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July 17, 1943

VOL. XIII. NO. 12.

PACIFIC ISLANDS Monthly

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RAROTONGA CYCLONE An account of the extraordinary cyclone which struck the little town of Avarua, Rarotonga, on March 10, is published in this issue. These photographs show some effects of the storm.

TOP, LEFT TO RIGHT.—Wrecked LMS Church; remains of store of A. B. Donald, Ltd., surrounded by wreckage; heap of wreckage, which is all that remains of "Royal Hall" Cinema.

BOTTOM, LEFT TO RIGHT.—Ariki's residence, partly unroofed; wreck of a trader's home.

—Photos from R. J. A. Ingram and W. S. Bond.

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PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY—JULY, 1943

HOW POLYNESIANS CAME INTO THE PACIFIC

New Angles on a Fascinating Subject

BY A. C. ROWLAND, PAPEETE, TAHITI

AN outline of what I believe to be the sequence of Polynesian migrations may be of interest.

To my mind, the error most investigators make is their presumption of precipitant mass migrations from the early Polynesian homeland in Indonesia into the Pacific. I think the evidence is rather of an orderly evacuation, extending over a considerable period.

The culture of the Polynesian race in Indonesia was, undoubtedly, of a high order, and their leaders were men of sound judgment and broad vision. Foreseeing the inevitable fate of their Indonesian islands under the increasing pressure of Malay aggression from the Asiatic mainland, they sent pioneer expeditions along the chain of islands to the eastward in quest of new lands suitable for settlement.

These exploring expeditions were wise enough not to attempt the conquest of the thickly inhabited Melanesian main islands. They found, however, a succession of smaller marginal islands—suitable for the growing of crops to serve as supply stations for larger expeditions—which could easily be defended against the non-maritime inhabitants of the large Melanesian islands.

Eventually, the pioneers discovered the object of their quest in the island, Savai'i, of the Samoan group.

As is natural, under such circumstances, the first to be evacuated from the homeland, were the more peaceable agricultural classes and their families, under adequate convoys of warriors; while the main warrior classes, together with the high-chiefs of regal rank and their higher nobility, remained behind to oppose the invader.

Other pioneers, in the meanwhile, had penetrated to the Caroline Islands. It is most probable that when the final catastrophe came in Indonesia, the regal chiefs and their warriors, driven from island to island toward the north-east, finally withdrew to the Carolines (instead of following the course of the earlier migrants) where they found territory ample for their requirements.

THE early migration of agriculturist Polynesians (under inferior chiefs) had quickly over-populated Savai'i, in the Samoan archipelago, and new expeditions were undertaken from that centre.

These expeditions, which carried exploration to the Leeward Islands of the Society Archipelago, were, no doubt, undertaken in a leisurely manner; for they carried with them and established such food plants as the breadfruit, taro and coconut, brought to the Samoan Islands from the Indonesian Havaiki by the original migrants.

But, if subsequent Polynesian history is any guide, there came a day when the jealousy of rival chiefs on Savai'i shattered the peace of the settlement. The defeated party—composed of chiefs of the highest rank in Savai'i, the principal members of the sacerdotal class and numerous followers—took to their ships and sailed to the east to establish on Ra'iatea another Havaiki, destined to become the centre of religion and polity for all Central and Eastern Polynesia.

The break with Savai'i was final. It is significant that, in the period of the

NOTE BY A.C.R.

TO undertake the task of condensing so vast a subject as Polynesian migrations into the limits of a short article, imposes the necessity of leaving out masses of evidence on which one bases his conclusions. I can, however, append a list of some of my sources:—

(1) Two very learned old scholars of Ra'iatea—aged respectively 90 and 80 years—who knew no language but the old Tahitian tongue and consequently were untainted by European scientific speculations.

(2) What Professor MacMillan-Brown did NOT say about the megalithic structures in the Caroline Islands.

(3) A few clear crystals fished up from the turgid depths of the seething cauldron of scientific controversy about Easter Island.

(4) The varying physical characteristics of Polynesians inhabiting the several archipelagoes.

(5) About every work of research published, concerning this fascinating subject.

(6) The island of Reao, its inhabitants, and its marae (which resemble the platforms of Easter Island). I had a Reao native with me as a man-of-all-work, 30 years ago. Reao, the most easterly atoll of the Tuamotu Group, is inhabited by a tribe who differ greatly from the people of other islands. I have never been in South America, but the physiognomy of the Reao people certainly resembles that of pictures I have seen of primitive natives of the South American interior.

widespread Ao-tea-ao-uri Confederation, which extended even to New Zealand, the Samoan Islands were excluded from the league.

WE find another Havaiki as the reputed ancient name of the atoll Fakarava, in the Tuamotu Archipelago. This indicates another palae-Polynesian centre, from which radiated expeditions of exploration and settlement—to the adjacent atolls, to the Marquesas and, most probably, from that archipelago (by way of Malden and Fanning Islands) to Hawaii in the north.

The sweet potato is not the only evidence which leads us to believe that the pioneer Polynesians found descendants of immigrants from South America inhabiting the Marquesas, the Tuamotu atolls and, perhaps, the Society Islands. We are inclined to believe that cannibalism which, probably, began as a ritualistic practice in the worship of their gods in South America, became—under the stress of drought and famine in the bleak Easter and Tuamotu Islands—a more general custom.

The cult of the sun-god Tane was most certainly of South American origin; as was the sanctity of red feathers which, in the ritual of worship, became the vehicle of the divine essence.

The crowns of red *tufa*, which once adorned the images on Easter Island were, manifestly, intended to represent the elaborate red-feather head-dresses of the South American continent.

Tane, the sun-god, is invariably named in esoteric chants, Tane-ahu-ura (Tane of the crimson feather cloak).

It is to the lasting honour of the chiefs of Ra'iatea that they kept cannibalism out of the Society Islands.

The Polynesians who settled in the Tuamotu and Marquesas Islands were probably rebels against authority who

were compelled to depart with their followers. They amalgamated with the South American settlers and in due time learned some very horrid habits.

The South American priesthood must have been, by contrast, a very superior body of wise men, for they succeeded in influencing the Polynesian high priests to overthrow the ancient Polynesian god of the realm of the sky and upper world (Atea) and enthrone in his stead the sun-god Tane-ahu-ura. In the chants taught to the common people, this war in heaven was represented as having ended in a stalemate; for it would never have done to question the immortality of the gods and thus arouse questionings and heretical doctrines. But, in the esoteric chants, Tane—armed with divine power by the mysterious All-Source against whom Atea had sinned—overthrew and slew Atea and henceforth reigned in Central Polynesia, as the protector and benefactor of mankind.

THE period of exploration and migration having come to an end, Polynesia, for several centuries, appears to have settled down to such measure of stability and tranquillity as the restless and contumacious human race can achieve in any age or climate—probably wholly unconscious of the menace brewing in the far away Caroline Islands.

The regal high chiefs, their priesthood, and their warrior clans, had fought the last battles on the islands of Indonesia and had found sanctuary in the Carolines from enemies who, when they had achieved their main objectives did not trouble to undertake fresh adventures. Established on the fertile islands, Ponape and Kusale, the royal Polynesians contented themselves with the sovereignty over a far-flung island empire. We do not know if they erected the megalithic structures on Ponape and on Kusale; but they probably did. These lordly high chiefs—and particularly their priests—had ancestral memories of such structures in the ancient cradle-land of the race—somewhere in India.

Subsequent events indicate that Mongoloid coolies were brought in to perform the heavy labour. For the daring Polynesian navigators the coast of China was not very far away and, in those primitive times, suitable presents of pearls and pearl shell from Pacific atolls were sufficient to induce Mongolian chiefs to barter away the persons of their humble subjects.

As came to pass many centuries later in another group of islands we could name, the Caroline chiefs, by this procedure, planted the seeds of their own destruction.

Human pride having continued unaltered through the ages, one is inclined to believe that when the edifices were completed the Caroline high chiefs did not modestly enjoy the consciousness of duty well performed. Heralds were despatched to proclaim their greatness and to invite the dignitaries of other lands to come and view the splendour of "Progress" and "Development." Tourist bureaus, no doubt, were instituted, "luxury liners" built, and all manner of stately ceremonies, temple dances, solemn processions staged—(with plenty of whoopee thrown in during the intervals)—to amuse the visitors.

The Mongoloid chiefs came, saw, and returned home to counsel with one another how to gain possession of this rich empire of the sea.

All the events of which we write happened more than two thousand years ago, and centuries passed in carrying them out. At that distant period there

(Continued on Inside Back Cover)

PACIFIC NEWS-REVIEW

June 16: The pounding of Sicily by Allied aircraft continues and Messina has been bombed again.

June 16: As a result of ceaseless RAF raids, the Germans have begun "a retreat from the Ruhr." They are trying to remove irreplaceable machinery and skilled workmen to safer areas in south-eastern Germany.

June 17: The King is at present in North Africa with the British Forces. He left England by air last Friday and arrived in North Africa on Saturday morning.

June 19: A Japanese force of 120 aircraft attacked Guadalcanal, in the Solomons, last week. Thirty-two bombers and 45 fighters were shot down by the Americans, for a loss of only six planes.

June 21: New Zealand airmen co-operated with the Americans in last week's battle with Japanese planes over Guadalcanal. Enemy losses were 94 planes, instead of the 77 first reported.

June 21: Field-Marshal Sir Archibald Wavell is to succeed Lord Linlithgow as Viceroy of India.

June 22: Forty-eight Japanese aircraft raided Darwin on Sunday. Spitfires shot down or damaged 22 of them.

June 23: Seven hundred British bombers yesterday blasted Krefeld in Germany; 44 of them are missing. A large force of US bombers, escorted by RAF, Dominion and Allied fighters, attacked the Ruhr to-day in daylight.

June 23: In a special statement broadcast from Moscow, Russia calls for a second front, and declares that "everything now depends upon how the Allies use the present favourable situation."

June 26: The German city of Eberfeld was attacked by the RAF, and great damage is reported. US bombers attacked Salonika, Greek port on the Aegean, which was occupied by the Germans on April 9, 1941.

June 28: Russian air-attacks against German-held aerodromes have reached their peak. M. Stalin's week-end message to President Roosevelt urges that conditions have now been created for the destruction of the common enemy.

June 29: Athens airfields were attacked by American bombers during the week-end.

June 29: The Australian Minister for Air says that May was the best month of the war for Allied air-success against the Japs in the South-west Pacific.

July 1: Combined US Forces landed almost unopposed yesterday morning on Rendova Island, Central Solomons. Rendova Island is about five miles from the Jap base at Munda, New Georgia (about 150 miles north of Guadalcanal) which is now being shelled.

July 2: American forces have landed upon and occupied Kiriwina (the chief island of the Trobriands), and Woodlark Island (both off the north-eastern coast of Papua); and, at the same time, another American force landed at Nassau Bay, 15 miles south of Salamaua, whence it marched inland and joined up with Australian forces in the jungle south-west of Salamaua. All these islands landings, which were unopposed, were marked by perfect co-ordination of air, land and sea forces.

The four operations (Nassau, Trobriands, Woodlark and New Georgia) represent one straight line, and appear

to be part of one closely co-ordinated move against the Japanese in New Guinea.

July 2: Australian ground forces in New Guinea have advanced and are now within five miles of Salamaua.

July 5: Japanese warships were driven off Rendova by American warships on Saturday night.

July 6: American troops have landed on the island of Vangunu, in New Georgia, BSI, and captured the village of Vura.

July 7: The Germans have launched a great new offensive on the Russian front. Thousands of tanks are being used by both sides: 700 German tanks have already been knocked out.

July 7: A United States Navy communique states that a naval battle is in progress off New Georgia.

July 8: It is stated from Russia that the Nazi gains have been insignificant and that the Russian forces are "chewing up" German tanks and Panzer divisions.

July 8: The Japanese naval force which suffered a severe reverse at the hands of an American task force in Kula Gulf, Solomons, on Monday night was making a desperate effort to prevent the isolation of the vital airfield of Munda, on New Georgia. Six enemy warships were probably sunk and four damaged. Americans lost one cruiser, and a destroyer had been sunk the previous night by a torpedo.

Munda is now regarded as neutralised as an air base, and American troops are moving to capture it.

July 9: The "Red Star" declares that although the battle in Russia is proceeding with great fury, the German plans have been thwarted.

July 10: At 3 a.m. to-day, the long-awaited invasion of Europe was begun by the Allied forces, when British, American and Canadian troops landed at many points on the south, and south-east coasts of Sicily. An enormous sea armada (estimated at 2,000 ships) and at least 1,000 planes were employed.

July 10: Almost continuous tank battles are proceeding on the Russian front, with the Germans, in spite of their enormous losses, persisting in their efforts to break through the Russian defences.

July 12: Allied forces, ashore in many places along 100 miles of coast, are consolidating their positions in Sicily, and the Axis forces have opened violent counter-attacks. Before the attack from the sea, British and American paratroops and glider forces landed on the island behind the Axis defences, and violent air-bombardment, and shelling from a gigantic fleet, composed of British, American, Dutch, Royal Indian, Polish and Greek ships, preceded the actual landing. It is estimated that the Allied forces are opposed by 300,000 Italians and 100,000 Germans. A communique says all beaches are held firmly, all troops are advancing, and reinforcements are being landed continuously.

July 12: US forces are reported to be closing in on Munda. Another Japanese naval force was sighted approaching New Georgia and on Saturday night it was attacked by Catalina flying-boats.

July 13: In Sicily the Allied forces

NOTES AND COMMENT ON THE PROGRESS OF THE WAR FROM JUNE 16 TO JULY 13

have captured 10 ports and towns, seven enemy counter-attacks with tanks have been beaten off and 2,000 prisoners have been taken. It is believed that the success of the operation is now assured.

July 13: On the Russian front, the Red armies have pinned down the new Nazi drive on Orel but violent fighting still continues on this and the Byelorod sectors.

FATHER ROUGIER

Memories of One of Pacific's Notable Personalities

WHENEVER an old resident of Tahiti comes across a Christmas Island postage stamp, this small bit of paper recalls to his memory not only the stir in the world of philately caused by this unique issue, but also that very picturesque personage of Christmas Island fame—Father Emmanuel Rougier.

Father Rougier appeared at Tahiti early in the 1920 decade. Authoritative history informed us that, years before, he had acquired Fanning Island. He had transformed that barren atoll into a flourishing coconut plantation which he had lately disposed of for a goodly sum. Subsequently he had leased Christmas Island and had selected Tahiti as the base from which to supply his new plantation.

Apart from the fact that Father Rougier had been a priest somewhere in the South-western Pacific, his pre-Fanning Island career was something of a mystery.

Actually, Father Rougier became a citizen of great consequence on Tahiti; where he lived in baronial state in an old mansion surrounded by broad acres of coconut plantations. During ten years, there were few councils for the debate of civic and economic problems that did not invite Father Rougier to a seat of honour in the assembly.

Why Father Rougier issued the Christmas Island postage stamp, no one has clearly understood. Perhaps, as monarch of his little island kingdom, he sought thus to proclaim his sovereignty. Or it may be that he hoped to emulate certain Administrations which, by the issue of new series of postage stamps, have garnered from the collectors of the world substantial sums for Colonial Treasuries.

The Christmas Island stamp was never recognised by the Postal Union and, consequently, was never valid for postage. Collectors did, indeed, send in for specimens; but when it became noised abroad that the Christmas Island stamp was unrecognised, the inquiries ceased.

Father Rougier passed on early in the 1930 decade. The chronicle of the dispersal of his very considerable fortune would require an historian endowed with a talent akin to that of a painter who can stand off and hurl pots of red paint at a purple canvas to produce a picture of Valhalla in flames. The fiery glow over Tahiti, during that period, was the herald of an eternal sunset.—A.C.R.



USEFUL ADDRESSES

The following are the addresses of organisations set up to deal with Pacific Territories affairs:—

PAPUA, NEW GUINEA, NAURU, NORFOLK IS.

Department of External Territories (Sydney Branch) (Lately the New Guinea Trade Agency), Australia House, Carrington Street, Sydney. Telephone: BW 1776.

(Dealing with all matters connected with the Australian Pacific Territories and also the Sydney representative of the New Guinea Copra Control Committee.)

BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS

Sydney Office of British Solomon Islands Government

(In charge of Mr. F. E. Johnson, Treasurer of the Solomons Administration), 17 Castlereagh Street, Sydney. Telephone: B 1710.

GILBERT AND ELLICE, AND OCEAN IS.

Sydney Office of Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony

(In charge of Mr. S. G. Clarke, Treasurer of the G. and E. Administration), Bank of New Zealand Building, George Street, Sydney. Telephone: B 2209.

FOR PACIFIC TERRITORIES EVACUEES GENERALLY

Pacific Territories Association (C. A. M. Adelskold, Secretary), c/o Robert Gillespie Pty., Ltd., 54a Pitt Street, Sydney. Telephone: BW 4782.

WAR DAMAGE COMMISSION

Sydney Office: M.L.C. Building, Cnr. Martin Place and Castlereagh Street, Sydney. Telephone: BW 2361.

FOR CLAIMS AGAINST ARMY

Mr. H. Alderman, Darwin-Moresby Claims Section, Chief Finance Office (Army), Victoria Barracks, Melbourne.

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Mrs. S. S. Boye, who was taken off Vanikoro Island by an American plane long after the Japanese invaded the Solomon Islands, has just concluded a holiday visit to Sydney and Melbourne,

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and expects to leave Sydney soon for one of the Territories. Mr. and Mrs. Boye have spent many years in the Solomons. They lived in Tulagi before going to Vanikoro eight years ago.



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WHAT "EVACUEES" CAN DO ON AUGUST 21

EX-RESIDENTS of New Guinea and Papua have been residents of Australia for about seventeen months—since the evacuation made "evacuees" of them—and now, for about the first time, they are going to enjoy one of the privileges of Australian citizenship. They have lived long enough in Australia to have the right to vote; and, in that vote, they are permitted to express their opinion of the Government under which they have lived, for seventeen months.

It is to be hoped that all "evacuees" will see to it that they are enrolled; for there is plenty concerning which, at the ballot-box, they may express a forthright opinion.

Judged on performances, the Curtin Government of Australia has been a poor, weak, spineless, muddling administration—no better, and in some respects more dangerous, than the babbling and inefficient Governments of Mr. Menzies and Mr. Fadden which it displaced. Ever since the events of 1939 threw Australia into the maelstrom of war, in which strength and efficiency are the conditions of survival as a free people, the call has been for statesmen; but, instead, Australia has had to accept as leaders, professional politicians of a deplorable type—attended by endless gangs of impractical professors and tyrannical bureaucrats.

Wearied of the fumbblings and ditherings of the UAP-CP products, Australia in 1940 voted indecisively for Labour. Next month, outraged by the economic dictatorship of Dedman, the one-eyed hooliganism of Ward and the weakness of Curtin,

Australia probably will vote against Labour. If the Curtin Government is not thrown out, it will only be because of the pathetic lack of leadership in the opposing parties.

NEVER was Australia so completely united in one thing—namely, determination and courage to stand beside the United Nations in fighting on for victory, whatever the cost. And never did Australia, anxious now that her young men on the battlefields shall be adequately supported at home, cry so urgently for leadership.

That Australia, in these desperately critical days, can find only nincompoops and muddlers for the Ministerial offices of her civil administration, irrespective of the political party to which she appeals, means that Australia now is reaping the harvest of what she sowed in the fat and lazy years of peace. Then, men were too well-fed and indifferent to take any interest in the public affairs of their country. They left membership of the nation's Parliament to middle-class mediocrities, bumble-footed "fixers," and trade union officials, to whom £1,000 per annum and a railway-pass seemed like paradise.

To-day, in every district in Australia, patriotic and well-instructed men are eager to give Parliamentary service; but the gangs of professional politicians, although held in detestation by every class, are so strongly entrenched in their "seats," and have so powerful a grip on the political party machines, that they cannot be displaced without nation-wide organisation.

Disgust with the Curtin Government's record, and hatred of party politics and politicians, probably will result in the defeat of the Labour Government. But heaven alone knows what will take its place! Little can be hoped from a UAP-CP administration—the talent simply isn't there. Real reform may come, however, if a sufficient number of Independents are elected to constitute a sort of middle party, and force the party hacks to form a National Government, to carry on the war and deal with the appalling problems of peace, free from the poisonous and crippling influences of party strife.

THE "evacuee vote" is not large—only a couple of thousands, perhaps, in two millions—but evacuees may do quite a lot to affect the elections, if they use all their considerable influence among their friends.

For the unhappy and homeless Territorians, the choice in this election is very simple. As, in relation to the paramount issue—the prosecution of the war—none of the contending candidates is worth more than any other (except, perhaps, the unknown Independents) the evacuee voter need apply to them all only the one measuring-stick: To what extent will their respective parties pledge the assistance of the Commonwealth Government in the rehabilitation of the Australian Pacific Territories?

On that basis, the evacuee voter unhesitatingly will vote and work against all Labour candidates. The Labour Government of Mr. Curtin has treated the evacuees with an indifference and cruelty that this writer never thought to see in any

British community. Here are the facts, only too well known to every Territorian:—

WHEN evacuation was necessary, Territories people (from Papua and New Guinea) found sanctuary in Australia. They did not expect much. Invasion of their home-lands was the fortune of war—and they had been unlucky.

But they did expect, from the Australian Government, which was responsible for the administration of their Territories, some sympathy, some understanding of their unhappy situation, some promise of substantial, if not generous, help in their rehabilitation in the Territories, after the Jap had been driven away.

What they did receive was endless sympathy and private assistance from the private citizens of Australia; but, from the Australian Government, only a grudging and niggardly charity, doled out through petty officials, who often were arrogant and tyrannical in their treatment of evacuees.

It is a shameful story, that of how "subsistence allowance" was paid to evacuees. Many of these unfortunate people—most of them accustomed to a good income and to life on a generous scale—arrived in Australia destitute; and they never will forget the manner in which they were given the miserable forty shillings per week, on which they were expected to subsist. There was generosity, perhaps, in the fact that they were given anything; but there was humiliation in the way in which various pink and rotund officials gave them the money, inquired into their resources and forced them to sign documents pledging repayment if and when it was found that any value remained in their property.

EARLY in 1942, the evacuees were assured that insurance under the war damage compensation plan would take care of most of their losses. And they believed it! They could not be blamed. What is a war damage compensation fund for, if not for the compensation of people who lose their homes and their property because they are driven suddenly out of their country by war and invasion?

