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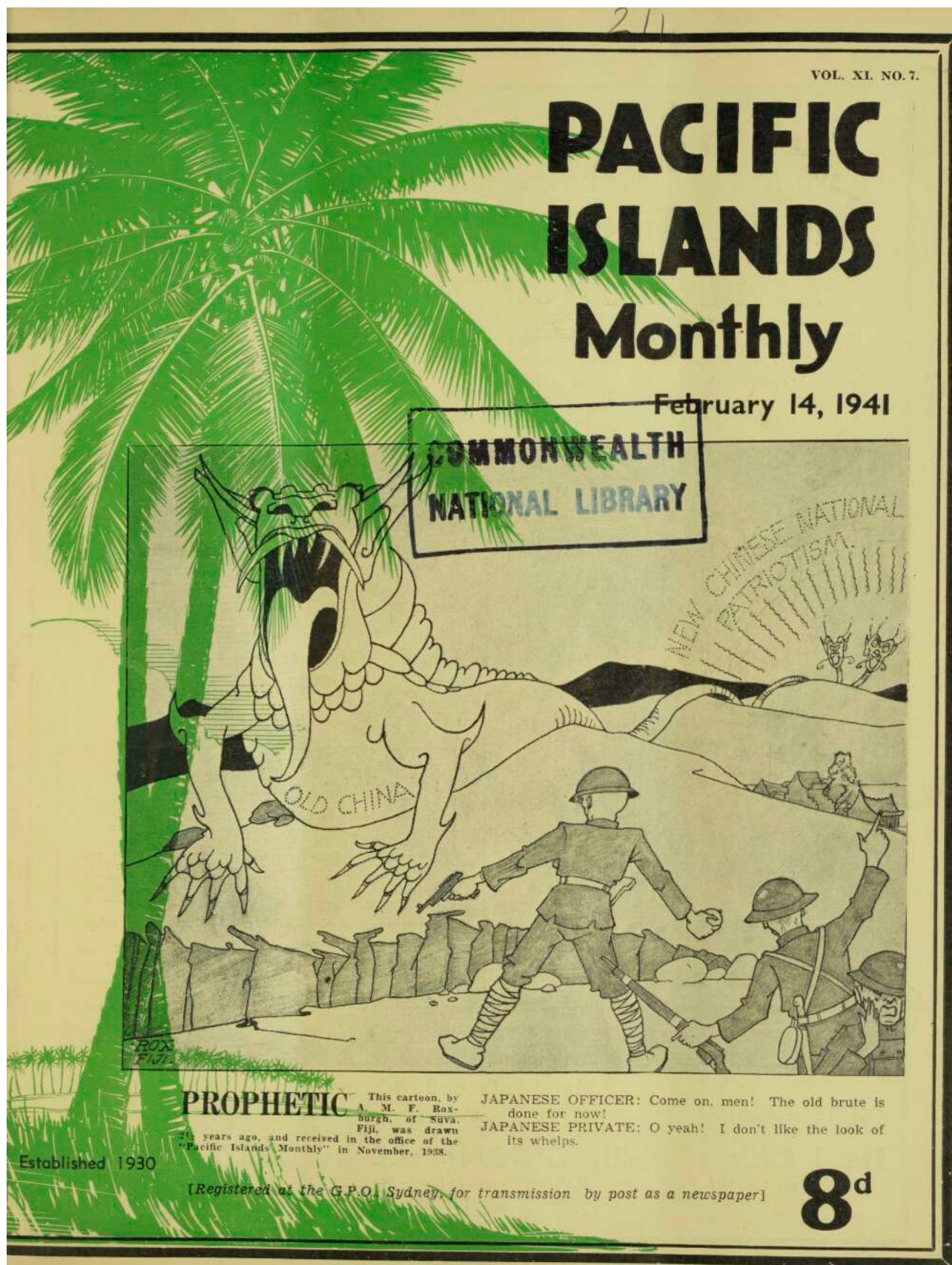
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PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY—FEBRUARY, 1941

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PACIFIC NEWS-REVIEW

Jan. 14: The British forces in the Western Desert are now hammering at Tobruk and the surrender of this important port is expected shortly.

Jan. 14: Despite unfavourable conditions created by deep snow, and the most bitter winter on record, the Greek forces in Albania continue the offensive against the Italians, and are scoring many minor successes.

Jan. 16: The German Air Force, operating Stuka dive-bombers from its new bases in Sicily, made its first attack upon British warships in the Mediterranean on January 10. The modern aircraft-carrier "Illustrious" 23,000 tons, was hit and severely damaged. Over 20 seaplanes were destroyed and about 80 men killed. The "Illustrious" sought shelter in Malta, where she was again attacked by Stukas. The Germans were beaten off, however, and the "Illustrious" then went to Alexandria under her own power, and now is undergoing repairs. The British cruiser "Southampton", 9,000 tons, was set on fire, and sunk; and two British destroyers are damaged.

Jan. 16: It is reported that a large proportion of the Stuka dive-bombers have been destroyed by the British. Details are awaited. A British warship sank an Italian destroyer in the Sicilian Channel.

The appearance of German dive-bombers in the Mediterranean, and their challenge to the British Fleet, is the most disturbing development of recent months. It remains to be seen whether the Navy can deal with this challenge. For several weeks, the British Navy has had the Mediterranean practically to itself—the Italian Navy has refused to come out of its ports. The Germans have sent their dive-bombers in an effort to restore the balance.

Jan. 16: RAF bombers yesterday delivered their heaviest blow upon the German naval base at Wilhelmshaven.

Jan. 16: Italian troops on the central front in Albania, have ceased retreating and are now resisting the Greek advance.

Jan. 16: There are many indications that the occupation of Bulgaria by German troops is imminent.

The Italian empire and Italian forces are crumbling. Unless Italy gets active support from Germany, she cannot last much longer. This is apparent to the Germans, and consequently we may expect they will do something to stiffen Italian resistance. Their first and most obvious step is to send some of their spare armies—and they have many armies to spare—down through the Balkans to attack the Greeks in the rear and thus save the Italian armies in Albania from destruction. The Germans will only take this course if they are assured that Turkey will not resist their march from Bulgaria into Greece. There is nothing to show what Turkey intends to do—and the feeling is growing that Turkey, in all circumstances short of invasion, will remain neutral.

Jan. 16: There are indications that, under the personal direction of the former Emperor of Abyssinia, the natives are being rallied and organised as a patriot army to eject the Italians.

Jan. 17: American attention for the present is concentrated upon the consideration by Congress of President Roosevelt's bill to lend or lease armaments to Britain. Indications are that the bill will be carried in each Chamber by a large majority.

Jan. 17: The RAF raid upon Wilhelmshaven on Wednesday night left the naval base a sea of flames—and the des-

truction was added to by another but smaller raid on Thursday morning, and another on Thursday night.

German raids upon British towns have been for some time upon a lesser scale, and less intense in character.

Jan. 17: German dive-bombers from Sicily made their second appearance in the Mediterranean and carried out a number of heavy raids on Malta.

Jan. 19: Since June, 1940, Britain's average of weekly shipping losses has risen from 41,000 tons to 90,000 tons. Britain is counteracting this by building, buying, and chartering new ships and by switching as many as possible from long to short voyages.

Jan. 20: At first, German dive-bombers in the Mediterranean were regarded as a serious challenge to the Royal Navy. In three days, they did as much civilian damage in Malta as the Italians did in eight months. But, since Germany commenced these attacks with dive-bombers, she has lost at least 87 Stukas out of a force estimated at 150 and this has considerably altered the outlook. Germany apparently lost 35 dive-bombers in raids on Malta in five days.

Jan. 20: A new British army has recaptured Kassala, Sudan, and is now invading the Italian territory of Eritrea. The Italians are rapidly retreating from the Sudan front.

Jan. 20: The Istanbul correspondent of the "Daily Mail" says that if German troops march through Bulgaria to attack Greece, Turkish troops will march at the same time to bar their way—acting as Bulgaria's ally but, if need be, as Bulgaria's enemy.

This may be the position, but all the indications are that it represents "wishful thinking". Turkey has become almost as inscrutable as Russia, and it is hard to guess her intentions; but all the indications are that she will remain neutral unless her own territory is invaded.

Jan. 20: Nazis are now putting strong pressure on Marshal Petain to form, for collaboration with Germany, a new French Government in which M. Laval will be included.

Jan. 21: British and Australian forces have begun their assault upon Tobruk (Libya). Operations are proceeding satisfactorily.

Jan. 21: Heavy raids have been made by the RAF on the new German Stuka bases in Sicily.

Jan. 21: Dissatisfied members of the Iron Guard in Roumania have revolted against General Antonescu, who is now virtually the dictator of Roumania, under German control. The revolt is directed against Antonescu and the German regime. Clashes are occurring throughout the country.

Jan. 21: France has officially announced her insistence on the full observance of the armistice with Germany—which means that she will not surrender her fleet, or allow Germany to use French naval bases in Africa.

Jan. 22: Despite bitter weather, the Greeks are maintaining their initiative in the central sector of the Albanian front.

Jan. 22: A British force has now penetrated 40 miles into Eritrea and is pursuing the retreating Italians.

Jan. 23: The Iron Guards have captured Bucharest radio, in Roumania, and broadcast an appeal to the Army. "Do not fire upon your brothers". Antonescu has appealed to the Germans for assistance.

Jan. 22: British residents of Japan have been advised to leave the country

NOTES AND COMMENT ON THE PROGRESS OF THE WAR FROM JAN. 14 TO FEB. 13

"before the impending crisis between Japan and USA comes to a head".

Jan. 23: Tobruk, the Italian stronghold in Libya, surrendered about 30 hours after the first assault was launched, and was occupied by British and Australians on January 22. All observers agree in according great praise to the gallantry, courage and steady discipline of the attackers.

Jan. 24: British and Australian forces are pushing on rapidly from Tobruk to the westward, in pursuit of the retreating Italians. They are already at Derna, about 90 miles west of Tobruk.

Jan. 24: The British advance in East Africa continues on all fronts. The British have now deeply invaded Eritrea, and other British forces are reported to be invading Abyssinia from west and the south. The Abyssinian emperor, Haile Selassie, has gone into Abyssinia and is assisting the British military mission in organising and arming native patriots.

Jan. 24: It is authoritatively reported that the German Embassy in Tokio is urging Japan to embark upon a thrust against Britain in the Far East, to synchronise with a Nazi attempt to invade Britain in February or March.

Jan. 25: The revolt in Roumania has not yet been quelled and 30,000 armed men are converging on Bucharest.

Jan. 26: The offer of Japan to mediate in the "war" between Thailand and Indo-China has been accepted by the Vichy Government. It is expected that Japan will use this circumstance to obtain a firm footing in Indo-China.

Jan. 26: It is now definitely stated that Antonescu has crushed the revolt in Roumania, and is in charge of the situation. About 1,000 persons lost their lives in various fighting.

Jan. 26: The Japanese Foreign Minister (Mr. Matsuoka) said that apparently USA regarded China, Australia and New Zealand as her first line of defence and, unless she listened to Japanese demands that she reconsider her attitude, there was only a slim hope of friendly relations continuing. He added that Japan must dominate the Western Pacific, not for Japan's sake, but for the sake of humanity.

Jan. 26: President Roosevelt made an unprecedented gesture by sailing out into the fog, in Chesapeake Bay, to meet the new British Ambassador, Lord Halifax, who arrived on the new British battleship "King George V".

Jan. 27: There is a marked absence of German air attacks upon Britain. London enjoyed its sixth successive quiet night.

Jan. 27: It is reported in America that Japan and Russia have reached an agreement representing an all-round adjustment of various matters which have been in dispute between them. It is believed that in this fashion Japan is trying to protect herself against any possible attack by Russia, if, and when, she commits herself to expansionist activities in the Pacific.

Jan. 27: The announcement that British patrols have now penetrated deep into Italian Somaliland indicates that, apart from operations in Libya, British armies are now attacking and invading Italian East Africa (Eritrea, where they have penetrated 100 miles; west and south Abyssinia; and Italian Somaliland).

Jan. 27: Mr. Wendell Willkie, Republican candidate at US Presidential elections, was given a tremendous welcome

in Britain, where he now is personally investigating the condition of Britain in relation to the war. He will be back in USA on February 10.

Jan. 27: Although there are few German raids upon England, RAF bombers are making repeated raids upon military objectives in Germany.

Jan. 28: Italian forces at Derna are offering a strong resistance to British tanks and Australian mechanised cavalry.

Jan. 28: Reports indicate much discontent in Italy—amounting in places to revolt. Mussolini, reacting to the strain of war reverses, is drastically altering his Government. The notorious Count Ciano, Foreign Minister and Mussolini's son-in-law, with three other members of the Cabinet, have been sent to the Albanian front.

Jan. 29: General Metaxas, dictator of Greece, is dead, aged 70. He was a strong personality and his death is a serious loss to the allies.

Jan. 29: A series of Italian counter attacks in Albania have been repulsed with heavy losses, and the Greeks have made important strategic advances.

Jan. 30: Indications are that the Australian casualties at Bardia were about 560 and at Tobruk about 300—a total of 860 up to date.

Jan. 30: Derna, a Libyan town 90 miles west of Tobruk, was captured this morning by British and Australian forces, who already are pushing on rapidly towards Benghazi—a large town, seaport and naval base.

Jan. 31: In a bombastic speech on the eighth anniversary of his accession to power, Hitler said that Germany will launch her decisive last stroke in this historic year. A new submarine war would begin this spring. Britain then would see that Germany had not been sleeping.

Jan. 30: The RAF on Monday raided Naples, and the German Stuka bases in Sicily.

Jan. 30: Indications are that the United States Congress will pass the Lease and Lend Bill, with an amendment providing that the great powers given to the President will expire on June 30, 1943.

Jan. 31: Not only have the Greeks during the past week checked great counter attacks by picked Italian troops, but have themselves attacked and gained new positions of much tactical value.

Jan. 31: London on Thursday suffered the worst daytime air raid for months.

Feb. 2: British forces, pushing on in Eritrea, have captured the town of Agordat, and taken many prisoners and much war material, including 11 tanks.

Feb. 2: A political crisis of much importance is developing in France, where there is a struggle between Marshal Petain, who wants rigid adherence to the terms of the armistice, and Germany, who seeks the use of France's remaining fleet and her North African air bases against Britain.

It is significant that General Weygand, who remains in North Africa as commander in chief of the French Army there, in a broadcast, appealed to all Frenchmen to remain loyal to Petain.

Feb. 2: Opinion is held in Washington that general conditions in Germany are such that Germany, at any moment, may launch a very powerful attack upon Britain, employing all kinds of weapons, including poison gas.

Feb. 3: Canada proposes to send overseas 25 new air squadrons, a third Canadian division and a fourth armoured division.

Feb. 4: Chinese Governmental sources

insist that Japan's action in acting as mediator between Thailand and French Indo-China, in the course of which she has firmly established herself in Indo-China, presages an attack upon British Malaya and Singapore. British and American diplomats admit the seriousness of Far East developments.

Feb. 4: The British, since they began their general attack in Italian East Africa, have occupied 10,000 square miles of enemy territory in Italian East Africa.

Feb. 4: Reports from Vichy are conflicting. It is established that Admiral Darlan, supporting Marshal Petain, insists that the French Fleet shall remain in French hands.

Feb. 5: British forces, marching rapidly westward towards Benghazi, captured and occupied Cyrene.

Feb. 5: The Australian Prime Minister (Mr. Menzies) has arrived in Palestine, en route to London, and delivered addresses to large numbers of Australian soldiers.

Feb. 5: Newspaper correspondents insist that a German move through Bulgaria against Greece is certain. Bulgaria has been resisting German diplomatic pressure, but the country's position has become desperate and tragic.

Feb. 5: Slowly and steadily, literally mountain-ridge by mountain-ridge, the Greeks are advancing on the Albanian front, under appalling weather conditions, and are repelling a series of counter attacks, which appear to be growing in strength.

Feb. 5: Bombers of the RAF, in raids on industrial Germany, made the heaviest attacks for a fortnight. The latest German attacks on parts of England were not on a large scale.

Feb. 6: Britain's Mediterranean Fleet, under Admiral Cunningham, made another sweep through the central Mediterranean, without meeting any of the enemy. The Admiral issued a stirring order, instructing his ships to shoot the German dive-bombers out of the sky.

It appears that the consternation caused originally by the appearance of the Stukas in the Mediterranean, and the serious damage they did to the British Fleet, has subsided. It has been found that Stuka dive-bombers make an excellent target and both land and naval forces have learned how to destroy them—with disastrous results for the Germans.

Feb. 6: The growing power of the RAF was demonstrated when two large formations of bombers, escorted by fighters, made sweeps over the northern districts of occupied France. They were not challenged by the enemy.

Feb. 7: As a result of a brilliant action by combined British and Australian forces, the important town and port of Benghazi has been captured. The remaining Italian forces in that part of Libya, estimated at between 20,000 and 30,000, have been made prisoners, much war material has been seized, and the whole of the province of Cyrenaica (which is the eastern portion of the Italian colony of Libya) is now in British hands.

It appears that, while British and Australian forces marched along the coast road and made a powerful demonstration, inducing the Italians to come out in front of Benghazi and prepare to defend, a British armoured force, using secondary roads and camel-tracks, dashed 150 miles across the desert base of the triangle in about 30 hours, and succeeded in taking positions southwards and south-eastwards of Benghazi, in

time to trap the Italian forces and prevent their escape.

All that remains of Libya in Italian hands is the province and town of Tripoli, far to the westward. There are at least 400 miles of barren desert between Benghazi and the habitable portions of Tripoli. Therefore, it is not thought likely that the British forces will continue their drive westward.

Feb. 7: Meanwhile, the British forces are advancing in the various parts of Italian East Africa where operations have been undertaken. If they can take Keren, in Eritrea, the capture of the capital, Asmara, will be within sight.

Feb. 9: An important section of the British Mediterranean Fleet to-day heavily bombarded Genoa, Italy's most important commercial port, while seaplanes from the Ark Royal simultaneously bombed Leghorn and Pisa.

This attack, carried out in defiance of the Italian Fleet and the German Stukas, in Sicily, demonstrates in a remarkable fashion Britain's naval dominance in the Mediterranean.

Feb. 9: USA House of Representatives, by 260 to 165, passed the "Lease-or-Lend Bill" and sent it on to the Senate.

Feb. 10: Italian forces which escaped from Benghazi before the British trap was sprung, and now fleeing over 400 miles of barren desert towards Tripoli, are being constantly harassed by RAF bombers.

Feb. 10: The worst weather reported in 20 years has brought the war in Central Albania practically to a standstill. Troops have been found frozen at their posts.

Feb. 10: RAF bombers are making frequent concentrated attacks on what are called the "invasion ports"—the Channel ports of France—and have done much damage to Nazi establishments there. They have destroyed numbers of barges, apparently gathered for the proposed attack upon Britain.

Feb. 10: The British Prime Minister (Mr. Churchill) in a broadcast review of the war position to date, made his most inspiring speech. He declared that Britain must be prepared to meet attacks on a colossal scale, including gas, parachute and glider attacks. "But," he added, "everything is ready. We are far stronger than ever before, and incomparably stronger than in July, August and September last."

Feb. 10: Statements made in London that Turkey will give immediate help to Bulgaria in the event of a German attack through Bulgaria against Greece, are described in Ankara (capital of Turkey) as "premature".

Feb. 11: Marshal Petain continues his grim diplomatic struggle against Laval. He is determined to preserve the honour of France by refusing to allow the French-German armistice to be turned into an alliance with Germany against Britain. The action of Petain in removing Flandin from the office of Foreign Minister (which Germany had demanded), but putting in his place Admiral Darlan as deputy-premier and Foreign Minister, represents a check to the Germans.

Feb. 11: It is considered that Bulgaria's difficulties are increasing daily under increasing German threats, which include the wholesale invasion of the country by so-called German tourists, who are really military technicians in civilian clothes.

Feb. 13: RAF bombers have made upon Ostend (invasion port) and Rotterdam and Hanover some of "the biggest aerial attacks of the war".

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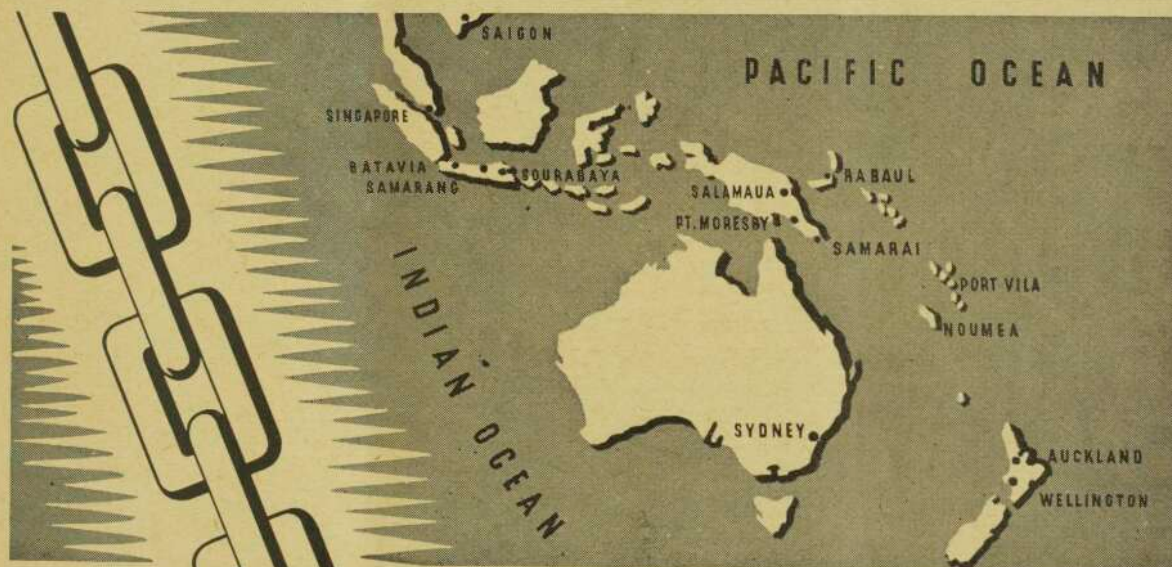
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Rev. W. T. and Mrs. Taylor, who are workers for the New Guinea Mission at Boianai, Papua, arrived in Sydney in February on furlough.

Rev. G. H. D. Voss, who returned to Australia recently from New Britain, New Guinea, where he was engaged in work for the Melanesian Mission, hopes to join the military forces as a Chaplain.

Mr. R. P. Garrity, of the Melanesian Mission Boy's School at Vureas, New Hebrides, has returned to New Zealand, where he hopes to enter a theological college.



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THE REAL WAR IS ABOUT TO BEGIN

TO keep the international situation
in focus, it is as well to look over
the phases of the war. It may be
seen that it is too soon, yet, for cheer-
ing and flag-waving.

1. September, 1939-March, 1940: Poland over-
run by Germans.
2. March-April, 1940: Norway, Denmark,
Holland, Belgium, over-run by Germans.
3. May-June, 1940: France over-run by
Germans and capitulates; Italy enters the
war; British army escapes via Dunkirk.
4. August-September, 1940: Germany fails to
invade Britain, or destroy her by air-
power.
5. September, 1940: Japan formally joins
Germany and Italy in Axis Alliance.
6. October, 1940: Italy attacks Greece, but is
repelled by Greeks and badly mauled.
7. November, 1940: United States, by re-
electing President Roosevelt, declares in
favour of all aid of Britain short of
belligerency.
8. December, 1940-February, 1941: Italy
thrashed unmercifully by British air, naval
and military forces in Mediterranean and
North Africa.

It may be coincidence, but it is a
fact that, since Germany was joined
in the battlefield by Italy and the
predatory Mussolini, Germany has
had no success, worth mentioning.
On the contrary, Hitler's plans have
gone sadly awry.

His 1940 strategy seems clear, in
the light of after-events. Italy, be-
tween October and March, was to
smash British power in and around
the Mediterranean; Germany was to
march, via Fascist Spain and the
cowed Balkans, and help seal up each
end of the Mediterranean, while Italy
took possession of Africa; Japan was
to give the *coup de grace* to British
naval power in the Pacific, and keep

the United States quiet; and, then, in
March, Germany was to spring upon
a weakened Britain, and destroy her,
and become mistress of the world.

But Italy was the fatally weak link
in the chain of planned events. Little
Greece, heroically and unexpectedly,
exposed Italy's Achilles heel in
Albania (which, curiously enough, is
right against "the heel of the Italian
boot"); and Britain, with smashing
blows, destroyed the power of which
the crowing Dagoes in Rome had
ceaselessly boasted.

The failure of Italy has changed
many things. Spain has refused to
open her gateways to the Hun armies.
The Balkan countries, while still ap-
parently complaisant, are making
difficulties for Mr. Hitler. Above all,
Japan, seeing Anglo-American naval
power still unchallenged and un-
broken, clings desperately to the edge
of neutrality, afraid to take the
plunge to which she virtually was
committed, four months ago.

America now is vociferously pro-
British. Unhappy, broken France is
regaining her courage and spirit.

BUT let us not be deceived by all
these later events. The humilia-
tion of Italy, while a pleasant thing
to see, leaves Germany still the vic-
torious and arrogant mistress of
Europe, unbroken and terrifyingly
powerful, resolved at all costs to des-
troy Britain, so that she may enjoy
world hegemony.

Germany will resume in March the

attack on Britain which she broke off
in November. We do not know what
has been going on in Germany dur-
ing these winter months; but we can
be quite sure that the Germans, with
Teutonic thoroughness, have worked
out an invasion plan which they be-
lieve will not fail. They will not
under-rate Britain's strength, shown
in the Battle of Britain in September,
and proved against the Italians. The
Hun is powerful, utterly ruthless, and
determined that, after so successfully
conquering Europe, he shall not be
deprived of his prey by the uncon-
quered, tenacious British.

So the attack, when it comes, will
be on a scale never before seen in the
world, and it will be "all in". Will
the Hun, fighting to retain his spoils,
hesitate to break every law of
humanity, decency or moral right?
He will not.

BRITAIN can take it. The British
know what to expect; and they,
too, have not been idle this winter.
Their hands have been immensely
strengthened by the virtual collapse
of Italy: but production of war
material—much of it of a new and
secret character—has proceeded on a
scale without precedent, while the
whole nation has been prepared and
organised for a trial such as it never
has known.

Britain, probably, will be on the
defensive during most of 1941. In
1942, with Britain's strength still
growing, and Germany's decreasing,
the European situation will change.
It then will be black-out for the
dictators.

THE international situation was never more ominous than at this moment. Germany has enormous armies which she does not need for the attack on Britain. The indications are that those armies are to be used in (a) entering Italy and bolstering Italian morale; (2) attacking Greece in the rear, through Bulgaria, to save the Italians in Albania from destruction; (3) entering Spain, from France, so as to attack Gibraltar and thus counter the strategic value of British successes in North Africa.

Nazi emissaries are working ceaselessly upon Japan, trying to induce her to attack the United States, and thus interfere with America's munitions aid to Britain.

MEANWHILE, we of the British and French Pacific territories may be called upon suddenly to show the qualities so magnificently displayed by our folk at home. Powerful influences are working in and with Japan for peace. But if the Jingo, now partially in control in Tokio, get their way, Japan may attack Britain, and at any moment.

Now that Italy is crippled, Japan's entry into the war would do little more than embarrass Britain: it will not seriously weaken her in the vital struggle in Europe. British-Australasian units, aided by the considerable forces which the Dutch have assembled in the Indies, probably could hold the Japanese in the North-western Pacific for a while. In that period, the United States probably would decide to fight—and then it would be, God help Japan!

But, whether or not America came in, and even assuming that British-Dutch-Australian forces were strong enough to confine the Japanese generally to the Asiatic sector, such a development would gravely disturb conditions in the Pacific. We do not think, even now, that it will come; but wise individuals should prepare for it, just as wise Administrations and Governments have been preparing, for many months past.

SOME years ago, proficiency in crime was the pass to social distinction in the gaol of an out-back district of Papua.

A rigid social order was introduced by the prisoners themselves. Instead of taking their meals while sitting on the prison floor, with their tin plates of rice beside them, the prisoners made a long dining table, which they covered with a once-white calico cloth.

At the head of the table presided the prisoner who had to serve the longest sentence. The rest were arranged in order of "merit".

If there happened to be two men, serving equally long terms, crimes of violence took precedence over mere theft.

There is word of Mr. George Hansen, planter, of Namatanai, New Guinea, who went to Britain late in 1937, and who married Miss Anna Ballantyne, of Samarai. Our Samarai correspondent says: "Mr. J. Ballantyne has received word, through the Red Cross, that his daughter Anna (Mrs. George Hansen) is safe in Germany. Anna, with her husband, is staying at a lakeside resort and she says she is well and happy".

ROLL OF HONOUR

(It is hoped to assemble, here, the names of men, former residents of the Pacific Territories, which appear in British and French casualty lists, or in lists of honours awarded. We should be grateful if relations and friends would send us details.)

Missing

Flying-Officer Moresby Gofton, of the R.A.F., son of Mrs. F. S. Stewart, of Wau, New Guinea. Reported missing, 17/5/1940. Now believed killed.

Flying-Officer K. J. A. Johnstone, of the R.A.F., who was born in Suva in 1915. Reported missing, 1/5/1940. His mother was a daughter of the late Mr. H. Thiele, for many years a member of the Colonial Sugar Refining Co.'s staff in Fiji.

Flight-Lieutenant G. J. I. Clarke, of the R.A.A.F., serving overseas, formerly Assistant Flight Superintendent of Carpenter Airways, New Guinea. Reported missing 25/9/1940.

Wounded

Stanley Higgs, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Higgs, of W. R. Carpenter and Co., Ltd., well-known in New Guinea. Member of an English Lancers regiment, wounded during evacuation from Dunkirk, May, 1940.

Private H. G. Turner, of Samarai, Eastern Papua, wounded in action in Western Desert, Egypt, January, 1941.

NOT FOR JAPAN

Valuable Metals From New Caledonia

THE most difficult and delicate problem with which the pro-de Gaulle Government of New Caledonia has had to deal was the disposal of the colony's important production of chrome and nickel.

When France collapsed, the colony's natural market for these metals was cut off. It was vital, if the colony's commercial structure was to be preserved, that the metals be sold, somewhere. They represent, in a normal year, two-thirds of the value of the colony's exports.

There was one eager market available. Japan urgently wanted all the metals which New Caledonia could sell. But Japan, about the time that New Caledonia committed itself to de Gaulle and the British Alliance, became a partner of the Allies' enemies (Germany and Italy). It was natural that New Caledonia, guessing the ultimate destination of the chrome and nickel, was reluctant to sell to Japan. The position was embarrassing.

However, Governor Sautot's dilemma was solved for him by the march of events. The United States and Australia, making munitions to an increasing degree, found themselves able to buy all New Caledonia's metals at a satisfactory price; and the Governor told his Council, at a public session in December, "that the problem had been resolved and that the colony would be assured that the United States and countries of the British Empire would take the entire nickel and chrome production. That would mean that New Caledonia's commercial balance would be completely secured, permitting a resumption of imports".

Koitaki Rubber Estates Ltd., a Papuan £75,000 company, made a profit of £12,156 out of rubber in the year ended June 30, 1940. Previous net profits have been: 1936, £7,964; 1937, £10,425; 1938, £3,556; 1939, £9,882.

SHOULD SAVE PLANTERS

Plan For Copra Industry :: Support by Britain

A PLAN for handling, marketing and shipping the copra output of all the Pacific territories south of the Equator is taking definite shape, and may be expected to come into operation within the next few months. This is the plan outlined and finally framed at the Pacific Copra Conference in Sydney, early in January.

Mr. T. J. Collins, Australian Minister for Territories, who presided at the Conference, told the "PIM" on February 12 that the plan now was under consideration by the several Pacific Administrations concerned, and he hoped to be able to make a public statement about it when he had their replies, at an early date.

Details of the plan are known to us, but we will not publish same until we have official permission.

It can be stated, however, that the plan, which, at first, was somewhat vague and unimpressive, was given shape and direction by the strong hand of the British Government, which undertook, in the event of co-operative action being agreed to as between the Pacific territories, to purchase a surprisingly large amount of copra per annum.

The individual Administrations and Governments concerned must also undertake certain obligations in the matter of providing a subsidy for every individual copra producer within their respective territories.

All interests concerned—the Administrations, the big merchandising firms, the big shipping firms, and the planters—come within the framework of this comprehensive plan. It is probable that there will be a central controlling authority, working through a committee in each territory. The French Colonies will benefit equally with the British.

