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December 18, 1944

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PACIFIC ISLANDS Monthly

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NORMAL CHRISTMAS

At Christmas-time, 1942 and 1943, the people of Polynesia presented their traditional dances for the entertainment of overseas servicemen. These girls of French Oceania are typical of thousands who donned the festive costumes of the old times. But, this Christmas, they will have few servicemen among their guests. The war, in 1944, has moved away, north of the Equator—and nearer to Tokio.



Established 1930

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1/-

ROLL OF HONOUR—Section I.

[Section I (Killed, Missing, Prisoners) and Section II (Wounded, Decorations, etc.), published in Alternate Months]

(We try to assemble here the names of men of the United Nations, residents or former residents of the Pacific Territories, whose names appear in casualty lists or who receive decorations. We should be grateful if relations and friends would send us details of such men.)

KILLED

Sgt. Bert AITKEN, NZEF, formerly of Fiji. Killed in action in Libya.

Eugene AUBRY (formerly of Tahiti), of the Air Force of Fighting France. Killed in an air accident in Great Britain.

Pte. Louis ASPINALL, NZEF, formerly of W. Samoa. Killed in action in Italy in March, 1944.

Trooper Richard Steele AUBIN, NZEF, formerly manager of the Mangana, Cook Is. branch of CINA, Ltd. Killed in action in Italy.

Lieut. L. E. AUSTIN, AMF, formerly of Tangara, Papua. Reported missing, believed killed, February, 1944.

Squadron-Leader Stan BALDIE, RAF, formerly of Wau, TNG. Killed in action in India.

Jean BARTHE, of FF Pacific Battalion, formerly of N. Caledonia. Killed in action.

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

Lieut.-Colonel C. N. F. BENCOUGH, of BSI, Defence Forces, formerly Acting-Resident Commissioner of BSI. Killed when aircraft shot down into sea, August, 1943.

R. C. BENTLEY, NZEF, formerly of Fiji. Killed in action, Middle East, June 27, 1942.

Victor BERNUT, of FF Pacific Battalion, formerly of N. Caledonia. Killed in action.

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

P/O J. B. BOMPORD, RNZAF, formerly of CSR Co.'s staff, Fiji. Killed on active service in England.

Pte. W. R. M. BRADNAM, of the NZ Forces, formerly of Fiji. Reported killed in action in the Middle East, 25/11/1941.

Warrant-Officer R. F. BRECHIN, New Guinea Force. Killed in air accident, June 17, 1942. Formerly of NG Department of Agriculture.

Pte. Rex BRIGHOUSE, NZEF, formerly of W. Samoa. Killed in action in Italy.

Anton BRINON, of Fighting French Pacific Battalion, formerly of La Foa, New Caledonia. Killed in action in Libya, November, 1942.

Lieut.-Colonel Felix BROCHE, of the New Caledonian-New Hebridean contingent, of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Killed in action in the battle of Bir Hacheim (Libya).

Sgt.-Observer Ross BUCKLEY, RNZAF, formerly of Fiji. Reported missing in air operations. Presumed "dead" in January, 1944.

Pte. Emori CABENALEVU, of Fiji Military Forces. Killed in action in Solomon.

Pilot-Officer E. H. CANARD, of RAF, formerly of Fiji Civil Service. Killed in flying accident in South Africa in the course of his duty as flying instructor.

Pte. David C. CARLAND, AIF, formerly chief assayer at the Emperor gold mines, Fiji. Killed in action in New Guinea.

Pierre CHARPENTIER, of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Killed in action in the battle of Bir Hacheim.

Raymond CHAUTAUD (formerly of New Caledonia), of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Killed in action in Libya.

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

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

Sqd.-Leader Lionel COHEN, RAF, formerly of Upper Watut, TNG. Killed when returning from a bomber raid on Berlin in 1942.

Sgt-Pilot Colin CRABBE, RAF, formerly of Suva, Fiji. Killed by enemy action in England in May, 1943.

Pte. Felix CRAIG, AIF, formerly of accounts department, Australasian Petroleum Co., Port Moresby, Papua. Killed in action, June, 1941.

L. J. DAWES, of the NZ Forces, formerly District Officer of Savaii, Western Samoa. Reported killed in action, February, 1942.

Pilot-Officer V. L. DEARMAN, of the RAAF (observer), formerly overseer and clerk at the Colonial Sugar Refining Co., Ltd., Raraval, Fiji. Reported killed in action in the Middle East, October, 1941.

Lieut. Bruce Insham DENT, MC, of Fiji Military Forces. Killed in action in S-W Pacific, March 25, 1944. (See "Decorations.")

Robert DEVAUX, of FF Pacific Battalion, formerly of N. Caledonia. Killed in action.

Robert DROLLET, of FF Pacific Battalion, formerly of Tahiti. Killed in action in Italy, June, 1944.

Gustav GOGENMOS, of FF Pacific Battalion, formerly of N. Caledonia. Killed in action.

Cpl. Aled GIBB, NZEF, formerly of Apia, Western Samoa. Killed in action in Italy in early 1944.

Capt. Jean GILBERT, of the Naval Forces of Fighting France, and formerly of Tahiti. Killed in action while on mission in South Pacific.

Captain Kenneth GARDEN, of the RAF Ferry Command, formerly of Guinea Airways Ltd., in New Guinea. Killed September, 1941, when a bomber he "ferried" from UFA crashed on west coast of Britain.

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

Rifleman J. A. GOODWIN, AIF infantry, formerly of Bulawa, TNG. Reported "accidentally killed", April, 1942.

Ernest GOURNAC (formerly of Tahiti), of the Air Force of Fighting France. Killed in an air accident in Britain.

Pte. Wallace GRAHAM, of the NZ Forces (infantry), formerly on the staff of Morris Hedstrom Ltd., Fiji. Killed in action in the White Fint, November, 1941.

Lieut. J. A. GRANT, AIF, formerly of Mandated Territory. Killed in action.

Lieut. L. B. GROVE, AIF, formerly of Madang, TNG. Killed in action.

Squadron-Leader C. R. GURNEY, RAAF, a former chief pilot of Guinea Airways, Ltd. Killed in action in the New Guinea area, May, 1942.

Pte. B. HAMILTON, AIF, formerly of Auckland, NZ, and New Guinea. Killed in action.

Gerald T. J. HARPER, RAF, son of Major and Mrs. P. Harper, of Ra, Fiji. Killed in action while navigating a Whitley bomber during a raid on the Continent.

Capt. G. C. HARRIS, AIF, formerly of TNG. Reported killed in action, June, 1944.

J. HEAD, RAAF, formerly of Fiji. Killed in flying accident in Australia, 1941.

Hute HEPPO, of FF Pacific Battalion, formerly of Tahiti. Killed in action in Italy, June, 1944.

Captain L. T. HURRELL, infantry, Rabaul. Killed in action.

Sqd.-Leader James R. HYDE, of the RAAF, formerly a Patrol Officer in Namatanai and Sepik Districts, TNG. Awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, 1941. Killed in action while leading an attack on an enemy convoy off the coast of Greece, July 24, 1942.

Pte. Jack JOHNSON, formerly of Morris Hedstrom's staff, Fiji. Killed in action on November 4, while serving with the AIF in New Guinea.

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

Flying-Officer G. M. KEOGH, RAAF, formerly of Wewak, TNG. Killed in air operations in New Guinea, August 30, 1943.

LAC Douglas KIRBY, RAF, who left Suva, Fiji, with the first contingent of Air Force trainees. Reported killed in a flying accident in South Africa, March, 1942.

Marcel KOLLEN, of the Pacific Battalion of Fighting France. Killed in action in the battle of Bir Hacheim.

Marcelin LACABANNE, of the French Colonial Infantry Commandos. Holder of the Croix de Guerre, with Silver Star, and Médaille Militaire. Formerly of N. Caledonia. Killed in action in Amiens, France, May 25, 1940.

C. D. LAMONT, RAF, formerly a master at Boys' Grammar School, Suva, Fiji. Missing, believed killed on air operations over Germany.

Pte. Jone LAWAKILEVU, FMP. Reported killed in action in the Solomon, September, 1944.

Cpl. Gaston LESSON, of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Killed in battle of Bir Hacheim (Libya).

F/O Allan T. LEYDIN, RAAF, formerly of Papua and the Mandated Territory. Killed in flying operations over the Mediterranean, October 26, 1943.

James LEVY, of FF Pacific Battalion, formerly of N. Caledonia. Killed in action.

Capt. (now Lt.-Colonel) Edward Tiwi LOVE, NZ Maori Battalion, husband of Mrs. Takau Rio Love, Ariki-nui of Rarotonga, Cook Islands. Reported missing during campaign in Greece, May, 1941; later, June, 1941, reported "wounded and safe." Officially announced, July 17, 1942, killed in action in Libya.

Flying-Officer John C. LOWE, RAAF, formerly an overseer with the CSR Co. in Fiji. Reported, 11/4/1942, "took part in air defence of Rabaul, TNG.—missing, believed killed".

Pte. L. P. MCCARTHY, AIF infantry, formerly supercargo on W. R. Carpenter and Co.'s inter-island vessels "Desikoko" and "Mako", in New Guinea. Reported "killed in action" in Syria, 30/10/1941.

Sgt. Kenneth MACGREGOR, AIF, formerly practising as a barrister and solicitor in Wau, TNG. Reported missing, believed killed, in Papua.

Sgt.-Pilot Ronald MACKAY, RAAF, formerly of Thursday Island. Killed in an aircraft accident in England.

Lieut. J. McClymont, formerly of Apia, W. Samoa. Reported killed in action.

Lance-Corporal A. D. MacPHEE, son of Mr. R. D. MacPhee, Levuka, Fiji. He was 35, was a member of the AIF, and was killed in Greece, May, 1941.

Noho MANEA, of FF Pacific Battalion, formerly of Tahiti. Killed in action in Italy, June, 1944.

Ernest MARTIAS, of FF Pacific Battalion, formerly of N. Caledonia. Killed in action.

Francois MASSON, of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Killed in action in the battle of Bir Hacheim.

Capt. John Malcolm METHVEN, reported killed in action in Egypt on July 22, 1942, while serving with the AIF. He was born in Ocean Island, and is the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Stuartson C. Methven, of Belgrave, Victoria.

P/O Officer Stuartson Charles METHVEN, born in Suva, Fiji, brother of the late Capt. J. M. Methven. Killed in air operations over Germany on January 23, 1943.

Spr. A. L. MORANDINI, AIF Engineers, formerly of Konedobu, Papua. Reported killed in action, April, 1942.

F/O R. H. MORGAN, RAAF. Missing, now presumed dead, after flying operations on May 6, 1944.

Pte. Marc MOUTRY, of FF Pacific Battalion, formerly of N. Caledonia. Killed in action.

Pte. Villame NAILATI, of Fiji Military Forces. Killed in action in Solomon.

F. R. J. NICHOLLS, Royal Artillery, formerly of Fiji. Killed in action, Burma, May, 1942.

W/O G. A. OBST, formerly a member of the Lutheran Mission, TNG. Joined Australian military forces in February, 1942. Killed in action in New Guinea on December 21, 1942.

QM Sgt. Toby O'BRIEN, AIF, formerly of the Lands and Surveys Department, TNG. Killed in action at Lae in September, 1943.

Sub-Lieut. A. OLANDER, RANVR, formerly of New Britain. Killed by the Japanese on Amclut Plantation, New Britain, March, 1943.

J. L. C. OSBORN, NZEF, formerly of Fiji. Killed in action, Middle East, June, 1942.

Sub-Lieut. Con PAGE, RANVR, formerly of Mandated Territory. Reported killed by the Japanese on Nemto Is., off New Ireland coast, about July, 1942.

Pilot-Officer Ivan PALMER, RAF, formerly of Fiji. Killed in air operations over Malta.

Lieut. R. G. M. PEMBERTON, AIF, formerly of Rabaul, New Guinea. Killed in action.

Capt. Raymond PERRAUD, FF Pacific Battalion, formerly of Noumea. Killed in action in Europe, 1944. Holder of the Croix de Guerre and Liberation Cross.

O. PILLING, RAF, formerly of Fiji. Missing; believed killed.

Lieut. Tony PHELPS, Fiji Military Forces. Killed in action in the South Pacific, January, 1944.

Flight-Lieut. H. G. PILLING, DFC, of the RAAF, formerly of Suva, Fiji. Killed on air operations, May 19, 1942.

Pte. Edward Harold PRICE, 2nd NZEF (27th Machine Gun Battalion), youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Price, Savu Savu West, Fiji. Killed in action during the Libyan campaign, Middle East, 27/11/1941.

Pte. Cecil PURCELL, NZEF, formerly of Alopatia, Samoa. First Samoan European to give his life in World War II. Killed in action in Middle East.

P/O G. REES-JONES, RAAF, formerly of Labasa, Fiji. Killed in air operations over Germany, August 16, 1942.

(Continued on Inside Back Cover)

PACIFIC NEWS-REVIEW

Nov. 17: The German canal line in Holland is broken and the British have joined the general push towards the Reich. Six Allied armies, in a 400-miles front from the River Maas to the Swiss border, are now attacking in the second day of a great offensive.

Nov. 17: It was announced in Canberra to-day that approximately 600 AIF prisoners of war were abandoned by the Japanese, and presumably lost their lives, when a transport on which they were being taken to Japan was torpedoed in the Western Pacific on September 12. There were 92 Australian survivors. They were picked up by a US submarine. This evidence of Japanese barbarity has profoundly shocked Australia.

Nov. 19: British troops are now six miles inside Germany. The Germans have evacuated the large rail and road centre of Gellenkirchen.

Nov. 19: The Japanese Government has reported that 184 Australian prisoners were lost and 72 were saved when a transport on which they were travelling to Japan, last June, was torpedoed. This disaster is not to be confused with that announced on November 17, when 600 Australians were left to drown.

Nov. 20: French forces have reached the Rhine through the Belfort Gap.

Nov. 21: The Germans are retreating along the whole of the 100-miles front from south-east Sarrebourg, through Alsace and Lorraine, to the foot of the Vosges Mountains.

Nov. 23: British and American troops in Germany are advancing in torrential rain and against fierce opposition, towards the Roer River and points guarding Cologne.

Nov. 24: US Super-Fortresses to-day launched an attack on Tokio factories and hydro-electric plants. The bombers flew from Saipan, in the Marianas—3,400 miles the round trip.

Nov. 26: US troops, developing an encircling movement on Saarbrücken, advanced 20 miles at the week-end. In the Aachen sector, the American First Army has broken through the Hurtgen Forest.

Nov. 27: At least 100 Super-Fortresses, from Saipan, attacked Tokio again to-day—the second time within four days.

Nov. 28: Strong German panzer formations are being used to cover the German retreat from the Americans in northern Alsace. The American threat to the Saar basin is growing.

Nov. 29: The third raid in six days was made yesterday by American bombers on Tokio.

Dec. 1: On the western European front the battle for the Roer River is nearly won. This is the first objective on the Allied three-army drive towards Cologne.

Dec. 3: Tokio was attacked to-day for the fourth time within nine days. This is reported to be the most successful raid on the city to date.

Dec. 3: Greek police this morning fired on demonstrating crowds in Athens for 25 minutes, wounding and killing many. The demonstrators were members of EAM (Left-wing Resistance Movement) who refuse to recognise the Greek National Government under Prime Minister Papandreu, or the authority of the British Commander in Greece, General Scobie. Members of ELAS, the guerilla forces attached to the movement, have also refused to hand over their arms. EAM has called a general strike in Athens and Salonika and normal life is entirely disrupted. The unloading of food and relief ships has come to a standstill.

EAM demand the right to choose the Government they want. The British Government declares that Greece is in no condition to choose its Government under present circumstances, that EAM represents only a small minority which has temporarily seized the stage, and that since the German occupation of Greece in 1941 they have worked only to this end.

Dec. 4: The battle for Hungary has taken a critical turn for the Germans. Russian forces are now driving the enemy back towards the Austrian frontier at the rate of 15-20 miles per day.

Dec. 6: A pitched battle between British troops and the ELAS (Greek Left-wing guerilla forces) was fought in Athens this morning. In defiance of Greek Government and General Scobie's orders, these guerillas have advanced into the city, firing on British guards and Greek police posts. There is danger of the whole of Greece being plunged into civil war.

Dec. 6: Russian armoured columns stormed through the last important German defence position in Hungary, at the south-west end of Lake Balaton, which opens the way across the plains to Vienna.

Dec. 7: RAF Spitfires and Beaufighters resumed the air assault against ELAS on the outskirts of Athens.

Dec. 7: The Russians are 40 miles from the Austrian frontier. Four German armies have been brought up to reinforce those resisting the Red Army offensive.

Dec. 8: Mr. Churchill defended Britain's Grecian policy in the House of Commons to-day. A vote of confidence in the British Government's policy in liberated countries was carried by 279 votes to 30. Many Members refrained from voting.

Dec. 10: The Hungarian Cabinet has fled from Budapest to a town on the Austrian border. Red Army units broke the German defences north-east of Budapest and advanced 40 miles on a 75-miles front.

Dec. 10: American troops who made a surprise landing on Ipil, Leyte (Philippines) on December 7, are attacking the outskirts of Ormoc, main Japanese base on the west coast.

Dec. 11: American troops have captured Ormoc, main Japanese base and port of entry on west coast of Leyte. Jap forces on the island are now virtually trapped and these is little hope of their fighting a long delaying action, although much mopping-up and perhaps frontal fighting remains to be done by the Americans.

Dec. 12: Admiral Sir Bruce Fraser, C-in-C of the newly-created British Pacific Fleet, has arrived in Melbourne, Australia. It is expected that the Fleet itself will arrive shortly and be based initially on Sydney and Melbourne. There will be no change in responsibility for the Pacific theatre of war—that will remain with the United States. The new British Fleet will operate under the direction of Admiral Nimitz in the Central Pacific, and General MacArthur in the South-west Pacific.

Dec. 12: Russian attacking columns have smashed their way into the outskirts of Budapest, where desperate hand-to-hand and house-to-house fighting is being waged.

Dec. 13: The Americans are pushing across Alsace; they have captured Haguenau, communications centre in the north, and are rapidly throwing the Germans out of the remaining part of occupied France.

General Patton's enveloping offensive against the Saar Basin is progressing

NOTES AND COMMENT ON THE PROGRESS OF THE WAR FROM NOV. 17 TO DEC. 13

well. All Allied bridgeheads across the Saar River are being held against strong panzer and infantry counter-attacks.

Dec. 13: Another Japanese convoy, while trying to land supplies and reinforcements on Leyte (Philippines) has been successfully attacked by American air forces operating in the area. The convoy had a stronger fighter cover than is usually sent out with these fleets. The Americans sank four transports, three destroyers; damaged two transports and one destroyer. The Japs managed to rush some supplies ashore on the west coast of Leyte.

Japs and Yanks Both Hunt Curios

But With a Difference

PEOPLE of the Gilbert Islands have discovered that the Japanese and Americans are both ardent souvenir hunters, but there is an important difference between them. The American is ready to pay generously for souvenirs whereas the Jap expects to get his free and the only bargaining he does is with a bayonet.

When asked how they were treated by the Japs during the occupation, the Gilbertese will tell you that while the officers were making unctuous announcements about the prosperity the natives would enjoy under Jap rule, the other ranks were scouring the villages, seizing every petty household treasure that took their fancy.

They would enter native huts, wrench open boxes and help themselves to clothes, clocks, wrist-watches, torches, ornaments and pretty well anything else that was portable. The officers, on the few occasions when the natives dared to complain to them, expressed disapproval of these practices but did nothing to check them.

Equally distasteful to the natives was the fact that they were expected to labour on airfields and other installations without pay—they had to be satisfied with the honour of serving their new Emperor.

On some islands the Gilbertese women were made to trudge long distances to deliver food (which in some parts of the Gilberts is by no means plentiful) to Jap camps. When they asked for compensation for this depletion of their own meagre stores, they were handed a few cigarettes and told "that is for carrying food. There is no need for us to pay you for it. Like everything else on these islands, it now belongs to Japan."

I asked the Gilbertese on Tarawa why they liked the Americans and got this answer: "When they came through our villages they didn't stop to steal things from us. All they thought about was chasing the Japanese." The villagers showed where their sympathies lay in the matter by eagerly joining in the chase.—Harold Cooper.

Captain G. H. Vernon, the well-known doctor-planter of pre-war Papua, was in Sydney on leave in December. Since the outbreak of the Pacific war, he has been attached to ANGAU and has given great service to wartime Papua. This is the first occasion since the invasion that he has been persuaded to take well-earned leave.

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.)

**FIJI, AND HIGH COMMISSION
FOR WESTERN PACIFIC**

Sydney Office of Fiji and Associated Administrations.

(In charge of Mr. B. F. Blackwell.)
72 Pitt Street, Sydney.
Telephone: BW 7724.

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.

**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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for the tropics. Excellent cuisine, attentive service
by trained Indian waiters and servants. Tariff from
20/- per day. Cable, "GRANPACIF" Suva, for
reservations.

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Australian Territory of Norfolk Island.
New Zealand Territory of Cook Islands.
Mandated Territory (NZ) of Western Samoa.
British Colony of Fiji.

British Solomon Islands Protectorate.
British Protectorate of Tongan Islands.
British Crown Colony of Gilbert and Ellice Islands.
Mandated Territory of Nauru.

British and Free French Condominium of New Hebrides.
Free French Colony of New Caledonia.
Free French Colony of Oceania (Tahiti, etc.).
American Territory of Eastern Samoa.
American Territory of Hawaiian Islands.

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A Plea for the "Small Man" in the Future of the Pacific

THIS is a letter written by Leslie F. Gill, to the editor. Without fear or favour, he discusses the future of the Western Pacific Territories. He gives voice to what many men are thinking.

There are four classes of Europeans in the Pacific Territories—the administrative officials, the missionaries, the large companies engaged in private enterprise, and the "small men" similarly engaged. Mr. Gill argues in favour of the "small men."

Mr. Gill is an experienced Solomon Islands planter, and understands every aspect of life in the tropical islands. While the war raged through the Solomons (it destroyed his home and plantation, one of the show places in New Georgia) Mr. Gill was associated with the Americans, in active war service.

THE major post-war problem that will face Australia is appalling in its terrible simplicity—populate or perish.

In its essentials, the same problem confronts the Islands of the Arc. The two problems—that of Australia and that of Melanesia—are interwoven and indivisible—so they must be solved together. If by some future Asiatic incursion, Australia is over-run, then Melanesia is also lost to the European world—if Melanesia alone is over-run, then Australia is doomed.

Security for Australia demands that Islands policy be related to that

of the Commonwealth. Never must it be possible for a Melanesian Administration to countenance, or sponsor, policies inimical to the safety of Australia. Not so long ago, if the then Administration had had its way, the British Solomons would have been flooded with Asiatic labourers—swamping natives and whites alike.

Australia dare not run that risk again. Australian control of the Solomons is the obvious solution. Failing that, the Solomons Administration always must be required to orient its policy in accordance with the necessities of Australian security.

MANPOWER must be built up in the Islands—white manpower as well as native. The natives have done a good job in this war. So have the white men of the Islands. The work of the New Guinea Volunteer Rifles and similar unnamed guerilla and commando units throughout the Islands has been notable. The Japs hated and feared them. The Australian and American armies and navies idolised, and all but worshipped, them.

The presence of a few white Islanders and their detachments of natives with the troops in the jungles had a tonic effect. For now the troops had eyes! No longer were they groping and feeling their way blindly. Morale arrived, and confidence flowed in like a healing balm and energiser to weary men.

Such was the magical effect of a

few white men and their natives—Fijians, Tongans, Solomons, New Guinea, or other Islands boys. Fuzzy Wuzzies, Black Angels, Boongs, Brown and Black Brothers—these were the names bestowed upon them in admiration, affection and respect.

But there was never enough of them at any time, anywhere. Nor of the all too few white men who organised and led them. The tragedy was that they were so few. More natives could have been organised had there been whites to train and lead them. That must never happen again.

WHILE Melanesian will never be a white man's country in the sense that Australia is, if we are to prevent it becoming an Asiatic country, we shall have to settle enough whites in the Islands to garrison them effectively with the help of the natives.

The natives like us and respect us, and will "play ball" with us. We have given them a fair go and they know it. Otherwise they would never have worked and fought and died for us when the Japs came.

Our greatest asset is our ability to get along with the natives. Elder and younger brothers together—white and black—with neither domineering arrogance on the one side, nor cringing, submissive servility on the other. Mutual respect and confidence. That is the splendid foundation upon which we shall be able to build the future.

THE Islands would be immensely strengthened if the small man—planter, miner, trader, tradesman—was encouraged to settle and make

his home there permanently. There is room for him, as well as for the big companies, missionaries, and officials.

Between the two World Wars, the effect of official policy—in the Solomons, at any rate—was to replace the small white men with Asiatics. The latter now almost equal the Europeans in numbers. There were less Europeans in the Solomons at the beginning of this war than there were 20 years ago, while the Asiatics increased manifold.

That policy spells national suicide for the British in the Pacific. Official policy encouraged and placed every facility at the disposal of the Asiatics to oust the white pioneer. It has succeeded admirably. There is scarcely a small, independent white man left—while the Asiatics are everywhere, and multiply. The European population consists almost entirely now of missionaries, officials, and the employees of a few big companies. Apparently officialdom is afraid of the small man and is much more at ease with the smooth, Asiatic Yes-man.

A prominent BSI officer once voiced official antipathy by a typical outburst: "I loathe the word 'settler'! It would be much easier for the Administration to have to deal with the representatives of a few big companies than with a number of small settlers!"

THE wonder of this war is not that the natives—who have had much done for them—should have fought so well for us, but that the small Islands white man, now mostly middle-aged and militarily exempt, who has so little to fight for—so little done for him in the past, and nothing to hope for in the New Orders of the theorists in the future—should have fought at all.

Big business must also be curbed, if the small man is to survive. Officialdom has sat back and allowed the small man (and, incidentally, the natives) to be ruthlessly exploited by a few big merchant-shipping firms. There is something radically wrong when a situation exists whereby small settlers and small companies are wiped out, while a few semi-monopolistic trading concerns (not Levers) go from strength to strength—despite two world wars and the cataclysmic Depression. These concerns are the Big Bad Wolves of the Islands—not the fairy godmothers they pose as being.

OFFICIALDOM loves to take the *laissez faire* attitude of ignoring what these concerns do to the small man, by exclaiming: "Our job is to protect the natives." It is too dumb to see that the unfair produce prices offered, and high prices charged for goods, are suffered by native and white producers alike. They are both in the same boat, though both officials and missionaries affect to believe otherwise.

Some even go so far as to drive a wedge between the natives and traders by telling their native charges,

and the world in general, that the traders are exploiting them. I have yet to hear an official or a missionary publicly attack the real exploiters—the big firms—though privately they will voice the opinions herein expressed.

SOMETHING has to be done about it—and quickly. The answer is: Better marketing; Bank finance as distinct from Big Firm finance (which usually means "tied men" and bankruptcy); and freedom to ship overseas and not forced to sell locally.

The Gordian knot would be cut by first freeing shipping—i.e., by providing the small man with the opportunity of shipping his produce overseas in common carriers. Up to date, the small producer has had to accept the cramped local price of the big firms, because he cannot ship on the overseas boats, as they are under charter to the big firms only. Free shipping is the crux of the situation, for it would at once solve the marketing problem, and go a long way towards solving that of finance.

A properly managed Government Copra Pool would solve all three problems.

SO there you have it. However much the Governments concerned may try to ignore or side-step the issue, the fact remains that in order to build up future permanent strength so as to hold Melanesia, the best class of settlers—returned soldiers, etc.—must be attracted, and, once established, given a fair deal to

enable them to stay in the Islands. The Big Company-Official-Missionary system (a completely artificial set-up) has been shattered by the war.

