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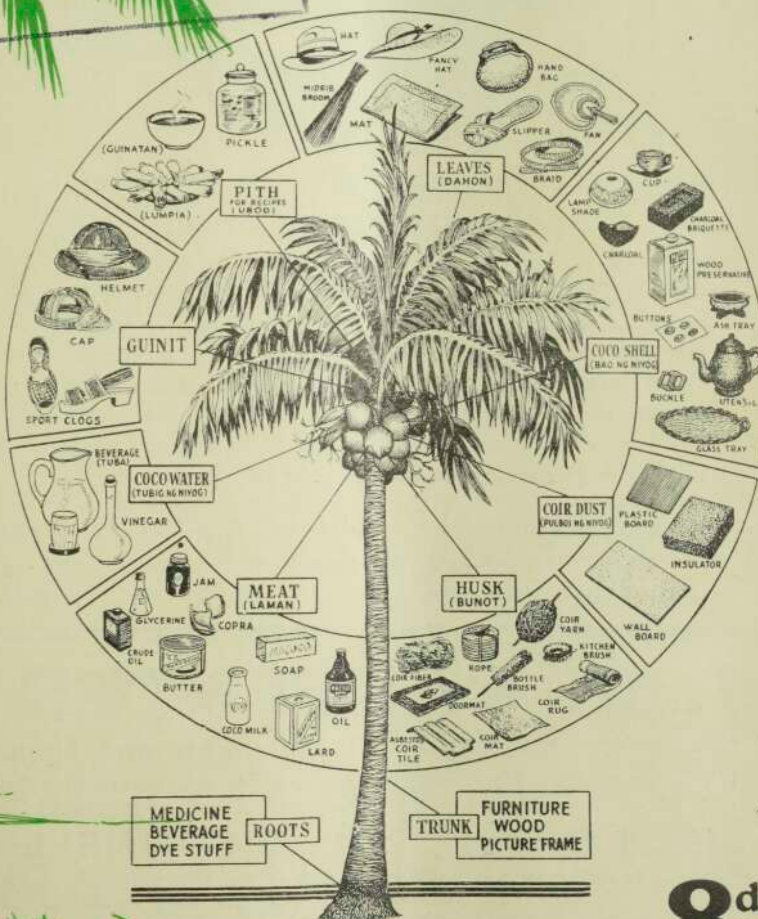
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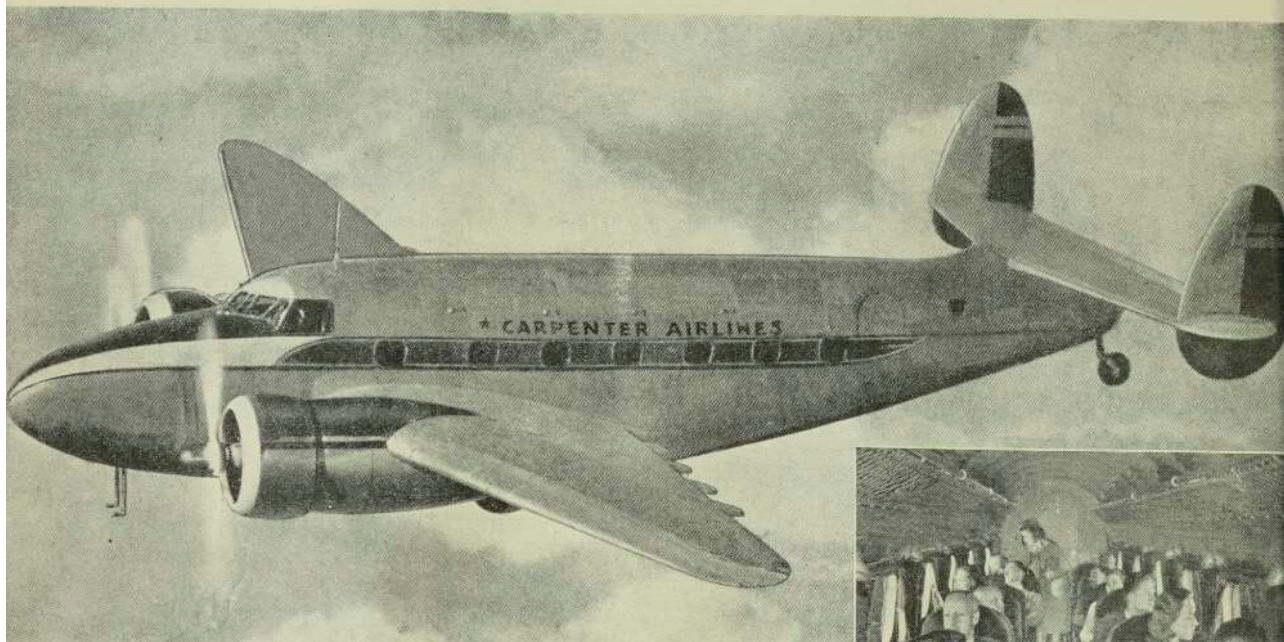


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PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY—DECEMBER, 1941

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PACIFIC NEWS-REVIEW

Nov. 14: German armies, in an attempt to reach the vital Caucasus oil regions, are thrusting forward in the Crimea, and slowly occupying whole of peninsula. Position is very grave. Another German assault on Moscow has been launched from the north-west.

Nov. 16: Although session of Japanese Diet which began yesterday had been awaited with world-wide interest, as promising a clarification of Japan's intentions, the principal speakers expressed themselves only in general terms. Japan's special peace envoy, Kurusu, has reached Washington.

Nov. 16: British aircraft-carrier, "Ark Royal", 22,000 tons, sank on Thursday while being towed to Gibraltar, after torpedoing. No loss of life.

Nov. 17: Nazis are claiming capture of Kerch, at eastern end of Crimea, and gateway to the Caucasus. Moscow Radio admits that Germans have now penetrated southern and western suburbs of Moscow, where the position is extremely critical.

Nov. 18: Japanese Premier Tojo laid down four points which Japan considers necessary for Pacific settlement—namely, no third-power interference in China; economic blockade of Japan to cease; Britain, America, and Netherlands to promise that encirclement of Japan shall end; and Japan's normal trade to be restored.

Nov. 18: Berlin says that the fall of Kerch means that a new struggle for possession of the Caucasian oilfields has begun, and the Germans apparently expect that the British will take over the defence of the Caucasian oilfields.

Nov. 18: Confidential talks between Japanese peace envoy, Kurusu, Japanese Ambassador Nomura, President Roosevelt and Mr. Cordell Hull, have now commenced.

Nov. 18: At dawn to-day, 8th British Army, under General Sir Alan Cunningham, attacked the Axis forces in Libya on 130-miles front, and by nightfall British, New Zealand, South African, and Indian troops had penetrated 50 miles into enemy territory, where big-scale tank battles are developing.

Nov. 19: Thousands of lorries, organised in transport lines, have commenced carrying British and American war material to Russia across Iran.

Nov. 19: The Germans, continuing their south Russian drive, claim to have isolated Rostov-on-Don, and expect to enter the Caucasus.

Nov. 19: British forces in Libya have seized Rezegh, on the escarpment, a few miles south-east of Tobruk.

Nov. 22: Extremely fierce fighting is proceeding on the Southern Russian front, and Moscow front, where enemy obviously is making desperate efforts to gain important successes before winter closes down.

Nov. 22: New Zealanders in Libya, advancing along the coast, captured Fort Capuzzo, while the Tobruk garrison is advancing southwards to junction with British at Rezegh. Great tank battles over wide area are described as "confused dog-fights".

Nov. 23: American-Japanese discussions are still proceeding in Washington, being subject to much delay owing to the Japanese envoy's frequent references to Tokyo.

Nov. 23: Great coal strike in United States, which threatened to paralyse war production, ended suddenly, with acceptance of President Roosevelt's plan for arbitration.

Nov. 24: Terrific tank battles are proceeding between British and Axis forces in Central Libya. The British, by making junction with the Tobruk garrison, have

encircled the German panzer divisions, but the fighting is inconclusive. British, in these operations, enjoy complete air superiority.

Nov. 25: Marshal Timoshenko has launched a successful counter-offensive against Germany's South Russian armies around Rostov. This operation is being studied intensely by military critics. It is regarded as Russia's last hope of keeping the Nazis out of the Caucasus oilfield. Meanwhile, the German thrusts at Moscow, only 40 miles from the city, are most dangerous.

Nov. 26: Great tank battle in Libya has continued with unabated fury and inconclusive results for four days. The fighting is confused and desperate. Nazis have successfully resisted the British efforts to trap them in north-eastern Libya.

Nov. 27: Timoshenko's armies in Southern Russia are now advancing strongly on a wide front, and German General von Kleist's armies, which apparently were about to enter the Caucasus region, are now in rapid and disorderly retreat to the westward. The Russians are still holding Moscow.

Nov. 28: Japanese-American discussions have almost collapsed, and America has informed the Japanese envoys that she takes an extremely grave view of the increasing Japanese troop concentrations in and around Indo-China.

Nov. 28: The trapped German tank divisions are fighting desperately to break westwards through the British ring in Libya. They are making attack after attack upon New Zealand, Indian and South African forces.

Dec. 1: Announced in Canberra that famous Australian cruiser "Sydney", 6,830 tons, completely disappeared on November 25, after sinking a heavily-armed German merchant-raider. 42 officers and 603 other ranks are missing. The "Sydney" apparently approached the raider, which was flying Norwegian flag, off West Australian coast, for examination, and raider unexpectedly opened fire. About 250 Germans from the raider reached West Australian coast, and they say engagement took place at dusk and they last saw "Sydney" ablaze about 10 miles away.

Dec. 1: American-Japanese talks are still proceeding in an atmosphere of increasing pessimism.

Dec. 1: Russia has gained her greatest victory to date in the war against Germany. The German southern armies are in full retreat on a wide front, having broken under a series of ferocious Russian counter-attacks.

Dec. 1: It is estimated that half the enemy tanks in the Rezegh area in Libya have been disabled.

Dec. 1: While fighting continues bitterly on the Russian and Libyan fronts, large RAF formations from Britain are nightly battering at Western German industrial centres.

Dec. 2: A state of emergency has been declared in Singapore. Manila reports that a Japanese fleet headed by cruisers and aircraft-carriers is not far from North Borneo.

Dec. 3: Australian destroyer "Parramatta" torpedoed and sunk, with a loss of 141 officers and men.

Dec. 3: Russian armies from north and south are closing in on the German armies retreating westward from Rostov, "gateway of the Caucasus". Some critics now say confidently that here the Germans have suffered their greatest defeat since September, 1939. The Russians are still holding the enemy at Moscow, although he is within 36 miles of the city.

Dec. 3: Formally announced in Tokyo that the negotiations for a Pacific peace will be continued in Washington.

NOTES AND COMMENT ON THE PROGRESS OF THE WAR FROM NOV. 14 TO DEC. 10

Dec. 3: The Axis tank forces, on December 1, broke the British ring between Tobruk and Rezegh, in Libya, and thus escaped the British trap and reunited their forces. The British divisions are being reformed and reinforced. The tempo of this fighting has slackened considerably.

Dec. 3: Large British naval units headed by the new battleship "Prince of Wales", 35,000 tons, have arrived at Singapore.

Dec. 4: Many reports agree that Germany is putting great pressure upon Vichy France to grant her the use of the French fleet and North African bases for use against the British.

Dec. 4: Russians now are not only pursuing the retreating Germans in Southern Russia, but they are also launching strong counter-attacks against the German drive on Moscow.

Dec. 5: American officials say that Britain now has three battleships at Singapore.

Dec. 5: Libyan fighting has died down, while the British and Axis forces are re-organising and re-fitting.

Dec. 5: American-Japanese peace talks are dragging on. America says bluntly that a general settlement depends on the acceptance by Japan of the non-aggression policies repeatedly and recently outlined by America.

Dec. 6: Negotiations between Japan and USA having apparently broken down; prepared plans for collaboration between Australia and the Netherlands East Indies, and precautionary movements by Australian air and army units, have been ordered into operation.

Dec. 6: Having driven the Germans back nearly 100 miles in Southern Russia, Marshal Timoshenko has launched an offensive on a 70-miles front across the Donets River, with Kharkov as his objective.

Dec. 6: President Roosevelt, in a last minute effort to maintain Pacific peace with Japan, has sent a personal message to the Emperor of Japan, pleading with him to intervene and prevent a general explosion in the Far East.

Dec. 7: The Germans are now retreating in disorder from several points around Moscow, where the Russians have strongly counter-attacked.

Dec. 7: Before dawn to-day, without warning, large Japanese aerial forces, evidently from Japanese aircraft-carriers, attacked Pearl Harbour naval base in Hawaii, Hickman airfield, nearby, and the city of Honolulu. They apparently caught the American forces unprepared, and did enormous damage, including the disablement of an undisclosed number of American warships, the destruction of large numbers of planes, and the killing and wounding of possibly 3,000 persons.

Several hours later, Japan formally declared war against the United States and Britain. Washington pointed out that when the treacherous attack upon Hawaii was being launched, Japan peace delegates actually were in the State Department in Washington, still carrying on negotiations.

Japan also launched attacks with aerial, naval, and military forces upon many American and British territories in the North Pacific—notably Wake Island, Guam, many places in the Philippines (including Manila), North Borneo, several points in Malaya, Singapore, and at least three places in Thailand. It is also reported that bombs were dropped on Nauru and Ocean Island. The unexpected and wide-spread character of the attack has disorganised news services and reliable information is lacking.

CONFUSION IN N. GUINEA

Effect of Hurried Move From Rabaul :: And the Cloud's Silver Lining

THERE are indications that the decision to remove the administrative headquarters from Rabaul to Lae has introduced into New Guinea a period of confusion—commercial and industrial, as well as administrative.

Owing to lack of money and preparation, it is impossible to assemble all the removed departments immediately at Lae. Some have to go to Salamaua, while others will remain for a time at Rabaul.

It is difficult, at the moment, to say where the capital of New Guinea actually is. The Administrator took up his residence at Lae on November 25, but the offices of Central Administration, at the head of which is the Govt. Secretary (Mr. Page) are still in Rabaul, and may remain there until February. (See our correspondent's article on page 44.)

It may be argued that the capital of the territory is where the Administrator lives. Actually, for business purposes, the administrative headquarters seem to be where Central Administration is located—and that still is Rabaul.

It can be understood that the wide scattering of departments and administrative officials is not only confusing but also very expensive. Communications between the departments have now to be maintained by radio and Government vessels.

So far as the big firms are concerned, the position is complicated. The two principal firms, Burns, Philp & Co. Ltd., and W. R. Carpenter & Co., are apparently making plans independently of each other. The latest information is that the Burns, Philp establishment probably will go to Kenabot Plantation, near the present township of Kokopo, 20 miles around the Rabaul Harbour, on the safe side of the volcanoes; while the W. R. Carpenter establishment may be

divided between Timbur, near Kokopo, and Toboi, about two miles west of Rabaul.

The numerous Chinese establishments—where half the retail and artisan trade is done—do not know where they are going, and probably will end by remaining exactly where they are.

AS an illustration of the commercial confusion, one may cite the case of the "Rabaul Times". This large printing office has produced Rabaul's weekly newspaper for over 20 years, and also has carried out, under contract, most of the Government printing. The decision to move the Administration elsewhere means that a large portion of the Rabaul printing establishment must either go with the Administration or be closed down altogether. The "Rabaul Times" management, when it learned that Central Administration was to move to Lae in December, announced that the "Rabaul Times" would cease operations at the end of December. But as it has now been decided that Central Administration shall remain in Rabaul for another month or two, it is possible that the "Rabaul Times" will carry on.

It is doubtful, however, whether there will be enough printing and advertising business left in Rabaul after the removal of the Government to justify the publication of a weekly newspaper, and in ordinary circumstances it might be expected that the "Rabaul Times" establishment would be moved to Lae.

However, the alert people who established the "Morobe News" recently at Wau moved their printing works to Lae immediately it was known that Lae was to be Governmental headquarters; so that there already is a weekly newspaper in existence at Lae—although it is probable that there is not sufficient printing plant there to cope with Governmental printing. It is expected that either the Government will purchase sufficient plant to do its own printing in Lae, or that the owners of the "Rabaul Times" and the "Morobe News" will amalgamate their businesses.

THEN there is confusion in regard to mainland transport facilities. It is apparent that if the capital of New Guinea is to be at Lae, roading communication must be established with the interior. This certainly means a good arterial road up the Markham Valley onto the Ramu-Purari tableland, and it may then be expected that a branch road will go up the Bulolo Valley into Wau.

In the meantime, the Wau miners are still insisting on the use of the short route between Salamaua and Wau—over the mountains—and their latest plan, as described elsewhere, is to cut a mule-track over the mountains and organise mule transport. This, as a stop-gap between now and the time when the arterial road will go up the Markham and Bulolo Valleys, may prove a sound idea.

THE silver lining to this picture of confusion and expense is the certainty that the placing of the New Guinea capital on the mainland of New Guinea will lead quickly to the development of the vast internal plateaux—the fertile lands lying at an average height of 5,000 feet and authoritatively described in the last couple of years as "a second Kenya".

The outbreak of the Rabaul volcanoes, leading to the abandonment of Rabaul as Governmental headquarters, may in many ways be regarded as a disaster; but, if at last it brings about the development of this vast territory on sound economic lines, it will not be an unmitigated disaster.

Drought in Suva

From Our Own Correspondent

IN a place where the annual rainfall averages 130 inches, one would not expect water restrictions. Yet, a lower rainfall than usual in October and November has caused a ban on garden hoses in Suva.

Most people with an experience of Suva and its rain, will wonder why hoses are ever necessary; or why, if necessary, they should ever be forbidden. The trouble lies partly in the small reservoir accommodation, some of which was badly built and cannot be fully used. But, perhaps, the main cause is the smallness of the local catchment area, the water from which is supplemented by pumping from lower levels—though here again the pumps are inadequate for the demand.

For these reasons, the Suva water ratepayer finds his supply reduced just when he most needs it. In most months, a 400-gallon tank outside the kitchen door would be refilled from the roof so often that it would suffice for all ordinary household needs.

Pacific Cultural Organisations

THE Pacific Islands Society, in Sydney on December 8, said farewell to Crown Prince Tuboutoa, of Tonga, and his brother, Prince Jione Gu, on the eve of their departure for the Friendly Islands; and also to the four members of the Burman Civil Service at the University of Sydney, who had planned to leave for their homes.

As a souvenir of their association with the Society, the honorary secretary (Mr. Eric Ramsden), presented Mo Myit, BA (who spoke for the Burman members), with a ceremonial paddle from Rarotonga, which had once been in the possession of the late Sir Maui Pomare. "With this you can paddle your way back if you find things too hot in Burma!" he said. "A welcome will always await you here."

Mrs. E. Marie Irvine presented Lefagaoalii (Mrs. Alfred Page) with a Christmas gift from members, and paid tribute to the charming and courteous manner in which she, as chieftainess, had acted as the Society's hostess since its inception. The Society had no more popular member than Mrs. Page.

Prince Tuboutoa, when replying, declared that the Society had undoubtedly played a part in creating good feeling among former residents in the Islands, and served a very useful purpose by bringing them together for social and cultural purposes. He deeply appreciated the compliment paid to his brother and himself.

POLYNESIAN CLUB

A number of bright and colourful entertainments have been given by members of the Sydney Polynesian Club for the benefit of various war funds. The most striking of these entertainments took place in November, when a wide variety of Polynesian dances, done in authentic costumes, was presented. A programme of no less than 20 items included many Maori songs and dances, Tahitian songs, posture dances of Samoa, the kava ceremony of Tonga, posture dances of Wallis Island, Futuna and Funafuti; and the various farewell songs of Polynesia. The performers included Cora Young, Gwen Lisner, Waikainga Tipene, Marjorie Ziele, Ivy Buffett, and Madame Annie Gliding.

Inspector Moncur, of the New Guinea Police Force, arrived in Sydney last month by airliner from Rabaul, on furlough. He is being relieved by **Warrant Officer Allen**.

WAR REVIEW—CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Dec. 8: Both Houses, of Congress, within a few minutes, and unanimously, endorsed President Roosevelt's request, and declared war upon Japan. All isolationists are supporting the Government, and the nation is united as never before in history.

Dec. 8: Japan is landing large forces in the Kra isthmus region of Thailand, evidently with the intention of launching attacks upon the British and Australian forces in Malaya.

Dec. 8: The Germans are now announcing that, owing to the rigours of the Russian winter, they are suspending all further operations on the Russian front until the spring. Meanwhile the Russians, who still hold Leningrad, Moscow and the Donets region (guarding the Caucasus), are now counter-attacking strongly, and the enemy is retreating in many places, with severe losses and privations.

Dec. 9: Unofficially reported that American planes have bombed Tokio and Formosa. The Japanese are preparing a big attack upon Singapore.

Dec. 10: British battleship "Prince of Wales" and battle-cruiser "Repulse" sunk off Malaya by Japanese aircraft.

This is a very grave naval disaster; and even more serious in that it apparently gives Japan naval superiority in the Pacific. This disaster, plus the circumstances of the Hawaii disaster, indicate that the Japanese possess a new weapon of tremendous potentiality—probably an aerial torpedo.

PACIFIC ISLANDS TRAVELLERS

PER AIRLINER TO PAPUA & N. GUINEA:
Messrs. Morris, Lindsay, Pegent, Marsden, Haydon, Middleton, Dobbie, Gray, Taylor, Campbell, White, Sherrenberg, Mulholland, Norgate, Diamond, Stahle, Warrell, Butler, Bates, Davis, Murray, Osborne, McLean, Hart, Mesdames Stack, Maurer, Bellamy, Gillingwater, Misses Rainey, Goffon.

PER AIRLINER FROM PAPUA & N. GUINEA:
Messrs. Love, Henderson, Butcher, Kingsford, Miller, Fisher, Smith (3), Halcomb, Fuller, Hosie, Gunther, Lucas, Bock, Hastie, Pickering, McDonald, Hadley, Gray, Mineham, Drogemuller, McLeod, Elliott, Leahy, Nelson, Phillips, Edwards, Houston, Hubble, Richardson, Mesdames Miller, Schroeder, Chater, Opas, Grose, Whittaker, Frame, Lane, Barris, Temple Watts, Misses Hurstman, McGuigan, Rosser, Morris.

PER STEAMER FROM FIJI: Messrs. Caldwell, Farquhar, Patel, Smith (2), Candier, Burfitt, McMahon, Brook, Bishop, Brown, McCreddan, Lanfranchi, Robbins, Rev. Donaldson, Brother Philson, Mesdames Burrows, Hardaker, McGowan, Marlow, Smith (2), Cookson, Burgess, Ashton, Dittfort, Menzies, Moore, Brook, Bishop, Misses Hardaker, Marlow, Dark, Farquhar, Marr, McKindlay, Duder, Uppill.

PER STEAMER FROM NG: Messrs. Brill, Deland, Gould, Jones, Martin, McLarnin, Morrison, Smith, Thompson, Vine, Savage, Croucher, Elkington, Wechsler, Inglis, Platt,

Vernon, McDonald, Wright, Bridge, Keenan, Robson, McGregor, Bernhardt, Blaikie, Clemens, Hooper, Mason, McBride, Bennison, Shearwin, Strouge, Threlfall, Aumuller, Fahey, Fisher, Rev. Edwards, Father Flynn, Mesdames Deland, Broodbank, McGregor, Blaikie, Hazewinkel, Hicks, Mason, Widdy, Aumuller, Fisher, Glanville, Hall, Owen-Turner, Pomeroy, Turner, Miss Downing.

PER STEAMER FOR PAPUA & N. GUINEA:
Messrs. Jones, Warner, Desreux, Shay, Mantle, MacGill, McKenzie, Moore, Ferguson, O'Malley, Topal, Clarke, Salzman, Roberts, Gaudé, Leyden, Daymond, Grahamslaw, Considine, Kunz, Sheringham, Cookman, Petersen, Dermer-Smith, Robinson, Talty, Cameron, Quinton, Anderson, Middleton, Coombes, Beck, Fitch, Gazzard, Beazley, Abey, Cloake, Goche, Menteith, McGrath, Ockney, Wright, Watt, Kinder, Drysdale, Park, Cleve, Murray, Wheatley, Edwards, Lynch, MacGregor, Ritchie, Evans, Egan, Bird, Sparkes, Sherwood, Armour, Barker, Mesdames Brinston, Shay, Searle, Lonergan, Dockrill, Glassner, Mayfield, Trevitt, Talty, Coombes, Jarrett, Atherton, Gazzard, Beazley, Misses O'Brien, Voysey (2), Cull, Goffon, Chester, Bignold (2), Gray.

Mr. A. Long, Medical Assistant at Wewak, Northern New Guinea, is now in Australia on leave, with Mrs. Long.

Fiji Gold Dividends Heavily Taxed

BECAUSE the new Labour Government in Australia brought in a budget under which dividends received in Australia from gold mines operating in Fiji are subject to heavy taxation, a wave of selling of shares in Emperor Mines, Ltd., the big Fiji gold producer, took place in Melbourne and Sydney in mid-November. Shares which were being quoted at 11/- a month earlier went down to 8/10 in a few days, but they presently recovered to 9/-, and have remained there. There is nothing wrong with the Emperor mine; and, therefore, persons who are not resident in Australia, and who have the opportunity of buying these shares, can make a very good investment.

The Islands business of C. Sullivan Ltd. has been taken over by C. Sullivan & Co. under the general management of Mr. C. Sullivan. The new concern has taken over the staff and offices of Messrs. C. Sullivan Ltd. and will continue to do business at the same address as heretofore—379 Kent Street, Sydney.



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Mr. D. Scobie, translator in the New Guinea Lands Department, arrived in Australia in November to join Mrs. Scobie, on leave.

The death is announced, on active service abroad, of Major P. J. Woodhill, who was well known in the New Guinea Public Service, where he was legal assistant in the Crown Law Office. He was held in high regard in Rabaul, and many people will learn of his death with deep regret.



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WAR COMES TO THE PACIFIC

UNDER conditions of treachery almost without parallel in history, Japan attacked the United States on December 7, and now the Pacific Ocean is ablaze with war. Japan has committed national suicide; but her fateful decision has been received with relief by the democratic countries, for these reasons:

(a) We now are free, without compunction and without mercy, to deal with this most unpleasant, restless and untrustworthy neighbour in such a way that she no longer may be a disturber of the Pacific peace.

(b) Her attack upon the United States brought the Americans face to face with realities as nothing else could have done; and now the United States, united as never before, is wholeheartedly beside us in the war for the preservation of individual freedom and human decencies.

(c) There remain, in the world, no more embarrassing international uncertainties. There now are no more nations, like Russia, and United States and Japan, whose allegiances are uncertain and whose final decisions may influence the course of the war. The job, and the alternatives, are spread out clearly before us. There is no more guesswork. We, the great democratic powers (British Empire, United States, Russia, with Holland and

China) must destroy the Axis nations and the Axis viewpoint, or be ourselves utterly destroyed.

The task before us is grim, terrible and colossal; but we can envisage the whole thing now, and we may contemplate, with confidence, our ultimate success, and discern the shape and character of the victory to come. The entry into the war of United States and Japan indicates that the war will be long and exhausting; but, also, it gives us an assurance of final victory that was but wishful thinking a year ago. If the prospect seems depressing, let us compare the position to-day with the position in June, 1940, when Germany and Italy stood triumphant in Europe, America was irresolute, Russia was withdrawn and apparently hostile, and only our staunch old Britain, battered but unbeaten, stood between us and the Nazi concentration camps.

It is worth-while, at this stage, to make a balance-sheet of the war situation:

ALLIES		Population
British Empire—		
Great Britain		40,000,000
India		350,000,000
Dominions		20,000,000
United States		130,000,000
Russia		170,000,000
China		422,000,000
Netherlands Ind.		60,000,000

AXIS

	Population
German Reich—	
Germany	70,000,000
Austria	7,000,000
Italy	45,000,000
Japan	90,000,000
Hungary	9,000,000
Roumania	20,000,000
Bulgaria	6,000,000
Finland	4,000,000

Advantages with Allies.—Unlimited manpower; command of the seas; unlimited resources of foodstuffs and raw materials; tremendous industrial potential in Britain, United States and Russia.

Advantages with Axis.—German military and organising genius exercised on internal lines of communication; great industrial potential, not only in German Reich and Italy, but also in the enslaved nations (France, Belgium, Holland, Norway, Denmark, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Greece—total population, over 100,000,000).

Disadvantages with Allies.—Extreme slowness in organising for war.

Disadvantages with Axis.—Risk of trying to hold down 100,000,000 enslaved people; danger of running short of essential supplies, especially oil.

BECAUSE Japan, under the direction of Nazis and militaristic lunatics, has gone to war, the tempo and character of life has changed for every European resident in the Pacific Islands.

The change, at the moment of this writing (December 9), is bewildering, and the whole Pacific situation is obscure and confused. The Japanese, striking out like madmen, and scattering their naval and aerial forces, like madmen, all over the Northern Pacific, have done a great deal of damage, some of it important. Through the veil of necessary censor-

WHAT THIS NEW WAR MAY MEAN TO RESIDENTS IN PACIFIC

ship, we to-day can see only the following clear facts.

Japanese aircraft carriers (of which Japan has so many that she can afford to throw them away) have carried planes right up to the Hawaiian Islands, which they are battering fiercely in an attempt to paralyse this most important American naval base; and right up to the western coasts of United States and Canada, which already are being menaced.

Japanese naval and aerial expeditions are mopping up American and British places in the North Pacific—especially Midway and Wake Islands, Guam, Manila and various other points in the Philippines, and North

PLEASE NOTE

Two-thirds of this journal was written and printed prior to December 8, and therefore before Japan launched her treacherous attack upon the United States, in Hawaii, and set all the Pacific ablaze.

That will explain why so many of the articles deal only with peace-time activities in the Pacific, and have a peace-time "slant".

Borneo. There are no details, but it would appear that the Japanese have landed forces at a number of these places and taken possession.

Planes from the Marshalls have repeatedly bombed Ocean Island and Nauru; but there are no details.

Japanese forces have seized Shanghai; are besieging the British in Hong Kong; have landed at several points in Thailand, just north of Malaya, which they are proceeding to attack; have carried out aerial raids on Singapore; and they have occupied Thailand and are organising a military attack from Thailand against Burma.

This series of widely-scattered attacks represents astonishing strategy. It can succeed only on the assumption that Japan has complete naval and air superiority in the North Pacific—which Japan has not.

Japan apparently has put out of action two or three important units of America's Pacific fleet; but America's fleet is big enough to bear much heavier losses than these. In addition, there is now an important British fleet based on Singapore. These wild Japanese attacks, by air and sea, will assume a very different complexion when the powerful naval forces of the United States, Britain and Holland—to say nothing of Russia's air forces—come into action.

THERE is much information for which dwellers in the Pacific will be eagerly seeking, but which probably cannot be supplied for some time yet. Here, however, are questions which are being asked everywhere, and to which we have attempted to give answers, in the light of the facts as known to-day:—

(1) WHAT TERRITORIES ARE IN ACTUAL DANGER OF ATTACK—WHERE WILL JAPAN STRIKE?

At this moment, Japanese aeroplanes are striking, not only at Hawaii, but at the western coasts of North America. This means that the Japanese strategists, going apparently on the theory that they thereby can strike dismay into the hearts of the civil populations, are prepared to drop bombs from aircraft carried on naval carriers, at a distance of thousands of miles from Japanese bases. Therefore, until the Allies work out a co-ordinated plan of naval action against this extraordinary strategy, there is not an island in the South Pacific, nor a town in Australia, nor a point in the East Indies, which may be regarded as safe from sporadic Japanese attacks.

(2) WILL THOSE ATTACKS COME WITH THE FORCE OF INVASION, OR WILL THEY BE RAIDING OR NUISANCE ATTACKS?

There is no indication now that the Japanese are attempting large-scale invasion at any place except Thailand—although there are indications that attempts are being made to seize and occupy some of the Philippine Islands. It is inconceivable that Japan will send away masses of sea-borne troops unless she is assured of command of the North Pacific. She cannot gain that command until she has conquered the American and British fleets.

(3) TO WHAT EXTENT WILL COMMUNICATIONS AND TRADE BE INTERFERED WITH?

It is obvious that, for a considerable time, all our sea-borne commerce in the Pacific will be seriously disorganised. It is known that, simultaneously with the launching of the treacherous attack upon American and British ports, the Japanese released in the Pacific and Indian Oceans large numbers of merchant raiders—small warships, submarines, armed merchantmen, and planes. These craft will attack our unprotected shipping, and our isolated and unprotected communities, all over the Pacific. It is to be expected that, while the Allies are creating a naval organisation which will sweep these pestiferous craft off the seas, our communications with all Islands ports will be disorganised. Vessels using the principal sea-lanes probably will have to proceed in convoy. For a time, probably several months, the residents of the Pacific territories must expect all the inconveniences and loss of irregular mails and supplies.

