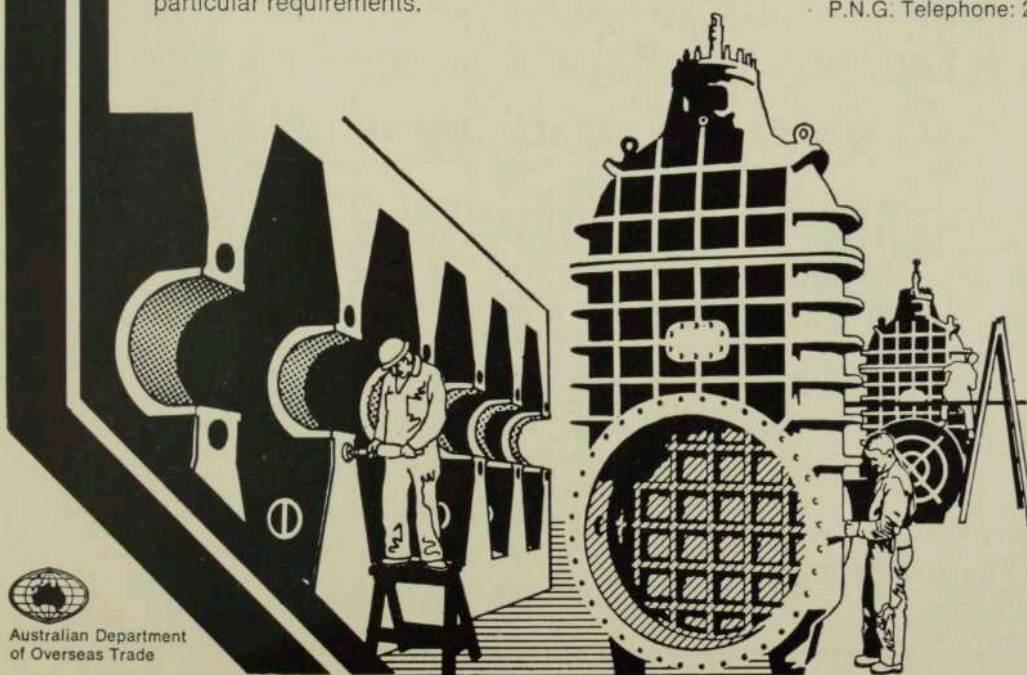
tough and reliable

The performance reliability and economy of Australian plant and equipment result from many years of experience. The first Australian heavy engineering shops came into existence back in the great gold rush days of the 1850's.

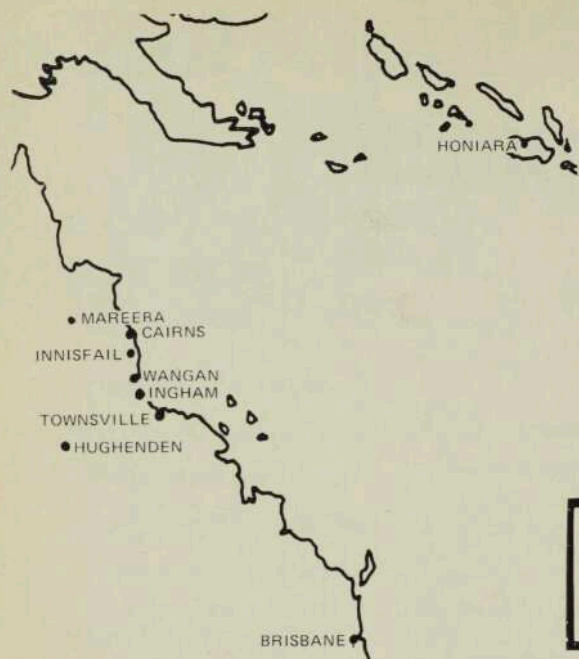
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Unless otherwise stated quotations are in Australian currency. Australian dollar (October) equals—New Zealand, \$1.2055 (buying), 1.2011 (selling); Fiji, \$1.0957 (buying), 1.0717 (selling); Western Samoa, tala 0.7705 (buying), 0.7598 (selling); Tonga, pa'anga 8826 (buying), 0.8650 (selling); US, \$1.2640 (buying), \$1.2590 (selling); UK, £0.6194 (buying), £0.6140 (selling); French Pacific, CFP 22.78 (buying), 101.22 (selling).

COPRA

Copra Industries are controlled through copra boards in PNG, the Solomons, the GEIC, both moas, Fiji, Tonga, the Cooks and the US Trust Territory. New Hebrides, French Polynesia and New Caledonia do not have boards and copra is either sold individually by growers to overseas buyers or used locally.

NEW GUINEA:—The board, with planters' reps, directs distribution and sales and pays planters. Shipments are made to UK, European markets and to Australia and Japan, and coconut oil mills on New Britain.

