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October 16, 1945

VOL. XVI. No. 3

PACIFIC ISLANDS Monthly



COL. J. K. MURRAY, BA, BSc Agr, the newly-appointed Administrator of the Provisional Government of Papua-New Guinea.

Colonel Murray will proceed to his temporary headquarters, Port Moresby, in the latter part of October; and the Papua-New Guinea Provisional Administration Act probably will come into operation by proclamation (thus marking the restoration of Civil Government) about the same time.



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PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY—OCTOBER, 1945



Thrice weekly from Sydney, Qantas, operating D.C. 3 aircraft, provides a fast, modern civil airline service to New Guinea, via Brisbane, Rockhampton, Townsville, Cairns and Port Moresby. Accommodation is available for passengers holding permits, priority freight and mails.

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PACIFIC NEWS-REVIEW

Sept. 18: Growing indications that USA proposes a "soft peace" for Japan are producing angry reactions in Britain and Australia, where almost ceaseless and continuing disclosures of "horror" prison camps are arousing a demand that Japan shall remain under punishment for a couple of decades.

Sept. 18: Nationalisation of the British coal industry may be complete by mid-1946.

Sept. 19: Officially announced that Japanese, in 1943, murdered Nauru Administrator (Colonel Chalmers) and two Government officials, and two Phosphate Co. officials, who voluntarily remained in Nauru in 1942.

Sept. 20: William Joyce (Lord Haw Haw) sentenced to death after London trial for treasonable activities in Germany during war.

Sept. 20: Indications of split between American Government and General MacArthur, on question of whether Japanese people, in view of mounting evidence of war crimes, are being treated too kindly.

Sept. 20: There are indications that Emperor Hirohito of Japan is contemplating abdication.

Sept. 22: Deadlock at conference of Big Five Foreign Ministers causes world-wide anxiety. Cleavage is between Russia (who insists that new Red-dominated Governments in Roumania, Bulgaria and Hungary are "democratic" and free) and Britain and America (who say they are not). This is interpreted as the first clear sign of the coming world struggle between Democracy and Red Totalitarianism. Russia is believed to be trying to make Communist all eastern and central-eastern Europe, as well as all northern Asia.

Sept. 23: Widespread demonstrations for independence by natives in Netherlands Indies direct attention to a nationalist movement now sweeping through Indonesia and south-east Asia. India is organising strong independence pressure against the new British Labour Government. There has been fighting in Indo-China between French and natives. Some sections of Burmese have demonstrated against British.

Sept. 26: Anxiety grows in Australia as widespread strikes tend to paralyse industry in NSW. The Labour Governments are accused of yielding weakly to anarchy. Communist influences are seen everywhere, fomenting disorder.

Sept. 27: Emperor Hirohito called on General MacArthur in Tokio — the first time such a thing has happened in the 2,000 years' history of the Jap dynasty.

Sept. 29: Revolts by natives continue against French in Indo-China and Dutch in Netherlands India. British troops are going into each Territory to restore order — although a British (Labour) Minister announces that the British will not fight in those countries for either Dutch or French.

Sept. 29: United States, in return for abolition of British Imperial preference, is prepared to lend Britain and Empire six billion dollars, without interest, and scale down her own tariffs.

Sept. 30: With object of tracing and recovering loot taken by Japs from Territories they overran, the American command has seized 21 banks in Japan and impounded all their funds, subject to investigation.

Oct. 1: Head of an American Research Foundation claims that a simple defence against the atomic bomb has been discovered, and placed in custody of USA Government.

Oct. 1: Hindu-Moslem riots continue in Bombay. Thirty have been killed and 152 injured.

Oct. 2: Stalin is reported to be critical of Western Allies' "soft" policy towards Japan. He says that if anything is done to allow Germany and Japan to arise again as war-makers, as Germany was allowed to do after World War I, we all shall suffer from our incredible folly.

Oct. 2: More British troops are landing in Indo-China, where 20,000 rebels are said to be massing for an attack on the French.

Oct. 3: Britain's worst post-war problem is rapidly developing in Palestine. Britain is being pressed by many nations to admit much increased Jewish immigration to Palestine; but all the Arab countries are exceedingly sensitive on the subject, and Arab Federation threatens reprisals if more Jews on a large scale are admitted to Palestine.

Oct. 3: There again is danger of the Council of Foreign Ministers, now meeting in London, breaking up without agreement, owing to serious differences of view between the English-speaking nations and Russia.

Oct. 3: An agreement to cease hostilities has been reached between the French in Indo-China and the Annamites, who are leading the rebellion. The position is deteriorating, however, in the Netherlands Indies, where Indonesians, led by the Japan-created Soekarno Government, are threatening to fight the Dutch Forces, which are on their way to occupy the country. Order is being maintained by small British Forces, who are using the surrendered Japanese for policing purposes. The rebels have seized Bandoeng and Sourabaya.

Oct. 4: Supreme Commander MacArthur has ordered the Japanese Government forthwith to release all political prisoners from Japan's gaols. They are believed to number many thousands.

Oct. 5: Despite last-minute efforts, the Big Three failed to agree, and the Foreign Ministers' Conference has ended. A gloomy view of future international relations is being taken. The fundamental cause of disagreement is Russia's determination to maintain her own set-up in the Middle European and Balkan (or Border-line) States, without interference, and the Western Allies' contention that those Governments are neither free nor democratic.

Oct. 6: The Bunnerong power-house dispute in Sydney is unsettled. Both sides remain firm. There now is danger that, from this, there may develop a nation-wide general strike. Already, Australia is suffering from innumerable small and disconnected strikes.

Oct. 8: Japs and Indonesians are fighting in several places in Java, and the position is getting worse. The Indonesian rebels are steadily extending their hold.

Oct. 9: First Jap war criminal trial has commenced at Manila, where General Yamashita (the "Tiger of Malaya") is facing a series of charges.

Oct. 9: Jap Cabinet, which resented the freeing of political prisoners and resigned, has been replaced by another, in which a very old pacifist is Premier.

Oct. 10: Sydney industrial position now critical. The strikers' representatives have ordered all Unions concerned to withhold coal from Bunnerong power-house. Nation-wide strike now seems inevitable.

Oct. 11: Pierre Laval, notorious anti-British head of the Vichy Government,

NOTES AND COMMENT ON INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS FROM SEP. 18 TO OCT. 12

has been sentenced to death by a French Court as a war criminal.

Oct. 11: Disturbances throughout Java are getting worse. Indonesians are murdering Dutchmen, and have done much damage.

Oct. 12: One of the worst typhoons in history has completely destroyed great American base on Okinawa, near Japan. Twelve ships are sunk. The damage is estimated at £2,500,000.

AIF GRAVES IN NE PAPUA

A RECENT visitor says the large Australian burying-ground at Supota (inland from Buna and Oro Bay, on the north-east coast of Papua) has been maintained in good order, and is in the care of a small Australian detachment, with native helpers. Some hundreds of Australians, who were killed in the bitter fighting around Kokoda, Sanananda, Buna and Gona, at the end of 1942, are buried here.

Many Americans who were killed in the same battles were originally buried in the same locality; but, about six months ago, all American caskets were disinterred and removed to the large American cemetery at Finschhafen.

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A fire, which completely destroyed the Girls' Hostel at Labasa, Fiji, occurred on August 5 while the staff and boarders were at church. The vicar of Labasa gave up his vicarage so that staff and pupils could have temporary housing.



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300 Civilians Were Murdered at Rabaul

DEMAND FOR AN INQUIRY

AT least 300 Australian civilians
lost their lives in June, 1942,
when the vessel on which they were
being taken, as prisoners, from Rabaul
to Japan, was sunk off the Philip-
pines.

Those men should not have been
prisoners of the Japanese. They
could and should have been evacuated
from Rabaul, on the ships which were
available in Rabaul Harbour, within
the 40 hours between the time when
it was known the Japs were coming,
and the hour (early morning of
January 23, 1942) when the Japs
arrived.

Why were they not evacuated?

THE Japs came in great strength.
One Australian battalion, and
three or four-score members of the
New Guinea Volunteer Rifles, offered
a very courageous, but utterly useless
resistance. The majority of soldiers
and civilians fled westwards into the
jungle. The Japs seized the port and
destroyed the ships, including one
large Scandinavian vessel which
could have carried the whole gar-
rison to safety.

The Japs rounded up most of those
soldiers and civilians and put them
into prison camps. Their fate is told
in the article on page ??

ON at least two occasions since 1942,
we have asked that there be an
inquiry into the circumstances sur-
rounding the seizure of those civilians

at Rabaul by the Japs. Why were
they left there, and not brought
away by the available ships? The
Commonwealth Government officials,
with whom lies the responsibility for
this tragedy, have ignored all re-
quests for an inquiry. It is said that
one Australian Minister remarked
with a sneer: "Oh, this is only a
journalist hunting for a sensation!"

Now, on behalf of the widows and
children of the hundreds of Aus-
tralian men who were needlessly sacri-
ficed in Rabaul, we say to the Aus-
tralian Government and its officials:
"Unless you can show, by formal in-
quiry, that failure to evacuate the
Rabaul civilians is the fault of par-
ticular persons, you must accept
responsibility for the murder of these
men."

WE have a clear recollection of the
circumstances. An examination
of the files of Australian newspapers
between January 18 and January 25,
1942, will show that the approach
of the Japanese invasion fleet from the
north was indicated. The news
which was passed by the censors for
publication was disconnected, but it
all pointed in the one direction.

Service and Government messages
must have given, to those responsible,
a clear and connected picture of
what was coming. If they did not,
then there was incredible inefficiency
in Australia's defensive organisation.

If there *was* a clear picture of events,
then Australia's military and adminis-
trative officials must explain why
they did not instruct those Rabaul
civilians to get aboard those ships in
Rabaul Harbour, and leave as quickly
as possible.

Or did the military genius that
presided over the New Guinea district
imagine that one AIF battalion, six
6-inch guns, five Wirraway planes,
and 72 members of the NG Volunteer
Rifles could drive off the Jap expedi-
tion, reported on January 21 or 22 to
be approaching Watom Island in a
convoy of at least 40 ships? If that
military genius did take that view-
point, then he should be made to pay
the penalty of his blundering. He
then should be held responsible for
the deaths of hundreds of Australian
civilians.

SOME reports lay the blame on the
military commandant at Port
Moresby. Others just as confidently
lay the fault at the door of a high
official in Canberra who (it is said)
ordered both civilians and ships to
remain in Rabaul, when the Acting-
Administrator, Mr. Harold Page (now
dead), urgently asked for instruc-
tions.

But this is all guesswork. We can-
not know for a certainty where the
blame lies until this official con-
spiracy of silence is broken down,
and all the records are laid open to
inspection by a properly authorised
Commissioner. Officialdom has shown
very clearly that it does not want an
inquiry. If an inquiry is ordered,
officialdom probably will go to some

lengths to dodge responsibility, and to smear on the whitewash.

Mr. Ward was not Minister for the Territories when Rabaul was invaded, so his refusal, up to date, to order an inquiry, suggests that he is trying to protect either a Ministerial friend or certain high officials.

MR. WARD did not show the same reluctance in ordering an inquiry when he was trying to gain a political advantage. Mr. Ward, a couple of years ago, apparently was anxious to get rid of Mr. Leonard Murray, Civil Administrator of Papua. Mr. Murray had been unceremoniously thrust out of the Territory by the military panjandrums; his salary had been as unceremoniously chopped off by Mr. Ward's Department, so that Mr. Murray presently was compelled to go and get a job from the United States Army; Mr. Murray was ignored, for a couple of years, by Mr. Ward, in all matters relating to the Territories. In other words, Mr. Murray was invited to resign, and take himself out of the Territorial picture.

But the annoying Mr. Murray clung to his Commission as Administrator of Papua—not because of monetary considerations (he can go on to an advantageous pension at any time) but because he was anxious to help the native peoples of Papua, to whom he had given a lifetime of service.

So Mr. Ward gave to a Melbourne KC, Mr. Barry, a Royal Commission to investigate all the circumstances surrounding the seizure by the military commandant of administrative authority from Mr. Murray, at Port Moresby, in February, 1942. There had been no public outcry about this incident—in fact, the announcement of the inquiry came as a complete surprise to all Territorians—and, probably, to Mr. Murray. No one wanted the inquiry except Mr. Ward and the Brass-hats.

However, public money and a great deal of the time of public officials was expended on the inquiry; and Mr. Murray was obliged to defend

himself against a variety of charges brought against him by the Brass-hats. The Commissioner exonerated Mr. Murray from most of the charges; but—and apparently against the weight of evidence—he found the Administrator was guilty of being unco-operative, and of ignoring the welfare of the natives in some respects. This, of course, was exactly what Mr. Ward wanted; and, in consequence, Mr. Ward was able to go confidently ahead, get rid of the Papuan Civil Administration (and Mr. Murray's commission) by creating a Provisional Government, and ignore Mr. Murray's obvious claims to the new Administratorship (although Mr. Murray's appointment had been eagerly sought by the great majority of the civilians of both Territories).

Now, if Mr. Ward, without any apparent cause, could arrange for a Royal Commission of Inquiry into alleged official confusion in Port Moresby in February, 1942, where there was no Jap invasion and no loss of civilian life, why should he not order an inquiry into what happened in Rabaul in January, 1942, where there appears to have been the most damnable official bungling, resulting in hundreds of civilians losing their lives?

MR. WARD, however, will do nothing—his two years' record as Territories Minister suggests that he hates the thousands of sturdy individualists who comprise the Territories European population (evacuated, and likely to remain so); and that he will do almost anything to embarrass them. The Australian Ministers will do nothing, unless literally forced—that is their policy. And no help can be expected from the disciplined and spiritless ranks of Labour.

But there still is, in Australia, a free public opinion and a fairly free press; and it is in that direction that Territorians should direct their appeal for an inquiry into the bungling which cost the lives of 300 New Guinea civilians.

Month's Developments in New Guinea

Industrial Chaos in Papua—Rabaul Civilians' Heavy Deathroll

THERE have been various important developments, during the month, affecting the future of the Territories of Papua and New Guinea.

They are reported at length in different parts of this journal. The following is a summary:—

The new Administrator of Provisional Government, Colonel J. K. Murray, is expected to proceed to the Territories this month. See article, "Personal Impression of Territories Administrator," page 10.

Papua, and all New Guinea southwards of the Markham, will be placed under the Provisional Administration in October; and the terms under which private enterprise may re-enter the Territories are announced. Mr. Ward retains complete economic control. See article "Terms Upon Which Traders May Return," page 12.

The administrative centre, for the present, will be Port Moresby. Page 63.

An official announcement, to indicate when civilians may return to the Territories, and especially to plantations and mines, still is awaited. It is supposed that some statement for the guidance of the many hundreds of Territories residents marooned in Australia, may be made before the end of October by the new Administrator.

All labour contracts between Europeans and natives in the Territories have suddenly been cancelled, and a revolutionary new system introduced. Plantations are in danger of ruin, and conditions are chaotic. Papuan planters and commercial interests have cabled to the British Prime Minister, in London, an appeal for protection against the Australian Government. See article "Papuan Planters Appeal to Great Britain," page 15.

Residents of Papua and New Guinea, after appealing in vain to the Australian Government, over two years, for advice and assistance, decided at a large meeting in Sydney to petition the Governor-General of Australia for help. They want permission to return to their homes. See article "Evacuees Appeal to the Governor-General," page 56.

There is now little doubt that the great majority of civilians taken prisoner by the Japs in Rabaul were drowned on a torpedoed ship off the Philippines in June, 1942. See article and list of names, page 9, 49.

A demand is made that there should be an official inquiry into the failure of the Australian Government to order the evacuation of civilians from Rabaul, in January, 1942, when it was known that the Japs were coming. That failure is directly responsible for the loss of hundreds of valuable lives. See article on page 3.

Australian forces have occupied the Gazelle Peninsula end of New Britain, and New Ireland. They have placed the Japs in prison camps, and are cleaning up the town of Rabaul, which was practically obliterated by Allied bombings. There is very little information from these districts. See article on page 59.

Mr. G. E. Watson, a well-known member of the Pacific Islands Society, died recently in Sydney, aged 86. He took a keen interest in Pacific affairs. He had been a jute merchant, in India, for 35 years, and he served in World War I. His son, Dennis, is a distinguished officer of the Indian Police, and recently was decorated with the Order of the CIE.

Fiji's Governor To Visit Australia Soon

SUVA, Oct. 3.

THE Governor of Fiji, Sir Alexander Grantham, accompanied by Lady Grantham, left Suva to visit the Solomon Islands on September 30. They travelled by plane and will be away from Fiji for about a week.

On October 15 they will leave Fiji again for Australia. Their visit will be semi-official, but Sir Alexander hopes also to meet people who are interested in the Pacific, and its problems and future development.

The Australian visit is expected to last a fortnight. Calls will be made at Canberra, Sydney and Melbourne.

Mr. P. G. Roberts has been appointed to act as Secretary to the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Government, as from July, 1945. Mr. Cartwright, who still is nominally Secretary, was one of those who

COLOSSAL WARTIME EXPENDITURE

AUSTRALIAN Allied Works Council projects in New Guinea cost £807,296, between March, 1942, and July, 1945, according to a statement in Parliament.

New Guinea expenditure was only a fraction of that incurred in the Commonwealth—NSW, £49,604,342; Victoria, £24,009,365; Queensland, £43,206,661; SA, £5,773,709; WA, £8,284,985; Tasmania, £179,003; Northern Territory, £14,533,085; Australian Capital Territory, £1,447,559.

volunteered to remain on Ocean Island when the Japs invaded in 1942. The island has been reoccupied, but the five Europeans who remained there have not been found.

Mr. Tom Ellis, a member of the original staff of the Lands Department in New Guinea, died in Sydney early in October, after a long illness. He leaves a widow and one son. He was a well-known Freemason, and was the founder and second Master of Lodge Rabaul.

Names of Persons Rescued

THE following people, whose names were included in the lists of New Guinea's "Missing" civilians published in this journal in September, now have been accounted for:

Found in Japanese POW Camps in Far East and Now Either Safe in Australia, or Being Repatriated

Archer, J. C.	Beale, D. L., Nurse.
Bignell, Mrs. K.	Nurse.
Bowman, A., Nurse.	Christopher, J., Nurse.
Goss, Mrs. M. E.	Nurse.
Hay, D., Nurse.	Green, M. F., Nurse.
Kruger, G. D., Nurse.	Kilner, C. G., Nurse.
McLellan, J. M., Nurse.	McGahan, J., Nurse.
Oldroyd-Harris, Matron.	Maye, D., Nurse.
Wilson, D. E., Nurse.	
Watch, Dr. N. B.	

Found in Jap POW Camp in Rabaul, and Brought to Australia

Bischoff, H. R.	Creswick, A. D.
Ellis, J. H.	
McKechnie, G.	Thomas, Gordon.

Reported Found in Rabaul, and Being Cared for There

Barrow, Rev. W.	Tille, E., and wife.
Coenders, Rev. Mother.	Columba, Sister M.
Felicitas, Sister.	Editha, Sister.
Hermann, R.	Flavia, Sister.
	Marcella, Sister.

Thus, out of about 350 listed last month as missing, only 30 have been found or traced.

Civilians' Dependants May be Provided For

CANBERRA, Oct. 5. DEPENDANTS of civilians who were lost, with military prisoners-of-war, when the Japanese overran New Guinea and Papua, may be provided for by the Australian Government.

Replying in the House of Representatives to Mr. Hughes, the Minister for External Territories said that the Government was considering the matter, and he hoped to make an early announcement.

War Material in Australian Territories

MILLIONS of pounds worth of surplus Australian war material in the Islands where Australian Forces have been operating will be disposed of through five channels:

- Sold to local authorities for rehabilitation purposes.
- Disposed of to missionaries, traders, and companies, etc.
- Returned to the mainland for sale through normal trade channels or by public tender and auction.
- Broken up and only valuable parts salvaged and brought back to Australia.
- "Written off" on the spot.

A party of Australian experts is about to visit the Territories to determine what stores are available.

One of the problems to be solved is the disposal of captured Japanese goods. It is proposed to visit Lae, Finschhafen, Rabaul, Bougainville, Goodenough, Milne Bay, Port Moresby, Morotai, and places farther north.

Territories Men Recovered From POW Camps

Official List

PREVIOUSLY reported missing, now reported to be recovered:

NGX310, Capt. Murphy, J. J.; HQ Unit; Toowong, Brisbane.
 NGX33, WOII Gordon, V. M. I.; infantry; Wau, New Guinea.
 NGX157, WO1 Gray, A. N.; Ordnance; North Sydney.
 PX23, Gnr. Newton, J. G.; artillery; Kaki, Papua.
 NGX77, Pte. Allan, J. H.; artillery; Wau, New Guinea.
 PX24, Gnr. Bingemann, G. E.; artillery; Auchenflower, Qld.
 PX22, Gnr. Spence, D. M.; artillery; Port Moresby.
 PX20, Gnr. Foley, A. I.; artillery; Port Moresby.
 NGX144, Pte. Bailey, P. F.; infantry; Merriwa, NSW.
 NGX77, Gnr. Allan, J. H.; artillery; Wau, New Guinea.
 NG4029, Lieut. Archer, J. C.; infantry; New Guinea.
 NG4054, Major Watch, N. B.; infantry; New Guinea.
 NG3000, Lieut. Kilner, C. G.; infantry; Rabaul, New Guinea.

DEATH OF MR LES JOUBERT, TNG PIONEER

THE death occurred in Sydney, on September 23, of Mr. Les Joubert, one of the best-known and highly-esteemed of the Morobe goldfield pioneers. He was 63 years old. Death followed an operation for appendicitis.

Mr. Joubert was in Papua before World War I. He enlisted and fought in the AIF, and had a good record. He returned to the Pacific Territories, and at one period was a plantation manager for the Expropriation Board at Madang. But he was among the first men at Koranga Creek, after the discovery of gold in the 'twenties, and for some years he was associated with the well-known pioneers—Levien, Pryke and George Arnold. Arnold and Joubert were partners on the goldfield, and they remained close friends right up until Arnold's death in Sydney, just before World War II. Joubert was well-to-do—he made his money in the original Koranga Company.

Mr. Joubert was a member of an old Sydney family. "Joubert's Ferry," which ran through to Figtree, is still remembered by old Sydneysites.

HAPPY ACCIDENT, OR—?

LAST year, when the Rev. John Bodger, well-known Papuan missionary, was in Europe and the United States, he received considerable attention from the newspapers. Not only were the South-west Pacific Islands then in the news—but Mr. Bodger is a fluent and effective writer, and many of his articles were prominently published.

An interview with him was published in "Los Angeles Examiner," of September 7, 1944 (note the date!). In that, he said:

"If American workers keep on the job, if the American public remains behind the drive to victory, the fighting in the Pacific will be ended a year from to-day."

NO FISHERMEN IN FIJI

—And No Fish

IT might be expected that the fishing industry in Fiji would be largely in the hands of the Fijians themselves, who before the advent of the white man with his convenient can, were partly dependent on fish for daily existence. They still have the aptitude and the knowledge of fishing-grounds, but they apparently have no incentive to go in for fishing commercially.

Since the few Japanese who supplied the bulk of the fish to Vitu Levu were interned at the beginning of the Pacific war, this island, and particularly Suva, has been short of fish and presumably this state of affairs will continue until someone with a degree of enterprise sees the possibilities of the industry.

Fish is plentiful, of good eating quality, and easily caught. At present, what little native fishing there is, is done in the broad coastal lagoons formed by the fringing reef. But these days the Fijian, by and large, prefers to take his fish from a can, and certainly he has no inclination to fish for monetary gain—not, at least, while he is still floating merrily along on the backwash of the dollar-prosperity period.

WELL-WISHERS of the Fijian people have agitated themselves considerably of late over the question of their post-war rehabilitation, knowing that their communal village life has suffered considerably during the war years. It is felt that it would be desirable to establish Fijians in industries naturally suited to them.

Scientifically, the Fijian is classed as a Melanesian; but in comparison with the Melanesian of the South-West Pacific he is an emancipated creature indeed. In Fiji he is not treated like an irresponsible child, as are the natives of New Guinea and the Solomons, but as a free British citizen; education is available to him and, theoretically, is compulsory; he may be granted a licence to drink liquor (and judging by the crowds around Suva's hotels, he often is so blessed); and he may choose his own way of life to an extent unknown to the Islanders of Melanesia proper.

All this being so, the Fijian should also be advanced sufficiently to see the writing on the wall with regard to his own country, and realise that the time has come for him to do something to retain it as his own. At the moment the Fijian seems more than willing to rest on his war-won laurels and take an interest in little besides Rugby football.

If the Fijian can be urged to take up an industry, then it seems logical that fishing would have a high priority. A local demand is already there and, with the right backing and organisation, there might be scope for a cannery or a factory for smoking fish.

The position at present is that much of the "Islands fish" enthusiastically consumed in Suva's hotels is imported from New Zealand, while fish swarm in thousands inside the reefs of Viti Levu and the sea outside remains totally unexploited.

The fighting ended officially on September 3, 1945.

There is no truth in a report that a deputation of leaders from United States, Australia, etc., is proceeding to Dogura to ask Mr. Bodger when we are likely to have industrial peace.

NEW ADMINISTRATOR For Western Samoa

LIEUT.-COLONEL F. W. VOELCKER, DSO, MC, of Kerikeri, New Zealand, has been appointed Administrator of Western Samoa, in succession to Mr. A. C. Turnbull.

Mr. Turnbull, who has been visiting New Zealand, intimated to the Government that he wished to retire on superannuation in February, 1946.

MR. TURNBULL has given a lifetime of devoted and sound service to the New Zealand Administration. For several years after his transfer to Samoa, he was Secretary of the Administration, and Deputy Administrator. When Sir Herbert Hart retired from the chief position in 1935, Mr. Turnbull became Acting Administrator. Samoa had had 15 years of political trouble and unrest, and the new Governor found no bed of roses. But he understood and liked the Samoans; he is a kindly, humane man, with a good personality and plenty of tact; and from the time he took charge of the Government, the Samoans became less and less troublesome—until, to-day, the Territory is quiet and peaceful.

Because of typical stupidity in Governmental high places in New Zealand, this valuable officer was not raised from the status of Acting Administrator until 1943, when he was given the full appointment. In fact, he has been Administrator from 1935 to 1945; and, in point of actual performance, he has been, far and away, the most successful British Administrator Samoa has known. No other Administrator reigned more than five years, and—with the possible exception of Colonel Tate, 1920-23—none brought peace to the country.

Mr. and Mrs. Turnbull are held in high esteem by all three communities in Samoa—European, Euro-Asian, and Samoan—and their departure, after nearly two decades of residence, will be regretted by all.

New Administrator Well-known in Fiji

Lieutenant-Colonel F. W. Voelcker, DSO, MC, of Keri Keri, Bay of Islands, NZ, was born in London almost 49 years ago. He served in World War I, in which he was wounded and taken prisoner in 1915. Despite three escapes, he was held prisoner for 3½ years. Later, he served in Aden and India until coming to New Zealand in 1928.

In World War II, he went to Fiji in 1940, and in December, 1942, was appointed to command the 3rd Battalion, Fiji Infantry Regiment, which he took to Bougainville in March of last year. One of his men was Corporal Sukanalvalu, the first member of the Colonial Forces in the recent war to win the VC. Colonel Voelcker, who returned to New Zealand last month, was awarded the DSO and the American Bronze Star.

The NZ Prime Minister said very favourable reports had been received about Colonel Voelcker's ability and understanding in dealing with all the problems of the Fijians under his command. That experience and understanding would be of considerable value in the discharge of his important duties in Samoa. He would proceed to Samoa in March, 1946.

Miss V. R. Dixon, Miss K. A. Smythe, and Miss J. A. Guthrie arrived in Suva in September to take up duties on the nursing staff of the War Memorial Hospital.

NAURU OFFICIALS MURDERED BY JAPS

Tragic Story of Events from 1942 to 1945

AS soon as the Japanese garrison on Nauru surrendered, on September 13, to a force of 250 Australians who arrived on two small vessels guarded by HMAS "Diamantina," a search was commenced for the people who had been left on Nauru in 1942—seven Europeans, about 1,200 Nauru natives, and some hundreds of Chinese. The Chinese, and a few natives, were found—all others were missing.

It was announced in the Australian Parliament on September 19 that, on March 26, 1943, the Japanese murdered the following Europeans, who had voluntarily remained on the island, in 1942, to care for the natives:—

LIEUT.-COLONEL F. R. CHALMERS, Administrator.

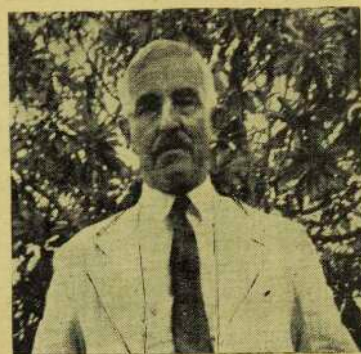
DR. B. H. QUIN, Government Medical Officer.

MR. W. H. SHUGG, Medical Assistant.

MR. F. HARMER (Engineer), and MR.

W. H. DOYLE (Overseer), of the British Phosphate Commission's staff.

Two Roman Catholic missionaries,



Lieut.-Colonel Chalmers.

Father Kayser and Father Clivaz, who also remained on the island, were transferred by the Japanese in 1943 to the Caroline Islands, together with 1,200 Nauruans, including the head-chief and the majority of Nauruan women. The general health of the remaining natives and the Chinese was found to be better than expected, and few were actually sick, although subsistence had been restricted to pumpkin food only.

It appeared that the Japanese had made extensive plans for holding Nauru against what they imagined would be a frontal assault. Enormous labour had been expended in getting big guns ashore, dragging them up to high places on the island among the coral pinnacles, and bedding them in cement, among most elaborate fortifications. The island was by-passed by the Allied Forces, however; the Jap garrison was cut off from all communications with Japan; and the Japanese were close to starvation when they surrendered.

WHEN the surrendered Jap officers were questioned, they declared that the Europeans were killed by Allied bombs when the American Air Force made its first raid upon Nauru about midnight on March 26, 1943. But it was soon established that the Japs had declared that, if Nauru was attacked by our aircraft, the Europeans in their hands would be

executed. That is precisely what happened.

Here is the story as told to our officials by Harry, a Nauru police boy:

"About 5 a.m. (in the morning following the air raid) just as dawn was coming, the Japanese officers gathered the white men in a room, and told them they were to die by beheading.

"I peered through the door, though they never knew I was there.

"They killed Dr. Quin first. Just before they led him forward he put a rosary around his neck and I supposed he was praying. Then came the sweep of the sword.

"I was overcome with horror and panicked at the thought of what they would do if they knew I was a witness of their crime.

"I ran away. From a distance I saw them loading the bodies into a truck. The white feet protruded from the covering tarpaulin.

"The bodies were buried—I don't know where.

"The Japanese took care to hide all evidence of their crime. They burned the white men's distinguishing shoes, and socks and clothing."

Who gave the order for the execution is not yet known, but Harry named Lieut.-Commander Nakayama, a thin, cold-faced marine staff officer, as having been present at the butchery. Nakayama is now a prisoner.

MAJOR CAMERON, a South Australian MP, paid a high tribute in the Australian Parliament to the character and courage of Lieut.-Colonel Chalmers, under whom he served in World War I. He demanded that Australia "should peel off her kid gloves," and see that this horrible crime was properly punished.

Territories Minister Ward said that all possible information was being gathered, with a view to punishing those responsible for the murder. There were legal difficulties, because Nauru was a mandate, held jointly by Britain, Australia and New Zealand.

Lieut.-Colonel Chalmers became Administrator of Nauru in 1938. He took a keen interest in the work, and was held in highest esteem on the island. After the phosphate works were bombed by the German raider in December, 1940, Lieut.-Colonel Chalmers sent his wife and daughters back to his home in Tasmania; and, a year later, when it was considered necessary to withdraw our front against the Japanese to a line just north of Australia, and European personnel were sent away from Nauru and Ocean Island, the Administrator refused to leave the natives. Two other officials, Dr. Quin and Mr. Shugg, similarly animated by a high sense of duty, decided to remain. Mrs. Chalmers did not long survive this parting—she died at the end of 1942.

MR. M. RIDGEWAY, who was accountant and collector of customs in the Administration when the Japanese war started, and who left the island early in 1942 with the majority of Europeans, returned with the Australian force to take over as Acting Administrator, and he is now in charge of civil affairs there.

The Administration (Australian-controlled) is now co-operating energetically with the British Phosphate Commission whose headquarters are in Melbourne in an endeavour to get the phosphate

plants of Nauru and Ocean Island back into operation. Much damage has been done, both by demolition prior to evacuation in 1942, and by the Jap invaders. Months must elapse before the two islands are again producing an appreciable amount of the valuable phosphatic rock.



Dr. B. Quin.

THE radio station on Nauru will be reopened in November. Mr. E. M. Gollan, who was officer-in-charge of Nauru radio at the evacuation in 1942, left Sydney for the island this month, with a considerable quantity of equipment. He had been trying to ascertain the fate of four young Nauruans, trained in radio work, whom he left there 3½ years ago, but could get no word of them, or of the condition of the station. It is probable that he will have to rebuild the station and train new assistants.

DEATH OF MR. JAMES BALLANTYNE

MR. JAMES BALLANTYNE, of Samarai, Papua, passed away at Cairns on October 3. Although he had retired several years ago, he could not keep away from his ruling passion, ships, and every day he was at his son's shipbuilding yard, smoking and yarning with old friends, and admiring the lines of ships taking shape under his son's capable hands. In the yard, he collapsed and died suddenly. He had, a few weeks previously, celebrated a joyous reunion with his daughter, Mrs. George Hanson, who had just returned after eight years in Europe.

Mr. Ballantyne was liked and respected by the old-timers—the miners, schooner-men, planters, recruiters and traders. His skill and his purse were unfailingly at the service of the unfortunate. He lived more than 40 years in Papua; built, owned and operated two slips and ship-building yards at Samarai, and pioneered the old family home, Konabirubiru Plantation. He served his apprenticeship in the world-famous shipyards of Camper and Nicholson, Portsmouth, England.

Miss Nancy Kearsley, fourth daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Kearsley, of Suva, Fiji, was married at the Pro-Cathedral, Suva, on September 1, to Captain John S. Thomson, MBE, of Glasgow. The young couple left Suva in September to spend six months' leave in Britain.

MR. HAROLD PAGE Tribute to NG Secretary and His Son

IN a statement on October 5, the Australian Army Minister (Mr. Forde) said:—

"Members will be aware that Mr. Harold Page, brother of Sir Earle Page, who was Government Secretary and Deputy Administrator of New Guinea at Rabaul at the time of its capture by the Japanese, is among the New Guinea civilians now missing. I extend to members of Mr. Harold Page's family the Government's sympathy in this unhappy time—which is accentuated by the fact that Mr. Harold Page's son, Temporary-Captain Robert Page, is also missing, as a result of operations in the Pacific area."

Mr. Forde said it was appropriate that he should refer to the gallant services of Captain Page, who was awarded the DSC. At the time of the award, it was known that his father was in Japanese hands and, on account of this and for other security reasons, action was taken to preclude an announcement from appearing in either the London or Commonwealth of Australia "Gazette." "The operations which resulted in this award were of a secret nature, and were undertaken under conditions of extreme hazard. His skill, courage and devotion to duty in the face of the enemy were important factors in bringing the operations to a successful conclusion. Further details of this most gallant battle in the history of the AMF will be released soon. It is with great regret that I announce that, as a result of other exploits of a somewhat similar nature, this officer has been posted missing, and his fate is as yet unknown."

There are three well-known brothers in this distinguished family—Sir Earle Page; Mr. Harold Page, Government Secretary in New Guinea for 20 years; and Rev. Roger Page, a leading resident of Tonga.

"EXPRO" PROPERTIES Has Australian Government Any Policy?

CANBERRA, Oct. 5.

THE Government is considering the position of planters who were purchasing properties in New Guinea from the Custodian of Expropriated Property when war came. The matter is bound up with the question of rehabilitation of the European residents of the Territory.

This reply was made in reply to a question by the Opposition:

"(1) What scheme, if any, has the Government evolved regarding adjustment of the contracts between the Custodian of Expropriated Property and New Guinea planters in respect of the properties bought by them after World War I. and before the introduction of the Government's post-war policy relative to the development of Papua and the Mandated Territory of New Guinea?"

"(2) Will the Minister consider—(a) the retrospective elimination of interest from the payment calculations so that all amounts paid by the purchasers might be considered as capital payments; (b) a further substantial writing-off of capital balances now nominally outstanding; and (c) the opening of a branch of the Mortgage Department of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia to give financial accommodation to settlers?"

OCEAN ISLAND IS REOCCUPIED

Six Europeans and All Natives Missing

A FORCE of 140 Australians, from the 31/51 Battalion, under Lieut.-Colonel Kelly, sailed from Bougainville on the Australian vessel "Burdekin" on September 26 for a rendezvous off Ocean Island with the Australian frigate "Diamantina," carrying Brigadier J. R. Stevenson, and the G and E. ketch "Kia Kia," carrying the Resident Commissioner, Colonel V. Fox-Strangways. The two latter vessels had just received the surrender of the Jap garrison at Nauru (180 miles west of Ocean Island).

The ships met off Ocean Island, and the formal surrender of the Japanese garrison was received by Brigadier Stevenson and Colonel Fox-Strangways aboard the "Diamantina" on October 1.

