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June 18, 1945

VOL. XV. NO. 11.

PACIFIC ISLANDS Monthly



MISSIONARY BISHOPS CONFER

The heads of the Anglican Missionary organisations in the South Pacific Islands were in conference in Sydney in May, when this photograph was taken. The names of the five prelates in the front row, from left to right are: The Right Rev. W. H. Baddeley, DSO, MC, Bishop of Melanesia, whose headquarters are in the Solomon Islands; The Most Reverend H. W. K. Mowll, Archbishop of Sydney, who presided; The Most Reverend C. West Watson, Archbishop of New Zealand; The Right Rev. L. S. Kempthorne, Bishop of Polynesia, whose headquarters are in Suva, Fiji; The Right Rev. Philip Strong, Bishop of New Guinea, whose headquarters are in North-eastern Papua.

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PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY—JUNE, 1945

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PACIFIC NEWS-REVIEW

May 18: Marshal Tito, of Yugoslavia, has refused to withdraw his troops from Italian and Austrian territory, and threatens to establish claims to the Trieste area by force of arms. The situation is "delicate."

May 21: The Trieste position has eased, and the Yugoslav Government is now ready to negotiate with Italy. The Yugoslav Government has stated that it has no intention of annexing unilaterally the coastal area of Istria. But, while the Yugoslav situation has improved, there are indications of trouble in Syria and Lebanon, where riots are taking place, following the landing of French troops. This French action is considered by the Lebanese and Syrians as a direct threat to the independence of their two countries, which was granted in 1943.

May 22: US Secretary of State Stettinius stated to-day that it is hoped to draft the World Charter as agreed upon at UNCTO in two weeks' time.

May 23: The Churchill Government has resigned in Britain, and the coalition administration has ended. The general election will be held on July 6. This will be the first election since 1935.

May 23: All members of the Doenitz's acting German Government and the German High Command have been rounded up and taken prisoner at Plenburg, Germany.

May 25: Heinrich Himmler, head of the German Gestapo, committed suicide at the headquarters of the British Second Army at Luneburg, Germany. He was taken prisoner by the British on May 21 when, in disguise, he attempted to cross a bridge in Prussia. At first his identity was not known, but he later revealed himself. Foreign Minister von Ribbentrop is now the only prominent Nazi unaccounted for.

May 27: A serious situation has developed in Syria and Lebanon, where fresh French troops have arrived. Britain and US are seeking a peaceful way out, but it is feared that hostilities will commence between the French and national troops.

May 28: Marshal Tito, of Yugoslavia, has appealed to the Allies to fulfil their Atlantic Charter pledge that all the peoples liberated will have the right to determine their own fate. He said that he had not withdrawn his troops from Carinthia merely to make way for the British 8th Army.

May 29: William Joyce ("Lord Haw-Haw") has been captured by the British Second Army in Germany. It is believed that he will be imprisoned in the Tower of London until he is tried for treason.

May 30: Hostilities have begun in Damascus, Syria, where French troops, using planes and artillery, have occupied Parliament House. The President of Syria has appealed to both Britain and America for immediate intercession.

May 31: Mr. Churchill ordered the Allied Commander-in-Chief in the Middle East to intervene in Syria to prevent further bloodshed, and General de Gaulle has been informed. Heavy fighting has continued in Damascus, and the city has been bombed by French planes. Britain has asked that French troops cease fire immediately and withdraw to barracks to prevent clashes between French and British troops, and has promised that if they do this, Britain will arrange a tripartite discussion in London as soon as possible.

June 1: French troops in Syria have ceased fire. Mr. Churchill's message to de Gaulle has been described in France as an "ultimatum," and has been received

with resentment.

June 5: Mr. Churchill has told General de Gaulle that he is ready to order the withdrawal of British troops from Syria and Lebanon as soon as a treaty is concluded and is operating between the French, Syrian and Lebanon Governments. Mr. Churchill's statement was in reply to charges by de Gaulle that Britain had tried to stir up trouble by intervention in Syria, and that she wished to oust the French from the Levant.

June 6: France wants five-Power talks on the Levant dispute—that is, she wishes to bring in Russia and China instead of confining the discussion to America, France and Britain.

June 6: Hitler's Third Reich came to an end yesterday when four Allied Commanders-in-Chief (Field-Marshal Montgomery for Britain, General Eisenhower for America, Marshal Zhukov for Russia, and General de Tassigny for France) signed in Berlin an agreement for the total subjugation of German life in the four zones occupied by the armies of their respective countries, and began their work as governors of post-war Germany.

June 8: The Commander of the French Forces in Syria, General Roget, has accused Britain of provoking trouble in Syria. General de Gaulle's angry reaction to this has again sharpened the Levant crisis which earlier appeared to be quietening. Meanwhile, the Arab League, which is meeting in Cairo, has issued a statement charging France with creating the Levant trouble.

WAR IN THE PACIFIC

May 17: Japanese forces strongly entrenched on high ground south of Wewak peninsula (New Guinea) are fighting fanatically to stem the advance of the Australians.

May 18: The AIF on Tarakan now hold two-thirds of the island, and the enemy has been pushed back to the more rugged areas. Meanwhile, the American forces on Okinawa are joined in bitter battle with the Japanese for vital hills between the Jap base at Shuri and the capital, Naha.

May 23: It has now been revealed that Japan has been using a "secret weapon" on western areas of the United States and Canada during the past few months. This is a paper balloon about 33 ft. in diameter, capable of carrying bombs. The balloons travel at extreme heights, and are borne by the prevailing air currents. It is believed that they are intended to start forest-fires. They constitute no real military threat.

May 24: More than 550 Superfortresses from Marianas bases, dropped 4,500 tons of incendiary bombs on Tokyo before dawn to-day. This was the heaviest air raid yet made on Japan.

May 27: Tokio had its second great fire raid from Superfortresses yesterday. Suzuki, Japan's Premier, reported that the Imperial Palace has been destroyed, and Tokio radio has announced that the city is "literally scorched to the ground." Thirty-one Superfortresses were lost during the two raids.

May 27: Australian troops have now secured the whole of the Wewak coastal area, and sealed off about 12,000 Japanese in the rugged inland country between there and Maprik.

May 29: Over 3,000 tons of incendiary bombs were dropped on Yokohama, chief port of Japan, this morning.

June 1: More than 450 Superfortresses, supported by fighters, to-day attacked Osaka, Japan's second largest city; 3,200 tons of incendiary bombs were dropped.

NOTES AND COMMENT ON INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS FROM MAY 18 TO JUNE 11

June 3: Important changes in American naval commands in the Pacific have been announced to fit in with the "mightier plans" that have been evolved for intensification of the war in this area. Under the new scheme, Admiral Nimitz takes direct command of all land forces in the Ryukyu Group.

June 6: Far East war situation may be profoundly affected by successful new Chinese offensive on 200 miles' front in central China. Japs are withdrawing to north-east, and abandoning central Chinese railway, which is Japan's last connecting link with her armies in south-east Asia and Indonesia. If the advancing Chinese can clear the central Chinese coast, this will provide important military and air bases for Allies.

June 10: According to Tokio radio, five Japanese cities—Tokio, Yokohama, Nagoya, Osaka and Kobe—have ceased to exist. On June 9 and 10 large forces of Super-Fortresses made eight attacks on the main island of Japan, Honshu.

June 11: Following a two-days' naval engagement, elements of the Australian Ninth Division, AIF, have landed simultaneously at Labuan Island, Muara Island and Broketon, in the Brunei Bay area, on the north-west coast of British North Borneo. They have already captured Labuan township.

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The book, named "Pacific Islands Handbook," is published by The MacMillan Company, New York, for distribution in North and South America, and Hawaii.

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 1724.

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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Mr. Leonard Murray, General Morris— and the Barry Report

THE general effect of the Barry report into the cause of the administrative impasse in Papua in January-February, 1942, is to white-wash the military Commandant, Major-General B. M. Morris, and place upon the Administrator, the Hon. Leonard Murray, a sufficient amount of blame to justify Canberra—if that should be Canberra's wish—in ignoring the claims of Mr. Murray to appointment as Administrator of the new Provisional Government.

The history of the trouble, and Commissioner Barry's comments and conclusions, are set forth in a long summary of the report, which is published on another page. We have tried to make a fair condensation of a very large and comprehensive document. As a result of that necessarily close reading, we have reached certain conclusions, which are set forth hereunder. If anyone thinks that our conclusions are wrong, he is invited to read, not only our summary, but also the original report, copies of which are available in several official places.

THE only man whom the Commissioner criticises harshly—in fact, the only man whom he criticises at all—is the Administrator, Mr. Murray. He wraps his conclusions in courteous and even sugary language; but, in effect, he says that (a) Mr. Murray was thin-skinned, hypersensitive and legalistic in his attitude

towards the Commandant; (b) Mr. Murray, to a degree that was deplorable in the circumstances, insisted upon frequent consultation with the Australian Government, at Canberra; (c) Mr. Murray, in his attitude towards the Army on his doorstep, was withdrawn and unco-operative; (d) Mr. Murray, in his communications with Canberra and Army, in the critical fortnight under review, showed no particular concern for the welfare of the natives, which should have been his particular care.

One can use against the Commissioner a term of which he himself appears to be fond. He was "unrealistic"; and, in reaching the conclusions he now has broadcast, he has shown himself lacking in knowledge of the Territories scene as it existed for over 25 years, and in any fair appreciation of the atmosphere created in Port Moresby early in 1942 by a series of sudden, unforeseen and tremendous events. He refers to those events, but he does not take them sufficiently into account.

Especially has he failed to disclose appreciation of the situation created in the Territory by the coterie of professional soldiers who arrived there in 1941, and who left no one in any doubt of the contempt in which they held the Murray administration, and of their eagerness to get rid of the old fogies whose chief concern, notoriously, was the protection and welfare of the natives.

Incidentally, it may be pointed out that the incursion of the heavy-booted, unimaginative, professional soldier into Territories' government has caused a number of administrative tragedies in the Pacific Islands during the last 40 or 50 years—the worst example being Western Samoa between 1920 and 1930. The professional soldier cannot understand that tropical islands administration is something that requires a lifetime of training and study, and is not merely a matter of "bossing the niggers around."

THE Administrator had spent over 30 years in Papua, and had made the care and welfare of natives, and tropical administration, generally, his life's work. The Commandant, probably, had never seen a Pacific tropical Territory until he was sent to Port Moresby to take charge of the 8th Military District. He probably was of the type that could not understand or appreciate the principles upon which the Murray administration was based, nor could he have knowledge of the extraordinary difficulties under which that Government was carried on—lack of funds, complete public indifference in Australia towards Pacific Islands affairs (reflected in colossal ignorance in Ministers nominally responsible for Islands administration), a niggling insistence by Canberra bureaucrats that Administrators should refer most matters to Canberra before taking a decision.

The Administrator, Leonard Murray, and the Government Secretary, H. W. Champion, as lieutenants for long

years of the famous Australian Administrator, Sir Hubert Murray, were most jealous of their government, and especially were they concerned with all matters likely to affect the welfare of the natives. Not once, but a score of times, has Australian commerce criticised the Murray regime for its readiness to place native interests before those of Europeans.

INTO this narrow little world, driven by the supreme need of defending Australia, came the Army set-up, quite properly expecting and demanding that all considerations be subverted to its most urgent requirements. As Mr. Barry points out in biting language, this military organisation was bumble-footed, blundering, ill-trained and ill-equipped. Even before Jap bombs fell on Moresby, stories were reaching Sydney of difficulties between the Army, and the civil administration, of whose opinions, laws and general procedure the newly-arrived military officers were clearly contemptuous.

Possibilities of trouble were foreseen before the administrative impasse occurred. The attitude of General Morris and his principal officers was not helpful or conciliatory—and the Administrator and his officials, probably resenting bitterly the Brass Hat attitude, naturally withdrew themselves as far as their duty permitted. As the Japanese invasion approached, the Administrator obviously had to depend almost wholly upon Canberra for information and instructions. Canberra had the whole picture—the Administrator knew only what he could see and hear. And what he saw and heard must have given him little confidence in General Morris and his set-up—thousands of troops, arriving in Moresby without discipline and proper equipment; troops running amok and looting the stores and private houses; Rabaul (for which Moresby Army headquarters were supposed to be responsible) abandoned to the Japanese; hundreds of civilians sacrificed there, because of official failure to use the available transport to get them away.

The Commandant probably was impatient with the Administrator's failure to make quick, clear decisions, and (with typical Army confidence in the propriety of its own judgment!) was sure that the only thing to do was to "ship Murray and his crowd out of the Territory." Mr. Barry has clearly seen the Commandant's viewpoint in relation to the Administrator, and apparently has approved of everything that General Morris did in Port Moresby. There is no word of adverse criticism.

But Mr. Barry apparently failed to see the Administrator's viewpoint in relation to the Commandant—probably because of his lack of knowledge of the Papuan history and background.

THE most serious charge made by Mr. Barry against Mr. Murray is that he insisted on referring everything to Canberra, for instructions. If anyone was to be condemned for that course, it was not Mr. Murray, but the Canberra bureaucrats, who had instituted and most jealously guarded the system. As Mr. Murray saw it, he had to look for direction to Canberra, which presumably had the complete picture, and not to the local Commandant, who appeared to be surrounded with confusion and chaos.

At any time—and especially after the fall of Rabaul, when the Japs clearly were coming south—Canberra had only to send Mr. Murray a dozen clear words, informing him that in view of the urgency of the situation he now must take all instructions from the Commandant on the spot, and fit his remaining civil administration into the military set-up, and there would have been no further difficulty.

But in all the day-to-day radio messages between Canberra and Port Moresby, examined by the Commissioner and set out in his report (see our summary) *there is not one word of instruction to the Administrator which may be construed in that way.* On the contrary, there are the most stupidly conflicting and confusing instructions issued from Melbourne and Canberra; and anyone reading those messages can only wonder, not that Mr. Murray was "unco-operative," but that he did not go insane. "All hell was popping" around him in those critical days, the Commandant was hostile and anxious to get complete control, and Canberra kept issuing conflicting orders.

All who read the Barry report will agree that if anyone is to be blamed for Moresby's black fortnight, culminating in the virtual deportation of the Administrator and his senior officers, it is the bureaucracy of the Army and the Canberra Departments, and the unfortunate people responsible for maintaining liaison between the two.

Mr. Murray's attitude and conduct, officially, were strictly correct, in every particular. It is so easy for Mr. Barry, three years later, to say, "Why did you not take matters into your own hands? Why wait on Canberra?" If Mr. Barry were not so legalistic and unrealistic—terms which he applies to others—he would know that, if Mr. Murray had followed that course, he long ago would have been torn to pieces by Canberra, and delivered over as an official corpse to the Army. (Read the Memorandum of September, 1943, written by Australia's very own General Sir Thomas Blamey!)

THE Commissioner's charge that the Administrator appeared indifferent, in those critical days, to the future welfare of the native people, supports our contention that his conclusions are legalistic and unreal. Imagine anyone bringing such a charge against the man who was

associated for 30 years with his famous uncle, in developing the Murray policy of native administration, and who has so often been accused of cherishing too tender a regard for native welfare!

Obviously, the man who had devoted most of his official life to developing a policy of native administration, and discussing the subject with Canberra, would not think it necessary, in that confused time, to re-state his views—he naturally would assume that Canberra, in dealing with the Army, would understand exactly the Territory's requirements in relation to the natives. But because he did not set it all out in memoranda to Canberra and the Commandant, he is found guilty of lack of co-operation.

POW FUND

Latest Contributions

FURTHER donations have come in to the fund opened last month by the New Guinea Women's Club of Sydney for the rehabilitation of prisoners of war. This is a cause worthy of the support of every Pacific Island resident. Men and women who have spent years in the hands of the enemy will need every assistance we can give when they eventually return to civilian life.

All money should be sent to the treasurer, NG Women's Club, c/o Feminist Club, 77 King Street, Sydney.

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THE "SMALL SHIPS"

Letter to the Editor

IN May "PIM," in an article describing Mr. Carfax-Foster and other New Guineans as being among the first to join the American small ships, no mention is made of Captain A. A. Markwell, who commanded the S4.

I think this was the first vessel (of any tonnage) to leave Sydney for New Guinea (American small ships).

From memory, I think she sailed at the end of June or early July, 1942. Mr. Lazarus, well-known in BSI, was chief officer, and Mr. Norman Izod, of Samarai, sailed as chief engineer.

Lever Bros.' "Kunimarau" did a good job up there—first under command of her original master, Captain W. Rawson, and later commanded by Bert Cummins, of Cairns.

I am, etc.,

MURUA.

Redcliffe, Brisbane.

PAPUA GOVERNMENT May Await Return of Dr. Evatt

ALTHOUGH three months have passed since the Australian Minister for Territories announced that civil administration would be restored to Papua and the Morobe section of the Mandated Territory by means of a "Provisional Government," nothing further has been done.

General expectation is that nothing will be done until the Australian Attorney-General (Dr. Evatt) returns from San Francisco, probably in June. It is suggested that Dr. Evatt's plan of basing a two-territories "provisional" administration upon National Security Regulations has been found impracticable under constitutional law.

Most other moves for the re-establishment of civil life in the liberated Territories now await Canberra's decisions.

The first development, presumably, will be the appointment of a Civil Administrator. Some people think that Canberra now will reject Mr. Leonard Murray, because of the Barry Report. But an analysis of the Barry Report shows that main criticism of Mr. Murray was based on the allegation that, early in 1942, he was ultra-scrupulous in trying to carry out the wishes of Canberra, and in refusing to move until he had instructions from Canberra. Canberra can scarcely be expected to punish Mr. Murray on that account.

However, Canberra never has been famed for fine distinctions of that kind. If Canberra wants to be rid of Mr. Murray, the Barry Report supplies the excuse. The wishes of Papuan civilians—which apparently are strongly in favour of Mr. Murray's appointment—probably would not count.

NATIVE LABOUR ORDINANCE.

PROMULGATION of the new Native Labour Ordinance can be expected, as soon as the new Government takes shape. All the scientific and administrative experts (including Mr. Halligan, Mr. Leonard Murray, Dr. Ian Hogbin, Mr. Melrose, and leading Territories officials) met the Minister in Canberra late in May in conference on the Ordinance. But there were no economic experts there, nor any representatives of Territories trade and industry. Probably, if they had appeared, Mr. Ward would have bitten them.

ANOTHER PAPUAN PIONEER DIES IN AUSTRALIA

NEWS has only recently been received of the death on March 20 of Mrs. W. Carlo, at Nazareth Home, Brisbane.

In the early days she opened the first hotel in Port Moresby, but later moved with her husband and family to Samarai. Her husband, "Bill" Carlo, was well-known as a boat-builder in Samarai, but later went to the Solomons, where he died shortly after he landed.

Mrs. Carlo's family all predeceased her and are buried at Rogare, near Samarai. Until the evacuation, in 1942, she lived in a small house in the township.

Pte. Richard Minogue, AIF, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. A. N. Minogue, of the Treasury Department, Port Moresby, was killed in action in New Guinea on May 31.

Death of Edouard Ahnne Leading Tahiti Citizen

ONE of Tahiti's leading citizens, Monsieur Edouard Ahnne, died in Papeete on April 8, at the age of 77. He was born in France and went out to Tahiti in 1892 as a young man, to a position in L'Ecole Libre Protestante. He was for 50 years director of this school, but did not regard the post as a mere job to fill in time until he could return to France, but identified himself with the life of the Colony, particularly its political life.

He was a member of the General Council, the Administrative Council and the Privy Council, but had also, wide interests outside those circles. Realising that the principal source of the Colony's wealth was bound up in agriculture, he did all he could to further the interests of the primary producers, and was for many years president of the Chamber of Agriculture.

He was interested also in Pacific peoples, and was associated with the Societe des Etudes Oceaniennes.

After the fall of France, in 1940, he became one of the most ardent supporters of de Gaulle, and was awarded the Legion of Honour and the Cross of Liberation for his patriotic work.

He is survived by a widow and a grown family. One of his sons is a Papeete solicitor; another was a Doctor of Dentistry, but died some years ago. Madame Ahnne has connections with some of Tahiti's earliest missionary families.

In a message of condolence to the Ahnne family, the Governor of Tahiti said: "You have lost a husband and a father; we have lost a guide and a friend."

The Governor of Fiji, Mr. A. W. G. H. Grantham, paid an official visit to Tonga in May. He was accompanied by Mrs. Grantham, and attended by Major E. W. Harrop as ADC.

Rev. J. W. Burton to be President-General

Methodist Mission Conference Discusses Native Education

AFTER 20 years' service as Secretary-General of the Methodist Overseas Mission (a position from which he retired in March), the Rev. J. W. Burton now becomes President-General of the Mission. He was appointed to this position at the General Conference, which was held in Melbourne in May.

Mr. Burton is a firm supporter of the Australian delegation at San Francisco—particularly on the question of trusteeship of native races. He would like to see the abolition of the indenture, or contract, system of native labour in the New Guinea Territories.

Mr. Burton leaves for America in August, where, at the invitation of the Methodist Society of America, he will lecture on Pacific problems and missionary enterprises in this area. He may later visit Britain for the British Methodist Conference, to which he has been appointed Australasian representative.

At the Melbourne Conference, the Rev. H. M. Wheller, the out-going President-General, said that total mobilisation of the strength of Methodism was necessary if they were to carry out the work required in the Pacific.

President of the New Zealand Methodist Conference, the Rev. A. H. Scriven, said that education of natives must not be allowed to pass out of the hands of the church into the hands of the Government. There already was a tendency for this to happen and, if it were continued, spiritual work among the natives would have to be greatly increased.

Faced with the need for modernisation, Noumea's five bakeries—Mercier, Capiez, de Rouvray, de Bechade and Panne—have formed a limited liability company of four million francs.

VE-DAY IN WESTERN SAMOA



The people of Samoa thronged the waterfront at Apia on May 8, when the Administrator, Mr. A. C. Turnbull, formally announced the end of the war in Europe, and read a message from the Prime Minister of New Zealand. Inset: The Administrator, accompanied by his Aide, arrives at the Court House. On the left, Captain Tearoe, OC Defence Force.—Photo by McFarland's Studio.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPASSE IN PAPUA IN JAN.-FEB., 1942

Commissioner Barry's Findings Do Not Seem In Accord With His Own Report

THE long-awaited "Barry Report" was submitted to the Australian Parliament early in June. Between December and March, Mr. J. V. Barry, KC, under the authority of a Royal Commission, inquired generally into "all the circumstances relating to the suspension of the civil administration of the Territory of Papua in February, 1942."

The particular matters into which Mr. Barry inquired, and his finding on each, were:

- (a) Whether the Administrator and/or any members of the Legislative Council and/or any members of the Executive Council of Papua failed in their public duty to safeguard the Territory.

FINDING: Having regard to all the circumstances, the Administrator and the members of the Legislative and Executive Councils did not fail in their public duty to safeguard the Territory.

- (b) Whether any action taken or omitted to be taken by the Military Commandant of the 8th Military District prior to noon on 14th February, 1942, contributed to any failure on the part of the civil administration of the Territory.

FINDING: No action taken or omitted to be taken by the Military Commandant of the 8th Military District prior to noon on 14th February, 1942, contributed to any failure on the part of the civil administration of the Territory.

- (c) 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.

FINDING: For all practical purposes, there was adequate co-operation between the civil administration and the military authorities up to 23rd January, 1942, when the false air-raid alarm occurred at Port Moresby. After 23rd January the state of affairs was such that the only matter of importance upon which there could have been any useful co-operation between the two authorities was the administration and control of native affairs. Between 23rd January, 1942, and 6th February, 1942, when the Administrator was informed that the Commonwealth Government had authorised the temporary cessation of civil government in Papua, the civil administration did not offer, in respect of the control and management of native affairs, the co-operation with the military authorities which the circumstances required.

THE few people who take the trouble to read through these 70 close-typed pages probably will not agree with the findings of the Commissioner. His conclusions appear unrealistic and out of balance with the facts so effectively set out in his admirably-arranged report.

Our criticism of the Commissioner's findings is printed in an article on pages 3 and 4 of this journal.

While Mr. Barry's conclusions may be regarded as of doubtful use, as a guide to official relationships in Port Moresby in the fortnight prior to February 6, 1942, his report, as a factual record of

what actually occurred in Papua in the three or four weeks after the Japanese seized Rabaul (January 23, 1942), can be accepted as a historical record of extreme value. In piecing the story together, from confused masses of official documents, and from the fading memories of innumerable witnesses, he has done an amazingly good job.

Mr. Barry may have doubtful value as a Royal Commissioner—his conclusions are apt to be out of alignment—but if the Commonwealth were to employ him as a war historian, at £5,000 per annum, it would be money well spent.

IN the following summary of events in Papua, compiled directly from Mr. Barry's report, we have tried to indicate the material upon which he has based his conclusions; but we have generally ignored the mass of data which he has assembled to show Australia's lack of military preparation to meet the Japanese invasion. This had a bearing upon the general situation with which Mr. Barry had to deal; but it does not affect the actual administrative position in Papua, with which this journal is primarily concerned, and so it is not covered here.

The following shows the course of events in Papua after the attack by Japan, leading to the administrative impasse in February.

WAR CABINET DECISION

DEC. 13, 1941.—Administrator and Commandant instructed by Australian Government to evacuate all women and children; completed by Dec. 29.

DEC. 29.—Administrator and Commandant restricted liquor sales.

JAN. 3, 1942.—"Aquitania" (45,000 tons) arrived in Port Moresby with about 5,000 young, untrained, and undisciplined troops, in charge of inexperienced officers. Confusion on ship, especially regarding stowage of equipment and supplies, quickly reflected in "disorderly and undisciplined conduct" ashore.

JAN. 13.—Administrator reported to Canberra on difficulty of maintaining liaison with Army headquarters, and asked that he be kept informed of developments, so that he might better discharge his responsibilities for civilian life and property.

JAN. 19.—Australian War Cabinet formally resolves: "Civil administration in all Territories controlled by Australia should be maintained for as long as is necessary and possible. The withdrawal of administrative officers, so long as there is work for them to do, is deprecated." This decision, evidently owing to oversight, was not communicated to Administrator of Papua.

JAN. 23.—Japs occupied Rabaul. Trobriand Islands bombed.

NATIVES GO BUSH

JAN. 23.—False air alarm sounded in PM at 1.15 p.m., and majority of native labourers went bush, completely disorganising all activities in port and town. It was reported (but never proved) that civil government had taken the viewpoint that "war fear was a reasonable cause for desertion by native labourers," and this created great irritation and resentment at Army headquarters. Army took control of powerhouse and telephone exchange.

JAN. 23.—Commandant passed on to Administrator recommendation that all civilians be evacuated from Samarai to Australia.