We can say that the preliminary survey indicates that there will be, eventually, an organised market capable of taking care of practically the whole output of the South Pacific on a basis which will allow the copra growers to carry on—but it should be emphasised that all this has become possible owing to the substantial support given to the plan by the British Government.

Messrs. Carpenter's Copra-Mill Plan

REPORTS have been circulating in North American newspapers regarding the copra-mills to be established near Vancouver by what is described as "a new company headed by the Australian millionaire", Sir Walter Carpenter.

It was stated, for example, that the mill will cost 250,000 dollars; capital will be partly Australian and partly Canadian; that the site of the mill was originally in Vancouver, but because of trouble with the municipal authorities, was moved to New Westminster, on the Frazer River, near Vancouver; the mills plan to treat 24,000 tons of copra per annum, "from Samoa"; that the provisional directors of the new company are Sir Walter Carpenter (president); R. O. Campney, K.C., E. F. Riddle, and E. E. Buckerfield, as directors, with John Raymond, of San Francisco, as American representative of the company.

(See Foot of Column, Next Page)

Shipping Line For French Colonies

Important Project Under Discussion

PLANS are being made for the organization of a line of steamers to serve the Free French Colonies in the Pacific, running between Australia and North America, and calling at New Caledonia, New Hebrides and Tahiti.

The "Bulletin du Commerce", Noumea, said, at the end of December, that Governor Sautot had been informed by General de Gaulle "that an English company will shortly commence a monthly shipping service between Australia, New Caledonia, New Hebrides, Tahiti and USA. Three vessels will be employed on this line. There is also word of another vessel for the Free French Colonies in the Pacific. There will be thus four ships to serve New Caledonia and the other French possessions in the Pacific. A representative of a Sydney shipping board is expected in Noumea to organise the employment of vessels and to establish their definite itinerary."

This report was referred, on January 24, to Sir Thomas Gordon, head of the Australian Shipping Board, which represents the British Ministry of Shipping. He said that the matter of providing the French Colonies with a shipping line had been under consideration, and the Australian Board had offered to send a representative to Noumea. But that was all finished with now. The matter was now in the hands of General de Gaulle, M. Brenac (his representative in Sydney), the British Minister of Shipping, and the Governors of the French Colonies.

On January 27, M. Brenac announced that he had registered Agence Maritime France Libre Pty. Ltd., with a nominal capital of £5,000, to act as agent for any vessel or vessels which Britain might place at the service of the Free French Colonies.

Patrol Officer G. Greathhead, who has been doing good work in the untamed Ramu-Mt. Hagen section of New Guinea for about two years, is due in Australia on well-earned furlough, in February.

Hon. H. Leonard Murray, Administrator of Papua, after being present at the Pacific Copra Conference, and attending to a good deal of departmental business in Canberra and Melbourne, left Sydney for Port Moresby on January 23.

(Continued from Page 6.)

We referred these various reports to the head office of Messrs. W. R. Carpenter & Co. Ltd., in Sydney, and were informed that the published details were generally so incorrect as to be fantastic. We were told that a project of the kind indicated is under consideration, but that it is not sufficiently advanced to permit of a statement being made.

We understand, however, that not only has the plan taken definite shape under the personal direction of Sir Walter Carpenter (who is now in America) but that already the first mill is almost completed and will be in operation in March, and that it will be capable of treating copra at the rate of 30,000 tons per annum. The project has been approved and supported by certain British Governments, and it is likely that this new Canadian industry, before the end of this year, will be shedding a new benefit upon the South Pacific copra-producing industry.

Survivor of "Wing On" Yacht Tragedy

THE sole survivor of the yacht "Wing On", wrecked on the northern coast of Vanua Levu, Fiji, on November 24, Mrs. Fern Thompson, is making slow progress under medical treatment in Suva. Her physical condition is improved, but her mental state is giving anxiety. Her father is to come from America to take her home.

It will be remembered that two married couples sailed on this little yacht from Los Angeles on August 14 for the Polynesian islands. Apparently, owing to lack of experience, the yacht was not very well found or equipped.

The yacht missed the various islands for which it was headed, supplies ran out and the four people aboard slowly starved to death.

Mrs. Thompson's husband died on November 7, and was buried at sea. The yacht eventually drifted quietly onto the rocky coast of Vanua Levu, and there was noticed and boarded by a Seventh Day Adventist missionary, Pastor Ferris. He found the vessel half full of water, and Mrs. Thompson in a demented condition, floating in the cabin, keeping herself alive by clinging to the furniture. The bodies of the captain and his wife, who evidently had died some time previously, were also in the water in the cabin.

The missionary rescued Mrs. Thompson, but the yacht rapidly broke up and disappeared.

TAHITI QUIET

Britain's Loyal Allies

From Our Own Correspondent

PAPEETE, Jan. 14.

EVERYTHING is running very smoothly in this Colony under present conditions.

Of course, the copra problem has not yet been solved, but, thanks to the generous assistance of the British Governments, there is no severe hardship—as far as food supplies are concerned, at any rate.

The Government of the Colony is in the hands of men who know the requirements of the Colony. The present Governor has served in many parts of French Oceania as Administrator. The Advisory Council is composed of representatives of old families who have been here for generations. All elements sympathetic to the Vichy Government have been eliminated and we now have an undivided loyalty to the de Gaulle Government and to the alliance of the British Empire, in every part of this Administration.

SUVA MEDICAL SCHOOL

A notable address, given on December 23 by the Governor of Fiji, Sir Harry Luke, at the graduation ceremony at the Suva Medical School, will be published in the March issue of the PIM.

NEW BASE

USA Spending Two Million Dollars At Pago Pago

THE building of the new American naval and submarine base at Pago Pago, in American Samoa, on which the United States Government is spending over 2,000,000 dollars, is proceeding very rapidly.

Large numbers of additional men for the garrison have arrived, and others are due to arrive. The old station ship, "Ontario", has gone to Honolulu, and has been replaced by a light cruiser.

As the result of the expenditure of so much money on defence, trade is booming in American Samoa, and the depressed condition of the copra industry has been forgotten.

Minister on Rabaul's Future

A REPORT broadcast in the Australian radio news, that the Minister for Territories, Mr. T. J. Collins, intended shortly to visit New Guinea and to personally examine the question of removing the capital from the earthquake area to a safer site (which report is referred to elsewhere in this journal) has caused annoyance to the Minister. It appears that he made no such statement—the report was the product of the imagination of a reporter who had asked him to say something about the New Guinea earthquake.

The Minister informed "PIM" that the future of Rabaul is not at present under the consideration of the Australian Government and that he has not yet been able to make any plan to visit Papua and New Guinea.

JAPAN JAMS OUR NEWS BROADCASTS

LETTERS received from residents in New Guinea, both in Rabaul and in Wau, comment with anger upon the way in which certain Japanese broadcasting stations appear to be "jamming" the Australian news broadcasts on VLR 25 metres, both in morning and afternoon sessions.

The Rabaul man thinks it is accidental, but the Wau man, who evidently has studied the matter carefully, says that it is deliberate.



This photograph shows fissures on the North Coast Road, some eight miles from Rabaul, New Guinea—the result of the Gazelle Peninsula earthquake on January 14.

CASSAVA

Arguments for Introduction in N. Guinea

THERE are rumours in the departments of a doughty fight being waged by Hon. George Murray, MLC, Director of Agriculture in New Guinea, in favour of the recognition of the cassava plant as (1) a foodstuff suitable as a substitute for rice in the feeding of native labourers and (2) a valuable source of power-alcohol.

There are indications that the scientific investigation for which Mr. Murray has pleaded will be made.

The astonishing thing is that there should be any argument about the matter, or any need for a scientific investigation. People who do not know anything about cassava obviously do not know anything about the conditions of life in tropical countries generally.

Cassava is the West Indian name of the plant named Manioc. It is otherwise known as Brazilian Arrowroot, and it is popularly known in Britain and Australia as Tapioca.

It is widely cultivated in tropical America (of which it is a native) and in tropical Africa, Malaya and the Dutch East Indies. It is, with rice, a staple article of native food in the Netherlands Indies—anyone who has been there, away from the tourist tracks, will have seen cassava, in various forms, being eaten by the natives. In South America, where also it is a staple foodstuff, it is well known as Farina.

Cassava grows very easily in all tropical countries, as a bulky, tuberous root of great size, often weighing 30 lb. The milky juice of the plant is more or less poisonous; but, as soon as the root is grated or sliced and dried, all unpleasant properties disappear. It is grated fine for making into bread, scones or thin cakes and it is exported to Europe, from South America, in large quantities, in the form of chips, for the manufacture of starch, alcohol, dextrin, glucose, etc.

The cassava plant grows practically wild in New Guinea, where already there are large quantities of it, and where already it is used as a foodstuff by the natives.

Mr. Murray's contention is that it would be easy to cultivate cassava extensively as a substitute for rice, which is now increasingly dear, and whose import is an embarrassment to Australia because of its demands on overseas exchange.

Some New Guinea interests, which have what might be called a "rice complex", are anxious to develop rice cultivation. This could be done, no doubt—but its inauguration might be a lengthy and slow process. In the meantime, here is cassava, waiting to be grown and developed.

It should be remembered that rice has not long been known to New Guinea natives—only since European employers began to import it for feeding plantation and mine labourers.

Miss Dorothy Holmes, of Tasmania, has been appointed to the vacancy in the Methodist Mission's Stewart Hospital, New Britain, caused by the retirement of Miss M. Battersby.

Brother Camillus Rossignol has taken up duties in the New Hebrides as a Marist missionary. He arrived in Sydney from America some time ago.

DEATH OF BRILLIANT SAMOAN TEACHER

THE Department of Education lost one of its best Samoan teachers when Karene, principal of Malifa Government School, which is attended by 1000 pupils, died after a long illness, at the age of 38.

Karene was educated at Malifa School, where he was a clever pupil. He later became one of the outstanding school teachers in the Government service, and he was promoted to be an inspector. His musical talents were very remarkable, as he not only acted as band and choir-leader, but also was a composer. For instance, he set Robert Louis Stevenson's "Requiem" to music. He was an all-round sportsman,

and he was particularly interested in cricket and football. Several years ago he made an educational tour of New Zealand. He leaves a wife and three children.



Teaching staff of Malifa Native School, which has about 1,000 pupils. The Director of Education, Mr. A. Mackenzie, is seated in the centre, and Karene (principal of the school), whose death is reported, is immediately behind him.

POWER ALCOHOL

May be Industry for Islands

THE Australian Bureau of Science and Industry recently was instructed by the Australian Government to proceed urgently with an investigation of how to produce power alcohol in Australia in very large quantities, so as to reduce imports of motor spirit and the demand for foreign exchange.

The Bureau set up a special committee, a section of which inquired into the nipa or sago palm of Papua—reputed to produce power alcohol lavishly. Professor Ashley, of Sydney University, interviewed the Administrator of Papua (Hon. H. L. Murray) when he was in Sydney recently, in relation to the nipa palm, and there may be interesting developments.

Already many Australian motorists are using a 6-1 mixture of petrol and power alcohol, with good results.

A Sydney syndicate has been seeking Commonwealth permission to form a developmental company to deal with the nipa palm in Papua, urging that a company with a capital of about £1,000,000 could produce annually about 400,000,000 gallons of first-class spirit. The plan was rejected, and the Sydney men now are trying to form a co-operative society. The promoter has been calculating on selling the Papuan power alcohol in Australia profitably at 1/4 per gallon. This is based on the assumption that motor cars will run on power alcohol alone; but experiments up to date indicate that the largest proportion of power alcohol that may be used in high compression engine fuel is about 15 per cent.

Hon. George Murray, New Guinea Director of Agriculture, brought under the notice of the Australian authorities the value of the cassava plant as a source of power alcohol. He says that cassava can be grown easily and extensively in New Guinea, as it is in other tropical countries, and that already there is much cassava growing in New Guinea in a wild state.

A MESSAGE FOR ADOLF

WAU, Feb. 8.

MOROBÉ district has already subscribed £2,120 to the Spitfire Fund. On present indications, it will not be long before the fighter is in the air and delivering our message direct to Adolf. The scattered community of miners at Watut subscribed £100. Other donations: Mrs. F. M. Fuller £10/10/-; Mr. and Mrs. J. Melville, £20; Mr. J. Harley, £5; Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Mitchell, £10/10/-. The Goldfields raised £1,050 for the purchase of ambulances last year.

NEW GUINEA AIRLINERS

WHEN a report reached New Guinea, early in February, that Messrs. Carpenter had been given permission to purchase two new Douglas airliners for use between Sydney and Rabaul, there were loud cheers from many people who now cannot travel between New Guinea and Australia owing to insufficient accommodation.

But the cheering was premature. Every resource of American aeroplane manufacturing at present appears to have been placed at the service of Britain, and Britain's needs are taking precedence over all commercial orders. There is no indication of when the Douglasses will arrive.

Look on the Front of Your Wrapper !

The figures stamped there (if any) show the date when your subscription expires. This date will appear on wrappers of three issues preceding expiration, thereby giving 3 months' notice. If, at the end of that time, we have not been instructed to continue to send the journal to you, it will be discontinued.

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THE RAIDERS

Well Hidden — While
Huns Boast in Japan

AFTER the sensational disclosures, at the end of December, of enemy raider activities in the Pacific, German communities in China and Japan boasted that, within a month, the activities of German raiders in the Pacific would be doubled. It was declared that Germans in Japan were organising raids on a great scale.

More than a month has passed, and nothing has happened.

Actually, there has not been a word published about the raiders since the three sinister ships discharged their prisoners on Emirau Island on December 21, and scuttled away north among the equatorial islands.

They still may get an unguarded ship or two; but Pacific Territories residents may accept the assurance that the danger from German raiders which was so marked in November and December is now much less. Nothing can be said about our defence dispositions; but it may be stated that the position now is very different to what it was.

The raiders, sooner or later, will come out of their hide-outs; and then there will be a new kind of story to tell.

MORMONS GO

Strange Development in Pacific
Missions

From Our Own Correspondent

PAPEETE, Jan. 4.

BY direct order, it is said, of the head of the church in Utah, USA, the Mormon missions have been withdrawn from French Oceania and Tonga. No reason has been given for this decree, nor is there any indication whether the withdrawal is temporary or permanent.

The principal activities of this mission have been centred in the Tuamotu Islands, and at Tubuai in the Australs; although there is a chapel and an administration building in Papeete.

The entire staff of the mission departed, on November 19, on board of the schooner "Bernice", chartered to take the company to Honolulu.

The withdrawal would have been more dignified if Mr. Cannon, the head of the mission, had not given two interviews—one at Honolulu, the other at San Francisco. If Mr. Cannon is correctly reported, he has mis-represented conditions in French Oceania—much to the delight of the yellow press—and has added another chapter to the vast literature of "things that are not so".

NEW TAXES IN FIJI

IN order to provide large additional sums for defence, the Legislative Council of Fiji in December authorised an increase in the port and customs tax by three per cent.; and decided that all persons now paying the residential tax shall pay also 10/- per annum as a special war tax.

Mr. Vishnu Deo, one of the Indian members, opposed the latter tax because 80 per cent. of it would fall on the Indian community. He said that the Indians did not object to paying a war tax—but did object to the manner in which it was proposed to collect it.

A reassuring statement was made to him by the Governor.

"STOLEN" PUP

Extraordinary Case of C. S.
Ramsay, of Tonga

BY A. COWLEY, NUKUALOFA

WILL you please give all possible publicity to the case of Mr. C. S. Ramsay, a well-known resident of Tonga, who was sentenced by Judge W. H. Stuart to six months' imprisonment for the theft of a puppy. It was shown that the puppy wandered away from its native owner, and that when it appeared at the home of Mr. Ramsay he fed and cared for it, for about three weeks.

I was in Court throughout the proceedings, and I unhesitatingly declare that a fair hearing by the Court was impossible on account of personal ill-feeling.

The Judge was appointed a "Competent Authority" to permit or forbid the importation of commodities into Tonga during the war. Ramsay incurred his ire in connection with this matter. Add to this that Ramsay stands in the relationship of Uncle to Fanny Ramsay (who was maligned during the Uliti trial) and you have some explanation of this amazing treatment of Ramsay.

The so-called trial was extraordinary. The Judge brow-beat witnesses, branded them as "liars"; burlesque, combined with sneering sarcasm, in which Ramsay was caricatured and made to appear ridiculous as a rescuer of half-starved puppies.

Amid it all there was not one tittle of evidence that the puppy had ever been confined or tied up; the evidence showed that the puppy had simply attached itself to the combined places of Ramsay and the adjoining butchery; that it at all times was free to come and go at will. Ramsay had transgressed the law by selling a bottle of liquor to a sick native at Niua Fo'ou many years ago, and this was raked up against him. There was no moral issue involved.

The case calls for a re-hearing before an impartial tribunal as soon as possible. The puppy has been killed by a lorry, and Stuart and his wife were reported as drowned in the mishap to the "Rangitane".

On arrival in Tonga, the Judge was a large purchaser of furniture and effects of the late George Scott. The order to proceed to British Guiana did not afford much time in which to dispose of things,

and Judge Stuart asked the Government to relieve him of the furniture. (I am giving his own version, as narrated to me personally.) The Government was favourable, and had an official value the effects. At the eleventh hour he received a curt intimation that the Government would not buy. I was at Judge Stuart's house the day he sentenced Ramsay, and both he and his wife were in a delirium of rage at the Government's refusal to purchase. I am prepared to say that the Judge was not in any condition to deal justly and impartially with any matter requiring calm and balanced judgment.

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Gilbert Islands Divided Into Two Districts

BY proclamation, in December, the High Commissioner of the Western Pacific divided the Gilbert Islands (part of Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony) into two administrative districts, as follows:—

NORTHERN GILBERT ISLANDS DISTRICT
Tarawa.
Maiana.
Apamama—now commonly known as Abemama.
Kuria.
Aranuka.
Apsalang—now commonly known as Abalang.
Maraki—now commonly known as Marakei.

Taritari or Makin—now commonly known as Butaritari.
Makin or Makin Meang—now commonly known as Little Makin.

SOUTHERN GILBERT ISLANDS DISTRICT
Peru—now commonly known as Beru.
Nonuti—now commonly known as Nonouti.
Taputeuea—now commonly known as Tabiteuea.
Nukunau—now commonly known as Nikunau.
Onotoa—now commonly known as Onotoa.
Arorai—now commonly known as Arorae.
Tamana.

The Equator is the dividing line between the two districts.

Miss E. E. Brabin, BA, of the Methodist Mission Girls' School at Vunairima, New Guinea, was married to Mr. E. W. Pearce, in Tasmania, on January 30.

RAIDERS IN PACIFIC

Japanese Reports on Pending Activities

THERE has been no word of the German raiders since they landed the 496 survivors from sunken ships on Emirau Island on December 22, and fled to the northwards.

It was reported from New York on January 19 that Germans in the Far East confidently predicted that within a month the activities of German raiders in the South Pacific would at least be doubled. The German Ambassador in Tokio had called a conference there of all German naval and mercantile marine officers to discuss the extension of raiders' activities and the replenishment of supplies.

The Germans, it was understood, are pressing the Japanese to allow them a free hand in the use of Japanese ports and naval bases for refuelling and supply.

Captains of numerous neutral and allied ships en route to Shanghai from the South Pacific reported in January that they picked up extraordinary radio messages, ostensibly between German raiders and a central broadcasting station secreted either in Japanese-mandated territory, or close to it.

Residents of South Pacific territories should not be unduly alarmed by these reports. No details are available, of course; but it can be said that Britain is much better equipped now to deal with enemy raiders in the Pacific than she was prior to December last.

MAUPITI SEES ITS FIRST 'PLANE

From Our Own Correspondent

PAPEETE, Jan. 2.

THE little island of Maupiti came into the news in December when the Governor of French Oceania made a visit of ceremony.

His Excellency went by aeroplane. The people of Maupiti had never before seen an aeroplane, and a chief magistrate of the colony rarely goes there.

Maupiti is a little mountainous island situated to the westward of Ra'iatea and Bora Bora. It is guarded by vast reefs, through which there is but one shallow and tortuous pass. Maupiti is, therefore, very rarely visited.

NEW YEAR HONOURS

THE following were included in the New Year Honours:—

Dr. H. W. Jack, MBE, Director of Agriculture, Fiji, promoted to OBE.

Mrs. Ruby Derrick to be MBE. Mrs. Derrick is notable for long years given to assisting and educating the native women of Fiji.

Mr. F. G. L. Holland, MBE, Director of Education, Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony, promoted to OBE.

Mr. R. H. Garvey, Assistant to Resident Commissioner, New Hebrides, to be MBE.

The Governor of Fiji has awarded Certificates of Honour to:—

Ratu Glanvill Wellington Lalabalavu, Roko Tui Cakaudrove; and Ratu Save-naca Komaisavai, late Assistant to the Native Lands Commission.

Rev. J. C. Rundle, chairman of the Methodist Mission at Dobu, Papua, will leave the Territory on furlough at the end of the year.



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TROPICALITIES

HE was a beery derelict, and we were abusing him for bringing in under-sized fish, to trade for drink, when he suddenly burst out:—

"Wot the 'ell do you know about it? Was you ever fishing for sponges in the Bah'mas wid a Malay skipper aboard, who 'ad a watch in one 'and, and a revolver in the other, ready to pot yer if yer showed yer 'ead above water a second under the specified two minutes? An' then, if yer escaped the battery, was yer ever cussed in four different land-widges for bringin' up squidges instead of glove-sponges? Or was yer ever divin' fer pearl-shell in the Aru Islands, in the Murluckers, with a nigger what 'ated you like pizen, on the pump, ready and willin' to cut off your air supply the minnit the skipper's eye was off 'im?"

"I say, was you ever in them predicaments? 'Cause, if yer wasn't, don't talk to a professional fisherman. An' if you wos, yer ought to be pole-axed fer doin' nigger's work. Blast yer!"

He got his drink.—C.B.S.

GUESTS of honor at a sherry party given by the Pacific Islands Society on January 29 were Mr. and Mrs. Trafford Smith, of London, and Mrs. R. B. Croudace, and her daughter, Miss Jean Croudace, of Apia, Western Samoa.

Mr. Trafford Smith is an official of the British Colonial Office who has been travelling extensively in the British territories in the Pacific administered by the Colonial Office. The exact character of his mission is unknown, so he has become something of a mystery man. He recently has been in the Solomon Islands and he now is awaiting transportation to the Gilbert and Ellice Colony.

Mrs. and Miss Croudace were also the guests of honor at a Polynesian Club meeting in Sydney on January 21. The two ladies, good looking and amiable, have given charming demonstrations of Samoan songs and dances, and have made a host of new friends in Sydney.

THE Brotherhood of the Bottle are shouting with joy, says our Tahiti correspondent. The island bards are intoning paeans of praise to the sound of harps with a thousand strings; poetasters are composing sonnets and madrigals to celebrate the advent of a new nectar which promises to disperse the gathering clouds of a very grim and dismal future. Diminishing stocks of "Mountain Dew" and "Three Star Lightning" (that cannot be replenished), had awakened black forebodings.

This new liquid delight is derived from pineapples—and there is no end of pineapples in these islands. The South Sea pineapple is especially rich in sugar. The more sugar, the more good cheer will produce itself in every gallon. In addition, the name is enticing and the price low.

PERSISTENT reports, in some of the sensational newspapers, that Felix Count von Luckner, is in command of one of the German raiders in the Pacific, appear to have no basis in known facts.

One report of von Luckner placed him in a Nazi concentration camp. Another said that he was hunting in the Hartz Mountains, in Germany. Nevertheless, many people believe that his recent Pacific journey was not unconnected with Nazi operations in that ocean.

A von Luckner relic is in the possession of an Auckland, Mr. H. C. Hills. In September, 1917, when, as a Fijian

police official, Mr. Hills proceeded to Wakaya with a party of unarmed native constabulary and captured the Count, a telescope came into his possession. Though it was taken from the German commander, it is believed that he must have purloined it at one of the islands. Lettering showed that it had been manufactured in Auckland about fifty years ago.—"Eriki".

MEMBERS of Sydney's Polynesian club recently were much interested in meeting two residents of Chatham Island, Mrs. Haydee Idiensi and Miss F. Hough, who belong to the little-known Chatham Maori or Moriori race. The ladies were members of the party of 496 persons from sunken ships, put ashore in New Guinea by German raiders, and, later, brought to Sydney. They were travelling to Lyttleton in the little steamer "Holmwood" when it was captured by raiders. They lost all their personal belongings and furniture—they were actually on their way to start a new home life in Christchurch.

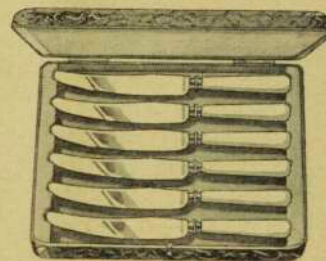
A WRITER in this journal, in January, after carefully reviewing survivors' reports of the mass landing of prisoners from German raiders on Emirau Island on December 21, remarked: "An extraordinary good job appears to have been done by the District Officer at Kavieng, who took charge of the situation". We now learn from the "Rabaul Times" that the DO in question was Mr. J. I. Merrylees, and a correspondent says: "He immediately placed himself behind his office table, gave his commands clearly and explicitly and Kavieng jumped into action. Too much commendation cannot be given to Mr. Merrylees for his prompt and capable handling of the situation". Good work!

IN one issue of the "Rabaul Times" (January 10) it is reported, in one place, that two native employees of the Burns Philp store (one had been on the staff for 16 years) had been sent to gaol for stealing from the stock; in another place, that 33 native labourers,

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from Natava district, were sentenced to a week's gaol; while, in the leading column, the editor (a very old resident of the Territory) comments acidly upon the growing cheekiness and lack of discipline among native labourers generally. This is no new thing. Who or what is responsible for this apparent failure to properly control New Guinea natives?

Miss B. Coulson, of the Methodist Mission at Kiriwina, Papua, will go on furlough in August.

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BUOY LOST IN STORM

From Our Own Correspondent

PAPEETE, Jan. 2.

DURING the last days of December, a violent storm bringing with it a boisterous toerau (an evil northerly wind), caused some damage on land and at sea in French Oceania.

On Tahiti, many trees were blown down and, along the north-east coast, the sea waves invaded the land far above normal highwater mark.

The seas about Makatea Island were so tempestuous that one of the massive buoys—to which ships moor while loading phosphate—broke from its anchorage and floated away. The phosphate company has offered a reward of 30,000 francs to any vessel that may recover the buoy and tow it to Makatea or Papeete.

Miss N. Brown, BA, of the Methodist Mission at Rabaul, NG, has retired.

SUSPICION IN RABAU

Plan For Capital's Removal?

APPARENT anxiety on the part of the Commonwealth Government to revive the plan to move New Guinea's chief administrative establishment from Rabaul to a less volcanic area—presumably on the mainland—has been noted in Rabaul with suspicion.

"There are too many powerful interests close to the Government, whose pockets would be benefited if the capital were moved to the mainland" is how one resident expresses it, in a private letter to the editor. "Our suspicions were not allayed by the broadcast of a statement by Dr. Woolnough, which was much criticised here.

"The truth is that there is no more danger here now than there has been at any time since Vulcan exploded in 1937. The Observatory keeps a very good watch on the volcanoes, and we are all satisfied that, if another eruption is coming, we shall have plenty of warning of it.

"The recent earthquake was simply an earthquake, with its centre a long way from here. It was a really first-class shake; but we have become well accustomed to guilas, in the last 25 years.

"I do not for a moment suggest that Ministers and officials are planning anything improper. They are naturally anxious about our situation. The trouble is that they are so ignorant of conditions here that the clever gentlemen who whisper in the lobbies can put it all over them, when they want something done in the tropical territories for their own advantage."

The Ven. S. R. M. Gill, Archdeacon of the Mamba District, Papua, will return to Samarai this month after spending furlough in Australia. He had intended to visit England, but owing to war conditions, cancelled the trip.

Rev. A. P. Jennings, principal of St. Aidan's Training College (conducted by the New Guinea Mission), Divari, Papua, arrived in Sydney in January on furlough.



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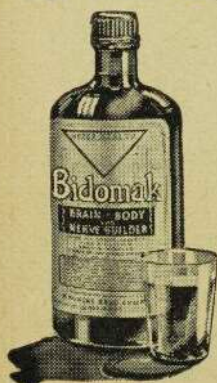
- * NERVES
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AMERICAN SAMOA'S NATIVES

A CENSUS of the native population of American Samoa, taken in April, 1940, gives the following interesting result. The figures of earlier years are given, for comparison:—

1900	5679
1912	7251
1920	8056
1930	10,055
1940	12,908

The figures for the islands, separately, are:—

	Manua	Tutuila	Swain's
1900	1,756	3,921	—
1912	1,797	5,454	—
1920	1,871	6,185	—
1930	2,147	7,809	99
1940	2,597	10,164	147

Swain's Island was annexed to American Samoa in 1925.

FIJI GOLD, £8,000,000

THE Tavua goldfield of Fiji, rejected by quite a few orthodox mining engineers in the middle 'thirties, looks like producing ultimately about £8,000,000 worth of gold. Since its establishment in 1935, the Emperor mine has produced 169,395 fine ounces, and Loloma, since September, 1937, has given 114,086 ounces—the total production of both being worth about £3,000,000. It is calculated that Emperor still has 336,906 and Loloma 173,362 ounces, worth about £5,000,000.

CANTON ISLAND

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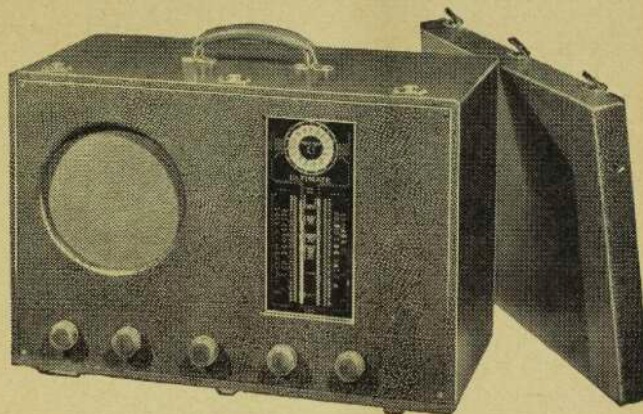
THE Department of the Interior of the United States, in November last, transferred the administration of Canton Island from the USA Government to Pan American Airways.

Canton, as one of the Phoenix group, was British from 1890. In 1899, Britain leased the group to Pacific Islands Company, Sydney, for guano exploitation. The Co. withdrew about 1909. Then the group, including Canton but not Enderbury, was leased, for 87 years from January 1, 1914, to Samoa Shipping and Trading Co. Ltd., a subsidiary of Burns, Philp and Co. Ltd. Attempts to plant coconuts on Canton Island failed.

By 1935, American trans-Pacific airways interests were giving marked attention to Canton Island, on the direct track between Honolulu and Fiji, and claiming it as American. In 1936, Britain re-annexed Canton, just to make sure. In 1937, British and American scientific parties visited the island to observe an eclipse, and each planted there its national flag. In August, 1938, a British party occupied the island, and they were followed by an American party of occupation in November, 1938.

The argument was amicably settled in April, 1939, by the two nations agreeing to joint occupation. The Burns, Philp interests, so as to remove any embarrassment for Britain, formally withdrew from the group, which became part of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands colony. Within a year, Pan American Airways had constructed there a fine, modern, sea-plane base, complete with hotel for travellers, and it is now in regular use.

Mr. F. R. and Mrs. Isom, of the Melanesian Mission Press, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands, are at present in Sydney on furlough.



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Now in the Polynesian islands is the Marie, a yawl-rigged yacht of 9½ tons, owned and captained by Mr. Frank Dona, a Dutchman. His companion on the yacht is Mr. Cyril Bowen, of Auckland. They are lazing round the Pacific, and sailing from one port to another just as the urge takes them. The Marie is out of Auckland (says "Samoa Herald") and has called at Niue. The travellers will remain in Samoan waters for a few weeks, then proceed to Suva, where they will remain over the hurricane season.

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MODERN MALARIA REMEDIES

By Dr. Adrien Albert, Commonwealth Research Fellow attached to the Department of Organic and Applied Chemistry, University of Sydney. Copyright.

THE RECENT report of an outbreak of malaria in Sydney, affecting several survivors from the "Rangitane", will come as no surprise to those who know the part of the Pacific where these brave people were marooned. Emirau is indeed favoured by *Plasmodium*-carrying mosquitos, and medical guardians of the 500 castaways were doubtless prepared for an outbreak of the disease, once the ten days' incubation period had passed.

Although the expected symptoms were not complained of, it is unlikely that the authorities were lulled into any false sense of security, since an unsuspecting and considerably distracted survivor would easily overlook the first evidence of malarial infection—believing it, if mild, to be a "cold", and attributing to "sea-

sickness" any attack of vomiting.