But that was not the way of Mr. Curtin and his pack of half-baked economists. Mr. Curtin created the War Damage Commission; and this combination of highly-paid bureaucrats, from its luxuriously-furnished offices in Bridge Street, Sydney, informed the broken men and women of the Territories that compensation would be paid only for direct war damage, and that losses caused by looting, by deterioration of property through the compulsory absence of the owner, or by anything other than actual fighting and bombing or "scorched earth," was not direct war damage and was not subject to compensation. Not only has that position remained unaltered, despite many appeals to Mr. Curtin and his Ministers; but Mr. Curtin has declined even to discuss the matter with evacuees.

Early in 1942, the property of many residents of Papua and of Morobe (New Guinea) was taken over by the Australian Army, and the owners (mostly evacuees) were assured that full compensation would be paid. But Mr. Curtin's Government, instead, handed over all these claims to an unknown Adelaide lawyer, Mr. H. Alderman, and gave him an apparently unlimited authority to settle them to the greatest possible advantage of the Army.

The activities of Mr. Alderman constitute another distressing chapter in the story of how Australia treated the evacuees. Mr. Alderman set himself up, not only as advocate for the Army, but also

as judge and jury in respect of all claims. He produced his own set of arbitrary rules for the assessment of all kinds of property concerned; he informed the claimant of his award; and he let it be known that there was no appeal—it was his "offer," or nothing.

That was bad enough; but the situation became worse when it became known that the energetic gentleman was pushing his nose into the affairs of the War Damage Commission, and giving the Government the benefit of his opinion about the definition of war damage.

The harassed and indignant Territorians again appealed to Mr. Curtin, this time for some relief against the Adelaide infliction. But it was no use; "honest John Curtin" announced that Mr. Alderman had the full confidence of the Government. And so the policy of chiselling down the claims of the evacuees for payment by the Army for goods and services taken, and of making the evacuees defend their claims as if they were mendicants and rogues, has continued.

The only thing which the Curtin Government has done towards the re-establishment of the Territories people has been to send a couple of score of planters back to their plantations. And that was not done to help the Territorians, but to stimulate the production of rubber and copra. The plan—as yet only in its infancy—has been surrounded with such a mass of regulations, red tape and bureaucracy that it is doubtful, at present, whether the planters themselves will get any benefit at all from it.

THAT is not the complete story, but it will suffice to show that, so far as the Territories' people are concerned, the Government of Australia could not be worse. The evacuees need have no compunction in doing everything within their power to defeat, at the polls, all supporters of the Labour Government. This is their chance to show their resentment of the cruelties and humiliations which they have suffered at the hands of Mr. Curtin, and his Ministers, and his quaint Mr. Alderman, during the past sixteen months.

If they can, they should ask every non-Labour candidate if he is in favour of (a) reasonable assistance for planters, miners and traders in restoring their homes and businesses in Australian New Guinea; (b) an immediate revision of the definition of direct and indirect war damage, so as to take care of the peculiar conditions created by the compulsory evacuation of the Territories; (c) a review of the decisions of H. Alderman in all claims made by Papuan and New Guinea evacuees against the Army.

If some sort of promise could be obtained at this stage from candidates, there should be a possibility of better treatment of evacuees in the future—that is, if the Curtin Government is defeated. If this Labour administration is returned, the prospects for evacuees will be black indeed. These Australian Labour Ministers are not deliberately hostile to evacuees—they simply are too stupid and incompetent to take any clear line in regard to any public matter, whether it be Territories rehabilitation, or rationing control, or industrial unrest, or anything else.

—Signed, for electoral law purposes, by R. W. Robson, 247 George Street, Sydney.

TOO MUCH MONEY

Anxieties of Morris Hedstrom Directors

GENTLEMEN whose hobby is the study of balance-sheets are invited to consider the statement of accounts for the year ended March 31 last, issued by Morris Hedstrom, Ltd., the well-known Fiji trading company which operates in Fiji, Tonga and Samoa:—

ASSETS	1943.	1942.
Plantations, Land, Buildings ..	237,800	283,791
Plant, Furniture, etc.	17,728	20,787
Merchandise	221,123	249,297
Debts owing to Co.	126,456	116,729
Cash	286,507	229,632
Shares in Subsidiaries	87,072	87,637
Gov't and Municipal Stocks ..	312,425	47,586
Industrial, etc., Shares	85,782	47,766
LIABILITIES	1943.	1942.
Subscribed Capital	739,613	739,613
Accumulated Reserves	374,720	200,698
In Profit and Loss A/c—		
Brought forward	94,624	86,601
Profit for year	80,747	54,949
Trade Debts and Liabilities ..	132,927	68,446

Early in the war period, this company was able to change part of its stocks and other shrinkable things into cash, and this policy was followed. It was a sound and careful policy; but it was not needed. The Jap invasion was halted on the borders of the MH territories; all merchandise increased rapidly in value; every primary industry in the three Territories boomed—especially copra; and the directors ended the 1942-3 year with the shocking profit of £80,927, a considerable proportion of which has had to be added to various reserves.

The company now has sufficient money invested in plantations, stores, buildings, land, plant, merchandise and sundry debtors nearly to cover the whole amount of its invested capital, so that the extraordinary sum of £680,000, which it actually holds in cash and first-class investments, is really all surplus funds belonging to shareholders.

The directors are quite frank about the matter. "Considerable difficulty is being found in utilising the amount of money the company has available," they report; and they add that, if the post-war period does not present opportunities for profitable utilisation of these funds in the Pacific Islands, it may be necessary to return a proportion of their capital to the shareholders.

N. CALEDONIA THANKS USA AND BRITISH NATIONS

From Our Own Correspondent

NOUMEA, June 24.

IN a farewell address to New Caledonia, Governor Montchamp (who has gone to join a combatant unit) said:—

"Let us not forget that if this little country has been able to stay French, if this little Austral-France has not suffered the defilement of enemy occupation, she owes it to the fervent patriotism of her own children—among the first to rally to the Cross of Lorraine—and also to her allies, the Americans, Australians and New Zealanders. Let us also render homage to a great sailor, Admiral Halsey, whose victories have removed the menace of a Japanese landing from our coasts."

Natives of Eastern Samoa (American Territory) subscribed \$8,400 to the United States' Second War Loan which was closed in June last, and was over-subscribed by no less than \$5,500,000,000 (or about one billion, six hundred million Australian pounds!).

Old Wreck Searched for Metals

From Our Own Correspondent

RAROTONGA, June 1.
OWING to the demand for various metals, interest has again been aroused in the wreck of the old "Maitai," lying on the reef at Avarua, Rarotonga. Although a good deal of the remaining lead was removed some time ago and shipped to New Zealand, it is



Mr. L. P. Morel, who recently left Rarotonga for overseas service, coming up after inspecting the wreck, with his antiquated diving gear.

possible that other metals might have escaped notice.

With a view to ascertaining what really was left, Mr. H. Ward, a visitor who is well known around the Eastern Pacific, recently organised a diving party. Little was found; and even the great propeller was so encrusted with barnacles that it was impossible to know whether it was of bronze or otherwise.

Shortly after the wreck of "Maitai," in 1917, the insurance company concerned sent down professional divers to lift everything possible with available apparatus; as metals were almost as valuable then as now it does not seem likely that anything would be left which could be raised by amateurs. It is a fact, however, that for many years prior to the war native divers were wont to obtain there supplies of lead for local fish nets, etc.

The ownership of anything recovered is not clear. Whether it rests with the Union Steamship Company, or the insurance company, or the Administration, nobody appears to know.

AUSTRALIAN GOODS FOR N. CALEDONIA

From Our Own Correspondent

NOUMEA, June 26.
THE New Caledonian Government is placing the sum of £1,500 at the disposal of the Fighting French delegation in Sydney each month, for the settlement of purchases made on behalf of the Colony.

Fiji Sugar Workers Strike for Higher Pay

THE strike of Indian and Fijian employees of the CSR sugar-mills at Ba and Lautoka, on the main island of Fiji, in support of their demands for increased pay and alterations in working conditions, ended early in July. It commenced on June 22.

When it was seen that there was little prospect of settlement in the negotiations between the CSR Co. management and the employees' representatives, the Director of Labour and National Service took charge of the situation; and further discussion resulted in the strikers' leaders advising the men to return to work on July 5.

The minimum pay requests were: Labourers (not shift) 3/6 a day, mill labourers shift 4/1 a day. It was also requested that the pay of labourers on higher rates should be increased similarly.

Fiji's Sugar and Pineapples

THE biggest employer of labour in Fiji, the Colonial Sugar Refining Co., Ltd., reported as follows recently on labour conditions in the Colony:—

"In Fiji, the conduct of the war has made considerable demands on our supply of Fijian and Indian labour, with the result that we are experiencing difficulty in obtaining sufficient manpower to carry on our operations efficiently. Added to this, our cane growers have now to produce more of their foodstuffs.

"Consequently, cane cultivation has suffered appreciably, and the area planted for the 1944 cane crop is, so far, much below the normal acreage.

"The position of our pineapple project has not improved during the year, owing to lack of tinplate and shortage of labour. We have, however, bottled large quantities of juice, which has met with a ready demand in the Colony."

Messrs. J. Beveridge and H. W. Bullen have been appointed lieutenants in the Solomon Islands Defence Force and Mr. H. W. Bourne a second-lieutenant in the Solomon Islands Labour Corps.

MISSIONARIES AND WAR



In October and November, 1942, we published details of Japanese atrocities committed against Roman Catholic missionaries in the Solomon Islands. Here is an old photograph of some of the victims.

On the extreme left is Father M. McMahon, a Canadian member of the Marist Mission, who led a party of 14 to safety, and eventually to Sydney. On the right is Father A. Duhamel, the American priest who was brutally murdered by the Japanese and whose body, with those of another priest and two sisters, was found at Tasimbok, in Guadalcanal. The two other men in the group are Brother Joseph Redman and Brother Paul Riggs.

All the men were of the Marist Order and the photograph was taken in Sydney in December, 1939, when they were on their way to their mission stations in the Solomons.

PAPUA PLANTERS RETURN

Provisional Rates for Produce Announced

THE Australian New Guinea Production Control Board—which, as a subsidiary of ANGAU, was brought into being to control the production of rubber and copra on the privately-owned plantations in the Territories—commenced to function on July 1.

The chairman of the Board is Brigadier D. M. Cleland, who is second in command (under Major-General Morris) of ANGAU. The Board members are Mr. W. Kirkthorpe (finance) and Mr. E. J. Frame (commerce).

Mr. G. A. Loudon, who was one of Papua's best-known planters before the war, and who recently was in the service of ANGAU, has been appointed secretary of the Board.

It has been announced that, as from July 1, for three months—apparently as a period of trial—the Board will pay the planters the following rates:—

Rubber: 1/5 per pound, on the plantation.

Copra: £15/10/- per ton, f.o.b. at the nearest port to the plantation.

It is reported that the Commonwealth authorities recently have increased the "sustenance allowance" which, since the evacuation, they have been paying, under certain conditions, to Territories people who had been compelled to leave their homes, and were without adequate means. The allowance to adults has been increased from £2 to £2/10/- per week, and there is also some slight increase in the allowance for children. As pointed out in the article on pages 3 and 4, the conditions under which this allowance is granted have been made so humiliating that only those people who have no other recourse will accept it.

PLANTERS RETURNED TO PAPUA

The following are the names of planters who have been allowed to return from Australia to Papua, under the Production Control Board, to operate their plantations. About 50 more men have been released from the forces already in Papua, for the same purpose:—

T. L. Sefton.	W. A. Gray.
F. D. Ross.	T. J. Ryan.
F. B. Godson.	E. T. Ward.
T. Miller.	A. S. Fitch.
W. D. Voysey.	E. V. Crisp.
A. O. Pollard.	T. Nevitt.

TAHITI'S UNUSUAL RAINY SEASON

From Our Own Correspondent

PAPEETE, June 15.
THERE is no news. Gossip, in our island, has fallen into a state of innocuous desuetude. Even those who frequent the Papeete Market each morning, return home empty-handed. When that effervescent pool of idle talk becomes dry, the hinterland is arid indeed.

The weather, on the contrary, is far from dry. Our rainy season continues far beyond its normal limit.

The only way one can be assured of fine weather, is to go to town armed with a raincoat and umbrella. The sun will then emerge—seven times heated. But if one adventures abroad, unarmed, and trusting, he will invariably suffer a sound ducking before he can arrive home.

NEW HONOUR FOR RATU SUKUNA

IT has been announced that Major Ratu J. L. V. Sukuna, BA, CBE, who probably is the most distinguished native Fijian of the present day, is to be appointed Adviser on Native Affairs (practically, Minister for Native Affairs in Fiji) when Mr. C. E. Pennefather retires from that position shortly. Ratu Sukuna will become a member of the Executive Council.

Ratu Sukuna was at Oxford University, studying law, when the 1914 war broke out. He joined the French Foreign Legion, rendered distinguished service and was decorated. Later, he completed his law studies and returned to Fiji where he became noted for his administrative gifts. He was District Commissioner in the Lau Group when he was called to Suva to take charge of the Fiji Government's new native land plan.

Ratu Sukuna, with Sir Henry Milne Scott, Lieut.-Colonel Brewster and Ratu Edward Cakobau, went to London in 1937 as the official representatives of Fiji at the Coronation of George VI. Soon after that, he was awarded the CBE.

The "Fiji Times" says that Ratu Sukuna accepted his new post with reluctance: he had hoped to go on active service with the Fiji Forces.



Ratu Sukuna.

DEATH OF CAPTAIN "DICK" REYNOLDS

PEOPLE of western Papua and Thursday Island will learn with regret of the sudden death in Sydney, on June 28, of Captain "Dick" Reynolds, one of the best-known and best-loved men of the Torres Strait region. He was the type of big-hearted man who is loved by whites and natives alike—the people of the Fly and Bamu rivers will miss "Captain Dick." He was only 63 years of age. "Dick" Reynolds and "Wally" Maidment went to Daru 30 years ago as pioneer traders and shippers; and they had been close friends ever since.

Those present or represented at the funeral included Mr. and Mrs. W. Maidment (Daru), Mrs. Eva Standen (Bamu), Messrs. Carpenter (Thursday Is.), and O'Malley (Papua), Mrs. Cowling (Fly River), Messrs. L. Luff and H. Beach (Daru), Wyborn Pearling Co. (Thursday Island).

Mrs. A. B. Herrold, of Fiji, returned to the Colony from overseas recently.

The Rev. H. V. C. Reynolds, of the Melanesian Mission, BSI, recently visited Maravovo (mission station on Guadalcanal, BSI) and writes that it is in a sad state—"... a shambles of shambles, not one stone upon another, either at the school or at the Mission Press."

TURNING COCONUTS INTO MONEY

What F. W. Burke Did at Orokolo

MANY people have heard of that enterprising establishment in Papua called Orokolo industries, where soap is made and engineering jobs are undertaken; but not many know the interesting story behind it.

The establishment is practically closed down "for the duration"; and Mr. F. W. Burke is now a sergeant in ANGAU. He was in Sydney recently; and, at our invitation, he described the circumstances which led to the organisation of his new industries. Here is the story:—

IT was about 1932. You were publishing articles in the "PIM" about planters having "all their eggs in one basket," and you were suggesting experiments in tung oil and castor oil. At that time the grip of Unilever was just being felt. Planters were a bit confused. Some blamed "whale oil," some BP's for the unstable copra market, but a glance at Unilever profits was the best indication.

I tried castor oil, and had excellent crops; but I found that the crushers and the agents reaped all the profit from that. So I decided to try crushing my own castor seed, and I sent to England for the machinery for preparing the castor seed. I also wrote to the agriculture departments of various countries of South America, and also to Malaya—in fact, I spent about £20 on pamphlets and correspondence concerning oil mills.

I also had a little personal experience in the Malay States, and I decided that not only would I crush castor seed, but copra as well. I tried to get the planters of Papua interested in establishing an oil mill in Port Moresby, to handle all the copra of Papua. But copra was a reasonable price at that time, and most of the planters would not believe the price would go any lower. I had to modify my ideas considerably.

I sent to England for a small copra-crusher and I started to build up a factory at Orokolo. It took about seven months for the machinery to come out from England. By that time, copra had slumped again, and copra-planters were beginning to feel the pinch. I needed two more presses; but, as these were £400 each, and copra down to £9 a ton, there was no money to spare.

So I started to build my own presses. It was a long job, and it was almost two years before I had designed and built a satisfactory press.

Then came the problem of making soap from pure coconut oil. Many had tried; but either the soap was too hard, of a nasty colour, or it had an excess of free caustic soda.

I learned that a South American firm had a contract to make soap from pure coconut oil for the USA Navy. After many months of trying, I got the name of the firm which was making the soap, and also the name of the firm which had supplied the soap-making plant. Thus, I got sufficient information to put me on the right track.

After a few experiments, I produced a snow-white soap of good texture, and free from caustic soda. It would lather just as freely in salt or brackish as in fresh water.

It was not on the market very long before the demand for the soap became far in excess of the capacity of the plant I had, so I started to build more soap-presses, soap slabbers, cutters, etc.

All the copra that I could produce, and

A HERO OF TAHITI



Walter Grand, the first soldier of Tahiti to be decorated for valour in World War II. General de Gaulle, in person, presented him with the Croix de Guerre, with one star. The decoration was won at the Battle of Bir Hakeim.

"THE MISSION IN THE MUD"

FRIENDS of the Bamu River Mission, Western Papua—conducted normally by Harrie and Eva Standen, now both engaged on war work—recently organised a very successful concert, in aid of the mission funds.

The chairman (Rev. A. L. Wilkins) said he knew of no mission which had done so much good work, with so little, as this Bamu River Mission, often called "The Mission in the Mud," owing to the swampy nature of the country. The mission was intensely practical and recognised no sect or creed, save the need of the Bamu River natives.

The Standens, said the chairman, had every right to be proud of the part their Bamu boys had played in the battles of the Owen Stanley Range and of Milne Bay. The well-known Doctor G. H. Vernon, and others, reported from the fighting zones: "The boys did a great job."

Mrs. Standen, while nursing at a large military hospital in Sydney, finds time to give a most interesting lantern film lecture on the Bamu River work. She may be contacted through the "PIM" or on telephone LM 2167.

buy from the natives, was being crushed and turned into soap and cattle cake.

I was just beginning to smile at the Unilever Combine, and getting the factory on a paying and full production basis, when the Japs threw in their lot with the Axis, and so we had to give them our attention.

Perhaps, when this is all over and we settle back on the plantations, the planters will put in a decent oil mill before the combines get full control again.

Lieutenant John Brown, of Vatuakoula Mines, Fiji, is in a prisoner-of-war hospital near Naples, Italy.

NEW KNIGHT FOR FIJI

Birthday Honours List

THE King's Birthday Honours list, published in June, included the name of Samuel Howard Ellis, MBE, of Suva, Fiji, who has been created a Knight Bachelor.

Sir Samuel Ellis was born in New Zealand in 1889, educated at Auckland Grammar School and Auckland University, and called to the Bar in New Zealand in 1911 and in Fiji in 1912. He has practised law in the Colony since 1912.

In World War I, he served first, with the Northumberland Fusiliers and later transferred to the Royal Flying Corps, where he won the MBE (military). For some years he has been a member of the Fiji Executive Council and is now Director of Labour and National Service. He is widely known for his extremely generous gifts to war funds and fighter plane and bomber funds. Lady Ellis is a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Alex B. Joske, of Suva.



Geoffrey Henry Kuper, NMP.

Three other Western Pacific names are included in the Honours List—Mrs. Emily Sprott, who becomes MBE; and G. H. Kuper and J. R. Land, each of whom receives the British Empire Medal.

Mrs. Sprott is well known in the Solomons, where she is a member of the Melanesian Mission. She went to the Protectorate in 1916 and has rendered continuous service there since, particularly in child-welfare and social services. She remained in the Solomons after the Japanese occupation, and her escape from Santa Ysabel Island in January last was told in the March "PIM."

Geoffrey Henry Kuper is a Native Medical Practitioner who remained at his post throughout the Japanese occupation. He rendered great service by rescuing Allied pilots forced down in combat, and in giving them medical aid. His courage and resource were an inspiration to natives of the area.

Mr. Land, formerly of the Fiji Service, is Superintendent of Telegraphs and Telephones in Tonga. He is a son of the late Captain Land, of Suva.

WATERSPOUT AT MANGAIA

Tense Moments in Cyclone Weather

From Our Own Correspondent

MANGAIA, April 30.

THE island of Mangaia, though short on luxuries and communication, is exceptionally lucky where hurricanes and similar wind-worries are concerned.

The cyclone of March 10, which wrecked neighbouring Rarotonga, only ruffled the feathers of Mangaia. True, certain unimportant edifices emulated the walls of Jericho; but the main buildings stood bravely to the aeolic storm-troops, and no Mangaian lacked where to lay his head.

However, nature never lets man throw a chest for very long. On April 17, we Crusoes "got ours," so to speak—well, almost, anyhow!

That was a windy day; and some fishing canoes were out on the briny, plying their lawful occasions.

Suddenly there was heard the very deuce of a roaring and pouring, and round the southern sea-corner of the isle rushed something like a giant's peg-top, composed of united cloud, wind, and sea. The fishers ceased hastily to fish, and headed for the reef with speed.

The Devil's Plaything hesitated; manoeuvred a bit; and, then, decided to follow! Its hesitation, however, gave the anglers time to make the reef (at the Olympic Games their style would have gained Mangaia world fame) without casualty, save that one Ugatumariki cracked the side of a borrowed "waka" in his haste to debark. Everyone rushed up the beach.

The vacillating Horror remained in view, pouring down tons of seawater in a twining column, and then it made a sudden decision, and headed for the reef also. Within ten yards, the Thing suddenly reversed engines, and peg-topped, spinning faster and faster, out to sea. Soon it was out of sight. Mangaia began to breathe again.

But there were no fish for tea that night; and those who, on the Monday went down to the sea in one-man canoes were more watchful of the horizon than of their hooks. For scalded cats fear cold water, and Mangaia had realised that in hurricane-time almost anything is rather more than likely to happen.

My friend Panako wants to take his shot-gun to sea, just to be safe. It has long been a popular belief that a waterspout can be smashed and collapsed by firing into it a small cannon, or a charge of shot. But has anyone a few spare cartridges?

Mr. C. H. G. White, formerly of the BSIP Government Medical Service, and lately seconded to the New Hebrides Government Service, was married to Miss Winnifred Christie, recently in Sydney. Miss Christie comes from the well-known Blacktown (NSW) family of that name.

The marriage of Miss Joyce Constance Kearsley, third daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Kearsley, of Suva, Fiji, to Captain E. C. D. Scherer, United States Army, was celebrated at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Auckland, on May 3.

Pilot-Officer Henry Maurice Scott, son of Sir Henry Milne Scott, of Suva, has had many interesting experiences in a Hurricane fighter in North Africa, and has come through unscathed. He is now in another theatre of war.