When the Australian force landed, it was found that the only people on the island were the 500 members of the Jap garrison. The following are missing, and have not been accounted for:—

Mr. C. G. F. Cartwright, secretary of the G. and E. Administration, who volunteered to remain behind and care for the natives, when evacuation was ordered early in 1942.

Two officers of the Administration, and two members of the staff of the British Phosphate Commission, who also volunteered to remain.

Father Fubebet, Roman Catholic missionary.

Seven hundred natives of Ocean Island (Banabans).

The following is from a correspondent of the "Sydney Morning Herald":—

THE party found the island clean and well kept—a striking contrast to Nauru.

It and its garrison were handed over by Lieutenant-Commander Nahoomi Suzuki, of the Imperial Japanese Navy, to Brigadier J. R. Stevenson, of the Australian Military Command, who represented General MacArthur at a surrender ceremony on board the Australian frigate "Diamantina."

Smiling, affable, carefully groomed, and wearing white gloves, Suzuki tried to make the surrender a social occasion. He explained that he had "two beautiful sets of bows and arrows," and that he would be happy to present them to Brigadier Stevenson or to any other of "the honourable Australian officers."

Nobody replied to the offer.

The reoccupation of Ocean Island means that the last island of the Gilbert and Ellice Colony (British), partly occupied by the Japs in 1942, has been recovered.

The Japs have done great damage in this British Colony. They occupied Tarawa Atoll in strength, and a great battle was fought there in November, 1943, when they were defeated and thrown out by the United States Marines. The Japs murdered 22 Europeans in Tarawa in October, 1942.

The Japs, at one time, occupied all the northern and central Gilberts, as well as Ocean Island.

Mr. A. Laing, from New Zealand, has arrived in Apia, Western Samoa, to take the place of Mr. A. Shaw, manager of the grocery department of the Morris Hedstrom store. Mr. Shaw has been transferred to M.H., Suva Branch. Mr. Glover has returned, after a round trip by air to manager of the M.H. Branch at Labasa, Fiji.

HEROES OF THE TERRITORIES

Awards for Soldiers and Civilians

THE following awards to former residents of Papua and New Guinea have been announced in Military Orders:—

MILITARY CROSS

Major A. A. Roberts, Assistant District Officer, New Guinea.
Lieut. D. M. Fienberg, Patrol Officer, New Guinea.
Major C. D. Bates, Assistant District Officer, New Guinea.
Lieut. D. M. Fienberg, Patrol Officer, New Guinea.
Lieut. L. J. Stokie, planter, New Guinea.
Lieut. A. F. Gow, Public Servant, New Guinea.

DISTINGUISHED CONDUCT MEDAL

Lieut. J. L. Gilmore, planter, New Guinea.

MILITARY MEDAL

Lieut. T. W. J. Lega.

MENTIONED IN DESPATCHES

Lieut.-Colonel S. A. Lonergan, Assistant Government Secretary, New Guinea.
Capt. G. C. Harris (deceased), Patrol Officer, New Guinea.
Lieut. W. M. English, Patrol Officer, New Guinea.
Lieut. D. C. Joyce, Public Servant, New Guinea.
Lieut. A. W. Lane, planter, New Guinea.
Lieut. W. A. Macgregor, planter, New Guinea.
Lieut. R. Fowler, Public Servant, New Guinea.
Warrant-Officer R. E. Arrowsmith.
Warrant-Officer L. Stamper.
Warrant-Officer J. D. Wilkinson.
Warrant-Officer T. Zoffman.

Honours for Civilians

THE following civilians of New Guinea have received awards for distinguished service, as follows, rendered in the "invasion months," and now acknowledged:—

MEMBER OF ORDER OF BRITISH EMPIRE

MRS. GLADYS HENRIETTA LOVE-DAY BAKER, owner of Langu Plantation, Witu Island, north coast of New Britain.

Mrs. Baker rendered courageous and outstanding service to a party who escaped from New Britain after the invasion by the Japanese. She took charge of the sick and wounded, and was untiring in her efforts. The party finally consisted of 200 who had been subject to all kinds of tropical diseases.

Mrs. Baker gave her services and possessions without stint in a constant endeavour to better the sufferings of the men, and was instrumental in saving many lives. She accompanied the party to Australia where her health broke down and she was obliged to enter hospital. Later she joined the AAMWS, was promoted to lieutenant, and placed on the Reserve in July, 1944.

MR. FRANK HOLLAND, now a lieutenant in the AIF.

Mr. Holland performed meritorious and courageous service in assisting a party who had escaped from New Britain in March, 1942, after the Japanese invasion. He went from Pondo to the south coast in an endeavour to locate and bring back any troops who may have been there. He located a party of 24 whom he brought safely back. The journey was made through difficult country usually occupied by notorious Makolol head-hunters. He also rendered great assist-

ance whilst on the "Lakatoi," the boat used in connection with the rescue of the evacuation party.

MR. GEORGE H. R. MARSLAND, now a flight-lieutenant in the RAAF.

Mr. Marsland performed outstanding work in assisting personnel to escape from Rabaul in March, 1942. As a civilian he volunteered to accompany the District Officer to Rabaul area; and it is reported that if it had not been for Marsland's skill and ability as engineer and navigator, the troops would not have made the 300-miles journey between Pondo and the Witu Islands. He reconstructed a vessel the Japanese had partly destroyed at Pondo, which brought 80 men to Waluidi (Talasea). Mr. Marsland's skill as an engineer, his courage and devoted service were outstanding during this period.

COMMENDATION

LINCOLN JOHN BELL, later a lieutenant in the RANVR, killed in action on April 1, 1943.

ALBERT REGINALD OLANDER, later a sub-lieutenant, RANVR, killed in action, March 7, 1943.

KENNETH CUNNINGHAM DOUGLAS now a lieutenant in the RANVR.

The citation covering the deeds of the three commended men reads:—

During the evacuation from New Britain, in 1942, these three men were placed in charge of the western areas of Talasea, New Britain. They worked unceasingly, and gave devoted service in getting the troops through to Itoki Plantation. All three refused to leave New Britain on "Lakatoi" in March, 1942, although they knew if captured by the Japanese they might be executed. However, they remained in New Britain, and were responsible for much secret intelligence being forwarded to Allied Forces.

NEW CHIEF JUSTICE WELCOMED

Special Greeting for Maurice Scott

SUVA, Sept. 25.

THE legal fraternity gathered in strong force to-day to formally welcome to Fiji the new Chief Justice of the Colony, Sir Claude Seton. The criminal sessions of the Supreme Court had been opened with the usual ceremony; and then the members of the Bar extended their welcome to their new chief.

Sir Claude Seton and Lady Seton have been residents of Suva since early August, and already they have made many friends.

Mr. R. Crompton, KC, when following Sir Henry Scott, KC, in welcoming the Chief Justice, said that he would like to take the opportunity also of welcoming home again a very distinguished airman — Flight-Lieutenant H. Maurice Scott, DFC. Maurice Scott was present with them to-day, and he was sure his Honor would like him to mention it.

In returning his thanks to the Bar, the Chief Justice first said he was very glad to join in the welcome to Flight-Lieutenant Scott; and it must be a proud day for Sir Henry to see that this distinguished young man had now returned home. Flight-Lieutenant Scott had done a great war service, and he was sure everybody was very pleased to see him back at the Bar in Suva.

Flight-Lieutenant Scott was attached to the RAF 208 Squadron, and saw combat service in the Mediterranean, Northern Italy, Syria and Palestine. He was in several tight corners, and received injuries that kept him in hospital for some months; but he is steadily recovering. He is spending a month's holiday, looking up old friends in all parts of Fiji.



Some pre-war pageantry was revived in Suva on September 25, when Fiji's new Chief Justice, Sir Claude Seton, arrived at the Supreme Court, in Suva, to open the current session of the Court.

A guard of honour was provided by the Fiji Police, under the command of Assistant Superintendent H. Halstead. Sir Claude, robed in scarlet and black, was met by the Acting Commissioner of Police, Mr. I. E. Lucchinelli, the guard gave him a general salute and a fanfare was sounded by four police trumpeters.

Sir Claude inspected the guard of honour before going into the Court, where members of the Suva legal profession welcomed him.

New Guinea's Lost Civilians

Personal and Economic Disaster

ON page 49 of this issue, there is a list of over 300 civilian residents of New Guinea, most of whom were taken prisoner by the Japs when they invaded Rabaul in January, 1942. They are officially described as "Missing"; but it now seems almost certain that they are dead. A search for them has proceeded throughout the Southwest Pacific and the Far East since Japan surrendered, but no trace of them has been discovered.

Apart from the personal tragedy, this is the greatest economic disaster in the history of the South Pacific Territories. These were mostly exceptional people, pioneers by choice and individualists by force of circumstances, and in their industry and ability lay the economic strength of New Guinea. To show the Territory's administrative and economic loss, it is necessary only to quote the following analysis of the missing people:

Heads of Government Departments	8
Plantation-owners	25
Merchants, commercial managers, professional practitioners	58
Plantation managers	68
Administrative officials, approx.	100
Small traders, clerks, etc.	60
Missionaries*	11

*Not including over 300 missionaries, mostly personnel of Roman Catholic stations, whose whereabouts are at present uncertain.

The replacement of those people, nearly all of whom possessed a wide practical experience of New Guinea conditions, is one of the many problems of the immediate future. Among the men who are missing, and now feared to be dead, are the following well-known figures:

- Mr. H. A. Adams, a leading planter and a member of the Legislative Council.
- Mr. E. Banks, who conducted one of the Territory's principal hotels.
- Mr. R. L. ("Nobby") Clark, head of a principal construction company, and a prominent public figure.
- Dr. R. W. Cooper, Administration Medical Officer.
- Mr. P. Coote, general manager of the extensive Burns Philp enterprises in New Guinea.
- Mr. A. Evenson, manager of the Carpenter desiccated coconut factory at Pondo.
- Mr. C. R. Field, Director of Public Works.
- Mr. V. A. Florence, solicitor, of Rabaul.
- Mr. E. C. D. Green, superintendent of the Keravat Experimental Plantation.
- Mr. Gerald Hogan, head of the Crown Law Department.
- Mr. H. D. Holland, AWA manager in Rabaul.
- Mr. Jan Hoogerwerth, manager of the "Rabaul Times."
- Dr. H. C. Hosking, Administration Medical Officer.
- Mr. F. W. Mantle, Senior Magistrate.
- Mr. George Murray, Director of Agriculture.
- Mr. H. H. Page, Government Secretary and Deputy Administrator.
- Mr. F. V. Saunders, a leading planter.
- Mr. G. W. Spensley, manager of Colyer Watson, Ltd.
- Mr. J. L. Street, Registrar and Official Trustee.
- Mr. H. O. Townsend, Administration Treasurer.
- Mr. H. J. Washington, a leading planter.

MOST OF NEW GUINEA'S MISSING CIVILIANS PRESUMED DEAD

Over 1,000 Soldiers and Civilians Lost on Torpedoed Prison-ship in 1942

THE greatest tragedy in the tragic history of New Guinea is now recognised. Of the 350 civilians (not missionaries) taken prisoner by the Japanese when Rabaul and the adjacent districts in New Britain and New Ireland were invaded, only a handful escaped with their lives. Of those missing, now believed killed, a large proportion disappeared on a prison-ship between Rabaul and Japan in June, 1942.

Another section of civilians, between 300 and 350, all missionaries (mostly Roman Catholics from the stations in the same districts) appear to have been imprisoned by the Japanese, to a large extent, with the non-mission civilians, and there also is grave doubt about their fate. Only a few scores have been located in New Guinea mission stations, and it is feared that many of the others are dead. (LIST OF RESCUED, P. 5)

The following is the sequence of events:

RABAU was occupied by the Japanese, in great strength, on January 23, 1942. The Rabaul community had at least 48 hours' warning of the imminence of Jap attack, and there were ships in the harbour capable of carrying all the male civilians to safety. (The women had been sent away in December.) But, through some bungling, still unexplained, on the part of high officials of the Australian Government, the civilians were retained in Rabaul until the Japs actually arrived.

The Jap landing was resisted by the very small forces we had there, but the fight was soon over, and the defenders and civilians dispersed into the jungle.

In the ensuing fortnight, several hundreds of Europeans, both soldiers and civilians, were rounded up by the Japs on Gazelle Peninsula and westwards in New Britain, and placed in POW camps in Rabaul and Kokopo districts. Individuals were brought in from both New Ireland and New Britain during the next three or four months.

In the early part of 1942, POW cards were written by most of the prisoners, and a number of bags containing these communications were dropped by Jap planes in the vicinity of Port Moresby. One or two bags fell into the jungle, and were not found until months later. Some may never have been found.

Thus, messages were received in 1942 by the relations of a large number of the civilians left in Rabaul, and it was felt that, so far as they were concerned, the war was mostly a matter of weary waiting. The fact that no more messages were received, in 1943 and 1944, was noted, but was not regarded as alarming. The Japs were known to be cruel prison-masters, and it was assumed that the people from New Guinea had been taken away to some remote place. The following events were not known until after Japan surrendered, and we were able to piece together various odds and ends of information.

THE Japs seem to have gathered together in 1942, in or near Rabaul, the following classes of prisoners:

	Approximate only
Soldiers	900
Nurses	20
Civilians, non-official, about	240
Civilians, officials of Administration, about	110
Civilians, missionaries, about	350
	1,620

These totals have been compiled from an analysis of a series of official statements made regarding Rabaul POW's.

It seems to be clearly established, however, that in June, 1942, the Japanese placed aboard a small freighter, the "Montevideo Maru," in Rabaul, for transfer to Japan, 885 soldiers and 208 civilians. This apparently left over 400 civilians, including missionaries, and less than 100 soldiers still in the Rabaul area.

The "Montevideo Maru" was torpedoed—presumably by an Allied submarine—off the coast of Luzon (Philippines) on June 22, 1942. An announcement to that effect was made by the Japanese radio. Two people have reported to us that they heard the announcement—Captain Bertie Hall, a well-known New Guinea ship-master, who was in a prison-camp in Amoy, China, and who has just arrived in Sydney; and a brother of Mrs. Meadon, of Rabaul, who heard it on short-wave when he was in the Morobe district of New Guinea. This report from Tokio in 1942, and a statement recently obtained in Tokio, said that the vessel was lost with her entire company.

Soon afterwards (late in June, 1942) another vessel left Rabaul carrying approximately 17 of our nurses, and 60 officers of the 22nd Battalion. It reached Japan. (The story of how the nurses were liberated was told in September "PIM.")

This leaves over 400 of the Rabaul civilians unaccounted for—some 300 to 350 mission personnel who may be found on mission stations in New Britain and New Ireland, and some 50 non-mission civilians, who are presumed to have died in captivity in the Rabaul area.

IMMEDIATELY after Japan surrendered, and we began to liberate our people from the prison-camps, the search for the Rabaul civilians commenced. Although a few of us were uneasy, it was generally believed that all those civilian internees would be quickly found. Preparations were made to give the prisoners every possible help. As reported in last issue, the Department of External Territories created a Prisoners' Welfare section, put Mr. A. J. Gaskin and Mr. Harry Downing in charge of a well-equipped floor at 40 King Street, Sydney, and awaited the arrival of the released Territorians.

As the days passed, and no word came of liberated Territorians, alarm began to (ARTICLE CONTINUED, WITH LIST OF MISSING, ON PAGE 49).

A Personal Impression of Territories' New Administrator

ON September 28, I visited the School of Civil Affairs, at Duntroon Military College, Canberra, where some 50 selected young men are being trained in some of the duties of tropical administration.

There, quite unexpectedly, I met the newly-appointed Provisional Administrator of Papua-New Guinea, Colonel J. K. Murray, who has been the chief instructor at the school—unexpectedly, because Colonel Murray, on September 14, had undergone an operation for appendicitis, and normally should still have been in his hospital bed. I got the impression that Colonel Murray would be a difficult man to keep in bed.

Territorians will be interested in the personality of this gentleman, because they now can look only to him for relief from the bureaucratic tyranny and Socialistic lunacy from which they have suffered for some three years—and still are suffering. If Colonel Murray is "just another of the Canberra-Conlon set-up," then the Territories will be no place for the type of healthy Australian individualist who was in control there from 1920 to 1940.

I SHOULD describe Colonel Murray as a strong, capable, well-balanced man who, if left alone, probably will bring order fairly quickly out of the chaos which now exists in the Territories. As a colonel, he carries the red tabs of the General Staff. As a professor, and head of the Queensland College of Agriculture, he is a person of no mean academic authority. In the latter respect, his Queensland record is excellent.

He is bustling and energetic. Although he was just out of hospital, he set a walking pace that, for me, was little short of a run.

He has a strong sense of discipline. I found him, personally, to be very much the colonel and very much the professor—almost fearfully correct, courteous and formal. He is a spare, middle-sized, very well set up man in his early fifties; his speech is quick and alert, and his opinions unhesitating and definite. He is not the kind of person with whom one would take liberties; on the other hand, I think one could most confidently appeal to his sense of humanity and justice. If his record means what it seems to mean, he will be the first to recognise that his greatest disadvantage in his new job is his lack of practical experience of the problems of tropical administration and tropical settlers, and he will proceed accordingly.

BUT will Colonel Murray really have a chance of proving his value as Administrator? Long before his appointment, the ineffable Mr. Ward had produced the Provisional Government, the new and revolutionary Native Labour Regulations (which crucify and cripple the European settlers), and the Production Control Board, which puts private enterprise into shackles.

The new Administrator comes in with both policy and administrative machinery already created for him—little appears to have been left to his judgment and capacity. Whatever he may think of the set-up, it seems that little remains for him to do except operate the machine created by the combined genius of E. C. Ward, J. R. Halligan, Colonel Conlon, and a sparkling array of eager anthropologists. Sooner or later, that machine will break down. The absurd creation carries within itself the instruments of its own

TROPICALITIES

THE optimism of the Hon. Leonard Murray, CBE, thus expressed at a gathering of Territorians in Sydney on August 22:

"I believe that it has been suggested that there has been on occasion an unhealthy jealousy, amounting almost to dislike at times, between the two Territories of Papua and New Guinea. I do not believe that any such feeling ever existed. What has existed has been a healthy rivalry which has tended to stimulate the best efforts in each Territory, and which has been quite free from any bitter partisan feeling.

"Anyway, the future must be one of common effort, with mutual loyalty to each other, and with common pride of achievement."

CHICKEN-FARMING on Mangaia, Cook Islands, is a worrying job. The bush is full of wild cats, real miniature panthers. Out of a clutch of 20 chicks, one may—if lucky—raise three to henhood. The cats get the rest! Wire-netting is too expensive; and the war has made it unobtainable, anyway. Our only consolation is that the rats, who used to steal the eggs, now get no show. We do, at least, see our eggs hatched!—E.G.

THE ancient wheeze about "That ain't no lady—that's my missis!" had its parallel recently in my little bailiwick up here on the cliff (writes a resident of a Polynesian island). On boat-day, I went to the local G.P.O., bedight in real European raiment—a suit. Coming back, I passed two native kids, of tender age, in the village street. One knew me; the other didn't. Conversation (translated):

"Look—there's a papa'a from the ship."

"Garn, that ain't no European. That's Etii!"

I have been 20 years a resident here—and now feel that those two decades of trading are not in vain—I am now one of the gang.

THESE timeless Islands! The Spanish have a word for it—"Manana." The Cook Islanders also have a word quite as musical, and with the same meaning: "Ariana" (bye-and-bye, or never do to-day what you can put off until to-morrow). The spirit of Ariana is that mystic something which gives the Islands their peculiar fascination, and causes us to tarry.

Only this week the manager of a big local trading firm received from his agent, on a far northern atoll, the following brief message: "Please ask headquarters to return the sewing-machine which I sent for repair 22 years ago."

Which shows what I mean.

—W. S. Bond, Rarotonga.

destruction. I shall venture a prophecy. Having met Colonel Murray, and formed certain opinions in relation to his character, I am of the opinion that he will either retire from the Administratorship at an early date, or he will play an important part in getting rid of Mr. Ward's monstrous creation, and re-establishing Australian settlement and private enterprise in the Territories. I somehow cannot see J. K. Murray dancing to the tune that Canberra has been piping during the past two years.—R. W. ROBSON.

TRANSPORT is difficult in the Pacific these days—even for those who run it. Mr. Harold Gatty, who came out from America in July to set in motion the machinery for the resumption of Pan-American Airways Trans-Pacific service, expected to take in the whole business in a matter of weeks. But when he reached his terminal point in Australia, he found that the means whereby he hoped to return to the States had curled up and withered on the stem.

Finally, he departed from Suva on September 19—but not without a prolonged stay in Auckland.

While in the Dominion he bemoaned his lot each meal-time to another hotel patron sitting at the same table. Finally, after days of this, his tablemate turned up one morning with a bright idea.

"Look," he said, "I know just the bloke who can fix you up. I don't know him personally, but I can get you an introduction to him, and if there is anyone in this place who can fix air transport to America for you, this is the man."

Mr. Gatty was interested, but suspicious. "What's his name?" he asked.

"He's the chap who flew round the world with Wiley Post—he's now with PAA. His name's Harold Gatty."

ONE of the first things noticed by the visitor to Fiji is that the only sugar available is raw sugar. Although this Colony has a sugar economy, the sugar traffic has been all one way for the past five years. There is no refinery in Fiji; and, although it has been possible to freight the raw product to New Zealand there has been no shipping available to bring the refined sugar back.

To one who sets little store by economic finagling between countries there seems no good reason why it is not possible to complete the business of refining right here in the place where sugar is grown. New Zealand, however, apparently hugs to herself the privilege of refining the crude sugar and re-exporting it to the land of its origin.

Due to strikes, the southern States of Australia were having considerable heart-burning over raw sugar earlier this year, Australia was all for its pure white crystals; but the raw sugar is accepted here by Fiji residents without comment.

The grains, however, show a tendency to stick together, and for that reason raw sugar is not exactly a social success. Instead a free-running trickle of white grains into your tea cup, you get the plop and the backwash of a congealed spoonful of brown sugar.—J.T.

WHILE large centres like Sydney and Auckland, in more or less close touch with Fiji in normal times, have at least one hotel which is a rendezvous for ex-Fiji residents and visitors from the Islands, it is unusual to find a somewhat similar state of affairs in more remote centres.

This happened in Mackay, Queensland, early in October: A. V. Guy, Fiji Lands Department, on leave, walked into "Barney" McGuire's popular hostelry with R. C. Macpherson, Mackay "Daily Mercury," late of the "Fiji Times and Herald," to say, "Bula balavu" over a couple of beers. The drinks had just been poured when in walked W. N. Cowie, Civil Aviation Department, radio-man, relieving at Mackay, and formerly of ZJV and VPD2, Suva. He was accompanied by a chance-met ex-Fijian resident, W. G. Glichrist, once of the Suva

Town Board staff, and now aerodromes inspector with the Civil Aviation Department.

Needless to say, quite a few were "knocked over" and many an old tale of Suva retold before the day's beer quota cut out. "Barney" McGuire's has become Mackay's Fiji Club—at least temporarily.—R.C.M.

FOUR absurd stories from Western Samoa:

American visitor: "And do they still practise polygamy in this island?" Boy student: "Yes sir. Every evening at four-thirty, sir."

Mrs. Mandrill: "Could you tell me the name of that pretty little bird?" Island boy: "Yes madam. It is called the 'Tiotala'." Mrs. Mandrill: "Oh, what a pretty name. Now, what would that be in English?" Island boy: "The lavatory bird, madam."

Planter: "Hi, boy, you must not go into that room while my wife is bathing." Boy: "No, boss. I bin-look troo de key-hole, till 'e finish."

Mrs. Black: "Just fancy, a young girl like that being born of twins." Mrs. Brown: "Well, you know, they will eat these 'double bananas'."

THE old Tyneside custom, of borrowing a pie from the neighbours to grace one's festal and guesal board, is not unknown in Pohnesia, too. Only here, tins of various meats form a pyramid on the feast-table. The "Geordie" never, of course, cuts the borrowed pie! His guests don't, either (I fancy someone slips them a hint—that, or telepathy!). And, likewise, the tins of meat from the huts next-door, go back, after the feast that a villager may give in honour of his guest from Aitutaki, etc., as virgin canisters unprofaned by machete-point (we don't use tin-openers). But one of these days, someone must forget. May I live to see it!—ETI.

LITTLE Mary was an inveterate thumb-sucker. Nothing her mother could do seemed to break her of the habit. At last one day, very fed up, her mother said: "Look here, Mary, if you don't stop sucking that thumb of yours you'll blow up and bust."

A few days later the local ladies' patriotic society met at Mary's house, and amongst them was a young woman shortly to become a mother.

Mary, who had been permitted to sit in, was obviously fascinated by this lady and followed her every movement, silently, for quite half-an-hour. Finally, unable to contain herself any longer, she planted herself in front of her and, during a lull in the general conversation, said in a high, childish treble: "I'll bet I know what you've been doing!"

Ball For Territorians on New Year's Eve

THE New Guinea Branch of the Country Women's Association announces that a

New Year's Eve Ball

will be held at The Coronet, George Street, Sydney.

As the booking is limited, Territorians who wish to reserve places should, as early as possible, apply for reservations to Miss Savage (Treasurer), 41 Queen Street, Woollahra, Sydney (or telephone MW2868).

The Branch held a successful Ball in Sargent's Ballroom, Sydney, on September 14, and a sum of £72 was thus raised for the New Guinea Prisoners' Welfare Fund.

The death was announced recently of Mr. W. C. B. Baverstock, who was a District Officer in the Gilbert and Ellice Colony between 1920 and 1935. He spent many years in Fanning Island.

Mrs. A. H. Steward, a resident of Fiji since 1903, died at the home of her son, Mr. Reg. Steward, of Suva, on September 28. She was 77 years of age.

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The Terms Upon Which Traders May Enter the Territories

THE following circular letter, dated September 12, has been sent to various Islands interests by the Australian Department of External Territories, Canberra:

IT is expected that the transfer to Civil Administration of Papua and that portion of New Guinea south of the Markham River will be effected during October, 1945.

With regard to future trading and other commercial activities in the Territories, recent decisions of the Government include the following, namely:—

(1) Private enterprise will be permitted to establish trading activities for the supply of stores and other requirements, except native trade goods.

(2) Individual Europeans—e.g., missionaries, planters, etc.—will be permitted to indent stores and equipment direct from Australia.

(3) Private enterprise will be permitted to re-open hotels and boarding-houses.

(4) The Australian-New Guinea Production Control Board will continue, for the time being, to conduct native trade

stores and, also, to handle the marketing of the products—e.g., copra, rubber—from native industry and from European plantations.

These decisions, so far as they relate to private enterprise and private individuals, are subject to the following conditions, namely:—

(a) That the undermentioned commodities must continue to be obtained through the Production Control Board:—

Meat, tinned—native ration pack; salt; wholemeal sharps.

(b) That satisfactory shipping arrangements are made with the Shipping Control Board and the Movement Control Section of the Department of the Army. Territorial Customs duty will apply to goods imported into the Territories.

Commonwealth legislation relating to prices control and to coupon goods is applicable to the Territories.

With the impending return of members of the staff of the Provisional Administration, and the gradual return of other civilians, it is necessary that there should be available, particularly at Port Moresby and Wau:—

(i) Residential hotel and boarding-house accommodation for these people; and

(ii) Retail store facilities to meet the normal requirements of these people.

If you are desirous of resuming activities within the area to be covered by the Provisional Administration, and within the limits of the Government's decisions mentioned above, I would be glad to learn your intentions and what preliminary steps you desire to take in this connection. If you wish to proceed to the Territory, or to send a representative there, to see what arrangements you will need to make, a permit will be necessary and a form of application for this purpose is enclosed. Transport arrangements will also be necessary.

At the present time, accommodation in Port Moresby for civilians is extremely limited, and those civilians who have been permitted to return have done so on the clear understanding that the only supplies available are based strictly on Army ration scales. What facilities are available at present in this connection are under the control of the Australian-New Guinea Production Control Board.

I would appreciate an early reply.

(Signed) J. R. HALLIGAN, Secretary.

Anyone wishing to proceed to the Territories must fill in the usual form (application for a permit to enter the Territories).

EDITORIAL NOTE

MR. WARD'S plan is now clearly disclosed. Planters and traders are to be "permitted" to re-enter the Territories soon; but they are to be completely under the control of the Ward-directed Production Control Board.

Private individuals may establish a store or boarding-house; but they may not touch native trade in any shape or form; they may not trade in any way in the products of the Territories; they cannot organise or control their own transport; they must comply with all sorts of restrictive new Regulations.

These conditions, of course, effectively bar out the Big Firms, and place all the control in the hands of the PCB. Territorians who used once to fill the "Macdhui's" smoke-room with maledictions upon the Big Firms will presently, after a cycle of Ward-ism, lift up their voices in prayer for the return of "the good old days."

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GREAT NEW BASE ON SANTO

Wartime Developments in New Hebrides

SUVA, Oct. 1.
PASSENGERS who came to Fiji from Auckland recently by HMS "Viti," had a long trip as the vessel went first to Espiritu Santo, where she picked up HMNZS "Hawera," which had become disabled in the New Hebrides, and had to be towed back to Fiji.

There was, however, one compensation—the passengers were given an opportunity of seeing the great Allied base at Espiritu Santo. The commanding officer of the RNZAF Flying-boat Base made transport available, and passengers were able to travel over miles of the excellent road which now covers a large part of the formerly lightly populated island.

The extent of the American Naval Base and the great quantity of stores and variety of equipment there gave an eye-opening idea of the terrific power massed throughout the Pacific against Japan.

AMONG RABAU'S MISSING

MR. HARRY GRANVILLE ("Tiki") DOYLE, aged 38, who was among the civilians sent away by the Japanese from Rabaul in 1942, and who has not since been heard of, had numerous Islands connections. His father



was the late John Carton Doyle, sugar planter, of Wagadra, Nadi, Fiji, and his grandfather was the late Cyril H. H. Irvine, KC, formerly of Fiji. Mr. H. G. Doyle was a resident of the Solomon Islands when he married Miss Margaret McDouall, of Sydney; and they later lived on Malaita, and at Kavieng, New Ireland, where he managed Selapiu Plantation. Mrs. Doyle was evacuated in 1941; but Mr. Doyle was taken prisoner by the Japs in Kavieng and sent to Rabaul in January, 1942. His mother and sisters live at Roseville, Sydney. Lieut. Cyril Doyle, of ANGAU, and Flight-Lieut. F. H. Doyle, RAAF, are brothers.

Mr. Ross Smith, of the Lands Department, Fiji, returned to Fiji in September. His leave period in Australia was extended for study purposes, and he recently qualified as a surveyor.



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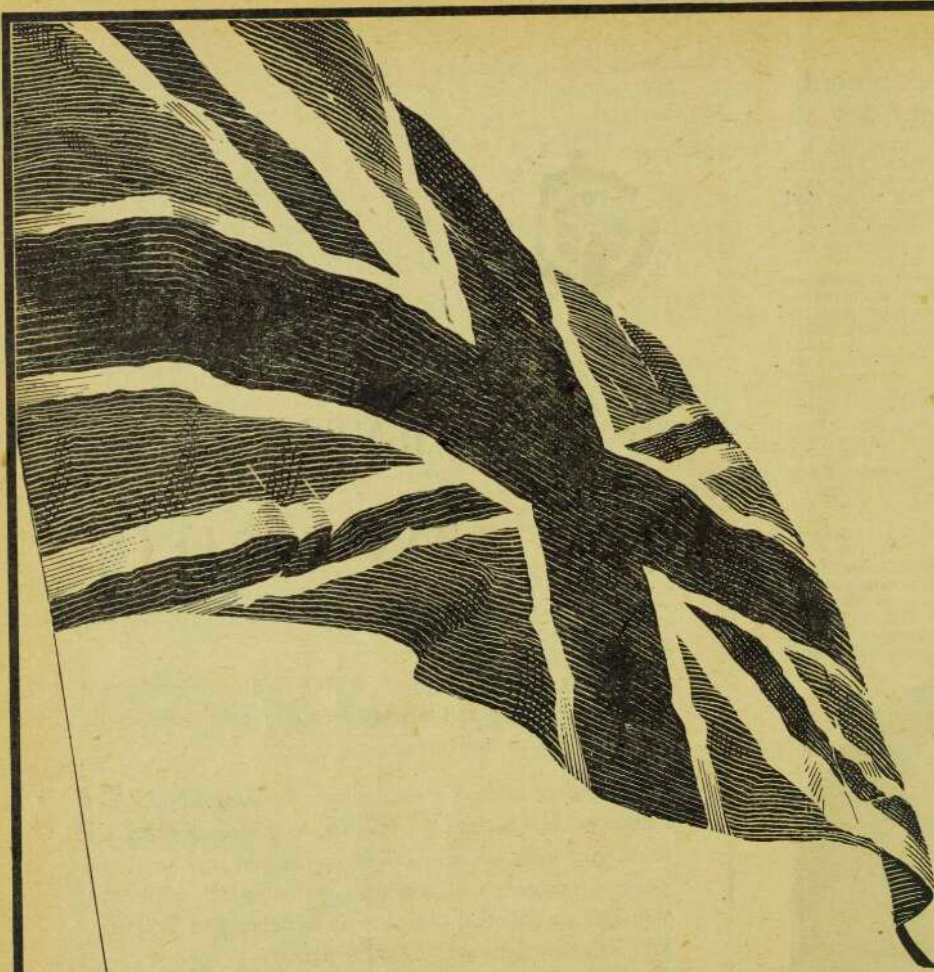
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PAPUAN PLANTERS APPEAL TO BRITAIN FOR HELP

Ward's Madheaded Labour Plan Brings Chaos to Islands Industries

THE dissatisfaction of the European residents of Papua and the Mandated Territory of New Guinea, with the conditions of the "provisional administration," recently created by the Minister for External Territories (Mr. Ward) has taken marked shape in two different directions. Evacuees in Australia are petitioning the Governor-General for relief (see article elsewhere) and the Papuan planters are appealing to Britain.

ON September 24, the following radio-gram was despatched from Port Moresby to the Prime Minister of Great Britain:

"Representative meeting of planters and commercial interests desire to inform you that new (Native Labour) Regulations, as being applied without notice to Territories of Papua and New Guinea by the Commonwealth Government, will result in complete collapse of all planting and other industries immediately.

"We demand in fairness to all interests that a period of 12 months be allowed in which to bring into force these new Regulations, otherwise chaos will prevail and production of copra, rubber and other products will cease forthwith, whilst young planted acres will be lost.

"We are deprived of legal advice, of representation in the Commonwealth Parliament, and of appeal to the High Court. As British subjects we ask you to intervene with a view to justice being done."

The decision to appeal to Great Britain was taken after the planters had been called together on September 22 by the Production Control Board and informed that all contracts of employment made between present employers and natives would be terminated on October 15, when natives would be given the option of entering into a new contract for one year, or engaging as a non-indentured labourer, or returning to their homes. If natives were re-engaged, they must be paid 50 per cent. higher wages than at present.

Immediately after the notification was given to the planters, the Military Administration (which is about to be replaced by the Provisional Civil Government) made a broadcast over the natives' radio service (recently inaugurated) and informed the natives that the war was now over, that all labour contracts were now at an end, and that "they could go home if they wished."

It is reported from Kila Camp, where there is a "pool" of approximately 3,000 native labourers, that only three men signified their readiness to go on working.

THE effect upon both the finance and the productiveness of the plantations is most serious. There are rubber plantations, now actively in production, which employ up to 600 natives. They are to be left without labour.

The planters have been compelled to pay the Military Administration a "recruiting charge" of £4 per head for each of these boys, who were taken on on one-year and two-years contracts. Now, as a result of the new edicts issued by Mr. Ward through the Production Control Board, these contracts are being all wiped out without any notice.

Under the new Provisional Government set-up, the Production Control Board (which is operated by the Department of External Territories) controls all production, labour, distribution of goods, purchase of plantation products, and transport. It apparently is designed to take the place, in the Territories, of the big trading firms. There has been no indication that Burns Philp & Co., Ltd., W. R. Carpenter & Co., Ltd., and Steamships Trading Co., Ltd., will be allowed to resume their operations as merchants, planters, shipowners, etc.

Up to the present, only a few score Europeans have been allowed by Mr. Ward's Department to return to the Territories. They were told that they could go back on condition that they produced copra and rubber, as rapidly as possible. Some have been back on their plantations for one year. These are the men who are now being crippled by the Department's latest move, and have appealed to the British Prime Minister.

A STATEMENT issued on September 24 by the Papuan Planters' Association and other commercial interests, made the following points:

We have without notice been informed by the Production Control Board, under instructions from Canberra, that the minimum wages for natives will be 15/- per month, as from August 1 last. This means a 50 per cent. increase for all general labourers on plantations, etc.

At approximately three weeks' notice, employers of labour have been told that all existing contracts of service must be

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McGill's Authorised Newsagency, 183-5 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne.

AUCKLAND:

W. A. Webb, Waverley Hotel Bldgs., Queen Street, Auckland.

SUVA:

James A. Muir, Suva, Fiji; and Miss R. Castles, Victoria Parade, Suva, Fiji.

SEE ALSO LIST OF AGENTS ON
PAGE 3

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terminated on or before October 15, whilst at the meeting at the Production Control Board on September 22 an announcement was made that all existing contracts are illegal. We claim there is insufficient time in which to replace the labour who will cease work on or before October 15. It is expected industries generally will be brought to a standstill immediately.