(4) WHAT IS EXPECTED TO BE THE COURSE OF THE WAR—THAT IS, WHEN WILL THE JAPANESE BE DRIVEN BACK

determined and persistent visitor at Victoria Barracks, where he is insisting that he is both young enough and well enough to render service as an Army Medical Officer.

A Christmas card—apparently posted in Tobruk itself—and a very cheery letter are to hand from Major H. T. Allan, of Wau, New Guinea, who has been in the centre of the Libyan fighting for several months, but who was apparently withdrawn with other Australian forces before the last severe campaign started. In his

WITHIN THEIR OWN TERRITORIES, AND OUR SEAS BE REGARDED AS REASONABLY SAFE?

It is to be expected that the strategy of the Allies will provide, first, for defence—that is, all our larger communities, within thrusting distance of the Japanese, must be put in a condition to defend themselves. After that, the Allies will set about clearing the seas of the enemy—and the simplest way to do that is to strike at him at home. When one deals with an octopus one does not attack the long, cruel, questing feelers—one goes straight at the body, and destroys that. That is the obvious strategy in relation to Japan. But, probably, months will elapse before we can create the necessary organisation.

Meanwhile, it is well to remember that in the wide Pacific Ocean there are thousands and tens of thousands of hide-out holes, where Japanese raiders may make their nests; and we know, only too well, that during the past 20 years these busy little men visited practically every one of those places, and charted it, and fitted it into a general raiding plan, for use on just such a day as now has dawned. The mopping-up of these forces and hide-outs, even after the head and body of the octopus have been smashed, will be a long and tedious task.

(5) HOW LONG WILL IT BE BEFORE THE COMBINED STRENGTH OF UNITED STATES, BRITAIN, CHINA, HOLLAND AND (WE HOPE) RUSSIA WILL DEFEAT JAPAN, AND RESTORE PEACE TO THE PACIFIC?

This clearly depends upon many things. Britain rapidly is developing her maximum war strength, and can give a very good account of herself whenever necessary; but the United States, only now, is seriously facing up to the colossal tasks of war, and a year or more may elapse before the great power of that nation can be exerted. China, undoubtedly, will hurl enormous masses of men upon the Japanese armies in China and Indo-China, but China must have munitions and equipment, and that problem is by no means solved.

If Russia, as our ally, goes to war against Japan, and strikes southwards from Vladivostok, the assistance which she can give to our cause will be enormous, and perhaps decisive. But, up to date, there is no indication whatever that Russia is going to declare war against Japan.

There is also food for thought in the fact that while the United States, in a few minutes and with complete unanimity, issued a declaration of war against Japan, the United States has not declared war on Japan's allies—namely, Germany and Italy.

We may as well face up to the fact that the Pacific is now to undergo a period of terrible disorganisation and confusion, in which all the stamina of the Anglo-Saxon peoples, as a fighting race, will be called for.

Sir Walter Carpenter was expected to return to Sydney in December. He is still in America, however, where he is giving personal attention to a series of new problems created by the Japanese war, in connection with the supply of Pacific copra to the Carpenter crushing mills in Vancouver.

Dr. G. H. Vernon, of Misima, Eastern Papua, arrived in Sydney early in December on an overdue furlough. He is expected to spend some time in cold country; but, when last seen, he was a

letter, "Blue" Allan remarks that he supposes that one effect of the establishment of the capital at Lae will be the construction of a road up the Markham Valley, and over the much-argued route into Bulolo and Wau. "Well, it is the long route," he remarks, philosophically, "but it is better than no road at all. After all, the road is the thing."

Sir Maynard Hedstrom, head of the big Pacific trading firm, Morris, Hedstrom Ltd., arrived in USA from Suva in November, on business.

FIJI'S NEW AIR SERVICE

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, Nov. 27. **A** PART from the incalculable convenience of the quick air-mails, the new trans-Pacific Clipper service is likely to be of great passenger value to Fiji. The shorter trips south-bound than north-bound mean that a great deal of space and carrying power is available for the hop from Suva to Noumea and Noumea to Auckland, and a surprising number of people seem likely to face the rather heavy cost of air travel. This tendency will be increased by the gradual diminution of passenger-carrying marine vessels.

Passengers say that air-travel, with its early morning starts and other disabilities, is not particularly comfortable in itself, despite the magnificent equipment of the planes used. But it has the great advantage of fair punctuality and, above all, speed.

JOBS FOR OFFICE GIRLS IN FIJI

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, Nov. 27.

IN normal times, Fiji recruits most of its young women employees from New Zealand or Australia. There appear to be no very serious restrictions on women leaving Australia for the Pacific Islands, but the ready availability of jobs in Australian towns has cut short the supply of women willing to leave. In New Zealand, there are emigration restrictions which prevent the departure of young women.

These shortages have meant that Fiji has had to live on its own resources in this direction, and the resources are limited. Any woman with any claim to office experience can now get a job easily in Suva; and, with the pressure for employees, wage standards are increasing, and conditions of work are being eased.

Thus, office women are beginning to realise their importance and to hold their heads rather high—even though the heads may be wearied by the constant, nightly round of military-flavoured parties usual under our present circumstances.

Uncle Sam's Money Big Trickle Into W. Samoa

From Our Own Correspondent

APIA, Nov. 20.

WESTERN Samoa has benefited substantially from the expenditure of a huge sum of money on the construction of a naval base at Pago Pago, American Samoa. A large number of our craftsmen and labourers are profitably engaged there; and, in recent months, we have found, in Pago Pago, a very good market for many of our products, especially bananas, taro, pineapples, avocados, mummy-apples and vegetables.

Sixty American officers and marines from the naval base came over to Apia early in November, on a three-days' visit. They were royally welcomed and entertained—and they left many welcome American dollars here.

Building Material Rationed in Fiji

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, Nov. 27.

IN mid-November, Fiji was startled by a Commodities Control order, forbidding the sale of building materials. The order was absolute and unconditional, and in its first shape prevented the acquisition of so much as half a pound of nails or a plank of timber. It has since been slightly modified.

The motive was to preserve stocks for defence requirements. In some directions, supplies of building materials from overseas have been very hard to secure, and there was bound to be a shortage; but a little foresight could have provided ample supplies of materials for both military and civilian needs. However, neither the governmental nor the military mind is given to exercising overmuch foresight in such minor directions.

There is a serious housing shortage in Suva—hotels and boarding-houses are crammed to capacity, and until the "stop supplies" order came out, there was a good deal of civilian building in progress, people apparently feeling that despite the greatly increased costs of house construction, such costs will be worse before they are better. Those people, left with half-built houses on their hands, and faced with the approaching wet-cum-hurricane season, are in an unfortunate position.

COPRA

South Pacific Pool Held Up Pending Clarification of Jap. Position

THERE has been no progress made recently in the plan, described in November "PIM", to bring the South Pacific Copra Marketing Pool into operation in January.

Discussions were well advanced, as between the Governments chiefly concerned (Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, and Free France), when the outbreak of war with Japan intervened. The consequent dislocation of all plans based on communications and transport necessarily causes delay in such a far-reaching plan as the South Pacific Copra Pool.

The New Guinea Copra Pool now is functioning fully; and those connected with it are of opinion that the South Pacific Pool will come into operation early in 1942, as originally proposed.

Until the war with Japan started, copra prices were fairly firm, with a rising tendency. Until the Pacific war situation is clarified, prices will remain uncertain.

Generally speaking, the main problem is to shift the accumulations of copra in such places as Gilbert and Ellice, Solomons and Tonga. In comparative volume, these accumulations are not large, but they are of great economic importance to the territories concerned.

Shipping will be disorganised for a time, so no immediate relief can be expected.

Prices in Fiji

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, Nov. 27.

THE negotiations for the Copra Pool drag on. It is rumoured that those parties in the Islands governed from Australia, who were most anxious for the Pool originally, have lost most of their enthusiasm; while the Fiji resident never saw why he should be expected to feel much enthusiasm.

But, apparently, the Minute Papers are still circulating, and presumably we shall be faced one day with a proclamation of the results.

In the meantime, sundried grade is selling in Suva at £5/10/- per ton and plantation grade at £6/10/-, £2 per ton above the minimum to which prices fell. Supplies are short, partly as a result of hurricanes earlier in the year, but probably more as an effect of deterioration of plantations and plantation equipment due to the low prices.

However, the man who can make up a fair quantity of copra is getting a price which may be held to return him a little surplus over bare making-up expenses, though not enough, of course, to enable him to spend any money reconditioning his plantation or paying mortgage interest, and the ultimate prospect is still therefore very black.

QUEER CREATURE FROM THE SEA



THIS extraordinary creature, apparently a kind of ray, was caught recently in the sea off Nauru. Mr. A. P. Lloyd, who kindly supplied the photograph, said: "It looks like a cross between a penguin, a dog and a man up here we all know!". It was about 30 inches in diameter, and weighed 14 lb. The picture gives its

general shape; but does not show a tail, 36 inches long, with two spikes at the end, which the native fisherman unfortunately had removed. The thing was a stranger to the Nauruans; but some Gilbertese there recognised it as a fish they sometimes found in the Gilberts, and which they called "Te Baiku".

The Hon. Mr. Justice J. A. Ferguson, of Sydney, who has joined the Pacific Islands Society, is a well-known Australian bibliophile, and the owner of one of the finest collections of early Polynesian mission printings. The Tahitian section called forth the admiration of Mr. Charles B. Nordhoff, the American novelist, when he was in Sydney. The judge this year published the first volume of his bibliography of Australia, a work upon which he had been engaged for 25 years.

Visitors from Papua include **Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Bensted**, of Tufi, Cape Nelson, where the former has been ARM for two years. They will remain in Sydney on leave until early next year.

SAMOAN COUNCIL ELECTION

From Our Own Correspondent

APIA, Nov. 20.
THE three-yearly election of two European elected members to the Western Samoan Legislative Council took place on November 5, and resulted in the victory of the sitting member, Hon. O. F. Nelson (who, after having at first announced his intention to withdraw, decided to stand again for election) and, for the first time in the history of the Council, of a member of the Samoan Labour Party, Mr. A. Stowers.

The Labour victory came as a surprise, as it was expected that Mr. A. G. Smyth, a popular and public-spirited resident of Apia, would be elected as second member. The number of electors had been increased by over 200 through the efforts of the various candidates.

Features of the election campaign were the large number of plump votes thrown for single candidates, instead of for the possible two candidates; the absence of any reference to the war in the speeches; and the absence of a large number of electors who are working on the US Naval Base at Pago Pago. The results of the election were as follows:—

Olaf Frederick Nelson	367 votes
Amando Stowers	238 "
A. G. Smyth	221 "
Percy W. Glover	140 "
Arthur Williams	116 "

The newly elected member, Hon. A. Stowers, is a planter, and one of the founders and president of the Samoan Labour Party.

New Guinea Women's Club Busy in Sydney

FORMED only a short time ago the New Guinea Women's Club, of Sydney, has already sent 160 parcels of comforts to New Guinea men serving with the fighting forces overseas.

The club consists of New Guinea women who are residing temporarily in Australia, or who have lived in the Mandated Territory. Membership numbers 48 and regular meetings are held at the Feminist Club, 77 King Street, Sydney; any funds necessary are raised by card parties, etc.

Office-bearers are well known in New Guinea: Mrs. H. Page, wife of the Government Secretary, is president; Mrs. B. B. Ferriman, whose husband was manager of W. R. Carpenter & Co. interests in New Guinea for many years and who is now with the Sydney office, is vice-president; Mrs. Harry Adams, the treasurer, has spent 22 years in the Territory where her husband is a planter; Mrs. Barry Parkes, secretary, is daughter of Captain and Mrs. Savage, of Rabaul, and lives in Hong Kong. The committee consists of Mesdames W. B. Rowe (of Kokopo), C. H. Maclean (15 years in New Guinea), A. Kelly (Rabaul), and Mrs. J. Newport, whose husband was Director of Agriculture some years ago.

Other members include Mesdames Baldwin, Bates, Duncan, Dwyer, Edgell, Ewen, Farlow, Foxcroft, Garton, Green, Ian Maclean, Maxwell, Margetts, Mears, Newnort (?), Thompson, Twist, Wanliss, Wauchope, Waugh, Woodhill and Miss Maxwell.

Until her departure recently for Rabaul, where her husband is a member of the Government Service, Mrs. R. Brinston was secretary; and Mrs. Steven Loneran relinquished her position as treasurer for a similar reason.

Captain d'Argenlieu Arrives in N. Caledonia

From Our Own Correspondent

NOUMEA, Nov. 17.
GENERAL de Gaulle's representative, Captain Georges Thierry d'Argenlieu, High Commissioner of the French Pacific, arrived in Noumea on November 5, accompanied by his staff. He has been quietly busy ever since, in the knowledge that the possessions administered by him play a fundamentally important role in Pacific strategy, now that aerial communications and the organisation of landing grounds for aerial fleets are the prime consideration in the defence of such a huge, island-dotted ocean.

The High Commissioner arrived aboard a French vessel. Interviewed, he said that things were now as they should be in Tahiti, under Lieut.-Colonel Orselli, of whom he spoke highly. The new Governor there, he said, was particularly fitted for such a post, owing to his acquaintance with Japan and his knowledge of economic problems in the Pacific, quite apart from his standing as an airman, as a Polytechnicien, and as a several-times-decorated veteran of the last war. Orselli is now 46 years old.

The High Commissioner, en route from Papeete, touched at Rarotonga, Suva and Port Vila. He discussed economic collaboration and defence with Sir Harry Luke, and the French and British Resident Commissioners in the New Hebrides.

One important question he is investigating is policy towards Japan, against

Commander Galsworthy, RN, British liaison officer, whose father was a cousin of the author, John Galsworthy. Noumea will be their headquarters.

The High Commissioner was received with ceremony; and, later, at Government House, he forcefully addressed the assembled fonctionnaires, telling them that because of Free French effort, France appeared across the world as a nation which did not capitulate. France had one enemy—Germany—and she would continue the fight alongside Great Britain until that enemy was destroyed. His words: "France does not capitulate and will never capitulate" roused a great burst of applause.

Among the 22 civil and military officials who arrived with the High Commissioner (eight of whom are accompanied by their wives) are M. Fourcade, formerly an African official, of the Colonial Administration; Dr. Devaud, formerly of the Messageries Maritimes ship "Ville d'Amiens", and hence well known in Noumea; and M. Brault, jr., whose father is an avocat in Tahiti.

It is of interest that M. Fourcade is a Caledonian, though he left this Colony as long ago as 1919. After a successful career as student, he entered the service and was finally appointed to the Cameroons. It was at the capital of this Colony, Yaounde, where Brunot was Governor-General, that he rallied to de Gaulle in June last year.



Captain d'Argenlieu standing before the microphone after addressing New Caledonians on his arrival in Noumea last month. —Photo: Dunne, Noumea.

whom a temporary ban has been imposed on Caledonian mineral exports.

The High Commissioner is accompanied by Frigate Captain Cabanier, a popular submarine officer with a fine career, who is in charge of defence, and by Lieut.-

SAMOA'S SPITFIRE

From Our Own Correspondent

APIA, Nov. 22.
THE Spitfire 'plane, donated last year by the residents of Western Samoa, is flying with the New Zealand Spitfire Squadron, and its Pilot is Sergeant A. F. Kronfeld, whose grandfather, the late Mr. G. Kronfeld, was a well-known Pacific personality, and a former resident of Samoa, Tonga and Auckland. His widow is a lady of Samoan birth and descent, and lives in Auckland.

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 three 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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ALTERNATIVES TO COPRA

Philippines Coconut Corporation Experts Show How New Industries May be Based on Coconut Palm.

(Article written before outbreak of War with Japan)

ONE of the most interesting developments in the history of the coconut-growing industry has taken place in the Philippines.

THIS great Territory (13,000,000 people, now moving from United States protection to establishment, in 1946, as an independent republic) is the world's largest producer of coconuts, and the world's second largest exporter of coconut products. The Netherlands Indies is the largest exporter. The Filipinos themselves consume much of their coconut production, hence the apparent anomaly.

Under American protection, the United States take most of the Philippines huge production of copra and coconut oil. Under war conditions, USA still receives this copra, but at world-parity prices (a serious reduction on pre-war prices); and, in any event, it is most difficult to obtain shipping.

Faced with a national emergency—the threatened collapse of the country's biggest agricultural industry—the Philippines Government, in August, 1940, set

tively and do away with their traditional individualism which has worked more to their disadvantage than to their advancement.

THE NCC, in January, 1941, commenced the monthly publication of "The Coconut Journal", and this alert and informative newspaper supplies us with a wealth of information, showing what the Philippine coconut growers, under the

leadership of the NCC, are doing to help themselves and save their industry.

In September, one authoritative writer reviewed the year's activities of the NCC; and here is part of his interesting summary:—

"During the first World War, copra was sold in the Manila market at as high as 41 pesos per hundred kilos (equal to £66 Australian per ton) and coconut oil on the basis of .80 pesos per kilo. The 1914-1919 period was indeed the best in the history of the local coconut industry.

"But history did not repeat itself in the present war. A comparison of current prices of coconut products with those of previous years will reveal a world of difference. To-day, values have come down before the impact of the European conflict, and placed many producers at the point of bankruptcy.

"It is therefore, but proper that we turn to the by-products of coconut which,

AREAS PLANTED WITH COCONUTS

	Acres
Philippines	2,000,000
Dutch East Indies	1,500,000
India	1,400,000
Ceylon	1,100,000
British Malaya	600,000
British S.S. Islands	600,000
British Borneo, Kenya	100,000
South Pacific Islands	300,000
Siam	100,000
French Indo-China, etc.	100,000
Total	7,900,000

—"Coconut Journal," Manila.

up the National Coconut Corporation, to assist the industry generally, and with the following definite objectives:—

- (1) To establish, maintain, and operate or help establish, maintain, and operate drying plants, or copra driers, or coconut centrals; to provide facilities for the better curing of copra products and the proper utilization of coconut by-products, provided that no subsidy direct or indirect, shall be paid to producers or processors of copra, coconut oil, or allied products;
- (2) To afford facilities for bona fide production loans to Philippine coconut planters and copra producers;
- (3) To buy, sell, assign, establish or operate, rent or lease, warehouses, buildings and any other equipment and materials necessary and proper to carry out the preceding objectives;
- (4) To encourage local manufacturers to pay greater attention to industries which use coconut as basic raw material;
- (5) To encourage greater local consumption of the coconut and such products as can be manufactured or utilized from it;
- (6) To seek, establish and maintain markets for coconut products abroad; and
- (7) To help in the organization of co-operatives among coconut planters to buy and sell collec-

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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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properly industrialized, can displace such costly importations as gasoline, crude oil, kerosene, mineral carbon, paints, sacks, and other articles.

"To form a nucleus of an enormous body of skilled workers in the industrial-

ization of the coconut raw materials, the National Coconut Corporation has set up a number of schools, notably the one in Sariaya, for the teaching of home industries all over the country, to train men and women in the skill necessary to turn out the standardized products which the corporation plans to manufacture out of the coconut raw materials. These schools will teach the following:—

Better method of making copra—improved drying process;

Methods of making soap in the home—Nacoco sosa (a Manila preparation), mixed with an equal amount of coconut oil, produces a good soap by means of a process which a five-year-old can master in one demonstration;

Production of good lard and butter from the coconut meat juice;

Weaving of hats from strips of processed coconut leaves;

Making from coconut leaves braids to be exported to the United States for manufacture into various articles;

Preparation of coconut dishes—home-cooking department of the schools dedicated to the encouragement and introduction of coconut dishes in our daily diet;

Preparation of coconut charcoal for gas masks, a national defence item, with possibilities of profitable exportation;

Preparation of a wood preservative from coconut shell—the NCC technicians got a hint from the fact that coconut shells are never attacked by termites and forthwith developed a process for extracting a preservative for wood from the coconut shell;

Manufacture of coir from the coconut husk—the long fibres for the making of door mats, brushes, brooms, and similar articles;

Manufacture of a paneling material from the "shorts" of coir fibre, mixed with cement and asbestos, the product having been proven as fire-proof, sturdy, durable, and capable of competing with the commercial wall board used in house construction;

Preparation of coconut shell charcoal for motor fuel—the NCC technicians have developed a device by which charcoal is converted into gas and runs motors. The charcoal costs only .02 pesos a kilo and 45 kilos, costing .90 pesos are all that is necessary to run a motor truck

from Manila to Sariaya, a trip which normally costs from 4.80 pesos to 5.00 pesos in gasoline; (Note: A peso is worth 3/3 Australian. A kilo is 2½ lb.)

Manufacture of sugar and rice bags from coir to replace the jute bags, which are difficult to get these days, because of the war pre-occupation of India and the disruption of maritime transportation; and

Production of margarine and other edible products from copra.

"All the products to be turned out by the home industries and the plants of the NCC are to be standardized, so they can be marketed in quantities, whether locally or abroad, without any difficulty arising from variation in specifications.

"Developing these home industries, based on the coconut, the NCC expects to increase the total employment of the population in gainful work, and at the same time augment the total wealth-producing activity of the country.

"The self-sufficiency motif in the NCC's rehabilitation of the coconut industry is dramatized by the NCC's own use of coconut oil, coconut shell as charcoal and raw shell for motor fuel in all its plants, instead of imported crude oil, gasoline, kerosene or coal."

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

IN the following article we summarise some of the outstanding material which has been published in the "Coconut Journal", which may be regarded of interest to coconut planters, generally.

It was announced in January, 1941, that the Philippines Government proposed to organise coconut-growers and their employees into producers' co-operative societies; to assist Filipino retailers to compete with foreign retailers on at least equal terms; and to lend all possible assistance to individuals to organise consumers into co-operative societies. At the same time, steps were being taken to organise schools of instruction throughout the Territory where Filipinos might be trained in al-

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ternative and extended uses of the coconut.

The NCC announced that it would accept, in its bonded warehouses, throughout the Group, any copra that might be delivered there, provided that the copra was in the standard specifications of from 6 per cent. to 7 per cent. moisture, and less than 1 per cent. fatty acid. A loan based on 70 per cent. of the actual market value of the copra at the time of delivery would be made to the growers, bearing 6 per cent. interest p.a. Similar financial accommodation was being arranged for all by-products of the coconut, such as fibre, coconut shell, oil, etc.

COIR AND CHARCOAL

ATTENTION was given to the wholesale production of two important by-products of the coconut—coir fibre and charcoal. It was calculated that, under normal conditions, at least 300,000 tons of coir fibre were thrown away each year in the Philippines simply because the use of defibering machines had not become popular. The old-fashioned method of extracting coir fibre was by retting, or soaking the coconut husk in water for several months. Arrangements were immediately made under which co-operative units of coconut planters could purchase defibering machines from the NCC on reasonable repayment terms. A defibering

COCONUT CONVERSION TABLE

2½ lb. of copra = 4 to 5 nuts.
1 litre of oil (1¼ pints) = 7 to 8 nuts (home-made oil requires more).
1 litre of oil weighs 920 grams.
5½ lb. of copra produce 1¼ pints of oil.
2½ lb. of desiccated coconut = 5 nuts.
Average quantity of tuba (coconut toddy) obtained per tree daily = 0.67 litre (say 1 pint).
1,000 nuts produce 160 kilograms (4 cwt.) of shells.
1 ton of nuts = 890 whole nuts or 1,200 husked nuts.
15,900 nuts yield 1 ton of charcoal.
6,600 nuts yield one ton of spinnable coir fibre.

—“Manila Coconut Journal.”

machine in Manila then cost about ₱120 and each machine can defibre 1,000 nuts per day—giving 150 kilogrammes of clean coir fibre per day of 10 hours' work. This fibre is worth 9 centavos per kilo (about 4d. Australian per 2½ lb. weight).

Another calculation showed that 1,000 average-sized coconuts will yield 36 kilos of charcoal, 3 cans of wood preservative, 150 kilos of coir fibre and 230 kilos of copra. All these products have been found definitely valuable.

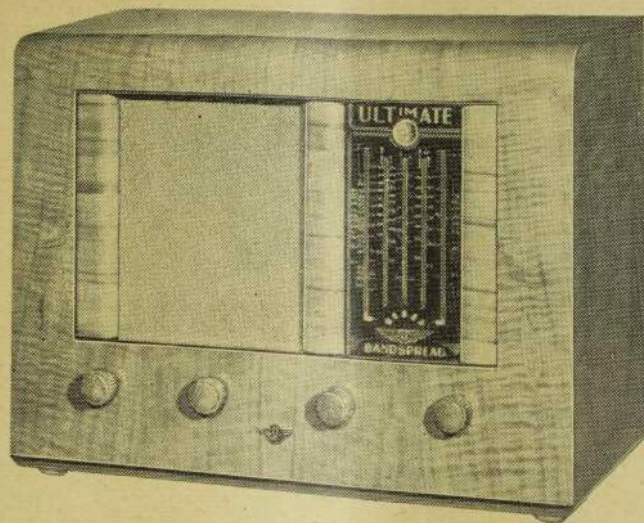
It has been found that this coconut charcoal has all the high quality of mineral carbon in the making of carbon electrodes, gas masks and for foundry work in place of coke.

It has found also that this coconut charcoal is valuable as a fuel in producer gas units used on motor cars and trucks; and, during the past 12 months, it has been so used to a rapidly increasing degree—especially as it has been briquetted and so made much easier to handle.

IN February, there were people in the Philippines urging that the population should be compelled to use coconut oil for lighting, in place of the imported kerosene, and claiming that they now can produce coconut oil so refined that it will give light equal to that of kerosene.

Other people were pointing out that, whereas in Ceylon the population ate 150 coconuts per year per head, as part of their staple food, the Filipinos did not eat 100 nuts per year per head. It was argued, therefore, that the local consumption of coconuts could be increased

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 50.)



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WHY NOT INDIA?

Should Supplant Japan in Pacific Leadership

THE great and growing part that India is taking in the British war effort was described in an impressive address before the Pacific Islands Society on November 26 by Mr. R. R. Saksena, who at present is Trade Commissioner for the Indian Government in Australia. A number of other Indians, officials and officers, were also present.

A plea for a new viewpoint on the future of the Pacific in relation to Asia, was made by a member of the Society, who moved a vote of thanks to the speaker. He pointed out that, for far too long, we Europeans in the South Pacific territories have regarded Japan as the inevitable leader of Asiatic nations in all matters involving a closer relationship between Asia and the Pacific territories.

"But," he asked, "why Japan?" "The Japanese," he added, "are not good neighbours; they are aggressive and land-hungry. They have created in the Pacific, during the past two decades, a condition of uneasiness that has grown steadily to the point when war is inevitable."

"Why should we people of the Anglo-Saxon nations not accept India, rather than Japan, as the natural leader of the Asiatic nations?"

"The Indian empire is potentially far more powerful than the Japanese empire; the culture of India was old when that of Japan was young; the people of India are just as clever and adaptable—probably more so—than the people of Japan; the Indians are much nearer to us, racially, than the Japanese; and above all, the people of India, as they have shown in their civil behaviour, and in the gallantry of their armies in the present war, are good neighbours, and they are thoroughly trustworthy in their professed allegiances. The behaviour of India, in this crisis, clearly places upon Britain an obligation to assist India towards greater freedom, greater power, and greater economic progress."

"Would it not be sound policy in the future to insist that India be accepted as the natural leader of Asia in all matters affecting the Pacific territories, rather than the aggressive, sabre-rattling and untrustworthy Japanese?"

Early Gold in Papua

Letter to the Editor

THE article in the September number of the "PIM", "Prospecting on the Fly River, 1875", by R. B. Howard, of Fiji, brings back to my mind the time I visited Port Moresby in 1884.

I was invited by Mr. Goldy (representing Burns, Philp & Co.) to be his guest during my stay, and I met there a German by the name of Hanstein, who was shooting birds-of-paradise for export to Australia. After speaking one day about some gold, which I had brought with me from North Australia, Hanstein went to his box and produced a piece of pure gold, which he said he had found in the stomach of a bird-of-paradise, shot about 40 miles up the Fly River. On returning to the same place, later on, he noticed a Papuan wearing a piece of gold, in the shape of an S, through the lobe of his ear. When he asked the native where he had obtained the gold, the native pointed to the bank of the river; but that was all he could get from the native.

Mr. Goldy also informed me that he himself had on several occasions received small pieces of pure gold from natives, obtained, so they said, in the vicinity of the Fly River. There might have been some truth in the reports by "German Harry" and "Nick the Greek", as mentioned by Mr. Howard in his article.

Leaving Port Moresby, after the hoisting of the British Flag in 1884, I returned by HMS "Swinger" to Newcastle. As soon as the "Swinger" had dropped her anchors, reporters boarded the vessel to obtain from the paymaster first-hand news about New Guinea. The paymaster handed the reporters over to me, saying, "Mr. Goedicke has been longer in NG and knows more than I could tell you!" Being asked about gold in New Guinea, I repeated the stories I had heard from Messrs. Hanstein and Goldy.

On my arrival in Sydney, the following day, I heard the newspaper-boys crying out: "Sunday Times—Gold in New Guinea!" I bought one of these papers and this is what I read: "Brisbane, Wednesday—A correspondent on Thursday Island telegraphed to the 'Courier' as follows: 'We have received a telegram reporting the arrival at Newcastle by HMS "Swinger" of Mr. F. T. Goedicke, with splendid samples of gold obtained about 20 miles inland near the Fly River. Mr. Goedicke arrived here from Port Darwin and went to Port Moresby in the 'Elsa'."

I am, etc.,

Haapai, Tonga,
10/10/1941.

F. T. GOEDICKE.

TROPICALITIES

NOT the least of the amenities of which one is deprived, when one travels among the distant equatorial islands, is the barber's shop. One's hair will grow; so one just begs service where one can. In these pictures, one sees



the varying technique aboard the various ships on which the editor of the "PIM" recently travelled.

The top one shows His Honour the Acting Resident Commissioner of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands (Mr. R. H. Garvey), preparing for a landing. The radio operator is operating; and Mr. Garvey's grip on the grating is induced by the fact that, if he didn't grip, the rolling and pitching of the ship would have put him in the scuppers.

The lower picture illustrates a technique less dignified, but better calculated to meet stormy conditions. Here, the chief engineer clings to a locker with his stomach, while an engine-room artificer strives to give propriety and symmetry to his officer's raven locks.—R. W. R.

TWO or three times, in past years, I have been solemnly assured by "old hands" in the Central Pacific that one may contract a venereal disease by

drinking "coconut toddy" (juice of the coconut flower-bud, allowed to ferment). The thing seemed absurd, on the face of it, but the old lads were quite serious.

In the Northern Gilberts—where there is much toddy-drinking—I got what appears to be the explanation. A party of Euronians, with whom I was spending a pleasant evening, directed my attention to a swarm of ugly insects, around the hanging lamp, and warned me solemnly against them. They said the insects were "toddy bugs"—they came into view wherever toddy was being

produced—and if they were allowed to remain on one's bare skin, they discharged an irritant poison which caused a most unpleasant blister. They were

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To all our Pacific Islands friends
we send

Xmas Greetings and Best Wishes for 1942

J. C. MERRILLEES & CO., Islands' Buying Agents, 113 Pitt Street, Sydney.

liable to fall into one's beer; and if one inadvertently drank any liquid in which a toddy-bug had drowned, one's urine and organs were usually affected in such a way that one, for some days, displayed all the symptoms of gonorrhoea.

I sat back, and fiercely guarded my beer against toddy-bugs; and recalled, with chuckles, a story told to me plaintively in Samoa by the late John Andrew, old-time trader, concerning an ailment which had befallen him mys-

teriously in the Line Islands, after he had been toddy-drinking.

The pestilential character of the toddy-bug was afterwards confirmed to me by other Gilbertese sufferers.—R.W.R.

MEN from the peripatetic services, who decide to break the monotony of tropical existence with a little unconventional revelry, are occasionally seen in Port Moresby. Recently, a visiting seaman caused a sensation in a hotel lounge by stalking past the tables, minus his trousers, and challenging all who dared "to take him on".

When the invitation was ignored, and it was urged that the gentleman clothe himself more suitably in the presence of ladies, he became violent, and attacked his companion. A general scuffle followed, on the floor, when another of his mates, thinking that perhaps things had gone a little too far, settled the affair with a well-aimed kick in the eye. This ended the fight, but not the disturbance. Order was restored when two policemen came and persuaded the wounded hero to go with them to the police station, where he received first-aid, and accommodation for the night.

THIS is not a "proper" story, and the Central Pacific official who included it in a private letter to the editor did not intend it for publication. But it is really so funny that it must go into print:—

ONE night we were all at Willie's, and he told us about some of the girls he had known. Mrs. Willie (Tiara) teased him about the time when they were first married and she went travelling with him.

He was a supercargo on a schooner. She said that whenever they arrived at an island he would take her on one

side and point out the particular girl he'd had on that island in his single days, so that if there should be any loose talk, and the matter should happen to come up, his wife could always retort: "Yes, that might be quite true, but he didn't marry you, did he? He married me."