EXTRAORDINARY INCIDENT AT SAMARAI

JAN. 23-24.—Two series of messages were broadcast from Samarai, one telling sub-stations to stand by continuously, and the other (on 24th) that all stations were immediately to evacuate all Europeans.

These messages caused much confusion and disorder, especially in Trobriands, and were closely inquired into by Commissioner. No one took responsibility for them. Captain Elliott Smith, ARM at Samarai, said the messages were sent out without authority by Mr. Plowman, AWA operator at Samarai. The Commissioner reported he was satisfied that Mr. Plowman did not send out unauthorised messages, nor were they authorised by Mr. Woodward, the RM; and he proceeded:

"Captain Elliott Smith at this time held the view that Samarai should be evacuated; on his own version, he felt that Mr. Woodward was apathetic in his manner of dealing with the situation then existing.

"By virtue of the two positions he held, one civil and the other military, Elliott Smith was a person in authority. He admits that he did not make any report that Mr. Plowman had sent the messages without authority, and his account that he reproved Mr. Plowman for doing so is lame and unconvincing, and I do not accept it. I am thus driven to the conclusion that the instructions to Mr. Plowman to send these radios originated with Captain Elliott Smith, and that his version relating to this matter given in evidence is not reliable.

"This message—Feb. 24—certainly should not have been sent without the authority of the Government Secretary. It caused great confusion and led to withdrawals from districts without the knowledge of the civil administration, and was an important factor contributing to the confusion that developed at the end of January and the beginning of February."

JAN. 24.—Administrator asks Canberra for instructions regarding civilian evacuation, adding that all Service heads at PM considered this desirable. He was not aware of broadcast from Samarai.

ALL MEN CALLED UP

JAN. 25.—Canberra drafted a reply, agreeing that unnecessary civilians should go, but quoting War Cabinet decision of Jan. 19 regarding necessary personnel. But this reply was not sent, because—

JAN. 25.—Australian War Cabinet this day resolved that all able-bodied white males in Papua and NG be called up immediately for active service. Canberra informed Administrator and Commandant accordingly. Administrator also asked to advise number of unfit civilians who would be allowed to leave the Territory.

(Canberra obviously assumed that Administrator knew of resolution of Jan. 19, which modified the call-up. Administrator, not knowing of it, took Jan. 25 message literally. This led to incredible confusion.)

JAN. 26.—Administrator conferred with Commandant, who indicated he would at once make call-up. Administrator then radioed Canberra that he presumed call-up would operate immediately, and pointing out this would mean the closing up of all private industry and of civil administration (which obviously could not function without personnel). He

(Continued on Page 41)

TRANS-PACIFIC AIR SERVICES

PAA Promise An Early Start

THERE are signs that steps are being taken to resume a Trans-Pacific mail and passenger air service between North America and the South Pacific; and already there are indications of keen competition between British and American air-lines.

The report was current in Sydney, in May, that Qantas, Ltd., the well-known Australian company, was about to send a survey plane from Sydney to Suva.

Evidently, this report reached Pan-American Airways, which pioneered the service between Hawaii and Auckland, and was operating regularly, Honolulu-Canton Island-Suva-Noumea-Auckland, when war caused the suspension of all civil flying at the end of 1941.

On June 3, the Sydney "Telegraph's" New York correspondent reported that PAA would resume the service on a weekly basis in June, and would run a twice-weekly service as soon as planes were available.

This was welcome news to Australians. Air-mails from USA come regularly to Australia, but there is no return air-mail—only slow surface mail—and for this Australians blame their blundering and inefficient Government. Passenger traffic between Australia and USA, and Pacific ports in between, is a matter of sheer luck and wild adventure; and any airline which can get in quickly and remedy this state of affairs will be called blessed by the business community.

AT the end of last year, Mr. Fraser, Prime Minister of New Zealand, hinted that Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the United Kingdom were contemplating a combined Pacific service between Sydney and Canada. On his recent visit to New Caledonia, Mr. A. W. G. H. Grantham, Governor of Fiji and High Commissioner for the Western Pacific, also suggested something of the sort. In this service, no doubt, Qantas Airways (mentioned by our Noumea correspondent) would be interested.

Any such trans-Pacific service must necessarily have landing facilities in Hawaii, which is, of course, American territory. No indication that the US intends to grant landing rights in Hawaii to British Empire airways has been given. Maybe, they will be granted when PAA can land in Australia.

Pre-war, PAA had landing rights in Fiji and in Auckland, NZ. Presumably, those rights still hold good.

It was believed last year that PAA might be permitted to fly direct to Sydney when trans-Pacific civilian transport was resumed (pre-war domestic politics were responsible for withholding landing rights in Australia to the Americans); but there is no indication at the present moment of this happening.

IT will be remembered that the talks between Britain and America, which took place in America last year, with a view to ironing-out air-transport and spheres-of-influence problems, concluded without any definite conclusions being reached. Apparently, the position is that the skyways are wide open for all-comers—provided they can get the necessary staging facilities along the route they wish to travel.

In October, 1944, Captain P. G. Taylor, famous Australian airman, arrived in Sydney after a trans-Pacific survey flight by Catalina along a new route south of

the equator. Nothing further had been heard of this route, but it is unlikely that Captain Taylor's survey was undertaken just out of academic interest.

New Caledonia Interested

From Our Own Correspondent

NOUMEA, Apr. 25.

THE people of this important French Colony have learned with satisfaction that Noumea will be a regular stopping-place on at least one of the trans-Pacific services which Pan-American Airways are planning.

We hope to have ready access to both Australia and New Zealand. A sojourn in one or other of those cool countries is needed occasionally by most people here, if health is to be maintained in an enervating climate, and most travellers are now air-minded.

Just before the Jap war caused the suspension of the PAA service, PAA sent their hotel manager here, and plans were made for a large modern hotel on a site near Anne Vata beach. It is supposed that that plan, or something similar, will be proceeded with.

Flight-Sergeant R. C. Kerkham, RAF, has been promoted to Warrant-Officer. He was formerly a resident of Fiji.

To Liberate Ocean Island and Nauru

Australia's Request

STRONG representations have been made by Australia to Great Britain with the object of having a military force of necessary strength applied to the task of liberating Ocean Island and Nauru. This was stated by Mr. Chifley, Acting Prime Minister, in answer to a question in the Australian House of Representatives on May 10.

Mr. Chifley said that the Prime Minister, Mr. Curtin, had taken the matter up with Great Britain some time ago, and that, as well, the liberation of these islands had been discussed with Mr. Churchill during Mr. Curtin's visit to London last year.

It is believed that the British Government discussed the matter with the Chiefs-of-Staff of the Allied Nations, but so far no reply to Australia's request has been received.

(EDITORIAL NOTE: Nauru and Ocean Island, pre-war, supplied Australasia with virtually all of its superphosphate. Australian farmers at present are receiving barely half of requirements, and food production is suffering accordingly.)

FIJI SONS ACHIEVE NAVAL DISTINCTION

FLINDERS Naval Depot, named in honour of the great navigator, Captain Matthew Flinders, is, in effect, Alma Mater of the Royal Australian Navy.

Among the many who have passed "over the side" are the following former residents of Fiji:—

Lieut. John Hills, RANR (S) (Ex-LMS "John Williams V").
Lieut. Paul Burns, RANVR (who was Town Engineer at Suva, 1935-1936).

A/B Max Miller, RFNVR (son of Mr. Miller, Town Clerk, Suva. We understand he has since received his commission).

Lieut. Harold Sturt, RANVR (ex-Bank of New Zealand, Suva.)

At present serving in Flinders Naval Depot are:—

Commander H. Mayo-Harris, RD, RNR, (Archdeacon of Fiji—on leave).

Lieut. G. B. Piper, RANVR (of the Vacuum Oil Company Pty., Ltd. staff).

It was the pleasure of the latter to welcome:—

John Wisdom,
Charles Stinson,
Allan Hawkesly,

of the Royal Fiji Naval Volunteer Reserve, when they reported for training after having been selected to enter the Officers Training School. Having successfully completed the course they have now been commissioned as Sub-Lieutenants, RFNVR. Congratulations have been the order of the day from many ex-Fiji residents now in Australia and, too, from the many friends these young officers have made.

Recently, Commander and Mrs. H. Mayo-Harris, in naval parlance, "pushed out the boat" as an opportunity for the



Back row (from left): Sub-Lieutenants Allan Hawkesly, John Wisdom, Charles Stinson.
Front row: Commander H. Mayo-Harris, RNR, Lieutenant G. B. Piper, RANVR.

new Sub-Lieutenants to wet their stripes. This photograph will give you an idea of how they shape in their new "order." Certainly, whilst in Australia and New Zealand, they have been excellent ambassadors of Fiji, and made a very good impression and many friends.

AUSTRALIAN PRESS DOES NOT DO JUSTICE TO LEONARD MURRAY

Inadequate Summaries of Barry Report by the Newspapers

THE way in which the four Sydney daily newspapers handled the Barry report is typical of the way in which the Australian press usually deals with Australian Pacific Territories and Territories' affairs.

Generally, they featured the material about muddling and inefficiency, and ignored the background of the inquiry and its special purpose, namely, to ascertain the circumstances surrounding the cessation of civil government in Papua, in February, 1942.

These newspapers were interested in the "Australian angle," and, although their summaries of the report appear to treat Mr. Murray unjustly, it should be remembered that this was caused mainly by their ignorance of the terms of reference. The worst that can be said of them, with regard to Mr. Murray, is that they chose to print the more critical, instead of the more complimentary, of Mr. Barry's references to the Administrator—and there were many complimentary references to Mr. Murray and his administration in the full report.

The basis of the inquiry, and a summary of the report, are published elsewhere in this journal. From the former, it will be seen that the primary object of the inquiry was to inform the Australian Government of the relations which existed between the Civil Government (led by Mr. Leonard Murray, CBE) and the Military Government (with Major-General Morris as Commandant) which suddenly displaced it in February, 1942.

There appears to have been some feeling between the officials of the two regimes; and it is generally believed that the military set-up tried to justify its high-handed actions, its inefficiency, and its eagerness, after 1943, to hang on to power in Papua, by making a series of charges against Mr. Leonard Murray and his officers. The Commissioner (Mr. Barry), in order to get the circumstances of that period into correct focus, found it necessary to examine the whole structure behind Australia's defence of Papua in the first few months of the Pacific war—and he unearthed and published a very ugly story of gross muddling and inefficiency.

THE "Sydney Morning Herald," because it is Australia's leading newspaper, and is expected to provide that country with a reliable record of public affairs, was the worst sinner. Its long report was headed "Untrained men were sent to New Guinea—Peril of 1942 revealed in report." There is an excellent summary of the report on the military conditions existing between December, 1941, and February, 1942; but the newspaper fails to report properly the Commissioner's findings upon the matters specially referred to him. Here is all the "Herald" says:—

Mr. Barry said that it was impossible to escape a feeling that an Administrator who felt it necessary to refer constantly to Canberra for instructions could never cope with the unprecedented situation of early 1942.

Mr. Barry said that he thought that the Commandant's action in directing the Administrator and certain other officers to leave the Territory was the only course open.

Their approach to problems of major administration would very likely have caused them to disagree with measures to which the Commandant would almost certainly have to resort.

All who read the full report will agree that that is not only an inadequate sum-

mary—it also conveys a completely wrong impression regarding the finding in relation to Mr. Murray. Mr. Murray's actions, in some respects, are criticised; but he is not held blameworthy to the extent suggested.

THE report of the "Daily Telegraph" is not only short and inadequate, but is inaccurate. This, for instance, flared in black type across two columns:—

"The civil administration, the report discloses, was unable to maintain order, and looting, rape, and panic took place before the Army was able to obtain control."

That is a grotesque mis-statement of the position as disclosed by the report.

The "Telegraph" publishes various paragraphs (from a memo. by General Blamey) which excuse and defend General B. M. Morris, and refer to his "courage and determination"; and other paragraphs which inferentially put blame upon Mr. Murray; but does not adequately publish the parts of the report which completely exonerate Mr. Murray from most of the charges brought against him by the Army.

The "Daily Mirror," in a short article, summarises the report effectively, in relation to the primary purpose of the inquiry. But the mental obfuscation of all these people when they deal with the Territories is illustrated by the facts that the "Mirror" connects the report with "the Mandated Territory of New Guinea," and Mr. "Hubert" Murray. The Barry report has nothing whatever to do with the Mandated Territory; and Hubert Murray died with his boots on in Samarai, in 1940.

Sydney "Truth" carried on the error by actually publishing, in its comments on the report, a photograph of the late Sir Hubert Murray, and making no reference at all to Mr. Leonard Murray.

THE best effort was made by "The Sun," which divided the report into two parts—one dealing with the muddling and confusion of the Australian Army staff in arranging the defence of Papua; and the other with the Commissioner's findings on the charges brought against Mr. Murray. The idea was good; but, unhappily, the gentleman who summarised the report apparently knew nothing of the terms of reference, or the background of the Papuan scene and, in reading "The Sun," one gets the wholly incorrect impression that Mr. Murray, in January-February, 1942, cut an unimpressive figure, and that the hero of the occasion was General Morris. How far that is from the truth can be ascertained by anyone who takes the trouble to examine the report in detail.

Some Australian dailies, in other States, published better summaries of the report than did the Sydney dailies.

PACIFIC BATTALION TO RETURN SOON

PRIVATE messages from Fighting French Pacific Battalion volunteers, at present in France, indicate that they will soon be returning to their homes. So also will certain members of the crew of the nickel collier "Notou," which was sunk between Australia and Noumea, New Caledonia, in 1940.

Members of the Pacific Battalion, recruited from French Pacific Territories, fought in North Africa, Italy, and France.

BISHOPS CONFER

Considering Rearrangement of Anglican Spheres

A CONFERENCE of Anglican Bishops from the South Pacific area opened in Sydney on May 22.

Object of the conference was to consider mission problems in the Pacific generally. Matters affecting native welfare, labour conditions in the various Pacific Territories and native education were dealt with, and much consideration was given to the rearrangement of boundaries of the dioceses of New Guinea and Melanesia.

The conference felt that future mission policy would to a large extent depend on the outcome of UNCIO, and many questions were deferred until UNCIO published its report.

Delegates included the Bishops of Melanesia, New Guinea, Polynesia, the Archbishop of New Zealand, and Bishop Cranswick, of the Australian Board of Missions. (See Cover.)

DEATH OF MR. E. CORLETTE

MR. EWAN CORLETTE, who had been for many years a planter at Bushman's Bay, Malekula, New Hebrides, died recently, aged about 70. He was a well-educated man—his father was a high dignitary of the Church of England—but he elected to make his home in a remote part of the Pacific, and he does not appear to have left the Condominium for some 30 years. He took a keen interest in public affairs, and his incisive, and often acridulated comments were a feature of articles which he contributed occasionally to the "Pacific Islands Monthly." He married an Islands woman, and his daughter was trained as a nurse at one of the Sydney hospitals.

ATTRACTIVE YOUNG TERRITORIAN



Miss Denise Elaine Judd, who was the central figure in a large coming-of-age party in Toowoomba last month. She is the daughter of the late Colonel and Mrs. C. C. Judd, old residents of Wau, New Guinea.

TROPICALITIES

THE "Sydney Morning Herald" Washington correspondent, A. D. Rothman, writing in the "Herald" of June 2, on personal recollections of the late President Roosevelt, tells this story of Canton Island, the Anglo-American Condominium, half way between Noumea and Honolulu. The Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony supplies the British officials to Canton—that is, British administration is in the hands of the High Commission for the Western Pacific.

WHEN the US Army cartographers presented Roosevelt and Churchill with giant-size globes, the President displayed his on his desk and twirled it with evident pleasure when journalists commented on its size.

After a conference, I, with several colleagues, went up to examine the sphere, and as I approached it, I observed, "Mr. President, it seems that all the continents on this globe are in a non-committal yellow colour. From my school-days I have been accustomed to see all British Territories on the maps in red."

"Oh, you know," the President said quickly, with a twinkle in his eye, "it is all 'one world' now; we are together everywhere; take Canton Island, for instance."

"Maybe," I said, "but I am told the British Resident on Canton keeps pretty well to himself. Britishers coming in on air-liners go down to see him and he tells them he never visits the hotel which is operated by Americans, contenting himself with running up the Union Jack in front of the Residency in the morning and taking it down in the evening. He says he never goes near the hotel."

Quick as a flash the President said, "Until the beer boat comes in!"

DEEP sea cruising is an unpredictable pastime. When the schooner "Cimba" left Suva for Auckland recently, it was estimated that the trip would take two weeks. For the greater part of the voyage, "Cimba" battled into head winds and reached Auckland on May 12, twenty-four days out from Fiji.

At one stage of the proceedings, the crew—consisting of Mr. G. F. Russell (owner-skipper), Mr. J. Malloy and Mr. Frank Beddoes, all of them Fiji residents—found themselves nearer to Norfolk Island than to New Zealand.

During the twelve-day stretch that the schooner was held on the port tack, every article of clothing the crew possessed became saturated, the small cabin was more or less a-wash, and meals could be prepared only at odd times and eaten on-the-wing. Every member of the party had several near-misses from being washed overboard.

In short, it was a typical trans-oceanic pleasure cruise. Adventure? Sure, sure. And one way of beating the travel ban—for those with the necessary cast-iron gizzards. But sufficient to make the average land-lubber ill in prospect.

AND now, in honour of the "Cimba" party, we reprint a poem from London "Punch." The poet thinks that when all else fails a spot of ocean cruising, per small ship, is the way to educate our erring Hun.

"Cimba's" crew should appreciate it; it is called "Channel Crossing," and here it is:

Into the lumping, thumping seas we go,
Two hundred stinking prisoners below,
The hatches fastened, and the Master
Race
Still not contented with their living-space.

But here the Herrenvolk can raise no roar,
And SS stands for "sea-sick"—nothing more.

"There are no islands . . ." was the Fuehrer's vow.
Poor brutes, they know that there are islands now.

This boundless turbulence through which they crawl,
This is the Channel they believed so small;
This heaving wilderness in which they toss
They thought to conquer and were keen to cross.

Maybe, when every other hope is done,
This is the way to educate the Hun—
Send every Prussian for a lengthy trip,
In heavy weather, in a little ship.

THE war has taken away our chief form of amusement—window-shopping. Vicarious shopping-pleasure, no doubt; but that still is the best way to describe it.

We of isolated Mangaia used, in pre-war days, to have a good time thinking what a good time we'd have if we were having it.

Mail-order catalogues were the medium of imaginary orgies of spending—Frye's of Bristol, Sayers-Sawbuck's of New York, Montague-Shard's of Chicago, etc., etc. All full of lovely things (—and cheap!).

Now, we never see a catalogue. The firms concerned have succumbed to import-export licences, war-created shortages, depressed NZ currency (£1=12/6), lack of shipping facilities, and such sad evidences that civilisation is a failure.

The first act of the Peace Conference must be the restoration of the NZ pound to 20/-, plus the return of mail-ordering. Or else, we haven't won.—E.G.

PLANTER readers will be interested in a Sydney "Bulletin" paragraph concerning a Mr. H. W. Simmons, of the Waite Institute of Adelaide University, who will shortly leave for West Africa. It is stated that he has been commissioned by the administration of Samoa (the writer neglected to mention whether it was Western or Eastern Samoa) to collect from Zanzibar or thereabouts, a particular species of wasp to deal with the rhinoceros beetle which is doing damage to coconut plantations.

The wasp in question is reputed to be death to the pest that has given grey hairs to more than one South Pacific planter.

ALSO from "Bulletin" is the controversy raging between readers as to just how long R. L. Stevenson was ill and how many Europeans were present at his burial on the mountain behind Vaillima, Western Samoa.

One correspondent, "Fodgie," clinches the matter by quoting from Moors' "With Stevenson in Samoa" (Moors was the father-in-law of the late O. F. Nelson) who states that 19 Europeans and 60 Samoans were present. Stevenson, according to Moors (and "Fodgie") had no last long illness, but was making a salad when he had a haemorrhage of the brain and died within three hours.

"The Road of Gratitude" or "The Road of the Loving Heart" was not from Vaillima to the tomb either, but from the main road from Apia to Vaillima. It was made by Samoans who for political reasons had been kept in prison and whom Stevenson had fed (see "Vaillima Papers"). The Samoans asked that while making it they should not be given food other than what their women brought them, so that the work would be a real "alofo" or labour of love.

THE story goes that an American Army officer in Noumea was given the pleasant job of escorting a USO girl on a sight-seeing expedition round the town. He did not let on that his knowledge of French was rudimentary, and was getting on famously when they reached the big statue in the public gardens in Coconut Square.

Suddenly the girl scanned the inscription at its base, below the relief showing

PACIFIC TERRITORIES ASSOCIATION

The Third Annual General Meeting of members will be held on Tuesday, 26th June, 1945, at the Teachers' Federation Hall, 7th Floor, 166 Phillip Street, Sydney, at 8 p.m.

BUSINESS:

- (1) To receive the Report of the Executive on the year's activities.
- (2) To receive the Financial Statements and Auditors' Report for the year ended 31/5/45.
- (3) Election of office-bearers for the ensuing twelve months.

Nominations for the following office-bearers must be in the hands of the Secretary at least seven (7) clear days before the meeting:—

President
Vice-president
Treasurer
Auditor
Eight (8) Executive members consisting of:—
2 Commercial Representatives
2 Planters "
2 Mining "
2 Civil Service "
(being one each for Papua and the Territory of New Guinea.)

C. A. M. ADELSKOLD,
Secretary.

the submission of the natives after the rebellion of 1878, and trustingly asked him, "What's it say there?"

"This way to the PX," translated the officer without batting an eyelid.

He was right, not about the translation, but about the direction towards which the immortal French hero is pointing.

The hero in question is Admiral Oiry, one of the most esteemed Governors New Caledonia has ever had—it is a pity the Colony can't find one like him to-day.

INFORMATION WANTED

THE New Guinea trading firm of Greenwood & Laws, Ltd., lost all its records in the invasion of, and subsequent evacuation from, New Guinea. The directors are anxious, therefore, to obtain names of all shareholders and any relevant information which would help the firm compile new records. This information should be forwarded to Mr. R. A. Laws, No. 2, "Devon," 211 Military Road, Mosman, NSW.

When the Minister for Colonies in Paris refused to confirm the Admiral's grant of 100,000 francs to the settlers ruined by the revolt and subsequent cyclones, Oiry sent him his own personal cheque on his private bank, along with a brief but sarcastic note.

The Minister had the decency to tear the cheque up, but that did not lessen the affection which the Governor had won by his gesture. The colonists were saddened by his speedy recall, for it does not do for a Caledonian Governor to become too popular, and on his departure presented him with a silver lyre-bird, purchased in Sydney and suitably inscribed.—HELP.

(EDITORIAL NOTE: HELP does not explain what a "PX" is. Presumably it is American for canteen, or post office.)

POSITION VACANT

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PAPUA—NEW GUINEA.

PRODUCTION CONTROL BOARD.

Applications are invited from persons desirous of being considered for appointment as Deputy Chairman of the Australian New Guinea Production Control Board which deals with the disposal of copra, rubber and other products, and the provision of stores for plantations and for native trade in the Territories of Papua and New Guinea. The functions of the Deputy Chairman are those of general manager of the organisation.

Appointment will be at a salary of between £750 and £1,000 per annum, according to qualifications and experience, and will be subject to three months' notice on either side. The appointee will be stationed in Papua or New Guinea.

Applications, giving full particulars as to age, qualifications and experience, and stating whether married or single, should reach the Secretary, Department of External Territories, Canberra, A.C.T., not later than 30th June, 1945.

Study of the Pacific Advocated by Prominent American

MR. MARTIN T. JOHNSON, who was, until recently, American Minister to Australia, and who has now returned to the States on long leave, advocates the establishment of study schools in Australia for all aspects of Pacific affairs.

The following article, explaining Mr. Johnson's ideas, is by D. G. McFarlane, special correspondent for the Melbourne "Herald," who travelled to America on the same ship, and to whom Mr. Johnson spoke freely.

MR. JOHNSON told me that on leaving Australia he wrote to Mr. W. H. Hughes, MHR, and Mr. Harold Darling, chairman of directors of Broken Hill Pty., Ltd., outlining his ideas for Pacific studies in Australia.

This research, he said, could never be conducted in the United States, which faced both ways, the Atlantic and the Pacific. Except for special courses in some institutions, there were few opportunities for such study.

"As the only Occidental people whose lives and fortunes are irrevocably committed to the Pacific area," Mr. Johnson said, "Australia should make all aspects of the Pacific—the peoples and the resources, its past and future—a field for its scholarship."

"Australian scholarships should possess this field so thoroughly and intimately that the scholars of all the world will wear a path to Australia."

"No aspect of the Pacific should be neglected—the ocean, its currents, winds, weather, climates, fisheries, ocean bird-life, the adjacent peoples, philosophies, customs, political organisations, resources, lands within and bordering the Pacific, literature, arts and sciences."

"Naturally the scholarships should centre in the Universities and schools, but wealthy Australians, the Chambers of Commerce, and the Governments should subsidise the scholarships by endowing chairs and establishing trust funds and travelling scholarships for promising young scientists, newspaper men, and business men, enabling them to visit all parts of the Pacific."

"The products of their research should become the property of the Universities and other endorsing institutions, and thus the nation's public property."

"Australian statesmen, business men, primary and secondary industrialists, and political leaders would then possess the best, the most thorough, and the most up-to-date information upon which to plan Australia's future."

"To no other people is such information more vital. This would give a great goal to Australian scholarship and take away from education the idea that it is merely the means to attain a livelihood."

It would create for Australian scholarship an exclusive and congenial environment in which to develop a prestige entirely Australian and keep men of parts at home.

"Concurrently with such a project I see a wonderful opportunity for Australian publishers to re-print books like 'Cook's Voyages' and other writings on early Australian exploration not generally available now."

Mr. Johnson's parting gift from colleagues at the American Legation in Canberra was an old edition of "Cook's Voyages," which he read with enjoyment on the ship. In 42 months in Australia, Mr. Johnson read Australian literature

widely—more, probably, than many representative Australians—and brought many works with him.

BOUGAINVILLE MISSIONARY REPORTED ALIVE AND WELL IN JAPAN

WORD has been received by Mrs. D. C. Alley, at present living in New Zealand, that her husband, the Rev. D. C. Alley, has been reported a prisoner of war in Tokio. He is believed to be in good health.

Mr. Alley was a Methodist missionary at Teop in Northern Bougainville, and was captured by the Japanese in March, 1942. This is the first news of him that has been received since that date.

It is stated that two European women, owners of plantations in the area, were at the mission station at the time of Mr. Alley's capture. The Japanese commander allowed him 1½ hours to pack his clothes and give directions to the native staff before he was taken away. The women were permitted to remain on the island and were later rescued by the Americans.