Employers wish to know what is to happen with regard to the fees already paid for natives signed on for two years, or one year, whose time has not been completed. Does the employer receive a refund?

How does the Production Control Board and the Army propose to return boys home after the 15th prox.? Are the expenses of passages, etc., for account of employer, Production Control Board, or ANGAW?

What is to be the arrangement regarding signing on of labour after October 15? Will the Board charge up signing-on fees, kits, passages, etc., or does the employer make his own arrangements?

Are natives signed on after October 15 (under the Papuan Native Labour Ordinance) subject to a further cancellation of contract when the new and final Native Labour Ordinance is available?

As most employers of labour, particularly firms in Port Moresby, have no office staff or recruiting facilities, how will they secure replacement labour after October 15?

Employers of labour, seeing that in future they are to be more or less dependent on casual labour, should have a Regulation to protect them, whereby such casual labour must give one month's notice before terminating their services.

Employers ask for a Royal Commission to be set up immediately to thoroughly

investigate the whole position as regards the employment of native labour throughout the Territory, particularly in view of the results of remote control from Canberra.

Under existing conditions, with more or less full labour requirements on estates, ships, etc., there is a considerable shortage of rations, drugs, etc., on estates. Furthermore, at present, most estates have a congestion of produce which cannot be shifted owing to lack of transport. What, therefore, will be the position if the number of natives already employed in transport, shipping, etc., is to be reduced following the signing-off of labour on October 15? It is obvious complete chaos must prevail.

Protests were made through the Production Control Board against the broadcast over 9PA, advising natives of the new Regulations before employers had an opportunity of discussing matters with the Board.

As most of the larger firms in Port Moresby have many estates spread throughout the Territory, it is impossible for them to contact respective managers and natives before October 15, to acquaint them with the new Regulations, and attempt to make any arrangements which might save the situation.

Mrs. I. G. Cowled, wife of Major S. Cowled, chaplain to the Fiji Military Forces, returned to Suva by the September "Matua." Major Cowled expects to be discharged from the FMF by the end of the year.

Mrs. F. G. Harness, wife of Suva's harbourmaster, returned to Suva on the September "Matua." She flew to Auckland for an urgent operation in early August, but now has completely recovered.

CAPTAIN BERTIE HALL BACK FROM JAP PRISON CAMPS

THERE arrived in Sydney at the end of September Captain Bertie Hall, of the British Solomon Islands and New Guinea, who has just ended 48 years at sea (his ship was torpedoed in World War I), with 3½ years in Jap prison camps.

Captain Hall commenced his career in New Guinea in 1921, when he became skipper of the Government vessel "Siar"; and he finished it in 1937, when he fell down a hold on the Carpenter ship "Rabaul," and broke his back. After a long spell in hospital, he went to the East; and he was in the China coast trade when the Jap war started.

He was 18 months in a camp in Amoy, where prisoners were well treated; and then he had two years in Shanghai, where all sorts of ingenious tortures were practised—from the breaking of hands to forcing water up the nose. Thence the whole camp was moved in cattle trucks, through Manchuria and Korea, to a very verminous place in the north of Japan. A cup of rice and a cup of seaweed per day was the usual ration.

Despite his years, and apparently slight physique, Captain Hall retained his health, and is putting on weight rapidly. He reported having seen in Japan and Manila two or three Rabaulites—he especially mentioned Dr. Watch, Lieutenant Kilner and Clarrie Archer. But of the very large party of New Guinea civilians, now missing and feared to be dead, he heard no word whatever.

Mrs. M. A. Wilson, of the Child Welfare Division of the Fiji Medical Department, returned to the Colony in September, after leave spent in Australia.

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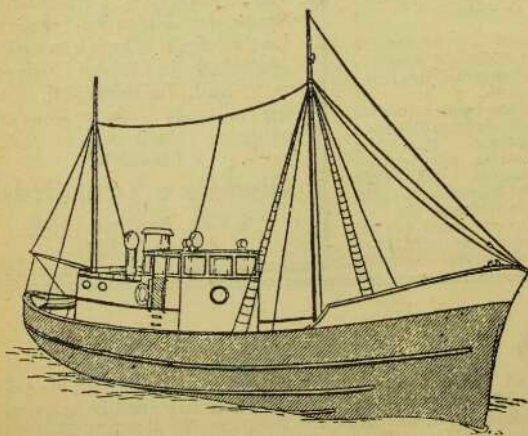
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Another Indian Newspaper

Plurality of Journals to Air Political Views

SUVA, Sept. 27.
FIJI now rejoices in nine Indian newspapers, some of them, it is alleged by local inhabitants, established by disgruntled members of the community for no other reason than to place a good, swift kick in the pants of a rival faction.

The ninth publication, "The Indian Times," made its first appearance on September 15. It is a monthly journal of 26 pages, 6½ of them in English and the rest in Hindustani. Its aims are obscure, unless it is to present the Indian view to the Europeans, but at least in its first issue (English section) it indulges in no kicking of local pants.

The publisher, Babu Ram Singh, is the proprietor of a well-established printery in Suva.

The question that is agitating the Indian population of Fiji at present is the Shephard report on the sugar industry. A brief outline of this report was given in the August issue of "PIM." Briefly, Dr. Shephard exonerated the CSR Co. of blame for the impasse which occurred in the Fiji sugar industry in 1943; and, neither did he recommend a change in the method of assessing the price of sugar-cane. The Indian growers found the Shephard report, generally, unpalatable and, after some preliminary skirmishing, it is now receiving further consideration by a committee appointed by the Governor. A conference between Indian growers began at Lautoka on September 23. So far no agreement has been reached.

The new "Indian Times," in commenting on the sugar situation, says: "We hope that the future land policy will be so devised that it will ensure continuity and security of tenure, provide for the economic size of holdings, eliminate speculation in price, premium or rent but assist bona-fide dealings with land in order to encourage developments; throw open more lands required for the increasing population of the Colony with financial schemes and assistance for progressive development so as to raise the standard of living and maintain it; prevent undue aggregation of land and when long-term leases expire to subdivide holdings for leasing directly to the occupiers or cultivators, and make it easy for everyone in need of land for residential, agricultural, dairying, or commercial purposes, to obtain a lease expeditiously."

HIDDEN MANGAIAN "JANUS" OF HEATHEN DAYS

From Our Own Correspondent

IN a deep cave at Ivirua Village lies hidden an old Maori artifact that the Bishop Museum would give its butter rations for the duration to get.

This is a two-faced, grey-stone human figure, about life size, before which stands a large stone bowl, blackened by fire. This writer believes that an image sculptured to face both ways is unique in Polynesia. The effigy is highly "tabu," as also is the cave it is in.

The likelihood of this Janus seeing the glass-cases of Honolulu Museum is very remote, therefore. But if it could be got out, what a fluttering there'd be in the ethnological dove-cotes!

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KING OF THE COCOS ISLANDS

Youth Reported at London University

AN article in "PIM" in June last, headed "Search for King of Cocos Islands" appears to have created considerable interest. It appears that the King has been found.

The Cocos Islands are in the tropical seas between West Australia and Sumatra. There are 24 of them, and the largest is only 2½ miles long. There are some 1,200 inhabitants, part European, part Malayan.

A grim Scot, John Clunies-Ross, settled in the atoll in 1825. He had married Elizabeth Dymock, who had saved him from the press-gang in London. They had several children.

A fellow-adventurer, Alexander Hare, settled on an adjoining islet with a harem of 165 women—Malays, Chinese and half-castes. There was no friendship between the two establishments. Eventually, the men of the Clunies-Ross party robbed Hare of nearly all his women, and married them, and Hare departed. Thus was Cocos Island settlement established.

Clunies-Ross I reigned for 29 years. He died in 1854, and his son John George, who had married a half-caste Malayan, became Ross II, and carried on a prosperous copra-making business. Cocos became a British protectorate in 1857. In 1886, in acknowledgment of the excellence of their rule, Britain granted the Ross family a permanent title. Ross II built a "palace" on the island—see photograph.

Ross III (half British, half Malayan) died in England in 1910. His son, John Sydney Clunies-Ross (Ross IV) died of

shock following a Japanese air raid on Cocos in July, 1944.

The story goes that Ross IV was very dark of skin, and of an lonely disposition, and he did not marry until late in life. In the early 'thirties, when he was about 60, he went to London, and in a London tea-shop met a young Englishwoman. They were married and had one son. Ross IV returned alone to Cocos Island.

The newspaper story published here in June said that, although a diligent search had been made in England since Ross IV died, to locate the youthful Ross V, no trace of him could be found—and some seemed inclined to doubt his existence.

A correspondent now sends us a recent newspaper clipping, which says: "John Clunies-Ross, whose father, Governor of

Cocos, was killed in a Japanese air raid last year, is now being prepared in London University, to assume his unique 'kingship'."

A WELLINGTON, NZ, CONNECTION

THE reference in June "PIM" to the "dynasty" of Cocos, reminds me that as a youth in Wellington, NZ, I met a Clunies-Ross of that ilk. He was "tall, dark, and handsome," like a certain type of Tahitian, and much addicted to yachting and swimming.

Mr. Ross was then about 36; and it was observed that he was not, like the rest of us, compelled to work for a living. A few years ago, his death was reported in the Wellington papers, and some details



A photograph of the Clunies-Ross "Palace," taken about 15 years ago by Miss M. L. Devitt, a visitor to the Cocos Islands.



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given of his mysterious connection with Cocos Island.

Ross was a reticent individual; but he was well known as a frequenter of the bays on the eastern side of Wellington Harbour. One of these has a Pacific-island appearance, greatly resembling Avarua, the town of Rarotonga. We Cook Islanders visit it, when in the NZ city, because of that resemblance.

Did Day's Bay perhaps remind Clunies-Ross of Cocos? And was this Ross perhaps a lost heir? His comparatively early death, I believe without issue, surprised me, for he was a vigorous man, of excellent physique.—EDWIN GOLD.

USE OF JAP PRISONERS IN TERRITORIES

THE following question was asked of the Australian Prime Minister in September by Mr. F. C. Spender:

Can the Prime Minister say whether active preparations have been made to guard, feed and provide hospital treatment for the 150,000 Japanese now in New Guinea and adjacent islands, and finally to ship them back to Japan? Having regard to the problem of economic reconstruction involved, is there any reason why the Japanese should not be forced to labour at the task of reconstruction just as they forced Australians and natives in New Guinea to labour? What is the general policy of the Government regarding the housing of the Japanese and their eventual transport to Japan? Are they to be allowed to live in comfortable camps which they have not themselves erected, and what will be the effect on the economy of this country of the obligation to care for these prisoners?

Mr. Chifley replied: The Government desires of course to return the Japanese to their own country as soon as possible, but there is grave difficulty in providing the necessary shipping. The problem has been discussed, but I confess my inability to give a clear indication of when and how it will be overcome. The use of Japanese on labouring work has not been discussed, but it may have been considered by the other Allied powers engaged in the war in the Pacific. I would say that there should be a common policy on that matter. The employment of Japanese prisoners of war (or surrendered enemy, as I think they are now called), wherever they are located, will be considered.

MEMORIAL TABLET TO TARAWA VICTIM

A MEMORIAL tablet to the Rev. A. L. Sadd who, along with 21 others, was murdered on Tarawa atoll, Gilbert Islands, by the Japanese in October, 1942, has recently been completed in Auckland, NZ. It will shortly be erected at a suitable spot in the Gilbert Islands, where Mr. Sadd worked as a greatly loved member of the London Missionary Society, from 1933 until his murder.

When most of the European population of the Gilberts was evacuated, he, with several others, decided to stay behind to care for the natives. He was one of the 22 Europeans murdered by the Japanese as a reprisal for the first bombing of enemy-held Tarawa by the Americans.

The memorial tablet is inscribed in Gilbertese. Translated it reads: "He was taken prisoner by the Japanese at Rongorongo on September 26, 1942, and was killed by them, with 21 others, at Betio, Tarawa, on October 15, 1942. Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown of life."

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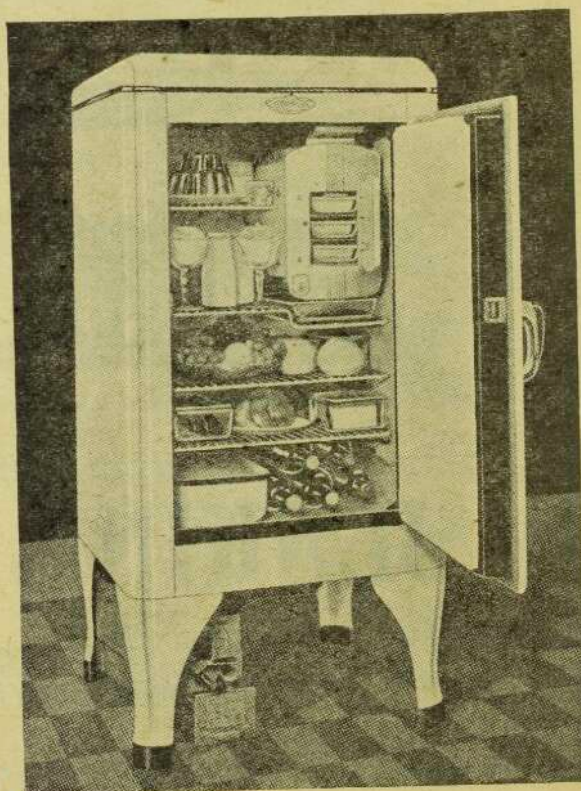
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THE FIJIAN—AND THE BANANA INDUSTRY

Recent Decline Can be Halted if Action Taken Now

THE suggestion has come from certain places in Fiji that the local banana industry is in a bad way; that, in comparison with Samoa and Tonga, it is poorly organised; and that local authorities would be better employed "providing the growers with an incentive for producing better fruit" than searching around for fresh fields for post-war development.

BANANA production in Fiji is predominantly in the hands of the Fijians themselves. Many who see this industry as the most profitable avenue of post-war development for the Fijians are concerned at the falling-off of production in the Colony. They are asking themselves whether this is purely a wartime development, or whether something could not be done now in the way of reorganisation of the banana-exporting industry—especially banana-exporting to New Zealand.

New Zealand has been banana-hungry for the past three years, and New Zealand does not like it much. The questions that have been asked in the NZ House of Representatives, from time to time, in regard to this fruit are, to the outsider, very funny; but the position still is that the arrival of Islands bananas in the Dominion merits a half-column in the newspapers.

It is this banana-consciousness that Fiji's post-war reconstructionists no doubt are anxious to turn now to good account.

IN 1932, New Zealand arranged a quota system with Fiji, Samoa and Tonga for the supply of Islands bananas. In that year, Fiji's quota was fixed at about 39 per cent. of total NZ imports, but in 1935 and again in 1936 this quota was further reduced.

Fiji, pre-war, was not in a strong position to bargain with NZ because, in those years, Fiji obtained most of her manufactured goods and other requirements from Australia. However, during the war, imports from NZ into Fiji have increased considerably; and if this trend persists into the peace, Fiji will have a much stronger bargaining point. In the past it has been natural for Dominion policy to favour the importation of Samoan and Cook Island bananas, rather than those from Fiji.

The year 1938 was an all-time high for imports of bananas into New Zealand; 443,000 cases arrived in the Dominion that year, of which 35 per cent. were from Fiji. In 1943, New Zealand received only 196,604, of which 40 per cent. were Fijian. Since that time production of the fruit in Fiji has rapidly fallen off.

THIS falling-off can be attributed to several factors: the irregularity of shipping after the entry of Japan into the war; the fact that many growers joined the Forces; shortage of inter-island vessels plying between the growing centres and the port of shipment (Suva); increase in local consumption (the equivalent of 35,000 cases was consumed annually during the period when

overseas troops were in the Colony); and finally, shortage of cases.

In common with all other industries during the war, cost of production has also increased. It is estimated that by August, 1943, costs had risen by 30 per cent. in comparison with a 14 per cent. rise in selling price.

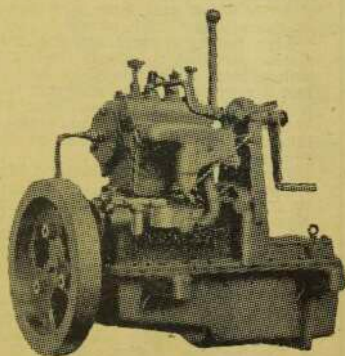
Because of more lucrative work during this period, when Fiji was a great Allied base, and because such a large proportion of Fijians joined the military Forces or took up war work, re-planting as well as the gathering and packing of the mature fruit was neglected. This neglect, of course, has had a cumulative effect; and, if Fiji has recently been unable to fill her quotas to New Zealand, even when shipping was available, it is easy to see why this is so.

Fiji troops are now being demobilised, but the effect of past neglect is expected to be felt in the Colony for at least 18 months after the Fijians have returned to their normal village life.

IN Samoa, bananas are grown not only by the Samoans themselves, but also by Europeans and Europeans. Neglect of banana plantations there was considerable during the period of "dollar prosperity" but by no means as great as that in Fiji. There are no Government-approved buyers for each district in Samoa, as there are in Fiji; the industry is managed by Reparation Estates, a semi-Governmental institution.

The Samoan administration takes 6d. per case in addition to inspectors' fees, and cases are expensive as they are imported from New Zealand. But Samoa has a great advantage in that banana-planting there is concentrated within a comparatively short distance of Apia, and

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transport costs and attendant difficulties are much less than in Fiji.

Conditions in Samoa are now returning to normal—that Territory is far ahead of Fiji in that regard—labourers on war work have long been released, and the banana industry there is well on the way to recovery.

It should be stressed that the banana industry was maintained as well in Fiji as in Samoa until 1943; the Colony's decline in production has been since that year.

It is the opinion of the agricultural authorities in Fiji that the present organisation of the industry is generally sound. The system of licensed buyers—that is, the purchase of all fruit in a district up to the limit of his quota by a recognised buyer at a price fixed by the Government—has operated well, and should be continued. However, re-allocation and readjustment of buyers' areas is necessary, as in some districts banana-growing is no longer carried on.

Improvements could be made in packing the fruit and, to a limited degree, in transport. It is impossible to concentrate the industry as it is in Samoa—the bananas must grow where it is natural for them to do so, and, in Fiji, that is principally in the river areas.

It has been suggested that if these rivers were cleared of obstructions and snags it might be possible to facilitate the transport of the fruit to the packing sheds.

THERE are three post-war possibilities in the way of markets: New Zealand, Australia and Canada.

New Zealand is the only market at present, and it must remain so for some time. It seems logical, too, that this will remain permanently the most important—there is a shipping service already established, and New Zealand will accept all grades of marketable fruit. The only point at issue is how large a share of total Islands banana imports the Colony will enjoy. The banana industry should be given first preference in any future trade negotiations with the Dominion.

It will, however, as stated previously, be at least 18 months before Fiji is in a position to supply the NZ market with a full quota.

Australian fruit merchants and the long-suffering Australian public (which, at least in the southern States, is forced to eat the badly-ripened, flavourless, local product) would welcome the importation of Fiji bananas, but growers' organisations will no doubt do everything possible to block any importations from this quarter. They have done so in the past, and the Australian protectionist-complex is even more strongly developed to-day.

In 1932, Fiji was given an Australian quota of 40,000 centials of bananas per annum, a percentage of only 2.7 of total Australian consumption, but this has rarely been filled. This small percentage, which would have negligible effect on the Australian grower would, however, be worthwhile to the Fijian growers, providing of course that regular cooler space were available on shipping.

In Australia, only the highest grade

fruit would be acceptable and greater care would be necessary in grading and packing than for the New Zealand market.

A serious attempt to establish Fiji bananas on the Canadian market was made from 1934 onwards—and a profitable market was established—but owing to increased shipping costs in 1938 this dwindled away. Canada, however, is a potential peacetime market—better perhaps than that of Australia, as there is, in Canada, no hostile domestic industry.

It seems a little early at this stage to decide out of hand that the Fiji banana industry has declined beyond repair. In a sentence—there appears to be nothing other than time and the re-establishment of regular shipping facilities necessary in order to place the industry on its old pre-war footing. That—and, of course, re-inculcating in the Fijian the idea that there is beauty in labour.

(Continued on page 23)

CIVIL SERVANTS OF FIJI



THE Association of European Civil Servants of Fiji has just completed the two most successful years of its existence. The membership of the Association, which in 1943 was only 80, had risen to 260 a year later, and now stands at the all-time high of 426.

At a recent general meeting the Association decided to admit High Commission officers to membership, and its title has accordingly been changed to European Civil Servants' Association, Fiji and Western Pacific. This photograph was taken at the first meeting of the new Council.

Front row: Miss M. Garland-Matthews (Dept. of Agriculture), secretary; Mr. W. J. Blackie (Dept. of Agriculture); Mr. John Bennett (Registrar-General), the new chairman; Mr. J. L. Brown (Director of Public Works, who was chairman last year); and Mr. R. R. C. Caten (Secretariat).

Back row: Mr. John Hinchey (Secretariat); Mr. W. F. Watson (Treasury); Mr. Harold Cooper (Secretariat); Mr. A. L. Abraham (Police); Mr. E. C. Woodward (Lands Dept.); and Mr. Cedric Harvey (Director of Agriculture).

Mr. Harold Bossley, who formerly was on the staff of the Emperor goldmines, Fiji, and who has been serving overseas with the RAAF for the last four years, returned to Suva in September.

Mr. J. W. Caldwell, of the Lands Department, Fiji, returned to the Colony in September, after leave in Australia.

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It has already been stated that the Fijians were wholeheartedly behind the war effort, and this to the detriment of their own village life and industries. War conditions are rapidly giving way to those of peace, and money will by no means be as easily come by as it has been in the past three years. There is already an established market for Fiji bananas in New Zealand and it is reasonable to suppose that when the Fijians get around to it they will naturally turn to the industry that they have made their own in this Colony.

As to providing "incentive" for producing more and better fruit: that is not a matter for the Government of Fiji alone, but rather a question of international supply and demand.

The greatest danger in Fiji at the moment seems to be that if the Fijian rests too long on his wartime laurels he will wake up some day to find that the banana business, like many others in Fiji, has been taken over by another and further-seeing race.

Miss Shirley Levy, of Bondi Junction, Sydney, was married in October to War-rant-Officer Adrian N. Matthews, son of the late Rev. H. Matthews, of Port Moresby, who lost his life in a Jap air raid on Port Moresby in 1942. The young couple are to reside in Port Moresby, where he will resume his position in the Public Service, Captain J. Frame, of the AIF, also of Papua, was one of the groomsmen.

Three French Navy Officers, Artigue, Lachaume and Lomiere; two Petty Officers, Agostini and Berton; and Monsieur Agez, a Noumea radio operator, have been awarded the Resistance Medal for wartime services in New Caledonia.

MYSTERY OF NEW GUINEA TIMBER

Vast Asset in Territory, About Which Canberra Cannot Make Up Its Mind

THE dithering and uncertain attitude of the Department of External Territories, in relation to the forestry resources of the Territories of Papua and New Guinea, has caused a host of rumours, in which Mr. Ward and his Department are accused of all kinds of bad practices, from Socialism to secret commissions.

All, probably, are unfounded; but, if the Minister and his officials are embarrassed by the suspicions which centre around them, they can blame their own lack of frankness, and their unwillingness to give any indication of what they are going to do with the Territories' timber resources, in relation to the world's clamant need for timber of all kinds.

Reports credit the Department and the New Guinea Administration with an intention to carry out one or other of the following plans:—

- Establish a State-owned timber-getting industry, with saw-mills at several points in both Territories, the lumber to be shifted by State-owned ships. (The "State," in each case, being Australia.)
 - Dispose of the timber concessions to an operating company, in which the State shall own 51 per cent. of the shares.
 - Dispose of timber rights to certain monopolistic interests which have been wooing certain Ministers.
 - Dispose of the timber concessions to private enterprise, on a royalty basis.
- One report says that the Government—or, at least, four minor Ministers, repre-

senting a little-respected section of the Government—has been carrying on discussions with a "local syndicate," headed by a Wau dentist and a New Guinea aviator, and that the negotiations had proceeded a considerable distance. It was not indicated that any of the interests concerned had any practical knowledge of the lumber industry—the profit motive seemed to be the main consideration.

Well-wishers of New Guinea hope still that the Australian Government will display enough vision to use Australia's clamant hunger for timber to establish a new and profitable industry in that Territory. The only certain way to do this is to throw the situation wide open to private enterprise, under proper control. But no such decision is expected from the people who now are in charge in Canberra. They are more likely to try to establish a State-owned industry.

MEANWHILE, to get some idea of the timber resources of New Guinea, we have had an interview with Mr. T. Flower, well known as a lumber contrac-



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tor in New Guinea and Papua, before the war. When the civilians were evacuated, Mr. Flower tried to induce the Australian military authorities to make use of his services as a timber-getter. The Australians were not interested.

So Mr. Flower, like many other good Territorians, offered his services to the Americans; and the Americans, as in many similar cases, did not waste five minutes. He was engaged forthwith (at £2,000 per annum!) to make a survey of the timber available in all the places where military operations were in progress or contemplated. He spent two years on this work, and gathered valuable data.

The American commanders wished to avoid loading their incoming ships with necessary lumber—they wanted Mr. Flower to produce timber close to where the timber was needed.

Mr. Flower surveyed the timber resources of the New Guinea coast, and of the islands along the coast, from Port Moresby right around to the island of Noemfer, beyond Biak (off Geelvink Bay, in Dutch New Guinea). He operated saw-mills at or near Port Moresby, Milne Bay, Goodenough Island, Lae, Finschhafen, Manus (in the Admiralties), and on the Dutch New Guinea coast. The timber from the latter mills went to Leyte and other operational areas in the Philippines.

The production of timber over the two years was enormous—yet, so great are the timber resources of these Territories, the forests were practically unmarked. They took 2,000,000 feet out of a narrow strip in the Finschhafen district, and the removal of the trees could not be noticed.

"That country could supply all Australia's timber needs for a long time—as long as the timber-getters were given some encouragement," said Mr. Flower. "But Australia would have to do something to help the industry. There is an

application before the Tariff Board now to lift the duty on sawn timber from New Guinea. There would need to be assistance at the other end, too. Just before the war, I imported two tractors to New Guinea for lumber work, and the duty on the two machines was £500! Roads are wanted, so that the good timber stands can be got at."

At one period, the Americans were bringing no less than 6,000,000 feet of oregon, from USA, and sawn timber from Australia, into New Guinea, but this was cut down as the New Guinea timber became available.

THE use of New Guinea timber, said Mr. Flower, was really a matter of trial and error. There would be perhaps 20 or 30 different kinds of timber in one area, and they had to decide which was the most suitable.

He used a special kind of mangrove for piling. He also found useful types of mahogany, walnut, cedar, pine and oak—they ranged from the lightest to the heaviest woods. He used a lot of Kasi-kasi, a timber heavier than Lignum Veatu, and of Balsa, which is so light that it is used by the natives for carving models. There was a good deal of Quila, a wood so excellent that the Germans shipped it away from New Britain, before 1914, for the decoration of the Reichstag building. He was interested to find on Oeake Island, near Biak, logs of Quila, indicating that the Dutch had discovered the value of the timber, and were shipping it away from that Territory. There are several softwoods in New Guinea which would find a ready market in Australia.

Mr. Flower strongly urges that, simultaneously with timber-getting in New Guinea, the work of reafforestation should proceed. He thinks that pines

should be planted on a huge scale, and that they would pay rich dividends.

He expressed confidence in Mr. J. B. McAdam, who was Forestry Officer under the late New Guinea Administration, who has been doing good work under the Military Government, and who is expected to be in charge of forestry under the Provisional set-up — "a good sound man, who really understands the problems of forestry in this tropical Territory."

"OROMETUA" ARE NOT ORDAINED CLERGY

From Our Own Correspondent

MANGAIA, Aug. 20.

IT does not seem to be generally known that the native "orometua" that have replaced the old LMS white missionaries are not entitled, like their predecessors, to be called "Reverend."

Like the native police, these pastors are placed in positions purely upon the caprice, or favour, of the man in charge. The results at times are bad, where some cunning lad succeeds in humbugging spiritual "GHQ" with false piety, and is placed in a mission to mould the life of an island's native community. Such a "whited sepulchre" can do a lot of damage before he is found out and sacked! The LMS has shown a tendency in late years to be excessively tolerant; which is just as bad, in the work-out, as the former rigidity, remembered by the elder folk. The CI are the home of "one-man rule" in religion, as well as administration. Such a system is not in accord, either way, with the spirit of the times, leading often to something remarkably like a Nazi set-up, and frequent abuses of power.

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PHOSPHATE INDUSTRY To be Quickly Restored

IT was officially announced in Canberra late in September that limited production of phosphate on Ocean and Nauru Islands was to commence almost immediately.

The Australian Army has occupied Nauru and Ocean Island, and the British Phosphate Commission is ready for the immediate installation of new machinery to replace whatever of the Islands plant has been destroyed. The estimated production in the next 12 months, however, is not more than about 100,000 tons, compared to the pre-war annual average of over 1,000,000 tons.

The Australian Government will help the Commission to re-establish the industry. Phosphate rock is urgently needed in Australia and New Zealand to step up food production.

Territorians' Proud War Record

"WE are all justly proud of the war record of our natives. But I feel that there might, in justice, be some recognition of the part played by Europeans of the Territories during the war. It was a very creditable part.

"In December, 1941, the white women and children were evacuated, and, about two months later, men over 45 were evacuated under National Security powers. Men under 45 were called to the colours, and they have served with credit, some with high distinction.

"In the 2½ years before the evacuation the number of enlistments in the three fighting services of the Commonwealth was so great that it caused serious difficulty in Papua. The Administration was compelled to refuse permission to any more to enlist. Those who remained not only did double work, but they organised themselves, to a man and to a woman, in every possible way, to further the war effort and to defend the Territory.

"A number of our men have fallen in different operations, a number have been prisoners of war, others have returned, or are returning, with decorations.

"When the facts are fully known it will be abundantly apparent that the white men and women deserved well of the Territory and of the Commonwealth."—Hon. Leonard Murray, Civil Administrator of Papua, at the Paddington meeting of Territorians on August 22.

NEW TB HOSPITAL IN FIJI

SUVA, Sept. 16.
RECENTLY, four hospitals were vacated by the military authorities, and careful consideration was given to the selection of one or other as a tuberculosis hospital. Tamavua hospital was finally selected, for the following reasons:—

The hospital buildings are the most substantial, and have modern operating theatres and X-ray departments. Hot water is laid on throughout the hospital, and a steam plant supplies steam for all sterilisers. Then, too, there is ample accommodation for all nursing and domestic staffs, which is a very important factor. A steam laundry will also be available.

The hospital is centrally situated and easily accessible from all parts of Fiji.

It is near the teaching centres for medical and nursing students.

It is hoped that the hospital will be in use before the end of this year.

Fijians Annoy European Waterside Loafers

CERTAIN gentlemen of the Auckland Waterside Workers' Union have been snarling angrily because some newspaper correspondents compared the achievements of the Aucklanders in handling ships' cargo with what can be done in Suva harbour with Fijian labour. They insist that they can "knock spots" off the native labourers, even while taking time off for tea, and smokes, and other privileges.

I am reminded of an occasion in July, 1945, when I travelled from Sydney to Fiji in an American freighter. The skipper knew the amount of cargo he had

to unload and load in Suva; and, fresh from his experiences in the ports of Sydney and Melbourne, he calculated that his ship would be in Suva harbour for at least a week. We arrived on a Monday morning, and I arranged to have dinner with him on the following Thursday evening. But we calculated without Fijian labour. Those men, working steadily and happily—if one may judge from their occasional singing—cleaned up the whole job of discharge and loading by noon on Wednesday, and the ship was gone on Wednesday evening.

For sheer, deliberate laziness and calculated loafing, I never have witnessed anything equal to what I have seen in the seaports of Australia and New Zealand in recent years.—R.W.R.

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HOT MEALS

Mr. J. B. Wright, formerly of the Cook Islands Government Service, has now taken over as Collector of Customs and Taxes at Apia, succeeding Mr. P. H. Pearce, who has returned to New Zealand.

Miss Nat. McLeod, MA, who was formerly a teacher at Rotorua High School, New Zealand, has been appointed a teacher at the Ifi Ifi School, in Samoa, and travelled there by the August "Matua." Miss O. M. Mays, MA, who also was on Rotorua High School staff, has been appointed to the Malifa School, in Samoa.

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WHERE FIN-ANCE KILLS ROM-ANCE

"Young Man, Stay Away From the Islands!"

BY "NA VOKAI"

A BEACH shimmering silver in the light of the full moon . . . the trade wind crooning in the palm trees . . . the eternal rumble of the Pacific rollers breaking on the fringing coral reef . . . the tinkling of guitars and melodious voices singing the songs of the Islands. Romance with a capital R—so the guide books and fiction of the Islands would have it. Sometimes we see it called the glamour of the South Sea Islands.

Beware, young man—and maiden, too—seekers after this elusive romance and glamour of the tropic seas. Remember that advertising men were ever strainers of the truth, and writers of Islands fiction . . . !

Remember that, hovering round that beach, there will be a myriad extremely vicious sandflies and/or mosquitoes. Predatory crabs wander the sands in the moonlight, and even the most graceful and romantic coconut-palm sometimes drops a heavy nut, which announces not its coming. The old couch by the winter fireside back home can be lots more comfortable—believe me, for I know both.

Perhaps you dream of languorous brown maidens, dressed in a wreath of flowers and a smile, and strumming guitars. All hokey! The missionaries made 'em get dressed years before you and I saw the light, and besides, they nearly all run to fat early in life, and a gigantic waistline soon spells death to romance.

THAT, perhaps, disposes of the more accepted forms of South Sea glamour. But there are one or two other illusions which remain.

You have heard much of the freedom of life in the Islands. There is freedom of a kind. Then, perchance you have heard of lack of convention—a phrase which always sounds attractive to suburban and small-town dwellers. Forget it. Nowadays the Islands are civilised, and one small town is like another—whether it be on the equator or the Antarctic Circle. Everyone knows everyone else's business, and if they should not happen to know it at the moment, they make it their business to rectify the omission at an early opportunity.

Class distinctions are more finely drawn than in the most hidebound small town elsewhere. One is either Government or commerce, and each of those broad divisions has its more intimate cleavages—in the case of the Government, plainly labelled, "Senior Division" and "Junior Division." The Senior Division is almost exclusively the preserve of the appointee who sports an old school tie. The Junior Division is the monopoly of the local-born, and the importation from nearby dominions.

THE greatest illusion of all, however, is coming to the Islands to save money.

We all fall for that. We are offered a job at a salary that is greater than ever we have earned before. But we need it all, and then some!

If you think of coming to the Islands for a couple of years to save money, and then go back home with a fat bank balance to marry the little girl who is waiting there—don't! Marry her now, and stay at home.

Life in the Islands is free and easy, but more easy than free. You receive a nice fat cheque at the end of the month, and you pay out a good slice of it for board and lodging. Then, perhaps you think a night at the pictures will not be too great a dissipation, with the dearest seats priced at two shillings. Remember, though, there are no twopenny tram sections in the Islands. It is probably raining, and you have to take a taxi to pick up your partner for the evening. That is another couple of bob, each way. Then there is a drink at half-time in the lounge of the nearest pub, which conveniently keeps open till 10 o'clock—another couple of bob. Throw in a couple more of the elusive bobs for chocolates and three of them for supper, and the total is fifteen—not much left out of that pound you broke.

Then, of course, some night when there is a big dance in honour of a visiting tourist boat, you will decide to go the whole hog, and have a night out. By the time each tourist boat arrives, the preceding interval has been so dull that you are more than ready for a break and a chance to see new faces.

It will cost you 10/- for two of you to get in—in addition to your taxi fares—but that is only the beginning. You might as well say good-bye to a couple of pounds. Dancing is hot work in the Islands, with the evening temperature in the middle seventies, and humid at that, and the pubs, where most of the dances are held, keep their beer cool. But—on dance nights they know how to charge for it; and, for the privilege of having a glass of beer served on the verandah, you pay one shilling. Probably your girl friend has not your plebeian taste for beer, and prefers a cocktail or two. That will set you back eighteen pence or so a time. Whisky and ginger ale (imported ginger ale—and they never have anything but the imported variety on dance nights), runs to 1/9 a pop. In a dance party of four, that's 7/- a "shout." Yes, it's a great place to save money!

BUT—and this is important—it is not necessary to wait until pay day at the end of the month to have a little dissipation. Certainly, if you want to go to the pictures, you will have to pay cash to get in, and the same applies to a dance; but once that little difficulty is overcome, you need not have a sou in your pocket for the rest of the evening, or a care in your head for the rest of the month.

How? you ask. My dear innocent, your name is good. You sign chits for your drinks, you can have your supper on tick, and you say to the taxi-driver, "My car, driver." After awhile, in the Islands, it probably is your car in everything but title, for more likely than not you will have paid off the mortgage on it.

I said that you need not have a care on your head till the end of the month. Exactly! But at the end of the month the bills roll in, and as like as not you will have enough to make a really good bonfire. You receive that nice fat salary

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in one hand, and pay it out with the other, only to find more often than not, there is a substantial difference between the salary and the total of the bills—on the wrong side. And so it goes on—with that trip home on leave, or to that little girl who is waiting, monthly receding farther and farther into the distance.

Young man, heed this gipsy's warning, and stay away from the glamorous, romantic South Sea Islands. Go east or west or north, but keep away from the South Seas. Finally, if you must come, come with a return ticket on a holiday, but don't overstay the limits of the ticket.