Moreover, people contracting malaria within the tropics, and passing at once to temperate regions, are well-known to experience a lag in the development of symptoms. In fact, as far back as 1875, cases were recorded of patients, who had not been exposed to mosquitos since the previous summer, developing their first symptoms in spring. Lags of this kind are most common in benign tertian malaria, which makes it almost certain that the present victims are infected with the parasite corresponding to this form.

Survivors to have Synthetics

AS IT is understood that the Commonwealth is sparing no expense to give the survivors the most speedy and permanent cure known—namely, treatment with the synthetic anti-malarials—it is interesting to trace the history of these comparatively new drugs, which have to so large an extent, replaced the traditional remedy, quinine.

As is well known, quinine is expensive, because in harvesting the bark of the cinchona tree, the plantation must be felled and much time is lost before the stump burgeons into robust growth. Indeed, some planters prefer to uproot the trees and make use also of the less valuable root-bark, rather than to wait until coppicing develops a fresh crop of marketable bark.

The chemical structure of quinine has been known for many years, but all efforts of scientists to prepare it by artificial means have been in vain. For that reason, workers in the field of medical chemistry are always eager to discover some substance as effective as quinine—one that could be prepared synthetically, thus rendering dwellers in the tropics independent of the vagaries of crops and of the foreign policy of nations who raise these.

Germany, in particular, busied herself with this work, realising that tropical colonies must eventually belong to that country which can wage war without falling victim to the diseases prevalent there. This research was entrusted to four particularly skilled workers: Schulemann, Schonhofer, Wingler and Roehl, and it ended in 1926 in the discovery of plasmoquine, a synthetic chemical whose raw materials are benzol, derived from coal-tar, and ethylene, which is the waste-gas obtained in cracking petroleum for motor-spirit.

But it must not be imagined from consideration of these humble starting materials that making plasmoquine would be "a nice business proposition". Indeed, the extensive processing called for must account for a very considerable proportion of the current selling price.

Hard to Make

ALTHOUGH almost too technical to be referred to in a popular account, such as this, the stages in the synthesis of plasmoquine are worth citing, if only to afford an impression of their utter complexity.

First of all, the ethylene gas is treated with "Tropical Bleach", giving a liquid, epichlorhydrin. The latter is warmed with diethylamine (often obtained as a by-product in explosives works) and the complex product is condensed with acetoacetic ester, a fragrant liquid obtained from alcohol and acetic acid by means of the explosive metal, sodium. This same metal, whose important defence uses cause it to disappear periodically from the market, is also needed to



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bring about the reaction now being considered. The product so obtained has to be boiled with sulphuric acid and is then reduced with hydrogen generated from acid and a metal, after which it must be carefully dried and treated with the fuming sulphur compound called thionyl chloride.

The net result is a highly alkaline liquid usually referred to as "the basic side-chain" of plasmoquine and more correctly as 1-diethylamino-4-chloropentane.

But that is only half the story; for the benzol must be just as tediously fabricated until it becomes amino-methoxy-quinoline, to which the "basic side-chain" is chemically linked.

The product, plasmoquine, was found to cure birds experimentally infected with malaria, and so was recommended for the treatment of human malaria, in the belief that it would take the place of quinine. The results obtained were at first disappointing, until it was realised that the proper use of plasmoquine was to supplement and not to supplant quinine therapy.

The fact is that, whilst quinine acts on the schizonts (that is the form in which 90 per cent. of the parasites exist inside the body) plasmoquine acts on the parasites' sexual forms, which are responsible for the actual transmission of malaria. Hence a more complete cure is obtainable with plasmoquine plus quinine, than with either separately.

Atebrin and Quinine Compared

A TRUE substitute for quinine was found, however, in 1932, when Mauss and Mietzsch, of the Bayer Company, announced the discovery of atebrin, a yellow substance which has since become of the very greatest importance.

In the synthesis of atebrin, the same alkaline liquid is used as a "basic side-chain", but a nucleus of terrific complexity, derived from a well-known series of yellow dyestuffs, replaces the simple quinoline nucleus of plasmoquine.

Right from the start, atebrin has been

outstanding as a drug for the effective handling of the malaria problem. Its principal advantage over quinine is the freedom from toxic effects experienced by patients who are taking a course of treatment. The headaches, nausea and ringing in the ears, so well known in quinine medication, are completely absent when atebrin is used. As for its efficiency, compared with quinine, the 1933 report of the Malaria Commission of the League of Nations may be quoted:—

"Quinine and atebrin seem to be about equally effective for the treatment of attacks of tertian and quartan malaria, but in malignant tertian, atebrin is undoubtedly superior to quinine."

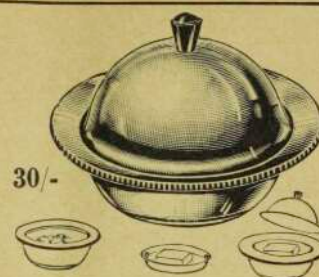
Atebrin, however, suffers from one disadvantage: It forms a most indigestible combination with plasmoquine, and, whilst quinine and plasmoquine may be given simultaneously with good results, several hours should elapse after a course of atebrin treatment before plasmoquine is given to rid the now schizont-free blood of the remaining sexual forms.

This warning is worth emphasising, as tablets containing both drugs are occasionally seen. To-day, the following prescription is widely used, and produces quicker and more permanent cures of malaria than were ever obtained by the use of quinine: 0.1 gramme of atebrin is given three times a day for seven days, followed by 0.01 gramme of plasmoquine three times a day for four days.

Various Brands

WHEN these remedies were first announced in Germany, their chemical composition remained secret. Later on, a group of Russian workers disclosed their true nature. To this very day, any chemist wishing to prepare a batch of atebrin for experimental purposes is obliged to read, if he can, the outlandish hieroglyphics in which Russian journals continue to be printed.

It is a matter for congratulation that supplies of these vital drugs are still coming forward in wartime. The original



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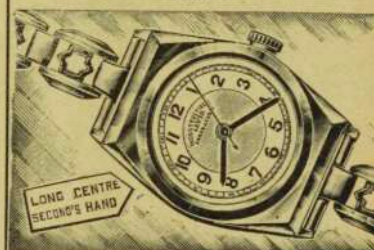
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On the 24th October, 1940, Nestlé's withdrew "Ideal" Unsweetened Milk from their Gift Offer. This withdrawal avoided an upward adjustment of selling prices, and was done with the permission of the Commonwealth Prices Commissioner.

Although it is now three months since the withdrawal actually took effect, apparently owing to time difficulties involved, gift applications including "Ideal" Milk labels are still being received from residents of Island territories.

Please note, therefore, that no further gifts can be allowed for "Ideal" Unsweetened Milk labels.

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atebrin and plasmoquine are being made in the USA, whilst an English firm is preparing these drugs under the names of *Quinacrine* and *Pracquine* respectively. Atebrin has been adopted by the British Pharmacopoeia as an official drug under the name of *Mepacrine*, and it is most likely that this non-proprietary name will come into general use.

For the treatment of severe cases there will be Mepacrine injections. At present, the Drugs Sub-Committee (of which I am a member) of the Australian Association of Scientific Workers is going into the possibility of producing these vital drugs in Australia.

Prophylaxis

IT WOULD probably disappoint Islanders if I were to close this article without some reference to the prevention of malaria.

Actually, whether or not this disease can be prevented by medication is a question that has given rise to much controversy. However, it is now generally admitted that no known drug can greatly reduce the likelihood of one's catching malaria, but that it is possible, by regular dosage of quinine or atebrin, to experience only mild symptoms when the disease is eventually contracted.

Whether a continuous or intermittent course of prophylactic treatment is advisable, or whether it would be less strain on the physique to run the risk of an occasional attack of malaria, can be decided only after consultation with a medical man who is well acquainted with local conditions.

Rev. E. A. Clarke, of the Methodist Mission in Papua, has retired, because of ill-health, and at present is in Adelaide.

STRANGE CREATURES OF PAPUAN WILDS

FROM OUR SAMARAI CORRESPONDENT

A MOST interesting exhibition of marsupial and rodent skins, collected from the Denewa and Gwoira Mountains, N.E. Coast of Papua, for the British Museum, was arranged in Samarai (Papua) in January by Mr. F. Shaw Mayer.

It was startling to see all the different species of rodent that are in this country. There was a large tree-climbing kangaroo whose fur runs in the opposite direction to other furred creatures, so that when he sleeps with his head down the rain runs off him. There were all sorts of rats, from the tiny grass-rat to creatures measuring about three feet from nose to tail; black and white striped possums, one of which had an elongated middle claw, which it uses to insert in hollow trunks to extricate wood grubs on which it feeds; a species of rat, about 8 inches long, with a tail for all the world like a feather.

Also on display was the very rare Bird of Paradise, "Princess Stephanie", a gorgeous jet-black bird with two very long tail feathers of iridescent black, which change colour to bronze, green and deep purple as they reflect the sun's rays.

Another beautiful and uncommon bird was the "Helena six-plumed" Bird of Paradise, also black, with a "bib" and top-notch of iridescence, that changed colour and sparkled like sequins. He had six thread-like plumes of black, with circular tips, which he raised, with a lot of loose feathers round his waist, that stuck out like a "ballet" skirt when he danced.

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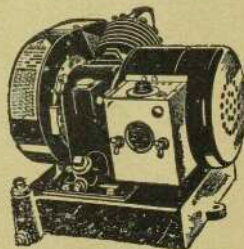
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PORT MORESBY WATER SUPPLY IN JUNE

From Our Own Correspondent

PT. MORESBY, Feb. 1.

THE drought—exceptionally long and severe—is over. We got heavy rain on January 24. With full tanks now and the water scheme ahead, it seems that our constantly recurring water problem is at an end.

All remaining pipes, machinery and equipment required for bringing Port Moresby's water supply from the Laloki River have arrived and installation is proceeding rapidly. The officer in charge, Mr. H. G. Hannam, anticipates that the scheme will be in operation by next June.

Sir C. Rosenthal Reappointed to Norfolk Is.

THE appointment of Major-General Sir Charles Rosenthal, KCB, CMG, DSO, VD, as Administrator of the Territory of Norfolk Island has been extended by the Commonwealth Government for a period of three years from November 4, 1940, with salary and allowances as before.

The re-appointment has been received in Norfolk Island with satisfaction. The initiative and ceaseless energy of Sir Charles Rosenthal have done much to restore economic security in the Territory during the past two years, despite war conditions.

Sister Majorie Arliss, of the New Guinea Mission, returned to Dogura, Papua, recently, after a visit to Sydney. While in Australia, Miss Arliss underwent an operation but has now recovered completely.

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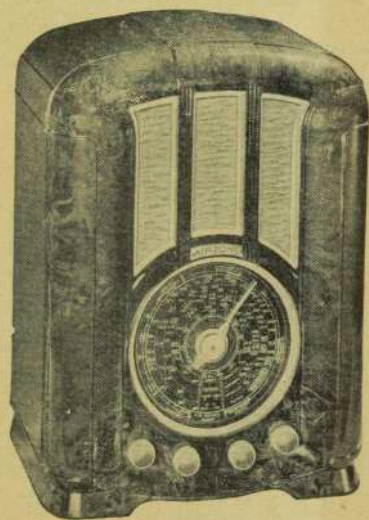
news bulletins



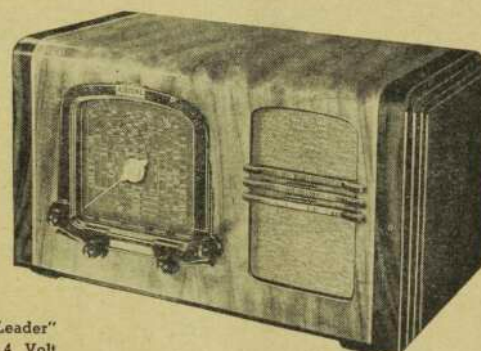
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NATIVE HEAD OF RAROTONGA

Mrs. Love Awaits Hearing of Appeal

THE question of succession to the late Tinirau, Makea-ariki-nui of Rarotonga, has not yet been finally settled. Latest advice from New Zealand is that an appeal is pending, and that it will be heard in Wellington early this year.

Meanwhile Makea Takau (daughter of Makea Tinirau), to whom the title was awarded, is remaining in New Zealand where, of late, she has been interesting herself in war charities. Captain Love, her husband, is with a Maori battalion, on active service abroad.

In the circumstances, it has been

decided not to publish Judge Ayson's decision in the Makea succession case until the appeal is heard. Curiously enough, he was the judge who heard the claims in connection with Tinirau's case, in 1924, which is considered to be one of the most important judgments in the legal history of Rarotonga, and a document of first-rate historical importance.

The 14-years-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. Washington, of Port Moresby, has been successful in passing the Queensland State Scholarship examination. There is a pupil of the Convent School, and is the first pupil in Port Moresby to have secured this honour. Unfortunately, conditions applying to candidates sitting in Papua do not allow successful pupils to take advantage of the scholarship. At present, success is merely an honour.

TRANS-PACIFIC AIR-MAILS

New Australian Line Suggested

THAT Australia and America soon will be linked by two trans-Pacific airlines, one of which will be Australian, was a prediction made in San Francisco on January 14 by the noted Australian airman, Captain P. G. Taylor, who, accompanied by Captain Lester Brain, operations manager of Qantas Empire Airways Ltd., is on a special mission to the United States.

Captain Taylor said that Australia believed that aviation must be developed on an international basis and that landing facilities must be granted by one country to the lines of other countries. Australia certainly would welcome the completion of the Pan American Airways line, thus bringing the PAA clippers to Australian shores, and the Australians hoped to receive the same welcome in Hawaii and the American mainland.

As Captain Brain is closely connected with the organisation which, up to the outbreak of war, regularly carried out the seaplane mail service between England and Australia via the East Indies, it is clear that an important move is afoot.

Nothing has been published beyond what is stated above, and Captain Taylor's mission is described as "secret", but the idea evidently is that there shall be a weekly airmail between Australia and the United States, the mail being carried one week by Pan American Airways and the other week by British-Australian interests.

THE South Pacific fortnightly air-mail and passenger service, between New Zealand and San Francisco, continues to be satisfactorily maintained by the big flying-boats of Pan American Airways.

There has been published a report that, at an early date, Pan American Airways will establish a "loop" seaplane service direct from Noumea to Brisbane and Sydney, with incoming mails and passengers, while mails and passengers for New Zealand will continue to go directly southeast from Noumea, as at present. This may be part of the plan on which Captains Taylor and Brain are working.

New Clippers nearing completion at the Boeing factory at Seattle are expected to begin to augment Pan American Airways' Atlantic and Pacific air services by May 1. They are a later version of the present Boeing Clippers, will be more powerful, and will have an increased fuel capacity. The purchase of three Atlantic Clipper type flying-boats from Pan American Airways to be used to maintain Empire communications was announced in December, when it was believed that six new Clippers had been ordered from the Boeing factory.

MATSON SERVICE INTERRUPTED

The Matson line announced in January the temporary removal of the liner Mariposa from the American-Australian run between July 16 and September 6, because of expected heavy travel between California and Hawaii.

Rev. H. Robinson, of the Methodist Mission station at North-West Ferguson, Papua, is in Australia on furlough.

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Imperial Cheese, 8 oz.	Luncheon Beef .. 16 oz. (in oblong can)	Native Trade Meats.
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Lamb Tongues .. 12 oz.	"WESTFIELD"	16 oz., 24 oz., 2 lb.,
Imperial Camp Pie.	Corned, Billed and/or	3 lb., 4 lb., 5 lb., and
Sheep Tongues .. 12 oz.	Roast Mutton, 12 oz.	6 lb.

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JUDGE STUART DEPARTS

Experiences on Raiders

NOT the least of the difficulties that faced Judge W. H. Stuart, formerly Chief Justice of Tonga, while he was in Sydney in January (after his escape from the German raiders), was the loss of his official wig and gown.

With all his other worldly possessions, they are now at the bottom of the Pacific Ocean in the liner Rangitane. The Judge did his best to secure others, both in Sydney and Auckland; but when he left Sydney for USA by air-mail on January 16, he had not succeeded. As wigs are not worn in USA, there is little likelihood of his obtaining one there.

Both the Judge and his wife were heavy losers as a result of the Rangitane disaster. Ancestral portraits, silver, and glass were all lost—also his commission as Chief Justice of British Guiana. Actually, the latter document was deliberately destroyed to prevent it falling into the hands of the Germans who boarded the Rangitane.

One document, which was shown to the raiders, was a letter of appreciation from the Tongan Privy Council, in which the Judge was referred to as being "on pension for 100 days."

Mrs. Stuart, who spoke German, and who feared that her husband would be detained as a prisoner if he were recognised as an official of importance, pleaded that he was in a state of mental disorder, and the ruse worked.

Incidentally, Judge Stuart was allowed to visit all three German vessels, in search of his trousers, and so he acquired much information that later was received with gratitude by Australian intelligence officers. He was the only prisoner permitted to visit all the ships, and unless the Germans had regarded him as quite harmless they would never have given him that privilege.

Another Stuart possession now at the bottom of the sea is Queen Salote's *fou*. It was given by one of the Palace servants at Nukualofa to Mrs. Stuart's cook. The latter, in turn, presented it to his mistress as a gift of peculiar significance!

JUDGE INTERVIEWED

A Commission of Inquiry, set up in New Zealand to investigate charges that much valuable information had "leaked" from NZ to the German raiders, interviewed Judge and Mrs. Stuart in Auckland, on their way through to America. The following was published in the newspapers on February 5:—

There were certain gaps in the evidence, added Mr. Cornish (Solicitor-General), addressing the Commission. One person had been referred to some time ago as a very high judicial officer, on whose behalf startling revelations were promised. Although that high judicial officer, who, Mr. Cornish believed, was a Judge in Tonga, had been given every opportunity to make a statement in New Zealand, and had done so—as had his wife—these statements had given the Commission very little assistance, and had fallen very short of what the public had been led to believe they would be. It was only fair, however, to say that the Judge had disclaimed having said in Australia much of what had been attributed to him.

Mr. O. D. Schafer, merchandise manager of Steamships Trading Co., Port Moresby, Papua, arrived in Australia recently on holidays.

CONCERNING POLYNESIAN "NOBILITY"

Letter to the Editor

MAY one encroach on your valuable space to make a pertinent inquiry regarding the abnormally large number of persons of noble and royal Polynesian blood whose names occasionally appear in the "social" pages of Sydney newspapers. Judging from these reports, Polynesia would appear to be almost denuded of all its chiefly people.

The question is, Would they be the same at home? Are they the real thing, or (to put it in vulgar phrase) are they "having the Australians on"?

There has been too much nonsense written on these matters, and it is high time for a little delving into genealogical tables, or "whakapapa", as the NZ Maori has it, so as to refute these ridiculous statements of royal descent.

The blame does not rest so much with these so-called nobilities, as with the ig-

noramuses of the Sydney press, who pander to "giving the public what it wants".

I am, etc.,

NGA MATARIKI.

Polynesian Club of Sydney.

Mrs. Alfred Page, chieftainess of the Pacific Islands Society, Sydney, arranged a welcome at her home in Bronte for Mrs. R. D. Croudace, of Apia, Samoa, and her daughter, Jean, on their arrival in Sydney in January, and as a farewell for Mrs. C. P. Purcell, of Penang, Malaya. Those present included Prince Tuboutoa (of Tonga), Mrs. E. Marie Irvine (who has been engaged on a biography of Queen Salote), Miss Ana Laurenson (Apia) and Mr. Eric Ramsden. Mrs. Irvine also arranged a reception when several prominent members of the Pacific Islands Society met Mrs. G. W. Bagnall, of Nukualofa (wife of the former Minister of Finance in Tonga).

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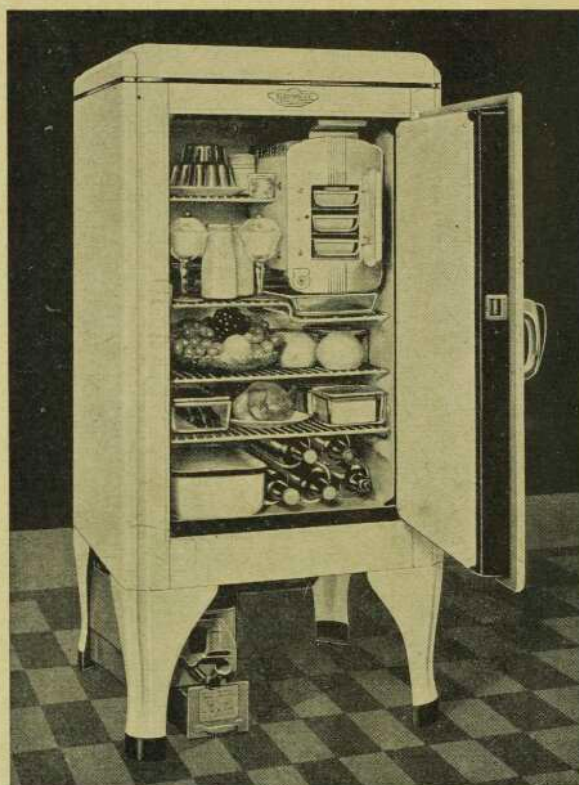
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New Administrator and Native People

How Appointment Was Received in Papua

From a Special Correspondent

PORT MORESBY, Jan. 10.
THE delight of the natives of Papua at the appointment in December of Mr. Leonard Murray as Administrator was expressed in a series of village demonstrations. The natives loved Sir Hubert Murray, and they regard his nephew as his son and natural successor. "Governor Murray no die" they say. "He live here now." There has been rejoicing from Manu-Manu, in the west, to Hula, in the east.

Everyone who has visited Government House will remember Lohia, the late Governor's smiling and courteous Papuan chauffeur and personal servant.

Lohia came to see me, and emotionally shook my hand. "Taubada, I no old man now" he said, smacking himself on the chest—he almost did a pas seul.

Lohia is a man of importance in the native councils. In this direction, the new Administrator is going to get good service and loyal co-operation.

On December 23, Mr. Murray gave this address to the assembled village constables and councillors of the native villages in the Port Moresby district:—

I remember, very well, many of you coming together to see me 10 months ago, to tell me how sad you felt because your old Governor had died, and how sorry you were for me. And I shall not forget that wonderful Death Feast you gave to show your sadness and to honour his name and memory. His death was a great loss to all the people of Papua.

Now the big Australian Government has made me your Administrator. The name has been changed from Governor to Administrator.

I feel proud that the Australian Government has given me that high position, and I am happy to be the Administrator of Papua, because I love this country, and have lived most of my life here. I know nearly all the white people, and many hundreds of the native people, and I have many friends among both.

I shall try to keep doing for all the people what the old Governor would have done if he had lived longer. I worked with him for so long, and he trusted me. I knew his ways and how he thought. Now I want you to think of me as your friend, like you thought of him.

In a message to the white people of Papua, in "The Papuan Courier", on Friday, I said that I want to help to make the Papuan native people a better, happier and healthier people; and to help white people and natives to understand each other better, so that they will like and help each other.

In many of the big things in Papua white people and native people want much the same. Both want to win this war; both want the country to be healthy and their children to grow up into strong men and women; both want Papua to be a happy place for all. But sometimes, in the smaller things, white and native don't want the same, and often the Government has to decide fairly between the two. I will always try to be fair. I don't know whether you have a word the same as the English word, "balance". But it means: Like a set of scales, when neither end goes down. You see these scales. Well, when the interests are different, I will try to keep a fair balance.

In this time of war—and it is a big war—the Governments in England and Australia and all our lands have to do many things that they would not do when there is no war. They do these things to make sure that we will win. Sometimes, some of our rights and freedom have to be taken from us. They are taken from the white people as well as from the natives, and you must not mind this any more than the white people mind it, because it is done for our King and the safety and good of us all.

I will not close my ears if you feel you have not had fair treatment from the Government or anyone else, or if you or your people have troubles that you think I can make easier for you. The old Governor was always ready to hear you, and I want to be the same. But it

is better to go first to those other Government men whose duty it is to look after you. Come to me if they are unable to help you. Don't think of the Magistrates only as "men of punishment". Sometimes they have to punish natives if they do wrong, just as they have to punish white people. But they are your friends, and want to help you.

This is nearly the end of my talk. You won't be able to remember all my words, but you will remember the general meaning of what I have said, and I want you to spread it among your people.

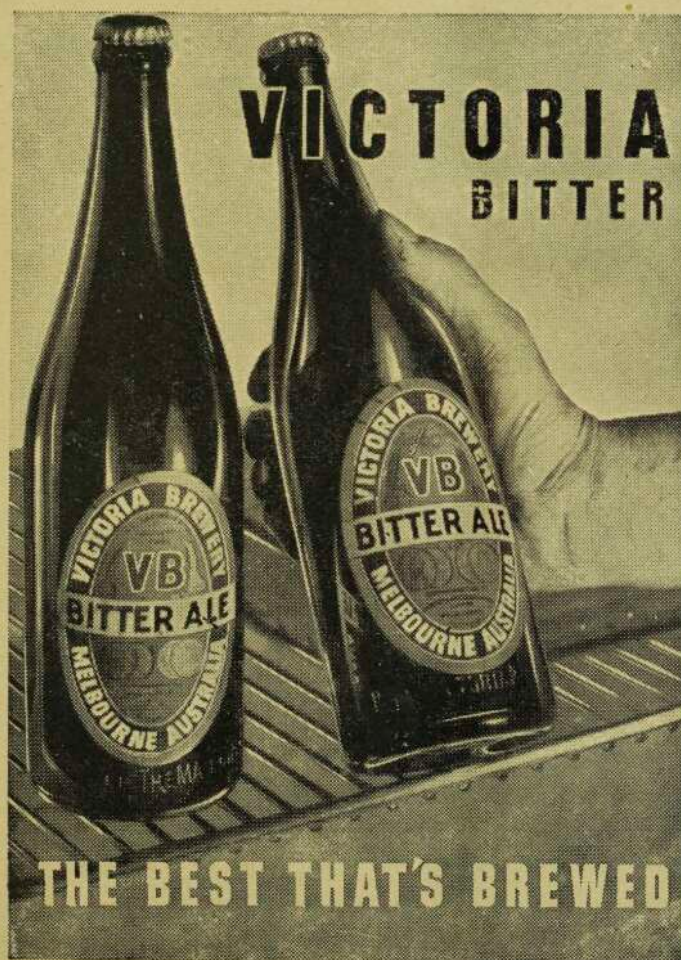
Three years ago you gave a big paper to the old Governor, Sir Hubert Murray, after he had been your Governor for 30 years. It was written in both Motu and English and signed by many hundreds of natives. In it you said:—

"During all these years we have seen your good works and all the helpful things you have done. When we have come to speak to you, you have not closed your ears, nor have you frowned on us, but received us, and listened to us, and taken action for us. We have seen all the good things you have done, and our happiness is great because of you."

I only hope, when I go, that you will be able to think a little bit like that about me.

Mr. Percival George Bezar, aged 54, collapsed and died while attempting to assist several swimmers who were in difficulties in the Rewa River near Nausori, Fiji, on January 18. The "Fiji Times" reports that Mr. Bezar was trading on his own account in Tonga before he joined Henry Marks and Co. Ltd., at Nadi, Fiji. Later he became associated with Morris, Hedstrom Ltd., and was second in charge of the Co.'s Nausori branch at the time of his death.

Mr. Samuel Coffey, who died at Lautoka in January, aged 70, was an official of the Colonial Sugar Refining Co. in 1900. After spending some time on several of the Co.'s estates he took up land on his own account, and eventually opened up the Nabutolu Estate. He was a prominent figure in agricultural circles, and took a keen interest in bowls. It was as a member of the Fiji bowls team that he visited Sydney in 1938, for the Empire Games Carnival.



THOUGH Professor Peter H. Buck, who rose to the rank of major in the last war and secured a DSO, is no longer of military age, he is doing his "bit" for New Zealand and Australian lads who pass through Honolulu en route to Canada for training in the air service. In a recent letter to Mr. Eric Ramsden, secretary of the Pacific Islands Society, Te Rangi Hiroa remarked: "The men are not allowed ashore, so the local Red Cross meets the boat every month to distribute leis, cigarettes, and magazines. A company of hula dancers and singers are also furnished to entertain them. I have been recruited into the service and go out to contribute my small part in voicing the goodwill and welcome of the Hawaiian people." Incidentally, if the New Zealanders ever require to have their haka (war dance) polished up, they would have no better mentor than Dr. Buck. He is an expert on the haka.

NEW CALEDONIA

System of Government Under Free France

A DECREE of the Governor of Free France in New Caledonia, dated December 16, in accordance with an ordinance of December 10, issued by the head of Free France, appointed the members of the Administrative Council of New Caledonia, which replaces the former General Council (Conseil-General). They are as follows:—

Audrain, Jean, accountant, Noumea.
Berges, Pierre, planter, La Foa.
Brunet, Clement, miner, Noumea.
Devillers, Leon, grazier, Houailou.
Henriot, Auguste, planter, Kone.
Janisel, Maurice, planter, Pouebo.
Mayet, Just, representative of the Union of Employees at Noumea.
Mouledous, Emile, merchant, Voh.

Morlet, Georges, merchant, Bourail.
Rolly, Henri, planter, Gomen.
Dr. Trubert, practitioner, Noumea.
The Director of the Societe le Nickel, Noumea.

A second decree, dated December 16, called the Administrative Council together for an ordinary session on December 21.

M. PELICIER

The Saigon radio announced recently the revocation of the authority formerly given to M. Pelicier, governor of New Caledonia. It is learned from an American newspaper that M. Pelicier, who left Noumea by PAA flying boat on September 4, embarked at New York on September 18 for France, via Lisbon. Before leaving New York, M. Pelicier told a reporter that he hoped to receive from the Vichy Government a post in Africa. While he was at San Francisco, M. Pelicier conferred with the French Consul in that city in connection with finding a new market for New Caledonian coffee.

MARKET FOR PRESERVED MEAT

The following is from the "Bulletin du Commerce", Noumea: The Governor of Free France in New Caledonia is happy to bring to the notice of graziers in the centre and north of the colony that, at his suggestion, General de Gaulle will buy for French African troops the whole stock of preserved meats from the factory at Ouaco. General de Gaulle has paid to the colony the sum of £16,000 (about 2,800,000 francs) for the purchase of preserved meats. This credit will permit the company at Ouaco to order immediately from America the tin-plate necessary for the manufacture of the containers.

NEW MARKET FOR AUSTRALIAN WINE

By a recent vessel from Sydney to Noumea a large quantity of Australian wine was shipped. The wine was sold to New Caledonian consumers at a price ranging from 8 francs 50 to 9 francs per litre. Algerian wine, to which New Caledonian consumers are accustomed, is priced at 6 francs 25 per litre.

IS THERE A WEATHER CYCLE?

Letter to the Editor

IN YOUR December number, when discussing under heading of "Is there a weather cycle?", the apparent periodicity of South Pacific droughts, you ask: Can the old hands in the Pacific say whether the present weather abnormalities were noticed by them between 1900 and 1905?

Yes—there were drought conditions in the Central and Eastern Divisions of Papua—then British New Guinea. See the Annual Report, 1902-03, pp. 8/16, and 1905-06, p. 8. I remember rice being supplied to the islanders of the D'Entrecasteaux Group, where, in Fergusson and Goodenough islands, the yam crop had failed in the usually prolific gardens.

I am, etc.,

R. A. VIVIAN.

Kerema, G.D., Papua, 20/1/41.

Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Champion left Papua recently on 4½ months' leave. He is an ARM in the Public Service and has been in charge of the police camp at Mapamoiwa for some time. He has been relieved by Patrol Officer A. Timperley, who has just completed furlough in Australia.



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Many a man is discussed like this by his employers

The scene is the Board of Directors room in a big company in Sydney. It is Friday morning at 10.30. The Board is sitting.

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD: "Well, here's the salary list. Johnson's asking for a rise—says that living expenses are very heavy up in the Islands, as well as having two girls to educate down here in Sydney."

1st DIRECTOR: "That's all very well, but does Johnson's work justify a rise? Personally, I don't think so."

2nd DIRECTOR: "I agree. Johnson isn't turning out to be quite the success we thought he would be. As a matter of fact, I really think we should consider a change."

3rd DIRECTOR: "Well, frankly, I'm sorry for Johnson, because I recommended him and you must agree he did a lot of excellent work in the past. Still, the general feeling seems to be against him, so we'd better forget that rise of his."

And what about Johnson? Why was it he was not the success he should have been? Let us look inside his bungalow and see. . . . Fred Johnson is leaning against the verandah rail talking to his wife, Rita.