Vichy France and Pacific Colonies

Letter to the Editor

MR. E. C. SNOW'S interesting description of how Tahiti reacted to the capitulation of France (your June issue) calls for certain basic corrections, as follows:—

(1) General de Gaulle (then Under-Secretary for War) was not at Leopoldville (Belgian Congo) but in London at the time of the Armistice. It was there, on June 18, that he founded the Free French Movement by his historical broadcast to all Frenchmen to fight on.

(2) The tragedy of June, 1940, did not have a disintegrating effect upon the French Empire. Quite the contrary. It was the natives' very loyalty to the *de facto* French authorities which helped Vichy's partial neutralisation of the Territories under its influence; and which also made it possible for rallied and liberated Territories to fall in readily with the Allies.

(3) Volunteers from French Pacific Possessions were incorporated, not with the AIF, but with the Free French Forces, in the formation of a "Bataillon du Pacifique," commanded by Colonel Broche. I am, etc.,

Sydney, 28/6/1943. ROGER LONDON.

Editorial Note:—Mr. Snow did not say that French Pacific volunteers generally joined the AIF—he said that *one* man did.

WEDDING IN COOK IS.

From Our Own Correspondent

RAROTONGA, June 1.

THE wedding took place recently at Mauke, Cook Is., of Judge A. McCarthy to Miss Helen Framhein, of Rarotonga. Judge McCarthy, who was well-known in Western Samoa as Crown Solicitor at the time of the Mau trouble, is now Judge of the Cook Islands Native Land Court.

Mrs. McCarthy is a daughter of the late Mr. Charles Framhein, an old-time plantation owner and trader of Mauke.

The ceremony, which was performed by Rev. R. L. Challis, of the London Missionary Society, took place at the little LMS Church at Mauke, where the bride's parents were married and she was christened. A wedding-lunch was given at the home of the principal chief of Mauke, who is related to the bride.

Judge and Mrs. McCarthy were welcomed on their return to Rarotonga by a reception at the home of Mr. W. P. Browne, of Nikao.



The wedding party leaving the church in Mauke. Left to right: Mr. E. Framhein, brother of bride; the bride; the bridegroom; Tararo Ariki; Mr. D. Brown (Resident Agent).

SOLOMONS AID ALLIES

Significant Story or What Happened in May-August, 1942

THE Japanese came into the Central Solomons and occupied Tulagi and the neighbourhood in strength at the end of April, 1942; and they remained there until thrown out by the Americans the following August.

During these anxious months, the officers of the Administration (under the Resident Commissioner, Lieut.-Colonel W. S. Marchant) and the members of the Melanesian Mission (under Bishop Baudely) and of the Catholic Mission, refused to leave. They left their headquarters and remained with the natives, dodging from settlement to settlement, and island to island, to avoid the enemy.

The full story—one of the most dramatic in the history of the Pacific war—cannot now be told; but some of it was published in the following article, which appeared in "Fiji Times" of May 13.

AMONG the first arrivals on Guadalcanal after Japanese forces had occupied the island was a Jap political officer whose duty it was to pacify the local inhabitants and obtain their assistance in the establishment of a new administration.

This officer confidently began his task by sending a circular letter to native leaders, inviting their co-operation. The letter declared that the British and American Navies were at the bottom of the sea, that British rule in the Solomon Islands was at an end, that in future only Japanese law would be recognised and that all Europeans still in the islands would shortly be rounded up for internment. The letter drew no response.

Perhaps the officer would have been less surprised at the failure of this opening manoeuvre had he realised that those to whom the letter was addressed had good reason to know that the boasts which it contained were, to say the least, grossly exaggerated. They knew that British administration of the islands had been embarrassed, but not interrupted, by the arrival of the Japanese.

It is obvious that without the wholehearted support of the islanders Colonel W. S. Marchant and his young men could not have survived the amazing game of hide-and-seek which they had to play during the three months of undisputed Japanese occupation—if one can apply that term to a conquest so piece-meal and incomplete. Of the many Europeans who remained in the islands—including the Anglican and Catholic Bishops and their staffs—not one was betrayed into enemy hands, despite the Japanese threat to impose dire penalties for the concealment of information about their whereabouts.

The Japanese made repeated efforts to justify their boast that they would round up all the white men in the Group, but wherever their patrols went, news of their intention flew before them and the hunted always had ample time in which to elude pursuit.

The Japanese visited every mission station in the occupied portion of the Protectorate, but the missionaries, co-ordinating their tactics with those of the administration, withdrew into the bush "in good order and according to plan" at each Japanese approach, returning to resume their activities after the enemy had gone empty-handed away.

One District Officer in the northern part of the Group was frequently attacked by Japanese aircraft while on



Lieut.-Col. W. S. Marchant.

tour (a better phrase would be "on reconnaissance") in the small vessel attached to his station.

Typical was the exploit of one islander who accepted a job as a labourer when the Japanese were building their airfield on Guadalcanal. After working (and keeping his eyes well open) for several days, he escaped and brought back detailed accounts of Japanese dispositions in this area.

THE native people as a whole remained staunchly loyal and gave help to the invader only under duress. In order to find labour for construction works the Japanese had to threaten to exterminate whole villages.

Colonel Marchant's "scorched earth" instructions were carried out to the letter and of scores of small vessels which might have been of good use to the enemy not one was allowed to fall into his hands.

At first the Japanese tried to ingratiate themselves with the natives on Guadalcanal and were at pains to do nothing worse than pillage their gardens. But once the Allied counter-offensive began the cornered foe vented his savage spite on those by whom he claimed he had been "betrayed" and there were many brutal murders. But the resourceful islanders, armed with axes and knives and weapons stolen or wrested from the enemy, put up a good fight in defence of their lives and homes.

ONCE the Americans were established on Guadalcanal they found that native scouts were ideally suited for patrol work, since they knew every jungle track and could move through dense undergrowth almost noiselessly. The gallantry of these scouts (who were later, with greatly increased numbers, organised into a service battalion) has been recognised by the award of an American decoration to one of their British officers.

But the leadership was not solely in European hands. One of the heroes of the Solomon Islands campaign is a Native Medical Practitioner who received the personal congratulations of Admiral Halsey on his intrepidity in the field.

Americans returning from the Solomon Islands tell how their own airmen, when compelled to bale out or make forced landings, were always well cared for by the natives, who in some instances rescued pilots from their wrecked machines. Very different was the fate of Japanese airmen, who were promptly seized and taken to the nearest Allied post. Sur-

vivors washed ashore from bomb-blasted Japanese troop ships were dealt with in the same workmanlike manner.

Of many stories of individual heroism, the one outstanding is that of Sergeant-Major Vouza, of the Solomon Islands Armed Constabulary, who was bayoneted and left for dead by the Japanese after refusing to give them information.

There have been many other instances of conspicuous bravery on the part of Solomon Islanders. Guadalcanal's eight native policemen are proud of the fact that they have between them accounted for more than their own number of Japanese. A village headman from Florida Island rounded up five Japanese single-handed and marched them in to Allied headquarters at Tulagi.

Carrier parties provided at the request of the Allied forces, have grown into a Labour Corps, which, despite casualties from bombing, have done valuable work at various Allied bases.

THE whole episode is a striking disproof of the Axis propaganda claim that the coloured subjects of the Empire have no interest in fighting for its preservation. During the anxious, testing months when the islanders were awaiting the Allied counter-attack which they had been promised would come, the faith they placed in that promise was as great as the eagerness with which they looked forward to its redemption.

A little while before the Marines landed on Guadalcanal, a message reached Colonel Marchant. It was terse and to the point, telling him only that "it won't be long now." That phrase became a slogan among Marchant's young officers and the loyal band of natives who were their immediate comrades in the great effort to preserve the continuity of British administration in what the outside world believed to be enemy-occupied territory.

The Solomon Islanders have also done the cause of freedom a lasting service by exposing the hollowness of the Japanese pretence that the war in the Pacific is a racial struggle, in which the brown and yellow peoples are uniting to rid themselves of their white oppressors. The islanders resisted from the start, and soon came to regard, with contempt and loathing, their self-proclaimed "brethren" from the north; and when the white-skinned Americans landed, they rushed to welcome them as liberators and allies.

Mrs. Perriman Farewelled

THE executive of the New Guinea Women's Club said a reluctant farewell to Mrs. B. B. Perriman, a vice-president of the club, at an afternoon-tea in her honour at the Feminist Club Rooms, Sydney, on July 8. Mrs. Perriman hopes to accompany her husband when he returns to Fiji shortly. Mr. Perriman—well known to all New Guinea residents—has been in Fiji for W. R. Carpenter & Co., for some time, and is at present on leave in Sydney.

The guest of honour was presented with a spray of orchids and showered with good wishes for the future. The regret of her friends at her departure is, however, tinged with some envy: no one who claims to be a Territorian could watch, unmoved, in this wintry weather, the journeying of another to warmer latitudes.

Those present included Lady McNicoll (patron), Mrs. H. H. Page (president), Mrs. C. H. Maclean (vice-president) and Medames Adams, Foxcroft, Hamilton, McDonald, and McMullen.

MR. W. W. BOLTON

Now 85 Years Old

From Our Tahiti Correspondent

MR. WILLIAM WASHINGTON BOLTON—a Master of Arts (Cantab), historian, scholar, world traveller—like many wise men before him, has found tranquillity on a Sabine farm. Here, as with Horace—

"Hic Tibi Copia
Manabit ad Plenum Benigno
Ruris Honorum Opulenta Cornu."*

But, instead of the fruits and flowers of Italy one will find papaya, bananas, pineapples, avocado pears, exotic flowers, enclosed in a trimmed hedge of the English countryside, and an entrance through



Mr. Bolton, in his garden in Tahiti.

a lych-gate. This garden is named "The Bower."

Somewhere on his travels—it may have been in Java or, perhaps, among the snow peaks of North-west Canada, or in some remote glen of his beloved England—Mr. Bolton drank at the Fountain of Eternal Youth. At "The Bower" is a "Fons Bandusiae" from which flow the waters of contentment.

Mr. Bolton will celebrate his eighty-fifth birthday on July 3, 1943. All of us, who respect and honour him, wish him many happy returns of the day.

* "Here abundance with horn of plenty shall flow for thee to the full, rich in all the glories of the country."—Horace, Book I, Ode 17.

The School of Tropical Medicine, University of Sydney, is conducting a short course on Tropical Sanitation, etc., for individuals who have had no previous training in the field of medicine, and who may wish to live in the tropics at some future date. The course is open to anyone and free of charge. Lectures take place on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 2 to 3 p.m., in the School of Tropical Medicine. The course might be of value to Islands residents at present in Sydney.

PIDGIN TERMS

Letter to the Editor

I WAS interested and intrigued to read that Pidgin is now becoming so respectable that an analytical grammar and text-book is being published in America.

Can you inform me how the much-used phrase, "e pukkarup finish" is defined? Also, what the phrase book gives as a suitable answer to a native who uses the phrase when stating the condition of, say, a crankshaft which he has ruined owing to lack of oil?

No doubt many others of your Island readers could suggest similar pregnant queries?

I am, etc.,

ARTHUR WYBORN.

Ashfield, Sydney, 25/6/43.

Editorial Note:—The answer to the second question would presumably demand the use of words which would be of use in answering the first.

US NAVY HAS MIDGET SUBMARINE

From Our Noumea Correspondent

WHEN the Japs lost their final foothold on northern Guadalcanal, last February, they sank two midget submarines at Visale Bay, in such haste that the commander left his sword behind in the conning tower of one.

The US Navy found them and sent along a naval tug whose divers affixed air hoses and pumped one dry enough to be raised from 24 feet of water. Thereafter, the baby submarine was towed to Noumea.

It impresses one as being impossibly cramped, dirty and disagreeable. Its range is estimated at only 180 miles and she could not live in the North Sea or the Atlantic. It is powered by an electric motor, driven by 224 wet batteries, and construction is of the crudest.

Mr. "Tommy" O'Dea, who was general manager of Guinea Airways, Ltd., New Guinea, until the Jap invasion, is now preparing to return to aerial transportation in Northern Australia, after a long spell of hospital and convalescence. He was flying his own plane during the Owen Stanley-Kokoda battle, last spring,

The Story of "Bill" Watson

PRESENT indications are that, when World War II is over, the British community which can claim highest honours for gallant and distinguished service rendered, in proportion to population, will be the Mandated Territory of New Guinea. Almost every day, now, one hears new stories of the courage and fighting spirit of these Territorians.

Here, for example, is the story of "Bill" Watson. Twenty years ago, Mr. Watson was one of a little band, seeking gold in New Guinea. He had been in World War I, and when that unpleasantness was over, he held the DMC, the MC, and Bar to MC. Which, to war-wise men, tells its own story. "Bill" Watson found pleasure and profit in New Guinea; and, later, he made a home for his family in USA.

Then came 1939, and more international unpleasantness. "Bill" Watson headed for the South Seas, and his well-loved New Guinea.

But, to Brasshat-dom, he was only "an old soldier." This was "a young man's war." Mr. Watson, blaspheming, joined an Australian militia unit, and was graciously permitted to wile the night-dews off a gun somewhere along the coast.

December 8—Pearl Harbour—Japs in Rabaul—Japs over Morobe—Japs threatening Australia. Suddenly, Brasshat-dom was searching eagerly for every "old soldier" who knew the peculiar conditions of campaigning in the New Guinea jungles.

"Bill" Watson arrived in Papua—and was very welcome.

A few months later, a certain unit, led by a European major, rendered certain distinguished service. The major was awarded the DSO. His name was Watson. Since then, he has achieved other things.

Very recently, Lieutenant-Colonel "Bill" Watson, DSO, MC and Bar, DCM, was given special leave, so that he might go to the United States and visit his family,

and carrying wounded out from the top of the range, when the plane struck a soft patch on a temporary landing-strip at Mvola, and crashed. Mr. O'Dea was severely injured, especially his right hand and his head, and he spent some months undergoing special treatment in Melbourne.

PERMANENT RECORD FOR NGVR

"NONE of the splendid deeds of members of the New Guinea Volunteer Rifles was done under the eyes of the newspaper correspondents, so the NGVR has been allowed to pass into oblivion without fitting tribute being paid publicly to the unit—both as a unit, and as an organisation of young New Guinea men who prepared themselves for war and engaged in war in a most creditable manner"—so writes a former resident of New Guinea to the "PIM."

We are informed that the Pacific Territories Association has before it a suggestion that a small fund be created, for the purpose of providing some sort of memorial in New Guinea, after the war, which will place permanently on record the Territory's debt of obligation to the NGVR.



Members of NGVR, being inspected by Sir Walter McNicoll (Administrator), in Rabaul, some time before the Jap invasion.

BRAVE CIVILIAN FLIERS

Long Overdue Awards

A LONG overdue announcement of awards to various Australian civil flying men, for bravery during the Japs' first attacks on New Guinea, Papua and Darwin was published on June 12. The following names are known to many Territorians:—

AWARDS

M.B.E.

(Member of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.)

MR. VERNON WILLIAM BURGESS, of Armadale (Vic.).—Mr. Burgess, as district superintendent at Salamaua for the Department of Civil Aviation, was in charge of the first evacuation from Salamaua, and subsequently of the evacuation of women and children by air from Port Moresby.

COMMENDATIONS

For Brave Conduct at Civil Aerodromes

Messrs. HENRY GEORGE BLAKE, of Berry Street, Clyde (NSW), ROBERT LEWIS BOREHAM, of Berry Street, Clyde, DOUGLAS CHARLES MUIR, of Brisbane, and PHILIP LAWRENCE TAYLOR, of Caulfield (Vic.).

These four ground engineers employed by the Stephens Aviation Co. in New Guinea displayed great courage and devotion to duty in servicing aircraft being used for the evacuation of civilians from New Guinea.

For Valuable Services in Civil Aviation

MR. CLIVE ROBERT BERNARD (posthumous).

Mr. Bernard was employed by W. R. Carpenter & Co. as an airline pilot. When Wau aerodrome was under heavy fire from enemy aircraft, Mr. Bernard, although ordered to take cover, ran across to his aircraft and took off without engine cowlings. He was chased by Zero fighters, but succeeded in escaping, and undoubtedly saved the machine from destruction. A few days later he was killed in a flying accident.

MR. ERIC JOHN STEPHENS, of Toorak (Vic.).—Mr. Stephens, who was managing director of the Stephens Aviation Co., flew a number of trips from Wau to Port Moresby in an old aircraft, thereby saving a large number of civilians from capture by the enemy.

MR. NORMAN ROBERT WILDE, of Bald Hill (Qld.).—He piloted an old aircraft during the evacuation from New Guinea, saving a number of women and children.

MR. LEWIS ROBERT AMBROSE, of 10 Coorabin Road, Northbridge, Sydney, a pilot in Qantas Empire Airways.—He did excellent work in maintaining essential and vital services in flights between Java and Broome during February, and later continued to operate aircraft through the war zones, conveying men and munitions to New Guinea and returning with sick and wounded.

MR. ORMOND DARE DENNY, of 25 Woodland Road, Lindfield, a pilot in Qantas Empire Airways.—He played a prominent part in the evacuation of civilians from New Guinea. He flew a series of trips carrying in vital personnel and equipment before the enemy attack, and later completed most hazardous and valuable operations.

OMISSIONS FROM THE LIST

EVERY one of these awards will be heartily applauded—every one was earned.

But those familiar with circumstances of the New Guinea evacuation early in

1942 are pointing to some extraordinary omissions from the list—indicating either that brave deeds known to hundreds of people have been ignored, or that Brass-hats somewhere have shown the usual Brasshat stupidity in collecting and completing their information.

Among names which should be in that list, and are not, there are the following: Arthur Collins, Captain Fred Bryce, C. A. Haydon, and King (an old Guinea Airways man). All these men performed meritorious service of some kind. Bryce brought out nine passengers under very bad conditions—his deed was praised in "Sydney Morning Herald" of March 12, 1942. Arthur Collins was a tower of strength and bravery—scores of evacuees sang his praises. The good work of Haydon and King (ground staff) was largely responsible for the saving of a Lockheed at a critical time. Haydon, sent from Lae, was in the first bombing of Rabaul, and helped to get his plane away, with difficulty.

There were others—but those instances are sufficient to show that, although Brasshat-dom took over 12 months to compile the list, Brasshat-dom did not make the list complete.

Dr. F. E. Williams Killed in Plane Accident

THE well-known Government Anthropologist of Papua, Dr. F. E. Williams, was killed recently in an aeroplane crash, while he was carrying out wartime duties in the north-eastern area of Papua. Dr. Williams had been the official anthropologist in the Territory for about 15 years, and he was held in high regard by



Dr. Williams: a snapshot on one of his patrols in the interior of Papua.

all who knew him. He did work of great value in acting as liaison between the administrative machinery, which was seeking the general advancement of the country, and the natives of the Territory, whose stage of development, according to our standards, is primitive. He was the first anthropologist to get in among the peoples of the hitherto unknown regions in Central and Western Papua, so that his records and writings are in many respects unique.

Mr. Henry Dexter, well-known at one time as a trader at Milne Bay, Eastern Papua, is now a successful grower of tomatoes for the English market at Hayling Island, in Hampshire, England. He wrote cheerily to the "PIM" in April, displaying, in spite of his 77 years, a lively interest in events in Eastern Papua.

A SOLDIER SPEAKS

THE verses below were written by a Serviceman in New Guinea.

(To the "bellyachers" at home)

*So you're sick of the way the country's run,
And you're sick of the way the rationing's done,
And you're sick of standing around in line,
You're sick, you say—well, that's just fine.*

*So am I sick of the sun and the heat,
And I'm sick of the feel of my aching feet;
And I'm sick of the siren's wailing shriek,
And I'm sick of the groans of the wounded and weak.*

*I'm sick of the slaughter—I'm sick to my soul—
I'm sick of playing a killer's role;
And I'm sick of the blood and of death and the smell,
And I'm even sick of myself as well.*

*But I'm sicker still of a tyrant's rule,
And conquered lands where the wild beasts drool;
And I'm cured damn quick when I think of the day,
When all this hell will be out of the way.*

*When none of this mess will have been in vain,
And the lights of the world will blaze again;
And the Axis flags will be dipped and furled,
And God looks down on a peaceful world.*

—C. L. BROWN.

DEATH OF LEADING TAHITI CHIEF

ANOTHER of the landmarks of old Tahiti has passed away in the person of Teriitauirohotu Mataitai, Chief of Afaresitu, Mo'orea, who died on March 30, 1943.

Born 1869, of high chiefly rank in the Teva-i-Tai Clan, he was associated in close friendship with the family of the reigning queen, Pomare IV. He entered Government service under the sponsorship of Pomare V., whose recommendation established him, as chief of the senior district on Mo'orea. Teriitauirohotu was the chief of longest service in the Colony under the Republic of France, as he was the first to receive the distinction of the Legion d'Honneur. He was one of the noble race of aristocrats of pure Polynesian blood who, lamentably, are vanishing from the Islands.

Solomon Islands Development Co.

SOLOMONS Islands Development Co. (which is controlled by Burns, Philp & Co., Ltd.) incurred a loss of £11 for the year ending March 31, 1943. Loss for the year 1941-42 was £3,281. The debit balance of the company has been increased to £8,578.

Sergeant-Pilot Colin Crabbe, son of Mr. G. B. Crabbe, of Suva, Fiji, was killed by enemy action in England on May 23. He was born in Suva 23 years ago and left the Colony early in 1939, and joined the military forces, transferring later to the Air Force. He was a very popular lad in Suva, where he took a prominent part in sporting activities.

FIJIAN SOLDIERS FOR OVERSEAS

Regarded as Ideal Type of Jungle Fighters

AFTER training strenuously for two or three years in anticipation of seeing overseas service, the First Battalion of the Fiji Military Defence Forces recently marched through the town of Suva to embark for an advanced Pacific base.

The battalion comprises Fijians, Europeans and Europeans, and its members are particularly selected for their perfect physical condition. This is the first time, except for a few commandos on Guadalcanal, that Fijians have left the Colony for active combatant service in this war.

Headed by the native military band, accompanied by Brigadier J. G. C. Wales, MC, Commandant of the Fiji Military Forces, showered with confetti and streamers, and cheered unceasingly, the men were greeted with such scenes of enthusiasm as have not been witnessed since the First Fiji Contingent (European) left for World War I.

Officer by local Europeans, New Zealanders and Fijians, the battalion is commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel J. B. K. Taylor, a resident of Fiji for some years. He is an old Wellington (NZ) Rugby representative and it was he who managed the Fiji Rugby Union football

darning needles, have been studying commando tactics for more than a year and their abilities are phenomenal."