Realism demands that to the former demands must be added the permanent white settler to garrison the country—to give weight and balance—and to be the fusing agent that will weld the community into a united whole.

FIJIANS WORK FOR RNZAF

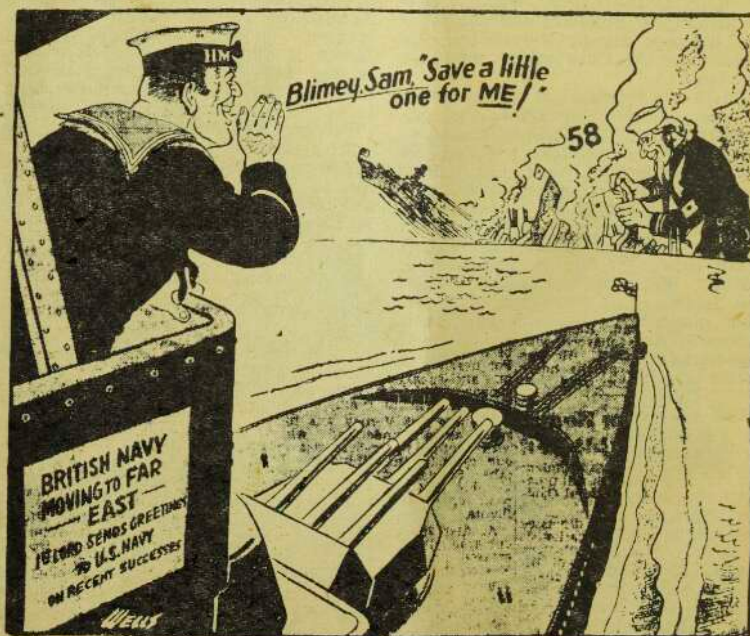
A USEFUL adjunct to Royal New Zealand Air Force stations in Fiji is the cheerful and apparently heat-resistant Fijian "boy"—always "boy" irrespective of age. These Fijians and a lesser number of Indians are hired by the Air Force to perform fatigues and much of the unskilled work on stations.

Once they understand what is expected of them the Fijians work quite efficiently, and in some trades, notably boatbuilding, show great skill. They work in a variety of "uniforms," varying from spotless white shirts and skirts to nothing worth mentioning at all, down on the seafloor, where they splash around Catalina flying-boats at the slipways, fixing towing lines and leading gear and working in dinghies and launches under European supervision.

The reason for employing native labour is not so much to save airmen a great deal of hard manual work, but to effect economy, native labour being relatively cheap.

—New Zealand Herald.

Wing-Commander Brett Hilder, pre-war skipper of BP's "Maiwara" in New Guinea waters, and now flying Catalinas somewhere up north, was in Sydney on leave in early December.



It was announced in Australia on December 12 that Admiral Sir Bruce Fraser, C-in-C of the newly-created British Pacific Fleet had arrived in Melbourne. The Fleet will arrive shortly and be based on Australia. Wells, of Melbourne "Herald," reviewing the recent American defeat of the Jap Navy, suggests that John Bull may be too late. There will, however, be work for the Royal Navy to do, and the fact that the Pacific is soon to become a two-Navy Ocean, may help to shorten the war in this theatre of operations.

Mysterious Papuan Inquiry

Commissioner Seeks Data on Events of Feb., 1942

AN official inquiry, concerning which there has been speculation, was formally opened in Melbourne on December 1 by Mr. J. B. Barry, KC, who appears to have the authority of a Royal Commission issued by the Commonwealth Government. The subjects of the inquiry are:

1. Whether the Administrator of Papua, and/or any member of the Legislative or Executive Councils, failed in their public duty to safeguard the Territory.
2. Whether any action taken or omitted to have been taken by the Military Command of the 8th Military District prior to noon on February 14, 1942, contributed to any failure on the part of the civil administration of the Territory.
3. Whether there was adequate co-operation between the civil administration and the military authorities in the Territory; and, if not, who was responsible for the absence of such co-operation.
4. All other matters deemed relative to the above.

The inquiry was formally adjourned until December 12, in Melbourne; and it was decided that all proceedings should be in camera. Mr. J. H. McClemons, of New South Wales, instructed by the Commonwealth Crown Solicitor, appeared to assist the Commissioner, and Lieut.-Colonel F. B. Gamble, of the Victorian Bar, appeared to assist any military witnesses who might be called. Sittings in Sydney will commence on January 4. It was announced that any person who wishes to give evidence may communicate with the secretary of the Commission, Mr. Kruger, of the Department of Supply and Shipping, 125 Swanston Street, Melbourne.

THE terms of the inquiry suggest that there was friction of some sort between the civil and military authorities in Papua in the very critical days following the Japanese invasion of New Guinea; but the clam-like silence of the Commonwealth Government (which ordered the inquiry) and the refusal of Mr. Leonard Murray (Administrator of Papua) and his senior officials to discuss the matter, plus the Commissioner's decision to hold the inquiry privately, leave the whole development more of a mystery than ever.

Bureaucracy rides high—and the public, in these days, has no right to information, or anything else.

It is assumed that an attack by the military authorities upon Mr. Murray is the basis of the thing—an assumption borne out by the appearance of counsel for the Army. Extraordinary as it may appear, there is no appearance of counsel for the Civil Administration. Is it to be assumed that the Brass Hats, who have exercised autocratic power, complete and unchecked, in Papua since February, 1942, are to have things all their own way in this inquiry? If there were no counsel for the Army, we might place our confidence in the fundamental fairness of mind of Mr. Barry, KC. As it is, the position is bewildering.

Mr. D. M. N. McFarlane returned to Fiji in October after a visit to Australia.

FIJI RICE

Price for Padi, 1945

From Our Own Correspondent

THE Controller of Production and Marketing has announced that Government guarantees to purchase padi during 1945 at £12/10/- per ton in Viti Levu and £12 in Vanua Levu. The Government will provide bags or, alternatively, will purchase the suppliers' bags at fair valuation.

It is considered that the prices are fair, and it is hoped that the guaranteed sale of the padi will create an incentive to the growers to produce all they can. Large production is desirable by reason of the very small quantity of rice now being imported.

FOOD PRICES

RECENTLY, the Competent Authority gazetted maximum retail prices for nearly 50 items of vegetables, fruits and fish. Variations are being gazetted each week, as dictated by the supply, according to seasonal conditions.

In a large majority of items, deductions were made on previously ruling rates.

Obviously there has been some dissatisfaction in this new move, but in other sections it is felt that the fixing of prices for vegetables and fruits has been long overdue.

NSW DUST REACHES FIJI

From Our Own Correspondent

FOR a couple of days this week the sky over Fiji has been dulled by the dust and smoke from the dust storms and fires which have been ravaging New South Wales. Late one afternoon the sky was so laden that the sun appeared a dirty white instead of in its usual fiery red.

Mrs. A. R. W. Robertson returned recently to Fiji from a visit to New Zealand.

G. AND E. ISLANDERS BUY TENDER FOR ROYAL NAVY

NATIVES of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony who, in August, 1943, were not under Japanese domination, together with G. & E. people living in Fiji, decided that they would like to purchase something which would assist the Allied war effort. They therefore began raising funds towards this end, determined that as they were seafaring folk their gift would be in some way connected with the sea.

SYDNEY CHRISTMAS PARTIES

Dec. 18.—Children's Party, New Guinea Women's Club. (Inquiries: XM 3500.)

Dec. 20.—Children's Picnic, NG Branch of Country Women's Association. (Inquiries: FU 6075.)

Dec. 21.—Territorians' Get-together Party, 7 p.m., New Guinea Women's Club. (XM 3500.)

Dec. 30.—Sherry Party, 7.45 p.m., NG Branch of CWA. (FU 6075.)

Choice eventually fell on a 35-foot aircraft tender for the Royal Navy. Such a tender would cost £2,250 sterling, and there were about 5,000 people in the communities concerned. But while the appeal was still under way, other parts of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony were liberated and it was not long before more money than was actually needed was available. The liberated Islanders were more than willing to express their gratitude for freedom, by giving money they raised selling curios to Allied troops.

The aircraft tender has now been purchased and is in service with the Royal Navy. The balance of the funds collected is being held with a view to buying another boat.

RAROTONGAN CONCERT PARTY



The Paramount Chieftainess of Rarotonga, Mrs. Takau Rio-Love (centre) and her party of Rarotongan girls who are presenting a series of Polynesian concerts to raise funds for the repair of the Makea palace which was severely damaged in the cyclone of March, 1943.

—Photo by W. S. Bond.

RETURN TO NEW GUINEA

By the Rev. M. A. Warren,
in the "ABM Review."

TO travel through New Guinea at any time is a rich experience, but under war conditions it becomes a strange and unimaginable mixture of the normal and the fantastic. One finds oneself a civilian moving about amongst an Army, depending on the Army for food, shelter and transport, upon the Army canteens for soap and toothpaste, and upon the Army's convenience for every move, and, finally, for a passage home.

Travel under such conditions involves the use of Army vehicles—jeeps, trucks, four-wheelers and six- and 10-wheelers—and Navy and Army launches. Frail some of them look, but with enormous power for special tasks which require the utmost speed.

But dependence on the transport of others has grave disadvantages. One cannot plan for the best use of one's time, but is obliged to sit by and wait and lose important hours and days.

WITH four missionaries—Misses Somerville, Caswell, Inman and Devitt—returning to their work in New Guinea, I left Sydney on August 21 in a troopship.

We called at northern ports en route, picking up large detachments of troops for service in the fighting zones. Our destination was Milne Bay, which we reached some days later and disembarked. The days at sea were full of interest despite some unpleasant experiences, but the Great Barrier Reef was full of beauty and the Coral Sea not too rough. It was of great interest to us all to see the high peaks of New Guinea again. We were thrilled when we entered the China Strait and recognised landmarks which we knew so well—Samarai, Kwato, Rogeia, Sariba, all with their special contours and colours.

Milne Bay, as had been the case since the New Guinea campaign began, was alive with shipping, and, whereas in the old days a ship each month was about the average, to-day it is seldom possible to see less than half a dozen vessels coming and going, and many tied up to the busy wharves.

Milne Bay was our first glimpse of the transformation caused by the war. Instead of the few native villages, a canoe drifting lazily along, and an occasional red-roofed house on a plantation, we discovered war installations of enormous magnitude extending over many miles of the coastline along the bight of the bay. At night the powerful electric lights make the scene resemble Port Melbourne rather than the New Guinea we used to know.

As we approached we saw some of the ravages of war—flotsam and jetsam in great abundance washed up by the tide; landing barges wrecked as they drove ashore; fuel drums rusted and useless on the beaches, and others stacked on shore with "gas" for the thousands of vehicles in use. Vehicles, of course, do not operate without roads, and it was amazing to see the roads winding in all directions, all busy with Army traffic.

AT Milne Bay we were to transfer to a small vessel which would take us to the headquarters of the Mission at Dogura. For two days we were given hospitality by ANGAU, and then commenced the 80-mile journey on a small launch to Dogura. This journey was accomplished in two stages. The first night we were given welcome hospitality

at East Cape, where the Rev. Mr. Williams is Superintendent of the Methodist Mission. He had recently returned, and was busy getting his station into working order again. We left in the early morning on the last stage along the north-east coast of New Guinea. Here Army installations were left behind for a time, the south-eastern portion of the diocese being now safe, and free of troops. In the early afternoon we sighted Taupota, and Miss Inman did her best to attract attention as we drew near. The waving of handkerchiefs made it clear to the Papuans that friends were on the strange vessel, and an eager throng gathered on the beach to receive us.

AITUTAKI MAORI CHARGED WITH THEFT

ON January 23, 1944, someone entered the office of Mr. H. H. Hickling, Resident Agent, Aitutaki, Cook Islands, and stole £252.

In February, 1944, in the lower Court, Rio Taria was charged with the theft, which he denied.

The case was adjourned until April 3, and then to April 5.

Rio Taria says that Mr. Hickling informed him on April 21 that the case was dismissed.

On July 4, Rio Taria was summoned to the High Court, before Judge McCarthy. On July 5, he was charged with entering the office, and with theft; he denied this, and brought evidence that he was sick and under medical attention from December 23 until February 12. Thereupon, on July 6, he was found not guilty of theft, but guilty of receiving the money, knowing it to have been stolen.

Rio Taria gave notice of appeal. He appears to be making a series of counter-charges. He has sent copies of the latter to the "Pacific Islands Monthly"; but these, in the circumstances, cannot be published.

New Laws in Fiji

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, Nov. 25.
THE Fiji Legislative Council has just finished a short session, presided over by the officer administering the Government (Acting Governor, Mr. J. F. Nicoll). At this session there were numerous bills for consideration, including the new Companies and Bankruptcy Bills. These are modelled on the current English Acts, and should bring the Colony into line with more up-to-date legislation in these matters. Ordinances at present in force are those of 1921 and 1889 respectively.

Also for consideration were bills to establish a code of criminal law and to make provision for the procedure to be followed in criminal cases. These bills are principally to codify the existing criminal law and procedure, which at present are contained in English common law, English statutes and local ordinances.

These, and other bills, are the outcome of the decision to bring into force a revised edition of the laws of the Colony, and the opportunity is being taken to introduce more modern legislation prior to the publication of the 1944 revised edition. The last revised edition was that of 1924.

Select committees will report on some of the new bills before next session, about mid-December.

Mr. J. A. Garnett was appointed a member of the Fiji Production and Marketing Control Advisory Committee, in October.

The engagement was recently announced in Suva of Miss Mabel Aspinall, fourth daughter of the late Mrs. L. Aspinall, and Lieut. Norman Neil Macdonald, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. N. J. Macdonald, of Suva.

TERRITORIAN PARTY IN SYDNEY



A pre-wedding tea was given to Miss Sheila Page at the residence of Captain and Mrs. J. Duncan, Chatswood, Sydney, on November 11, at the invitation of Mrs. Duncan and Miss Lamb. Our photograph shows the guests—all ex-Residents of the Mandated Territory—who attended. Miss Page is the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Page, of Rabaul. Mr. Page, who was Government Secretary of the Territory, is at present a prisoner in Japanese hands. Mrs. Page is the president of the New Guinea Women's Club of Sydney.

C. SULLIVAN PTY. LTD.

THE well-known Islands-trading firm of C. Sullivan & Co. has been incorporated as C. Sullivan Pty., Ltd. The managing director is Mr. C. Sullivan, who has had over 25 years in the Pacific Islands trade. In 1928 he founded the firm of C. Sullivan, Ltd., of which he was first managing director. In 1933, Mr. Sullivan went overseas, retiring from the managing directorate of the company, but remaining on the board as a director. In 1941, in association with the late Mr. V. G. Smith, he purchased the Islands goodwill of the business, and again resumed



Mr. C. Sullivan.

control. The staff remained with him, and is to-day substantially the same. Associated with Mr. Sullivan in the management, as a director, is his son, D. W. Sullivan, who saw service in the Middle East with the AIF, and is now discharged from the Army. Management of departments is in the experienced hands of Mrs. Y. Benson, Mr. R. Knight and Mr. W. H. Cumines, who is at present in Tahiti.

MERCHANT NAVY ADVENTURES OF FIJI RESIDENT

TWICE torpedoed and once bombed out of his ship is the record of Mr. Douglas Goodfellow, now of the Merchant Navy, formerly of Fiji. On one occasion he spent 14 days in an open boat without clothes and on a daily ration of one biscuit, a small square of chocolate and one ounce of water. The chief engineer of the vessel died after they reached shore, and the mate became insane while they were drifting.

On another occasion, Mr. Goodfellow and his shipmates were clinging to an over-turned lifeboat when the German submarine that had sunk their ship, surfaced beside them. The sub's crew turned the lifeboat over, enabling the sailors to crawl into it. The Germans said that they could not give them food because they themselves were short of supplies and on their way back to their base; but they did give them some cigarettes.

"Doug" Goodfellow was in the invasion of Sicily and, later, in landings on the Italian coast. When the Normandy invasion took place, his ship was a week out from Liverpool.

Mr. W. G. Johnson, of Suva, was appointed a member of the Imports, Exports and Foreign Exchange Control Advisory Committee of Fiji, in October.

Price of Fiji Copra

Letter to the Editor

YOUR article about copra in Fiji (June "PIM") reads well—unless one is in touch with the real facts. Then you get a different perspective on Fiji Copra. Your article is only part correct.

The article does not inform your readers that since April, 1943, all copra purchased in Fiji has been purchased on account of the Ministry of Food, and all profits that are made since April, 1943, are to accrue to the Ministry of Food.

There is, of course, the possibility that the Ministry of Food will distribute any profits to the producers in the way of bonus, as was lately done to the tune of 15/- per ton.

There is at present a surplus in hand, on the account which includes the loss on Rotuma copra, and the credit balance in that old account is well over £15,000. The new account opened on account of the Ministry of Food, wherein all profits accrue to the Ministry of Food, dates from April, 1943, to 1944; and the profit of several thousands of pounds already in credit on what is now called the New Account will no doubt be reimbursed to producers in due course.

That it is necessary to withhold such information from the producers is a mystery.

There is one price paid by the Ministry of Food, f.o.b. for Fiji copra, to the Fiji Government or Fiji Copra Board (or whatever name it fits) and quite another price paid by the Copra Board to the producers—in fact, the f.o.b. prices, as taken aboard ship at Fiji ports for export is on a margin of 5/- only between grades of f.a.q. and Plantation. Yet local Fiji prices are wide open at 30/-, between grades.

It is getting more difficult every day to get copra through as Plantation grade. Soon we in Fiji will need to wrap up every piece of copra in cellophane to get past the grader.

It will be noted, too, no producer sits on the Copra Board; and supposed Security reasons prohibit figures of production. But producers wonder why the New Deal, since April, 1943, to date, has been, for Security reasons, withheld from the producers.

I have no reason to doubt that the

PAPUA AND TNG TO BE ONE

Plan Advocated by Sir W. McNicoll

SPEAKING at the Royal Society of New South Wales in December, Sir Walter McNicoll, Administrator of the Mandated Territory of New Guinea between 1934 and the Japanese occupation in 1942, said that after the war Papua and New Guinea should be under one administration.

Since the evacuation of the Territories, the voice of Sir Walter on any matter pertaining to the Territory—past, present or post-war—has been conspicuously absent. Until now he has either been content to rest on his laurels or retire from the New Guinea scene.

Although joint control was much in the news before the war, at no time since have reformers mentioned the subject—possibly because they are not certain into which legal, international category the "Mandate" now fits.

Speaking on post-war development in the Territory, Sir Walter suggested also that New Guinea and Papua should become Australia's sole source of rubber supply after the war; that New Guinea should supply all Australia's cocoa; and that huge forests of pine and hoop pine in New Guinea should be scientifically exploited in co-operation with a policy of afforestation.

In seven years' time Papua and New Guinea would, he believed, be producing enough rubber to supply the whole of Australia's peacetime needs.

Ministry of Food will not do the right thing by the producers, and all profits will come back to them in the way of bonus payments per ton.

But I cannot worry out the Security reasons for holding back the real facts from the producers, about New Deals, etc. I cannot get a single line of reasoning to account for the secrecy.

I am, etc.,

GA NI BULU.

Vanua Levu.
10/10/44.**"OLD-TIMERS" OF WESTERN SAMOA**

This interesting photograph was found by Mr. P. C. Fabricius, of Apia, among some old papers. It shows some "old-timers" of Western Samoa, most of whom have since passed away. The occasion was a King's Birthday party at Mr. P. C. Fabricius's house in Apia. Left to right, they are: Mr. O. F. Nelson, Mr. W. J. Swann, Mr. G. Hay Mackenzie, Mrs. R. D. Croudice (still very much alive), Mr. C. M. Grey, and Mr. R. D. Croudice. The little boy is the son of Mr. P. C. Fabricius.

CONFERENCE ON INDENTURED LABOUR SYSTEM

Australian Territories Representatives Urge That Reforms be Slow and Gradual

PERSONS interested in native labour in the Australian Pacific Territories conferred in Sydney on December 1 and 2, at the invitation of the Australian Minister for External Territories (Mr. Ward). The following received an official invitation to attend:

Mr. J. R. Halligan, Secretary, Department of External Territories.
Mr. H. L. Murray, CBE, Administrator of Papua.
Mr. E. W. P. Chinnery, Commonwealth Adviser on Native Matters.
Mr. R. Melrose, Director of District Services and Native Affairs, New Guinea.
Lieut.-Colonel E. Taylor, MBE, Assistant Director of District Services and Native Affairs.
Lieut.-Colonel J. C. Mullaly, OBE, MLC, New Guinea.
Mr. A. J. Bretag, MLC, New Guinea.
Mr. T. Nevitt, MLC, Papua.
Mr. G. E. Annmiller, MLC, Papua.
Professor A. P. Elkin, anthropologist.
Lieut.-Colonel H. Ian Hogbin, anthropologist.
Representative of the Methodist Overseas Missions.
Representative of the Methodist Missionary Society of NZ.
Representative of the Australian Board of Missions.
Representative of the Lutheran Missions.
Representative of the Roman Catholic Missions.
Representative of the Australasian Union of Seventh Day Adventists.
Representative of the London Missionary Society.
Representative of the Pacific Territories Association.
Representative of the Papuan and New Guinea Miners and Workers' Union.
Representative of the Pacific Islands Natives' Welfare Association.
Representative of the New Guinea Planters' Association.
Representative of the New Guinea ALP.
Representative of New Guinea Miners' Association.
Representative of Papuan Planters' Association.

THE proceedings were not open to the press—no one can guess why. No official report—beyond a few vague generalities by the Minister—was issued. Australian public opinion is singularly ill-informed on this subject—and evidently it is the Minister's intention to keep it so.

Also, it was a remarkable thing—and typical of all that is done by the Australian Government—that not one of the big employers of native labour (Burns Philp & Co., Bulolo Gold Dredging, Ltd., W. R. Carpenter & Co., Ltd., Steamships Trading Co., Ltd., New Guinea Goldfields, Ltd.) was invited to attend. Apparently, their viewpoint is not wanted—because they are big and powerful, they are regarded as the natural enemies of the natives, and of the Administration, and of Mr. Ward.

But if Mr. Ward imagined that his hand-picked conference would bow to his cooing, and accept his instructions, he was due for disillusionment.

Mr. Ward opened the proceedings with a *fait accompli*—he said that he and Mr. Beasley already had announced, as the policy of their Government, the abolition of the indentured labour system as soon as practicable. The conference was invited to accept that fact, and say what should be done about it.

The conference did not approve of immediate abolition. Two or three missionaries and anthropologists were for a clean sweep; but all the other gentlemen (including most of the missionaries) who really know and understand the Territories, insisted that immediate abolition would lead to confusion and economic disaster, and would do the natives themselves great disservice.

THE following summarised report of the conference was submitted to the Pacific Territories Association by the president (Mr. James) at the quarterly meeting on December 5:

"The Minister informed the conference that the Government had definitely decided that the indentured system of labour was to be abolished as soon as practicable, and he invited conference to discuss what steps should be taken to give effect to this decision and what system of labour should take its place. The opinions of this Association were put before conference in the following statement:

"The Pacific Territories Association, comprising a considerable proportion of European settlers of the Territories of New Guinea and Papua, decided some little while ago that its main objectives were two: and as both of them have a distinct bearing on the subject of native labour, and in order to make our position quite clear, I will quote them:

(1) Civil administration should be restored in Papua immediately and in successive areas of New Guinea as soon as they cease to be areas of military operations. It is considered the return of civil administration and civilian settlers to the Territories is in the best interests of the native inhabitants, the European settlers, and Australia.

(2) The principles upon which the policy of former civil administration in these Territories was based, in regard to the government and treatment of the native inhabitants, should in no manner be changed, at least until some time after civilian administration has resumed. It is believed that this is essential for the benefit of the natives, so that they may quickly be divorced from the mode of life enforced by wartime control, and that any violent changes other than reversion to pre-war conditions would be inimical to their present interests and future developments.

"The Association is definitely opposed to the abolition of the contract system of native labour; but does not deny the possibility of improvement in the administrative policy for the governing of the native inhabitants.

"Nevertheless, we are strongly of the opinion that this is not the time to make any changes in the system of native administration. Let normal civilian administration resume, permit the natives to recover from the shocks and disruption caused by war conditions—with its destruction of property, forced labour and rapidly changing conditions—and then, and not until then, consider any necessary alterations in the policy of native administration in the light of conditions then existing, and with the advice of those competent by knowledge and practical experience to express authoritative opinion.

"The Association feels very strongly on this point, and asks that it be given careful consideration before any planning of post-war conditions for the natives of New Guinea and Papua is contemplated.

"However, as this conference appears primarily to be dealing with the question of contract labour, and I have clearly stated the Association's opposition to its abandonment, I should briefly state our reasons for this attitude.

"These Territories cannot survive with-

out settlement and development; settlement and development cannot proceed without labour; and we believe this settlement cannot continue to-day without labour engaged under the contract system as was in vogue in the Territories pre-war.

"Casual labour is quite unworkable, commercially, owing to the present stage of the natives' development, with their total lack of any sense of responsibility.

"Why have we indentured for European youths starting work? For exactly the same reason as with these natives who, I maintain, are comparable as to mentality with the average European in his teens."

"These opinions," proceeded Mr. James, "met with no little support. Many matters were discussed at length and numbers of tentative suggestions were given consideration. But a summary of the majority opinion of the representatives is covered by the following points:

The indentured system must eventually be abolished entirely.

No date can now be fixed for this, but it should not be done hurriedly, nor would its sudden abolition be in the best interests of either natives or employers.

There must be a transitional period during which contract labour should be continued with progressive modifications.

There should be a widening of the provisions and encouragement for the employment of non-contract labour.

Modifications of the existing contract system to be given early consideration to include: the modification of penal sanctions under the contract system; reduction of the maximum term of contract and total service, including re-engagement; stricter control of numbers recruited from different districts having regard to their labour potential; better transport facilities for native labourers, and repatriation by Government exclusively; greater educational facilities for natives, especially in the direction of assisting them to obtain employment other than under the contract system."

Mr. James explained that the conference had no power—it was merely advisory. A full report of its discussions would be submitted to the Australian Government.

AIRMAIL TO COOK ISLANDS

Inaugural Plane at Rarotonga

THE arrival of the first plane to land on Rarotonga (chief island of the Cook Group) was made the occasion, in November, of a public celebration.

It was a civilian plane, with a NZ Air Force crew, and it inaugurated what is hoped will become a regular weekly air-mail service—Auckland—Nukualofa (Tonga)—Aitutaki (Cook Is.)—Rarotonga.

Among civilian officials who made this initial survey flight was Mr. C. McKay, secretary of the NZ Islands Territories Department.

Mrs. Hills, wife of Captain Hills, who was formerly on the LMS mission ship, "John Williams," and now in the Navy, has returned to Fiji. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Dick, of Suva.

Mr. H. E. Snell, general manager of Morris Hedstrom, Ltd., who has been on a business visit overseas, returned to Suva in October.

TROPICALITIES

THEY do have their pipe-dreams. At the end of November, Mr. J. T. Lang announced in the NSW Parliament that he was in favour of tapping the unused water of New Guinea and bringing it to Australia to relieve drought—particularly in the inland. Mr. Lang left the sordid details of how this was to be accomplished to the imagination of his colleagues and fellow-citizens, but a Central Australian pastoralist, Mr. A. E. Davis, of Lake Eyre, weighed in, in the same week, with the same plan, but complete with estimates and some details. The cost, he estimates will be £2,000,000 per mile—or £180,000,000 to cross Torres Strait, or £2,500,000,000 to bring water right to Lake Eyre.

He said the water could be carried across Torres Strait by rubber pipes or through a tunnel.

Six hundred million acres of country in Central Australia could be made to produce annual crops worth £20 an acre.

