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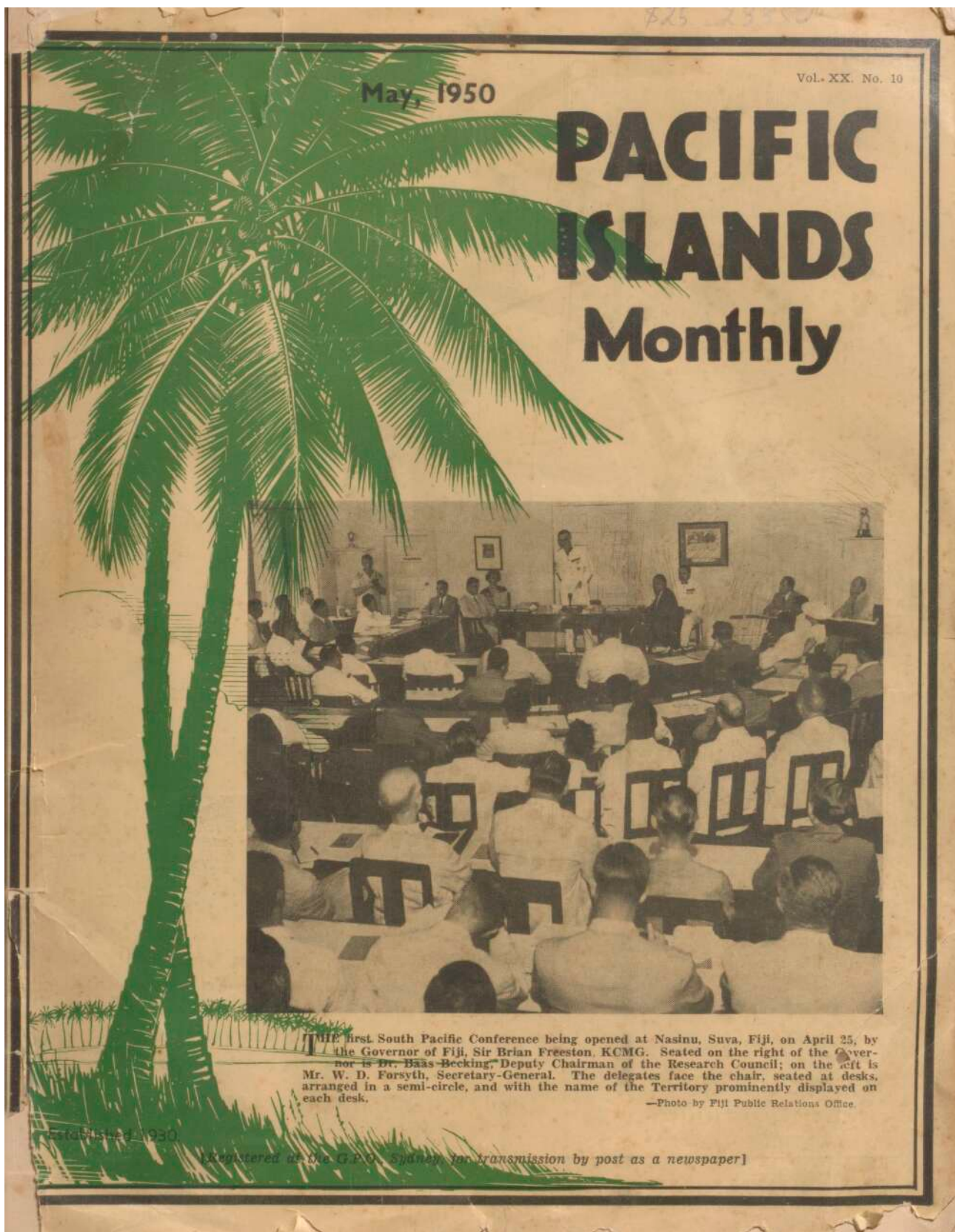
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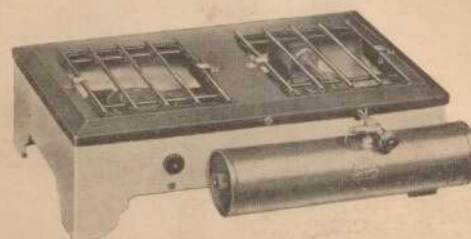


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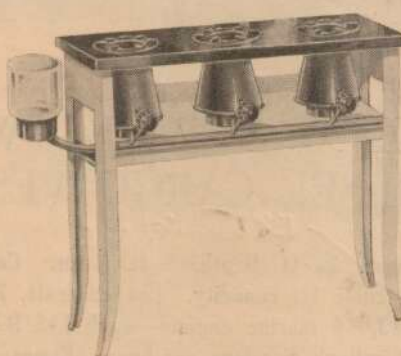


Any kerosene or petrol stove which bears the name of Coleman is as dependable and efficient as over 40 years' intensive specialisation can make a product . . . in fact it is the "Best of its kind."