Willie, by this time, had become a little tight and was telling us about some girls that Tiara had not heard about, and she took it up.

"Hey, Willie, you didn't tell me about this before."

"Eh? Oh, no, maybe not. But I haven't told you everything. I was sailing about these places before you were born. Why, I knew your mother when she was a young girl."

Without stopping to think, Tiara shot back, "Go on, now! Maybe you're my father!"

Willie was so astonished that he stopped drinking, and looked at her over the rim of his glass, and then he exploded: "Don't be so damn silly! Woman, you're crazy!"

He spent the rest of that evening mumbling to himself; and, every now and then, he would mutter into his empty glass: "Damn woman's crazy!"

Mr. Norman Wood, of Thurley's Pty. Ltd., importers and islands merchants of Melbourne, returned to Australia last month after a visit to Western Samoa in connection with the cocoa trade.

Mrs. Margaret Simpson, the oldest resident of Thursday Island, died in October at the age of 92. She went to TI when the settlement at Somerset (Cape York Peninsula, Northern Queensland) was abandoned in 1877. Her husband was Superintendent of Prisons on Thursday Island and died there in 1899.

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KING OF THE TANGITANGS

Interesting Movement in Gilberts

MEET Mr. William Schutz, of the Gilbert Islands, "King of the Tangitangs".

Born in the Gilberts over 40 years ago, and educated in the German Marshalls, Mr. Schutz entered the Burns, Philp service, and for about 16 years was supercargo on their trading ships hereabouts. A couple of years ago, he left the firm (generally referred to as "a bad day for BP's") and later began the organisation of a chain of native co-operative societies. He started on Abaiang; and in a short time there was a "tangitang" (co-operative society) on Abaiang, Butari-



Mr. William Schutz.

tari, Marikei, Makin, Tarawa and Maiana; and, when I called, they were forming one on Abemama.

At first, no one took much notice. "Tangitangs" are nothing new, and all go the same way. Natives, sure they are being exploited by the big firms, form a society, subscribe some capital, and start trading. There have to be directors, and a manager. Very soon, some bright lad "gets down on the cash", or an honest but inexperienced gentleman makes a muddle of management, and the concern folds up and disappears.

But the Schutz organisation persisted, and grew. Government took a hand. Government by no means discourages this form of co-operation; but Government also knows its "tangitangs" onions, and does its best to protect the members.

But the Schutz investigation showed the books and accounts in perfect order, and Schutz himself clearly competent to manage the organisation, even in these bad times.

Mr. Schutz is a man of good personality, genial and hospitable; but, also, far-sighted and shrewd. If the Gilbertese continue to trust him, and he is not crippled by lack of capital—it is not easy to finance, when one's stores are crammed with unsold copra—this man may cut on important swathe in the future commerce of the Gilberts.

Indications are that, under present conditions, the "tangitangs" will trade through the big firms; but, if ever they should reach the point of commanding independent transport, so that they may do their own selling and buying, BP and On Chong will face a No. 1 problem.—R.

PAA's hotel at Canton Is., Central Pacific, was damaged by fire last month.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Earley, formerly of Sydney and Wellington, have taken over the management of the Hotel Rabaul, in Rabaul, New Britain, from Mr. and Mrs. Jack Gilmore. They have had long experience in the hotel business.

Mr. R. A. Love, Chief Inspector of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia, made a brief visit to New Guinea by airliner last month in connection with the proposed opening of a branch at Lae, new administrative capital of the Territory.

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The loss of mineral elements in the body is due to the strain and stress of modern life. This shows in a loss of energy and vitality. Power to concentrate is lost, the sufferer loses his spirit, the desire to exert himself fails, his appetite weakens, he gets over-sensitive and quick tempered and becomes the victim of indigestion, neuritis, headaches, fits of depression.

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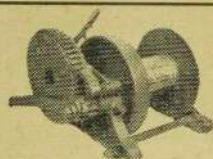
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GLYCERINE, the basic ingredient of dynamite (nitro-glycerine) can be obtained from coconut oil in three different ways:—

1. From the washings in big soap factories, plenty of glycerine can be recovered.

2. A Russian chemist, Sergius Petroff, has discovered a formula for cracking coconut oil into three things: petroleum, gasoline and glycerine. This process is commercially profitable only if the cost of oil is below £11(A) per ton.

3. In the United States, a machine is available in the market to extract glycerine directly from coconut oil.

Glycerine alone is only one-half of the story. To manufacture nitro-glycerine (or dynamite) it is necessary to have nitric and sulphuric acids.

Valuable New Book of Pacific History

IN "International Rivalry in the Pacific Islands, 1800-1875", Dr. Jean Ingram Brookes supplies us with a thing hitherto grievously missing—namely, a political history of all the South Pacific Territories, from the beginning of European penetration, up until the later part of last century. The book—a large one of 450 pages, including bibliography, index and maps, published by University of California Press, Berkeley, USA, for \$5—must have entailed a vast amount of research, cross-checking and compilation; but it does, as the publishers claim, supply the essential background to any understanding of present events, tendencies and conflicts in the Pacific Islands area.

The author describes the manner in which the Europeans came, step by step, into the Pacific; how the Islands, first of all, were merely places of refreshment and carousal for whalers and sealers; how runaway sailors, convicts and all sorts of human derelicts found succour there; how traders followed the discovery of the values of sandalwood, coconuts, beche-de-mer, and so on; and how the missionaries kept pace with the traders. She shows how Britain, France, United States and finally Germany began to show an increasing interest in the annexation of South Pacific islands; although it is clear that Britain (now the biggest landowner in the Pacific) was by far the most reluctant to accept such territories, and consistently rejected many pleas for annexation.

Here we find, carefully straightened out in correct chronological order, many hitherto confusing episodes in the early history of Hawaii, Tahiti, Fiji, Samoa, Tonga, New Caledonia and New Hebrides. For instance, we are given a full description of the "Pritchard affairs" of Tahiti and Fiji, both of which caused some political convulsions. The book makes it clear that there were two Consuls Pritchards, George and W. T.—father and son—and not one. George was hurriedly transferred from Tahiti to Samoa, and then was virtually removed from Samoa. His son, W. T., was appointed consul in Fiji, and was dismissed five years later.

There is not an event of any importance in the South Pacific, in all the Territories, between 1800 and 1875, which is not described, and fitted into its proper place, in this invaluable record of history. It is a book that must be included in every good reference library; and it will be much called for, in future.

HIGH PRICES FOR SAMOAN COCOA

THE representative of a Melbourne firm, who has just returned from Samoa, after visiting that Territory in order to buy cocoa beans for Australian interests, informs us that Western Samoan planters are now getting from £52 to £60 per ton, f.o.b. Apia, for their cocoa beans—the best prices known in that country for many years.

New Hebrides cocoa also is in demand; but, for some reason, New Guinea cocoa still is not regarded with favour by Australian confectionery manufacturers—they say that NG producers seem unable to get the right grade, in curing the beans.

Mr. Edmond Buteri, Joint Court Registry Clerk in the New Hebrides, has been relieving Mr. C. Steinmütz as Acting Court Registrar and Acting Registrar of Land Titles at Vila, while Mr. Steinmütz has been absent from the Group on six months' furlough.

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THE GIN OF GENERATIONS

CAPTAIN "JIM" SMITH

A Link With Bully Hayes

"WELL," I said, "for an old man you are in extraordinary good shape—how do you do it?" "Old!" shouted Captain "Jimmie" Smith, of Abemama, Gilbert Islands. "Old! I'm not old—I'm only 83. Look here," with an



appraising glance at my honourable convexity. "I'll race you down to the front gate." And he meant it.

I met two or three such men in the Gilberts. Apparently, having endured the toughness of early life in those unfertile islands, they can survive anything, and live far beyond the three-score-years-and-ten.

It is over 50 years since Captain Smith first saw the Gilberts—he had been wandering about the Central Pacific since the eighties—in 1894; he was in the labour trade and he sailed from Honolulu down among the equatorial islands. In the following years, he was in and out of most ports in the Marshalls, Gilberts, Fijis, etc. About 23 years ago, he settled down in the Gilberts.

Captain Smith is one of the last surviving links with Captain Bully Hayes—he was the last owner of the "Lotus". The "Lotus" was the little vessel which Hayes was sailing from Apia to Jaluit (Marshalls) in 1877, when he was murdered. The "Lotus" was sold in Jaluit, and eventually came into the hands of "Black Tom", well known in Samoa in Hayes' day.

"Black Tom" raffled the "Lotus", at one dollar a ticket, and Captain "Jimmie" Smith's ticket won. By this time, the "Lotus" was in poor shape, and on July 4, 1886, Captain Smith decided to make of her an American Independence Day bonfire, and thus she disappeared in a blaze of glory.

"Old Jack Sandberger, who was the sole survivor of Bully Hayes' team of traders in these islands, died a few years ago at the age of 90," said Captain Smith. "He has a daughter, living on Tabateua."

—R. W. R.

Mr. Vic. Gabriel arrived at Samarai, Papua, from Rabaul, TNG, last month to act as relieving manager of Burns, Philp & Co.'s branch for a couple of months.

How NZ Mishandles Samoa's Problems

From Our Own Correspondent

APIA, Nov. 3.

THE recent Fono of Faipule (Native Parliament) petition to the NZ Government to impose the death penalty upon Samoan murderers is another instance of how New Zealand wrongly deals with Samoa's problems.

During the past two or three years, there have been a large number of murders committed in a brutal manner and for trivial reasons by natives against natives. Whenever the murderers were caught, they have been tried by judge and jury and mostly sentenced to death by hanging. But the NZ Labour Government, having abolished the death penalty

in New Zealand, has in every case commuted the sentence to life imprisonment.

The Samoans, following the biblical "a life for a life" principle, fail to understand such an attitude, knowing full well that imprisonment is no deterrent to serious crime.

Misplaced humanitarianism has also caused the NZ Government to veto the placing in irons of dangerous criminals in Samoa. As a result, two of the most notorious Samoan convicts, Osea and Simaile, serving prison sentences for life and 12 years respectively and who have figured in previous gaol breaks, have again escaped from custody. They have been roaming the country, making Europeans and Samoans afraid for the safety of their women and children.

Corporal Epeneri Dakuitoga, of the Fiji Police Force, has been awarded the Colonial Police Long Service Medal.

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ROLL OF HONOUR

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

KILLED

Pilot-Officer Len BAYLISS, flying instructor in the RAAF, formerly of Rabaul, New Guinea. Killed in Sydney, 18/11/1940, when he fell from a trainer aircraft in flight.

A/Bdr. Neville W. BERTWISTLE, AIF artillery (tank unit), formerly a clerk on the staff of W. R. Carpenter and Co., Ltd., of Rabaul, New Guinea. Killed in action, April, 1941.

Flight-Lieutenant G. J. I. CLARKE, of the RAAF, formerly Assistant Flight Superintendent of Carpenter Airways, New Guinea. Killed in action during operations off Dakar (French West Africa), while attached to HMAS "Australia", September, 1940.

Flying-Officer Jack R. COATH, of the RNZAF, formerly on the staff of the Bank of New Zealand, in Suva, Fiji. Killed October, 1941, when a training plane crashed in NZ.

Pte. Felix CRAIG, AIF, formerly of accounts department, Australasian Petroleum Co., Port Moresby, Papua. Reported killed, June, 1941.

Observer V. L. DEARMAN, of the RAAF, formerly overseer and clerk at the Colonial Sugar Refining Co., Ltd., Rarawai, Fiji. Reported killed in action in the Middle East, October, 1941.

Captain Kenneth GARDEN, of the RAF Ferry Command, formerly chief pilot of Guinea Air-

ways Ltd., in New Guinea. Killed, 2/9/1941, when the bomber he flew from USA crashed on west coast of Britain.

Flying-Officer Moresby GOFTON, of the RAF, son of Mrs. F. S. Stewart, of Wau, New Guinea. Reported missing, 17/5/1940—now presumed killed.

Flying-Officer Alan JOHNSTONE, of the RAF, who was born in Suva, Fiji, in 1915. Killed in action during bombing raid on Kristiansand, Norway, April, 1940.

Pte. L. F. MCCARTHY, AIF infantry, formerly supercargo on W. R. Carpenter and Co.'s inter-island vessel "Mako", in New Guinea. Reported "wounded in action and missing—believed prisoner of war", 15/7/1941; reported "killed in action", 30/10/1941.

Cpl. Alex. C. SCOTT, AIF, formerly manager at Kieta, TNG, for Burns, Philp and Co., Ltd. Killed in action in the Middle East, 19/6/1941.

DIED FROM WOUNDS

Pte. Ernest HENRY, AIF, formerly of the Rabaul (NG) staff of Burns, Philp and Co., Ltd. Died from wounds received during Battle of Crete, 1/6/1941.

Pte. Walter PEARSON, of first NG quota of AIF (infantry). Died from wounds received in action, 24/6/1941.

A/Bdr. W. R. SCOTT, AIF, of New Guinea. Died from wounds, July, 1941.

Sergeant-Pilot Peter Clarkson WISE, of the RAF, son of Mr. W. Wise, OBE, Director of Public Works, Fiji. Died from wounds received during bombing raid over Germany, January, 1941.

DIED FROM ILLNESS

Pte. Clarence A. HUTTON, AIF, formerly of Edie Creek, New Guinea. Died from illness, April, 1941.

MISSING

Pilot John CLARK, of the RAAF, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Clark, of Rabaul, New Guinea. Reported missing, 1/11/1941, after an operational flight, in the Middle East.

Gnr. Allan H. ROSS, AIF artillery, formerly planter in New Britain, TNG. Reported missing—believed prisoner of war, 28/9/1941.

Pilot James SIMPSON, of the RAF, formerly of Vatukoula, Fiji. Reported missing after air operations over Malta, in the Mediterranean, 1/7/1941.

Pte. Fred SWAN, NZ Army Medical Corps, formerly of Apia, Western Samoa. Reported in August, 1941, "missing after Battle of Crete".

WOUNDED

Pte. V. BLANCO, AIF infantry, of Thursday Island. Reported wounded in action, 8/7/1941.

L/Cpl. J. P. BLENCOWE, AIF infantry, of Rabaul, TNG. Reported wounded in action, 15/7/1941.

Pte. Thomas BYERS, AIF infantry, of Thursday Island. Reported wounded in action, May, 1941.

Pte. John GRANT, AIF infantry, of New Guinea. Reported wounded in neck and thigh, 21/9/1941; later, reported "rejoined unit".

Sgt. C. HENDRICK, AIF infantry, of Rabaul, TNG. Reported wounded in action, 15/7/1941.

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 British evacuation from Dunkirk (France), May, 1940.

Lieut. Lloyd T. HURRELL, AIF infantry, of Rabaul, TNG. Reported "wounded in action, remaining on duty", 29/7/1941.

Cpl. W. H. LANNEN, AIF artillery, of Rabaul, New Guinea. Reported "wounded in action—on seriously ill list, 30/6/1941; removed from seriously ill list, 25/7/1941".

Gnr. E. G. LOBAN, AIF artillery, of Thursday Island, wounded during Greek campaign, May, 1941. Invalided home after having his left forearm amputated.

Capt. Edward Tiwi LOVE, NZ Maori Battalion, husband of Mrs. Takau Rio Love, Ariki-nui of Rarotonga, Cook Islands. Reported missing during Greek campaign, 27/5/1941; later, 22/6/1941, reported "wounded and safe".

Cpl. R. McKERLIE, AIF, of Yandina, BSI, wounded in face by bomb explosion, April, 1941.

A/Sgt. Alastair MACLEAN, AIF infantry, of Rabaul, New Guinea. Wounded in action, in Libya, 30/6/1941.

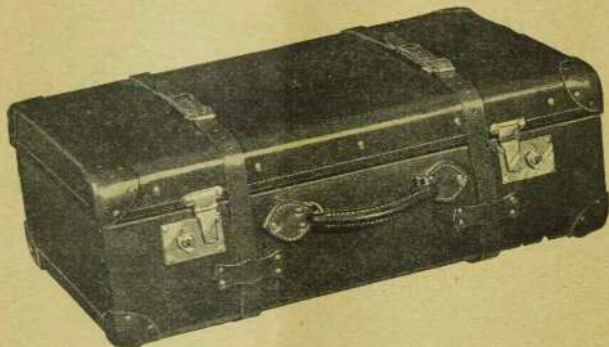
S/Sgt. Graham B. MIRFIELD, AIF engineers, of Rabaul, New Guinea. Wounded in action, 16/7/1941.

Pte. L. G. ("Mick") REECE, of Bulolo, New Guinea. Wounded in action with AIF, July, 1941.

A/Cpl. N. K. SAWYER, AIF infantry, of Rabaul, TNG. Reported wounded in action, 22/7/1941.

Pte. Lance STAMPER, AIF, formerly school-master at Wau, New Guinea. Reported wounded in action, August, 1941.

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Pte. Harold G. TURNER, AIF, of Samarai, Eastern Papua. Wounded in action at Bardia (Libya), January, 1941.

Pte. F. D. TWISS, AIF infantry, of New Guinea. Reported wounded in action, August, 1941.

PRISONERS OF WAR

A/Cpl. Peter W. BOSGARD, AIF infantry, formerly of the Lands Department, Port Moresby, Papua. Reported prisoner of war at Sulmona, Italy, 29/8/1941.

A/Sgt. A. A. S. COTMAN, AIF infantry, of Abau, Papua. Reported missing—believed prisoner of war, 5/5/1941; reported later, July, 1941, "wounded in chest and head by shrapnel—taken prisoner".

Pte. W. GOSSNER, AIF infantry, formerly of the BNG Development Co., Port Moresby, Papua. Reported prisoner of war, Sulmona, Italy, 6/7/1941.

Gnr. A. L. B. KING, AIF artillery, of Rabaul, TNG. Reported prisoner of war, 29/7/1941.

A/Cpl. John H. LONERGAN, AIF, Supply and Transport, of New Guinea. Reported prisoner of war at Corinthia, Italy, 8/7/1941.

Observer Alex. McKAY, of the RAAF, formerly of the CSR Co.'s staff, at Penang sugar-mill, Fiji. Reported missing, 27/7/1941; reported prisoner of war in Italy, 26/10/1941.

Pte. John O. SMITH, of the NZ Forces, son of Captain Harry Smith, of the "Tui Kauvaro", and Mrs. Smith, of Suva, Fiji. Reported missing, 29/5/1941, after Battle of Crete; reported prisoner of war, 21/10/1941.

DECORATIONS

Sgt. Henry C. S. COTTON, of the RNZAF, who was born in Samoa (his father was Secretary of Native Affairs during the NZ military occupation). Awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Lieut. Colin HILL, RANR, of the Australian destroyer, "Waterhen", formerly second officer on the trans-Pacific liner "Niagara". Awarded Order of the British Empire for salvaging a burning oil tanker near Suda Bay, Crete.

Flying-Officer James R. HYDE, of the RAF, formerly a Patrol Officer in Namatanai and Sepik Districts, TNG. Awarded the Distinguished

Flying Cross for bombing raids on Helligoland Bight, in the North Sea.

Lieutenant-Commander A. W. R. McNICOLL, RAN, son of Sir Ramsay McNicoll, Administrator of New Guinea, and Lady McNicoll. Awarded the George Medal "for gallantry and undaunted devotion to duty".

Sgt. Geoffrey MOORE, of the RNZAF, formerly engineer on the NG inter-island vessel "Maiwara" and on the trans-Pacific liner "Aorangi". Awarded the Distinguished Flying Medal for "shooting down an enemy fighter and driving off two others, and having displayed great courage and a high standard of gunnery at all times".

Commander Alford S. ROSENTHAL, RAN, son of Major-General Sir Charles Rosenthal, KCB, CMG, DSO, VD, Administrator of Norfolk Island. Awarded the DSO for service in the Mediterranean.

NO MINERALS FOR JAPAN

From Our Own Correspondent

NOUMEA, Nov. 22.
OWING to the ban on minerals to Japan, the Japanese controlled Societe le Fer recently put off 200 of its 600 Javanese workmen.

A second Japanese mining concern, the Societe Miniere de l'Oceanie, following suit, is also slowing up production at its nickel mines at Kua, where 30 of 260 Javanese employees have been dismissed. They are being found work in other parts of the Colony. Further reductions are expected to be made by the company.

Miss W. E. Neibuhr, who until late last year was a worker for the Seventh Day Adventist Mission in Papua, has been appointed to take charge of the Mission's training school at Rarotonga, Cook Islands. She expects to take up duty in January.

COPRA IN SOLOMONS

Letter to the Editor

AS no one else seems prepared to do so, and as you have continued to repeat in your recent issues, statements to the effect that "there was now a market for all South Pacific copra" ("PIM", Sept., page 7), I feel impelled to flatly contradict those futilities, at least as regards the Gizo District, which is perhaps the most important copra producing district in the British Solomons.

I know of parcels of smoked copra which have been seeking a buyer since July, 1940. Yes, 1940! Some of them are on my own estates, whilst other producers have accumulations for which they have been seeking buyers for the best part of a year.

In the face of such bitter facts, why turn the knife in our wounds by repeatedly printing such nonsense as the above quotation?

It would be much more to the point were you to print the names of these cov buyers of "all South Pacific copra", and tell us where they are to be found—and then step quickly aside to avoid being trampled to death in the rush.

I am, etc.,

LESLIE F. GILL.

Gizo, BSI, 8/11/1941.

EDITORIAL NOTE: Our correspondent is quite right; far too much has been made of the fact that Fiji and New Guinea copra is being shipped, while everyone has ignored the embarrassing accumulations in Tonga, Gilbert and Ellice, Solomons, etc. One of the main objects of the new South Pacific Copra Board is to shift these accumulations of copra from the smaller territories.



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HOW OUR COPRA REACHED THE HUNS

MUCH copra, in increasing quantities, was finding its way from the South Pacific territories, a year ago, to Japan; and thence, it was suspected, it was going via the Russian railways, to Germany.

So, early in 1941, Britain forbade the export of any more copra to Japan; and a flourishing industry died.

It is interesting to learn that a somewhat similar position developed in the Philippines—Japan was buying Philippine copra furiously, and it was supposed that the product was going quickly, right across Asia, to our main enemy. Here are official figures, from Manila, showing total purchases of copra and coconut oil by China, Japan and Russia, in the months of January and February. The figures show value, and are pesos:—

1939	177,012
1940	1,200,915
1941	1,563,983

There can be little doubt about what was happening. Britain was already displaying the liveliest interest in the Philippines situation (Philippines, being neutral, did not object to sales to Germany), when the whole situation was resolved by the German attack upon Russia (June, 1941).

Since then, of course, the road to Germany has been closed; and, now, Japan shows no special eagerness to buy copra from Philippines, or anywhere else.

Mr. P. R. Osborne, of Cuthbert's Misima Gold Mine, Ltd., Misima Island, Eastern Papua, is at present in Sydney on furlough, with Mrs. Osborne and their daughter. He is a former well-known resident of Port Moresby.

THE TRIUMPH OF GAMBUSIA

How Colonel Chalmers Routed the Nauru Mosquitoes

AS a result of my visit to Nauru, I can write one of the most interesting chapters in the history of warfare against mosquitoes in the Pacific.

Three years ago, in the wet period following the long drought, Nauru swarmed with mosquitoes—they made night life a misery. To-day, they are few, and are becoming fewer. The change has been wrought by *Gambusia* fish.

Nauru is one of those queer coral islands with a depression in the centre—there are less than a dozen of them, altogether, I am told.

There once was the usual atoll—a wide circle of coral reef, enclosing a shallow lagoon. This Nauru atoll (like Ocean Island and Makatea Island, a mighty resting place of birds) was deeply submerged. The combination of seawater, coral and bird-excreta formed phosphate. Then it was thrust up again, well above its former level.

Nauru's former internal lagoon now is a vast series of brackish waterholes, half-buried in vegetation—a veritable answer to a breeding mosquito's prayer.

The Europeans usually fought the Nauru mosquitoes with oil. They spent hundreds (maybe thousands) of pounds in oiling the breeding-water, but Mr. and Mrs. Mosquito were as prolific as ever. Finally, the residents accepted the mosquito pest as a necessary condition of life on lonely Nauru.

Then came a new Administrator,

Lieut.-Colonel F. R. Chalmers. Because he was new to the tropics, he refused to accept the mosquitoes and a defeatist viewpoint—he swore he would get rid of the pest, somehow. He spent hundreds of pounds on pouring oil into the stag-



Lieut.-Colonel F. R. Chalmers, Administrator of Nauru.

nant ponds. The mosquitoes swarmed as merrily as ever, and the old residents sneered.

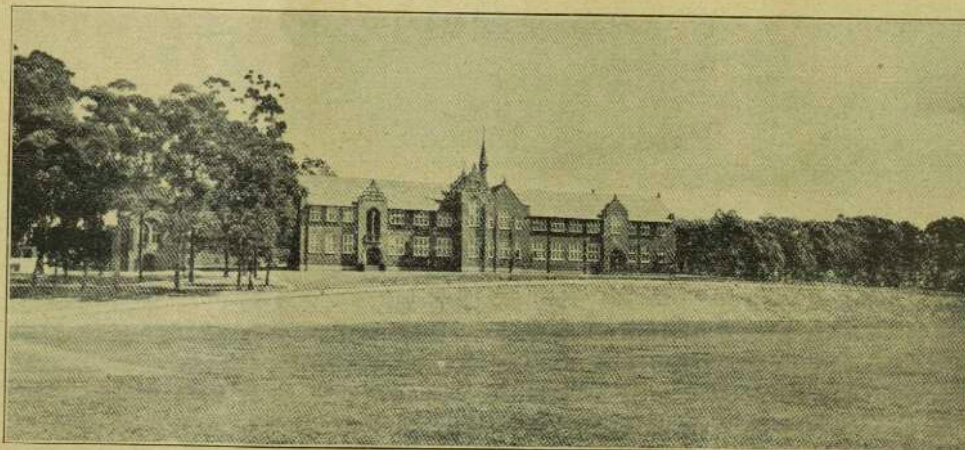
The Colonel stamped viciously over the island, called in a surveyor, studied the chains of ponds, and decided to let the sea into them. Gangs of labourers dug a huge ditch through a narrow barrier at the back of the island, and salt water rushed in, and the mosquito larvae should have died. It did, in the immediate vicinity of the intake; but it did not, further away—and, for some obscure reason, the newly-added salt

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water quickly disappeared, and the ponds resumed their former level.

Colonel Chalmers himself bitterly named his ditch "Chalmers' Folly".

Meanwhile, the Rev. C. L. Welch, LMS missionary, had gone away on a visit to Ocean Island, and places eastward.

"Welch," said the Administrator, "if you can find some of those Gambusia fish over there, try and bring a few back to Nauru. Perhaps they can live in these blasted ponds." He had heard of the experiments with Gambusia in the Gilbert and Ellice Colony, carried out by Major C. A. Swinbourne.



One of the ponds, or lakes, in the interior of Nauru.

Many weeks later, Mr. Welch returned to Nauru. With him, in three earthenware jars, tenderly cherished, he had 18 Gambusia.

Administrator and missionary tended those tiny fish as if they were precious orchids. They called in Chedwin, a native police pensioner, and made him Director of Fisheries, or something. The three of them fed the fish, and coddled them, and encouraged cohabitation and multiplication; and in a few weeks they were releasing jar-fuls of them in the ponds.

The Administrator declares that the result had to be seen, to be believed. Ponds, which had been almost stiff with mosquito larvae, in a few months showed only clear water, through which darted countless thousands of tiny Gambusia. The pest was beaten.

"Talk about your rabbits and guinea-pigs," said Colonel Chalmers. "When it comes to a rapid natural increase, I'll back my Gambusia against anything on earth! Let it be known that if anyone wants Gambusia, I can supply 'em, in hundreds or in millions!"

I walked beside those ponds in the evening, under heavy foliage. I saw the waters teeming with little fish, but I did not meet a single mosquito. They now go singly, where once they screamed in thousands.

Nauru's 1,700 natives have their villages scattered over the pleasant island, mostly near the ponds. The change in their living and health conditions, as a result of the new control over the mosquito pest, can be imagined.

—R. W. R.

Private J. D. McClymont, elder son of Captain D. McClymont (harbourmaster at Apia, Western Samoa) and Mrs. McClymont, who is serving overseas with the NZ Forces, has been promoted to sergeant. He joined up the day war was declared and took part in the Greece and Crete campaigns.

Mr. and Mrs. W. G. ("Bill") Royal, of New Guinea, are at present in Sydney on holidays. Mr. Royal, who was one of the original discoverers of the rich Morobe goldfield, has been mining in Wewak District in recent years, with some success. Before going across to the mainland, 20 years ago, he had an engineering business in Rabaul.

WATER FOR PORT MORESBY

From Our Own Correspondent

PORT MORESBY, Dec. 1.
OLD residents, with bitter memories of recurrent droughts and water shortages, soon will have a first-class water-supply from the Laloki River; and a transformation in the appearance of the town may be expected.

A pumping station, situated on the picturesque banks of the Laloki River, some 12 miles from Port Moresby, will shortly commence operations. From the Laloki, a 24-in. main will carry water from the intake into a concrete shaft (34 ft., 17 ft. below river bed) from where, after purification, it is forced by a 50 h.p. engine into large filter tanks;

where, again after further purification, it is pumped into a reservoir of 100,000 gallons. Thence, water when needed is pumped through a 10-in. main into the town reservoir, by means of a 120 h.p. engine, capable of pumping 25,000 gallons an hour. Every pump and engine in this complicated and modern construction is in duplicate, so should any mechanism break, there is no danger of the service being interrupted.



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World-Wide
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NEW Airzone "Concert Star" brings you easy selective tuning, full power for those difficult distant stations, dual-wave for world-wide reception—plus glorious lifelike tone . . . the richest voice in radio.

Buy Airzone and be safe! Before production was ever started on "Concert Stars" the special needs of island listeners—climate-proofing, powerful short-wave reception with natural tone, reduction of fading and noise, were fully investigated. The result is a radio that is perfect for the tropics, in components, performance and tone.

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"Concert Stars" are available in models to suit every requirement.

★ A.C. Model 6552A—5 valve Dual Wave

★ A.C.—D.C. Model 6652U—5 valve Dual Wave

★ Vibrator Operated Model 6852V—5 valve Dual Wave

★ Battery Operated Model 6752D—5 valve 1.4 volt Dual Wave

Console models also available if you wish.

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Tulagi, Solomon Islands.

Designed and manufactured by Airzone (1931) Ltd., Camperdown, N.S.W.

HA411

AIRZONE fine RADIO

Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Morrell have taken up residence on Kalili Estate, New Britain, New Guinea. Mr. Morrell was discharged a few months ago from the AIF as the result of a leg injury he received while on active service with the AIF in Tobruk, Libya.

Mr. Yamashita, Japanese Consul in New Caledonia, is returning to Japan for health reasons. Vice-Consul Maruo will replace him. Mr. Yamashita has been in Noumea since January this year, his predecessor being Mr. T. Kurochi, now Consul at Saigon, Indo-China.

Hon. A. Jewell, well-known non-official member of the Papuan Legislative Council, arrived in Australia recently. He was accompanied by Mrs. Jewell, who for some months has been the energetic organiser of the Port Moresby Comforts Club.

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Will find excellent accommodation at
"206" PRIVATE HOTEL
204-8 Victoria Street,
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Every Comfort, Splendid Table.
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B. O.—Phew!

Why Village Dogs Howl and Polynesians Shun Us

BY A.C.R.

THOSE of us who were born in the Victorian Age and grew up in the tradition of Kipling, are profoundly shocked when someone draws aside the veil concealing the inner thoughts of native peoples who, in those days, were classed as "the white man's burden".

One of the most embarrassing disclosures is to be found in a chapter of the book "Four Hundred Million Customers" which explains why dogs in Chinese villages go into tempests of sound and fury whenever Europeans appear.

The short, descriptive Anglo-Saxon words which explain that hostility were, in the period of basques and bustles, excluded from the lexicon of polite society; but, in this less polished age, stare at us from pages and hoardings that advertise chemically-saturated soaps, synthetic bath-salts and strangely compounded lotions warranted to render the user tolerable to his fellow men.

The Chinese, ever reluctant to say anything that may wound the self-respect of a guest, confessed to the author that Europeans are rather suffocating.

Polynesians are less reticent. They not only emphatically confirm the timid avowal of the Chinese, but specify Nordics and other Taata Pupure (blond persons) as always inciting their dogs to greater rage and clamour than do other types.

All of this is very disheartening to pompous individuals who visit the Islands expecting reverent recognition of the importance of their persons.

But that is not the worst. Recently, we came across the original meaning of this word Pupure in an old dictionary published nearly a century ago. To-day, the word is currently used as an adjective signifying blond—as Vahine Pupure (blonde woman). In the old dictionary the significance, at the time it was first applied to white persons, was "the leprosy, or native disease resembling it; also the person affected".