These Fijians wear the regulation New Zealand uniform and use the same equipment—except in actual jungle scouting expeditions, when they throw off their boots and go barefoot. The majority of their non-commissioned officers and a few commissioned officers, are Fijian; senior officers are New Zealanders, hand-picked by Brigadier Wales for unusual jungle-fighting qualities.

Officers and men are anxious for action against the Japanese; a very few were used in Guadalcanal, in country perfectly suited to their type of warfare, and officers who worked with them were anxious to have reinforcements, but the battle for the island ended before they could be supplied.

Brigadier Wales believes that the men have what it takes to stand up under fire: "They show absolutely no fear of cannonading and gunfire. They are specialists whose use is limited to jungle warfare, where they are unequalled. All we ask is an opportunity to meet the Jap in the jungle. I think we can show him what real jungle fighting is like and



The Fijian Rugby Union footballers who toured New Zealand in 1939. Many of these men are now serving with the First Battalion of the Fiji Military Defence Forces, at an advanced Pacific base. Mr. J. B. K. Taylor, who managed the team, is shown seated third from left in the second row. He now commands the battalion, with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. Isireli Korovulavalu, now a commissioned officer of the battalion, is seated at the extreme left of the second row.

team that toured New Zealand victoriously in August and September of 1939. Several members of that team are in the battalion—including the full-back, Isireli Korovulavalu, who serves with commissioned rank.

Robert C. Miller, writing recently in the Honolulu "Advertiser," tells how Brigadier J. G. C. Wales, who went to Fiji to command the New Zealanders, developed the idea of training native troops in commando tactics and how his two main problems now are: keeping his Jap-hating volunteers from going stale and convincing United Nations military leaders that they have at their disposal hundreds of fighting men who, through heredity and training, are better qualified to drive the Nipponese from their South Pacific jungle defences than any troops in the field.

"The commandos," says Miller, "with their bronzed skins, deep-muscled bodies and bushy black hair, which protrudes from their heads like millions of ebony

teach him a few lessons—with Fijian troops who through heredity and training are experts at this type of warfare, in which we admittedly are only novices."

FAREWELL MESSAGE

A farewell message to the First Battalion, Fiji Military Forces, now serving at an advanced base, was released in Suva in May. The message was from the Hon. A. T. Newbould (Officer Administering the Government) and was addressed to Lieutenant-Colonel Taylor, Officers, Non-commissioned Officers and Men of the Battalion.

Mr. Newbould said that the battalion had before them the glorious example set by their brothers-in-arms from New Zealand and all parts of the Empire and from all the United Nations which have joined us in this fight against tyranny, oppression and wrong. They had also the splendid behaviour and example of the party of Fijian Commandos who fought on Guadalcanal and who had proved

themselves in battle. When the day came, they, too, would fight with the same courage and skill, winning for the Fijian race glory and renown.

New Guinea People Suffer Nostalgia

MOST of those who attended the New Guinea Women's Club Picture-Night in the Radio Theatre, Sydney, on June 29, suffered an acute attack of New Guinea nostalgia.

The first half of the programme consisted of a selection of some of the best "shorts" of the past year, most of them concerning the South-west Pacific area, and showing glimpses of places that have impressed themselves indelibly upon the consciousness of all those who have been bitten deep by the Islands' virus.

I never imagined that the day would come when I should hear a whispering sigh of mingled heart-ache and joy ripple through a representative crowd of Territorians at the pictured images of some ordinary-looking Melanesians thrown on a screen. But I have heard it now. If this war has done nothing else, it has taught each and every one of us to count our former blessings.

The sinking of the "Macdhui," even to those who had seen the film previously, was like resurrecting and re-burying an old friend. It is hard to imagine a New Guinea without a "Macdhui." Probably, at some time during the post-war period, the Pacific will revert to something approximating the Pacific we knew prior to Pearl Harbour: these Islands Territories have a way of rounding off all sharp angles of new experience and progress, and reducing them all to a common Pacific denominator. But one wonders seriously if an out-port will still be an out-port when there is no "Macdhui" to make a brief six-weekly call—and when this maker and breaker of romances, floating dining-room, pub, bridge to civilisation and bringer of all good things, is replaced by one of the giant flying-boats with which we are threatened "after the war."

What will tropical bachelors do when ships' musicians and round-tripping school teachers are no more? Or has the Atlantic Charter taken that one into consideration, also?

Dramatic sketches and musical items made up the second half of the programme, and proceeds amounted to close on £30. The entertainment committee of the club are to be congratulated on the success of their function.

ANNUAL MEETING

Members, and all women interested in the Territories of the South-west Pacific, are reminded that the annual general meeting of the New Guinea Women's Club will be held in the Feminist Club Rooms, 77 King Street, Sydney, at 2 p.m. on Saturday, July 17. Membership is not restricted to ex-residents of New Guinea—all interested are invited to join.—J.T.

Mr. E. ("Ted") Taylor, formerly Assistant Director of Native Services in New Guinea and now a high official of the Australian New Guinea Administrative Unit (ANGAU), with headquarters at Port Moresby, paid a visit to Sydney recently. He spoke of the unit's enthusiasm and efficiency—achieved after months of organisation and hard work—and of the useful service it now is giving to the New Guinea Force. Many hundreds of young men, former residents of Papua and New Guinea, are now in ANGAU.

THE STORY OF A MARAE

How Destruction Symbolised "End of Idolatry in Tahiti"

BY A. C. ROWLAND

IN a spinney of tangled undergrowth in the district of Tautira, on Tahiti, lies a scattered heap of rough and partially worked stone. This is all that remains of one of the most ancient and formidable temples of the sanguinary cult of the war-god 'Oro, in Central Polynesia—Marae Vaiotaha.

The first European notice of this marae appears in an entry, under the date, "28th of November, 1774," in the Journal of Don Thomas Gayangos, Senior Lieutenant of the Frigate "Aguila."

The Ari'i Vehiatua had consented to donate a parcel of land as a site for the house "the Commandante designed to set up on shore as a dwelling for the two missionary padres and the marine (Maximo Rodriguez) who was to be with them as interpreter."

Unfortunately, for the future peace of mind of the two timid padres, they selected a site within sight and hearing of "an oratory that stands hard by."

Doctor Bolton Granvill Corney has appended the following note: "Investiga-

tions I made on the spot (in 1908), with the kind co-operation of the chiefs descended from the collaterals of Vehiatua and Amo, show this 'oratory' was the marae called 'Vaiotaha,' which had been founded about twenty generations before the date of Boenechea's and Gayangos' visit, with a sacred stone then brought over from Pora Pora—Vavau as it was anciently called—by a renowned chief and navigator named Raa-Mauriri."

The present state of Marae Vaiotaha at Pora Pora—whence the sacred corner-stone was, undoubtedly, brought to Tautira—is described by Mr. Kenneth P. Emory in Bishop Museum Bulletin 116, as follows: "The marae has been destroyed; nothing remains but two upright stones . . . facing on a roughly paved court which has two slight terraces . . . Whether the ahu (pyramid) was low or high, we have no way of telling from our record. As the ruins of the court occupy a width of only about 45 feet, it would appear that the ahu was not any longer than 42 feet and the marae therefore a very small one."

The marae at Tautira was, likewise, a comparatively small structure; yet, like that most tapu of all temples in Central Polynesia, Marae Vaeara'i at Opoa (where none but the highest royalty and the high priest alone were permitted to set foot), certain smaller marae, of great antiquity, overshadowed in sanctity and pre-eminence, the more modern megalithic structures noted by the early voyagers.

Miss Teuira Henry explains the origin of "Vai'otaha" and the reason for the precedence of marae so named, in the following paragraphs: "Taputapuetea (at Ra'iatea) was not always so called. At a very remote period, before 'Oro was born at Opoa . . . it was briefly called 'Feoro.' When 'Oro, god of war, was born of Ta'aroa and Hina, at Opoa, his father gave him Opoa, with the marae, Feoro, as his home. The name was changed to Vai-otaha which, in addition to their local names, became the clerical name of all marae dedicated to 'Oro, because the man-of-war bird ('Otaha) was 'Oro's shadow, and the water (vai) meant human blood. At the ancient royal marae of Fa'anui in Pora Pora, kings, called Ari'i Maro-tea, received the Maro-tea (yellow girdle of parakeet feathers) instead of the Maro-ura (red-feather girdle) of the kings of Opoa. Another name for this marae, 'Vai-otaha,' indicates that the royal scions of the house of Pora Pora, from Opoa, took their chief corner-stone from the parent marae while it was so named."

As it was anciently the first sanctuary established on the island of Tahiti for the worship of 'Oro, so Marae Vai-otaha at Tautira, after the passing of many centuries, became the last stronghold of that terrible deity when, in the year 1815, the final battle, to determine the destiny of the old and new faiths, was fought on the beaches of Rina'auia.

On the day of his victory, Pomare II "despatched a select band to demolish the idol temple . . . The party sent by the king to the national temple at Tautira, proceeded directly to their place of destination . . . They entered the depositary of Tahiti's former god . . . They brought out the idol, stripped him of his sacred coverings and threw his To'o (body) contemptuously on the ground. Thus was idolatry abolished in Tahiti. The idols hurled from the thrones they had for ages occupied." (Ellis.)

Mr. Bert Shearman, manager of Bonar & Shearman and for many years European Member of the Island Council, left Rarotonga in May for a holiday in New Zealand.

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RAROTONGA SMASHED BY CYCLONIC STORM

Grave Damage to Cook Islands Fruit Crops

From Our Own Correspondent

ARAROTONGA, March 27 (Delayed). **H**EAVERY storm, causing appalling damage, swept the Lower Cook Group on March 10. Its unprecedented suddenness and ferocity caught the population unawares, particularly as the wind swept in from the south-east. In former hurricanes, within living memory, high winds have sprung from an easterly direction, but veered round to the north before reaching their full momentum.

Although the actual wind force was not disastrous—the windward side of Rarotonga actually getting off best—the high mountains in the centre of the island apparently produced a cyclone effect in the main settlement of Avarua. Approximately 40 per cent. of the native-made houses in Avarua were demolished and very few frame and iron-roofed houses escaped considerable damage.

Among the main buildings struck were the Ariki Palace, the local cinema, the London Missionary Society compound and Messrs. A. B. Donald's store and out-buildings.

Huge century-old ironwood trees near the LMS church were simply torn out by the roots.

Heavy rain accompanied the storm and continued for four days without ceasing, rendering the hardships of the homeless particularly severe.

More disastrous than the damage to housing was the loss of 75 per cent. of the orange and banana crops. In Rarotonga, where banana planting has been recently carried out more extensively than for several years, many of the plantations have been ruined and the psychological effect on the growers (mostly native) disheartening in the extreme. At an Island Council meeting on March 30, Government relief for planters was requested, but the outcome is not yet known.

In the other islands of the Lower

Group, where orange shipments constitute practically the only income of the natives, losses will be even more hardly felt. An ample supply of provisions, and shoots and cuttings for food planting was, however, forwarded by the Administration by schooner to fill immediate needs.

In 1941 and 1942, severe storms in the Lower Group, and actual hurricanes in the northern islands, have occurred; but in 1943 is the heaviest setback of all, coming at a particularly inopportune time, when New Zealand needs all the fresh fruit available.

"SOME BUILDINGS SEEMED TO EXPLODE"

From a Special Correspondent

THIS was an extraordinary storm which struck the Lower Cook Group in general (and Avarua in particular) on March 10.

Fierce squalls screamed down from the mountain valleys above Avarua, hurling down trees, flattening crops and hitting buildings like shell-bursts. Hundreds of corrugated sheets were ripped off the

roofs, and were whirled about, wrapping around trees and sailing out over the reef. Many large trees were felled, some striking houses, others blocking the main road, while branches of all sizes crashed everywhere. Volleys of coconuts thudded like cannon-balls. Clouds of leaves streamed out to sea.

Some buildings appeared to explode. The massive roof of the LMS church burst asunder, half falling on either side of the church, smashing down trees and gravestones. Most of the LMS mission buildings were badly damaged, as were those of the Catholic mission.

The property of Messrs. A. B. Donald, Ltd., was severely battered, the main establishment and the manager's residence being unroofed, while store-sheds and workshops in the yard were wrecked.

It was fortunate that the heaviest part of the blow developed after daybreak, or there must surely have been some loss of life. One old man died from severe head wounds received when his house collapsed; a number of others were treated for minor injuries from flying debris.

Prompt and efficient service was rendered by the staff of the Public Works Department and members of the native Defence Force in clearing the roads and patching and reinforcing buildings even while the blow was still in progress.

A sad loss was the destruction of the famous "Royal Hall," talkie theatre and dance hall, which was blasted into a heap of tangled wreckage. What if the roof was off the church, or one's little grass shack was wrapped round a coco-

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nut tree? No singing-cowboys on Saturday night! Aue!

INCREASED FRUIT PRICES

RAROTONGA, April 30.

WELCOME indeed was the announcement in early April of new fruit prices for the hard-hit islands of the Lower Cook Group.

The New Zealand Internal Marketing Division, which controls the Cook Islands fruit trade, has granted increases to the grower of 6d. a case for bananas and 1/- a case for oranges, bringing the average prices to the grower for 1½-bushel cases to 5/- and 5/6 respectively. Prices for lemons, mandarines, tangerines and grapefruit have been advanced in proportion.

Gratifying as the increased prices are it is unfortunate that so little fruit will be available this season owing to the hurricane. Mangala is the only island where any appreciable quantity of oranges

remains. With regard to bananas, at least six months must elapse before shipments can be made, and probably longer, unless steps are taken immediately to help the growers clean up the ravaged plantations.

STRIKE IN FIJI

STREET sweepers in Suva—all elderly men—struck for higher pay in May. The strike was still unsettled in June, and Suva people and others were being urged to sweep their own piece of street, so that the town might be kept reasonably tidy. The pay of the sweepers had been increased from 2/6 to 3/6 since war began—but they are now demanding an extra 6d. per day.

Cliff Warren, formerly of the staff of Morris Hedstrom, Ltd., Suva, Fiji, has been reported a prisoner of war in Italy.

To "PIM" Readers

EVERY month, we receive from subscribers complaints that copies of the "Pacific Islands Monthly," which they have ordered, have not reached them. Subscribers, therefore, are advised as follows:—

1. Many months ago, when such complaints became frequent, we instituted a double check over postages. Thus, we are able to say positively that a copy of the journal is posted each month to all current subscribers. It is noted that the majority of such complaints come from Queensland.

2. Many of our readers, especially Territorians, change their addresses. There are indications that GPO, owing to shortage of staff, is unwilling to re-address much second-class mail matter. This may account for non-receipt of some journals. Subscribers should promptly notify us of their new addresses.

3. Owing to paper-rationing, we may not print many copies of the "PIM" in excess of those ordered. Those extra copies are quickly sold. We regret, therefore, that we seldom can supply single copies of past issues of the "PIM." There are none whatever of all issues subsequent to February, 1942.

We are sorry for the inconveniences being felt by subscribers. These, however, are due to wartime conditions, over which we have no control.

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TRAVELS OF THE GIANT TOAD

Letter to the Editor

IN the interesting review of Mr. Winston Turner's account of conditions on Guadalcanal, appearing on page 6 of your April issue, is an inaccuracy about the giant toad.

So far from being introduced to the Solomons from Java, it came from Fiji, having been sent there by this Department. The toad is of South American origin, and could not, therefore, come from the East Indies, where it does not occur.

As your issue for last November refers correctly to this amphibian having been sent from Fiji to the Ellice Islands and Guadalcanal I think you will agree that for the sake of accuracy an editorial comment was due about Mr. Turner's erroneous record of the source of the toad.

I am, etc.,

H. W. JACK,

Director of Agriculture, Fiji.

Suva, 24/5/43.

EDITORIAL NOTE.—Apologies to Fiji and the enterprising Department of Agriculture. The editor, who has met the toad in Fiji and elsewhere, and knows the reptile's interesting history, should have corrected Mr. Turner's error—but, in the shorthanded bustle of wartime conditions, he missed it.

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HOW AMERICANS CAME TO NEW CALEDONIA

Commander Repudiates Any Suggestion of Territorial Ambition

By H. E. Priday, Noumea

AT noon on March 12, 1942, the first convoy bringing American troops and materials to New Caledonia anchored in Noumea Harbour. Landing operations proceeded by day and night, unceasingly, transforming the island into a hive of activity.

Governor Henri Montchamp chose the anniversary of this great occasion to refer to Japanese aims and Japanese discomfiture in the South Pacific; while the American commander here, Major-General Rush B. Lincoln, by radio, thanked the population for a year of helpful co-operation. He said that America, unlike Japan, has no designs on the sovereignty of France in New Caledonia.

"No one doubted the nature of Japanese designs relating to New Caledonia," said Governor Montchamp. "Months of anxiety, following the entry of Japan into the war, ended for our population only on March 12, 1942, when, at noon, thousands of citizens crowded down towards the docks to witness the arrival of our allies.

"The joy with which they were received in Noumea, the rousing welcome that met them everywhere, provided an unforgettable spectacle, showing the measure of our relief.

AFTER paying tribute to the hospitality and co-operative spirit of the New Caledonians, General Lincoln said: "I wish to take this opportunity to lay at rest any vague feelings of doubt that any of you may have that America has designs upon the sovereignty of France in New Caledonia.

"Despite statements of thoughtless or ill-advised persons, the American people did not enter this war for conquest or for the acquisition of colonies. We fought in the First World War without thought of territorial reward and we fight now with the same high ideals. Our purpose has been clearly expressed by our President. I say this not because I feel that this uneasiness has any wide acceptance, but lest by lack of denial it may grow."

THE first American convoy, a special task force under General Patch, arrived in New Caledonia in the critical period following the disastrous actions in the Java Sea, when the invasion of Australia and even of New Zealand seemed imminent or possible. At the time of the arrival, which went unannounced by Washington until the end of April, 1942, the island was inadequately occupied by 2,000 trained French and native troops, unequipped for modern warfare, and a local untrained militia partly armed with old-fashioned deer rifles, aided by 400 veteran Australians, scattered in small groups along the bush-clad coast. Many of these Australians, who were commanded by Colonel Matheson, had seen the Crete and Egyptian campaigns. The hard-pressed Commonwealth Government wanted them returned to the Commonwealth, but finally reluctantly agreed to General Patch's request for them to remain in the island some months longer to help train his force in jungle tactics.

The Americans' quick dispersal to strategic points round the island was a creditable achievement under unfavourable conditions, for Patch's force encountered the rainy and mosquito season in full swing.

Eventually it became plain that these preparations were for the Solomons campaign. It was, in fact, General Patch's force which took over from the Marines when General Vandergift's "leather-necks" were withdrawn from Guadalcanal. The training Patch's men received in New Caledonia was put to good account when faced with the problem of cleaning up the Japs on Guadalcanal.

IN all the past year's co-operation, nothing has done so much to win the gratitude of the local population as the US Army medical department's

highly-skilled, free and ungrudging services in both the surgical and medical lines to the French and native inhabitants. Owing to the war, the French health service had been inadequately staffed, while for most people needing operations or hospital treatment the voyage to New Zealand or Australia is so costly as to be impossible.

Not only are Caledonians continuing their co-operation with the armed forces stationed here for the common cause in the spirit of General Lincoln's appeal, but within their limits they are contributing or preparing reinforcements for the Colonial French forces gallantly fighting overseas for the liberation of the Patrie. Now that allied troops and allied planes and allied warships ensure their island's safety from the Japanese, they more and more turn their thoughts to Africa, where their sons and fathers and husbands are fighting, and to France, where their relations are living in starvation and misery.



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HOW TO MAKE RICH FIJI RICHER

Emphasis on Roads and on a Sound Native Policy

From an article written in 1941 (before the Pacific war) by THEO D. RIAZ, Nadarivatu, Colo North, Fiji.

IN March, 1941, the Hon. Member for the North-western Division (Fiji Legislative Council) issued a pamphlet in which he urged that certain public works and services be undertaken. I am using that as a basis for some observations which I hope may be of assistance in planning Fiji's post-war Government.

NEED FOR GOOD ROADS

THE tar-sealing of the circuminsular road, whilst making for speed and comfort when motoring round the island of Viti Levu, would not contribute much, if anything, to the development of Fiji as a whole and very little towards that of the island which it encircles. What is needed in order to develop to the utmost the Colony's resources are:—

- (1) More and better internal roads and
- (2) A vigorous and comprehensive land settlement policy.

There are routes on this island of Viti Levu which, if formed into good roads, would give access to large areas of agricultural and grazing land in the Rewa River Valley, the highlands of Viti Levu, and down the Sigatoka Valley to Vunavunavu. These roads would run from Nausori up to Vunidawa, thence over the island to Tavua via Nadarivatu. Another would run from Naval to Navunavunavu, via Natutuloko, with branches to Ba and Nadi.

There doubtless are others which could be formed with profit to the Colony. I have confined myself to Viti Levu because I do not know sufficient about the requirements of Vanua Levu to voice an opinion, though I suppose the problems to be solved on that island are the same as those which obtain on Viti Levu. There is no lack of men on Vanua Levu capable of stating a case for its development.

NATIVE HEALTH

THE establishment of a sanatorium for consumptive Fijians is advocated. One could write volumes on the ravages of consumption amongst the Fijians, and how mortality among children is decimating the race.

The establishment of a sanatorium is a sound policy. But prevention is much better than cure, and this largely is a matter of diet and hygiene. The improvement of these will go a long way towards freeing the Fijians from the ravages of disease. The problem of improving diet and hygiene are closely linked up with that of more and better internal roads.

FALLACY OF COLLECTIVISM

THE Hon. Member gives attention to the Native Department and its administration. He believes that the Fijians of to-day are at the "junction of two roads"—one of which he thinks leads to individualism and the other back to their old system of communal life. In order—presumably—to make it easier for the Fijian to decide which road he should take, the Hon. Member offers him a third—and this one leads to collectivism.

I do not wish to pose as an authority on the Fijian, but I can say with truth that the Fijian of to-day is a much bewildered man and I firmly believe that he will become more bewildered, and quite possibly rebellious, if any attempt

is made to coerce him into accepting a system such as that outlined by the Hon. Member.

When he advocates that the Fijian be forced to live in villages of from 200 to 500 houses, the Hon. Member seems to ignore the fact that the Fijian is passionately attached to his traditional planting-grounds and that where his villages are situated there also are enshrined his Manes and his Lares. He forgets that people of differing "yavusa" never live in amity together.

There are cases in Fiji where, for convenience of administration and other reasons, two and in some cases three different tribes have been brought together to form one Buli-ship. In each case, the tribes so brought together have separated, and each tribe has set up and maintained villages distinct from those of the other tribes forming the Buli-ship.