A well-known figure in the Police Force in Fiji, **Sgt-Major Jack Sajada**, died recently at the age of 46. He had been 21 years in the Police Force and last year was awarded the Police and Fire Brigades Long Service Medal.

Two men were killed and two injured in Fiji on May 8, when two motor vehicles collided on the road between Lautoka and Nadi. Those killed were: **Mr. John Powell**, a Mosquito Control overseer, stationed at Nadi; and **Mr. Ned Heritage**, of the 4th Fijian Battalion. Both men were well-known in the Colony. The injured men were: **Mr. William Heritage** and a Tongan, **Sam Hopoi**.

FIJI BOY IN NZ NAVY



Sub/Lieut. C. Ward, elder son of Mr. and Mrs. F. Ward, of Lautoka, Fiji, who is at present serving overseas with the RNZNVR. Sub/Lieut. Ward is an old boy of the Boys' Grammar School, Suva, and the New Plymouth Boys' High School, in New Zealand.

Tourists Caused Loss of "Face"

Position of Europeans in the Pacific

From Our Own Correspondent

PAPEETE, Mar. 20.
A COMPANY of us who have read and studied Mr. Quaritch Wales's book "Years of Blindness," are so much impressed with it that we believe it should be perused by every student of Oriental affairs.

The work is not one of those noisy, muck-raking, opinionated volumes which have been pouring from the press during the past years; but a quiet, thoughtful account of things as they are, by a scholarly Englishman who has lived the major part of his life in Oriental countries.

The average European has not the smallest conception of how the white man has lost "face" during the past twenty years, although it is evident enough, here in the islands, to anyone who has eyes to see, and ears to hear.

Mr. Quaritch Wales tells us how it has come about in Malaya, Siam, Indonesia and India—and why.

It is remarkable how the attitude of Europeans (especially of the female of the species) toward the South Sea Islands has changed. With the exception of a few of us who have lived here so long that our roots are deeply established, every white man and woman we know is eager to get away—to anywhere that is not another South Sea Island.

The white man's loss of "face" in the islands is mild compared with that which has befallen him in the Orient. Those countries, with their hundreds of millions inhabitants, are likely to become a "powder magazine" beside which the Balkan States of Europe will appear in history as a damp squib.

The Hindu in South Africa and in Fiji; the threat of statehood for Asiatic Hawaii, which will imperil the Pacific Coast Commonwealths of the United States; Chinese economic hegemony in Malaya, Oceania, Indonesia; European tourism of the type which has prevailed in the past; the exploitation of natural resources of Asiatic lands for the enrichment of the foreigner; are a few of the problems that must be appraised realistically if the Caucasian has any wish or hope of regaining some measure of "face" and to establish peace and goodwill in the vast areas of the Pacific and Asia.

THE tourism of the notorious 1920 decade most certainly destroyed Caucasian prestige in the Pacific. As it has been here, it has surely been elsewhere, so I list it as one of the major factors in loss of prestige in the lands of Asia.

The well-bred traveller is, to be sure,

a welcome visitor in any country. It is the common "tripping" tourist who has caused all the trouble. Tahiti suffered from this latter type to saturation; so did Java and Bali; and so, we must believe, did Asia.

POSSESSION OF FIREARMS Many Prosecutions in Fiji

THE illegal possession of arms in north-western Viti Levu is causing concern to the Fiji authorities. It is believed that a quantity of military rifles and ammunition have come into the possession of certain persons, and a number of shooting incidents and murders have been reported.

Defence Regulations to cover the illegal possession of arms were amended in 1944, and again in April, 1945. They now provide for maximum penalties of seven years' imprisonment on conviction before the Supreme Court, and a two years' imprisonment or £50 fine or both on conviction before a Magistrate's Court of the 1st class, or one year's imprisonment or £50 fine or both before a Magistrate's Court of the 2nd class.

Since the beginning of 1944, 53 persons (of whom 37 were in the Western District) have been prosecuted upon arms charges, and a further 15 persons are now awaiting trial.

Mr. C. D. Sommerfield returned to Suva in April after a vacation spent in New Zealand.

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FIFTEEN MONTHS WITH THE JAPS Missionary's Experience in Gilberts

ON his way to Sydney to recuperate after a long illness, the Rev. Father Mehl, a Roman Catholic missionary on Abemama, Gilbert Islands, arrived in New Zealand in April. He was on Abemama during the 15 months of the Japanese occupation.

Father Mehl is a native of Alsace-Lorraine, and went to the Gilberts in 1938 with Bishop Terrienne. Of the three Sisters of the Abemama Mission who were there during the occupation, he said one died of sickness shortly after the Japs landed, but the other two were still there.

Describing the landing of the Japanese in September, 1942, made simultaneously with those on Tarawa and Makin Islands, Father Mehl said the first party was about 200 strong. They behaved in threatening fashion at the mission, menacing the people there with bayonets.

The three New Zealanders, who had been operating a wireless station on the island, took to the bush, but surrendered the next day. Bishop Terrienne, then on a visit to mission stations by launch, was also taken prisoner. He came to Abemama from a neighbouring island, not knowing the Japanese had moved in. He was on Tarawa when the 22 New Zealanders there were murdered by the Japanese.

Then, following a raid by US aircraft, the Japanese came to the church during Mass armed with machine-guns and searched the sacristy and altar for a wireless set. Searches were sometimes made four and sometimes five times a day, and even at night.

FOOD was the greatest problem during the occupation. In the mission they lived on native food, coconuts, fish, pandanus, a few taros, and the few eggs and fowls contributed by the natives.

Relief came in November, 1943, when the American marines landed. The fighting lasted three days, but on the night before the end a message came to Father Mehl from some of the Japanese asking him to pray for them.

Some of the Japs cried and wanted to

surrender, but the commander told them they would all have to die on the morrow.

The Americans lost no time in turning Abemama into a huge base, Father Mehl said. They built an airstrip and roads and moved in a garrison which at one time numbered 5,000 men.

Fiji Resident in Nazi "Forced March"

**How Some of Our Soldiers Fared
With the Hun**

SEVERAL of the men who have appeared in "PIM's" Honour Roll, as prisoners of war in Germany, are now safely back in England. Some of them fared comparatively well and are in fair health; others were not so fortunate.

One of the less lucky ones was Gunner Douglas Seymour Whitcombe, NZEF, formerly of Fiji and Tonga, who was wounded in Crete, and who spent 4½ years in Stalag VIII B.

In a letter to his parents in Auckland, NZ, he describes as follows the "forced march" which he and thousands of other prisoners were made to take in the closing months of the war.

"I suppose you have heard of the forced march the Germans gave us," he writes. "We marched 600 miles into Bavaria, and I and many others lost much weight as a consequence. The march began on January 19 and finished on March 24; the Americans arrived on April 28. I was ill and very weak, and I am afraid I was so overcome at their timely arrival I broke down and wept.

"Transport was later arranged for us and we left Landschut, in Bavaria, on May 11 in an American plane and transferred at Rheims to an RAF Lancaster. I do not know where we landed in England, and felt far too ill to take an interest in anything—by ten that night I was in bed in hospital. I am still on a light diet, but feel much better, and expect to regain lost weight when I can eat ordinary food."

Gunner Whitcombe's cousin, Pte. J. D. Whitcombe, of Lautoka, Fiji, who also was a prisoner of war, fared better. He was able to get away on a stolen German motor cycle, and so escaped the ordeal of the forced march.

Safe in England

AMONG other former Fiji residents who have been released from POW camps in Germany are the following: Alec. Mackay, Llewellyn Freeman, Edward ("Paddy") McGready, Lieut. J. M. Harcourt, and Lieut. Cliff Warren.

Rev. C. van Baar, a Sacred Heart missionary, who was evacuated from New Guinea some time ago, has returned to his mission in New Guinea.

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Fiji's VE-Day

Radio and Village Drums Spread the News

FIJI'S VE-Day celebrations were unmarred by official regulation. As soon as the news came through, on Tuesday, May 8, that hostilities had ceased, a holiday was declared, and workers immediately left their work—unlike Australia, which one correspondent described as the gloomiest country in the world on VE-Day—with the possible exception of Germany.

The following report of Fiji's Victory Day activities comes from the Information Office, Suva:

IN Suva there were some radio listeners who heard the 6 o'clock announcement from London that Tuesday was to be VE-Day; but in view of the broadcast at the same time of New Zealand's decision not to have a holiday until Wednesday, there was some doubt as to what was going to happen in Fiji. So everybody went to work as usual and the town wore its normal air.

At 8.15 a.m. the Governor spoke from ZJV, and the holiday announcement was made. By this time, churchbells were ringing and lalis were being beaten. In the space of almost minutes, shops and buildings were decked with bunting and flags appeared on motor cars. Shops which had flags to sell sold out quickly.

Soon all doors were closed and workers were on their way home. There was a general atmosphere of elation and relief—elation at victory and relief that friends and relations in Britain or serving in the armed forces in Europe were free from the threat of death or injury.

At Nausori the news was received early. The CSR Co.'s mill whistle was blown continuously, and the lali at the Government Station at Naduruloulou was beaten. This was the signal for the lalis in village after village to begin, and so the news spread for many miles.

It recalled the arrangement which was made in the years when threat of invasion by the Japanese was real, and when representatives in every village were carefully coached, so that at a pre-arranged signal they could pass on by lali beats the information that the Japanese had landed.

They never did land; and on May 8 the sound of the lalis brought much more joyous news.

Fijian children had a great time. They beat tins and boxes and drums, and anything that would make a noise.

In other parts of the Colony, what happened in Suva and in the Rewa area was repeated in greater or less degree. Flags were flown, and shops and public buildings were decorated. The mood of the people was not one of wild rejoicing. They certainly smiled and sang, and in some cases drank toasts, but in most people's minds there was the thought that another enemy still remained and that victory day in the Pacific had still to come.

MR. CHURCHILL'S speech came through at 1 a.m., Wednesday, Fiji time. He was followed by the King, speaking to the Empire. Wednesday also was a holiday, but it was observed generally throughout the Colony as a day of thanksgiving. Religious services were held in most places by the various churches, and also in the Moslem mosque and the Hindu temple.



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Fiji Administrative Districts Newly Defined

ADMINISTRATIVE districts in Fiji have been re-defined as follows:
 Southern: The provinces of Kadavu, Naitasiri, Namosi, Rewa, Serua and Tailevu.
 Eastern: The provinces of Lau and Lomaiviti.
 Western: The provinces of Ba, Nadroga and Navosa, and Ra.
 Northern: The provinces of Bua, Cakaudrove and Macuata.
 The former central district no longer exists.

Word has been received from London that Pilot-Officer T. F. Rosser has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. Young "Tommy Rosser," when war came, was a cadet clerk in the Treasury of Papua, stationed at Port Moresby.

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V-E DAY IN TONGA



Captain Viggo Rasmussen, the well-known Central Pacific trader, schooner captain, and of recent years Resident Agent of Penrhyn Island, Cook Group, is at present in hospital in New Zealand. He was flown there following a stroke, which resulted in partial paralysis. Captain Rasmussen has been in failing health for a considerable time.

THE news of the cessation of hostilities in Europe was made known in Nukualofa by the sounding of an air-raid siren mounted on a lorry and driven through the streets. This started simultaneously with the ringing of church bells; and crowds of Tongans everywhere gave their battle shout, "fakaulu," joined with the "tum-tum-tum" of lalis.

A two days' public holiday was observed on May 8 and 9. Crowds went down to the Mala'e (at the back of the Post Office) on the second day for the combined Church Service of Thanksgiving, at which the Tonga Defence Force and the United States Navy paraded. The queen of Tonga attended, and also the British Agent and Consul (Mr. C. W. T. Johnson), with Chiefs, Government Ministers and high officials. (See photo.)

Lakalakas and other dances were performed after the Thanksgiving Service.

NEW SHIPS FOR WPHC

THE motor vessel "Margaret" arrived in Suva recently from Auckland. She is the first of five similar ships which have been ordered by the Western Pacific High Commission for service in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony and the Solomon Islands. The remaining four, "Mary," "Maureen," "Myrtle" and "Margery," are expected in the near future. The vessels were built by Chas. Bailey & Son, Ltd., Auckland, who designed the hull along the lines of the English herring drifters. They are each 60 feet long, with a 16 feet beam, and a draught when loaded of 9 feet. They are able to carry 35 tons of cargo and have a speed of 9 knots.

Caledonian, Maurice Meunier, has received a citation and the Croix de Guerre with star, for his work among the wounded under heavy mortar fire. He went out into no-man's-land and brought back a non-commissioned officer who had been reported missing. Jean Brial, son of Monsieur Brial, of Noumea, has also won the Croix de Guerre for bravery in action.

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Tahiti Has a "Remote Control" Curio Boom

From Our Own Correspondent

PAPEETE, Mar. 3.

WE have had something of a tea-pot tempest in the island "curio" industry. As related to me, it has happened in this wise:

New Caledonia is the distributing centre where curios in demand by the armed Forces in the South-west Pacific are accumulated.

A steady supply of articles fashioned from pearl-shell, island "pupu" (small sea shells), and the like, has been flowing from Tahiti to Noumea—at prices carefully calculated by our Papeete middlemen on the basis of "all the traffic would bear."

Our United States Army authorities at Noumea—accustomed though they are to see the men under their command "gouged" to the limit by civilians of every country, including their own—were thoroughly outraged at this Tahiti procedure. Accordingly, an officer with the rank of Colonel was sent to Papeete to place the souvenir traffic on a commercial instead of a profiteering foundation.

Our astute Papeete middleman (after battering down prices to be paid to the actual makers of souvenirs—especially to natives of the outer islands) surrendered unconditionally to the gallant Colonel. They did not, however, neglect the time-honoured custom of packing all the big apples at the top of the barrel; while the little apples (consisting of defective and inferior workmanship) were carefully assembled deeply in the interior.

The Colonel is reputed to have brought with him a sum exceeding six million francs, and he is presumed to have expended the greater part before he departed from Tahiti.

In due time, the Colonel and his merchandise arrived at New Caledonia, where the little apples saw the light of day. Shortly afterwards, a very caustic radiogram—from Noumea to Papeete—revealed great displeasure over the matter of the little apples—and names were mentioned.

In the meanwhile, additional supplies of "curios"—alleged to have been ordered by the Colonel on the terms of "payment for the merchandise on its arrival at Noumea," had been despatched. The value of this consignment is stated to have exceeded one million francs.

The intelligence of its arrival at its destination came in a radiogram phrased somewhat in this manner: "A number of packing-cases containing so-called 'curios' have been put ashore at Noumea. Would someone please send information as to the ownership of this merchandise and what disposition should be made of it?"

Mention of the Colonel, in frantic radiograms despatched from Papeete, brought the reply that this officer had been transferred to a distant station; that he had left no information concerning merchandise other than that already paid for and delivered; that Noumea would like to know what to do with these derelict wares.

Elsewhere in the world, presumably, the sun followed its appointed course through the heavens overhead; but during forty-eight miserable days, a complete blackout prevailed at Tahiti, while a clue of red-tape was slowly followed through a gloomy labyrinth of general displeasure and misunderstanding.

NOW, all of us know that the rain falls on the just and unjust alike. So also had suspicion and displeasure been visited upon all of our "curio" merchants. But the radiogram which came from Noumea on the forty-ninth day, in addition to announcing that funds had been despatched to pay for all merchandise arrived in New Caledonia, designated, by name, one righteous man who was without guile and who had packed only big, sound, red apples into his barrels.

Would this gentleman, the message inquired, come to Noumea and arrange to supply all souvenirs required from Tahiti by the US armed Forces?

The gentleman would. He has departed to New Caledonia on board a steamer bound for that island. The sun of "Dollar Prosperity" may, therefore, continue to shine on this rather remote and isolated community.

The little apples will have to be sent, henceforth, to "Hawaii; where long experience in disposing of such merchandise to tourists has developed a technique more perfect than that prevailing at Noumea. South Sea artifacts are assembled by curio merchants at Honolulu for distribution to the armed Forces, north of the Equator.

Why, in time of war, the soldiers and sailors of our several armed Forces should become the objective of every weasel, barracuda, harpy, leech and termite in Christendom, is explicable only by specialists in cerebroscopy, and in the psychology of carnivora.

Guinea Airways, Ltd.

DECLARING that, although the Commonwealth Government had not yet introduced its Bill to nationalise airways, there were indications that the proposal would be pursued, the chairman of Guinea Airways, Ltd. (Mr. S. Powell), at the annual meeting in Adelaide, said that whether the Government had the constitutional power to implement its plans could only be answered after the details were known, and if necessary action could be taken in the High Court.

The directors were unanimously of the opinion that it would be in the best interest of the shareholders to merge with Australian National Airways Pty., Ltd.

Missionary Work Among Fiji's Indians

Bishop of Polynesia Tells Australia

THE Bishop of Polynesia, the Right Rev. L. S. Kempthorne (whose headquarters are in Suva, Fiji), is at present in Australia. On June 3, he spoke at Christ Church Cathedral, Newcastle, on early missionary work, and its application to the Fiji Indians.

Missionary work in Fiji, he said, was due to the introduction of other people into the Colony—mostly Solomon Islanders, and later, Indians.

At the time the first Indian labourers were brought in, the Governor of Fiji made an appeal to the Archbishop of Canterbury that these people coming to a new country should be chosen by the church and given help by the church in accommodating themselves to their new surroundings.

But, though the Church of England made some reply, it was 20 years before anything really took place. Meanwhile, the Indians had formed their own communities, independently of any Christian influence, and the Colony has now the problem of coping with a non-Christian community comprising 50 per cent. of the population.

The Methodists were challenging this community in one part of Fiji, and the Church of England in another.

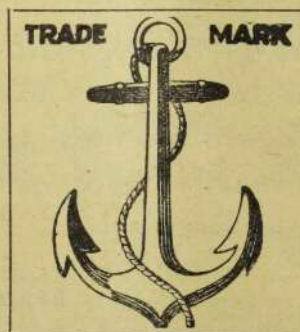
Bishop Kempthorne said that during the last 25 years the church's impact upon the Indians had steadily increased. Its easiest contact with them was through education, which they increasingly demanded, and, whereas 20 years ago they had only 50 pupils in four schools, there were now more than 600 boys and girls, and still this comprised only a small proportion of the children available.

Plans were being prepared to open two more schools.

Pastor J. E. Fulton, who for many years represented the Seventh Day Adventist Denomination in Fiji, died recently. He is remembered by many people in the Colony, as he travelled extensively during his period in Fiji. The Fulton Missionary School at Tallevu was given its name in honour of his work.

GILLESPIE'S

The
Flour



of the
Islands

— SYDNEY —

Wounded in the Battle for France in November, last year, **Edouard Paillandi**, a volunteer of the second New Caledonian contingent, has had his right arm amputated. He comes from the country township of La Poa.

The death has occurred of **M. Charles Jacques**, secretary of the New Caledonian Chamber of Agriculture. He fought in the last World War.

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WHAT OF THE FUTURE IN NEW CALEDONIA? Liquor and Souvenirs Now Chief Industry

From Our Own Correspondent

AT the present time the selling of liquor is this town's chief industry, but the black market trade has fallen off with the opening of many more legalised bars. The bartender and the barmaid are the highly paid people of the community, while the little Chinese shops and street vendors are still doing a remarkable trade in island souvenirs—profits amount to several thousand pounds a year in many cases.

Jealousy of the success of the Chinese, or Indo-Chinese, shopkeeper is increasing among the French. Members of the General Council have even demanded that their trading licences should be withdrawn, and M. Paladini said that they would be better growing rice where "nothing could be feared from their competition." The Council asked that no more licences of this nature be granted Asiatics after 1945, and that the personal tax on immigrants granted free residence should be doubled. For its own good, the Asiatic problem is one that this country will have to settle satisfactorily.

Caledonian bush centres have largely returned to normal, and at a township like Bourail, once the headquarters of the New Zealand Division, there is hardly a soldier left. But the Noumea Frenchman is still making money hand over fist, and parking it away, a percentage of it in the local savings bank, whose deposits have increased five-fold.

At the same time people are beginning to ask themselves what of the future,

when the Americans have gone.

Roads and public works in which the Americans have liberally co-operated are being passed back to the administration, which will now have the responsibility of a road network that has been widened and increased by many score of miles, there now being 876 kilometers all told in the Colony.

The authorities have received from the Americans a quantity of much used Australian-built Austin, Morris, Singer and Hillman baby cars which are to be sold to approved members of the public for about £75; also a few light Pontiac trucks.

COFFEE growing is the island's peasant industry, but growers are not very satisfied, although the American Forces took all their Arabica (best quality) coffee last year at a fair price. The sale of Robusta coffee proved more difficult, Australia and New Zealand only offering 8 francs the kilogramme f.o.b. France is prepared, in fact, anxious, to buy this coffee at 11 francs, but there is no shipping available to transport it to Europe. Coffee of this grade sells for under 10 francs on the Brazilian market.

Two of a number of pre-fabricated houses ordered from Australia by the New Caledonian Administration to relieve the housing situation have arrived and others are on the way. The purchase of pre-fabricated buildings from the US Forces is also being studied.

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School for Training of Officials

Depressing End of the First Class

THE first class of Canberra's "School of Tropical Administration" has finished. Forty "students" were selected. Six were called away for some special duty soon afterwards, leaving 34 to take the 10-weeks' course. Of the 34, only 18 passed.

According to statements made to this journal, the School seems to have been satisfactory neither to students nor sponsors. That was not the fault of the man in charge (Colonel Murray, an expert agriculturalist) or of the Second in Command (Colonel Piddington, an anthropologist). The plan was faulty in conception, and the institution failed to gain either the interest or respect of the students.

The plan seems to have been the product of the combined genius of Mr. Ward, Minister for External Territories, and Colonel Conlon, who is called a "Director of Army Research," but who has been described disrespectfully to us in other language. He seems to have much to do with the School, but has no apparent standing in connection with Territories administration.

TOWARDS the end of 1944, general routine orders of the Australian Army invited applications from men under 25 to enter the School in January, 1945, at the Royal Military College, Duntroon, for ten weeks, to be trained as Patrol Officers, Assistant D.O.s, and Patrols Officers, in Papua and New Guinea. Many applications were received and considered by the Selection Committee. The latter consisted of the chairman, Mr. L. Haylen, MP, a former newspaper reporter, whose knowledge of tropical administration could be written on a postage stamp without defacing the stamp; Mr. J. R. Halligan, secretary of the Department of External Territories; and Dr. K. S. Cunningham, who is described as "Director of the Australian Council of Educational Research," whatever that may be.

The fact that half the students failed to pass the course clearly is a reflection upon the Selection Committee or upon the School. Present information suggests that there was too much anthropology in the School, and too much Conlon everywhere.

There are many hundreds of young men in ANGAU. It was supposed that the students would come mostly from ANGAU. Actually, when they were lined up in Duntroon, only 2 were from ANGAU. Not half a dozen out of the 40 had ever seen the Islands before the war.

THE students describe the School itself as a farce. Because it was Duntroon, some semblance of military organization was observed. But it was only a semblance. As the course proceeded, and the young men lost heart and interest, pretence of observing military discipline largely disappeared.

The students expected that the School would give them a well-rounded-out picture of tropical administration. Instead, it was devoted to a very large extent to instruction on native affairs and native welfare. European and economic affairs were comparatively neglected. "It was definitely an Eddie Ward show, so far as atmosphere and politics were concerned," said one student. "Everyone got sick of anthropology. We assumed that there is

a lot more to administration than anthropology."

Lectures were given to the students by "experts" in various aspects of tropical administration. Invited to give a list of the lecturers, the following names were produced by the students: Rev. J. W. Burton (President-General of the Methodist Missionary Society), twice; Dr. Hogbin (at present an ANGAU Colonel) (lecturer in anthropology at University of Sydney); Miss Camilla Wedgwood (at present an ANGAU Colonel) (an anthropologist); Dr. Lucy Mair (of London, a lecturer on British Colonial administration); and Professor Elkin (head of the Department of Anthropology at the University of Sydney).

Said another critic of the School: "Taking character and temperament into consideration, the men who were passed should, for the most part, have failed; and most of those who were failed should have passed. None were more surprised at the examination results than those who passed."

THE "examination" seems to have been a haphazard affair. There was no set test—the students simply were informed by Colonel Murray that they had passed or failed, and that was the end of it. But one incident was much discussed by the students. One had seen

Colonel Conlon in Melbourne, and been informed by that busy gentleman that he had passed. He was informed by Colonel Murray, later, that he had failed. "But," he exclaimed, "Colonel Conlon told me that I had passed." Colonel Murray seemed surprised, and telephoned Colonel Conlon; and then informed the argumentative student that he had passed. This incident occurred in the presence of some of the students, and it did not add to the morale of the institution. All students appear to have been interviewed at some time or other by Colonel Conlon. They did not know his standing, but they regarded him as the "real boss of the School."

The 18 students who passed assume that they will now receive commissions, and will be posted to ANGAU. Presumably, they will take the places of a party of young ANGAU officers who are reported to be on their way south, to become the School's second class. The failures assume that they will be returned to the Services. The whole situation seems vague, however; and the plan appears to be mostly a waste of public money and a destroyer of morale among young officials. Little improvement can be expected until the School is freed from Labour Party politics, Canberra bureaucracy, Army headquarters and anthropology rampant.

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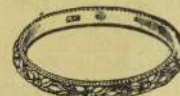
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FIJIAN'S SCHOLARSHIP APPEAL

TWELVE thousand pounds is the goal aimed for by the organisers of the Sukunaivalu Scholarship appeal. Over two thousand pounds had already been received by May 17.

This fund was started by the Fijian people to provide scholarships at Queen Victoria School for people of their race, in memory of Fijians who had given their lives in this war, in general, and particularly in memory of Corporal Sefanala Sukuanivalu, VC.

Contributions to date have come from in or near Suva. It is expected that the fund will swell considerably when contributions arrive from country districts.

The effort is primarily a Fijian one, but contributions will be welcomed from any other interested persons. Donations should be sent to the Fijian Office, or direct to Ratu Sukuna.

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AN OLD LETTER OF TRAGIC INTEREST

HERE, found in an old letter-file in the "PIM" office, is a letter of tragic interest.

Captain Isaac Handley, retired master

knew their cunning and treachery.

As this letter shows, the Captain, seven years before Pearl Harbour, was warning us of what the Japanese were going to

Tarawa Gilbert Islands
Jan - 7th 1935

The Editor P.I.M.

Dear Sir

Knowing your especial interest in all Island matters I venture again to communicate and enclose some Marshall Islands correspondence for your perusal feeling a portion will be of interest.

In addition from verbal information coal in large quantities is being stored at Truk Saipan and Jaluit 2000 tons at the latter port.

And much mysterious cargo. And the Naval activity is great.

Only a week ago a Japanese survey ship was sighted from here and circled Butaritari close aboard evidently intended to enter that Port but saw the Government patrol craft at anchor and steamed off in the direction of the Marshalls.