This recalls the story we have often heard that the Tahitians viewed the first white people who visited their island, with great compassion; believing their pale complexion to be due to some wasting disease.

A study of the old missionary records reveals that the apparently affectionate welcome accorded the early voyagers was not due to any regard for their persons; but because canny high chiefs, recognizing the superiority of their weapons, hoped to induce the visitors to assist them against their enemies.

To-day in Polynesia (sad to relate), "gentlemen prefer blondes" only when their demeanour inspires a lively expectation of favours, tangible and material, to come.

Tahitians affirm that many Europeans regard water merely as a substance useful for making onion and garlic soup. Native servants tell in the Papeete market-place how their employers, on arising in the morning, stick their arms out of their bedroom windows, pour a few cups full of water over their hands, and consider that they have bathed for the day.

They cite also the man who, in khaki shorts, was long a familiar figure about Papeete. One day he was at the post office addressing letters. In shaking down his fountain pen, a large drop of ink stained the bare calf of his leg. A fortnight later that ink spot was still there! Natives notice such things.

To Polynesians, who eagerly seize every opportunity to plunge into a river or get under a shower-bath, this fear of water is amazing.

PAPUAN EXPLORER'S MEDAL

EARLY last month, Mrs. S. M. Karius, of Sydney, presented to the Commonwealth Government the Patron's Medal of the Royal Geographical Society awarded to the late C. H. Karius for his exploration work in Papua. It will be placed among the historic exhibits in Parliament House, Canberra.

Charles Henry Karius served in Papua for 20 years as Patrol Officer, Assistant Resident Magistrate and R.M. In 1927, in company with Mr. Ivan F. Champion, he crossed Papua and New Guinea from south to north, through entirely unknown country. Describing this expedition, Sir Hubert Murray (Lieutenant-Governor) wrote: "It was by far the most important and difficult feat of exploration ever performed in New Guinea or any of the adjacent islands."

Mr. Karius died in Sydney a year ago, while on leave prior to retiring from the Papuan Service.

Miss J. Dunstan, matron of Samarai Hospital, Papua, arrived in Port Moresby last month to act as matron at the PM Hospital for a time.

PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY DECEMBER 1937 23

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Mobiloil

DEFEATS FRICTION AND WEAR

RAIDERS KEEP OFF

All Quiet in South Pacific

ALTHOUGH the British now have in the Pacific—especially in the South Pacific—a system of defence which is a vast improvement on the conditions which ruled a year ago (and which permitted two or three enemy vessels to destroy much valuable shipping) there are still a couple of Hun raiders prowling around.

The famous Australian cruiser "Sydney" sank one of the worst of these—a 9,000-tons armed merchantman, which had done a lot of destruction in the South Atlantic and Indian Oceans—but she became herself a victim of the raider's Hunnish treachery, and she also was sunk.

There are indications that another raider is operating over in the Galapagos region and is being hunted by American naval forces. There is no doubt that these raiders receive supplies and assistance in Japanese ports—especially the ports in the Marshall and Caroline Islands.

But the manner in which the various raiders give a wide berth to the South Pacific indicates that in the South Pacific territories—we refer to the region lying south of the equator, between the Dutch East Indies in the west and French Oceania in the east—the defence organisation is so good that these prowling enemy units dare not enter it.

The Administrator of Papua, **Hon. Leonard Murray**, left recently on a visit of inspection to the west of the Territory. His Honour was accompanied by Mr. Justice Gore and the Crown Law Officer (Hon. E. B. Bignold).

Memorial to Commodore Goodenough in BSI

TRADITION dies hard with Navy men—and Mr. Major Harper, ex-RN, Solomon Islands' planter, trader, recruiter and, recently, master of W. R. Carpenter & Co. Ltd.'s inter-island vessel "Balus", is no exception.

When he put into Carlisle Bay, Santa Cruz Group, a couple of months ago, one of the first things he did was to send a boat's crew ashore to repaint the iron cross erected there to the memory of Commodore James Goodenough, RN, and re-stack the stones at its base.

The cross, stayed by four embellished supports, stands on the left side of the little cove at Carlisle Bay. Within a circle, at the intersection of the iron cross-pieces, is an inscription recording the attack made on Goodenough by Santa Cruz natives on August 12, 1875. The Commodore died from tetanus, as a result of arrow wounds, on the 20th, on board HMS "Pearl", and he was buried in St. Thomas' Cemetery, North Shore, Sydney, on August 24, 1875. In the grave, beside him, were laid to rest the bodies of two young seamen also killed in BSI.

Goodenough was Commodore of the Australian Naval Station from 1873 until 1875 and in that capacity visited many of the Central and Western Pacific Islands—Fiji, Niue, Samoa, New Caledonia, Norfolk Island, New Hebrides, and Solomon Islands. In Fiji, he was regarded as the "Father of the Colony", for it was mainly the result of his wise counsel and delicate handling of the position that Fiji became part of the British Empire.

Incidentally, Mr. Harper himself has rejoined the Navy—he was accepted by the RAN last month and given the rank of Warrant Officer.



COMMODORE JAMES GRAHAM
GOODENOUGH
(1830-1875)

Mr. Allan Ericksen, of Suva, Fiji, recently married Miss Kath. Huntley, of Hamilton, NZ.

Miss A. I. Hames, a New Zealander, recently completed 21 years of service with the Methodist Mission in Fiji. Her first appointment was to the Mission School at Nailaga, Ba; then she went to Davuilevu Primary School as headmistress, occupying that post for 14 years; and latterly she has been at Richmond School, Kadavu Island.

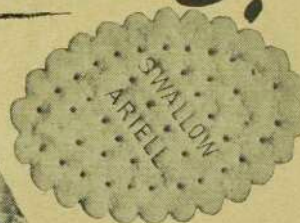
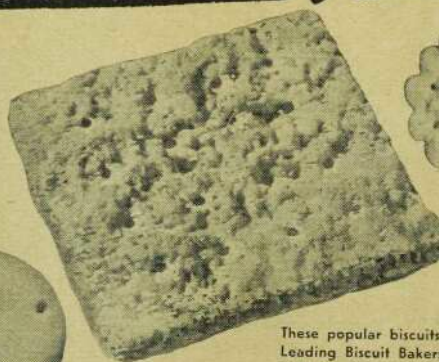
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MILK ARROWROOT

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**CLUB CHEESE**

These delightful little biscuits are savouries in themselves! Favourites with hostesses everywhere because they're delicious for suppers and afternoon teas.



These popular biscuits, crisped to perfection by Australia's Leading Biscuit Bakers, are specially tropic-packed in air-tight tins, thus retaining all their fresh-from-the-oven flavor and crispness. Try them yourself! They're just as good as Swallow & Ariell's other famous products . . . CABIN BISCUITS . . . NAVY and PILOT BREAD . . . PLUM PUDDINGS . . . CANTERBURY CAKES.

Biscuits from
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TOO MUCH GEELONG

Difficulties of Nauru Technical Education Plan

IN Nauru, they do not think much of the "Geelong plan"—under which a select dozen of Nauru's youth have been given technical education under the direction of Mr. H. E. Hurst, of Geelong, Victoria.

The idea of providing technical education for the young islanders is not criticised. It has cost the Nauruan Administration (which pays all charges) a very substantial sum; but the principle of teaching Nauruans to do Nauru's technical work is quite sound. In 1938-1940, Nauru warmly praised Mr. Hurst's plan.

But now, in Nauru, they unanimously condemn Mr. Hurst for insisting that the boys shall remain so long in Australia—some are back, but some have been there, now, for over four years. It is inevitable that, apart altogether from education, so long a sojourn there will unsettle the youths, and give them "swelled heads". That is the general comment there, and I should say that it is well justified.

The maintenance of the boys for over four years, in a place like Geelong (or any other large city), has reduced a good plan to an absurdity. There are only 1,700 Nauruans altogether, and Nauru is an isolated little place. The kind of training that four years in Geelong represent is not needed in Nauru. The ideal plan would have been a very brief spell in a European city, and a technical training provided in Nauru itself.

Some of Mr. Hurst's boys are back. They are pleasant, courteous lads, who speak good English; but they are like fish out of water. They are expected to take their places as members of the Nauru community; but it is obvious that they find their social contacts embarrassing and inadequate. They have been over-educated and over-Europeanised—a thing to be guarded against, always, in relation to small Polynesian communities.

Standing beside the main road, in Nauru, with an old resident, I saw an incident that was illuminating. The Administrator was driving along, in his old tourer. He met two Nauruans, on bicycles. They immediately dismounted, and respectfully saluted the Administrator.

A moment later, a great, flashing sedan appeared, full of Nauruans. It rushed past the Administrator in a cloud of dust, without courtesy of any kind, and forcing the official car onto the roadside grass.

"There you see the old and the new," remarked my friend. "The flash lad driving that car was a 'Geelong boy'."

—R.W.R.

OLD FILE OF "PIM"

IF anyone requires an almost complete set of "Pacific Islands Monthly" files, extending back to the establishment of the journal in 1930, he is invited to communicate directly with Captain I. R. Handley, Tarawa, Gilbert Islands, via Ocean Island, Central Pacific.

Among a contingent of Free French volunteers which left Noumea, New Caledonia, for overseas recently was Corporal Jean Mouldous. Corporal Mouldous went across to Noumea from Sydney some time ago with the intention of joining the second Free French military contingent; but when the Government decided to raise a naval contingent instead, he joined this force, and was placed in command of the body of volunteers.

SAMOA'S QUARANTINE LAWS AMENDED

THE NZ Government recently gazetted amendments to Samoa's immigration and quarantine regulations.

Samoa's Quarantine Amendment Order, 1941, gives the Chief Medical Officer at Apia wider powers concerning the fumigation of islands trading vessels, the emptying of water carafes on vessels, and generally ensuring that malaria-bearing mosquitoes are not carried into the Territory.

Under the Samoa Immigration Amendment Order, 1941, visitors, who hitherto have been required to lodge a deposit up to £50, or a return ticket to their port of embarkation, are now required to lodge a deposit of £250. These regulations cover voyagers in small schooners and cruising yachts in the same way as travellers in large ships.

Mr. J. Pedersen, well known in Fiji as manager of Millers Ltd., sawmillers, of Walu Bay, retired recently and returned to New Zealand. He has made his home on one of his properties in the Dominion.

Mr. K. Gribben, formerly of Samarai, Papua, arrived at Wau, New Guinea, recently, to take up a position with W. R. Carpenter & Co. Ltd.'s branch.

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VIRGIN PURE

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San Francisco

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TOMATO KETCHUP — Made from Sun-ripened Tomatoes.
Medium Bottles .. 8 ozs.

TOMATO SAUCE — A Pure Appetising Sauce.
Large Bottles .. 13 ozs.

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WITH PORK AND TOMATO SAUCE. ALSO VEGETARIAN
Individual Tins, 4 ozs.
Small Tins, 8 ozs.
Medium Tins, 16 ozs.

TOMATO JUICE



A delicious health-giving and appetising drink.
Small Tins, 8 oz.
Med. Tins, 16 oz.
No. 5 Tins, 60 oz.

SPAGHETTI



Cooked in Tomato Sauce with Cheese.
Individual Tins, 4 ozs.
Small Tins, 8 oz.
Med. Tins, 16 oz.

VEGETABLE SALAD

Garden-fresh Vegetables with Mayonnaise. Small Tins, 8 oz.



READY-TO-SERVE

In 8 oz. and 16 oz. Tins

CREAM OF TOMATO

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CREAM OF CELERY

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BEAN SOUP with HAM

CHICKEN VEGETABLE

KIDNEY SOUP

MULLIGATAWNY

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GENUINE TURTLE SOUP

MACARONI

Cooked in Cream Sauce with Cheese.



Individual Tins, 4 ozs.
Small Tins, 8 ozs.
Medium Tins, 16 ozs.

MAYONNAISE

Delightful on Salad.
Small Bottles, 4 ozs.
Med. Bottles, 7 ozs.
18 oz. Bottles
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BEEFSTEAK SAUCE

Fruits, Vegetables and Spices, skillfully blended.
Medium Bottles, 7 1/2 ozs.

STRAINED FOODS

For Infant Feeding and Special Diets.
Strained Carrots
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SWEET GHERKINS

Small Bottles

SWEET MUSTARD PICKLE

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Heinz delicious varieties are available from Storekeepers throughout Papua, New Guinea and Pacific Islands.

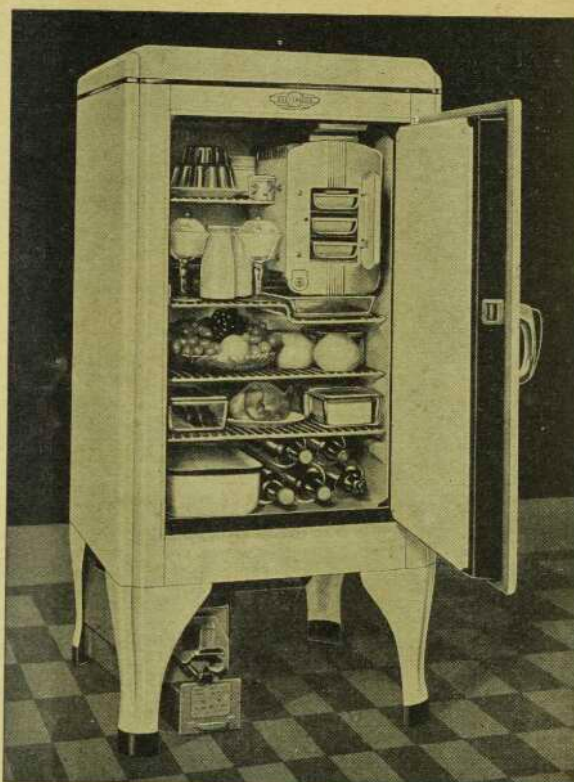
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ELECTROLUX OFFERS ECONOMICAL, MODERN AND COMPLETELY EFFICIENT
REFRIGERATION FOR ISLANDS' HOMES.

FREEZES CONTINUOUSLY WHILE SMALL LAMP BURNS.
Freezing controlled by simply regulating height of flame.

Uses only $\frac{1}{2}$ gallon of kerosene per week.

MOTORLESS . . . NO PARTS TO GET OUT OF ORDER.

MODEL L22

Capacity
2.2 cubic feet.

MODEL L380

(as illustrated)
Capacity 4 cubic feet.

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Capacity
5.5 cubic feet.

GUARANTEED FOR TWO YEARS.

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W. R. Carpenter & Company Ltd.—Sydney, and the following
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Ellice Islands.

Representation in Papua and New Hebrides.

WAU-SALAMAUA

Road Problem May be Solved by Use of Mules

From Our Own Correspondent

WAW, Dec. 1.
IT is probable that, at long last, the Morobe miners will solve their transport problem. For years, they planned to use motor traffic on a road over the mountains between Salamaua and Wau, thus escaping the heavy air freights. Now, as a road plan appears impracticable, they propose to cut a mule track and use mule transport.

The executive of the New Guinea Mining Association has been considering some means whereby the present surveyed shortest route, from Salamaua to Wau, may be put to use. All plans for the construction of a motor road over this costly surveyed route (it has cost something like £20,000 to survey) having been disregarded by Canberra, the Association decided to act in some other way.

Useful and concrete information having been received, relative to the possibility of cutting a mule track over this route, a special meeting of miners and other interested persons was held in Wau on Sunday, November 23. A comprehensive outline of the mule-track project was put to the meeting by Mr. W. W. Cameron, who is the sponsor of the plan.

It was unanimously decided to approach the undertaking by constitutional methods. Mr. Cameron was appointed as the Association's delegate, to proceed to Lae, and interview the Administrator on his arrival there.

Mr. Cameron was on the Administrator's door-step within twenty four hours of the latter's arrival. He was immediately granted an interview, at which His Honour expressed himself as entirely sympathetic towards the suggestion.

Territory funds being at a very low ebb, thanks, to Mount Tavorurur. His Honour said that it was impossible for Public Works to undertake the job; but all possible help would be given within the scope of funds available.

The miners are prepared to take the work in hand, at their own expense, beyond the help that can be given by the Administration, and they intend to start without delay. Many offers of labour, tools, and finance were given at Sunday's meeting, and a go-ahead and efficient sub-committee, composed of Messrs. W. W. Cameron, C. Gee, J. Wright, T. Prince and R. Day was appointed, with the Association's president and hon. secretary ex-officio.

Figures presented at the meeting indicated that freight on necessary commodities, such as food for indentured labour, could be reduced to somewhere in the vicinity of £5 per ton, as against the £18 per ton at present being charged for air freight (with increases looming).

An important phase of the problem is the possibility of further reductions in the already depleted air services by further accidents, and the difficulty of procuring pilots, in the present crisis.

It is stated that, with a keen overseer and 100 natives, the work of cutting the mule track (much of which is already trafficable for mules) can be carried out within two months.

Flying Officer Jack Rua Coath, who was well known at Suva, Fiji, where, from 1934 until 1937, he was a member of the Bank of New Zealand staff, was killed when a training plane crashed in NZ recently. His father, Mr. W. Coath, also was connected with the Bank of NZ and for a time served in Fiji.

Mrs. S. C. Axam Death of Old New Hebrides Settler

From a Special Correspondent

VILA, Nov. 10.

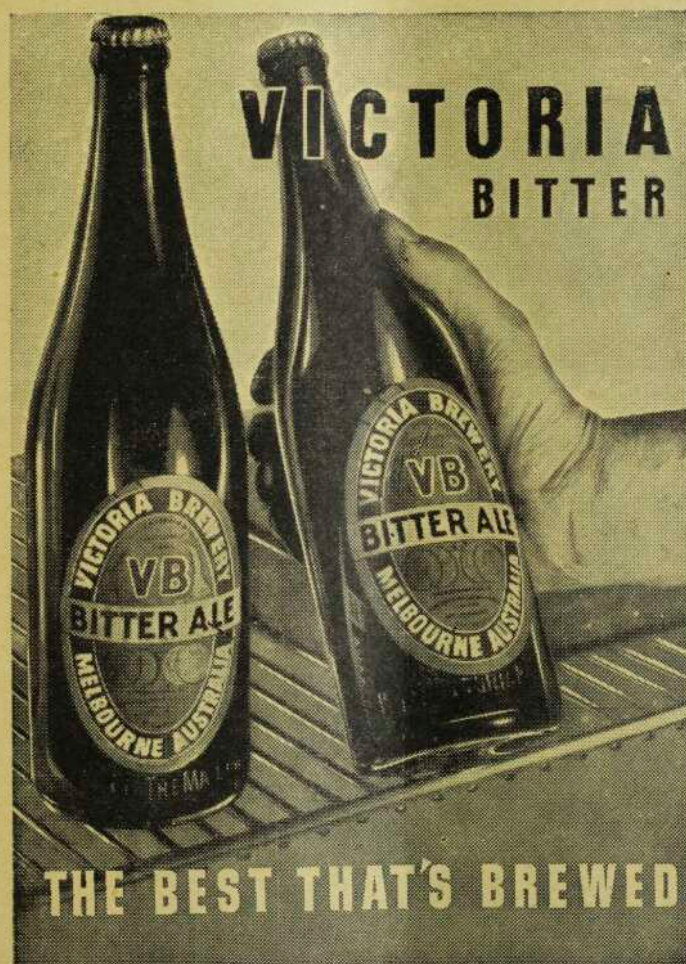
MRS. Alice Axam, wife of Mr. Sydney C. Axam, who had lived on South Santo for 36 years, died in the French Hospital at Second Channel on October 25, a few minutes after admission.

As Miss Watson, she came to the New Hebrides from Australia with her parents in 1905 to join her brothers, William and Robert, who had acquired land on Santo Island a year or two previously. In 1914, she and Mr. Axam (who had taken up planting on a neighbouring block of land in 1904) were married by Rev. F. G. Bowie, MA, of the Presbyterian Mission.

Mrs. Axam left two sons, George and Frank (both in the AIF), and a daughter, Margaret, who is living with her father on Santo.

The small European community on South Santo is, and has been for many years, particularly happy in that planters, traders, Government officials, and missionaries pull together for their mutual good, and for the good of the local natives and the students at the Teachers' Training Institute on Tangoa. Not the least contributing factor to this, perhaps unique, state of affairs was the life of the late Mrs. Axam, who will be sadly missed by all who knew her.

Mr. W. Holloway, of Rockhampton, Queensland, has replaced Mr. Charles W. Dickenson at the Thursday Island branch of the National Bank of Australasia. Mr. Dickenson is now serving at the Brisbane branch.



The motor vessel "Trinity", owned by Mr. Fred. Evannett, of Samarai, who died recently, has been purchased by the BNG Trading Co. Ltd., for service along the western coast of Papua.

TAKE THE "LEAD" FEELING OUT OF YOUR LEGS

Get More Oxygen in Your Blood and
Get that Pep that Sends You Bounding
Up the Stairs.

People who smother to death die because oxygen has been completely cut off from them. Just as surely you are slowly smothering if your blood lacks red corpuscles. Red corpuscles are your oxygen carriers. They carry the oxygen you breathe in to every part of your system. Without enough oxygen-carrying corpuscles, your kidneys, liver, stomach and bowels slow down. Your skin gets pale, flabby, often pimply. Your nerves may become jittery—you tire quickly—feel depressed.

What you need is Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. These world-famous pills help you make more and better red corpuscles and thus increase the oxygen-carrying power of your blood. Get Dr. Williams' Pink Pills to-day at your chemist or store and see for yourself how quickly this time-proven blood-builder will help give you back your pep and clear complexion.***

A WANDER IN THE CENTRAL PACIFIC

By R. W. Robson, Editor of the "Pacific Islands Monthly"

IN October, voyaging north from Suva, I made my first—and, I hope, my last—visit to the Gilbert and Ellice Islands.

If any father has a son whom he wants to cure of "a longing to linger amid the tropical romance and flashing beauty of the far-famed Pacific Islands", he should send him forthwith to this God-forsaken British colony. After he has been blistered by a merciless equatorial sun, has found his fresh food limited to fish and coconuts, has fought the ubiquitous mosquitoes and the prickly-heat that attends ceaseless perspiration, and has realised that the highest land within thousands of square miles is less than ten feet above sea-level—well, if after that he isn't yelling for transport somewhere south of Capricorn, he must be dumb indeed.

It was pleasant enough to pass quickly through this chain of equatorial coconut clusters, to receive the charming hospitality of the few Europeans, to meet the courteous and interesting Euroneseans and the always-smiling islanders—but that was only because I knew I would soon be leaving. I found the discomforts of life there literally appalling.

In another article ("Life in the Lousy Islands"), I have asked why Britain retains such a useless, unattractive Territory as the Gilbert and Ellice Islands; and why, having retained them, she asks

her young Colonial Office men to undergo such hardships there—so I shall not labour the point here.

ALTHOUGH I spent some of the most miserable days of my life aboard the "John Williams", auxiliary schooner of the LMS, I learned to love the ship.

She wallows and she rolls, and she produces, very often, a most unholy combination of stinks; yet she is a very gentle old lady. She can make one very seasick, and can stew one alive in her deep-set cabins, but she does it all so apologetically, and with no pretence of violence.

The food supplied aboard (almost miraculously, out of a galley where a cooking-range dances everlastingly at an



Top: "John Williams" under sail. Lower: Captain Kettle, Mr. Raddick (second mate, concealed by beard), and Mr. Page (first mate), "shooting" the sun.

angle of 45 degrees) is so good as to be incredible—a Christian-like way of encouraging people not to be seasick, which I commend to shipowners generally. Her four white officers are like the ship—kindly, pleasant gentlemen, who do their utmost, under difficult conditions, to make their passengers happy.

Captain Kettle has spent so many years in this most dangerous navigation—probably among the world's worst—that he guides his ship almost as much by instinct as by instruments. Squalls, unexpected and uncharted currents, clouds which hide the sun for days on end are his common lot.

ONE night, in thick weather, heading for an Ellice island, we were due to pass another island 15 miles off, by dead reckoning.

I saw the Captain fidgeting. Presently, without a word, he went out and turned the ship right around, and steamed back. Next morning was clear, and anyone could see that, if that ship had continued on her course the previous night, she might have climbed on top of the island she was trying to avoid. The dear old

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thing, bucking a head sea and a mysterious set, had been doing about 1½ knots forward—and 1 knot sideways!

NOT long ago, when there was profit in buying native sun-dried copra in the outer islands, this was the substantial house of the Burns, Philp manager in Funafuti, Ellice Group. To-day, it is empty, open, derelict—the home of friendly birds and scampering rats.

There is no store on Funafuti now—all the European traders have gone, and the natives obtain their supplies through a native co-operative society. The natives



will gladly make copra, in order to buy cereals, canned meat, kerosene, etc., but the co-ops—which have taken the place of the defeated traders on most of these islands—have great difficulty in selling the commodity, even at 20/- or 30/- per ton.

Copra will be good again, when the war-clouds pass; but, when I see these derelict stores and houses—BP represented on every Gilbert and Ellice Island in 1939, now maintain an establishment only at Tarawa—I wonder what the future trading organisation will be. Will these native co-operative societies take the place of the small branch stores and the individual Islands trader?

COLLINS started it. Gazing dreamily aloft, at the "John Williams" mainmast, he asked: "What's that on the LMS flag? Doves?"

"Look more like eagles," said Mr. Garvey, squinting up, sleepily.

"Immaterial, so long as they're birds of pray" said I, thus pulling off my best quip of the voyage.

Actually, I believe, the three birds on the flag of the great mission organisation represent Faith, Hope, and Charity, winging out over the Pacific.

THE establishment of the gold-mining industry in Fiji is the happiest thing in the economic history of that fortunate Colony—it came just in time to take the place of the copra industry, partly and temporarily collapsed as a result of the war.

There are indications, furthermore, that the industry will not be confined to the two known fields. Prospectors are still out, searching optimistically; and, when I was in Suva in September, I heard that Pat. Costello (who, with William Borthwick, located Tavua), was "on" to something good in the hills behind Lautoka.

That same week, a well-known Suva man showed me a sample of mercury, in a bottle, which had been taken from a lode in Viti Levu and concerning which some hopes are entertained.

HARDSHIP, amounting in places to real suffering, has been placed by war conditions upon the French Roman Catholic Missions, serving in the South Pacific. These nuns, priests and brothers are the teachers of the natives in some of the poorest of the islands; and, hitherto, they have depended partly for their sustenance on remittances from France.

Since June, 1940, those remittances have



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ceased, and the position of some of the missions is desperate.

Most RC missionaries, everywhere, are successful gardeners; and they grow much of their own food. But, in places like the Gilbert Islands—where the coralline flats, lacking humus, produce little beyond coconuts and pandanus—they are more dependant on outside sources.

"Our sympathy goes out, especially to the French women of these missions," said a high official of the G. and E. Colony, recently. "We have heard that they are trying to live on native foods, and they have had neither milk nor butter for a long time.

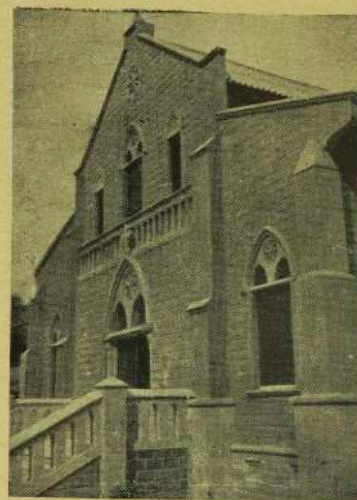
"We in this Colony value the work of these missions, because of their good work as educationists. At first, and for a long time, they seemed to be more catechists than teachers, but, now, they give really valuable service in the field of general education."

THIS is Rev. J. Pujebet, Sacred Heart missionary on Ocean Island, who, after years of hard work, has succeeded in building a fine, new church on Ocean Island. I attended the opening, and the dedication service, on Ocean Island, on Sunday, October 26.

I was more interested in the priest, than in the ceremony, however. Here is one of the best types of French Roman Catholic missionaries, who are doing so

much for the Pacific Islands natives—not necessarily because of the religion they teach, as because of their fine character, and the generous service of their lives.

Everyone on Ocean Island, irrespective of creed or class, loves the jolly, kindly, sympathetic Father Pujebet—only they don't call him Pujebet. To one and all, he is "Father Pushbike"—under that perpendicular sun, over those hilly roads, he



Top: The new church on Ocean Island.
Lower: Father Pujebet.

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B22

pedals energetically, on a bicycle, in pursuit of his duty.

"How did you manage it?" I asked him, staring up at the big, well-built, handsome structure.

"Oh, leetle by leetle—the cost, 'e was noding," said the missionary. And he described how they got cement, bag by bag; and, every week, they would make a few more cement blocks, and dress a few more planks and build just a "leetle" more. So that, week by week, year by year, the structure grew—the Banabans, under the leadership of their priest, also growing in eagerness and excitement, giving freely of their labour. Until, voila! There was the church!

Hats off to Father Pujebet, typical South Seas missionary and Church builder.

IN Funafuti (Ellice Islands), I visited what is, among scientists, one of the most interesting spots in the world—the place where Professor Sir Edgeworth David, in 1897, proved the truth of Charles Darwin's theory regarding the origin of coral atolls.

These atolls are all similar in shape

and character—a ring of coral, surrounding a comparatively shallow lagoon, dropping sheer to great depths on the seaward side, and a series of narrow islets being perched on the circular reef.

Having learned that the coral insect cannot live below a certain depth—comparatively shallow—Darwin formulated the theory that the atolls were formed by slow submergence. The insects, aeons ago, began to build in shallow water; the ground slowly sank, and the insects kept on building up so as to remain within the depth of water in which they can live. So this deep Pacific became dotted over with what are virtually coral stalks.

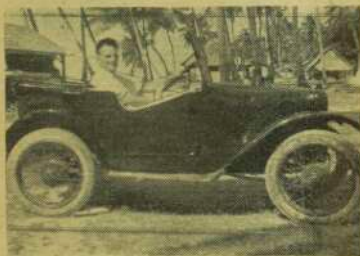
That was the theory. David proved it by taking a drilling plant to Funafuti, a typical atoll. There, he put a bore down 1,100 feet—and the drill was still in coral. Obviously, the coral must have sunk—the insects could not have worked at that depth.

There is nothing now to mark the site of the bore except some coal-dust, and a bit of rusty iron, showing just above the earth's surface. Some institution should put a stone tablet on the spot—in another 50 years it will be lost and forgotten.

CLANG—bang—clatter—b-r-r-r!

A little old, red Austin car began to chug its way across the island of Tarawa—and pandemonium broke loose.

Dogs howled, and bolted for the pandanus thickets. Children screamed in terror, and sought sanctuary at mother's skirts—in



Dr. Steenson in his notorious Austin.

vain, for mother mostly was legging it for her sheltered hut, where, she hoped, the noisy red devil would not penetrate.

Thus, a few months ago, civilisation's modern transport first reached the capital of the Gilbert Islands. The Colony's director of health, Dr. Kingsley Steenson, had become tired of pushing a bicycle around the flat little island; so, when he returned from furlough, he brought with him £10 worth of second-hand Austin. At first, it was regarded with horror by the natives; but, now, it causes no excitement as it puffs around the palm-shaded roads.

But, down in his little office, the local tax-gatherer, Mr. P. T. English, broods bitterly. He knows that, in more sophisticated countries, treasurers wax rotund and rich from import duties, registration fees, driver's licenses, petrol taxes, and God-knows-what, extracted gleefully from motor-owners.

In Tarawa, the motor-owner careers blithely across the landscape—he pays not a tax nor a fee. He is not even obliged to put a plate with "Tarawa 1" on the back of his car. There are no speed limits. He can drive right across the island on the right-hand side of the road. The native policeman makes deep obeisance as he passes.

Dr. Steenson says the car is a godsend; but Mr. English thinks that something should be done about it.

FROM the spathe of a growing coconut, right up in the head of the palm,

the natives obtain a juice which, permitted to ferment (which it does, easily and readily), becomes the famous coconut toddy.

In the atoll islands, it is greatly esteemed, for its nutrition value. But, like beer, if it is taken in excess, it will make one intoxicated—though its alcoholic content is less than that of beer.

Because of this, some missions—especially the LMS—have set their faces

against toddy-drinking. In the Gilbert and Ellice Colony, an ignorant and well-meaning Government actually made toddy unlawful.

This caused much trouble. The otherwise tractable natives, guided by their instinct rather than by white man's law, would not give up toddy-drinking.

Then it was discovered that this coconut beverage contains much of the important vitamin B1—of which there is

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otherwise a deficiency in the equatorial atolls. So the G. and E. Government very wisely restored toddy-making and toddy-drinking to the list of lawful things. A man of good repute now may make, but may not sell toddy; and, if he abuses his privilege, his licence as a toddy-maker may be cancelled.

The LMS fought hard against the new law—I cannot imagine why. Bad weather unfortunately prevented my landing at Beru, and I missed the chance of seeing the famous Beru establishment and of meeting Mr. G. H. Eastman and Mr. A. L. Sadd.