In the province of Colo North there are Buli-ships formed of different tribes—one is that of Bobuco and the other is Nasau, to quote two. Nasau is a village in the Buli-ship of Bobuco, yet people belonging to that village dislike being called Kai-Bobuco. Likewise a man from Nabumakita, which is in Nasau Buli-ship, will deny with considerable heat that he is a Kai-Nasau.

The people of these Buli-ships intermarry, but the woman always becomes a member of her husband's tribe, and almost invariably goes to live in his village.

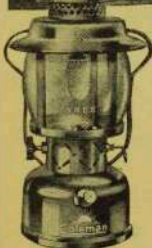
If by any chance a man should wish to take up his residence in a village other than his own, he has to be formally admitted. Then, if he has not been allotted a piece of land by that village, he will go to his tribal lands to carry out his planting, and even if he has been allotted land by his new village he will still do the bulk of his planting on his Mataqali land, be it ever so far removed from his new place of abode.

Nasoko people and those of the District of Nalluva, which is in the province of Ra, intermarry freely and are very friendly; yet neither would agree to their villages being amalgamated in order to form one large town, nor would they agree to being joined with those of other tribes for the purpose of forming one large town of from 200 to 500 houses. Any attempt to force them into such an amalgamation would most certainly lead to trouble.

I will quote another instance, by taking the Nadrau people, who also live in the province of Colo North. They are of one tribe, and have one supreme chief, known as the "Tui Nadrau." There are four villages in this district, all inhabited by members of the same yavusa, yet they would resent any attempt to transfer them from their individual villages and

(Continued on Page 19)

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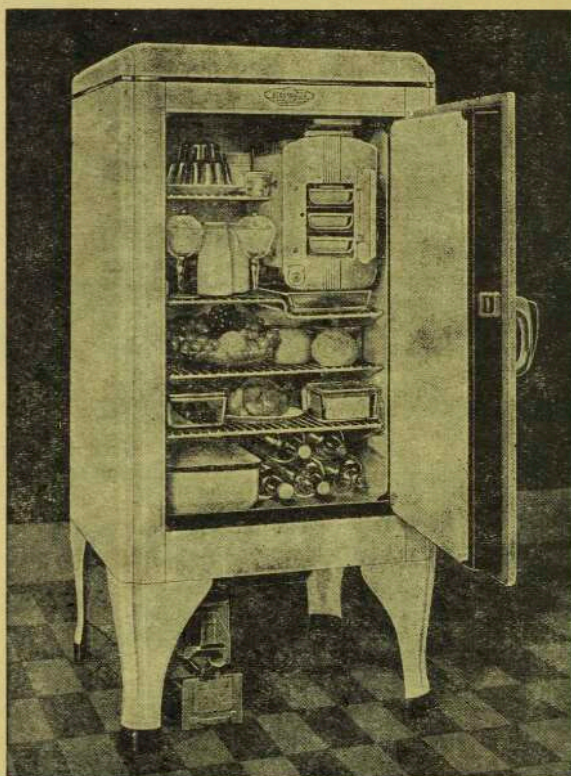
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(Continued from Page 17)

set them up in one large town; furthermore, any attempt to amalgamate them with members of other tribes for the purpose of forming one super-town of 300 or 500 houses would, I firmly believe, meet with active resistance.

What I have said of the province of Colo North would apply with equal if not greater force to the province of Ra, and I believe this to be applicable, also, to the whole of Fiji.

MANY attempts have been made at different times by Governments throughout the world to transplant agricultural peoples from their ancestral lands and villages and establish them in places where they could build better villages and where there was better land for cultivation; yet, all of these benevolent moves have failed. It is worth remembering that some of those abortive attempts have been made by Governments and individuals in various parts of the British Empire. Nothing is surer than that any attempt to transplant the Fijian people will also meet with failure, and this in spite of the fact that they are one of the most good-natured and docile people on earth.

But all this does not get away from the fact that it is the Government's bounden duty to do everything possible to help the Fijian to live a more contented, happier and fuller life than he is living.

As I said before, the Fijian is at present (1941) living in a state of bewilderment, which I think is mainly attributable to his having been brought into too violent contact with industrial life and its concomitant individualism, the ideals governing both of which are completely beyond his comprehension. They are at absolute variance from those which governed his traditional mode of life, and from those taught him by his various Missions and by the old type of Government administrative officer. The Fijians are suffering great ethical loss through the breakdown of their ancient standards of life.

DISRUPTION OF VILLAGE LIFE

THE Hon. Member made reference to the departure some years ago from the custom, then in vogue, of paying taxes in kind, and permitting the natives to tender money in lieu of produce. This was a grave mistake. But for some years after the new system was instituted the native was protected to the extent that he could not leave his village without having first received the permission of the headman of his village, that of the Buli of his district and, finally, that of the DC or Roko of his province.

In 1922, or 1923, during Sir Cecil Hunter-Rodwell's term as Governor, it was enacted that at certain times of the year a Fijian could leave his village without let or hindrance, for the purpose of earning sufficient money to pay his taxes, and for Christmas. The Fijian has lost rather than benefited by the change, and it is very doubtful whether the Colony has reaped any benefit either—though the change was made in order to make him more readily available as a labourer. The Fijian most certainly is not the happy, carefree individual he was before being freed from the obligations of paying his taxes in kind.

I will not venture an opinion as to whether the Fijians can be induced to return to his traditional mode of life, but I do agree with the Hon. Member when he says that an attempt should be made to persuade him to do so. He does not appear to be in any way suited to take up an individualistic way of life.

But I am positive that any attempt to induce him to live in large villages com-

posed of numerous heterogeneous tribes—if one can use such a term when referring to Fijian tribes—and adopt a system of collective cultivation far removed from his traditional planting grounds and the haunts of his ancestral gods, is foredoomed to absolute and dismal failure, and, what is far worse, will bring about the complete collapse of his social life and breakdown of his moral fibre.

I do not prescribe a panacea for all the ills from which the Fijian is suffering, but I feel that a return to the old system of native administration—with modifications to suit modern trends—will go a long way towards ensuring his social and moral salvation.

OVERSIGHT OF VILLAGES

THE Hon. Member says—and I think rightly—that DMO's should visit all

the villages in their respective districts at least once in every three months. It is not very long since it was the obligatory duty of all DC's and DMO's to visit each village in their districts every three months. Why was this duty allowed to lapse?

There is a fine body of Native Medical Practitioners now available and the Government should make the fullest possible use of these men's services for both the cure and prevention of sickness. They should travel continuously from village to village, giving lectures on the benefits to be derived from hygiene in living, and varied diet. But the use of these men's services should not be allowed in any way to relieve the DMO's from the duty of visiting every village in their districts every three months, or even oftener.

(Continued on Next Page)

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F.I.

CARE OF THE ROADS

IT will, in order to make such regular visits possible, be necessary to put all the provincial roads in good order once again. There was a time—not so very long gone—when one could ride over all the roads in Colo North and the province of Ra by night or day, confident that one would not meet with an accident. But now it is quite in the nature of an adventure to undertake to ride over them in daylight and, from what I can gather by inquiries, this condition of affairs obtains over the greater part of Fiji.

I would not revert to the old custom of compelling the natives to form and keep in repair all provincial roads without being paid for the work. On the contrary, I believe that they should be paid for all such work, but I also believe that all Buis should—as they were in the past—be made responsible for forming and keeping in regular good order all roads in their districts, with the exception of roads like those from Rewa to Tavua, and down the Sigatoka River Valley. Such roads as those would come under the control of the Director of Public Works.

I may appear to have laid great stress on the importance of roading the interior, but I submit that it would not be possible to over-stress the value of roads in

promoting the health and prosperity of the people of this Colony.

RICE-GROWING

THE Hon. Member says that he deprecates the spending of money on the Rewa fisheries and on rice-growing experiments—though he does not say what those experiments are. He contends that the agricultural department should not spend money on experimenting on the growing of rice. He gives several reasons for his opposition, the chief among them being the "well-known fact that the Indians are expert rice-growers."

As a matter of fact, Indians are anything but expert at rice-growing. Their methods are haphazard in the extreme. They plant two or maybe three plots of ground with rice, and then, in the majority of cases, leave the rest to nature. If the good God sends rain they, later on, may reap a harvest; but, speaking generally, the Indians' philosophy in this country, when summed up, seems to be, "No rain, no grain." In California and in Australia, some of the world's best rice is produced on land which is rarely moistened by rain, and the yields per acre, in those countries, are as much as 100 per cent. higher than the best the Indian gets off an acre in Fiji. The crop in those countries is produced by scientific cultivation and irrigation, and is harvested with machinery.

If the Director of Agriculture has in view a scheme whereby a supply of locally-grown rice adequate to the Colony's requirements can be produced, then all hands should shout: "Let him go to it." There are many areas of land on the Rewa, Sigatoka, and Dreketi Rivers and other places admirably suited for growing rice by irrigation.

MORE GOLD-MINES CAN BE FOUND

THE Hon. Member says that gold-mining has grown considerably in this Colony, but beyond suggesting that

the present Director of Lands be made Minister for Mines, and giving a lot of figures which proved beyond doubt that the Tavua group had prospered, he did not make one constructive suggestion—he said nothing on the matter of encouraging prospectors to go in search of the precious metal.

The Tavua group of mines are in the very nature of things a diminishing quantity. Therefore, every encouragement and assistance should be given to prospectors in search for more gold—that is, if there is any desire that another group of mines like those at Tavua should be discovered. If such another group is lying hidden in Fiji, the men to unearth it are the prospectors—not a swarm of geologists, such as the Whitehall group were. The prospector in searching for gold, suffers unbelievable hardship and in many cases actual privation; he follows the elusive speck until it becomes a prospect in the pan, and suffers bitter disappointment maybe a score of times. Yet, undaunted, on he goes until he lands on a deposit which makes a Tavua mining industry possible. The prospector is the man who should receive every encouragement from the Government to go out and search for more and still more gold.

PLEA FOR THE EURONESIAN

MANY people, from time to time, have expressed concern, both real and assumed, over the disabilities and restrictions under which the native Fijian lives, and I grant that they are manifold. But it must not be forgotten that the Fijians occupy an extremely strong position, because they have their own villages in which they can live, and they own their own land, on which they can grow all the food they require, so they will never starve.

But there is a people, also native of Fiji, and for whose existence the Euro-

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pean is solely responsible, living in a state of hopeless uncertainty, beside whose case that of the Fijian fades into insignificance. The people to whom I refer are those of mixed European and Fijian descent.

These people have not had eloquent politicians pleading their cause in the Legislative Council—though most of the latter owe their seats in the Legislative Council to the votes of these people. Yet, God knows, theirs is a cause which needs pleading!

This unfortunate people (and I use the word "unfortunate" in its best sense) has in the main been taught to believe that their sole destiny is to fill the positions of poorly-paid industrial workers and shop-assistants; and, as a result of this belief, they are the people who suffer most hardship during periods of depression.

They, for the most part, are taught—or teach themselves—the barest rudiments of carpentering and engineering; and, as a consequence, the majority of them cannot command high pay for their work, nor obtain permanent employment.

It is my belief that this people should be induced to settle on the land so that they may become useful and self-reliant citizens. I further believe it to be the duty of the Government to give them every encouragement to settle on the land, and to afford them every possible assistance to become good farmers. To this end I would advocate that they be settled in co-operative groups, with efficient instructors or supervisors, and at the same time encouraging them to manage the affairs of their settlements themselves.

Agricultural colleges, or schools, should be established, in conjunction with demonstration farms, on which they could receive instruction in the theoretical and practical sides of farming. There should also be established technical schools, where those who wished to do so could learn trades and professions.

The young men of this people have taken their place in the defence forces of the Colony, and overseas, and have rendered a good account of themselves. I feel sure that, if the Government affords them a chance to settle on the land that they will seize the opportunity to do so and become industrious, self-reliant, self-respecting and independent citizens.

In common justice, this people should be granted the right which is theirs by birth—to live happy and useful lives. Give them a stake in this, their native land, and they will respond, and the Colony will reap a rich reward from their intelligence and loyalty.

£40,000 LOST

Methodist Mission Damage in Solomons

DAMAGE done to Methodist Mission property in the Solomons now amounts to about £40,000, said the Rev. J. P. Goldie, of the Methodist Missionary Society of New Zealand, who recently addressed members of the Auckland Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Goldie founded the mission in the Solomons, and has had 40 years' experience in that area. His own station at Munda, New Georgia, is said to be occupied by about 25,000 Japanese troops, and is being constantly blasted by American bombers. Property in the British Solomons is not covered by war damage insurance, and Mr. Goldie is of the opinion that the Methodist Church of New Zealand probably will have to find £25,000 to re-establish the mission.

One of the members of the Chamber suggested that the re-establishment of the mission should be made a national matter and not left to purely private interests.

Black Market De Luxe

FIJI apparently has a black market that puts anything so far discovered in Australia in the amateur class.

The "Fiji Times" reports that motor car fan belts, which normally sell at 4/6 or 5/6, are being sold by one dealer for

as much as £4. It is said that the procedure is for the prospective purchaser to go to a certain private house—only one person being admitted at a time. There he pays over the £4, receives the fan belt and a receipt for 7/6. If he is not prepared to accept that, then there is no business.

Eggs are reported to have sold at 8/- a dozen on the "black market" in Cumming Street, Suva, in May—all sales being to restaurants, where one dollar (equal to about 5/- in Fiji currency) is charged for a meal comprising two eggs, bacon, bread and butter, and coffee.

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FIJI INDIANS STERNLY REPROVED

Compulsory National Service Follows Their Refusal to Help in Colony's Defence

THE liberty allowed Indian politicians in Fiji in peacetime developed into license in wartime; and finally the position has arisen that, while the European and native Fijian communities were eagerly and courageously shouldering all their obligations as citizens of a country in the front line of the Pacific war, the Indians were deliberately shirking their share of defence. Fortunately, in Major-General Sir Philip Mitchell, Fiji has a strong Governor. He has refused to listen to the babbling of the Indian agitators, and he has told the Indians, sternly and precisely, what they are to do.

ON May 4, the Government of Fiji released the following statement:—

"In order to provide the labour necessary for essential war work, Government now requires at least 1,000 Indians, in addition to the many thousands of Fijian volunteers who are already serving as soldiers or civilian labourers. During the past five months, voluntary recruitment of Indians has been in progress, but so far only 52 Indians have enrolled. Indians will again be invited to join the Fiji Labour Corps, but Government has decided that, unless the required 1,000 men are recruited by June 1, it will enforce compulsory national service for Indians under the Defence Regulations."

About the same time, a press campaign was begun with the object of inducing young Indians to join a labour battalion voluntarily; and at the opening of the Legislative Council, on May 14, the Governor, Sir Philip Mitchell, made a further statement on the matter and a further appeal. He gave a resume of the

work carried out by the Fijian Military Forces and the Fijian Labour Corps; and went on:—

"Theirs is an example which I sincerely trust young Indians in the Colony will immediately follow, at least to the number of 1,000. I am well aware that there are influences at work to persuade these young men to stand aloof from the fight which is being waged, among other things, in order that they may have a future as free men and may enjoy, in security, their lands and their occupations. I hope that they will be sensible and resist such dangerous and stupid attempts to deter them from their duty and I warmly welcome the efforts being made by Lieut. the Hon. K. B. Singh and the great moral courage and patriotism that he has shown in taking the lead himself in joining the Army and calling upon his compatriots to follow him."

ON May 6, the "Fiji Times" expressed, in an editorial, surprise that the Government has shown such patience over the question of non-voluntary enlistment of Indians. With the Fijians, the voluntary system has worked well and these people have put up a splendid record of service—providing battalions of fighting troops, and labour corps, manning ships, merchant and naval, and enlisting in the police and fire services.

The stage has been reached when very little more can be expected of the native Fijian community (said the newspaper)

and it is only fair to expect that the work that these men have left will now be done by others—compulsorily, if not voluntarily.

ON May 17, Indian members of the Legislative Council defined their attitude to the enlistment of their compatriots, at the invitation of the Governor.

Mr. P. D. Lakshman said that the leaders of the Indian people had met a year ago and decided that recruitment of Indians was acceptable provided it were voluntary, and that men recruited were given pay and privileges equal to those received by Europeans. A number of factors had prevented Indians coming forward: Firstly, the question of pay; secondly, the Government had failed to take the long view with regard to many matters—one of them education—and it could not expect full and whole-hearted co-operation from people who had not the education to see things as they should be seen; thirdly—the Indians were mostly small farmers whose security was frail, and who could not leave their farms without their families suffering hardships. All the Indians wanted were certain facilities and reforms—then they would come forward.

Mr. Vishnu Deo said that the Government was asked to grant permission for the forming of an Indian platoon in the Fiji Defence Force in 1930; this was granted in 1934, but the numbers were kept down to 40—applications over that number being refused. The platoon had remained in existence for eight years—or until regulations came out, which provided for different rates of pay for Indians and Europeans. The platoon

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was then disbanded. He asked that recruitment continue to be on a voluntary basis and under the same rates of pay and conditions as European troops.

Mr. Sald Hasan expressed doubts about success but said he wished the Second Indian Member (Mr. K. B. Singh) luck in the voluntary recruiting campaign he had been permitted to commence. He thought Indians should be allowed a living wage, and he would oppose every measure which showed the slightest discrimination between Indians and Europeans.

Mr. K. B. Singh said that on September 4, 1939, the Indian Member for the Southern Division (Mr. Vishnu Deo) had pledged the loyalty of the Indian community of Fiji to the Government of the Colony, knowing full

Lieutenant K. B. Singh, the only prominent Indian in Fiji with sufficient wisdom to urge his countrymen to take their part voluntarily in the defence of the Colony.



well that there were differences in the rates of pay of Indians serving not only in the military forces but in the Civil Service. He, himself, would like to see all differences removed: but why should they expect someone else to defend their homeland and their children? If they claimed equal status, they should take an equal part in defence. He could not guarantee to recruit 1,000 men in a fortnight; but he had volunteered himself to set an example, and he hoped others would follow him. Members had spoken of the inconvenience caused by men joining up—but what about the inconvenience caused to people in France, Belgium, Java and Malaya—and even India.

In reply, the Governor said that every opportunity and inducement had been offered to Indians to take their place in the forces. He hoped that the debate would do a great deal of good in the country, but he must emphasise again that it wasn't the least good digging up the resolutions of conferences of long ago. If the Allies who were defending the Indians of Fiji were defeated he had no doubt that hon. members would take the matter up with the Japanese commanding general. He was asking the Indian community to come forward and serve with the other Fiji communities. The Indian members had done all the talking the situation required; they must now do some enlisting.

IN an Order published on June 1, by the Director of Labour and National Service, notice was given that the required number of Indians not having come forward, he had been directed by the Governor to take steps to arrange for the registration of the prescribed class of Indians, who will be called up for essential civilian work within the Colony.

These men will be distinct from recruits for the Labour Battalion; they will not be required to wear military uniforms, or be under military discipline. Service will be for a period of six months, but they may volunteer for longer periods; camp accommodation will be provided and they will be controlled by and in the care of the Department of Labour and National Service.



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Early Records of the Pacific

Appeal by Dr. George Mackaness

Letter to the Editor

THERE are three matters of some interest to me and to students of Pacific history, concerning which I crave your aid.

(1) The probable complete loss of the important collection of Pacific Islands literature made by Mr. Bjarne Kroepelien (whose homeland is now completely subjugated by the enemy, and whose treasures have either been destroyed or carried off by the invaders) urges me to take some action to endeavour to ameliorate the possible loss to historical research workers.

I should, therefore, like you to invite any of your readers who are interested in Early Pacific Literature to get into touch with me, care of the University of Sydney, and to give me any details of the existence of books, pamphlets, translations, vocabularies, grammars or manuscripts which they possess.

Particularly, I should like information concerning the early printings made at the various Mission presses, especially those of the Leeward and Windward Islands (French Oceania) the New Heb-

rides, Tahiti, Tonga, Samoa and the Philippines, from 1800 onwards.

Early French literature relating to the Pacific may, too, have suffered a loss through the removal of M. Jore's library from his New Caledonian home. He for many years was working on a "Bibliography of the French Pacific."

(2) As I wish to complete my research work on Robert Louis Stevenson's associations with Australia and the South Seas, I should also like to make contact with any of your readers who possess Stevensoniana, and, in particular, copies of the "Open Letter to Dr. Hyde Concerning Father Damien," published in Sydney about March, 1890, as well as of the two booklets, "An Object of Pity," and "Objects of Pity," both bearing the inscription, "Imprinted at Amsterdam" about the year 1892.

(3) Can any of your readers inform me of the present whereabouts of the portrait of Captain Cook, made by Webster at Otaheite, on Cook's last voyage? It carried on the back the names of visiting ships, including the "Bounty," the "Providence" and the "Assistant," with dates of arrival and departure. It was left in the care of Tinah (Pomare) and his family, but seems to have disappeared.

I am, etc.,

G. MACKANESS.

University of Sydney,
Sydney, 16/6/43.

MEMORIES OF OLD PAPUA

Letter to the Editor

I WAS much interested in Mr. Osborne's article in your December issue of the "PIM," "How Sudest Gold Was Found."

I was a pearl diver in the Louisiades 32 years ago, and I know the country well. I also prospected for the Quaker-Oats-shaped nuggets on Iron Stone Creek, on the Lakekamu, which Frank Pryke discovered. Following that, I crossed the Owen Stanley Range in 1914, from Buna to Port Moresby, to join my regiment, the Scots Guards, in London, but was too late in arriving in Brisbane to join the other reservists, so I joined up with the AIF.

Captain Thomas Craig, of Scotts Point, Redcliffe, was chief mate on the schooner "Governor Cairns," when the Hon. John Douglas picked up the first 16 miners in Cooktown, in 1886, to prospect for gold in the Louisiade Archipelago. The leader of the party was D. White, and his deputy was Masher Clark.

The first landing was made at Janet Island, where they discovered only hungry quartz. The next day, the Hon. John Douglas advised the party to try the neighbouring island, Sudest, where they discovered colours of gold in a small creek.

Next day, the party went further afield where they struck payable gold in a large creek which they named "Runcei," after the name of the captain of the schooner, "Tricknanny," owned by Burns, Philp.

Captain Craig was for many years sailing on the Papuan coast and North Australia, and chief mate on the following vessels in Papua: "Hygeia," when she replaced the "Governor Cairns," in 1887, and continued until 1891, when he took over as second mate on the "Merrie England."

Captain Craig is well over eighty, is hale and hearty, and remembers the first compound erected on Samarai by John Douglas, for the first native murderers in Papua.

After the murder of another Captain Craig (father of Tommy, of Sudest), off Janet Island, the Hon. John Douglas offered a reward for the heads of the murderers. Nicholas the Greek, being an adventurous sort of individual, sailed with his schooner, the "Prince Albert Edward" (commonly known as the "PCE") for Janet Island.