Prices are: Per tonne, delivered main ports, fair dried, K155; FMS, K152; smoke-dried, 50.

FIJI:—The board fixes prices on Philippines pra, taking into account freight, taxes, selling costs, shrinkage, etc. The price is subsidised. Test prices were: Fiji 1, \$190; Fiji 2, \$171; S, \$70.

NEW HEBRIDES:—Copra sold direct by planters to France and Japan. Burns Philp buying on wharf, Vila or Santo, Sept 1 6.000 MF, Oct 1 101 met francs 100 kg.

US TRUST TERRITORY:—1st grade, \$90, 2nd grade, \$80, 3rd grade, \$70. Outer Islands, \$5, \$55 and \$45 ton for the three grades, serviced by government ships and \$55, \$5 and \$35 if serviced by private ships.

COOK ISLANDS:—All production is sold to the Cooks Ltd, Auckland. Prices are based on average world prices for the prior three or six months, and remain in force for three months.

GILBERT ISLANDS:—\$179.20 a ton, or 8c a pound.

WESTERN SAMOA:—1st grade, \$WS102; 2nd grade, \$WS89.50.

OTHER PRODUCE

COCOA:—Islands rates are based on Ghana prices. Ghana price on Oct 8 was spot \$657 ton, c.i.f., UK, Continent. Oct 9, in store, Rabaul, export quality, 80 per tonne; delivered ex wharf Sydney \$1,015 per tonne.

Solomons:—Delivered to Agriculture Dept. prices in Honiara and Auki. Recent price was 2c per lb dried beans first grade, 20c second grade.

COFFEE:—PNG, Oct 9: Good quality, A grade, 69½c per lb; B grade, 67½c; C grade, 65c; Y grade, 65c (ex-store Sydney).

W. Samoa:—Recently, WSTEC ground and dried beans, 60 sene per lb wholesale.

PEANUTS:—PNG: Sydney wholesalers reported recently f.o.b., Lae: Kernels—white Spanish 1 lb.

RICE (Aust):—PNG: Dried brown, 25 kilo bags, \$298.94 per tonne. Vitamin enriched rice, 25 kilo bags, \$303.94 per tonne, all w. Sydney/Melbourne. Pacific Islands: rose med. grain, white, 25 kilo bags, \$310 per tonne. Kulu long grain white, 25 kilo bags, \$355 per tonne. All prices c.&f. Sydney/bourne.

UBBER:—Singapore, Oct 8: 33.25c a kilo. **ANILLA BEANS:**—Prices recently were: white and yellow label processed standard bags, \$7.50; green label \$7.40, c.i.f., Sydney. ga.—\$T4.20, f.o.b., Nukualofa; \$T4.50, Melbourne.

EXCHANGE RATES

FIJI:—Oct 9: Through Bank of NSW, ANZ Bank, Bank of NZ, Bank of Baroda, First National City Bank, Aust \$ on Fiji buying \$F1.0971 = \$A1.

COOK IS., NIUE:—New Zealand currency is used.

NEW HEBRIDES:—Oct 10: Through Bank of NSW, ANZ Bank, Commercial Bank of Australia, National Bank of A'asia, Banque Nationale De Paris, Barclays Bank, Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corp, Mosbert Bank, \$A1 = 91.33 New Hebridean francs (buying), 90.04 (selling)—airmail transfer rate.

WESTERN SAMOA:—Through Bank of Western Samoa, controlled from NZ, SWS. Tala 1 = \$A1.29 (buying), \$A1.32 (selling).

TONGA:—Tongan dollar (pa'anga) = \$A1.13 (buying), \$A1.16 (selling).

NORFOLK IS., SOLOMON IS., GEIC, NAURU:—Australian currency used; no exchange payable in transactions with Australia.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA:—PNG and Australian currency used; no exchange payable in transactions with Australia.

FRENCH PACIFIC COLONIES:—Pacific francs (CFP) are used in New Caledonia, Wallis and Futuna Is., and Fr Polynesia. French Bank,

Sydney, on Oct 10, quoted: \$A1 = 102.75 CFP (buying), 101.30 (selling). Paris-London: £1 = 9.1125 francs (buying), 9.1025 francs (selling). Pacific franc—London: £1 = 165.7272 CFP (buying), 165.5454 CFP (selling). CFP to 1 metropolitan franc 18.43 (buying), 17.94 (selling).

Banks should be approached for daily rates.