Toddy-making is permitted by the Australian Administrator in Nauru, for health reasons. But here, also, drunkenness is sternly discouraged.

ONE of the greatest luxuries and most healthful foods I have found on the little ships among the equatorial islands is canned pineapple juice, served

out of the freezer. It is put up in tins, containing about 1½ pints, by the Colonial Pineapple Packing Co., of Ovalau, Fiji; and I understood that it can be placed on our breakfast tables for 4/- per dozen (4d. per can). Such enterprise, with such a delicious beverage, at such a low cost, is worth encouraging, even if it means making canned pineapple juice a compulsory ration on all Government ships.

EVERYONE in the Ellice and Gilbert Islands speaks with affection of the Rev. A. L. Sadd, who is associated with Rev. G. H. Eastman in directing the LMS operations there.

Mr. Sadd is an energetic, quick-thinking, impulsive man of whom some delightful stories are told.

There was the occasion when Mr. Sadd took a boat, a crew, and some explosive out to the reef to blast and enlarge the boat-passage—a difficult and dangerous task.

They were there for some time, making careful preparations. Then Mr. Sadd lit the fuse.

"Row, boys, row!" he shouted, and the boys rowed like furies.

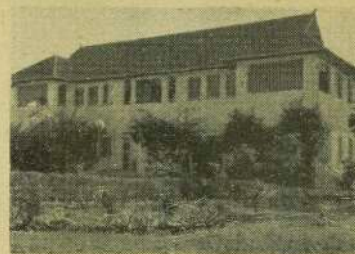
But the boat didn't move. They had forgotten to pull up the anchor!

With one accord, the boys and their absent-minded master dived overboard, and swam madly away. A few seconds later, the boat "went up"—but no one was hurt.

The story is almost too good to be true. But they told it to me on the "John Williams", where they think the world of Mr. Sadd.

HERE, probably, is the finest Residency in the South Seas—it cost about £17,000, and it houses the Resident Commissioner at Ocean Island. It was completed in 1938.

The design, for such a purpose and in such a climate—it is right on the equator—is practically perfect. Generous reception rooms on the ground floor; offices behind; a bonny sweep of staircase leading to the bedrooms above, each with its own



balcony, and plenty of bathrooms, shower-rooms, etc. Every room catches a breeze, from whatever direction. There is thought and finish in every corner—seen in little things like fans, bedside lights, tea alcoves. The structure—simple, impressive, dignified, buried in tropical foliage—stands high on Ocean Island's hill, looking out to the northeast.

It is the design of Mr. Hedges, a New Zealand architect, who was also singularly successful in designing that fine, imposing white block which now houses the Fiji Government Offices in Suva.

IT is interesting to recall other South Pacific Residences.

Government House at Namanula, Rabaul, is spacious, impressive in design, and beautifully situated; it is sad to think that it must remain there, on the lip of the muttering volcano, while the Administrator goes with the Administration to the new capital.

Government House at Port Moresby has a charming situation, on a hill, some two miles out; but it is an old, rambling structure, typical of the pioneer style of 50 years ago.

The Residency at Tulagi is small, but pleasantly situated on a hill. That at Vila is bigger and better—also pleasantly situated, on a little island in the harbour.

Government House, Suva, is spacious, impressive, rambling, old-fashioned, and gloriously situated among tropical gardens, on a hill overlooking the sea.

The Residency at Apia, Samoa, is notable at once for its situation and its history. Apia is hot and humid; but "Vailima", four miles out, and 500 feet up in the foothills of the central ranges, enjoys always a cool breeze. "Vailima" was built in 1890, as his Samoan home, by Robert Louis Stevenson, and later was added to. It is rambling and old-fashioned, but very picturesque.

THIS American practice of cutting short the long names of well-known institutions grows upon journalists, who

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E.76.

are fighting, under wartime conditions, for every inch of space.

But I shall have to watch my step. I have found a horrid example in the Central Pacific.

When the High Commission for the Western Pacific launched the plan of repopulating the Phoenix Group, the plan was officially and quite naturally designated the Phoenix Islands Settlement Scheme.

No one saw the trap until a hurried official in Suva, sending a letter to the Officer Commanding, Phoenix Islands Settlement Scheme, used initials only.

The result seemed greatly to cheer the young men who have been bucketing about for two years between the Gilberts and the Phoenix, trying to make the settlement plan go.

I DON'T know whether this should be called "Tarawa's Wailing Wall" or "Bevington's Labour of Sisyphus"—it has the characteristics of both.

Big ships come into Tarawa Lagoon, but they must lie far out from the islet where commerce is centred. So past generations of Administrative officers built a long boat-jetty, out over shallows that are bare at low tide, to allow the easier working of ships. The outer part of this jetty was cemented together; the two-thirds nearest shore comprised simply blocks of coral, roughly fitted together.

EVERY year, £30 was allotted for this jetty's maintenance, and should have been spent on cement; but, every year, officials with an economy complex returned the £30 to the Treasury, with whoops of triumph. Every year, the westerly gales smashed the non-cemented jetty to pieces; every year, sweating thieves and adulterers from the local gaol built it up again.

The present AO, conscientious young Bevington, found it flat; and, week by week, with infinite toil, his police and prisoners built it up once more.

The day I landed, it was stone-perfect. Next morning, it was being lashed by a westerly, and I stood there and watched it literally disintegrate, like sugar, and took this photograph. When I left, only the cemented end was standing. £50 worth of cement would have saved endless work, worry and inconvenience.

ON two occasions in his short official career, Mr. E. R. Bevington, now Administrative Officer at Tarawa

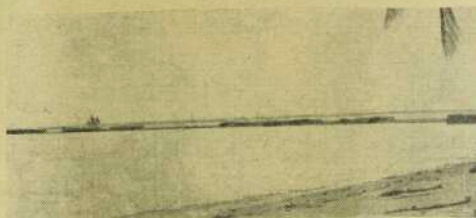
(Gilbert Islands) has been aided in a remarkable way, by the great current which, during part of the year, sweeps south-eastward from New Guinea and the regions northward thereof.

Late in 1940, Mr. Bevington was landed on the large island of Tabiteuea (Central Gilberts) to deal with native affairs. The Government vessel was to come back for him within a few days.

But a series of terrific westerly gales set in, and several weeks passed before a ship could get near Tabiteuea. Mr. Bevington's supplies soon ran out, except tea and canned milk, and he did the best he could with native foods.

He had used his last sugar and milk, in mid-December, 1940, when a couple of ship's lifeboats, and a great quantity of miscellaneous wreckage, came ashore on Tabiteuea. In one boat there was a large quantity of canned milk, and other supplies, which kept the marooned official going until he was rescued.

The wreckage came from the five ships



which the German raiders sank off Nauru. It arrived on Tabiteuea five days after the shelling—which means that it had drifted, before the north-westerly gale, about 100 miles per day.

ON the other occasion, Mr. Bevington was AO at Beru (Southern Gilberts). He finally had persuaded the natives to build a substantial bridge between two of the islets of the atoll, but they could not complete it owing to lack of timber.

And then, driven before a westerly gale, no less than 100 large, well-cut logs came providentially ashore on Beru's western coast. Mr. Bevington thinks they came from New Guinea, and his description suggests they were "New Guinea walnut"—a big boom of lumber must have broken adrift in New Britain.

Mr. Bevington did not question this act of God. He secured the co-operation of the LMS Mission; and the Mission's sawmill turned the great logs into planks;

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2 tablespoons Holbrooks Worcestershire Sauce

2 tablespoons Holbrooks Tomato Sauce

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15-1

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and the bridge was completed, in substantial fashion.
We wonder who, in New Guinea or thereabouts, lost that timber.

IN Suva, in the highest circles of the Western Pacific High Commission, they read with interest the report that triplets had been born on Pitcairn Island, to a direct descendant of a "Bounty" mutineer. Pitcairn is in the W.P. territory.

Mr. Vaskess wondered if the parents could apply for the King's Bounty, given to British-born triplets everywhere.

H. E. was sympathetic.

R. H. Garvey grinned. "Bounty" said he. "Bounty! Isn't that getting a bit close to the bone?"

They laughed, and suppressed him; and I think that, if the death of one of the triplets is not considered a disqualification, the bounty may be sought.

IT was in Suva, late, and bright moonlight.

A young naval engineer of my acquaintance, at the end of a festive evening, was walking, unsteadily, near Albert Park.

Suddenly, he stopped dead, and stared, in horror, at an object in the roadway. It appeared to be a large paper bag; and, although there was not a breath of wind, it was rolling and hopping along.

The engineer hurried away. Then he stopped again, and looked shyly back. The paper bag still was hopping—and he could hear it crackling and rattling, as it encountered grass.

My young friend sat upon a bench, and held his head, and moaned slightly, and swore off liquor for life. He kept his pledge, too—until he heard about the giant toad.

The giant toad was brought from Hawaii to Viti Levu to clean up slugs and insects which were proving very destructive in the sugar plantations; and it has done its job so well that it has wiped

out most of Fiji's garden pests—and has, itself, taken their place.

There now must be millions of toads there. They hop happily about the gardens. Ditches and water-courses are alive with them. Even money there is a toad in every hole on the golf course.

They are harmless, friendly fellows, and Fiji does not object to them. Young Fiji practises two stock jokes upon them. They are tied into paper bags, and left to hop blindly about the landscape, to the consternation of harmless alcoholics; or a lighted cigarette is placed in their mouths. The toad's hooked teeth hold the cigarette in place, and he puffs out smoke in realistic fashion. The sight of a toad calmly smoking a cigarette, is only slightly less startling than that of the peripatetic bag.

In an endeavour to reduce insect pests—especially mosquitoes—in the northern islands, the toads have been taken from Fiji to Funafuti (Ellice) and Tarawa and Abemama (Gilberts); but there they do not seem to be flourishing. The atoll islands probably are too dry.

I ADMIRED the trim lines of "RCS Nimanoa"; and then asked, "What does the RCS stand for—Resident Commissioner's ship?" "No" I was told. "Royal Colonial Ship". But many of the natives hereabouts still believe it means "Roman Catholic Ship".

Actually, the Roman Catholic ship in the Gilberts is the "Theresa", a very shapely little schooner, with a strong auxiliary, built in Tarawa by Mr. William Reiher, a clever man of German-Marshall parentage. There are three brothers, Reiher, in the Gilberts—William, Fritz, and Henry—all exceedingly able craftsmen. They were driven out of the Marshalls, in fairly recent years, by the Japanese.

FOR long years, Mr. G. M. Murdoch, an educated and cultivated Englishman, was an administrative officer in the service of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony. He was stationed mostly at Tarawa. He married a Gilbertese girl, and had several children.

Through his wife, he acquired substantial land interests in Kuria; and, when he retired from the service, he settled on Kuria, as a trader and planter. He lived strictly according to European standards, and insisted that his children be properly educated.

Of one daughter, Agnes, he was especially fond—she was good-looking, vivacious and intelligent. So he sent her to San Francisco, to be educated.

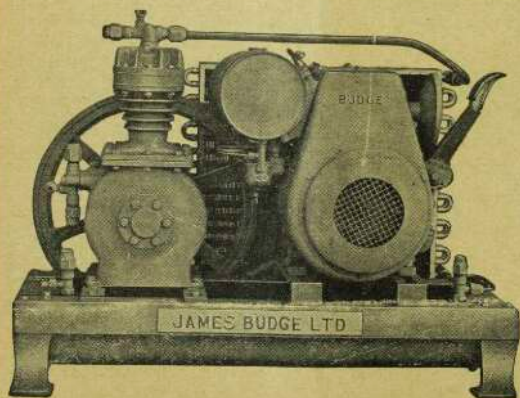
When she returned, she was a slim and attractive young girl, with plenty of poise, and a full-bodied American accent.

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She should have married a European, but young European men were not plentiful in the equatorial islands in those Great War days. She married, instead, a son of the king of Abemama.

Readers of Islands romances will find plenty about Abemama and its "royal family" in Stevenson's book. The Abemama kings were ferocious warriors, and, when Britain took over the group, they held all Abemama, and the neighbouring



islands of Kuria and Aranuka, in subjection.

Agnes Murdoch now is an elderly woman. Briefly, while a boat waited to take me back to the ship through a menacing surf, I interviewed her at her home in Abemama, not one hundred yards from the spot where Stevenson lived, during his sojourn there. She still is slim, and straight and distinctive, with a charming voice and an American accent; and, in spite of her isolation, she can talk interestingly of people and affairs.

She has two handsome sons—and, in this picture, she is seen between the two of them. When the old king died, Agnes Murdoch's brother-in-law became king; and now he is dead, and Agnes Murdoch's elder son (seen in the photograph) has taken his place, as paramount chief. These boys have been educated. The elder has married the daughter of Captain "Jimmie" Smith, a well-known Abemama resident, who married a Gilbertese woman.

BUT all is not well with Abemama's royal family. In the over-populated Gilbert Islands, land is man's most precious possession, and the allocation of land titles is a most complex and delicate business. The British Administration generally allots titles on the status quo, fixed when it took control. On that basis, most of the land in Abemama, Kuria and Aranuka belongs primarily to the Abemama royal family.

But the land-hungry peoples of Kuria and Aranuka see no reason why they should continue to pay tribute in the shape of rent to the kingly house in Abemama; and, when I was along there in October, they were holding many meetings, and talking revolt, and generally seething. Agnes Murdoch, on behalf of her son, expressed great anxiety in relation to the position.

It looked to me like a No. 1 headache for the Administration. The fact is that the G. and E. Colony Lands Commission, to which has been given the responsibility of hearing thousands of land claims, and clarifying countless titles, has done little for some years, and the work is far behind schedule, and is becoming every year more involved.

Practice and principle in Polynesia (Nauru is a good example) both indicate that the simplest and quickest way of cleaning up an accumulation of land claims is to put the whole job into the

hands of the local councils of native chiefs. They cut out much of our wearisome procedure, but they go straight to the point, and decide it in accordance with local knowledge and tradition. There is no corruption or back-door greasing of hands, and sound justice is done.

WHEN I left Funafuti (Ellice Islands) I carried with me a piece of white, clean, aromatic soap, made out of local coconut oil, with a couple of chemicals added, by the Administrative Officer there, Mr. D. C. I. Wernham.

Captain Kettle, of the "John Williams", noticed it. "I have wondered, often, why people in the Islands don't make their own soap," he said. "We carry tons and tons of city-manufactured soap into the Islands, and yet the people could make all they want, if they were inclined, at a low cost."

IF you drive around the pleasant island of Nauru (11 miles) you will see many pigs feeding languidly in the coconut groves. Most are black, rangy brutes—real "Captain Cookers"—but a proportion are square and rotund in shape, and red in colour.

I expressed interest, and the Administrator (Lieut.-Colonel Chalmers) explained the position.

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ditions, but I do know farming" he said. "Those native pigs were an offence to the eye, and to every stocklover."

"So I sent down to the Hawkesbury Agricultural College, and got a number of pedigree boars, Tamworth Reds. I gave instructions that every native boar on the island should be castrated. The change, in a couple of years, has been remarkable—and the natives are delighted. They now are getting pigs that are much increased in weight."

In Nauru, pigs indeed are wealth. There are hundreds of Chinese employed in the phosphate works, and the Chinese

pay liberally for fresh food. The Nauruans make good money by producing food for the Chinese—pigs, fowls, bananas, pine-apples, taro, etc. The Chinese will pay £6 for a fat pig—nearly twice its Australian value.

AS we steamed through the lovely strait between Taveuni and Vanua Levu, and I admired the 30-miles-long row of beautiful (and what were once highly profitable) coconut plantations, David Collins told me a story about Taveuni.

It appears that this big, mountainous

island is placed exactly astride the 180th degree of longitude. In the bad old days, before they provided for Fiji's convenience by giving the date-line a twist to the eastward, and when the old day ended and the new day began on the 180th, certain planters of Taveuni, with hooked noses and no industrial morals, worked a labour racket.

Clearly, when it was Saturday on the eastern end of Taveuni, it was Sunday on the western end—the day's nomenclature changed at the island's midway point. So the gentle racketeers eliminated Sunday from their labour gang's week.

They would, for example, work the bewildered labourers at the western end of the island until Saturday evening; then they would move them to the eastern end, where it still was Friday evening; on Saturday evening (eastern end) they would move them back to the western end, where it was now officially Sunday evening; and there they were, all ready for a start on Monday morning—in accordance with white man's magic.

You can believe it or not—but Collins said it was true.

BERU is the G. and E. headquarters of the LMS—a beautiful and attractive place, ashore, but heartily cursed by all sailors. There is no sheltered anchorage. If the weather is fine, they anchor off the boat passage; and their passengers and cargo are ferried, for miles, through the lagoon. If the weather is rough, ships do the best they can in the lee of the island.

When we arrived, a howling westerly made the anchorage untenable; and, in Beru's lee, in bounding seas and heavy rain, we transferred to another ship, and crawled away northwards, in the teeth of the storm. I was disappointed in not seeing Mr. Eastman and Mr. Sadd, of whose work at Beru I had heard so much. When I am king, I shall decree a much more suitable place than Beru as LMS headquarters. In this Group, the LMS is wholly dependant upon sea transport; yet Beru, in the language of one disgusted mate, "isn't a port's bootlace".

The gentle old "John Williams" has to supply all the Ellice and some of the Gilberts with stores, etc., using Beru as a centre, and returning to Beru again and again. Surely a dog's life, in westerly weather, for ship and men.

ANOTHER PIONEER PASSES

From Our Own Correspondent

SAMARAI, Nov. 18.

MR. William Sheddon, aged 77, died in Samarai European Hospital, Papua, last month. Born in Scotland, Mr. Sheddon came to Papua in the late '90's and took part in the gold-rush at Woodlark Island. He was also mining on the Mambare and Gira fields in the early days. Later he settled in the Trobriand Islands, where he engaged in beche-de-mer fishing.

In recent years, Mr. Sheddon lived in retirement in Samarai, with occasional trips to Australia. He had a wide circle of friends in Papua, and flags were flown at half-mast here as a mark of respect to the old-timer.

Mr. S. Scholes, who has been manager of the Bank of NSW at Salamaua for some time, arrived in Australia by airliner from New Guinea recently, with Mrs. Scholes. He has been transferred to Western Australia.

Rev. J. Hennessy, DD, PhD, who has been in charge of the Chabai School, conducted by the Marist Mission at Buka Passage, Bougainville, New Guinea, for the past few years, will return to USA shortly on furlough.

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WHERE ALL IS PEACE

From Our Own Correspondent

AT a time when the thunders of war are echoing among Greenland's icy mountains, across the continents, over the islands of the oceans even to Little America in the Antarctic, there is one lonely island not many days sail from Tahiti, where the noise of the turmoil does not penetrate to blemish the tranquillity of the life of its people.

This island we shall not designate further than to place it as one of the islands long ago protected by the Government of French Oceania from alien visitation and settlement.

For this reason and because its value for commerce is not great, power schooners seldom voyage thither. The island is very fertile, but the products of its plantations are needed for the inhabitants. Its exports—fine pandanus mats, pigs, fowl, a confection made of the fruit of the banana named "piere", and sometimes tapa cloth—are conveyed to Papeete on board the small sailing vessel built and manned by the Islanders.

We once were invited to visit this island in the company of a relative of the highest ranking chief, who was returning after a long absence, to meet his kin. Almost we were persuaded. Later, we congratulated ourselves that we did not go. The voyage out was speedy and without incident. Returning, however, when the schooner had come within sight of the highest mountain summits of Tahiti, a dead calm held her motionless for 15 days. Food and water were exhausted before a breeze arose to waft the vessel to its destination.

Shortly afterwards, a schooner from the same island, dismasted by a sudden squall, drifted for 50 days until the currents of the sea carried her near the coast of Tahiti off Hitia'a, where the emaciated crew were rescued barely in time to save their lives.

Incidents such as these and the later interdict against landing or settlement by anyone not native-born, have safely established the island's isolation.

No European resides there—not even the usual French gendarme. The agents representing the Colonial Government are the hereditary chiefs who are responsible to the Governor of French Oceania at Papeete. To the best of our knowledge and belief, there is no radio receiver on the island, nor is there a wireless telegraph station. Motor-cars, motor-cycles and other modern purveyors of noise have never been brought ashore to disturb the peace.

There is a little colony of these Islanders in Papeete and even there they observe scrupulously a polite insular clannishness.

As the Island is hilly, has no harbour, and is on the way to nowhere, it could be of no strategic value to anyone even if war should spread to the Pacific.

Here, indeed, is one tiny oasis of happiness and health and tranquillity which is almost unique in our present-day world.

Mr. John McGeady, who had resided in Fiji for more than 40 years, died at Suva recently at the age of 78. After a varied career in Australia, Mr. McGeady went to the Colony as a stockman for the late Armstrong Brothers, and later worked in a similar capacity with other Fiji landowners. He is survived by Mrs. McGeady, of Suva, a daughter, and four sons—Messrs. Gordon McGeady, of Suva; Staff Sergeant Frank McGeady, Fiji Defence Force; Mr. C. McGeady, of Auckland; and Ernest McGeady, now serving with the NZ Forces in the Middle East.

BEATING THE SLUMP ON LORD HOWE IS.

FOR years, tiny Lord Howe Island (mid-way between Australia and Norfolk Is.) has been the home of the Kentia palm, and export of palm seeds has provided a profitable, regular income for the 150 settlers there. But the war sounded the death-knell of this trade, and LHI fell on evil days.

Then, like many another Pacific community, the Island people took steps to make Lord Howe self-supporting. They established a sawmill to cut timber for sheds, pigsties and fruit cases; introduced bees to provide pollination for agriculture; liberated selected birds to overcome insect pests; and grew 35,000 tomato plants for seed production—they expect to obtain more than £1,000 from this seed contract.

Fishing, no longer the pastime of leisurely amateurs, is now a growing industry, and there are two refrigerating chambers on the Island to hold the catch until it is taken to the Sydney market.

Early next year, the Chief Secretary of NSW (Mr. Baddeley), to whom the Lord Howe Island Board of Control is responsible, will visit the Island to see for himself the results of these experiments in self-sufficiency.

Mr. A. E. Spence recently took charge of NGG Ltd.'s farm at Wau, New Guinea, from Mr. G. M. Lane, who resigned to go to Lae, where he has purchased a farming property from Mr. Henry Eekhoff.

Mr. J. Morrissey, of the New Zealand Reparation Estates' staff at Apia, Western Samoa, returned to New Zealand recently to enlist for service overseas.

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A TRADER'S TALE

Cocktails on March 21

BY "TUKAPA KOKO"

WHEN "Wilkie", veteran of two former wars, teller of innumerable tales of hairbreadth escapes and mortal combat, left our island of Mangaia to taste again the sweets of civilisation, I quite expected his firm to close up the local branch, with a dreary cry of "What's the use?"

They didn't. The hope that sprang eternal in the firm's corporate breast inspired them to send over a new manager—not another "Wilkie", but albeit a war veteran also—a personality as different from "Wilkie's" as chalk from cheese.

The new incumbent was a rum old bird; solemn, incongruously bedight in lumber-jacket and drill shorts, sneaker-shod, he first swam into my astonished ken en route from his store to the post-office. He did not walk; he proessed, head up, ambling with the dignity of a zoo penguin marching to the manger.

We got acquainted. His name, a highly aristocratic one, precluded familiar salutation. But I christened him The Old Bloke, and he smote me not, wherefore I judged that my thrown-out cap fitted, and it remained on.

We met often for discussion, for The Old Bloke was a man of original mind, though his philosophy was founded more on the school of Schopenhauer and Jeremiah than that of Mr. Mark Tapley.

He would declaim; he would thump the counter in vigorous denunciation of those things he was not pleased to approve; the play of his features was as entertaining as his discourse. He would alternately grin and grimace with wrath at his wrongs and pride at his wit, as some particularly bon mot came to birth; and it seemed as if I, humble competitor, was the accoucheur of my exalted fellow-trader's travailing wit.

In my absence, he had no converse with that face-sharpening co-wise-cracker that his caustic humour demanded. He was clown to an empty circus. He could not speak native. And, indeed, had been able to do so, I know no Maori dialect equal to the strain of carrying the peak-load of that mixture of crustiness and bitter jest.

In appearance, The Old Bloke was—well, distinctive. He was triangular at all points; his sharp nose, his small, stubborn, stubby chin, his sloping forehead, adorned with fast-vanishing grey hair—he resembled a bold, pugnacious kangaroo. In trade, he was all that went with his bold pugnacious 'roo-looks; he could sell you anything you didn't want on the magic of his sales-talk alone.

A day in the merry month of March brought relief to Mangaia. For the twenty-first day of the month is the official end of the hurricane season. If no destructive wind occurs up to that date, it will not occur after. To those with anything to lose, the passing of hurricane-days without a hurricane is an occasion for joy. Hoarded liquor-supplies, niggardly rationed by a paternal Administration, are on the night of March 21, recklessly squandered.

The evening of the great day was moonlit and fair, and Teremoana and I were at home. The oil-lamp-light was golden, mellow, within the hut. I read; Teremoana sewed.

Came a knock at the door; a voice, thickly jovial, calling "Anyone home?"

I opened the door. It was company: The Old Bloke, still in lumber-jacket and shorts, bearing gifts. Under one arm he held a bottle; under the other a square tin, obviously the sarcophagus of biscuits. Approaching, his breath would have motivated a schooner-engine.

He was not alone. Mrs. Old Bloke, a most slashing young lady, decades younger than her mate, was with him.

He put the bottle and the tin on the table, and at my invitation the pair took seats.

The Old Bloke opened the bottle, and vociferously insisted that I get glasses and drink to the departed hurricane season. Teremoana, devout native Church-member, viewed the bottle and glasses with some apprehension, for female Mangaia may not be gay within the fold of Salvation—may not even appear to be being about to be gay.

The Old Bloke, with piratical oaths, insisted on our being gay. The pinkish fluid in the bottle, designated cocktail, was forced on us, and it set an ember to our lips. At least, that seemed to be the Old Bloke's intention.

We sang not; neither did we scream with joy. The liquor, a hell-brew made out of sour orange-juice, rum, and onions, flavoured with the juices of other citrus fruits that could have been used as acid soldering-flux, surpassed in nastiness the recollections of a lifetime's nightmares.

The Old Bloke was annoyed. He would not hear of a refusal. We drank again, and the grimaces of Teremoana were as sandpaper to his aesthetics, for this was his own special cocktail, learned in the States, in which he was well pleased.

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We weren't! And it was impossible to conceal the fact.

The Old Bloke was more annoyed. Calling us "a dead bunch", he pressed us into procession with him round the houses, resuming his burden of bottle and tin. Mrs. Old Bloke made perfunctory condemnation of her spouse's condition. He be-swore her, and we, thus warned, offered no resistance.

He, and we, went first to the big store of the other major firm. Its manager was in bed, and blasphemously announced his intention of staying there.

We, and the Old Bloke, went to the radio-station. "Makoni" desired not cocktails. There was but one more port of call—the minor store of Mr. and Mrs. Freeman. The Old Bloke, listing slightly to starboard, took us there. As we came to the door, open and emitting lamplight, I thought I heard a fierce whisper—a hiss, rather—followed by a weary male exclamation of "Oh, God!"

Here, again, was no demand for cock-tails a la Old Bloke.

The Old Bloke weakened; became first vociferous, then lachrymose, then drowsy. We got him home to his own store quarters, and to bed.

The Twenty-First of March had passed without a hurricane; but I, safely back home and receiving the Rounds of the Kitchen at midnight, opined that one storm had only stepped aside to make room for another, and worse.

The Old Bloke, recovering consciousness and sobriety some hours later, had occasion to reach the same conclusion.

O Tlachtecolotl, Princess of Mexico, bestower on explorers of a mixed drink that has made thy name immortal, what reversed blessings did I not that night call down upon thee!

How New Caledonian Coffee is Graded

Letter to the Editor

IN your review of October you write: "The announcement recently that the New Caledonian Government intends to grade the Colony's 1941-42 coffee crop is commented upon favourably by Sydney agents". Further on you give quotations for grades "A" and "B".

Such statements are not quite correct, as the New Caledonian coffee has been graded for many years past, and the grades are not "A" and "B".

Sydney agents will certainly like to know something about the grading, which is very severe, and rather mathematical, as you will see, the grade being determined by the number of blemishes contained in a sample of 500 grammes (nearly 18 oz.) taken from the lot of coffee to be exported. So whether the parcel be one bag, 10 bags or a hundred, the sample drawn from the bags is always 500 grammes in weight. As everyone knows, our coffee is exported in bags containing 60 kilos (133 lb. net) according to market regulations in Havre (France).

ARABICA

No. 1 grade.—Dry, sound, homogeneous coffee, of uniform size and colour (bluish green) with a sui generis odour, containing no stones, no foreign matter, no black beans, no husks nor unhusked fruits, nor crushed or broken beans.

No. 2 grade.—Dry, sound, homogeneous coffee, of a size representing, on the whole, the fair average size of the season's crop, with a true sui generis odour, of uniform colour, containing no stones, no foreign matter, no husks nor unhusked fruits, not more than 3 black or blackish beans and not more than 5 brownish, parched, crushed or broken beans.

No. 3 grade.—Dry, sound, homogeneous

coffee, without any bad smell, of a size representing, on the whole, the average of the season, of uniform colour, not answering the conditions required by grades 1 and 2 but not containing more than 3 per cent. of blemishes.

No. 4 grade.—Dry, sound, homogeneous coffee, not answering the conditions required for grades 1, 2 and 3, but not containing more than 15 per cent. of blemishes.

As it will be seen, it is exceedingly difficult to obtain No. 1 grade. As 500 grammes of coffee contain about 3,500 beans, a few more broken or crushed beans than is allowed by No. 2 throws the parcel into No. 3 grade, in which a maximum of 100 blemishes is allowed. It is therefore obvious that No. 2 grade is a high-class coffee.

ROBUSTA

For New Caledonian Robusta coffee, only three grades are provided. The No. 3 of Arabica does not exist.

No. 1 grade.—Same as for Arabica coffee.

No. 2 grade.—Same as for Arabica coffee.

No. 3 grade.—As it comes. Dry, sound, homogeneous coffee, not answering the conditions required for grades 1 and 2 but not containing more than 15 per cent. of blemishes.

Well, 15 per cent. of blemishes means 500 or 525 in a sample of 500 grammes. A No. 3 Robusta may be very good coffee, as it may contain only 6 crushed or broken grains. Here, again, it is obvious the grading is too severe and such coffee should be sampled by the buyer in Sydney.

I am, etc.,

NC COFFEE.

Noumea, 15/11/1941.

Mr. C. H. W. Larsen, private secretary to Judge H. F. Ayson, CMG (Resident Commissioner of the Cook Islands) is at present in New Zealand with his family, on four months' furlough.

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Crown Prince Tuboutoa, and his brother Prince Jione Gu, sailed from Sydney this month to spend the Christmas holidays in Tonga. The brothers will return to Australia in the New Year. Prince Tuboutoa will continue his legal studies at Sydney University, and Prince Jione will study tropical agriculture in Queensland. The Pacific Islands Society arranged a farewell function for them on December 8.

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OLD MONK
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Did We Use the Wrong Fork at Government House?

MY vivacious neighbour, at a Government House dinner, in Suva, was keeping my wits busy, and I automatically helped myself from the dish presented by the deft Indian steward.

I turned a preoccupied eye upon the food. It was the second course. "Steak, doodled up in some way—obviously an entree", I thought; picked up a plain knife and fork; and hurried back to meet the lady's latest sally.

Apparently, she had been watching me. She also took a heavy knife and fork, and carried on.

Then, in mid-air, she stopped, in frozen horror. "Oh, God!" she whispered. "It's fish! Look at H.E.!"

Sir Harry Luke, most charming but most punctilious of hosts—his dinners are renowned for the manner in which traditional British ceremony and decorum are observed—was blandly eating the strange dish with a fish-fork and knife, and those near him were doing the same.

I glared around. Thank heaven, we were not alone! Others, further down the gracious board, were confusedly dropping heavy cutlery, and reaching for the implements with which etiquette demands that fish be eaten.

"But what is it, anyway?" I said. A menu lay near us—and this is what we read:—



M E N U

Consommé Glacé

Grilled Whale Steak

Risotto Milanese

Filet de Boeuf Garni

Mince Pies

Dessert

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
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Whale steak! "Well, how would anyone guess that this is fish?" asked the lady, defensively.

I looked suspiciously at the Governor. He was talking seriously; but I am convinced that he missed nothing of his guests' amusing reactions to what was—as he told me afterwards—"the first whale steak ever to appear on a Government House menu".

THE story of how he had acquired the whale steak also was amusing. He recently had been in Tonga. There was excitement in Nukualofa when it became known that a whale had been killed—the Tongans are exceedingly fond of whale meat.

Sir Harry was interested, and went out, some distance along the beach, to see the ceremony of cutting up and distributing the whale.

Someone suggested that he "might like to try whale-steak", and His Excellency thought so, too. He was returning to Suva immediately by plane, so a package of whale-meat was added to his luggage.