This two-burner petrol portable stove illustrated at right requires no preheating and has instant heat control—safety shut-off valve makes it unnecessary to repump each time stove is lighted—has removable fuel tank for safe and easy filling. In ivory and brown baked enamel finish. Weight 16 lbs.



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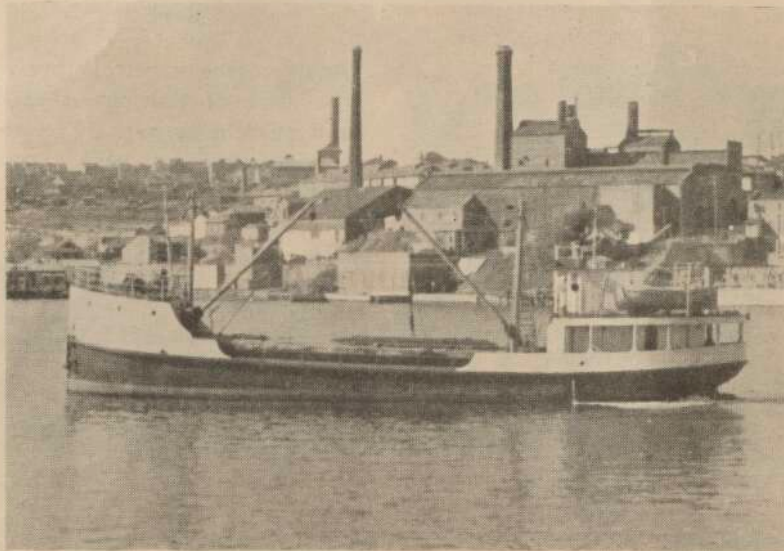


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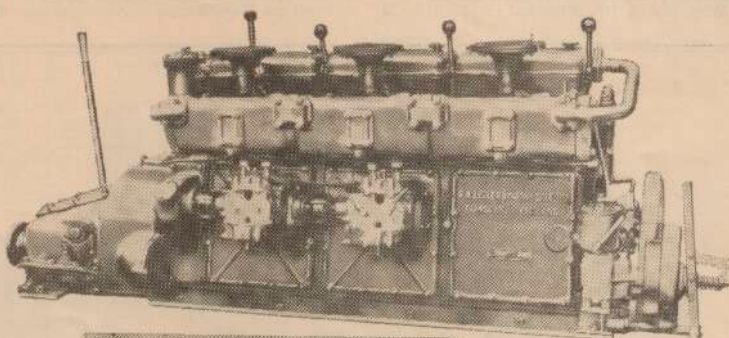
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MUCH FIDDLING WHILE ROME BURNS

IF, somewhere in outer space, there is an observer with his super-telescope trained upon Earth, he must be mightily intrigued and amused by to-day's picture.

He will note the Iron Curtain, stretching from the Arctic across Central Europe; across the Middle East, north-eastward of Turkey, Iraq and Persia; and across Asia, following the line of the Himalayas, to Indo-China. On the one side, lines of grim-visaged Reds, cracking merciless whips over the toiling ranks of countless millions, who are hopelessly carrying out their master's bidding, and preparing for the coming war.

On the other side of the Curtain, the most comical spectacle in human history: very many thousands of agitated little people rushing aimlessly around, getting in each other's way, telling each other that the situation is extremely grave, and that something really must be done about it. And holding conferences—endless, useless and incredibly expensive conferences—and general elections—which are even more useless than the conferences.

The over-all picture of the world to-day must be very funny indeed—provided one's condition and fate are not bound up with it. Unfortunately, there is not one of us who is not threatened by this Cold War—which is so quickly becoming a Hot War. And few are more directly menaced than those South Pacific communities which are part of the Western world. The spectacle of Communism, sweeping across overcrowded Asia, approaching our northwest frontiers, is not in the least amusing.