Who said South Sea Islands Romance?

HIGH COST OF MURDER

APIA, Sept. 25.
ACCORDING to recent reports from Niue Island, a murder was recently committed there. A Niuean fatally injured another native during a quarrel, the victim of the assault later dying in hospital.

A difficulty has cropped up now regarding the trial of the accused, which will have to take place before the Chief Judge of Samoa, who has to travel to Niue from Apia. Counsel for the defence (an Auckland solicitor, Mr. Baxter) has to travel to Niue from Auckland via Rarotonga.

In view of the sparse communications of Niue with the outside world the problems of handling the trial are rather difficult to solve, and the costs of the case will, in any case, be disproportionately high.

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Shortage of Plantation Labour for Samoa

Samoans Do Not Want Chinese Settlers

From Our Own Correspondent

APIA, Sept. 15.
EUROPEAN planters are anxious about future aspects of the plantation labour problem, particularly with regard to Chinese indentured labour, now that the Pacific war has ended.

Some 300 indentured coolies, who were due to be repatriated after the expiration of their term of indenture, but had to extend their term owing to the war, lack of shipping, etc., may now have to be sent back to China; and it is doubtful whether replacements can be arranged.

At a recent conference between the Chinese Consul and Samoan leaders, the former asked the Samoans to agree to the Chinese remaining in Samoa as free settlers, as many of them had formed family associations with Samoan women and had children.

The Samoans flatly refused to comply with this request, pointing out that the coolies had come to Samoa for a three years' term only, and had been well aware that they would be repatriated after the expiration of this term. The Samoans objected to a large number of free Chinese acquiring land, starting shops and competing against Samoans.

From the point of view of the European planters, it is a matter of indifference whether the Chinese are made free settlers or repatriated. They would lose their labour in any case, as it is doubtful whether the Chinese, when freed of their indenture, would continue to work on European plantations.

Though Samoan plantation labour is cheaper, and at present plentiful, it will be difficult to train Samoans for skilled and permanent plantation work now done by Chinese specialists.

TONGAN HOSPITALITY

A RECENT visit to Tonga is not likely to be forgotten by Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Boucher, of Auckland. Mr. Boucher is the NZ Agent of the Tongan Government, so the Tongans chose to regard his visit as official, and to make the occasion one for the display of the famous Tongan hospitality.

They were met on arrival at Nukualofa by the Crown Prince, the Hon. Ata (Premier), Mr. C. W. T. Johnson (British Agent and Consul); they were entertained by Queen Salote, DBE, at afternoon tea, and by other leading people at a beach picnic, or feast; they were the guests of honour at dinners given by the Hon. H. E. Nicolson (Minister for Finance) and Mrs. Nicolson; and by Mr. C. W. T. Johnson. When the "Matua" arrived at Vavau, Mr. and Mrs. Boucher were welcomed by the Hon. J. K. Brownlee (Chief Justice) and

the Hon. Akau'ola (Minister of Police); and entertained at a dance arranged by the wife of the Governor of Vavau (the Hon. Ulukalala).

NEW ROAD TO WAU

From a New Guinea Correspondent

I HAVE heard various tales about the Wau Road, mostly in its favour. I met a lieutenant only yesterday who is working on it with a labour line, on maintenance, and another lieutenant who was on it some time ago. Both say it is a 30-miles-an-hour road. It should have a very important bearing on the future of that part of the Territory.

They argued for years over which route it was to take, and finally voted something over £200,000 to run it the short route—Salamaua to Wau. But the circumstances of war have caused a ready-made road to be in hand for the future.

I saw a large section of it awhile back, when flying over the Markham Valley to the left of Nadzab. What I saw of it, until it struck out to the left through the forest, looked a very good job indeed, and it looked to be well used, and I saw some traffic on it from the air. I understand there is a fair amount of traffic on it at present.

Fiji's "Viti" Goes Into the Passenger Business

SUVA, Sept. 27.
THE following passengers arrived in Suva on September 23 from Auckland by HMS "Viti":—

Mrs. A. Beddows, Mr. J. W. Caldwell, Miss J. B. Caldwell, Miss E. A. Caldwell, Miss J. S. Davis, Miss V. R. Dixon, Mrs. M. F. Goodwin, Miss J. A. Guthrie, Mrs. H. Hill, Master P. Hill, Mrs. N. Khatoon, Miss W. M. Macindoe, Mr. A. G. Sahu Khan, Mr. R. T. Smith, Miss K. A. Smythe, Mr. S. M. Waddingham, Mrs. R. M. Waddington, Miss D. R. Waddingham, Master D. M. Waddingham, Mrs. A. Whitehead, Mrs. M. A. Wilson, Mrs. M. E. Caldwell.

Early in September, in order to connect with a vessel which was leaving New Zealand for England, "Viti" made a special trip to Auckland with Government personnel and their families on transfer to other Colonies.

The return trip to Suva, also with Government passengers, was made via the New Hebrides, and took ten days.

"Viti" was formerly the Fiji Government ship, but after war broke out, she was taken over by the Fiji Volunteer Naval Reserve, and later fully commissioned as part of the Fiji Naval Forces.

While in Auckland recently her main armament was removed and it is expected that she will return shortly to the civil life for which she was originally intended.

She is at present occupied in ferrying demobilised Fijian soldiers to their home islands. She was to sail for Vanua Levu as soon as she returned from New Zealand, but an outbreak of influenza in the military camps around Suva has caused indefinite delay.

Mr. A. Betham recently returned to Samoa after a three months' visit to New Zealand.

Miss Ann Lane, recently on the staff of Auckland Public Hospital, has gone to the Apia Hospital as a nursing sister.

How War Came to Central N. Guinea Mission

Importance of a Jeep Road

INTERESTING letter from Pastor A. J. Campbell, Seventh Day Adventist Missionary, who has returned to his station at Kainantu, on the edge of Ramu-Benna plateau country, in Central New Guinea:

A GOOD deal of change has taken place in these parts. A Jeep road runs through long stretches of the interior now; and the natives have changed a lot.

With a loaded Jeep and trailer we came over a 70-miles stretch recently, this being the first motor vehicle ever to come onto our Mission. Though we had chains on, we had a very exciting ride, as we ran into heavy rain.

A few months before the invasion, we had completed a European cottage; and things looked very bad when we were evacuated (about six months after the Japanese landed at Lae, Salamaua and elsewhere). But they got worse later, and several air attacks were made at various centres, up here in the interior.

Some 90 bombs were dropped around here, 12 of them falling about our home and in the gardens. A lone Lightning came at the right time, and caused inaccurate bombing, as the Jap attackers fled. One bomb fell within 30 feet of our home—but, fortunately, down the hill. No one was hurt on the Mission, though there were some remarkable escapes, especially among the children.

Our home came out of this bombing very well, but it is marked by bomb-fragments and bullets on the roof and on all sides, and in each room. One bullet went diagonally almost right through the house, finishing up at a door hinge.

Remarkable to relate, though there are about 80 holes through the iron roof, only about a half-dozen needed soldering, as the remainder are on the top parts of the corrugations. We used to need a light, before the Japs came to visit us, when we went up through the man-hole to do any work above the ceiling. This is not necessary now, as the "stars" provide the lighting.

One native, when he thought all was safe, sat up in a garden drain (which made good air-raid trenches for all) and began to shave himself, in native fashion, with the blade between his fingers. Then a bomb fell not far from him, and the next instant he was face-down, flat in the mud at the bottom of the drain. One unexploded bomb remains deep down under a sweet potato patch.

But it was when petrol was ordered to be poured over the floors that our Mission cottage had the nearest escape. Two of our native Mission teachers were waiting ready to ignite the place, when they saw the Government cottage go up in smoke; but, fortunately, the order was not given.

ON land, the Japs at that critical time had got within seven miles of our Mission. One night, one of our Mission teachers (now one of my house boys) was out with three Australian soldiers and two other natives, on outpost duty, with the Japs encamped across the Upper Ramu Valley, at Arona.

All felt they were at a safe enough distance, with the Japs several miles away, and settled down in their secreted

house. But the Japs had "glassed" them ("glassim mi" in Pidgin, as the native described it).

This native "felt" there was something in the air, and gave a warning. Kanakas who had brought food in that evening had left without payment. So he sat up, while the others slept.

During the night he felt and heard, in the darkness, a sudden shaking of the structure. He raised the alarm, calling out, "Fight! come up master! Fight! come up!"

The Japs let loose a burst of tommy-gun fire through the kunai hut, and the Australians awakened, and did likewise, from the inside outwards.

This lad said he saw three Jap "shadows" in the darkness.

Two Australians and two Japs were killed, and a Chimbu native wounded, and one Jap, one Australian, apolice boy, and my Mission teacher escaped. The Jap went his way, and our Australian party of three went theirs. This, appar-

ently, was the only battle fought in Central New Guinea.

At that time over 100 Japs were encamped at Arona, some thousand feet above the floor of the Middle Ramu Valley. It appears that Central New Guinea just escaped becoming a major scene of conflict.

AS I returned to Central New Guinea, by air, it was the Jeep road in the interior, as seen from the air, that caused me the greatest interest. I watched it from one side and then from the other of the plane.

It should prove of much use in this country. It is quite evident that the natives really take a pride in a good road that meanders through their country; and, to the extent that they do, an influence is created that reacts against their old inter-tribal fighting ways. Road development is one of the best things that can come to this country, for more reasons than one.

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CENSUS TAKEN IN SAMOA

From Our Own Correspondent

APIA, Sept. 25.

THE census of the population of Western Samoa which was taken today, after an interval of ten years, will be very interesting from several points of view. It probably will disclose a large increase in the native population, and also in the Euronians (local born of mixed descent).

It will show some changes in the denominational distribution; and the extent of illegitimate births as a result of the presence of 22,000 American forces in the Territory (of which some greatly exaggerated estimates were current).



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WARD ERA ALMOST AS BAD AS JAP ERA IN NEW GUINEA

Pioneer Planter is Outspoken and Bitter

Letter to the Editor

I AM forwarding you this article on behalf of several original New Guinea workers and pioneers (not Administration officials) and myself. We left Australia, and other countries, years ago and adopted this country as our own. For the past 3½ years we have fought to rid the country of the Jap menace and make the place fit to live a normal life in.

Now we have a worse menace in the shape of Mr. Ward to contend with. My knowledge of Mr. Ward may interest you.

I was in Finschhafen last year when he arrived on a tour of inspection. He made a good start by lowering the prestige of the white man, and the natives could not help but notice it. Quite a number of natives were lined up for the occasion, and Mr. Ward made a speech to them in English (which they could not understand). The speech was translated to them and they naturally thought that it was all humbug.

There happened to be a few old New Guinea workers present at the time and one explained to a few of the natives that Mr. Ward was just a "lunatic white kanaka from Australia." It did not take long for all natives, far and wide, to know about it and start asking questions. Quite a number of them came to me to verify some of the things they had heard. Needless to say, Mr. Ward is not thought much of by the natives.

He was only in the country a very short time; yet, according to himself, he knows more about the country than we who have been here for years, worked here, made our homes and lost them here. All of his recent insane propositions are just the opposite to what we New Guinea workers think. Whether he is just being pig-headed, or wants us all out of the country, I do not know.

I have read, with interest, the article "Socialist Utopia in New Guinea" in your July issue, and I would like to add my comments on Mr. Ward's plan:

A REVISED, Scientifically Balanced Diet for Natives.

No reasonable employer would object to the introduction of a better dieting scale, providing the people who introduce it know what they are doing. The scale pre-war was all right; but, in my opinion, could be improved upon slightly.

The usual ration scale on the Morobe district goldfields and other towns consisted of good Saigon rice, South American bully-beef and Navy biscuits. When I say that the scale could be improved upon, I maintain that the addition of some native vegetables would be a great improvement.

I do not know who introduced the present native ration scale. Whoever did should be placed in an asylum. This scale consists of less rice (Australian and of inferior quality) than pre-war, bully-beef (also of inferior quality), Army biscuits, wheatmeal (known to us as "sawdust"), tomato juice, edible animal fat. The present rice and bully-beef are passable, seeing that no better quality can be procured during wartime. All Army biscuits that are supplied to natives are ancient and about half are thrown away, being unfit for human consumption.

The "sawdust" is something that should be banned altogether. It is supposed to contain vitamins, but that is no good if it is definitely not liked. I have yet to find one native that will eat it and like it.

Tomato juice may be all right, but very few natives will drink it. The only time I have seen them drink it is when they have been travelling with me on the sea and there has been little or no water available.

When I am in charge of native labour compounds I try to increase the rice scale, if stocks will allow it. I give them the bully-beef and biscuit scale, and, more often than not, the biscuits are thrown away.

I would not insult any New Guinea native by offering him "sawdust" to eat. Any "sawdust" in my stocks generally finishes up in the sea or buried somewhere. I had a job not long ago of filling in several Jap fox-holes, and the "sawdust" made good filling.

I generally leave all tomato juice and animal fat in my store and if any native wants any, he has only to ask and he can have an unlimited quantity. I have only been asked for one tin of tomato juice. I use my best endeavours at all times to find native vegetables for my natives.

In all native labour compounds there is an unlimited quantity of "sawdust," tomato juice and animal fat that cannot be given away. Of all "sawdust" supplied to native compounds for human consumption, I think that I am safe in saying that 90 per cent. is destroyed. It is most certainly a waste of Government money. I don't know what Mr. Ward's idea of a scientifically-balanced diet for natives is, but it would certainly need to be much better than the present one.

NO Employment for Natives Under 16 Years of Age.

Mr. Ward does not realise that in this country a native is practically fully-

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grown at 16 years of age and certainly a few years past the usual age for starting work. I doubt if Mr. Ward or anybody else can tell whether any native is 15, 16 or any age. Natives do not carry birth certificates, and the only way we can tell their age is to make a guess, and we might be within five years either way of the right age.

NO Employment of Female Labour, Except Under Certain Conditions.

I am a great believer in married couples being engaged to work under the indenture system. Native women (meris) are just as efficient as boys at working, especially at house and garden work. My intention, when all this strife is over and we are allowed to live a normal life, is to engage only married couples to work on my plantation. Of the thousands of natives indentured pre-war, there were very few married couples amongst them, which was very unwise. When a married couple are working together, they are more content and better results are obtained from their work. While working thus, there is no objection to their raising a family and also it would tend to reduce the suicides amongst native women in their villages, and sodomy amongst work boys, which the former Administration and missions encouraged or forced on the natives pre-war.

THE Elimination of Professional Recruiters.

Professional recruiting, done properly, should most certainly be carried on. Pre-war, there was a certain amount of illegal recruiting done, which should be eliminated. It was not only that a recruiter sent natives into villages to recruit, when he should go himself, or

recruiting boys from closed areas and making false statements as to where the boys came from; but some Administration officials were taking bribes to sign on illegally-recruited natives. This, I might mention, was a common occurrence.

In post-war, an employer should be allowed to recruit natives for himself in the proper manner. On the other hand, if he is unable to go out himself, there should be a professional recruiter to go out and recruit for him, also in the proper manner.

As for the proposed pool of native labour, controlled by the Administration, that is ridiculous, as the Administration will be incapable of controlling it.

TWELVE Months' Limit on Duration of Employment and Re-Engagement Will Not be Permitted Until the Native Has Returned to His Home for a Period of Three Months.

I was under the impression that we were fighting this war to suppress dictatorship, but apparently we fought to suppress it in foreign countries and then get it in our own. I was also under the impression that there was a certain British law stating that any native in any British colony would not be denied his freedom. Apparently I was mistaken again.

Just allowing a native to work for a short time and then forcing him to return to the village where he was born (probably he may have no interests there and may not want to go) is certainly not my idea of freedom. I guess there would be an uproar if that insane idea were introduced into Australia; and what has the native done to be forced to abide by that idea? In my opinion, the natives should be allowed to be indentured for two or three years (he could please himself as to the number of years) and after

the indenture expired he would be entitled to a holiday if he wanted it. I have had dozens of natives indentured to me at various times. All contracts were for three years (by the consent of each individual native). When each native finished his three years, I always asked the question, "Do you want a holiday at your village?" In all cases, the answer was in the negative as they had no interests at their respective villages. They just wanted to make a new contract and continue working for me.

I did have one native for five years, once, and after an illness I encouraged him to have a holiday at his village to recuperate. He reluctantly consented and I made all arrangements for him to be absent from his work for three months. After leaving my house he was back again in six weeks to the day, and four of those six weeks were spent in travelling to and from his village. After that affair, if any of my natives who had been with me for some time wanted to have a week or two off to visit a town about 20 or 30 miles away, I granted that request and all were satisfied.

There are quite a number of natives that do appreciate a holiday at their villages occasionally but there are others just the opposite.

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I spent most of last year on New Britain and during that time I had contact with dozens of boys from the New Guinea mainland. Those boys had been working on New Britain for some years and were quite content to remain there. Quite a number of them were married to New Britain meris and some had children. After the Allied occupation, those boys were roped in to work for the Army. Recently, all were shipped to the mainland of New Guinea; most of their contracts have been terminated and they have been forced to return to the village where they were born. Their wives and children are still in New Britain and it is doubtful if they will ever see them again.

I have a number of boys with me at the present time. They have worked for the Army for over three years and now, as the Army has no further use for them, their contracts are being terminated and they are being forced to go and sit down at their villages for an indefinite period. Some are anxious to go, but there are some that would give anything to get out of going. The Army has just "wiped" them and there are no private concerns

or men here that they can indenture themselves to. After the great job of work they have done in the war, this is their reward.

WE pioneers who have worked in this country, lost all of our worldly possessions in the war, and fought for 3½ years for the right to live a normal life here, are all anxious to remain and start afresh at various occupations—on the land, etc. We are now anxiously waiting to see what is going to happen before we make a start.

We advocate that our cause be taken to England or the United States. If, to remain here, we have to serve under the dictatorship of Mr. Ward, I am afraid that most of us will be going further afield, much as we like this country. I might mention that a number of New Guinea men have already gone further afield, in disgust. If the remainder of us are forced to do the same, I can assure everybody that I most certainly pity the New Guinea native that has to remain here under such dictatorship.—I am, etc., "DISGUSTED NEW GUINEA-ITE."

How Long Shall We Have Mr. Ward?—Editorial Note

PIONEER men of the type of our correspondent must hang on, and not allow themselves to be driven out of New Guinea by the gang of political morons who at present are in command of the Australian Government. Ward & Co. clearly are trying to discourage Europeans and private enterprise from re-entering New Guinea.

Australia is in for a bad time—worse than she yet has experienced—and so, also, is New Guinea. But, inevitably, the wheel comes full circle. In due course, the electors will revolt and the gentlemen who are "governing" Australia to-day will be emptied out onto their thick skulls; but that will not happen until the stupid masses who hold the majority of votes begin to suffer in their pockets and their bellies from the muddling and ineptitude of the Governments they have elected. At present, those masses, as a result of war conditions, are wallowing in unaccustomed money. They imagine their "good times" will last for ever. If there was an election to-morrow, the Labour Party would be returned again, with a large majority.

To have seen a person of Mr. Ward's

history and viewpoint placed in charge of Pacific Territories is for Territorians one of the most fantastic things in the history of the Western Islands. Yet he is just one of—and is typical of—the gang. His treatment of the great majority of the war-broken European residents of the Territories is cruel, callous and cynical—but not at all surprising to those who know the Ward type of politician. Territorians will get neither assistance nor encouragement from him—nor from any man whose whole political outlook is coloured by bitter prejudices formed in the gutter.

But Territorians should not lose hope. The wheel will come full circle, and the Territories again will know peace and prosperity. With great courage, they have survived the Jap era. Now, with fortitude and patience, they must try to endure the Ward era. It should not last more than a year or two. Labour may be returned at the general election a year hence, but its majority will be so reduced that moderation may return to Islands administration, and the present arrogance, intolerance and cruelty will disappear.

END OF WAR PERIOD IN SAMOA

From Our Own Correspondent

WESTERN SAMOA celebrated VJ-Day and the end of the global war without any exciting incidents.

The most spectacular event was a Chinese victory parade in which the great majority of the free Chinese and the Chinese indentured labourers in Samoa took part.

On August 29 the usual flag-raising celebration took place to commemorate the raising of the British flag over Western Samoa 31 years ago.

As a result of the termination of the war a large number of wartime emergency regulations and restrictions have been lifted, amongst which is the wartime censorship. Other restrictions, particularly those on enemy aliens, remain in force.

Mail communications, particularly with the United States and Canada, are still irregular and delayed. Mails to and from New Zealand and Australia are better, thanks to the weekly air-mail service to New Zealand.

Sea communication with New Zealand and Australia has improved lately, though passengers desiring to travel to New Zealand have still to book months ahead, and there is a big waiting list from Samoa, as well as from Fiji.

It is hoped that the resumed Matson Line steamship service San Francisco-Honolulu-Pago Pago-Auckland-Sydney will further improve passenger and cargo communication with the USA, as well as with Australasia.

THE STORY OF A WARTIME PIG-HUNT

BY HAROLD COOPER

IT was during my first visit to Guadalcanal, in mid-1943, that I heard from Father de Klerk the story of the pig-hunt at Cape Hunter, but I have had to wait for the end of hostilities to be able to repeat it.

I tried to get it past the censors soon after my return from Guadalcanal, but they put their red pencil through every word of it. I suppose the idea was that the need to stage other pig-hunts might arise before the war was over, and they didn't want the Japanese to grow too familiar with the technique.

Father de Klerk, a Dutch Roman Catholic priest who had his own private score to settle with the Axis (for he had not heard from his family since his homeland was overrun in 1940), was in command of a force of native scouts operating behind the Japanese lines on the further side of Cape Esperance. He had a large area to cover and his schedule of patrols was pretty crowded.

It was mildly annoying, therefore, to receive a message from the Chief at Cape Hunter to the effect that the Japanese had established a coast-watch station there, and would Father de Klerk kindly come along and deal with it.

Now, the garrison of this new enemy outpost was only nine strong, and it seemed to the Father ridiculous that the Chief should not be able to handle the situation without assistance. He said as much in his reply to the message, and the Chief, his pride badly mauled, decided to take steps to eradicate the nine Japanese.

The job was not as straightforward as it sounds, for the Japs had rifles, while the range of weapons available to the Chief was limited to such domestic implements as axes and cane knives. But the Chief, though he had no firearms, had a plan; and as we shall see, the manner in which it was carried out bespoke careful preparation or, in the military phrase, excellent staff work.

THE Chief's men had already visited the Jap camp several times, on the pretext of offering food for sale, so no suspicion was aroused when a few of them dropped in one afternoon and, after some desultory conversation (it had to be desultory, for the medium of exchange was a few words of English, plus a great deal of gesticulation) suggested that the Japs might like to vary their rather monotonous diet by eating a little pig flesh.

The Japs showed immediate interest, and were delighted to learn that the surrounding bush was simply choc-a-bloc with wild pig. They agreed that a pig-hunt would be a splendid way of spending the rest of the afternoon; and the hunt was arranged forthwith. Seven of the Japs, each armed with a rifle, were to take part in the expedition, while the remaining two were to stay and guard the camp.

Now, seven is a cumbersome number for a pig-hunt, so the Japanese were persuaded to split up into two parties—four and three—which went off into the bush in different directions, each with its quota of native guides.

Let us first follow the fortunes of the smaller party. After they had penetrated some distance into the bush, without seeing hide or hair of a pig, one of the three Japs, for reasons which need not be set out in detail, lagged a little behind his comrades. One of the native guides lagged with him.

Exactly how it happened I cannot say, but a few minutes later there was a dead Japanese lying in the bush and a Solomon Islander was in possession of his

rifle. This mysterious incident had a dramatic sequel, for the two other Japs in the party, as they poked about in their fruitless quest for the elusive pig, suddenly found themselves being fired on from the dense tangle of undergrowth behind them. Before they could do anything about it both of them had received mortal wounds.

Their Solomon Islands guides, who had vanished into the bush just before the firing began, now reappeared and picked up the dead men's rifles.

FOR the next act the scene shifts to "another part of the wood." Here the party of four Japanese, pigless, and showing signs of growing rather grumpy about the whole business, heard shots being fired in the distance.

Their guides began at once to gesticulate an explanation. The other party must, judging by the firing, have run into a positive herd of pigs! Would it not be a good idea to join them and see what luck they'd had? The Japs excitedly concurred in this suggestion and, all heedless of their approaching doom, allowed themselves to be led through the bush in the direction whence had come the sound of the shots.

After awhile their guides somehow melted away, and a moment later the party found itself under fire.

THUS ended the first phase of the Battle of Cape Hunter. The Chief's men now had seven rifles and, even if the two Japs left behind to guard the coast-watch station had shown fight, the odds against them would have been hopeless.

But what they chose to do, when they realised the full gravity of their situation, was to plunge into the surf and begin swimming wildly in the general direction of Tokio. Had the aim of the Chief's men been less true, they might have been swimming yet.

As someone said later, it was a most satisfactory afternoon's work, except for the fact that not even the Chief got any pork for supper.

SAMOAN HIGH CHIEFS VISIT NZ

From Our Own Correspondent

APIA, Sept. 25.

BY the "Matua," due to leave Apia for New Zealand at the end of September, the three Fautua (Advisers) of the Administration, High Chiefs Malietoa Mataafa and Tamasese, with their wives, will travel to New Zealand as invited guests of the New Zealand Government, for a visit of approximately five weeks.

Appointment Praised

THE Australian Government was congratulated on September 25 by the leader of the Country Party (Mr. Fadden) on its appointment of Colonel J. K. Murray as leader of the Provisional Papua-New Guinea Administration.

"This is a very happy appointment indeed," he stated. "I say with all sincerity that Colonel Murray has all the qualifications necessary for this job. He has as a background a very fine career, and is principal of an agricultural college. He has in his wife a very competent mate, who, I think, holds a diploma for agriculture, and is a Bachelor of Arts."

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TO ALLOT COMPENSATION

RAROTONGA, Sept. 2.

MOST recent visitors to arrive by air in Rarotonga are a party to New Zealand judges and lawyers, come to investigate the claims for compensation by native owners of the land utilised for the construction of the Rarotonga air-strip.

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German Pre-1939 Agents in The Pacific

NEWs released by Army Intelligence of the work of German and Japanese agents in the South Pacific includes reference to Krupps' Australian representative, a big, typical German who had become a naturalised British subject after internment during the last war.

It is stated that in his home at Vaucluse, Sydney, Intelligence men found a copy of a letter to Germany in which he had written: "Sole purpose of my exile is to get from Noumea the so-much-needed nickel, which we will return to the English swine in the form of bullets."

This agent was indeed a well-known figure in New Caledonia, where—as before World War I.—Krupps were particularly active and the country prospering after the usual stagnation period between wars.

It was in late 1936 or early 1937 that this agent came to Noumea from Sydney, and bought the Karoola nickel mine at St. Louis, only about 12 miles from the capital, from Mick Griffiths, miner and ex-Australian featherweight boxer, and the late Charles Lidgey, a highly-qualified English mining chemist who had previously been a key man in mining development in the Colony. The purchase price was £3,600. Mick, a good friend of mine, came to Sydney and quickly got through his share, while Lidgey bought an agricultural property and started to manufacture an excellent brand of pickles, which had a good sale among the French.

Some 20,000 tons of nickel ore was exported to Germany from Karoola; and the Germans also became interested in a nickel mine on the Plaine des Lacs owned by Monsieur Ferrand, who works for the Noumea Municipality. Exploitation had not got far when war broke out, and no ore from here was exported.

The same German was also partner with the recently-murdered Frenchman, Monsieur Rampal, in copper and silver lead mines on the Diahot (pron. Jowett) River in the north. Other of his dealings were particularly beneficial to the small

French miners, whose operations he financed and whose ore he bought. Without the German and Japanese markets these small men would have had a thin time.

Krupps' agent—I will call him Herr B.—was a bombastic type of man, but those who had dealings with him have told me was always business-like and honest. He was friendly with one or two Germans settled in Noumea, but was not on good terms with the French administration. On the outbreak of war he showed his nationalistic feelings by Heiling Hitler in the dining-room of the Hotel Pacifique, where he always stopped. There was a bit of a scene, the French present getting excited, and one of them, a mining man, threw a glass at him. It was as good as a Hollywood movie.

To-day, B. would be about 65. He suffered from some stomach complaint and had an Australian nurse to look after him. His wife, a German, and son, a Nazi officer, have been resident in Germany for some years. B. never visited Australia after going to New Caledonia, and reportedly had had some trouble with the Commonwealth Taxation Department—who wouldn't! But he made trips to New Zealand and to Fiji, where he said he had visited the Emperor mine and met Mr. Theodore.

B. WAS assisted in developmental work by Dr. Maidenbach, a German geologist and engineer employed by Krupps, who stayed at the same Noumea hotel (which in 1942 became General Patch's headquarters). The doctor also was a typical Prussian, clean-shaven, with bald head, but his knowledge of all phases of mining exploitation and smelting and manufacturing processes was most thorough. They both showed antagonism for the French, but got along well with Australian mining men, and were helpful in giving them advice.

Dr. Maidenbach stayed about six or eight months, and at the beginning of 1939 left, via Australia, for the East Indies, where he was to investigate deposits of low-grade chrome and nickels in the Portuguese territory, I believe.

B.'s chief clerk was a German married to an Australian, and he had formerly been in Shanghai, where he had been interested in real estate. He, too, was interned in Australia for at least part of the war—but B. appears to be still in South Australia. After leaving B. in 1938, the clerk joined a well-known German wool firm which had large credits and which was making large-scale purchases in Australia and South America on behalf of the German Government.

One also recalls a number of young German commercial travellers passing through the Pacific prior to the war, selling aspirin and other popular articles. They seemed to be well supplied with money and one or two gave quite lavish parties at the Hotel Pacifique, whose proprietor is Monsieur Boulanger.—H. E. L. FRIDAY.

Mr. Onslow Kerkham, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Kerkham, of Suva, has reached New Zealand safely, after being a prisoner of war in Germany. He spent last winter in the Bohemian forest, after escaping from his prison camp. A companion who escaped with him was shot in the head by the retreating Germans near a place called Mindtedern. Onslow helped to bury him. He says that he made some good friends among the Czechs during the weeks he spent as a fugitive from the Nazis in their country.

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JOHN PRATT SAILS AGAIN

Memories of the Lost "Vagus"

ARAROTONGA, Sept. 2. AFTER a long spell in an office chair, Mr. John Pratt, the English yachtsman, is trying the feel of a moving deck beneath his feet once again. He left Rarotonga at the end of August as a passenger on the schooner "Tiare Taporo," on an extended visit to the northern Cook Islands.

John Pratt sailed from England some time before the war in the 40 ft. "Vagus." Crossing the Atlantic, he wandered through the isles of the Caribbean, eventually reaching Panama, where he fitted out for the South Seas cruise. Lone-handed, he made a non-stop 90 days' passage from Panama to Rarotonga.

His arrival here shortly after the Pearl Harbour attack caused quite a sensation. His little ship was the first "foreign" vessel to be sighted after the outbreak of the Pacific war, and it appeared to be suspected that he might be a second von Luckner on the prowl. Accompanied by the local pilot, the defence force manned the harbour launch fully armed, and put to sea, prepared to fight it out.

The mild-mannered yachtsman was somewhat astounded at his reception, and assured the grim-looking reception party that he was not a lone raider. He was then ordered by the pilot to heave-to, and receive that gentleman aboard for pilotage into port. But the "Vagus" had been sailing for so long, with all canvas set, that the gear was jammed, and it was not possible to reduce sail at that time; so Pratt sailed right on, and brought up neatly in the little reef harbour—greatly to the annoyance of the pilot. Later, the lone-sailor was required to pay the pilot's fee, and reminded that "you can't do that there 'ere" in Rarotonga.

It was generally agreed that the "Vagus" was the finest little ship ever seen in these waters. She was a double-ended of the Colin Archer North Sea type. For many years John Pratt had spent all his earnings, and all his spare time in putting onto and into her all the best that money could buy in the way of rigging, fittings and cruising instruments and equipment.

AFTER a short stay in Rarotonga, Pratt sailed to Palmerston atoll to pick up his former English friend and shipmate, Ronald Powell. After sailing adventures in small ships on many seas, Powell had settled on Palmerston with the populous Marsters family, married a girl of the island, and was directing the Islanders in an export fishing industry. (He now has a small business in Rarotonga, turning his talent as a master craftsman in wood to the making of works of art in native timbers and pearl-shell.)

The two then set forth on a cruise through the northern Cook Islands. The first call was at Suvarrow; but the evil spirit of the "haunted atoll" was waiting to strike down this fine little ship that had carried her owner safely across thousands of miles of deep water.

They had barely time to make the ship as secure as possible before a terrific hurricane swept the low-lying atoll, and Pratt and Powell, together with the other occupants of the island at that time (comprising the American author, Robert Dean Frisbie, and his four children, and a Government official and several native assistants) narrowly escaped with their lives. In a long ordeal, lashed in the branches of the few strong trees left standing on sea-swept Anchorage Islet,

When, at last, it was over, John Pratt's dream-ship was no more.

AFTER sharing a further ordeal with the other castaways, literally scratching for a living in the sand of the devastated atoll, the two adventurers were rescued by a small sailing vessel, which returned Powell to Palmerston and brought Pratt to Rarotonga. Pratt found employment on the staff of the Cook Islands Administration, and has completed three years' service. Now he has straightened his six-foot-three from his office chair, and set sail northwards, once again, with the jovial Captain Andy Thomson.

He plans to live for a number of months on Manihiki atoll. One of his greatest disappointments was the loss of

his manuscripts and a large collection of photographs and negatives. During his sojourn in Manihiki he will re-write the story of his voyage, and of the Suvarrow hurricane—the latter having already been told in somewhat fictional form by R. D. Frisbie.

Mr. Pratt, who formerly was a commercial artist for a well-known firm of engineering publishers, has taken artist's materials with him, and will do sketches of atoll life and memory sketches of his voyage. His plans are not known; but it may be guessed that his thoughts are with another little dream-ship to continue his ocean wanderings.

Miss Dorothy Copland has returned to NZ after spending three months with her uncle, Mr. H. C. Collins, of Niue Island.

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DEATH OF DR. F. O. THEILE

"PIM" Short Story:

THE death occurred, on August 17, in a Brisbane hospital, of Dr. F. O. Theile, well known for over 20 years as director of the Lutheran Missions in New Guinea.

He was born in South Australia 65 years ago, and was educated in Australia and in Germany. He became a Lutheran pastor in Queensland in 1901, was married in 1906, and held many offices in the Lutheran Church organisation. His interest in mission work generally created strong bonds with New Guinea, especially after 1914; and in 1923 he gave up local pastoral work altogether and became director of the mission.

He was a man of attractive personality who made many friends outside the Lutheran Church. He had been ill for a long time, and his end was not unexpected.

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He prided himself on being an understanding man—tolerant, broad-minded, of penetrating perception. To know all, he often said, was to understand all. He was particularly disposed to knowing all and understanding it when the subject was a beautiful young woman.

But—perhaps because he had lived too long in isolation—he was also a prejudiced man. And when a prejudiced man, confessing to powers of penetrating perception, allows himself to understand a beautiful young woman, the wires are apt to get crossed.

IT was one of those ridiculous hats which fill men's minds with either tolerant affection or downright fury. It had all the attributes of a hat: high crown, brim upswept at the sides, but it was no larger than a decent-sized breakfast-cup. It was purple in colour, with two giant, cyclamen-coloured imitation roses adhering to the starboard quarter, and a piece of blue veiling fluttering astern. James G. Robinson, planter, bachelor, collector - by - impression of female headgear, described it thus to himself as he saw it first, a formless purple object in panorama, bound by a purple band to a nondescript head, and then taking form and shape as the body beneath teetered up the gangway to deck-level.

He disliked that hat on sight and its owner no less; for he was a man of sudden, and unreasonable, antipathies. He met both again at lunch—that first meal, pushing out into a blue, summer sea.

INCIDENT AT SEA

By Judy Tudor

The lady of the headpiece was florid, and apparently believed that the hat became her, so she wore it to table. Her shoulders, Robinson reflected sourly, were too close to her ears. At that stage she had the well-corseted plumpness of middle-age; in a few years she would wheeze, and wobble when she walked. Robinson found himself taking some sort of fiendish delight in the prospect.

She was, above all these things, bright. She beamed upon Robinson as she beamed upon all God's children. "Well, now," she said, "our table is complete. We were just getting acquainted. I am Mrs. Britton-James; this is my husband —" Robinson nodded to a thin man in a tropical suit on the lady's off-side.

"—and this is my daughter Penelope." Penelope was a blonde flapper, maybe sixteen, who stopped eating soup just long enough to say: "D-do."

"My name is Robinson," he announced stiffly, as though he were suddenly ashamed of the fact. The woman, he told himself savagely, would turn the whole simple process of travelling from one place to another into a suburban bun-fight. He knew the type. They never rose above their environment; they took it with them. He damned her, and all her kind to hell, and nodded to the couple on his right. He knew them: the Merediths from down the coast. He cared for neither, normally, but now asked with some warmth how they were.

"So-so," said Meredith. "Well as can be expected on this bloody ship full of round-trippers," said Mrs. Meredith. "Food's poisonous . . . as usual." She shoved her plate away and took up a half-smoked cigarette, leaning her bony brown arms on the table and letting her back sink into a discontented curve.

"And you, my dear?" Mrs. Britton-James resumed her pursuit of social knowledge, having staggered but momentarily under the verbal broadside of Mrs. Meredith. And, for the first time, Robinson looked squarely at the seventh occupant of the table.