Back in Fiji, His Excellency learned, to his chagrin, that the whale-steak was missing. He added the dismal information to a radio message he was sending to Nukualofa.

Nukualofa was angry. High officials and police went out on the war-path.

It was discovered that the package had been entrusted to a Tongan lorry-driver who loved whale-steak more than he loved liberty. So he had "pinched" the Governor's package.

Nukualofa put the lorry-driver in gaol, and radio'd apologies to H.E.

There was a sequel. As a fast ship was about to depart for Suva, Nukualofa caught another whale; and so one of the choicest cuts was sent, in the freezer, to the Governor, to replace that which had betrayed the lorry-driver.

It arrived in time to become the fish course at the Governor's dinner-party.

Whale-steak, as prepared by Sir Harry Luke's chef, is most toothsome—nicely flavoured, and a good food.

But—defying English punctiliousness and with great respect to H.E.—I still maintain that whale-meat is not fish.

In fact, I think His Excellency pulled our legs.
—R. W. R.

TWO KINDS OF FRENCHMEN

From Our Own Correspondent

NOUMEA, Nov. 22.

WRITING to Noumea from Syria, the Rev. Pere Podevigne, Catholic padre with the Free French Pacific Expeditionary Force—which he left the Solomons specially to join—speaks of the surprise of young wounded Frenchmen, whom they had come across, to find that the French flag was still flying in the Pacific. These men recounted the manner in which they had been misled by their Vichy officers.

"The older men, on the contrary, were happy to see us arrive," the letter continues. "They had heard of us, long ago, and had begun to believe we should never come. Their welcome was brotherly and comforting."

"In them, it is pleasant to meet Frenchmen of the kind to whom I have been accustomed, and not conquered people who accept defeat almost with satisfaction."

The letter speaks of the excellent morale of the Pacific troops and their anxiety to play their part.

Mr. G. L. Ditchburn, who has been mill superintendent and metallurgist with Emperor Gold Mines Ltd., at Tavua, Fiji, returned to Australia in November, with his wife and daughter.

WP Territories Give Freely to War Funds

SINCE the outbreak of war, residents in every Pacific Islands community, without exception, have given generously to the various war funds. The following details of contributions from the territories under the control of the Western Pacific High Commission appeared in the official gazette recently:—

Tonga.—Red Cross and St. John Fund, £1,057; General War Effort Fund, £1,346; Comforts Fund, £420; Plane Fund, £6,665 (forwarded to London to purchase RAF fighter plane, to be named "Queen Salote"); total, £9,488.

Gilbert and Ellice Colony.—British War Fund (given by Ocean Islanders for the purchase of anti-aircraft guns for Britain), £12,500; British Red Cross and St. John Fund, £1,390; Australian Red Cross, £232; Australian Comforts Fund, £221; Air Raid Distress Fund, £38; Raised by Ladies' Committee, £136; Mobile Canteen Fund, £652 (£250 from Fanning Island); General War Effort Fund, £100; total, £15,269.

Solomon Islands.—British Red Cross and St. John Fund, £1,484; Spitfire Fund, £1,579; total, £3,063.

New Hebrides.—British and Free French Red Cross Funds, £703; Miscellaneous Funds, £114; Empire War Effort, £10; Air Raid Distress Fund, £227; General de Gaulle's Spitfire Fund, £80; total, £1,119.

Pitcairn Island.—340 walking sticks for the use of British wounded soldiers; NZ Government War Effort, £48 (proceeds of sale of 47 cases of oranges).

Nauru.—No less a sum than £1,207 has been raised by the Nauruan Patriotic Society (all native), between October 28, 1939, and October 31, 1941. £200 of this has gone to the London Lord Mayor's Fund, and £900 to the Australian Red Cross. It must be remembered that there are only 1,700 Nauruans altogether, and more than half of them are children. At one stage the Nauruans wanted to present £10,000 out of their accumulated (phosphate royalty) funds to British war funds, but the Administrator, in view of all considerations, did not encourage the plan.

NO CHANGE!

Penny Famine in Fiji

THE recent arrival of a consignment of Fiji pennies and halfpennies from England has ended a situation both inconvenient and embarrassing to Suva business-people—for a couple of months now Fiji has suffered from an acute shortage of pennies.

In an attempt to relieve the change famine, the Government was forced to make English bronze pennies legal tender for amounts under 1/- and to authorise the Bank of NSW to put English three-pences into circulation.

Fiji has her own coinage—florins, shillings, sixpences, pennies and halfpennies. There is no threepenny piece—a sore point with local shop-keepers, who for a long time have sought to re-introduce the 3d.

To a large extent the shortage of pennies was caused by New Zealanders taking them out of the Colony, as souvenirs and for use as poker chips. Unlike the bronze NZ coins, Fijian pennies are made of a silver alloy and have a hole through the centre.

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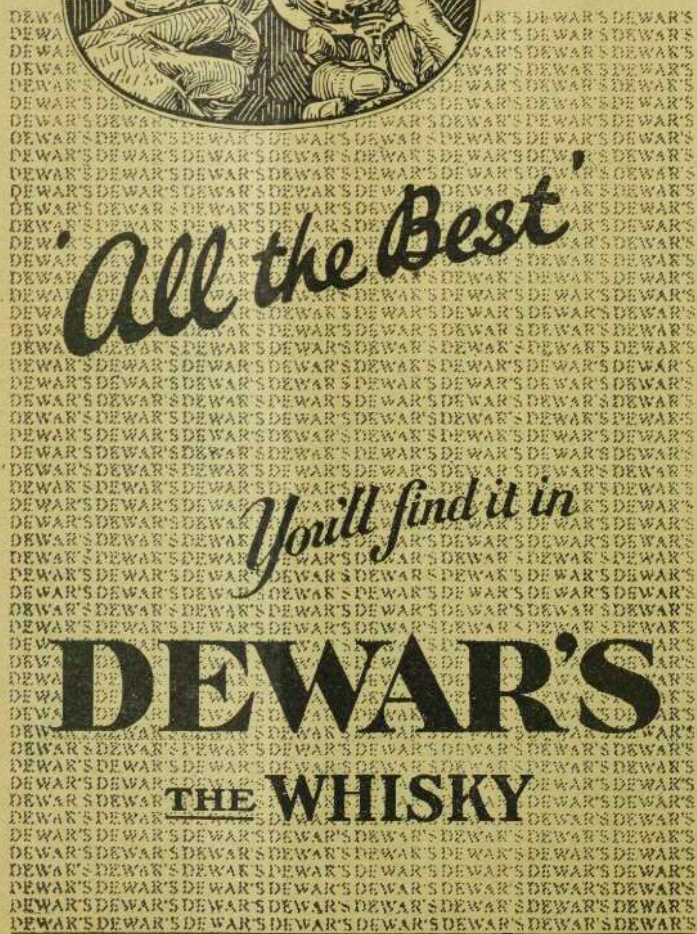
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BY M. R. HUNTER

The muleteer, however, proved to have a weakness for the native village belles. Before many months had elapsed he had married (native fashion) one of the beauties of a nearby village.



IT was Xmas Eve, 1914. Every coastal vessel, from the east and west coasts, for the past month, had brought passengers to Port—mostly miners and prospectors from remote parts; and, among them a sprinkling of copra and rubber planters. In those days, the pioneers of the back-country endeavoured to spend a month, as near the festive season as possible, in semi-civilization. For the most part, they were a fine, hardy type of manhood, always ready for any celebration that was suggested.

Arrived early in the previous month was a foreigner, a Swede, who had all the ear-marks of a professional gambler—a well-set individual known as Handsome Harry. Whenever he sat in a game of poker, of which there was plenty in Port at the time, he only played "for de fun of de ting"; but he always showed a profit.

On this eve, at a varnished-scarred table in the bar parlour of the Moresby Hotel, out of the boiling afternoon sun, sat four men playing poker. Now and then they spoke brief, low-toned words pertaining to the cards in their hands, as the pile of silver mounted up in the 5/- jackpot which was then being played. Of the four players at the table, two were prospectors—lean, grizzled old-timers—Pruess, the muleteer, and, at his elbow, Handsome Harry.

The game had gone to "queens on the down", when the muleteer held up the game to inform the players that his cash had run out, and that if they were willing he would use chits, which his employer would honour.

Handsome Harry sat back and objected, but said: "I will stake you, and if you win you pay me back. If I win, I want your voman! Eh, what you say?"

Pruess, thinking he was joking, laughingly agreed. The game continued until "aces on the up" a second time was

reached, and it was Handsome Harry's deal. Pruess opened with three tens and bought two cards and filled. The prospectors, after buying four each, dropped out, which left the dealer, who bought one card, and Pruess (the opener) to fight it out. Betting was brisk for a time, but eventually Pruess looked and said: "You'll have to beat a full on tens, Handsome!" "Oh, dat is easy," he replied, and showed four kings!

It was early afternoon, and as the muleteer left to go to his shack, to sleep off the effect of the grog he had consumed, Handsome Harry, with a leer, reminded him that he "would be along some time for de voman!"

Pruess had been asleep, and was awakened by the screams of his wife. He got to the door in time to see her break away from Handsome Harry, then rush back to the house and barricade the door. The would-be abductor eventually left with a threat that he would return after dark and take her.

Pruess saw red, and swore vengeance. For some months he had been in possession of a revolver, for protection against hostile natives when working his mules. Late that afternoon he strolled into the room, the scene of the morning gamble, and found there the same three who had taken part in the poker game. They were now playing the less expensive game of three-handed crib.

As Pruess entered the room, Handsome Harry, who had just pegged his hand, looked round and saw him. He said, "Pruess, I come tonight for my voman vitch I von to-day!"

Pruess, producing his revolver, answered, "No you won't, this is all you'll take!" There was a report, and Harry slumped in his chair.

The two prospectors looked up, after taking their hands, and, seeing the posi-

tion of the Swede, remarked, "Struth, he's dead!"

There were many in the Port who were of opinion that the slayer should be handed a public testimonial for having rid them of a nuisance. But an unsympathetic judge thought otherwise, and handed out nine years' hard labour.

Mr. Gordon J. Webster, Chief Officer of the RCS "Nimanoa", the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Government vessel, returned from leave in October and took over command of the RCS "Klakia".

Hon. George Murray, MLC, Director of Agriculture in New Guinea, arrived by plane in Sydney in November to receive urgent attention to one of his eyes. The operation was not successful, however, and Mr. Murray's many friends will learn with regret that he has permanently lost the sight of one eye. He blames the volcanic dust from Matupi which, apparently, irritated his eyes and, eventually, caused inflammation which became chronic.

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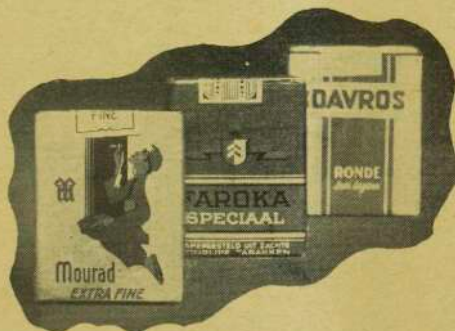
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WAR WORK IN NEW HEBRIDES

From Our Own Correspondent

FUNDS raised by two recent functions at Santo and Efate have proved the unity which exists between British and French residents of the New Hebrides, in regard to war work. Money raised by the fete held at Santo was contributed to the Red Cross, while profits from the Vila function were donated to the de Gaulle Spitfire Fund.

At a meeting of the Central Committee in charge of war work in the New Hebrides, held last month, Mr. A. Larney was elected president; Messrs. Egan and Anger, vice-presidents; Mr. Page, secretary; and Mrs. Crinon, treasurer.

VILA, Nov. 2.

FROM RABAUL TO LAE

Progress of Transfer of New Guinea Capital

From Our Own Correspondent

RABAUL, Dec. 1.
ON August 24, the New Guinea Administration announced that the recommendations of the Stehn and the Griffiths reports would be adopted immediately.

From that announcement, the public was led to believe that the capital site was to be removed; although, to be exact, Dr. Stehn qualified his recommendation for removal with the statement that, if adequate scientific instruments were installed, they would (or should) be able

to anticipate any major eruption in sufficient time to give the residents time to evacuate the town. It was Dr. Woolnough, Dr. Stehn's co-investigator of conditions in 1937, who was for a straight-out evacuation without delay.

However, after having withstood the onslaught of the dust blitz from Matupi crater from June 6 to August 24, the Administration decided to transfer the capital. Such decision was mainly due to representations made to the Administrator by the Public Service Association.

Early in October, the headquarters' staffs of the Lands Office (Mr. P. Holmes) and the District Services (Mr. R. Melrose) were transferred to Lae and Salamaua respectively. Members of the Public Works Department also proceeded to Lae, for the purpose of supervising the erection of temporary accommodation for the Administration personnel.

The number of Administration officials comprising this movement was about fifteen—mostly males. The wives of officials were discouraged from accompanying their husbands. They were told there was no accommodation suitable at Lae.

At the end of October a Government announcement, published in the "Rabaul Times", stated that Central Administration (Mr. H. Page) would transfer to Lae about the end of December, and other departments would follow sometime in February; but it is not now expected that CA will move before February.

Arrangements were mentioned for the housing of Government officials who would have to remain in the Rabaul area. "A site was being selected outside the caldera," said the Administrator, in the Legislative Council on September 23.

THE Administrator, with Lady McNicoll, has departed for Lae. Government House has been closed, and the Administrator has now officially taken up his residence at Lae.

There was no formal farewell; no public goodbyes. Sir Walter folded his tent and crept silently away, and his silent going occasioned some comment. It was generally expected that the Administrator would remain to the last, to see that all was well. There may be a very good reason for his early departure; but people have been unable to appreciate such reason. But probably the preparations for the future are more important than the dispositions of the past.

Business men, professional men, Asiatic store-keepers and artisans (and of this class there is well over a thousand) are still awaiting some authoritative statement from the Government as to the plans to be adopted concerning the headquarters of the New Britain district.

Big firms seem satisfied to retain their shipping facilities in Rabaul Harbour (than which there is no better in the Territory); and it is suggested that one will go here, and another will go there, according to the location where they hold land suitable for their own headquarters.

Several sites have already been mentioned by the Administration as possible locations; most of them in the vicinity of Kokopo. And, here, let it be remembered that at a meeting of business men held in Rabaul, some months ago, it was suggested that a temporary move away from Rabaul, as a whole, should be made to Kokopo or Bitapaka, and that the laying-out of the capital at Lae should be left as a post-war job; thus saving untold expense and time.

The police depot has, at long last, been



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transferred outside the caldera, to a location resumed by the Administration for the erection of a native hospital, and over which there was considerable trouble with the native owners, who refused to countenance the resumption, and to this day claim the deal did not go through.

At first, it was intended to erect native-material houses for the police barracks and European officers; but, owing to the drought conditions, no kunai (native grass) was obtainable, so it was found necessary for the police-boys to dismantle buildings at Rapindik and utilise the iron for the police barracks.

CONDITIONS at the new capital must of necessity, for some time to come, be of a primitive nature. It is accepted that the temporary buildings to house officials in the immediate future will be erected on the flat near the coast at Lae, and that the town proper, with an elaborate town-planning design, will not be erected on the terraces, behind, until after the war, when funds are expected to be made available.

Much depends upon the available supplies of building materials, of which, apparently, there is a great shortage.

Meanwhile, to make everyone feel foolish, the volcano is quiet, there is no dust, there has been some rain out of the north-west and the trees and grass are sprouting green again.

Mr. George Moore, manager of BP's branch at Port Moresby, returned recently after a few months' visit to Australia. Mrs. Moore will return early in the New Year.

Mr. Les. Clout, of the Public Works Department at Salamaua, New Guinea, recently arrived in Sydney by airliner. He intends to undergo a course of medicine while in Australia.

RABBITS ON THE EQUATOR

Strange Colony at Phoenix Is.

THIS interesting nature note from the Pacific was given to me by Mr. E. R. Bevington (now an AO in the Gilbert Islands), who, with a number of other officials, was ashore on Phoenix Island (Central Pacific) three or four years ago.

Some time in last century, someone released rabbits on uninhabited Phoenix Island; and, although it is a waterless, tree-less, flat coralline island, the animals settled in, lived on the rough herbage, and multiplied.

Mr. Bevington says that they are there in large numbers. They are well-grown, in good condition, and they may be had in almost any hue—intensive inbreeding has produced a wide range of colours. They do not run away from men as fast as the average wild rabbit, probably because they are not accustomed to men; and, if they can be headed off from their burrows—which they share with the numerous seabirds—they can be caught by hand. The young men of Mr. Bevington's party ran down a satisfactory supply of fresh meat.

Mr. Bevington took 32 of the captives to Beru, in the Southern Gilberts, where he was AO for a time, and released them there, in the hope that they would start a colony and provide a supply of meat. But, although the rabbits fed eagerly upon coconuts, they did not prosper. Mr. Bevington said that when he was last in Beru, in January, 1941, there were only two or three left.

—R. W. R.

Mr. A. Olsen, planter, of Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands, arrived in Sydney recently to join the AIF.

RADIO COMMUNICATIONS IN THE PACIFIC

PARALLEL with the development of the Pacific Territories has been the prodigious growth of the radio communications network in the Islands. To-day, after little more than a decade of pioneering work, Amalgamated Wireless (A/sia), Ltd., has linked practically every major group in the South Seas and many of the minor islands.

The difficult work of maintaining contact with the outside world in war-time is one of the unsung stories of the Pacific and the full account of what is being done cannot, of course, be told at this stage.

Addressing the 33rd annual general meeting in Sydney on November 17, AWA's chairman of directors, Sir Ernest Fisk (wireless pioneer in Australasia), told shareholders that 1940-41 profit had been £133,089, with a £66,528 increase in revenue. Dividend was the usual 10 per cent. He emphasised that the Co. had placed all its production resources at the service of the Commonwealth Government and that 80 per cent. of its output—radios, valves (important munitions of war) and other highly-technical equipment—is for defence purposes.

Mrs. Colin Marr arrived in Sydney from Rabaul by the November steamer. She will reside in Australia while her husband, Lieut. C. G. Marr, formerly an inspector and instructor in the NG Department of Agriculture, is abroad with the AIF.

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Mr. and Mrs. D. G. Hammer, missionaries of the Church of Christ in the New Hebrides, arrived in Sydney on furlough in November.

Mr. Aubrey Eric Simpson, 44, manager of Sangara Rubber Plantations, Ltd., Papua, was found dead at his home in Norwood, near Adelaide (South Australia), on November 18. A double-barrelled shot-gun was lying nearby. The coroner returned a verdict of suicide.

KANGAROO BRAND

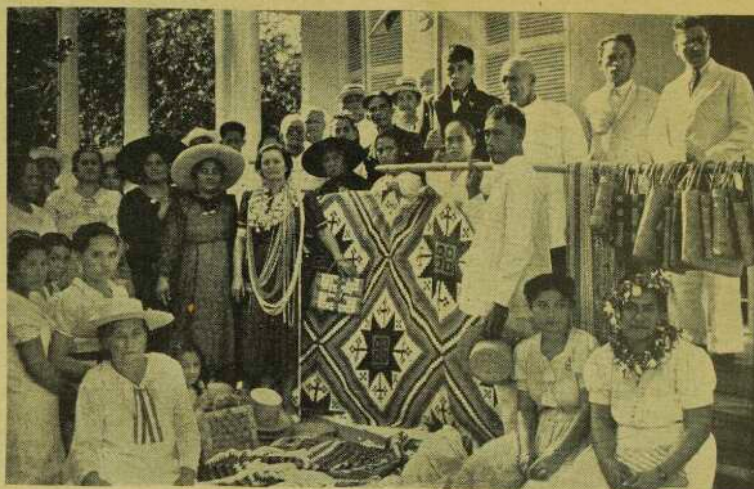
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HANDIWORK OF THE RURUTU ISLANDERS



When Commandant Richard Brunot, as Free French Governor-General in the Pacific, was in Tahiti, a few months ago, the community of Rurutu Islanders at Papeete presented him with gifts of hand-made rugs, baskets, hats, and other examples of their expert workmanship. Madame Brunot, in the centre of the photograph, is seen admiring some of the presents. Commandant Brunot was recalled to London a short time afterwards, following a series of arrests of high officials in Tahiti; it was reported from USA in November that he passed through San Francisco early in the month en route to England to report to General de Gaulle at Free French headquarters.

—Photo: F. Simpson.

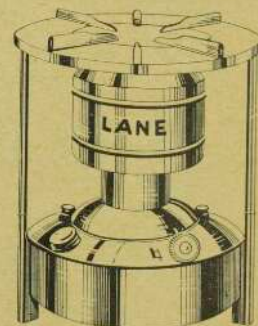
Mr. R. C. Hutchinson, an expert chemist employed on the staff of the Department of Agriculture, New Guinea, returned to Rabaul early in December, after three months' furlough in Australia. He held

the BSc of Tasmanian University; and, while on furlough in Australia, he sat for examination and secured the coveted degree of Master of Science of the University of Melbourne.



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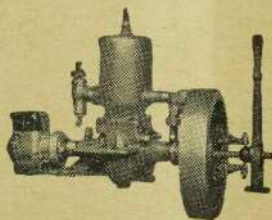


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Horticulture in the Solomons

THE British Solomon Islands Horticultural Society held its second annual show in Tulagi on October 4, under the patronage of the Resident Commissioner, Mr. W. S. Marchant, OBE.

Entries were better than in the previous year—vegetable exhibits especially being in a great variety and of fine quality.

The Burns, Philp cup was won by Mrs. W. S. Marchant for the highest aggregate number of points in all competitive classes.

The Shield, for the best horticultural display from native schools, was won by Bunana Girls' school, with a wide range of root crops, legumes, grains, fruit and native green vegetables.

This display of such a range of food crops indicates the improvement that is being made in the dietary of the native population, and demonstrates the value of schools where horticulture and dietetics receive primary consideration. The pupils maintain their own gardens and receive tuition in the cultivation and preparation of the recently introduced crops—i.e. grains and legumes.

Another interesting feature in the Bunana school display was a small scale model of the school garden, with growing crops, which illustrated in a unique way, contour bench farming and draining, rotational cropping and green manuring. The model also illustrated the system of farming on the steep slopes behind the gardens, with permanent three crops and a ground cover of *Calapogonium mucinoides*.

Only Malaita, Nggela and Guadalcanal competed for the district shield—won by Malaita with a superb display of a wide range of native food crops. Normally, the Solomon Islander is a root eater, and it was gratifying to observe the inclusion of grains and legumes in the district exhibits.

These were the prize winners:—

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ZINNIAS: 1st, Mrs. C. V. Widdy; 2nd, Mrs. Mac Stewart; 3rd, Mr. R. S. Humphreys. **BALSAMS:** Mrs. Mac Stewart. **FRENCH MARI-GOLDS:** Mrs. Mac Stewart. **CHRYSANTHEMUMS:** Mrs. W. S. Marchant. **PHYLOX:** Mrs. K. H. D. Hay. **BEST BOWL MIXED FLOWERS:** 1st, Mrs. W. S. Marchant; 2nd, Mr. C. E. Spencer. **BEST SINGLE BLOOM:** 1st, Mrs. W. S. Marchant; 2nd, Mrs. J. C. M. Scott; 3rd, Mrs. C. V. Widdy. **THREE VASES OF MISCELLANEOUS FLOWERS:** 1st, Mrs. W. S. Marchant; 2nd, Mrs. W. H. Baddeley.

ORNAMENTAL

POT PLANTS—FLOWERING: Mrs. C. V. Widdy. **POT PLANTS—NON-FLOWERING:** 1st, Mrs. A. W. Glenn; 2nd, Mr. E. Spencer; 3rd, Mrs. J. C. M. Scott. **FERNS IN HANGING BASKETS:** 1st, Mrs. W. G. Hobbs; 2nd, Mrs. A. W. Glenn. **ORNAMENTAL SHRUBS:** Father Wall. **BASKET OF MIXED FRUITS:** 1st, Mr. C. E. Spencer; 2nd, Mala Sub-District.

BASKET OF NATIVE VEGETABLES—FOUR KINDS

CLASS A: 1st, Mr. F. A. Rhoades; 2nd, Tarooniara School; 3rd, Catholic Mission School, Ruavatu. **CLASS B:** 1st, Togondo; 2nd, Timothy Trugge; 3rd, John Plant.

VEGETABLES—ALL VARIETIES

PUMPKINS, QUEENSLAND BLUE: Mr. C. E. Spencer. **PUMPKINS, LONG YELLOW:** 1st, Visale Mission; 2nd, John Panio. **PUMPKINS, ROUND:** 1st, Mr. F. A. Rhoades; 2nd, Gold Ridge. **PUMPKINS, SQUASH:** Ruavatu Mission. **CABBAGE:** Master M. J. Baddeley. **BEETROOT:** Mr. O. Bergin. **ENGLISH POTATOES:** Gold Ridge. **BEANS:** Mrs. R. Hyne. **CARROTS:** Mr. O. Bergin. **TOMATOES:** 1st, Mr. R. S. Humphreys; 2nd, Bishop Baddeley. **SILVER BEET:** Mr. A. W. Glenn. **EGG PLANT:** Mr. W. French. **YAMS:** Timothy.

BASKET OF MIXED VEGETABLES: 1st, Mr. A. W. Glenn; 2nd, Mr. F. A. Rhoades; 3rd, Mr. J. K. Brownless.

BEST DECORATED TABLE: W. S. Marchant. **GENERAL HORTICULTURAL DISPLAY FROM**

NATIVE DISTRICTS: 1st, Bunana Girls' School; 2nd, Tarooniara Mission Station; 3rd, Catholic School, Guadalcanal.

GENERAL HORTICULTURAL DISPLAY FROM NATIVE DISTRICT: 1st, Malaita District; 2nd, Nggela; 3rd, Guadalcanal.

A short, severe earth tremor felt in Wau, New Guinea, during the afternoon of November 6 was described as "the most intense tremor experienced since Salamaua was visited by a tidal wave two years ago". Apart from broken crockery, etc., little damage was done.

The small New Caledonian dependencies, Wallis and Futuna, are having their stamps surcharged with the words "France Libre", but the two categories so stamped are being issued only in very limited numbers—300 in the case of 10 franc stamps, and the same number of 20 francs value. Both islands lie far away from New Caledonia—they are about 300 miles NE of Fiji and due west of Samoa.

DROUGHT HITS SAMARAI

From Our Own Correspondent

SAMARAI, Nov. 15.
DROUGHT conditions still rule in Samarai and the position is serious. Nearly every household is carting water and in some cases residents have little or no drinking water. October rainfall was only 64 points; highest temperature for the month was 87 degrees, on the 28th.

The drought seems to be universal—natives along the north-east coast of the mainland have lost their gardens for this year and all their seed for next year's plantings.

Commander Alvord S. Rosenthal, son of Major-General Sir Charles Rosenthal, KCB, CMG, DSO, VD, Administrator of Norfolk Island, has been awarded the DSO. He is serving with the RAN in the Mediterranean.



If a battery is needed, there is a Masse designed specially for the job

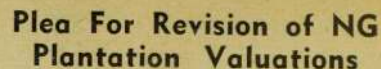
Masse BATTERIES

are Tigers for work—they simply lap it up!

OBTAINABLE EVERYWHERE

Ask your Island distributors.

MA3.H.41



Letter to the Editor

IN your issue of August you publish a letter from "Leatherneck", about existing conditions in the copra business. I think he covers all the ground excepting his method of altering present conditions by some "passive resistance" of the planters. This, to my mind, would be more injurious to the planters than the merchants.

To review past history of the copra trade in New Guinea—it may be remembered that the plantations were tendered for at a time when the price of copra was around £20 per ton, and it is now fixed at £4 10/- by the Copra Marketing Board. There was such a rush for plantations that people paid high prices for their places, which was mainly caused by the high prices of copra. They also agreed to cruel conditions of repayment, under an inequitable agreement. These conditions included 8 per cent. interest and other conditions. Some of these, which were objectionable to the merchants, have since been removed, but there still remain the "tied house" clauses, allowing merchants to charge their prices, no matter the objection.

As the prices for copra got lower, the unfortunate planters found themselves working for the merchants, and these practically controlled the planters, and gave only such credit as suited themselves, often without salary.

All the copra supplied to the merchants is credited to them in the merchants' books, and rations are supplied at their prices, and other charges, including the 8 per cent. interest on interest, are also included, without reference to the planter, and he gets the usual monthly statement of their charges. Under this "tied house" arrangement, there is no possibility of ever getting free

Through no fault of the merchants—and planters, too, for that matter—the price of copra has fallen to £4/10/- or, with carriage paid, to about £5 odd. This, you will see, is about one fourth the price of that received, at the time of tendering.

Taking everything into account, is this not a suitable time to reduce the prices of the plantations, and interest by half, to allow the planters to continue on their plantations? For, certainly, it will be found that merchants are not paying anything like the former bank rate, and should meet the planters. It is no longer possible for the planters to work for the merchants under the old conditions, under an inequitable agreement. They should be allowed to draw 10 per cent. against deliveries, as there are other creditors.

The above facts, being taken into account, have nothing to do with the price of copra, so are not affected by the Copra Marketing Board. But legislation should be introduced now to protect present (and, after the war, future) soldiers, from the inequitable agreement conditions now existing in New Guinea.

I am, etc

STARVATION.

Rabaul. 10/10/1941.

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Springwood Ladies' College

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M. E. DURAND, Principal.

A SECTION FOR WOMEN

By "Therese"

SMART simplicity is the keynote of all our summer frocks, whether they be for sports, day, or evening wear. If we hanker after a strong display of femininity, this can be achieved by accessories.

Daytime clothes have short skirts made full with pleats, or flares in front, yet still managing to keep the slender line. In many of them, pockets appear with good effect. For active sports wear, stick to simple clothes—blouses and skirts, tailored shorts with accompanying skirts, and slacks and trouser skirts.

For parties, choose cotton and you'll be a success. Evening dresses of cotton are cool and attractive and much-to-be-desired possessions. A shirtmaker design of sheer cotton in pastel blue has a long flowing skirt topped with a wide belt of self material and a blouse with pointed collar and short sleeves.

Gingham and seersucker also come into their own as party frocks in blouse and skirt fashion. Choose a bright plaid or gay doral for the full flared skirt and toning cotton for the short-sleeved blouse and you will be happily clad for informal evenings.

Sun clothes are well cut and have a definitely feminine air. A tailored sun-suit in pin-striped cotton is a "must-have" in your wardrobe, particularly when it is made on tailored lines, with two patch pockets in the shirt, pleats in the shorts and a well-cut skirt to don for more formal occasions.

TRY these new recipes to lend variety to the usual daily diet:—

OYSTER COCKTAIL

Juice of 1 lemon, 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce, 1 teaspoon anchovy sauce, 2 tablespoons tomato sauce, a little cream.

Put oysters in glasses, pour the mixture over

them, add a teaspoon of cream to each glass and serve with thin slices of brown bread and butter.

PRUNE SAVOURIES

Remove the stones from large soft prunes. Insert a pickled onion (or devilled almond), stuffed olive, small piece of cheese (or gherkin). Roll the prune up in a small piece of thin bacon. Skewer it to keep in position. Cook between two enamel plates in a hot oven or fry in a pan without additional fat.

MARYLAND SALAD

Three teaspoons powdered gelatine, 1 cup canned sweet corn, 3 bananas, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup hot water, salt and pepper.

Dissolve gelatine in hot water, add to sweet corn. Mash bananas to a pulp and blend thoroughly with the mixture. Add seasonings to taste. Pour into a shallow mould and chill. Using a sharp knife dipped in hot water and dried, cut into squares and serve on lettuce.

If setting in ice chest or refrigerator, use only $2\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoons gelatine.

CHEESE EGGS

Four eggs, $1\frac{1}{4}$ oz. butter, 1 teaspoon chopped parsley, 4 dessertspoons grated cheese, salt, pepper and buttered toast.

Make 4 to 6 pieces of buttered toast and keep warm. Beat the eggs; grate cheese finely and add to the eggs; add chopped parsley. Melt butter in saucepan, add eggs, etc. and stir over a very slow fire till cheese melts and eggs thicken and set. Pile on hot toast and serve at once.

CHOCOLATE VELVET

This is a delicious sweet. Melt $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. unsweetened chocolate in 3 or 4 tablespoons of milk, stirring until quite smooth. Put pint of milk in a saucepan, sweeten to taste, bring to the boil and add the melted chocolate. Simmer



Perfect fitting shorts tailored of Sandeze (no ironing) Sailcloth, with action shirt. California's newest idea is to match and contrast different wildflower colours . . . lupine blue, trillium rose, buttercup yellow, cactus green and a dozen others. Caprice priced at 27/6.



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Edgell QUALITY PRODUCTS

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The best in the world. Available in season only.

Edgell Cauliflower

Choice heart of the cauliflower. No stalk, no waste. Packed in cartons of 3 dozen 16 oz. cans.