Scarcely a week passes when there is

not, in Europe or America or the South Seas, a portentous gathering of Governmental VIP's, who solemnly debate measures considered necessary "to protect Western civilisation from the growing menace of Totalitarianism," who painfully transcribe the shorthand reports of their wearisome discussions for presentation to their bored and indifferent parliaments, and then, when the reports are well and truly pigeon-holed, proceed to do it all over again. In this part of the world, within a few weeks, we have had the Colombo Conference, and the South Pacific Conference, and the Southeast Asia Conference—and the whole lot of them, in view of what is actually happening in the world, are merely so much fiddling.

The agitation of the Western nations—amounting at times to hysteria—is completely justified. The world to-day is threatened in a way never known before. A combination of forces incredibly evil is planning to wipe away our Western concept of communal life, and to fasten upon all mankind a system of government that is based on the enslavement of the human body and spirit. Emphatically, the overwhelming majority of people—on both sides of the Iron Curtain—do not want Communism; but the promoters of Communism, with supreme cleverness and cunning, are using the weaknesses of our Western Democracy to fasten the shackles upon us.

One of the greatest of these weaknesses is the long-fought-for and tenderly-cherished One-man-one-vote. Universal adult suffrage was the core of our socio-political set-up, and an institution to be

jealously guarded, while all human progress was following the logical road indicated by our thousand years of social evolution. But to-day when we are faced with a danger that calls for quick international decisions, close organisation and ruthlessness in action, we are handicapped almost beyond belief by the idea that our governments, before taking action, must go back to the parliaments for authority, and the parliaments, in turn, must go back to the people. Not one voter in a hundred appreciates the vital, fundamental differences between Individualism and Totalitarianism; and yet that is the choice with which the world is immediately confronted.

IF the Western world values human freedom, it must be prepared to fight for it again, as it fought in 1914-18 and 1939-45. There is no alternative. Whether the Muscovite Communists planned this thing after the collapse of the Axis Powers, in the mid-forties, is now immaterial: the point is that Western weakness and dithering allowed the Muscovite conspiracy for the enslavement of the world to go so far that now it cannot be put into reverse. A war between Western civilisation and Muscovite Communism seems inevitable.

The only thing that might stop it would be a close union of the Western nations, a clear-cut anti-Red policy, and—above all—an integration of armed forces so powerful that even the Moscow conspirators may be scared off. But how can we achieve such a combination when so many of our leaders devote so much of their time to the uplift of down-trodden races, and so much of their ingenuity to plans for persuading the ignorant and uninstructed voters to maintain them in office! Moscow's emissaries are at work

in every democratic country, creating industrial chaos and keeping the voters in a state of uncertainty—and thus undermining parliaments and governments.

Sociological planning—within which category come such things as the South-east Asia Conference, and the South Pacific Conference, and even the United Nations, if it may be justified on most scores in time of peace. But in time of war—and if the present is not a time of war, we have never seen war!—all our thoughts and energies must be directed towards the protection of our freedom and the maintenance of our most cherished institutions.

Certainly, the Islands people are well worth every sociological effort we can make on their behalf. But why waste time and effort on Conference organisation when it is doubtful whether they will be free to accept our instruction and institutions in three or four years' time? It is in the highest degree desirable that the under-privileged folk of Southeast Asia be assisted to better standards of living. But what can the over-strained and financially-embarrassed British Commonwealth do to help the 500 or 600 million people in South and Southeast Asia, within the brief period left to us?

Time enough for the sociological planners to get busy when the world is at peace again. The trouble has been that the planners—especially the Bloomsbury variety, that produced the catastrophic British Government—assumed in 1945 that the world was safe for Democracy, and proceeded accordingly; whereas the cessation of fighting in 1945 merely made the world safe for Muscovite Totalitarian-

ism. The spectacle of Rome burning while Nero fiddled was as nothing to the sight of our leading statesmen conferring frantically in three continents, while Uncle Joe puts a Red halter around the world.

Claude Israel Retires From MH's Sydney Managership

MR. CLAUDE ISRAEL, a Director of Morris Hedstrom Ltd. and one of Fiji's best known merchants, who has been manager of the Sydney branch of the big firm for the past 4 years, retired from that position at the end of April and will leave Sydney at the end of May to take up his permanent residence in Fiji. He will be succeeded in the Sydney office by Mr. Eric Spring, who has been second-in-charge there for a number of years.

Although Mr. Israel has been only three or four years in Sydney, he made many warm friends there and, before his departure, he will be entertained at dinner by Sydney businessmen, as a mark of their esteem and goodwill.

LATE NEWS

CANBERRA, May 19.