"I don't know Rita—none of the things we dreamed about seem to be coming true, do they? I thought that when we came up here we could really get in amongst the money. It seems to take twice as much to live here as anywhere else. Bills—bills—I've never finished paying bills!"

"Cheer up, Fred, it's not as bad as all that."

"Not as bad—it's worse! The trouble is this rotten tiredness of mine. The everlasting tiredness—I even wake up tired nowadays. How can a man put his mind on his job when he's got this tiredness hanging over his head?"

"Darling, I really think that tiredness of yours is serious. It's not right for you to always feel like that—I've noticed it. Now look—for my sake will you go and see Dr. Morris?"

And so Fred Johnson went along and saw Dr. Morris. Dr. Morris gave him a thorough examination. Then, when he had finished, he said:—

"Fred, you've probably never realised it, but you're suffering from night starvation. You see, it's not a well-known fact, but while you sleep your body goes on burning up energy. Heart beats, breathing and other automatic actions—these take it out of you. Naturally unless energy is replaced during sleep you're bound to wake tired and feel unequal to your job. Now the best thing for you, Fred, is Horlicks. Horlicks guards against night starvation and helps you to wake refreshed."

So Fred started drinking Horlicks every night and it made a wonderful difference to him. We meet him again two months later. He is hurrying up the garden path to his bungalow carrying a letter in his hand. As he approaches the door he calls . . .

"Rita—Rita."

"Yes dear—what is it?"

"Darling, I landed that order I was telling you about. This means a rise for me now" . . .

Do YOU wake tired—feel run down? Are YOU worried about your job? If so, drink a cupful of Horlicks regularly last thing at night. You see tiredness, lack of energy and dulness are really symptoms of night starvation, and Horlicks guards against night starvation.



AN ANTI-DISRESPECT LEAGUE

"Rabaul Times" Launches Campaign

From a Special Correspondent

RABAU, Jan. 11.
EVERY two or three years our local editor (Gordon Thomas) takes up his pen, and points out—with every justification—the mistakes being made by the Government in its policy in handling native labourers. If one peruses the files of "The Rabaul Times" it can be seen that for many years past this writer has advocated the enforcement of discipline amongst natives, not only for the benefit of the employer, but for the welfare of the natives themselves and their succeeding generations. He points out that the economic freedom enjoyed by the natives allows of no pressure being made on employees to perform their tasks satisfactorily, else they are "fired". Consequently the sack holds no terror for them. For years, he points out—and everyone who employs or comes in contact with natives know—there has been a growing tendency for native employees to exhibit a disrespectful attitude towards those they are serving. The fault, says Mr. Thomas, lies in the fact of the native "getting away" with so many acts of disobedience and insubordination without disciplinary action being taken; the reason for this is the complicated manner in which information must be laid before the authorities, and the time occupied in hearing cases. He suggests that some form of summary punishment should be introduced; but deprecates the fact that any form of corporal punishment is immediately howled down by officials and termed "flogging", when in reality adequate punishment would be the same as meted out to children attending school in any civilised country.

"Are we prepared," writes Mr. Thomas, "to take the responsibility—as the teachers of our civilisation to these native people—of rearing a race of ill-mannered, irresponsible, arrogant people, quite unfitted to take their place in the scheme of things as industrious workers, and approachable human beings? We shall never carry out the task satisfactorily if we continue along the lines we are going. Officials must be prepared to take the long view, and not content themselves by squaring their conscience with the thought: Let things go on as they are—at least until I retire on pension. This *laissez faire* attitude in respect to a policy introduced two decades ago, and now found to be a failure is only amassing trouble." And that expresses an opinion held by a number of people in Mandated New Guinea.

One of our troubles, added to the natives' behaviour, is that there are Europeans who even encourage this trait amongst the natives; while other Europeans, arriving in the Territory, do not go to the trouble to ascertain what their deportment should be in a native country.

Mr. Roy Sowerby, of Bulolo, New Guinea, married Miss Norma Peters, also of Bulolo, on February 1. A reception was held after the ceremony at the Golf Club, of which Mr. Sowerby is captain.

Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Frame, of Port Moresby, returned to Papua recently after a visit to Australia. Mr. Frame, who is manager of the BNG Trading Company, underwent an operation in Australia but has recovered satisfactorily.

A Memory of a Papuan Tragedy

IN December, we published "Old Tamata Station and the Murder of John Green"—the story of a long-forgotten gold-mining tragedy of Eastern Papua. When the Mambare district, after the murder, was hurriedly evacuated by the miners, three men (Schmitt, Burns and Ryan) were left behind—they were further inland, on an almost inaccessible creek. Here is John Schmitt's diary—an old document recently re-discovered in Port Moresby.

I AND my mate, David Davis, left the police camp, Tamata Junction, Mambare River, on September 23, 1896, with six carriers. It took us ten days to get to McLaughlin Creek.

Davis started back on October 4 for more rations. Davis a bit sick. I am all right, but knocked up by the worst track I ever travelled on.

October 18: Have been prospecting two weeks, and got 15 dwt. gold; the creek is a roaring torrent every night. I can't do anything in it till the wet season is over; she is too rock-bound.

October 22: Just got a prospect; will get a little gold if there is any extent of it. Enoch Sayre sick, and going away. I bought his rations.

October 23: Boys arrived to-day with rations; been away 21 days. Dave sick, down at the police camp.

November 7: Gold cut clean out; got 5½ oz. in four days. Dave and the boys arrived to-day with rations; boys been away 15 days.

November 12: Been to bushmen (Neneba); got sweet potatoes and pig; they are very friendly; been away five days; sent four boys down for rations.

December 6: Boys arrived yesterday—been away 22 days; landed here with 1½ bags rice and about 16 lb. bacon. Been getting a little gold lately. Dave been sick again, seven or eight days; all right again now. Sent the boys down again to-day; suppose it will be their last trip, for their time is up on 31st.

December 20: Two boys came back to-day; left the other two on the road. I kicked against a sharp stone, and some bone broke inside. I got a piece out about the size of a dice, but it still keeps sore. This happened on the 13th; had a few days of fever. Dave been laid up since the 15th.

December 27: Dave went down to sign the boys off; two have not arrived yet; took three, left one here; am afraid he will die on my hands.

December 28: Boy arrived to-day with half-bag rice; they started with three bags. I told Cabado he would have to stop to look after Peter, the sick boy, but he must have advised him to start on the road, for I did not see either of them again. I expect he will get him along the road a piece, and then leave him to die; he is a cunning rascal. I can't do anything; my foot is very bad.

January 13: Only three left on the creek—Ryan about one mile up the creek, and Burns one mile down the creek from my camp. Very wet, thunderstorms every day. Beautiful mornings, but sun very hot.

January 21: Ryan's boys arrived yesterday with the news that Mr. Green and four police boys and three prisoners got killed at the new police camp on the 14th. The man in charge of Whitten's store says he is going down the river on 26th. I am afraid I could not be down in time to catch the boat, so we intend to stop here till relief comes. We have

about nine weeks' rations. Sent the boys down with a letter to that effect.

January 28: Ryan came back to-day with the news that Ned Crow had died on the road going down; also that the boy Peter had died at the crossing of the Chirima. I thought my foot was right, so I went to work two days; but it got bad again.

April 27: Been up at the village (Neneba) six weeks; sick all the time; made three attempts to get back, but could not manage it. I thought somebody would be up before now; but there is none come yet.

May 2: Two men, Kelly and Nettle, arrived from Port Moresby over the mountains; been over two months on the road. I got a little flour, tea, and sugar from them.

May 14: Burns came back to-day; he was away 15 days trying to make Port Moresby. He was in a very bad state when he got here.

June 6: Clunas and Elliott arrived to-day from the Lower Mambare. I am going down with the boys to-morrow. I believe there is good gold in this district, but it is very difficult to prospect unless a man is well prepared and got plenty of boys; without them a man can't do anything. I got a very little gold for the time I was here—14 oz. 12 dwt. for my share—but I had no boys since Christmas, and been sick most of the time.

Miss M. L. Devitt, of the staff of the Melanesian Mission office in Sydney, has been appointed assistant-secretary of the Pacific Islands Society in Sydney.

Mr. Eric Ramsden, secretary of the Pacific Islands Society in Sydney, has been elected a member of the Societe d'Etudes Oceaniennes of Tahiti. Mr. Ramsden, who has been engaged on a biography of James Busby, the first Government official in New Zealand, has recently published an account of the viticultural activities of Mr. Busby in pamphlet form. The pamphlet went into its second edition in January.

Mrs. E. Marie Irvine, of Sydney, who was in Tonga last year engaged on a biography of Queen Salote, hopes to have her book published early this year.

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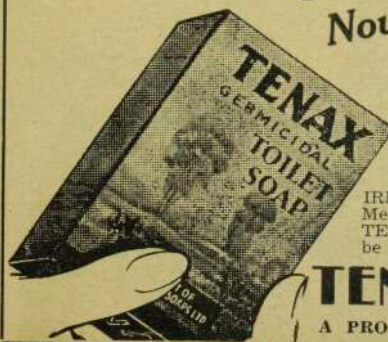
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Stevenson's Grave at Vailima

Cared For by Samoan Administration

LOVERS of the works of R. L. Stevenson can rest assured that the grave of the famous writer (on a mountain-top near his former home, Vailima, Apia, Western Samoa) is kept in good order by the Administration.

Every month the Acting-Administrator (Hon. A. C. Turnbull) receives a report as to the condition of the burial-place from the Public Works Department. When it was reported, a year or so ago, that the grave was neglected, the

Administration received a deluge of letters in protest from many parts of the world.

"We know how that report originated," said Mr. Turnbull, during his recent visit to Sydney, "but it had absolutely no foundation in fact."

Mr. and Mrs. Turnbull and their daughter reside in the old "Vailima" home, which is now Government House, and there are several Stevenson relics there. "There are said to be other pieces of furniture on the island used by the Stevensons in the old Vailima days," said Mr. Turnbull, "but it is not always easy to identify them nowadays."

Not long ago Mr. Turnbull received from Isobel Field, the step-daughter of "R.L.S." (who has been a resident of

California for many years), the original plan of Vailima. This proved to be a document of considerable historic value, as it not only identified the rooms used by members of her family, but proved that the building was originally erected in two sections.

NEW GUINEA PLANE SERVICE

Booked Out For Months Ahead

From Our Own Correspondent

RABAU, Jan. 30.

ANYONE desirous of flying to Sydney from Rabaul must be prepared to wait until some time in May, before he can book a seat in the mail plane.

Such a situation, where very often on account of medical or family reasons, persons have urgent need of travelling, calls for some action by the authorities who have charge of these matters.

The same traffic congestion is reported by persons desirous of travelling south from the goldfields end of New Guinea.



Stevenson's grave on the summit of Mount Vaea, overlooking Apia.

Mr. Alain Gerbault, who has become famous for his many lone voyages around the Pacific, passed through Apia, Western Samoa, in January on a voyage to Indo-China. He will visit Tonga en route and expects to be back in the Central Pacific by October. While in Samoa, Mr. Gerbault played the former tennis champion of the Territory, Mr. Chris. Hellesloe, in a three-set match. Mr. Gerbault was once a tennis star of international ranking and it caused no surprise when he defeated Mr. Hellesloe.

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A HAIR-DO IN FIJI

BY "AMEL"

THERE'S no hanky-panky about the hair-dressing style of a Fijian woman.

She never raves because her back hair won't stay put. She never moans because those adorable baby curls, on which she spent such a lot of time, came out in the wash. She fears no competition from her sister, her friends, or her copper-coloured mamma.

Nobody tells her that her latest "hair-do" makes her look a fright. She never has a latest hair-do. Year in, year out, her style never alters.

The ever-milling fashions of her white sisters leave her unmoved and slightly contemptuous. Her coiffure has been the same—a dense, fuzzy, wiry mop, neatly trimmed all over—for as long as she can remember.

Strangely enough, her hair is fine and silky when she is a baby. From then on, however, repeated clipping, goodly doses of tropical sunshine and frequent mas-saging with coconut oil, coarsen it beyond recognition.

During the clipping process, a small area at the back of her head is left to grow. When she reaches young woman-hood, this longer hair is made into a bunch of tiny plaits, which are unravelled and replaited at intervals in her life, until, on attaining marriageable age, she can dangle them over her shoulder. She is then considered a most eligible damsel. Very soon, she wins a husband for herself, whereupon the plaits—symbol of single blessedness—are cut off.

After marriage, her hair still interests her—when she thinks of it—and once a week, she runs a ten-pronged wooden comb through it, while her girl-friends gather round to help her trap the live-stock. Yes, indeed—and why not? What is a flea or so between friends?

No special night is shampoo night for a Fijian belle. As a matter of fact, she requires at least a whole day to do the job properly.

First, she must decide what "type" she will be—a ticklish problem. Let me tell you. She has the choice of three shades. She can buy some purple marking-dye at the local Chinese store, dip her head in a strong solution of it and cause a mild sensation in church on Sunday morning. She can be a red-head—Fijians are very fond of red hair—but it would mean a lot of fuss, burning lime and what not. And she really cannot afford threepence-worth of marking-dye for the purple hair-do.

So, on third thoughts, she decides to retain her own black locks, and hopes that her lord and master will love her just the same.

When she starts to shampoo her crowning glory, she dons the absolute minimum of old clothes, and finds plenty of elbow-room somewhere in the back-yard. Then she empties the contents of the ash-bin into a dish of water, mixes it to a smooth paste, and pours it over her head.

Not content with having this nauseating mess trickling down her neck, she strolls along to the nearest mangrove swamp and, scooping up a billyful of the blackest, smelliest, slimiest mud she can find, she smears it on top of the first mixture!

The resultant effect is guaranteed to keep the most loving husband at bay!

But, lo! When she has washed, combed, trimmed and oiled her raven tresses, a more elegant coiffure could not be imagined. Her white sisters may eye it curiously, and secretly pity its wearer for her lack of hair-style variety, but the

coiffure of a Fijian belle has three excellent virtues. It protects her from the hot sun; its thickness breaks the fall of any stray coconuts that may come her way, and—best of all, perhaps—its upkeep costs practically nothing!

MOROBE GOLD

From Our Own Correspondent

WAU, Jan. 24.

DECEMBER, 1940, showed a gold output of 45,551 ounces, valued at £259,012 Australian, declared for export. The six months from July 1, therefore, produced gold worth £A1,585,518. Thus the £3,000,000 mark may be reached, if not passed, in the year 1940/1941.

Mr. N. Deck, of the South Sea Evangelical Mission, Solomon Islands, is at present on furlough in Sydney.

Mr. A. C. Rapadzi, manager of the New Caledonian mining corporation, the Societe le Nickel, returned to Noumea by flying-boat in mid-January, after a visit to Australia.

Colonel J. E. Workman, Commissioner of Police in Fiji, arrived at Auckland, NZ, in January, on two months' furlough. He was accompanied by Mrs. Workman.

Rev. C. K. Crump and Mrs. Crump, of the NZ Presbyterian Mission in the New Hebrides, are at present spending leave in New Zealand.

Mrs. J. C. Barley, wife of the Resident Commissioner of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony, paid a holiday visit to Melbourne late in January, after spending some time in Brisbane.

Mr. C. H. Luxmore, of Buka Passage, New Guinea, has returned to his home after spending a long holiday in Queensland.

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Individual Tins, 4 ozs.
Small Tins, 8 ozs.
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A delicious health-giving and appetizing drink.
Small Tins, 8 oz.
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No. 5 Tins, 60 oz.

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Cooked in Tomato Sauce with Cheese.
Individual Tins, 4 ozs.
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Garden-fresh Vegetables with Mayonnaise. Small Tins, 8oz.



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TIME MARCHES ON!**What it Does to Papuan Primitives**

From Our Own Correspondent

AFTER 50 years of careful administration, the Papuan native is beginning to show that he is prepared to take his place in the ranks of civilisation.

The more intelligent of these budding Australians find their diversion in forging cheques on forms privily removed from the cheque-books of their employers. It is true that, in this, they are more ambitious than successful; but, in the matter of gambling, they show distinct promise.

Wharf labourers already have made for themselves a reputation for modernity. Few cases of beer are now landed

in the stores with their full complement of bottles, and the missing utensils are frequently found, either stowed away in some obscure corner of the cargo-shed, or playing the part of "dead marines", with beer-filled native labourers lying peacefully beside them.

Recently, police evidence disclosed that many broken cases of various goods in the hold of a vessel, where native wharf labourers were working, included several cases of beer. They also found about two dozen empty bottles—the bottles were wet, and some had a little beer left in them—and several full bottles were found hidden in various places. Native Api Evara was subsequently convicted and fined £20, in default two months' imprisonment. He was charged before the Resident Magistrate with being unlawfully in possession of intoxicating liquor.

THE CURSE!**Last, Final Insult From the Tuamotus**

THE Tamil speech of Southern India is reputed to possess a copious vocabulary of abusive and vituperative words that far surpasses, in variety and splendour, the choicest treasure of other languages.

An expert can search out the victim's ancestry, even to the most remote ramifications—tracing each line to some beast of the field or forest, and casting doubt on the legitimacy of each generation—until by one, thunderous, all-embracing word he brands the shivering wretch the descendant of gibbons and Barbary apes.

In this achievement, the Tamil has ante-dated our modern scientists by many centuries. But, unlike his European brother—who complaisantly endows scientists, that they may ransack the earth's strata in quest of still more humble forebears—the Tamil is roused to fury, rivalling the raging hurricanes, and his vilifier is pleased.

So far as we know, no other language possesses a single term which can produce so devastating emotions, except the Tuamotu dialect of the Polynesian. This is most surprising, because the whole edifice of Polynesian vituperation is founded on but two corner-stones—pig and dog. There are never any expeditions into ancestral by-ways.

Qualifying adjectives do, indeed, sharpen and envenom the arrows of abuse; but to none is given power (comparable with the awful Tamil word) to shake the very foundations of the human spirit, save only to the Tuamotu term "Naeke kurakura".

Now, naeke kurakura translates into the relatively mild English "red dog". Yet there abides within it some esoteric significance, obscured in the twilight of ancestral tradition, which mortally wounds the dignity of a Tuamotu Polynesian.

An example came to our knowledge some time ago. A big, rotund native of one of the "emerald garlands flung on a sapphire sea" (who, under the tutelage of generations of buccaneers, short-weight artists, usurers and traffickers in miscellaneous skulduggery, had become expert in "ways that are dark and tricks that are vain") had applied his learning in the course of his dealings with a Papeete trader, and had been caught red-handed.

This trader is no amateur in the science of invective. Furthermore, he is deeply learned in the colloquial argots of Polynesian dialects. The occasion, he considered, called for the full exercise of his powers and, accordingly, he girded his loins to produce a masterpiece.

The trader achieved a really admirable anthology of opprobrium, gathering his materials from European as well as Polynesian sources. His audience listened attentively, with visible admiration, and applauded his fervid peroration with a broad grin.

For a moment the trader was stunned. Then there flashed to his mind the memory of the ultimate Tuamotu insult. He knew of its potency only by reputation. It seemed a feeble thing, compared with the withering words he had already spoken. Still, it was the only weapon left in his arsenal.

"You are a naeke kurakura", he shouted.

The effect was startling. The grin vanished. The native's eyes lost their expression of admiring attention and be-

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came baleful, feral. His whole body trembled from the storm of anger and humiliation which raged within him.

The trader drew a deep sigh of relief. His forlorn hope had brought him victory.—A.C.R.

SAMOANS ANXIOUS TO ENLIST

QUITE a number of Samoans have applied to the Administration of Western Samoa for permission to serve with the New Zealand forces in the present war.

"Of course, we could not accept their services, as this is a Mandated Territory under the League of Nations," said the Acting-Administrator (Hon. A. C. Turnbull) during his visit to Sydney. "But we have appreciated the spirit of loyalty shown by these men."

Mr. Turnbull added that the Samoans had responded most liberally to the Spit-fire Fund in Apia, and to all other patriotic appeals.

New Guinea's New Rubber

How Ficus Was Introduced

Letter to the Editor

YOUR article, "Ficus Rubber", in the November "PIM", was read with interest.

While we here appreciate to the full the good work that Mr. Murray, our Director of Agriculture, has done in New Guinea, the person to whom credit must be given for the introduction of Ficus rubber to the Australian market (and, in fact, the re-start of rubber production in New Guinea), is Mr. Victor Maxwell.

When the full story of New Guinea's present entry into the rubber market of Australia is known, it will be found most interesting. It will cover, first, Mr. Maxwell's fight with the Administration to obtain permission to take a party of New Guinea natives to Papua to teach them the process of rubber-tapping, etc.; and, after he had gained permission, the opposition he met from the Papuan rubber planters, when he arrived there; and all that he accomplished in the short period he held his party in Papua.

The story would tell how, on his return, he took over a Para and Ficus rubber plantation in the Madang district; his uphill fight, and the hard work he put in carrying out experiments with Ficus until he was able to get the rubber manufacturers of Australia to accept it.

This story should be placed on record in the pioneering history of the various industries of New Guinea.

Mr. Maxwell was a Digger in the last war and he is again doing his bit as a S/Sgt. instructor in the Australian forces.

Mr. Maxwell's system of treating Ficus rubber is the one being carried out in New Guinea to-day.

I am, etc.,

BAGIAI.

New Guinea, 9/1/1941.

Advice has been received in Sydney of the birth of a daughter to the Bishop of Melanesia and Mrs. Baddeley, at Siota, Solomon Islands. The Bishop and his wife now have a son and daughter. Mrs. Baddeley is a daughter of the Bishop of Adelaide.



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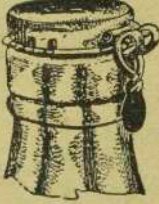
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Mr. Ernest McGeady, son of Mr. and Mrs. McGeady, of Suva, Fiji, has enlisted with the NZ Forces for overseas service. He left the Colony at the age of 14 and, after education in the Dominion, entered into business there.

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IN PURSUIT OF "GEORGE"

Entomologist's Fascinating Story of His Study of "Nutfall" in Solomon Islands.

COCONUT QUEST: by J. S. Phillips. Published by Jarrolds, London; distributed by Hutchinson & Co., Box 99, Melbourne. Price, 16/- stg.

HAVE you ever met an entomologist with a rich sense of humour, an artist's ability to paint travel-pictures in words, and the unusual gift of investing a hunt for bugs and bug "controls" with all the excitement of a thriller? If not, meet Mr. Phillips.

The story of Mr. Phillips is of special interest to coconut planters, because he is the man who attacked the mystery of immature nutfall in the Solomons. But all men who like a first-class travel-book, and a racy and accurate description of conditions in the Pacific Islands, are recommended to read "Coconut Quest".

The real story commenced several years ago, when Solomon Islands coconut planters began to report excessive nutfall. Normally, about 60 per cent of the young nuts fall off the fruiting-branches of the palms. But, in the affected plantations, 90 per cent. of young nuts fell; and this made the trees unprofitable.

No one knew why the nuts fell. For years, experts argued and fought about it. Scientists from Fiji said it was the work of an insect. Two insects were suspect: 1, *Axiagustus*; 2, *Amblypelta cocophaga*. There were not many of No. 2

about, so the Fiji men declared No. 1 guilty. Years passed—and careful experiments proved that No. 1 was innocent.

Immature nut-fall increased. More experts were consulted. They decided that the trouble was due to local conditions of soil, rainfall and cultivation. Again, argument was long and painful. Certain planters made their own tests. They enclosed fruiting-branches in fine gauze. Those branches bore the normal quantity of nuts, while practically all the exposed branches, right alongside, lost most of their young nuts. Clearly, nutfall was caused by something that could not get through the mesh.

Livers Pacific Plantations Ltd. (owning most of the best plantations in the Solomons) had by now become weary of contributing to the cost of apparently useless experiments, and they decided to spend their money, instead, in employing a special entomologist. Mr. J. S. Phillips was engaged in London, and he arrived in Tulagi about the time that local opinion had discarded all other theories and agreed that excessive nutfall was caused by a bug. But what bug?

Bug No. 1 had been proved innocent. The only other bug, No. 2, was declared to be too infrequent to be guilty. But they shut him up, in a gauze enclosure, with young coconuts, on an uninfected plantation—and 90 per cent. of the nuts fell!

Mr. Phillips forthwith applied himself to the study of *Amblypelta cocophaga*, whom, for the sake of convenience, he called "George". He discovered how George worked. He was not a numerous, but he was a very, very busy bug; and two or three of him in a palm-top could destroy nearly all young nuts. He sank his proboscis into the youngsters and (although this is not yet proved) he discharged into them a poison which was fatal. Investigation proved, beyond doubt, that George caused the spreading nutfall which threatened to ruin all the plantations in Guadalcanal and Malaita.

But why had this happened? The scientist had a real puzzle here. George was indigenous—he had been in the Solomons for centuries. The coconut plantations had been there for fifty years. Why had George not attacked before?

Mr. Phillips tracked George to the deep jungle and the uncultivated places, and studied him there; and after patient search, and fitting clues together like a fiction detective, he got the answer. Ants!

He made friends with two kinds of ants, *Pheidole oceanica* and *Oecophylla smaragdina* (nitida), which he promptly christened Fido and Oeco. And this is what he found. Under ordinary conditions, Oeco, an alert, long-legged, big and busy ant, living much in the palm-tops, takes good care of George and slaughters him before he can bite many young coconuts. Oeco is indigenous, and a natural enemy of the bug, George.

Fido is not. He is a small, pugnacious ant, which evidently was introduced to the Solomons by Europeans, just as he was in Hawaii. And in the Solomons, as in Hawaii and elsewhere, he is steadily driving the native ants back into the uncultivated country. Fido flourishes on cultivated land, where he can travel about easily and that is why he has exterminated Oeco only in the plantations; and that, in turn, is why George has been allowed to come in and destroy the young nuts. For Fido is useless as an enemy of George. The quick and lively Oeco can catch George; the smaller and slower Fido cannot.

What a head-ache for a bug-hunter! Mr. Phillips obtained data from the British Museum and decided that it might be possible, by a study of George's brothers in East Indies and Australia, to

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find a parasite to "control" George—a procedure that has been very successful in relation to other, similar pests.

So, in the book, we accompany the entomologist to outlandish places in the East Indies and Queensland, where he patiently tracks down the relations of George, identifies the parasites which destroy the George family, ships colonies of them to the Solomons, and finds time to make innumerable fascinating and amusing observations on the strange places and peoples he visits.

But after years of work, George remains unconquered. Some of the introduced parasites have attacked George, but not heartily enough to control his pestiferous operations. This is Mr. Phillips' conclusion, and it is of vital interest to many owners of Solomons plantations:—

"Can George be checkmated? I do not think so. Any of the usual methods are ruled out by their cost. Biological control seems the only hope and complete control is essential. Why? Because almost total nutfall can be effected by a population of only two or three bugs per tree. I doubt whether it is possible to reduce George's numbers beyond this with parasites. The ant *Oeco* gave complete protection by keeping George away from the palms, but Fido is driving this benefactor out of the plantations, and the process can neither be reversed nor even arrested. In theory, the solution is to find an ant which can overcome Fido and is speedy enough to keep George from the coconut palms. In practice, where is such an ant to be found? For, wherever Fido had landed, he has driven out the other species from all territories which satisfy his ecological requirements.

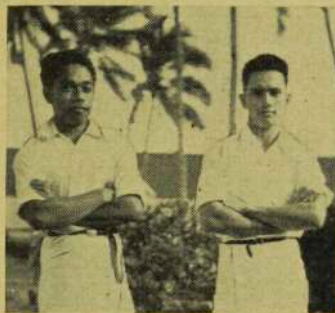
"The outlook for the coconut plantations is very gloomy, for George inhabits nearly all the large islands of the group."
—R.W.R.

EDITORIAL NOTE: It is to be hoped that this is not to be the last word in regard to immature nutfall. Apart altogether from what individual enterprise has done, Messrs. Levers have spent hundreds of thousands of pounds in establishing those Solomons plantations, and thousands more on research which has determined the cause of nutfall. There now is an obligation upon the Government to carry on the nutfall investigation. Despite the apparent pessimism of Mr. Phillips, we believe that science can solve the problem. It is a job for the entomologist and research should continue without interruption.

A careful reading of Mr. Phillips' book gives cause for more hope than is seen

in Mr. Phillips' conclusion. We believe that, if he had been able to continue the work, he eventually would have found a means of controlling George—if not by a parasite, then by altering the balance in the ant world. The cause of all the trouble is the ant Fido. Well Fido was introduced—why cannot something else be introduced to deal with Fido?

TONGAN SCHOLARS



Two young students who won scholarships at the Tongan Government College 1940 examinations. They will continue their studies at the Central Medical School, Fiji. Jione Siosiomalohi (right) gained the highest pass yet attained in the examination—98.8 per cent.; and Jiosifa Alukuoulu, who carried off second prize with 81.8 per cent.

Mr. Edward Grimshaw died at Suva on January 19 after more than 50 years in Fiji. Born in Ireland in 1852, he went to sea, and made several voyages to NZ. After spending some time in the Dominion as a farmer, he joined the firm of Henderson and McFarlane, who at that time ran vessels to the Cook Islands, Fiji and Samoa. It was through his association with this firm that Mr. Grimshaw saw the Islands, and in 1883, when he became interested in sugar farming, he joined the Rewa Sugar Company. Later, he became associated with the CSR Co., but when the rubber boom came to Fiji, he entered the employment of Powell Bros. Mr. Grimshaw was a cousin of the well-known Pacific author—Miss Beatrice Grimshaw.

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to soak for half an hour. Grill
steak as desired. Heat re-
maining sauce and serve with
grill.

TS-1

**HOW KAVIENG HELPED
RAIDER VICTIMS**

From a Special Correspondent

RABAU, Jan. 10.
ON the arrival in an Australian port of the 496 survivors, who were landed on Squally Island (Emirau) from German raiders, no mention whatever was made of the clothing and comforts which were distributed to them by the Red Cross members in Rabaul.

Likewise, when they arrived in Rabaul, no mention was made of the initial assistance rendered to these survivors by

the people of Kavieng who, short of provisions themselves, owing to the disrupted steamer schedule, despatched provisions, clothing and comforts to Emirau—and these were among the first to reach the survivors.

One does not necessarily look for any special thanks for such acts. Still it does not seem equitable that one section of people should reap all the honour and glory of giving help to war-sufferers, while others are ignored. Kavieng residents opened their purses and their wardrobes as liberally as any, and some record should be made of their stout action.

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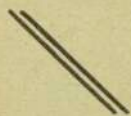
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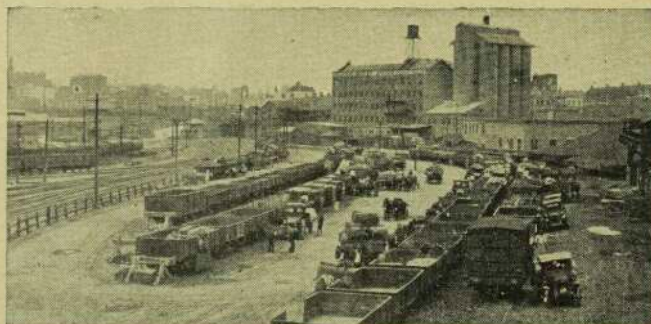
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Tropical Cinderellas**How Australia's Pacific Territories
Are Governed**

THIS Mr. F. W. Eggleston (a well known Melbourne barrister) in an article in the December "Austral-Asiatic Bulletin", entitled "Australia and the Territories":—

"It can hardly be suggested that conditions in Canberra are satisfactory. The Territories Section is a section of the Prime Minister's Department, invariably put in charge of an Assistant Minister who is looking for promotion. Whenever the vacancy occurs he is promoted, and there is a change . . . The worst feature of the system is the lack of interest and apparent sense of responsibility shown by members of the Federal Parliament in regard to New Guinea problems . . .

"It seems clear that the status of the Territorial Section should be elevated, and have a department head of professional standing, capable of advising the Government in the problems, economic, social, ethnological and educational, involved in the government of a tropical dependency."

"I do not agree with this statement," says a Papuan correspondent. "It would mean that some academic ass would strut about in Canberra throwing his weight around, while his decisions would torment us further."

But there is much to be said for Mr. Eggleston's argument. It is a fact that, for long years, the affairs of Australia's great tropical territories have been nobody's business, and that there has been a complete absence of any policy that could be described as intelligent, constructive, far-sighted or continuing.

**Colonial Office Man on
Long Pacific Tour**

A NEW departure on the part of the Colonial Office has been to send Mr. Trafford Smith, one of its young officials, on an official tour of almost all the British possessions in the Pacific, on which he has been engaged for two years. Mr. Smith, who arrived in Sydney late in December, and proceeded at once to Canberra, had just completed a visit to the Solomon and New Hebrides groups, and New Guinea.