Yours faithfully

Isaac R. Handley

mariner, had come much in contact with Japs, in the Marshall and Caroline Islands. He suffered at their hands and

do. The material he forwarded to the "PIM" was sent to the right places—but no one appeared to take our warnings seriously. Thousands of Europeans have paid for British stupidity in imprisonment, torture and death.

Captain Handley was one of 22 Europeans (Gilbert Islands residents and NZ soldiers) who were foully murdered by the Japs in Tarawa in October, 1942.

N. Caledonia's Immediate Mining Future

From Our Own Correspondent

NOUMEA, Apr. 7.

DECLARED mining areas of New Caledonia at present total 308,046 hectares—a decrease of 50,000 hectares since 1943.

The bulk of this is in the hands of the few big international companies.

Owing to shortage of labour and war conditions, the mining industry's contribution to the Colony's budget in the form of dues and taxes fell from 28,461,401 francs in 1941 to 20,860,746 francs in 1944.

The administration now reports: "The metropolis has no ships to transport our nickel to France. The administration has asked for a better price. But there we are up against the competition of mines more easily exploitable and nearer industrial centres. We are trying to place our 1945 output."

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PROMISING TONGAN SCHOLAR

SIONE Siosiomalohi, of Naku'alofa, Tonga, entered the Central Medical School, Suva, in January, 1941, aged 17. In the first year he became top of his class and won a prize in Biology. In



his second year, 1942, he was top again of his class and won a Gold Medal in Anatomy, also prizes in Anatomy, Physiology, Surgery, Medicine and Materia Medica. The third year saw him top again of the class and won prizes in Forensic Medicine and Diseases of the Eye. In his final year, 1944, he became top of class again and was made Head Student. He qualified as Native Medical Practitioner, aged 21 years, and won Gold Medals in Surgery and Medicine and a prize in Midwifery.

In January, 1945, he returned to Tonga

and started work as a Tongan Medical Practitioner. The Tonga Government decided that he was too good a scholar to be limited to the work of NMP so they are sending him to New Zealand for a full medical course. He proceeded last month (May, 1945) to the Auckland Grammar School for three or four years, to pass matriculation, and thence to the University for about six years. After that he may return and practice in Tonga.

He is a keen athlete, and plays football and tennis.—Photo by Hettig.

The Fiji Advisory Committee on Publicity and Propaganda, which was formed in 1942, has now been abandoned. The Colonial Secretary, Mr. J. F. Nicholl, in a letter of thanks to the Committee (Mr. Alport Barker, Mr. Maynard Hedstrom, Mr. B. H. Marks, Mr. Ali Hussein, and Joeli Ravai), thanked members for their efficient and devoted service.

"Ika-Taurira" Again at Mangaia

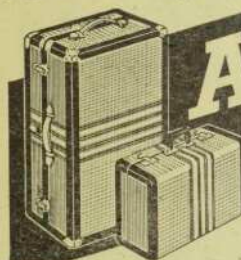
From Our Own Correspondent

MANGAIA, CI, Apr. 16.
THE once-annual run of fish-fry on the reef-platform at Mangaia resumed again this year after defaulting for 3 years. As a result, the lagoon was full of small fish; and only a bucket was required for a full day's supply—in strange contrast with the fish shortage (and semi-famine) of last year.

These fry begin about the size of a sardine, and larger fish soon follow, to prey on them, so that the appearance of "ika-taurira" brought joy to the island.

The total disappearance of the usual run of fry for two years previous to the disastrous cyclone and tidal-wave of '44 might interest a scientist. It has become a new warning of local weather-trouble.

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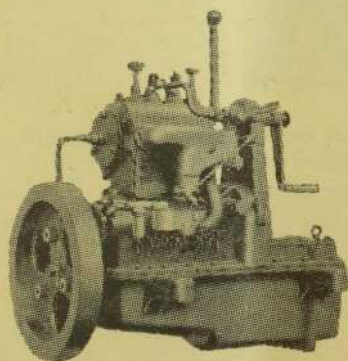
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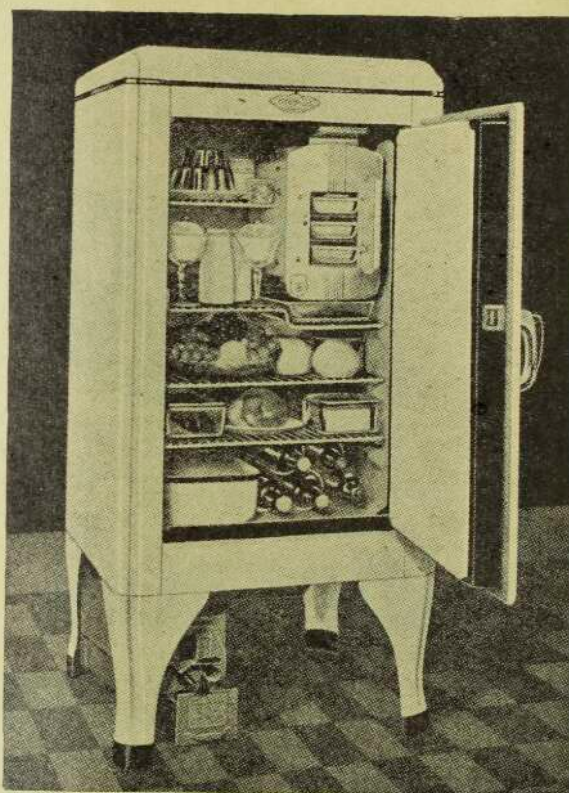
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STORY OF LINCOLN BELL

How He and Others Helped Rabaul Garrison Remnants to Escape

INFORMATION about Mr. Lincoln J. Bell, who was a resident of Rabaul when the Japs invaded, and who subsequently escaped and then disappeared, was sought through the "PIM" and "Smith's Weekly" by Mrs. Joan Bell, of Otatlands, Tasmania.

She has had a remarkable response. From the many letters sent to her by kind people, we have been able to compile the following story of Lincoln Bell's activities and, incidentally, to obtain some idea of how those isolated Territorians fought the Japs in a series of "one-man wars" in the early, tragic days of 1942, and helped hundreds of Australian soldiers to escape.

From Lieut. J. W. Mason:

I AM prepared to swear an affidavit re Lincoln and his activities as from January, 1942, to about March 20, 1942, when we left him at Witu Islands.

K. J. McCarthy (now Major-ANGAU) had been in communication with Brig.-General Morris and Major Townsend at Moresby by tele-radio from the bush at Talasea, and the Bainings, and was asked to get a force together to aid and help members of the 2/22nd Battalion to escape from the area of New Britain.

Captain McCarthy enlisted us in the field. Lincoln Bell as Lieutenant and master of the pinnace "Aussie"; Rod Marsden, Lieutenant at Talasea; Conrov at Bainings; Harry Murray at Witu; Frank Holland and myself as Lieutenants, in what was then known as the Australian Administration Force.

Lincoln Bell acted as master of "Aussie," with myself, relaying troops nightly from Pondo to Iboki. This was dangerous and tiring work, sailing at night, relaying 240 officers and men in batches of 40, from place to place, for a period of about a month, until we finally reached Witu Islands, and escaped in the "Lakatol" (former BP steamer).

There is no doubt whatever that, owing to the untiring efforts and endurance of this little party, the soldiers were able to escape. Lincoln Bell, particularly, was outstanding in his efforts and gave valuable assistance. When we left Witu, he volunteered to remain behind to hold lines of communication by tele-radio to Moresby, giving details of other members of 2/22nd left behind in the bush.

From A. P. H. Freund, Geelong:

I AM a Lutheran clergyman, and I was working as a missionary in New Guinea from 1936 till the Japanese came into the war. In February, 1942, I joined the armed forces in New Guinea, together with a number of other Lutheran mission workers.

One of the first undertakings assigned to us was to take part in the expedition to the north coast of New Britain to assist in the evacuation of the remnants of the Rabaul Garrison. This was in March, 1942. The A/DO at Talasea had inaugurated an evacuation scheme to save the remnants of the garrison who were wandering, sick and starving, in the jungles. Mr. Keith McCarthy (now Major) was the A/DO. He had gathered around him a number of former New Guinea residents to assist him, and Lincoln J. Bell was one of them.

On March 21, after we had put the refugees aboard the "Lakatol," and started them off for Australia from Witu Islands,

some of us left to return to the New Guinea mainland. Lincoln Bell, Ken Douglas and Bert Olander volunteered to remain in the New Britain area to obtain information about Japanese movements, and to gather together any further stragglers from the Rabaul Garrison. (Olander was later killed.)

During the period between the 12th and 16th May, 1942, two members of our party, Lieutenant (later Captain) G. C. Harris (since killed in action), and Sgt. V. Neumann (now W/O2, and serving under ANGAU in the New Britain area) did another trip to the New Britain area to take off five more of the former Rabaul Garrison, whom Lincoln Bell had located and collected.

Later, I again met Lincoln. It was on Sunday, October 18, 1942. He and Ben Hall were on their way to Rooke Island.

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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HOT MEALS

They brought supplies and mail for my party.

About May 12, 1943, I heard news about Lincoln again. On May 11, Captain L. Pursehouse (since killed) Petty Officer K. H. McColl (now Lieutenant, and attached to Naval Intelligence) and myself

had crossed the Markham, having had to flee from the Finschhafen area. The day after we crossed the Markham we made contact with an observation party above Onga: Sgt. Cavelleri, Cpl. Colin Stewart and Cpl. McDonald. We stayed with that party till May 14.

During the period that we were with them news was received somehow that Lincoln Bell and Dave Laws (I did not know their rank at that time) were coming into the Markham area, having come across from the Rai coast, and were running into trouble with the Japanese. A police boy was sent out to try to locate them and bring them through. No news came to hand before we left to go on to Bena Bena. We were at Bena Bena for a few days, then flew on to Port Moresby, where there for a fortnight, and were then brought to Australia. During that interval we heard no more about Lincoln and Dave. But during the period of my leave in Australia, Captain Pursehouse wrote to me, and, among other things, he informed me that he had received information that Lincoln Bell and Dave Laws had been killed by the Japanese in the Markham area.

What I have given you is not from memory. I was able to keep a diary during the whole time I was serving in the armed forces, and was able to bring the note-books through.

From W/O.II P. A. Ryan to Mrs. J. Bell:

I WAS engaged on work similar to your husband's in 1942 and 1943, and on one occasion endeavoured to join him, but was forced to withdraw. Although I never met him, I have the highest regard for him as one of the most courageous men in New Guinea in that troubled period.

From Lieut. Beenie, 2/2 Aust. Inf. Bn., AIF:

THREE AIF sergeants who served with L. Bell have been asked to get in touch with Mrs. Bell. I was one of the sergeants who had the privilege to serve under your husband on New Britain.

The other two sergeants (now) Lieut. J. L. Flucker, c/o NGIB, and Lieut. A. Vines, 6 Div. Sigs.

When we first arrived back in Australia we tried to contact you, but the address Lincoln had given us had been lost in transit, and Jim Flecker wrote to what he thought was the address, and had the letter returned to him. I am sorry that this can only be a short note, as once again we are into it.

We kept a diary of all the time we were with Lincoln, so I am sure that if there is anything you want to know we will be able to help you.

From S/Sgt. C. Lewis:

DURING March and April, 1942, I was with a party who contacted your husband at Talasea Peninsula (New Britain), and I was camped with him for a period of approximately eight weeks. Your husband during this period was undertaking military duties. He wore the insignia of an Army Captain, and was in constant wireless communication with the military authorities. The work he was doing was hazardous and perilous in what was then enemy-occupied territory. The following soldiers were with him at the time: Lieut. B. Dawson, Sgt. J. Flucker, Sgt. A. Vine, Sgt. P. Beenie, Pte. C. Holmfield, Pte. D. Carter.

Your husband was a courageous and sterling soldier, and his passing proved a great shock to me. All who knew him spoke highly of him, and I for one owe him a debt of gratitude for the assistance rendered to me and others which enabled us to get off New Britain.

Owing to ill-health, Captain A. C. Rentoul has resigned his post in the British Colonial Service in the New Hebrides, which he entered in 1942. Captain Rentoul was a prominent official in the administration of Papua prior to the evacuation in 1942; and then, having served more than the necessary 20 years, he retired from that service. During 18 months, while in the New Hebrides, he served as Liaison Officer between the New Hebrides Administration and the US Forces, and was given the rank of Captain.

DEATH OF TERRITORIAN



The late Mr. Con Page, who was resident in Kavieng, New Ireland, for some years. He was a store manager in the employ of W. R. Carpenter & Co., Ltd.

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Beware, Sulphanilamide !

An Island Resident's Experience

SELF-TREATMENT with sulfa-drugs (described by a recent writer in "PIM"), as if these were "Aspro tablets," has recalled to my mind my own first experience of these panaceas. They do work—no doubt of that. But there are times when the remedy seems worse than the disease, and much less bearable.

A tin of (alleged) pork-pie put me on the sick-list in '42. The symptoms were unpleasant, and in the end I sent for "Doc" (our local NMP). He dosed me with an unnamed tablet. Regrettably, I also neglected to mention that I had had an egg for breakfast.

For a while, the anonymous medication relieved, soothed, and even strengthened. But within an hour I was sure that heaven's gates were opening for me. By then I was in a totally collapsed state, and felt, beside and above the pain, as if every bone in my body had turned to jelly. It took much will-power to get through that stage, and three months to fully recover.

Eggs (which contain sulphur) and sulphanilamide don't mix. If they meet, the result is a poisoning, worse than the original disease. But how many Territorians know that?

Sulfa-drugs are indeed wonder-drugs—in a doctor's hands. Let those self-dosers pause, however, and remember that a glass gizzard never works as well as the old one they ruin!—E.G.

ISLAND POTTERS

Letter to the Editor

GLAZED potsherds, relics of a bygone era in New Guinea, are to be found in the collections of a few museums here and elsewhere. Mr. R. A. Vivian, in May "PIM," referring to my earlier article on "Island Potters," raises another point, reminding us how little is known of pre-historic New Guinea. Undoubtedly, there are many secrets yet to be revealed, but until scientific institutions are prepared to maintain well-equipped expeditions to carry out systematic archaeological surveys in New Guinea and other Pacific islands, most discoveries are likely to be made by residents during their daily work.

I would like to suggest to other readers that any discoveries of relics, or evidence of extinct civilisations within their territories, should be placed on record by writing to "PIM" about it. Who knows what key to the past may be revealed?

Island residents, because of their environment, naturally have a wider appreciation of ethnology and kindred subjects than the average person, and also feel a community interest in all matters relating to the South Seas.

I am, etc.,

F. J. MORGAN.

Vacluse,

Sydney,

May 5, 1945.

Major E. B. Ayris, formerly of Wau, New Guinea, veteran of World War I, who had 2½ exciting years on small ships and on transport work generally, after the evacuation, is now settled on a sheep station near Brewarrina, NSW. He writes: "I feel like the New Guinea boat-hand who went to work on a plantation. When the schooner master saw him, he was driving a bullock-cart. 'Hullo, Kondoni,' he said. 'You no more stop along schooner?' 'No, master,' said Kondoni. 'Now me boat crew belong sikooneer belong bullamakau.' That's me!"

No Relaxing of War Controls Yet

Victory in Europe Will Affect Fiji Little

FIJI, in common with most other countries that have done some considerable groaning under the war-time load, is anxious that as many regulations as possible will be relaxed soon. However, the Fiji Government announced on the day following VE-Day, that the main structure of wartime control measures must be continued for the present. It is the Government's intention to relax regulations as soon as circumstances permit—but that might be some time yet.

Residents of the Colony were reminded that it is necessary to maintain produc-

tion at the highest possible level—both for home consumption and for export. Agricultural products were never in greater demand than to-day, and a 100 per cent. effort is needed from the Colony in this regard.

Indications are that shipping is as short as ever, and that overseas supplies are likely to become less instead of more during the next 12 months. This general shortage of shipping and the heavy demands made on air transport by military and official personnel will make it impossible to relax restrictions on travel by private persons.

Residents were told that although it might be possible in the near future to begin work on the Colony's post-war reconstruction programme, and also on new or deferred public works, even this would be hampered by shortages of both materials and manpower.

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FIJI'S EDUCATIONAL PLAN TO BE SUBMITTED TO BRITAIN

THE Fiji Director of Education has been instructed by the Governor to draw up a plan of integrated educational development in the Colony. The Director will work in consultation with the Board of Education and base his plan on the Stephen's report, which was presented to the Legislative Council at the end of 1944.

The Governor will send the Director's plan on to the Secretary of State for the Colonies asking that the Advisory Committee of Education consider it. This Committee is composed of some of the most eminent educationalists in Great Britain and, although this course means delay in re-organising Fiji's educational system, something worth-while should ultimately result.

Certain problems of educational policy

cannot wait—but these will be dealt with immediately, without affecting the general lines of future policy.

USING COOK IS. STAMPS IN NZ

Letter to the Editor

WHY is it that Cook Island postage-stamps are not negotiable in NZ, and vice versa?

Although the CI are officially part of the Dominion, one cannot use one's left-over Island stamps on a letter posted in NZ to the islands, nor NZ left-overs in Rarotonga when you return from your trip.

Surely the postal authorities could make the two interchangeable, as should have been done long before this?

I am, etc.,

E.G.

Mangaia, Cook Is.,
April, 1945.

Flight-Lieutenant John K. Edmonds, formerly of Rabaul, New Guinea, and who was in Wingate's Chindit party when captured by the Japs in Burma is among the men set free in the recent liberation of Rangoon.

Mr. Martin G. Nielson, who was a plantation manager for Burns Philp on Ysabel Island (British Solomons) prior to the invasion, is spending a holiday in Sydney (which he had not seen for 30 years), after two years' service with the American Forces. The Japs came suddenly to Ysabel one morning early in 1942, and Mr. Nielson escaped to the jungles of the interior, where he remained out of sight for six months, before joining the Americans. He was assisted by the natives, with whom he always was on good terms.

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FIJI FOR "RETIRED" PEOPLE

Settlement at Sigatoka

THERE are indications that Fiji, owing to the comparatively light taxes imposed on individuals will, after the war, become a popular place of residence for Europeans from all over the world who are trying to live on comparatively small incomes derived from property or pensions. Fiji is now big enough to provide most of the amenities of European life, many of which are not found in the majority of Pacific territories.

Most Europeans who have a free choice do not care for permanent residence in the town of Suva itself—it is too hot, and the rainfall is too frequent and heavy—not less than 120 in. per annum. But the Sigatoka district of the main island of Viti Levu has not got those climatic disadvantages. It has only half Suva's rainfall. It is one of the most delightful spots, from the aesthetic viewpoint, in the South Seas; and it is already coming rapidly into favour as a situation for the homes of retired people. Many homes already have been built there, and many more are contemplated.

Sigatoka is about 90 miles west of Suva, and is at the south-western corner of the big island of Viti Levu. It is connected with Suva by a good motor road, and the journey between the two places can be made in between three and four hours. The motor road continues on around the island, through Lautoka and Ba; and after passing through the new goldfields town of Vatukoula it returns to Suva via the mountains and the Rewa district.

Because it has been found impossible to devise a system of income taxation which will work effectively in relation to the Indian community, Fiji has given up the idea of imposing heavy income tax; and, instead, the revenues of the Colony are kept up by indirect taxation. This can be accomplished fairly simply, because all the manufactured goods required by the Colony have to be imported, and they pay a substantial revenue tax at the Customs House. Thus, the man with sufficient property to ensure him a small, independent income, is not slaughtered by income-taxation, as he is in Australia and New Zealand.

Victory Parade

May 8, 1945

AYE, ring the bells, and blow the horns,
and wave the banners high,
(But do you mind if some of us just sit
here, quietly by?)
The ticker tapes are falling in the city
streets like rain.
(The wind is blowing sand across the
mounds at Alamein).
Here come the bands, with majorettes
responding to the cheers.
(A boy is looking at his sleeve and wink-
back the tears.)
"What shall we wear to dance to-night?
Let's get some fancy things."
(She's just a girl—the one in black—they
sent her back his wings.)
We won a brilliant battle, and we fought a
gorgeous fight.
(The ghosts beneath the Bering Sea are
bitter cold to-night.)
"Don't get excited now, to-day, when all
the flags are flying!"

(That woman with the Gold Star pin. I
think I saw her crying.)
"So Hitler thought that he could fight!
We had to show him how!"
(The blood and tears and toil and sweat
have been forgotten now.)
"Let's go and eat and drink until we're
positively filled!"
(Tarawa was the place, I think, they said
that he was killed.)
"Let's move along; we can't stay here till
all the marchers pass."
(That fellow with the ribbons on—his eyes
were made of glass.)
Yes, ring the bells, and blow the horns,
and wave the banners high.
(But do you mind if some of us just sit
here, quietly by?)
—By Major Howard N. Simpson, M.C.

Mr. Robert Bruce, formerly of New
Hebrides, who did good service on small
boats in Queensland-New Guinea waters
in 1943-4, is now residing in Melbourne.

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“Submarine on the starboard quarter” ...

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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.

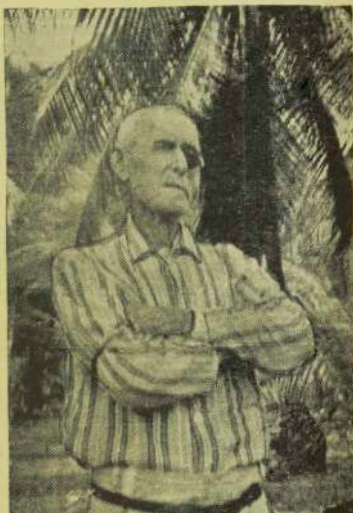
Whilst Australian enterprise is free to build and plan we need never fear being cut off from our sources of supply.—Amalgamated Wireless (A/asia) Ltd.

JAPS ON ABEMAMA

How Captain Smith Kept His Head

THE war has moved far away from the Gilbert Islands, and it is now possible to tell something more of what happened there during the Jap occupation—1942 and 1943.

Events on Tarawa are well-known already. In October, 1942, the Japs on Tarawa foully murdered five British civilians and 17 New Zealand soldiers (coast-watching service), whom they had captured in the Central Gilberts; and in November, 1943, the United States Marines, in one of their finest achievements, fought the Japs to the end and occupied Tarawa. One of the Americans' first acts was to erect a memorial to the 22 Britishers who, "Standing unarmed to their posts, matched brutality with gallantry, and met death with fortitude."



Captain Jimmy Smith.

Now, we have the story of Abemama, another of the Gilbert Islands. The editor of the "PIM" was ashore on Abemama in 1941, shortly before the Japs arrived there; and when he heard recently that Captain "Jimmy" Smith, a resident of Abemama, had arrived in Fiji, he wrote and asked the old skipper: (1) how he escaped the Japs; (2) what happened to Agnes Murdoch; (3) what happened to the garrison of young NZ soldiers who were there.

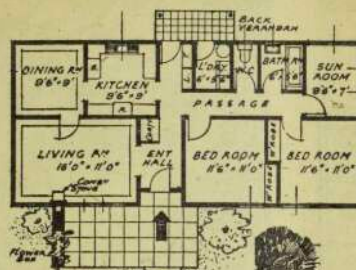
Agnes Murdoch is the daughter of an old-time trader, who married a Gilbertese woman. Agnes was sent to the United States to be educated. She eventually married a close relation of the King of Abemama, and her son is now the paramount chief. She now is an elderly woman, but still is held in high regard for her intelligence and charm of manner. Captain Smith married a Gilbertese woman who also is closely connected with the ruling family. Here is a letter just received from Captain Smith:—

"All the young New Zealand soldiers were taken away by the first Jap vessel which called at Abemama after the Jap flag was hoisted in Tarawa; and the rest you know. It was only because the Jap doctor and the head officer said I was too old to be of any harm that I was not taken away with them.

"However, the Japs who came to Abemama later on tried to get Tarawa's consent to remove my head. No consent came from Tarawa, however, and that's

how my head is still with me.

"Agnes Murdoch has been keeping well, and was not troubled by the Japs—and the same goes for all of the women folk.



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Enquiries through your usual channels appreciated.

Agnes, when I left Abemama in June, 1944, was a very busy person, having charge of the Yanks' laundry, with a gang of the island's women. She is a happy woman and has all she needs for herself and those with her.

"The Americans' camp was several miles away from the Government station, so we saw very little of them. They were very kind to me during the time I was at

Abemama. But what I needed mostly was a change, and I got permission to go to Fiji. I was suffering from the lack of



Mrs. Agnes Murdoch with her two sons. This photograph was taken in 1941.

food I had to put up with during the Jap occupation, and I am still feeling the effect of it."

Among those who recently returned to Fiji after visits to New Zealand and Australia were Mr. L. A. Lawlor, Mrs. Jack Barber, Dr. and Mrs. Roth Carrick, Mr. D. Costello, and Mr. and Mrs. P. McConnel.

Miss Mavis Eather, of the Anglican Mission, who for the past two years has been engaged in teaching work at Newington College, Sydney, has now returned to New Guinea, where she served for some years at Gona and other places.

HONOURS FOR NEW GUINEA MEN

IT recently was officially announced that the following awards, for distinguished service, had been made to former territorians:—

OBE

Lt.-Col. G. W. L. Townsend, formerly a District Officer in New Guinea.

MBE

Major H. L. R. Niall, formerly an Assistant District Officer in New Guinea.
Captain W. M. English, formerly a Patrol Officer in New Guinea.
Captain C. W. Slattery, formerly a Patrol Officer in New Guinea.

MILITARY CROSS

Captain F. N. Boisen, formerly of the Education Department, TN Guinea.

Mr. C. E. de F. Pennefather, who retired recently from the Fiji Public Service, is at present a visitor to Australia. Mr. Pennefather spent the whole of his official life in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony, and in Fiji, and he ended his service in Fiji as Adviser on Native Affairs and member of the Executive and Legislative Councils. He has purchased property in Fiji, and intends to live there—and, as he is a very young-looking sixty, it is likely that he will live there for a long time.

Mr. W. H. B. Buckhurst, Director of Lands, Mines and Surveys, and Lieut.-Colonel J. L. MacDuff, have been appointed members of the Fiji Mining Board in place of Mr. F. T. M. White and Mr. L. G. H. Sinclair. Mr. Buckhurst becomes chairman of the Board.

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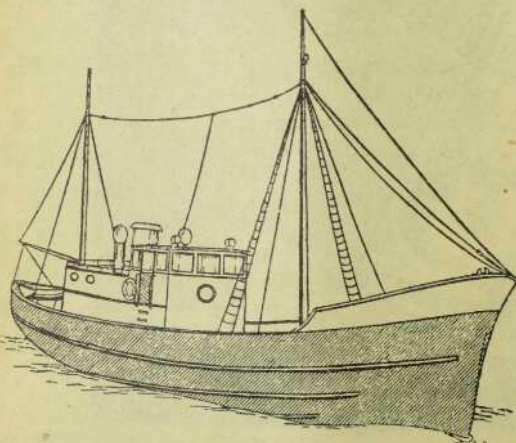
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Search for King of Cocos Islands?