Lake Eyre could be filled from the Sepik River in 48 hours, and by means of a lock at Port Augusta, ocean-going steamers could be brought inland to the lake to take away the produce of the area.

He visualised Australia, with his scheme, carrying a population of 600,000,000 people, with one of the biggest towns on the shores of Lake Eyre.

The normal Australian citizen wonders why both gentlemen insist upon going to New Guinea for water. Several practical schemes for diverting the northern rivers of Australia, which pour millions of gallons of good water into the sea daily, have been discussed lately, and it is probable that something of this sort will be done in the post-war period.

TELEGRAPHIC communications between New Caledonia and France were resumed in November, after four years' silence. One of the first messages to come through was to a Noumea motor car agency. It was from the Citroën Company of Paris—and it said that as their works were all in one piece they would be happy to resume business relations with New Caledonia forthwith.

PERHAPS it is not a bad idea to bring some Pidgin-poetry to the readers of "PIM." It may bring memories to some Territorians; and others perhaps are not aware that Pidgin-English can express every feeling of the human heart.

The feeling of the natives towards the Europeans who were chased out by the Japs can be guessed by the following verses which I picked up from my boys during my evacuation trip. I can remember only a few lines, and it is impossible to express the native melody and rhythm, but here it is:

What name fashion—what name fashion
... come up Rabaul, come up Madang.
(What is this that has happened to
Rabaul and Madang?)

Sunday Japan balus, Sunday Japan balus
—bomb'im, bomb'im, bomb'im place.
(On Sunday Jap planes bombed the
place.)

Sorry, master, sorry master—sorry Kong-
kong, sorry Kongkong,
(Sorry master—sorry Chinaman.)

Me too, you too, you too, me too ...
enough onetime, 'e go onetime,
Walkabout onetime ... die onetime.

(You and I share the same things, go
together, die together.)

—Pat.

ONE of the young and earnest anthropologists, who are being foisted on unfortunate New Guinea for its sins,

was talking to a boy—pardon, a native—and was trying to "get into his mind" in an attempt to see how far the native had deteriorated mentally through horrible exploitation by low whites, etc.

He asked the boy—pardon, again!—what he thought of the war, and was surprised to find how much the native knew. Then he asked him what he thought of Hitler, and the boy replied: "Oibe, me savi Hitler! E No. 1 bastard, all the same ANGAI!"—A.W.

WELL-KNOWN in New Guinea when he was a member of AWA staff there, Mr. E. B. Bishton writes as follows:

"In the November issue of the 'PIM' Mrs. Innes states that Mrs. Booth was the first white woman on Edie Creek (or Kaindi). I think it will be found that Mrs. Muller, who came in with Mick Lehey's party some time in October or November, 1926, was on Edie Creek a few weeks before Mrs. Booth visited the place, although Mrs. Booth had already lived a couple of years on the Bulolo River at a spot only two days' march from Edie Creek. Mrs. Muller was afterwards running the mess for Levey's Guinea Gold Co., on the Koranga, where Mr. Muller was working. Mr. Muller had a fall while on this job and eventually died in hospital at Wau."

THE Rev. C. W. Whonsbon-Aston, now Chaplain in Western Samoa, on qualities needed in intending missionaries:

One needs practical sense—initiative. On a mission station miles off the beaten track it is not possible to ring up the plumber or the carpenter or the engineer. Some men will immediately begin to reason: "Well, I'm afraid that leaves me out, for I know nothing about these things."

The Rev. Wilfred Light, when at Boianai, decided to build a church of concrete. It looked a problem, for he was entirely inexperienced in that sort of thing. It stands to-day—about as big as St. James', Sydney.

In my district in Papua one had to be boarding-house keeper (for school boarders), poultry and turkey keeper, goat factor, lighthouse keeper, house builder and repairer, district medico (up to 60 patients a day at times), schoolmaster, bread baker, cook and housekeeper—all additional to one's primary purpose as priest. This is typical. It leaves no time for morbid fancying. The days pass all too quickly.

Then, a sense of order. A Canon approached me with: "There is one man who might suit the mission field. The only thing that is wrong with him is that he is untidy in his attire, and his parishioners dislike it."

There were two points to answer. First, the mission field is not the proper place for cranks and eccentrics or folks that have "something wrong with them." Moreover, a person who has no sense of order or personal cleanliness is a menace.

THE arrival of my October "PIM", containing a tribute to a former resident of Edie Creek, whose informal tea-parties form an oasis in the desert of everyday Noumea life, coincided with a paragraph by gossip-writer Preston Charles, in the "Daily News"—a mimeographed news-sheet for the American Forces. Here it is:

"Not that we want to tell the Australians what to do, but they might well

pick a woman for Prime Minister. Our choice is 'Mom' Bowring, a Sydney girl who made good in New Caledonia with the Red Cross. With an enviable war record behind her, 'Mom' would be a sure vote-getter among ex-Servicemen. Being the motherly type also, she'd get the support of people who think the woman's place is in the home and girls should come home early from their dates. 'Mom' has already had considerable experience as Australia's goodwill-ambassador-at-large, and relations with other Allied nations would then continue to be excellent, of course.

"We assume the Aussies are satisfied with their present Government, but if they ever decide to make a change, here's an idea that we feel sure will bring resounding applause from a lot of American Servicemen."

—HELP.

LORD MOYNE'S tragic death in Cairo—he was British Minister in the Middle East and he was assassinated—will remind "PIM" readers of the controversy about New Guinea's pygmies, which Lord Moyne claimed to have found on the Upper Ramu.

In 1935-36 Lord Moyne, with a cross-section of British aristocracy as his guests, made a world cruise in his 700-ton luxury yacht, "Rosaura." In the course of it he, and some of his party, went up the Ramu River, in the Mandated Territory, and subsequently published stories which indicated that Lord Moyne and party had been responsible for discovering a tribe of pygmies there.

As far back as 1896-1901, the old German New Guinea Company had expeditions out in that district under a Dr. Lauterback, a man called Tappenbeck, and others. They made astronomical observations, prospected and surveyed some of the district and charted the Ramu River. Some of these parties claim to have reached the Bismarck and Hagen Ranges and reports of their expeditions appeared in German magazines. If they did really penetrate this country, it is probable that they came into contact with the "pygmies"—I have a vague idea that I have seen pictures of these "pygmies" near Atemble in a magazine published in 1902.

There is still divided opinion among the anthropologists about these natives—whether they should be called "pygmies" or whether they are only "pygmoids."

It is believed that two members of these early expeditions, Klink and Rodatz, although they appear to have German names, were Australians. I wonder if there is any record of them or their work in Australian publications?

However, whoever it was who first saw the pygmies it certainly was not Lord Moyne and party. And whatever the early expeditions may have learned of them, the late Father Kirschbaum seems to have been the first European to study them and their language.

—Pat.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

CORPORAL GORATARU, of the British Solomons Defence Force, has been awarded the Military Medal for "gallant and distinguished service in the South-west Pacific."

The following have been awarded the British Empire Medal for distinguished service:

John Milne, wireless operator, Gilbert Islands.

Levai Papaku, district headman, Solomon Islands.

Peter Tavoto, district headman, Solomon Islands.

FIJI AT WAR

Outstanding Records on the Fighting and the Home Fronts

TWO infantry battalions, two commando units and a Dock Company of the Fiji Military Forces have seen active service; a contingent of 30 young men was recruited in the Colony for the R.A.F. The decorations awarded to this comparatively small body of fighting men are as follows:

One Victoria Cross; one CBE; two MBE's; two DSO's; two DCM's; six Military Crosses; nine Military Medals; two British Empire Medals; one Distinguished Flying Cross; 36 men mentioned in despatches. American decorations won are eight Silver Stars and two Bronze Medals.

These decorations do not include those won by former residents of Fiji who are serving with British or Dominion forces.

As this list of awards indicates, the war effort of this small British Colony has been second to none. Fijians and European residents alike put their whole weight behind the cause of the Allied nations—particularly after Sir Phillip Mitchell arrived in 1942 and announced that he had "come to wage war."

To Lieut.-Colonel Ratu J. L. V. Sukuna, Advisor on Native Affairs, must go credit for the amazing response of the Fijians when recruiting for the Fiji Military Forces began; to local European and New Zealand officers must go credit for moulding the Fijians into a modern fighting unit; but the well-earned reputation of the Fijian troops as the supreme jungle fighters of the war in the south-west Pacific is all of a piece with the Fijian himself—along with his ingrained sense of discipline, his knowledge of the jungle, his eagerness and his cool courage in the face of danger.

THE first Fiji troops to go overseas were a small group of Commandos known as the "sample party." This party was sent to Guadalcanal in late 1942, at the request of the American commander there, in order to decide whether the Fijians were suitable as jungle scouts.

The men of this sample party under their New Zealand officers and NCO's did so well that the Americans asked for a full Commando unit, which was later used effectively in the New Georgia campaign.

The First Battalion, Fiji Infantry Regiment, was also sent forward about the same time. After garrison duty for many months on Florida Island, and a short period on Kolombangara, this battalion moved into the Empress Augusta Bay beach-head on Bougainville and distinguished itself by a series of daring patrols deep into enemy territory.

When the 3rd Fijian Battalion also moved into Bougainville later, it did just as well. The two battalions suffered astonishingly light casualties in comparison with those they inflicted upon the enemy.

With the 3rd Battalion went the Docks Company to unload ships at Empress Augusta Bay.

Before its own combat units went overseas, Fiji had already made a notable contribution to the war effort. Besides many young men who in the early days

of the war went overseas of their own accord to join the armed forces of Britain or the Dominions, a contingent of 30 was recruited in the Colony for the R.A.F. These pilots have taken part in bombing raids over Berlin, in attacks on U-boats off the coast of Europe, in the pursuit of Rommel's broken Afrika Corps, and in the defence of India and Ceylon.

Officers and men of the Fiji Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve have seen action in New Zealand warships, and in 1940-41 Fijian merchant seamen helped to carry supplies to Mediterranean garrisons.



Lieut.-Col. Ratu J. L. V. Sukuna, with District-Commissioner C. R. H. Nott.

NOR has there been anything lacking in the efforts of citizens on Fiji's home front. During 1942, Fiji became an Allied base, with the whole economic and social life re-orientated towards this sudden change in the affairs of the formerly quiet and peaceful Pacific Colony.

The Home Guard and the Civil Defence organisation consisted of Europeans, Fijians, Indians, Chinese and representatives of almost every island group in the Western Pacific.

From the beginning of the war the women of Fiji have worked to provide gifts for men serving overseas and for the civilians of Britain who became victims of enemy bombing.

Fiji has contributed £260,000 to war funds and, in addition, 3 bombers and 9 fighters have been bought for the R.A.F.

It is a fitting culmination to Fiji's part in this global war that one of her native sons, Corporal Sefanaia Sukanaivalu, should have been awarded the supreme reward for valour—the Victoria Cross. In gaining this award, Corporal Sukanaivalu lost his life, but in so doing he saved those of his comrades and wrote the Fiji Military Forces indelibly into the records of the British Army.

The Rev. H. J. E. Short, of the LMS, arrived in Sydney on furlough from Papua recently.

The marriage of Miss L. Kutinius to Mr. P. Snook was celebrated at Valu, Savu Savu district, Fiji, on October 7. Miss Kutinius until recently was a Child Welfare nurse. Mr. Snook is Savu Savu manager for Morris Hedstrom, Ltd.

DECORATION FOR DR. DE CURTON

From Our Own Correspondent

NOUMEA, Nov. 21.

THE French Resistance Medal has been awarded to Dr. (Major) de Curton, who became Governor of Tahiti when French Oceania rallied to General de Gaulle in 1940.

In the middle of 1941 he was arrested after a personal quarrel with the General's Pacific envoy, Governor General Richard Brunot, who wished to make himself Governor. Dr. de Curton was released on the arrival of High Commissioner d'Argenlieu in Tahiti.

Governor General Brunot complained that Dr. de Curton, as Governor, had not seen to it that the Tahitian people gave him and Madame Brunot a sufficiently splendid reception.

Since his return to London, the French have published a book by Dr. de Curton on French Oceania, and his good work while in the Colony has been fully recognised.

In New Caledonia, Governor Henri Sautot also had difficulties with Governor-General Brunot and his wife. One cause of friction was that Monsieur Sautot, on the ground that in 1941 the Colony had a budget deficit, refused Madame Brunot's request that Government House, Noumea, should be repainted for their stay.

Monsieur Brunot seems to have arrived in the Pacific determined, by hook or by crook, to make himself Governor of one of the French possessions. He tried hard to have Governor Sautot removed from Noumea, and to this end he was the first to encourage the backstairs politics which were an unhappy feature of New Caledonian life during 1941-42.

The Resistance Medal has also been awarded to Jacques Ravet and Marcel Senac.

WASTED PETROL IN TAHITI

From Our Own Correspondent

PAPEETE, Oct. 1.

THERE probably is no place on earth where petrol is so persistently and joyously wasted as in Tahiti—particularly by truck-drivers.

One of the favourite procedures is to clean (or attempt to clean) foul spark-plugs by racing the motors. When a motor begins to stutter in a manner that informs any experienced driver that a foul spark-plug is the cause, our learned Tahiti chauffeurs will try everything but the obvious method of unscrewing and cleaning the plug. Often the lorry will stand on one spot for half an hour while the chauffeur presses down the accelerator pedal, at intervals of five seconds, until the whole neighbourhood is filled with noise, petrol fumes, and profanity—as though a Panzer division were operating there.

The only variation, in the case of a choked carburettor, is that—after the usual period of thunder and profanity—the lorry is bunted ahead a hundred yards, and the process repeated.

Another procedure is carried out whenever a lorry is sent to deliver a box of groceries to the Mission (distance ½ kilometer), or to Mamao (distance ½ kilometer). The route home is invariably via Fau-tau Avenue, and Prince Hinioi Road (a distance of 2½ kilometers) in order that the chauffeur and his assistants may be refreshed after their arduous labours.

The enigma of the errands of the empty lorries that buzz through the highways and byways of Papeete at all hours of the day and far into the night, constitutes a mystery as profound and dismal as Easter Island.

"SOME MEASURE OF SUCCESS"

Quarterly Report of the Pacific Territories Association Submitted to Meeting

FOR the first time since the inauguration of the Pacific Territories Association, over 2½ years ago, the executive had progress to report to the quarterly meeting in Sydney on December 5.

Referring to the Commonwealth Government's recent decision to amend the War Damage to Property Regulations, to include "indirect" war damage, Mr. E. A. James, president of the PTA, said that the existence of the Association was justified in just that one decision.

The amendments to these regulations, it is anticipated, will cover a number of matters which have long exercised the minds of the executive. These include:

- Gold left at Wau which should now be insurable against loss.
- Payment by the military for goods and chattels.
- Assistance in rehabilitation.
- War damage insurance on small vessels.

Members were reminded, however, that these amendments will take some time to prepare, and until the whole text is issued, the full implication of the Government's recent decision cannot be stated.

OTHER matters dealt with in the executive's report which was submitted by the secretary, Mr. C. A. M. Adelskold, were as follows:

Deputation to Canberra

MEMBERS will remember that at the last general meeting the following resolution was carried:

"That the executive be instructed to prepare a case for submission to the Prime Minister of Australia, and that they appoint a delegation from the executive to proceed to Canberra and submit same to the Prime Minister."

Acting on this instruction, your executive fully prepared a memorandum dealing with the following matters:

- (1) Return of civilian administration to the Territories.
- (2) Rehabilitation of the Territories.
- (3) Representation of ex-residents on Advisory Committees.
- (4) Civilian internees and their dependants.
- (5) Gold left at Wau.
- (6) Payment for chattels and rents by the Army.
- (7) Sustenance allowance to evacuees.

Unfortunately, owing to the continued illness of the Prime Minister, your delegation has not yet had the opportunity to submit the memorandum.

Advances Against Assessed War Damage

YOUR executive has submitted a memorandum to the Commission re-

questing that consideration be given to the amending of the regulations to allow of more latitude in the granting of advances against assessed war damage.

Return of Civil Administration

YOUR executive is taking all possible action to try and speed-up the return of civilian administration to Papua immediately and to successive areas of New Guinea as they cease to be areas of military operations, and in this regard the following plans have been forwarded to other interested bodies in order to obtain their support and to present a united front of all associations and persons interested in the Territories.

Civil administration should be restored in Papua immediately and in successive areas of New Guinea as soon as they cease to be areas of military operations. It is considered that the return of civil administration and civilian settlers to the Territories is in the best interests of the native inhabitants, the European settlers and Australia.

The principles upon which the policy of former civil administration in those Territories was based, in regard to the Government and treatment for the native inhabitants, should in no manner

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be changed, at least until some time after civilian administration has resumed. It is believed that this is essential for the benefit of the natives, so that they may quickly be divorced from the mode of life enforced by war-time control, and that any violent changes other than revision to pre-war conditions would be inimical to the present interests and future development.

Native Labour Conference

AT the invitation of the Minister for External Territories, Mr. Ward, the PTA was represented at a conference, held in Sydney on December 1 and 2, to discuss the question of native labour in the Territories of New Guinea and Papua. The president, Mr. E. A. James, was appointed as our representative. Others at the conference, held under the chairmanship of the Secretary of the Department of External Territories, Mr. Halligan, were representatives of the various missions, the two Administrations, the planters, miners and Miners' Union, non-official members of the two Legislative Councils and anthropologists. Mr. R. Melrose acted as secretary. (For a full report of this conference, see elsewhere in this issue.)

Rents

THE position in regard to rents has not advanced since our last meeting, and the matter of paying rents is still under consideration by the appropriate Government Departments. Many members will have received this advice from a circular, issued by Mr. H. G. Alderman, KC.

Red Cross Conference

THE Australian Red Cross Society called a conference of all associations interested in prisoners of war of Japan on the 28th November, 1944, and your executive was represented by Mrs. I. Meldrum, and the secretary.

Your executive took the opportunity of seeking the support of conference to their proposals in regard to civilian internees and their dependants. The proposals, as submitted, were well received, and we can, we consider, look forward to the support of the conference in this matter.

Conference also decided to establish a permanent conference on matters relating to prisoners of war and civilian

internees, and that conference will meet at least every three months.

Many matters of interest to relatives of prisoners of war and civilian internees were discussed, and when the full report of conference comes to hand, same will be made available for the information of members.

In the meantime, residents of Papua and New Guinea are asked to send to the secretary, PTA, the name, next of kin and address of next of kin of any Territorian whom they know went missing, became a prisoner of war, or a civilian internee during the Japanese invasion and consequent occupation of the Territories. The secretary will sort these out, compile a list and forward it to the Red Cross, who are anxious to make a complete register of all such people from the two Territories. This should be done immediately; duplications will not matter—these will be weeded out by the Association before the list is given to the Red Cross.

Discussion

MR. JAMES, asked to give his impressions of the recent conference on indentured native labour, said that, in his opinion, although the conference was unanimous that indentured labour must eventually go, the majority were of the opinion that it must be a gradual business. The conference therefore took the form of discussing what was to be done in the transition period, and many modifications of the present system were discussed.

No actual resolutions were passed by the conference, but the whole proceedings were reported verbatim for the Government, and these would now be considered, in conjunction with the report on the investigations of 1939, into the native labour question, by the special Parliamentary sub-Committee which deals with Territories' affairs.

With regard to war damage, Mr. Tex Thomas asked if, in the payment of claims, the Government would take the present state of inflation into consideration. Mr. James replied that there was no understanding that the Government would do this, but that the Association certainly hoped that it would do so—costs were at least 50 per cent. higher now than when members lodged their claims in 1942. What the Association had asked from the beginning was that evacuees should be put back on properties that had been restored to the equivalent condition (less reasonable depreciation) in which they had been left when owners were compulsorily evacuated.

Mr. R. W. Robson moved that the executive write to the treasurer, Mr. Chifley, asking him that when war damage payments were made to evacuees, inflation should be taken into consideration. He thought that this principle should be recognised by the Government before the present regulations were altered, so that it could be embodied in the regulations.

Mr. C. H. Kirke moved an amendment to the effect that this should be deferred until such time as the new war damage regulations were issued. This was seconded by Mr. Tex Thomas, put to the meeting, and carried.

Mr. C. I. H. Campbell said that the Commission assessed damage according to costs which obtained in January, 1942.

It was resolved also that the Canberra deputation, which has had to be postponed because of Mr. Curtin's illness, should be undertaken at the discretion of the executive. Mr. Adelskold said that, although the new war damage regulations would probably remove some grievances, there were still other outstanding questions which must be settled before evacuees could contemplate the future with any confidence.

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DEATH OF GALLANT MISSIONARY

Story of Rev. A. L. Sadd

THE following was published in Sydney on December 11:

LONDON, December 10.—The story of an English missionary's courage in defying Japanese soldiers on Tarawa in 1942 has been told by a woman colleague who escaped.

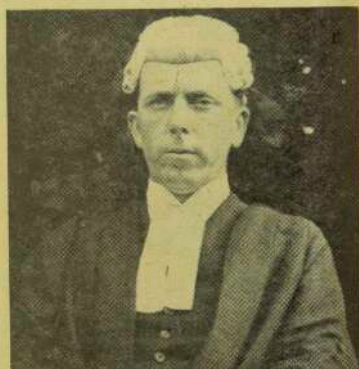
Although threatened by bayonets, the missionary, Rev. Alfred Sadd, twice refused to trample on the British flag when ordered to by the Japanese.

Instead, he gathered up the flag and kissed it, says the woman, "I was thrilled by his pride and courage."

Later, Sadd and other Europeans were executed, after the Japanese had found that one of the prisoners had sent a wireless message to an Australian warship.

On October 15, 1942, twenty-two men were murdered by the Japs on Betio Islet, Tarawa. There were 17 New Zealand soldiers, and five Gilbert Islands residents—R. G. Morgan, a school teacher and a radio expert, the story of whose bravery cannot yet be told; B. Cleary, a medical officer, who chose to remain and care for the natives; Captain I. R. Handley, a retired master mariner, and a very gallant gentleman; A. M. McArthur, a trader, who was well-known and highly esteemed; and the Rev. A. L. Sadd, who refused to leave the LMS station at Beru when evacuation was ordered.

TO SIERRA LEONE



MR. RAGNAR HYNE, who transferred from the position of Judge in Tonga to the Chief Magistracy of the Solomon Islands, in 1938, has been transferred to Sierra Leone, West Africa. He is a man held in high regard in the Central Pacific, and good wishes will follow him to his new post.

Mr. Alec C. Rentoul, who was one of the Senior Resident Magistrates of the Papuan Administration, has resigned from that service, and is now Acting Commandant of Police and British District Agent at Vila, in the New Hebrides. His record in Papua is an excellent one; but he was regarded as "a Murray man," and apparently he was not wanted by the military set-up. Therefore, when he had the opportunity of entering the service of the British Colonial Office, he wisely took it.

New Governor of Fiji

THE following are the details of the Colonial Office service of Mr. A. W. G. H. Grantham, CMG, who is the new Governor of Fiji and High Commissioner for the Western Pacific:

1922-1935: Hong Kong, all grades.

1935-1938: Bermuda, Colonial Secretary, and Acting Governor.

1938-1941: Jamaica, Colonial Secretary.

1941-1944: Nigeria, Chief Secretary.

Mr. Grantham is 45 years old. He married Miss Maurine Samson, of San Francisco, in 1925. They have no children.

Mr. Brian Molloy, of Port Moresby, who assisted Mr. Alderman in dealing with 'Territorians' claims for compensation against the Army, is reported to have joined the staff of the War Damage Commission.

ORANGES FROM SUNDAY ISLAND?

FIVE officers of the Fiji Infantry Brigade Group recently returned to Fiji from New Zealand, after furlough, in a very small schooner. They called at Sunday Island, in the Kermadecs, "and" (says Major M. Whatman, in a personal letter) "recent developments there include an orange-growing experiment by the NZ Government."

This is interesting. There are times when New Zealand's demand for oranges cannot be supplied from the Cook Islands. Oranges cannot be grown in NZ; but, when the editor of the "PIM" was ashore on Sunday Island, many years ago, he was given there the finest orange he ever tasted. Many attempts have been made to colonise Sunday Island (on the direct route between Auckland and Tonga), but the absence of any port or sheltered anchorage has defeated the settlers.



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A daughter was born to Captain and Mrs. E. Sutcliffe on October 28. "Ted" Sutcliffe, up until the cessation of civil aviation in New Guinea, in January, 1942, was senior pilot of Mandated Airlines of New Guinea. At present he is Flight-Checking Officer for the Department of Civil Aviation at Parafield Aerodrome, South Australia.

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Reorganisation of Fijian Affairs

What it Will Mean

IN a memorandum submitted in October to the Legislative Council of Fiji as "Reconstruction Paper No. 2," Ratu J. L. V. Sukuna, Adviser on Native Affairs in the Colony, sketches the proposed alterations and modifications of native administration which will be introduced shortly.

This new step in the organisation of Fijian administration is designed to develop in the people generally a keener interest in their own local government; and at the same time to give to native chiefs and leaders a deeper sense of responsibility by permitting them greater control over their own affairs. No actual change is made in the structure of the new Ordinance (other than in a change of names for various offices)—it merely gives greater scope.

In the place of the present Native Regulation Board there will be a Board consisting of the five native members of the Legislative Council, a legal adviser, and the Secretary of Fijian Affairs (now called Adviser on Native Affairs) who will act as chairman.

The new Board will have administrative duties, and will—as does the present Board—make regulations for the welfare and good of Fijians. But if the chairman considers it advisable to bring in a new regulation before the next session of the Legislative Council he is empowered to grant provisional approval. The Board will also be the controlling finan-

cial authority in Fijian administration, subject to approval by the Governor.

There will be little change in the constitution of the Council of Chiefs, but the scope of its deliberations will be extended by the introduction of a new principle, whereby Bills affecting Fijian affairs may, on the recommendation of the Board, be submitted to the Council for consideration and recommendations.

By this means, states Ratu Sukuna, from being merely an august body that advises and passes pious resolutions, the Council (strengthened by members who have seen active service abroad) will be enabled to take an increasing part in advising on measures affecting native interests.

OTHER proposals contained in Ratu Sukuna's memorandum were:—

- Amalgamation of areas whose people have kinship affinities.
- More responsibility and better pay for Buis.
- Larger and brighter villages based on the proximity of planting grounds.
- Improvement of social services—such as in establishing Provincial Hospitals, in linking child-welfare work with other Fijian social organisations, in reorganising educational facilities, and in developing water supplies to villages.
- Extension of markets and new industries by zoning production, by export of saleable produce and by cattle breeding.
- Resumption of the demarcation of land reserves—work that was interrupted by the Pacific war.

COUNCIL OF CHIEFS MEET IN FIJI

THE Council of Chiefs (held biennially) was opened in Fiji on November 3 by the Acting-Governor, Mr. J. F. Nicoll. In view of the new system of native administration which is to come into operation shortly, this Council was of particular importance.

The Council has no legislative authority, but it makes recommendations to the Government concerning native welfare; the Governor usually attends, in state, to open and close proceedings, and from names submitted to him at this gathering he selects the five Fijian members of the Legislative Council. In future these five members, together with the Adviser on Native Affairs, Ratu Sukuna, will form the Fijian Affairs Board, which will play an important part in the government of the Fijian people.

Points from the Acting-Governor's speech at the opening ceremony were:

Because the Government is concerned about the problem of "exempted" Fijians, certain proposals have been prepared by Ratu Sukuna, and the Chiefs were asked to give some thought to a policy which would encourage the development of village communities from within while avoiding the disruption of those communities and ensuring that communal obligations were not too onerous and really necessary for the well-being and happiness of the people concerned, and

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at the same time allowing individuals proper scope for their own natural development.

Proposals to build market places in appropriate centres throughout the Colony are to be made shortly.

It has been suggested that Queen Victoria School should not return to its former site at Nasinu, but that it should be situated along the Tailevu coast near Lodon.