Early in the year he will visit the Gilbert and Ellice groups, and eventually return to England via the United States. Until Malcolm MacDonald's retirement from the Secretaryship of the Dominions, Mr. Smith was his private secretary. During the Coronation celebrations he had much to do with the official visitors from the Colonies, including Fiji.

Most of the two years spent in the Pacific has been occupied by a study of Fijian problems. While in Suva Mr. Smith had an opportunity of flying to Tonga, where he saw the Governmental authorities. He was in the party that travelled in the New Zealand flying-boat, "Aotearoa", which gave expert advice on aeronautical affairs to the Tongan Government.

While in Sydney, Mr. and Mrs. Trafford Smith renewed acquaintance with Prince Tuboutoa, of Tonga, in whose company they had dined at Government House in Suva.

Dr. T. C. Backhouse, formerly of New Guinea, is now a major in the medical section of the Australian Military Forces.

A LAND OF NO PESTS

WHEN the sun goes down over Tahiti and we light the reading lamp on our verandah, many visitors from another world come to keep us company.

Sometimes they are twinkling fragments of exquisite colours that seem to be petals of flowers, borne by the night breeze from some lovely garden. At another season, it will be a numerous company, fluttering on iridescent wings a dance of the faeries about our light or, in their place, a band of tiny maenads swirling around the flame in delirious frenzy.

Occasionally, a lone wanderer—a honey bee from our neighbour's apiary, overtaken by nightfall whilst on an expedition to some distant garden of blossoms, comes to beg sanctuary until the morrow's sun shall light him on his way.

Unfortunately, all our visitors do not come from the Fairy Court of la Nouvelle Cythere. Ferocious armoured harriers, bristling with "jaws that bite and claws that snatch", ascend from some Teutonic Nibelheim to worry and sting and finally put us to flight.

Happily, these forays are not continuous. Indeed, the people of French Oceania are particularly fortunate—as compared with the inhabitants of other tropical countries—in the almost total absence on these islands of poisonous and disease-carrying insects.

Scorpions are so rare that one may live in the islands for years without seeing one. The centipedes are small, their bite not dangerous, and domestic fowl devour any that venture into the neighbourhood of dwellings.

There are no malaria-carrying mosquitoes. Saint Patrick, on his way to Paradise, paused at Tahiti long enough to drive all the serpents into the sea; turning them into eels, so that they could never again invade the dry land.

Consequently, unshod natives and tourists in shorts can travel anywhere on the island, free from any fear of lurking monsters or flying disease-carriers. —A.C.R.

ICE-CREAM FROM COCONUT

THE following is from an English trade journal:—

Evidence of the many uses to which desiccated coconut may be put is contained in the annual report of the Director of Commerce and Industries in Ceylon. The offer of a silver cup at a Desiccated Coconut Culinary Competition produced such an interesting array of entries that over 10,000 people visited the exhibition. Curries, dry eatables, betel mixtures, chutneys, sweets, Western cakes and Eastern delicacies were among the things submitted, and one competitor sent in ice-cream made with milk squeezed from desiccated coconut.

Attempts to enlarge the island's trade in desiccated coconut in India have been largely frustrated by the problem of finding containers to meet the exacting demands of the Indian climate. Packing in tins both locally and in England, and in cellulose packets, has proved unsatisfactory. The solution of this problem, upon which depends Ceylon's ability to grasp and maintain vast markets in the interior of India, is still the subject of experiment.

Mr. O. Savage, Mangaia (Cook Islands) manager for A. B. Donald Ltd., left for furlough in New Zealand in January.

"Papuan Chief" Arrives in Boneyard

From Our Own Correspondent

PORT MORESBY, Jan. 20. STEAMSHIPS Trading Co. received advice early in January that the old steamer, "Papuan Chief", formerly owned by them and recently sold to a Japanese firm, arrived safely at Yokohama on January 7. The vessel left Port Moresby with a Japanese crew on November 12.

THE SOLOMONS

'Tis not orchids on high Tetipari that grow,

Nor the sea through the palms,

Nor Gavutu's bold zinnias that dazzle and glow,

Nor Soraken's charms,

But friendship extended in far distant places

As lamps in the night,

The clasp of a hand and welcoming faces

That are their delight.

—Freda MacDonnell.

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B22

TANGATA DIES

The Colourful Career of a Polynesian

From Our Own Correspondent

A REMARKABLE life for any man, much less a simple native of the South Seas, ended tragically in Rarotonga recently. Te Tangata Kerekere, a native of Atiu, had a chequered career in the Cook Islands, Tahiti and America, and was deported from nearly every country he visited.

Born in Atiu, he went at an early age to Tahiti, where he learned to play a dashing guitar and to sing the racy native "ute" (songs in a high voice, peculiar to this part of Polynesia). Even at this early age, he was considered abnormal, a long, swaggering, swarthy Don Juan, always out for a fight or to attract attention.

About 1930, Tangata caught the fancy of a Spanish-American visitor to Tahiti, who took him back to the United States, and thence on to Mexico. The swaggering Polynesian, who could play the guitar and who sang at the least encouragement, was a great hit there, and he stayed several months, receiving in exchange for his artistic efforts an elementary education in the use of the knife.

One night, while staying at a small hotel, Tangata was smitten with homesickness. He took a suitcase of his benefactor, containing a suit of clothes and some important papers, and fled across the border to San Francisco. Being then without any means of support, in the depth of the depression, he was deported by the authorities to Tahiti.

In Tahiti he was now a much-travelled man and, after spending a short time learning to be a boxer, he spent four years raising many sorts of trouble—until at last, in 1936, after some ugly rumours concerning the death of a Chinaman, he was again deported, this time to Rarotonga.

A few months of brawling and gaol soon earned him a free ticket to his home island of Atiu, where it was thought he might calm down. Within a few days, he was imprisoned in Atiu for wife-beating and fighting, and eventually he was returned to Rarotonga as a hopeless case. After another few months of gaol, he was freed, and settled down to a comparatively peaceful life as a shoemaker. He was married to Victoria, a pretty native girl, of Mangaia.

Last August, however, he was again prosecuted for galloping a horse through the main settlement of Avarua. Another prison term ensued and, during this, he was taunted by his fellow-prisoners concerning his wife's infidelity. Becoming at last desperate, he managed to borrow money to pay the rest of his fine, and hurried back to his home in the village of Parekura, a colony of natives of Manihiki and other outer islands.

On arriving home, Tangata was coldly received by Victoria, who had apparently grown tired of him, and he left her. A period of pathetic serenading with the guitar followed, the woman refusing to listen to his plaintive love songs, until at last, on December 4, she told him in plain language that she was finished with him and added insult to injury by addressing him by his last name of Kerekere (a dark-skinned man, considered an insult amongst the light-brown Polynesians).

Infuriated, the man took his leather-cutting knife from his belt, made a rush

at Victoria and stabbed her several times in the breast and neck. Victoria's elder sister, who was in the native house, ran to the rescue, and also received severe stabs, although she succeeded in landing a blow with a reap-hook in the pit of his back.

A nearby youth, Koteka, rushed to the scene of the screams, but was caught in the arm by the knife of the now insane Tangata, who then ran to the bush, about 200 yards distant, and disappeared.

A search was immediately instituted by the police, helped by the Union Steam Ship Company labour gang, but with no result. Rumours, all unreliable, came in from all parts of the island that he had been sighted; many of the natives living in the remote valleys came into the settlement, as Tangata was obviously by now desperate.

At last, on the afternoon of December 10, the unfortunate man was found, hung, on a small hill behind Avarua, called Tua Kata. He had used the bark of the "au" tree for his suicide. Apparently he killed himself on the same day as he ran amok, probably on account of the pain of his wound and the Polynesian fear of "tupapaku" (evil spirits of the night).

Such instances of homicide are most rare amongst these islanders. All those wounded were taken to hospital, and have recovered.

Monsieur Oscar Meyer, the French anthropologist, who worked in Tahiti, Marquesas, and in New Guinea, is now with the French forces in Indo-China. In a recent letter, M. Meyer states that he was actually on a New Caledonia-bound vessel for six hours, and was then, with other soldiers, ordered off by the authorities. He hopes to return to Australia when permission can be obtained.

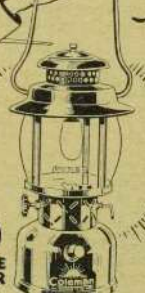
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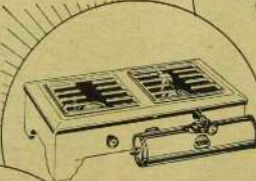
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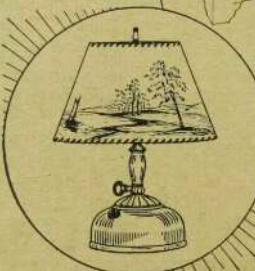


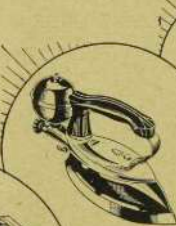
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How Nauru Took the Shelling

From a Special Correspondent

DECEMBER, 1940, will be remembered as the blackest month in the recorded history of Nauru. It started badly, and it finished worse. During the second week-end (Sunday, 8th) the island was visited by a mysterious ship, flying Japanese colours. On the Saturday afternoon, the vessel circled the island, passing quite close to the reef.

In the early hours of Sunday morning a ship was seen to be on fire, and it gradually drifted over the horizon. Subsequently, it was learned that the passengers were safe; but they were grueling hours for those watching from the shore, who knew there had been friends or relations on board, and did not know their fate. As other ships failed to report during the day, it was suspected, and afterwards confirmed, that several ships had been destroyed.

This same week-end saw the commencement of a furious westerly which, lasting a week, was the worst anyone had ever experienced at Nauru. Coconut trees fell like a pack of cards—one falling and striking another, and so bringing down many others. There were narrow escapes from injuries. Trees fell across native houses. The boat harbour was damaged, and the moorings suffered from the storm.

People were recovering from this onslaught of the elements and had enjoyed a less exuberant Christmas than usual, when on the morning of the 27th, a German raider visited and heavily shelled the island.

The Administration evidently was suspicious the previous evening as there had been a complete black-out. Then, at day-break on the 27th, a searchlight began to flash, calling-up the island. A message was received, advising the Administration that if it refrained from using the wireless, there would be no indiscriminate shelling.

The captain of the raider gave warning so that we might evacuate the settlement, and his first bursts were either blanks, or the shells went along the reef into the sea. Actually, the noise from these was the first indication most people had of the raider's arrival. And by then he was just about in their back-door!

Enormous damage was done by shell-fire to the industrial plant on Nauru, but there was no loss of life.

There was no panic. The women and children were extraordinarily calm during the shelling. The morale was splendid; Nauru can take it!

Through the visitation of the raider, the production of a three-act farce, "Facing the Music", was postponed, but on January 8, Mr. Fred. Harmer produced it and took the lead. To put on this show at the end of such a disturbing month was a splendid effort and the residents were grateful to Mr. Harmer, the cast, and all assistants for an event which helped them forget their anxieties. The proceeds, £20, went to the Nauru war funds.

OCEAN ISLAND TAKES PRECAUTIONS

After hearing of the shelling of Nauru, prompt action was taken at Ocean Island. The women and children were evacuated from the settlement near the industrial plant and, had any raider arrived, they would have been safe. It was believed that a raider was in the vicinity. By Monday, December 30, everything was back to normal again. This event has given the residents some idea of what

they will do, and where they will go if at any future time, they have less warning of a raider's visit. Meanwhile, they remain on the alert.

CURED BY FEAR

When the raider shelled Nauru, a car called at the native hospital to take sick patients away to a less vulnerable spot. There was an old native who had been on his back for six months, and who calculated he would be there for another six months. However, when the driver inquired for him he was told that the patient had left the hospital on foot, and was still running.

DEATH OF WILLIAM HARRIS

The death of William Harris, a well-known figure in Nauru for many years, was caused indirectly by the shelling. While running from the danger zone he strained his heart. He was buried on January 5. He was the official Government interpreter and an instructor in Moure School, where he taught the Nauruan boys boat-building. He leaves behind a big family of boys and one girl.

Mr. E. Kenyon, well-known representative of "Berger's Paints", paid a visit to Suva, Fiji, in January.

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TUBOUTOA

Heir to Tongan Throne is Distinguished Scholar

IN the recent law examinations at the University of Sydney, Prince Tuboutoa, heir to the Tongan throne, put up a splendid record. In almost every section his name was either second or third, and it is believed that the Prince (who is deeply studious, though he has also made a name for himself in athletics) will be among the first dozen students in New South Wales.

Possibly Ratu Sukuna, of Fiji, is the only other Pacific Islander who has achieved such scholastic distinction. Prince Tuboutoa is the first Tongan B.A. and in a couple of years' time he will be the first Tongan barrister. It was hoped that he would, in the normal course of events, proceed to Oxford. He wishes not only to qualify at the English bar, but to study anthropology with Professor Radcliffe Browne (who at one time was in charge of the Government College in Tonga). It is now on the cards, however, that he may become an associate to one of the Australian judges. If he does so, he will again break new ground for a Polynesian. Owing to the war, the young man had to abandon his intention of spending the Christmas holidays with his family in Tonga.

Mr. G. G. Smith, of Gerald Smith & Co., Port Moresby, who became ill suddenly, and was operated upon in the European Hospital early in January, made a rapid recovery. Mr. George Gough, also of Port Moresby, made a good recovery after a long and serious illness, and has left hospital.



A convivial moment during the sherry party arranged at the Carlton Hotel in Sydney in January by the Pacific Islands Society in honour of the delegates to the Copra Conference. Prince Tuboutoa, of Tonga, is chatting with Lady Hunter (widow of Sir George Hunter of Hawkes Bay, NZ), and the former Chief Justice of Tonga (Mr. William Stuart), who, a few days before, had been landed on a New Guinea island by a German raider.

Mr. A. G. Jacobson, Seventh Day Adventist pastor at Rarotonga, Cook Islands, left for New Zealand in January.

Dr. M. Rose, assistant medical officer, of Rarotonga, who is also well-known in W. Samoa, returned in January, after a trip in which he had charge of the

transportation of lepers to the Northern Cooks.

Mr. C. Palmer, who is well-known in the Fiji Group, has arrived in Rarotonga to take over the managership of W. H. Grove & Sons. Mrs. Palmer and their daughter were expected to arrive in January.

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EATING A CHINAMAN A DAY

More Light on the Rossel Island Horror

ONE of the most horrible tragedies in the history of the Pacific Islands occurred in 1858, when a French ship, carrying 317 Chinese coolies from China to the new Australian goldfields, was wrecked on Rossel Island, Eastern Papua. The Chinese were captured by the natives, kept prisoners, and eaten at the rate of two or three per day.

Details of this incident were unknown until recently. In October, we published an article, which was a translation by Mrs. Mollie Lett (Port Moresby) of a section of an old French book she had found. In this, the story was told from the point of view of the French officers who had had charge of the vessel in question—the three-masted sailing-ship, "Saint Paul".

Through the kindness of Mr. C. B. Sheldon, of Dobo, Aroe Islands, Netherlands Indies, we now have some further details of the grisly affair. Mr. Sheldon has sent the following extract from the diary of the late Frank L. Jardine, of Somerset, Cape York, North Queensland:

IN 1864, Captain Charles Edwards, of the three-masted schooner, "Blue Belle", rescued the last of the survivors (three of them) from Rossel Island. One died on the passage, and the other two were handed over to Mr. John Jardine, the first Government Resident at Somerset.

The men, Chinese, could speak but little English. However, an interpreter explained that when the "St. Paul" struck, and it became evident there was, owing to the heavy seas breaking over her, no hope of getting her off, the European officers and crew of the ship ordered and forced the Chinese below, and battered them down, to prevent them rushing the boats when leaving the ship.

On the next day, some canoes landed on the lee side of the reef and, at low water, were able to stand in the water, waist deep, alongside the ship. The natives ferried the Chinese in their canoes to a small island, close to a larger one, where the natives' village was. But the island on which the Chinese were landed was uninhabited, and represented as being barren and waterless.

The natives brought the Chinese food and water almost daily, consisting of fish, including sharks, turtles, and some tubers resembling potatoes. The natives were kind to the Chinese, and made signs that a ship was coming for them.

The Chinese, getting tired of this waiting, one day tried to get into the canoes. But the natives kept them off, taking seven men, and explaining by signs that they would return to-morrow. This they did, and took away another four.

This daily action continued for some time. The Chinese, becoming suspicious, tried to force their way into the canoes. This the natives resisted, and a fight ensued, in which 11 of the Chinese were killed, and many wounded by spears.

Two days elapsed before the canoes returned. The natives, as usual, brought food, but the Chinese were afraid to meet their captors and receive this food.

The natives chased them, killing three, and also taking away three bodies of those who had died of wounds received in the first fight.

After this, the natives brought food and left it in a certain spot, and then hunted the Chinamen, killing and taking away their daily supply of meat.

In May, 1911, Sir William McGregor, who at that time was Governor of Queensland, was making a trip in Northern Queensland; and, during this trip, he paid a visit to Rossel Island. Sir William's version of this 47-years-old disaster, is that the natives fed the Chinese, and treated them kindly, until taken away by a passing ship, and that the killing and eating story was but fabrication.

The niggers themselves were Sir William's informants, and he believes them. The Chinese were mine, and I believe them. That's all—only a matter of opinion on hearsay.

The detailed story, as told by the Frenchmen in the old book (see October

"PIM"), fits in with, and appears to confirm, the story as related by Mr. Jardine. It is unlikely that Mr. Jardine ever saw the French book.

Rev. Walter George Ivens, Litt.D., died in England recently. He was a priest in Melanesia for 40 years and, during a long term of distinguished missionary service, he became an outstanding authority on the peoples and languages of Melanesia. He was the author of two books which dealt mainly with the part of the Pacific he knew best—the Solomons.

Mr. J. Cox, who was well known as chief engineer in the W. R. Carpenter inter-island steamship service in New Guinea, has been called up for active service, and he and Mrs. Cox left the Territory early in January.

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RABAU'S WORST EARTHQUAKE

Exaggerated Radio Reports Cause Irritation in New Guinea

From Our Own Correspondent

RABAU, Jan. 31.

USUALLY, it takes quite a lot of earth tremors to make an impression upon a resident of Rabaul. In fact, we rather pride ourselves on our *sangfroid* where seismic activity is concerned.

But, early on January 14 (at 2.28 a.m., to be exact) most Rabaulites de-bedded themselves hurriedly and had a look around. The biggest earthquake in living memory was in progress. The Man on the Hill, who looks after the seismograph and such things, registered a shake of 9 on the Rossi Forel scale—and that's near enough to a major calamity for anyone.

Fortunately for Rabaul, the epicentre was some distance away—it was reckoned as 20 to 30 miles distant.

Later in the day, it was discovered that the greatest damage had been done out along the North Coast Road and in the vicinity of the Government Experimental Station at Keravat, with the neighbouring plantations of Tavilo, Rau-

lawat and Kabaira all in the picture so far as material damage was concerned.

Fissures which opened up in the Methodist Mission property at Vunakambi were 40 feet deep, and chains long; native houses had crumpled up like cards; the mission hospital was a wreck, and much damage was done to medical supplies. Sister Beale, who awoke out of a dream in which her ship was being torpedoed, suddenly found that a water-tank near her bedroom window had sprung a leak; but, nothing daunted, she made her way (at times on hands and knees) to the door, and hurriedly went to the houses of her native charges—the ground meanwhile rising and swelling and, at times, opening up in large fissures.

Houses at all surrounding plantations were tossed from their piles, and the amount of crockery damaged is tremendous.

Roadways in this area, and continuing on up to the Toma highlands, have fallen in, and in one or two places whole hillsides have tumbled down. At one place, the natives reported that there had been a great subsidence, and a lake had formed; on closer inspection, however, it was found that, owing to a large landslide, the river had become blocked and a lake formed.

Out at the Baining, a 100-ton rock came careering down the mountainside, and lodged in the middle of a road; and natives from the Massawa (Baining) district had fears of a subsidence, many of them fleeing to the upper heights.

Copra kilns and houses, both European and native, were severely damaged in the Baining area.

The shock was severely felt at Pondo, over on the west coast of the Gazelle Peninsula. In central New Britain, around Gasmata, the shock was not so severe. New Ireland, Manus and Madang scarcely had any indication of it. Salamaua and Wau experienced merely a small tremor.

The volcanological observatory recorded that most of the earlier shocks were tectonic, and therefore not of local volcanic origin; all of which was pleasing for the Rabaul people, who, incidentally, now seem to connect everything seismic with Matupi and Vulcan volcanoes, and what happened to them in May, 1937.

Detailed reports show no loss of life, except a small native baby.

The estimated cost of replacement of the buildings damaged is, roughly, £20,000.

During the past week the authorities have issued a daily bulletin, based on the observations made by the local volcanologist, and these have been posted in conspicuous places and have been instrumental in allaying many of the fears which naturally arise at such a time. It was found that the majority of the tremors recorded were not of local origin. Also, it must be remembered that the seismograph is a most delicate instrument, recording many more tremors than are felt by human beings.

Rabaul residents, and others in the outlying district of the Gazelle Peninsula, were just settling down to the idea that all was over, and that it was just one more *quria* (native name for earthquake) to add to the list, when, from over the air in Sydney, came a statement attributed to Dr. W. G. Woolnough

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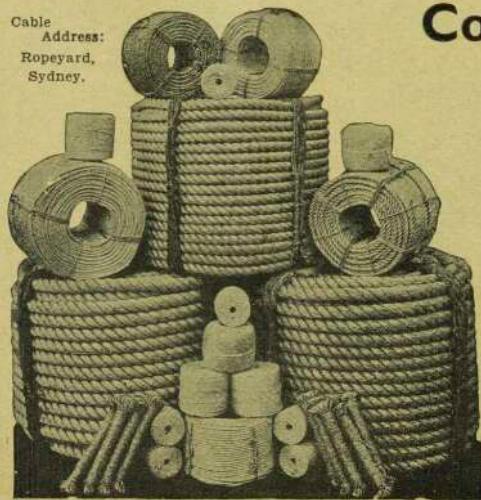
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(Geological Adviser to the Commonwealth, who has recently retired and who, in company with Dr. Stehn, made a geological survey of Rabaul shortly after the eruption in 1937). By the time the broadcast report had passed from one mouth to another, the statements were most alarming: Rabaul was about to be wiped off the face of the earth by the biggest 'quake ever; far greater than that of Krakatau in 1883.

With that thought in their minds, local residents wondered just what the position was—especially in view of the fairly reassuring reports coming from the local observatory. Apparently it was not so much what the learned geologist said, as what people said he said—and the little bit more tacked on to it for luck. Another instance of alarming reports was illustrated on January 24, when the announcer from VLQ7, on the 6.30 a.m. session, gave it out that the intensity and frequency of the tremors were "increasing". The actual message which was transmitted from here by the press correspondent was that they were "decreasing". I know, because I was the correspondent.

Statements of this kind may make sensational reading for a disinterested public in Australia, but they are not good for Australians who have relations and friends here.

Incidentally, our women-folk here have quite enough to put up with, without false statements like these coming over the air. It makes one wonder how much of truth is in the news distributed from some of our broadcasting stations.

TENSE WAITING

Rarotonga and Cyclone

From Our Own Correspondent

ON NEW Year's Eve, a report reached Rarotonga that a tropical cyclone had struck Penrhyn and Manihiki Islands, in the Northern Cook Group, and had done considerable damage.

The Apia meteorological station reported a southward path, probably sweeping round to strike Rarotonga, and when the new station on Palmerston Island wireless that a hurricane was approaching that island, this theory seemed more than likely correct.

The Union Steam Ship Company's launches and lighters in the harbour at Avarua, which had already been pulled down in readiness for a ship's arrival, were hastily hauled up again by volunteer gangs on New Year's Day and placed well inland, past the Administration offices. One had already been slightly damaged by the now turbulent sea.

A hot, oppressive stillness and increasingly high seas warned of worse to come, and all the machinery arranged under the Government Emergency Scheme came into operation. Runners from the Boys' Brigade stood by, Europeans reported to the main offices of the Administration, and owners of houses on the beach side of the main road moved their belongings inland.

After two days, however, the sky appeared to clear and the seas diminished in size, until, on the 3rd, the danger was deemed over. On the morning of the 4th, there was a high gale, with heavy seas.

It will be severe, indeed, if Rarotonga, which has only just recovered from the terrific hurricane of early 1935, is struck again. The orange crop, again heavy this season, would become a total loss, and the excessive sea spray would destroy most of the island's food crops.

Young Rarotongans, however, do not worry much. Every cloud has a silver lining. The heavy seas make excellent surfing across the lagoon.

PAPUAN IN ABYSSINIA

AN Australian officer, with four specially-selected Australian sergeants, is in charge of the first army of native Abyssinians, which has been formed in the Soudan under the eye of the Emperor, Haile Selassie, and which has now marched into Abyssinia to attack the Italians. It was reported in the newspapers on January 23 that one of the four sergeants is "a rubber planter from Papua".

Captain A. S. Fitch, well-known head of Steamships Trading Co. Ltd., Port Moresby, returned to Papua recently after one of his periodical visits to Australia.

Mrs. P. Coote, wife of the manager of Burns, Philp and Co.'s Rabaul branch, returned to the Mandated Territory recently after holidaying in Australia.

Mr. W. J. ("Billy") Candler, one of the best known "knights of the road" in the Pacific, paid one of his periodical visits to Fiji in January.

Mr. J. McAdam, who is well known in Papua as a member of BNG Ltd.'s staff, married **Miss Monica Faith Matthews**, of Port Moresby, in St. John's Church, recently.



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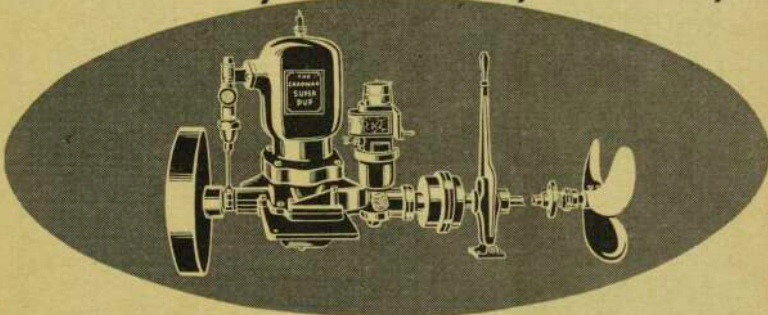
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Tamasese, son of the Samoan high chief of the same name, who was killed at Apia on December 29, 1929, will enter the Central Medical School at Suva early this year to train as a native medical practitioner. The Acting-Administrator (Hon. A. C. Turnbull) announced during his visit to Sydney in January that young Tamasese had qualified for entry in the ordinary way, and that his admission would be entirely on his own merits. His father, whose memory is honoured by Samoans, was one of the leaders of the Mau.

Dr. Giblin, who is to be the new Medical Officer there, left Port Moresby, for Kariava (the new oil town that has been carved out of the jungle on the Vaillala River, at the back of the Gulf of Papua) on January 11.

WHERE AUSTRALIA FAILS TO HELP NEW GUINEA

Letter to the Editor

I WAS most interested in several subjects mentioned in November "PIM". In it, you discuss the efforts to establish scrap rubber industry in New Guinea; but you omitted to mention that Australia imposes a duty of 2d. per lb., plus 10 per cent. war surcharge on it.

There is another new industry which, together with scrap rubber, is proving the means of saving many planters from absolute ruin, and that is the cutting of "laup", or New Guinea walnut. This is cut into fitches, or quarter-logs, and is shipped to Australia; but, again, there is a substantial duty on these. I understand that whole logs are admitted duty-

free. But the handling of whole logs means expensive equipment, quite beyond the means of the average planter.

In the same issue, it is said that duties on several commodities entering Australia from New Caledonia have been either removed or lowered. I think this is an excellent idea, as when I was there some years ago, I noticed how trade between the two countries was being hampered by excessive duties on both sides.

But charity begins at home. If there is to be any lowering of duties on Islands products, surely Australian territories should be considered first.

In this connection, I think that we can hardly expect USA to lift the duty on our copra, entering there, as suggested in a recent "PIM", as a means of helping Australian planters, while Australia herself charges heavy duties on products from her own territories.

That letter headed "Is NG Foreign or British?" is very timely. For all purposes which suit them, such as commandeering our gold production, foreign credits, etc., and insisting on laws being passed which benefit Australia rather than the Territory, apparently we are an integral part of the Commonwealth. But, when it is a question of our getting essential supplies from Australia, it is quite a different matter. Prices of commodities for internal use are strictly controlled. Prices for export here apparently are not.

There is also the matter of censorship. I fail to see why letters between Australia and New Guinea should be censored, any more than letters between different States. No one wishes to have the liberty of discussing war news; but it is very irritating to have one's personal affairs pried into unnecessarily, especially in a small community like this, where everyone is personally known to the local censors.

I am, etc.,

R. P. WILLMOTT.

Kuraiba Plantation, Rabaul, TNG.
10/1/1941.

MR. J. C. BARLEY'S LUCKY ESCAPE

WHEN Mr. J. C. Barley (now Resident Commissioner, Gilbert & Ellice Islands Colony) contracted, in the Solomon Islands, a type of malaria that still renders him subject to long periods of sickness, he probably wrote himself down as one of Life's unlucky wights. But Lady Luck has a curious way of adjusting the balance.

Mr. Barley, last November, was in South Queensland, on sick leave; and it was arranged that he should sail for his home, on Ocean Island, by the BPC vessel "Triona".

Through some mischance, Mr. Barley did not sail by the "Triona"; and the "Triona", on December 7, was sunk by a German raider, off Nauru. The crew were released by the enemy, but all important official personages were carried off as prisoners—and still are being buffeted around the Pacific somewhere, as prisoners. Mr. Barley escaped all that.

Mr. "Glassie" Strickland, sub-manager for Jagger & Harvey, in Rarotonga, and Mr. D. Munro, planter, of Arorangi, Rarotonga, returned from New Zealand in January.

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Chinese Leader's Scorn For Australia

Sidelight on the Sino-Japanese Struggle

THE gesture of Mr. W. H. Donald, once an Australian newspaper man and more recently world-famous as the confidential adviser of Marshal Chiang Kai-shek, in avoiding Australia, and proceeding to Tahiti via New Zealand, was complacently ignored by the Australians. But some day his words may be recalled. He has retired temporarily from his post in China, and is going to settle for a while in Tahiti and write his memoirs.

"I got a steamer going to the Solomons," he told the "New Zealand Herald" on January 16, "and my objective is Tahiti, where I intend to do my writing. No, I won't go back to Australia. I left there 38 years ago, and I have never been back. With Australian politics the way they are, I won't go."

Mr. Donald claimed that the tenacity of the Chinese in carrying on the war with Japan, and immobilising the Japanese armies, had saved Britain and the Empire from attack by Japan at a most critical time.

He said that, since October, 1938, when they took Hankow, the Japanese had not had even an apparent success, except when they got into Nanning, but they had already been turned out of that. "They have been defeated in all thrusts during the last couple of years," said Mr. Donald, "and now they are in such a state that to extricate themselves is almost an impossibility. They are to get no more reinforcements."

Mr. Donald recalled that Japan had time and again offered peace terms, but Marshal Chiang Kai-shek had never even deigned to consider them. Three times the Japanese had sent peace terms through the Germans, three times through the Italians, several times through puppet governors, and once through the British Ambassador, Chiang Kai-shek stoutly told the British Ambassador, "There will be peace when every Japanese soldier is out of China—not before."

TRADING WITH JAPAN

It was China, Mr. Donald said, that had pricked the bubble of Japanese invincibility. The Japanese had defied international laws and behaved with inhumanity. From his collection of photographs, Mr. Donald produced one of Japanese soldiers practising bayonet thrusts on live Chinese coolies whose hands were bound behind their backs, while a large crowd stood round watching.

Yet the Australian and New Zealand Governments were trading with Japan and sending her things to be used against China, he said. Although Japan had joined Britain's enemies, Australia sent an Ambassador "to take hold of her blood-soaked hand." But if it had not been for the stand China had made at such cost, Japan would even now have carried out her programme of southward expansion to these lands.

"The Chinese feel very bitterly the attitude of the democracies," said Mr. Donald. "They have got nothing from us that they have not paid for. The Russians have supplied them freely and done 10 or 20 times as much for them as we have. Madame Chiang Kai-shek once said: 'If we can do without Britain in war we can do without her in peace.' The Japanese army is demoralised, and

another winter is on them. They must be suffering terribly."