• A successful week-long practical course in vegetable growing, organised by the Agriculture Department was held on Niue recently. Guest speakers included Mr M. Lambert, tropical agriculturist with the South Pacific Commission, and the director of the Sigatoka Research Station, Fiji, Mr Eric Hampton. The Minister of Agriculture, Mr Y. Vivian, said that it had long been recognised that Niueans lacked the necessary vegetable protein in their diets. The course was being held to try to inject some enthusiasm into local growers and encourage them to increase crop production.

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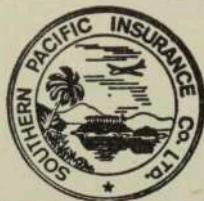
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to whom 6 copies of applications should be returned by 29 November 1975.



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Fires under Fiji's political pot

From p 16

inter-racial harmony and law and order in Fiji could break down.

Mr Butadroka was planning to enliven the October meeting of the House of Representatives with a motion asking Britain to foot the bill for shipping all Fiji's 280,000 Indians to India, despite the fact that 90 per cent of them are Fiji-born to the second or third generation.

Revealing the motion, he said his party had changed its mind about letting Indians stay in Fiji provided Fijians were given complete political control of the country. Now it wanted them all out because they were grabbing all the jobs that Fijians should have.

Europeans and Chinese could stay because they did not really compete with Fijians, he said.

Meanwhile, Fiji is waiting for the report, expected some time in December, from the Royal Commission on its electoral system. At the 1970 Constitutional Conference, the Alliance and National Federation could not agree on voting arrangements.

The Alliance—which has been in government for 10 consecutive years backed by Fijians, Europeans, Chinese, and other non-Indians, as well as a small, but still significant, number of Indians—favours communal voting designed to keep all political power out of the hands of the numerically-dominant Indian community.

The NFP, basically Indian-supported, wants a common electoral roll in which race factors would be ignored.

This, says the Alliance, would mean that minority racial groups would not be sure of political representations, hence trouble. At the London conference, both sides agreed on the present communal system which allows for a 52-seat House of Representatives. It guarantees Fijians and Indians 22 seats each and eight seats for other races who are combined under the label of "General" voters.

But the NFP said it would accept the arrangement as a temporary one

only, and it was agreed that a Royal Commission would be appointed half way through the five-year life of the parliament elected at the first general election after independence.

This election took place in April, 1973, and the three commissioners, led by Professor Harry Street of Birmingham University, arrived in August.

They held public and private meetings throughout the country and what was heard at the public meetings made it clear that Fiji's voters hadn't changed their minds.

The NFP's representations were made in secret; even Professor Street said on the day of his departure that this had come as a 'surprise'. So secret, in fact were the NFP's representations that several NFP MPs complained even they did not know what the party was now officially advocating.

NFP supporters who made individual submissions in public to the commission, said the same thing more or less: Give us a common roll. It's being assumed that they echoed the party line.

And all the non-Indians, with only one or two unimportant exceptions had the same view to put also: If Fiji gets a common roll we will be sub merged.

The Alliance Party said it was "unanimous that the present system is the most appropriate electoral system for Fiji's political problem and the country's emerging political process".

The Royal Commission's recommendations will not be binding. It seems hardly likely that the commission will advocate the common roll that the Alliance and its supporters fear. Its remedy will probably be yet another compromise that will please no one but provoke a fresh outburst of arguments that could make 1976 a politically memorable one.

MR SOMARE AT THE UN

From p 17

African leader, the President of Tanzania: "We do not want our friends to choose our enemies for us". With very few exceptions—being those countries with social or racial policies that are unacceptable to us—we will recognise every government that wishes to recognise us.

However, if the price of mutual recognition is that we must take sides in regional, ideological or internal conflict, then we will reject it.

As a country with significant but undeveloped resources we realise that trade is a potent factor in the growth of relationships between states. As our trading partnerships develop, it is inevitable that co-operation will be fostered at other levels. Countries in partnership must depend upon each other. Continuing dependence ensures friendships.

Papua New Guinea, therefore, fully supports the principles under which the United Nations Committee on Trade and Development was established.

Papua New Guinea is one more developing country, and this fact

forms a basic element of future policy in relation to the world. The basis of the economic life of our people remains subsistence agriculture.

Like all developing countries, we are, therefore, faced with the difficulties and frustrations of bringing about development within an inequitable world economic system.

Papua New Guinea will join wholeheartedly with efforts to reform that system. We know we will find new allies in this cause, within the Third World.

Finally, though such a statement might not seem important from a country so new, and as yet, so uninfluential as Papua New Guinea, I state our fundamental commitment to the maintenance of peace throughout our region and the world, and our undertaking to uphold the principles of the Charter of the United Nations Organisation.

The problems of the world today require a determined and constructive effort by all countries. I commit Papua New Guinea to make her contribution.