A Fijian war memorial has been suggested; Sir Philip Mitchell suggested a chapel at Queen Victoria School; and Ratu Sukuna, the establishment of a War Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Work continues in the anti-filariasis and tuberculosis campaigns. The Government intends to provide funds to repair water supplies in villages or to instal new systems where that is necessary. It is intended to put all water supplies under a central organisation which will be charged with maintenance.

Seventeen Years in the Cooks

Mr. S. Bennett Leaves for NZ

From Our Own Correspondent

RAROTONGA, Nov. 5.
MR. S. BENNETT, general manager for the Cook Islands branches of A. B. Donald, Ltd., left Rarotonga early in November, after nearly 17 years' service in the islands. He is a man of unlimited energy and has done much to promote his firm's interests in the Group.



He will not, however, completely sever his connections with the islands, as he is to take up duties at the head office of the company in Auckland. He will control the affairs of the Pacific Islands branches.

Mr. Bennett took an interest in the public life of Rarotonga, and was an elected European member of the Island Council from 1937 until his resignation in September this year; he was also a member of the Education Board.

Mr. and Mrs. Bennett attended a round of farewell parties before leaving, and a presentation was made by public subscription. Their only daughter, Dorothy, who has been brought up in Rarotonga, left last year to complete her education in New Zealand.

Mr. H. R. Surridge, of Fiji, has been appointed a member of the Suva School Committee.

TOKIO RADIO IS COMIC

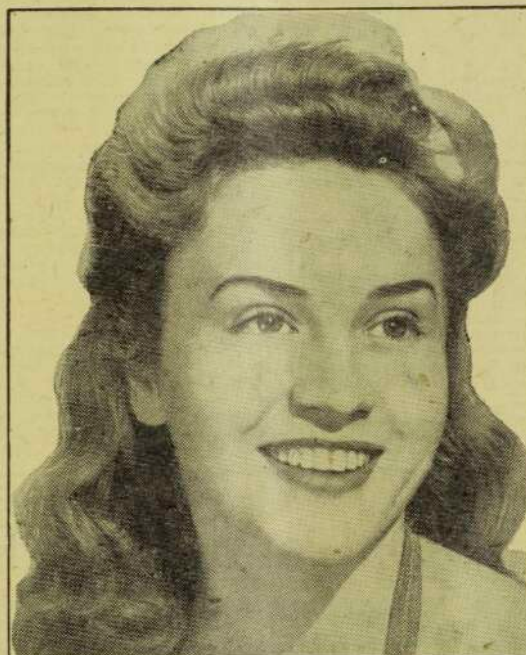
From Our Own Correspondent

PAPEETE, Oct. 5.
THE hideous monotony of perpetual jazz and the Ohio Dialect broadcast by American Pacific Coast radio stations has forced us to seek elsewhere for entertainment.

If our monitor radio stations are recording the propaganda broadcasts from Japan, they are providing a massive

reserve of humour for future writers of comedy. German propaganda has always been dull, clumsy, leaden, Teutonic.

Jap propaganda, on the contrary, is real entertainment. The voices are comic, the Oriental reasoning is comic, the imitation of Teutonic bombast is comic, the attempts to disguise loss of face are comic. Our grim enemy is providing amusement of a higher order than the bar-room jokes the radio networks dignify by the name of humorous entertainment.



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N. ZEALAND WANTS BANANAS!

Prices Defended by Government

NEW Zealanders appear to have become acutely banana-conscious in the last three years. One mention of this fruit is sufficient to send Dominion newspapers into a heated campaign on banana supplies, lack of banana supplies and banana prices.

Recent mention by a Fiji resident at a Rotary luncheon in Nelson, NZ, that there were abundant supplies of bananas in Fiji only waiting shipping space to the Dominion, reopened the subject and sent everyone into wild argument.

A message from Fiji, on November 16, should settle the Fijian end of the problem:

"A recent shipment to Auckland was said to be the smallest ever sent, the reason being that no more bananas were available. As in New Zealand and elsewhere, the calling up of manpower to serve in the armed forces and to work on military construction, had its inevitable effect on production.

"Overseas troops also spent money freely on native mats and curios, and in many native villages' life for those left at home suddenly became much more comfortable and convenient. No longer was there the same incentive to cultivate the land, and the result is to be seen to-day in a considerable decrease in native food production.

"In Suva, where bananas grow in almost any backyard, the retail price is 12 for sixpence. This does not indicate any great abundance.

"The situation will improve as men are released from the Army and the general demand for labour declines."

NZ Retail Prices Defended

NEW Zealand consumers and Island growers who have been howling about the disparity in prices paid by the one and to the other should be reassured by the following statement made by the New Zealand Minister of Marketing (Mr. Roberts) on November 13:

"In the first place," he said, "it has been stated that the Marketing Division pays 5/- a case for bananas in the Islands. The facts are that the Division pays the following prices, f.o.b. Island ports: Samoa, 12/9 a case; Fiji, 12/4½ (New Zealand currency); and Tonga, 12/1. These are the prices which are determined between the Division and the selling authorities in the various islands.

"It is quite well known that, with the Pacific war, the availability of shipping for bananas and oranges is at a minimum, but the Division does import into New Zealand every case of bananas that it is possible to procure from the Islands. It is also a fact that the only shipping point of import for bananas is Auckland, and if other parts of New

Zealand are to have a share of the now reduced supplies, the Division has to incur heavy costs in distributing the fruit on a per capita basis, as far south as Invercargill.

"Not only are the costs heavy, but, owing to transport conditions, decay and depreciation of the fruit are unavoidable, all of which is a cost to the Division. Actually, the into-store costs at the main centres, apart from the distribution in country areas, are: Auckland: Fijian, 17/11; Tongan, 18/-; Samoan, 18/9. Wellington: 20/11, 21/9, 21/9. Christchurch: 23/10, 24/3, 25/-. Dunedin: 26/-, 26/5, 27/3.

"The wholesale price at all these centres is 25/-, except in Dunedin, where it is 25/6 for a case of approximately 80 lb. of green fruit.

"From this summary it will be seen that, in order to implement the policy of sharing fruit equally to all parts of New Zealand, the price of 25/- a case (which is a maximum one only) does not leave any undue margin for the Division."

Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Morton have arrived in Sydney from New Guinea. Mrs. Morton, as senior superintendent of nursing staff in the Territories, has had four years of continuous service, extending from Port Moresby to Lae, whence she was flown for medical attention and a well-earned rest. Sergeant Harvey Morton, one of the first group to enlist in Papua (his number being P7) in 1939, has served in Syria, Palestine, Egypt and Libya. On his return to Australia he resumed his old post as manager of Doa Estate, in Papua. "The little lady did a wonderful job in New Guinea," writes a Territorian. "When I left Port Moresby, in 1942, Jap 'pills' were falling all around her camp at Rouna."

PACIFIC ISLANDS SOCIETY

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

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The Story of Corporal Sefanaia, V.C.

SUVA, Nov. 3.

"VINAKA! Vinaka! Vinaka Voka Levu!" shouted the assembled chiefs. A deep murmur, swelling to a roar of delight swept through the crowd of Fijian onlookers.

It was the opening session of the Council of Chiefs, and the Governor of Fiji had just made the dramatic announcement that the King had awarded the Victoria Cross to a Fijian soldier, the late Corporal Sefanaia Sukanaivalu.

"You will be aware that there is one decoration which is the highest and rarest to which any sailor, soldier, or airman in the British forces can aspire," said his Excellency. "It is the Victoria Cross.

"Nothing but the merit of conspicuous bravery can give claim to this decoration, and that merit must be evinced by some 'signal act of valour' performed 'in the presence of the enemy.'

"Very proud is any regiment upon one of whose members this much-prized honour is bestowed. Very proud is any British territory, one of whose sons has earned the right to wear it. This supreme accolade has now been bestowed upon a Fijian soldier."

The announcement of the award could not have come at a more appropriate time. The colourful ceremony of the Council of Chiefs was the best possible setting for such an occasion.

TO-DAY was one of real rejoicing in Fiji—the only shadow over the peoples' joy being that Corporal Sefanaia is not here to receive the tributes that would have been so liberally heaped upon him. For Corporal Sefanaia gave his life in carrying out the gallant act which earned this cherished award. Here is the story as it was published in the citation:

"On June 23, 1944, at Mawaraka, Bougainville, in the Northern Solomons, Corporal Sefanaia Sukanaivalu crawled forward to rescue men who had been wounded when their platoon was ambushed and some leading elements had become casualties.

"After two wounded men had been successfully recovered, this NCO, who was in command of the rear section, volunteered to go on further, alone, to try to rescue another one, in spite of machine-gun and mortar fire, but on the way back he himself was seriously wounded in the groin and thigh and fell to the ground, unable to move.

"Several attempts were made to rescue Corporal Sefanaia but without success, owing to heavy firing encountered on each occasion, and further casualties caused.

"This gallant NCO then called to his men not to try and get to him as he was in a very exposed position, but they replied that they would never leave him to fall into the hands of the enemy alive.

"Realising that his men would not withdraw as long as they could see he was alive, and knowing that they were all in danger of being killed or captured as long as they remained where they were, Corporal Sefanaia, well aware of the consequences, raised himself up in

front of the Japanese machine-gun and was riddled with bullets.

"This brave Fiji soldier, after rescuing two wounded men with the greatest heroism, and being gravely wounded himself, deliberately sacrificed his own life because he knew that it was the only way in which the remainder of his platoon could be induced to retire from a situation in which they must have been annihilated had they not withdrawn."

THE action in which Corporal Sefanaia won his Victoria Cross has been described as a little Dunkirk. The battalion, supported by American artillery and engineers, landed on the coast of Bougainville, outside the Empress Augusta Bay perimeter defences, and cautiously edged forward towards the road which was its first objective.

Strong opposition was encountered and, towards evening, on the second day, it was decided to withdraw by sea, as the principal tasks had been carried out. Landing craft were called in and the companies near the beach disengaged fairly easily.

"A" Company, commanded by Major R. Stevens, of Christchurch, was further inland. The company had suffered casualties and needed help, to get in dead and wounded lying in front. Two platoons—all that could be deployed on the swampy restricted front—went forward. More men were lost before "E" Company and reinforcements eventually disengaged and

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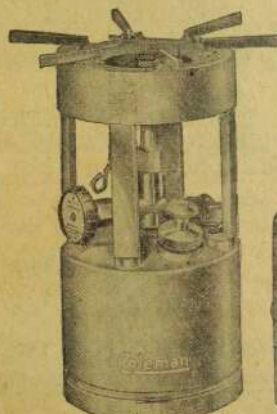
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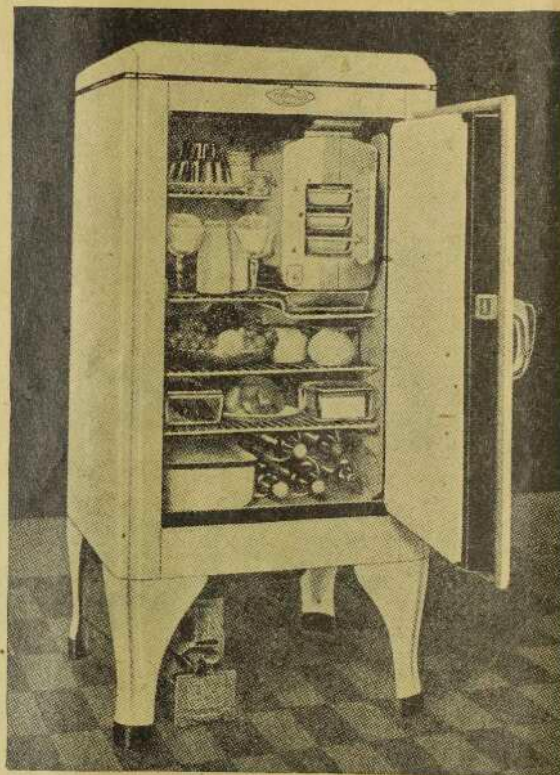
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reached the beach. An officer, describing the scene, said:

"They came out with all their arms, some walking wounded, others staggering along as they helped one another, some wounded carried on another man's back. There was no hurry or rush."

By the time they were on board and the beach-head troops were being embarked, Japanese bullets were sweeping the beach, but the withdrawal remained orderly.

"The whole operation showed the Fijian in an entirely new light," said Lieut.-Colonel Voelcker, afterwards. "We knew that they were good in the jungle with plenty of room to manoeuvre, and cover to use for surprise and ambush, but here we had them behaving like Guardsmen on an open beach, under a hail of fire, and never a man flinched from his duty."

IT is a sadly ironic fact that Corporal Sefanala's second name, Sukanavalu, means "Returned from the war." He was born in Fiji, in 1919, at about the time that the Fiji Labour Corps of the last war returned from France and Italy, and this suggested the name to his parents. This was mentioned by the Governor, who eloquently voiced the feelings of the people of Fiji when he said:

"It is tragic irony that Sefanala's second name should mean 'Returned from the war.' Corporal Sefanala will not return. He will never stand at attention at Buckingham Palace in London while the Victoria Cross is pinned on his tunic by the King."

"He will never hear from your lips or mine how proud we are that these islands should have produced a soldier whose name will live forever in the annals of martial heroism. But we shall remember and honour his name as long as we live; and, after we are gone, it will be remembered and honoured by our children. All over the Empire to-day, all over the free world, the story of Sefanala is being broadcast from hundreds of radio stations."

"In this story of gallantry and supreme self-sacrifice, our Allies and our friends will see epitomised the courage and devotion of our fighting men and the intense loyalty of the race which reared them."

TONKINESE BARBER MURDERED

From Our Own Correspondent

ONE evening recently a cry of "Help" from a small shop on Noumea's market place led a native Custom-house employee to investigate. He broke in and found the shopkeeper, an old and well-esteemed Tonkinese trader and barber named Vu Ngoc Tuan (he has more than once cut your correspondent's hair), lying in a pool of blood, with a long knife sticking out of his back. Vu Ngoc Tuan died later in hospital.

Two youths were later arrested; they admitted that their motive had been robbery, and one, Paul Jean, confessed to the murder.

Distinguished Chinese Arrives in Tahiti

From Our Own Correspondent

PAPEETE, Oct. 1.

WE cannot comprehend why China, in the midst of a devastating war, attaches so much importance to this outpost of its Empire, that it has sent one of its most distinguished officials to Papeete with the rank of Consul-General. Are Hawaii and Tahiti the spearheads of a pincer strategy directed at the Western Hemisphere? When China shall have gained a commanding place in the post-war world, will these spearheads become advance posts of subtle infiltration into the Americas?

FINE RECORD OF MAKOGAI

IT was to the credit of the Makogai (Fiji) leper station that since its establishment, 33 years ago, no nursing sister had contracted leprosy, said Mr. P. J. Twomey, of the Leper Trust Board, Christchurch, in a statement on the station on October 13. It was that achievement, coupled with the large proportion of cures effected, numbering about one in every four patients, which had made Makogai known as one of the best leper stations in the world.

A "garden fete" was held at Bishopcourt, Newcastle, in November, to raise funds to rebuild the Buna and Gona Anglican Mission Stations in Papua.

VICTORIA BITTER ALE

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Are They to Be Forgotten Men?

Papua's Pre-1942 Volunteers

Letter to the Editor

WHY all this talk of ANGAU and its future?

It seems to me that, as far as the Territory of Papua is concerned, if and when the Civil Administration, under Leonard Murray, is re-established, that all the men of ANGAU who were not in the former Government before 1942 should not be considered until all former members of the Service are placed in the higher positions.

What of the men who volunteered and were away at the war before the conscription (no other word will do) of early 1942? And also what of the many fine non-Government residents of the Territory—men with years of experience in dealing with natives—perhaps some of them will want the security of a good job in the Government? What little of native administration these volunteers have missed is more than amply offset by their service abroad. Up to date, everybody is worrying about what will happen to planters and other ex-residents of the Territory, but, so far, I have not heard anyone raise his voice championing the cause of Territorians in the Navy, AIF and RAAF. I hope these volunteers do not become a "Legion of Forgotten Men."

Many of these men are senior to ANGAU personnel, who have had, as it were, "greatness thrust upon them."

When the volunteers (first preference) and the volunteer ex-residents who happened not to be in the Government (second preference), followed by the Servicemen in ANGAU, are suitably placed, then, and only then, will it be time to appoint

outsiders. No doubt, owing to the many retirements, there will be some vacancies and I feel sure that Leonard Murray, with his wide experience in judging and controlling staff, will be able to sort out all-comers and satisfactorily work out his future staff. The men on whose behalf I am writing this will, fortunately, not have to unlearn the bad habits of Army waste and Army over-staffing, such as now exists in ANGAU.

WHAT we will do with Papua after the war will be largely dependent on the generosity of the particular political party in power then, and such parties as come along later. It is very easy now to talk glibly of super-education and a "New Deal for the Fuzzy Wuzzy Angels." Talk is cheap. When education and action have to be paid for it will be a very different story! I have read my Kipling, and it is to be hoped that the "chuck him out the brute" attitude towards the ex-"saviour of his country" will apply neither to the best of our men—the up-to-date forgotten volunteers—or to the natives themselves. ANGAU is only a fleeting shadow with no real substance, and should be forgotten the day Civil Government resumes. At the best, ANGAU is only a temporary expedient.

I am, etc.,

Papua.

Nov. 14, 1944.

ONLOOKER.

AIR-MAIL TO W. SAMOA

From Our Own Correspondent

A GREAT boon has come to Western Samoa with the establishment of a regular weekly air-mail service between the Territory and New Zealand.

Mail planes are to carry first-class mail matter only, at ordinary postage rates.

IN COMMEMORATION OF RLS

ON the evening of December 3, 1894, Lloyd Osbourne was to be seen galloping bare-headed into Apia from Vailima, and doctors rushed to make unavailing efforts to save the life of the unconscious Robert Louis Stevenson (Tusitala), who died at eight o'clock that evening.

This year we commemorate the 50th anniversary of the death of he who thrilled the world—and still enthralled hosts of people—with "Treasure Island," "Kidnapped," "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde," and other of his well-known books.

His grave, high on the steep hill of Vaea, is the scene of many a pilgrimage. It was his "lookout"—a spot to inspire anyone. A visit a few weeks ago on a clear coolish morning found it a most tranquil place, with the air so clear that the distant ranges stood sharply defined and the sea below a silver sheet.

Stevenson does not appear particularly as a "churchy" man, but there can be no doubt that his prayers inspired by his surroundings were and are real.

The one great event that will commemorate his memory in Apia will be the laying, by the Administrator, the Hon. A. C. Turnbull, of the foundation stone of the new church in the Anglican Chaplaincy grounds, immediately below his resting place, on December 3, 1944.

The opportunity is being given to those who have enjoyed the good fellowship of Robert Louis Stevenson through his books to contribute to this building, which does honour to him in a most practical way.

Two committees have been formed in Apia to work for the building. Mr. A. G. Smythe is chairman of the Finance Committee, and Mr. J. W. Liston is treasurer.

Donations should be sent to the RLS Church Building Committee, c/o The Chaplaincy, Western Samoa.—C.W.W.A.



Progress in Rarotonga

From Our Own Correspondent

RAROTONGA, Nov. 5.
RAROTONGA'S civil air-port is almost completed. And, like so many other Pacific Islanders, the Rarotongans have been thrilled by the spectacle of the mighty earth-moving machines tumbling over coconut trees like ninepins, clearing bush as though by the sweep of a giant hand, and moving mountains into hollows.

Ingenious Rarotongan schoolboys have turned from making models of bombers and warships to the construction of working-model bulldozers and ditch-diggers. There is no doubt whatever that, to the easy-going Islander, the sight of these mechanical monsters performing miracles of man-saving labour at the hands of a single casual white man, has done much to enhance the prestige of their British and American protectors.

We can only hope that, when the tumult and the fighting are over, our political leaders will do all in their power to nurture the seeds of admiration and respect that our fighting men and civil constructors have sown in the hearts of the Pacific peoples.

Naturally, a great subject for speculation among Cook Islanders, at present, is just what part the air-port will play in the future economic affairs of the Group.

The chief construction engineer, in the course of a vote of thanks at a recent fish-drive, feast and dance, organised by the paramount chieftainess, Mrs. Love, in honour of himself and his men, said: "Our job was to build you a civil air-port, but what its future uses will be I cannot say; that will be for others to decide. There is no doubt that the construction of an air-strip will contribute to the future prosperity of the Cook Islands. The agricultural possibilities of the Group are unlimited, and I see no reason why the attractions of your islands should not bring a considerable tourist traffic after the war."

WITH the air-strip almost finished, the Public Works Department has diverted some of their heavy machinery to the preparation of the site for the new tubercular sanatorium, some details of which have already been published in the "PIM."

An approach road has been made, winding first through bushland and then the steep fern-clad hills to an elevation of 250 feet, where the site has been levelled.

The choice of site is a happy one; there is a magnificent view; the open hill is swept by the ocean breezes but sheltered from the colder winds by the towering mountains behind.

It is expected that the work of erecting the sanatorium buildings will take about five months.

A GOOD job just completed is the cutting of a ditch out through the waterfront road to drain the low-lying area occupied by the shacks of the Manihiki settlement, at the back of Avarua which, during heavy rains, usually became deeply flooded.

At long last, too, an electric lighting plant has been installed in the Rarotonga General Hospital. Up to the present, benzine and kerosene lamps have been the only method of illumination. Primus stoves were used for water-heating and sterilisation. With such primitive equipment, emergency operations, particularly at night, were often a trying task for the staff.

These improvements to Rarotonga living conditions have already been accomplished—it is understood, as well, that the main coastal road and bridges are to

receive attention when some of the more important projects are completed. But residents earnestly hope that something will also be done to improve the drinking-water system, which has been a matter of protest for many years. It is the general opinion that much ill-health is caused by the impurity of the water—a fact freely admitted by the medical staff. During rainy weather domestic taps supply a rich brown liquid which looks like coffee but completely lacks that flavour. This project is possibly already under consideration.

When Sir Philip Mitchell became Governor of Fiji, some two years ago, he bought the beautiful little yacht, "Cimba," re-conditioned her, re-named her "Bluebell," and sailed her frequently in Fijian water. Sir Philip Mitchell, on his departure, sold her to Mr. Gordon F. Russell, of Suva, and he has restored her name to "Cimba."

WEDDING OF INTEREST TO PAPUAN RESIDENTS

AT the Raglan Street, Presbyterian Church, Manly, NSW, on September 30, Miss Elma McDonnell Brown, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Athol R. Brown, well-known residents of Papua, was married to Mr. Alfred Glen Gersh, of the Royal Australian Navy.

After the ceremony, guests, many of whom were Papuan residents, were entertained at the Manly home of the bride's parents.

Mr. A. R. Brown is now Corporal Brown, of the RAAF. He is at present stationed at Parkes, NSW.

The Rev. Emlyn Jones, of the LMS, arrived in Sydney in October, en route to the Gilbert Islands. He was formerly resident in England.

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THE MORRIS HEDSTROM SCHOLARSHIP

IN order that the selected Fijian student may commence at the New Zealand University at the beginning of the next academic year (March, 1945), the directors of Morris Hedstrom, Limited, of Fiji, who recently established a £25,000 scholarship fund, are inviting applications immediately.

The drawing up of the trust deed and formalising the rules for the scholarship will take some time to complete, but until such time as these trust funds can be used, Morris Hedstrom, Ltd., in a new and separate gift, will provide for the expenses of the successful candidate.

This year the scholarship winner will be selected by a committee consisting of one member nominated by the Acting-Governor and two members nominated by Morris, Hedstrom, Ltd. Later, it is ex-

pected, that selection will be made by some body appointed under terms yet to be drafted.

The Rev. M. A. Warren, secretary of the Anglican Mission, recently returned from a visit to mission stations in New Guinea. It is understood that plans for reconstructional work are well advanced.

Miss A. V. Pigott, who was attached to the Anglican Mission staff, in Papua, in a clerical capacity before the war, has been serving as a Section-Officer in the WAAAF. She has now been granted a discharge, and will return to work with the mission.

From information received by Burns Philp and Company (by whom he was employed) it now appears certain that Mr. John Lawson Levien, formerly manager of Linderhafen Plantation, New Britain, died there some time after the Japanese occupation.

Noumea's "Coconut Telegraph"

Saito and the American Treasure

From Our Own Correspondent

NOUMEA, Nov. 14.

THE French word "canard" means (1) a duck; (2) a piece of sugar dipped in coffee or brandy; or (3) an item of bogus news.

When one uses the word in New Caledonia it usually has the third meaning. There is no place in the world where rumours with so little foundation in fact spread, or where the "coconut telegraph" does its work so quickly and inaccurately. Some Governors have had to issue public statements condemning the population's gullibility.

Monday seems to be a day when people are particularly susceptible to rumours. At least it was on a recent Monday that Saito, a native of Lifou, in the Loyalty Group, told another native of his "discovery" of a large sum of American money—all in fifty dollar bills—in an iron treasure chest washed up on the beach of the little isle named Mathieu in the vicinity of Noumea. (Later, other islands were also mentioned as possibilities, but those really in the know were sure it was Mathieu.)

This is the sort of "wishful thinking" news that always runs fastest, and before long the whole town was talking about this sensational find. People were saying that poor honest Saito had turned over the find to the Commissioner of Police, who had only given him 25 francs reward. This, they held, was a perfect scandal, and there was a general howl of indignation at the Commissioner's niggardliness.

By Tuesday morning the story was all over the island, but, whereas in Noumea, the really well-informed said the find amounted to \$170,000, at Ouegoa in the far north, it had grown to \$270,000.

BY this time the French and American police were looking around for Saito. Eventually, the French sleuths ran him to earth, and led him trembling to their police station, where he was told the reason for his arrest, and was ordered to answer questions about his famous discovery. After some hesitation, he confessed that this had only existed in his imagination. He had told the story to amuse himself and to "couillonner," or hoax, a native child, who had spread the news among other Lifou boys until they had the whole town talking. But, Saito complained, the sum he had mentioned originally was only \$70,000, and not \$170,000 or \$270,000.

His explanation gave the "agents" a good laugh, and finally they released him with a caution and his promise not to "couillonner" anybody again.

UNSUSPECTED TREASURE

From Our Own Correspondent

PAPEETE, Oct. 5.

THE owner of the Robin and Martigny mansions, on Tahiti, has come upon another bit of good fortune.

After pulling down the Robin house and finding there an unsuspected treasure—as related in the April "PIM"—he set about repairing the old Martigny mansion, nearby. When the carpenters removed the roof, there lay disclosed a second treasure-trove.

During 80 years, the sea and land birds that had found entrance under the eaves, into the attic, had deposited there a thick layer of guano. Two tons of this valuable fertiliser were recovered and disposed of to gardeners about Tahiti.

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E.76.

British Expert Plans New Planting Policy for British-Pacific Territories

How Land and Agriculture Can be Tied Up With Help for Native Races

ALTHOUGH Dr. C. Y. Shephard went to Fiji about April, 1944, to report on the dispute between the CSR Co. and Indian sugar-growers, for the British Government, he has been doing other work for the Colony itself, and in October he submitted a report on what he considers should be the agricultural policy for Fiji and the Western Pacific High Commission Territories in the future.

Dr. Shephard is Carnegie Professor of Economics in the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture in Trinidad.

His report and recommendations cover Fiji, BSL, the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, and Tonga, and it comes within the scope of Fiji's reconstruction programme. It is a full and lengthy report. A summary of Dr. Shephard's recommendations is as follows:

ADVISORY and extension work carried out by the Department of Agriculture should be based on the results of scientifically conducted experiments.

The Department of Agriculture should embrace the territories of the Western Pacific High Commissioner, in addition to the Colony of Fiji. These territories should contribute to the maintenance of the headquarters staff, which would include a Director of Agriculture, an Assistant Director of Agriculture, a soil chemist, an entomologist, a plant breeder and pathologist and two veterinary officers.