During the time that Nicholas was in the bush hunting the murderers, the Resident Magistrate of Samarai, F. O. Forbes, arrived at Janet Island on board the schooner "Hygeia." Nicholas, returning from the hunt, came alongside the "Hygeia" with his dinghy, and threw a bag containing human skulls on board, demanding the reward.

The newspapers in Australia made a great noise over the affair. The Hon. John Douglas was called South for an inquiry, and during his absence H. Hastings Romilly was Acting-Governor.

Nicholas, on another occasion, was diving for pearl and trochus shell off Stewart Island, north of Cooktown, when his crew of Australian aboriginals (Torres Strait natives) left him for dead in the water after attempting to do away with him. He managed to hang on to the rudder till dark set in, when he crawled along to the anchor chain and climbed on board, to give his would-be murderers the shock of their lives. The boat was left to him, to run it by himself.

On another occasion, Nicholas was Court interpreter on Thursday Island whilst serving a sentence in gaol.

I am, etc.,

Redcliffe, Q.
June 10, 1943.

MAC.

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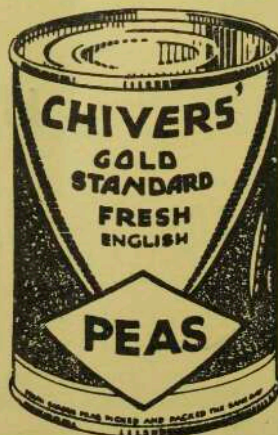
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ARTHUR BRANDER IS 80 YEARS YOUNG

From Our Own Correspondent

PAPEETE, April 10.
OUR good friend, Mr. Arthur Brander, celebrated his eightieth birthday in March. That figure 80 is only a number, for Mr. Brander looks to be 60, has the straight, soldierly body of a man of 40, and the spirit of youth and good-fellowship of whatever age you will.

Mr. Brander is known by that name only to his acquaintances and on passports and other formal documents. To his friends he is Te-ra-tane (The Sun Man). Most of us who have lived long on Tahiti have native names. Some of them are of high-chieftain origin—and we are most proud of them.

Te-ra-tane's name is, in very fact, of royal origin and was bestowed by Queen Pomare IV herself on the grandson of her bosom friend, Ari'i-oe-hau, high-chieftain of Papeete—who is the Ari'i-ta'ima'i of the historic "Memoirs."

Although Mr. Brander was born on Tahiti, he has been—in every sense of the term—a man of the world. Educated in Scotland, his subsequent vocations have led him to every part of the earth—to South America, where he learned Spanish; to North America, where he established his home; to the Orient and across Siberia to Russia, where he witnessed the beginning of the Bolshevik revolution; and to his beloved England and Scotland times without number. But, like all of Tahiti, time could not dim nor distance diminish, his love for his native land, and

"O Tahiti Nui Pa'umara'a o Te Ra
O Tahiti Nui Mare'are'a"
("Great Tahiti, the mounting place
of the sun")

Great Tahiti of the golden haze")
has reclaimed him.

A number of his friends gathered, on his birthday, to do him honour. The dinner was at a country inn on the shore of Puna'auia, in the district where Mr. Brander has his residence.

Those present included James N. Hall, Richard Delambert (American Consul), Carl Beecher, Marcel Frogier, Lewis Hirschon, —, Patrick (NZ representative), Walter G. Smith, Sidney Coster, J. Frank Stimson, Preston Moore, Scudder Mersman (American Vice-Consul).

Ross Buckley, RNZAF, formerly on the staff of Morris Hedstrom, Ltd., Suva, Fiji, has been reported missing in air operations. His sister, Mrs. E. R. Chivers, resides in Suva.

EMPIRE PEOPLE MEET AT SUVA WEDDING

MISS Margaret Sampson, late of Brisbane, and Mr. Kenneth Wilkie, of the Shell Oil Company, were married at the Pro-Cathedral, Suva, on April 30, by the Bishop of Polynesia. The bride was given away by Mr. R. H. ("Dick") Bentley, of Suva; Miss Esmée Taylor was bridesmaid; and Mr. Wesley Woodward was best man.

The bridegroom ("Ken," as he is known to his many friends in Suva), at one time spent two years in New Guinea, but is an Australian. The bride is a Canadian lass; Esmée Taylor claims New Zealand as her homeland; while "Dick" Bentley was born in the Colony. It was a representative little Empire group.

After the ceremony, guests were entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Len. Bentley, among those present being the Bishop and Mrs. Kempthorne, Mr. and Mrs. John Trotter, Mr. and Mrs. Lawlor (all of Fiji), Miss Jean Leonard (Scotland), and Lieutenant Davies (England).

Laugh, and the worlds laughs with you;
Weep, and you weep alone;
For the sad old earth must borrow its
mirth,
But has trouble enough of its own.

The US submarine "Sturgeon" radiod to its flagship after sinking its first Jap ship: "Sturgeon no longer virgin."

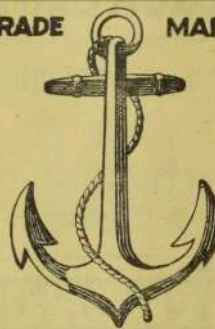
A number of members of the Fiji Naval Volunteer Force are now serving outside the Colony and already have been in action against the enemy. They are in charge of Lieutenant T. H. Andrews.

Under a recent agreement between underwriters in the United Kingdom and Australia, insurance over goods, while on land awaiting transshipment, may be extended indefinitely. This came into force from April 15, 1943. Prior to that, goods landed at Pacific ports to await transshipment could not be covered against war risk under marine insurance policies for more than 15 days.

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HALT IN FIJIAN RECRUITING

THE Director of Labour and National Services for Fiji stated in Suva on May 31, that, on representations made by his Board, the War Council had decided that no further recruiting of Fijians, either for the Military Forces or the Labour Corps, will be permitted until August 31, when the position will be reviewed.

Fijians are standing by in some districts, in the expectation that they will be required almost at once; but the Director has requested District Commissioners to tell them that this is not the case, and that they should settle down to essential work in their villages or accept civil employment.

Mr. H. E. Snell, of Suva, Fiji, has returned to the Colony after a short visit overseas.

FUTURE OF NEW CALEDONIA

Where Reforms Are Needed

From Our Own Correspondent

NOUMEA, June 10. WHAT is to be the future of New Caledonia? To-day, this important Territory of Fighting France is enjoying much prosperity—the result of the presence of so many Allied soldiers—and this may be an opportune time to lay new economic foundations for the Colony. Your correspondent discussed some interesting aspects of this prospect with M. Henri Montchamp, who is going away into the combatant ranks of the

Fighting French, after a year's service as Governor of New Caledonia.

It was suggested to the Governor that France's exclusive policy should be changed, so that Pacific shipping lines leaving Australian, New Zealand and American ports after the war would call regularly at Noumea. Before the war, no foreign lines called at the port because of heavy port dues and the maritime and customs policy pursued; yet these lines passed almost within sight of the New Caledonian coast. The only line calling was Messageries Maritimes, providing a monthly service heavily subsidised by the French Government.

M. Montchamp agreed that the port had been retarded by the policy pursued and that local requirements should be taken into account. Customs regulations and port dues might well be modified and made more supple in the interests of mutual trade, particularly with New Zealand and Australia. Regular intercourse was desirable; there was very real friendship between the New Caledonian people and those two neighbouring countries, and an increased interest on their part in Caledonian development and welfare would be welcomed. Noumea might become an important shipping port as well as an important air base.

NO MORE JAPANESE!

BEFORE the war the Japanese had a monopoly of several New Caledonian industries. They controlled the trocas (pearlshell) industry, sending the shell to Japan for button-making; they exported beche-de-mer (sea-slug) to China; they were fishers and lumber workers; and they were getting a real hold on rice and coffee growing. Japan was the only country exploiting the Colony's vast iron ore deposits, and the Japanese were beginning to exploit chrome and nickel mines on a large scale.

Above all in commerce—as merchants and storekeepers—the Japanese were particularly active, and wherever they went it was mainly Japanese goods they were selling. On the whole, it seemed that the average Japanese in New Caledonia was more prosperous than the average French colonist. Was there danger of their return when the war was over?

"If they were relatively richer, then perhaps it was because they worked harder than our colonists, who spend a lot of their time deer hunting and who rely overmuch on Javanese and native labour," said the Governor. "Commercially, the Japanese were out to monopolise wherever they could, and we certainly do not want them back."

"This is just where brother nations like Australia and New Zealand might profitably link themselves with New Caledonian industry for our mutual welfare. We need local industries here; we should be able to make our own soap, and shoes; we could do our own tanning; we used to make excellent rum; and perhaps we could do with a button factory. Or, if we could not make our own buttons, we should prefer to send our trocas to Australia, if you could establish a button-making industry there."

"Mining is a bigger question, still. We have here one of the world's largest reserves of iron ore. We want to exchange this ore for gold, which we need for smelting nickel. We prefer that this exchange should be with the people with whom we have a real understanding, and for the good of the South Pacific area in general. It would be a very good thing if Australia and New Zealand took considerably more interest in this country in the way of developing and sharing local industries and exchanging products."

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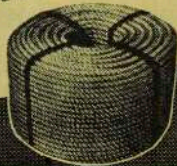
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EVILS OF LAND MONOPOLY

THE Governor said that one thing that might fruitfully be considered in future was a reallocation of land, for the good of the Colony. Up to now, New Caledonians had been living in a state of plutocratic feudalism—the feudal barons being one or two mining corporations, two or three large stores, and a handful of cattle-station owners.

To a suggestion that the small miner "did not have a look in under the present system," the Governor replied that vast areas were certainly held under concessions by big concerns, without being exploited. But the ownership of mines was always vested in the State which granted the concessions, and perhaps an alteration in the present system might be desirable. What the small miners most needed was to organise themselves into a strong syndicate, which would have the backing of the administration.

He agreed that the island, with 20,000 European inhabitants, was seriously under-populated. One reason was that cattle-stations occupied too large a portion of the country. Much of these areas was suitable for agriculture—the production of vegetables, coffee, maize, rice, sugar, perhaps wheat. Put at the disposal of the children of large families and other colonists, settlement would be stimulated and the country fruitfully opened up.

DOMINION STATUS?

I ASKED M. Montchamp if there was any likelihood of New Caledonia developing as a French Dominion—a sort of Gallic New Zealand.

The Governor replied that that might come about when there was a European population of 500,000, with their own faculties, schools, colleges and institutions, able to turn out their own doctors and professors. That was an essential thing about a Dominion—about Australia and New Zealand, for example, whose contribution to British culture and outlook were an admirable feature of world development.

New Caledonians complain that their Governors are changed too frequently, giving them little opportunity to get to know the Colony. Did Monsieur Montchamp not feel that Governors should stay in office for three or five years?

"Yes, that might be a good thing," he replied. "But the population should see to it that they make life supportable for their Governors!"

Mr. Alfred Gibson, who was Assistant Government Printer in Papua until the evacuation in 1942, and who had spent 27 years in that service, has been visiting the Cowra district of NSW lately. He told the local editor that he would not be happy until he could return to Port Moresby—a sentiment echoed heartily by many hundreds of people who are shivering in an unusually cold Australian winter.

SAMOA SEEKING LABOURERS

Interest in Cook Islands

From Our Own Correspondent

RAROTONGA, June 1.
AN inquiry was made recently in Rarotonga for labour for plantations in Western Samoa. Cocoa, copra and rubber plantations in that Territory are short of reliable labourers and the Samoans themselves are unsuitable.

The project was most popular here and about 600 local men are reported to have applied to go. The wages, 4/- a day plus food and lodging, are attractive to Rarotongans who, in spite of greatly increased prices, are still employed for as little as 3/- a day nett.

About 200 men already have left Rarotonga to work overseas in New Zealand and elsewhere. Any further reduction in the working male population would have a serious effect on Rarotonga's only industry, fruit-growing.

Protests against any further labour being sent away officially were entered in an Island Council meeting and elsewhere. No further announcement having been made by the Administration during the past two months it is presumed that these have had some effect.

It is interesting to note, in this respect, the difference between Samoans and their Rarotongan cousins. The Samoan is not enamoured of labouring for others, whereas, generally speaking, the Rarotongan would rather work for a boss than be an independent peasant farmer.

Mr. W. H. Brabant, of Fiji, has returned to the Colony after an extended visit overseas.

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Eager Eyes on N. Guinea Timber

Interesting Post-war Possibilities

AUSTRALIAN timber concerns, with a shrewd, speculative eye upon post-war conditions, are already manifesting a lively interest in those magnificent stands of hoop-pine, cedar, etc., in the Bulolo Valley, New Guinea, which had attracted attention before the outbreak of war in 1939.

There is going to be a tremendous general demand for timber after the war. New Guinea is full of timber—the industry of lumbering in New Guinea, for the Australian market, was developing rapidly in 1938-39. Even seekers of veneer woods from the United States had found their way there.

The timber stands in the Morobe Valley—the timber improves as one gets up onto the inland plateaux—have been well-known for years, but no one could solve the transport problem. Many plans were discussed, from back-loading for transport planes to rafting the logs down the Bulolo and the Markham at flood-time.

Now, it is assumed that one or other of the combatant forces will build some sort of motor-road between Wau and the coast—an engineering project that defeated the Administrations and the gold-mining companies for a decade prior to 1939. A trafficable road means timber transport; and that means the exploitation of the great timber wealth in the Morobe district of New Guinea. Timber interests will be after the prize, as soon as the Japs are gone from New Guinea.

It is to be hoped that Canberra will not be stampeded into permitting anything of the kind. As soon as the war is

gone from New Guinea, there will be a terrific job of re-building to be done in Wau and Bulolo, Salamaua and Lae, and something better than the flimsy buildings of the gold-rush period will be insisted on. In other words, all New Guinea's timber, for a considerable time, will be needed for New Guinea's own urgent building operations.

Fuzzy-wuzzy Pen Friend!

THE following was published in the issue of the Sydney "Sun" of June 26:—

"First letter from a new fuzzy-wuzzy pen-friend named Mooka Hoolam has reached Mr. Laurie Trezise, of Bondi.

"It was enclosed in one from Mr. Trezise's cousin, Pte. Bob Lynch, who is a cook with a unit serving in New Guinea. It read:—

"Dear lorie, i rite U this letter. U one big brudder tel me you like big boy Mooka rite U. I no no what 4 U want me rite. I no body. U name. Then U big brudder tell me bout U. I tell U bout me. I 16 year. I carry dyed Aussies and dye finis Auss in jungle and I lern to rite off Aussie. I got mary 4 kid one dye finis and leave 3. If U rite me one fella Mooka send to U big brudder. E sen me and I read U letter. From U frend Mooka."

"The letter is written in a large and sprawling hand and stamped by the military censor."

Territorians are here permitted to spit fire and fury—and a dense, sulphuric smoke-screen will be thrown over subsequent proceedings.

This is a good example of the kind of thing with which returning Territorians will have to deal, after the war. Soldiers in New Guinea, and the poor unsuspecting "pen friends" in Australia, have no idea at all of how to treat these jungle children—people of the Stone Age—and no suspicion of the trouble they are piling up for those who must re-establish social order in the Territories.

ORANGES FROM SUNDAY ISLAND?

From Our Own Correspondent

RAROTONGA, June 1.

AN auxiliary schooner which arrived at Rarotonga recently, reports that orange-planting on a considerable scale will shortly be carried out by the New Zealand Government on Raoul (Sunday) Island, in the Kermadecs.

Mr. W. T. Goodwin, formerly Director of Agriculture at Rarotonga and now Assistant Director of Horticulture in New Zealand, has visited the island and approves of the plan. Orange trees are known to flourish there in a wild state; properly planted and cultivated, presumably free from insect pests in a practically virgin island, they should respond well.

Although Raoul is very small, there is no indigenous population to consider, and all the suitable land could be utilised. Only two days' run from New Zealand, the island is well placed and although the anchorage is extremely bad, this perhaps can be improved.

Inasmuch as all citrus fruits exported from the Cook Islands go to the New Zealand market, Rarotonga may be affected. Rarotonga's wild native orange trees, like old soldiers, are fading away, and replanting is moving so slowly that it seems as if the New Zealand Government may be losing patience.

The effect of Raoul Island would not be so much from quantity as quality. A well-run citrus orchard on a large scale, with plenty of capital, such as is envisaged, would produce better fruit at a cheaper price than the 1-acre peasant groves which are now being planted in Rarotonga. It seems that Rarotonga must wake up—or get left behind.

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PRAISE WHERE PRAISE IS NOT DUE

Professor Elkin and Australia's Record in
New Guinea

THE following is from an article by Professor A. P. Elkin, published in a recent issue of the Methodist "Missionary Review." Professor Elkin holds the Chair of Anthropology at the University of Sydney.

THERE have been sad and disastrous patches in the relations of Western civilised nations and peoples with the peoples of Melanesia, Polynesia, Malaysia, and East Asia; e.g., black-birding, exploitation of the natives' lands, undermining of native culture and society by misdirected missionary zeal, with some consequent depopulation.

On the other hand, there have been wise native and general policies put into operation by the British Administration of Fiji and the Western Pacific, and by our own Administration in Papua and the Mandated Territory of New Guinea.

These policies have not been perfected. In British territories the education policies have lacked imagination and drive, but the interests of natives have been the first consideration. We all realise this is the case of Papua, but it is also true with regard to the Mandated Territory of New Guinea.

In the former Territory, we were not trammelled by any preceding type of administration; whereas in the latter, we had to take over from a German system, with its policy of substitution of culture, and its method of force. Moreover, we have had difficulties in this Territory with the indenture system and also with the exploiters of gold and some plantation folk, who think first, and sometimes also last, of themselves.

The New Guinea Administration, however, has not given way to clamour based on selfish interests. It has, moreover, built up a well-selected team of officers, especially trained for their work, who regard the natives as human and social beings. I think we should pay a tribute to the manner in which these Administrative officers, wherever possible, have remained in their districts with the natives in spite of the Japanese advance.

Here too, I would like to pay a tribute to the missionaries of various denominations who have done the same. Amongst them are both the Church of England missionaries in South-east Papua, and also the Methodist missionaries in New Britain and New Ireland. Unfortunately,

nothing is known about the fate of some of the latter.

With regard to the future: If missionaries are as well-selected and trained as the Administration officers of the Mandated Territory; if full co-operation between the Administration and missions prevails, as is a characteristic of British policy; and if we refuse to depart one iota from the policy of administering these islands for the welfare of their native populations, and of helping the latter to develop them, then prosperity and blessing will follow.

Hard Earth and Cold Facts

AND now, with regret, we must bring Professor Elkin down to hard earth and cold facts.

The record of the Australian Government in relation to the education and the bodily care of the natives of New Guinea is dismal and far from creditable. The "PIM" has been pointing this out, year after year, for at least ten years; and, even yet, whenever a politician opens his foolish head on the sub-

(Continued on Page 32)

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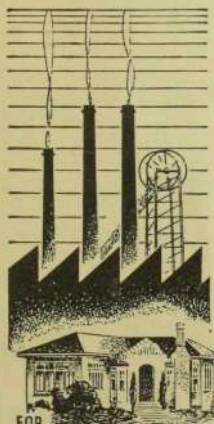
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How to Really Help Islands Natives

Practical Suggestions From Melanesian Mission

PRIOR to the Pacific war it was impossible to convince the Administrations of the various South-west Pacific Territories that something more was due to the natives than they were getting. At all events, neither the Administrations concerned, nor the British Colonial Office, took it upon themselves to evolve either adequate or far-sighted native policies.

At present, of course, there is no lack of suggestions as to what would be a fitting reward for the loyalty these Melanesians have shown in the last 18 months—many of these suggestions obviously emanating from people who have never been in contact with Melanesia or Melanesians.

However, it is generally agreed that our sins were of omission rather than commission—in just the same way as we neglected to remove slums and want from our own Australian cities. If this be so, there should be no question of reward for loyalty—and presumably the natives should be loyal for the same reason as

the resident of Sydney or Manchester, or any other British subject, is loyal. The question is one of rights, not rewards.

In the post-war wash-up, the Melanesian's position as a citizen of the world will have to be considered, but we should not be permitted to salve our national conscience with a £10,000 "singing"—as has been suggested by some circles in Australia—and, for the rest, relegate the Melanesian to his former position in the limbo of lost things, simply because we have the material strength to do so if so minded.

IN "The Southern Cross Log"—the journal of the Melanesian Mission—of July 1, the idea of the £10,000 worth of dances for these natives is condemned as fatuous, and a plan of health and education is outlined for Solomon Islanders of the post-war period.

Present medical facilities are inadequate to meet the needs of the many Solomon Islands and their scattered villages.

Contrary to the popular belief that native women have children without any trouble, many do, in fact, die in childbirth—due very frequently to entire lack of skilled help, and to the well-meaning but misguided assistance of dirty native helpers, who are useless when complications arise. The babies who are left motherless, in such a fashion, occasionally survive, in spite of wrong feeding, but the majority die. The infantile death rate—even after a normal birth—is exceedingly high (about one in four children die within the first year of life), and this is almost always directly attributable to wrong feeding and no knowledge of hygiene.

All these people, too, are open to infection from such diseases as yaws, dysentery and malaria—and nothing is done in the way of prevention or teaching the people the cause and effect of such complaints. It is obvious that a hospital on another island, or at best many miles away, is of little use to these people—especially to the women and children, who rarely move very far from their native villages.

On the island of Malaita there is a population of at least 40,000 natives—and just one hospital. In the whole of the Solomons there is approximately 100,000 of a native population—and, as can be imagined, the need for medical work there is desperate.

THE native diet of these Islanders is of very limited variety and of questionable value, and primitive methods of agriculture have not always made the best use of the land. Immediately before the Pacific war, some of the most intelligent natives were sent to the Government experimental farm in New Britain, and it was hoped that the knowledge they gained there would in time improve native agriculture. Land for permanent gardens was being cultivated, and a greater variety of foods being introduced. It is confidently expected that better food will improve the health of whole communities.

The building of good, permanent, native houses should be encouraged, and simple drainage, good roads and tracks, and cleared swamps would do much to eliminate the evils of malaria and dysentery.

Before the Pacific war, too, an increasing number of lads were being sent to the Native Medical School in Suva, Fiji, and the training is rightly regarded as one of the finest pieces of British Colonial Administration so far seen in the South-west Pacific. But in order to provide boys for this work at the medical school, attention must be paid to their preliminary education—and the facilities

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of such education in the Solomons are, to-day, lamentably inadequate. The same high standard of education should be made available to the girls, who have a natural and surprising ability for nursing, and who are proud of the result of mid-wifery and mothercraft training.