Bougainville Prov Govt suspended

The PNG Cabinet moved against the secessionist Bougainville Provincial Government in mid-October by suspending it and establishing a trust, the Bougainville Provincial Trust, to take over the provincial government's powers and functions. The provincial government's executives vacated their offices at the central government's headquarters complex at Arawa. Acting Prime Minister Sir Maori Kiki—Mr Somare was overseas—said the suspension was only a temporary measure. Mr Benson Gegoyo is the new Bougainville Provincial Commissioner.

Shipping & Airways Information

SHIPPING

SYDNEY - NZ - FIJI/TAHITI - UK

Chandris Lines maintains a twice-monthly passenger service from Sydney via NZ, Suva, Papeete.
Details from Chandris Lines, 135 King Street, Sydney (28-2451).

SYDNEY - LORD HOWE IS - AUCKLAND - NORFOLK IS - NEW CALEDONIA

Comacal operates 25-day service from Sydney to Lord Howe, Norfolk Is and Noumea. Details from Karlander (Aust) Pty Ltd, 19-31 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-6301).
Compagnie des Chargeurs Caledoniens operates four-weekly cargo service Sydney-Lord Howe Island-Norfolk Island-Auckland-Norfolk Island-Noumea.
Details: Hetherington Kingsbury Pty Ltd, 19 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-1671).

SYDNEY - NZ - FIJI - HAWAII - CANADA - US

P & O liners call at Auckland, Suva and Honolulu on eastbound and westbound voyages between Sydney and the US.
Details from P & O Australia Ltd, 55 Hunter Street, Sydney (230-0177).

SYDNEY - NZ - FIJI - TONGA - VILA - NOUMEA - SAMOAS - TAHITI

Itmar Cruises operates a South Pacific service programme to include most of the above countries plus the Solomons.
Details from Sitmar Line (Australia) Pty Ltd, 22-30 Bridge Street, Sydney (27-4521).

Royal Viking Line, with luxury cruise ships Royal Viking Sea, Star and Sky, cruises the Pacific from Sydney, calling at most of above countries.

Details from Wilh. Wilhelmsen Agency Pty Ltd, 13-15 Bridge Street, Sydney (2-0517).

P & O liners call at Suva, Honiara, Pago Pago, Auckland, Vila, Noumea, Honolulu, Nukualofa and Vavau, Savusavu, regularly on cruises from Australia.

Details from P & O Australia Ltd, 55 Hunter Street, Sydney (230-0177).

AUSTRALIA - NEW CALEDONIA - NEW HEBRIDES

Compagnie des Chargeurs Caledoniens operates three-weekly cargo service from Sydney to Noumea, Port Vila, Santo.

Details: Hetherington Kingsbury Pty Ltd, 37-49 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-1671).

Sofrana-Unilines' ships call regularly at Sydney and Noumea. Vila/Santo cargo ex Melbourne and Brisbane only trans-shipped at Noumea.

Details from Sofrana-Unilines, 37 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-2031), Burns Philp and Co Ltd, 340 Collins Street, Melbourne (67-8941) and John Swire and Sons, Brisbane (46-1155).

South Pacific United Lines with Polynesie maintains cargo-passenger sailings—Sydney, Noumea, Vila and Santo.

Details from Omni Traders & Brokers Pty Limited, 261 George Street, Sydney (241-2872/6).

AUSTRALIA - FIJI

Sofrana-Unilines operates Melbourne-Sydney-Fiji every 28 days.

Details from Sofrana-Unilines, 37 Pitt Street,

Sydney (27-2031); Burns Philp and Co Ltd, 340 Collins Street, Melbourne (67-8941).

Nauru Pacific Line operates cargo/passenger service to Fiji and South Pacific ports.

Details from Nauru Pacific Line, 227 Collins Street, Melbourne (654-4977); InterOcean Swire, 8 Spring Street, Sydney (20-522); Dalgety Shipping, 291 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane (31-0331).

Karlander (Aust) Pty Ltd operates three weekly cargo services from Sydney to Suva and Lautoka.

Details from Karlander (Aust) Pty Ltd, 19-31 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-6301); Dalgety Shipping, 461 Bourke St, Melbourne (60-0731); Burns Philp (SS) Co Ltd, Suva and Lautoka.

AUSTRALIA - TAHITI - MEXICO - US

South Pacific United Lines maintain a six weekly service from Sydney to Papeete, Mexico and US.

Details from Omni Traders & Brokers Pty Limited, 261 George Street, Sydney (241-2872/6).

AUSTRALIA - PNG

Containers Pacific Express (Burns Philp and AWP Line) operates four-weekly cargo service from Melbourne and Brisbane with Samos to Port Moresby and Lae and three-weekly cargo service from Sydney (direct) to Lae and Port Moresby with Nimos and Sydney and Brisbane Moresby with Nimos.