Edgell Brussels Sprouts

Garden green—firm cooked.
Packed in cartons of 3 dozen 16 oz. or cases of 2 dozen 30 oz. cans.

Edgell Green Peas

Picked and canned the same day, avoiding extra handling and bruising. Graded in three sizes, large, medium and petits pois. Large and medium packed in $10\frac{1}{2}$ oz., 16 oz. and 30 oz. cans. Petits pois are packed in cartons of 4 dozen $10\frac{1}{2}$ oz. cans only. All packs are available with or without mint flavour.

Edgell Carrots

The sweetmeat of canned vegetables. Whole young carrots are packed in cartons of 4 dozen $10\frac{1}{2}$ oz. cans. Split carrots are available in cartons of 3 dozen 16 oz. cans.

Edgell Concentrated Soups

Asparagus, Tomato, Celery, Pea, Vegetable and Assorted. These are heavy bodied soups—an extra tin of milk or water may be added to each tin. Made from sun-ripened, specially selected ingredients.

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Lea & Perrins
SAUCE

Used by Chefs the World over
ECONOMICAL. BECAUSE YOU NEED JUST A FEW DROPS AT A TIME -

for 10 minutes, then beat up the yolks of 3 eggs in a basin, with a little cold milk; add to the chocolate mixture, gradually, stirring all the time. Simmer till the cream thickens, then remove from the fire. Stir again for a few minutes and let stand until quite cold. Serve as cold as possible, with fresh, stewed or baked fruits.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS

TO keep your home cool take a tray of ice cubes from your refrigerator, place it in front of an electric fan. Close the windows, thus shutting out the heat, draw the curtains and allow the fan to rotate and blow the ice-cold air through the room. As the ice cubes melt return tray to the refrigerator and take out the next tray.

When the clothes-line gets dirty, take it down, wind it round the washing-board and scrub thoroughly. This is by far the easiest way of cleaning it.

Soak net curtains in cold water over-night to prevent them shrinking, when being washed the next day. Iron while still damp, lengthways of the material.

Over a tin in which you have put a cake mixture, invert another tin exactly the same size. You can then leave the cake to bake without bothering to look at it. The cake will be even on top—a great asset if you intend to ice it.

To remove scorch from silk mix the juice of a large onion, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup soap jelly, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup vinegar and 2 tablespoons of Fuller's earth. Boil, cool, and spread all over the scorched area. Dry the garment in the sun, then wash in the usual way.

If hot milk is poured into a jug standing in cold water, no skin will form on the milk.

ALTERNATIVES TO COPRA

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11)

by about 50 per cent., thus cutting out considerable food importation.

CO-OPERATIVE PLANT UNITS

ARTICLES in favour of establishing co-operative machinery units among coconut growers have appeared in practically every issue of the journal. It is claimed that coconut growers can help themselves if they co-operate in establishing plants for drying copra, and thus producing a higher grade; by organising agencies for selling their own copra; by purchasing plant for the extraction of oil from copra; by establishing mills for the production of desiccated coconut; by establishing plants for productions made from the edible oil of the coconut; and by an organisation for buying goods in exchange for copra and other coconut products.

As in the case in all countries, co-operative enterprises can be described most convincingly in theory, but they rarely work out well in practice, and this appears to be the case in the Philippines. There has been much talk of co-operative societies, but little indication that this movement has developed strongly.

PRODUCTS OF THE COCONUT

IT was announced early in 1941 that the NCC school was being attended by 150 students, who were receiving tuition in how to make the best economic use of the coconut and it was further announced that everything the school could produce was being sold immediately—in fact, the demand was greater than the supply. The products of the school included the following articles—all made from the coconut: Asbestos tiles, bags, baskets, braid, brushes, carpets, charcoal, coconut shell novelties, coconut oil, confectionery, doormats, hats, helmets, insulating board, rope, rugs, sacks, slippers, soaps, wood preservatives, wooden shoes, and yarn from coir fibre.

MEDICINAL VALUE

IN the March issue, Dr. Leon, physician and scientist, described the medicinal uses of some of the products of the coconut palm. He said that fresh coconut milk can be a substitute for animal milk. "It has an advantage over the animal milk, for it has a mild laxative effect and as such is ideal food or drink for persons suffering from high blood pressure and constipation. It contains vitamins A, C, D and E, and calcium and phosphorus, which are necessary for the maintenance of resistance, nutrition and normal functioning of the body. It is useful to nursing

Stop Kidney Poisoning To-day

If you suffer from Rheumatism, Get up Nights, Leg Pains, Backache, Lumbago, Nervousness, Headaches and Colds, Dizziness, Circles under Eyes, Swollen Ankles, Loss of Appetite or Energy, you should know that your system is being poisoned because germs are impairing the vital process of your kidneys. Ordinary medicines can't help much, because you must kill the germs which cause these troubles, and blood can't be pure till kidneys function normally. Stop troubles by removing cause with Cystex—the new scientific discovery which starts benefit in 2 hours. Cystex must prove entirely satisfactory and be exactly the medicine you need or money back is guaranteed. Ask your chemist for Cystex today.

Cystex protects you. Now in 3 sizes: 1/9, 4/-, 8/-.
GUARANTEED for Kidneys, Bladder, Rheumatism
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"Rosa", best quality Self-raising Flour .. 2-lb., 6½d. pkt.; 4-lb., 1/1 pkt.
"Sunshine" Full Cream Milk, 12-oz. 1/2½ tin; 14/3 doz.
"Yoga" Tea—Australia's Best Tea Value .. 3/2 lb.; 6-lb. tins, 3/3 lb.
"Rosa" Pure Coffee, 8-oz., 1/6½ jar, 18/- doz.; 16-oz., 2/9 jar, 32/- doz.
Choice Evaporated Apricots 1/4½ lb.; 16/- doz.
Choice Evaporated Apple Rings, 11½d. lb.; 11/3 doz.; 28-lb. boxes, 10½d. lb.
New Season's Hops 6-oz., 2/3 pkt.; 26/- doz.
"Garden Vale" Green Peas 16-oz., 8½d. tin, 8/3 doz.;
Case lots of 4 doz. 7/3 doz.
"Edgell" Cauliflower, 16-oz., 9d. tin, 8/9 doz.; case lots of 3 doz., 8/- doz.
"I.X.L." Baked Beans, 4-oz., 3/9 doz.; 8-oz., 6/3 doz.; 16-oz., 9/- doz.
"Greenacres" Choice Sheep Tongues, 12-oz. 1/2 tin; 13/9 doz.
"Red Feather" Camp Pie, 4-oz., 3/9 doz.; 8-oz., 5/9 doz.; 12-oz., 7/9 doz.
"Imperial" Fancy Ass'd. Meats 8-oz., 8/9 doz.; 16-oz., 12/6 doz.
"I.X.L." Tomato Juice 10-oz., 5/3 doz.; 15-oz., 7/3 doz.
"Brooke's" Grape Fruit Juice 10-oz., 8½d. tin; 8/3 doz.
"I.X.L." Tomato Soup 8-oz., 5/6 doz.; 16-oz., 9/3 doz.
"I.X.L." Vegetable Soup 8-oz., 6/3 doz.; 16-oz., 10/3 doz.
"I.X.L." Diced Fruit Salad 16-oz., 10d. tin, 9/9 doz.;
30-oz. 1/4 tin; 15/9 doz.
Nestle's Pure Reduced Cream .. 4-oz. 3/9 doz.; case lots, 8 doz., 3/6 doz.

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mothers and TB patients especially, because of the vitamins C and D, and the happy combination of calcium and phosphorus. . . . It should be taken with sugar, and the amount to meet the individual's requirements should be calculated, for there are people who are easily affected by its laxative effect. When a stronger laxative effect is desired a bigger amount can be taken. . . . Another important property of coconut milk is its anti-sterility effect. This is attributed to its vitamin E content."

The doctor says that the meat of the young coconut has almost the same nutritive value as coconut milk. Like the coconut milk, it is good for nursing mothers, TB patients, and anaemic and debilitated individuals, and growing children. It can be taken alone or mixed with sugar or milk.

The doctor makes a distinction between coconut milk and coconut water. Coconut milk apparently is the thick white liquid produced by squeezing certain portions of the coconut meat. Coconut water is the clear liquid found in young coconuts.

He says that coconut water is good for kidney trouble, because of its diuretic properties for increased urination. Coconut water contains a fair amount of vitamins C and D. It is a good drink for TB patients, convalescents, people afflicted with febrile diseases and nursing mothers. The doctor says that the spongy meat of the young coconut is a nutritious food containing carbo-hydrate, fats and vitamins A, B, C and D.

The core of the coconut tree is astringent and styptic, and hence is useful in hemorrhagic conditions, and it is also anti-diarrheic. It must be given in the form of infusion or decoction to the patient. In simple diarrhoea cases the core of the coconut tree may be given as food, or part of the diet by boiling it in water with a little salt, the whole to be taken by the patient, including the cooked core. This also furnishes good nutrition and it contains carbo-hydrates, proteins, fats, minerals and vitamins.

The soft shell of the young coconut is anti-diarrheic and anti-hemorrhagic. It may be given internally by eating it raw, or applying it locally after it has been triturated.

The powder of the old dry shell of a matured coconut, made by scraping it with a knife, is a valuable powder for wounds and ulcers. Besides, it stimulates the growth of tissues and hastens the healing process. It can be mixed with iodoform powder in dressing deep wounds and ulcers. It is also a good deodorant.

PRODUCTION OF SACKS

BY July, 1941, the NCC had created a country-wide organisation under which spinning wheels were being distributed all over the Philippine Group and a large number of teachers and demonstrators were out, showing the people how to devote their full or their spare time to spinning yarn from coconut coir, weaving such yarn into sackcloth, and if possible, making finished sacks out of the cloth.

It was reported that so many people had taken up this new industry of spinning and producing sacks from coconut fibre that the two centres established to

manufacture coir were being hard put to it to supply the demand for coir, while the available factories able to make spinning wheels were similarly overwhelmed with orders. The NCC has not only created this organisation, but has fixed a daily

quota, showing the number of sacks to be produced by a large number of Philippine centres. The quota is based on a total production of 10,000 sacks per day.

One section of the NCC is studying the problem of considerably increasing the

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A. O. HENTY, Esq.

Headmaster:
FRANK SHANN, M.A., Dip.Ed.

The School is well equipped and splendidly situated. Its 1941 complement (about 50 boarders and 250 day boys) makes it possible for every boy to come into personal touch with the Head Master and a staff of 10 experienced and successful masters (including seven University Graduates). The general life of the school is very varied and full of vigour. The Head Master will be pleased to send the Illustrated Year Book for 1941-2, on application, and to give full information about the school, which is approved by the University of Melbourne as a Class "A" School for Intermediate and School Leaving Examinations.

New Year term commences February 10th, 1942.

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"FITZROY" Luncheon Beef. Pork or Beef Sausages. "WESTFIELD" Corned, Boiled or Roast Mutton. "OX & PALM" and "RIVERSTONE" Corned, Boiled or Roast Beef.

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ISLAND STORE MANAGER MAKES GOOD RECOVERY

COURAGE IS A GRAND THING, BUT SOMETIMES COURAGE ALONE ISN'T ENOUGH. TAKE THE CASE OF ARTHUR WEBSTER, FOR INSTANCE. ONE EVENING HE WAS WALKING DOWN THE STREET WITH HIS FRIEND, BILL THOMPSON, WHEN BILL SAID:—

"Things pretty good at the store, Arthur?"

"Y-yes. We're doing all right."

But the store wasn't doing as well as it should have been. Arthur Webster was really worried. That night he had a heart to heart chat with his wife.

"Arthur darling, you worry too much—things'll be all right soon."

"I wish I didn't feel so tired all the time! I seem to wake up tired lately. I suppose I'll just have to pull myself together and do a real job for the next couple of months."

Arthur Webster tried hard but just couldn't make the grade. The final sales figures showed he was well down. One evening when he was slumped in a chair looking thoroughly despondent his wife came over to him.

"Darling, there's something really wrong with you. I know what you're going through . . . but I'm sure there's something behind this day after day tiredness of yours. Why don't you see a doctor?"

So Arthur Webster took his wife's advice and saw his doctor. After giving him a thorough examination his doctor said:—

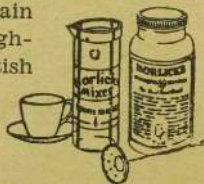
"Mr. Webster, your whole trouble is Night-Starvation. You see, all night long your heart and lungs

are using up energy. Your heart has to beat 35,000 times and your lungs make 20,000 muscular movements during your eight hours' sleep.

"So you can see for yourself if energy isn't replaced during sleep you wake tired, feel run down and get behind in your work. You need Horlick's. Start drinking Horlick's every night before you go to bed."

Arthur Webster started drinking Horlick's every night before bed. Soon he lost that heavy, tired feeling and found that he could put twice as much drive into his work. His sales figures bucked up and for the first time since he had been on the Island the Head Office sat up and took some notice of him.

Do you feel tired all day? Wake tired? Find it hard to concentrate on your work? Feel dull and nervy? Then the chances are that you, too, are suffering from Night-Starvation. Remember, Horlick's guards against Night-Starvation, keeps you wonderfully fit. Ask your chemist or storekeeper to-day for a bottle of Horlick's. You can buy Horlick's in all main towns throughout the British Pacific Islands.



quantity of live stock raised on coconut plantations. Attention is being given to cattle, goats and sheep.

In the August Journal, a scientist, Mr. Lava, examined the food value of the coconut, and said that, "while coconut milk is not cow milk, preliminary experiments have shown that by proper adjustment, coconut milk may be made as nutritious as cow milk. Furthermore, coconut milk may have other desirable physiological properties". He says also: "A flour can be produced from the coconut cake, by-product of coconut oil, that has more crude fibre and proteins than wheat flour, but less soluble carbo-hydrates. Mixed with wheat flour, it produces good bread, cake and confectionery. By substituting coconut flour for wheat flour to the extent of 20 per cent., a substantial importation of wheat flour may be avoided."

A leading electrical engineer describes the great and hitherto unsuspected value of the carbon from coconut shell in supplying essential parts (electrodes, etc.) for flashlight batteries, telephone batteries, radio batteries, motor accessories, graphite, etc. It appears that, in this direction, an important industry already has been established in Manila.

Space forbids the summarising of any more of this interesting material. In the last issue of "Coconut Journal" to hand (October, 1941) one notices the following significant headings to articles: "Coir Spinning and the Production of Sand Bags"; "The Spinning Wheel a Symbol of Personal Freedom"; "Flour Substitutes from Coconut"; "The Progress of the NCC Campaign for New Copra Driers".

It would appear that the South Pacific has something important to learn from the Philippines in regard to the reorganisation and stabilisation of the coconut industry.

QUOTATIONS FOR ISLANDS MINING SHARES

	FIJI			
	Mid-May.	Mid-Sept.	Mid-Dec.	
Emperor Mines	b9/10	b11/4	s9/-	
Loloma	b21/-	b25/-	s20/-	
Mt. Kasl	b3/-	b2/9	s2/2	
NEW GUINEA				
Bulolo G.D.	s£4/17/6	b£4/9/-	s£4/10/-	
Enterprise of N.G.	b7/6	b10/-	s20/-	
Guinea Gold	b10/6	b10/2	b10/9	
N.G.G., Ltd.	b1/6	b1/7	b1/4	
Oil Search	b5/3	b5/5	s4/3	
Placer Dev.	s61/-	b62/9	b56/-	
Sandy Creek	b10d	b1/3	b1/-	
Sunshine Gold	b7/3	b10/2	b8/-	
PAPUA				
Cuthbert's	b12/10	b13/6	b13/-	
G.M. of Papua	s2d	s1d		
Mandated All.	b2/11	b2/8	b4/5	
Oriomo Oil	—	b2/10	b1/1	
Papuan Apinaipi	b3/8	b3/5	b1/6	
Yodda Goldfields	b1/7	b2/3	b1/9	

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	Fine oz.	Standard oz.
Jan. 1 to Feb. 4, 1940	£10/12/6	£9/14/9½
Feb. 5 to March 3	£10/12/9	£9/15/0½
March 4 to June 23	£10/13/3	£9/15/5¾
June 24 to July 7	£10/12/6	£9/15/0¾
July 8 to August 4	£10/11/-	£9/13/5
August 5 to Sept. 20	£10/12/6	£9/14/9¾
Sept. 21 to Dec. 31	£10/14/-	£9/16/2
Jan. 1, 1941, to Nov. 17	£10/14/-	£9/16/2
Nov. 18 to Dec. 10	£10/13/-	£9/15/3

Rev. C. L. Welch, who has been LMS missionary on Nauru for several years, resigned recently, and left the island in October. He arrived at Auckland, New Zealand, where he will take up a temporary pastorate, early in November. Rev. Welch was held in high esteem by all classes in Nauru and his departure caused much regret.

MINING NEWS

From Fiji

EMPEROR GOLD MINING CO., LTD.

EMPEROR Gold Mining Co., Ltd., at Tavua, Fiji, showed profit of £A219,273 for the year ended June 30, against £A212,761 for 1939-40. Gross profit (in Fijian currency) was £306,482, a decrease of £7,542. Depreciation charge was £F38,904, mine development £F51,470, and taxation £F16,200.

LOLOMA (FIJI) GOLD MINES, NL

Profit of Loloma (Fiji) Gold Mines, NL, for the year ended July 31 was down by £A51,508 to £A237,874. Operating profit was £A343,320, depreciation £19,431, mine development £46,839, income tax £22,228, donation to Fiji Bomber Fund £11,250, and prospecting £1,911.

From New Guinea

SUNSHINE GOLD DEVELOPMENT, LTD.

OPERATIONS of Sunshine Gold Development, Ltd., for the year ended September 30 resulted in a net profit of £4,352, against £33,661 for the previous year, and £11,142 for 1938-39. Before striking the profit, £2,631 was written off for depreciation. Dividend of 1/- per share, against 1/6 for 1939-40, required £10,000, leaving £11,048 to be carried forward, against £14,756 brought forward.

November clean-up from the Co.'s holdings yielded 242 oz. of gold, compared with 357 oz. in October, 355 oz. in September and 411 oz. in August. Sinking operations at No. 8 elevator caused the lower yield. The new elevator with a total lift of 80 ft. will come into operation this month.

BULOLO GOLD DREDGING, LTD.

Bulolo Gold Dredging, Ltd., reports a net profit of 3,912,671 dollars (Canadian), or about £A1,117,906, for the year ended May 31, compared with 4,806,408 dollars (£A1,373,259) for the previous year. In both cases profit was struck before allowing for amortisation.

Dredgeable gravel reserves at May 31 were estimated at 140,000,000 cubic yards, and about 21,000,000 cubic yards which will be handled hydraulically. Eight dredges operated during the year.

Results from the Bulolo dredges for August, September and October compare as follows:—

	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
Cubic yards	1,634,000	1,492,000	1,471,000
Bullion, oz.	18,255	18,305	21,976
Gold, fine oz.	12,594	12,630	15,163

Estimated working profit for August, 7,128 oz., September, 7,144 oz., and October, 9,589 oz. of fine gold.

ENTERPRISE OF NEW GUINEA

Directors of Enterprise of New Guinea Gold and Petroleum Development, NL, early this

month, reported a loss of £7,304 for the year ended August 31, compared with a loss of £5,609 for the previous year. Loss on working account was £5,713. The directors recently re-opened negotiations with New Guinea Goldfields, Ltd., for the sale of the Edie Creek mine and an option has been granted.

NEW GUINEA GOLDFIELDS, LTD.

October production from NGG Ltd.'s workings is compared with the previous two months in the following table:—

	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
Golden Ridges mill—			
Tons treated	2,071	2,529	3,142
Gold, oz., fine	705	761	987
Silver, oz., fine	858	970	1,270
Alluvial—			
Gold, oz., fine	2,231	1,653	1,457
Silver, oz., fine	1,526	1,106	817
Operating profit—			
Edie Creek, £	*1,003	*328	*644
Golden Ridges, £	929	130	1,046
Alluvial, £	10,387	5,973	5,966

*Loss.

From Papua

PAPUAN APINAUPI PETROLEUM CO., LTD.

DIRECTORS of Papuan Apinaupi Petroleum Co., Ltd., disclose that the recent issue of 100,000 shares, of 5/- each, was disappointing. Because of the Co.'s financial position, drilling operations were suspended, but negotiations with the Federal Government for financial assistance resulted in an agreement, enabling operations to be resumed.

The agreement provides for advances by way of a loan, of a further sum not exceeding £20,000, payments to be made monthly. Repayment is made a first charge against the profits.

The Commonwealth Government has appointed a Treasury Official as its representative on the Board.

Balance-sheet for the year ended June 30 shows that expenditure was £43,214. Sundry income was £315, and advances received and accrued from the Commonwealth Government totalled £20,143, leaving a net expenditure of £22,756. This makes a total net expenditure of £84,682, after allowing for Government advances to June 30 of £29,386.

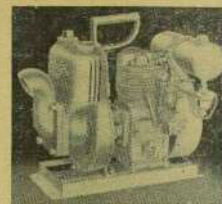
CUTHBERT'S MISIMA GOLD MINE, LTD.

Latest return from Cuthbert's Misima Gold Mine, Ltd., compares the figures for November with the two previous months as follows:—

	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.
Mill, tons treated	3,402	3,587	3,601
Gold, fine oz.	855	894	900
Silver, fine oz.	3,437	3,383	4,065
Estimated value	£6,966	£7,268	£7,403
Value per ton of ore	40/11	40/6	41/-

YODDA GOLDFIELDS, LTD.

Directors of Yodda Goldfields, Ltd., report that the clean-up for October yielded 82 oz. 19 dwt.



LONDON PUMPS

Self priming. Genuinely portable. Weight 50 lb. Capacity 5,000 gal. Suitable all heads up to 50 feet. Immediate delivery ex Rabaul to all parts of the Islands.

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- MINING. — Crushing Machinery, Screens, Feeders, Rock Drills, Excavators, Diesel and Crude Oil Engines, Hoists and Runways, Roller Bearings, etc.

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Keep your breath sweet, your teeth sparkling white with 5-in-One Dental Cream. This better toothpaste cleans both natural and artificial teeth perfectly. It simply floats stains and film away. Ask for 5-in-One—the large 2/- tube now costs only 1/6 every-where.

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DENTAL CREAM**

**SURE, SAFE WAY TO
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and
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MUSCULAR PAINS**

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When you take Genuine Vincent's A.P.C. Powders or Tablets you are taking the original, scientific prescription of Aspirin, Phenacetin and Caffeine as first used in one of Australia's largest public hospitals. That is why you can be so confident of safer, more soothing relief from the pain of all tropical complaints.

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**VINCENT'S
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Singles, 2d. ea.

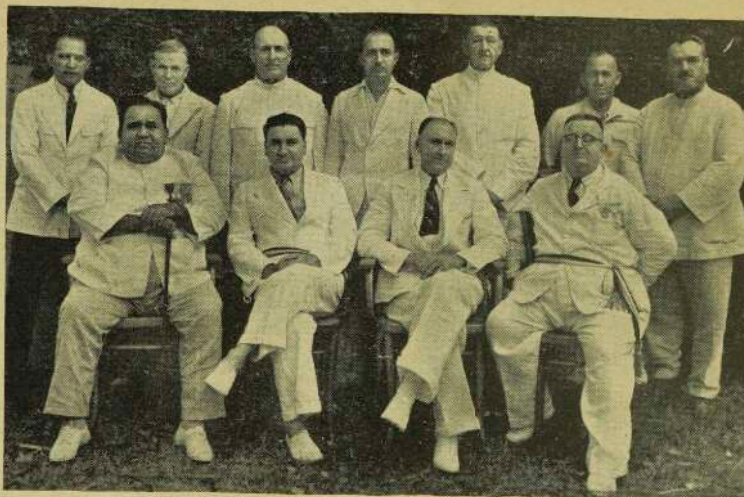
Does Not Affect
the Heart.

FOR SAFETY'S SAKE—SAY "VINCENT'S."



DECEMBER, 1941—PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY

PAPEETE'S MUNICIPAL COUNCILLORS



Members of the Municipal Council of Papeete, Tahiti. The Mayor, M. Brault, is seated third from the left; he is flanked by his first assistant, M. Porei, second from the left, and by the second assistant, M. Spitz, fourth from the left. It was reported recently that the Municipal Council had been dissolved by Commandant Richard Brunot (Acting-Governor of Tahiti) and replaced by eleven councilmen nominated by him; the caption on this photograph, received from Papeete last month, did not indicate whether the above councillors are the original members or the new nominees.

LABOUR SHORTAGES

Agents Are Snooping Around Polynesia

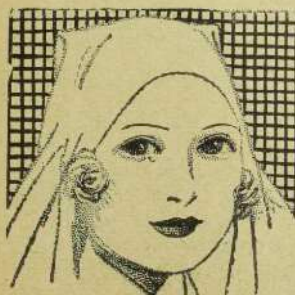
SOME people in New Zealand are urging that the New Zealand labour shortage should be countered, to some extent, by introducing Cook Island labourers. It is to be hoped that the social, economic and industrial balance in the Cook Islands will not be upset by anything so absurd. The removal of Polynesians from their homelands in order to supply labour in distant places always has been attended with disaster for the Polynesians.

The plan is on all fours with a project put forward, at length, in a recent issue of the Honolulu "News Advertiser". It appears that there are people in Hawaii who now cannot get sufficient labour to work their plantations—despite the fact that there are literally scores of thousands of Japanese and Portuguese people in that territory—and some bright lad has conceived the ridiculous idea that

the labour problem could be solved by getting permission from the British Colonial Office to convey shiploads of Fijian natives from Fiji to Honolulu. It is argued that, as there is close kinship between the Hawaiians and the Fijians, the latter would be quite happy in Hawaii.

Apart from anything else, the fact apparently is overlooked that the Fijians are born land-holders, and actually there is no need for any of them to work as labourers. Industrial enterprises in Fiji itself cannot depend upon the Fijians for a labour supply—they must go to the Chinese, to the Europeans, and to the Indians. A certain amount of Fiji labour has been organised by the Emperor and Loloma gold-mines, but this has been made possible only by the fact that the mining companies have been very careful to organise very comfortable and attractive conditions for the Fijian workers.

Mr. C. Flemich, on secondment from Malaya, arrived in Suva, Fiji, recently, to take up duties as Conservator of Forests.



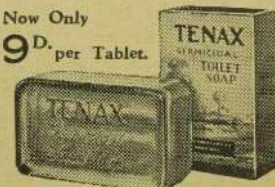
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TENAX Germicidal Soap used regularly is an unsurpassed safeguard against external germ infection. It is kind to the most sensitive skin, yet its germicidal action is eleven times as rapid as carbolic. It is non-irritant and non-poisonous.

At All Chemists and Stores.

TENAX The Genuinely Germicidal **SOAP**

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Research in Tonga Culture

THE Bishop Museum, Hawaii, has had Tonga in view, for research, for some time, and, but for the war, the Director, Professor Peter H. Buck (Te Rangi Hiroa) would have spent some months there this year.

In a letter to the secretary of the Pacific Islands Society, Sydney (Mr. Eric Ramsden), wherein he expressed his deep regret at the passing of his old friend, Prince Tugl (Premier of Tonga), Professor Buck stated that he had been reading a manuscript on the material culture of Tonga by McKern, with a view to its publication by the Museum as a special bulletin. McKern and Gifford (the latter is well known for his publication on Tonga) were members of the Bayard Dominick Expedition which visited Tonga in 1920, on behalf of the Bishop Museum.

Gifford completed his work and it was duly published. McKern had specialised in archaeology and material culture. The first section was finished, but it was not until this year that the second portion of his work came into the hands of the Museum. At one time, Dr. Buck thought of collaborating with this subject, but that intention had to be abandoned. "I had the idea", he writes, "of going to Tonga and filling in the missing parts, particularly as I had collected much information from objects in European and American museums. The Tongans had much richer material in mats, baskets, pillows, etc., than Samoa, and I wanted to get such additional details as might be possible in the field on technique."

Some of the baskets that he had seen in Vienna and Berne were collected by Cook and Webber.

However, the McKern manuscript has now been completed in detail, and, with the help of revision by Dr. Buck on the parts relating to houses and textiles (concerning which he is an acknowledged authority), it is hoped to publish it in due course. "There is still enough for me to clear up, later, as the Tonga, Samoa, and Fiji area have so much in common in their arts and crafts," he says, "that the whole subject requires a comparative study."—E. R.

Unhealthy with Flabby Fat

GOOD LOOKS AND FIGURE VANISH

You can always tell the difference between good firm flesh and flabby fat. There is always something so unhealthy and unattractive looking about fat. It is usually unhealthy and often gained through constipation. Waste matter clogs and congests the digestive tract, remains too long and gets absorbed into the blood stream. Sick headaches, pimply skin, biliousness, bad breath result and fat tissue forms, hiding your good looks and fine figure.

Constipation always responds to treatment with gentle Pinkettes. These tiny laxative pills are compounded of safe ingredients that have an exercising and strengthening influence on the bowels. Pinkettes painlessly clear away the digestive wastes completely and regularly, help digestion and banish sick headache, bilious attacks, pimples and unhealthy fat. Get a bottle to-day and notice how fine and fit you feel after a few harmless doses.—***

They May Not Search for Oil in N. Guinea

MANY people with interests in New Guinea have expressed irritation with the Australian Government's decision that no more permits are to be given to expeditions to go into "uncontrolled" country in search of oil—although certain expeditions are eager to go, and it is believed that there are good prospects of an oilfield on the northern sides of the dividing range. The reason officially given for the refusal is difficulty in finding enough patrol officers to accompany such expeditions.

Critics urge that the fact of the war should be sufficient to justify special means being taken to encourage the search for oil, which is vital to the Empire's war effort.

The excuse in relation to shortage of patrol officers is regarded as shilly-shallying. There are many trustworthy prospectors, with a wide knowledge of Territory conditions, who are as capable of maintaining good relations with the natives as the average patrol officer. Protection of native interests must always be a paramount consideration in New Guinea administration; but a short-sighted officialdom can easily allow the thing to get out of focus.

Mr. N. E. Nilsen, general manager of Loloma Gold Mines NL, of Tavua, arrived in Sydney from Suva in November, with Mrs. Nilsen.

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- DURABLE
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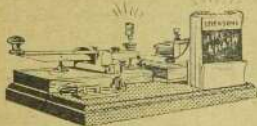
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you're loveliest
in your Jantzen

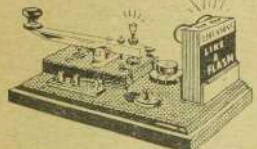
Always remember this. Each Jantzen owes its beauty to its fabric, its figure control, its stunning simplicity of line. Not for Jantzen those fussy folderols and gadgets that disguise hurried workmanship—wilt when wet. That's why, when you wear a Jantzen, you can take as much time to walk up from the water as you do to enter it. Wet or dry, you're loveliest in your Jantzen.

Jantzen

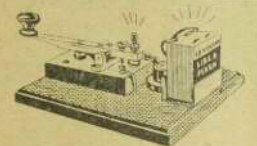
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Tailored from Jantzen's
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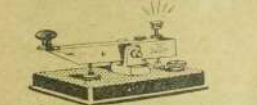
P.M.G. type Key with Professional Buzzer & Battery, all assembled on Base Board, 42/6.



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. High-grade instrument.



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.



Rubber Water Goggles, snug fit for under or over water wear, 11/6. English make, 16/6.

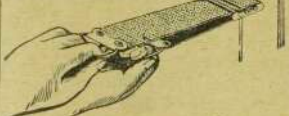
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New Radio and Other Books Just Landed. Everyman's Wireless Book, 8/6; Toy Making for Amateurs, 2/-; Sixty Tested Circuits, 6/6; How to Make Models, 2/6; The First Course in Wireless, 9/6; Wireless Terms Explained, 6/6. 12 Snappy Books—Jokes, Have Fun, etc., 5/6 the lot.

All About Aerial Booklet, 1/-; Radio Dictionary, 1/-; Morse Code Book, 1/-; Radio Alphabet, 1/-; The 4 books for 3/3. Roulette Wheels, complete, 25/-.

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.

Glass Insulators, Pyrex, 1/-, 6/6; and extra large transmitting type, 30/- each.

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Rubber Head-phone Pads, 2/6 pr. Ericsson's Professional Type, 47/6.

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Small Table Model British Built Microphone, for all sets, 15/-, 21/-, 22/6, for speech or music. 2 Reading Pocket Volt Meters, 5/6. Portable battery operated Light with pull switch and Battery Block, 8/6.



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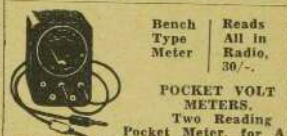
Aerial Stay-wire strainers, 2/6. De Luxe Model British-built Lightning Arresters, complete for indoor or outdoor use, 6/-.