In conclusion, the "Log" maintains that wonderful benefits are to be had from the establishment of hospitals, each with a chain of dispensaries on each of the larger islands, and maternity and mothercraft centres in sufficient numbers to take care of the wants of all villages. All of these hospitals, dispensaries and centres should be staffed by NMP's and native nurses.

Maternity and mothercraft training centres, the selection of the best lads for the Native Medical School—all these call for substantial monetary assistance and the best European teachers. It remains for us to provide for the future of these people with something of lasting benefit.

THE RISING OF THE PALOLO

What Happens in N. Hebrides

THE "rising of the palolo"—an edible coral-reef sea-worm which appears at a particular time each year, and is one of Polynesia's choicest foods—has been described often by residents of the Central Pacific, especially Samoa. Here is a description by Laurie Walker, in "Sydney Morning Herald" of June 26, of what happens in the New Hebrides.

BEATRICE Grimshaw's article on "Meat from the Ocean" was most interesting and entertaining. Here are some additional facts about the strange edible sea-worm she mentions.

In the New Hebrides (South Santo) there is this strange sea-worm which appears only once a year. It is called "Ale" (A-le) and is anything from two to three feet long, but thin and with numerous legs like a centipede. The natives consider it a great delicacy, and after grating yams, they cut the "Ale" into pieces about four inches in length, mix with the grated yam, and cook in their ovens. It has the flavour of crab, but the whites do not eat it here.

In the New Hebrides there are dozens of different languages, hence this worm is known by various names throughout the islands. In North Malekula it is "Palolo," but its habits are the same.

The natives know to the hour when it will appear, and for a couple of days before become restless and excited. You cannot get any real work out of them

and the mission school closes for a couple of days until the "Ale" has disappeared.

The strangest thing, however, is the way in which the natives, in this locality, know when it will rise to the surface. A planter friend, who wished to give me the most reliable information possible, sent for the old man of a nearby village, who gave the following particulars—of course, the explanation was in Pidgin-English—but this is really what he said. "When the Corotas (an edible nut) comes into flower (October), then four days after the full moon the small 'Ale' appear. The day before this (three days after the full moon) a small red sea-ant puts in an appearance, also a small fish resembling a lizard (which the natives call sea-lizard). Both disappear with the 'Ale.' The large 'Ale' appear six nights after the following full moon (November)." They rise to the surface among the rocks in untold millions, but disappear the next night, and not one is to be found after that until the same time next year.

I understand that the natives never miscalculate as to the time of its appearance.

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(Continued from Page 29)

ject of New Guinea, he begins to shout about Australia's "splendid record" there. And now we have a scientist making the same error. Statistics must supply the answer.

All the development and progress that happened in New Guinea during the twenty years between the wars was connected with the establishment and

growth of the gold industry. Neither the Australian Government nor the New Guinea Administration had anything to do with that—all the credit goes to the indomitable Australian prospectors who found the goldfields, and the plucky, far-visioned investors and engineers who developed them.

The outstanding good thing in Australia's government of the Mandated Territory was the creation, as Professor Elkin has said, of as fine a corps of administrative officials as could be found anywhere in the Pacific. This meant that the work of administration, in a local sense, was done admirably; but the picture on the bigger canvas, the creation of policies by the Administration, to be given effect to by the officials, was much less impressive.

Education of natives, health of natives, development of agriculture (both European and native), encouragement of white settlement and enterprise, provision of means of communication—in all such things the Administration, during 20 years, although it had abundant revenues, pursued a policy of *laissez faire*. It had "Tropicitis"—it dithered and did nothing.

THAT was because of the Canberra politicians' practice of appointing to the Administratorship, not a man trained in tropical government, but some ex-soldier or ex-politician who was out of a job. The only Administrator which New Guinea ever knew, who really took hold of Territory affairs and began to frame policies, was General Tom Griffiths; and, because he refused to bow the knee to the Canberra bureaucrats, and insisted on being administrator in fact as well as in name, he did not remain there two years.

It is a long, unhappy story, which need not be re-told here.

THE story of Papua is less dismal. That was because the man in charge there for 30 years (Sir Hubert Murray) was not only a strong man but also was a Lieutenant-Governor, and not an Administrator; and this gave him certain powers which allowed him to defy the Canberra bureaucrats, whenever they tried to "push him around." He did what he believed was best for the territory he controlled, and his success was remarkable.

But, when Sir Hubert died, the little tin czars in Canberra promptly changed the Lieut.-Governor-ship to Administratorship, which gave them greater authority over the head of the Papuan Administration.

THE history of native education in New Guinea will suffice to show the poor quality of the Australian effort there during two decades, and the lack of any governing policy.

Brig-General Wisdom retired from the Administratorship in 1932, after 11

years' service. He had, on a couple of occasions, made a worthy effort to inaugurate something worth while in the way of a native education system, but nothing had come of it. Native education—what little there was of it—was almost wholly in the hands of the mission bodies.

He was succeeded by Brig-General Griffiths, an energetic administrator, with considerable experience of Pacific Islands conditions. None knew better than he (a) the need for a comprehensive native education system; (b) the difficulties in the way of establishing such a system—especially the lack of teachers and the lack of a common language.

Therefore, as soon as he took charge in 1932, and so as to promote "a more rapid expansion of educational activities," the Administrator in 1932 entered into discussions with the various mission organizations, planning a system under which the missions would undertake entirely the duty of educating the natives. It was proposed that the missions should train, supply and control the school-teachers, while the Administration should compel attendance at the schools, prescribe the curriculum and the hours, grant subsidies and generally supervise the system. There were to be village schools, primary (or middle) schools and high schools (or colleges).

In 1933-34 the plan was still under discussion.

LATE in 1934, General Griffiths, refusing any longer to carry on "under Canberra office-boy control," retired and Brig-General Ramsay McNicoll took over. The following was published in the first report issued by Administrator McNicoll (June 30, 1935):—

"It has been decided not to proceed with the proposal that the religious missions should undertake entirely the education of the natives. It is proposed, however, that the existing system of village schools maintained by the Administration should be extended. . . . Development must be slow, and will be dependent on the availability of funds and a suitable staff. The Malaguna elementary school will become a training school for future native teachers. . . ."

There followed a brief outline of the Administration's education plan. The natives were to be trained "only to the extent that will enable them to apply their increased knowledge to improve their conditions of living in their villages, or to be absorbed into the community as trained natives, artisans, or clerks."

On June 30, 1936, Administrator McNicoll reported that the committee set up by Administrator Griffiths to examine native education had been replaced by a Special Committee of the Legislative Council, consisting mostly of heads of departments. This special committee then apparently engaged in a series of

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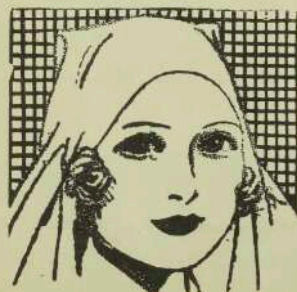
"I had Kidney and Bladder complaint, pains in leg and back; in fact, I had to use a walking stick. I have used two bottles of Cystex, now I have no pains anywhere. I consider Cystex the greatest medicine in the world for Kidney complaint."—(Sgd.) J. McPherson, Nangeribone Station, N.S.W.

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conferences with the mission bodies; and "was granted further time to study the matter in greater detail."

AFTER that effort, everyone directly or indirectly responsible for native education went peacefully to sleep; and their slumbers were not again disturbed until the Japs came bursting into Rabaul in January, 1942.

The "Special Committee" lapsed in 1937, because the Legislative Council had expired. On June 30, 1938, in his annual report, Administrator McNicoll published a series of excuses for his failure to get on with native education: The Special Committee had lapsed; a long time was needed to train native teachers; it was undesirable that important phases of mission work should be disturbed by "the untimely introduction of a scheme of education which had not been scrutinised more closely"; there was a language difficulty, and it was undesirable that Pidgin should become the *lingua franca*; the teaching of English could not be carried out by the missions, because 586 of the 682 missionaries in the Territory were not British; and so on. Good reasons enough, but no sign of any effort being made to solve the difficulties.

After that, the annual reports disclose no attempt to introduce or even to plan a system of native education—although, as shown by the table published herewith, hundreds of thousands of pounds of new revenue were being provided by taxes on the new gold industry.

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	1937-8	1938-9	1939-40
Spent on education of natives	£6,726	£7,946	£8,274
Native pupils, Government schools	445	485	488
" " Mission schools	65,246	68,773	65,598
Spent on public health	£80,376	£89,783	£85,207
Total revenue	£506,397	£460,835	£496,689
Gold royalty	£97,464	£107,974	£143,906

With all due respect to Professor Elkin, it is not a record of which Australia can be proud—especially when comparison is

made with native education systems in territories where revenues are much more limited.

An air-graph service now exists between the United Kingdom, Canada, and the Middle East, and the Colony of Fiji. Sir Philip Mitchell, Governor of Fiji, received the first air-graph from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, at

the end of May. The service to Canada and the Middle East is for the members of the armed forces only; the service to the United Kingdom is for all. Messages cost 9d. (Services personnel) and 1/- (civilians).

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Mr. L. J. Warren, for six years manager for the Union Steamship Company at Rarotonga, has been transferred to Auckland office, and left with Mrs. Warren in April.

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Health Problems in Pacific

THE Problem of Health in the Pacific was the subject of a recent address by Professor Harvey Sutton (School of Tropical Medicine, Sydney University). Quinine, needed for treatment of malaria, had come mostly from Java, as well as now from South America. But, said the lecturer, it could grow quite well in Northern Queensland if it were developed there along similar lines as in Southern India.

The lecturer said the prevention and cure of hookworm are known, and this

disease is avoidable, with suitably organised health services.

Leprosy was now mainly centred in tropical regions, and it was making its way into Polynesia—particularly at Nauru, where a third of the population had become infected. Leprosy could be cured by the injection of drugs, but is to some extent prevented and cured by an improved diet and better hygiene.

Tropical ulcers depended upon both infection and dietetic deficiency. In fact, dietetic deficiency is one of the main problems confronting medical science in combating the tropical diseases.

Professor Harvey Sutton said that Sydney University should be the focal point of study, investigation and survey, in connection with the problem of health in the Pacific. Australians should consider themselves responsible for looking after the health of natives in the nearer territories, such as New Guinea, the Solomon Islands and Melanesia as a whole.

In New Guinea there should be one doctor for each 10,000 people, and one native assistant for every thousand people. We should, therefore, supply 120 doctors and 1,200 native assistants. The native assistants could well be trained at Sydney University. Although the Papuan natives are not as advanced as the Polynesians, and consequently training would be somewhat difficult in the initial stages, there was great scope for the training of natives as medical assistants.

The problems of diet should rest in the hands of trained agriculturalists and veterinary officers, working in close co-operation with the various administrations.—K.R.D.

COFFIN FUND FOR RAROTONGANS

From Our Own Correspondent

RAROTONGA, May 1.

A NOVEL form of insurance is now in vogue amongst Rarotongans.

Owing to the prevailing hard times and high prices many families find it difficult to provide coffins for deceased members. A fund amongst the natives has been established for this purpose, whereby any person who makes the small subscription required may rest assured that he will be buried in proper style. Such native co-operative movements do not, also, withstand the test of time.

It is interesting to note, in passing, how burial customs in Rarotonga have changed during the past few years. Ceremonies are much simpler and less picturesque. No longer to be seen is the grave of a favourite child piled high with beds, sewing-machines, gramophones, gold ornaments and the like—which is bad for trade but good for progress.

A TEST FOR TEETH

IN days of yore a certain dentist was wont to call periodically upon the inhabitants of Rarotonga.

One old chief, whose molars no longer gave adequate service, had heard of the wonderful "nio pikikaa" (false teeth) which made old gums youthful again, and forthwith he had a set installed, at great expense.

Several months later, on his return, the dentist was met by a toothless raving lunatic, who waved aloft what looked like a mangled piece of old iron.

"What's wrong?" asked the astonished European.

"What's wrong," spluttered the old man, "why these rotten teeth are so rotten you can't even husk a coconut with them!"—I.

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a day or two your mirror will tell you that here at last is the scientific treatment you have been needing to clear your skin—the treatment to make you look more attractive, to help you win friends. Nixoderm has brought clearer, healthier skins to thousands, such as Mr. R.K., who writes: "I suffered from terribly itching, burning and smarting Eczema for 12 years. Tried everything. At last, I heard of Nixoderm. It stopped the itching in 10 minutes. I could see my skin clearing up on the second day. All the red disfiguring blotches and scaly skin disappeared in 10 days. My friends were amazed at the improvement in my appearance."

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Rabaul Policeboys' Band

By Mrs. Dorothy Waterhouse

ALL who remember the Native Police Band of Rabaul will be glad to learn ("PIM" 17/6/43) that their former bandmaster, W/O D. Crawley, has been appointed bandmaster to the Royal Papuan Constabulary.

During the four years before December, 1941, the Policeboys' Band of Rabaul grew to be a recognised part of the life of the town and I suspect that it was not only the native houseboy who was inclined to let business take care of itself when the band, with all its splendour of polished brass and big drum, led a police march through the streets!

My happiest memories of the band are of the days when, in charge of Chief W/O Sinclair and the bandmaster they took a route march over the hill to Nordup and halted in the wide green beside Nordup Native School. Sometimes the march was announced beforehand; at other times it came as a surprise. But either way, it was recognised that as soon as the band was heard in the distance there would be an unofficial holiday for the rest of the morning.

Nordup School was particularly interested in the police, for there were several "old boys" in the Force, and one or two members of the band had served a musical apprenticeship with the school drums and bugles.

After their arrival, the bandsmen would be dismissed for a swim, or a rest on the grass—with perhaps some "kulaus" provided by local friends—while their officers were refreshed with morning tea under the shady mango, which stood almost on the brink of the lapping Channel waters. But presently, ranged on the open roadway facing the sea, the band would play for us. Groups of intent and admiring youngsters stood in the background; family parties returning from garden or market would join the audience and then perhaps the local Luluai would stroll along, dignified and a little aloof, to bestow his patronage on proceedings.

The short programme was a varied one and, though a musical critic might have detected some flaws in the performance, there was for us only wonder and appreciation as we forgot everyday cares for a while and listened to brave march or popular air, or to some simple and haunting old classical melody.

As its skill and repertoire grew, the band took part in many public functions and its music added to the impressiveness of Anzac Day and national celebrations.

One of the band's last public appearances was on Armistice Day, 1941—little more than a month before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour revolutionised life for the people of New Guinea.

One cannot think unmoved of all that has since happened to many who were at that gathering—black and brown, as well as white. For the policeboys one can only hope that others, besides the band's second cornet player, may in time "rejoin the colours" and that, in spite of all they have experienced, their faith in the white man's ascendancy in their country may be ultimately justified.

FIJI INDIAN NEWSPAPER SUPPRESSED

THE Indian language newspaper, "Fiji Samachar," published in Suva, was suppressed by the Governor of Fiji, and the printing press placed under police supervision, by an order under the Defence Regulations, at the end of April. The Governor announced that the newspaper was guilty of "systematic publication of matter calculated to foment opposition to the successful prosecution of the war."

The Fiji Indians generally are well-behaved and loyal to the British flag. But in Fiji—as in all communities where there are Indians—there is a small group of political agitators and trouble-makers who can be dealt with only by force. They destroyed the small measure of representative government which Fiji once enjoyed: just as their prototypes in India would render peaceful government impossible there, if ever home rule for India were granted by Great Britain.

Mr. L. P. Morel, of A. B. Donald's staff at Rarotonga, left in May for service with the NZ Forces. His mother, Mrs. Betty Morel, a very old and respected resident of the island, died last year.

When the Japanese occupied Rabaul, and New Britain was lost to the Allies, the Rev. John Barge and the Rev. B. Moore, of the Melanesian Mission, dis-

appeared. No direct word has been heard from them since that time, but New Guinea officials at present in Sydney are of the opinion that they are probably both safe. Another report is that Mr. Barge is away in the mountains with natives, who are caring for him and for other Europeans.

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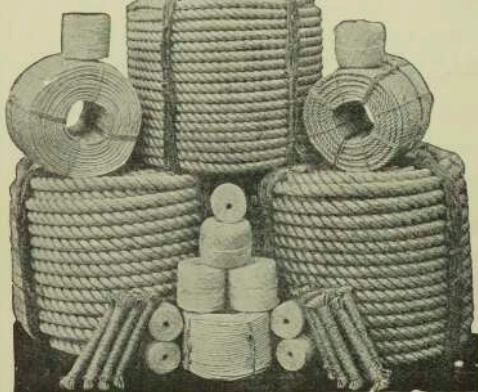
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THEY WHISTLE!

"PIM" Correspondent is in a
Bad Temper

TAHITI—once upon a time—was an island of song. The laughter of its many waters, the sigh of gentle winds among groves of aito and sacred miro that shadow the ruins of ancient marae, the poetry of ancestral dreams, were distilled in the polyphonic harmonies of Tahitian himene.

The husbandman on his plantation, the fisher among the coral reefs, the hunter in the mountains, the wayfarer by night, lightened his task or his loneliness with a song.

Now, they whistle. This hideous habit is a fungus of recent growth. What particular purveyor of civilisation brought it to our island, has not come to our knowledge.

The most probable culprit is a whistling cowboy in some immortal Hollywood drama, or, perhaps, a gramophone record of that sprightly antiquity of the vaudeville stage, "Listen to the Mocking Bird." One of the Brotherhood of Perennial Pests perpetrated this latter outrage over the radio one night, not long ago. The servile helots of the radio audience applauded tumultuously. They always do, or they would not be invited to come again.

There is a man in our neighbourhood who whistles. His whistle is that penetrating tremolo type which can bore through a three-yard wall of ferro-concrete. Its quality and effect fit exactly a description by Mark Twain of the cry of a bird heard in India: "The song of the brain-fever demon is a spiral twist which augments in intensity and severity with each added spiral, growing more and more painful, more and more agonising, more and more maddening, intolerable, unendurable, as it bores deeper and deeper into the listener's brain."

At various times the neighbours have united in conclave to devise means to abate the nuisance. Our first scheme was to procure and present to the whistler a Maxim Silencer fitted with a head harness to keep the instrument in place. But at that time the underworld of New York, Kansas City, and that most dismal of all cities, Chicago, were industriously employed in destroying each other, and the manufacturers pleaded "priorities" as their excuse for inability to supply us.

By the time this emergency had abated, the natives (whom any new thing pleases immeasurably) had taken to whistling—and song and poetry had fled from our island.

The practice of whistling dates from a period later than the fourteenth century; for we have searched in vain through the early cantos of the Divine Comedy to learn the fate of its inventor. During the last century the scientists already there have, no doubt, succeeded in filling the place with noise; as they and their progeny have shattered the peace of this mundane sphere.

We can, therefore, imagine (and even hope) that the inventor of whistling is now chained to a burning rock, condemned forever to listen to gramophone recordings of his own performances.

Lieutenant David Robertson, formerly Acting-Superintendent of Works in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony, enlisted in the AIF in June, 1941; and, after seeing active service with the 9th Division in the Middle East, returned to Australia with his Division in March last.

French Islands Governor Snubbed by Sydney Trade Union

NOWADAYS, when there are twice as many jobs as there are workmen available, the Australian class-conscious unionist can enjoy the privileges of a dictator. That was the discovery made by M. Kuter, French Resident Commissioner in the New Hebrides.

M. Kuter wanted a walnut bedroom suite, with a night table, such as is common in Europe. All other channels being closed, M. Kuter sent to Sydney for it. The approximate cost was £70.

The secretary of the Furnishing Trade Union of Sydney announced:—

Permission was refused by the union, because it is our policy not to allow any luxury or non-essential furniture to be made during the war in order to economise manpower. "If returned soldiers from this war or a munitions worker getting married has to be satisfied with austerity furniture, so must a governor."

The trade union is perfectly correct. But what sort of an ass, in Vila or Sydney or somewhere, permitted this order to go through commercial channels, to the point where corrective action has to be taken by a trade union secretary? The order should never have left Port Vila.

Permission has been given for Miss P. Talbot, of the Melanesian Mission, to return to the mission hospital at Fauabu, B.S.I. Dr. J. D. Thomson, who was formerly in charge of the hospital, has been attached to the Government and is kept busy travelling around the Protectorate, and there is great need for a trained and experienced nurse at Fauabu, where the hospital buildings have escaped undamaged.

LUTHERAN MISSIONARIES AND THE JAPS

TWO Lutheran missionaries, Rev. R. Inselman and Rev. Paul Freyberg, arrived recently at their homes in Minnesota, USA, after escaping from the Japanese, in the Madang district, in February last. They reported that the Japanese cruelly mistreated some of the Lutherans, and were kind to others—the difference in treatment not being explained.

One Lutheran missionary writes to the "PIM":—

"The Australian report that Lutheran missionaries were leading the Japanese up the Markham last year is now proved false. It is proven that the man suspected of it (a German) was at that time caring for a wounded American, and for Australian pilots who had been shot down near where he was, around Finschhafen. He fed, clothed and cared for their wounds and then led them to where they could safely reach their base.

"To my knowledge no one has printed this side of the story, and it is a matter concerning which I am often questioned."

Where New Guinea People Meet in Brisbane

WHEN a number of New Guinea evacuees met at the residence of Captain R. Kendall, RAN, in Brisbane, a few months ago, they decided to form the Queensland New Guinea Association, with Captain Kendall as president and Mrs. Haslam as secretary. There were then 18 members. To-day the membership is 162.

They meet at the Lyceum Club, Brisbane, at 7.30 p.m. on the second Satur-

day of each month. Any Territorian is welcome—it is a place where many scattered communities are re-united.

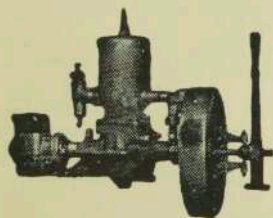
The Bishop of Melanesia, the Right Rev. Walter Baddeley, expects to visit Australia in August.

For those jobs you do yourself!

It may be enclosing a verandah, building a poultry shed; any of those home jobs can be easily done with Wunderlich "Durabestos"—the permanent asbestos-cement flat sheets that can be cut, nailed and fixed as easy as timber.

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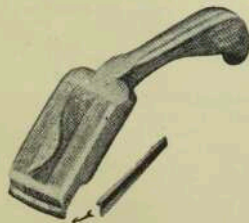
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NO JAPS IN SANTA CRUZ

A TRADER of Vanikoro, Solomon Islands (Mr. Jones) has been told recently by the natives of Santa Cruz Island (south-east of Solomons) that the Japanese have made no landings in that small group.

It was reported, early in 1942, that a Japanese force had been landed there, and some reports even had it that an enemy base had been established in Graciosa Bay. A few Japanese vessels were seen around the Santa Cruz group early in 1942, but nothing else occurred.