Details from Burns Philp & Co Ltd, 51 Pitt Street, Sydney (241-3816).

Pacific Far East Line operates a service every 18 days from Tasmania, Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane to Lae, Rabaul and Kieta.

Details from PFEL, 50 Young Street, Sydney,



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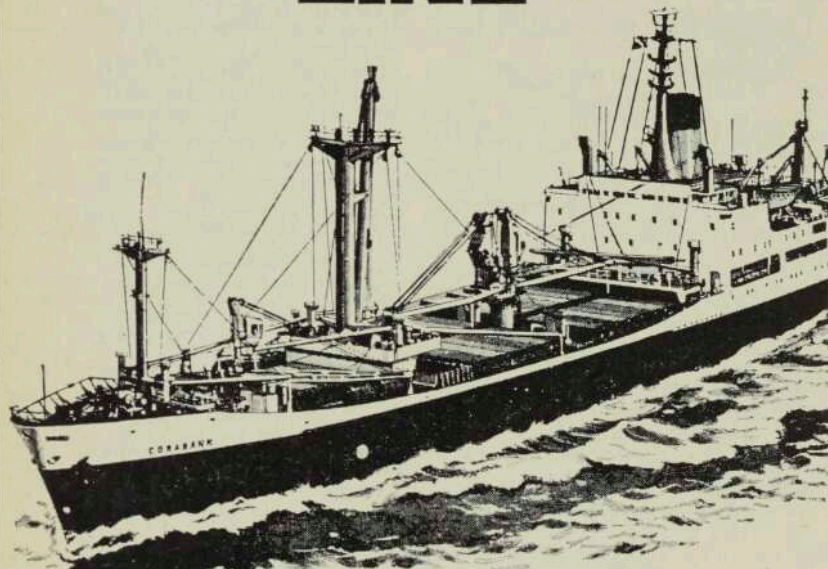
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(27-4272), 454 Collins Street, Melbourne (67-7237), Burns Philp (NG) Ltd, Rabaul and Kieta, Robert Laurie-Carpenter (NG) Pty Ltd, Lae.

New Guinea Express Lines with two ships operates three-weekly Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Port Moresby, Lae, Rabaul.

Details from New Guinea Express Lines, P Box R73, Royal Exchange PO, Sydney (241-139) and 72 Eagle St, Brisbane (21-9333), Westralia Farmers Transport Pty Ltd, 459 Collins St, Melbourne (67-8291), Breckwoldt's Shipping Agencies in Port Moresby, Lae, Rabaul, Nigini Pty Ltd, Rabaul.

Karlander New Guinea Line's cargo vessels call at Melbourne, Sydney, Lae, Madang, Wewak, Manus, Kimbe.

Details from Karlander (Aust) Pty Ltd, 19-2 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-6301); Dalgety Shipping 461 Bourke St, Melbourne (60-0731).

AUSTRALIA - PNG - BSIP

New Guinea Australia Line's vessels operate from Sydney and Brisbane to Port Moresby, Lae, Rabaul, Kavieng, Honiara, Kieta, Giz Madang and Samarai.

Details from Intercocean Swire, 8 Spring Street, Sydney (20-522).

AUSTRALIA - NG - MICRONESIA - GUAM

Nauru Pacific Line operates monthly conventional/container service Melbourne/Sydney New Guinea, Guam and Micronesia.

Details from Nauru Pacific Line, 227 Colli Street, Melbourne (654-4977); Intercocean Swire 4 Spring Street, Sydney (20-522).

AUSTRALIA - PNG - FAR EAST

E. and A. Line liner Cathay makes regular round voyages from Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane calling at Port Moresby, Manila, Hong Kong, Keelung, Kobe, Yokohama (Tokyo) and Rabaul.

Details from P & O Australia Ltd, 55 Hunt Street, Sydney (230-0177).

US - PNG

Pacific Far East Line operates regular services from all US west coast ports to Lae, Rabaul, Kieta.

Details from PFEL, 50 Young Street, Sydney (27-4272), One Embarcadero Centre, San Francisco, Burns Philp (NG) Ltd, Rabaul and Kieta, Robert Laurie-Carpenter (PNG) Pty Ltd, Lae.

PNG - US - CANADA

Pacific Far East Line operates regular services from Lae, Rabaul and Kieta to US west coast ports and Vancouver.

Details from Burns Philp (NG) Ltd, Rabaul and Kieta, Robert Laurie-Carpenter (PNG) Pty Ltd, Lae, PFEL, One Embarcadero Centre, San Francisco and 50 Young Street, Sydney (27-4272).

FAR EAST - FIJI - NEW ZEALAND

New Zealand Unit Express (CNC, MOL, RIL) operates a three-weekly cargo service from Hong Kong to Lautoka, Suva, NZ ports, Manila, Kaoshiung, Keelung, Hong Kong.