The cost of local establishments, as variously recommended, should be borne by the administrations concerned, but officers should be liable for transfer within

Fiji and the other territorial groups.

The Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture should be invited to conduct, at an early date, a scientific survey of agricultural problems in the Western Pacific and to advise on a programme of agricultural investigation.

Improved salary scales are recommended.

The agricultural training of youths as peasant farmers in Fiji should be undertaken by the Department of Education.

The training of subordinate field staff of the Department of Agriculture and of the Native Administrations, and also the training in agriculture of rural teachers, should be undertaken by the Department of Agriculture. The training of Departmental staff should be centred in Fiji.

The policy of the Department of Agriculture should be closely co-ordinated with that of the administration of the territory concerned.

The Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture should be invited to undertake a soils reconnaissance survey of the major islands in Fiji and the Western Pacific High Commission territories.

A soils chemist should be permanently appointed to the headquarters staff of the Department of Agriculture.

The possibility of the re-establishment of the cocoa industry in Fiji and its extension to the British Solomon Islands Protectorate and Tonga should be thoroughly examined, and the introduction of selections from Trinidad should be proceeded with.

The Department of Agriculture, Fiji, should be relieved of certain of its pre-

sent executive functions in order to make possible the greater application of available staff and facilities to investigation.

The services of a statistician should be secured to advise on the collection and compilation of agricultural statistics in Fiji.

Two principal and four subsidiary experiment stations are required in Fiji, three in the British Solomon Islands Protectorate, and one station each in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony and Tonga. The investigational work on these stations should be co-ordinated to avoid unnecessary duplication of effort.

The headquarters staff of the Director of Agriculture should be transferred from Suva to the principal experiment station in eastern Viti Levu.

The Colonial Sugar Refining Company Limited, should continue to be responsible for advisory and extension work amongst cane farmers in Fiji. Similar work amongst native farmers throughout the four Groups should be carried out through existing native administrative organisations.

The Native Lands Trust Board (of Fiji) should be provided with the requisite staff and means to manage lands entrusted to its care to secure (i) the elimination of speculations in leases, (ii) greater security of tenure for worthy tenants, (iii) the eviction of tenants who abuse land, (iv) the active participation of the Board in the development and management of land, and (v) the consolidation of sub-divided holdings into farms of economic size.

The proposed Land Agent of the Native Land Trust Board and Assistant Land Agents should be sent to the United Kingdom for training in estate management and should visit Porto Rico to study soil conservation methods.

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MISSIONARY-LAYMAN FRICTION

Letter to the Editor

I HAVE read many articles in the "PIM" dealing with the relations between missionaries on the one hand, and planters, miners, recruiters and Governmental officials on the other. To anyone who had not been to the South Seas, it no doubt appears that there is a great deal of friction and ill-will between the two groups.

During the 5½ years that I spent in New Guinea, I might say that I never met a planter, miner, recruiter or Government official whom I did not like, although we sometimes disagreed. We missionaries should visit our planter and

miner neighbours and not rely on native gossip concerning their activities. They in turn should get first-hand information regarding the work of us missionaries by visiting our stations, schools and religious services. Criticising from afar off certainly will never make for understanding and goodwill.

I am, etc.,

Nebraska, USA.
Sept. 18, 1944.

A.C. FRERICHS.

Quinine, which is used in every mission hospital in the treatment of malaria, used to cost 18/- a lb. During the first two years of war it rose to £4/4/-. Now the latest news from India says the present price is £9 a lb.—"Australian Christian World."

WHO ARE THE EXPLOITERS?

Letter to the Editor

MUCH is heard of the exploitation of the native by the planting and commercial interests in New Guinea, but very little of the very real exploitation by the Administration—both directly and indirectly.

To illustrate a few examples of the latter:

Firstly, tobacco. The native, through high customs duty, has to pay at least 9d. for 10 cigarettes. His brother worker in Java, Malaya, India, etc.—where wages are approximately the same—could get 20 cigarettes for under 2d. And to ensure that the native acquires a taste for the imported made-up tobacco, it is—as with imported rice—obligatory for the employer to issue this to his indentured labourers, instead of the local tobacco.

The Administration also insists that every male native wears a cotton lava-lava (loin cloth), and the female a blouse and lava-lava when they are in the vicinity of an administrative centre. (The Government collects 10 per cent. import duty on these cloths.)

But it is in regard to land transactions that the worst exploitation occurs. In order to "protect" the native, purchasers are not allowed to deal direct, but the transaction must be put through the District Office. The Administration then buys the land from the native and leases it to the would-be purchaser. We were desirous of acquiring two small areas of land, each about one hectare in extent, adjoining our plantation. Besides the two 10/- application fees, we were required to pay the sum of 10 guineas, and then a minimum rental of 1/3 per hectare per annum. Out of all these amounts, the native received 5/- for his freehold.

Another instance is in regard to trading station leases. If the native is willing to lease the ground, we pay the Administration 11 guineas per annum, which includes licence fees of four guineas. The native gets £2/10/-.

I think, as exploiters, planters do not rank very highly.

I am, etc.,

Sydney.

R. C. WILLMOTT.

RAROTONGA BABY SHOW

From Our Own Correspondent

RAROTONGA, Nov. 5.
A PUBLIC holiday was declared for the annual Baby Show (Maori) in Rarotonga, on October 25.

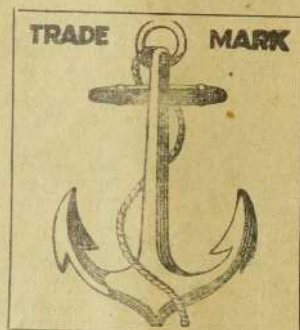
There was a large gathering in the school grounds to witness the judging and presentation of prizes, and the sporting events arranged for the welfare workers. The judges had a long and difficult task in selecting the champion baby and prize-winners for the various classes. The Resident Commissioner, Mr. W. Talby, presided, and Mrs. Talby presented the prizes, and a happy and friendly atmosphere prevailed throughout the day's proceedings.

No one who has the well-being of the Polynesian race at heart can fail to appreciate the splendid work being done by the members of the Rarotonga Child Welfare Association; or, above all, to applaud the vision and guidance of its founder, Dr. E. P. Ellison. It is no easy task to instil the principles of modern mothercraft into a people so recently emerged—or still emerging—from the customs and superstitions of a stone-age existence.

Certainly there was no suggestion of stone-age apparent in this gathering of neatly-dressed Polynesian mothers, and their equally clean, neatly-dressed and healthy-looking babies.

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MY SOUTH SEAS CHRISTMASES

From Suva to Salamaua With Alice Allen Innes

THERE was the first South Sea Christmas in Fiji. That series of rambling old bungalows, which, weighed down with most rigid economy, did yeoman service as the Colonial Hospital; Suva wasn't very "civic-minded" in those days, but everyone expected, and received, excellent attention from nursing and medical staffs. World War I had just threatened the Pacific, and, for the first time, Suva was conscious of its isolation.

The "Brisbane," "Encounter," "Nagasaki" and "Chikuma" came in and out at intervals, and always brought patients, both officers and men, most of whom were only too delighted to be ashore and in the hospital's very beautiful surroundings during convalescent periods.

I remember one Japanese officer of a very old and wealthy Sumarai family. He spoke Shakespearian English and excelled his brother officers in politeness; as we decorated his ward and sat him up (after an appendix operation had proved successful) to enjoy his first meal—Christmas dinner of conventional abundance—he brought from beside his bed a parcel and gravely presented me with a very lovely, beautifully-dressed Japanese doll. To Matron and Sisters he gave handsome albums full of views of Japan—and, strangely enough, mentioned that some day Japan would control the whole of the Pacific but that, should he be in power, Suva Hospital would ever be free from attack!

Christmas morning at Suva Hospital carried a wealth of cheerful memories... from the daylight appearance of Matron Anderson in her immaculate white, as she stood on the wide verandah despatching gifts and notes of greeting to patients and friends... The graceful and uniformed native nurses bringing up the

attractive woven baskets filled with masses of vivid canna, hybiscus and alamarant to decorate the wards. How merry they were! Meresani, giggling as she always did; Tepo, tall and most dignified; Pwa, with the sweetest, shy smile; Ratieli, bubbling over with amusing small gossip; and Sanivula's throaty contralto sending the early carol up from the rose garden below the hill! Hollywood could never catch and record the beauty and music of that Christmas morning.

Sister Emily Anderson and Sister Stammer massing the flowers with magic fingers as the "ward vases" were quickly done; then the children's Xmas tree arranged for native and European infants; the Watch Night service at the native church where the lovely old carols were sung in perfect harmony.

Old Rhundadu, the Indian gardener, complete with new headress, deeply salaaming to Matron and breaking into a flow of Hindustani greetings, which Matron returned with many flowery compliments and gifts for the Indian staff. (What a soft spot we had for that old rogue Rhundadu, who did so little real gardening, but so much "liaison" and letter-carrying... He had ever an ear and eye for the romances of the nursing staff.) And cook, coming up after the Christmas dinner to take a bow, and collect his gifts.

THE nurses, off duty, flying to press frocks and hoping that nothing would prevent their getting to the Grand Pacific for the party. Other nurses exchanging gifts and teasing. Sister Livingstone, with a trip to England just ahead of her; Sister Grace Morrison, with a mop of golden curls, on duty, but still convalescing from a seri-

ous illness (and now, these days, a matron of her own hospital in Fiji); Nurse Jess Finlayson, doing the work of three nurses; Nurse Kaad, whose music brought joy to staff and the many visitors to the nurses' home; Nurse Phieffer, with her quiet, efficiency, making savoury dishes for Sister Stammer's party on Boxing Night—and we owed much to Sister Stammer's individual coaching, apart from Matron's beautifully delivered lectures (lectures that were delivered with equal ease and fluency in English, Fijian or Hindustani).

I HAVE been fortunate enough to see the evolution of the "C.H." from the scattered old buildings and cumbersome domestic arrangements of my girlhood days to the modern, imposing-looking War Memorial Hospital revealed to me on a recent visit. Suva can now be proud, too, that one of the most highly trained and popular of its "old nurses" is back there as Matron.

I had the good fortune to meet the first Matron of the hospital in 1915. She was Mrs. Stoubie—or Matron Webster-Wedderburn, as she was known when she came from England 50 years before, to take up duty at Suva Hospital. Hers was the great honour of being personally selected by Florence Nightingale for Fijian service.

From many letters and gifts that old Matron showed me, I knew there must have been a very deep friendship and confidence between "The Lady of the Lamp" and Suva's first Matron.

Suva was not officially "war zone" in World War I, but it was very surely, nursing service for all the staff, who had to face war nursing conditions, the fear of attack and the preparedness to cope with it, and the great shortage of drugs and dressings.

So came another Christmas and yet a third, whilst the first world war lasted

HEINZ



Varieties



“Submarine on the starboard quarter” . . .

In his book “Heroes of Fighting R.A.F.”, Leonard Gribble tells a thrilling story of the rescue of thirty-four of a ship’s crew by flying boats of the British Coastal Command.

The freighter “Kensington Court”, deep laden with wheat, was ploughing through heavy seas towards the British coast.

Suddenly the cry: “Submarine on the starboard quarter”.

The “Kensington Court”, unarmed, ran for it. And out went an S.O.S.

Overhauling the freighter, the U-boat began shelling at short range. The “Kensington Court” was doomed. As the crew was taking to the boats, two flying boats roared out of the clouds. The U-boat crash-dived.

Within minutes of the sending of the S.O.S. the rescue of the “Kensington Court’s” crew was being staged in a fresh sea. The sailors in an inflated rubber boat were hauled from their lifeboats to the tossing ‘planes.

Another chapter in the history of the part radio plays in this war.

* * *

Aeroplanes, ships, guns and radio. Australian industry to-day is producing everything for her own defence. But radio makes them into one powerful striking force. We owe much to the Australian resourcefulness and courage which made possible the building of all such equipment in Australia.

Whilst Australian enterprise is free to build and plan we need never fear being cut off from our sources of supply.—Amalgamated Wireless (A/asia) Ltd.

Levuka—1916

SURELY there never was a more beautiful island port than Levuka when it was in its heyday and the "Capital of the South Seas."

Timber ships came from the far corners of the world—full-rigged ships that had made history. And there were hosts and hostesses in Levuka who were unsurpassed and are but rich memories these lean times. . . . Captain Kaad with his famous chef, Old Kura—the Solomon Islander whose life the captain had once saved. . . . Wines from the famed vineyards of Germany and Spain; French vintage and sparkling wines served to an assortment of delicate and perfectly cooked local fish and venison from the captain's own island of Wakaya. . . . Mrs. Kaad, Mrs. Vollmer, Mr. and Mrs. Bently, of "Venice"—the latter couple famed for their famous stamp collection, their fine family of many sons and one very musical daughter. Such Christmas hospitality is rarely seen in these years.

Party followed party and then, at grey dawn, there was the merry exodus to the Sonderberg pool, a natural source of rock baths near Captain Kaad's lovely home.

Christmas in Levuka is a memory that makes one still feel young—its famous hospitality, the beauty of its girls, from the lovely blonde Hjorring sisters to the many lovely daughters of the island, will still live in the hearts of all of us who have shared in the festive gaiety of Levuka.

Christmas in Sud-Est

AFTER a friendly year in Samarai, came the isolation of Misima. It promised to be a very dull Christmas, but we reckoned without that very famous and dearly-loved "mother of the Lousiades"—Mrs. Mahoney of Sud-Est, a neighbouring island. To Mr. Harry Simmonds, our Resident Magistrate at Misima, and ourselves, came the summons to foregather at Christmas-time in Sud-Est's lovely homestead.

The "Guitana," dancing as her name-sake ever did, flew over to Sud-Est in record time, and as we arrived there was wild commotion near the little wharf: a "crocodile" had taken one of the new calves and crowds of native boys and Maries swung charms and curses after the defiant beast who still lay, sluggish and impudently, within vision.

A few shots from the revolver of "Captain" Teddy Mears eventually sent him off, and we followed our hostess up to the home that held so many memories and links with the great "Rattlesnake" gold rush of 30 years before. There were 200 graves in the hills nearby, all of miners who had died from dysentery, ptomaine poisoning, and malnutrition during the goldfield days. There might have been more but for our hostess Mrs. Mahoney, who had, single-handed, cared for and tended the many sick men through that ghastly epidemic.

Her life was an epic of adventure: only a few hours before we arrived for that Christmas celebration, she had sailed her own schooner, the "Nil Desperendum," down to a nearby island to bring in a native baby whose mother had died, and who would otherwise have been buried alive with the mother.

As we approached the home "The Count" came to meet us. Tall and thin and aristocratic as his nickname implied, he wore his monocle suspended from a long leather bootlace and adjusted it with regal dignity, at frequent intervals, in his sightless eye. It certainly was impressive! He wore short, thick and very faded pink flannelette pyjamas, and a wide, cabbage-tree hat, but there unconventionality apparently stopped—he

embarrassed me greatly, when, upon being presented to us, he eyed off my meek "romper-cut" boat-suit of navy drill, and said, "I am afraid I have never met a young matron in her underwear before. . . . would you pardon me if I retire?"

He should tell me—with his pyjamas wanting a patch where poets don't tell of!

That afternoon, Sinabada Mahony gave the native servants and their many relatives a huge feast and sports, which we all enjoyed. We saw them make sapisapi (shell money) and bring gifts to "Mumma" in return for her many gifts and feast.

Boxing Day saw us up and away to luncheon at Sud-Est Waterfalls. On a green lawn-like spot below the lovely cascade of water that came down in three "bridal veil" effects from a great height above, we all sat eating cold roast duck in our fingers, when the clear sunlit sky seemed to darken for a few seconds, but no rain came; then came a dull roar, as a monster "roll" of water seemed to pause on the top of the falls. We jumped up and sprang for higher ground, and safety, and, as we did, over the falls came tons of water—hurling and splashing over the spot where we had sat a moment before.

It was a cloud-burst on the mountains above. A rare and awesome thing to witness.

So sped Christmas at Sud-Est. Hospitality that one could never repay, and grand memories of an outstanding pioneer, Mrs. Mahony.

Christmas at Khabuga

CHRISTMAS at Khabuga, with Mons. and Madame Bernier, also held adventure. We had to walk 10 miles through the bush to the most isolated part of St. Aignon's lovely island—over the kunai grass country, then down through the heavy swamps. First went the Rossel Island nurseboy with our three-year-old son on his shoulders, then came Taubada, lastly the native nurse-girl and me—and so to Madame's lonely home. But our host and hostess, we found, were barricaded upstairs in their

bungalow and the nearby village was like a nest of hornets. "Pig trouble" again! Bush pigs had happened on Madame's fine garden, with sad results. Madame had laid poison and warned the village; the village said pigs' ways were "an act of god," or words to that effect, and when the pigs died there was a war on between the village and Madame.

My husband and I went to the village

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and promised that the finest "Piggy-man-belong-Sydney" should be given to them, and, after much parley, all was well. However, as no native had gone fishing that day, and no "megani" hunting had been done, and as Madame's fowls had all scattered to the bush, we feared the larder would not be too hefty.

But we proved to be wrong. We starving travellers sat down to a delicious "ragout" cooked in finest French style, in claret, garlic and fine herbs, and not until years later did we know that that meal was made from flying-fox. I have been most suspicious of gamey-looking casseroles since!

Dear old Madame Bernier, whom I visited in Grenoble, in France, 15 years later, when, looking years younger, she was settled in her charming family home, and made up for the "black-bokis" stew with lavish Grenoble hospitality!

Salamaua Christmases

THEN came the many Salamaua Christmas-tides.

The first, when the community of 23 celebrated Yuletide at our early Salamaua Mecano-like home—"House Kruanky," with the huge tree growing through the roof—or rather, built around the trunk of a huge tree, because the contractor had died suddenly, and the boss-boy had gone on with the job and no one had told him to move the tree.

Anyway, that was a good Christmas—all out of tins, even the warm champagne.

Then the Christmas of more affluent days, when all Salamaua danced at the new hotel and there was a fancy-dress ball.

A tall, dark, and (of course) handsome, scientist, happened on Salamaua

that Christmas Eve. He had been in far corners of the map, and was very weary. He declined to come to the fancy-dress ball, but dressed in formal dinner suit for dinner that night, and then afterwards retired. When the midnight revels were at their height, and prize-winners were being chosen by the amount of the onlookers' applause, a tall figure appeared in dress shirt, socks and suspenders and even a black dress tie—but never a sign of his trousers. We held our breath and hoped the "wee breeks of Scotland" were doing duty. Midst wild applause, he carried the prize. Then, in a startled pause, the majestic, but half-clad, gentleman stood gazing around at the dancers, gave a moan, hopped the high balcony rail (and he didn't wear 'em) and went wildly into the black night.

Alas, that weary scientist had been a sleep-walker. The prize was never collected!

CAME many Salamaua Christmases—and, when the future Christmas-tides bring all together again, I hope that those amongst us who may be present will stand and drink a silent toast to the many heroic men who have given us back, throughout the wide South Seas, our happy Island Christmases.

MISHAPS TO COOK ISLANDS SHIPPING

From Our Own Correspondent

RAROTONGA, Nov. 5.

OCTOBER was an unlucky month for Cook Islands shipping. About the middle of the month, Capt. D. Cambridge set out from Rarotonga in his little engineless ketch, "Taipi," with a full load for Aitutaki. A few days later a radio message was received by his Rarotonga agent stating that the vessel had sustained damage in the Aitutaki passage and that the cargo was injured by water. No further details are yet available.

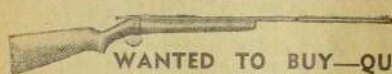
This is the third time that the "Taipi" has met with misfortune in the Aitutaki passage, which has a very powerful flow since it was widened and deepened by American engineers.

A few days later, Messrs. A. B. Donald's inter-island schooner, "Tiare Taporo," limped into harbour with a disabled rudder.

The ship's crew, under the direction of Capt. "Andy" Thomson, unshipped the rudder and hauled it ashore for inspection. It is thought that the damage is the result of the severe pounding received last January, when the vessel was tied up in her home harbour—a small break in the Avarua reef, notorious graveyard of many ships—and the anchorage suffered a brief but severe lashing from the tail of a passing hurricane. From early morning till noon on that occasion a desperate battle was fought to keep the schooner off the reef, but at the height of the blow, the network of hawsers parted and the vessel started to pound the bottom. It was saved from complete disaster only by the fact that the wind suddenly abated. It is now apparent that fractures were started which resulted in the present breakdown.

A new rudder is being hewn from a large "tamanu" (native mahogany) tree by the firm's carpenter.

Mr. J. T. Wallis, of the executive staff of W. R. Carpenter & Co., Ltd., has now settled down in London as manager of the London branch of that big Pacific company. Mr. Wallis has taken the place of Mr. W. C. Harvey, who has retired after many years' service, and who intends to live in Australia. He will return to Sydney early next year.



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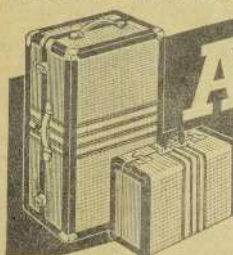
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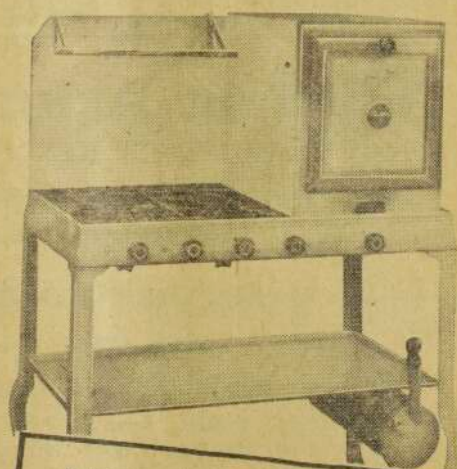


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"TEREPO"

The Story of Alain Gerbault

BY H. J. POLLOCK

AFTER sailing thousands of miles over the oceans single-handed in his two cutters, "Firecrest" and "Alain Gerbault," Alain Gerbault (or "Terepo"—"Navigator through the Night"—as he was called by the natives of Bora Bora) met his death in prosaic fashion by fever in Dili, Portuguese Timor, in December, 1941. He had ridden out hurricanes in the middle of the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, had narrow escapes from being run down by steamers, and was once nearly washed from the end of the bowsprit of "Firecrest" when effecting a repair to the bob stay in the middle of the Atlantic. Yet the oceans, in the end, did not claim him as he himself prophesied in one of his writings.

Gerbault spent the greater part of his youth at Dinard, France. It was there that he first learned to love the sea and when he was not doing long cruises on his father's yacht he was shipping with the hardy Breton fishermen. He envied the Bretons their independent lives, and at that early age he decided that one day he would buy a small craft of his own.

After a happy youth at Dinard he was sent to Paris to study and graduate as a civil engineer. He enlisted in the Flying Corps in 1914, and after the dull life at college found it a glorious adventure.

After the armistice his adventurous nature would not allow him to settle down to the dull routine of a city business man, so he discarded his career and looked round from port to port to find a suitable cruising cutter, and in Southampton came across the 39 ft. cutter, "Fire-

crest."

In his youth, Gerbault had shown remarkable ability as a tennis player and won the Boys' Championship of France, so now for a year he combined cruising and tennis, and learned to handle his little craft single-handed off the south coast of France and played in many tournaments on the French Riviera. When he was in perfect physical condition and had sailed his craft through severe storms in the Bay of Biscay, he set sail from Cannes, bound for New York.

AFTER battling storms and patching his old sails, he reached New York in 142 days. But Gerbault had not shown sound judgment in one respect—he had set out with sails that were old and rotten with mildew. He was given a wonderful reception in New York and won the much-coveted prize given for the best sporting feat of the year—"The Grand Prix of the Paris Academy of Sport."

In New York he changed his rig from gaff-headed mainsail to Marconi rig. In preferring cutter rig to schooner or ketch he differed from the great majority of deep-sea sailors of small craft. Even when he built his new ship he retained the cutter rig. The mast of the "Firecrest" was 47 feet above deck. He then set out on a leisurely cruise through the South Sea Islands, leaving from Panama.

During this cruise he learned to love the Polynesian natives. He was a great admirer of their native arts and was continually striving to get them to revive their ancient customs and discard such

European civilisation as had been introduced into the Islands and was gradually killing this wonderful race of people. He stated that it would be more humane to put the natives up against a wall and shoot them than to gradually kill them off by a civilisation to which they were



Alain Gerbault, from a painting by Sir John Lavery.

totally unsuited. He seemed to have more in common with the Polynesians than with the people of his own race, and once toyed with the idea of marrying a native girl and spending the rest of his life amongst the people he loved.

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He would cruise leisurely from island to island, teaching the natives to play football and, in turn, himself trying to learn their native games. He was always opposed to the natives dressing in left-off European clothing, which made them look ridiculous. In order to encourage the people to return to their own healthy dress, he made a point of wearing the dress of the particular people he was moving amongst—be it pareu, lava-lava, or sulu. This practice on occasions got him into conflict with the local authorities, who insisted upon his wearing correct European dress when walking in the streets of their towns.

It is on record that he was invited to dine at Government House with the Governor of Fiji, and caused a sensation by turning up to this distinguished social gathering clad only in a sulu. Needless to say, he was never asked to come again.

He was a great admirer of the early Polynesian navigators and considered their voyages in open canoes with only primitive methods of navigation superior feats to the voyages undertaken by our own pioneer navigators. He sailed without an engine in his ship and got great pleasure in taking his cutter into narrow and difficult passages.

IN the late 20's, the "Firecrest" was reaching the end of her useful career as a cruising boat. He therefore decided to return to his native France and build himself a new boat. He gave "Firecrest" to the French Naval Academy, but she was wrecked whilst being towed by a tug.

He had sufficient money from the proceeds of his two books, "Fight of the Firecrest" and "In Quest of the Sun," to build his new cutter. He designed her himself—learning from the weaknesses shown by the "Firecrest" in her unusual and severe tests. This time he favoured a double-ender, the most seaworthy form of small boat known. The "Firecrest" was counter-sterned. He named the new ship "Alain Gerbault" and set out once more for his favourite islands in the Society Group.

Up to the beginning of World War II he lived at Bora Bora and in 1939 he again offered his services to his country, but as he was now nearly 50 he was rejected. In 1941 it was very difficult to determine which way Tahiti was to go politically and he wisely decided to leave his favourite haunts for new and less disturbed islands. He spent several months at Tonga and played his favourite game once more on the beautiful grass courts at Nukualofa. He found the boys at Nukualofa were now his equal at tennis, for age was beginning to take toll of his physical condition.

He sailed from Tonga to Port Moresby and apparently from there to Portuguese Timor, where he met his death at the comparatively early age of 49. He had expressed a wish not to be buried in a cemetery, but to have his body placed on his yacht with sails set and let sail to sea. No doubt the whereabouts of his yacht will be released in due course.

TO strangers, Gerbault was a dour fellow, but to his friends he was quite the reverse; in addition, he possessed a rare sense of humour. On his return to Le Havre he was accorded a civic welcome and many distinguished persons were invited to be present. Gerbault, at the banquet, was seated next an elderly countess who obviously had no knowledge of the sea. She asked Alain how he could possibly have a bath with such a limited water supply on his small craft. He solemnly replied, "Madam, I never wash."

Gerbault was loved by the Polynesians, who composed many songs about him. He was always trying to make the French

Government recognise the fact that, largely because of their system of governing, the Polynesian was rapidly dying out or being absorbed by the Chinese. He deplored the system of sending Governors out for only a period of three years or so, instead of choosing officials who were willing to give their lives to the cause of their charges.