SPECIAL HONOUR FOR N. PENGLASE

MAJOR N. Penglase, an officer well known in New Guinea—he was a District Officer, Class I, there, before the war—has been selected to undergo a special training in the administration of territories recaptured from the enemy, to commence in Britain on August 30. The only other Australian selected is Professor G. W. Paton, of Melbourne University.

New Guinea Women Raise Big Money in Melbourne

THE Melbourne New Guinea Women's Association is functioning at full blast. With the aid of a donated tea-set, standard lamp, a dressing case, and a great deal of time and hard work, in April and May, the Association raised the sum of £374—a really magnificent effort. Of this total, £200 was donated to the Red Cross Prisoner-of-War Fund (which has a natural appeal for these women, whose men were caught up in the Japanese invasion of New Guinea), £75 to the ACF, £25 to the Mission to Seamen, and the balance to club funds. Early in April, a theatre party netted an extra £10 and an Australian tea, shortly afterwards, £13.

The club sends parcels to New Guinea service men regularly, but, as their secretary, Mrs. O. Bliss, states, "our greatest difficulty is to find sufficient goods to put into the parcels and we shop with the grim shadow of Mr. Dedman hanging over us!"

No words of praise are too high for these and other New Guinea evacuees, who are carrying on, not only without complaint, but helping where they can, in spite of the fact that their former mode of life has been completely shattered by war.

NEW GUINEA BRANCH OF RSSAILA

A GENERAL meeting of the New Guinea Branch of the RSSAILA will be held in the Returned Soldiers' Combined Service Club, Barrack Street, Sydney, at 8 p.m. on July 23. All members are asked to attend.

Commander A. S. Rosenthal, of the Australian Navy, has been awarded the DSO in recognition of his outstanding skill, determination, and good judgment when he was in command of the RAN destroyer "Nestor."

Mr. Derek Tovey, NZEF, and formerly of the Bank of New Zealand staff, Suva, Fiji, was killed in action in Tunisia on April 20. It was his ambition to join the Navy; but, unable to pass the strict medical test, he went to New Zealand and joined the Army. He had a wide circle of friends in the Colony, where he was a keen yachtsman. His brother, Lieutenant Tovey, is a member of the Fiji Naval Force.

Australian Short Wave Broadcast

AN Australian radio programme is broadcast daily on short wave from Lyndhurst (Victoria) for listeners in the Western Pacific:—

Call Sign.	Time.	Wave Length.	Frequency.
VLR8.	6.30-10.15 a.m.	25.51 metres	11,760 M/cs.
VLR3.	12.00-6.15 p.m.	25.25 metres	11,880 M/cs.
VLR.	6.45-11.30 p.m.	31.32 metres	9,580 M/cs.

Power: 2 kilowatts.

Times given are Australian Eastern Standard Time (10 hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time).

WEEK DAYS.—a.m.: 6.30, Essential Services; 6.45, News; 7.10, Music; 7.45, News; 9, Music; p.m.: 12.30, News; 1, Music; 1.25, Stock Exchange Report; 1.30, News; 1.50, Music; 2.30, Talk; 3.45, BBC News; 4.30, Music; 5.30, Children's Session; 6.45, Music; 7, News; 7.30, Essential Services; 8, Music and Evening Programme; 10.15, News; 10.30, Music; 11.20, Late News; 11.30, Close.

SUNDAYS.—a.m.: 6.45, News; 7, Music; 8.45, Handyman's Session; 9, News; 9.15, Field Unit Recording; 10.45, Church Service; p.m.: 12.15, Music; 12.50, News; 1.10, Music; 2, Talk; 2.15, Music; 2.30, BBC Feature; 2.45, Music; 4.15, BBC News; 4.45, Music; 6.15, This Week in Sport; 7, News; 7.15, Command Performance; 8, Play; 9, Talk; 10, Music; 10.15, News; 10.23, Music; 11, Close.

Quotations For Mining Shares

	FIJI	Mid-May.	Mid-June.	Mid-July.
Emperor Mines ...	b11/-	b10/6	b10/7	
Loloma	b20/6	b20/-	b19/9	
Mt. Kasi	b1/6	b1/7	b1/7½	
NEW GUINEA				
Bulolo G.D.	b48/9	b53/3	b58/9	
Enterprise of N.G.	b9/9	b10/6	b11/3	
Guinea Gold	b7/4	b7/6	b7/9	
N.G.G., Ltd.	b1/6	b1/7	b1/10	
Oil Search	b3/9	b3/6	b3/9	
Placer Dev.	b52/-	b54/6	b61/-	
Sandy Creek	b11d	b1/-	b1/-	
Sunshine Gold ...	b4/9	b4/11	b5/-	
PAPUA				
Cuthbert's	b9/9	b10/6	b11/3	
Mandated Alluvials	b2/9	b3/-	b2/9	
Orlomo Oil	b1/4	b1/3	b1/2	
Papuan Apinaipi ..	b2/-	b1/9	b2/2	
Yodda Goldfields .	b1/3	b1/3	b1/3	

PRICE OF GOLD

Fine	Standard
oz.	£10/9/-
oz.	£9/11/7

FIJI BUYING PRICES

Suva, June 18

THE following, taken from the "Fiji Times," shows the prices current in Suva on the date mentioned. The prices, of course, are given in Fiji currency, which is 12½ per cent. below sterling, and 12½ per cent. above Australian.

Copra, first grade, per ton	£16
Copra, second grade, per ton	£15
Coconut Charcoal, per ton	£12
Copra Sacks, per doz. in bale lots	16/11
Each	1/6
Trocas Shell, per ton	£50
Kerosene, per tin (4 gallon)	15/1
Per case	30/2
1 gallon tin	3/11
Flour, per sack	25/9
Flour, 5 lb.	1/-
Sharps, per sack	20/4½
Sharps, 5 lb.	1/-
Barbed Wire	£31
Turtle Shell, per lb.	3/6
Pearl Shell, per ton	£14
Beche-de-mer (best quality) about lb.	6d.
Beche-de-mer (raw fish) about 1 lb.	4d.
Turtle Hooves, per lb.	3d.

ISLANDS PRODUCE

APART from a reported sale of New Hebrides Robusta coffee at £63 per ton (previously quoted at £68), there is no change in last month's ruling rates for Islands produce generally. The market remains steady under Government control, which offers little opportunity for speculative buying.

Coconut fibre from Ceylon is finding favour among bedding manufacturers, and is quoted at £45 per ton, in store, Sydney.

Nominal quotations obtained mid-July:—

COCOA

New Hebrides: £70 (in store, Sydney).
Acra: £75 (in store, Sydney).
New Guinea cocoa beans: No quotations.
Western Samoa: Last sale reported, 1st quality, £80 (f.o.b., Apia).

COFFEE

No purchases are now permitted without the consent of the Tea and Coffee Control Board, to whom all offers must first be submitted.

Nominal quotations as follows:—
New Caledonian: Arabica, £81 per ton (c.i.f. Sydney). Robusta, £63 per ton (c.i.f. Sydney).
New Hebrides: Robusta, £63 per ton (c.i.f. Sydney).

Kenya and Mysore: £85 per ton (c.i.f. stg. and War Risk Insurance).

New Guinea and Papuan: No firm quotations available.

Java:

No quotations.

VANILLA BEANS

White Label: 26/- per lb., C. & F., Sydney.
Green Label: 21/- per lb., C. & F., Sydney.

KAPOK

Market for Javanese kapok has been suspended. Indian kapok is being quoted for indent at 1/6 per lb. c.i.f. stg.

COTTON

Government controlled. Stocks being made available to manufacturers at following rates:—
For spinning and weaving yarns, 14½d. per lb.; cordage making, 11½d. per lb.; condenser yarn, 12d. per lb.

IVORY NUTS

No firm quotations available.

TROCHUS SHELL

F.a.q., £103 per ton, in store, Sydney.

RICE

No quotations.

GREEN SNAIL SHELL

F.a.q., £103 per ton, in store, Sydney.

PEARL SHELL

Government-controlled price:—
"B" Class, £200 per ton. "C" Class, £190 per ton. "D" Class, £135 per ton.

Exchange Rates

THE following exchange quotations show the rates existing in Sydney in mid-July:—

	FIJI	Through Bank of NSW and Bank of New Zealand:—Australia on basis of £100
Buying, £A111/2/6; selling, £A113.		
London on basis of £100		
Buying.	£ 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 basis of £100 Samoa: Buying, £A99/12/6; selling, £A100/2/6. Samoa on London on basis of £100
Buying.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Telegraphic transfer	—	£125 10 0
On Demand	£122 18 9	125 7 6
30 days	123 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	Only nominal at present.
Buying, 140; selling, 143; francs to Aust. £.		

	FREE FRENCH PACIFIC COLONIES	Buying, 140; selling, 143; francs to Aust. £.
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	PHASES OF THE MOON	New Moon.	First Quarter.	Full Moon.	Last Quarter.	New Moon.
1943.						
July	2	11	17	24	—	—
August	1	9	16	23	31	—
September	7	14	21	29	—	—
October	7	13	21	29	—	—
November	5	12	20	28	—	—

Market Quotations

COPRA

London	Price on—	South Sea, Sun-dried, to London	Plantation, Hot-air Dried, Rabaul
January 1, 1932	£14 0 0	£14 0 0	£14 15 0
June 17	£13 2 6	£13 2 6	£13 5 0
December 16	£14 2 6	£14 2 6	£14 5 0
January 6, 1933	£13 0 0	£13 0 0	£13 12 6
June 30	£10 17 6	£10 17 6	£11 0 0
December 1	£8 12 6	£8 12 6	£9 0 0
January 5, 1934	£8 0 0	£8 0 0	£8 7 6
June 15	£8 0 0	£8 0 0	£8 12 6
December 28	£9 0 0	£9 0 0	£9 12 6
January 4, 1935	£9 5 0	£9 5 0	£10 5 0
June 7	£11 15 0	£11 15 0	£12 7 6
December 6	£12 17 6	£12 17 6	£14 0 0

London	Price on—	South Sea, Sun-dried, to London	Plantation, Hot-air Dried, Rabaul
Jan. 2, '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 0
Sept. 4	£13 2 6	£13 10 0	£14 12 6
Dec. 4	£19 7 6	£19 7 6	£20 7 4
Jan. 8, '37	£22 12 6	£22 12 6	£22 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
Mar. 4	£10 17 6	£11 0 0	£12 0 0
June 3	£9 15 0	£9 15 0	£10 12 6
Sept. 2	£9 10 0	£9 10 0	£10 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
Mar. 2	£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
June 2	£10 7 6	£10 10 0	£11 7 6
July 7	£9 2 6	£9 7 6	£10 5 0
Aug. 4	£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, to April 20, 1940.—Fixed price for plantation hot-air dried, £13/5/- per ton, c.i.f., London.

April 20, 1940.—Fixed price for plantation hot-air dried, £12/17/6 per ton, c.i.f., London.

On February 18, 1942, Fiji and Tonga copra, 1st grade, was fixed at £18 per ton (Fijian), f.o.b., and in July: Plantation Grade, £18/5/-; Fair Merchantable Sun-dried, £18; and Under-grade, £17/15/-. The values are stated in Fijian currency. To get Australian or New Zealand values, add 12½ per cent.; sterling values, deduct 12½ per cent.

Since April, 1942, unofficial quotations in Sydney have been around £24 (Aust.) per ton, c.i.f., Sydney.

RUBBER

London	Price on—	Para. per lb.	Plantation Smoked. per lb.
January 6, 1933	4¼d	4¼d	2 43d
July 7	5¼d	5¼d	3 71d
December 8	4¼d	4¼d	4 0¼d
January 5, 1934	4¼d	4¼d	4 28d
July 6	5¼d	5¼d	7 06d
December 28	5d	5d	6¼d
January 4, 1935	5d	5d	6¼d
July 5	5d	5d	7¼d
December 6	6¼d	6¼d	6¼d
January 3, 1936	6¼d	6¼d	6¼d
June 5	9d	9d	7¼d
December 4	1/-	1/-	9 1-16d
January 8, 1937	1/2	1/2	10½d
June 4	11d	11d	9¼d
December 3	7½d	7½d	7½d
January 7, 1938	7¼d	7¼d	7d
July 1	6¼d	6¼d	7¼d
December 2	7¼d	7¼d	8d
January 6, 1939	7d	7d	8¼d
July 7	7¼d	7¼d	8¼d
December 1	12d	12d	11½d
January 5, 1940	13d	13d	11 6½d
July 5	15d	15d	12¾d
December 6	13d	13d	12d
January 3, 1941	13d	13d	12 47½d
February 7	13d	13d	12 5¼d
March 7	15d	15d	13¾d
April 4	15d	15d	14¼d
May 2	16½d	16½d	14 0½d
June 6	18½d	18½d	13 5½d
July 4	17d	17d	13 7-16d
August 1	17d	17d	13¾d
September 5	(No quote)	(No quote)	13¾d
October 6	13 11-16d	13 11-16d	13¾d
October 10	Price officially fixed at		13¾d

(Continued From Inside Front Cover)

was all the time in the world to get things done.

THE decline and fall of the Caroline Empire was brought about by the time-honoured Mongoloid method of infiltration, rather than by direct military invasion, and probably, resulted from a steady and progressive mixture of the two races; until the population became a nation of Mongol-Polynesian half-castes.

These mixed progeny, inheriting alien ideas from their Mongoloid parents, were not inclined to believe implicitly in the divine origin and authority of their rulers, who had set themselves up as the direct descendants of Ta'aroa, creator of gods and men. The attempt by the royal clan to stem this tide, has come to our knowledge through the Arioi society, which survived in the Caroline Islands and in the Society Archipelago (whither it was subsequently brought), until early in the nineteenth century.

Instituted to preserve the pure blood and the unquestioning fealty of the warrior clans, the Arioi society was fashioned to attract to its fellowship the flower of the youth of unblemished ancestry. To the uninitiated the Arioi were bands of strolling comedians who were held in high esteem by all classes. Internally, the society was a grim hierarchy that exacted the slaughter, at birth, of all infants, if one of the parents should be of inferior rank or of mixed ancestry.

These measures may have delayed, but they did not halt the steady deterioration of the Caroline Empire. It is easy to imagine, therefore, that the proud chiefs and priesthood resolved to mend their fortunes in the well-settled archipelagoes south of the equator, which were far enough away from the Asiatic mainland to be safe from raids or infiltration from that quarter.

THE first warning the people of Polynesia had of this enterprise was a sudden descent from the north-west—by way of the marginal islands of Fiji—on Tonga and Samoa.

The sons of Ta'aroa, who had established their headquarters on Rotuma (north of Fiji) did not gather any great advantage from these expeditions. The conquest of Tonga was, indeed, complete; but the campaign against Samoa resulted in nothing more than a prolonged siege that required a large force of warriors to maintain. They were well enough informed to know that the key to the conquest of Polynesia was Hava'i (Ra'iatea) in the centre.

That they abandoned the idea of a military expedition and resolved on Fifth Column procedure is indicated in the following quotation from "Ancient Tahiti": " . . . There came to Pora Pora from Rotuma, north-west of the Tonga group, a prince named Te Fatu (The Lord), a god's name, which only the highest of Polynesians ever dared to assume, and which brought this prince great authority upon land from the god Te Fatu, lord of the ocean."

How this advance agent travelled from island to island and from group to group, and wangled the various high-chiefs into the belief that the very blood descendants of the creator of gods and men were about to honour ancient Hava'i with their presence, has come down to us with considerable detail.

When all was prepared, the sons of Ta'aroa moved in. We have no record of their coming. They took good care to cloud that event for posterity in the mist of myth and legend, in order to establish the belief that they had been there "mai te po maira," i.e., from the begin-

ning of time. We have an example in our own time how, within the space of one generation, a group can emerge from the nethermost dungeons of obscurity to the very throne of Olympus itself, by mere assumption.

The Ao-uri-ao-tea Confederation, which resulted from all these activities, was a Commonwealth of Nations that paid reverence to the religious and cultural centre at Opoa, on Rai'atea, rather than fealty to secular rulers residing there. Each of the two divisions of the federation maintained a sort of archiepiscopal high-commissioner (called respectively the Pa'oa-uri and the Pa'oa-tea) who resided with the Opoa royal family.

THE event which disrupted the confederation resulted in the last great migration to New Zealand, and brought upon Polynesia the night of isolation (each archipelago from the other—during a period of five hundred years), was the murder of the Pa'oa-tea by a chief of the Ao-uri, at a conclave convened at Opoa some time in the middle of the fourteenth century.

And so came to an end the migrations of the greatest race of mariners the human family has produced.

Pitcairners' Holiday Cruise

BY ADA M. CHRISTIAN

FOR weeks, the Pitcairn Islanders had been waiting for good weather and favourable wind, with which to go on our annual holidays to Oeno Island, about 75 miles to the north-west.

Our expectation was realised on March 25. The day (Thursday) dawned beautiful and bright, with an easterly breeze gently blowing.

An early signal bell gave notice to all that the boats would sail for Oeno in the afternoon. All needful preparations were speedily made. Women baked arrowroot or corn biscuits and rolls, which, when packed in tins will last the whole voyage through, besides cooking food to be eaten on the way. The men brought provisions from the gardens—bananas, pumpkins and sweet potatoes—enough to last, with care, for a fortnight.

With the aid of wheel-barrow, our only means of conveyance, the loads were easily carted to the Landing Place at Bounty Bay.

By 3 o'clock, all was ready. The boats were launched and loaded to the full. Besides provisions, each person had his or her personal luggage and other things necessary for the voyage.

Before leaving the beach, our church elder, Roy Clark, offered prayer, asking that God's protection might be placed over the boats and their occupants. Good-byes were said, and the boats pulled out of the harbour, one after the other. The three boats (which were introduced to the "PIM" in a previous article) were not enough to accommodate the 67 passengers—men, women and children—and crews; so Andrew Young's boat, the "Nu-ni," had to come along.

Five o'clock found us well under way, enjoying the fast falling twilight as we glided smoothly over the sea. Oars laid over the thwarts, covered by heavy tarpaulin, with baggage for pillows and blankets to cover, made comfortable resting places for the time being.

Responsive flashlights from the land showed that the people at home were as eager to locate our position as we were to see how far we had sailed away in

the darkness. By midnight all lights and land were lost to sight and all who had not done so before, except the helmsmen, settled down to sleep as best they could and await the morning.

AGAIN, the day dawned as beautiful as the preceding morning, with the same gentle breeze sending us pleasantly along. Seabirds flying around were evidence that land was not far away.

By 11 o'clock, coconut trees were seen, as though standing up out of the water, the first sight to be seen of Oeno, showing that we were eight miles away. After the coconuts, other trees began to show up all at once, all seeming to be of the same height. The land is flat throughout, rising only a few feet above sea-level.

The white sandy beach around glistened brightly in the sunshine. Hundreds of birds, black and white, were flying over the island, while others were flying seaward to hunt for their daily food (fish), and some were returning with their find. The whole scene is one to captivate the eye. What a change it is from the rocky cliffs of our own shoreline on Pitcairn!

There was hardly a surf breaking on the reef near the passage-way, so there was no difficulty in going through. It was about 3 o'clock when the last boat landed.

Each person except the youngest children set to work, getting the encampment ready before the Sabbath came on at sunset. Some of the men were engaged in putting up tents, one for each boat's crew. By using the boat masts for ridge-poles, and the oars for supporters, the work was easily accomplished. Coconut fronds were strewn on the sandy soil, over which coats or blankets were spread to keep off the cold. Others chopped wood, while the women prepared food.

Several of the children accompanied four men to the hollow inland from which, when sand is scooped out, fresh water is obtained.

All who were not thus engaged went out in search of birds' eggs, for tea. When night came, all were ready for sleep.

Next morning, Sabbath School was held on the beach after breakfast, Wilkes Young acting as superintendent.

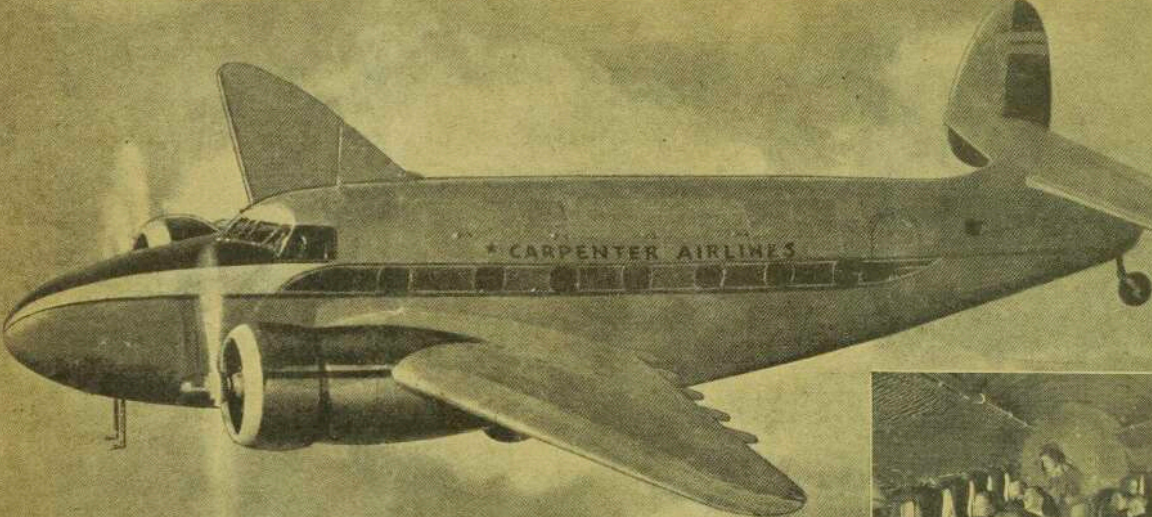
By sunrise Sunday everyone was astir ready for work, according to his particular choice—fishing or bird-hunting or cutting timber. Some chose to go in search of shells on the shoals in the lagoon. No less active than the men, the women busied themselves with feminine work—cooking, broom and basket making, or gathering shells by the seashore.

SUCH was the daily routine for five beautiful days. Then the wind pulled to the north-east, a fair direction for the return voyage. In the evening George Warren, our navigator, advised everyone to be ready to sail for home the following afternoon, should the wind hold fair, which it did. Next morning, earlier than usual, the entire encampment was active, hurriedly making all needed preparation to go home, some reluctantly, while others were glad to be returning.

Four o'clock found the boats all outside and sailing around the reef. Half an hour later we were on our course for Pitcairn with as fair and favourable wind and weather as we had going down. We landed at Bounty Bay about 3 o'clock in the afternoon of April 3.

Such trips in our small whaleboats are not without risk or danger, but most Pitcairn Islanders are fond of the sea and much enjoy a journey to one of our neighbouring islands, Henderson or Oeno.

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PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY—JULY, 1943



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