Details from Intercocean Swire, 8 Spring Street, Sydney (20-522).

Royal Intercocean Lines operates monthly cargo service with three ships from Surabaya, Bangkok, Port Kelang and Singapore to Suva and NZ ports.

Details from Intercocean Australia Service, 261 George Street, Sydney (2-0573), Burns Philp (SS) Co Ltd, Suva and Lautoka.

Ben Shipping Co (Pte) Ltd, sailing monthly from Singapore, Hong Kong, Keelung, Kaoshiung, Suva and main NZ ports.

Details from Seatrans (Fiji) Ltd, GPO Box 152, Suva, Fiji.

FAR EAST - PNG - BSI - NEW HEBRIDES

NOUMEA - TAHITI - SAMOA

China Navigation Co's vessels operate regular cargo service from Hong Kong, Taiwan and Singapore to Rabaul, Wewak, Madang, Lae, Port Moresby, Honiara, New Hebrides, Noumea, Papeete and Samoa.

Details from Intercocean Swire, 8 Spring Street, Sydney (20-522).

NORTH EUROPE - NEW CALEDONIA
 Hamburg/Sued operates monthly cargo
 services from Dunkirk and Le Havre to
 Noumea, via Panama.
 Details from Columbus Overseas Services
 Ltd, 333 George Street, Sydney (290-2966).
MESSAGERIES MARITIMES operates five cargo
 services a month from north and Mediterranean
 European ports to Papeete and Noumea.
 Details from Messageries Maritimes, 4-6
 Market Street, Sydney (221-2522).

**JAPAN - GUAM - FIJI - SAMOA -
 NEW CALEDONIA - NEW HEBRIDES**
 Daiwa Line runs a monthly cargo service
 from Japan via Guam to Suva, Lautoka, Pago-
 Pago, Apia, Vila, Santo and Noumea.
 Details from Burns Philp (SS) Co Ltd, Suva.

TONGA - SAMOA - FIJI - AUSTRALIA
 Pacific Navigation Co Ltd operates a monthly
 cargo service between Nukualofa, Apia, Suva
 and Lautoka to Sydney.
 Details from Karlander (Aust) Pty Ltd, 19-31
 Market St, Sydney (27-6301); Burns Philp (SS) Co

**NZ - FIJI - TONGA - SAMOAS -
 TAHITI**
 Union Steam Ship Co of NZ operates a fully
 containerised service-Auckland-Suva-Pago-
 Pago-Nukualofa every 14 days.
 28-day service by conventional ship is
 operated from Auckland to Papeete, Apia and
 Nukualofa.
 Details from Union Steam Ship Co of NZ
 PO Box 12, Auckland, or from branch
 offices/agents in Fiji, Tonga, Samoa and
 Tahiti.

NZ - NORFOLK IS
 Compagnie des Chargeurs Caledoniens operate
 a weekly cargo service from Auckland to
 Norfolk Island.
 Details from Maritime Services Ltd, 14-18
 Market Street E, Auckland (75-509).

**- NEW CALEDONIA - NEW HEBRIDES -
 VANUATU - BSIP**
 Sofrana/Unilines with two ships operates
 a weekly service from Vila and Santo to Honiara and New
 Hebrides; and to Noumea.
 Details from Sofrana-Unilines, 42 Customs
 Street, Auckland (73-279), P.O. Box 3614.
 Tel: NZ 2313.

NZ - NEW CALEDONIA
 Compagnie des Chargeurs Caledoniens operates
 a weekly cargo service from Auckland to
 Noumea.
 Details from Maritime Services Ltd, 14-18
 Market Street E, Auckland (75-509).

NZ - PNG
 Pacific Far East Line operates regular service
 from Auckland to Lae, Rabaul,
 Port Moresby and Port Vila.
 Details from PFEL, 109 Queen Street, Auckland
 (31022) Burns Philp (NG) Ltd, Rabaul
 Kiefta, Robert Laurie-Carpenter (PNG) Pty
 Ltd, Lae.

NZ - FIJI - NORTH AMERICA (WC)
 Ambassador cargo ships call at Suva, Levuka and
 Lautoka on NZ-US west coast trips and at
 Suva and/or Lautoka on US-NZ return trips.
 Details from Blue Star Port Lines (Manag-
 er) Ltd, P.O. Box 192, Wellington (739-029);
 Burns Philp (SS) Co Ltd, Suva.

NZ - FIJI
 Bonita operates a regular 18 day service
 from Auckland to Suva and Lautoka.
 Details from Reef Shipping Agencies Ltd,
 Box 13-315, Onehunga, NZ. (Phone 663-
 663-928).