THIS girl, he told himself at once, was beautiful. Beautiful with health. It shone out of her finely-tanned face, her blue eyes and her brown hair. She looked wholesome enough to eat. Even her blue linen frock might have been spun, cut and sewn with the special purpose of adding to the general effect of well-washed perfection. She looked like the earthly manifestation of a soap ad. in one of the glossiest works of printery art. His body involuntarily tensed; his mind approved of this wench. She had possibilities.

The girl reddened under the battery of seven pairs of eyes, but she answered with a twinkle: "Pardon—very remiss of me, I'm Valerie Norton."

"Thank you, my dear. Now we all know one another. I think it is so stuffy to be stiff-necked about these things. Don't you, Mr. Robinson?" She bobbed her little hat at Robinson and patted him familiarly on the arm. He recoiled from both.

"I guess we Islands people rather like being unsocial, at times. It's one of our few privileges."

"Now then, I'm sure you are fooling. I have heard so much about the friendliness of Islands people. We are just doing

(Continued on Page 38)

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the round trip. Poor Cyril—Mr. Britton-James—has been ordered away by the doctor."

"Great strain—great nervous strain," Mr. Britton-James made his one contribution to the conversational whirl and then, as though the effort had been too great, took out his handkerchief and blew his nose loudly.

Penelope, taking her face out of a large green salad, remarked that daddy would be better off if he didn't (something indistinguishable).

"Penelope, that's sufficient!" Mama's warm voice came two degrees off the beam. "Really, the way children chatter these days! Now, I'm sure you good people are old Islands residents," and with a glassy grin at Mrs. Meredith exclusively: "You have the appearance."

"Years," Mrs. Meredith exhaled a dense cloud of smoke. "And tell me about the poor, dear natives. One hears such conflicting reports. I've always thought that it was a great mistake on the part of the Almighty when he made black as well as white people. So confusing! And it causes such a lot of trouble. But I must confess that the idea of black-boys to wait on one, hand and foot, does appeal. Tell me, are they good servants?"

"Lousy," said la Meredith. Then, to her husband: "Come on, let's get out of this pig's trough. The bar should be open."

Madame Britton-James, promising to "see them all at dinner," shepherded her family in their smoky wake.

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FIJI

Robinson was thankful to Providence for this indication of good-will. "Your first trip to the Islands, Miss Norton?" he asked.

"You, too!" "Mrs. Britton-James? No—I guess I just asked in order to make conversation. And we 'Islands folk,' as she calls us, like to place everyone, of course."

"It is my first trip," she said, but vouchsafed no further information, whether by design or accident Robinson was puzzled to know.

In rising from his chair, as Miss Norton left the table, his foot kicked something soft; it spun away across the polished floor, coming to a sliding stop beneath the girl's retreating feet. A woman's handbag, heavy with its contents. An unusual bag, Robinson thought, made of white wooden beads strung together.

The girl turned around as the bag struck her shoe, murmured something Robinson could not catch, stooped and picked the bag up quickly, and was gone from the room.

MISS NORTON and the Merediths were already dining when Robinson came down at 7.15.

Miss Norton, again in angelic blue, looked up and smiled. Mrs. Meredith wore white, that went ill with her brown bonnet, and a vixenish smirk. "No sign yet of the old bi—" She clipped off the last word midway as she caught Valerie Norton's eye, paused a minute and then went on aggressively: "Round-trippers, they get in my works. 'The poor dear natives,' and 'what's it like to have black servants to wait on you hand and foot!' Bah! these people have one-track minds. They never can see past the first native. Uh-huh—here it comes! The she-wolf herself and her two-ring circus."

Mrs. Britton-James had shed her purple hat, and wore a black frock draped tight across her sweeping curves, but Robinson liked her no more for that. Madame was in no mood for the silence into which the table was disposed to sink. She swept the circle with reddened eyes and hypnotised all into reluctant attention. "I've lost my bag," she said tearfully. "We've been looking for it all over. I don't know what I could have done with it."

"Steward probably pinched it," said Mrs. Meredith.

"I'm sure he didn't, he's such a nice man. Reminds me of Mr. Faulkes—you remember him. Pen, we met him at—what's-its-name?—well, it doesn't matter I suppose. But the bag has simply disappeared, and I haven't the least idea where."

"Careless. Very careless," Mr. Britton-James made the remark as grudgingly as a miser paying out good gold, and then retired entirely behind his dinner-napkin. "Mummy is an awful fathead," said her daughter. "It had £30 in it, and two rings and a brooch besides—"

"Thirty quid!" exclaimed Meredith.

Robinson put down the menu card and asked deliberately: "Tell me, madame, when did you last see the bag? And what sort of a thing was it?"

"Oh, I know I had it just before lunch, but I just can't remember what I did with it after that. It was one of those white wooden bead bags, they come from one of those outlandish places in Central Europe. I can never remember the name, or pronounce it when I do. I've complained to the purser, of course, but he seemed quite unfriendly. Such strange people they pick for pursers these days."

ROBINSON found Miss Norton in a deck-chair on the top deck. Her feet were propped on the rail, and the warm wind blew through her hair. She looked, in the half-light, cool, calm and conscience-free. Beneath that soap-ad., virginal freshness, he reflected, beat the heart of a hardened sinner.

"A beautiful night," he said. "Mind if I join you?"

"No, not at all. The night is beautiful. It is easy to believe that the world is a good place on such an occasion."

"And only man is vile, eh? Or ladies like Mrs. Britton-James, perhaps?"

"Mrs. Britton-James is really a very sad case. There is no harm in her, but I imagine that she can be very irritating."

"Just the specialised 'married-woman' type. After they have hooked their man their brains cease to evolve." Robinson momentarily had been diverted from his purpose, but he returned to it.

"Are you coming up for a holiday?" he asked.

"No, indeed. I have no money for such holidays."

"Broke?" "Well, that's rather a constant state with me, I'm afraid."

Best come to the point, he decided. With that type it paid. "I think I know your secret, Miss Norton." See how she took that.

"My secret?" Genuine surprise showed in her voice. He admired her nerve.

"Oh, you needn't worry. It's safe with me."

"You mean —? Oh, that. You must think I'm an awful fool. It's not that I'm so ashamed of it, only —" She did not complete the sentence and they both gazed, apparently with great interest, into the star-flecked darkness. There was a moment of silence. She's a cool one, thought Robinson, and aloud, in his most understanding voice, "I couldn't imagine you being ashamed of anything once you had decided, in cold blood, to do it. Funny thing, temptation. It gets us all at different times."

The girl answered, "Indeed?" to this pearl of wisdom, and Robinson continued: "The bloke who said the greatest crime was getting found out said a mouthful. I've never told this to a soul, but I got my start up here on thirty quid I pinched from the man I used to work for. I was getting 25 bob a week, and doing a cart-horse out of a job! and I was reading a lot of high-coloured literature about adventures in the South Seas. I made up my mind that that was the place for me, and one day the opportunity of relieving old Jones of a lump sum just presented itself. It was riches to me, and I fell for it—and then sat around trembling, for a week. It was found out, of course, and they suspected me, but I sat tight and they couldn't pin a thing on me. They gave me the sack, but I didn't care about that, either."

"Those were the days when one could go adventuring in the Pacific without running into 50,000 Government Regulations. I came up here, got myself a job on a schooner, and finally a plantation of my own. I never looked back from that moment."

"All my Calvinistic ancestors used to



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sit up and make faces at me for years. And I had a superstitious belief myself that no good would come of such ill-gotten gains. But not a darned thing happened. To the contrary, while some of my neighbours went to the wall, I flourished.

"Several years ago, while I was on leave, I looked old Jones up. Poor old blighter had gone bankrupt, and was in an old man's home. I bought him some things that he needed, and left him some cash. He was overjoyed. Couldn't understand why a kid he'd sacked 30 years before should suddenly turn up as the fairy godfather.

"So you see, not a soul lost out on that little episode—although, by all the rules, I should have come to a sticky end. If I hadn't taken that money it ultimately would have gone into the pool to part-pay Jones's creditors; I should never have got my plantation or have been able to help Jones out when he was in his direst straits."

"Mr. Robinson, are you trying to tell me that crime does pay—or something of that sort?"

"No, not at all. For example, the numbers of all the notes Mrs. Britton-James lost are known. Whoever has got them will find it hard to get rid of them, where we are going."

"I shouldn't have thought that she would have had the sense to do that." Miss Norton, apparently following successfully his lead from the general to the particular, sounded thoughtful.

"She didn't. She tells me that Mr. Britton-James did, before he gave them to her. Well, I think I'll turn in. Madame, by the way, is sitting in the music room with her 'two-ring circus.' Her cabin is number 79—in case you are interested."

YOUNG Penelope and Robinson arrived at breakfast simultaneously. Miss Norton and her healthy appetite were already there. So also was a bag of white wooden beads, conspicuously displayed left of her plate. Surely to God, thought Robinson, she is not going to present it to the old fool in a public ceremony!

"Hullo," said Penelope, "You have a bag like Mummy's. Not quite the same shape, but the same sort. They come from Czechoslovakia, don't they?"

"I believe so," said Miss Norton. "Oh, by the way, Mummy's has been found. Actually it wasn't lost at all. Daddy took it. He often does things like that, just to pay her out. She's fearfully careless—leaves things all over the place. Last time it was two front teeth. She left them in the bathroom cabinet one night. Daddy found them next morning. He said it was just too shattering to his nerves to see those two teeth staring at him in the cold light of morning. He hid them. She couldn't go out for two days."

"Anyway, all the time she was having hysterics about the bag he had it in his suitcase. He told her so last night. Now they've had a row. Won't be down to breakfast, I expect!"

MISS NORTON found Robinson in a deck-chair on the top deck, his feet on the rail, and gazing pensively out to sea. "I hope you are quite well, Mr. Robinson," she said. "I noticed you looked quite upset at breakfast, and you hardly ate a thing."

Miss Norton was in white linen that morning: she still looked soap-addish, cool, well-washed and beautiful. But Robinson gave her a glance of distaste and resumed his contemplation of the blue ocean. "I'm quite all right," he said shortly.

"I think I know what's troubling you," she said, drawing up a chair and patting his arm in motherly fashion. "I can't

imagine why you told me what you did last night. But people do give unexpected confidences under such circumstances, and the night was beautiful. I'm afraid that now in the daylight you are regretting it." Robinson replied not, having suddenly become bereft of words. His mind was a vacuum; he let the girl babble on.

"I can assure you, Mr. Robinson, that your confidence is safe with me. You will feel better, later, for the confession and, like you, in the ultimate analysis, I feel that good came out of evil." Robinson still stared stolidly at the sea. "I have had confidences given me before; I hold them as a sacred trust. As you have already found out somewhere, I am a missionary sister going to a new post. It was silly of me not to say so right

out, but Mrs. Meredith seemed so prejudiced about everything."

Far from reassuring him this statement seemed to unnerve Robinson still more. He switched his glare from the sea to the girl, his face went deep crimson, and he shot from the chair in two jerky movements.

"For God's sake!" he exclaimed. "For God's sake!" Then he went bounding down the deck, leaving the girl, for the second time in twelve hours, to stare bewildered after him.

AS he looked down the companionway he saw a hat swim into his ken. A large-brimmed hat set well forward on a head he could not see; a hat with a crown the size of a button, a wreath of blue cornflowers and a swathe of veil.

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It came jerkily up the companionway until the face emerged. It could be no other. Mrs. Britton-James beamed. "Why, Mr. Robinson! How very nice." "Excuse me, madame—excuse me. If you please." He pushed her to one side rudely and in three leaps was on the lower deck, still muttering, "Missionary! For God's sake!"

"Most peculiar, that Mr. Robinson." Mrs. Britton-James, her large hat quivering with indignation as much as with the breeze, bore down on Miss Norton. "Do you think he was going to be seasick?"

"He certainly acts in a most amazing fashion," replied Miss Norton. "I just can't make him out."

"Do you know," said Mrs. Britton-James settling into the chair lately occupied by Robinson, "I think all these Islands people are a bit queer. Now, honestly, dear, don't you think that Mrs. Meredith . . ."

RADIOPHONE RESTORED

RESUMPTION of radio-telegraph communication between Australia and the Territories of Papua and New Guinea was announced on September 25. Messages are accepted for transmission by radio from the Australian mainland to Lae and Port Moresby.

CONTROLS REMAIN ON IN FIJI

SUVA, Sept. 16.

THE Supply and Production Board is at present considering whether the cessation of hostilities with Japan will make possible the relaxation of any of the wartime controls which have been imposed in Fiji. The Board's decisions will be made known shortly.

In the meantime, it is officially stated that the end of the war with Japan has made little difference to the general economic situation within the Empire. No rapid easing of restrictions on supplies from overseas can be expected.

The need for repatriating large numbers of troops and displaced persons and for extending large-scale relief to liberated territories, will mean that the shortage of shipping will be as acute as ever. The public must, therefore, be prepared to endure, at any rate for the time being, a further period of stringency.

The recent news from the United Kingdom, which paints a grim picture of the conditions likely to prevail there this winter (when the people will be less warm, and will have less food and clothing than at any time during the war), indicates how far we still are from any return to normal conditions.

A New Schooner for Rarotonga

ONE of the Cook Islands' best-known traders, Mr. D. C. Brown, recently purchased the 102 ft. schooner "Tahitiienne" in Auckland. The schooner is still at the Harbour Board slips there, waiting delivery of a new diesel engine. When that is installed she will sail for Rarotonga.

"Tahitiienne" has been used as a pleasure yacht for the last six years; her extremely high masts are a well-known sight in Auckland waters. She was built on the Pacific coast of America, about 1923, for a retired American master mariner who intended to use her for private cruising. He died, however, before she was completed and the hull was bought by S. R. Maxwell & Co., well-known planting and trading firm in the Eastern Pacific.

She sailed there as an inter-island trading vessel under the French flag for some years, but as a result of slackening trade was laid up in Papeete and finally brought to Auckland for disposal.

Those were dull days in the boat market, and no buyers came forward. "Tahitiienne" was put up for auction and knocked down to a syndicate of Jugoslavs for £150. They intended fitting her out as a fishing boat, but found her unsuitable.

She was again laid up and remained so until purchased by Mr. A. Donald, of Herne Bay, as a pleasure cruiser.

"Tahitiienne," known locally as New Zealand's largest pleasure craft, has particularly fine lines, and will make an interesting addition to Rarotonga's trading fleet.



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ROLL OF HONOUR—Section II.

The whole of the Roll of Honour (Sections I. and II.) will be published, for the last time, in the December issue of the "Pacific Islands Monthly."

We should like this record to be as nearly complete as possible. Relations of men concerned would confer a favour by directing attention to errors and omissions.

WOUNDED

Sgt. Robert ASMUS, of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Wounded at Bir Hacheim and evacuated.

Rene AUFANT, of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Wounded at Bir Hacheim.

Cpl. Thomas BAMBRIDGE, of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Wounded at Bir Hacheim and evacuated.

Pte. Lieut. J. W. BARTLETT, RAAF, formerly of TNG. Wounded in air operations over the Mediterranean on January 23, 1944.

— BERBERE (alias ARESKY), of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Wounded at Bir Hacheim.

Henri BERTHELIN, of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Wounded at Bir Hacheim.

Pte. V. BLANCO, AIF Infantry, of Thursday Island. Wounded in action, July, 1941.

L/Cpl. J. P. BLENCOWE, AIF Infantry, of Rabaul, TNG. Wounded in action, July, 1941.

Jean BRIAL, of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Wounded at Bir Hacheim.

Pte. George BUCKNELL, AIF, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. Bucknell, of Kororovu, Fiji. Wounded in action in Malaya, January, 1942.

Pte. Thomas BYERS, AIF Infantry, of Thursday Island. Wounded in action, May, 1941.

Pte. Sekope CAMA, FMP. Reported wounded in action in Solomons, September, 1944.

Raymond CHAUTARD, of the Free French Pacific contingent from New Caledonia. Reported a casualty in the Middle East, March, 1942.

Pte. A. J. CORLASS, AIF, formerly of Rabaul. Wounded in action.

Albert CUBADDA, of the Free French contingent from New Caledonia. Reported a casualty in the Middle East, March, 1942.

WO2 J. W. CURRIE, now of ANGAU.

Charles DEVEAUX, of Pacific Battalion of Fighting France. Wounded at battle of Bir Hacheim (Libya).

Sgt. EMERY, formerly of Lae, TNG. Wounded in New Guinea in October, 1942.

W/O P. N. ENGLAND, AIF, formerly of Bogia, TNG. Wounded in action January 27, 1944.

Lieut. M. G. EVENSEN, AIF, formerly of Rabaul. Wounded in action.

V. FAIRHALL, 2nd NZEF, formerly of the Treasury Department, Western Samoa. Reported wounded in action, February, 1942.

Trooper Arthur T. FILEWOOD, formerly of Thursday Island. Reported wounded in action, May, 1943.

Paras FIU, of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Wounded at Bir Hacheim and evacuated.

Cpl. H. N. FORSYTH, formerly of New Guinea. Reported wounded, June, 1944.

Acting Warrant-Officer V. M. I. GORDON, AIF Infantry, of Wau, TNG. Wounded in action, February, 1942.

Henri GUILBAUD, of the Free French Pacific contingent from New Caledonia. Reported a casualty in the Middle East, March, 1942.

Sgt. C. HENDRICK, AIF Infantry, of Rabaul, TNG. Wounded in action, July, 1941.

Stanley HIGGS, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Higgs, of W. R. Carpenter and Co. Ltd., New Guinea. Member of an English Lancers' regiment, wounded during British evacuation from Dunkirk (France), May, 1940.

Pte. W. HOLMES, of the Fiji Military Forces. Reported wounded in action, December, 1943.

Alexandre HUYARD, of the Free French Pacific contingent from New Caledonia. Reported a casualty in the Middle East, March, 1942.

Pte. P. C. JEUNE, AIF, formerly of Morobe, TNG. Reported wounded, June, 1944.

Sgt. Pilot Andrew KRONFELD, of the NZ Fighter Squadron attached to the RAAF. Wounded in knee during operations over France, December, 1941.

Cpl. W. H. LANNEN, AIF artillery, of Rabaul, New Guinea. Wounded in action, June, 1941.

W/O T. W. J. LEGA, AIF, formerly of the Mandated Territory. Reported wounded in action, November, 1944.

Gnr. E. G. LOBAN, AIF artillery, of Thursday Island. Wounded during campaign in Greece, May, 1941; invalided home after having his left forearm amputated.

Auguste LUTA, of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Wounded at Bir Hacheim and evacuated.

A/Sgt. Alastair MACLEAN, AIF Infantry, of Rabaul, New Guinea. Wounded in action, in Libya, June, 1941.

Sgt. J. D. MCCLYMONT, NZEF, son of Capt. D. McClymont, Harbourmaster of Apia, Western Samoa. Wounded in action, November, 1941.

Lieut. Jack McGRUTHER, NZEF, formerly of Mangaia, Cook Is. Wounded in fighting in Libya. Later, killed in action.

Lieut. Colin McGRUTHER, NZEF, formerly of Mangaia. Wounded in action in North Africa.

Cpl. R. MCKERLIE, AIF, of Yandina, BSL, wounded in face by bomb explosion, April, 1941.

T. MANEA, of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Wounded at Bir Hacheim and evacuated.

Jean MERIGNAC, of the Free French Pacific contingent from New Caledonia. Reported a casualty in the Middle East, March, 1942.

Henri MEYER, of the Free French Pacific contingent from New Caledonia. Reported a casualty in the Middle East, March, 1942.

S/Sgt. Graham B. MIRFIELD, AIF engineers, of Rabaul, New Guinea. Wounded in action, Pte. Apisal NAIKA, of Fiji Military Forces. Wounded in action in Solomons.

Pte. Sowani NALICO, FMP. Reported wounded in action in Solomons, September, 1944.

Pte. James O'DWYER, NZEF, formerly of Apia, W. Samoa. Wounded in action in Italy, December, 1943.

Joseph OTHUS, of Pacific Battalion of Fighting France. Wounded in battle of Bir Hacheim (Libya).

Edouard PAILLANDI, FF Forces, formerly of N. Caledonia. Wounded in France, November, 1944.

Lieut. A. G. PEARCE, AIF, formerly of Salamaua, TNG. Wounded in action.

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

Henri RIVIERE, of the Free French Pacific contingent from New Caledonia. Reported a casualty in the Middle East, March, 1942.

Pte. H. St. George RYDER, AIF, formerly of

Suva, Fiji. Wounded while serving in New Guinea.

Cpl. Luke SAILADA, of Fiji Military Forces. Wounded in action in Solomons.

A/Cpl. N. K. SAWYER, AIF Infantry, of Rabaul, TNG. Wounded in action, July, 1941.

Pte. Frank M. SCHUSTER, NZEF, formerly of W. Samoa. Wounded in action in Tunisia, 1943.

Lieut. Jeffrey SEAGOE, serving with the British forces in the Far East, formerly of Vila, New Hebrides. Reported "wounded in action", March, 1942.

Pte. Frank M. SCHUSTER, NZEF, formerly of Papua. Wounded by flak while attacking enemy targets in France on July 28, 1944.

Pte. Lance STAMPER, AIF, formerly schoolmaster at Wau, New Guinea. Wounded in action, July 10, 1941.

Cpl. Esala TAWAKE, of Fiji Military Forces. Wounded in action in Solomons.

Lieut.-Col. J. K. B. TAYLOR, of the Fiji Milit-

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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.

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tary Forces. Wounded in action in Bougainville, December, 1943.

Cpl. Raphael TEHO, of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Wounded at Bir Hacheim and evacuated.

Cpl. Teril TERITUA, of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Wounded at Bir Hacheim and evacuated.

Lieut. A. THOMPSON, of the Fiji Military Forces. Reported wounded in action, December, 1943.

Lieut. P. A. TUCKEY, Infantry, formerly of New Guinea. Wounded in action.

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

Pte. F. D. TWISS, AIF Infantry, of New Guinea. Wounded in action, August, 1941.

Camille VINCENT, of the Free French Pacific contingent from New Caledonia. Reported a casualty in the Middle East, March, 1942.

Driver Don F. WAUCHOPE, AIF. Formerly employed on his brother's plantation in New Guinea. Wounded in action, July, 1942.

Lieut. F. R. G. WILSON, AIF, formerly of the Mandated Territory of New Guinea. Reported wounded in action, February, 1944.

Alex. WINCHESTER, of the Fighting French Pacific Battalion. Wounded at Bir Hacheim.

Pte. K. M. WHITE, AIF, formerly of Bulwa, TNG. Wounded in action.

Sgt.-Pilot W. WRIGHT, of the Australian Spitfire Squadron, attached to the RAF, formerly of New Guinea. Wounded in knee during aerial "dog-fight" over the English Channel, March, 1942.

DECORATIONS

Sgt. Jione AGARA, Fiji Military Forces, formerly of Tonga. Awarded the American Silver Star for gallantry in action in New Georgia, July, 1943.

Flight-Lieut. Don AIDNEY, RAF, formerly of Fiji. Awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross in September, 1944.

Squadron-Leader G. U. ("Scotty") ALLEN, RAAF, who is well-known in New Guinea and Papua, having been co-pilot on the "Faith in Australia", on the first official air-mail flight to the Territories in 1934. Awarded the Air Force Cross for his work with Catalina flying-boats in Australia and the Pacific.

Colonel H. T. ALLEN, AIF, formerly of Wau, Morobe District, TNG. Awarded the OBE.

Sub-Lieut. A. M. ANDRESEN, RANVR, formerly of Solomon. Mentioned in despatches.

Lieut. S. L. ASHTON, ANGAU, formerly of TNG. Awarded Military Medal (as a Warrant-Officer) for conspicuous bravery while engaged in patrol work in New Guinea.

Squadron-Leader C. A. BASKETT, formerly of Bulolo, TNG. Awarded Distinguished Flying Cross for raids over enemy territory while

attached to Hampden bomber squadron in England.

F/O L. W. G. BELL, RAAF, formerly of Kavieng, TNG. Awarded OBE, for outstanding service in the New Guinea area.

Sgt. Semisi BELO, of Fiji Military Forces. Awarded DCM for services in South-west Pacific area.

Capt. F. N. BOISEN, ANGAU, formerly of administration TNG. Awarded Military Cross, June, 1945.

Lieut. Charles BLAKE, of ANGAU, formerly of Wau, TNG. Awarded the Military Medal (while serving as a W/O) for bravery and devotion to duty during and after the landing at Arawe, New Britain, January, 1944.

Captain H. M. BOOTH, FMF, Awarded Military Cross for service on Bougainville.

Lieut. M. BOULTON, FMF, Awarded Military Cross for service on Bougainville.

Mrs. Ruby BOYE, of Vanikoro, Santa Cruz Group. Awarded British Empire Medal for gallant work in the Allied cause during the Japanese occupation of the Solomons.

— Victor BRIAL, Fighting French Pacific Battalion, formerly of New Caledonia. Awarded the Croix de Guerre and the Etoile d'Argent.

— Jean BRIAL, of FF Forces, formerly of New Caledonia. Awarded Croix de Guerre.

Lieut. Kenneth T. BRIDGE, AIF, formerly ADO, New Guinea Administration. Awarded US Legion of Merit for services in reconnoitring the area of the Mambare River.

Captain E. CAKOBAN, FMF, Awarded Military Cross for service on Bougainville. US Legion of Merit.

Pilot Eric (Mike) CLARKE. Awarded George Medal for gallantry in rescuing body of Kevin Parer from blazing plane at Salamaua on January 21, 1942. Killed in air crash in Queensland in June, 1944.

Major W. F. M. CLEMENTS, of the British Solomon Islands Defence Force. Awarded Military Cross for exceptional devotion to duty in a theatre of war.

Lieut. J. R. COLE, AIF, formerly of New Guinea. Awarded the Military Cross.

Major Mervyn CORNER, FMF, awarded Military Cross for service on Bougainville.

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

Major S. G. C. COWLED, Senior Chaplain of Fiji Military Forces. Awarded OBE. His example to troops carrying-out operations maintained a high spirit of morale.

Lieut. J. W. COX, ANGAU, formerly of TNG. Awarded Military Medal for bravery and devotion to duty in the Salamaua area, 1943.

Flight-Lieut. R. N. DALKIN, RAAF, formerly of W. R. Carpenter and Co., Ltd., Salamaua,

TNG. Awarded the DFC for bombing raids against the Japanese in Koepong area, DEL. FREDERIO DELAVEUVE, formerly of New Caledonia. Awarded Croix de Guerre, while serving with Fighting French volunteers in Egypt.

2/Lieut. Bruce Insham DENT, of Fiji Military Forces (killed in action, March 25, 1944). Awarded Military Cross for services in South-west Pacific.

Squadron-Leader R. A. DUNN, RAAF, formerly of Carpenter Airways New Guinea. Awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for bravery while leading his squadron against the Japanese.

Chaplain N. J. EARL, AMF, formerly of Papua. Awarded MBE for bravery shown during early Papuan campaign.

F/O T. W. ELLIS, RAAF, formerly of New Guinea. Awarded DFC for gallantry in Amboina area, July, 1943.

Sgt. R. EMERY, NGVR, formerly of Lae. Awarded Military Medal for gallantry in New Guinea.

Capt. W. M. ENGLISH, ANGAU, formerly a Patrol Officer in New Guinea. Awarded MBE, June, 1945.

Flight-Lieut. Norman FADER, RAAF, formerly a commercial pilot in New Guinea. Awarded the Air Force Cross for exploits in Bismarck Sea Battle.

Lieut. J. FORBES, RNZNR, formerly of Western Pacific. Awarded US Bronze Star for "heroic service while piloting ships entering perilous waters."

Rifleman H. W. FORRESTER, NGVR, formerly of Bulolo, TNG. Awarded the Military Medal for operations against Japanese in New Guinea.

Major R. O. FREEMAN, FMF, Awarded the Military Cross for devotion to duty while on service in Bougainville.

Cpl. Tevita FUSI, FMF. Awarded Military Medal for service on Bougainville.

Sgt. J. H. GILCHRIST, formerly of TNG. Received Military Medal, April, 1944.

Squadron-Leader C. R. GURNEY, RAAF, formerly of Guinea Airways, Ltd., TNG. Posthumously awarded the Air Force Cross, for bombing raids on Japanese-held ports in New Britain.

Major T. GRAHAMSLAW, AMF, formerly of Papua. Awarded OBE for conspicuous devotion to duty in the Buna area (Papua) during initial Japanese landings in the district.

Walter GRAND, Fighting French Pacific Battalion, formerly of Tahiti. Awarded Croix de Guerre, with one star, for bravery during the Battle of Bir Hacheim, 1942.

A/Sgt. B. W. G. HALL, formerly of TNG. Received DCM in April, 1944. Later promoted to rank of Lieutenant.

W/O M. I. HARPER, RANR, formerly of BSI, awarded US Order of Merit for outstanding service in Solomon Islands.

Squadron-Leader Godfrey HEMSWORTH, RAAF, formerly a well-known New Guinea pilot, who was killed in action against the Japanese in May. Posthumously awarded the Air Force Cross.

Capt. L. HENDERSON, AMF, formerly of Papua. Awarded MBE for courage displayed during the Oro Bay operations when he was in charge of small ships operating in those waters.

LUCIEN HERVOUET, formerly of New Caledonia. Awarded Croix de Guerre while serving with Fighting French volunteers in Egypt.

Lieut. Collin HILL, RANR, of the Australian destroyer, "Waterhen", formerly second officer on the trans-Pacific liner "Niagara". Awarded the OBE.

Capt. Ernest HITCHCOCK, ANGAU, formerly of Mandated Territory. Awarded US Legion of Merit for assistance to American forces in Salamaua area.

Flying-Officer Victor HJORRING, of Fiji. Awarded MBE.

Capt. HOLLAND, formerly of G. & E. Islands Colony, awarded George Medal for bravery in helping to maintain communications after Japanese invasion of Tarawa.

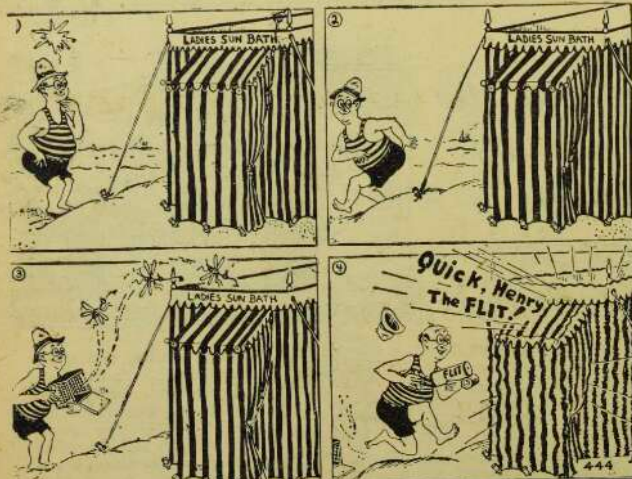
Commander D. S. HORE-LACY, RN, formerly of New Guinea. Four times mentioned in despatches.

Lieut. D. C. HORTON, RANVR, formerly of District Services, BSI. Awarded the United States Silver Star for distinguished services in the Solomons.

Lieut. Gordon HOWE, RANR, formerly an officer in Burns Philp ships. Awarded the US Legion of Merit for meritorious service in leading a reconnaissance party to Russell Islands, BSI.

P/O Ian INNES, RAAF, formerly of Salamaua, TNG. Awarded Military Medal (while serving as a P/Sgt.) in France, 1944.

Wing-Commander R. W. IREDALE, RAAF, formerly of Lae and Rabaul, TNG. Awarded DFC and Bar, Mentioned in Despatches, during three



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tours of operation over Europe.

Capt. E. R. JOHANSON, of American liner "Monterey." Awarded US Merchant Marine Distinguished Service Medal for service against the enemy.

Lieut. H. E. JOSSELYN, RANVR, formerly of District Services, BSI. Awarded United States Silver Star, for distinguished services in the Solomons.

Lieut. J. R. KEENAN, RANVR, formerly of New Guinea. Awarded the DSC.

Capt. H. T. KIENZLE, ANGAU, formerly of Papua. Awarded MBE for devotion to duty during the campaign in the Owen Stanley Ranges.

Lieut. Isereli KOROVULAVULA, FMF. Awarded the Military Cross for devotion to duty while serving in Bougainville.

Pte. Sairusi KOTO, Fiji Military Forces. Awarded US Silver Star for bravery and devotion to duty in the Solomons.

Wing-Commander C. J. N. LELAU, RAAF, formerly of Suva, Fiji. Awarded the OBE for distinguished service.

Pte. Villame LAUTIKI, of Fiji Military Forces. Awarded MM for services in South-west Pacific area.

Sqd-Ldr. Ian LOUDON, RAAF, formerly of New Guinea. Awarded DFC and mentioned in despatches.

Cpl. Elaitia LEDUA, FMF. Awarded Military Medal for service on Bougainville.

Lieut. Paul LOBENDAHN, FMF. Awarded Military Medal for service on Bougainville.

L/Cpl. Villame LOMASALATO, FMF. Awarded Military Medal for service on Bougainville.

Sgt. T. McADAM, NGVR, formerly of New Guinea Forestry Dept. Awarded Military Medal for gallantry in New Guinea.

Capt. John S. McLEOD, ANGAU, formerly a patrol-officer with the New Guinea Administration, for services in New Britain, organising and supervising native labour and guides and for reconnaissance patrol. Awarded US Legion of Merit.

Lieut-Commander A. W. R. McNICOLL, RAN, son of Sir Ramsay McNicoll, Administrator of New Guinea, and Lady McNicoll. Awarded the George Medal.

Sgt. Josefa MAINVOLAU, FMF. Awarded Military Medal for service on Bougainville.

Pte. Akulla MARAIVALU, FMF. Awarded Military Medal for service on Bougainville.

Petty-Officer PAUL MASON, RANVR, formerly a plantation inspector at Iau, Bougainville. TNG. Awarded American Distinguished Service Cross for "extraordinary heroism in action." Also awarded British DSC.

HENRI MAYER, formerly of New Caledonia. Awarded Croix de Guerre while serving with Fighting French volunteers in Egypt.

Flt.-Lieut. George B. (Golly) MEIDECKE, RAAF, formerly of W. Samoa. Awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

— Maurice MEUNIER, of FF Forces, formerly of New Caledonia. Awarded Croix de Guerre.

Capt. J. K. McCARTHY, formerly of TNG. Received the MBE, April, 1944.

Lieut-Commander H. A. MACKENZIE, RAN, formerly of Rabaul, TNG. Awarded the US Legion of Merit for exceptionally meritorious services at Guadalcanal.

Capt. John Malcolm METHVEN, AIF. Mentioned in despatches for distinguished services during the siege of Tobruk. Since reported killed in action. (See section "Killed.")

John MILNE, Wireless Operator, Gilbert Islands. Awarded British Empire Medal for distinguished service.

Sgt. Geoffrey MOORE, of the RNZAF, formerly engineer on the NG inter-island vessel "Maivara" and on the trans-Pacific liner "Aorangi". Awarded the Distinguished Flying Medal.

Capt. G. B. MORGAN, DSC, formerly of Union SS Co. Awarded DSO and Lloyd's war medal for his part in Allied landings in North Africa in 1942, when he was captain of the "Awatea."

Lieut. R. G. MORGAN, of G. & E. Islands, awarded the George Medal (posthumously) for bravery in maintaining communication during the Japanese occupation of the Gilberts.

ANDRE MORNAGHNI, formerly of New Caledonia. Awarded Croix de Guerre while serving with Fighting French volunteers in Egypt.

Flight-Lieut. G. B. MEIDECKE, RAAF, formerly of W. Samoa. Awarded the DFC for "courage, coolness and tenacity, and flying skill of the highest order."

Pte. Fred Charles NARRUHN, Fiji Military Forces. Awarded US Silver Star for gallantry and devotion to duty at Butaritari, Gilbert Is.

Major H. L. R. NIALL, ANGAU, formerly ADO in New Guinea. Awarded MBE June, 1945.

Lieut. Lyndon C. NOAKES, AIF, formerly of the Mines Department, Wau. Awarded US Legion of Merit for services when the enemy landed at the mouth of the Mambare River, when Noakes and his party killed several of the

enemy and maintained constant watch on the remainder.

Flight-Lieut. M. O'CONNOR, RAAF, formerly of Suva, Fiji. Awarded the DFC for a "high record of success on operations" in the Middle East.

Lieut. S. S. PAGE, RNZNR, formerly of LMS ship "John Williams." Awarded US Bronze Star for "heroic service while piloting ships entering perilous waters."

Kima Jack PEDRO, G. & E. Islands, British Empire Medal.

Capt. Raymond PERRAUD, FF Pacific Battalion. Awarded Croix de Guerre at Bir Hacheim in 1942. Awarded Liberation Cross in Europe in 1944. Later killed in action.

Lieut. B. PHILPOTT, FMF. Awarded Military Cross for service on Bougainville.

Flight-Lieut. H. G. PILLING, RAF, formerly of Suva, Fiji. Awarded the DFC, May, 1942. (Killed a few days later.)

Sgt. Veneniki RAIWALUI, of FMF. Awarded BEM when he saved boxes of ammunition from a burning store, May, 1944.

Cpl. Jone RAVESOLI, FMF. Awarded Military Medal for service on Bougainville.

Lieut. W. T. READ, RANVR, formerly of District Services, TNG. Awarded American Distinguished Service Cross for "extraordinary heroism in action" while in South Pacific Waters.