He was a great reader and always carried about 200 books with him. One of his favourites seemed to have been Jack London; Loti, Farrere, Conrad, Stephenson and Shakespeare, too. He was a great admirer of John Masefield's ballads. His own books he always wrote in English, although he was a Frenchman—they were later translated into many foreign languages. The last of his published works was the "Gospel of the Sun," a book much criticised in some quarters because of the author's small regard for European civilisation. He maintained that our civilisation is already on the decline and will eventually disappear as have all its predecessors.

He had completed another book that was to be published after the war. Let us hope the manuscript has fallen into the right hands.

A simple sailor has passed on; a man who loved nature and the things of nature far better than anything produced by man. Perhaps he lived before his time; in another hundred years the Polynesians may have revived their wonderful civilisation, and may have increased their numbers to equal those of several centuries ago. The finest wood-carvers

in the world may have revived their art, and the old customs and dances may even be taught in open-air schools, as advocated by Alain. Aloha, "Terepo!"

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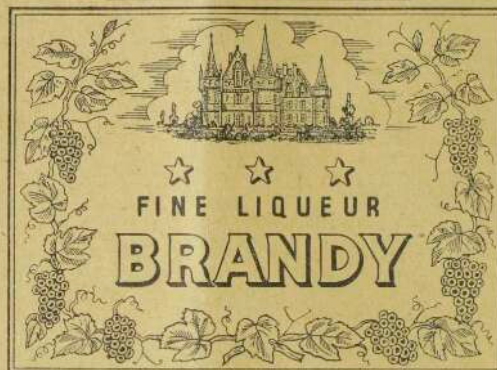
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Military Set-up in New Guinea

Is it Within the Law?

Letter to the Editor

CAN you inform me whether or not martial law was proclaimed in Papua and New Guinea, and, if so, when? There are certain indications that proper authority may not have been invested in those who established the present military set-up in so high-handed a manner—and who continue, by some means or other, to retain it against all reason or justice. Perhaps your paper has already gone fully into this point; if not, I feel that a brief survey in your columns would be of interest to all bona fide residents.

Further: Was conscription ever legally proclaimed in those areas? We know that it was enforced there, though not in Australia. Was that procedure correct? If so, why?

Amongst the Allied nations or territories, I think that Papua and New Guinea must have about the highest percentage of its population in the various Services—or in enemy hands. I would welcome any facts you may be able to supply on that point. Our men volunteered eagerly from the earliest days of the war; and in later times those who had been asked to remain to enable necessary work and administration to be carried on, were either conscripted or taken prisoner. All were dispossessed—one wonders for how long.

Altogether, the treatment meted out to this section of the Australian community (the only one that has suffered real hardship as a result of the war) does nothing to justify any confidence that our present Government will apply to their own countrymen, the first principles of justice and liberty for which so many of our Island men are fighting—or rotting in prison camps. In fact, it rather looks as if the Islanders "stuck their necks out."

I am, etc.,

G.R.R.

South Brisbane,
Nov. 11, 1944.

EDITORIAL NOTE

MARTIAL law was not declared in the Territories; but the area was declared an "operational area" or a war area, or whatever these things are declared. This, from the civilian's point of view, is worse than if martial law were declared—because in that case the civilians are usually present. In this case the whole area became a military preserve and the military can do as it wishes.

Conscription was legally proclaimed in Canberra in a perfectly legal "order" or regulation under either National Security Regulations or under Defence Regulations. These things were made perfectly watertight legally—so our correspondent need have no worries on that score. The Army also had the legal right to order civilians to depart—the PTA was instructed so by their legal advisers months ago.

The two sons of Mr. J. G. McGruther, who was Resident Agent at Mangaia, Cook Islands, 1926-38, have rendered distinguished service. **Lieut. Jock McGruther** was wounded in Libya, invalided to New Zealand, and is now overseas again. **Lieut. Colin McGruther** was wounded during the pursuit of Rommel in North Africa, and is now in NZ.

The Isle of Pines

Former Haunt of Sandalwooders Now a Backwater

From Our Own Correspondent

BY courtesy of the US Commander in New Caledonia, who lent us his plane, I recently visited the Isle of Pines (50 miles south of New Caledonia), with a French botanist, M. Viret, to collect plants for the University of Harvard.

This little island is noteworthy for its beautiful orchids which dominate the heath-covered plateau like kangaroo paws dominate certain parts of the Darling Ranges of Western Australia; and strange shaped coral platforms along the coast are the home of a species of tobacco, *Nicotiana fragrans*, which is not found anywhere else in the world—not even on the New Caledonia mainland.

Apart from the official Resident—an ex-French naval rating—another Frenchman exploiting timber, including the strange Cook pine, and the one or two priests at the mission who rigidly dominate life in the eight native settlements, the island has no white inhabitants and is seldom visited. Yet in early days it was one of the most profitable haunts of Australian sandalwood traders, including such famous characters as Towns, Paddon and Underwood.

Many a crew was massacred and eaten here, for the natives, then more numerous than to-day, were notorious cannibals, regularly raiding across to Caledonia for women and human flesh. They were the finest canoe builders in these seas.

The French have a legend that an English man-o'-war was sent to the Isle of Pines in 1853 to declare it a British

possession, but that the captain dallied so long that he allowed them—the French—to beat him to it by a day. They say that as a result the English captain shot himself when he got back to Sydney. A British man-o'-war was certainly making an unhurried hydrographical survey in the neighbourhood at the time the French hoisted their flag, but there is no valid evidence that they were there to take possession, and if the captain did shoot himself on his return I suspect it was for reasons of a much more personal nature than failure to take possession of the Isle of Pines. The story seems to be rather the invention of an old Jesuit writer whose book, "Marins and Missionaires," gives a very one-sided account of early happenings in New Caledonia.

BUT war has reared its head even on the isolated Isle of Pines. A week after our visit, curiosity about a grenade they found in a box left behind by Allied troops, caused the death of a native boy, son of a local chief, and the wounding of two others. Trying to find out what was inside, they first hit the top of the grenade with a brick, and then, when nothing happened, hurled it at a coconut tree. This time it exploded. Informed by radio, two French doctors were flown to the island and brought the two wounded lads back to Noumea Hospital.

Captain the Hon. J. Carfax-Foster, who was a trading store manager in Atiu (Cook Islands), in 1930, was killed in the fighting in North Africa two years ago.

Lance-Sergeant R. S. Aubin, NZ forces, formerly a trader on Mangaia (Cook Islands), was killed in the fighting near Rome several months ago.

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Mr. and Mrs. Fred Corbett, of Suva, Fiji, celebrated their Golden Wedding on October 31. Both are residents of long standing. Mrs. Corbett was born in the Colony, and Mr. Corbett arrived from New Zealand in the 80's.

A social gathering took place at Christ Church, Launceston (Tas.) recently to mark the centenary of the missionary ship "John Williams." The Rev. J. Hore, BA, of Devonport, recalled many interesting personal recollections of the three voyages around the Pacific, which she made with her father, who was then captain of the "John Williams IV."

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fered coughing every night—couldn't sleep. Mendaco stopped spasms first night. I have had no Asthma since in over 2 years." Mrs. A. W. writes: "I had Asthma for 23 years. After using Mendaco I can sleep all night and have not had an attack since taking it." Mrs. G. E. C. writes: "I bless the day I first heard of Mendaco. What a godsend it is to a poor woman like me who for 35 years never knew what it was to have a good night's rest. The constant fight between Asthma and sleep was wearing me down, but I feel now I want to forget my past suffering."

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W. SAMOA'S COCOA INDUSTRY

European Planters Being Driven Out by Lack of Labour

WE have received inquiries about the position and prospects of the cocoa-planting industry of Western Samoa—especially from American servicemen. Our correspondent in Samoa, himself an experienced cocoa-planter, has kindly supplied the following information.

THE total population of Western Samoa is now well over 65,000, or double that of 1921-22. Of this total, some 61,000 are Samoan natives, 3,500 part-Europeans (Euronesians), 400 Europeans, 300 Chinese labourers, 150 other (free) Chinese, and small numbers of natives from Fiji, Solomons, New Guinea, Tokelau, Niue and other groups. The number of Melanesians is about 75.

Though Savaii is nearly double the size of Upolu, its population is only one-third of the total population, or some 22,000—practically all (with the exception of some 20 Europeans and about 50 part-Europeans) Samoan natives.

There are, unfortunately, no statistical figures at all available giving particulars of acreage under cocoa, in bearing and planted.

There is a large number of small plantations belonging to part-Europeans, which are planted with bananas and interplanted with cocoa—many of which plantations are in bearing, while others have young cocoa not yet in bearing.

The larger European cocoa plantations suffered considerably during the time the American defence forces were in Samoa, as the latter absorbed practically all the plantation labour available, and European

planters found it impossible, in spite of good cocoa prices, to keep their plantations clean, and even to pick their crops. With the departure of the American troops the labour situation has become somewhat easier, though wages are still high and the Samoans are, in many cases, unwilling to do the required tasks, after the comparatively easy time at higher wages they had when working for the Americans.

THE largest plantation owner is still the New Zealand Government, running former German-owned cocoa plantations seized during the last war as "New Zealand Reparation Estates." They also employ most of about 300 Chinese coolies still in Samoa. Apart from the NZRE, there are not more than about 15 to 20 European-owned large cocoa plantations; while in Savaii (the above-mentioned are on Upolu Island) there are about half a dozen small cocoa plantations owned by Europeans.

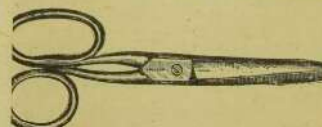
Samoans have planted large areas in cocoa during the last few years and, while European production is stationary (if not decreasing), Samoan native production is certainly increasing rapidly. The total cocoa production is at present between 2,000 and 2,500 tons annually, of which about 1,500 tons are produced by Europeans (including the NZRE) and about 1,000 tons by Samoans. I estimate the acreage under cocoa in bearing at about 750 acres European-owned, 250 acres NZRE, and some 2,500 acres Samoan-owned.

It is very difficult to give the value (or purchase cost) of cocoa plantations per acre. This depends very much on the situation of the plantation—distance to good roads, distance from Apia, presence of water supply necessary for washing the cocoa, possession of a good cocoa dryer, availability of labour (Samoan) for weeding, nature of soil (prevalence of rocks and depth of humus and good soil)—also, of course, the age of the cocoa. Young cocoa bears larger crops than old and overaged cocoa.

After taking all these factors into consideration, a 50-acre cocoa plantation with cocoa in full bearing, should be worth £1,500 to £2,000 (Samoan currency), corresponding to about 6,000 to 7,000 dollars, (American currency). The price paid for hot-air-dried first-grade cocoa beans in Apia is at present £95 per ton of 2,240 lb., and a 50-acres cocoa plantation should produce, if in full bearing, about 25 tons of cocoa beans. The production cost may be estimated at about £35 to £40 per ton, but this also varies and is dependent on many factors.

THE greatest problem facing planters in Samoa is labour—the supply of a steady and economic labour force

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from outside Samoa. The native, who is a planter and landholder himself, cannot be relied upon as a permanent and satisfactory plantation worker for the European planter.

The future of the cocoa industry depends largely on the future status and Government of Western Samoa. The present Labour Governments of New Zealand and Australia are against "indentured labour"—but no development or expansion of our plantation industry will be possible without greatly increased supplies of dependable labour. If these supplies had been available before the present war, Western Samoa would have played a far more important part as a source of supply of cocoa, rubber, bananas and maybe other important tropical products. As it is, the European plantation industry is stagnating, and slowly dying.

EDITORIAL NOTE

STUDENTS of Pacific affairs will note one interesting and significant thing. By the deliberate policy of the Socialist Government in withholding labour, European planters are being slowly but surely driven out of Samoa. The Germans, early in the century, planned a healthy Colony of European planters in Upolu and Savaii. The New Zealanders have killed that plan, and are encouraging the native Samoans—a fine branch of the Polynesian race—to themselves become a nation of planters. According to Mr. Gurau's figures, the change-over is taking place definitely, and fairly rapidly. Samoans (60,000) and Euronesians (3,500), working on their own lands, will be the cocoa and banana producers of the future.

The next step probably will be seen in the post-war Pacific settlement: Samoans and Euronesians will be given a large measure of self-government.

THE POLYNESIAN CLUB OF SYDNEY

DURING November, the Polynesian Club's gatherings were well attended. A young visitor from Nukualofa, Tonga, was Miss Trude Cameron; and from Samarai came Mr. Bruce Hamilton, a well-known pre-war identity of that Island town. From Norfolk Island were Mr. and Mrs. Cobby Robinson, with their daughter, Mrs. Audrey Scott, and Mr. Bill Quintal and his son Robert, who is now somewhere in Australia with the AIF.

French visitors included Chief Corporal Fred. Chitty, who has seen long service with the Pacific Battalion in Libya and Italy. He was able to give news of many of the club's friends in that battalion, who stayed some months in Sydney four years ago and were constantly at the club.

Another Tahiti visitor was Petty-Officer George Chambon, lately married to a "vahine Bora Bora" over there. He paid a return visit after four years' service with the Free French Navy in Mediterranean and Pacific waters.

Among the club's patriotic efforts in November were a concert for an Education Department Comforts Fund and a presentation of Maori dances at a special evening arranged by the New Zealand War Unit, at the Anzac Buffet, Hyde Park, Sydney.

Chaplain J. C. Rundle, of the Methodist Mission, Papua, died on November 1, as the result of a motor accident. He was chairman of the Mission in Papua, where he served for 16 years. Recently he was Air Force chaplain, based at Milne Bay. Mrs. Rundle was formerly Matron Henry, of the Salamo Methodist Hospital in Papua.

FILARIA VICTIMS

Affected by Unseasonable Weather

From Our Own Correspondent

PAPEETE, Oct. 5.
PEOPLE who have filariasis in their systems (and nearly everyone in the Polynesian islands has) are having a very uncomfortable time of it, during the cold, damp weather we are now experiencing in these latitudes.

The bouts of violent chill, high fever and inflamed, painful lymphatics, shake the victims pretty thoroughly. In some cases, deep-lying abscesses develop and have to be lanced and drained.

Our climate has changed from the traditional wet and dry seasons, to an all-year wet season; very damp and hot from October to April, and very damp and cold during June, July, August and most of September.

The filaria worm and his spouse hold dancing parties with their neighbours in the lymphatic system of their host (during cold, damp weather), in order to keep warm; with most unhappy consequences for the host. There is nothing to do about it but migrate to a latitude where people live in snow igloos; for

medical science knows no cure for this disease. The igloo treatment may so paralyse the filaria (after several months) that the human host may be able to live in the Temperate Zone without discomfort. If, however, he returns to the Tropic Zone, his troubles begin afresh.

BISHOP OF MELANESIA

THE Bishop of Melanesia, the Rt. Rev. W. H. Baddeley, who is at present making a tour in the United States, is to leave some time this month on a visit to England. He will deliver addresses in various cities there during January and February. He will return to his mission field in March, 1945.



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New Year term commences in February, 1945.

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HONOUR ROLL

(Continued from Inside Back Cover)

Lieut. John BROWN, formerly of Fiji. Reported a prisoner of war in Italy.

Cpl. E. BOURKE, AIF, formerly of New Guinea. Prisoner of war in Germany.

Sgt. R. F. BUNTING, AIF, formerly of Samarai, Papua. Missing in Malaya. Now reported prisoner of war.

Henri CLEMENCEAU, of FF Pacific Battalion, formerly of N. Caledonia. Reported POW.

Sgt. Peter COGGINS, AIF, formerly of Fiji. Taken prisoner in Malaya, and now reported prisoner of war in Borneo camp.

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

Cpl. W. F. CULLEN, AIF, formerly of Thursday Island. Reported prisoner of war.

John Arnold CROCKETT, AIF, formerly of Bulolo, TNG. Reported prisoner of war in Osaka, Japan, September, 1943.

Pte. J. DALTON, AIF Transport and Supply, formerly of Thursday Island. Reported prisoner of war, April, 1942.

Victor DERAUX, of FF Pacific Battalion. Formerly a POW in Italy, but escaped and now interned in Switzerland.

Dick ELMOUR, formerly of New Caledonia, prisoner of war after Dunkirk. Repatriated to France in January, 1942, because of health reasons.

Pte. W. G. ECKBLADE, AIF, formerly of Rabaul. Previously reported missing; now reported missing; believed prisoner of war.

Pilot-Officer George Belby EVANS, RAAF, son of Mr. and Mrs. Belby Evans, formerly of Buka Passage, TNG. Reported prisoner of war in Java.

Lieut. R. W. Feetum, AIF, formerly of New Guinea. Previously reported missing; now reported "missing believed POW, March, 1943."

Gnr. A. I. FOLEY, AIF, formerly of Papua. Reported missing in Malayan campaign. Reported prisoner of war in February, 1944.

Gaston OELLER, of Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Reported missing after battle of Bir Hacheim. Reported POW, May, 1944.

Sgt. Robert GEMMELL-SMITH, RAF, formerly on CSR Co.'s staff, Fiji. Reported prisoner of war in Bengali, Libya, in November, 1942.

W/O.H. V. M. I. GORDON, AIF, formerly of Wau, TNG. Reported prisoner of war after Malayan campaign.

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

J. P. GOUZENE, of Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Reported missing after battle of Bir Hacheim. Reported POW, May, 1944.

W/OI A. N. GRAY, AIF, formerly of Rabaul, TNG. Reported prisoner of war.

Chief-Sergeant Francois GRISCELLI, of Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Reported missing in Libya in April. Formerly of New Caledonia. Reported POW, May, 1944.

Lieut. J. M. HARCOURT, 2nd NZEF, son of Mr. H. W. Harcourt, formerly Deputy Treasurer in Fiji. Reported "captured in Libya and now prisoner of war," March, 1942.

Squadron-Leader Godfrey HEMSWORTH, of the RAAF, formerly a well-known commercial pilot in Morobe, TNG. Reported missing after an operational flight against the Japanese in the New Guinea area and presumed killed in action. Reported prisoner of war in Japanese hands in October, 1943.

S. D. C. KERKHAM, NZEF, son of Mr. R. C. Kerkham, Suva, Fiji. Reported prisoner of war in September, 1942.

Lieut. JEFF KILNER, NGVR. Believed prisoner of war in Japan.

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

Lieut. G. G. KINNER, New Guinea Forces, formerly of Rabaul. Reported prisoner of war.

Paul KLEIN, of FF Pacific Battalion, formerly of N. Caledonia. Reported POW.

Nura LETHEIZER, of FF Pacific Battalion, formerly of N. Caledonia. Reported POW.

Major E. G. A. LETT, of the East Surrey Regiment, and son of Mr. Lewis Lett, of Port Moresby, Papua. Reported prisoner of war in Libya.

P/O J. LIETKE, RAAF, formerly of Labasa, Fiji. Reported prisoner of war in Germany, 1943.

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

Pte. Ernest ("Paddy") McGEADY, NZEF, son of Mrs. J. McGeady, of Suva, Fiji. Reported "missing, believed killed," after fighting in Libya, January, 1942; reported prisoner of war

in Italy, April, 1942.

Cpl. J. H. L. McGUIGAN, of the Field Ambulance, AIF, formerly of the Public Health Department, New Guinea. Officially reported missing at Singapore; unofficially reported a prisoner in Japanese hands. Reported prisoner of war in Malaya, May 24, 1943.

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

Pte. Harry MARCHINGTON, of the NZ Forces, formerly of Fiji. Reported prisoner of war after Battle of Crete, 2/12/1941.

Pte. F. C. MAYO, AIF, formerly of New Guinea. Reported a prisoner of war.

Camille MERCIER, of Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Reported missing after battle of Bir Hacheim. Reported POW, May, 1944.

Pte. Lieut. G. E. ("Dusty") MILLER, RAAF, formerly of Papua. Reported POW in Germany in 1943. Repatriated to England, 1944.

Lieut. Jean MILLIARD, of French Artillery. Formerly of N. Caledonia. POW in Germany since fall of France, June, 1940.

Emile MILLOT, of Pacific Battalion of Fighting France. Taken prisoner in battle of Bir Hacheim (Libya).

Pte. J. P. MORRELL, formerly of TNG. Reported missing believed prisoner of war, June 1, 1944.

Sgt. NAGLE, of French Colonial Infantry; formerly of N. Caledonia. POW in Germany since fall of France in June, 1940.

Pte. J. G. NEWTON, AIF, formerly of Papua. Reported prisoner of war, June, 1944.

Pte. G. S. O'BRYAN, NZEF, formerly of Rarotonga, Cook Is. Missing after battle of Crete; now reported prisoner of war in Germany.

Gaetan OLLIVAUD, of French Colonial Infantry, formerly of N. Caledonia. POW in Germany since fall of France, June, 1940.

Pte. D. R. PHILLIPS, AIF engineers, formerly of Bulwa, TNG. Reported prisoner of war, June, 1942.

Eugene POGNON, of FF Pacific Battalion, formerly of N. Caledonia. Reported POW.

Henri PAYONNE, of Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Reported missing after battle of Bir Hacheim. Later reported POW, Italy. Later escaped and rejoined FF forces.

Gnr. Allan H. ROSS, AIF artillery, formerly planter in New Britain, TNG. Reported "missing—believed prisoner of war," 28/9/1941. Reported POW, September, 1944.

A/Bdr. L. J. SMEETON, AIF, formerly of Rabaul, TNG. Reported prisoner of war in Malayan campaign.

Pte. John O. SMITH, of the NZ Forces, son of Captain Arthur Smith, of the Fiji inter-island vessel "Tui Kauvaru". Missing after battle of Crete, May, 1941; reported prisoner of war in Germany, 21/10/1941.

Squadron-Leader L. C. SHOPPER, DSO, RAAF, formerly of Edie Creek, New Guinea. Was in Java during Japanese invasion; now known to be a prisoner of war.

Gnr. D. M. SPENCE, AIF, formerly of Port Moresby. Reported prisoner of war after

Malayan campaign.

LAC Charles SOLLITT, of the RAAF (wireless operator), son of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Sollitt, of Nausori, Fiji. Reported missing after air operations in New Guinea, January, 1942; later, March, 1942, reported rescued from sea by Japanese—now prisoner of war.

Pte. Fred SWAN, NZ Army Medical Corps, formerly of Apia, Western Samoa. Missing after Battle of Crete, August, 1941; reported prisoner of war in Germany, November, 1941. Repatriated from a German prison camp to NZ in 1944.

Signalman J. C. E. SWINBOURNE, 6th Div. Signals, AIF, formerly of Fiji and the Gilbert & Ellice Islands Colony. Taken prisoner at Crete, June, 1941, now in prison camp at Stalag, VIIA, Germany.

Lieut. CLIFF WARREN, of NZEF, serving in the Middle East, and formerly of Morris Hedstrom Ltd.'s staff at Ba and Lautoka, Fiji. Reported prisoner of war.

Mr. N. WATCH, formerly Dr. Watch, of Rabaul, missing after Japanese invasion of Rabaul. Believed prisoner of war in Japan. Now reported POW in Japan.

Gnr. D. S. WHITCOMBE, NZEF, formerly of Fiji and Tonga. Wounded in Crete and reported prisoner of war in Germany.

Pte. John D. WHITCOMBE, of the NZ Forces, formerly of Levuka, Fiji. Reported prisoner of war in Germany, November, 1941.

Mr. R. F. Pickering, for some years manager of the Bank of NSW at Suva, and until recently manager at Townsville, Queensland, has been transferred to a senior position in Melbourne.

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New Guinea's Gallant Women

Melbourne Association Reports on Busy Year

OUT of the grim greyness of Melbourne comes the annual report of the New Guinea Women's Association—probably the warmest thing that comes out of that Deep South. These evacuees from the Territories, who found themselves transported without the option in 1941, and who came to rest in latitudes far removed from those in which they usually lived, have adjusted themselves to circumstances and have carried on with few of the complaints heard from

mainland Australians who have been touched only lightly by the war.

Many of these Melbourne women—like their sister Territorians in other States—have not heard of their menfolk since their own evacuation, and to them the future is a blank wall through which nothing can be seen. But mothers have shouldered the full responsibility of bringing up their families, and other women without small children have gone to work at some war job.

Once a month they meet to exchange Territories' news, and by various functions and entertainments they endeavour to raise funds which go towards worthy patriotic causes, to providing comforts for New Guinea servicemen and women, or to giving a helping hand to those amongst them who are in need of it.

THE following extracts are from the report submitted by the secretary, Mrs. Olga Bliss, at the third annual general meeting of members, held in Melbourne on November 18:

We have come to the end of another year, and it is most satisfactory to find that our bank balance stands at £288/1/2—our receipts for the year being £725/3/3, and our disbursements £437/2/1. This excellent state of affairs is largely due to two parties—one on July 3, which netted us £167/10/6, and the other on November 4, which made us a profit of £137/7/7. We would like to record our thanks to Mrs. Fenton Bowen and Mrs. Stanley Best for allowing us the use of their homes for these parties.

We would like also to thank Mrs. J. C. Thomson, who as ticket secretary worked hard and long, gathering scattered New Guinea people together for the July party, which was in the nature of a reunion of past and present ex-residents; and Mrs. Roy Smith, Mrs. E. H. Britten and Miss Dorothy Stewart for their supervision of the supper arrangements for both parties.

In the past twelve months the Association has made the following donations: Red Cross Prisoner of War Fund, £100; Mission to Seamen, £20; "Centaur" Memorial Nurses Fund, £20; and £10/10/- to the guardian of two Chinese girls, formerly of Rabaul.

During the year, 313 parcels and 291 bundles of newspapers were despatched to our servicemen and women. For this we must thank Miss D. Stewart.

Mrs. J. C. Thomson, in response to a request received from her husband for "smoke papers" for the natives, had a small paragraph inserted in the daily papers, and as a result received hundreds of old papers from the public. She then packed and despatched these, 482 bundles in all, and we have heard that they were all received with great appreciation.

During the year our Association became affiliated with the Pacific Territories Association, and the greater part of our members joined the latter. Mr. Adelskold, while in Melbourne in May for the Red Cross conference, came to one of our meetings, and we were most interested in what he had to tell us about his Association's efforts to keep New Guinea affairs and residents in the minds of an unwilling and apparently indifferent Government. We wish the Pacific Territories Association every success in its uphill struggle.

POW and Civilian Internees

THIS year we wish to make a special effort for POW funds, and have set £500 as the target. To this end the Association is conducting an opportunity shop on December 1.

The matter of POW and civilian internees is of supreme importance to our members, and we were pleased therefore when Mrs. Cooper and I were invited to a Red Cross conference on prisoners of war, which was held in Melbourne in May last. However, nothing much was accomplished by the conference in regard to our particular interest—namely, the prisoners of Japan. As a result of this general disappointment, a Council was formed comprising all organisations interested in POW and civilian internees in Japanese hands to co-ordinate action in matters relating to them and to pool accumulated information. The immediate matter in hand was to arrange for short-wave broadcasts. Mrs. Cooper, our president, has been appointed honorary secretary of the Council, which is known as the Co-ordinating Council of Associations for Prisoners of Japan. Subsequently, Mrs. G. W. Spensley (representing next-of-kin, New Guinea Women's Association (Melbourne)), and Mrs. A. P. Derham, of the AIF Women's Association, went to Sydney, and later to Canberra, and there interviewed Dr. Evatt and others in high places in the Government.

We feel satisfied with this trip to Sydney, where a great number of vital matters were discussed with Dr. Evatt personally, and we have grounds to hope that the unsatisfactory mail position is now under review, and that the heart-breaking delays for both relative and prisoner will be lessened.

I think we can justly say that the Government is now a little more POW conscious. At the time of writing this report we hear that the Red Cross is interesting itself in the activities of the Council, and we feel that if the latter can go forward under the aegis of the Red Cross, then we are sure that its efforts will have a greater chance of being successful.

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Mr. E. E. Jenkins, Attorney-General of Fiji, has been appointed Chief Justice of Nyasaland. He came to Fiji from Northern Rhodesia in 1938.