As another reason for confidence in Chinese victory, Mr. Donald told of the wonderful development of the Chinese armament industry, which was now making machine-guns and other armaments on a vast scale. Chiang Kai-shek had estimated that, even if outside supplies were completely cut off, they had enough munitions to supply them for a year.

A request that persons able to supply land-snail shells from New Guinea, Papua, Solomon Islands, and other islands in the south-western Pacific, will communicate with him, has been received from an American collector, Mr. W. H. Weekes, of 508 Willoughby Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, USA. Anyone interested should write direct to Mr. Weekes.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Wynyard, and family, returned to New Zealand recently after four years in Western Samoa, where Mr. Wynyard was a member of the Government Service, latterly as Public Trustee. He worked hard as honorary organiser of the Western Samoa War Fund, and the Fund Committee presented him with an illuminated address.

Mr. J. B. Taylor, who died in Sydney recently, aged 77, was well known in Fiji fifty years ago as manager of some of the CSR Co.'s estates on Viti Levu. He left the Colony in 1919.

Mr. and Mrs. R. E. P. Dwyer, of the New Guinea Department of Agriculture, returned to Rabaul recently after leave in Australia.

Miss D. Blake, who has given 10 years' service in Papua for the New Guinea Mission, is returning to Australia shortly to marry the Rev. A. Shirley, rector of Pialba.

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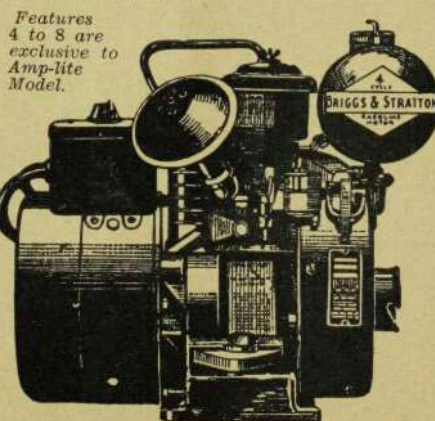
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JOHN was a new arrival in Port Moresby and, hotel accommodation not being available, he shared quarters with a friend. It was his day to order and have the evening meal prepared. So, accompanied by his houseboy, he arrived at the freezer and purchased a hunk of corned beef. It was well encrusted with saltpetre and brine and, handing it to the boy, he told him to take it home and wash it. When he arrived home, some little time later, he found that the boy had the meat on the floor, near a pan of soapy water, and was energetically scrubbing it with a brush.

For that evening's meal, a tin was killed.—H.

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DEATH OF "ALF" BELFIELD



MR. James Walter Belfield, well known throughout the gold-fields end of New Guinea as "Alf", died at Wewak, on January 17, at the approximate age of 80.

Mr. Belfield was one of the rapidly-diminishing band of prospector-explorers who, 20 years ago, went out into the unknown hinterland of Papua and New Guinea in search of gold. He arrived in New Guinea from Papua in the early days of the Morobe Goldfield, when a small band of men and women, cheerfully suffering great hardships, were developing Edie Creek.

This photograph was taken by Mr. L. V. Waterhouse in 1933. It shows Mr. Belfield (left) with another of the Morobe pioneers, Mr. Dick Glasson, just before they left on a trip into the Sepik River district.

Mr. Belfield died as the result of toxæmia from a gangrenous arm.

NG PUBLIC SERVICE

THE following staff movements in the New Guinea Public Service were announced in January by the Government Secretary (Hon. H. H. Page):—

TRANSFERS

District Services Dept.—J. K. McCarthy, Assistant District Officer, Kokopo to Talasea.

Agriculture Dept.—G. F. H. Gee, Inspector and Instructor, Namatanal to Rabaul; J. A. Ewen, Instructor and Inspector, Rabaul to Namatanal.

TEMPORARY ENGAGEMENTS

Public Works Dept.—F. Mayos, Mechanic; A. C. Brereton, Native Labour Overseer.

Japan Will Strike Southward

Statement by an
Admiral

ADAMIRAL Baron Osumi, senior naval member of the Supreme War Council of Japan, interviewed by the Asahi Shimbun newspaper, in Tokio, on January 9, urged his countrymen to acquire a good knowledge of the South Seas region "preparatory to an expansion in that direction".

"The Pacific," he said, "may prove a misnomer. I know for certain that the future will see an aggravation of the situation. Japan has got to expand in some direction, and it is the common desire of humanity to expand in the direction of heat and light.

"I have yet to hear of a great task performed easily. People adhering to the old order of acting contrary to their preachment that God is benevolent to all, are sure to put obstacles in the way of Japan.

"There is not the slightest intention by Japan to exploit the South Seas, but they have prevented an understanding of Japan's intention. They are purchasing warships and aeroplanes, which I am afraid will not be of any great help in trouble with us."

When asked to define the "South Seas", Admiral Osumi said: "The region includes countries whose mention by name would strike terror into the hearts of some people. There is no thought of conniving at outrage and intolerance much longer."

Much significance is attached to the statement of Admiral Osumi, who is a former Navy Minister and delegate to the League of Nations. Hitherto the Navy's views had not been made plain, but Admiral Osumi's statement exceeds in frankness the recent utterances of Prince Konoye, the Prime Minister, and Mr. Matsuoka, the Foreign Minister.

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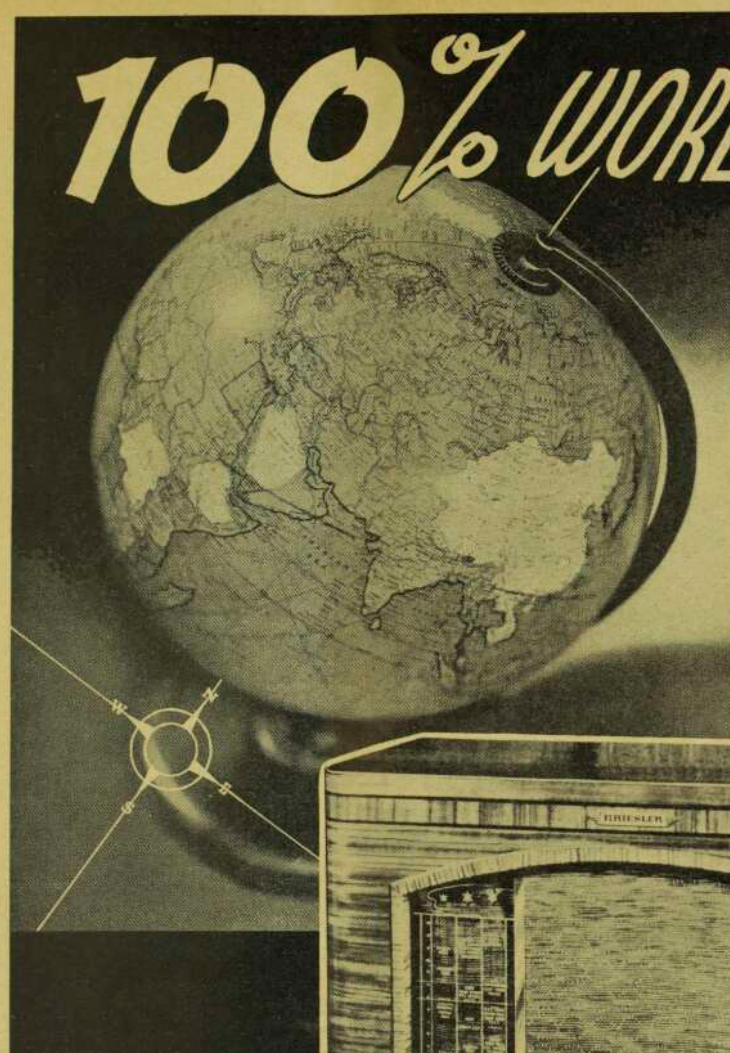
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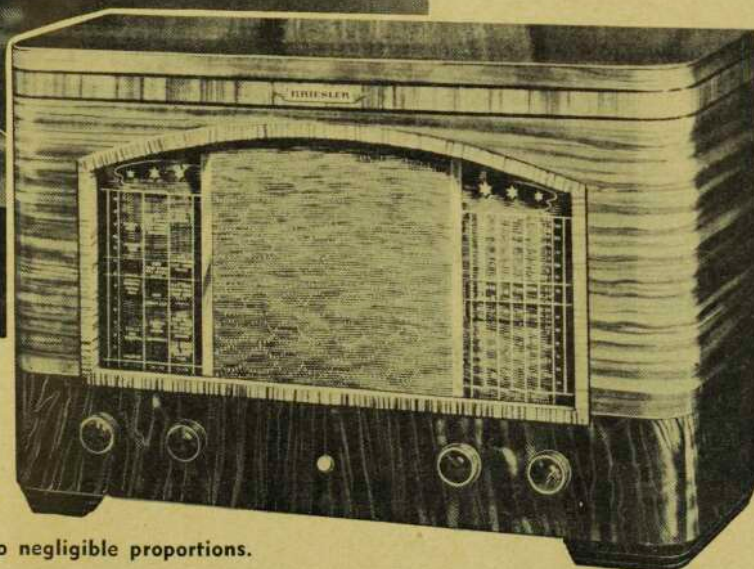
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Mr. and Mrs. William Beddows, two of Fiji's best-known identities, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on January 6. Fifty years ago they were married at Taveuni. Mr. Beddows has been connected with a number of the colony's industries, including cotton planting, copra production, and horse and cattle raising.

Mr. H. H. Marchington, of Suva, Fiji, is at present serving overseas with the New Zealand forces. He spent the greater part of his life in the Colony, but had been living in the Dominion for some time.

Mr. J. R. Shaw, who was injured in an accident several weeks ago, died at Lautoka recently. He was employed with the Fiji Kauri Timber Company.

NEW ZEALAND TROOPS IN FIJI

The following article was published in "New Zealand Herald" on January 22:—

IN FULFILMENT of New Zealand's undertaking to accept a full share of responsibility for Empire defence, and in accordance with an arrangement reached between the Governments of New Zealand and Fiji, units of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force have been stationed in Fiji. An official announcement of the establishment of Dominion troops there has now been made by the Government.

The defence of Fiji assumed fresh importance recently when the general

question of home defence was closely studied in New Zealand. A detailed examination of the position in the South Pacific, and of possible developments, resulted in the inclusion of Fiji in a general scheme, and close collaboration is being maintained between the two Governments.

The arrival of a modern fighting force, complete with motorised equipment, brought the total number of motor-vehicles in Fiji to a new record figure.

The high standard of accommodation for troops set in New Zealand when the large-scale establishment of new camps was begun on the outbreak of war, has been fully maintained in Fiji. There are several camps, built during a fine-weather period, the main one being a few miles from Suva.

Most of the men at the main camp are already quartered in wooden dormitories after the pattern of those built at the newer camps in the Dominion, with iron roofs and push-out shutters instead of windows. Some of the troops occupy bell tents, while at another camp the majority of the men are housed in tents of the New Zealand Public Works Department pattern. As a subsidiary to the main camp, there is a smaller establishment across the road to accommodate specialist units.

Special attention was paid by the authorities to the adequate drainage of the areas on which the camps have been built, with a view to the maintenance of the highest possible standard of health. Tiled drains were laid throughout the main camp, and a special line was taken from the Suva reservoir to the camp to provide an adequate water-supply. Shower-huts are provided, and the troops regularly have swimming parades at Suva Point.

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SAMOAN MISSIONARIES

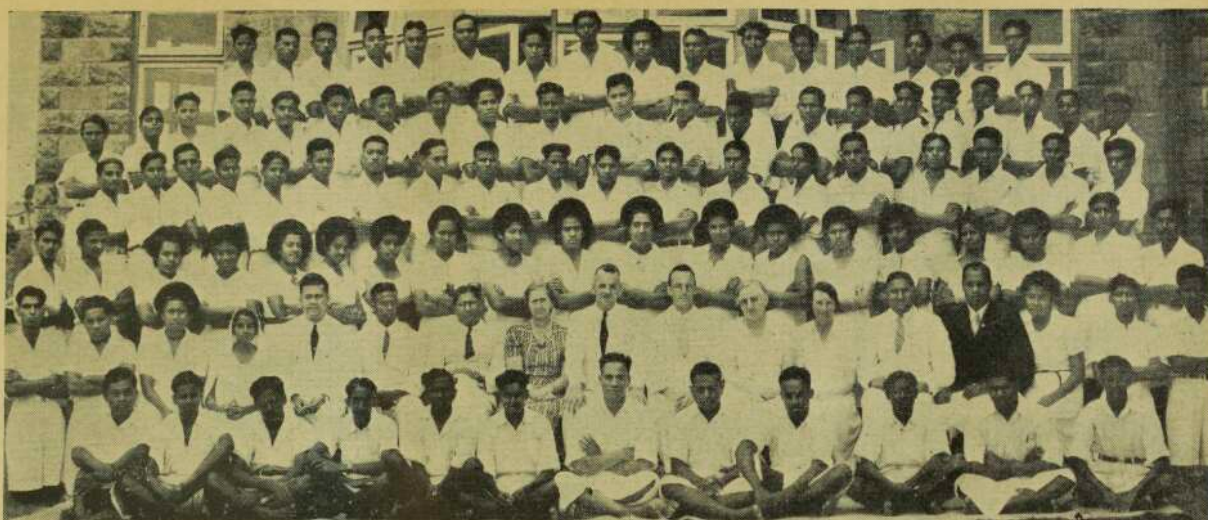
A SMALL party of Samoans passed through Sydney in mid-February en route to their homes after missionary service in Papua and New Guinea for the London Missionary Society. They included Auauana, and his wife, Valaga, who have been working in both Territories for more than 30 years, the last three of which were spent at Gemo Island, Port Moresby, where there is a leper station, erected by the Government and staffed by the LMS. Talotonu, with his wife and family, has been in Papua for nine years, and will return early next year after spending furlough in Samoa. The wife of another missionary, who died in Papua after two years' service there, also returned to her home.

Miss Phyllis Abel, a member of the famous family which conducts the Kwato Mission, near Samarai, Papua, returned to the Territory recently after a holiday in England, America and Australia.

Rev. Henry Nelson Drummond, who was a worker for the Melanesian Mission in the New Hebrides, Solomons and Norfolk Island in the early part of this century, died in Australia recently.

Mr. A. Gibb, of Western Samoa, was a passenger for New Zealand recently. He is connected with the NZ Reparation Estates.

Mr. J. R. B. Stewart, an archaeologist from Cyprus, was in Sydney recently. He is interested in art designs, and is engaged in a comparison of those of the Middle East and the Pacific.



This group photograph, taken recently in Suva by Caine's Studios, gives a good idea of the scope and character of the Fiji education system. It shows the students of the Natabua Davuilevu Teachers' Training Institution. It

will be noted that the young men who are being trained as teachers comprise Indians and Fijians in about equal proportions, and that they work together harmoniously in this institution.

Mrs. A. Gault, wife of the well-known Suva dental surgeon, died at the Colonial War Memorial Hospital on January 10. According to the "Fiji Times", Mrs. Gault suffered an injury in a fall some months ago. She arrived in the Colony at the age of 10, as daughter of Mr. E. J.

March, who was Government Printer. The late Mr. J. March, who was Collector of Customs at Suva, was a brother.

Mr. C. Harvey, of the Fiji Agricultural Department, returned to the Colony in mid-January after attending the Pacific Copra Conference in Sydney.

Miss Jean Hayes, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hayes, of Sigatoka, Fiji, took a University Degree of Bachelor of Home Science in New Zealand recently. Miss Hayes is the first Suva Grammar School girl to attain this honour.



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Rev. Harry K. Bartlett, L.Th., a well known Methodist missionary, arrived in Sydney recently from Misima, Papua, on furlough. He attended the annual board meeting of the Mission in Sydney early in February, and later proceeded to Adelaide.

Bishop Cecil Wilson, who was Bishop of Melanesia from 1894 to 1911, died at Perth, WA, on January 19, aged 81.

Mr. J. Mulvey, of the New Zealand Reparation Estates, Western Samoa, paid a visit to the Dominion recently.

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WHEN NOUMEA WAS IN A FEVER

How the Loss of an Admiralty Message Brought in Sir Harry Luke as Peacemaker

BY R. W. ROBSON

WHEN France capitulated in June, 1940, and found herself subject to the Nazis, the French Colonies in the Pacific were isolated. They were not entirely cut off from the mother country, insofar that they were in radio communication with the Petain Government at Vichy; but everyone knew that the Vichy Government was acting under the direction of the Huns. Anything done by the Administrators of the French Pacific Colonies was suspect by the British Territories in the Pacific, which were still fighting Germany, and which adjoined the French Colonies on every side.

For a time, the situation in the New Hebrides was simply chaotic. Here there is a Condominium—that is, France and Britain have exercised joint control of the territory, and French and British public servants work side by side in the administration. Naturally, the British were not very happy in such close association with men who were taking their orders from Vichy, which, in turn, was

accepting instructions from Mr. Hitler. On the part of some of the French (certainly they were very few) a hatred of the British was suddenly and surprisingly manifested.

But, apart from politics, the position of the New Hebrides was deplorable. There was no market anywhere for the principal products of the New Hebrides—copra, coffee, cocoa, cotton—and the French currency, which hitherto had been interchangeable with the British and Australian currency, and which was in general use throughout the New Hebrides, suddenly became valueless. Everyone who owned francs made it his business quickly to get rid of them, and to obtain British money, instead.

It is said that Messrs. Burns, Philp & Co.'s Vila branch found itself, in no time at all, with about 500,000 francs on its hands, which no one wanted. The position was aggravated by certain bold economic adventurers who brought in francs from all over the place—especially New Caledonia and the Loyalty Islands—and got them changed for British money.

THE economic confusion in New Hebrides became a matter of serious concern to the British High Commissioner for the Western Pacific (Sir Harry Luke). Opportunely, his new patrol boat, "Viti", arrived in Suva from Hong Kong, and Sir Harry decided immediately to visit the New Hebrides.

When the "Viti" arrived in Port Vila Sir Harry found that he had a real job of work on hand. British officials, under Sir Harry's direction, set to work to straighten things out, but progress was slow and difficult. A silent war was going on in the ranks of French officialdom.

The position then was that the French Resident Commissioner (M. Henri Sautot) had declared himself, outspokenly and courageously, on July 18, for General de Gaulle—the first French colonial administrator to do so—while other French officials, to whom he might naturally have looked for support, were cunningly and savagely pro-Vichy. A high French judicial officer set to work, by underground and devious means, to unseat M. Sautot, so that he might himself become Resident Commissioner. A couple of minor, but none the less important officials, assisted him, and, for a time, it looked as if the gallant M. Sautot was going to be destroyed by the forces of Vichy. But he fought on courageously.

One of the officials whom Sautot suspected of strong pro-Vichy sentiments was in charge of the French native police, which force was much stronger numerically than the British native force. So M. Sautot, with the connivance of good friends, in the quiet and darkness of one night, contrived to remove all the ammunition supplies of the police. It was then pointed out to the Resident Commissioner that the police still had bayonets. The night operation was repeated, and a couple of mornings later the police found that, while they had most excellent rifles, they had neither bayonets nor bullets.

Meanwhile, the Governor of Noumea (who is also French High Commissioner for the Western Pacific, with jurisdiction over the French section of the New Hebrides) had curtly "sacked" M. Sautot, for his act in allying himself with

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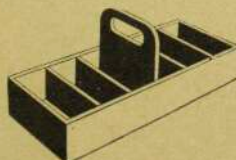
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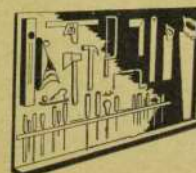
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General de Gaulle. The doughty M. Sautot refused to take the sack, and carried on as Resident Commissioner in the New Hebrides—with, of course, the hearty moral and material support of the British community.

This was the highly delicate and complex situation found by Sir Harry Luke. It soon became apparent to him that, while the pro-Vichy authority was being exercised in Noumea, it was rather difficult to arrange a new establishment in the New Hebrides. Confused reports reached Sir Harry Luke about conditions in New Caledonia. It was indicated that, although Vichy ruled New Caledonia, de Gaulle sympathisers were much in the majority there.

AFTER radio consultation with London, Sir Harry Luke decided that, if he were to visit Noumea, he might be of assistance in arranging a peaceful settlement there. He was joined by a couple of important officials from the New Hebrides establishment, and set off. It is understood that he received an assurance from the British Admiralty that the "Viti" might proceed in safety.

Now comes an interesting development, which only goes to show how a little event may have a highly important sequel.

While the "Viti" was at sea, proceeding over the few hundred miles between



Under the palms in a Nukualofa park, the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific, Sir Harry Luke, inspects a section of the new Tongan Defence Corps. Behind him are his aide-de-camp and Commandant Akauola, commander of the Force.

Port Vila and Noumea, the British Admiralty received certain information and, as a result, sent an urgent radio

message to the "Viti", requesting her to discontinue her voyage and not to visit Noumea. That message was not received aboard the "Viti", and the little patrol ship proceeded happily on her way.

When the "Viti" arrived off Noumea, early on August 30, she was met by a taciturn old French pilot, and conducted into the harbour. Sir Harry Luke then discovered, to his astonishment and perturbation, that the small French warship "Dumont d'Urville", which he understood was safely at anchor away over in Tahiti, was actually in Noumea Harbour, where she had arrived within the last couple of days. It was known that the commander of the little warship, Captain Toussaint de Quievrecourt, was a strong pro-Vichy man, and bitterly anti-British.

The party of British officials on the "Viti" wondered uneasily how they were going to be received. They had come in a spirit of helpfulness; but if the anti-British element ashore should assume from their arrival that British officialdom was trying to interfere improperly in the unhappy affairs of the French colony, there might be ugly developments.

The silent and unimaginative French pilot did not help matters. He took the "Viti" right up alongside the grim and silent little French warship, and moored

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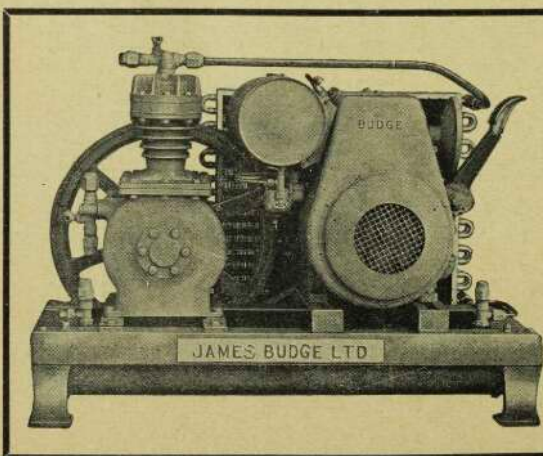
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her at the quay, only 20 feet away from the warship's bow.

THEN a general situation of extraordinary confusion developed. The pre-capitulation Governor, M. Pelicier, was still in charge, and he sent a formal welcome to Sir Harry Luke, and invited him to luncheon. A little later Sir Harry Luke was invited to dinner by the Governor, who, it appeared, was Colonel Denis.

When the puzzled Englishmen asked the meaning of it all, they were informed that Noumea that day was in process of changing governors—M. Pelicier, finding the position untenable in view of the very strong pro-de Gaulle sentiment in the Colony, had decided to leave, and he was handing on the governorship, under instructions from Vichy, to Colonel Denis, who was in charge of the military detachments in Noumea.

Colonel Denis, it appeared, was even more pro-Vichy than M. Pelicier.

Meanwhile, a formal call on Sir Harry Luke, aboard the "Viti", was made by Captain de Quievrecourt, commander of the "Dumont d'Urville". Sir Harry Luke speaks French very fluently, and he quickly learned that the warship's commander, while friendly polite and courteous, was intensely anti-British—in fact, he made a number of remarks which the British officials were bound to resent.

We do not know exactly what occurred—officials naturally are reticent about these matters—but we do know that the commander of the sloop departed from the "Viti" in high dudgeon, with all his naval feathers bristling.

What with a hostile warship commander right alongside, and two embarrassed governors trying to observe proper official formalities ashore, and an excited civil populace on the wharf beside the "Viti" roaring for de Gaulle, and for Britain, Sir Harry Luke found the general situation "definitely sticky".

IT was suggested officially to Sir Harry, at an early stage of his visit, that perhaps it would be better if the "Viti" withdrew from Noumea. It is probable that he himself felt that it would have been better had he not come; but, since he was there, he felt also that it would create a very bad impression in the minds of the overwhelming majority of the civil population (obviously pro-de Gaulle) if he, the leading British official in that part of the world, were to withdraw too quickly.

So he told the French Governor—which one, history sayeth not!—that he had come to discuss economic affairs with Australia's official representative in New Caledonia, Mr. B. C. Ballard, and that, in any event, he wanted to have a clear understanding with French headquarters in Noumea in regard to the difficult economic and administrative situation existing in the New Hebrides; and so the "Viti" stayed alongside the wharf, and discussions went on.

It was noon on August 30 before official formalities were over. During Friday afternoon and Saturday the British officials were kept extremely busy—the little ship was packed out with parties of pro-de Gaulle and pro-Vichy adherents. The people of Noumea insisted on assembling on the wharf alongside the "Viti", and cheering for de Gaulle and Great Britain. The blue-jackets from the "Dumont d'Urville" joined the civilians in cheering for de Gaulle; but their officers on the warship were quite definitely hostile.

Sir Harry Luke and his officials attended a series of official functions,

where traditional French hospitality was extended to them. They found it a little difficult to decide to whom they should address themselves as head of the French Colony—so they got over it by calling both M. Pelicier and Colonel Denis "Your Excellency".

During the following day (Saturday, August 31) the pro-de Gaulle sentiments of the Noumea population bubbled up perceptibly, and demonstrations became more frequent and marked. It was clear that the high officials adhering to the Vichy Government—especially the departing and the new Governor, and the warship's captain—were alarmed, and that the growing tenseness might lead to an explosion. It was evident, too, that the temper of Colonel Denis, commander of the garrison, and Captain de Quievrecourt, commander of the warship, was such that they were quite prepared to use the forces at their command to suppress a pro-de Gaulle revolt by force, if necessary.

When he found that he could do nothing more to straighten out the tangle, Sir Harry Luke decided quickly to conclude his formal conversations with the French Government, and depart; and the "Viti" accordingly left Noumea before dusk on Saturday, August 31.

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The illustration depicts a man in a light-colored shirt and dark trousers operating a large, boxy AWA Teleradio 3B. He is seated at a small table, with his hands on the device's controls. The radio is a two-tiered unit with a speaker on top and various knobs and switches on the front. The background is a stylized tropical scene with palm trees and a cloudy sky. In the upper right corner, there is a circular logo with the letters 'AWA' inside, and the words 'TELERADIO 3B' written around the bottom half of the circle. Below the illustration, a banner with a jagged, lightning-bolt-like border contains the text 'INSTALL YOUR OWN COMMUNICATION SERVICE' in bold, capital letters.

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I have reason to believe that as the little Fijian patrol-ship departed, more than one pair of official British binoculars were focussed anxiously on the unfriendly French warship still lying beside the Noumea wharf.

It will be remembered that it was only a few days later that the people of New Caledonia took matters into their own hands, deposed Colonel Denis from the Governorship, and installed in his place the staunch Henri Sautot, who suddenly appeared in Noumea Harbour. I should very much like to tell the story of how Henri Sautot actually came from Port Vila—but that story will have to wait until war precautions in relation to maritime information are not necessary.

Had the admiralty message reached Sir Harry Luke between Port Vila and Noumea, the "Viti", of course, would not have entered Noumea. I believe that its non-receipt was a very good thing.

The little, unarmed, harmless "Viti", carrying the highest British official in the Pacific, entered Noumea Harbour at a most critical moment. If the "Viti" had been a British warship, almost certainly there would have been an explosion ashore, and probably there would have been serious fighting and bloodshed between British and French forces. As it was, the arrival of the British party, and the tactful behaviour of the pleasant and charming Sir Harry Luke, disarmed the excited French factions. The pro-Vichy officials could do nothing, except snarl; while the arrival and confident bearing of the British official party gave great heart, encouragement and impetus to the de Gaulle adherents, who, shortly afterwards, bloodlessly took command of the situation.

The Admiralty message missed the "Viti"—but it was a lucky miss.

Enemy Spies and Pacific Shipping

(Published in "New Zealand Herald" on January 28)

FROM New Zealand and from Australia information is going out daily to enemy raiders which are lying around our coasts," said Captain James H. Miller, master of the steamer Holmwood, which was sunk last November, when he described in an address to the Christchurch Returned Soldiers' Association his experiences as a prisoner on an enemy raider.

"I have put it to our Government that there is leakage of information from this country," Captain Miller said. "They have replied that it is impossible, but it is not impossible. I know it is happening, because I have seen results of it. The captain of the raider I was on boasted that he knew the movements of every ship leaving these shores and even knew the actual times that the vessels left port.

"For instance, the German commander told the captain of the Rangitane precisely the hour and minute at which he left Auckland on his last voyage and also the exact time at which he hove anchor off Rangitoto Island the following morning."

After the sinking of the Triona on December 6 the German commander told Captain Miller that he had a ship to sink that night and another one the next morning. On the following morning they were approaching Nauru Island and the commander said: "You see that island on the starboard bow? That is your future home, for I am going to put you ashore there."

At that moment a ship was reported by one of the officers and the commander turned to Captain Miller and his companions. "There you are, gentlemen," he said. "The Triadic is on time." This was just another example of accurate information the raider possessed about all British shipping in the South Pacific.

EDITORIAL NOTE: The foregoing should be read in conjunction with the article, "The Story of the Pacific Raiders", on page 15 of the January issue of this journal.

COST OF NATIVE LABOUR

IN order to assist copra growers in these difficult times, the Fijian Legislative Council amended the Labour Ordinance to provide for the suspension,

for the present, of the clause which requires payment of a minimum wage.

Mr. Alport Barker, in criticising the plan, said the planters would not get native indentured labour to work for them for less than 4/- per week.

PACIFIC ISLANDS SOCIETY

Visitors from the Islands to Sydney (or those interested in Islands affairs), are advised to communicate with the honorary secretary of the above Society, which has been formed to study the history, traditions, economics, and political developments of the Pacific Islands.

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A SECTION FOR WOMEN

By "Therese"

Your Wardrobe in Wartime

THE matter of being well turned out in these days, when economy is the greatest consideration, is no easy task. But the royal road to being well dressed is careful choice and careful upkeep. Everything must be well thought out before a single garment is bought. Extravagance is usually the result when we fail to do this. It may be a bother to work out the problem of what to buy, bearing in mind the things you have already, their colours and accessories; but if you don't, you will find yourself with the wrong clothes.

The great idea in all clothes is to keep them fresh and gay. This means a certain amount of upkeep, which involves both time and money. That is why it is wise not to have all the clothes one would like, so that there is always a margin for spending on upkeep. The importance of spotlessness, pressing and never a stitch undone or a button missing cannot be too strongly insisted upon. These are the basic principles of successful dressing.

Linens, as always, hold pride of place

in a tropic wardrobe. Jumper outfits have deserved popularity, and one in white linen with workmanlike pockets on the jacket is very effective. If you want this for more sporting occasions wear a culotte instead of a skirt. Well-cut culottes are ideal for relaxing or sporting occasions.

A frock of pink washing silk, with white collar, sailor-fashion, is a particular favourite. The sleeves are short, the skirt made with kick-pleat front and back, and a pocket at the side for utility. Turquoise blue is a favourite colour for tennis, and a really practical idea is a romper suit, with bodice and pleated shorts in one, with a button-on skirt to slip on when leaving the courts. The bodice buttons to a round neck-line, the shorts have a tailored pleat in front and back, and the skirt buttons from waist to hem.

"Just let me slip into something comfortable" is the first thought on entering the house, after hard exercise. But just because you want to be comfortable is no reason to forget all the rules of fashion. It is easy to don a hostess gown, and so becoming when it is flower-sprigged and made on long flowing lines. Short puff sleeves and open V neckline are ideal points for tropic wear, or the neck-line may button in a Peter Pan collar or deliberately collarless effect.

The trouser type of garment is favoured for relaxation by many women, who declare that the freedom of a trouser-type lounging suit fits into the relaxing scheme of things better than a gown. These suits range from man-tailored suits to those of brilliantly coloured silks with balloon trousers, and are most attractive.

BEAUTY HINTS

Cheek rouge is the most misused of all cosmetics. Always remember that red is the most conspicuous colour in nature—that's why they use it for traffic lights and danger signals. Therefore, it should be used sparingly and in proper relation to the face.

For example, women with round faces should apply rouge along a vertical pattern to give the appearance of length to the face. The girl with the longer face should adopt a horizontal rouge pattern to make it appear fuller and rounder.

It is the popular belief that those with hollow cheeks should place the rouge above the hollows on the cheek bones. This only serves to make the hollows more conspicuous. Placing rouge over the hollow spaces fills them in as high lights on the face.