IT was announced here to-day by Minister for Development (Mr. Casey) that Commonwealth Government and British Aluminium Co., Ltd., of London, will form a company to develop the resources of Papua-New Guinea.

The company will locate and develop large capacity hydro-electric schemes for use in industry, particularly aluminium production, and will search for bauxite and other minerals. The Commonwealth Government will hold 51 per cent. of shares.

Suva Welcomes French Pacific Official

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, May 1.

THE High Commissioner for French Pacific Territories (M. Cournarie) was welcomed by the Governor of Fiji (Sir Brian Freeston) when he landed at Suva this morning from the sloop Francois Garnier. After a three-day visit the High Commissioner will return in the sloop to Noumea, New Caledonia.

At the King's Wharf a guard of honour was mounted by more than 100 Fijian members of the Fiji Police and the Band of the Fiji Military Forces played the "Marseillaise." At Government House, where M. Cournarie and Mme. Cournarie are guests, another guard of honour was mounted by Fijian soldiers of the FMP.

When the sloop arrived in port she fired a 21-gun salute which was returned gun for gun from shore.

FRENCH INTERESTS IN THE WESTERN PACIFIC

WHEN the French High Commissioner for the Western Pacific (M. Cournarie) arrived in Suva on May 1, in the French gunboat Francois Garnier, on a brief visit, he had come direct from the islands of the Wallis Group, a French possession between Fiji and Samoa.

Ever since France established a Protectorate over this group, a hundred years ago, there have been periodic disputes among the natives; and M. Cournarie apparently deemed it advisable to make a visit recently and deal with one of these local rows. Wallis and Futuna constitute a healthy and prosperous little Colony; but the group is somewhat isolated and probably sheer boredom is at the root of these troubles.

M. Cournarie was the host of the Australian Minister for Territories (Mr. Spender) when he was in New Caledonia in mid-April.

Mr. Spender, on his way back from New Guinea, visited the British Solomons, the Condominium of the New Hebrides, and New Caledonia; but little has been said as yet about the possible significance of this extension of the Australian Minister's tour.

FAMOUS BOTANIST LEAVES S. PACIFIC COUNCIL

May Go To Papua-New Guinea

DR. L. G. BAAS BECKING, a famous Dutch botanist who formally held an important post in the Netherlands Indies, has resigned his position as Deputy Chairman of the Research Council of the South Pacific Commission. His resignation was accepted with regret by the South Pacific Commission at its meeting in Suva this month.

Dr. Baas Becking intends to spend a few months in the Pacific Islands, and then go to the United States.

It is reported, however, that he may be invited to join the administrative service in Papua-New Guinea, where his knowledge and experience of economics, in relation to the effective use of indigenous and introduced plants might be very valuable. For example, it is proposed to grow tea, rice and cinchona (quinine) plants in New Guinea—and all these crops are strongly established in the East Indies, where Dr. Baas Becking spent many years.

BY FLYING BOAT TO FIJI



Among travellers who arrived in Fiji by NAC Flying-boat in April were (left to right): Lieut.-Colonel Voelcker, former High Commissioner for Western Samoa, now NZ representative at the South Pacific Commission. He attended the South Pacific Conference. Mr. C. Roose and Mr. J. A. Anderson, of Auckland, NZ, on a business visit to Suva. Mrs. R. A. Crompton and her small son, who returned together with Mr. R. A. Crompton, after five and a half months' holiday in Christchurch, NZ. Miss B. Lane, who has returned from a visit to her home in Adelaide, SA, Melbourne, Sydney and Auckland. Miss P. M. Duggon, who will join the staff of the Suva Technical School where she will be in charge of the Science Department. Miss A. Warner, who will take up a post with the Colonial War Memorial Hospital, Suva.

NEW GUINEA COPRA Planters Have Some Headaches

AS announced elsewhere, the whole of the circumstances surrounding the production and marketing of New Guinea copra are under Ministerial consideration.

In the meantime, it is noted that an interesting correspondence has been in progress between the Australian Minister for Commerce (Mr. McEwen) and Mr. C. Sullivan, head of C. Sullivan Pty. Ltd. of Sydney, who takes the view that New Guinea copra-producers are being grossly underpaid for their product by Britain.

Mr. Sullivan's point is that, while copra holds its value in the international market (that is, as expressed in terms of dollars or gold) the Australian producers, as a result of the arbitrary devaluation of the £, are getting at least 25 per cent. less than the price which the British Ministry of Food, at the end of 1948, agreed to pay under the nine years' contract.