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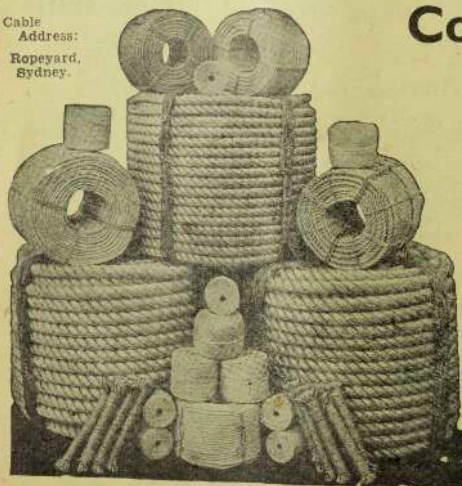
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Native Labour—Professor Elkin Defended

Letter to the Editor

ONE of the names frequently seen in the "PIM" is that of A. P. Elkin, Professor of Anthropology at the University of Sydney, and sometimes associated with it are disrespectful remarks about anthropologists in general and Professor Elkin in particular.

Professor Elkin has definite views on indentured labour in New Guinea and Papua; and, from references made, one is apt to get a one-sided picture of the man. I have just completed two years' work in social anthropology under Professor Elkin, and I found him to be a brilliant teacher and lecturer, easily surpassing most of the many professors and lecturers to whom I have been compelled to listen. He is possibly the greatest living authority on the Australian aborigine, and he never loses an opportunity to fight on their behalf. There are few people with a better knowledge of the natives of Papua.

However, if he is responsible for statements attributed to him regarding the treatment of natives under the indenture system in the Territories, then, as far as Papua is concerned, he has been misinformed on some points, and shows a lack of experience of the commercial side of European life in the Islands. I have no doubt, however, that the point he is urging—as do most other authorities throughout the world—is that the indenture system is unsatisfactory as a permanent method of employment of primitive people, no matter how Europeans or other employers treat their native employees.

Raymond Firth, in "Human Types," writes that the interest of civilised people in native societies is broadly of four main kinds—humanitarian, religious, economic, and political. It is easy to see to which group or groups the various factions subscribe. The poor planter, and others caught up in the whirl of circumstances, while mainly concerned with the third group, are willing to concede them all providing that they are allowed to live.

I do not think that the time has arrived when the indenture system in Papua and TNG should be abolished. Under pre-1941 conditions, the natives were well treated and protected, and most of them preferred to "sign on." But the writing is on the wall—a change seems certain. In the long run, I don't suppose it matters much if the change comes now, or in a few years' time—except that how it might throw a still greater burden on an already long-suffering section of the European population of the Islands.

IF the native tax is continued, there will be the same amount of labour available, and the readiness with which such labour will be obtained will,

as in the past, depend on the reputation of the employer or plantation concerned. And, perhaps, when the legal sanction goes, in time, a moral obligation and sense of responsibility will take its place as employers will tend to refuse to employ natives from villages or districts which have a bad reputation.

Even if the tax be abolished, it does not follow that labour will not be available. In the Wedau district of Papua, a few years ago, the native tax was abolished, and it was thought in certain quarters that this would mean the homecoming of all of the tax-earners. But that did not take place—natives were working, not only to get tax money, but because it fitted into their scheme of things at that time. In other words, they were working because they wanted to.

If, however, the cost of native labour is greatly increased, then, judging by pre-war markets, the lot of planters and others will not be enviable—unless they adopt the philosophy of letting B.P. do the worrying.

I am, etc.,

E. J. WRIGHT.

Sydney,
Dec. 7, 1944.

Rev. J. F. Goldie, head of the Methodist Mission organisation in the British Solomons, and one of the best known and highly respected missionaries in the Pacific, received official permission to return to his post recently, and he left Sydney, en route for New Georgia, on December 7. His headquarters were on famous Roviana Lagoon, but he will find only devastation. The Japs built their naval and air base, which was called Munda, on the mission station and on Mr. Leslie F. Gill's adjoin-

ing plantation; and, by the time the Americans had rooted them out, nearly two years ago, there was little left of Munda.

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GUESS AT NEW TERRITORIES BOUNDARIES IN THE PACIFIC

Letter to the Editor

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HERE is my guess for the post-war set-up in the Pacific:

The United States will hold the Japanese Mandated Islands.

Australia will retain the Islands controlled by her in 1939, to which will be added the British Solomons and the northern half of the New Hebrides.

Dutch New Guinea and Timor also will probably come under Australian control. France will retain New Caledonia; and the southern half of the New Hebrides will be transferred to her.

Sooner or later Fiji will pass to New Zealand—and the whole of Samoa to the United States.

Naval and air bases will be allotted to protect the special interests of individual nations, and the interests of the United Nations as a whole.

The United States will be given first choice, and will probably pick Noumea Naval Base and Tontouta Airfield, in New Caledonia, and Havannah Harbour Naval Base and Espiritu Santo Airfield in the New Hebrides. France and Australia, respectively, will gladly cede the rights

to these bases in their then-controlled Territories, under an arrangement similar to that whereby the United States has built and operates bases in the British West Indian Islands.

In addition to the above, United States naval and air power will be based on Samoa, Japanese Mandated Islands, Philippines, and French Indo-China.

British-New Zealand power will be based on Fiji.

In the Melanesian Arc, RAAF squadrons will operate from 'dromes in Guadalcanal, Munda, Bougainville, Rabaul, New Guinea Mainland, Papua, and Timor.

British-Australian naval power, based on Port Moresby, Rabaul, and a Solomons base, will also protect the Arc; while, in the Dutch East Indies, Holland will spend much more in defence than hitherto, as well as ceding rights to the United States and the British Empire for the establishment of naval and air bases there.

As regards commercial aviation, equal and reciprocal rights will be granted to airlines of the United Nations for the use of air bases not required by the Services.

Private interests will no doubt utilise many of the remaining air-strips scattered throughout the Islands.

I am, etc.,

LESLIE F. GILL.

BSI, 9/10/44.

THE WAYS OF THE LATE THOS. CARODOC KERRY

A NOTE from Mr. Arthur J. Vogan who, despite his weight of years, continues to take a keen interest in Pacific Islands affairs:

YOUR somewhat laudatory story of the life of Thomas Carodoc Kerry (November "PIM") makes strange reading for anyone old enough to remember something of the career of the old rascal.

The late Sir Hubert Murray told me that T. C. Kerry, after one of his raids to steal native curios (which he sold in America and England) cost the Papuan Government about £700 to pacify the natives, who otherwise would have killed the next party of whites that went past the villages pillaged.

Kerry used to advertise for parties to join him on a visit to places in New Guinea and elsewhere, where gold was to be found in quantities. He would be the only one who returned—having sold their boat, etc.

About 1910, TCK went to England, and somehow got into some sort of society—he was a very pretty, sweet-spoken man, with that smile of the mesmerist that takes the clever rogue anywhere. He bought a yacht, the "Ariane," for £5,000, and brought her out here, where he insured her with Lloyd's Sydney agent (near Drummoyne Bridge) for (I think) £30,000; and he arranged with a captain to take her to New Zealand and lose her. This scheme was carried out. The captain got five years' penal servitude; but Kerry got his £30,000.

Once, I prevented his taking a party away, as I was sure they would be robbed, and perhaps worse; and he wrote me a note threatening to shoot me on sight if we ever met again in the Islands.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Our account of the life of the late Mr. Kerry, who died recently, at the age of 85, was reprinted from "New Zealand Herald."

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THREE YEARS IN THE WILDERNESS Have They Taught The Territorian Anything?

BY JUDY TUDOR

TO-DAY is December 7. Three years ago, the Japs without warning, and while their envoy talked peace in Washington, bombed Pearl Harbour, and at one stroke brought war to the Pacific, and the United States into the Allied family.

Those were the big things that came in the wake of December 7, 1941, but of the millions of smaller things little is recorded. Life for thousands then, for a brief moment, jangled to a standstill. And when it took up the beat again it was not in the slow, placid tempo of the Pacific, as we had known it, but in a frenzied timing suited to a world plunged suddenly into a total war for which it was unprepared. It was a timing that tangled the even threads of Pacific existence into a snare that has yet to be completely unravelled.

IN that December, the Australian Government committed one of its saner actions of those first muddling months—it ordered the evacuation of all women and children from the New Guinea Territories and thus saved them, at the eleventh hour, from the misery of a Japanese internment camp.

And so, in most of Australia's capital cities to-day, groups of New Guinea women have clubs for mutual aid which have shown a community spirit that has caused some brow-raising by observers who placed little faith in the durability of any women's organisations—and particularly of TNG women's organisations.

In the early months of 1942, the women evacuees were followed by most of the over-age or medically unfit men of the Territories who had escaped the Japs. They also have overcome Territorian tradition to the extent of forming a composite body to present N. Guinea to Australia and fight Australian officialdom.

Perhaps in the ultimate analysis it will be found that these three years—and whatever of durance vile yet remains to be got through—have served a purpose: that of allowing New Guinea people to get to know themselves and to know each other. I am convinced that they knew little of either in the days of peace.

Such was the rugged individualism of the average Territorian that he much preferred to sink alone than to swim in

a crowd. Had that not been so, New Guinea undoubtedly would not have been colonised in the first place—Territorians as a tribe do not sit around waiting for "Them" to do something, as their Australian brothers are so fatally apt to do. They did them themselves and bitterly resented any yea or nay from outsiders.

The isolation in which they found themselves very often strengthened this fundamental characteristic and in time they grew into hide-bound egotists with rabid ideas on pet subjects.

FOR example: I know several otherwise charming Territorians (men) who, because they have lived away-from-it-all and have not been exposed to Hollywoodism, say they can't abide movies. Now, it is pretty certain that with the best will in the world one cannot entirely escape that form of entertainment in Australia.

But, when the inevitable happens, does the gentleman of the piece put on his social grin and bear it? No, sir! He leaps around in his seat as though he has ants in his pants and says, at frequent intervals, "This is bloody! What's it all about, anyhow?" And, finally: "I can't stand this—come on, I'm going." Whereupon he ups and leaves, tramping across the feet of other movie patrons who are probably deep in the big love scene—and liking it.

And on the controversial subject of natives. At the most recent meeting of the Pacific Territories Association there arose the question of plantation villages—that is, artificial villages established close to plantations by owners. The meeting was told that the recent Sydney conference on indentured labour did not favour them; one Territorian asked why. He was given the reply that this would tend to break up village life and undermine native customs; and immediately, from here and there over the hall, came sniggers.

Maybe the function of the native, apart from his labour does seem humorous to some Territorians, but it is that attitude that gives some basis for the accusations which have been levelled against us by theoretical reformers in the past two years.

IN the years before the war, I said, and believed, that the New Guinea women, taking them by and large, were a "queer lot." I am convinced, now, having seen these women—warm, friendly

and human—at work in Sydney, that I, too, was a social porcupine, content to go my way alone, adhering to the traditional individualism of the Territory.

When I made my first trip to my land of promise, I had been solemnly warned that, as I was heading for the big bush, no feminine frills were needed or permitted—there were no spare boys to carry my goods and chattels about the country. My outfit consisted of such things as stout boots and khaki shorts and a set of camp crockery and cutlery (ex-Woolworths). I was off to be a pioneer—the hard way.

My complacency was therefore shat-

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tered when I found myself bedded down with a bride—off to Wau, with all the fixings for a full-blown wedding. White satin gown, cake, imitation orange blossom—and 15 boxes of household goods in the hold.

In my ignorance I failed to appreciate

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the subtle difference between Wau and the back of Wewak; and, in those first torrid days between Sydney and Port Moresby, when she had recounted the whole story of her romance many times, and had drawn out innumerable sugar spoons and butter-knives, cut-glass dishes and silver sandwich trays from odd places, I began to wonder if, after all, I were heading for just another suburbia and not the stern reality for which I had prepared. Covert examination of other women travelling told me nothing. Perhaps they were deep-dyed pioneers; but outwardly they differed little from any flock of sophisticated Australians such as one might round up any afternoon in the Hotel Australia lounge.

First impressions die hard; and thenceforth, although my own bit of New Guinea contained more pioneering than I could comfortably digest at times, my whole conception of New Guinea women outside my orbit hinged upon that travelling bride.

MINE was a world in which men, mud, mountains, boys and gold played a part, but not women. Two years went by; and then, when down at the newly-constructed aerodrome one day, suddenly from around a bend came a most extraordinary procession of boys that put an additional crimp in my ideas. The first two carried between them a dressing-table lashed to two poles, and behind were four more lugging a full-sized wardrobe. Now, if the Archangel Gabriel had suddenly appeared before us

out of the kunai playing on a grand piano, we could have been no more surprised. Meat cases with a lap-lap frill doing duty for cupboards, and limbolium tables, were well enough known thereabouts; but honest to heaven furniture—no.

"Boy belong whos'at?" we asked.

"Boy belong Master X," they replied. It appeared that Missus belong Master X was on her way, but that a Junkers plane had preceded her from Wau with all her furniture.

Dourly I went back to camp over the mountain and dourly reflected. I had been content enough with affairs—a la man, life was singularly uncomplicated. If women were now to move into the place complete with furniture, and start something that could only end in a vicious keeping-up-with-the-Joneses circle, then life was not going to be worth the candle.

The reign of Missus belong Master X, however, was short, and our trails did not cross; but by now my ideas of my fellow-female pioneers were firmly fixed. I was well on the way to being covered with the "I'm me and pleased about it" shell of the complete Territorian which precluded me from finding out that a different state of affairs could exist.

I SPENT most of the year prior to the war in Rabaul. Here was civilisation; here too, presumably, were the women with the crystal whatnots of my "Macdhui" bride. And there was I living in one of the hotels.

As far as the women and their whatnots were concerned, they might not have existed. Rabaul's human component parts revolved as they always had done; and so did I. Everyone was well content.

To me they appeared to radiate a veiled hostility; they probably thought—if they thought—that I was a pain in the neck. It was a nice, self-reliant set-up, but not exactly friendly. In all those months I succeeded in getting behind the facade of only two women sufficiently to find that they were human. They probably had even less success with me.

That this feeling was not mere morbid imagination I am convinced. A Rabaul woman who had gone there from the New Hebrides, and whom I have grown to know well since this war forced us both into other latitudes, tells me that she probably would have gone crazy with loneliness had she not been able to build a life within herself; and that she felt that Rabaul women actually hated her.

It is only since coming South that I have learned of, and met some, of the fine pioneer women who set their seal on New Guinea and for whom New Guinea was not just another suburban tea-party, but a real job. And only since then have I learned that behind that mask of indifference which I used to imagine was the badge of being a Territorian female, is, quite often, a wealth of kindness, humanity, loyalty and purpose.

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equal to anything in our Empire's pioneering records.

FOR three years now, instead of seeing the great outside world as a place in which to spend a three-months' leave, Territorian civilians have been forced to live in it. And Territorians in the forces have been forced to sink their identities in the Australian Army. No Territorian was conditioned for life in a wartime city—one and all, they long for their own bit of township, bush or coconuts, where they can walk abroad without being trampled underfoot; where they can make up their own minds to some line of action without being pushed around by Canberra bureaucrats. And no Territorian, Army or otherwise, likes to sink his identity in anything.

But although those years have not been happy ones, they will not be wasted if the new spirit of co-operation which has come of it continues when civilian life is restored to Papua and New Guinea.

IN the days to come, will it be possible for a woman from the outposts to exist unknown in a Rabaul, Moresby or Wau hotel? Or will there be some place after the pattern of the New Guinea clubs in Australia to-day, where she can go for the companionship, help and understanding that she wants—and needs—after the isolation of the bush, if she is not to become a social casualty?

Will the men forget the worth of collective security—and collective bargaining—or sink back into the old stand-alone and damn-all philosophy?

We are fatally inclined to see ourselves as a small group of people who are "not understood" by the outside world; and with much justification. But if seeing ourselves as others see us has taught us nothing, then it is a poor outlook for New Guinea's future. There will be less of

the isolation we knew in the post-war world, and therefore less room for the rugged individualist who is incapable of seeing any other angle but his own. The world is getting to be mighty crowded. Territorians will have to keep hanging together—or else.

"NOTHING FOR DEAD ONE"

By J. W. Dixon, in the "Missionary Review"

APIRAKAI was a local man who had been unofficially connected with us for some years and eventually came on the station as a student.

When the station was left without white supervision, Apirakai considered himself the guardian of all that was there. On one occasion a group of Australians came on to the station and decided that the best souvenir they could appropriate was the bell. (What they intended to do with it only they knew.)

But Meliba, Apirakai's wife, saw this and ran to tell her husband. In a few minutes Apirakai was seen standing at the bell defying anyone to remove it. The would-be souvenir hunters beat a retreat. The bell still rings merrily for school sessions and church services.

When the Rev. H. T. Williams returned to East Cape last January, one of the first things he saw was a notice written by hand and pinned on a blackboard in the church. It read:

"REWARD £5 (100 shillings)

For Japan Airman

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Instructions for capture. If airman

is left in his dinghy for a few hours he can be captured with no fear of resistance. Search him for pistols and knives as soon as he is captured. If airman is dead bring all papers and clothing (calico) here. There will be a small reward for this also any papers inside the aeroplane."

A second paper read:

"If Australian or American come down Go to help quickly—Very big reward."

Alongside these papers were translations into the East Cape tongue made by Apirakai. There were also rough, coloured sketches teaching the people how to recognise the different nationalities of the planes.

NOUMEA, Nov. 21.—The Governor of New Caledonia, M. Tallec, broadcast a message to the French inhabitants of Australia and the people of French Pacific territories on the recent occasion of the opening of the French legation at Canberra, and the recognition by the Commonwealth Government of the Provisional Government of the French Republic.

Sir Howard Ellis and Lady Ellis have left Suva, Fiji, for a holiday in New Zealand. Sir Howard has been in ill-health. He hopes to return about January next.

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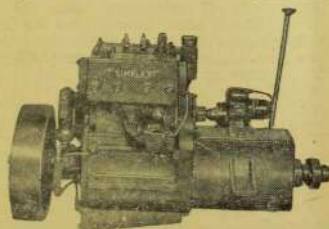
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SIMPLEX MARINE ENGINES for all small boats are the most popular in Australia to-day. Used by all Service Departments, including Navy, R.A.A.F., and Army. Available at present only for essential orders or licensed fishermen.

SIMPLEX LAUNCHES we regret are temporarily unavailable, but we shall be pleased to forward details on request.



Simplex Motor Launches,
14 ft., 16 ft., 18 ft., and 20 ft. long.

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FIJIANS REMEMBERED IN NEW ZEALAND

From a Recent Article in the Wellington "Evening Post":

CAPTAIN Ratu Edward Cakobau, known to many New Zealand friends as Ted, will never be forgotten by the members of the Auckland cricket team, which he accompanied on its southern tour in 1936-37, if only for the fish which he speared in the Avon and carried triumphantly through the streets of Christchurch.

It is just over 20 years since Ted Cakobau arrived in New Zealand with one Dovi Madraiwiwi to spend five years at the Wanganui Technical College, where they joined Jope Loloma and Joeli Ravai, the first pair of Fijian boys to be sent to that college under a scholarship scheme put into operation by the Fijian Government.

They and the others who have followed them have been responsible for many Fijian faces appearing in the photographs of cricket, Rugby and other teams which line the corridors of the college.

THERE IS AN "INDENTURE" SYSTEM IN POLYNESIA

Letter to the Editor

I HAVE been following your work on behalf of the indentured labour system with sympathy and interest, but I have wondered why you have not raised your cudgel against the question asked in July "PIM": "Why is there no indentured labour system in Fiji and the Polynesian Territories?"

The question is easily answered: there is an indenture system in these islands, and in most, if not all, civilised countries. Perhaps it is not precisely the same as the Melanesian system, but in practice, I believe, there is little difference.

An indenture, as I understand it, is a contract that binds a person or persons to work for a given period for a master, and likewise binds the master in matters of wages, food, hours of labour, and so on. In the group of Polynesian islands where I now live, a labour contract (indenture) permits both the master and

labourer the right of appeal to Court. Also, it permits the master to withhold wages for breaches of the contract such as absenteeism or desertion. In this last the master has the right to take the cause to Court for enforcement of his contract. Should the labourer be ordered to return to work, a refusal would constitute a contempt of Court, for which he is liable to punishment.

Is there any substantial difference between this and the Melanesian indenture?

Anyone visiting the Lau Group will find Fijians and Indians working as indentured labourers. I cannot say whether or not they would be punished if they deserted—probably their employers would consider it a good riddance—but the point is that they can not desert, for the islands I refer to are privately owned. A deserter would have to steal or starve—and stealing would result in a jail sentence.

Going farther east, into Polynesia proper, a few months ago over one hundred natives signed a contract to work for one year on a phosphate island; later, a gang of thirty signed for one year on a copra island; and before that, several hundred signed on for a period of labour for the Army. These natives, as free human beings living under a democratic Government, had, and accepted, the right to hire themselves for a specified time under specified working conditions.

To name a few other cases of indentured labour, let me call your attention to the Chinese working on the Crown estates in Samoa, the Gilbert Islanders on numerous equatorial islands to eastward, the Fijian Labour Battalion. (If you say they are not indentured labourers you are splitting hairs. Call them contract labourers if you are squeamish—the two names refer to the same social relationship, anyway.)

Venturing a step farther, why not mention the British apprentice system? And why would it not be perfectly correct to call all workers in war-plants and shipyards indentured labourers? Howbeit, the European "indentured labourers" have no sentimentalists to weep over them and indoctrinate in them the false notion that they are being exploited. A few of them look upon their forced labour as a war necessity; the great majority of them simply consider themselves lucky to have a good job—the same, I believe, as the Melanesian "slaves" consider themselves lucky.

I TAKE for granted that the native people of Melanesia, like the Polynesians, know exactly what they are doing when they put their thumb-prints on the dotted line, and that after they have done so they do not consider themselves slaves, but, to the contrary, free men who have, on their own initiative, contracted to work for a certain period of time and who expect to fulfil their contract. And I believe that most residents of the South Pacific will agree that a year or two in a labour-gang becomes one of the high-lights in a native's life.

Consider a native in an inland village or on a remote island. There is little hope of his ever seeing anything of the world beyond his own narrow horizon save through hiring himself as a labourer. This he can do through the indenture system, for an employer can afford to recruit a labourer from an out-of-the-way place if the labourer will work for a reasonable length of time; but the ex-

O. F. Masschelein

EXPORTER - - - SYDNEY

Wishes his many Pacific Islands clients and friends the Compliments of the Season and every good wish for the coming year.

Pimples and Bad Skin Fought in 24 Hours

Since the discovery of Nixoderm by an American physician it is no longer necessary for anyone to suffer from ugly, disgusting and disfiguring skin blemishes such as Eczema, Pimples, Rash, Ringworm, Psoriasis, Acne, Blackheads, Scabies and Red Blotches. Don't let a bad skin make you feel inferior and cause you to lose your friends. Clear your skin this new scientific way.

A New Discovery

Nixoderm is an ointment, but different from any ointment you have ever seen or felt. It is a new discovery, and is not greasy but feels almost like a powder when you apply it. It penetrates rapidly into the pores and fights the cause of surface skin blemishes. Nixoderm contains 9 ingredients which fight skin troubles in these 3 ways. 1.—It fights and kills the microbes or parasites often responsible for skin disorders. 2.—It stops itching, burning and smarting in 7 to 10 minutes, and cools and soothes the skin. 3.—It helps nature heal the skin clear, soft and velvety smooth.

Works Fast

Because Nixoderm is scientifically compounded to fight skin troubles, it works fast. It stops the itching, burning and smarting in a few minutes, then starts to work immediately, clearing and healing your skin, making it softer, whiter and velvety smooth.

In just a day or two your mirror will tell you that here at last is the scientific treatment you have been needing to clear your skin—the treatment to make you look more attractive, to help you win friends. Nixoderm has brought clearer, healthier skins to thousands, such as Mr. Bob Weedon, Edmund Street, Fremantle, who writes: "I was troubled with pimples ever since I was 13, and have spent pounds and pounds on so-called cures without results. I then tried Nixoderm with astounding effect. The pimples seemed to fade away, and after a week there was not the slightest trace of them."

Satisfaction Guaranteed

Get Nixoderm from your chemist or store to-day. Look in the mirror in the morning and you will be amazed at the improvement. Then just keep on using Nixoderm for one week and at the end of that time it must have made your skin soft, clear, smooth and magnetically attractive—must give you the kind of skin that will make you admired wherever you go, or you simply return the empty package and your money will be refunded in full. Get Nixoderm from your chemist or store to-day. The guarantee protects you.

Nixoderm 2/- & 4/-
For Skin Sores, Pimples and Itch.

pense of recruiting prohibits employing the man if he is at liberty to desert on the whim of the moment.

The native signs on. To him it is the beginning of a great adventure. He may see other islands, civilised ports; he will observe different aspects of life, eat different foods, learn better methods of agriculture. He may even learn the rudiments of personal cleanliness and sanitation. That his health and general physical well-being will improve is an unquestioned fact. And, suppose his wages are small, what about it? We should not evaluate his wages according to our standards. If the native from a remote village is able to make a few pounds as a labourer he will be able to take back to his village tools and clothing that he could never have come by in a lifetime of native endeavour.

All of us, who have lived in the islands, have heard old men talk of the experiences of their youth, and more often than not these experiences have centered around the time they shipped as sailors (another form of indentured labour!) or signed on a labour gang. We ask a native: "Have you ever been away from your island?" and, if he has, he will most likely reply: "Yes; when I was young I went to (say) Christmas Island. . . ." Then his eyes will sparkle as he spins a long yarn of the voyage, the island, the work, the food, the games and dances, the money earned, the treasures purchased. Never have I heard a native complain of having been exploited in one of these adventures.

WHICH brings me to the point of this letter: Why not ask the natives themselves what they think of the indenture system? We have heard to satiety, the ideas of second-rate theorists; but no one seems to realise that the down-trodden "slaves" may have an opinion. If asked, perhaps they will tell

their misguided well-wishers to mind their own business.

And perhaps, if more attention were given to their education and less to their "emancipation," they might tell their well-wishers that freedom is a personal subjective quality that vanishes the instant it is meddled with. To repeat, in part, that which I have already said—they would point out that, as free human beings, they have the right to hire themselves under the terms of any contract that pleases them; that the quality of freedom cannot be forced upon a person, for it ceases to be freedom when coercion is used. In other words, paradoxical as it may at first seem, we cannot force a man to be free by refusing to allow him to indenture himself, for in doing so we trammel his freedom by our coercive act. Conversely, a man is free when, through his own initiative, he indentures himself and thereby restricts his freedom.

To sum up: Freedom is a subtle subjective quality that vanishes the instant a second person tampers with it.

I am, etc.,

ROBERT DEAN FRISBIE.

Rarotonga,
Cook Islands,
October 6, 1944.

DEATH OF MRS. C. F. RICH

MRS. C. F. RICH, wife of Rev. C. F. Rich (both of whom spent a lifetime in LMS missionary service on the south-east coast of Papua) died in Sydney on December 8. Her children are Mrs. Maisie Shaw, Major Mac Rich, Captain Clem Rich, Sister Margaret Sherman, and Warrant-Officer Percy Rich. The funeral, on December 11, was attended by very many Papuan residents. The deceased lady was held in very high regard.

Adrift for 15 Days

A SAILING cutter arrived at Mailagilala, Fiji, from Niuafoou, Tonga, on November 15, after being 15 days adrift. The compass was out of order, and 12 Tongan adults and five children had been for seven days without food or water. One child died.



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RETURN OF CIVILIAN LIFE IN THE MARIANAS

By Ray Coll, Jr., in the "Honolulu Advertiser"

A HUSKY Marine climbed carefully down from the truck, tenderly holding a tiny bundle. We were standing in front of the administration building at the Saipan internment camp. The Marine approached and spoke to Lieut. Goodlow Barry, Navy civil affairs officer and a former Honolulu newspaperman. "What will I do with this baby?" he asked. The tot could not have been more than three weeks old. The Marine had found it in a cave in the hills beside its dead mother.