And Story of an Englishman with 165 Wives

(By London Correspondent of Sydney "Daily Mirror")

SOMEWHERE in the United Kingdom there is a missing monarch—a lad in his teens, accompanied by his mother—and in the middle of the Indian Ocean, roughly half-way between Australia and India, there is a tiny kingdom with a vacant throne. The king is monarch of the Cocos Islands, and his name is Clunies-Ross. His father, John Sydney Clunies-Ross—Ross IV—died of shock following an enemy raid on the Cocos Islands last July.

The Cocos group comprises 24 islands, the largest about two and a half miles, the smallest hardly providing room in which to swing a cat. If Ross V is found the unofficial dynasty will continue unbroken, but if not then the Cocos Islands will become a possession of Great Britain.

The history of the Clunies-Ross dynasty goes back more than 150 years to the time when a tall, dour Scotsman, John Clunies-Ross, after taking up arms on behalf of James, the Pretender of Scotland, was forced to flee to the Shetland Islands.

During a visit to London he narrowly escaped the press gang with the aid of Elizabeth Dymock, who sheltered him and whom he later married.

Then began many years of adventure and travel at sea. Finally, Clunies-Ross ended up in Java, where he met a fellow-adventurer named Alexander Hare.

In 1825 Ross and Hare decided to make their home on the Cocos Isles. They both had ships, but Ross arrived first.

The reason for Hare's delay was apparent. When he duly turned up he had brought with him 165 women—Malays, Chinese, and half-castes—with whom he proposed to establish a tropical love nest. Some of these women he had enticed, some had been given to him as slaves, and to about 25 his intentions were honorable—he was engaged to marry them all.

Ross, a pious man, deeply in love with his wife, was shocked when he discovered that Hare's vision of Empire building hardly accorded with his own, and the two men established themselves on separate islands—Hare surrounded by a harem and musicians in a comic-opera court, and Ross nearby with his wife, family, and an adventurous, hardworking crew of men.

But love will find a way. Within a few years Ross's men had raided Hare's island so many times and carried off so many of his women that Hare was forced to pack up and return to Singapore.

Ross remained conqueror and king. Through hard work he built up a substantial fortune processing copra for oil and allied products. He died in 1854, after reigning as virtual king for a quarter of a century. He was succeeded by his son, John George—Ross II, who married a Malayan princess, Sipla Dupong.

Population Grows

MEANWHILE the Cocos population was growing rapidly, although the islands had been uninhabited before Hare arrived with his variegated collection of dusky belles.

The tiny kingdom was acquiring riches and strange history. Charles Darwin called in with the famous ship "Beagle," and once a party of shipwrecked cut-throats went off with the islands' schooner, which was never heard of again.

Each of the kingdom's two founders appealed for the islands' annexation—Ross to Britain and Hare to Holland. Both countries sent ships to investigate, but nothing was done until 1857, when the Cocos group was proclaimed part of the British Empire during the reign of Ross II.

In 1886 Queen Victoria was so impressed with the able manner in which the Ross dynasty had carried on the administration of the islands that she granted the family possession of the kingdom of Cocos Islands forever.

The Rosses built a palace on their home island—one of the group's two inhabitable islands. Special permission is required before anyone—natives or Europeans—is allowed to visit this island. Any natives who leave the kingdom of Cocos may never return. A small amount of liquor is allowed in the group, but intoxication is severely dealt with.

Ross III died on the Isle of Wight in 1910, and his successor, John Sydney Clunies-Ross, reigned until last year as Ross IV.

An elderly man without issue, the story goes that early in the 1930's he went to London to find a bride and a successor to the throne. It is said he encountered his future queen in a little

London teashop. He was then aged about 60 and was dark-skinned like a Malayan, for Malayan blood ran in his veins.

No Trace Found

THE marriage was duly solemnised, according to the story, and Ross IV returned to his kingdom, leaving his wife—the first white queen of Cocos since Ross I landed there—in London with a son and heir.

The mystery now is: Where is the lad who is to carry on the line?

The Colonial Office is mysterious, and says it does not know. Malayan headquarters in London know the family, of course, but do not know the whereabouts of the heir.

A diligent search I carried on for two days at Somerset House, where births and deaths are recorded, failed to reveal the secret.

The unofficial kingdom of the Cocos Islands is distinguished for a number of reasons. It is the world's smallest kingdom for a start, and, in the second place, all other thrones have scores or pretenders, heirs, claimants and intriguers, clamouring for possession, whereas the Cocos throne is the only one in the world for which the rightful claimant cannot be found.

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"Pim" Short Story:

A SALE OF CHROME

By Robert Slade

Based on the actual experience of a Gentleman of Noumea, who visited Paris in 1929, as related to the Author.

HALSTEAD settled himself in the cafe, ordered a bock, and gazed about him with frank interest. There were perhaps one hundred people in the cafe. A dozen unattached women, of divers shapes and colours, tried to hold his eye. Which was the Russian spy?

He knew the custom of the place. When he had rested, and looked about him, he should arch an eyebrow, or crook a finger, or otherwise indicate a considered preference. Whereupon he would be joined by a vivacious and thirsty Parisienne.

Halstead ignored the inquisitorial eye of the head-waiter, and the businesslike glances of the ladies, and lit a cigarette, and waited.

He hoped that something at least amusing would come out of this experiment, to relieve the tedium of his stay in Paris. Life had been dull, for too long. For two years, in New Caledonia, while managing a chrome mine and driving teams of Tonkinese and Javanese labourers, he had been virtually cut off from the world. An occasional visit to sun-drenched Noumea meant nothing—existence there was just one siesta after another. With eagerness he had obeyed orders from his head office, to proceed to France, to complete certain contracts for the sale of their chrome.

The buyer to whom he was directed, in Paris, was a representative of the Soviet Government. He was a cultured, hospitable person, and he tried to provide entertainment, while Moscow was deliberating over the metal contracts, and Halstead was loitering about the boulevards, and hungering for London.

As they lunched together, one day, Halstead described a thing he had seen in Manchuria. Two Russians had quarrelled with another Russian, had forced

him to fight, and had deliberately killed him. The murdered man was a White Russian; the others were not, and were suspected of being Soviet emissaries.

"Probably it was so," said Halstead's host, calmly. "The single life is nothing. We strike for the freedom of one hundred million people. We seek out those who plot against us, and the progress of our Communist State, and we destroy them."

Halstead grinned. "Nasty people!" he said. "I think I'll keep away from Russia when I'm feeling extra reactionary."

"The arm of the Soviet reaches far beyond our borders," said the Soviet agent, sententiously.

"They say you even have beautiful women acting as spies for you," remarked Halstead, idly. "I wish I could meet some. I am very bored—I should like to study your system."

"Why not?" said the Soviet agent, unexpectedly. "If it will interest you, it can be arranged."

And it was arranged. Halstead merely had to promise that he would give no indication that he suspected he was under espionage, and he was to be in a certain Montmartre cafe at 5 o'clock.

"But how shall I know the lady? How will she find me?" asked Halstead.

The Soviet agent smiled bleakly. "You can leave all that to us," he said.

SO Halstead, alert to every movement around him, smoked quietly.

The approach, when it came, was simple. A strikingly good-looking young woman, of Jewish type, came into the cafe, carrying a couple of small packages. One of them slipped quietly to the floor near Halstead's table.

"Permit me, mademoiselle," he said, and retrieved the package.

"Oh, t'ank you," she said, and her smile was a happy mixture of simplicity and coquetry. "Monsieur is English, yes?"

"Monsieur is," said Halstead. "But how clever of you to notice it!"

"Yes, I am verree clevair," retorted the

girl. "I make my package to fall so that Monsieur will look at me," she added, brightly.

Halstead laughed. The rest was easy. The lady sat at his table, and consumed a variety of liquors, with expertness, and undeniable grace. She chattered merrily, and intelligently, in French and English.

Halstead, keenly interested in this attractive picture of a spy at work, had to admit that her technique was perfect. He saw that, little by little, leading their conversation with apparent inconsequence, she had learned his name, nationality, place of residence, marital condition, and business. He found that he had told her even his age, and the means he took in the tropics to ensure the efficient functioning of his organs.

But, of course, he knew she was a spy; and so he had told her with apparent casualness, all the things that he thought a spy should know. And, anyway, he told himself, she was a delightful companion; and there was no reason why he should run away from her charms. Evidently, when the gentleman was presentable, she found pleasure in her profession.

From the cafe meeting, their friendship ripened rapidly. In Paris, under a mellow October moon, one may conduct one's affairs in a manner not thought possible elsewhere.

When she left him, a couple of days later, to visit someone in a distant suburb, she seemed as eager as he to keep a rendezvous, at the cafe where they first met, that evening.

BUT she never came. And as Halstead, with increasing impatience, looked at his watch, he realised that, after all, she was a spy, and her job was finished and, presumably, she had other work to do. He let his imagination run, and he did not like what he saw. She had been very charming. But the tenderness he had imagined was for him alone, he thought savagely, was all part of the lady's technique. Well, he had asked for it!

As he lifted a frowning face, he caught the eye of a young woman, two tables away, who also had been scowling at her wrist-watch. She had been there for some time. Bitten lip and tapping toe clearly indicated a broken appointment.

They were both in the same predicament. Involuntarily, he smiled. She stared coldly at him for a moment, and then turned away, and a slight movement of her shoulder indicated distaste—but perhaps other things. Halstead's impressionable heart missed a beat. She was a remarkably pretty blonde, exquisitely but modestly dressed.

Ten minutes passed. The Russian spy did not come. The girl at the nearby table glanced at Halstead, looked again at her watch, and petulantly gathered up bag and gloves.

Halstead rose impulsively and stepped across. "Will you forgive me for speaking to you, mademoiselle?" he said. "We appear both to be deserted. May I join you?"

The girl hesitated, and looked him over deliberately. Halstead clearly was no boulevardier. He was a handsome, strongly-built man of forty, with that indefinable something that suggests the world-wanderer.

"Ze English—I speak of him very little," she said. "Of you—how shall I say—inconnu—it is not proper if we talk."

Halstead spoke in French. "I know that Mademoiselle has much to forgive. My approach is improper. I am lonely—and perhaps you, too, would be glad to talk."

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solace," she replied, indicating the other tables, and laughed.

THAT was the beginning of a delightful companionship. The young woman came from a rather strict home; her father, it appeared, was a prosperous professional man—and he did not approve of casual men acquaintances. It seemed that, if she and Halstead were to see each other again, their meetings must be clandestine. To persuade her to meet him again, Halstead was forced to employ all his considerable arts and experience.

They spent much time together, in the next four or five days. He found Mademoiselle—witty, amusing, ingenuous, yet eager to enter the world of more sophisticated folk—the kind of companion for whom he long had sought. The Russian spy was completely forgotten.

Halstead, examining himself closely, decided that this was it. He could not lose Mademoiselle. That evening, he told her that his regard for her went deeper than was justified by a mere casual friendship; he wished to meet her father. Would she permit him to call upon her in her home?

Mademoiselle seemed strangely disturbed. She stared at him, her eyes big and her face white. It would seem that she went in terror of her father. But finally she agreed that he should call the following afternoon. She gave him the address.

NEXT morning, Halstead received a message from the Soviet agent.

The contracts had arrived from Moscow—would he call around and pick them up, at once? His business in Paris was finished.

In the Russian's office, Halstead received the contracts, and completed all necessary

formalities. The Soviet man gave him a cordial farewell.

"Oh, by the way," he said. "How did you like the Soviet spy system?"

Halstead laughed. "Charming, charming!" he said. "I was delightfully entertained for two or three days. And she certainly knew how to extract information from the stranger within your gates. And then, presto! she disappeared."

"Oh, yes, Nada knows her job," said the Russian. "But how did you like Number Two?"

"Number Two?" repeated Halstead, stupidly.

"Yes, yes—the blonde. Clever, eh? We always work the counter-spy method—a second woman to check up on the reports of the first."

Halstead gazed at him in horror. He felt slightly sick. But he pulled himself together—he could not make a fool of himself before this cynical gentleman from Moscow. "Yes," he said, feebly. "She was wonderful—I shall never forget her," and he got away from there as soon as he could.

Halstead left for London that evening. In the afternoon, he went to the address that Mademoiselle had given him. It was a large *patisserie*, and the tradesman and his family evidently occupied the upper floors. Halstead did not stop.

Mr. E. B. P. (Roy) Diederich was killed in action in Italy on April 14. He was formerly a legal draftsman in the service of the Fiji Government, which he joined in 1938. He was stationed in Suva, but for varying periods acted as Magistrate at Suva and in other districts. About 18 months ago he enlisted in the NZEF. He was a very fine Rugby player and was very popular among a wide circle of friends in Suva.

IN THE SERVICE OF USA



Harry Laurensen, of Apia, Western Samoa, is a Junior Lieutenant in the United States Maritime Service.

Mr. J. Herdman, of the Bank of New Zealand, Suva, Fiji, returned to the Colony in April from a trip overseas.



LADY OF THE RAMU

Another New Guinea Pioneering Story by Alice Allen Innes

FOR sheer pluck and dogged determination, it would be hard to beat Mrs. Alexander Peadon, of the Ramu, who settled on a spot marked "Uncontrolled Area," and "Unsafe for women." It was on the Upper Ramu River, with no other white women nearer than the Kambaidam, four days' walk away, and where an assistant district officer was later speared.

Very often during her residence there Mrs. Peadon heard blood-curdling battle-cries and saw the various tribes going out on raiding and punitive expeditions, and almost daily tribal fighting raged around her very homestead; but she remained by her husband's side undaunted.

WHEN the Peadons arrived in Rabaul in 1932, they applied to the Administration for a permit to travel into the Uncontrolled Area. The "powers that be" in Rabaul refused permission, but suggested that they approach the District Officer in charge at Madang. So off to Madang they went. The Madang District Officer tried to dissuade them, and refused to take the responsibility of issuing a permit. He suggested they radio Rabaul, but Rabaul authorities merely radioed back, "Too unsafe for women." As far as they were concerned, that closed the matter.

But they had reckoned without Mrs. Peadon. She was bitterly disappointed, but not beaten. Feeling it was within her power to assist her husband in many ways in that new country, she decided to do her best to enter it despite official disapproval.

A dairy herd and a pony were sent on ahead, with trusted natives accustomed to handling cattle, and meanwhile, in Madang, Mr. and Mrs. Peadon prepared for the trip. Six horses, a bullock and seven native carriers were loaded, also a number of Dilbu boys who were returning to their mountain village and had offered to carry and act as guides for the party.

Their road ran through an area of tropical forest, swampy in some parts, hilly in others: dense jungle tracks where flowering vines hampered their passage. A wealth of strange tropical flowers and gaily plumaged birds were sources of incessant interest. A climb of 2,000 feet brought them to the first house-klap or Government rest house, and there they made camp.

It was a remarkably clear night, cool and intensely still, save for the dark shadows that passed ever backwards and forwards near the great welcoming fires

the natives had prepared for them. Miles below, lay the forests and coastline, with Madang away in the distance; and there Mr. and Mrs. Peadon sat and planned their route. Inspired by the primitive beauty of it all, feeling that the unconquered lands were going to be kind to them.

At sunrise the next morning they packed for the second stage of the great adventure: A day of climbing up and down mountain spurs—"fashion belong fly." Mrs. Peadon, who had fever badly, was so exhausted that she had to be carried for six hours, up a narrow, tortuous path barely the width of the bush stretcher on which she lay. On one side rose the steep face of the mountain; on the other, the cliff dropped sharply away to its base hundreds of feet below. She had to steel herself from screaming as the stretcher swung dizzily out over the edge of the path, its slight frame all that stood between her and the horrifying depths below.

Towards sundown they came, gladly,

to Azinu Mission Station, on the border of the uncontrolled area. Man, woman and beast alike were grateful for the brief rest. The cattle had been coaxed and driven with untiring patience. Often they had been dragged up steep, slippery slopes, shouting boys tugging furiously as the animals slipped back. This tug of war gave the natives a great chance to yell and scream, until the hills echoed the din, and all bird life was agitated into calls, pipings, or parrot screams.

The travellers went to the house-klap and unpacked gratefully after that strenuous trip. In the little kunai-grass house Mrs. Peadon made camp, and took out the two prospecting dishes which served also for culinary purposes—two prospecting dishes make a fine stove in which to bake a jam tart. At any rate, a four-course dinner, perfectly cooked by Mrs. Peadon, was served to the hungry ones—a feast to remember for the rest of the trip, after many monotonous meals of rice and boys' biscuits.

THEN, once again at sunrise the little party set off. They must have needed a tremendous amount of pluck for this stage, as the country is notoriously wild, and before then no white woman had ever penetrated beyond the mission, owing to the natives, who

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were still an unknown quantity.

They climbed down the steep slopes that led to Ara-Wasa village, and what a commotion was caused among the wild kanakas by the sight of their first white woman!

Yelling and shouting, over a hundred men, women and children danced around the newcomers. Mrs. Peadon was poked about the arms and body, her hair was pulled to see if it was real, her face was patted with grimy paws, and her clothes were thoroughly examined. Might was right here, so Mrs. Peadon wisely submitted to her role of a mannequin in the wilds, smiled and made friendly gestures as she underwent her examination.

Unfortunately, her appearance so intrigued the natives that she could get no privacy even to undress or bathe, and in that lawless land one dared not even appear resentful, much less attempt to drive off invaders.

Then once again they trekked. The kunai plains, with never a tree or stunted bush in sight, had to be crossed. Four days of nightmare! Bush mochas, those most vicious of bush insects, caused the most intense agony from itch.

During this part of the trip, the Ramu River was crossed and recrossed thirty times altogether, some of the crossings being very dangerous. Then they came to the Markham's upper reaches. It was swiftly flowing and dangerous-looking. The party camped and decided to test the river and find a ford. Fortunately, a Markham native came into the camp and offered to show them across at a spot where it was safe and shallow.

Maybe the river had recently altered its course, as is not unusual, or maybe the strange youth was a bad judge, though most natives are very reliable in such matters. Whichever it was, that crossing gave the master and mistress a narrow

escape from death. Huge boulders and torrential waters almost swept Mrs. Peadon's pony off its feet, and only the strength and promptness of the Markham lad saved her from being washed away.

Bruised against the boulders and drenched to the skin, the party finally landed on the opposite bank where, worn out, they made camp.

On again they went over more uneven country, recrossed the Markham, and once more climbed up the steep ranges. At last they reached the Morobe fall of the range, and Kambaidam, where Mr. and Mrs. Bergmann of the Lutheran Mission had their lonely home.

Since leaving the house-kia at Azinu Mission, there had been no rest houses of any kind; but here indeed they found a most hospitable reception, and a home which proved a traveller's dream come true in the way of a rest house.

Here were beautiful gardens, where grew English potatoes, cabbages and asparagus, and where mulberry trees proved the fertility of the soil by coming into bearing when only six months old. It was almost unbelievable to see this wealth of food and comfort in a spot which lay only a few miles away from the tabu country of the fiercest and most untamable tribes of New Guinea.

MRS. PEADON was compelled to stay here for three months while Mr. Peadon went ahead to select a suitable site for their first permanent camp. But when, at long last, Mrs. Peadon reached the chosen site the task of creating a home in such a wilderness, amongst totally uncivilised natives whose chief object in life seemed to be waging war upon rival tribes, must have been such as to make the stoutest heart quail at times; but a letter I received from Mrs. Peadon some time later gives no

indication of the nightmarish times through which she had passed.

"We are in our new home and have a top-hole tennis court almost completed," she wrote, "Our garden is well started. We are three-quarters of an hour's walk from the newly made Ramu drome, and you will know how grateful we are to have contact with the outer world. To-day's excitement was your bundle of magazines and papers, most appreciated, and Mr. O'Dea, the pilot, calling to see us. Do come and visit us."

DURING my residence in New Guinea I tried to carry out a good-neighbour policy and, whenever possible, sent magazines, papers, etc., to those lonely women, well knowing what a boon any reading matter would be to them.

I made it my business to visit Mrs. Peadon at the earliest moment, and the same Pilot O'Dea referred to by Mrs. Peadon made my trip doubly interesting by varying his usual route to cover many new native villages. From the air one of these had an almost African appearance, with round houses grouped on a hilltop—the first New Guinea round houses I had seen.

A very delighted hostess greeted me, probably her first white woman visitor from the coast. It was a grand reunion, this being the first time I had seen her since farewelling her at Salamaua.

So, on my battered suitcase is scrawled a rare travelling label, nestling among labels from America and almost every country in Europe, concrete evidence of my flight from Salamaua to Ramu. It is one of my proudest possessions, for I felt it a great privilege to be able to visit and personally congratulate yet another such outstanding New Guinea woman pioneer as Mrs. Lex Peadon of Ramu.

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THE TABU ON THE SHORTLANDS

A Plea for British-Australian Commonsense

By Mrs. C. W. Seton, a Resident of the Shortlands—Part of the British Solomons

FEW people realise that the north-western end of the British Solomon Islands is still in the hands of the Japanese, and that they hold both gateways to the Bougainville Straits—Buin-Shortlands on one side, and the northern end of Choiseul on the other. It is probable that the much criticised "mopping up" taking place in Bougainville must surely be soon extended southwards to the Shortlands area.

Mono (or Treasury) Island, which belongs to the Shortlands group, lies about 25 miles south-east of the main island, and has been in Allied hands since its capture in October, 1943—partly at bulldozer point, for, at the landing, a bulldozer charged a Jap foxhole, and neatly smothered its evil inhabitants with a few hundredweight of earth. Almost simultaneously, to the east, the 2nd Battalion of the 1st Marine Paratroop Regt. (USA) landed on the Choiseul coast, near Voaza, and routed a Japanese detachment at Sangigai, about 20 miles north of the Methodist station at Bambatana.

This is the last recorded land fighting in the British Solomons. Now, nearly two years later, one feels that the stay of the enemy in these places cannot last much longer.

These districts produce little save copra. Chinese-owned schooners used to get *beche de mer*, and there was a certain amount of green snail and trochus available, but nothing else—except about forty

planted acres of rubber on Lofung and Kokonai, which had never been worked.

WHEN I went to the Shortlands at the end of the nineteen-twenties, the district was just showing the effects of the post-war slump. Gloomy planters and traders were looking as if the bottom of their world had dropped out because copra had fallen to £19 a ton. Through the ever worsening years that followed, they were to see it eventually go as low as £4 and to be almost unsaleable at that—to see boys paid off and plantations abandoned to the jungle—to see the white population drop to a scant dozen or so, which were finally evacuated hurriedly in small launches before the advance of the Japs in those black days of early '42.

My first trip on the "Mataram" was Captain Voy's last, and I have often felt sad that I did not see that kindly exuberant figure in its heyday. Throughout the trip he was quiet and withdrawing; consequently, I remember little of him except my embarrassment at the journey's end when, in his cabin, he introduced me with jovial cynicism to some of my new neighbours as the new manager of Lofung.

The first impressions of the place were *fin de siècle*. Everything worth having was finished, and all the good times had been exhausted before my arrival. The gallons of champagne—the dances—the tennis parties—the bright and witty in-

habitants, and the whopping times they used to have—all gone.

Our part of the world was rather a *cul de sac*, and the steamer used to turn round and go straight back, with a general air of saying that if, after three weeks of ocean trudge, this was the best that could be provided, it was not worth going on with. Later, when the "Malaita" went through to Rabaul, we were on the road to somewhere, and life

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took on a brighter hue in consequence.

This sloofness of the Shortlands is a peculiar man-made phenomenon, and was caused after the last war by the deadline drawn between our British Protectorate and Bougainville, part of the Australian Mandate.

FROM Kamaliai at the northern end of Shortland Island, one could, in the early morning, see Mt. Bagana, in the Crown Prince Range on Bougainville, set like an enchanted blue fortress nearly fifty miles away. A fine bluish white cloud emerged from the tip of the volcano when things were normal with it; but once, when we were being subjected to violent earth tremors, Bagana had a wide swathe of dark smoke pouring out and bending away across Bougainville in an easterly direction. Cloud always came up and obscured the summit of the range later in the day, so one had to get up early to see the "burning mountain," which the natives used to look on as the place bad folk went to after death.

From Kamaliai one could see the light at the Government station at Buin on Bougainville, six miles away. "How nice to have neighbours so close," I observed, unsuspectingly, only to be withered with scorn at the idea. It was then explained to me that Buin was out of bounds, being across the invisible line between Protectorate and Mandate.

To go that six miles from Kamaliai to Buin one must make all preparations for going to a foreign country. One must first go to the DO at Shortlands, to secure customs and health clearance for ship and crew. Then one must put up one's yellow flag and go to Kieta (chief port of Bougainville), the best part of seventy miles away. Arrived there, one must wait in outer darkness like some scabrous leper, till boarded for examination by the doctor and the Customs officer.

Then one could turn the boat round and trudge back along the Bougainville coast for almost the entire course previously travelled, till one could reach Buin, where one could see the tantalising light of one's starting point.

The return trip would have to be on similar lines. One would, in short, have to travel about 250 miles to go and come back from a place six miles distant. The only place one could land between Shortlands and Kieta, was Refuge Island, half way, but I never heard of any one landing there. It did not look particularly hospitable, being rather a barren rocky island.

In the German days there was none of this pother, for there was free coming and going for both natives and whites, and no one any the worse for it. One hopes that somewhere between the San Francisco Conference and other talks now pro-

ceeding about the future of the islands, the plight of the Shortlands will be considered, and something done about this.

GEOGRAPHICALLY, Shortlands belongs to Bougainville. The place is 80 miles from Gizo, and over 300 from Tulgal. All its natural affiliations are to the north and east. A potentially wealthy district in the highly strategic Bougainville Straits, Shortlands should not be denied a chance to get on its feet again economically after this war. I do not suggest that it should be included in the Mandated Territory, but I do feel that it should have the weight of this deadline removed. It should be possible to secure labour from Buin for the Shortlands plantations, instead of having to bring them workers all the way from Guadalcanal and Malaita, hundreds of miles from their homes.

Our trips in the old days to Kieta were nearly always for medical attention as our district had no doctor. Residents of Kieta, looking out and seeing one of the Shortlands launches in the early morning waiting in the harbour, would generally guess at illness as the cause of its presence. It was a horrible trip if one happened to be really ill, and there was no chance to put it at a sheltered place on the Bougainville coast to help the patient weather the trip in good order.

THIS *tabu* was having a serious effect on the Shortlands natives, who seemed to be dying out and to be badly in need of new blood. The other islands of the Protectorate were too remote for intermarriage on a useful scale. The mortality amongst young women was heavy, and men outnumbered women. One would see old crones, who had already buried a couple of husbands, complacently looking over an assortment of young men in their twenties, who wanted a wife.