NZ - TONGA
 Pacific Navigation Co Ltd operates two ships
 and-Lyttelton-Nukualofa-Vavau-Haapai, on
 a 21-day schedule, and other ports by
 arrangement.
 Details from the Northern Steam Ship Co Ltd,
 Quay Street, Auckland (362-730).



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 CALEDONIENNE.

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NZ - FIJI - SAMOA

Pacific Line with one ship operates monthly cargo service, New Zealand, Lautoka, Suva, Apia.

Details: Sofrana-Unilines, 42 Customs Street, Auckland (73-279) PO Box 3614, Telex: NZ 2313.

UK - PANAMA - SAMOA - FIJI

The Fiji Direct Service, cargo only, is maintained by Conference vessels, sailing at regular monthly intervals out of London, via Panama, for Apia, Suva and Lautoka.

Details from Burns Philp (SS) Co Ltd, Suva.

UK - PNG - BSIP - GEIC - N HEBRIDES - N CALEDONIA

Bank Line operates a monthly direct cargo service from Europe, via the Panama Canal to Papeete, Noumea, Vila, major PNG ports and Honiara, occasionally to Tarawa, Santo, Kiefta, Jayapura and Yandina and return.

Details from Bank Line (A/asia) Pty Ltd, 1 York St, Sydney (27-2041); Burns Philp (SS) Co Ltd, Suva.

EUROPE - TAHITI - W SAMOA - FIJI - N CALEDONIA

Nedlloyd offers regular cargo services from Northern Europe and UK to Papeete, Apia, Fiji and New Caledonia.

Details: Interocean Aust. Services Pty Ltd, 261 George Street, Sydney (2-0573).

US - A. SAMOA - NZ - AUSTRALIA

Pacific Far East Line LASH ships operate regularly from US to Australia, via Pago Pago and Auckland, returning via PNG ports.

Details from PFEL, 50 Young Street, Sydney (27-4272), 454 Collins Street, Melbourne (67-7237), One Embarcadero Centre, San Francisco (576-4000), 109 Queen Street, Auckland (31-022), Kneubuhl Maritime Services, Pago Pago (633-5121).

US - SYDNEY - GEIC - HONOLULU

Columbus Line operates a three weekly container cargo sailing from West Coast, US to Australasia, returning via Tarawa, GEIC and Honolulu to Nth America.

Details from Columbus Overseas Services Pty Ltd, 333 George Street, Sydney (290-2966).

US - FIJI/TAHITI - AUSTRALIA

Bank Line Ltd operate regular cargo services from US Gulf ports to Australia and NZ. Calls at Suva, Lautoka and Papeete on demand.

Details from Bank Line (A/asia) Pty Ltd, 1 York St, Sydney (27-2041).

Pacific Far East Line cruise ships operate regularly from San Francisco, Los Angeles, Honolulu, Moorea, Papeete, Rarotonga, Auckland, Opuia, Sydney, and return via Suva, Niuafoou, Pago Pago and Honolulu to San Francisco.

Freight is carried on these passenger liners. Pacific Far East Line cellular container vessels operate regularly from North America west coast ports to Australia, via Papeete returning via Auckland and Pago Pago.

Details from PFEL, 50 Young Street, Sydney (27-4272).

US - TAHITI - SAMOA

Pacific Islands Transport operates five/six weekly cargo service from North American west coast ports to Papeete, Pago Pago, Apia.

Details from Trans-Austral Shipping Pty Ltd, 19 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-2441).

Polynesia Line operates cargo service from US west coast ports to Papeete and Pago Pago.

Details from Furness Inter Ocean Corp, 40 California Street, San Francisco (398-2000).

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CP Air (DC8)—Fiji, Hawaii, Canada.

UTA (DC8s and DC10s)—New Caledonia, Fiji, New Zealand, Tahiti, US.

Air-NZ (DC10s)—New Zealand, Fiji, Hawaii, US.

Air Nauru (F28)—New Caledonia, Solomon Islands, Nauru, Tarawa, Majuro.

Air Niugini (727s)—PNG.

Advance Aviation (from Sydney), North Coast Airlines (from Coffs Harbour) and Oxley Airlines (from Port Macquarie)—Lord Howe Is.

FROM NEW ZEALAND

Air-NZ (DC8s, DC10s, F27)—Fiji, American Samoa, Cook Is, Tahiti, Hawaii, US, New Caledonia, Norfolk Is.

PAA (707s)—American Samoa.

UTA (DC8)—Tahiti.

PACIFIC - FAR EAST - S. AMERICA

Air Nauru (F28)—Nauru to Micronesia.

Okinawa, Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong.

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Air Niugini (707s)—to Manila.

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Norfolk Island Airlines (Beechcraft) to Brisbane.