Non-jam Pulleys with halyard bolt, 1/9. Special Radio Earth Spike 4/6. 4 in. 4 in 1 Nickel Screw Drivers, bakelite or metal, 2/-; Fountain Pen size. Cone Speaker Units, 25/-; Now 12/6.

1,500 ft. Beam Electric Torches, 5 Cell, 8/6. Both use Standard Batteries. Everyman's Wireless Book, 8/6. Bakelite Pocket Torch, 5/6.

2 to 3 Cell Expandable Torches Nickel Case—Dimmer incorporated. Daylight Globes, 10/6. Swiss Music Boxes for Cigarette, Trinkets, etc., 25/-, 30/-, 45/-; Steel Money and Deed Boxes, 63/-; They ring when opened or lifted. A Splendid Article.

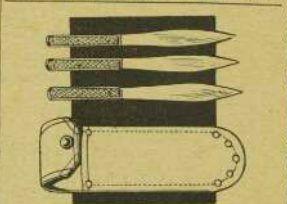
Wet Battery Testers, 3/-; Nickel Cased Volt Meters, Pocket Type, 2 Reading, High & Low, 4/6. British Make 3 Readings, 10/6.



POCKET VOLT METERS. Two Reading Pocket Meter, for A and B Batteries, 8/9, 4/9, 7/6; 3 Reading, A and B Batteries, and up to 30 M/A, 10/6. 3 Reading De Luxe Model, 12/6. 4 Reading, 14/-.



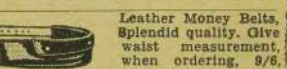
Sheffield Sheath or Bushman's Knives with leather sheaths, 8/6.



Midget Throwing Knives, made in Sheffield, perfectly balanced, unbreakable handles, 7/6 each. 15/- the pair. Set of 3, 21/-; All in sheaths.



Remington, U.S.A., made, Hunting and Sports Knife, in Leather Sheath, 12/6. Others 15/-, 18/6. Best Stainless Pocket Knife, 6/6.



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Call	Time	Wave Length (Metres)	Frequency (K/c.)
Sign			
VLR3.	6.30-10.15 a.m.	25.51	11,760
VLRJ.	12.00-6.15 p.m.	25.25	11,880
VLR.	6.30-11.30 p.m.	31.32	9,580

Power: VLR, 2 Kilowatts. Times given are Australian Eastern Standard (10 hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time).

WEEK DAYS—a.m.: 6.30, Essential Services; 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, Music; 1.35, News; 1.50, Music; 4.15, News; 4.30, Music; 5.30, Young People's Session; 6.15, Close; 6.30, Dinner Music; 6.45, Sporting Session; 7, News; 10.30, Music; 11, News; 11.30, Close.

SATURDAYS—Same as daily programme, except between 1.15 p.m. and 5.15 p.m., when description of current sporting and athletic events is given, interspersed with music.

SUNDAYS—a.m.: 6.45, News; 7.05, Music; 9, News; 9.15, AIF Recordings; 9.30, New Releases (Recorded); 10.15, Book Reviews; 10.30, Famous Singers; 11, Divine Service. p.m.: 12.15, Great Pianists; 12.50, News; 12.55, Music; 2.15, "Foundations of Music"; 3, Musical Quiz; 3.30, "Adventures in Art"; 4.15, News; 4.30, BBC Feature; 4.45, Music; 6, BBC News; 6.15, Close; 6.30, Music; 7, News and Commentary; 11, Close.

Neville Chester, brawny 18-years-old lad from Port Moresby, and great-grandson of that H. M. Chester who hoisted the British flag in British New Guinea (Papua) in 1883, was prominent in a Brisbane "Courier Mail" photograph in November, when he was one of a group which enlisted in the RAAF. Although he is 6 ft. 3 in. tall, and weighs 12 stone, he is determined to be a flier.

OUT!

From Our Own Correspondent

NOUMEA, Nov. 17. A GENTLEMAN of Nazi sympathies, from the border of Hungary and Czecho-Slovakia, who has for some years been a Noumea contractor and house-owner, insisted on driving noisily through the town while everybody but himself was religiously honouring the five minutes' silence in memory of the hostages murdered by the Germans at Nantes and Bordeaux.

That was on Friday, October 31. What one would call a typically Teutonic case of aggressive bad manners.

This time the authorities acted. Result: The expulsion from the Colony of Herr Weiss and the sequestration of his property under the decree of September 1, 1939, dealing with those having "rapports" with the enemy.

It will be one fifth columnist the less in New Caledonia.

A subject of the Mikado, named Tchine Mehissi, is by order of the Administration expelled from New Caledonia. Restrictions have been placed on his movements until repatriation can be carried out.

Broadcast to French Colonies

THE Australian Department of Information, in conjunction with the Australian Broadcasting Commission, makes 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.

Rev. D. Lloyd Francis, who has been a member of the Melanesian Mission staff since 1926, having served mostly in the New Hebrides, has joined the NZ Forces as a chaplain.

Mr. Henry Milford, of Apia, Western Samoa, is dead, aged 73. For a long time, he was chief shipwright carpenter to the old German firm (D. H. & P. G.), and later he established himself as a boat-builder and trader.



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Take IONYEAST Vitamin B, D & E Tonic. Confers lasting benefits whilst achieving immediate results. A 10-day course 3/6, or 3 bottles for 10/-.

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Crammond receivers are specially built to suit Tropical conditions. All parts specially protected against heat and moisture. Full range of Portable, Console and Mantel Models.

"King of the Air!"

Port Moresby.
Crammond Radio
Mfg. Co., 8 Queen
Street, Brisbane.

Dear Sirs,
The little set is giving me splendid results, better than the six valve I had before.

I have had the set with me in the bush now in all manner of rough places, camping under canvas for a good deal of the time since my return to Papua.

I purchased the little set in May last, and the batteries still have plenty of kick.

Thanking you,
Yours faithfully,
(Sgd.)

D. M. O'CONNOR.



Please send me full particulars of models, terms list, etc.

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Prepare for Emergencies

Protect your business and personal interests by installing Teleradio 3B Radio-Telephone communication apparatus. . . . Instantaneous contact with the outside world has become a necessity in households beyond the reach of landlines . . . not only to expedite business transactions but to provide a means of acquiring medical or other service in times of emergency.



A.W.A. Radio Stations at Suva, Rabaul, Pt. Moresby and other Island Centres will be glad to supply information on this equipment.

AMALGAMATED WIRELESS (A/SIA) LIMITED
47 YORK STREET, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

ISLANDS PRODUCE

THE following quotations were obtained in Sydney in mid-December—

COFFEE

Java: Robusta, f.a.q., imported on firm conversion of exchange, c.i.f., prompt shipment, Sydney (Sterling): Quote No. 1: 46/9. Quote No. 2: 47/-.

Roengie (a good quality Java coffee), c.i.f., Sydney, 64/3.

Kenya, f.a.q., immediate shipment, c.i.f., Sydney, per cwt. (Sg.): Quote No. 1: Grade "B", 74/-; "C", 68/-.

East Africa: Robusta, f.a.q., c.i.f., Sydney, 56/-; Mocha (Standard Billy), f.a.q., c.i.f., Sydney, 54/-.

Nyore, f.a.q., c.i.f., Sydney, per cwt. Quote No. 1: Grade "A", 68/-; Grade "B", 66/-; Grade "C", 62/-.

Arabian (Aden) Hodeidah, f.a.q., c.i.f., Sydney, No. 1 quotation: 82/-.

NG and Papua: Quote No. 1: 9½d. per lb. (delivered store, Sydney), medium quality. Quote No. 2: 10½d.-11d. per lb. (delivered store, Sydney). Quote No. 3: Sales recently at 9½d. per lb., c.i.f., Sydney.

New Caledonia: Quote No. 1 (in store, Sydney): Arabica, Grade 1, 11½d.-1/-; Grade 2, 10½d.; Robusta, 9½d.-10d. Quote No. 2 (c.i.f. and e., Sydney): Robusta, 4d. per lb.; Arabica, 6d. per lb. Quote No. 3 (c.i.f., Sydney): Arabica, 8d. per lb.; Robusta, 4d. per lb. Quote No. 4 (c.i.f., Sydney): Arabica, £56-£60 per ton; Robusta, £34-£40 per ton. Quote No. 5 (c.i.f., Sydney): Robusta, £37-£39 per ton.

New Hebrides (c.i.f., Sydney): Quote No. 1: £36 per ton. Quote No. 2: £37-£39 per ton. Quote No. 3: £30-£33 a ton (f.a.q.), c.i.f. and e., Sydney.

[Note: Importers of all coffees—except NG and Papua—pay additional charges, including exchange, duty (4.4d. lb.), primage (11 per cent.), landing costs (1/- per cwt.), war duty (10 per cent.)]

VANILLA BEANS

Tahiti: Quote No. 1 (c. & f., Sydney): Approximate market price, white label, 28/- a lb.; green label, 21/- a lb. Quote No. 2 (c.i.f., Sydney): White label and yellow label, 32/-32/6 per lb. Quote No. 3: This agent reports a firm market for first-grade beans.

KAPOK

Quote No. 1: Average Java 6-17/32d. per lb., c.i.f.; Prime Japara, 6-7/32d. per lb., c.i.f. Quote No. 2: Average Java, 7½d., c.i.f.; Prime Japara, 7-15/16d., c.i.f. (Prices sterling and subject to exchange 25½%, duty 2d. per lb., 10% primage, 10% war duty, wharfage.)

IVORY NUTS

Owing to war conditions, Sydney agents are not quoting for ivory nuts. The last quotations indicated that a nominal rate was in the vicinity of £6/15/- £7 per ton.

COTTON

New Caledonian, c.i.f., Sydney. Quote No. 1: 9d. per lb. Quote No. 2: 10d.-11d. per lb. Quote No. 3 (delivered store, Sydney): 10d.-11d. (approximate market price) per lb.

COCOA

New Guinea cocoa: Quote No. 1: £53 per ton—market rising. Quote No. 2: £50-£56 per ton. Accra (West Africa): £50 per ton, c.i.f., Sydney.

New Hebrides cocoa (delivered store, Sydney): Quote No. 1: £52 per ton. Quote No. 2: £50-£51 per ton. Quote No. 3: 1st Grade, £47-£49 per ton, c.i.f., Sydney. Market firm. Quote No. 4: £50-£53 per ton. Quote No. 5: £53.

Western Samoan cocoa: Quote No. 1: £60 per ton, c.i.f., Sydney. Quote No. 2: Price at Apia, September, £52/10/- per ton for small European lots.

RICE

Australian table rice, packed in 56 lb. bags, £20 per ton.

Rangoon rice, packed in 100 lb. bags, £21/10/- per ton; 200 lb. sacks, £21 per ton.

(Since Japan entered the war, rice quotations are nominal.)

TROCHUS SHELL

Sales have taken place recently at the following prices: Quote No. 1: Good average parcel of mixed grades, £48 per ton. Quote No. 2: Mixed parcels, £50. Quote No. 3: "A" Grade, £58; "B" Grade, £46/10/-; "C" Grade, £37/10/-; Quote No. 4: "A", £57; "B", £49; "C", £37. Quote No. 5 (Nominal): "A", £54; "B", £46; "C", £34. Quote No. 6: Mixed

parcels, £50. Quote No. 7: £60 for mixed parcels. It was reported in Suva (Fiji) in November that trochus shell was selling at £33 per ton.

GREEN SNAIL SHELL

Sales of green snail shell were made recently in Sydney at the following prices:—1st grade, £65 a ton. Another agent reported sales of a good quality shell recently at £66 a ton. Quote No. 3: £66/10/-. Quote No. 4: £50-£55. Quote No. 5 (N. Hebrides, Solomon Is., N. Caledonian shell): £66/10/- a ton, f.o.b., Sydney market firm. Quote No. 6: Good grade BSI shell, approximately £60-£65 a ton, f.o.b., Sydney. Quote No. 7: £66-£67 a ton. Quote No. 8 (nominal): £64 a ton.

MOTHER OF PEARL SHELL

Thursday Is. MOP, c.i.f., Sydney. Grade "AA", £202 per ton; Grade "A", £202; Grade "B", £202; Grade "DD", £128; Grade "D", £117; Grade "E", £78.

PEANUTS

New Guinea peanuts: Unshelled, 2½d. per lb.; shelled, 4½d. per lb.

Mr. H. E. Tattersall, 47-years-old son of Mr. A. J. Tattersall, an old and highly respected resident of Apia, died recently in Queensland. He was a veteran of the last war, where he was severely wounded.

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Buying Agents covering all Pacific Territories.

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My Guarantee is behind every Firearm I sell.

QUALITY GUNS BOUGHT, SOLD OR EXCHANGED.

Write for Firearms Catalogue (600 illustrations) and Fishing Catalogue (400 illustrations).

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AGAINST FLIES!

Flit is sure death to insects because it is a combination of potent killing agents which cannot be excelled. Flit has undergone the most exhaustive tests and is of known definite killing power. That's why you should always insist on Flit—and refuse all substitutes. Flit spray will not stain, and is harmless to humans. Be sure the soldier is on the bottle.



FLIT
ALWAYS KILLS

Exchange Rates

THE following exchange quotations, gathered in Sydney, show the rate existing in mid-December:—

FIJI

Through Bank of NSW and Bank of New Zealand:—Australia on Fiji on basis of £100
Fiji: Buying, £A111/2/6; selling, £A113. Fiji-London on basis £100 London:—
Buying. Selling.
£ s. d. £ s. d.
Telegraphic transfer . . . 110 15 0 112 0 0
On demand 110 12 6 111 17 6

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.
Telegraphic transfer	—	£125 10 0
On Demand	£122 18 9	125 7 6
30 days	122 8 9	125 2 6
60 days	121 18 9	124 17 6
90 days	121 8 9	124 12 6
120 days	120 18 9	—

NEW GUINEA AND PAPUA

Through Commonwealth Bank and Bank of

NSW:—Australia on Port Moresby and Samarai, Papua, 10/- per cent.; on Rabaul, NG, 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 Estg. 100.
Selling: T.T. £A125/10/- equals Estg. 100.

NEW CALEDONIA AND TAHITI

London banks nowadays are not quoting on Paris; therefore the rates furnished to the "PIM" by the Comptoir National d'Escompte de Paris, Sydney, and the Bank of NSW are no longer available. Most of the business between the Free French Colonies in the Pacific and Australia is being done in Australian currency; but there is in existence an unofficial, fluctuating rate of between 140 and 143.5 francs to the Australian £.

Mr. S. H. Ellis, MBE, of Suva, has been appointed a member of the Executive Council of Fiji, for two years, in place of Mr. H. King Irving, whose term has expired.

When you travel

It is often dangerous to carry large sums of cash and frequently inconvenient to remit money to meet your requirements en route. Business men and holiday makers can avoid these difficulties by using Bank of New South Wales Travellers' Cheques. They can be readily cashed at all branches of all banks, and are accepted at principal tourist bureaux, transport offices, hotels, guest houses and stores.

FREE OF INLAND EXCHANGE

Bank of New South Wales Travellers' Cheques are free of inland exchange everywhere in Australia. A small charge for this useful facility is made when cheques are purchased.

BANK OF NEW SOUTH WALES

AUSTRALIAN CURRENCY

Travellers' Cheques

593C

Keep your Tobacco FRESH under all conditions.



One of these ENGLISH DELPH TOBACCO JARS will hold approx. 8 ozs. of Cut Tobacco.

This quantity can be stored with perfect safety. The special screw top keeps this Tobacco Jar airtight.

17/6

GOOD PIPES will be scarce

Every popular style of Pipe is still obtainable at Pike Brothers. All pipes are English Made and fully guaranteed against burning or heat cracking.

We recommend the "Diplomat" at 9/6. This is straight stem type with an approximate overall length of 5½ to 6½ in.

Others are: "Bolbec", 5/-; "Magnet", 7/6; "Pibro", 7/6; "Trocadero", 17/6; "Guinea", 21/-; "Grand Slam", 22/6.

PIKE
BROS. LIMITED
OF QUEEN ST BRISBANE

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 8, 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	South Sea, Smoked to Genoa and Marseilles	South Sea, Sun-dried, to London	Plantation, Hot-air Dried, 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	£14 0 0
Mar. 6	£11 15 0	£12 15 0	£13 0 0
June 5	£11 10 0	£12 0 0	£12 17 6
Sept. 4	£13 2 6	£13 10 0	£14 12 6
Dec. 4	£19 7 6	£19 7 6	£20 7 6
Jan. 8, '37	£22 12 6	£22 12 6	£23 12 6
Mar. 5	£19 0 0	£19 5 0	£20 0 0
June 4	£15 15 0	£15 12 6	£16 12 6
Sept. 3	£13 5 0	£13 5 0	£14 0 0
Dec. 3	£12 10 0	£12 12 6	£13 7 6
Jan. 7, '38	£12 12 6	£12 15 0	£13 12 6
Feb. 4	£11 2 6	£11 10 0	£12 7 6
Mar. 4	£10 17 6	£11 0 0	£12 0 0
Apr. 1	£10 10 0	£10 12 6	£11 10 0
May 6	£10 17 6	£10 17 6	£11 17 6
June 3	£9 15 0	£9 15 0	£10 12 6
July 1	£9 17 6	£9 17 6	£10 17 6
Aug. 5	£9 15 0	£9 15 0	£10 15 0
Sept. 2	£9 10 0	£9 10 0	£10 10 0
Oct. 7	£9 2 6	£9 2 6	£10 2 6
Nov. 4	£8 12 6	£8 12 6	£9 10 0
Dec. 2	£9 5 0	£9 5 0	£10 2 6
Jan. 6, '39	£9 12 6	£9 15 0	£10 10 0
Feb. 3	£9 10 0	£9 12 6	£10 10 0
Feb. 24	£9 17 6	£10 2 6	£11 9 0
Mar. 3	£10 0 0	£10 2 6	£11 0 0
Apr. 6	£9 12 6	£9 15 0	£10 12 6
May 5	£10 0 0	£10 5 0	£11 0 0
May 12	£10 5 0	£10 10 0	£11 5 0
June 2	£10 7 6	£10 10 0	£11 7 6
June 9	£10 5 0	£10 10 0	£11 7 6
July 7	£9 2 6	£9 7 6	£10 5 0
July 14	£9 0 0	£9 5 0	£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
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, £13/8/- 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.

LONDON COPRA PRICE
Straits copra, sun-dried, was quoted by "The Economist" at £12/10/- per ton, c.i.f., in London, throughout the first quarter of 1941.

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Established 1817.

A Branch of this Bank has been opened at

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Territory of New Guinea

for the conduct of all usual banking business.

A. C. DAVIDSON, General Manager.

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80/- bare

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Mounts: Leathers, Girths and Stirrups, 17/6 extra.

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We carry complete stock of Saddles, Collars, Whips, Rugs and Saddlery Accessories.

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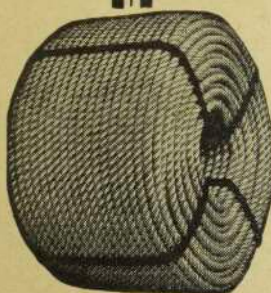
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RUBBER

London	Para.	Plantation
Price on—	per lb.	Smoked.
January 6, 1933	4½d	2.43d
July 7	5½d	3.71d
December 8	4½d	4.0½d
January 5, 1934	4½d	4.28d

BIRKMYRE'S

WATERPROOF CANVAS

- The Original and Best for all purposes where a thoroughly waterproof covering is required.

SAILCLOTHS, DUCKS, &c.
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LINES and TWINES

Extensive Stocks Carried.
Ensuring Prompt Despatch

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CANVAS LTD.

397 KENT STREET, SYDNEY, N.S.W.

July 6	5½d	7.06d
December 28	5d	6¼d
January 4, 1935	5d	6¾d
July 5	5d	7½d
December 6	6¼d	6¾d
January 3, 1936	6¼d	6¾d
June 5	9d	7½d
December 4	1½	9 1-16d
January 8, 1937	1½	10½d
June 4	11d	9 5-8d
December 3	7½d	7½d
January 7, 1938	7½d	7d
July 1	6¾d	7¼d
December 2	7½d	8d
January 6, 1939	7d	8¼d
July 7	7½d	8¼d
December 1	12d	11¼d
January 5, 1940	13d	11.6½d
July 5	15d	12¾d
December 6	13d	12d
January 3, 1941	13d	12.47½d
February 7	15d	12.5½d
March 7	15d	14½d
April 4	15d	14½d
May 2	16½d	14.0½d
June 6	16½d	13.5½d
July 4	17d	13 7-16d
August 1	17d	13½d
September 5	(No quote)	13½d
September 12	—	13¾d
September 19	—	13¾d
October 6	—	13 11-16d
October 10	—	13¾d

Some months ago an official Rubber Controller was appointed in Britain and the Ministry of Supply became the sole importer. In mid-October the Controller fixed the price of plantation smoked rubber at 13½d.

NEW BOOKS

PACIFIC TREASURE ISLAND, by Wilfred G. Burchett. (Published by Cheshire Pty. Ltd., Melbourne, 10/6.) New Caledonia is at the cross-roads. It belonged to the French Empire, which the "Men of Vichy" betrayed to the Huns; it repudiated Vichy, and declared for de Gaulle and Free France, and it now is carrying on as an independent country, protected by Britain and America; because of its enormous mineral wealth, and its magnificent pastoral uplands, it is coveted intensely by Japan; and, because it is so near to Australia and New Zealand, its occupation by a potential foe cannot be permitted by the British Dominions. Therefore, a book about New Caledonia is timely, and, in this compilation—a combination of handbook, and fascinating travel-book—Mr. Burchett has done an exceedingly good job. One reads the book for pleasure, but one also goes to it for all information about the French Colony and former penal station, and one is assisted therein by a full and useful index. The dramatic events of September, 1940, when New Caledonia rejected Vichy and made Sautot governor are told in a special chapter. Australia's feeble and futile handling of the New Caledonian-Australian relationship is dealt with in effective, forthright fashion.

MY LOVE MUST WAIT, by Ernestine Hill. (Published by Angus & Robertson, Ltd., Sydney, 8/6.) In this striking period novel, the talented author of "The Great Australian Loneliness" tells the tragic life-story and love-affair of Matthew Flinders, famous Pacific explorer. Here is fine writing, romance, a gripping story of adventure, and the absolutely true history of the great navigator who first mapped and named Australia. A book which is certain of a high place among the great Australian novels.

BATTLE OF THE SEAWAYS, by George H. Johnston. (Published by Angus & Robertson Ltd., Sydney, 8/6.) To Britain, the most vital aspect of the war to-day is the imperative need to keep her ships moving along world trade routes with the food, supplies and equipment necessary to maintain an island nation at war. Without control of the seas, without ships and men to man them, her struggle against Hitler's plans for world domination is virtually lost; with them, she cannot be beaten. This new book gives a concise picture of the unceasing war at sea and how Britain slowly is gaining mastery of the Battle of the Atlantic, after a grim year of shipping losses through U-boats, raiders, and far-ranging Focke-Wulf bombers. It is a series of connected stories about the sinkings, the heroism of the British Mercantile Marine and the magnificent work of the Navy. One chapter recounts the depredations of Nazi sea-raiders in the South Pacific, last year. There are a dozen or so excellent photographs to illustrate the graphically-written text. This is the second sea book of the war



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The business of this Company is not only to relieve its clients of worry concerning the future administration of their estates, but—if desired—to undertake for them the efficient conduct of their personal business during lifetime. Thus, those living in retirement, or those whose professional duties are all-absorbing, can hand over to the Company the supervision of investments and property, the preparation of income tax returns, collection of rents, payment of rates and taxes, etc., with consequent relief of mind, and positive assurance of competent, conscientious administration. Full details of this service are contained in a special brochure entitled "Hand Over Your Worry" which will be forwarded free on request.

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MANAGER—C. H. Chester

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except for Defence and essential purposes.

The outstanding qualities of Monel—strength, toughness, corrosion-resistance and so forth—mean that sales must be controlled and used to the Nation's best possible advantage.

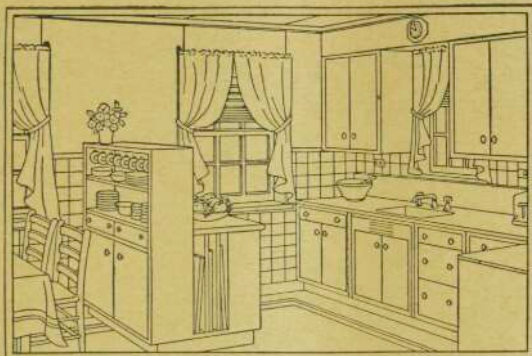
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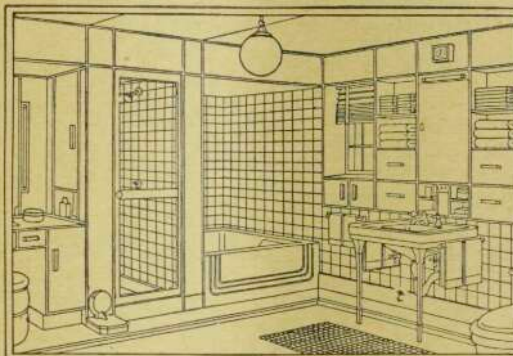
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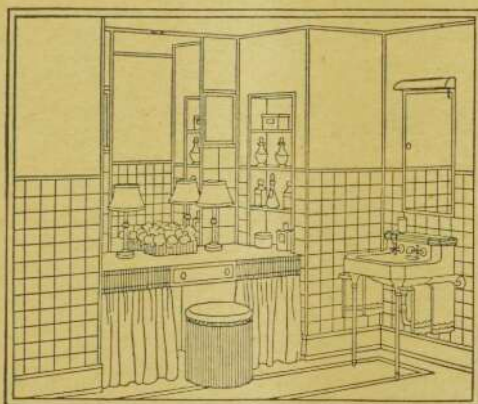
Some suggestions for using Masonite Temprtile



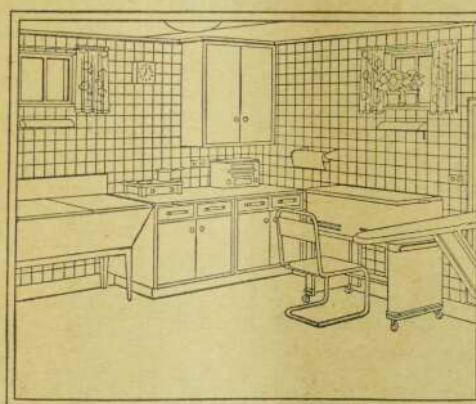
Kitchen walls can be given tile effects at low cost by applying Masonite Temprtile over Cane-ite insulation. For kitchens with eight-foot ceilings the 12 x 4 foot sections of Temprtile are applied horizontally, with upper wall of Tempered Presdwood applied in the same way.



Ideal for bathrooms. Masonite Temprtile is all-wood, grainless and moisture-resisting. It will not warp, chip, split or crack when properly applied. This is a major advantage—especially in places where hot showers and steaming tubs of water tend to fill the air with moisture.



A lavatory under the stairs can be sparkled up considerably with glistening Temprtile walls. Here Temprtile is shown as a wainscot with aluminium or chrome moulding. Masonite Temprtile is exceptionally easy to apply because it can be cut or sawed to any size or shape with an ordinary saw.



New importance can be given to the basement laundry when Masonite Temprtile is applied right over cement walls. The housewife likes Temprtile because it is so easy to keep clean. In this laundry, built-in cabinets and folding ironing board are surfaced with Australian-made Tempered Presdwood.

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Gladiator", about the exploits of HMAS "Sydney", in the Mediterranean.

NEMARLUK, KING OF THE WILDS, by Ion L. Idriess. (Published by Angus & Robertson Ltd., Sydney. 4/6.) The author's note says: "This is the story of Nemarluk . . . king of the wilds. One of the last of the 'Stone Age' men, he deserved a better fate. I know the 'wild lands'; I knew Nemarluk personally. . . . This is a true page from our frontier history: every man and woman lived, or is living now. It is a story of endurance that fought on until the last—the story of the hopeless fight of the 'Stone Age' men." A typical Idriess book, eminently readable, and breathing the spirit of the Australian bush.

A NEW FIJIAN GRAMMAR, by C. Maxwell Churchward, MA, Litt.D. (Published for the Fiji Government by the Australasian Medical Publishing Co., Sydney. 4/-.) A handy and reliable guide

to a knowledge of the Fijian language, explaining the structure and laws of the Bau dialect. In two sections (general and detailed), it gives an abundance of examples and provides a clear explanation of Fijian words and phrases. The author is a Methodist missionary, who lived for many years in the Colony and who compiled the "Rotuman Grammar and Dictionary", some time ago.

In **THE ECONOMICS OF PEACE**, Australia's leading banker, Sir Alfred Davidson, supplies a masterly summary, in 76 pages, of the economic and social problems with which the nations will be confronted immediately the war is over. It is a rather terrifying picture. Despite his associations, Sir Alfred Davidson is a man of liberal, and even radical views; and he clearly recognises that, unless far-reaching reforms are introduced, there will be the gravest danger of a breakdown of national economic systems. He realises, also, that our only hope of escaping from the morass is the election to the Parliaments of "men who are prepared to look ahead to the long-term effect of policy, rather than merely to the next elections". A dismal prospect. Still, it is interesting to have this clear picture of what is coming up over the post-war horizon. (Published by Angus & Robertson Ltd., Sydney, at 3/6.)

PRACTICAL NAVIGATION, by Thomas Gilchrist. (Published by Robertson & Mullens Ltd., Melbourne. 8/6.) Written in response to a very real need for a small, reasonably-priced, and easily comprehended work on practical navigation, this book provides in plain language a complete course, by example and explanation. A series of diagrams and a draft chart serve to enhance the value of the book to students and for practical reference. It should be of use to both the professional and amateur.

FURRED ANIMALS OF AUSTRALIA, by Ellis Troughton. (Published by Angus & Robertson, Sydney. 14/6.) Australia, in a zoological sense, is one of the strangest places in the world. It was cut off from other countries such a long time before the present oceans were formed that its reptiles and mammals developed along lines of their own—hence, the marsupials, and queer rodents, and the platypus—survivals from the very dawn of mammalian life. In this monumental work, describing in detail, and with illustrations, practically all Australian mammals, Mr. Troughton gives to the world a book that not only has great scientific value, but which also has fascinating interest for all nature students.

GELA FOR BEGINNERS, by C. E. Fox, MA, Litt.D. (Published by the Melanesian Mission Press, BSI. 1/6.) An introduction to the Gela language—most widely used and easiest to learn of the Solomon Islands dialects. It contains four parts—a Gela grammar; sentences; English-Gela vocabulary; and, translation of a Gela folk-tale.

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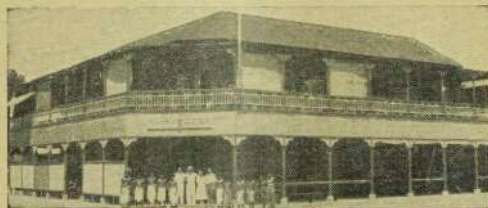
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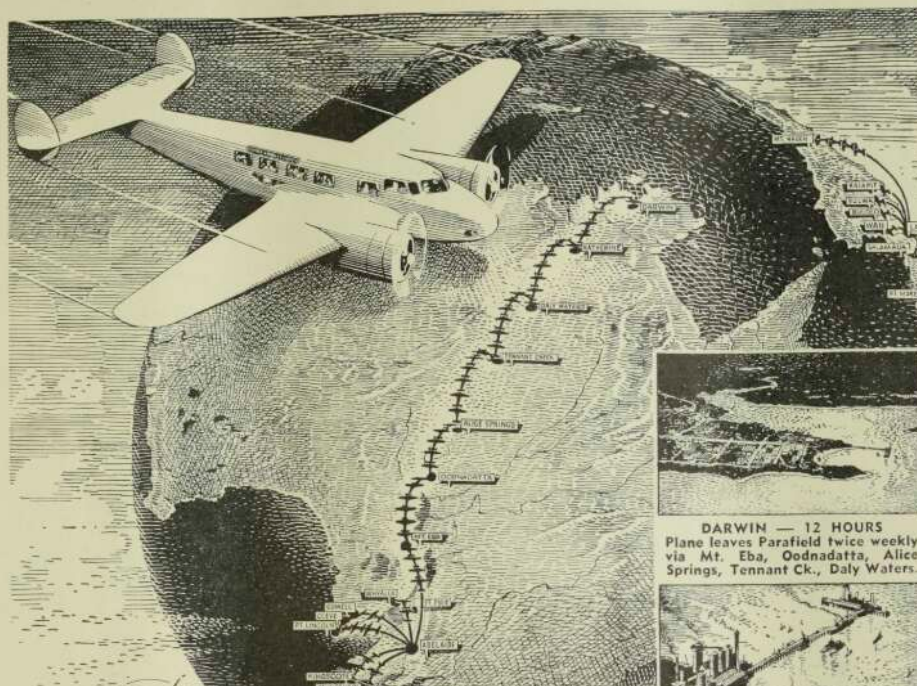
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