The Alus had become lazy owing to the fall in their numbers and their individual resultant wealth. Where once a whole village had subsisted on the proceeds of one coconut grove, now that grove might belong to one individual, who probably didn't even live there, having property elsewhere.

However, business, if not love, laughs at locksmiths, and there was a small island half-way between Malahuna Point and Moila Point, where the natives of Shortlands and Buin used to go in their canoes to exchange news and native wares, including the famous Buin baskets.

ONE wonders how the natives have fared under the prolonged Japanese occupation. Were many of them pro-Jap? One feels that with such a small island, even if they wished they could not have gone bush to escape the invader.

Thousands of the enemy must have been quartered on Shortlands in their palmy days, when Kahili and Kara on Buin were busy airfields, and Ballalai, three miles from Koliai village on Shortlands, was a number-one fighter field.

These three big airfields were blasted and laid waste at the time of the operations in the Central Solomons at Munda and New Georgia and Kolombangara; and the roadstead of Shortlands, near Buin, which once provided anchorage for heavy units of the Japanese Navy, is now empty save for hulks on the coral and scrap iron at the bottom of the sea.

The Japs certainly did not impose any deadline on Shortlands, seeing how well, strategically, it fits in with Buin.

WHAT has happened to the chiefs of Shortlands? Kipau, the head chief, lived at Gomal. He was a colossal, waddling, good-tempered hulk, with a

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snowy thatch, and smiling, toothless mouth, reminiscent of betelnut.

Once HMS "Sussex" spent four days in Shortlands harbour, and was open for inspection by the natives. Kipau, a "Sussex" cap-band round his white wool, impressed the officers considerably by the admiring way in which he waddled round the big guns, now and again wheezing in awed tones, "Number ONE—Number ONE!"

Then there were the other chiefs, Ilala, of the one hand, from Nuhu—Riesing from Kollai—Isoma from Pirrimiri—Betiai of Allang—Glassa of Malia—most of them old men. Will they be still alive when Shortlands comes back to us? And what will their consciences be like?

The Alus were a distinctive crowd, with their dead black skins and ugly brownish eyeballs. Often their names followed a familiar pattern. There were Laos and Kopannas and Fergusons and Jacksons and Robinsons.

There was one called Antonio who used to bring us crayfish. Once, when we remonstrated with him for bringing hen ones, with large clusters of eggs, and told him they would end by dying out, he laughed for quite five minutes at such a notion. He had a fearsome habit of appearing with anything up to twenty large crayfish just after one had a refrigerator-full of steamer meat.

THE Shortlands are low. Shortland itself is a bare six hundred feet above sea level. Approaching on the steamer, after the night run from Gizo, one sees, with the first light of dawn, the huge mass of Bougainville towering aloft. Not till one is very close does one see Shortland Island, crouched like a dog at the foot of Bougainville.

There are lovely coral beaches on all the surrounding islets and, whilst travelling among the reefs and sandbars, one passes

the whole incredible paraphernalia of a tropical picture—blazing white sand, dark-blue skies, deep-green coconuts leaning out over the sand, basking alligators on sandspits. Once, coming back from Kamallai, there was one asleep near Sivilou, and it slept so soundly with its mouth open that the launch boys killed it by firing down its mouth with a shotgun. They brought the 12-foot body back in the punt; and the head was still drying out on the office steps when the Japs came in.

Back from the water's edge, the primeval jungle lifts, green and mysterious, with rain showers falling on the upper slopes like a fine grey mist. There is a tremendous average rainfall, and a large quantity of swamp, so horses are never used, and everything is done by water.

WHILE I was three times ever grew poorer and more difficult for those who owned their homes, and were just getting their plantations into bearing as the peak prices for copra were on the wane.

With depression around us, and communications and population getting more and more nil, we lived for our homes and our gardens and our domestic animals.

We sought the co-operation of the natives in reviving their dances. The Malaita boys, I think, took the honours for these. They have some intricate steps and a highly finished performance of them. The devil dance was done for us at Christmas time. They take their dances very seriously, and it is very bad form for onlookers to laugh, no matter how amusing the earnestness and the antics. The Choiseul natives have a very attractive canoe dance; and the Buin dance put on by "boys" who were brought over in the old days as slaves to the Alus, and left behind when their homes were cut off, was very spectacular.

Round trippers used to wax vocal and

not in complimentary fashion, over the heat, the flies and copra bugs that assailed them at Faisi; but those of us who lived there used to assure them that steamer-day was always the hottest occasion for us, too, rushing about in the glaring sun in the heat of the day on the waterfront. They should have known, as we did, the happier occasions—running with a fair wind, and the awnings down; jib and mainsail taut, and big kingfish coming in over the stern as fast as the boys could haul them; nights on the launch, with the velvet water softly slapping the bows and the phosphorescence snakily weaving in the overside depths; the pleasures of a loyal and adequate staff in plantation or house. The more I hear of Huns and Honourable Nipponese the more I think of natives. The majority have a nice code of honour and honesty, and one never hears of a child being ill-treated.

BECAUSE the Alus were too wealthy or too lazy to work, the only work done was by indentured labour—Malaita, Guadalcanal, and Makira (San Cristoval) natives. A few Ysabel or Choiseul boys were to be found amongst the police at Korovou, or in casual jobs. They were a happy, good-natured, laughing lot in the main, though inevitably there were the lazy or scheming exceptions that could, at times, make life decidedly tiresome.

I have many pleasant and appreciative memories of our boys. Our launch-boy, Ilala, a Malaitaman, fought through the war alongside our own men, and was decorated.

The Shortlands are, or used to be, very unhealthy. There had been many cases of blackwater there, and a world-famed Methodist mission doctor told me he considered it came third on the list of the world's most unhealthy places—the first two being the Gold Coast and the Sepik

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River. This was on account of the universality of the malignant Tertian type of malaria, which found ample breeding ground in the swampy terrain.

What does the future hold for the Shortlanders—that is, the European ones; for we will not know just what has happened to the Alus till the Japs have been run out.

These people, in the early days braved the dangers and the diseases and the bad conditions to make their homes there, and to obtain the confidence of the natives.

One hopes that the day is not far off when these people, only a handful it is true, but who yet have been responsible for such a spectacular effect on the natives, will be able to return to their homes.

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AUSTRALIA AND THE NEW HEBRIDES

Land Grants Which Are Now Forgotten

THIS article, sent by a special correspondent from Noumea on May 3, reminds us that the future of the Condominium of the New Hebrides, like that of the Mandates, may come up for consideration by the new world authority being created at San Francisco.

Australia is believed to covet the New Hebrides, for protective reasons. But, apart from the operations of Burns Philp & Co., Ltd., Australia has done nothing whatever to develop the Territory—nearly all credit for the colonisation there must go to the French.

A LITTLE remembered crisis in New Hebridean affairs occurred after the last World War, resulting from the French Government's refusal to buy out the Higginson interests in the French New Hebridean Company. Higginson was the Englishman to whom the French gave grand nationalisation papers when he organised the New Caledonian nickel company, and made France for a time dominant in the New Hebrides. He left his interest to members of his large French family, but after the Condominium Government was formed the affairs of the SPNH (Societe Francaise des Nouvelles Hebrides) got in rather a bad way.

In the Australian House of Representatives in 1921, the Prime Minister, Mr. W. M. Hughes, made the sensational announcement that the company had offered to sell all its interests to Australia. The offer, he said, included all the French land in the Group, which he estimated at 600,000 hectares, or half the total area. Mr. Hughes explained that this offer had been made to him during the Imperial Conference in London, and that the French Government had given an assurance that it would raise no objection to the transaction. He added

that the operation would give Australia supremacy in the Group, and that the Japanese might put pressure on the sellers if Australia refused to buy.

TWENTY-FIVE million francs was asked for the land, to be paid over a period of five years. But it turned out later that the French Government had been offered the same interest for fifteen millions, and that the French option holder hoped for a commission of something like ten million on the deal.

Not getting an immediate reply, the company next cabled Australia that it had resumed its freedom of action, and that American interests were trying to negotiate. This may have been part bluff, for the publicity given in France to the offer made to Australia induced the French Government to step in at last in earnest and obtain control through the Bank of Indo-China.

Ballandes, of Bordeaux, the big Caledonian and Hebridean trading concern ("The French Burns Philp"), next came in, and are supreme in the French company to-day.

The French Government readily agreed to their suggestion that Indo-Chinese coolie labourers should be introduced to cultivate Hebridean land "much as the Hindus are being introduced into Fiji." Actually, the development of Hindu and Indo-Chinese labour in the two archipelagos has not been on identical lines.

GREAT interest attaches to the statement of Mr. Hughes that he personally was not in favour of an Australian purchase at the price asked, because he did not feel that the titles of possession were in all cases perfectly sound. Above all, it was a question of price and of the validity of land titles. He thought that, on examination, a number of the French claims might be contested by the natives. If the titles of the French company to 376,000 hectares were incontestable, they seemed much less sure for the remaining 220,000. The real cause of trouble in the New Hebrides was over regulations concerning labour.

After the option had been dropped, the Minister for the Colonies in Paris said that he had had no official information of the offer having been made by the French company to the Australian Government. In any case, he would have considered such an offer with disapproval.

MR. HUGHES said later that French reports that discussions had taken place at the Imperial Conference favouring British annexation of the New Hebrides were incorrect. The question had not come before the Conference. He had certainly discussed the New Hebrides with the Secretary of State for the Colonies, but this discussion had no relation with any offer to purchase land, but was simply to put Mr. Churchill au courant with the complaints brought forward by Australian interests on the subject of the Condominium.

(At that time, Australian missionary bodies in particular, were urging the Government to persist in its efforts to come to a friendly arrangement with the French so that the Group could pass under British control. They urged that Parliament should be given an opportunity to discuss the French company's offer to sell its land and rights.)

Winston Churchill, whom Mr. Hughes met in London in 1921, had already a remarkable knowledge of New Hebridean affairs. About the time the Condominium agreement came into force

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he had been Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, and an Australian settler wrote (I quote from a paragraph in the French "Mois Hebrides" of 1903): "There are very few things concerning the New Hebrides that Winston Churchill does not know. I have been corresponding with him for two months, and am astonished at his knowledge and grasp of the affairs that pre-occupy us. Mr. Dale, of the Colonial Office, also knows the Hebrides, and Lord Elgin shows interest."

EDITORIAL NOTE: Although agitation from various bodies in the past has not given Australia any sovereign rights in the New Hebrides, the Commonwealth, nonetheless, is one of the largest land-owners in the Condominium, and for over 30 years the Commonwealth Government maintained a solicitor in Vila to watch Commonwealth interests in the slow deliberations of the Joint Court in relation to land titles.

About 60 years ago, several Australian business men, led by Sir James Burns, founder of Burns Philp & Co., Ltd., formed the Australasian and New Hebrides Co., Ltd., which commenced trading and planting in the New Hebrides. The new company did not flourish financially, although it pursued a vigorous policy of land-buying, and by the time it was wound-up and taken over by Burns Philp & Co., it owned plantation lands on most of the islands of the Group. This land was acquired originally from the natives, as was all land bought by the early settlers. Present-day land-ownership is based on such native deeds, but validity of title rests with the decision of the Joint Court.

Eventually, all interests taken over from the Australasian and New Hebrides Co. by Burns Philp, were handed over as a gift by Sir James Burns to the Australian Government. Possibly, Sir James felt that if Australia had land interests there

she would more readily take an interest in the Group, and that if Australian settlers were encouraged to go to the New Hebrides, the large trading concern of BP's would ultimately benefit. Whatever the reason, the Commonwealth accepted the land interests, and, between 1905-12, Australian settlers went to the New Hebrides. Australia, however, later lost interest in the settlers, and to some extent in the land. The settlers either got out or acquired French nationality in order that they might participate in the more helpful policy of France towards her pioneer colonists and, more particularly, that they might be able to employ Asiatic labour—without which planting operations in the New Hebrides are virtually impossible.

Praise for Fiji Docks Company

Good Work on Bougainville

THE Fiji Docks Company, a unit of the Fiji Labour Corps, which served on Bougainville for almost a year, has been singled out for commendation by American commanding officers in the area.

The Army Commander said: "Your organisation arrived in March, 1944, during the enemy attack on Torokina, and under the leadership of its officers worked aggressively and enthusiastically while subject to enemy artillery fire. For a period of eleven months your men worked efficiently and untiringly with little time for sports and recreation.

"During its service at this base the superior appearance of the personnel, equipment and installations of your company was outstanding. The prompt and cheerful manner in which your officers and men executed orders under all con-

ditions was noted by all who observed their work. The excellent service of your company contributed greatly to the success of the supply and port activities at Bougainville, and thereby to the success of our campaign against Japan."

Much of the credit for the success of the work done by the company is due to Major Arthur Lewis, who had had long peacetime experience in handling cargo, and who was a particularly valuable officer on Bougainville.

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THE BARRY REPORT

(Continued from page 6)

asked for directions for himself and members of the Executive Council—what should they now do?

JAN. 27.—All white men between 18 and 45 called to immediate enrolment by Army headquarters, PM. This made it practically impossible for civil administration and industry to carry on. There was much confusion. Civilians bitterly resented the manner in which call-up was carried out by Army.

CALL-UP MODIFIED

JAN. 27.—Army, Melbourne, radioed Commandant, PM, that "it was not intended that call-up should mean the end of all industry and civil administration, or that Army should take over essential services." Confusion now became worse confounded. Army, Melbourne, advised that Area Officer would proceed from Brisbane to conduct the call-up.

JAN. 28.—Army, Melbourne, informed by Commandant, PM, that call-up had been completed and no need to send Area Officer; but Army replied that Area Officer would proceed as arranged.

At this point, where it is indicated that the Commandant had acted, with much speed in making the call-up, which gave him control of Port Moresby, this part of Mr. Barry's report may be quoted:

"In the existing situation, I consider that the Commandant's opinion (that a stage had been reached when everyone should have been in the Army) had ample foundation and that he was justified in proceeding with the call-up with all possible speed. It was put to the Commandant that two criticisms had been made of his action: the first that he had acted with undue precipitancy, and the second that the call-up had been taken deliberately to close up civilian businesses and the civilian administration. As to the first criticism, the Commandant said: 'I cannot accept any charge of undue precipitancy at a time when I considered an attack on Port Moresby, which would be difficult to deal with, with the forces at my disposal, was practically to be expected at any moment'; and as to the second: 'I can give you my assurance that no such thought entered my head.' I accept both these statements. The action was taken from proper motives in accordance with War Cabinet's decision and, as the military situation demanded, with proper expedition."

JAN. 28.—Commandant, PM, replying to Army's communication about maintenance of civilian services, said "satisfactory arrangements had been made with Administration." (At the Inquiry, both Administrator and Crown Law Officer denied that satisfactory arrangements had been made, and said that message misrepresented the position.)

JAN. 28.—Army, Melbourne, repeated to External Territories, Canberra, their message of 27th to Commandant, PM.

JAN. 28.—Administrator informed by Canberra that Army would not take over essential services and that men required for same were exempt from call-up, and civil administration must continue as long as necessary and possible.

JAN. 29.—Commandant, PM, requested Army, Melbourne, to evacuate all unwanted Europeans from Papua. Army replied that men unfit, over-age or not required for essential services might be evacuated immediately.

JAN. 30.—Canberra, after consultation with Army, radioed Administrator:

"Have been informed by Army that Commandant has been advised that all European males unfit or over age or not

required for military or essential service may be permitted proceed from Territory. Army stated also that Commandant has again been informed that the call-up of males is to be on the same basis as in Australia, i.e., essential civilian activities to proceed in the normal way and personnel required for such services to be exempted from military service. Have been informed that banks and Works Department have ceased functioning owing to staff having been called up for military service. This is not intended, and it has been made clear to Commandant by Army that exemptions from military service should be granted to enable administration and other civil activities to function. Suggest you discuss with Commandant to clarify position and then advise whether position clear. Army has not yet advised in regard to issue of proclamation by Governor-General."

COMMANDANT AND "ESSENTIAL SERVICES"

JAN. 30.—Commandant's attention directed by Army Minister to message of Jan. 27, and he was "to ensure that essential services were maintained, including civil services under their own control."

JAN. 31.—Administrator informed Canberra that Army call-up had created a position almost chaotic, but he would confer with Commandant and try to retrieve position. Government officers called up had been released. Later, Crown Law Officer Bignold formally asked the Commandant for the release of 24 men required by the business houses, so as to carry on. Commandant refused.

JAN. 31.—Commandant reported to Melbourne on call-up: Reported for enrolment, 307; medically unfit, 61; granted leave without pay so that they might engage in essential services, 156; exempted, 11; entered camp, 79. He said that "nominal rolls of all essential personnel had been prepared in conference with the Administrator," and they were being enlisted, and then granted leave without pay while on essential duties. He considered the position "entirely satisfactory." He again urged the need for evacuating "unwanted Europeans."

ADMINISTRATOR AND COMMANDANT CLASH

FEB. 1.—Record of conference between Administrator and Commandant (both attended by officials), shows

that Administrator pointed out that instructions from Army clashed with those he had received from Canberra. He was directed to carry on normal civil activities, and the Commandant disagreed. The record proceeds:

"The Commandant then said that the time had come for instructions from Canberra to be disregarded; that the Administrator and he could surely run this little place without outside interference."

"The Administrator said that he absolutely refused; that he was bound by his commission and instructions; and so long as he continued to function he would not depart from them. He said to the Commandant: 'You, Sir, would not disregard Army instructions as a soldier.' The General said: 'That is rather different.'"

"The General then refused to release any more men for the carrying on of commerce; and the Administrator said that it left him no alternative to report that, if in consequence the businesses did not open, it was due to the Commandant's failure to comply with the direction to the Administrator, shown by him to the General. The Commandant was quite agreeable to this."

"Discussion then took place about the interpretation the Commandant put upon the question of compulsorily evacuating males from Papua. H.H. said, so far as he was concerned, it was purely permissive. Mention was made of Dr. Strong, who had said he would sooner die where he lived in the bush; and the Administrator asked the General why he was so tender of Dr. Strong's welfare. The General replied he was thinking of the four soldiers who would need to carry him. The Administrator said: 'I don't believe that will happen—they will be fighting.'"

"Some discussion then took place about the seriousness of the local position, if the General's hope of resistance depended upon 46 Papuan civilians, untrained, and mostly from sedentary occupations. The General, with some heat, said that undoubtedly that was the position. Some general discussion then ensued."

"The whole conversation was upon a very dignified and restrained level, and with the utmost courtesy. The only time there was any departure was when the General put his head down and said, 'Bah, these stores,' when the question of normal business requirements was under discussion."

FEB. 3.—Port Moresby bombed by Japs. Most native labourers fled into interior. Most remaining activities dependant on native labour ceased and coastal shipping



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CANBERRA MAKES UP ITS MIND

FEB. 4.—Canberra asked Administrator whether civil administration should not now be suspended. Administrator, after consulting Departmental heads, replied that circumstances now made it unnecessary and impossible to maintain the administration.

FEB. 4.—Administrator informed that Australian Prime Minister gave instructions that civil administration was not to be abandoned until Commonwealth Government gave authority.

FEB. 5.—Mr. Halligan, in Sydney, assured by Mr. Loneragan (New Guinea) and Mr. A. Jewell (both newly-arrived from Papua) that time had come for cessation of civil administration.

FEB. 5.—Second Jap air-raid on PM.

FEB. 6.—Canberra informed Administrator that "Government had now authorised temporary cessation of civil government in Papua." The Chief of the General Staff had reported to the Government as follows:

"Civil administrations in Australian Territories are unacquainted with the rigors of war, and are unprepared to take responsibility for initiating action demanded by necessities of war unless they are fully covered by precise

documentary authorisation from Canberra to take specific action.

"It is physically impossible for anyone at Canberra to foresee the very many important problems that must arise in Moresby and give the Administrator the 'cover' that he obviously desires. The delay in referring to Canberra these many matters (no doubt of major importance in peace) that become matters of ordinary concern in war, may make all the difference between success and failure of the defence of Moresby."

"It is abundantly clear that the time has now arisen when complete control must be taken over in Moresby by the Senior Officer of the Fighting Services stationed there, viz., Major-General Morris. The civil administration should continue to function under the general direction of Morris and assist him in every way possible. Any other control is likely to hinder arrangements for the best defence of Moresby."

FEB. 6.—Administrator accepted urgent advice of his officers and instructed that a radio be sent to RM's and ARM's at mainland out-stations to release native prisoners, disband native police and Crown servants, and evacuate all European officials over 45, ordering those under 45 to await Army instructions.

The Army later informed Canberra that the Administrator had lost all control over out-stations; and in September, 1943, General Blamey reported to the Minister for the Army that that telegram "savoured of panic." It therefore be-

comes important that the Administrator says that he talked with the Commandant by telephone on Feb. 6 or 7, on this matter, and that the Commandant denies any recollection of the conversation.

The Commissioner, after very lengthy inquiry, reports there was no evidence of panic; but there was evidence that the Administrator, when he learned later that the Army intended to take over native administration, did not proceed with the instruction; and no district officials appear to have received the telegram.

FEB. 6-10.—A period of confusion and disorder. Most native labourers fled. About 70 native police remained on duty—others went bush.

FEB. 8.—Radio from Commandant to Army, Melbourne:

"As soon as civil administration Papua ceases I propose also institute military administration under myself Territory New Guinea remaining to us. Consider essential district officers remaining loyally doing good work various centres should have some head to look to. Will appoint small staff of previous administrative officers for each Territory. Please confirm."

FEB. 9.—Radio from Commandant to Army:

"Am quite prepared carry on civil and native administration under existing ordinances as soon as Murray goes. All arrangements completed. Propose enlisting certain civil staff and promote as to warrant rank. Have asked Murray to see about adjustment salaries. May ask you later to consider establishment temporary commissioned officers on special Paymen Administrative Units to adjust seniority as some Assistant Resident Magistrates are on reserve of officers. Personally consider the sooner the change-over is effected the better for war effort here."

"HUMILIATING" TELEGRAM

FEB. 9.—Administrator (who, on Feb. 4 and 6 had asked Canberra, "if withdrawal administration approved," to make certain transport and staff dispositions) received following from Canberra:

"Regulations are being prepared to give effect to the decision for a temporary cessation of the civil government of Papua. . . . Will vest in the Commandant 8th Military District power to give any directions or orders necessary to existing circumstances even though such directions or orders inconsistent with existing laws of the Territory. This does not mean that you and other officers of Administration have been instructed to leave your appointments and withdraw from the Territory. The effect of the Regulation will be that the Commandant will have supreme control of all Territory affairs and that all persons in Territory including yourself and officers of Administration and members of Executive and Legislative Council are subject to the directions of the Commandant. Whether you or any officer of the Administration will be required to perform duties in the Territory as directed by the Commandant or whether you may leave the Territory will be matters for the decision of the Commandant. Please show this

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to and confer with Commandant on above basis and advise results."

The following comment is made by Commissioner Barry:

The Administrator regarded this telegram as being "extremely humiliating." He gave as his reasons for thinking so, firstly, that notification of the withdrawal of the civil administration should have been communicated to him by the Governor-General or the Prime Minister; secondly, that it ill-befitted the status of the representative of the Crown in Papua that a military authority in the Territory should be empowered to order the immediate departure of the members of the civil administration or to compel them to do anything else he thought fit; thirdly, that the text implied that the members of the civil administration were straining to get away from the Territory and from their responsibilities; and, fourthly, that he was required by the telegram to show it to the Commandant.

The position in which the Administrator was placed was an unhappy one, but I am unable to agree that the telegram subjected him to humiliation.

I am satisfied that all the officers of the civil administration were ready and willing to discharge their duties in accordance with the wishes of the Commonwealth Government. Nothing in the evidence before me justifies any reflection upon the courage of these gentlemen, and I do not consider that the terms of the telegram, which was prepared under the pressure of urgent and unprecedented events, could reasonably be said to bear such a meaning.

ADMINISTRATOR IN DIFFICULT POSITION

FEB. 9.—Administrator was informed by Commandant that "he desired the Administrator, the Judge, and the members of the Executive and Legislative Councils to leave the Territory."

FEB. 12.—National Security Regulations issued, placing administration of Papua under Army, were issued. The Commandant then informed the Administrator that, in exercise of these powers, he desired the Administrator, the Judge and the Councilors to leave "at the earliest opportunity." Administrator radioed Canberra for instructions.

FEB. 13.—Administrator informed Commandant he would not leave his post without Commonwealth Government instructions, which had not arrived. He suggested, "with a view to resolving the situation, that the Commandant should place him and his associates under arrest." "The Commandant," says the report, "quite properly declined to take this course." It was late this day before the Administrator learned officially of the passing of the NS Regulations.

FEB. 14.—A very long conciliatory telegram from Senator Fraser, Minister for Territories, is received by Administrator. It is explained that Australian Government decided to abandon civil government because of need of centralised control to deal with special situation; because desertion of native labour made it impossible to carry on essential services. Canberra felt that there was real work to be done in Papua by experienced officials in helping the military administration, particularly in relation to native affairs. However, if Administrator and Commandant were agreed that that was the best course, Canberra would not oppose the departure of the Administrator, Judge and Councilors.

FEB. 14.—Administrator presented Minister's message to Commandant. Latter insisted that Administrator and associates should leave as soon as possible. The Administrator then issued a Gazette announcing that civil government had ceased temporarily at noon on February 14, and the GCO, 8th Military District, had assumed complete control.

FEB. 15.—Administrator and associates left the Territory by flying-boat.

LOOTING

THENCEFORWARD, in his report, the Commissioner examines other matters which might have a bearing upon the condition of the Territory be-

tween December 7 and February 14.

He inquired into looting, and this is his conclusion:

"I am satisfied that the looting did not assume large proportions until after the second bombing raid, but thereafter it is undoubted that the theft and destruction of civilian property was general and extensive.

"It must be borne in mind that there was a general belief in Port Moresby, which all the knowledge then available suggested to be well-founded, that the enemy would attack and invade Port Moresby. If such an attack and invasion had been undertaken by the enemy at that stage it could have had only one outcome. The resources at the disposal of the Commandant were quite inadequate to enable any attack in strength to be repelled, and the general feeling was, therefore, that civilian property would either be destroyed by air attack or bombardment or fall into the hands of the enemy. Under such circumstances it is not surprising that respect for private property, particularly where there was any appearance of abandonment, diminished to such an extent as no longer to act as a restraining influence.

"The civil administration was powerless to prevent the looting, and even if it had been functioning in full vigor, it could not have done so.