Too prominent features may be subdued by the proper application of a foundation cream—a darker tone on a too-broad nose, and a lighter tone to bring out the contours of the cheek bones or dimpled chin.

Make-up should match only the tones of the skin, and if this injunction is obeyed there will be no chance of a person who matters being frightened off by purple lips or orange-blooming cheeks.

Pineapple Recipes

PINEAPPLES are always plentiful in the tropics. They are invaluable ingredients in a fruit or vegetable salad or served as a dessert. The skin and core make a refreshing drink, and alone, or in combination with other fruits, pineapple makes a delicious jam. Grilled pineapple is an excellent accompaniment to meats, and a little grated

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Quail Strawberry Jam, 24 oz.	1/3 tin; 14/9 doz.
"Rosa" Honey, Finest Garden, 2 lb.	1/6 jar; 17/9 doz.
"I.X.L." Baked Beans	4 oz. 3/9 doz.; 8 oz. 6/3 doz.
"I.X.L." Spaghetti in Sauce	4 oz. 4/3 doz.; 8 oz. 6/3 doz.
"Red Feather" Camp Pie	8 oz. 5/9; 12 oz. 7/9; 16 oz. 9/3 doz.
"I.X.L." Sweet Corn	5 oz. 5/3 doz.; 8 oz. 7/9 doz.; 16 oz. 13/6 doz.
Nestle's Malted Milk	8 oz. 1/3; 16 oz. 2/3 tin
"Rosa" Pure Household Soap, large	6d. bar; 5/6 doz.
Assorted Toilet Soaps, 4 oz.	2/3 doz.; 22/6 gross
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pineapple added to curry gives it new interest. Make up your mind to let pineapple appear frequently on your menu. Here are a few suggestions to help you along.

Pineapple Tart

Take a medium sized pineapple and grate the flesh. Put into a pan with half a cup of sugar and one tablespoon of butter. Mix one tablespoon of corn-flour with a little water, add the beaten yolk of an egg and a pinch of salt. Bring pineapple mixture just to boiling point, thicken with the cornflour mixture, stirring all the time till it thickens. Add a few drops of lemon juice or essence.

Make a short pastry crust by rubbing $1\frac{1}{2}$ oz. each of butter and good dripping into 6 oz. of self-raising flour and one dessertspoon of sugar. Form into a paste with a little beaten egg and milk. Line a pie plate with half of the mixture, then roll out the other half ready for the top. Spread the very hot pineapple mixture on the bottom layer, cover with the top piece, press edges together, decorate and make a slit in the centre. Brush with the remainder of the beaten egg and sprinkle with sugar lightly. Bake in a moderate oven until the pastry is a golden brown. Serve hot or cold.

Pineapple Pudding

Melt 2 oz. of butter in a pan, sift in 2 oz. of flour and stir until thick. Then gradually add $2\frac{1}{2}$ cups of milk and boil gently for 4 minutes stirring all the time. Remove from fire, add 3 oz. of sugar, the yolks of 3 eggs, and lastly the stewed flesh of a pineapple which has been grated and allowed to become cool again. Pour the whole mixture into a buttered pie-dish and bake in a moderate to slow oven for a half-hour. Beat the whites

of the eggs with sugar to form a meringue, pile it on top and return to the oven to set.

Pineapple Mousse

Grate the flesh of a small pineapple, add a half-pint of water and sugar to taste and simmer till the pineapple is tender. Tip the contents of a pint packet of lemon jelly into a basin.

Strain the juice from the pineapple, and, using one and a half cups of juice, mix till the crystals are dissolved, then beat in the pineapple and leave until just beginning to thicken. Then fold in a $\frac{1}{2}$ pint of whipped cream and pour into a wet mould. Set in ice chest or refrigerator.

Spiced Pineapple

This is an excellent accompaniment to cold meats and salads and also for adding to curry or other made dishes. Make a syrup of one cup of sugar, quarter of a cup of pineapple juice (obtained by putting the sliced pineapple into a colander so that the juice can drain off) and a quarter of a cup of vinegar, a stick of cinnamon and a little grated nutmeg.

When it has boiled to syrup consistency, put through a strainer and return to the pan. Peel and slice a ripe pineapple, divide the slices into quarters and remove the cores. Press a clove into each piece of pineapple, plunge into the boiling water and simmer slowly for 20 minutes. Put into jars, seal when cold.

Stuffing for Lamb

Grated pineapple makes a delicious flavouring for stuffing a leg or shoulder of lamb. To one cup of fine white bread-crumbs, add one tablespoon of melted butter, three-quarters of a teaspoon of salt, pepper to taste, and a little chopped parsley. Mix in from half to one

cup of grated pineapple and a little lemon juice, also about one-third teaspoon ground ginger if liked. Stuff the cavity in the leg or shoulder of lamb with this mixture, skewer well and bake in a fairly hot oven. Any pineapple juice remaining can be mixed with a little lemon juice and used to baste the lamb alternately with the dripping.

Mrs. M. Clarke, Auckland, sends a recipe for

Pineapple and Celery Salad

1 pkt. pineapple jelly, 1 cup boiling water, juice of 1 lemon, 2 tablespoons vinegar, $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon salt, 1 cup well-drained crushed pineapple, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup grated celery (root), 1 large grapefruit cut in small pieces.

Dissolve the pineapple jelly in the boiling water, add lemon juice, vinegar, and salt. Allow to partly set. Add fruit and allow to set till firm. Serve with a boiled salad dressing. Delicious with tinned salmon, etc.

Rev. R. and Mrs. Jones, of the New Guinea Mission, have returned to Papua. For the past year he has been in residence at St. Francis' College, Brisbane, preparing for ordination, and recently was admitted to the diaconate by the Archbishop of Brisbane.

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Drilling in Papuan Jungle About to Commence

IN less than a year after Australasian Petroleum Co. Pty. Ltd. selected a site for drilling, in the dense jungle near the Vailala River, some 75 miles inland from the Gulf of Papua, drilling will commence. The site was selected in April, 1940, and drilling is expected to operate next month.

In oil-mapping the territory, selecting the site, clearing the jungle, transporting £200,000 worth of machinery, constructing a drilling rig 130 feet high, and housing and caring for a large staff, the Company has spent £700,000 and established a new Papuan township, which has been named Kariava.

Now, everyone concerned will await with the keenest interest the result of the drilling. The drill can go down to 10,000 feet, and on its verdict depends whether Australia is to have an independent oil supply.

Mrs. Bignold, wife of the Crown Law Officer of Papua, Mr. E. B. Bignold, arrived in Australia by plane in January, to undergo medical treatment in connection with her sight.

The Men Who Saved Civilisation

How "Cobber" Kain Died :: And Other Stories

TO-DAY, Britain is strong and fighting confidently through to victory, and 130,000,000 hitherto aloof Americans are coming gladly to our aid, and a dozen little nations, now under Hitler's heel, are daring to hope for the restoration of their liberties—all because, in the latter half of 1940, Britain repelled the Huns, and would not surrender. How did non-military Britain survive, while France, reputedly owning "the World's finest army", was smashed?

The answer is, "the RAF". As Mr. Churchill said: "Never did so many owe so much to so few". The achievements of Britain's airmen, between April and September, 1940, go on record among the finest things in the history of our race. They saved us from the Hun.

It is an epic story—and practically nothing of it has yet been told. But here, just to hand, is the outstanding book of the war, up to date—"Fighter Squadrons", by Noel Monks, published out here by Angus and Robertson Ltd., Sydney, at 10/6—and it gives the war correspondent's account of what he saw of the RAF in France, up to the Dunkirk evacuation. It is an intimate, personal story of the young British men whose heroism and sacrifice saved their country from Nazi slavery, and of "the miracle machine" which they operated, the Hawker Hurricane fighter. It is a book that makes one's blood tingle, and gives one renewed confidence in the future of one's race. Here is one story, out of dozens in this remarkable book (which, incidentally, is certain to be a "best-seller") :—

It is Friday, June 7, 1940. On a dusty emergency aerodrome near Blois, in France, a two-seater Magister communication plane is being loaded up with kit by an orderly. A tin helmet and a gas-mask complete the loading, and the orderly reports to a group of young pilots wearing the uniform of the Royal Air Force, chatting gaily a few yards away:—

"Gear aboard. Good luck, sir."

A tall, broad-shouldered, black-haired flying-officer, with the ribbon of the Distinguished Flying Cross newly sewn below his wings, leaves the group and walks to the waiting plane. He calls, "Cheerio, chaps! Be good", to his colleagues and climbs into the cockpit, settles himself, gives a mechanic the thumbs-up. The engine roars.

Suddenly a mischievous grin spreads over the face of the young giant in the Magister. On the port side of him he has caught sight of a Hurricane fighter. It is his old ship. Only yesterday at 20,000 feet, over Rheims, he had "squeezed the teat" that controlled its eight machine-guns, and down went his twenty-fifth "Nazi".

So he uncurls his long legs from the cockpit of the Magister and, going across to the Hurricane, wedges himself into the cockpit.

"One more beat-up, me lads," he calls, and he is off across the aerodrome in a cloud of hot dust.

The Magister's engine is left ticking over nicely.

With a roar like a thunderclap, the Hurricane comes back over the 'drome, above the heads of the little group of officers—only just above their heads, because it is barely twenty feet off the ground, is upside down, and travelling at 360 miles an hour. The boys call this a "beat-up".

Still upside down, the Hurricane shoots up to 1,500 feet in less than a minute, turns right side up, then starts a series of rolls earthward.

That is just how the young man in the Hurricane is feeling, rolling about in the thin air. The little Magister below, with its engine ticking over nicely, is going to take him home to England for special duties.

Two rolls are completed. The group of RAF officers suddenly stop laughing and chattering. One says anxiously, "What the hell?" as the Hurricane goes into a third roll, which his experienced eye can see will bring it mighty close to mother earth.

Then three or four of them yell "Cobber,

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ALWAYS KILLS

Cobber", and start running. There is a crash. The Hurricane does not quite complete the third roll. The port wing touches the ground.

While the young officers are lifting their dead comrade from the wreckage, a mechanic climbs into the cockpit of the Magister and switches off the engine.

That is how Flying-Officer E. J. ("Cobber") Kain, 73 (Fighter) Squadron, Royal Air Force, died. He was the first Ace in the war against Nazidom.

New Caledonia Solving Its Troubles

THE following important points made by Governor Henri Sautot, when he addressed the new Administrative Council in Noumea on December 23 (the new Council replaces the Conseil-General, which had been in existence since 1885), indicate the improving condition of the Colony.

The Council, for the present, was nominated by the Governor. A representative Council would be chosen by popular vote, however, as soon as international conditions permit.

The Colony's canned meat products had been sold to the Free French army. Efforts were being made to sell the Colony's coffee in Australia. Australian duties against New Hebrides cocoa had been removed. The British were co-operating in the establishment of a French shipping line, to run between Australia and United States, via New Caledonia, New Hebrides and Tahiti. A plan to establish a copra-crushing mill in Noumea was being supported. The cultivation of cotton for the Australian market, and of tobacco for the local market, was recommended. The delicate problem of disposing of the metal products of the colony in such a way that the interests of the Allies would not be harmed, has been solved.

Is There Too Much of "Dictatorship" in New Guinea?

SOMEONE should make a protest about the cavalier way in which the Legislative and Executive Councils of New Guinea appear to be treated.

Those bodies surely have some responsibility in the administration of the Territory, and should expect to be consulted when such important matters as the copra industry, shipping conditions, development of new industries, suggested removal of capital, etc., are under consideration. But the fact is they are not consulted as they should be—the Executive Council rarely, and the Legislative Council virtually not at all.

In the British Crown Colonies, the Executive Council, or a similar body, near to the Governor, has a most important function to perform, in a consultative and advisory capacity. It is a subject of comment, in inner circles in New

Guinea, that the members of the Executive Council feel that they are being ignored.

At meetings of the Legislative Council, members give of their best—a perusal of the official report indicates that it is always helpful, and should be of value to the Administrator. One is struck by the note of sincerity that runs through the utterances of all members, especially those described as "unofficial". But the regard in which "Hansard" is held "at the top" is indicated by the fact that, though the last meeting of Council was held in September, the report was not published until the end of January.

Public-spirited citizens in New Guinea can be excused for saying that the

Administratorship has now become a Dictatorship, and that it is only a waste of time to take any active interest in public affairs.

This is a matter worthy of attention of the new Minister, Mr. Collins, when—and if—he visits the Territory in March.

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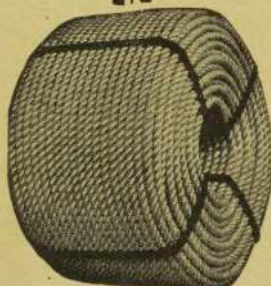
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January 1, 1940	£10/12/6	£9/14/9½
February 5	£10/12/9	£9/15/0¼
March 4 to June 17 ..	£10/13/3	£9/15/5¾
June 24 to July 7 ..	£10/12/6	£9/15/0¼
July 8	£10/11/-	£9/13/5
August 5 to Sept. 14 ..	£10/12/6	£9/14/9½
Sept. 21 to Feb. 11 ..	£10/14/-	£9/16/2

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MINING NEWS From New Guinea

NEW GUINEA GOLDFIELDS, LTD.

IF present conditions continued directors of New Guinea Goldfields, Ltd., would consider the payment of an interim dividend, said the chairman, Mr. Kruttschnitt, at the annual meeting of shareholders in Sydney on January 17.

Mr. Kruttschnitt said that, as a war-time precaution, it was important that the Co. should have a substantial cash surplus. The recent return of capital, to the extent of 9d. per share, had considerably reduced the amount of cash available. This reduction was the main reason for suspending the payment of dividends.

The writing-off of the old treatment mill at Golden Ridges as an item of the assets would not affect the cash position or dividend policy of the Co. Operating expenses at Edie Creek had been affected by deeper mining, the maintenance of more underground openings, and the higher costs of supplies and services since the outbreak of war.

Rising costs had been offset to some extent by economies wherever possible, and by increasing the output per miner-shift. To illustrate the increased cost of supplies landed at Salamaua, Mr. Kruttschnitt said that insurance, including war risk, had risen by 206 per cent., rice by 79 per cent., zinc shavings by 63 per

cent., fuel oil by 47 per cent., native meats by 39 per cent., and freight costs from Sydney by 20 per cent.

Total taxes paid by the Co. during the year amounted to £62,000, equivalent to 35.3 per cent. of the profit.

The Co.'s output from all sources in the year amounted to 43,948 oz. of fine gold and 90,764 oz. of silver. This exceeded the preceding year's production by 10,478 oz. of gold and 11,601 oz. of silver.

The latest report issued by the Mining Trust, Ltd., consulting engineers for N.G.G., Ltd., compares December production with October and November as follows:—

	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Edie Creek mill—			
Ore, tons	2,299	3,028	2,617
Gold, oz., fine ..	688	926	622
Silver, oz., fine ..	3,537	5,878	5,893
Golden Ridges mill—			
Tons treated	2,418	2,576	2,635
Gold, oz., fine ..	977	751	801
Silver, oz., fine ..	1,396	971	925
Alluvial—			
Gold, oz., fine ..	1,629	1,534	1,483
Silver, oz., fine ..	1,150	1,074	1,035
Operating profit—			
Edie Creek, £	*31	2,488	395
Golden Ridges, ..	1,031	*121	562
Alluvial, £	6,022	5,589	5,997

*Loss.
The estimated operating profit of Koranga Alluvials for the quarter ended December 31 was £6,760.

The low mine profits for December were due to adverse weather, which affected filling operations at Edie Creek, and to the mining of low-grade ore at Golden Ridges.

BULOLO GOLD DREDGING, LTD.

The directors of Bulolo Gold Dredging, Ltd., report that December production from the Co.'s dredges compares with October and November as follows:—

	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Cubic yards	1,765,000	1,677,000	1,698,000
Bullion, oz.	23,731	19,286	18,240
Gold, fine oz.	16,374	13,308	12,586

Estimated working profit for December, 6,942 oz. of fine gold.

SUNSHINE GOLD DEVELOPMENT, LTD.

Sunshine Gold Development, Ltd., reports that the clean-up for January yielded 180 oz. of gold, compared with 170 oz. for December, 56.3 oz. for November (when little sluicing was done owing to removal of overburden and resetting of plant in new paddock), and 688 oz. for October.

SANDY CREEK GOLD SLUICING, LTD.

January production at Sandy Creek is compared with October, November and December as follows:—

	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
Cubic yards	21,160	19,122	16,373	19,450
Gold, oz.	265	346	216	188
Per cubic yard	2/-	2/10¼	2/1¼	1/8½
Working cost	9¼	11¼	1/2	—

From Papua

CUTHBERT'S MISIMA GOLD MINES, LTD.

JANUARY production at Cuthbert's mine on Misima Island is compared with November and December in the following table:—

	Nov.	Dec.	*Jan.
Mill treated, tons ..	3,110	3,220	2,470
Bullion, oz.	3,214	2,868	2,391
Gold, fine oz.	760	738	594
Silver, fine oz.	2,338	2,040	1,729
Estimated value ..	£6,160	£5,974	£4,807
Value per ton of ore	39/7	37/1	39/-

*Holidays mainly responsible for low throughput.

PAPUAN APINAIFI PETROLEUM CO., LTD.

Papuan Apinaifi Petroleum Co., Ltd., reported early in February that the 136 ft. derrick of the major drilling plant for the No. 2 major exploratory bore had been erected, and the rigging-up almost completed. The plant for the No. 3 northern exploratory well was on the site, and assembling was proceeding.

YODDA GOLDFIELDS, LTD.

The field manager of Yodda Goldfields, Ltd., reports that the gold yield for January was 85 oz. 18 dwt., compared with 86 oz. 3 dwt. in December.

From Fiji

EMPEROR MINES, LTD.

JANUARY production at the Emperor mine at Tavua, is compared with the three previous periods as follows:—

	Four weeks ended			
	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
	30.	27.	23.	25.
Ore treated, tons ..	11,279	13,000	14,155	*13,381

Ankles Swollen, Backache, Nervous, Kidneys Strained?

If you're feeling out o'-sorts, Get Up Nights, or suffer from Dizziness, Nervousness, Backache, Leg Pains, Rheumatism, Swollen Ankles, Burning Passages, Excess Acidity, or Loss of Energy and feel old before your time, Kidney and Bladder Weakness may be the true cause.

Wrong foods and drinks, worry, colds or overwork may create an excess of acids and place a heavy strain on your kidneys so that they function poorly and need help to properly refresh your blood and maintain health and energy.

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Gold, oz., fine	4,029	5,062	4,823	4,764
Head value, dwt.	7.6	6.97	5.86	7.80
Residues, dwt.	0.07	0.51	0.4	0.54

*Including 3,801 tons of sulphide ore.

LOLOMA (FIJI) GOLD MINES, N.L.

Loloma production for January compares with October, November and December as follows:—

	Four weeks ended			
	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
	30.	27.	23.	25.
Tons treated	2,612	2,585	2,423	2,578
Gold, fine, oz.	3,450	3,387	3,210	3,436
Head value, dwt.	27.22	27.20	27.64	27.78
Residue, dwt.	0.81	1.00	1.14	1.12

MOUNT KASI MINES, LTD.

Production at the Mount Kasi mine, Vanua Levu, for the period ended January 29, is compared with the three previous periods in the following table:—

	Four weeks ended			
	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Jan.
	1.	4.	1.	29.
Ore, tons	3,104	3,881	3,972	3,125
Gold, fine oz.	615	733	706	816
Value, £A	6,150	7,330	7,060	8,160

†Shut down four days for overhaul.

ISLANDS MINING SHARES

FIJI

	Mid-Aug.	Mid-Dec.	Mid-Feb.
Emperor Mines	b9/9	b11/9	b12/7
Loloma	b21/9	b25/7½	b26/1½
Mt. Kasi	s3/3	b3/3	b3/9
Tavua Dev.	s2d	s4d	s2d

NEW GUINEA

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Guinea Gold	b8/11	b12/3	b12/-
N.G.G., Ltd.	b2/3	b2/8	b1/9½
Oil Search	b3/5	b5/1	b6/2
Placer Dev.	s£2/13/-	b£2/18/6	s£3/11/-
Sandy Creek	b11d	b11d	s1/-
Sunshine Gold	b7/10	b10/9	b9/6

PAPUA

Cuthbert's	b12/-	b14/3	b13/6
G.M. of Papua		b1d	s2d
Mandated All.	b2/2	b2/3	b3/10
Oriomo Oil	s6/6	b8/6	s10/6
Papuan Apinaipi	b3/3	b4/3	b3/3
Yodda Goldfields	b1/2	b1/4	b1/6

GOLD IS AT THE CROSSROADS

One Reason Why USA Will Not Have a Nazi Victory

DO any of our Pacific politicians, announcing complacently that New Guinea this year will produce £3,000,000 worth of gold, and that Fiji's annual gold output is now £1,000,000 or thereabouts, ever pause to think of that gold industry in relation to the war issue?

Gold retains its value now only because the United States continues to buy all that is offered, at the rate of ??? dollars per ounce. USA continues to put all that incoming gold into "a hole in the ground" (Fort Knox, Kentucky), in the confident belief that, one day, the world will accept the enormous accumulation at the calculated value.

But that gold will hold its value only if the Nazis are defeated, and, forced to accept world-wide economic conditions dictated by the Allies. That might not happen in a compromise peace. One of the primary aims of the Nazis is to destroy the sovereignty of gold in international calculations affecting values.

If gold, as the world's standard of value, should be dethroned—as it would be in the event of a Nazi victory or a compromise peace—an economic disaster of a magnitude without parallel in history, would descend upon the United States. The gold-mining industry generally would be wiped out; but that would be a small thing compared with what would happen in America.

The Americans are quite genuine in their determination to prevent the overthrow of the democratic system by the mad dictators of Europe. But, even if they were not, they could not accept a Nazi victory, when that victory unquestionably would mean (in the immobilisation and devaluation of gold) the complete disruption of America's economic life.—R.

PROBABLY the most publicised island in the Pacific is Easter Island.

People who know nothing of Pacific history have a vague impression of "the mystery of the Easter Island statues". The island is again in the news as a suggested defence base for the United States Navy. However, the Chilean Government has vigorously protested that it has no such intention. The fact remains, nevertheless, that the Americans consider both Easter Island and Juan Fernandez as possible links in an aerial service that will eventually link both Australia and New Zealand with the American mainland. Should this take place, and it is quite possible, the Chilean Government should not be averse to collecting good dollars from tourists. "The mystery of the statues" has definite publicity value.—E.R.

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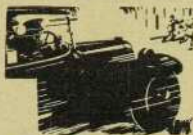
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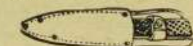
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High-grade De Luxe, Neat, small, compact, for Clubs, Hotels, etc. 64 numbered sections. Sheet of 64 Tickets 1d. per sheet.

High-pitched Tone De Luxe Professional Buzzer. The best made 15/-.

Adjustable Buzzers, 4/9. Others, 4/11, 5/6 and 15/-. As illustrated, 15/-.

METERS.—Pocket Volt Meters. 2 Reading for A. & B. Batteries, 8/6, 10/6.

WATES.—4 in 1 Meter: 0 to 6, 0 to 15, 0 to 180 volts; 0 to 30 M.A., 14/-.

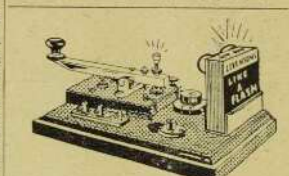
TELSER.—Millimeter A.C., D.C. British. Reads everything in Radio. Bench type, 22/6.

Emicor Universal D.C. Meters. Bench type, reads 0 to 6, 0 to 150 volts, 0 to 30 M.A.S., 0 to 2,000 ohms, 30/-.

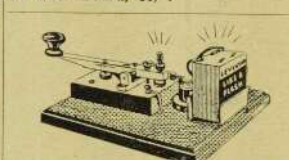
Nickelled Pocket Meter: 0 to 25 volts, 0 to 5 amperes; 35/- value; now 15/-.

BOOKS! BOOKS! BOOKS! The Beginners' Book of Radio. The Radio Beginners' Dictionary. 2/- the 2. The Wireless Constructor's Encyclopedia. Giant size, 7/6. Newnes "Everyman's" Wireless Book, 5/6. The Book of Practical Radio, also The Book of Practical Television, 8/6 each. Foulsham's Giant "Party and Fun Book", 1/6. Humorous Stories and Recitations, 3/9. Card and Conjuring Tricks, 3/9. Tea-Cup Fortune Telling, 3/9. 100 Party Games for Old and Young, 1/9. Popular Magic and Amateur Conjuror, 1/9. 50 Best Party Games, 1/6. Tricks with Cards, 1/6.

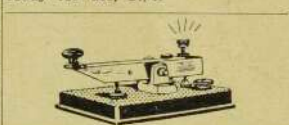
Now available (not less than 10/- parcels): Magic Wand, 1/6. Jafet's Wallet, 1/-; Obedient Ball, 1/6; Mystic Head Chopper, 2/6; Shy Lock, 2/-; Dribble Glass, 2/-; Ventrillo, 1/-; Magic Coin, 1/-; Nest of Nests, 5/-; Voice Echoer, 1/-; Magic Bottle, 1/-; 3 Bell Trick, 1/-; Wonderful Rattle Box Trick, 2/6. Mixed Parcels of Tricks, 10/-, 20/-, 30/-, 40/-, 50/-.



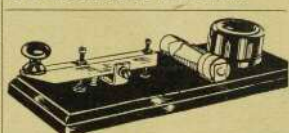
Morse Set Buzzer or light with single switch. All parts include adjustable Key, Switch, Buzzer, Lamp and Battery, all assembled on Base Board, 30/-.



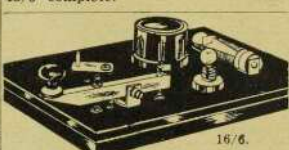
Morse Code Set "De Luxe". Adjustable High-grade Key, Buzzer and Battery. All mounted on base board ready for use, 27/6.



Adjustable Morse Code Key on Bakelite Base, highly plated parts, 12/6. Higher grade instrument.



De Luxe Junior Morse Code Outfit. Mounted Key Buzzer and Battery. 13/6 complete.



De Luxe Junior Morse Code Set. Buzzer Key Light, Throw-over Switch. All mounted with Battery. 16/6.

De Luxe Junior Morse Code Set. Buzzer Key Light, Throw-over Switch. All mounted with Battery. 16/6.



63/-

From London. "Cosmocord" De Luxe Crystal Pick-up, with Built-in Vol. Control, 58/6. Magnetic type Pick-ups, complete with volume control and tone arm. British Make, 30/-, 35/-, 38/6, 45/-.

SWOOP! BRITAIN'S BEST.

"Amplion." Bakelite PICK-UP, with Volume Control incorporated. Brand new, in original cartons. Listed to sell at 38/6. Now 32/6. Fits and suits all sets.

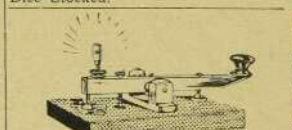
Play, Talk, Sing, Joke through your Radio. Great Fun, Batteryless type. Microphone for Hand Holding or Hanging, 22/6. Complete with Flex fixed in a second. Others, 12/6, 15/-, 17/6, 25/-, 28/6, 32/6. All plus 2/- for Battery and 1/6 for 20 ft. Cord.



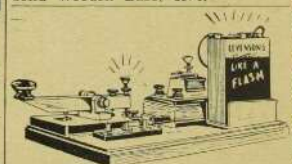
B.G.E. Table Type Microphone. Highly recommended for Amateur or Professional use. Built-in Transformer and Battery with Volume Control incorporated. Just plug into pick-up terminals of any set. 39/6. New Bullet Model, also 39/6.

RADIO VALVES.—We guarantee a Better Price. Send along your order.

Dice of all kinds in stock. Poker Dice, 6/6, 7/6, 8/6, 10/6, set of 5. Crown & Anchor Dice, set of 3, 5/6. Full Set with Cloth and Shaker, 10/6. H. & T., 5 & 6, and Hazard Dice Stocked.



P.M.G. Model Adjustable Morse Code Key. Heavy Precision Fittings on solid Wooden Base, 19/6.



Morse Code Light and Buzzer Set. A precision De-luxe outfit that cannot be bettered. Perfect Adjustable Morse Code Key, with professional type Buzzer. Light to Buzzer throw-over Switch, and Battery, all ready mounted, for immediate use, on strong solid wooden Base Board, 39/6 the outfit.

J. LEVENSON Radio

Write for Punch Board Leaflets

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226A PITT STREET, SYDNEY

Manufacturers, Importers, and Exporters. N.S.W., AUSTRALIA.

Write for Pin-Game, Totem and Odds and Evens Leaflets

Cable address: "Leveradio". Goods forwarded V.P.F. or Sight Draft. Satisfaction and Service Guaranteed. We can supply by mail all General Merchandise at a Better Price. Quotations with pleasure. Please add freight and packing. Write for full list of interesting leaflets of Games, Hobbies, Novelties, and Electrical Goods. Write for full list of Radio Meters.

We Can Supply, at a Keen Price, Any Available Article You Require.

Australian Short Wave Broadcast

A NATIONAL Short Wave Programme is broadcast daily from Lyndhurst, near Melbourne, Victoria, for listeners in the Western Pacific. Call signs: From 6.30-10.15 a.m., VLR7; from Noon-6.15 p.m., VLR7; from 6.30-11.35 p.m., VLR. Wave Lengths: From 6.30-10.15 a.m., 25.33 metres; from 12-6.15 p.m., 25.33 metres; from 6.30-11.35 p.m., 31.32 metres. Frequencies: From 6.30-10.15 a.m., 11.840 Kcs.; from 12-6.15 p.m., 11.840 Kcs.; from 6.30-11.35 p.m., 9.580 Kcs. Power: 2 Kilowatts. Times given are Australian Eastern Standard (10 hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time).

WEEK DAYS.—a.m.: 6.30, Market Reports; 6.45, News; 7.15, Music; 7.45, News; 8, Music; 9.30, Story; 10, Devotional Service; 10.15, Close. p.m.: 12, Time Signal and broadcast to schools; 12.35, Essential Services; 12.50, News; 1.10, Music; 1.35, News; 4.15, News; 4.45, Music; 5.30, Young People's Session; 6.15, Close; 6.30, Dinner Music; 7, News; 11, News; 11.15, Music; 11.35, Close.

SATURDAYS.—Same as daily programme, except between 1.05 p.m. and 5.15 p.m., when description of current sporting and athletic events is given, interspersed with music. Close at 11.35 p.m.

SUNDAYS.—a.m.: 6.45, News; 7, Music; 9, News; 9.30, New Releases (Recorded); 10, Book Reviews; 10.30, Famous Singers; 11, Divine Service. p.m.: 12.15, Great Violinists; 12.50, News; 1.30, BBC News; 3, Orchestral Programme; 4.15, News; 4.45, Music; 5.15, Close; 6.30, Island Nights Entertainment; 7, News and Commentary; 10.30, Music; 11, Close.

MARCH 1 TO MARCH 15

Mar. 1 (Sat.)—8 p.m. Sydney Symphony Orchestra; 9.30 Talk by Neville Cardus; 9.40 "Diggers On Parade".

Mar. 2 (Sun.)—8 p.m. Instrumental Ensemble; 8.30 The Mastersingers; 9 Gordon Ireland's Musical Quiz.

Mar. 3 (Mon.)—8 p.m. Jim Davidson's ABC Dance Band; 8.45 Phyllis MacDonald Sextet; 9.10 "Scotland Calling"; 9.30 Serial—"It Walks by Night".

Mar. 4 (Tues.)—8.15 p.m. Melbourne University Quartet; 9 Brass Band Music; 9.20 Arnold Matters (Baritone); 9.40 Talk—"The Wisdom of the Maori"; 10 Play—"Watchdog"; 10.30 Dance Band Music.

Mar. 5 (Wed.)—8 p.m. "Out of the Bag"; 9.45 Musical Feature; 10.05 Sydney String Quartet; 10.30 Modern Compositions.

Mar. 6 (Thurs.)—8 p.m. Orchestral Programme; 8.45 The Mastersingers; 9 Sydney Trio; 9.30 "My Favourite Programme" (Alan Coad).

Mar. 7 (Fri.)—8 p.m. Play—"James I of Scotland"; 9.15 Ballad Concert; 10 Variety.

Mar. 8 (Sat.)—8 p.m. Sydney Symphony Orchestra; 9.30 Neville Cardus.

Mar. 9 (Sun.)—8.30 p.m. The Mastersingers; 9 Musical Quiz (Gordon Ireland).