Lieut. A. RHODES, RANVR, formerly of BSI. Awarded American DSC for heroism in SW Pacific in 1942. In June, 1943, awarded American Silver Star when he guided a party of US commandoes to the beach on Rondova.

Pilot-Officer Pat RICHARDSON, RAF, son of Mr. W. Richardson, formerly of Penang, Fiji. Awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

W/O A. L. ROBINSON, NGVR, formerly of New Guinea. Awarded DCM.

Commander Alford S. ROSENTHAL, RAN, son of Major-General Sir Charles Rosenthal, KCB, CMG, DSO, VD, Administrator of Norfolk Island. Awarded the DSO, November, 1941; awarded the Bar to DSO, February, 1942.

P/O T. F. ROSSER, RAAF, formerly of Port Moresby, Papua. Awarded DFC while serving in Europe.

W/O K. W. RYALL, of ANGAU, formerly of TNG. Awarded Military Medal for conspicuous service in the Arawe Peninsula area of New Britain.

Cpl. Manoa ROKO, of Fiji Military Forces. Awarded MM for services in South-west Pacific area.

Flight-Lieut. Maurice SCOTT, Suva, Fiji. Awarded DFC for services in Middle East.

Lieut. C. W. SETON, AMF, formerly of BSI. Awarded DCM for work done under the Americans in the Solomons in 1942-3.

Capt. C. W. SLATTERY, ANGAU, formerly Patrol Officer in New Guinea. Awarded MBE, June, 1945.

P/O Basil SPILLER, RAAF, formerly of Papua. Awarded DFC for his services as a navigator over enemy territory.

Capt. Allan W. STALEY, AIF, formerly Roadmaster in Rabaul. Awarded US Legion of Merit for services in New Guinea as liaison officer of a bombardment squadron.

Warrant-Officer (now Lieutenant) Lance STAMPER, ANGAU. Mentioned in despatches for services at Cape Gloucester landing, New Guinea.

Cpl. Sefanala SUKANAIVALU, FMF. Awarded the Victoria Cross posthumously, for conspicuous gallantry in Bougainville.

Cpl. TANAKESA, BSI Defence Force. Military Medal awarded.

Pte. N. TANI, BSI Defence Force. Awarded Military Medal.

Sgt. Atunaisa TAVUTU, FMF. Awarded Military Medal for service on Bougainville.

Lieut-Colonel J. B. K. TAYLOR, Commander of Fiji Military Forces overseas. Awarded American Purple Heart, March, 1944. Awarded OBE, June, 1945.

Cpl. Manasa TIKOCA, FMF. Awarded Military Medal for service on Bougainville.

Capt. A. T. TIMPERLEY, AMF, formerly of Papua. Awarded MBE for work on Good-enough Island when he acted as a guide.

Lieut-Col. G. W. L. TOWNSEND, ANGAU, formerly District Officer in New Guinea. Awarded OBE, June, 1945.

Major David TRENCH, formerly District Officer in BSI. Awarded the Military Cross for distinguished service and gallantry in the South-west Pacific.

Lieut-Col. G. T. UPTON, FMF. Awarded American Bronze Star for outstanding leadership while commanding Fijian troops on Bougainville. Awarded DSO, 1944.

Cpl. Waisele VEIKOSO, FMF. Awarded Military Medal for service on Bougainville.

P/O Leigh G. VIAL, RAAF, formerly ADO in TNG. Awarded American DSC for outstanding heroism in New Guinea in September, 1942.

Lieut-Col. F. W. VOELCKER, FMF. Awarded American Bronze Star for outstanding leadership while commanding Fijian troops on Bougainville.

Lieut. G. J. WEBSTER, RNZNR, formerly of Gilbert Is. Awarded US Bronze Star for

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fered coughing every night—couldn't sleep. Mendaco stopped spasms first night. I have had no Asthma since in over 2 years." Mrs. A. W. writes: "I had Asthma for 25 years. After using Mendaco I can sleep all night and have not had an attack since taking it." Mrs. G. E. C. writes: "I bless the day I first heard of Mendaco. What a godsend it is to a poor woman like me who for 35 years never knew what it was to have a good night's rest. The constant fight between Asthma and sleep was wearing me down, but I feel now I want to forget my past suffering."

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Lieut. (then W/O) Raymond WATSON, AIF, formerly of TNG. Awarded MBE for bravery and devotion to duty during the Papuan campaign.

Sgt. Italia WAQA, of Fiji Military Forces. Awarded MM for services in South-west Pacific area.

Capt. D. E. WILLIAMS, of Fiji Military Forces. Awarded American Silver Star for gallantry in action while leading patrols in Guadalcanal.

Lieut. G. K. WHITTAKER, NGVR, formerly of Lae, TNG. Awarded MBE for gallantry in New Guinea.

Lieut. George Raymond WORLEDGE, of the RANVR, formerly of Fiji. Awarded the MBE (Military).

Lieut. H. M. WRIGHT, RANVR, formerly of New Guinea. Awarded DSC.

MENTIONED IN DESPATCHES

Rifleman G. R. Archer, Blood, TNG.
 TNG.
 Captain A. H. Baldwin, Papua.
 Captain N. B. N. TNG.
 Rifleman J. Cavanagh, TNG.
 Rifleman J. W. Currie, TNG.

Warrant-Officer J. B. Davies, Papua.

Captain L. S. Dexter, Papua.

Lieut. C. G. Harris, TNG.

Lieut. L. A. Henderson, FMF.

Lieut. L. F. Howlett, TNG.

Sgt. H. E. Jarrett, Papua.

Major E. W. Jenyns, TNG.

Warrant-Officer I. F. Jones, Papua.

Lieut. H. T. Klenzle, Papua.

Rifleman J. R. Kinsey, TNG.

Cpl. Josefa Lorima, FMF.

Corporal Malakai Mo, Fiji.

Staff - Sgt. Manzoor Beg, FMF.

Corporal M. Marlay, TNG.

Rifleman J. E. Mayos, TNG.

CSM D. Miller, FMF.

Cpl. Jona Molt, FMF.

Corporal A. Moore, TNG.

Captain J. J. Murphy, TNG.

Lieut. K. C. McMullen, TNG.

Pte. Apisai Naika, FMF.

Pte. Peni Nasuva, FMF.

W/O Victor Neuman, TNG.

Captain N. Owers, TNG.

Sub-Lieut. C. Page, TNG.

Capt. W. M. Edwards, TNG.

Major S. Elliott-Smith, Papua.

Warrant-Officer P. R. N. England, TNG.

Rifleman H. W. Forrester, TNG.

Lieut. K. G. Fuller, Tonga.

Sergeant V. H. Gilchrist, TNG.

Lieut. S. G. Grimshaw, TNG.

Lieut. R. H. Phillips, TNG.

Lieutenant J. I. Rae, Papua.

Pte. A. A. Ramsden, Papua.

Pte. Inoke Rasiga, FMF.

Cpl. Neman Ravia, FMF.

Major D. G. Rice, Papua.

Pte. S. M. Richie, Papua.

Pte. J. E. Rosa, FMF.

Cpl. Luke Sallada, FMF.

Sergeant Akulla Saukura, Fiji.

Lieut. T. C. Scott, FMF.

Lieut. W. W. Sherratt, FMF.

L/Cpl. Are Sitivent, FMF.

Lieutenant C. H. Smith, TNG.

Warrant-Officer R. A. Smith, Papua.

Lieut. A. P. Spittal, FMF.

Pte. R. M. Stewart, Papua.

L/Cpl. Josefa Tatau, FMF.

Lieut. A. T. Timperly, Papua.

Captain L. N. Tribolet, TNG.

Lieutenant A. G. Vagg, TNG.

Captain G. H. Vernon, MC, Papua.

FAMOUS "BULOLO"

Survives Six Years of War

ONE Burns Philp liner which, despite hazardous war service, has remained on top of the water, and will be seen in Islands ports again, is the motor vessel "Bulolo." This is what Engineer Lieutenant-Commander William Monteith (chief engineer of the vessel) wrote recently to the chairman of Burns Philp & Co., Ltd.:

"The 'Bulolo' has had a wonderful career in the Royal Navy; is reputed the most famous ship in Combined Operations. 'Despite rough handling on several occasions, the good ship never failed to fulfil her mission. At the invasion of Algiers, Admiral Burroughs remarked that Burns Philp & Co. were to be commended on the quality of their ship. This was immediately after we had rammed the wharf at nine knots, without damage to the ship; the wharf was less fortunate."

"The ship has carried the flags of five Admirals, namely, Burroughs, Troubridge, Peters, Douglas-Pennant and Martin. She has been honoured at various times by visits from some of the most eminent people in British military and political circles, amongst them, His Majesty the King, Mr. Winston Churchill and General Smuts. Just prior to D-Day (Normandy) His Majesty reviewed the assault craft in our force from the bridge of 'Bulolo'."

The MV "Bulolo" was built by Barclay, Curle & Co., of Glasgow, and launched in 1938. She was built specially for the Australian-New Guinea service of Burns Philp & Co., Ltd., and made her first trip out of Sydney on November 19, 1938. On the outbreak of the European war, the vessel was taken over by the British Ministry of War Transport for the British Admiralty, and on September 27, 1939, was despatched from Sydney to Simonstown, South Africa. She was commissioned by the Royal Navy in October, 1939, and has been in continuous naval service since, in Atlantic and Indian oceans.

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He says: "After several years travelling in Australia and New Zealand in motor-cars, and getting practically no exercise, I found myself getting very sluggish, tired and fatigued, in addition to putting on weight—but after taking R.U.R. I noticed a decided improvement, both in regard to my energy and fatigue. I have lately driven eighteen hours at a stretch without sleep, which I could not possibly have done before. My weight has now returned to normal, and thanks to R.U.R. I feel altogether a new man, both physically and mentally."

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BLACK WASPS FROM ZANZIBAR

To Save Samoan Coconuts

ANOTHER consignment of black wasps from Zanzibar has arrived in Apia, W. Samoa, to help combat the ravages of the rhinoceros beetle.

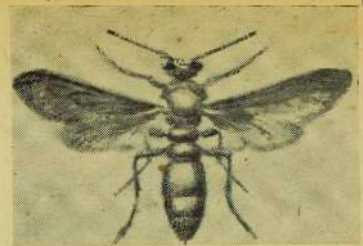
This is about the sixth shipment of the Zanzibar variety, but consignments of a different species of wasp have been sent from Mauritius and East Africa at regular intervals since 1939.

Mr. H. W. Simmonds, former Government entomologist in Fiji, is responsible for the arrival of both the Zanzibar wasps and for the earlier species.

The rhinoceros beetle was accidentally introduced into Western Samoa about 1910—it is believed, in the packing around some rubber stumps from Ceylon. Its presence was first detected in November of that year in some coconuts, near the Customs House in Apia, and from there it spread with alarming rapidity. By 1912 the whole of the western portion of Upolu was affected, and soon after the beetle crossed the straits to Savaii and later reached Tutuila.

In 1926 it had reached an island of the Tongan Group, but very energetic measures had completely eradicated it by 1930. Wallis Island, 200 miles west of Samoa, has become infected in recent years, and if some drastic cure is not found soon it is only a matter of time before it will reach all islands in the groups adjacent to Samoa, and those having commercial relations with the affected areas.

The pest is still absent from Fiji; but the Colony suffers delay in shipping for the simple reason that between



The Zanzibar Black Wasp—
Scolia ruficornis.

sunset and sunrise vessels from Samoa are made to leave the wharves and to lie out in the stream.

IN 1939 Mr. Simmonds, then of the Fiji Department of Agriculture, was given the task of finding some means of combating the scourge. His research led him into Java and Malaya, and from there to Mauritius, Madagascar, and lastly Zanzibar, whose black wasps, it is hoped, will prove a more effective answer than those from other East African districts.

Some of the early shipments were by air, some by ship. Ordinary kerosene tins are used for containers; and food—a jelly of honey and agar-agar—is supplied from ice cream containers; water is supplied from a bottle with a cottonwool wick. One of the more recent consignments, who got right into the honey, had to be "bathed" by the local entomologist at the Fiji staging-point.

To-day all consignments travel by air—across the Indian Ocean to Australia, and from Australia to New Zealand, Fiji and Samoa. The wasps are cared for en route by the local Agricultural Departments, who treat them with the consideration usually given royal princesses. Notwithstanding, there have been many casualties, due mostly to sudden changes in temperature during the staging periods.

It is impossible to tell yet whether the wasps will establish themselves in Samoa, and whether they are the complete answer to the rhinoceros beetle is still open to much doubt. However, it has been proved that even the Madagascar variety were a definite check on the coconut pest, and it is hoped that the Zanzibar wasps will be even more effective.

Results will be watched by planters, commercial men and all others interested in the Pacific and the planting industry. Should the wasps establish themselves, it will be even more interesting to see how they adapt themselves to their new environment. Introduced parasites of this nature sometimes have a way of developing at a tangent, once they are removed from their original home, and proving a worse curse, as a cure, than was the original disease.

APIA, Sept. 18.

SOME time ago, the Samoan Administration, through the New Zealand Reparation Estates, in an effort to combat the rhinoceros beetle, imported two species of wasps, of the varieties "Scolia Oryctophagas" and "Scolia Ruficornis," and released them from Muli-fanua Plantation.

An appeal is now published to Samoans not to kill these wasps, and to give them every protection, and also to report if any of the wasps are noticed at large, stating the locality where they have been observed, and details of their habits or feeding grounds, in order to gain data of the results of the effort. A description of the wasps is also given.

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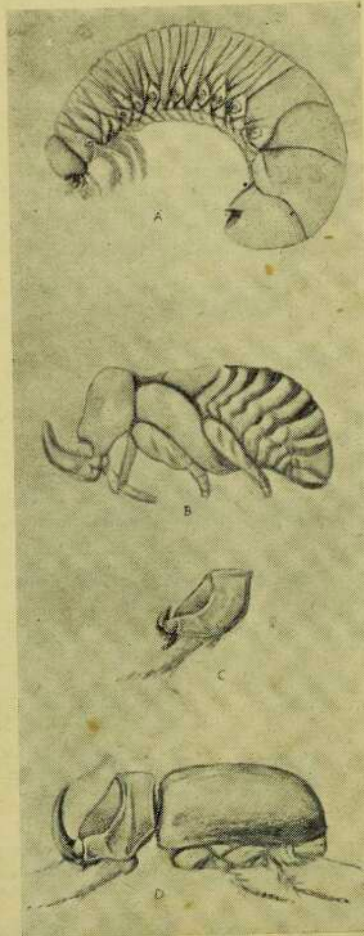
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The Rhinoceros Beetle: (a) Larva; (b) pupa;
(c) head of adult female; (d) adult male.
(All figures natural size.)

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Frank Comments on the "Provisional" Government

Letter to the Editor

I HAVE read with interest the debate in the Australian Parliament on the Bill to provide a Provisional Administration for Papua-New Guinea.

One member hoped that firms like Burns Philp & Co. and W. R. Carpenter & Co. would be kept out. Bad as these firms may be, there is one thing that can be said for them: They know their job. It is doubtful whether some of the members do, if they are reported correctly.

B.P.'s had been called often a pirate and an octopus. They had little opposition, and everything was in their own hands. By comparison with our Production Control Board, though, they were archangels. If any of those firms had to survive on what they made from the natives they would soon have been defunct. Shell and copra, I should say, was their main source of revenue. The natives contribute a very small percentage of those commodities. I believe that I can say, without fear of contradiction, that no firm in Papua treated their labourers better than did Burns Philp.

ONE member said that people come here to make money. That, I should say, is what they go to most places for. Most people came here because they thought it was a land of promise—a place where one could get a nice home together and be reasonably well-off, before they were too old to enjoy it. Not, as some of the fanatics seem to think, for exploitation.

Before the war, there was not one small holder here making more than a

bare living. Most of the plantations at this end are—or were, when the war started—still working on calls. Many now will never pay interest on capital outlay, unless phenomenal prices occur. Some may give the owners a living. It is a pity that some of these great reformers would not educate themselves a little, then they might be able to discuss the Territory intelligently. Very few plantations come into full bearing for well on towards 20 years—some over 20.

Another item is shipping. Is it possible that the taxpayer of Australia is going to be bled for a national shipping line? Past experience should, I think, be fresh enough in the mind of many members to prevent such another fiasco. Judging from previous attempts, it is doubtful just what they could run successfully. Not ships, I feel sure.

ANOTHER member said that natives were taken away from their villages for too long, and that the indenture system aggravated the evil. Natives were signed on in Papua for 12 months, 18 months and 2 years. No native could be signed on for more than a second term. Several places were closed against recruiting, but that did not keep them at home. The new Act says that they must go home. I thought that they were British subjects and therefore free. I have no recollection of any native being forcibly sent home under the Murray Government unless he was a bad character. They could not loaf about the towns, but they could work voluntarily

for whom they wished. They could go where they liked, but not stop in the towns unemployed. The previous employer paid one shilling and got a receipt to clear him of any further responsibility for the native.

With no recruiting, one wonders how they will get to work, seeing that most of them will have to travel between 50 and 100 miles. It appears that the new set-up does not want them to work. That is all right, providing that the Australian Government is prepared to carry the baby. Except medical attention, there is very little that these natives need. This malnutrition talk is tripe. I think they do suffer from want of food—not because they have not got it, but because it is their custom to have but one meal a day, in their villages and, in the rest of the day, they eat anything or nothing, as available.

SOME member said that 80 per cent. of the people have a smattering of Motuan. This is a misstatement. By far the greater number, all over the Territory, have a better grip of English. No Motuan is spoken east of Samarai or on the north-east coast, until one gets to Tufi. Woodlark Island, Milima and Sud Est employers used natives from all the islands around about. Many thousands were used by the miners and planters. None ever tried to speak any of the dialects. It was worse than useless—every time they got new natives it would be another dialect—so they spoke English. I have been on all the islands around this end of the Territory, and have never at any time had any trouble over language, and I speak only English, with perhaps a little Australian thrown in occasionally.

From what one reads, it appears that our own needy people are having a ter-

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rible job to get any attention, either in hospitals or homes, yet the Australian Government is going to set up new standards for natives who are actually in need of nothing, apart from medical attention.

They will show the world what they can do for natives! Have they never heard of what the British have done in Africa? They will have travelled a fairly long road before they catch up to the British.

One would think that no native ever got more than 10/- per month. No N.E. Coast native got less than 12/6. Many natives were getting £12 per annum, and many more from £2 to £9 per month. Burns Philp paid a native £9 per month; and three days after he was paid he did not have a cent, or a thing of value, for the lot. I am, etc.,

Dogura. W. G. YOUNG.
15/9/45.

DANDELION DIURETIC

From Our Own Correspondent

MANGAIA, Aug. 20.

AS a child in the "primer" grades at school, we'd a superstition that if you smelt a dandelion, you'd—so to speak!—dream that night that you were drowning. Well, I'm beginning, nearly 40 years after, to suspect there's something in the belief.

The Mangaians boil the seeds of the puff-ball on the "pulla" to produce a native medicine for the cure, inter alia, of gonorrhea; and, more particularly, of kidney troubles. I have tested it for the latter; and am able to vouch for the effectiveness of the water in which dandelion seeds have been seethed, as a kidney stimulant. It works—generously! Yet this ultra-simple remedy is neglected by European medical science.

The old "ta'unga" herbs are worth looking into. What about some botanical research, and less of coal-tar derivatives, Dr. D.—and Dr. E.—? It would save the Administration money, too — and that's something these days!

Major J. I. Merrylees, who was District Officer at Kieta, Bougainville, T.N.G. when the invasion occurred, and who had a remarkable escape, was married in Brisbane recently to Miss Francis Wilkin.

TROPICAL HOTEL NEW MANAGEMENT FOR GPH

SUVA, Sept. 27.

THE South Pacific's leading hotel, the Grand Pacific, in Suva, Fiji, will be under new management from October 1.

Mr. Charles Brown, who has been managing the hotel since 1938, will leave shortly for New Zealand on three months' leave; his place will be taken by Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Anderson, who arrived here on the September "Matua" from New Zealand. Mr. Anderson has been on Union Company ships for many years, and knows the Pacific right through from San Francisco to Sydney.

To a person whose ideas of tropical hotels are founded on those in existence in the Mandated Territory of New Guinea in the pre-war period, the GPH is something right out of this world. It is a far call from the dangling, galvanised-iron shower-bucket, the box-like rooms and the unsewered discomfort for which Territorians uncomplainingly paid 15/- or 16/- per day.

The GPH was built in 1914; therefore, there are many hotels in Australia today which are more modern; but there are no hotels in Australia at the present moment to compare with it for service and food. The food in this country is beyond the wildest dreams of the long-suffering Australians; the particular bureaucrat who invented the 5/- meal maximum in Australia, administered the coup de grace to whatever pretensions Australia might have had for good food.

There is only one thing about this place that could get in the hair of the individual with a Melanesian complex. That is, the strange urge of the Indian servants to be vocal at 6.15 in the morning. These seem to pick that time, over the making of morning tea, to get their political views off their chests. It takes a whole lot of willpower on the part of this Territorian to cling to her bed, and not dash out on to the landing in full fighting trim to bellow: "What name something? Go on—rouse!"

But, apparently, the Indians of Fiji don't go for that kind of treatment.—J.T.

LAST OF DE RAYS EXPEDITION

Dies in Australia at 91

THE death occurred on September 25, in Lismore, NSW, of Mrs. Maria Capelin, 91, the last survivor of the ill-fated Marquis de Rays South Seas expedition of the last century.

Mrs. Capelin was a native of northern Italy, where she met and married her first husband, Mr. G. Tome. They were attracted by the glowing colonisation schemes outlined by the French nobleman, the Marquis de Rays, who planned to found "a new French empire" on New Ireland. With their three children, Mr. and Mrs. Tome sailed from Barcelona on July 4, 1880, on S.S. "India," one of the ill-fated ships carrying members of the expedition to the South Seas.

The colonisation attempts on New Ireland ended disastrously and Mr. Tome was one of many who died on the island.

With the remnants of the expedition, Mrs. Tome and her children arrived in Sydney in 1881. In 1886 she married Mr. L. Capelin and later the couple settled at "New Italy," outside Woodburn on the Richmond River, where the remnants of the de Rays expedition had founded a colony.

"New Italy" prospered for a while but the soil and site were by no means ideal and the settlement gradually fell into decay, until to-day only one of the original settlers remain.

Mr. Capelin died in 1915 and Mrs. Capelin later lived in Lismore. She is survived by three daughters and four sons, 60 grandchildren, 83 great-grandchildren, and 12 great-great-grandchildren. Eighteen of her male descendants served in World War II.

BLACK MARKET CIGARETTES IN TAHITI

PAPEETE, Aug. 9.

THE broadcasters in the United States used to pother and vex the air-waves with shrill inquiries as to the whereabouts of the millions of cigarettes that were pouring ceaselessly from the factories of the Tobacco Trust. A little less noise and a measure of intelligent investigation would have revealed one of the most efficiently conducted black markets this war period has produced.

This was brought to general attention in this Colony by the operations of the smuggling ring, which was under judicial investigation some time ago.

Here, there was always an ample supply of cigarettes—at a price—the price the black market ghouls demanded.

It is an ill wind that blows no good for someone. The detection of one band of smugglers eliminated a series of orgies around the wassail-bowl in Papeete which had periodically murdered sleep throughout the district.

There is no need for our Tahitians to become victims of the black market. There is native tobacco in abundance. The old type of cigarette—made by twisting a leaf of native tobacco with paper-thin rau-oro (the dried leaf of a species of pandanus)—has a flavour far superior to that of the processed corn-silk and North Carolina marsh-grass which masquerade as tobacco in many American brands.

The tourists of the notorious 1920 decade introduced the American cigarettes. By an evolution of snobbery, the smoking of the fragrant rau-oro variety became plebeian. The Tahitian was thus made ripe for exploitation.

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New Guinea's Missing Civilians

(Continued from page 9)

be felt. The first real shock came when the party of 17 Rabaul nurses arrived early in September. They were carefully interrogated; and then the significant fact was ascertained that the missing civilians and the missing men of the 22nd Battalion had all been shipped away from Rabaul on a vessel which departed in June, 1942. Nothing had been heard of or from those people since 1942.

A warning to relations was published on page 49 of the September "PIM," but in guarded language—there still was a faint hope that the missing people would be discovered. The search of Japan and Jap Territories was intensified.

By the end of September, it was plain that the tragedy we had so long feared really had happened. A few scores of missionaries, and a remnant of Rabaul civilians were found in a camp in the Ramale Valley (between Kokopo and Bitapaka) by our Forces when they re-occupied Rabaul; another handful of civilians have been found in Far Eastern countries, which they evidently had reached by vessels other than the "Montevideo Maru"; but the remainder of the civilians, to the number of over 500, were either lost on the "Montevideo Maru," or are otherwise unaccounted for.

There remains a faint hope that a few of these people may yet be found alive. Some may have escaped into the jungles of New Britain and New Ireland, and may have been able to sustain life until now. A remnant may have got ashore in the Philippine Islands, from the "Montevideo Maru."

But even those hopes are fading. It is six weeks since the Japanese surrendered, and if there had been any number of these men alive, they would have made their presence known by now.

The following are the names, next-of-kin and occupations of the missing civilians. A list of those rescued and recovered appears on page 9.

Names of the Missing

Abbott, E. M.—Mrs. E. M. Abbott, c/o Aust. Union Conference, Mizpah, Wairoonga, Sydney.—Missionary.
Adams, H. A.—Mrs. U. F. Adams, Flat 5, "Elman," Ashburner St., Manly, Sydney.—Planter, Well-known public man.
Allen, G. W.—Mrs. or Miss A. Allen, c/o T. W. Jones, 23 Braddon St., Mortlake, Sydney.—Planter.
Allen, W. E.—H. A. Allen, MGO, Branch Stats., GHQ, APO, New Delhi, India Command.—Warrant-Officer, Police.
Allsop, K. C.—Mrs. Allsop, c/o Southern Pacific Insurance Co., 60 Hunter St., Sydney.—Clerk, Carpenter & Co.
Ash, N. E.—Mrs. Bessie Ash, c/o Mrs. Hoare, 21 Anzac Ave., Toowoomba, Q.—Warrant-Officer, Police.
Ashby, S. A.—Mrs. E. M. Ashby, 30 Marungi St., Shepparton, Vic.—Plant'n mgr., New Ireland.
Atherton, J. W.—Mrs. J. W. Atherton, c/o Mrs. Gadonis, Nebo Rd., Mackay, Q.—Dispensary ass't, Admin'n.
Atkinson, W.—W. Atkinson, Portland St., New Lambton, NSW.—Timber lessee, N. Britain.
Attwood, W.—Miss V. M. Bestmann, "Riverview" Apiary, King St., Caboolture, NC Line.—Garage owner, Kavieng.
Badger, H. J.—Mrs. G. Badger, 10 Albert St., Leichhardt, Sydney.—Chairman, Lands Dept.
Banks, E.—Mrs. L. E. Banks, 4 Onslow Court Flats, 15 Onslow Ave., Elizabeth Bay, Sydney.—Hotel manager, Rabaul.

Barnes, G. W.—Mrs. J. D. Barnes, "Barneth," Robinson Ave., Margate, Redcliffe, Q.—Compositor, Rabaul.
Barrie, J.—Mrs. B. L. Barrie, 40 Grafton St., Woollahra, Sydney.—Mgr., electricity station.
Bath, V. G.—Miss Beryl Bath, Valotta Flats, Wycombe Rd., Neutral Bay, Sydney.—Labour overseer, WRC.
Beasley, Rev. S. C.—Mrs. O. B. Beasley, Recreation Rd., Kalamunda, WA.—Missionary.
Beaumont, J.—Mrs. C. A. Beaumont, 98 Annandale St., Annandale, Sydney.—Timber engineer.
Beck, N. R.—Mrs. Lowe, No. 4 Bayview, 28 Albert St., Petersham, Sydney.—Roadmaster.
Beckett, H. J.—Mrs. L. V. Beckett, 31 Wyvern Ave., Chatswood, Sydney.—Motor mechanic, Admin'n.
Bell, D. J.—Mrs. E. Bell, 9 Springfield Ave., King's Cross, Sydney.—Plant'n mgr., N. Britain.
Bell, J. W.—Mrs. E. H. V. Bell, 83 Baines St., Kangaroo Pt., Brisbane.—Plant'n mgr., N. Ireland.
Benham, G. W. (RANVR).—Mrs. L. Benham, 65a Westbourne St., Kogarah, Sydney.—Patrol officer, Admin'n.
Berriman, R. A.—Mrs. A. E. Berriman, 169 Longueville Rd., Lane Cove, Sydney.—Plant'n mgr., WRC & Co.
Bignell, C. E.—Mrs. M. Clarence, 75 Lauderdale Ave., Balgowlah, Sydney.—Timber worker.
Bird, R. A.—Mrs. J. Bird, "Cecille," Flinders Pde., Sandgate, Q.—Clerk, Admin'n.
Bischoff, C. R.—Mrs. W. E. Bischoff, "Texas," Greenknowe Ave., Pott's Point, Sydney.—Clerk.
Bollard, W.—Operator, Regent Theatre.
Borgia, Sister M.—Mrs. J. Dale, Toombul, Brisbane.—Released in Rabaul.
Bowman, H.—Mrs. E. M. Bowman, 49 West Terrace, Adelaide.—Med. ass't, Admin'n.
Box, W. C.—Mrs. J. E. Arkinstall (formerly Box), Gympie Rd., Thermiside, Q.—Planter, N. Ireland.
Brain, R. M.—Mrs. L. A. Brain, Thornton, via Alexandria, Vic.—Manager, N. Brit. Timbers.
Brennan, C.—Mrs. M. Brennan, 17 Donnelly St., Balmain, Sydney.—Manager of Oil Co.
Brinston, H. G. W.—Mrs. H. G. W. Brinston, Flat 23, "Texas," Greenknowe Ave., Pott's Point, Sydney.—Clerk, Admin'n.
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 Bryen, F. C.—Mrs. D. B. Bryen, Flat 1, "Chellowdena," 318 Bondi Rd., Bondi, Sydney.—Colyer Watson staff.
 Bunny, J.—Mrs. K. Bunny, 62 Bundarra Ave., North Wahroonga, Sydney.—Plant'n inspect'r, BP.
 Burke, J. D.—Mrs. M. Burke, Glamis Flats, 387 Maine St., Kangaroo Pt., Brisbane.—Clerk, Admin'n.
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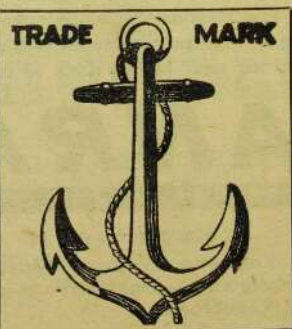
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 Carson, L.—Mrs. R. E. Carson, 20 Shakespeare Grove, Hawthorn, Vic.—Planter, Pead Islands.
 Chadderton, C.—Mrs. M. Chadderton, No. 2, Canonbury Grove, Dulwich Hill, Sydney.—Planter, N. Ireland.
 Chauncy, A. A.—Mrs. D. M. Chauncy, 30a Wolseley Rd., Point Piper, Sydney.—Surveyor, Lands Dept.
 Clark, I.—Mrs. I. Clark, c/o J. R. McManus, "Inglewood," Wallacia, NSW.—Med. ass't., Admin'n.
 Clark, R. L.—Mrs. G. Clark, 2 O'Connell St., Greenwich Point, Sydney.—Well-known mgr. of Bay Leo.
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 Cobb, F.—Mr. H. Cobb, Hunter Springs, Scone, NSW.—Plant'n mgr., N. Ireland.
 Coe, P. E. R.—Mrs. L. T. Coe, "Macquarie," 25 Eurobine Ave., Manly, Sydney.—Customs clerk, Admin'n.
 Cogan, T.—Mrs. M. P. Cogan, 22 Camelia St., North Perth, WA.—Plant'n mgr., N. Ireland.
 Collett, T. D.—Mrs. O. M. Collett, c/o Mrs. E. A. Morton, Fraser St., Ashgrove, Brisbane.—Plant'n mgr., N. Ireland.
 Considine, L. A.—Mrs. F. M. Considine, Box 94, Mt. Gambier, SA.—Clerk, Admin'n.
 Consterdine, F. C.—Mrs. M. Consterdine, 21 Warringah Rd., Mosman, Sydney.—Plant'n mgr., N. Ireland.
 Cook, R. E.—Henry H. Cook, 6 High St., Hornsby, Sydney.—Acc't., WRC & Co.
 Coomber, A.—Mrs. O. F. Coomber, Box 42, Woy Woy, NSW.—Med. ass't., Admin'n.
 Cooper, Dr. R. W.—Mrs. R. W. Cooper, 100 Princess St., Kew, Vic.—Administration.
 Coote, P.—Mrs. P. Coote, 58 Springdale Rd., Killara, Sydney.—Manager, BP & Co.
 Cottee, G. A.—Mrs. J. Cottee, c/o Mrs. C. Pavel, Logan St., Tenerfield.—Mechanic, Admin'n.
 Craig—New Ireland.—Plant'n mgr., N. Ireland.
 Crocker, M. C.—Mr. F. S. Crocker, c/o Amalgamated Wireless, York St., Sydney.—Agri. inspect'r, Admin'n.
 Crockett, J. A.—Plant'n mgr., N. Britain.
 Cruise, J. B.—Mrs. J. B. Cruise, c/o Harry Cross, Millinery Creations, Rhoades Building, 116 Wickham St., Valley, Brisbane.—Head dispenser, Admin'n.
 Davies, L.—Mrs. L. Davies, 20 Moore St., Roseville, Sydney.—Plant'n mgr., N. Ireland.
 Davies, R.—Mrs. R. Davies, c/o Mrs. Endall, 136 Pittwater Rd., Manly, Sydney.—Med. ass't., Admin'n.
 Daymond, J. E.—Mrs. K. E. Daymond, 83 McCracken St., Essendon, Vic.—Asst. District Officer.
 Deacon, L. A.—Mr. Deacon, 396 Alice St., Maryborough, Q.—Clerk, Administration.
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 Doyle, H. G.—Mrs. H. G. Doyle, 30 Fox Valley Rd., Wahroonga, Sydney.—Plant'n mgr., N. Ireland.
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 Ebery, T.—Died in New Britain.
 Edwards, J. H.—Mrs. S. J. Edwards, 13 Young St., Annandale, Sydney.—Native labour overseer.
 Edwards, M. S.—Mrs. Edwards, R. G. Shays, 86 Wilperry Terrace, Kilkenny, South Aust.—Assist. District Officer.
 Eglington, A. M.—c/o Mrs. Bostock-Jones, 13 Stanley Ave., Mosman, Sydney.—Storeman, Admin'n.
 Einsiedel, E. R.—Mrs. D. E. Einsiedel, 451 Alfred St., North Sydney.—Clerk, BP & Co.
 Elkington, H. C.—Mrs. Heins, 36 Pilmsell St., Sans Souci, Sydney.—Died in New Britain.
 Evans, T. E.—Mrs. T. E. Evans, 337 Rainbow St., Coogee, Sydney.—Med. Ass't., Admin'n.
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 Evenson, A.—Mrs. L. M. Evenson, 50 Fitzgerald St., Geraldton, WA.—Manager, Pondo factory.
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 Florence, V. A.—Mrs. J. Florence, 26 Highfield Rd., Lindfield, Sydney.—Solicitor, Rabaul.
 Forsyth, R. H.—Mrs. G. Forsyth, "Beechwood," Goldsborough Rd., Taringa, Brisbane.—Clerk, Admin'n.
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 Garnett, W. F. S.—Mrs. M. Garnett, 1 Wallace St., Toorak, SE2, Vic.—Plant'n mgr., N. Ireland.
 Garrett, T.—Mrs. Garrett, 539 New South Head Rd., Double Bay, Sydney.—Planter, N. Britain.
 Gascoigne, C. J.—Mrs. E. D. Gascoigne, 21 Clark St., Prahan, Vic.—Auctioneer, Rabaul.
 Gascoigne, I. N.—Mrs. E. D. Gascoigne, 21 Clark St., Prahan, Vic.—Clerk, Rabaul.
 Geldard, G.—Mrs. E. P. Brown, 44 Mark St., New Farm, Brisbane.—Timber worker.
 Goad, J. C.—Mrs. M. Goad, 95 Francis St., Bondi, Sydney.—Med. Ass't., N. Ireland.
 Goodwyn, H. R.—Mrs. M. A. Goodwyn, Jandowae, Q.—Acc't., WRC & Co.
 Gordon, L. L.—Mrs. L. Gordon, c/o Mrs. Corlass, Box 2, Burleigh Heads, Q.
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 Green, A. S.—Mrs. M. Green, Flat 23, Orwill Court, 155 Powlett St., East Melbourne.—Plant'n mgr., N. Britain.
 Green, E. C. D.—Mrs. G. E. Green, View St., Blaxland, NSW.—Agri. Superintend't., Kera-wat.
 Greenwood, F. O.—Mrs. E. Greenwood, 24 Portland St., Rose Bay, Sydney.—Merchant, Rabaul.
 Greenwood, W.—Mrs. A. J. Greenwood, 39 Jacoboon Ave., North Brighton, Sydney.—Plant'n mgr., N. Britain.
 Gregory, H. A.—Mrs. Gregory, 80 Cromwell Rd., South Yarra, Vic.—District Officer.
 Griffin, J. K. V.—Miss Griffin, c/o Manufacturers Mutual Insurance Co., Ltd., 14 O'Connell St., Sydney.—Plant'n mgr., N. Ireland.