PACIFIC IS - NZ

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Air Nauru from Nauru to Tarawa, Marshall Is, Wallis Is and Western Samoa.

Polynesian Airlines from Apia to Tonga, Niue Is, Fiji, Am. Samoa.

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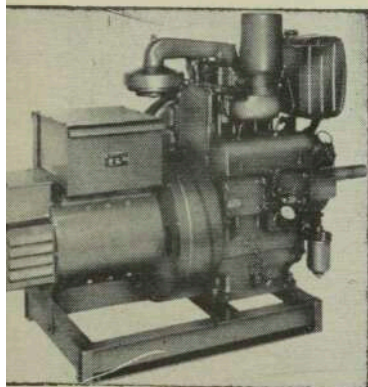
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Bougainville—Bougainville Air Services.
New Caledonia—Air Caledonie (Twin Otters).
New Hebrides—Air Melanesie (Islanders).
Solomon Is—Solair (Beech Barons and
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Tonga—Tonga Internal Air Service (Islanders).
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Deaths of Islands People

Mr W. T. McCoy

Mr William Tilly (Willy Phil) McCoy, a former member of the Norfolk Island Council, died recently, aged 74. He spent most of his life farming Steele's Point, a property which was part of an original grant to his grandfather. He was recognised as a leading horticulturist and agriculturist. He always took a keen interest in Norfolk Island affairs, and not long before he died he was preparing a submission for the Royal Commission, proposing a referendum to allow the islanders to decide their own fate.

Mrs M. H. Savage

Mrs Mabel Helen Savage, who went to live in Rabaul more than 50 years ago, died at Maidenhead, England, on September 19. She was 91. Mrs Savage was born in Norfolk, England, and went to Rabaul in 1920, where her husband was serving with the government.

Mr Savage fought in World War I, and was in the landing at Gallipoli. Mrs Savage left New Guinea in 1941 because of ill-health, and went to live in Sydney. Her husband worked for the Ministry of Supply in Sydney and Hobart; he died suddenly in 1947.

Mrs Savage returned to England in 1947. She is survived by her only

daughter, Mrs A. de G. Best, a grandchild and three great-grandchildren.

Colonel J. E. Workman

Colonel John Edward Workman, Commissioner of Police in Fiji from 1937 to 1946, died recently in England. During a long career in the Colonial Police Service, he served in a number of colonies and protectorates. While he was in Fiji, the first Fijian was promoted to commissioned rank; Indians became commissioned officers soon after. He also recruited the first Fiji-born Indians into the Royal Fiji Police Force or Fiji Constabulary, as it was then known, flying in the face of much public criticism. He set up the first fingerprint bureau in Fiji and introduced new training and administrative methods.

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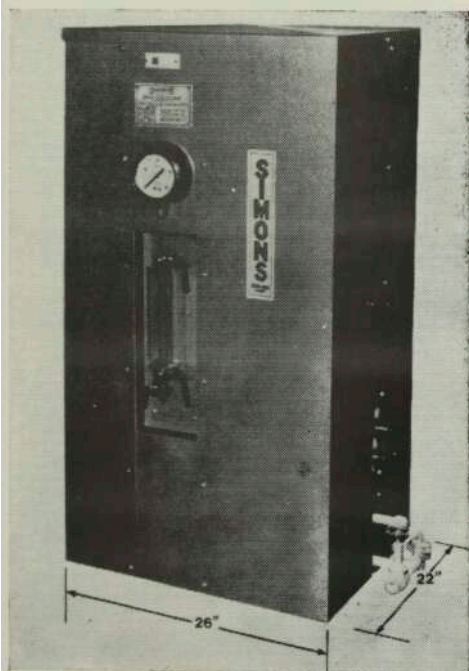
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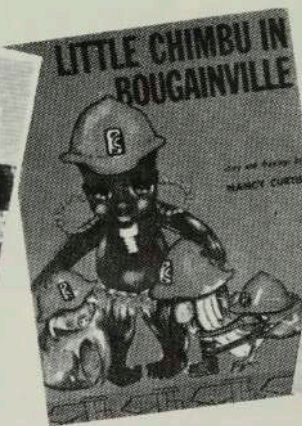
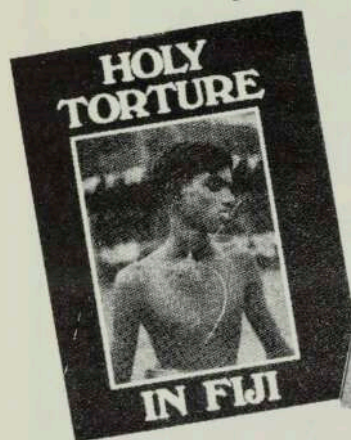
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