Mar. 10 (Mon.)—8 p.m. "Merry-Go-Round"; 9 Montague Brearley Ensemble; 9.30 Serial—"It Walks by Night"; 10 Austral Harmonists.

Mar. 11 (Tues.)—8.15 p.m. Orchestral Hour; 9.20 Arnold Matters (Baritone); 10 Adelaide Symphony Chorus.

Mar. 12 (Wed.)—8 p.m. "Out of the Bag"; 9.45 "How I Sing This Song"; 10.05 Sonata Recital; 10.30 Modern Compositions.

Mar. 13 (Thurs.)—8 p.m. "The Crier by Night"; 9.15 Mastersingers Quartet; 10.15 Jim Davidson's A.B.C. Dance Band.

Mar. 14 (Fri.)—8 p.m. Play—"Camellia Cottage"; 9 Leslie Chester (Violin); 9.20 Apollo Quartet; 9.45 Opera.

Mar. 15 (Sat.)—8 p.m. Sydney Symphony Orchestra; 9.30 Neville Cardus; 9.40 Old Time Music Hall Memories.

A party of Free French naval ratings recently arrived in New Zealand from Tahiti. They will remain in New Zealand for a period and then proceed to join the forces of General de Gaulle.

END HACKING COUGH !



Get prompt relief with WOODS' GREAT PEPPERMINT CURE. Loosens up chest, eases throat, soothes lungs. Safe, pleasant remedy for Coughs and Colds. Handy-sized bottle 1/2.

BROADCAST TO FRENCH PACIFIC COLONIES

THE Australian Department of Information, in conjunction with the A.B.C., recently inaugurated a daily broadcast in French of news talks, and music for listeners in New Caledonia, New Hebrides, and Tahiti. Transmission is made from Station VLQ, Sydney, on a wave-length of 31.2 metres (frequency, 9.615 mcs.) and consists of the following items:—

Aust. Eastern Standard Time.	Noumea Time.	
6.25 p.m.	7.25 p.m.	Announcements.
6.30 p.m.	7.30 p.m.	News in French.
6.50 p.m.	7.50 p.m.	Talk in French.
7.25 p.m.	8.25 p.m.	Close.

Mr. J. West, formerly of Kulili, New Guinea, having himself failed to get by the medical examination for the AIF, has taken over the mining interests, as partner, of Mr. B. F. Parer, of Maprik, near Wewak, in New Guinea. Mr. Parer is now with the AIF.

GENEROUS RABAU

SOME remarkable things have been done in the Pacific Territories, lately, in contributing to war funds, etc.; but the performance of the Rabaul people, at the end of December, in creating a fund for the help of raider victims, will take some beating. The survivors were landed on Emirau Island on December 21, and were rescued quickly, and taken to Australia. The rescue ship was only a few hours in Rabaul, and the victims did not land. Yet Rabaul, in that brief time, subscribed no less than £135/15/- in cash, together with a large quantity of clothes, food and medical supplies. The subscription list suggests that every European in the town contributed.

Mr. T. V. Lowney has been appointed Private Secretary to the Administrator of Papua, as from January 1. The post of Official Secretary has been abolished.

RADIO IN WAR-TIME

HISTORY is made so quickly nowadays that a reliable short-wave radio with really good performance is more than an inexpensive form of entertainment—it is a necessity if you are to keep up with the trend of world events. Ideally suited for this purpose with its phenomenal short-wave and tonal performance, is Philips Radioplayer model 2262—a six-valve streamlined mantel model, complete with every advanced feature of modern radio design. Model 2262 operates on either 110 or 240 volts and its short-wave coverage is from eight to 22 megacycles. Broadcast coverage is 540 to 1620 kilocycles. Send the coupon below for further details NOW!

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PHILIPS LAMPS (A/asia) PTY. LTD., PHILIPS HOUSE, 69-73 CLARENCE STREET, SYDNEY, N.S.W., AUST.

Please forward me catalogue and full information on Philips Radioplayer Model 2262.

Name.....

Address..... P.I.M.

Mr. W. Brian Molloy, of Port Moresby, returned recently with his bride from Australia. Mrs. Molloy, before her marriage, which took place in Australia, was Miss Olive Birch, a sister at the European Hospital, Port Moresby.

Mr. R. S. Willis, European Medical Assistant stationed in Port Moresby, has been appointed Health Officer for Port Moresby district—a new position in the Service, and created on February 1.

Coleman "SOLUS"
WICKLESS OIL STOVE - BURNS KEROSENE



SIMILAR TO EUROPEAN MAKES

now made by
COLEMAN LAMP & STOVE CO. LTD.

Toronto, Ontario, Canada

and sold by

All Leading Stores in
the Pacific Islands.

In case of difficulty in obtaining
supplies write to—
PEARCE & CO.—SUVA, FIJI IS.

Market Quotations

COPRA

London	South Sea, Sun-dried, to London	Plantation, Hot-air Dried, Rabaul
Price on—	Per ton, c.i.f.	Per ton, c.i.f.
January 1, 1932	£14 0 0	£14 15 0
June 17	£13 2 6	£13 5 0
December 16	£14 2 6	£14 5 0
January 6, 1933	£13 0 0	£13 12 6
June 30	£10 17 6	£11 0 0
December 1	£8 12 6	£9 0 0
January 5, 1934	£8 0 0	£8 7 6
June 15	£8 0 0	£8 12 6
December 28	£9 0 0	£9 12 6
January 4, 1935	£9 5 0	£10 5 0
March 1	£12 2 6	£12 15 0
June 7	£11 15 0	£12 7 6
September 6	£9 17 6	£10 17 6
December 6	£12 17 6	£14 0 0

London and Marseilles	South Sea, Smoked to Genoa	South Sea, Sun-Dried Hot-air Dried, to London, Rabaul
Price on—Per ton, c.i.f.	Per ton, c.i.f.	Per ton, c.i.f.
Jan. 3, '36	£13 2 6	£13 15 0
Mar. 6	£11 15 0	£12 15 0
June 5	£11 10 0	£12 0 0
Sept. 4	£13 2 6	£13 10 0
Dec. 4	£19 7 6	£19 7 6
Jan. 8, '37	£22 12 6	£22 12 6
Mar. 5	£19 0 0	£19 5 0
June 4	£15 15 0	£15 12 6
Sept. 3	£13 5 0	£13 5 0
Dec. 3	£12 10 0	£12 12 6
Jan. 7, '38	£12 12 6	£12 15 0
Feb. 4	£11 2 6	£11 10 0
Mar. 4	£10 17 6	£11 0 0
Apr. 1	£10 10 0	£10 12 6
May 6	£10 17 6	£10 17 6
June 3	£9 15 0	£9 15 0
July 1	£9 17 6	£9 17 6
Aug. 5	£9 15 0	£9 15 0
Sept. 2	£9 10 0	£9 10 0
Oct. 7	£9 2 6	£9 2 6
Nov. 4	£8 12 6	£8 12 6
Dec. 2	£9 5 0	£9 5 0
Jan. 6, '39	£9 12 6	£9 15 0
Feb. 3	£9 10 0	£9 12 6
Feb. 24	£9 17 6	£10 2 6
Mar. 3	£10 0 0	£10 2 6
Mar. 24	£9 15 0	£9 17 6
Apr. 6	£9 12 6	£9 15 0
Apr. 28	£9 17 6	£10 0 0
May 5	£10 0 0	£10 5 0
May 12	£10 5 0	£10 10 0
May 19	£10 5 0	£10 7 6
May 26	£10 7 6	£10 10 0
June 2	£10 7 6	£11 7 6

June 9	£10 5 0	£10 10 0	£11 7 6
June 16	£9 15 0	£10 0 0	£10 17 6
June 23	£9 10 0	£9 15 0	£10 15 0
June 30	£9 5 0	£9 7 6	£10 7 6
July 7	£9 2 6	£9 7 6	£10 5 0
July 14	£9 0 0	£9 5 0	£10 0 0
July 21	£8 15 0	£8 17 6	£9 12 6
July 28	£9 0 0	£9 2 6	£10 0 0
Aug. 4	£9 2 6	£9 5 0	£10 5 0
Aug. 11	£9 2 6	£9 5 0	£10 5 0
Aug. 18	£9 0 0	£9 2 6	£10 5 0
Aug. 25	£9 5 0	£9 7 6	£10 7 6
Sept. 1	£9 10 0	£9 12 6	£10 12 6
Sept. 8.—Not quoted—outbreak of war.			
Sept. 15 to 29.—Not quoted.			
Oct. 6	£11 15 0	(unquoted)	£12 15 0
Oct. 12.—Fixed price based on £12/7/6 per ton, c.i.f., London, for plantation hot-air dried.			
Jan. 8, 1940.—April 20, 1940.—Fixed price, for plantation, hot-air dried, £13/5/- per ton, c.i.f., London.			
April 20, 1940.—Fixed price for plantation, hot-air dried, £12/17/6 per ton, c.i.f., London. Since then, quotations nominal, as above.			

RUBBER

London	Para. per lb.	Plantation Smoked, per lb.
Price on—		
January 6, 1933	4½d	2.43d
July 7	5½d	3.71d
December 8	4½d	4.0½d
January 5, 1934	4½d	4.28d
July 6	5½d	7.06d
December 28	5d	6½d
January 4, 1935	5d	6½d
July 5	5d	7½d
December 6	6½d	6½d
January 3, 1936	6½d	6½d
June 5	9d	7½d
December 4	1/-	9 1-16d
January 8, 1937	1/2	10½d
June 4	11d	9 5-8d
December 3	7½d	7½d
January 7, 1938	7½d	7d
July 1	6½d	7½d
December 2	7½d	8d
January 6, 1939	7d	8½d
July 7	7½d	8½d
December 1	12d	11½d
January 5, 1940	13d	11.8½d
February 2	13d	11½d
March 1	12½d	12½d
April 5	12½d	10½d
May 3	14d	11½d
June 7	15½d	12½d
July 5	15d	12½d
July 19	14½d	12½d
July 26	14½d	12½d
August 2	13½d	13d
August 9	13½d	13 1-16d
August 16	13½d	13 1-16d
August 23	13½d	12.625d
August 30	13d	12½d
September 6	12d	12 3-16d
September 13	12d	12 3-16d
September 20	12d	11½d
September 27	12d	11-9-16d
October 4	12d	11½d
October 11	12d	11½d
October 18	12d	11 13-16d
October 25	12d	11 13-16d
November 1	12d	11 13-16d
November 8	12d	11½d
November 15	13d	12d
November 22	13d	11½d
November 29	13d	11½d
December 6	13d	12d
December 13	13d	12.69d
December 20	13d	12d
December 27	13d	12d
January 3	13d	12.47½d
January 10	13d	12½d
January 17	13d	12½d
January 24	13d	12.4½d
January 31	13d	12.5½d
February 7	13d	12.5½d



KEEP HAPPY - AND FIT.

Take Eno!

Keep cheerful by keeping fit. Guard against stomach disorders by taking Eno. Through its natural, gentle action, Eno regulates the system, washes away all poisons, and, being alkaline, corrects acidity.

ENO'S FRUIT SALT

General
Merchants
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Agents

REPRESENTING LEADING FIRMS IN THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

Islands Produce Sold on Shippers' Account —
Liberal Advances against Consignments.

25 Years Islands Trade Experience.

Bankers: Bank of New South Wales.

Buyers of all Islands' requirements on Commis-
sion — Original Invoices Furnished.

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C. Sullivan Ltd

379 KENT STREET,
SYDNEY.

Cable Address: "Trocas", Sydney.

Telephones: MJ 4657 (5 lines).

ISLANDS PRODUCE

THE following quotations were obtained in Sydney in mid-February:—

COFFEE

Robusta, f.a.q., imported from Java on firm conversion of exchange, c.i.f., prompt shipment, Sydney (Sterling): Price fixed by Government at 41/- per cwt.

(Note: Importers of coffee from Java, etc., pay additional charges, including Exchange, duty (4.4d. lb.), primage (11 per cent.), landing costs (1/- per cwt.), war duty (10 per cent.). Coffee from Papua and New Guinea escapes most of these charges.)

Kenya, f.a.q., immediate shipment, c.i.f., Sydney, per cwt. (Stg.): Quote No. 1: Grade "B", 65/-; "C", 62/- (New Season's). Mysore, f.a.q., c.i.f., Sydney, per cwt. Quote No. 1: Ship's assortment, Government pool formed, Grade "A", 82/-; Grade "B", 76/-; Grade "C", 69/- (It has been reported in Sydney, however, that parcels have been bought at prices lower than the above official quotations.) Quote No. 2 (c.i.f., Sydney): Grade "A", 73/-; Grade "B", 66/-; Triage, 60/-.

Arabian (Aden) Hodeldah, f.a.q., c.i.f., Sydney. No. 1 quotation: 84/-.

New Guinea and Papuan grown coffee was quoted in Sydney in mid-February at prices ranging from 8d. to 9d. per lb.

New Caledonian coffee: A Sydney firm stated recently that business has been done at the following prices:—Arabica, from 11½d. to 10½d. according to quality; Robusta, 8¾d. lb.

KAPOK

Java (Government-controlled prices).—Average Java, 6-7/16d. per lb. c.i.f. (Stg.): Prime Japara, 6¾d. per lb. c.i.f. (Stg.). Subject to exchange 25½%, duty 2d. per lb., 10% primage, 10% war duty, wharfage, etc.

Sydney quotations: Average Java, 12d. lb.; Prime Japara, 12¼d. lb.; Prime Java, 12½d. lb.

IVORY NUTS

Owing to the International situation, Sydney agents are not quoting for ivory nuts. The last quotations, some months ago, indicated that a nominal rate was in the vicinity of £7 per ton.

COCOA

New Guinea cocoa: Quote No. 1: £40-43 per ton. Quote No. 2: £40-43. Accra, good fermented, £33/10/- per ton (Sterling).

RICE

Rangoon rice, packed 100 lb. bags, £19 per ton; 200 lb. sacks, £18/10/- per ton. Australian table rice, packed in 56 lb. bags, £20 per ton.

TROCHUS SHELL

Quote No. 1: Grade "A", £57/10/-; Grade "B", £48/5/-; Grade "C", £37/10/-; "Chicken", £37/10/-.

Another agent states that nominal prices are as follows:—Grade "A", £60; Grade "B", £50; Grade "C", £40.

GREEN SNAIL SHELL

Green snail shell, quoted nominally by Sydney buyers:—Quote No. 1: £50. No. 2: £52.

Exchange Rates

THE following exchange quotations, gathered in Sydney, show the rates existing mid-February:—

FIJI

Through Bank of N.S.W. and Bank of New Zealand:—Australia on Fiji on basis of £100 Fiji: Buying £A111/2/6, selling £A113. Fiji-London on basis £100 London:—

	Buying.	Selling.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Telegraphic transfer	110 15 0	112 0 0
On demand	110 12 6	111 17 6

NEW CALEDONIA

Through French Bank:—As a result of the French surrender to Germany, the Anglo-French banking system has been completely dislocated. London is not quoting on Paris—therefore the Comptoir National d'Escompte de Paris Bank in Sydney cannot furnish bank rates, as usual.

NEW CALEDONIA AND TAHITI

Through Bank of N.S.W.:—Owing to the present European situation, London is not quoting a rate on Paris; and since the Sydney-Noumea and Sydney-Papeete quotations were based on the London-Paris rate, no quotations for these have been available for some time.

WESTERN SAMOA

Through Bank of New Zealand:—Australia on Western Samoa, basis £100 Samoa—buying, £A99/12/6; selling, £A100/2/6. Samoa on London, basis £100 in London:—

	Buying.	Selling.
	£125 10 0	£125 10 0
Telegraphic transfer	122 18 9	125 7 6
On Demand	122 8 9	125 2 6
30 days	121 18 9	124 17 6
60 days	121 8 9	124 12 6
90 days	120 18 9	—
120 days	—	—

NEW GUINEA AND PAPUA

Through Bank of N.S.W.:—Australia on Port Moresby and Samarai, Papua, 10/- per cent.

premium each way. Australia on Rabaul, N.G., 10/- per cent. premium. All other places 20/- per cent.

Papua and New Guinea on London: Same as Australia on London and vice versa.

Through Commonwealth Bank:—Australia on Port Moresby and Samarai, Papua, 10/- per cent.; on Rabaul, N.G., 10/- per cent.—other Papua and New Guinea districts, £1 per cent.

Rabaul on London, same as Australia on London:—

Buying: T.T. £A125 equals £stg. 100.

Selling: T.T. £A125/10/- equals £stg. 100.

TROUBLE FREE
Radio

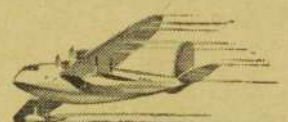
Buy from the firm that has specialised in tropical sets

AND
SAVE
MONEY

Special All-Wave Sets from
£7/10/-. Complete with
batteries, phones and aerial
gear.

Prices Radio Service

5 & 6 ANGEL PLACE, SYDNEY.
For Radio and Hobbies Supplies.

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Market and George Streets, Sydney

Father Thomas Parsonage, S.M., arrived in Sydney from New Zealand at the end of January en route to the Solomon Islands, where he will be engaged in mission work for the Marist Mission.

Brother John Slagle, who arrived in Sydney recently from the United States, left for the British Solomon Islands in January to take up an appointment with the Marist Mission.

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"Bernice" Delivers Mormons and Returns to Tahiti

DURING the centuries, when the great island confederation of Central Polynesia was in being, direct communication between Hawaii and the southern islands was frequent.

Priests and warriors and scholars from the north came to attend the august festivals of the gods at Opoa. High chiefs of the south went to the northern islands on visits of ceremony.

When the confederation violently broke up, in the fourteenth century, all such voyages ceased. Even since the coming of Europeans into the Pacific, direct voyages between the Tahitian and Hawaiian islands have been of very rare occurrence.

The schooner "Bernice" (Captain Alexander Mervin), of Tahiti, completed such a voyage early in January. The vessel was chartered to transport the members of the Mormon Mission from Tahiti to Honolulu.

Mr. Charles Brown (the owner of the vessel), Mrs. Brown, several nieces, and Madame Mervin were in the party. The company were most kindly received by the people of Honolulu. They remained several days, touring Oahu, and viewing the wonders of the "crossroads of the Pacific". One excursion was by aeroplane, and from aloft they could see the mighty USA battle-fleet anchored in Pearl Harbour.

The "Bernice" returned to Papeete, early in January, by way of the Marquesas Islands.

Mr. W. W. Pearce, accountant for the Methodist Mission at Rabaul, New Guinea, is at present in Tasmania on leave.

DEMAND FOR PACIFIC TIMBER

AS part of the extraordinary interest now being displayed in the timber resources of the various Pacific Islands, it is noted that a sawmill has recently been established on tiny Lord Howe, 400 miles north east of Sydney.

Many people will deplore this attack upon the Lord Howe forests; but Lord Howe, under war conditions, is getting no tourist traffic (its staple industry) and something had to be done to make the place self-supporting. The sawmill is believed to be one of the answers.

Practically all trading concerns connected with New Guinea are showing increased interest in New Guinea timbers, and there is a wide, growing demand for the so-called New Guinea walnut, whose native name is "Laup". There appears to be nothing to prevent a rapid development of this timber industry, to meet the demands of the Australian market, except the Australian regulation requiring that the timber shall be imported to Australia in logs, a procedure which involves so much loss in freights, etc., that it is almost impossible to make the business profitable. The idea, of course, is to protect the Australian sawmilling industry—but, like so many similar ideas, it is being carried too far.

New Officials in New Hebrides

THERE have been changes in the Condominium establishment in the New Hebrides since the French section of the administration came under the direction of the Free France Government.

The Joint Court is now carrying on without a Chief Judge, and other high French judicial officers who were pro-Vichy have departed. The Court now comprises Judge Egan, formerly of Ceylon, who has been there since August as the British judge, and Judge Trognon, who was appointed by the de Gaulle Government, and who arrived there late in September.

The French Resident Commissioner (who took the place of M. Henri Sautot, appointed Governor of New Caledonia), is M. Kuter. He was born in New Caledonia and is a well-known official, who had been stationed in the New Hebrides on a number of occasions.

The difficulties created in the New Hebrides copra industry through the French Government subsidising all French-produced copra, while British planters received no assistance, have disappeared since the capitulation. French and British copra is now virtually on the same basis so far as the general market is concerned.

Very Rev. G. E. Bergeron, S.M., who is now Provincial of the Marist Missions in the Pacific, at Hunter's Hill, Sydney, was formerly well known as Procurator. One of his principal duties now will be to visit regularly each of the eight missions over which he has jurisdiction. War conditions with their consequent effect on shipping, have placed many difficulties in the way of Father Bergeron; but since his appointment, some months ago, he has paid two visits to the Solomon Islands. Rev. Joseph Nicolas, S.M., who worked for 17 years in Fiji as a missionary, succeeded Father Bergeron as Procurator.

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EXPORTING TO PACIFIC ISLANDS SINCE 1893

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IT ATTRACTS — THEY EAT IT — THEY DIE



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DEATH OF MR. S. G. C. KNIBBS

THE death occurred in Sydney on February 5 of Mr. Stanley George Curthoys Knibbs, FRGS, formerly Commissioner of Lands, Crown Surveyor and Commissioner of Works in the Solomon Islands. He was born in 1886 and educated in Sydney, and joined the survey staff of the CSR Co. in Fiji, in 1911. He went to the Solomons as Crown Surveyor in 1913 and for 27 years held many positions in that administrative service. He was an Official Member of the Advisory Council, and on one occasion acted as Resident Commissioner. He retired in 1939. He was a son of the late Sir George Knibbs (formerly Commonwealth Statistician) and he was the author of "The Savage Solomons as They Were and Are", published in 1929. He is survived by Mrs. Knibbs and a daughter.

With Captain George Dibbern, owner, and Miss Eileen Morris, of Napier, on board the 32 ft. ketch Te Rapunga arrived at Napier on January 24. The ketch left New Zealand five years ago to sail round the world and now, having sailed 35,000 miles in the vessel, Miss Morris has returned to her mother's home in Napier. The Te Rapunga left Honolulu in October for Palmerston Island, which was reached after an uneventful voyage. When warning was given of a hurricane, Captain Dibbern and Miss Morris left Palmerston Island and on January 1, 60 miles off the island, they met the hurricane, and their ketch was severely battered. Dibbern is a German, and, after his case had been considered at length, he was interned "for the duration".

AUSTRALIAN WINE FOR FRENCH COLONIES?

THE Australian wine trade, if it is at all alert, will try to replace some of the market lost in Europe by getting the Australian product into the French colonies of New Caledonia, New Hebrides and Tahiti, where the customary supply of wine from Algeria has been completely cut off.

As everyone knows, ordinary wine is part of the regular diet of the orthodox French families and its sudden cessation is definitely a hardship. Importers are trying to introduce Australian wines, but the price apparently is 3 francs per bottle higher than Algerian wine—and this is

SHIPPING SERVICES IN THE PACIFIC

These time-tables, formerly a feature of the "Pacific Islands Monthly", give too much information about movements of shipping and therefore may not be published while war conditions last.

more than the ordinary colonist can pay. The fact that Australian wine has an alcoholic content of 13.5, or from 1.5 to 2 degrees more than Algerian, is no recommendation to the Frenchmen. The French people also have been accustomed to drinking a good deal of beer, imported from France and Japan, but this has now risen in price to 14 francs for a large and 7 francs for a small bottle—which also puts the overseas product out of consideration. Here, again, there is a chance for the introduction of the excellent light beers of Australia and New Zealand.

It is reported that an American resident of Noumea is about to open a small brewery there and, if there is no reduction in the selling prices of the Australian wines and beers, he should do very well.

A native Papuan deacon recently was advanced to the priesthood, in the new Cathedral at Dogura, by the Bishop of New Guinea (Right Reverend Philip Strong). There are now ten Papuan Priests working in the Diocese of New Guinea.

Gland Discovery Restores Youth In 24 Hours

Sufferers from loss of vigour, nervousness, weak body, impure blood, failing memory, and who are old and worn-out before their time will be delighted to learn of a new gland discovery by an American Doctor.

This new discovery makes it possible to quickly and easily restore vigour to your glands and body, to build rich, pure blood, to strengthen your mind and memory and feel like a new man in only 8 days. In fact, this discovery, which is a home medicine in pleasant, easy-to-take tablet form, does away with gland operations and begins to build new vigour and energy in 24 hours, yet it is absolutely harmless and natural in action.

The success of this amazing discovery, called Vi-Stim has been so great in America that it is now being distributed by all chemists here under a guarantee of complete satisfaction or money back. In other words, Vi-Stim must make you feel full of vigour and energy and from 10 to 20 years younger, or you merely return the empty package and your money will be refunded. A special, double-strength bottle of 48 Vi-Stim tablets costs little and the guarantee protects you.

Vi-Stim GUARANTEED to Restore Manhood and Vitality . . .
SCHAFFER & CO., SYDNEY.

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During 1939 the Society issued Policy Contracts to the number of **66,655**

These Policy Contracts, during their currency guarantee to the holders, on survival, or to heirs in the event of premature death, no less a sum than

£12,627,642

CHIEF AGENTS FOR PACIFIC ISLANDS:

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One of the best known USS Co. liners running between Australia and New Zealand, the "Maunganui", has been taken over as a hospital ship. She had a good record as a troopship in the last war. She is a fine seaboat, roomy and comfortable.

YOU CAN STOP THAT BACKACHE

But You Must First HELP YOUR KIDNEYS to Flush Out Acid Poisons

Recognise backache as a signal that there is something wrong with your kidneys.

Your kidneys contain 15 miles of tiny tubes and filters. Every three minutes all the blood in your body passes through these tubes to be filtered of waste matter and acid poisons. Unless your kidneys remove about 500 grains of dangerous impurities, these tubes become clogged, causing backache, leg pains, loss of pep and energy, getting up nights, lumbago, swollen feet and ankles, puffiness under the eyes, headaches, rheumatic pains and dizziness. Frequent or scanty passages with smarting and burning also show there is something wrong with your kidneys or bladder.

Don't delay and don't experiment. Go to your chemist or store for DOAN'S BACKACHE KIDNEY PILLS. Use them faithfully and give your kidneys the help they need before it is too late. Millions of users the world over have had quick, satisfying relief. Do as your neighbour does — take DOAN'S BACKACHE KIDNEY PILLS to-day.

NEW GUINEA 'PLANE LOST

WAU, Feb. 10.

AT about noon on Thursday, February 6, a Hercules 'plane, owned by Stephens Aviation Co., in charge of Pilot Frank Buchanan, and carrying one native as passenger, left the aerodrome at Salamaua for Wau, and completely disappeared. New Guinea mainland lately has suffered severe gales, and flying over the mountainous country is hazardous. For four days, 'planes searched the 50 miles of mountain and jungle between Salamaua and Wau, and on February 10 they located the missing 'plane. It evidently had crashed, and both men were dead. Pilot Buchanan had been over a year in this service. He was married and his wife lives in Wau.

PORT MORESBY'S BUSINESS BOOM

HALF an acre in the centre of Port Moresby, on top of the ridge, where the European school now stands, is to be leased by tender-tenders closing on March 31. The school is to be removed and re-erected nearby.

There is much business activity in Port Moresby at present, and so there is a good deal of interest in this site. Burns, Philp & Co. Ltd. are preparing to build another modern hotel close to the site of the old Papuan Hotel, and a report that rival interests contemplate acquiring the new site, with a view to building a third hotel, has caused some speculation.

One wonders why the Government does not retain this excellent site, for a worthwhile block of administrative buildings, as was done in Suva.

Miss Patience Rowe, BA, who is engaged in mission work for the Anglican Mission at Labasa, Fiji, is at present in Australia on furlough. She expects to return to the Colony in April.

Solomon Is. Residents Help Red Cross

Contributions to the Tulagi (Solomons Islands) branch of the Red Cross Society have been as follows:—

September.—Mr. A. Cant, 10/-; Miss D. Harry, 10/6; Plant Guessing Competition, £1/1/6; Members' Weekly Donations, £2/19/6; Chief Officer "Pinna", £1; Mrs. Campbell, £1/1/-; Natives of Lord Howe, £1/14/-; "Housey"—run by Mrs. Scott and Miss Higgenbotham, £4; Sale of fruit, 8/6; teapots, £1; savouries, £6/4/-.

October.—Mr. and Mrs. Johns, £1; Sale of Faisi turtle shell, £1/6/-; Sale of stool from Major Sanders, 8/-; Mr. L. F. Jones, £1/10/-; Mr. C. E. J. Wilson, £1/1/-; Archery Competition—run by Mrs. Beveridge and Mrs. Train, £3/5/-; Mrs. F. N. Harris, £1/1/-; Mrs. R. Hyne, £1/1/-; Sales: teapots, 4/6; savouries, £6; Members' Weekly Subscriptions, £1/11/-.

November.—Captain Wilding, £1/10/-; Mr. P. J. O'Brien, £1/1/-; Captain Bray, £5; Mr. Wilbur Clarke, 10/-; Melbourne Cup Sweep B.P.'s (5%), £1/10/-; "Solomon Surprises", produced by Miss Hackett, £36/17/4; Asia (Lord Howe), 6/-; Father Boch and Natives of Mission, £20; Mr. and Mrs. Bernhardt, £1/1/-; Mr. Monckton, £5; Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, £5; Sales: Savouries, £5/12/6; fruit, £1/12/4; Chutney, jam, etc., from Faisi ladies, 11/-.

December.—W. Jack, 1/-; J. Riria, 1/-; L. Lanhai, 1/-; G. Gideon, 1/-; M. Waitai, 1/-; A. Arifera, 1/-; Gaginna, 1/-; Esau, 1/-; W. Paia, 1/-; Walter, 1/-; Mamaran, 1/-; Gagi, 2/-; Kilata, 1/-; George, 1/-; K. Kisite, 1/-.

The Supreme Court in New Guinea, after a lengthy hearing, finally decided that Mr. Nunan, a Rabaul sawmiller, was not guilty of the death of a native labourer, whom he had punched severely, for some misdemeanour, and who subsequently died of a ruptured spleen. The evidence indicated that the native could very easily have been fatally injured, and that he might have received the fatal injury in half a dozen ways. The Court, however, fined Mr. Nunan £30 for unlawful assault on the native.

Although war conditions have been, in a financial sense, "tough" on the Pacific missions, the general secretary of Overseas Missions for the Methodist Church of Australia, Rev. J. W. Burton, states that the total income for 1940 was £95,742, compared with £93,785 in 1939. Seeing the difficulties with which they were faced, all the officers of this missionary organisation, early in the year decided to do their utmost to meet a difficult situation, with the foregoing very satisfactory result.

Pacific Islands Travellers

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

PER "TEGELBERG" TO PT. MORESBY: Messrs. Alexander, Collins, Cooney, Dillon, Eastwell, Fedoseyeff, Grills, Guest, Havill, Kirsten, Lynch, Matthew, McLeod, Molloy, Ryan, Smith, Sutcliffe, Taylor, Tomlin, Watson, Wiggins, Messdames Johnson, Molloy, Phillips, Sutcliffe, Wiggins, Miss Mackay.

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Electric Light,
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Freezing Works,
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MODERATE TARIFF.
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Arranged.

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HOTEL MORESBY

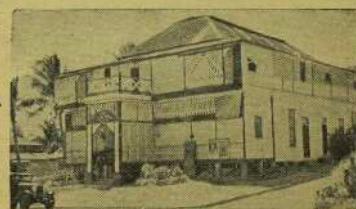


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Catering specially for
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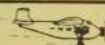
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FEBRUARY, 1941—PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY

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To-day multi-engined 'planes fly high above impenetrable jungle and precipitous mountains, harsh barriers that make a 35 mile overland journey (like Salamaua to the Gold-fields) stretch into 10 days of hard, dangerous trekking . . . but 'way up in the sky travelling time is reduced from days to minutes of safety and comfort. Guinea Airways' 'planes have safely carried over 65,000 tons of freight and thousands of passengers from the coast to the Gold-fields, and maintain regular services throughout New Guinea and Papua. Guinea Airways' reliable 'planes and skilled personnel have made the SKYWAY A HIGHWAY WITHOUT HAZARD — travel always and send all your freight by Guinea Airways to save time and money.



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Guinea Airways Service provides special passenger and freight land and sea 'planes for private charter to any point in New Guinea and Papua.—Obtain full particulars from the nearest Guinea Airways representative.

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PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY—FEBRUARY, 1941

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WHEN the sun beats down with throat-parching fierceness—when the air shimmers with the tropical heat—that's when you'll really appreciate the cooling, enjoyable qualities of K.B.; for the hotter the weather, the more real refreshment there is in a cool, satisfying glass of **TOOTH'S K.B. LAGER**.