In a letter to the Minister, dated May 11, Mr. Sullivan refers to the British Socialist Government's "queer ideas of honesty," and proceeds: "The position becomes even more sinister when we realise that some of these purchases (of South Pacific copra) are actually shipped by them (the British Socialists) to dollar markets, thus gaining not only dollars—which we badly require—but extra profit also."

Mr. Sullivan gives the Minister instances to show that the £ Sterling is quoted in the United States at a price considerably under the official exchange figure, and he also says that the last offer received by his San Francisco office for Pacific Islands copra was 182 dollars per ton FOB—which is 30 per cent. higher than the price now being paid by the British Government.

As has been pointed out here repeatedly, Ceylon at the beginning of 1950 refused to accept the devaluated £ as fulfilment of the British Ministry of Food contract; broke away from the British arrangement, and entered the free market, with immediate substantial benefit to the Ceylon copra growers.

It would appear that there is something here which requires the attention of the Australian Minister for Territories.

SERIOUS STORAGE POSITION IN NEW GUINEA

MEANWHILE, a very serious situation is reported from New Guinea, because of the inability of the authorities to provide all the ships necessary to lift the copra, and their further inability to provide storage for the copra that is now pouring out of the plantations.

It is reported, in a special message to the PIM from Rabaul on May 12, that the PCB stores there now hold over 7,000 tons of copra; there is no more space; several inter-island vessels are anchored in Rabaul, unable to discharge their copra and proceed with their timetables; and the proposed trip of the Mangola to clear Bougainville ports has been cancelled, leaving there an accumulation of 17,000 bags which is increasing.

The ship Ivybank arrived in Rabaul on May 12 to load 6,000 tons—but that will take three weeks and, in the meantime, the increasing production is accumulating.

Several plantations, owing to absence of coastal ships, are short of rations for their native labour and of essential supplies.

The Australian Minister for Territories, early in May, announced that all the Government shipping services in Papua and New Guinea were to be taken over

Fiji Governor's Term Extended

THE term of office of Sir Brian Freeston, Governor of Fiji and High Commissioner for the Western Pacific, should expire in January, 1951. However, in April it was announced that his term has been extended for 12 months until January, 1952.

Sir Brian and Lady Freeston are personally very popular in the Colony. Sir Brian has made a study of the several problems peculiar to Fiji and it will be agreed generally that the extension of his term is a good thing.

Shortage of Bags Forecast

THE Australian Minister for Agriculture has warned Australian farmers that there is likely to be a shortage of corn-sacks and other jute bags this year. This will, of course, affect copra planters in Australian Territories.

Recent devaluation of the Indian currency in relation to Pakistan has accentuated the trouble of supplies but trade differences between the two countries have made the bag and sack position acute for some time. Pakistan grows the jute fibre, but it is manufactured into bags, woolpacks, hessian and similar goods in India.

In the April PIM it was reported that experimental plantings of jute had already been made in New Guinea with gratifying success. It appears that the sooner the industry is established there on a commercial footing the better it will be for Territory and Australian primary producers.

STC's New Share Issue

A STATEMENT was made in some Australian newspapers, and repeated in the April PIM, to the effect that Steamships Trading Co., Ltd., of Papua, which is increasing its capital, had made one ordinary share available to its shareholders for every share held.

That was not correct. Present shareholders have had shares made available to them for 30/- each—a price which compares more than favourably with the 50/- which is the current quotation in Australia for this Company's shares of the present issue.

Suva Merchant Leaves Business To His Staff

BY his will the late Mr. A. S. Farebrother, well-known Suva merchant (he represented in Fiji a number of English and Dominions manufacturers), who died in Suva on April 28, left his business to the members of his staff. Mr. Farebrother's most trusted men were Indians. He suffered a severe fall in Sydney in May, 1949, and broke his hip. He never recovered from that accident, and his staff carried on the business during the ensuing year.

by a "young and progressive company"—but it is apparent that some considerable time will elapse before any substantial improvement can be expected in shipping and storage.

Meanwhile, under official encouragement the production of copra is steadily increasing.

Much bad feeling will be caused in the Territories if officialdom does not actively assist the producers to get the fullest benefit of the present good market.

UNO DELEGATES IN THE TRUST TERRITORIES

WITH a lack of publicity that is remarkable, a delegation from the Trusteeship Council of the United Nations is now touring the Trust Territories of the South Pacific.