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- Hamilton, L.—G. K. Hamilton, Mairangi Bay, Auckland.—Plant'n mgr., N. Britain.
- Hansen, J.—Fru Sigrid Hansen, Korfyues 23, Copenhagen, S. Denmark, c/o Danish Consulate, Sydney.—Officer on ship "Herstein," sunk in Rabaul by Japs.
- Harvey, A. A. (wife and son).—Miss Mercia Murphy, 95 Stanmore Rd., Stanmore, Sydney.—Planter, New Britain.
- Haslam, F.—Ensign W. Haslam, FANY, c/o Officers' Training Depot, 135 St. George's Terrace, Perth.—Clerk, Lands Dept.
- Hawnt, E. M.—Mrs. J. Hawnt, 3 Cameron Ave., Artarmon, Sydney.—Telephone engineer.
- Haydon, W.—Miss Haydon, Dowel St., Chatswood, Sydney.—Plant'n mgr., N. Ireland.
- Hemming, R.—Mrs. M. Hemming, c/o Dr. Stuart Welch, West Esplanade, Manly, Sydney.—Plant'n mgr., N. Ireland.
- Herket, T. H.—Miss Daniels, c/o Auckland Savings Bank, Queen St., Auckland, NZ.
- Heron, W. L.—Mrs. W. L. Heron, c/o N. G. Clapperton, Tintern, Euroa, Vic.—Planter, N. Britain.
- Herron, G.—Mrs. B. A. Herron, 20 Berkley Rd., Manly, Sydney.—Clerk, Commw'th Bank.
- Herterich, S.—Plant'n mgr., N. Ireland.
- Hogan, G.—Mrs. Stella Hogan, c/o W. H. Thompson & Co., 56 Young St., Sydney.—Crown Law Officer, Rabaul.
- Holden, H.—Mrs. E. I. Holden, 231 Esplanade, Cairns, Q.—Timber worker.
- Holland, H. D.—Mrs. H. D. Holland, 676 Malvern Rd., Armadale, Vic.—Mgr., AWA, Rabaul.
- Hoogerwerf, J.—Mr. T. O. Mouton, "Velaire," 5 Benelong Crescent, Bellevue Hill, Sydney.—Mgr., Rabaul "Times."
- Hooke, W.—Mr. Hooke, 416 Parramatta Rd., Petersham, Sydney.—Trader, from Sepik. Died.
- Hooper, A.—Radio operator, AWA.
- Hopkins, E.—Mrs. R. A. Hopkins, "Pevensey," Woodford St., Leura, NSW.—Motor engineer.
- Hosking, Dr. H. C.—Mrs. H. C. Hoskin, c/o Mrs. Bailey, 15 Woottona Terrace, Glen Osmond, SA.—Administration.
- Houghton, C. W.—Mrs. V. L. Houghton, 1596 Pacific Highway, Wairoa, Sydney.—Plant'n mgr., New Britain.
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- Ives, V. G.—Mrs. G. Ives, 9 Jersey Pde., Carnegie, Vic.—Plant'n mgr., N. Ireland.
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- Johnson, V. C.—Burs, Philp & Co., Ltd., Bridge St., Sydney.—Plant'n mgr., BP & Co.
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- Johnston, L.—Clerk, Bank NSW.
- Kaple, Mrs. Emma.—Planter, N. Ireland.
- Kelly, E. T. C.—Customs Officer, Kavieng.
- Kennedy, R. L.—Mgr., Regent Theatre.
- King, A. J.—Mrs. M. L. King, 42 Rowley St., Brighton-le-Sands, Sydney.—Commw'th Audit Officer.
- Korn, W.—Mrs. W. T. Korn, "Yama" Hospital, Woodford, NSW.—Ass't to mgr., Pondo factory.
- Kyle, A. F.—Mrs. L. M. Kyle, 6 Harrison St., Cremorne, Sydney.—Ass't District Officer, N. Ireland.
- Lampton, R.—Mrs. Lampton, 45 Filbert St., Caulfield, Vic.—Plant'n mgr., N. Britain.
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- Levien, J.—Miss E. Levien, 14 Manor Place, Holywell, Oxford, England.—Plant'n mgr., N. Britain.
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- Lingood, L. I.—Mrs. L. Lingood, 21 Jordan St., Malvern, Vic.—Missionary.
- Livingstone, W. J.—Mrs. M. E. S. Livingstone, Clifton Hall Flat, 88 Ocean Beach, Manly, Sydney.—Warrant-Officer, Police, Kavieng.
- Lockhart, J.—Mrs. Isobel Lockhart, c/o Mrs. Throsby, Throsby Park, Moss Vale, NSW.—Health Inspector, Admin'n.
- Macadam, E. G.—Mrs. Dora Macadam, 10 Gale St., Woolwich, Sydney.—Acc't., N. Brit. Timbers.
- McArthur, L. A.—Mrs. L. A. McArthur, 14 Cedar Ave., Woodville, SA.—Missionary.
- McCulloch, D.—Mrs. D. McCulloch, 126 Richmond Terrace, Richmond, E.I., Vic.—Plant'n mgr., N. Britain.
- McDongall, D.—Mrs. J. E. Wilson, 12 Western Rd., Parramatta.—Warrant-Officer, Police.
- McEwen, W. F.—Mrs. E. E. McEwen, No. 3 Flat, "Sheaf," 245 Darlinghurst Rd., Sydney.—Grocery mgr., BP & Co.
- McEvoy, J. T.—Planter, Manus.
- Mackellar, C.—Mrs. J. A. Mackellar, 9 Homestead Ave., Collaroy, Sydney.—Planter, New Ireland.
- McLaren, T. W.—Mrs. C. Tommas, 15 Elizabeth St., Paddington, Sydney.—Baker.
- McLaughlan, R. L.—G. R. McLaughlan, c/o Mrs. M. Ireland, No. 10, St. Kilda Flats, Cathedral St., Sydney.
- Died at Kokopo.**
- Maclean, C. H. R.—Mrs. Maclean, Marton Hall, Margaret St., Sydney.—Mgr., WRC & Co., Rabaul.
- Maclean, C. L.—Mrs. E. Maclean, "Brexley," Bangalla St., Warrabee, NSW.—Dentist, Rabaul.
- MacLennan, J. I.—No information.
- Macpherson, R.—Mrs. I. Macpherson, 272 Enoggera Rd., Newmarket, Brisbane.—Ac't., Kavieng.
- McSheane, G.—Mrs. M. H. McSheane, 53 Leichhardt St., Glebe Point, Sydney.—Butcher.
- Mantle, P. W.—Mrs. D. B. Mantle, 40 Cremorne Rd., Cremorne, Sydney.—Senior Magistrate.
- Marshall, J. D.—Mrs. Marshall, Cottesloe, WA.—Customs clerk.
- Mater, C. S. P.—Mrs. C. S. Mater, 12 Gartferr Mathis, P.—Plant'n mgr., Manus.
- Mernin, T. P.—Mrs. N. Dwyer, 26 Augusta Rd., Manly, Sydney.—Plant'n mgr., N. Ireland.
- Merrel, A.—Plant'n mgr., N. Ireland.
- Miller, E. R.—Planter, N. Ireland.
- Miller-Schoevers, Isa.—No information.
- Millington, B.—Mrs. Millington, 55 Coronation Pde., Enfield, Sydney.—Purser, WRC & Co.
- Mitchell, E. H. F.—Mrs. P. Mitchell, 25 Orwell St., Pott's Point, Sydney.—Patrol officer.
- Moore, C. H. G.—Plant'n mgr., Kokopo.
- Moore, R. K. P.—Mrs. E. E. Moore, 9 Belgravia St., Moree, NSW.—Planter, New Britain.
- Morell, J. F.—Mrs. J. Morell, c/o Mrs. T. A. Powell, 58 Kent Rd., Woolwin, Q.—Plant'n mgr., N. Ireland.
- Moseley, A.—Mrs. A. M. Moseley, 117 Khartoum St., Gordon Park, Kedron, Brisbane.—Plant'n mgr., N. Ireland.
- Muggleton, H. A.—Mrs. J. Roberts, c/o M. Roberts, station master, near Gympie, Q.—Trader, New Britain.
- Mulligan, E. W. C.—Mrs. W. M. Mulligan, 451 Hannam St., Kalgoolie, WA.—Baker.
- Mulvey, N.—Mrs. J. Mulvey, 9 Bultell St., New Plymouth, NZ.—Engineer, Admin'n.
- Munster, C. P.—Mrs. A. J. Munster, Young Women's Hostel, 471 Dowling St., Sydney.—Planter, Manus.
- Murray, G. H.—Mrs. H. Murray, "Clifford," 16 Waruda St., Kirribilli, Sydney.—Director of Agriculture.
- Naess, G.—Mrs. O. Gurd, 39 Garrett St., Kingsford, Sydney.
- Died in New Guinea.**
- Naughton, J. F.—Mrs. M. A. Naughton, 27 Beckwith St., Wagga Wagga, NSW.—Plant'n mgr., N. Ireland.
- Naulty, P. G.—Mrs. E. V. Naulty, 8 Cove St., Prospect, SA.—Warrant-Officer, Police.
- Nunan, C.—Mrs. A. Poole, Evans St., Moruya, NSW.—Timber worker.
- Oakes, Rev. W. D.—Mrs. W. D. Oakes, c/o Rev. Johnson, Muston St., Mosman, Sydney.—Missionary.
- Oaten, F. E.—Mrs. S. Oaten, St. Weart St., Seymour, Vic.—Plant'n mgr., N. Ireland.
- O'Dwyer, N. A.—Mrs. M. Forsyth, 6 Nobel St., Mosman, Sydney.—Plant'n mgr., N. Britain.
- O'Lander, B.—C. O'Lander, 14 Cook St., Glebe Point, Sydney.—Plant'n mgr.—believed killed.
- Ormond, J. L.—Mrs. E. M. Ormond, No. 5 Waratah St., Arncliffe, Sydney.—Plant'n mgr., N. Ireland.
- Ostrom, Chas.; Ostrom, J. O.; Ostrom, Max.—Mrs. R. Cowley, 70 Mons Ave., Maroubra Bay, Sydney.—Plant'n mgr., N. Ireland.
- Page, C. L.—Mrs. C. Page, 112 Curlew St., Kavieng.
- Killed by Japs in N. Ireland.**
- Page, H. H.—Mrs. A. Page, Flat 2, "Casa Grande," 11 Thrupp St., Neutral Bay, Sydney.—Government Secretary and Deputy Administ'r.
- Parkinson, Mrs. P.—Mrs. D. Messenger, Cobarr District Hospital, Cobarr.—Planter, N. Ireland.
- Wahroonga, Sydney.—Senior Med. Asst.
- Parry, A. R.—Mrs. A. R. Parry, 6 Woniara Ave., Wahroonga, Sydney.
- Paul, K. B.—Clerk, Bank of NSW.
- Pearce, E. W.—Mrs. E. E. Pearce, 3 Baker St., Lenah Valley, Hobart, Tas.—Ac't., Methodist Mission.
- Pearson, H. J.—Mrs. H. J. Pearson, Marshall Terrace, Brookland Park, SA.—Missionary.
- Perrett, A.—Mechanic, Admin'n.
- Philpott, W. H.—Mrs. G. I. Philpott, 65a Elizabeth Bay Rd., Ulverstone Flats, Elizabeth Bay, Sydney.—Store mgr., BP & Co.
- Pickering, M. B.—Mrs. A. Pickering, Wilmington, SA.—Clerk, Admin'n.
- Pinching, E.—Mrs. H. Pinching, 31 King St., Randwick, Sydney.—Plant'n mgr., N. Britain.
- Pines, C. M.—Sen'r Med. Asst., Admin'n.
- Pinnock, L. J.—Mrs. L. J. Pinnock, c/o A. W. Pinnock, 24 Lynwood Ave., Killara, Sydney.—Plant'n mgr., N. Ireland.
- Plummer, H. O.—Mrs. I. R. M. Plummer, "Glendale," Tuckwell Rd., Castle Hill, NSW.—Senior Health Inspector.
- Plunkett, T. M.—
- Poole, Rev. J. W.—Mrs. J. W. Poole, Manning St., Kiama, NSW.—Missionary.
- Pratt, V. A.—Mrs. L. N. Pratt, c/o H. A. Austin, Fernshaw, Western Beach, Geelong, Vic.—Planter, New Britain.
- Raff, G. S.—Clerk, C'with Bank.
- Rand, Dixon.—Miss L. Rand, c/o Rand & Drew, solicitors, Hunter St., Sydney.—Plant'n mgr., N. Britain.
- Rankin, D. J.—Mrs. M. Rankin, 241 Raglan St., Balmoral, Sydney.—Storeman, Admin'n.
- Ratcliff, E.—Mrs. Ratcliff, 53 Iadocx St., East Brighton, Vic.—Plant'n mgr., N. Britain.
- Read, E. C. (Sleevey).—Dairyman.
- Reed, A. R.—Inspectors Office, Bank NSW, Brisbane.—Clerk, Bank of NSW.
- Renton, A.—Mr. G. Renton, 44 Gordon Cres, Stanmore, Sydney.—Plumber, etc.

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 Reynolds, E.—Mrs. A. Reynolds, 22 Murdoch St., Cremorne, Sydney.—Clerk, C'mwlth Bank.
 Roberts, D. L.—Mrs. D. Roberts, Station House, Monkland, Q.—School teacher, N. Ireland.
 Robinson, H. E.—Mrs. G. H. Robinson, c/o W. H. Lewis, Penwick St., Portarlington, Vic.—Acc't., Admin'n.
 Robinson, Wright.—R. E. Robinson, Kitchen Pt., Cessnock.—Plant'n mgr., N. Britain.
 Rogers, R. W.—Mrs. R. W. Rogers, 79 Canterbury St., Casino, NSW.—Roadmaster.
 Ross, H. J.—Mrs. M. Ross, 3 Cameron Ave., Artarmon, Sydney.—Acc't., BP & Co.
 Rundnagel & Son.—
 Rundnagel, H.—Mrs. Guy Broad, Coogee, Sydney.
 Ryan, F. W.—Mrs. M. V. Ryan, 175 Wattle St., Malvern, SA.—School teacher.
 Ryan, W. J. (Peter).—Mrs. F. Ryan, 9 Walder Plats, Kirribilli, Sydney.—Hardware mgr., BP & Co.
 Saunders, F. V.—Mrs. F. V. Saunders, 256 Keppel St., Bathurst.—Planter and trader, N. Ireland.
 Saunders, L. C.—Mrs. U. Saunders, 67 Pacific Highway, Roseville, Sydney.—Customs clerk.
 Savage, S. K.—Mrs. Savage, 8a Upper Bay View Rd., North Sydney.—Clerk, Admin'n., N. Ireland.
 Sawkins, A.—Mrs. M. Sawkins, No. 2 Flat, 186 Carrington St., Coogee, Sydney.—Plant'n mgr., Kavieng.
 Schmidt, A.—Mrs. I. Schmidt, c/o Mrs. Gross, Flat 6, Manly Flat, 63 Arthur St., Randwick, Sydney.—Head teacher, Admin'n.
 Scott, H.—Mrs. M. M. Scott, The Raymond, 7 Raymond Rd., Neutral Bay, Sydney.—Plant'n mgr., N. Britain.
 Sedgers, J. C.—Mrs. R. Sedgers, Eastwood Ave., Eastwood, Sydney.—Plant'n inspector, WRC & Co.
 Setchell, W. P.—Mrs. M. Setchell, 4 Garden Terrace, Devonport, NZ.—Plant'n mgr., N. Britain.
 Shelber, A.—Mrs. E. A. Shebler, c/o Mrs. Borden, 195 Maribyrnong Rd., Ascot Vale, Melbourne.—Chemist.
 Shelton, Rev. H. B.—Mrs. H. B. Shelton, Methodist Parsonage, South Bathurst, NSW.—Missionary.
 Sherwood, E. A.—Mrs. F. Sherwood, 92 Ferndale St., Annerley, Brisbane.—Mechanic, Admin'n.

Shoobridge, I.—G. Shoobridge, 13 Moseley St., Glenelg, SA.—Med. Ass't., Admin'n.
 Simnett, P. J.—Mrs. M. Simnett, 31 Pembroke Ave., Earlwood, Sydney.
Died in New Guinea.
 Simpson, Rev. T. N.—Mrs. N. Simpson, 21 Cator St., Hindmarsh, SA.—Missionary.
 Slips.—No information.
 Smith, A. A.—Mrs. E. Smith, 23 Anzac Pde., Kensington, Sydney.—Planter, N. Britain.
 Smith, D. McD.—Mrs. L. C. Smith, Flat 3, 21 Kellert St., King's Cross, Sydney.—Foreman carpenter.
 Smith, F. N.—Mrs. O. M. Smith, "Tynwald," Bailey St., New Farm, Q.—Storeman, Admin'n.
 Smith, J. O.—Mrs. R. R. Smith, 7 Patterson St., North Bondi, Sydney.—Roadmaster.
 Smith, J. W.—Mrs. Priebe Smith, Rupert St., Windsor, Brisbane.—Postmaster.
 Smith, T.—Plant'n mgr.
 Snook, E. R.—Warrant-Officer, Police.
 Solomon, E. E.—Mrs. E. Solomon, 56 Esplanade, Brighton Beach, Melbourne.—Mechanic, Admin'n.
 Solomons, R. L.—Misses Yvonne, Pamela Solomons, 16 Ithica Plats, Ithica Rd., Elizabeth Bay, Sydney.—Clerk, Admin'n.
 Spensley, G. W.—Mrs. T. R. Spensley, 32 Edgar St., Glen Iris, Vic.—Mgr., Colyer Watson.
 Squires, R. T.—Mrs. J. Squires, 18 Jesmond St., Darlinghurst, Sydney.—Sen. Med. Ass't.
 Staley, W. G.—Mr. E. A. Koffatz, Pelican, via Chinchilla, Q.—Road overseer.
 Stephen, R. J.—Mrs. J. J. Stephen, Rathlyn, Gosford, NSW.—Hardware mgr., WRC & Co. bourne Terrace, Paddington, Brisbane.—Clerk, Admin'n.
 Stevens, R. H.—Mrs. E. W. Stevens, 29 Rockbourne Terrace, Paddington, Brisbane.
 Stewart, A.—Miss N. Pinkstone, 43 Maitland Ave., Kingsford, Sydney.—Clerk, BP & Co.
 Stewart, G. D.—Mrs. D. Stewart, Flat 6, "Bayard," 116 Wolseley Rd., Pt. Piper, Sydney.—Storeman, Admin'n.
 Stewart, J.—Mrs. M. C. Stewart, 8 Marion St., Sans Souci, Sydney.—Road overseer.
 Strathearn, A. J.—Mrs. A. Strathearn, 94 Parade, Norwood, Adelaide.—Clerk, Admin'n.
 Street, J. L.—Mrs. V. E. Street, 18 Yafranal Rd., Darling Pt., Sydney.—Registrar and Official Trustee.
 Sweetapple, B.—Mr. W. R. Sweetapple, 627 New

South Head Rd., Rose Bay, Sydney.—Plant'n mgr., Killed in N. Britain.
 Symes, H. H. C.—Mrs. G. A. Symes, 41 Rathdonnell St., Auchenflower, Brisbane.—Plant'n mgr., N. Britain.
 Tait, Ivan.—A. G. Tait, Boys' High School, Timaru, NZ.
Died in Rabaul (operation).
 Tait, R. E.—Mrs. Tait, The Turretts, Flat 41, Royston St., Darlinghurst, Sydney.—Clerk, Rabaul.
 Talmadge, J.—Pte. G. T. Talmadge, 2 BOD, Queen St., Melbourne.—Plant'n mgr., N. Ireland.
 Thomas, C.—Mrs. C. Thomas, 58 Penkivill St., Bondi, Sydney.—Warrant-Officer, Police.
 Thompson, C. J.—Mrs. A. V. Thompson, Bush Nursing Hospital, Queenscliff, Vic.—Clerk, WRC & Co.
 Thompson, L. C.—Mrs. E. M. Thompson, 51 Florence St., West Perth, WA.—Med. Ass't., Admin'n.
 Titchener, J. W.—Mr. H. O. Mocatta.—Med. Ass't., Admin'n.
 Topal, H. J., & Son.—Plant'n mgr., N. Ireland. Brisbane.—Admin'n Treasurer.
 Townsend, H. O.—Mrs. H. O. Townsend, c/o Mrs. M. E. Higgins, Central Ave., St. Lucia, Brisbane.
 Trevitt, Rev. J. W.—Mrs. M. Trevitt, c/o Methodist Mission, 139 Castlereagh St., Sydney.—Missionary.
 Tritton, A. J.—Mrs. A. J. Tritton, 17 Beaconsfield Ave., Concord, Sydney.—Clerk, C'with Bank.
 Turnbull, H. F.—Timber worker, Mandrus.
 Tynan, J.—Mrs. E. Tynan, 74 Wellington St., Bondi, Sydney.—No information.
 Venning, F. O.—Mrs. N. Venning, "Coraki Court," Flat 3, Sandgate Rd., Clayfield, Q.—Clerk, Admin'n.
 Vinen, E. H.—Miss J. Robinson, 99 Islington St., Collingwood, Vic.—No information.
 Voss, G. H. D.—Mrs. S. Turner, 117 Bell St., Pascoe Vale, Vic.—Assistant teacher.
 Walker, G. E.—Mrs. E. E. Walker, 229 Cotham Rd., Kew, Vic.—Clerk, Admin'n.
 Walker, T.—Mrs. T. Walker, Upper Brookfield, via Indooroopilly, Q.—Gaoier and WO, Police.
 Wallace, T. V.—Dr. H. G. Wallace, Health Dept., Bridge St., Sydney.—Planter, Rabaul.
 Walsh, T. R.—Mrs. J. K. Walsh, 579 Blaxland Rd., Eastwood, Sydney.—Telephone mechanic.

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Waterman, F. A.—Mrs. O. F. Waterman, c/o G. Faulkner-Davis, 3 Poy Ave., Chelsea, Vic.—C'mwith Audit Inspector.

Wayne, R. N.—Mrs. R. N. Wayne, Springwood, NSW.—Admin'n interpreter.

Werner, F.—

Whitehead, B. N.—Mrs. Whitehead, 23 Hilltop Ave., Glen Iris, Vic.—Plant'n mgr., N. Ireland.

Whiteman, A. K.—Mrs. J. P. Whiteman, 4 Richmond Ave., Ashfield, Sydney.—Chief Customs clerk.

Wilkin, W. M.—Planter, N. Ireland.

Willmet, B. or W.—Mr. B. B. Perriman, c/o W. R. Carpenter & Co., 16 O'Connell St., Sydney.—Plant'n mgr., N. Ireland.

Williams, L. L.—Mrs. D. L. Williams, 168 Baldin Rd., Harbourne, Birmingham, England.—Plant'n mgr., N. Ireland.

Wilmot, P.—Planter, N. Britain.

Wilson, H.—c/o Tex Roberts.—Plant'n mgr., N. Britain.

Woodhouse, E.—Mrs. J. L. Woodhouse, 42 Zante St., Maryborough, Q.—Plant'n mgr., N. Ireland.

Woolcott, L.—Mr. H. G. Woolcott, 86 Governor Rd., Wahroonga, Sydney.—Plant'n mgr., N. Ireland.

Yarrington, Bill.—Mrs. Peter Wilkinson, Ashdene, Gilder Ave., Wahroonga, Sydney.

Died at Kokopo.

Youlden, R.—Mrs. R. M. Youlden, 16 Westgarth St., East Malvern, Vic.—Clerk, Admin'n.

ROTUMAN—NOT FIJIAN

A LEVUKA correspondent says: In the August "PIM" you describe the Rev. Puata Taito as a **Fijian** member of the Methodist Mission. He is not a **Fijian**, but a **Rotuman**, of Notau district, and he is accompanied by his wife and children. I think he was on duty in the Solomons, or somewhere up north during the war. His wife and children were evacuated; but he hung on. They now are together on this special work in Victoria. A good many Rotumans have left their homes and done Mission work in BNG and the Solomons in past years.

150th ANNIVERSARY OF LMS

ON September 23, 1795, representatives of various Protestant churches met in Bakers' Coffee House, London, and founded the London Missionary Society. This Society, which has had a great influence on the development of many Pacific Islands people, directed its first activities to the South Pacific, but it is now represented also in India, China, Africa and Madagascar.

Anniversary celebrations have been held in all parts of the world in past weeks, and, among messages of congratulations sent to the Foreign Secretary of the Society, was one from Sir Alexander Grantham, Governor of Fiji, and High Commissioner of the Western Pacific.

Rev. C. L. and Mrs. Williams, with their son, have left Brisbane for Samoa.

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Mr. Parkin Christian, Magistrate, of Pitcairn Island, arrived in Sydney in October to visit his son, Richard Christian, a resident of Parramatta. He is 65 years old, and is the great-great grandson of Fletcher Christian, of the "Bounty."

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Australia and New Zealand proposes to raise at least £10,000 as a peace thank-offering for the rehabilitation of Lutheran churches and missions in war-stricken areas, especially Europe, China, and New Guinea.

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SHOULD USA HAVE A BASE AT MANUS, TNG?

WHEN he was asked about a report that the United States wished to retain a base at Manus (Admiralty Islands, New Guinea), the Australian Minister for External Affairs gave an evasive answer. He said that Manus was included in the New Guinea Territory, over which Australia holds a League of Nations mandate; and all future arrangements and relationships affecting this place had still to be defined under the United Nations Charter.

One Labour member pointed out that Manus has one of the best harbours in the South-West Pacific, and Australian Labour would be much annoyed if it was handed over to the United States.

The Minister said nothing. How short is the memory of these poor little people! America built the new base at Manus—as it built many other South-West Pacific bases—and it is less than three years since these Australian politicians were running around in circles, thanking their high gods for the power and the proximity of the United States forces.

MORRIS HEDSTROM SCHOLARSHIP FOR 1946

APPLICATIONS are now being received for the Morris Hedstrom, Ltd., University Scholarship for 1946. Applications close at noon on October 20 with the secretary of the Selection Committee, c/o Morris Hedstrom, Ltd., Suva.

The Morris Hedstrom Scholarship Fund was founded last year. Each year a youth of Fijian or part Fijian descent who is qualified to enter a New Zealand University, is selected by a Committee.

The first scholarship winner, Ravuama Vunivalu, is now reported to be doing well in his studies at Auckland University. He will be sitting for his degree examinations towards the end of October.

Discharges From Makogai

DURING the past year there were 55 discharges from the Central Leper Hospital, Makogai, eight of them unconditional discharges. Total number of patients on the island at present is 626, of which Fiji is responsible for 443—244 Indians and 148 Fijians. Other patients include Gilbert Islanders, Cook Islanders and Samoans.

Mr. P. J. Twomey, secretary of the Leper's Trust Board, which has its headquarters in New Zealand, was in Suva in September. He has been visiting the Solomons and Makogai, studying problems with which his Board has to deal.

Pitcairn's First Post-War Ship

PITCAIRNERS were able to board an overseas vessel for the first time in many years in September, when the "Akaroa" called at this isolated island en route to New Zealand. "Akaroa" is a 15,000-ton liner; she carried 194 passengers—including wives and children of New Zealand Servicemen—and they travelled under peacetime conditions.

Pitcairn Islanders met the vessel in canoes and, for the first time since the outbreak of war, went on board to sell curios.

Mr. Trevor Gould, who at one time had a legal practice at Nadi, Fiji, and who was Crown Counsel in Hong Kong when that city was occupied by the Japanese in 1942, has now been reported safe in Australian hands.

PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY—OCTOBER, 1945

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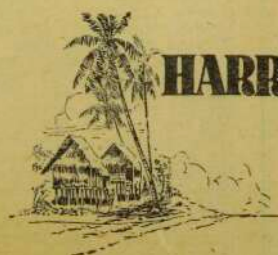


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SUVA CRICKET CLUB

THE officers elected at the annual general meeting of the Suva Cricket Club in September are:

Patron.—His Excellency, Sir Alexander G. W. H. Grantham, K.C.M.G., M.A., Governor of Fiji and High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

President.—Mr. R. Crompton, K.C., C.B.E.

Vice-presidents.—Hon. J. F. Nicholl (Colonial Secretary), Mr. T. W. A. Barker, Mr. A. S. Farebrother, Mr. E. E. Turner, Mr. P. J. Turner.

Hon. Secretary.—Mr. P. A. Snow, M.A.; Hon. Assistant Secretaries.—Mr. E. F. Apted, Mr. H. J. Apted.

Hon. Treasurer.—Mr. F. Palmer.

Flight-Lieutenant Maurice Scott, who has been overseas for four years with the R.A.F., returned to Suva on September 21. After a period of leave he will be discharged in the Colony.

EVACUEES APPEAL TO AUSTRALIAN GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Their Treatment by Minister and Prime Minister Bitterly Resented

BECAUSE, in their unanimous opinion, they were "up against a stone wall," members of the Pacific Territories' Association (evacuees from New Guinea and Papua), at a largely-attended meeting in Sydney Australia (the Duke of Gloucester), for assistance in returning to their homes.

THE executive reported that, during the preceding three months, although the Ministers and high officials had been appealed to no reassurance (or even information) could be obtained in regard to the time when they would be allowed to return to the Territories, or the probable conditions of their return. Canberra

displayed the utmost indifference concerning the plight of the hundreds of people whose homes and interests were in the Territories.

Speaker after speaker reminded the meeting of the events of the past 3½ years. They had assumed that, as the Territories people were the only Australian civilians to be directly affected by Japanese invasion, the Australian Government would have been anxious to assist in their rehabilitation. They imagined that, as soon as the Japs were driven out, civilians would have been encouraged and assisted to return to their homes. Instead, two years after the Japs had been cleared out of the Territories south of the Markham, the Territories still were in military occupation. Instead of the districts, as they were liberated, being restored to the care of civilian Government and of civilians generally, all sorts of Government instrumentalities had been introduced and had taken control. Only a few civilians had been allowed to return—the remainder apparently were to be kept out indefinitely. No commercial concerns whatever had been admitted—Canberra's policy apparently was that private enterprise should either be reduced to the utmost or kept out altogether, while its place was taken by the Government-owned Production Control Board—which controls not only all production, but all trading, all labour, and all transport.

It was pointed out that, for more than two years, Territorians had been appealing to the Minister for External Territories, Mr. Ward; but that gentleman had refused to see them, had fobbed off their written communications with assurances that "the matter will receive consideration"; and finally had ignored their letters altogether. Then they had appealed to the Prime Minister—to Mr. Curtin and, after his death, to Mr. Chifley; but all they could get from those functionaries was that "the matters were under consideration." Appeals for interviews with the Prime Minister were ignored.

IT was recalled that, over a year ago, a section of Territorians had moved for an appeal to Britain and the United States—an appeal that the control of those Territories be taken away from Australia, and placed in the hands of other authorities, with some sense of human rights and justice.

"You declined that proposal," said one speaker, addressing the meeting. "You thought that you would get a better deal if you remained with Australia, and appealed, by special deputation, to the Prime Minister. Well, you appealed, and look at what you got. The Prime Minister will not even communicate with you. And in the meantime, Ward and his anthropologists and missionaries are giving all their energies, and a big slice of the Australian taxpayers' money, to poor, dear Fuzzy-wuzzy, the creation of the shoddy Australian press.

"We Europeans have all lost our homes and the results of a lifetime's work, hundreds of our civilians have been killed,

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hundreds more have given pretty distinguished service in the armed forces—and yet we are treated this way by Australia. I never believed such a thing was possible."

Mr. Clem Kirke, well-known Morobe resident, pointed out that, as British subjects, they had certain fundamental rights. The Throne was not a mere ornament—it was there as the final place of appeal to guard the liberties of the people. If there was tyranny and injustice, surely they had the right to appeal to the Governor-General of Australia.

Mrs. Wilmott (New Guinea) reminded the meeting that on a famous occasion in New South Wales, when a democratically elected Government ran amok, under Mr. Lang, and seriously interfered with the

fundamental rights of the people, the Government was summarily dismissed by the State Governor, Sir Philip Game.

Other speakers pointed out that the European residents of the Territories, believing themselves treated with injustice, had tried the few legal and constitutional means available to them to get relief, and had been ignored by the Federal Government. The only course now left open to them was to appeal to the Crown.

The meeting unanimously adopted a resolution, instructing the executive to take all steps necessary to place before the Governor-General, in proper form, a statement of the present unhappy condition of the Territories evacuees, and an appeal for assistance.

Report of the Executive

SINCE the last meeting of members, held in June, your executive have continued to press the Government for details of their plans for the future; but it is regretted that no definite results have been obtained. The three months can only be described as months of frustration.

The surrender of the Japanese has naturally focussed the attention of all ex-residents on the likelihood of an early return to their homes and businesses in the Territories and they, of course, anticipated that the Federal Government would not lag in advising them of the plans prepared for the future of the Territories. It is apparent, however, that these expected plans, if in existence at all, are still far from finalisation.

PROVISIONAL ADMINISTRATION

The Bill for the setting up of a Provisional Civilian Administration for Papua and portion of the Territory of New Guinea was brought before the House early in July. Your executive took all possible steps to organise opposition to this Bill, as they considered that the

re-establishment of Civil Administration on the same basis and under the same laws as before the Japanese invasion would be in the best interests of the white residents as well as the native inhabitants. In this regard Mr. C. I. H. Campbell proceeded to Canberra to supply necessary information to Opposition members and, although the Opposition were unable to defeat the measure, the opportunity presented itself for the correction of misleading statements made by the Government supporters.

It now devolves on your Association to keep continual watch on Ordinances which are put out under terms of the Bill, which provides that such Ordinances shall remain on the table of the House for a period of 15 sitting days. We have arranged for advance copies to be supplied to us in order that a careful study may be made of same, and objections raised where considered necessary.

WAR DAMAGE COMMISSION ALLOWS EX GRATIA SUBSIDIES

As is usual, we report good results from all our submissions to the Commission

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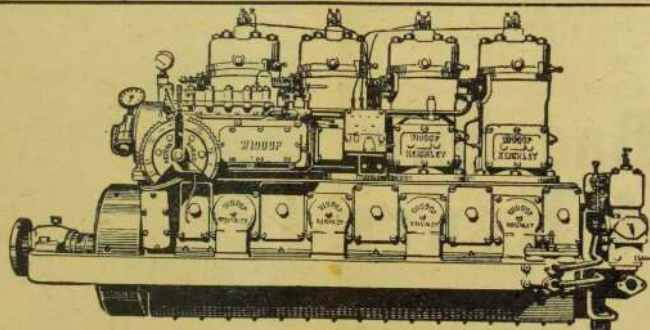
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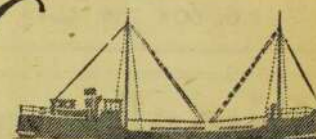
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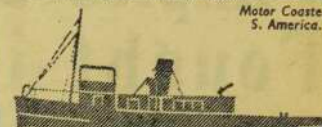
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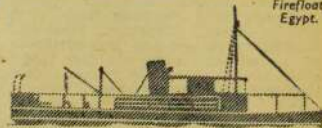
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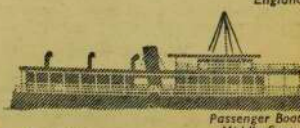
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Passenger Ferry,
Nigeria.



Tug,
England.



Passenger Boat,
Middle East.

(CVS-81)

and in this connection the following come to pay assessed losses in respect to private chattels.

REHABILITATION

In regard to the rehabilitation of civilians evacuated from the Territories it is a matter of great regret that we have to report our inability to obtain from the responsible Department any details of the scheme, if any, which the Government has prepared. We have submitted to the Government a request that fares of evacuees returning to the Territories be paid by the Government, and that special consideration be given covering freights and Customs duty on goods which are essential for replacement of

buildings and furnishings on return.

We are informed that these matters are receiving the attention of the Minister and we will, no doubt, be advised regarding them at some future date.

RETURN OF CIVILIANS GENERALLY

Your executive have continued to press the Government for some definite news as to the date when it is expected that civilians generally will be able to return to the Territories. Particular attention has been drawn to the Goldfield Area of New Guinea, and although this area is included in the Provisional Papua-New Guinea Territory it appears that there is little chance of early return of civilians to this district. The main objection at the moment is the lack of transport, particularly in conjunction with the fact that the Lahu-Wau road is at present impassable. Your executive are keeping the matter under continual review.

MINISTER

Your executive have repeatedly tried to obtain an interview with the Minister to discuss matters of concern regarding the future of the Territories and their inhabitants, both white and black, but without result.

Mr. Ward, during the second reading of the Bill for Provisional Administration, stated the Government had plans in respect to the white settlers; but owing to his apparent lack of time to discuss these matters with your representatives, it can only be concluded that the plans in regard to the white settlers are of such a nebulous nature that they will not stand the airing that would arise in discussion with representatives with a knowledge of Territory conditions.

The Minister, when requested to receive a deputation from your executive, had requested that representations be put in writing. This was done in a number of cases, and the net result was the usual reply—that the representations were receiving consideration, and we would be advised when a decision was reached. The following are a few of the matters submitted and treated as stated:

(a) Planters' representation on the Production Control Board.

(b) Rehabilitation.

(c) Extension of the proposed term of indenture of native labourers.