"Because of the lack of discipline of the troops under his command and the worthlessness of his insufficient Provost personnel, it was quite impossible for the Commandant, confronted as he was with an extraordinarily difficult and complicated situation, to take any effective steps to prevent the looting. I feel that to consider the Commandant blameworthy in respect of any of the looting that occurred between the first bombings and the departure of the members of the civil administration on 15th February would be to take a completely unrealistic view of the matter. I find that General Morris discharged his duties in this respect as efficiently and satisfactorily as could justly be expected."

OUT-STATIONS — NATIVE ADMINISTRATION

ABOUT one-third of the long report is devoted to the Commissioner's inquiries and conclusions regarding events in the many out-stations of the

Territory. As a record of what happened in all these isolated places in the dark days of the Jap invasion, it is invaluable; but it does not contribute much light to the relations between Administrator and Commandant. The inquiry had to be made, of course, because of the Army's allegations that the civil administration in the majority of out-stations had broken down, and that administrative conditions were confused and chaotic.

The Commissioner's conclusions are set out in detail, in relation to each out-station; and it is worthy of remark that not only was there an absence of confusion (except in relation to the "unauthorised" message from Samarai on January 24), but every Resident Magistrate and Assistant Resident Magistrate, without exception, carried on his duties calmly and properly, without confusion, right up until the moment when he was either ordered away by Port Moresby, or his station was taken over by the Army.

There could be no greater testimony to the efficiency and loyalty of the administrative service. It is to be regretted that the Commissioner, making somewhat acid comment upon so many aspects of the Administrator's activities, had little to say about this all-important section of the Papuan Government.

MR. MURRAY AND NATIVE AFFAIRS

COMMISSIONER BARRY'S hardest criticism of the Administrator is contained in paragraph 179, in which he makes the astonishing allegation that Mr. Murray appeared indifferent to the welfare of the native inhabitants, in the crisis which had arisen. He proceeds:

"It was among the foremost duties of the civil administration to protect the native inhabitants of the Territory and consult their welfare, and over the years the natives had been taught to rely confidently upon the administration and to respect its authority. Yet in none of his communications with the authorities in Australia during the period under examination did the Administrator advert to the consequences which would result to the natives from the withdrawal of the white administration officers from the Divisions in which they maintained law and order, and such native welfare services as had been instituted. . . .

"Both on 4th February, when the

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decision was taken that it was no longer necessary nor possible for the civil administration to continue, and on 6th, when he decided the telegram to the Magistrates should be sent, the Administrator was not aware that any measures would be taken to meet native needs, and the decision necessarily involved that, so far as the civil administration was concerned, the natives would have been left in a time of crisis without the guidance and protection to which they had become accustomed and for which they were entitled to look.

There is nothing in the report to really support these statements. Because, in those very difficult and confused days between January 24 and February 12 (while the Administrator could not get any clear

instruction of whether his civil administration was to continue or not), the Administrator did not carry a native administration plan to the Commandant, the Commissioner makes an assumption that amounts to a very grave charge.

The Commissioner ignores the obvious fact that the Administrator believed he was being hunted out of the Territory by a military set-up which had no interest in or sympathy with native administration. Appeals to Canberra seemed useless.

Only three pages further on, Mr. Barry quotes a famous authority to the effect that, in such a position as arose in Papua, it is the duty of the military authority to keep the civil authority fully informed of the military situation, and to be precise and definite in stating requirements. The PM Commandant clearly did neither of these things. If there was fault, it lay as much with the Commandant as with the Administrator.

To bring such a charge against a member of the Murray family, whose native administration in Papua made Australia famous, and whose policy has been repeatedly criticised and attacked as carrying care of natives to extremes, is manifestly absurd.

"CANBERRA RULE"

WE, who so often have criticised "Canberra rule" over the Territories, whose administrative officers were bound hand and foot by petty Australian bureaucrats—we have read this section of the report with appreciation:

"The administration was staffed by conscientious officers, but the system was such that reference to Canberra was regarded as essential before any decision of real gravity was taken. Whether the true intention of Section 12 of the Papua Act . . . required or even justified such a system, need not be discussed, for even with this system of constant reference the importance of New Guinea and the obligations of the Commonwealth in respect of the Territories do not seem to have received proper recognition by the Commonwealth.

"The Department of External Territories was not created until June, 1941; previously the work proper to such a Department had been entrusted to a section which, over the years, found itself attached to various Departments, usually under an Assistant Minister.

"At the relevant period, although there was a Minister for External Territories and the separate Department had

been established, the secretaryship was held by the Secretary of the Prime Minister's Department, and many of the facilities of this latter Department had still to be used by the new Department of External Territories and, in point of fact, are still being so used.

"It is no over-statement to say that until the geographical existence of New Guinea was forced upon Australians by the grim possibility of imminent invasion, the Territories were considered as areas so remote from Australian life that they rarely entered into political consideration.

"In the circumstances, the achievements of the Papuan administration had been remarkable. The area of the Territory is 90,540 square miles, inhabited by about 350,000 natives. Superintendence of their affairs and the discharge of the Commonwealth's obligations to them, as well as the development of the Territory, had to be performed by an administrative personnel of about 170. From a revenue which at its peak was less than £190,000, to which the Commonwealth contributed a meagre £42,500, all the expenses of the Territory had to be met.

"It is not a matter for wonderment if these straitened financial resources and the remoteness of the Territory from Australian affairs should have produced a limited outlook. The Administrator and the senior members of the administration were men of high ideals and undoubted personal integrity, but the years of apathy on the part of the Commonwealth, and the pattern of life in the Territory, inevitably had an effect which revealed itself when Port Moresby became the front line of Australian defence.

"Reading the communications that passed between the Administrator and the authorities at Canberra, it is impossible to escape a feeling that an Administrator who felt it necessary to refer as constantly for instructions could never cope with the unprecedented situation which developed with bewildering rapidity in January and February, 1942.

"The enemy moved south with a swiftness that was appalling; all the conceptions upon which Australia's confidence of immunity from invasion rested were falsified in a matter of days.

"I think it too harsh a criticism of the Administrator to say, as did the Chief of the General Staff in a minute which was incorporated in War Cabinet Agendum, 5th February, 1942, that he was 'apparently . . . unwilling to assume the responsibilities which devolved upon him,' but there is substance in the view that his training and experience made him unsuited for the arduous role thrust upon him. Such a situation had never been foreseen and no plans existed to which he could conform.

"Mr. Halligan, at the relevant time the senior Departmental officer of the Department of External Territories, who must be taken to have full knowledge of the matter was asked: 'To your knowledge, was any plan ever drawn up for co-ordinating the activities of the civil government and the Military Command in the event of any enemy activity in Papua?' and he answered: 'Not that I know of.' Lieut-Colonel Loneragan, formerly Assistant Government Secretary in the administration of the Territory of New Guinea, gave evidence to the same effect."

Sir Cosmo Parkinson, who is to visit Fiji and the Western Pacific High Commission as a personal representative of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, is expected to reach Suva soon. He will remain in Fiji and the South Pacific for over a month.

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(Continued from Inside Back Cover)

Flight-Lieut. H. G. PILLING, DFC, of the RAF, 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 Alepata, 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.

Capt. W. H. ROBERTS, NZEF, who was Accountant in the Samoa Treasury Department 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 1923-1929 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 Kieta, TNG, for Burns, Philp & 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. Sefanala SUKANAIVALU, FMF. Reported killed in action in the Solomons, September, 1944.

Capt. P. A. TUCKEY, AIF, formerly of TNG. Killed in action in Sepik area, NG, December, 1944.

Lieut. A. G. W. THOMAS, RANR, formerly master of Burns Philp & Co.'s SS "Mullama." Killed in action.

Pte. Popoate TANGIITI, 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.

Andre VERNIER, formerly of Tahiti. Killed in action with the Maguin in France.

Rifeman R. E. VERNON, AIF, formerly of Lae, TNG. Reported killed in action, June, 1944.

Cadet-Officer Charles WITT, Pacific Battalion, FF Forces, formerly of New Caledonia. Killed in action on Italian front.

Capt. A. P. 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 RAF, son of Mr. W. Wise, OBE, Director of Public Works, Fiji. Died from wounds received during bombing raid over Germany, January, 1941.

ACCIDENTALLY KILLED

Capt. P. P. BREWER, AIF, formerly of Papua. Reported 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.

Lieut. Harrowby RYDER, AIF, formerly of Fiji. Accidentally killed on active service in New Guinea.

Flight-Lieut. James Ba THOMPSON, RAAF, formerly of Fiji. Killed in aircraft accident in India on April 1, 1945.

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. P. 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.

Onr. 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. Tovita 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.

Major Charles DUCHATEL, formerly of TNG. Died of scrub typhus at Port Moresby, November 21, 1943.

W/O G. F. HAMMOND, ANGAU, formerly of TNG Administration. Reported died of illness early 1945.

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. Iskeli 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. Inikasio 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.

Rifeman 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, 1942.

Pte. Mateo TUIDALA, 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. P. 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. BARRACLOUFF, 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).

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 Wau, TNG. Reported missing on air operations over Germany, August 30, 1943.

Pilot-Officer Norman R. FRAZER, RAAF, formerly of Wau, TNG. Reported missing on air operations over Germany, August 30, 1943.

Eion 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.

Capt. J. E. GRIMSON, AIF, formerly of New Guinea. Reported missing, 1944.

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.

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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.

P/O Denis McCRAIG, RAF, formerly of Fiji. Posted missing on air operations over Europe, but believed to be POW.

Capt. J. J. MURPHY, AIF, formerly of New Guinea. Reported missing, December, 1943.

Capt. Robert Charles PAGE, AIF, formerly of Rabaul, TNG. Posted missing in operations early in 1945.

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

L/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 RAF, 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. CLARRIE 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, 1943.

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.

Cpl. 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.

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 DERVAUX, 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.

L/Cpl. Stanley E. ESAM, Singapore Volunteer Forces, formerly of Fiji Kauri Timber Co., Nad-rivatu, Fiji. Missing, Malaya, February, 1942. Reported POW, Thailand, May, 1943.

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

Capt. M. G. EVENSON, AIF, formerly of New Guinea. Missing, believed POW, January, 1945.

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 GEILLER, 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 Bengazi, Libya, in November, 1942.

W/O II 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. Escaped 1944.

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.

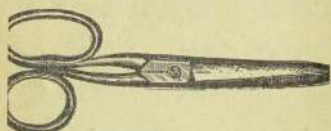
Gnr. A. L. B. KING, AIF artillery, of Rabaul, TNG. Reported prisoner of war, 29/7/1941.

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 LETHIEZER, of FF Pacific Battalion, formerly of N. Caledonia. Reported POW.

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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.

Flt.-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 FP 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 FP 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. SHOPPEE, 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.

P/O VENNING, NOVR. Taken prisoner during Jap invasion of Rabaul, January, 1942.

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.

Mjr. 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.

News has been received that Dr. Joseph Ferrand, a New Caledonian, who has been a prisoner in Germany since June, 1943, has been released.

MR. J. M. NICOL, OF TANNA, KILLED IN ACCIDENT

A MAN held in very high regard in the New Hebrides, Mr. J. M. Nicol, British Agent on Tanna Island, was killed in an unfortunate accident on December 22 last. He was driving a motor-truck into his plantation, and he stopped the truck on a slope, while he went back to close a gate. The brake did not hold, and the truck rolled back and caught and crushed Mr. Nicol against the gate-post. His injuries were serious, and he was at once put aboard a launch, for Villa Hospital; but he died while the boat was still at sea.

Mr. Nicol had been British Agent on Tanna for some twenty years. He married a Miss Kerr, and thus was a connection by marriage of Kerr Brothers, well-known Islands merchants. His wife died some three years ago.

Enterprise of New Guinea

MR. A. E. WATKIN has been appointed a director of Enterprise of New Guinea Gold and Petroleum NL, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of the chairman, Pilot-Officer F. E. Watkin, who was killed when engaged on operational duties over Cologne on March 2.

Mr. S. E. Watkin, who has been acting as chairman, has been appointed chairman of directors.

DURING the stress of war McILRATH'S Export Dept. has still functioned regularly, shipping groceries and other commodities to those Pacific Islands where shipping facilities have made this possible.

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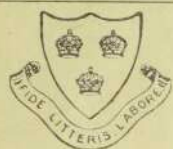
LAUTOKA CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE

THE annual meeting of the Lautoka (Fiji) Chamber of Commerce was held in April. The chairman (Mr. C. S. Israel) reviewed some of the achievements and activities of the Chamber during the past year. These include approaches to the Government for a new electricity and power service; a European ward at the Lautoka Hospital, and an improved mail service.

The Chamber has also obtained representation on the Town Planning Committee.

Correspondence was exchanged with the Government on the question of post-war finance for colonial development, which the Chamber hopes will include a sewerage system, wharf and sea wall for Lautoka.

The year closed with a membership of nineteen. Mr. C. S. Israel was re-elected president for the coming year; and Mr. H. W. Gray vice-president.

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War on Mosquitoes

Rarotonga Also Has Its Anti-Filaria Drive

From Our Own Correspondent

RAROTONGA, Apr. 22.

AT a meeting in Avarua, Rarotonga, on April 11, war was declared on the mosquito.

Concerned at the spread of filariasis during recent years, a number of European residents have offered their services to the medical authorities and administration to assist in any way possible in a mosquito control campaign.

An introductory meeting was attended by the majority of the European residents and leaders of the Maori people. Following an opening speech by the Resident Commissioner, Mr. W. Tailby, Dr. E. P. Ellison spoke on the so-far-known habits and life-cycles of the filarial worms and carrier-mosquitoes.

During the course of the lecture and the subsequent discussions, a number of assistants were in attendance with microscopes to demonstrate to members of the audience, specimens of living micro-filaria in the blood of volunteers from among them.

An open discussion followed as to the best steps necessary to instil some degree of anti-mosquito consciousness into the Maori people and the most practical means of eliminating mosquitoes from residential areas.

As an incentive to the campaign, two leading European residents have offered cash prizes to be awarded for the best written papers on mosquito control, the winning papers to be read at the next general meeting.

ALL agree that by far the greatest problem is the difficulty of persuading the native inhabitants that filariasis is really carried by the mosquito. The Polynesians, like all primitive and recently-primitive peoples, are notoriously careless and fatalistic in regard to health matters, and human afflictions are more often than not attributed to supernatural causes. No disease is more closely connected with superstition than filariasis. According to Polynesians this disease is contracted by knowingly or unknowingly stepping on the site of a marae (ancient sacred place). In the islands one may often hear parents warning children to take care not to step on a marae or to touch a stone from a marae for fear of contracting "eke-eke" or "big-legs."

Filariasis was (I almost said is) also commonly used as a "curse" against one's enemy as, for instance, in the widely-known form of micturition on the "victim's" doorstep, pathway, or vegetable plot.

It makes little difference that an islander wears European clothes, imitates European ways, goes to school and attends

church three times on Sundays. Superstition is too deep-rooted to be eradicated in one or two centuries. We have not yet quite lost all our own.

A Polynesian audience may listen to a lecture with the utmost patience and politeness; but listen to them on the way home and you will hear them say: "Those crazy 'popaas'—they do get the funniest ideas!"

This, then, is the main difficulty to be overcome. A successful mosquito-control campaign requires that the natives themselves appreciate the menace of mosquitoes and co-operate in the removal of all possible breeding places around their own homes.

Adopting the theory that "seeing is believing," it was decided to make a start by a series of lecture-demonstrations round the island, in which Dr. Ellison will give a suitable, simplified lecture, while the microscope squad invite the audience to view living filarial worms from their own bloodstream.

The schools and churches, of course, will play a leading part, and full advantage will be taken to spread the campaign through existing organisations such as the Child Welfare Association, Boys' Brigade and Girl Guides. These organisations, generally speaking, embrace the most intelligent and progressive of the growing generation.

A pamphlet in Rarotongan, based on the excellent treatise written by Dr. Knott, which is in use in the Fiji mosquito control campaign, will also be printed and distributed among the people.

Is the Native Church
Decaying?

From Our Own Correspondent

MANGAIA, CI, Apr. 16.

TO this writer's observation, the replacement of European pastors by native "orometua" in recent years is an error on the part of the LMS. Some good and pleasant men have held pastorates, very successfully, but a new type of irresponsible junior now gets many of the mission posts, and is liable to appoint, as deacons, etc., men whose chief qualification is a loud voice and an aggressive manner, verging on the bully.

The present peculiar condition of the native church was emphasised just before the arrival of 1945's first schooner. A hymn-festival had been arranged by Raui Orometua for April 12. Then came another hurricane, and the festival was postponed till "after the ship." To everyone's surprise, the "evangelia" of Ivirua Village came in on the first date, regardless of "Rev." Raui's postponement, to hold the festival at all costs. As preparations had been entirely abandoned at the pig-and-chicken end of the function, a hasty gathering-up of emergency rations had to be put into operation. This ignoring of the head pastor's obiter dictum is entirely without precedent; so also was the dancing and drum-beating at the festival.

Another sign of the times is the newly-formed Boys' Brigade, which is in great danger of being over-patriotic, with ridicule the result.

Our local orometua (its OC) has decreed that when a B-B church parade enters church, the congregation must arise to "attention." Such respect might have been accorded in Germany to the fervent (and dirk-equipped) "Hitler Youth"; but at Mangaia, objection has been taken, and we think rightly, to the unnecessarily-arrogant bearing of the BB.

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NEW WOMEN'S CLUB WORK FOR POW

THE variety show held by the New Guinea Women's Club in the Radio Theatre, Sydney, on May 31, was an unqualified success. Territorians who attended voted it the best Club show yet.

The entertainment was arranged by Robert Payne, who also has an excellent voice, and compered by Eric Creighton. Other artists were Jean Bates, accompanist; Peggy Maguire, who sang and

WOOL WANTED

THE New Guinea Women's Club of Sydney is in need of wool to knit into comforts for Territorian Servicemen.

Many people who, in the past, have got wool from the Club to knit comforts have failed to return the finished garments. Consequently Club wool supplies are at a low ebb.

Those who have received wool in this way are asked to send in the garments they have knitted, or, failing that, to return the wool itself.

The Club is anxious to obtain—and willing to pay for—any spare wool Territorians might have. Coupons to purchase wool are also very acceptable.

accompanied herself on her guitar; Ron Lambourne, piano-accordionist; Betty Spicer, soprano; and Allan Moore, a "krazy story teller."

By the efforts of these artists and the large attendance of Territorians, the Club's POW rehabilitation fund benefited by the sum of £34/13/6.

Street Stall

A STREET stall, also in aid of the POW fund, will be held in the balcony entrance of the Theatre Royal on Tuesday, June 29. J. C. Williamson Theatres, Ltd., have been kind enough to grant the Club this facility.

Donations for the stall will be welcomed—they should be sent to the Club rooms, 77 King Street, before the date on which the stall will be held. A gift afternoon will also be held at the home of Mrs. N. Foxcroft, 23 Landsdown Street, Arncliffe, on Saturday, June 16. Guests are asked to bring a gift suitable for the stall. Entertainment will be provided.

Engagement of Wau Interest

MISS DAPHNE BECK, younger daughter of Mrs. C. C. Beckett, formerly of Wau, New Guinea, and the late C. D. Beck, of Wau, has announced her engagement to Capt. Raymond Watson, MBE, of the AIF.

Capt. Watson was also well-known in the Morobe district as a member of the New Guinea Police Force.

A memorial service was recently held at Tol for those who lost their lives during the retreat from Rabaul in 1942. The service was conducted by Chaplain W. Holt, of Melbourne; Chaplain L. W. Riley, of Perth (WA), read the lesson, and Chaplain W. R. Brook, of Adelaide, gave the address. All work in the area ceased for the playing of the "Last Post."

Rich Oil Reported in Dutch N. Guinea

WE are informed, on very good authority, that an oilfield, capable of development on a large and profitable scale, was discovered in Dutch New Guinea some five years ago; but that, owing to the war, the discovery was kept secret, and that nothing developmental will be done until the war is over.

The location of the field is not indicated, but it is said that "the American companies, including Texaco, are in on it."

If that is so, it points to Manokwari peninsula, north-westwards of Geelvink Bay. Dutch New Guinea is shaped like the head and shoulders of a bird, with open beak. The United oil companies hold the concession in the top half of the beak (Manokwari, etc.); Dutch interests hold the lower half of the beak, the neck and the shoulders; and an Anglo-Australian syndicate the part corresponding to the breast (generally around and northwards of the Digol River).

POLYNESIAN CLUB NEWS

VISITORS to the Sydney Polynesian Club in May included Tahitian lads from French Naval Forces—among them old friends, Alex Salmon (son of Princess Poma), and the Tahitian "comique" and musician, "Bombo" Moe.

New members were Edwin Vivish and Henri Carlson, sons of old friends of the president, Mr. L. Moran.

Another Tahitian visitor was Gustave Levy, who met an old school mate in Rosita Maeva Goodman, of Tapaerui, Tahiti.

From Nukualofa, Tonga, was LAC Evan Cameron, RAAF, who came with his wife and his sister Truda.

Among Maori visitors was Henry Larkin, of Foxton, NZ, who gave a stirring Maori haka. The younger generation of Australian-Polynesians was represented by Miss Marama Toki and her brother, LAC Warren Toki, children of the Maori singer, Noho Toki.

Norfolk Island visitors were Mr. Fred Snell and his son Herbert; Private David Hooker, AIF, and Mrs. K. Burgess. The former, Dora Buffet, now Madame Menghetti, also came along prior to her departure for Norfolk Island on holiday.

Some of the Tahitian matelots, partnered by Pepe Goodman and Cora Young, accompanied the Club Concert Party to a military hospital, where their island music and songs, with the Tahitian dancing of young Eugene Pambrun, of Papeete, stopped the show.

The Australian soldier patients greatly appreciated this new form of entertainment.

BGD Restoration

REHABILITATION of the field plant and equipment and the resumption of dredging by Bulolo Gold Dredging, Ltd., would be accelerated so far as world conditions permitted, said Mr. H. A. Gould, a director, who presided at the annual meeting in Vancouver.

Polynesian Souvenirs

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TERRITORIANS RETURN TO PAPUA

TERRITORIANS who returned to Papua in May (some of them wives of planters already in the Territory) were: Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Ward, of Veimauri; Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Loudon, of Elilogo; Mrs. W. Grieg, of Mariawatte; Mrs. Palmer, of Tomanau; Mrs. J. Cowling, Mrs. Holland and two children, of Madiri, Fly River; Mr. J. N. Nicholson, of Kemp Welch; Mrs. Gordon Marshall, of Ogamobu; and Captain A. S. Fitch.

Mr. R. C. G. D. Higginson will act as Puisne Judge in Fiji until such time as the arrival of Mr. J. B. Thomson in the Colony. Mr. Thomson, at present Resident Magistrate in Northern Rhodesia, was appointed Puisne Judge in Fiji some months ago, but his arrival in the Colony has been delayed.

Restlessness and sleeplessness,
when due to run-down nerves,
frequently respond to treatment
with Dr. Williams' Pink Pills.

Dr. Williams' PINK PILLS

help to enrich the blood, which has
a beneficial and restorative effect
upon the nervous system.

Death of H. T. Coghill Link With Papua's Early Days

ANOTHER of Papua's old pioneers passed away when Henry Thomas Coghill died from pneumonia at the age of 63, at a military hospital, on April 26, 1945. He was buried in the Port Moresby cemetery.

He was born at Gunning, NSW, in 1882, and was well-known in that State as a cyclist and sprinter.

Mr. Coghill arrived in Papua in 1910, and spent a number of years mining on Woodlark Island; later he managed the Bonivat Hotel at Kulamadau on Woodlark.

From Woodlark he went to Port Moresby, and opened a guest house. Old-timers will remember the interesting pioneering stories he had to relate, and also his wife, Lucy, who was one of the most charming and lovable hostesses in the Territory.

In 1924 the Coghills left Port Moresby for the Upoua oilfields. It was in that district, at Orokolo, that Mr. Coghill took up land and started planting.

In 1929, Mrs. Coghill died in Cairns after a short illness; this came as a great blow to her husband, and it took him many years to get over the shock. He carried on his business, with his only child, Lucy, whom he idolised. She was the replica of her mother in looks, charm, and manner.

In 1930 Lucy married W. F. Burke, a planter of the same district, and both businesses of planting and trading were amalgamated.

Two years later Lucy died very suddenly at Orokolo. The shock was so great to her father that he lost all interest in life, and he spent most of his time travelling from place to place.

When the Japanese invaded the country, he refused to leave, and being too old for military service went inland, living on the country with the aid of his rifle.

As things settled he drifted back to the beach; the Army supplied him with rations, but he could not settle; one never knew where to find him.

His only survivor is Lucy Dawn Burke, his granddaughter, now in Melbourne. Everyone in Papua, including ANGAU,

knew that Sgt. F. W. Burke was the son-in-law of Coghill, and that they had lived as father and son for 15 years. Coghill had no other relative on the island, and it is a poor reflection on ANGAU that it took six weeks for that body to notify Burke of his father's death, despite the fact that Moresby HQ had had frequent telephone conversations with Sgt. Burke during that period.

As it was, an old pioneer passed away, and was buried by strangers.

ROOM FOR THE RSPCA IN W. SAMOA

BY INCITATUS

THE Samoan native treats a horse solely as a beast of burden—nothing more. Any day one may see horses handled in the most despicably cruel manner. The spectacle of a poor skinny horse loaded down with two large sacks each filled with firewood, and on top of it all sitting a complacent native, is one so common that it arouses nothing more than an occasional snarl of disgust from the average European.

I have frequently seen two adult Samoans (that is, adult in body), both astride a young horse, in the poorest condition, and flogging the animal up a long hill.

The native thinks nothing of putting a horse to heavy work with a sore back or lame leg, to say nothing of being entirely ignorant of the proper feeding of heavily worked horses. Now and again there are prosecutions and small fines for cruelty, but I imagine that for every such instance there must be a hundred cases of foul treatment which go both undetected and unpunished.

Possibly the fundamental reason for this state of things is that the native has simply not yet reached that level of civilisation where a decent feeling for dumb animals entitles him to their possession.

CONDITIONS generally might be much improved if the following steps were taken: (1) The ownership of horses governed by a small annual licence fee; (2) registration and licensing of all stallions on a yearly fee of, say, £5; (3) the appointment of a permanent Stock Inspector on the lines of the RSPCA, with wide powers, this expense being met by the revenue from licences.

The immediate reaction to such regulations would likely be the gelding of a great number of the pitiful wrecks that now roam uncared-for and indiscriminately propagate their kind when they have sufficient energy.

Another result might also be the destruction of many useless scrags; both of these eventualities would have a wholesome effect on the main stock, and might well inculcate a little respect and animal knowledge on the part of Samoans.

It may be objected that such a system of licensing would entail too much work, but surely this could mostly be done through the village chiefs, making each responsible for all owners in his own village.