The baby was taken immediately to the dispensary where a pharmacist chief gave it a shot of glucose and later turned it over to a nurse.

"In the beginning we used to get as high as 40 or 50 orphan babies a day," Lieut. Barry recalled. "It was a nightmare. Now we are well organized, but this is the first baby that's been picked up in some time."

Lieut. Barry then showed me about the camp. We called on Col. Arthur C. Hus-

ton, Jr., of Woodland, Calif., the commanding officer of the camp. Col. Huston told us about seven nuns, a priest and a brother who had lived on Saipan for many years and who made their way into the American lines on July 9.

One nun died of a heart attack before she could reach the camp. The Japs had forced them to keep on the move as the Americans advanced on the islands. They lived in caves and endured all manner of hardships. One nun was slightly wounded by a shell fragment but is now recovered. They belong to the order of Mercedarias Missioners de Berrez Viscaya, Spain. All are Spanish and do not speak English. The priest and brother are also Spanish and do not speak English. They have been working among the natives for years and until 1940 were not hindered by the Japs. However, in 1940, all religious services were curtailed and the church in Garapan was taken over by the Japs for use as a warehouse. In December, 1941,

the missionaries were placed under "house detention" and in March of this year they were forced to leave the town and moved into the hills. All natives were likewise ordered out of Garapan and sent into the hills.

FATHER JOSE TARDIO has been on Saipan 14 years and Brother Gregorio Oroquieta has been on the island 23 years. Both are members of the Jesuit Order. All of the missionaries speak Japanese and Chamorro fluently as well as their native Spanish. One of the sisters arrived on Saipan as late as five years ago.

At present they are housed in the compound set aside for the Chamorros and islanders from the Marshalls brought in by the Japs as labourers. The priest conducts religious services daily while the nuns carry on their social service work and teaching among the natives. They are very grateful to the American authorities for the care that has been given them. While the Japs did not actually maltreat the missionaries, during the assault they did force them to move along routes subject to shelling and bombing. They gave much credit to their girl servant, a Chamorro who aided them in their flight and kept them from possible death.

The camp is divided into three sections. The natives live at one end. It is noteworthy that they keep their area neater than the others. The Japanese have a separate area and the Koreans another. In all there are about 17,000, including hundreds of children of all ages. Plans are well under way to return many to the land. A number of diversified farming projects have been mapped out and areas are to be set aside for the farmers.

IN the meantime the natives are busy weaving mats and baskets which eventually will be sold through the ship stores and post exchanges. A number of sewing machines have been salvaged and many of the Japanese women are busy mending and repairing clothes. A group of laundresses are now employed at one of the Navy's hospitals and another at an Army hospital. Many of the men and older boys are sent out daily on work details cleaning up the debris that is the inevitable aftermath of war.

The camp also has its own police force. The biggest problem is sanitation, about which the Jap internees are apparently indifferent. Games and calisthenics have been devised for the children and they are the happiest of the lot, entering into the spirit with zest.

The internees are living entirely off their own food stocks salvaged after the island was secured. "We haven't touched an ounce of food brought in by us for their use," Col. Huston told me. "Saipan was well stocked with food."

GILBERT ISLAND LEND-LEASE

HERE is a modest example of lend-lease in reverse. Since the Americans landed in the Gilberts the women of those islands have manufactured and supplied to Service Command through reciprocal aid nearly one quarter of a million pieces of leaf thatch for use in the construction of warehouses, messes and other buildings. These native-type structures find favour with the Americans for two reasons—they can be built very quickly and they are beautifully cool.—Harold Cooper.

Dr. F. O. Theile represented the New Guinea Lutheran Mission at the conference on indentured labour, held in Sydney on December 1 and 2.

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Other GILBEY Products:

CREME de MENTHE	★	CHERRY BRANDY
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"PULLING BOYS"

Pre-war Crime Now Legal

THE most serious breach of the Native Labour Ordinance in pre-war Mandated Territory of New Guinea was "pulling" natives—that is, forcing or tricking natives into entering a period of indenture. A recruiter who attempted anything of the sort had a brief career. If anything, this practice was looked upon with even less favour over the border, in Papua.

The changed state of affairs under present military (or ANGAU) administration is indicated by two random extracts from the Methodist "Missionary Review." From a returned missionary:

"An ANGAU officer recently came out here with orders to get a number of boys from this area. They had to go, whether willing or not. As I have told you before, labour is now compulsory. I understand that men with three children are exempt. Only the middle-aged and old men are left. And, as everyone knows—who knows anything of native life—if a man helps a woman (even though her husband is away) in the garden, it inevitably spells domestic trouble and, before long, divorce."

The Rev. John Bodger, at the forum on "Post-war Pacific," held in Sydney, on November 4:

"There are 38,000 Papuans indentured to ANGAU at present. The total number of indentured labourers in Papua before the war was 10,000."

(It was estimated, in 1939, that Papua had almost reached saturation point as far as indentured labour was concerned—10,000 men away from their homes at one time was all that could be permitted without harmful repercussions on native life generally.)

Canada's Japs

Problems of Settlements in Pacific Region

AT the time of Pearl Harbour there were 23,149 Japanese in Canada—over 22 thousand of them in British Columbia. Shortly after the outbreak of the Pacific war it was thought advisable to remove them from the Pacific seaboard, and they were therefore scattered throughout the prairie States.

About the same time 109,000 Japs were removed from California. There were two reasons for this: first, it was feared that if the Japanese attempted landings on the Pacific coast, California's Japs would constitute a ready-made fifth column; and, second, in the event of mob violence from American citizens, it protected the Jap colonists. It was reported that public hysteria on the Pacific coast during January and February, 1942, was running high, fanned by rumours that Jap citizens of Hawaii had rammed planes at Pearl Harbour and blocked roadways.

Most of the Japs in both the Canadian and American Pacific States were market gardeners and domestic servants; a high percentage of them were second and third generation citizens of those countries.

So far, the United States has an-

nounced no policy as to their treatment in the post-war period; but in August, Mr. MacKenzie King (Prime Minister of Canada) announced that in future absolutely no more Japanese migrants will be permitted to settle in Canada, and that a special commission to deal with those already in the Dominion had been set up. This will weed the loyal from the disloyal Japs and, where proved disloyal, whether citizens of Canada or not, they will be deported to Japan. Loyal Japs will be treated justly and, presumably, be permitted to remain in the country.

Such concentrations as were for-

merly permitted in the Pacific States will not be allowed again. Those already in the country will have to disperse to all States of the Dominion and not settle *en bloc* in any particular region.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Martin returned to Fiji in October from a holiday trip to New Zealand.

Lieut.-Colonel J. B. K. Taylor, who received head wounds last year in Bougainville, while leading a Fijian battalion, returned to Fiji in October with his health much improved. He has been recuperating in New Zealand.



Prepared by Imperial chefs from the primest, young, fresh, tender meats and specially processed and sealed to keep *ever-fresh* in any climate.

These meals-in-a-moment save hours of preparation. What a relief, when you feel "fagged out," to have one of these Imperial ready-cooked treats all ready to serve, at any hour, deliciously fresh and flavourful!

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GOOD FOODS

PRODUCTS OF RIVERSTONE MEAT CO. Pty. Ltd.
Fiji Representatives: Pearce & Co. Ltd., Suva.

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MEATREAT



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CAMP PIE



Imperial
HAMPE



Imperial
HOT MEALS

ISLANDS PRODUCE

COCOA

Official prices for New Hebrides cocoa beans, controlled by the Cocoa, Chocolate and Confectionery Committee, are as follows:—

Buying: £41/10/- per ton, f.o.b. Island port.
Selling: Delivered Sydney, Melbourne or Hobart, £53/5/- per ton.
Acrea: £69/10/- (on wharf, Sydney, all charges paid).

New Guinea cocoa beans: No quotations.
Western Samoa: Last sale reported, 1st quality, £80 (f.o.b., Apia).

TROCHUS SHELL

£110 per ton, in store Sydney, was quoted in mid-December. Small parcels changed hands earlier in the month at that figure.

COWRIE SHELLS

Quote No. 1: 2/9 lb. f.o.b. Island port.
Quote No. 2: 2/10 lb. c.i.f. Sydney.

COFFEE

No purchases are 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, £83 per ton (c.i.f. Sydney).
New Hebrides: Robusta, £63/10/- per ton (c.i.f. Sydney).
Mysoor: £240 (c. & f. Sydney).

New Guinea and Papuan: No firm quotations available.
Java: No quotations.

VANILLA BEANS

White Label and Yellow Label, 17/2 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. etc.

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.

RICE

No quotations.

GREEN SNAIL SHELL

F.a.g., £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.

FIJI BUYING PRICES

Suva, November

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 (Plantation Grade)	£20
Copra (FMS Grade)	£18/10/-
Coconut Charcoal, per ton	£12
Copra Sacks, each	2/-
Kerosene, per gal.	3/4
Flour, per sack	25/9
Flour, 5 lb.	1/-
Sharps, per sack	24/6
Barbed Wire	1/-
Pearl Shell, per ton	£50
Beche-de-mer (best quality) about lb.	£14
Beche-de-mer (raw fish) about lb.	6d.

PRICE OF GOLD

	Fine	Standard
oz.	£10/9/-	oz. £9/11/7

COPRA

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

London	Price on—	South Sea, Sun-dried, to London	Plantation, Hot-air Dried, Rabaul
Jan. 3, '36	Per ton, c.i.f.	Per ton, c.i.f.	Per ton, c.i.f.
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 6
Jan. 5, '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. 3	£10 0 0	£10 2 6	£11 0 0
Apr. 6	£9 12 6	£9 15 0	£10 12 6
May 5	£10 0 0	£10 5 0	£11 0 0
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, £13/8/- per ton, c.i.f., London.

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

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, £18/3/-; 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.

In April, 1942, unofficial quotations in Sydney were around £24 (Aust.) per ton, c.i.f., Sydney. July, 1943.—N. Guinea and Papuan copra under Aust. Government control. Fixed prices, payable at port of shipment, or on plantation, where no coastal shipment is involved: Hot-air Dried, £15/10/-; Sun-dried, £15; Smoke-dried, £14/10/- per ton. These prices subject to circumstantial considerations.

In September, 1943, prices were revised as follows: Hot-air and Sun-dried, £18/10/-; Smoke-dried, £17 per ton. Tentative thereafter.

New prices covering the period October 1, 1943, to June 30, 1944, were declared in September, 1944, as follows: Hot-air and Sun-dried, £18/10/- per ton; Smoked, £17/10/- per ton.

Prices to operate from July 1, 1944, were tentatively fixed at: Hot-air and Sun-dried, £19; Smoked, £18 per ton.

QUOTATIONS FOR MINING SHARES

	FIJI	Mid-Oct.	Mid-Nov.	Mid-Dec.
Emperor Mines	b11/9	b11/9	b11/9	b11/9
Loloma	b20/-	b20/-	b22/6	b22/6
Mt. Kasi	b1/8	b1/8	b1/8	b1/8
NEW GUINEA				
Bulolo G.D.	b09/-	b09/-	b09/-	b09/-
Guinea Gold	b11/-	b11/4	b11/6	b11/6
N.G.G., Ltd.	b2/5	b2/4½	b2/4	b2/4
Oil Search	b5/8	b5/7	b5/3	b5/3
Placer Dev.	b73/-	b73/-	b73/-	b73/-
Sandy Creek	b1/2	b1/3	b1/6	b1/6
Sunshine Gold	b8/-	b7/3	b7/8	b7/8
PAPUA				
Cuthbert's	b14/9	b14/-	b12/6	b12/6
Mandated Alluvials	b5/-	b5/-	b5/-	b5/-
Orlomo Oil	b2/6	b2/-	b3/-	b3/-
Papuan Apinaipi	b4/-	b3/6	b3/6	b3/6
Yodda Goldfields	N.Q.	N.Q.	N.Q.	N.Q.

RUBBER

London	Price on—	Para. per lb.	Plantation Smoked. per lb.
January 6, 1933	Per ton, c.i.f.	4½d ..	2.43d
July 7	5½d ..	3.71d	
December 8	4½d ..	4.03½d	
January 5, 1934	4½d ..	4.28d	
July 8	5½d ..	7.06d	
December 28	5d ..	6½d	
January 4, 1935	5d ..	7½d	
July 5	6½d ..	6½d	
December 6	6½d ..	6½d	
January 3, 1936	9d ..	7½d	
June 5	1/-	9.1-16d	
December 4	1/2 ..	10½d	
January 6, 1937	1½d ..	7½d	
December 3	7½d ..	7½d	
January 7, 1938	7½d ..	7½d	
July 1	7½d ..	8d	
December 2	7½d ..	8½d	
January 6, 1939	7½d ..	8½d	
December 1	12d ..	11½d	
January 5, 1940	13d ..	13½d	
July 5	15d ..	12½d	
December 6	13d ..	12d	
January 3, 1941	13d ..	12.47½d	
February 7	13d ..	12.5½d	
March 7	15d ..	13½d	
April	15d ..	14½d	
May 2	16½d ..	14.0½d	
June 6	16½d ..	14½d	
July 4	17d ..	13.7-16d	
August 1	17d ..	13½d	
September 5	(No quote)	13½d	
October 6	—	13.11-16d	
October 10.—Price officially fixed at ..	—	13½d	

July, 1943.—Papuan rubber under Australian Government control. Fixed prices, payable on plantation, where no coastal shipment is involved, or at port of shipment: No. 1 Grade, 1/5; No. 2 Grade, 1/4; No. 3 Grade, 1/2 per lb. These prices subject to circumstantial considerations.

In September, 1943, prices were revised as follows: No. 1 Grade, 1/8½; No. 2 Grade, 1/4; No. 3 Grade, 1/2; Interior, 10½d. to 1/2½ per lb. Tentative thereafter.

In September, 1944, the following new prices, covering the period October 1, 1943, to June 30, 1944, were proclaimed: No. 1 Grade, 1/6½; No. 2 Grade, 1/3½; No. 3 Grade, 1/2½ per lb. Commencing July 1, 1944, prices were tentatively fixed at: No. 1 Grade, 1/4½; No. 2 Grade, 1/3½; No. 3 Grade, 1/1½ per lb.

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 Fiji on basis of £100 Fiji: Buying, £A111/2/6; selling, £A113. Fiji-London on basis of £100 London:—

	Buying.	Selling.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Telegraphic transfer	110 15 0	112 0 0
On demand	110 12 6	111 17 6

WESTERN SAMOA

Through Bank of New Zealand:—Australia on Western Samoa on basis of £100 Samoa: Buying, £A99/12/6; selling, £A100/2/6. Samoa on London on basis of £100 in London:—

	Buying.	Selling.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Telegraphic transfer	£122 18 9	£125 10 0
On Demand	£122 18 9	£125 7 6
30 days	122 8 9	125 2 6
60 days	121 18 9	124 17 6
90 days	121 8 9	124 12 6
120 days	120 18 9	—

NEW GUINEA AND PAPUA

Only nominal at present.

FREE FRENCH PACIFIC COLONIES

Buying, 160; selling, 163; francs to Aust. £.

Australian Short Wave Broadcast

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

Call Sign.	Time.	Wave Length.	Frequency.
VLR6.	6.30-10.15 a.m.	25.51 metres	11,760 M/c/s
VLR3.	12.00-6.15 p.m.	25.25 metres	11,880 M/c/s
VLR.	6.45-11.30 p.m.	31.32 metres	9,580 M/c/s

Power: 2 kilowatts.

ROLL OF HONOUR

(Continued From Inside Front Cover)

Captain W. H. ROBERTS, NZEF, who was Accountant in the Samoa Treasury Dept., during 1934-35. Killed in action in Libya, December 1941.

Pte. Kamell ROKOTULOMA, of the Fiji Military Forces. Reported killed in action, December, 1943.

Major A. B. ROSS, NZEF, who, between 1923-29 was successively, Assistant Secretary for Native Affairs, Assistant Secretary to the Administration, and ADC to the Administrator of Samoa. Killed in action in Libya.

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

J. SIMPSON, RAAF, formerly of Fiji. Killed in action over Malta, July, 1941.

Sgt. R. R. SHORT, AIF, formerly of Port Moresby. Killed in action.

Lieut. G. STEVENSON, AIF, formerly a Patrol Officer in New Guinea. Killed in action in New Guinea, on June 26, 1943.

Cpl. Sefanaia SUKANAIVALU, FMF. Reported killed in action in the Solomons, September, 1944.

Lieutenant A. G. W. THOMAS, RANR, formerly master of Burns Philp & Company's S.S. "Mullama". Killed in action.

Pte. Popoara TANGITITI, of the NZ Forces (Maori Battalion), formerly of Mangaia, Cook Islands. Reported "missing after Battle of Greece—presumed dead", July, 1941.

John Tama TETOEA, of FF Pacific Battalion, formerly of Tahiti. Killed in action in Italy, June, 1944.

Atera TEUIRA, of FF Pacific Battalion, formerly of Tahiti. Killed in action in Italy, June, 1944.

Derek TOVEY, NZEF, formerly of Suva, Fiji. Killed in action in Tunisia in April, 1943.

Rifleman R. E. VERNON, AIF, formerly of Lae, TNG. Reported killed in action, June, 1944.

Capt. A. F. J. WHITE, AIF, formerly a District Officer in Fiji, and BSI. Killed in action in New Guinea.

DIED FROM WOUNDS

Pte. Roy Ian BROWN, NZEF, formerly of Apia, W. Samoa. Died of wounds in Italy, April, 1944.

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

Pte. Alec. MUNRO, NZ Forces, formerly of Norfolk Island. Died in Libya (Middle East), December, 1941.

Adolphe Arthur LAHARRAGUE, formerly of Tahiti. Died of wounds received while serving in the Fighting French forces.

Pte. T. LAWRIE, AIF, son of Mr. Lawrie, formerly of Fiji. Died of wounds in Middle East.

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

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

Sgt. Charles SPITZ, of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion, and formerly of Tahiti. Died from wounds received at Bir Hacheim, on June 21, 1943.

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

ACCIDENTALLY KILLED

Lieut.-Colonel C. C. JUDD, formerly of Morobe, TNG. Accidentally killed in Australia in January, 1943.

A/Cpl. P. A. MCKEE, New Guinea Forces, formerly of Bulolo. Died of injuries.

Major N. V. MCKENNA, AIF, formerly of Wau, TNG. Accidentally killed, September 30, 1943.

F/O Lee VIAL, DSC, formerly ADO, Mandated Territory. Killed in April, 1943, in a plane crash in Sepik district while on a special mission.

Capt. F. E. WILLIAMS, formerly Government Anthropologist in Papua. Killed in a plane accident while on duty in New Guinea, in 1943.

Sgt. Edward WILSON, of Suva, serving in the Fiji Defence Force. Accidentally drowned in the Lami River, Fiji, April, 1942.

Gnr. Robert J. WILSON, formerly of Port Moresby, Papua. Accidentally killed in troop train in Middle East in 1942.

DIED FROM ILLNESS

Pte. Lawrence BOYER, NZEF, formerly of Tonga and Fiji. Died on active service in Italy.

Pte. Tevita BUREKAMA, of Fiji Military Forces. Died of illness while on duty in the Solomons.

Pte. H. COOMBE, NZEF, formerly of Suva, Fiji. Died in Middle East, April, 1944.

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

Ratu Dovi KOMAISAVAI, RAF, formerly of Fiji. Died of illness in Britain, October 19, 1944.

Capt. W. J. McDONALD, AIF, formerly of Morobe and Sepik districts. TNG. Died of illness in New Guinea, July 20, 1944.

Pte. Manoa NAKARU, of the Fiji Military Forces. Reported died on active service, December, 1943.

Pte. Isikeli NABOKO, of the Fiji Military Forces. Reported died on active service, December, 1943.

Seaman Malvin NELSON, of Fiji Royal Naval Volunteer Service. Death reported in May, 1943.

Pte. Inkasio SERU, of the Fiji Military Forces. Reported died on active service, December, 1943.

A/Sgt. J. H. STANE, Royal Australian Engineers, formerly of Port Moresby, Papua. Died from illness, May, 1942.

Rifleman R. A. SMITH, HQ Unit. (Place of enlistment not stated). Died of illness.

Cpl. R. H. SUTTON, NGVR, formerly of Wau, TNG. Died from malaria and typhoid in October, 1943.

Pte. Mateo TUDALA, of the Fiji Military Forces. Reported died on active service, December, 1943.

Pte. Emosi WAQA, of the Fiji Military Forces. Reported died on active service, December, 1943.

Major P. J. WOODHILL, AIF infantry, formerly legal assistant in the Crown Law Office, Rabaul, New Guinea. Reported died from illness, December, 1941.

Pte. F. WORK, of the Fiji Military Forces. Reported died on active service, December, 1943.

MISSING

Louis ANGER, of Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Reported missing after battle of Bir Hacheim.

Pte. P. F. BAILEY, AIF infantry, of Rabaul, TNG. Reported missing, 17/2/1942. Now reported prisoner of war.

Lieut. J. T. BARRACLOUGH, AIF, formerly of New Guinea. Reported missing, December, 1943.

Cpl. Leon BARRENE, of Pacific Battalion of Fighting France. Missing after battle of Bir Hacheim (Libya).

Sgt.-Pilot Murray Waldon BENTLEY, RNZAF, formerly of Fiji. Reported missing in air operations in the Middle East, January, 1943.

P/O Robert Waldon BENTLEY, RNZAF, formerly of Fiji. Reported missing on air operations on May 5, 1943.

Alexandre BLACK, of Pacific Battalion, FF Forces. Reported missing after Battle of Bir Hacheim.

T. BLAKELOCK, BEF, formerly of Fiji. Missing.

Sgt. Ronald Arthur BROODBANK, formerly of Samarai, Papua, now serving with the RAAF overseas. Reported missing on May 31 while on air operations.

Sgt. Alexander BROWN, RNZAF, formerly of Rarotonga. Reported missing over Germany, on September 15, 1942.

Reginald BOULANGER, of Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Reported missing after battle of Bir Hacheim.

H. BUCKNELL, AIF, formerly of Fiji. Missing.

Andre CHITTY, of FF Pacific Battalion, formerly of N. Caledonia. Reported missing.

Pte. E. L. CHRISTIE, AIF infantry, of Rabaul, TNG. Reported missing, 17/2/1942.

Georges CLEMEN, of FF Navy. Formerly of N. Caledonia. Missing in Mediterranean, March, 1942.

Victor DERVAUX, of Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Reported missing after battle of Bir Hacheim.

Lucien DEVAND, of Pacific Battalion of Fighting France. Missing after battle of Bir Hacheim (Libya).

Pte. A. G. DICKSON, AIF infantry, of Rabaul, TNG. Reported "missing, believed wounded", 17/2/1942.

Wing-Commander Donald DONALDSON, RAAF, formerly of Nauru. Missing on air operations over France in June, 1944.

Pilot-Officer Norman R. FRAZER, RAAF, formerly of Wau, TNG. Reported missing on air operations over Germany August 30, 1943.

Elton FIELD, RNZAF, formerly of staff of Kasi Mines, Fiji. Missing in Java.

Gath GELDARD, NGVR, of New Britain. Missing after the battle of Rabaul, January, 1942.

Georges GOVETCHE, of FF Pacific Battalion, formerly of N. Caledonia. Reported missing.

Acting Flight-Lieut. Don A. IRVING, RAAF, formerly chemist in CSR Co., Labasa, Fiji. Missing, presumed dead, in air operations over Germany, February 27, 1942.

Pte. ANDREW A. (BILLO) JOHNSON, NGVR. Reported missing in New Guinea on October 29, 1942.

Georges KABAR, of Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Reported missing after battle of Bir Hacheim.

Henri LANGLOIS, of Pacific Battalion of Fighting France. Missing after battle of Bir Hacheim (Libya).

Numa LETHESER, of Pacific Battalion of Fighting France. Missing after battle of Bir Hacheim (Libya).

Rene LETOCART, of Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Reported missing after battle of Bir Hacheim.

Cpl. E. G. MacADAM, NGVR, of Rabaul, TNG. Reported missing after the battle of Rabaul, January 1, 1942.

Capt. J. J. MURPHY, AIF, formerly of New Guinea. Reported missing, December, 1943.

Pte. R. J. PASCOE, AIF infantry, of Rabaul, TNG. Reported missing, 27/1/1942.

Pilot Tom PATTERSON, of the RNZAF, formerly of Levuka, Fiji. Reported missing, in November, 1941, after bombing raid on the Continent.

Eugene PENE, of Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Reported missing after battle of Bir Hacheim.

Andre PETRE, of Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Reported missing after battle of Bir Hacheim.

Eugene POGNON, of Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Reported missing after battle of Bir Hacheim.

Pte. William RUPE, of the NZ Forces (Maori Battalion), formerly of Aitutaki, Cook Islands. Reported "missing after Battle of Greece", July, 1941.

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

Lt/Bdr. G. G. SMITH, NZEF, formerly of Suva, Fiji. Reported missing.

Louis SALOMAN, of FF Pacific Battalion, formerly of N. Caledonia. Reported missing.

Charles STIERMANS, of FF Pacific Battalion, formerly of N. Caledonia. Taken POW in Libya, but missing after transport was sunk in Mediterranean.

Pilot-Officer Neville George STOKES, of the RAAF, formerly a pilot with Guinea Airways, Ltd., in New Guinea. Reported missing after air operations in Europe, December, 1941.

Chas. STIERMANS, of FF Pacific Battalion, formerly of N. Caledonia. Reported missing.

Louis VINDOUX, of FF Pacific Battalion, formerly of New Caledonia. Reported missing.

REPORTED MISSING

Malaya Casualty List, Published 23/7/1942.

ALEXANDRE BLACK, of Pacific Battalion of Fighting France. Reported killed in action at Bir Hacheim. Now reported missing.

Andre CHITTY, of Pacific Battalion of Fighting France. Missing at battle of Bir Hacheim (Libya).

Pte. E. L. CHRISTIE, infantry, Rabaul.

Pte. A. G. DICKSON, infantry, Rabaul.

Pte. J. M. HIRSCHER, infantry, Rabaul.

Pte. J. G. NEWTON, artillery, Port Moresby.

Australia and Island Stations.

Pte. S. W. HUNTER, infantry, Kokopo.

PRISONERS OF WAR

Pte. J. H. ALLAN, AIF, formerly of Wau, TNG. Formerly reported missing, now reported prisoner of war.

Gnr. N. H. AMOS, AIF, formerly of Port Moresby. Reported prisoner of war after Malayan campaign.

Lieut. CLARIE ARCHER, NGVR. Believed prisoner of war in Japan. Reported prisoner of war in February, 1943, in prison camp on island south of Japan.

Georges BEBERE, of FF Pacific Battalion, formerly of N. Caledonia. Reported POW.

Robert BLUM, of Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Reported missing after battle of Bir Hacheim. Reported POW, May, 1944.

Cpl. Jock BAIRD, AIF, formerly of Bank of NSW staff, Suva, Fiji. Reported missing in Malaya, February, 1942. Reported prisoner of war, September, 1941.

Mariel BARRAU, of French Infantry, formerly of N. Caledonia. Taken prisoner after fall of France, June, 1940.

A/Cpl. Peter W. BOSGARD, AIF infantry, formerly of the Lands Department, Port Moresby, Papua. Reported prisoner of war at Sulmona, Italy, 29/6/1941; transferred to Bolzano prison camp, September, 1941.

Col. J. E. BROAD, NZEF, formerly of Suva, Fiji. Reported prisoner of war. Reported escaped from German POW camp in Italy, 1944.

Now returned to New Zealand.

(Continued on Page 37)

PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY—DECEMBER, 1944

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