Under the stress of necessity your executive have appealed to the Prime Minister for an interview in order that some information of the Government's proposals can be obtained.

GENERAL

Our new Constitution which will come into force with the resumption of Civil Administration is now in course of printing, and all members will be supplied with a copy.

Your treasurer elected at the last meeting, Mr. P. Hinds, returned to Papua early in July; and, in accordance with the Constitution, your executive elected Mrs. V. Weatherall to the position of treasurer in his stead.

PROPOSED PACIFIC CLUB

On September 6, representatives from all Territory Associations and Clubs, as well as the Pacific Island Association, met to discuss a proposal to form a club in Sydney for residents of the Islands, ex-residents and interested persons, and it was decided to proceed with the preliminaries necessary to the formation of a club to be called the Pacific Club. In order to obtain some indication as to the membership which can be expected all members are being circularised, and we would ask all our members to reply as soon as possible after the receipt of the circular. Your executive are fully in accord with the proposals, and commend them to your consideration.

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An avenue of coconut palms in Polynesia before and after a hurricane.

HORRORS IN WRECKED RABAU

Australians Are Now Trying to Restore Order

From a Special Correspondent

THE story of what happened inside Rabaul, after the Jap occupation in January, 1942, still has to be told. The little that already has been published indicates a long series of atrocities and horrors.

Australian Forces have been in occupation of Rabaul since September 10, but singularly little has been published to describe either the Jap occupation or the Australian reoccupation.

Major Edmonds-Wilson, commander of the tiny Kavieng garrison of 150 men, has told how he got his men away from Kavieng in a schooner, but they were captured by Japs and taken to Rabaul. He was there until he was shipped away to Japan at the end of June, 1942. He was liberated lately in Japan, and he told a reporter that atrocities during the first few days of the Jap occupation of Rabaul were indescribable. He could hear the screams of crazed women while the drunken Japs went from house to house raping, looting and killing.

This doubtless refers to the Japanese looting of Rabaul's Chinatown. The Japs treated the Chinese community, especially the women, with fearful cruelty.

IT appears that after the Australian soldiers and civilians were shipped away from Rabaul, in June, 1942 (the most of whom were never heard of again) the Japs brought to Rabaul 600 surrendered British soldiers from Singapore, and forced them to dig the innumerable tunnels with which the steep hillsides around Rabaul are now honey-combed. They arrived in October, 1942, when the Japs were confident they could hold Rabaul, and use it as a base against Australia.

Of the 600, only 18 survived—they were liberated when the AIF went into Rabaul—and they were badly diseased. Sixty-four died in Rabaul from disease and malnutrition, and 517 were drowned on a ship in Rabaul Harbour when shipping there was attacked by American planes.

Later, the Japs took 80 American soldier-prisoners into Rabaul, but their fate is not clear. One report indicates that a number of them were flown from Rabaul to Tokio after Rabaul surrendered.

From about the middle of 1943, Jap communications between Japan and Rabaul were seriously interrupted, and the Rabaul Japs were thrown on their own resources. From then on, the prisoners were forced to live on meagre rations of locally-grown vegetables.

What remained of the town of Rabaul seems to have been finally wiped out by a terrific Allied air raid on March 2, 1944. It continued for the better part of 24 hours, destroyed the town and the harbour shipping, and killed large numbers of Japs. In reprisal, the Japs followed their usual practices, and tortured and killed their prisoners.

Meagre and disconnected reports from Rabaul indicate that large numbers of Australian troops now are encamped in or near the town, and that the Japs are being compelled to provide much of the labour for restoring the roads and streets, and removing the jungle growth which had been taking possession of the ruined town.

It is also indicated that a proportion of the Rabaul Chinese—about 850—are encamped some 20 miles out of Rabaul.

There were about 1,200 in Rabaul when the invasion occurred.

HMAS "MANOORA" was undergoing overhaul at Garden Island, Sydney, when orders were received that she had to be completed and ready for sea by a certain date.

Miraculously, jobs were completed, stores and ammunition came aboard, crew recalled from leave began to report, fuming at the cut in their leave; and, on the day ordered, we left Garden Island, swung compasses and, in the afternoon, slipped through Sydney Heads and headed north.

We were bound for Jacquinot Bay, New Guinea and thence Madang. But, two days out, we received orders to embark troops and equipment, and lead the re-occupation force into Rabaul.

Some days before our arrival the surrender had been signed in Rabaul Harbour on HMS "Glory," an aircraft-carrier of the British Pacific Fleet. Following the surrender, HMAS "Shepparton," hydrographic survey ship, HMAS "Reserve," and the AMS's "Kiama," "Dubbo," "Lithgow," and "Townsville" had been busy locating and "darning" our own and Japanese minefields and sweeping a channel clear of mines, pending our arrival.

HMAS "Vendetta," immediately after the surrender, had brought out to Jacquinot Bay a number of European ex-POW for hospital treatment, and onward air passage to the mainland.

The transport SS "Katoomba" joined us and, after completion of embarking troops and equipment, we sailed in convoy with HMAS "Vendetta" as escort. Numerous Army small-craft, fully laden, had already left in order to reach the rendezvous on schedule.

WE reached the rendezvous in the early morning of September 10 and as soon as all ships had taken station HMAS "Vendetta" followed by HMAS "Manoora" led the squadron into

Simpson Harbour, with air-cover provided by RNZ Air Force Corsairs.

The peaks of the Mother and Daughter were veiled with fleecy clouds, and at the base of each could be seen some of the extensive gardens laid out by the Japanese.

The scenic beauty of Simpson Harbour unfolded as we made our way slowly to our anchorage. Matupi had been active, and wisps of steam were rising from the crater, vents and fissures as we passed.

Vulcan looked quite serene. His slopes now are about three-quarters covered with vegetation.

The Japanese in the Rabaul area were known to exceed 83,000; and, in the eyes of the civilian population of Japan, were heroes who had protected and delayed the occupation of the Homeland. These were the men who said they would fight on to the end, even if Japan proper surrendered.

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There was an inward questioning as to what reception we might get, as our force was tiny compared with theirs. One felt the brooding quietness of the place; and we were thankful that we were not entering to make a landing under the hail of fire which would have greeted us if the invasion had taken place a few weeks before.

WE anchored about half-a-mile from the beach-head, and the Naval Port Director and senior Army officers went ashore to meet the two white-clad envoys and their interpreters, who were waiting on the beach.

At the wharf, towards the now non-existent town of Rabaul, the remainder of the Japanese left in the area were drawn up. These approximated 400 Army and Navy men, left as guards for the Jap ammunition and stores dumps, the remainder having already moved out into the area defined in the surrender terms.

Obviously, the two envoys representing the Japanese Army and Navy, respectively, were less antagonistic to us than they were to each other, but the negotiations proceeded smoothly.

In the meantime, assault barges were being rapidly loaded with troops and equipment, and soon the first wave was heading for the beach-head, where a base was quickly established.

Japanese transport was in an appalling condition. But our Army men soon took over trucks and cars, and then a continuous stream of traffic commenced to flow to the various bases being set up.

Roads were in a bad condition; but, soon, bulldozers and road equipment were quickly on the job and, before we left, there was a very big improvement in the road surfaces. It was interesting to see the nonchalant way the bulldozer-drivers went on with the job, as if they had been there for years. Wide-eyed natives, who had started to come in, watched the proceedings with great interest, whilst Japanese guards on the dumps looked on with expressionless faces.

The news cameraman who had accompanied us had a marvellous outing. Just how much film he used is his own pri-

vate secret; but, by now, you will have seen the fruits of his efforts in the news-reels.

THE whole shore line of Simpson Harbour is littered with bombed, gutted and burnt-out ships, some half on the beach, others submerged, with only their masts and the tops of funnels showing here and there.

A very effective job had been done by our Air Force, as the results showed. There were a few ships of varying sizes, which were in reasonable order, including a seagoing tug which the enemy had skilfully camouflaged to give the impression that it was wrecked and useless. A midget submarine and a small float plane were added to the collection.

The float plane as in good order, having been used by the Japanese to bring in the wounded from oil-lying islands. Red Cross markings were conspicuously displayed on it. Our pilots soon had it in the air, and we next saw it at Jacquinot Bay.

WHEN we had completed disembarking troops and stores, we had an opportunity of going ashore and taking stock of the area which we were permitted to visit.

In the years that the Japanese have been in Rabaul, it is estimated that 283 miles of tunnels and underground workings were constructed. Many of the underground workshops, stores and air-raid and living quarters were on a large scale. In effect, they went underground as they have done in so many other places.

The town of Rabaul, as the old residents knew it, has been completely wiped out. There remains the front wall of Burns Philp's store, battered by shell-fire and bomb-blast; the concrete entrance to what appeared to be the Rabaul Club; concrete foundation posts, were a mute reminder of the homes that once stood there, together with broken windmills and water tanks.

As I have said, the roads were very bad indeed. Down near the wharf you can see the gutted and holed fuel-oil tanks on their sides, the twisted frame-

work of the cargo sheds and the rusty cantilever crane, with a twisted girder here and there.

One thing that impressed us was the very extensive vegetable gardens which had been laid out by the Japanese. It is estimated that they planted 15,000 acres of garden for food supplies. Many of these gardens were between the foundations of the old homes.

We obtained a supply of fresh fruits and sweet potatoes, which were welcome additions to our table.

OBVIOUSLY, the Japanese had planned Rabaul as a major base of operations and the starting point for the invasion of Australia. Underground stores and workshops were full of all kinds of equipment, and there were large ammunition dumps containing all types of explosives and shells. Amidst the undergrowth, along the foreshore, were dumps of aero engines, which had been "given the works" by our Air Force. The value of the equipment must run into a huge figure.

The Japanese we saw looked very fit; and, whilst they saluted regularly and bowed and smiled, one was left with the very firm impression that whilst it suited them to be helpful and willing, unless they are kept down and watched very carefully indeed they will plan another war infinitely worse than this. We cannot be too careful in the next few years to avoid lulling ourselves into a state of false security.

European, Indian and Indonesian prisoners-of-war were found—the Europeans and Indonesians in reasonable health. The Indians (officers and men from Singapore) had a very bad time, and were very thin indeed. They were cheerful, and awfully pleased to see us. Most of the ex-residents of Rabaul, captured by the Japanese, had been shipped to prison-camps in Japan.

Whether Rabaul will be rebuilt and return to its former importance in Island life is a matter depending on Government policy and further volcanic activity. At present, the Island will remain under Army and ANGAU control as it will be some time before the Japanese POW's can be cleared out.

Before leaving Rabaul on our second voyage, we embarked some hundreds of cheering and singing Indonesians for transportation to the Dutch East Indies. They had made their own musical instruments in the prison-camps and, at a concert they gave us, one felt the joy and relief they felt as they sang and played Hawaiian and Indonesian songs and music. This was a concert of thanks and gratitude, as they expressed themselves, to repay the kindness extended to them in the ship, where a collection of all articles of use—tobacco, razor blades, toothpaste, etc., etc.—had been quickly made. When they were disembarked at their various ports it was a pleasure to see the welcome given them by the local residents, and reunions between relatives was not an uncommon sight.

Mrs. A. Smoothey, wife of Mr. A. Smoothey, of Suva, Fiji, died in Glasgow, Scotland, on September 20.

To the many friends and fellow-officers of the Hon. George Murray, MLC, Director of Agriculture, Territory of New Guinea (missing since the Japanese invasion of Rabaul)—Thank you for your kind messages and your expressions of concern, on behalf of my dear husband. I shall reply to these numerous messages as soon as possible.—HELEN MURRAY, 16 Warialda Street, Kirribilli, Sydney.*

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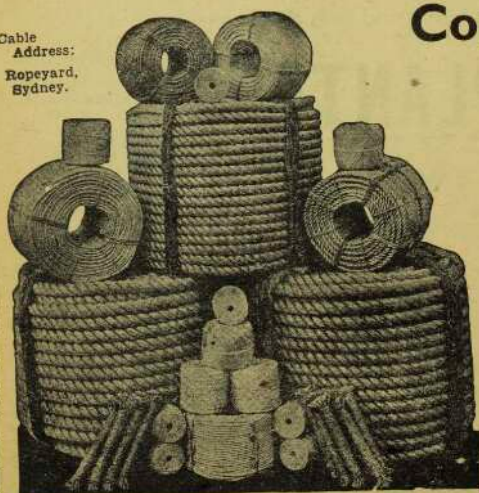
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CARPENTER PROFITS

Future of the Co.

THE annual report of W. R. Carpenter & Co., Ltd. for the year ended June 30, 1945, again discloses a net profit of around £65,000; and again pays a dividend of only 5 per cent., which absorbs little more than half of that amount. The directors continue to follow a cautious policy, and again they have taken £25,000 out of the profits as a "contingency reserve," whence it disappears out of the accounts. In the last three years, the company has made profits of about £200,000. But only some £110,000 has gone to shareholders—£75,000 has been tucked away, out of sight, as "contingency reserve." Evidently in the belief that the Board, sooner or later, will open a treasure-chest, and hand out a special bonus, investors continue to offer, for these shares, a price far in excess of the amount justified by the stubborn 5 per cent.

Directors give no indication of a wish to return to trading in New Guinea; and, even if Mr. Ward had encouraged the restoration of private enterprise in New Guinea (which, emphatically, he has not), it is doubtful whether the WRC Co. would have resumed trading there. The company has substantial other interests there, however—many good coconut plantations, and the desiccated coconut factory at Pondo.

Since its sensational establishment, over 25 years ago, as a merchandising concern, this company has turned steadily to solid sources of revenue—transportation (ships and planes) and manufacturing (desiccated coconut and oil-mills). The founder (Sir Walter Carpenter) is now living in Canada, directing there his new copra-milling industry; and a fine new factory, capable of dealing with substantial tonnage of copra) is now nearing completion in Suva. Balance-sheet comparisons:

	Year ended June 30,		
	1943.	1944.	1945.
	£	£	£
Net profit	65,076	65,873	66,035
Div. p.c.	5	5	5
Amount	38,750	38,750	35,750
Contingency res.	25,000	25,000	25,000
Forward	119,418	121,541	123,576
Depreciation	13,962	13,930	6,687
LIABILITIES—			
Capital	775,000	775,000	775,000
Reserve	200,000	200,000	200,000
Share prem.	10,375	10,375	10,375
Creditors	109,594	125,140	142,458
Due to substd.	298,606	310,339	352,131
Tax prov.	25,000	25,000	25,000
ASSETS—			
Freehold, ships, etc.	311,822	289,748	226,635
Subsidiaries—			
Shares	497,004	497,004	485,859
Owing	102,912	79,833	120,867
Stocks	92,453	93,735	86,146
Cash	169,492	147,959	223,742
Debtors	92,563	56,972	17,907
Plantin. adv.	96,917	96,919	92,779
Investment	234,227	385,217	325,675
Unexp. chges.	4,454	3,757	930

The sheep and the wolf are not agreed upon a definition of the word "liberty."—Abraham Lincoln.

This is the latest scientific name given to a stone found in the Wahgi district of New Guinea—a fossil ammonite: "Cenoman-Ammonite Cunningtoniceras Hoeltkeri, nova species ex Nova Guinea."

COY "KIA KIA"

Amusing Incident at Surrender of Nauru

TRAVELLING in the Western Pacific Commission's ketch "Kia Kia," the Resident Commissioner of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, Colonel V. Fox-Strangways, proceeded to a rendezvous with the Australians off the coast of Nauru, about September 11.

An Australian force of 250 men, under Brigadier J. R. Stevenson, sailed from Bougainville on September 9 in two river-class ships, escorted by the Australian frigate "Diamantina." Their purpose was to occupy Nauru and receive the surrender of the Jap garrison.

The G. and E. Commissioner had been invited to be present at this surrender. After that, his "Kia Kia" would accompany the "Diamantina" to Ocean Island, where another force of Australians from Bougainville would carry out the occupation. (As described elsewhere, this operation was completed successfully.)

When the "Kia Kia" arrived off Nauru, in the early morning, the Australians were not in sight. But the Jap garrison ashore, hungry and ready to surrender, decided that the "Kia Kia" was what they had been waiting for. They put off eagerly in boats. But the "Kia Kia" was coy, and taking no chances. She steamed off out to sea, and the puzzled Japs went back ashore.

The "Kia Kia," patiently waiting, presently drifted back near to the Nauru coast. The optimistic Japs again embarked in their boats. The "Kia Kia" again sheered off into the distance. This happened three times before the Australian flotilla appeared, and proceeded to occupy the island.

The "Kia Kia" is a very small ship, and could have been sunk by one shell from the shore. She was saved by Captain Webster in 1942, when the Japs invaded the Gilbert Islands. The Administration's other vessel, the yacht "Nimanoa," was piled on the reef at Tarawa to prevent her falling into the hands of the enemy.

D'ARGENLIEU FOR INDO-CHINA

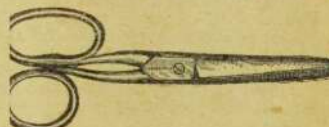
THAT famous non-Vichy Frenchman, Admiral Thierry d'Argenlieu, has gone to the East as Governor of Indo-China.

He will be remembered in the Pacific as the high official who cleaned up the troubled political situation in Tahiti in 1941, and dismissed the Governor of New Caledonia, Henri Sautot, in 1942. Sautot in the black days of 1940, was the first French Colonial Governor to declare for de Gaulle. D'Argenlieu returned to Europe in 1942 and took a prominent part in the liberation of France.

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"BULAMAKAU"**Origin of a Common Name**

Letter to the Editor

AS I have noticed that there have been discussions in the "PIM" about the origin of the word "Kanaka," I am prompted to write and give the origin of the word "Bulamakau," used throughout the Pacific to denote almost any form of meat food.

My father, Richard Bailey, was one of 19 survivors from a ship named the "All Serene," which capsized in a hurricane about 500 miles from Fiji, about the year 1868. They landed on Kadavu, one of the islands of the Fiji Group, after 21 days in a box which they had put together while the ship lay on her side.

Some three years later my father and his brother, Ted, opened the first butcher's shop in Levuka; and just about this time my father and mother became great friends with King Cakobau.

Cakobau happened to be in Levuka when the ship brought the first cattle down for my dad's business. In those days, the cattle had to be swum ashore—there was no wharf.

When Cakobau saw those beasts swimming ashore, he turned to my father and said: "Misi Bele (Fijian for Mr. Bailey), what do you call these things?"

Dad was stumped for a name, as up to that time the largest animal the Fijian knew was the wild pig. So dad said: "Ogo na bull (that is a bull); ogo na kow (that is a cow)."

Cakobau hesitated a moment and then said: "Oh! Na Bula ma Kau."

This may be of interest to your readers. I was a resident of Fiji for about 20 years, but left in 1915 to enlist with the old AIF.

I am, etc.,

H. F. (BERT) BAILEY.

10 Harry Avenue,
Lidcombe, Sydney.

The Primate of West Australia, Dr. Le Fanu, dedicated a launch for the New Guinea Mission on September 17. The Women's Auxiliary of West Australia have given £1,000 towards the launch, and another £1,000 is needed.

**CLIVE BREWSTER LOOKS
TOWARDS SUVA**

WITH the end of the World War II, Group-Captain Clive Brewster, of Suva, contemplates early permanent retirement from the Services. He says he "has had it." He came out of World War I with an RAN commission and a decoration or two; and, when bother started again in 1939, he thought he might be useful. No one else thought so. Despite his record, and his Lieut.-Colonelcy in the Fiji Defence Force, it took him months to wangle his way into the RAAF, where he arrived as a modest pilot-officer, or something. He went to Evans Head Gunnery School, in 1940, as adjutant—and, thenceforward, from one training establishment after another, and from rank to rank—with a spell on MacArthur's Staff for variety.

And, of course, being Clive Brewster, he would end the war picturesquely. On August 15, he was flying with an old pal in a squadron of 13 Beaufort bombers, dropping pills on Jap positions in the Torricelli Mountains, behind Wewak, TNG, when a radio message was received, advising that the war was over and cancelling all further operations. He had been having what he called "a Cooks Tour" of RAAF stations in New Guinea, Celebes and Borneo, but is now back at Victor Harbour (SA) School of Administration.

"I wonder if there's cool, clean-tasting 'Yagona' still to be had at Muir's saloon? And is my 'bile' waiting by the bowl?" he writes.

'Flu Outbreak in Suva

SUVA, Oct. 1.

DEMobilisation of some members of the Fiji Military Forces has been delayed by the outbreak of a mild epidemic of influenza in one of the military camps in Suva.

The illness is not serious, and the number of cases is not large, but the authorities have decided that it is wise to take early action. The camp has been quarantined, and the men who live there, whose homes are all outside Viti Levu, are being held until such time as the danger of spreading the infection is past.

**NORFOLK IS. NOW IMPORTANT
AIRWAYS CENTRE**

WHERE once, on Norfolk Island, there was a glorious avenue of pine trees 1½ miles long, there now is a row of stumps. But not far away there is a great, all-weather airfield, used almost daily by large planes which come in from all directions—from Australia, New Zealand, Noumea and Fiji.

The airfield was built very hurriedly in the black days of 1942, when the Japs were threatening Australia and New Zealand. The trees came down to give clearance to the arriving and departing planes. Residents protested passionately—the avenue was famous—but a large party arrived from Australia and removed the trees before argument had really started.

For three years, NI has had a garrison of Army and Air Force men (all New Zealanders); and it now has good metalled roads and a water supply system (pumped from wells), where before it had neither.

Islanders had been planting up passion-fruit before the war, to supply the processing plants established by Morris Bennett (in 1928) and Cottées (1938); but when easy Army money came along, they let their plantations go. Now that the Servicemen are gone, or going, they are planting again. Cottées are reported to be preparing the establishment of a fish-canning factory. There are supplies of good fish available.

With its lovely climate and sylvan charms, plus its fine new airfield, Norfolk Island probably will become a favourite holiday resort for Australians and New Zealanders. It always was handicapped by lack of a good shipping service—due mostly to the total absence of a sheltered port.

**BIGGER PROFITS FOR STEAM-
SHIPS TRADING CO.**

THE accounts of Steamships Trading Co., Ltd., of Papua, for the year ended July 31 last, showed a net profit of £16,892, compared with £7,340 in the previous year. The company therefore has been able to continue its 7 per cent. dividend on Preferences, and raise the Ordinaries' div. from 2½ to 5 per cent. The General Reserve has received £4,000, and now stands at £54,000; and £7,805 is carried forward.

The company is not allowed to trade, or operate ships or carry on any of its ordinary activities, except rubber and copra production; and the prevailing high prices have given it the profit announced. The outlook for the company is very uncertain, however.

Against a subscribed capital of £143,633, and Reserves of £77,000, the company has £38,000 on deposit, £47,022 assessment of damage (War Damage Commission), £6,802 of claims lodged with the Army, and property valued at £143,500.

LITIGATION DISCONTINUED

The following note appears in the annual report, relative to a claim for about £100,000, made by the company against the Australian Government:

"During the year, litigation was undertaken with regard to certain of our company's and associated companies' properties, but this has now been satisfactorily dealt with out of Court." This is interesting. Did Messrs. Aldermen & Co. really pay up, in the end?

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Moresby Will be "Provisional" Capital

THE future capital of the Territory of New Guinea had not yet been chosen, the Minister for External Territories (Mr. Ward) told Mr. Anthony in the Australian Parliament on September 25. Port Moresby would be the seat of the Provisional Administration of Papua-New Guinea.

Mr. Anthony recalled that before the war there had been an extensive survey in New Guinea and Papua, aimed at finding out how the civil administration was affecting the life and health of the average native. He thought that about 50,000 names were registered as a result of the survey in the few years preceding the war. The officer in charge was Mr. Chinnery, now an anthropologist in the Northern Territory. A similar survey now would probably be more valuable, because of the Jap occupation of the natives' living areas.

Mr. Anthony also asked the Minister to indicate when civil administration would be restored.

Mr. Ward replied: "It is hoped that the civil administration will be restored some time in October. I am not able to indicate the exact date because transport difficulties are involved."

Mr. Cameron: "Leave it for a month, and call it Guy Fawkes' day!"

Mr. Ward said as plans were made for the development of the Territory and its natives, they would be announced by the Government. "I can assure Mr. Anthony that the Government is pressing on with its plans and civil administration will be restored soon in the Territory. Natives will be given better conditions and eventually will be given the opportunity to share in their own Government."

News Sought of Pilot-Officer Cecil Mason

SOME time in 1942 Pilot-Officer Cecil John Mason, of the RAAF (and formerly a resident of New Guinea) stationed in Townsville, Queensland, was sent to New Ireland on a dangerous mission—to try to locate and, if possible, rescue certain officials who had been caught in the Japanese invasion.

He went first to a district on the main island, seeking Mr. A. F. Kyle, the ADO; but Mr. Kyle had gone. He now is listed among the Territory's missing civilians. Mr. Mason then went on by submarine to Anea, a small island off the south-eastern coast of New Zealand, seeking Mr. Woodruffe. He found his man, but when they got back to the rendezvous, the submarine had gone—it had been attacked by a Jap patrol boat. Japs had landed on the island, and Mason and Woodruffe were taken prisoner. Nothing has been heard of them since.

If anyone has heard anything at all of Pilot-Officer Mason, since he was captured, information would be gratefully received by his wife, Mr. C. J. Mason, 1 Katina Street, Turramurra, Sydney.

PERSONAL

Word has been received in Suva that Mr. George Bucknell, who was serving with the AIF in Singapore when the city fell, has been found safe in a prisoner of war camp. He is the son of Mrs. Bucknell, of Suva, whose other son, Herbert, who was also in Singapore, is still missing.

Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Smyth, well-known residents of Western Samoa, arrived in Sydney in September, on a holiday that had been delayed for years by the war, and they will spend a couple of months in Australia. They speak of feverish days

in their Mandated Territory, when there were 22,000 American Servicemen there, trying to spend unlimited dollars on a limited female population; of copra at over £20 per ton; and of an apparently growing wave of petty crime among the native Samoans.

Mr. W. H. Watson, Rarotonga business man and Island Council member, has returned, after a roundtrip by air to Aitutaki, Samoa, Tonga, Fiji and New Zealand. He was the first private individual to make the round flight. The tour, which was for business purposes, included a two weeks' stay in New Zealand. Mr. Watson was able to conclude arrangements for the installation of a small clothing factory in Rarotonga, and for improvements in the already-established footwear factory.

We must beware of trying to build a society in which nobody counts for anything except a politician or an official, a society where enterprise gains no reward and thrift no privileges. — Winston Churchill.

The French novelist, Mauride de Kobra, has prepared a will, leaving his library of 17,000 volumes, and various valuable works of art, to the town of Papeete, in Tahiti, because he regards Tahiti as "one of the remote places of the earth," and one least likely to be destroyed by the atomic bomb.

Jubilee celebrations of the LMS are prepared for many places along the southern New Guinea coast. There will be feasts and services on an impressive scale at the Training College, Fife Bay, on Hood Point, and Vatorata Hill, Port Moresby, and the stations westward, up to Daru. An advance in all departments of service is planned for the new days of peace.

"Cobb's Coach Leaves . . ."

IN the early days of Victoria's gold rush, the tremendous demand for "fast" passenger transport to the goldfields led four American migrants by the names of Freeman Cobb, James Swanton, John Peck and John Lamber to establish in 1854 the legendary coaching firm of "Cobb & Co." A picture familiar to many Australians is one which depicts the great coach "Leviathan," with its famous driver "Cabbage Tree Ned" on the box seat, leaving the Black Bull Hotel, Geelong.

At a welcome to old drivers in 1925, the Chairman of the Ballarat Historical Society paid this tribute:

"Our highways have followed the wheeltracks of the coaches, guided by you through days and nights, in fine weather and through storms. You faced the vicissitudes of the roads with fortitude and in the same spirit with which the pioneers set to work to settle this new continent."

The year 1854 also saw the establishment by Thos. Swallow of the famous firm of Swallow & Ariell, whose products were sent to the goldfields on slow lumbering bullock waggons which followed in the wake of the fast-moving Cobb & Co. Coaches.



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IN PEACE AND WAR

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LEADERS IN THE BISCUIT INDUSTRY SINCE 1854
MAKERS ALSO OF THE FAMOUS SWALLOW & ARIELL PLUM PUDDING, Cakes, AND ICE CREAM

ISLANDS PRODUCE

COCOA

Official prices for New Hebrides cocoa beans, controlled by the Cocoa, Chocolate and Confectionery Committee, are as follows:—

Buying: £41/10/- per ton, f.o.b. Island port.
Selling: Delivered Sydney, Melbourne or Hobart, £53/5/- per ton.

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

Many small parcels have changed hands during recent months. Nominal quotations obtained in mid-October indicate that the present price stands at £119/10/- per ton.

COFFEE

No purchases are permitted without the consent of the Tea and Coffee Control Board, to whom all offers must first be submitted. Nominal quotations as follows:—

New Caledonian: Arabica, £104 per ton (c.i.f. Sydney). Robusta, £83/10/- per ton (c.i.f. Sydney).

Mysore: £240 (c. & f. Sydney).

New Guinea and Papua: £112 per ton (c.i.f.).

Java: No quotations.

VANILLA BEANS

White Label and Yellow Label, 17/2 per lb., c. & f. Sydney.

KAPOK

Market for Javanese kapok is falling. There are only two or three sellers, and no buyers at all, and is selling at 2/1½ per lb.

Indian kapok is being quoted for indent at 1/6 per lb. c.i.f. stg.

COTTON

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

IVORY NUTS

No firm quotations available.

RICE

No quotations.

GREEN SNAIL SHELL

F.a.q., £110 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, October 11

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	28/-
Sharps, 5 lb.	1/-
Barbed Wire, ton lots	£42
Trocas Shell, per ton	£85
Benzine, per gallon	2/10
Benzine (bowser) per gallon	2/7

PRICE OF GOLD

Wine	Standard
oz.	£10/13/6
oz.	£9/11/7

COPRA

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

Smoked to Genoa South Sea Plantation
London and Marseilles, to London, Rabaul.
Price on— Per ton, c.i.f. Per ton, c.i.f. Per ton, c.i.f.

Jan. 3, '36 £13 2 6 £13 15 0 £14 0 0
Mar. 6 . . £11 15 0 £12 15 0 £13 0 0
June 5 . . £11 10 0 £12 0 0 £12 17 0
Sept. 4 . . £13 2 6 £13 10 0 £14 12 6
Dec. 4 . . £19 7 6 £19 7 6 £20 7 6
Jan. 8, '37 £22 12 6 £22 12 6 £22 12 6
Mar. 5 . . £19 0 0 £19 5 0 £20 0 0
June 4 . . £15 15 0 £15 12 6 £16 12 6
Sept. 3 . . £13 5 0 £13 5 0 £14 0 0
Dec. 3 . . £12 10 0 £12 12 6 £13 7 6
Jan. 7, '38 £12 12 6 £12 15 0 £13 12 6
Mar. 4 . . £10 17 6 £11 0 0 £12 0 0
June 3 . . £9 15 0 £9 15 0 £10 12 6
Sept. 2 . . £9 10 0 £9 10 0 £10 10 0
Dec. 2 . . £9 5 0 £9 5 0 £10 2 6
Jan. 6, '39 £9 12 6 £9 15 0 £10 10 0
Feb. 3 . . £9 10 0 £9 12 6 £10 10 0
Mar. 3 . . £10 0 0 £10 2 6 £11 0 0
Apr. 6 . . £9 12 6 £9 15 0 £10 12 6
May 5 . . £10 0 0 £10 5 0 £11 0 0
June 2 . . £10 7 6 £10 10 0 £11 7 6
July 7 . . £9 2 6 £9 7 6 £10 5 0
Aug. 4 . . £9 2 6 £9 5 0 £10 5 0
Sept. 1 . . £9 10 0 £9 12 6 £10 12 6

Sept. 8.—Not quoted—outbreak of war.

Oct. 6 . . £11 15 0 [unquoted] £12 15 0

Oct. 12.—Fixed price based on £12/7/6 per ton, c.i.f., London, for plantation hot-air dried.

Jan. 8, 1940, to April 20, 1940.—Fixed price for plantation hot-air dried, £13/5/- per ton, c.i.f., London.

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

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

In April, 1942, unofficial quotations in Sydney were around £24 (Aust.) per ton, c.i.f., Sydney.

July, 1943.—N. Guinea and Papua copra under Aust. Government control. Fixed prices, payable at port of shipment, or on plantation, where no coastal shipment is involved: Hot-air Dried, £15/10/-; Sun-dried, £15; Smoke-dried, £14/10/- per ton. These prices subject to circumstantial considerations.

In September, 1943, prices were revised as follows: Hot-air and Sun-dried, £18/10/-; Smoke-dried, £17 per ton. Tentative thereafter.

New prices covering the period October 1, 1943, to June 30, 1944, were declared in September, 1944, as follows: Hot-air and Sun-dried, £18/10/- per ton; Smoked, £17/10/- per ton.

Prices to operate from July 1, 1944, were tentatively fixed at: Hot-air and Sun-dried, £19; Smoked, £18 per ton.

QUOTATIONS FOR MINING SHARES

	FIJI	Mid-Aug.	Mid-Sept.	Mid-Oct.
Emperor Mines	b11/9	b11/9	b11/9	b11/9
Loloma	b19/6	b24/-	s24/-	s24/-
Mt. Kasi	s1/9	s1/9	s1/9	s1/9
NEW GUINEA				
Bulolo G.D.	b108/-	b108/-	b108/-	b108/-
Guinea Gold	b10/11	b10/11	b11/7	b11/7
N.G.G., Ltd.	s3/2	s3/5	s3/3½	s3/3½
Oil Search	s5/-	s5/-	s5/3	s5/3
Placer Dev.	b80/-	b80/-	b80/-	b80/-
Sandy Creek	s1/5	s1/6	s1/6	s1/6
Sunshine Gold	b5/9	b6/9	b7/4	b7/4
PAPUA				
Cuthbert's	s15/3	b15/3	b15/3	b15/3
Mandated Alluvials	s3/-	s3/6	s3/6	s3/6
Orlomo Oil	b3/8	b3/3	s3/6	s3/6
Papuan Apinaipi	s3/2	s3/6	b4/-	b4/-
Yodda Goldfields	N.Q.	N.Q.	N.Q.	N.Q.

RUBBER

London	Price on—	Para. Smoked, per lb.	Plantation Smoked, per lb.
January 6, 1933	4½d	2.43d	2.43d
July 7	4½d	3.71d	3.71d
December 8	4½d	4.0½d	4.0½d
January 5, 1934	4½d	4.28d	4.28d
July 6	5½d	7.08d	7.08d
December 28	5d	6½d	6½d
January 4, 1935	5d	6½d	6½d
July 5	5d	7½d	7½d
December 6	6½d	8½d	8½d
January 3, 1936	6½d	8½d	8½d
June 5	9d	7½d	7½d
December 4	1/-	9 1-16d	9 1-16d
January 8, 1937	1/2	10½d	10½d
June 4	11d	9½d	9½d
December 3	7½d	7½d	7½d
January 7, 1938	7½d	7d	7d
July 1	6½d	7½d	7½d
December 2	7½d	8d	8d
January 6, 1939	7d	8½d	8½d
July 7	7½d	8½d	8½d
December 1	12d	11½d	11½d
January 5, 1940	13d	11½d	11½d
July 4	15d	12½d	12½d
December 6	13d	12d	12d
January 3, 1941	13d	12.47½d	12.47½d
February 7	13d	12.5½d	12.5½d
March 7	15d	13½d	13½d
April 4	15d	14½d	14½d
May 2	16½d	14.0½d	14.0½d
June 6	16½d	13.5½d	13.5½d
July 4	17d	13 7-16d	13 7-16d
August 1	17d	13½d	13½d
September 5	(No quote)	13½d	13½d
October 8	—	13 11-16d	13 11-16d
October 10.—Price officially fixed at	—	13½d	13½d

July, 1943.—Papuan rubber under Australian Government control. Fixed prices, payable on plantation, where no coastal shipment is involved, or at port of shipment: No. 1 Grade, 1/5; No. 2 Grade, 1/4; No. 3 Grade, 1/2 per lb. These prices subject to circumstantial considerations.

In September, 1943, prices were revised as follows: No. 1 Grade, 1/6½; 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. These prices subject to circumstantial considerations.

In September, 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 mid-October:

FIJI			
Through Bank of NSW and Bank of New Zealand:—Australia on basis of £100 Fiji: Buying, £A111/2/6; selling, £A113. Fiji-London on basis of £100 London:—	Buying.	Selling.	
£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
Telegraphic transfer	110 15 0	112 0 0	
On demand	110 12 6	111 17 6	

WESTERN SAMOA
Through Bank of New Zealand:—Australia on Western Samoa on basis of £100 Samoa: Buying, £A99/12/6; selling, £A100/2/6. Samoa on London on basis of £100 London:—

	Buying.	Selling.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Telegraphic transfer	—	£125 10 0
On Demand	£122 18 9	125 7 6
30 days	122 8 9	125 2 6
60 days	121 18 9	124 17 6
90 days	121 8 9	124 12 6
120 days	120 18 9	—

NEW GUINEA AND PAPUA
Only nominal at present.

FREE FRENCH PACIFIC COLONIES
Buying, 160; selling, 163; francs to Aust. £.

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

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Sign.	6.30-10.15 a.m.	25.51 metres	11,760 M/c
VLR2.	12.00-6.15 p.m.	26.25 metres	11,880 M/c
VLR.	6.45-11.30 p.m.	31.32 metres	9,580 M/c

Power: 2 kilowatts.

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