The idea of suggesting new forms of licensing is naturally a distasteful one, but something should certainly be attempted. Even if a horse ownership licence proved impractical, the registration and control of stallions should commend itself to the authorities on all grounds.

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Suva, Fiji.

POPULATION OF FIJI

Analysis of Recent Startling Figures

THE following notes upon recent figures, indicating the startling increase in the Indian community in Fiji, have been kindly supplied by Sir Maynard Hedstrom, of Suva, whose knowledge of conditions in Fiji is probably unexcelled.

THE Fiji Royal Gazette, published on March 23, 1945, gives a return of the population as ascertained at the census of April 26, 1936, compared with the estimated population for December 31, 1944, a period of eight years and eight months.

At the date of the 1936 census the Colony's total population was	198,379
At December 31, 1944, the estimated population was	246,485
Increase	48,106

The European population showed an increase of about 1,200.

The most interesting figures are those relating to the two largest communities—i.e., Fijian and Indian. The Indian population has finally attained equality with the Fijian. The following is an analysis of the figures:

	FIJIANS	F.	Total.
1936 census ..	49,869	47,782	97,651
1944 estimate ..	57,513	55,666	113,179

Increase: about 16% in 8 years 8 months.

	M.	F.	Total.
1936 census ..	48,246	36,756	85,002
1944 estimate ..	62,122	51,025	113,147

Increase: about 33% in 8 years 8 months.

Increase of males .. about 29%

Increase of females .. about 40%

Suppose, for a rough forecast of the future, we reckon on a slight falling off in the rate of increase and base our guess on the following percentages:

	per cent.
Fijians—Increase in each decade ..	16-2/3
Indian (men)—Increase in each decade ..	30
Indian (women)—Increase in each decade ..	40

FIJIANS

Men and women—sexes about equal.

Estimated increase in a decade at 16-2/3

per cent.:

1944 .. 113,000 = 132,000 in 1954

1954 .. 132,000 = 154,000 in 1964

1964 .. 154,000 = 180,000 in 1974

INDIAN (Men)

Estimated increase in decade at 30%

1944 .. 62,000 = 80,600 in 1954

1954 .. 80,600 = 104,800 in 1964

1964 .. 104,800 = 136,200 in 1974

INDIAN (Women)

Estimated increase in decade at 40%

1944 .. 51,025 = 71,400 in 1954

1954 .. 71,400 = 100,000 in 1964

1964 .. 100,000 = 140,000 in 1974

The reasons for the more rapid increase of Indians as compared with Fijians are well known—i.e., higher birth-rate and lower death-rate, particularly among children, as demonstrated by the following records:

For the 8 years and 8 months ended 31/12/44:

Births .. Deaths .. Increase

per 1,000 .. per 1,000 .. per 1,000

Fijians .. 33.65 .. 17.04 .. 16.61

Indians .. 41.53 .. 9.09 .. 32.44

Deaths of children under 5 years in 1944:

Fijian .. 801

Indian .. 339

Therefore, in 30 years' time, if the present rate of increase be maintained, we shall have:

180,000 .. Fijians

276,000 .. Indians

and at long last Nature will have restored the balance of the sexes among the Indian population, which balance was dis-

turbed by the conditions governing the immigration of Indians prior to 1915.

There are two factors the effect of which I have not attempted to estimate:

(a) The effect on the Fijian birth-rate during the past three or four years of the absence from the Colony of a substantial number of men on war service.

(b) The fact that as the ratio of females to males in the Indian population increases there is likely to be a steady fall in the percentage increase of females until it approximates that of the males.

CURE FOR THE SCREEN-STRUCK

THE society of Tahiti was founded on a number of old French colonial and ancient Polynesian families.

Inter-marriage had brought to the community a generation of as handsome young women and men as one could find, anywhere in the world.

Then came silent film star Valentino who so closely resembled some of our handsome Euro-Asian young men that his appearance on the screen at our island theatres, caused a flutter.

His costumes and acting, in his several roles, stirred our young men to emulation. For a season, doubles of Valentino stalked along the waterfront by day, and crowded assembly places at night.

While this was well under way, a cinema company descended upon Tahiti to photograph a drama of the Cannibal Isles.

Our island people observed the drab mechanics of picture-making. They saw, in full light of day, the hideous, garish materials which are necessary to produce "glamour" on the screen. During a period

of two months they saw, at close quarters, the Hollywood actor and actress as they really are. Disillusion was complete. Our Valentinos disappeared.

Never, since that time, has Clown Worship cast its shadow over our islands. There is a suggestion in this for the alienists and the Charles Martels who are trying to comprehend and to check the mania, before all beauty, good taste and sanity shall have perished from the world.—E.C.R.

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AND STOVE COMPANY LIMITED

TORONTO, CANADA
CHICAGO, U.S.A.



Mr. Eric Wood, who until recently occupied a post in the Tasmanian Civil Service, has been accepted by the Bishop of New Guinea to serve in a lay capacity in Papua.

JENKIN'S

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SUVA, FIJI

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Tortoiseshell Goods in
bracelets, necklets,
brooches, etc.

Tortoiseshell, with "Cat's
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ear drops.

"Cat's Eyes" set in Silver
Filigree, in sets of necklace
and bracelet.

Fiji-made Novelties
in Large Variety.

QUALITY GOODS AT
REASONABLE PRICES.

Write for Our Descriptive
Catalogue.
We Will Gladly Forward One.

DDT IN THE TROPICS

ONE of the interesting and most important discoveries of United Nations' scientists has been in the field of fumigation and insect extermination. Typhus, dengue, malaria, may eventually be brought under control as a result of the discovery of the insecticide known as DDT. Although on the official secret list until June, 1944, DDT, a white powder in appearance, has been widely publicised recently, because of the almost miraculous results in its use against the typhus-carrying louse and the malarial mosquito.

The most spectacular experiment was undertaken in January, 1944, when, by fumigating almost the whole city of Naples by dusting every man, woman and child, a serious epidemic of typhus was brought under control, in winter, for the first time in medical history.

Since the Naples epidemic, experiments have been carried out in many fields, and research is still going on. At this stage, it would not be wise to expect too much of this discovery although, it is past the primary experimental stages, and any experiments which are still being carried out are more in the nature of verification of results obtained elsewhere.

Tests in Fiji last year, proved amongst other things that DDT is an effective and economic medium for destroying mosquito larvae in swampy areas.

Walls, ceilings and furnishings when treated with DDT are unharmed, but for some time after treatment remain fatal to insects such as ants, cockroaches and mosquitoes settling upon them. Sprayed on beds infected with bugs, the pests are exterminated, and the beds remain immune from insects of all kinds for some months. Horses, dogs and cattle, after treatment, repel fly and fleas for a short period, and it appears possible that a solution may be found to the blow-fly in sheep and the cattle tick problems in Australia.

DDT appears to have many future uses, particularly in the tropics. It has been used to exterminate caterpillars and other pests, but it is in this field that further

research is necessary. Success has been achieved already by the use of DDT, as an alternative to lead arsenate.

Unpleasant effects may follow if swallowed, or if much of it is allowed to come into contact with the skin for a prolonged period, but if handled with ordinary care, DDT has no harmful effects on man.

At present there is no surplus for general civilian use, heavy supplies are required for military purposes, but when restrictions are lifted after the war, it should be of great value in island homes and in tropical agriculture.—FJM.

Editorial Note

THE RAAF is already using DDT insecticide for aerial spraying of large malarial areas in New Guinea, New Britain and Bougainville. The work is being done from Beaufort bombers, which are equipped with special tanks in their wings.

In the fight against malaria DDT destroys both adult and larval mosquitoes. It is mixed with lighter malerial and emitted in a fine spray over sago swamps and such haunts of the mosquito as are inaccessible from the ground. Experts are confident that the incidence of both malaria and dengue fever will show a marked decline in the Pacific Islands as a result of this air blitz on mosquitoes.

ROTUMA MEMORIES

Letter to the Editor

A RECENT article on Rotuma in "PIM" brings to my memory some calls I made there many years ago.

In July, 1903, while on the way from Vila in the New Hebrides, to Nukulaelae, in the Ellice Group, in the SS "Ysabel," the derrick at No. 2 hatch came down with a run. Jack Lanyan, our half-caste launch-boy, happened to be coming aft from the foc'sle when it happened and the derrick caught him. His thigh was shockingly injured.

Captain Voy, after getting his morning sights, found we were 90 miles north-west of Rotuma, so we headed for there, praying that a doctor might be on the island.

We were boarded by the officer in charge of the island, who also happened to be a doctor. His name was, I believe, Dr. MacDonald.

The doctor said if we called back in three months he would guarantee that Lanyan would be all right again but for a limp. We called back in October and, sure enough, Lanyan was well, but with a limp.

My next call at Rotuma was at the end of July, 1908, when we put in at the island to pick up tax copra in the SS "Muniara." I remember we had to pick up from two ports, and I was given a horse to ride over to the other side of the island to have the copra weighed before the arrival of the steamer. Not having been on a horse for some years, I suffered for days afterwards, and only hoped that the horse did not suffer as much as I did.

We left Rotuma on July 31, 1908, and experienced westerly gales all the way to the Australian coast, taking 19 days to Sydney. We arrived the day before the American Fleet was due and I, as supercargo, was accused of having deliberately delayed the arrival of the vessel in order to see the American Fleet, whereas we really did not know the fleet was due, there being no wireless on island freighters in those days.

I am, etc.,

AN OLD-TIME SUPERCARGO.

Sydney, May 29, 1945.

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has always come the finest jam it is possible to make. Freshness, allied to purity, alone can produce such perfection. From Chivers Orchards—adjoining the Factory—come plump, luscious strawberries, with the warmth of the sun still on their



rosy-red cheeks, and many other English fruits "just right" for preserving. No wonder Chivers Jams have a world-wide reputation for quality.

Supplies are still limited but shipments will be resumed as soon as possible.

CHIVERS ENGLISH JAMS

Made in the heart of the English countryside by
CHIVERS & SONS Ltd.
The Orchard Factory, Histon, Cambridge, England

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KEROSENE STOVE

"The ultimate in heating efficiency and service"

- No Pumping ● No Wicks ● No Danger
- The Bright Blue Flame provides ample Heat for All Purposes.

SIMPLE AND EFFECTIVE

"ULTIMA" is economical to buy and to operate. Using a new system of fuel generation it does not need complicated pressure chambers, pumps and so on, but is controlled by a single valve. The stove may be refuelled while operating.

"ULTIMA" is easily dismantled and assembled.

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Manufactured under Australian Government Permit. Supplies Available Shortly.

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Trader's Tale:

Let There Be Light!

BY "TUKAPAKOKO"

"EAST is East, and West is West," says a well-known poet. "And never the twain shall meet." . . . I wonder how many believe the saw now!

You can't, at all events, tell that to a Cook Islands "small" trader. For a number of years, to the very great financial advantage of both, East and West have met and co-operated.

The present temporary loss to the Empire of Hong Kong has, for the time, upset the Oriental-Occidental partnership; but when it is renewed—as we island-dwellers hope it will be soon—traders will smile again, and the dark nights of Polynesia, when the silver moon goes off duty, will be brightened by torch-light on the roads, as they used to be in the good old days of '39.

Not the "torch" natives call "rama," made out of a palm-frond; nor the tow-like "roro," which is a dry coconut-spathe.

Not those—what we lack is the ahi-pana, which is Maori for an electric torch.

For about six years prior to Japan's

entry into the war, a factory at Hong Kong was turning out cheap electric torches, in millions, for the Cook Island (and other) native markets. These highly nickelled illuminants were on sale in every CI "store"—big corporation, or tiny "trade"-box under a white man's camp-bed. The profit on them was several hundred per cent., but in spite of that the very best of them, quite equal to a 30/- American article, was only 7/6, complete with battery!

Brown Brother was fascinated with light that could be turned on and off, from a tap, as it were. We traders began to plan holidays in Honolulu, for the demand for torches became so great that Hong Kong worked overtime to supply it. The Government of New Zealand raised the duty on the goods, and that made the article 6d. dearer in the Cook Islands—but, even then, torches were still dirt cheap.

The batteries cost 3d. per cell; the globes, 6d. each. By the time that new import duty had been thought of, and applied, every mother's son (and brown daughter) in Mangaia already owned one of these Chinese torches.

NOW, regrettably, the corpses of many of those Oriental artifacts lie in the mud of the village roads, squashed oval by the heavy feet of horses or men

—for the supply of cheap batteries is "totally suspended," and no others are obtainable, owing to the war.

But while the craze lasted, many interesting things happened; and the erstwhile monopoly of "electric light" enjoyed in pre-Hong Kong days by Europeans and the native police was badly fractured.

The "cops" were particularly annoyed. The latter then possessed a peculiarly mean advantage. It is a local law that no native may be abroad after the sounding of the curfew-drum at 9 p.m. This, however, is more honoured in the breach than the observance, and local bucks, meeting to discuss privately various projects, or quaff bush-beer in some dark corner, were often taken unawares by their village "cop." A sudden lightening of their darkness was the prelude to legal grief. With the advent of universal torch-light, however, a few of these perjured innocents got their own back; for the rays of non-police torches caught some of the peace officers solacing their midnight vigils in the various ways that suited them best. Thereafter a marked reduction was apparent in the number of cases of "ori-po," or curfew-breaking, that came to Court on Thursdays!

The police found this embarrassing, and "bigger and better" seemed the only way to meet it. So the native sergeant obtained a positively-enormous torch, with five cells, and a bulb of the power of a warship's searchlight. This article, with its super-power, seemed to so reduce the brilliance of rival torches that the road was quite dark again.

The monster was, of course, of American, not Chinese, manufacture. But Hong Kong began to catch up; and my consignment of "five-cell" torches was on order, when that Colony fell, alas, to the enemy.



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New .303 Short Service Barrels, 25½", without Sights and Platform, £2/15/- each. Postage extra.

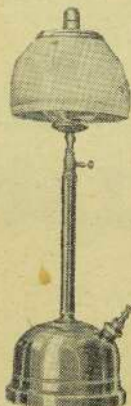
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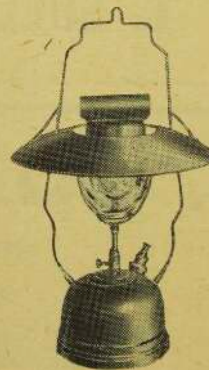


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Tall Table Lamp.

Kayen Lamps are the last word in efficiency in modern kerosene lighting. They are designed for years of hard practical use and are the result of extensive tests and experiments under all classes of conditions. At last a really good Australian-made product is available and in comparison with all overseas types the Kayen leaves nothing to be desired.

They provide a full 300 candle-power unflickering light not affected by wind or draughts. They burn quietly and efficiently for hours without attention and are perfectly safe in operation. The mantles are supported top and bottom and will not shake off. Globes are pyrex. All models are insect-proof. The oil container is solid polished brass and brass is used wherever possible in all other parts. Illustrated are the ever-popular Tall Table Lamp and All-purpose Lamp. The All-purpose Lamp is stormproof and may be carried anywhere, inside or out. The Table Lamp is a handsome addition to the appointments in any home, as well as a superb lighting unit.

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Pearl-shell with or without Cat's-Eyes.
Ivory articles of all kinds.
Coconut-shell souvenirs.
Unmounted Cat's-Eyes.
Hand made native curios and souvenirs, Beads,
Hula-skirts and Tops (bras), Mats, Fans,
Fancy Shell Floral Necklaces and Bracelets.
Model Canoes, Lalis (native wooden drums).
Tanoas (kava bowls, used as ash-trays).
• Tapa (tree-bark) Cloth.
Sea shells of every kind.

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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.
Accra: £69/10/- (on wharf, Sydney, all charges paid).

New Guinea cocoa beans: No quotations.
Western Samoa: Last sale reported, 1st quality, £20 (f.o.b., Apia).

TROCHUS SHELL

No sales have been reported since January, when small parcels changed hands at £110 per ton. Nominal quotations obtained in mid-June indicate that the market is unchanged at that figure.

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 are as follows:—

New Caledonian: Arabica, £31 per ton (c.i.f. Sydney). Robusta, £23 per ton (c.i.f. Sydney).
New Hebrides: Robusta, £23/10/- per ton (c.i.f. Sydney).

Mysore: £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. str.

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.q., £103 per ton, in store, Sydney.

PEARL SHELL

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

FIJI BUYING PRICES

Suva, May 14

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 (F.M.S. Grade)	£18/10/-
Copra sacks, each	2/-
Kerosene, per gallon	3/4
Flour, per sack	32/6
Flour, per lb.	3d.
Sharps, per 140 lb. sacks	26/-
Sharps, 5 lb.	1/-
Barbed Wire, ton lots	£42
Trocas Shell, per ton	£85
Benzine, per gallon	2/10
Benzine (bowser), per gallon	2/8

PRICE OF GOLD

Vine	Standard
oz.	£10/13/6
oz.	£9/11/7

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COPRA

London	Price on—	South Sea, Sun-dried to London	Plantation, Hot-air Dried, to London	Rabaul
January 1, 1932	£14 0 0	£14 0 0	£14 15 0	£13 5 0
June 17	£13 2 6	£14 2 6	£14 5 0	£13 12 6
December 18	£13 0 0	£10 17 6	£11 0 0	£9 0 0
January 6, 1933	£12 6 0	£8 0 0	£8 7 6	£8 12 6
June 30	£8 0 0	£9 0 0	£10 5 0	£12 7 6
December 1	£11 15 0	£12 17 6	£14 0 0	
January 5, 1934				
June 15				
December 28				
January 4, 1935				
June 7				
December 6				

London	Price on—	South Sea, Smoked to Genoa	Plantation, Sun-dried to London	Hot-air Dried, to London	Rabaul
Jan. 3, '36	£13 2 6	£13 15 0	£13 0 0	£13 0 0	£14 0 0
Mar. 6	£11 15 0	£12 15 0	£12 0 0	£12 17 0	£14 12 6
June 5	£11 10 0	£12 10 0	£12 0 0	£12 12 6	£10 10 0
Sept. 4	£13 2 6	£13 10 0	£13 0 0	£14 0 0	£13 7 6
Dec. 4	£19 7 6	£19 7 6	£20 7 6	£22 12 6	£20 0 0
Jan. 8, '37	£22 12 6	£22 12 6	£20 0 0	£16 12 6	£14 0 0
Mar. 5	£19 0 0	£19 5 0	£20 0 0	£13 7 6	£13 12 6
June 4	£15 15 0	£15 12 6	£16 12 6	£10 12 6	£10 10 0
Sept. 3	£13 5 0	£13 5 0	£14 0 0	£10 10 0	£10 10 0
Dec. 3	£12 10 0	£12 12 6	£13 7 6	£10 10 0	£10 10 0
Jan. 7, '38	£12 12 6	£12 15 0	£13 12 6	£11 7 6	£10 10 0
Mar. 4	£10 17 6	£11 0 0	£12 0 0	£10 10 0	£10 10 0
June 3	£9 15 0	£9 15 0	£10 10 0	£10 10 0	£10 10 0
Sept. 2	£9 10 0	£9 10 0	£10 10 0	£10 10 0	£10 10 0
Dec. 2	£9 5 0	£9 5 0	£10 2 6	£10 10 0	£10 10 0
Jan. 6, '39	£9 12 6	£9 15 0	£10 10 0	£10 10 0	£10 10 0
Feb. 3	£9 10 0	£9 12 6	£10 10 0	£10 10 0	£10 10 0
Mar. 3	£10 0 0	£10 2 6	£11 0 0	£10 12 6	£10 12 6
Apr. 6	£9 12 6	£9 15 0	£10 10 0	£11 7 6	£10 10 0
May 5	£10 0 0	£10 5 0	£11 0 0	£10 10 0	£10 10 0
June 2	£10 7 6	£10 10 0	£11 7 6	£10 10 0	£10 10 0
July 7	£9 2 6	£9 7 6	£10 5 0	£10 10 0	£10 10 0
Aug. 4	£9 2 6	£9 5 0	£10 5 0	£10 10 0	£10 10 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 30, 1940.—Fixed price for plantation hot-air dried, £13/5/- per ton, c.i.f., London.

April 30, 1940.—Fixed price for plantation hot-air dried, £12/17/6 per ton, c.i.f., London.
On February 18, 1942, Fiji and Tonga copra, 1st grade, was fixed at £18 per ton (Fijian), f.o.b.; and in July: Plantation Grade, £18/5/-; Fair Merchantable Sun-dried, £18; and Under-grade, £17/15/-. The values are stated in Fijian currency. To get Australian or New Zealand values, add 12½ per cent.; sterling values, deduct 12½ per cent.

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

	Mid-April	Mid-May	Mid-June
Emperor Mines	b11/9	b11/9	b11/9
Loloma	s20/-	s20/-	s20/-
Mt. Kasi	s1/9	s1/9	s1/9
NEW GUINEA			
Bulolo G.D.	b108/-	b108/-	b108/-
Guinea Gold	b10/11	b10/11	b10/11
N.G.G. Ltd.	b3/-	b3/6	b3/9
Oil Search	s5/6	s5/6	s5/4
Placer Dev.	b80/-	b80/-	b80/-
Sandy Creek	s1/5	s1/6	s1/6
Sunshine Gold	s7/6	s7/6	s7/6
PAPUA			
Cuthbert's	s12/9	b13/9	s15/-
Mandated Alluvials	b4/6	b4/6	b4/6
Orlomo Oil	s2/-	s2/6	s2/6
Papuan Apinapi	s3/6	s3/6	s3/3
Yodda Goldfields	N.Q.	N.Q.	N.Q.

RUBBER

London	Price on—	Para. per lb.	Plantation Smoked per lb.
January 6, 1933	5½d	4¾d	2.43d
July 7	5½d	4¾d	3.71d
December 8	5½d	4¾d	4.0½d
January 5, 1934	5½d	4¾d	4.28d
July 6	5½d	4¾d	7.06d
December 28	5½d	4¾d	6¼d
January 4, 1935	5½d	4¾d	6¼d
July 5	5½d	4¾d	6¼d
December 6	5½d	4¾d	6¼d
January 3, 1936	5½d	4¾d	6¼d
June 5	5½d	4¾d	6¼d
December 4	5½d	4¾d	6¼d
January 8, 1937	5½d	4¾d	6¼d
June 4	5½d	4¾d	6¼d
December 3	5½d	4¾d	6¼d
January 7, 1938	5½d	4¾d	6¼d
July 1	5½d	4¾d	6¼d
December 2	5½d	4¾d	6¼d
January 6, 1939	5½d	4¾d	6¼d
July 7	5½d	4¾d	6¼d
December 1	5½d	4¾d	6¼d
January 5, 1940	5½d	4¾d	6¼d
July 5	5½d	4¾d	6¼d
December 6	5½d	4¾d	6¼d
January 3, 1941	5½d	4¾d	6¼d
February 7	5½d	4¾d	6¼d
March 7	5½d	4¾d	6¼d
April 4	5½d	4¾d	6¼d
May 2	5½d	4¾d	6¼d
June 6	5½d	4¾d	6¼d
July 4	5½d	4¾d	6¼d
August 1	5½d	4¾d	6¼d
September 5	5½d	4¾d	6¼d
October 6	5½d	4¾d	6¼d
October 10	5½d	4¾d	6¼d

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, 1/8; 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; Inferior, 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, 1/5½; No. 3 Grade, 1/3½ 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:—

	Buying	Selling
Through Bank of NSW and Bank of New Zealand:—Australia on basis of £100	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Fiji: Buying, £A111/2/6; selling, £A113.	110 15 0	112 0 0
London on basis of £100 London:—	110 12 6	111 17 6

WESTERN SAMOA
Through Bank of New Zealand:—Australia on basis of £100 Samoa: Buying, £A98/12/6; selling, £A100/2/6. Samoa on London on basis of £100 in London:—

	Buying	Selling
Through Bank of New Zealand:—Australia on basis of £100 Samoa: Buying, £A98/12/6; selling, £A100/2/6. Samoa on London on basis of £100 in London:—	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Telegraphic transfer	122 18 9	125 7 6
On Demand	122 8 9	125 2 6
30 days	121 18 9	124 17 6
60 days	121 8 9	124 12 6
90 days	120 18 9	—

NEW GUINEA AND PAPUA
Only nominal at present.
FREE FRENCH PACIFIC COLONIES
Buying, 160; selling, 163; francs to Aust. £.

Australian Short Wave Broadcast

An Australian radio programme is broadcast daily on short wave from Lyndhurst (Victoria) for listeners in the Western Pacific:—
Call. Sign. Time. Length. Frequency.
VLR8. 6.30-10.15 a.m. 25.51 metres 11,780 M/c
VLR3. 12.00-6.15 p.m. 25.25 metres 11,880 M/c
VLR. 6.45-11.30 p.m. 31.32 metres 9,580 M/c
Power: 2 kilowatts.

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 Mangaia, 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.

Sgt.-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. Lincoln J. BELL, RANVR, formerly of Kavieng, TNG. Reported killed on patrol on the Rai coast, New Guinea, 1944.

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

Sgt.-Pilot Murray Waldon BENTLEY, RNZAF, formerly of Fiji. Reported missing in air operations in the Middle East, January, 1943. Subsequently presumed killed.

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

P/O Robert Waldon BENTLEY, RNZAF, formerly of Fiji. Reported missing on air operations on May 5, 1943. Subsequently presumed killed.

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 & Co., Ltd., of Rabaul, New Guinea. Killed in action, April, 1941.

P/O J. B. BOMFORD, 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. P. 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.

Sgt. W. A. H. BUTTERIS, AMF, formerly of Madang, New Guinea. Reported missing; believed killed, May, 1945.

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 CHAUTARD (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.

Sgt.-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., Rarawai, 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. Alec 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 USA crashed on west coast of Britain.

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

Rifleman J. A. GOODWIN, AIF infantry, formerly of Bulwer, 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 Middle East, 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.

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

Pte. R. 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 HEPO, of FF Pacific Battalion, formerly of Tahiti. Killed in action in Italy, June, 1944.

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

Sgt.-Leader James R. HYDE, of the RAF, formerly a Patrol Office 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. W. J. HOOK, ANGAU, formerly of New Guinea. Killed in action, Aitape area.

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 RAF, 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.

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

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

Pte. Jone LAWAKILEVU, PMF. Reported killed in action in the Solomons, 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 Lieut.-Colonel) Edward Tiwi LOVE, NZ Maori Battalion, husband of Mrs. Takau Rio Love, Ariki-nul 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. F. MCCARTHY, AIF infantry, formerly supercargo on W. R. Carpenter & Co.'s inter-island vessels "Desikoko" and "Mako," in New Guinea. Reported "killed in action" in Syria, 20/10/1941.

F/O John W. McDONALD, RAAF, formerly of Wau, TNG. Killed in operations over France in February, 1944.

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.

Francis 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.

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 Amelut 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 Nemo 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.

(Continued on Page 45)

PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY—JUNE, 1945

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