The delegation has been to the American Trust Territory of Micronesia; has spend a few days on Nauru; and it arrived in Rabaul early in May. It is not known how long it will be in New Guinea.

Following upon the "Spender tornado," and the stir caused by the South Pacific Conference, the delegation should find much to interest it in the biggest Territory in the South Pacific.

It is understood that the delegation proceeds from New Guinea to Western Samoa—with perhaps a brief and unobtrusive visit to Sydney, Canberra and Wellington.

The delegation is not exactly welcome in any Territory. The Trusteeship Council, under Russian influence, has acquired a reputation for mischief-making; and, in the past year or two, again as the result of Russian activities, the hands of UNO has almost entirely departed.

IN THE EAST INDIES

THERE is no indication of any improvement in political and Administrative conditions in the United States of Indonesia. The so-called Javanese Republic, which was formed on an anti-European basis by the Japanese, has continued its efforts to extend its influence and control over the other sections of the Federation; and it appears to have quelled the rebellion in Macassar, which broke out at the end of March.

It was reported at the end of April, however, that the South Moluccas—a group of Archipelagoes lying between the Celebes and Dutch New Guinea, and including Ambon, Ceram, Buru and the Aru and Kei groups—had broken away from the Indonesian Federation and proclaimed their independence.

Australia has stationed Mr. John Hood (formerly Minister to the United Nations, who played a big part in influencing the United Nations against the Dutch) as her special Minister in Jakarta (Batavia). Within a week of his arrival he had to deal with an Indonesian murder of an Australian aviator. (He was recalled to Australia, May 22, "for discussions" on USI claims to Dutch New Guinea.)

ISLANDS MISSIONARIES FOR ROME

THE Marist Fathers, whose missions extend right across the Pacific, are sending representatives from Oceania to Rome, for Holy Year celebrations. The delegation comprises:—

Rev. Father Luc Amoura, of New Caledonia;

Abram Amoura, a catechist from the South Solomons;

Mrs. Rora Iwikau-Fernandez, of Ngati Tuwharetoa tribe, New Zealand;

Namuasua, a catechist from Samoa;

Cipriano, a seminarian from the New Hebrides.

The party, in charge of Rev. Father Luneau, of New Caledonia, left Sydney by the "Surriento" on May 9.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. V. Hodgess have now taken over Mr. L. F. Gill's plantation at Joroveto, Vella Lavella, BSI. Mr. Gill will continue to carry on his trading venture in the Western Solomons.

NEXT S. PACIFIC CONFERENCE?

Closing Scenes In Suva

SUVA, May 6.
THE South Pacific Conference ended on May 5 in a flurry of newspaper headings. Never, in all history, did the Islands get so much publicity as between April 20 and May 6.

By 11 to 4, the delegations voted for another Conference in two years' time, instead of three. The French Territories, with Western Samoa, constituted the minority. The Commission will decide.

SELECTION of a place for the next Conference produced a lively discussion. The Australians wanted New Guinea; the French delegations urged Tahiti; another section suggested New Zealand; some realists spoke up for Sydney.

Australia and NZ are wiped out, it seems, by the ruling that the gathering must be in the Islands, north of Capricorn.

The Australian plan is that New Guinea immediately should begin to prepare accommodation and facilities for holding the 1952 Conference in the Highlands—that cool and pleasant country lies at about 5,000 feet, eastward of Mount Hagen. It is argued that thus there could be laid the foundations of a town—a cool, healthy hill-station, in the gentle uplands, which might have a profound effect on the future of New Guinea.

Again, the Commission will decide. (All Conference decisions go as recommendations to the Commission.)

THE last days of the Conference were marked by a general newspaper attack upon Australia's representation. Australia controls two thirds of the South Pacific population and half the land area; pays a third of the cost of the Commission; but Australia, said

the critics, did not exercise much influence in the set-up. The attack obviously was directed against the Rev. Dr. J. W. Burton, who, with Mr. J. R. Halligan (secretary of the Territories Department) has been Australia's representative on the Commission since its formation. Mr. Halligan has been deeply occupied elsewhere, so much work has fallen upon Dr. Burton.

Australia's senior Commissioner should be hard, tough, and ruthless, and very experienced in South Pacific problems. Dr. Burton, who has been a director of missions all his life, is a kindly, gentle, lovable man. He has brought wisdom and complete sincerity to the Commission table, but he is no dynamic force. Criticism of him embarrassed the Australian Territories Minister. (Mr. Spender is also Minister for External Affairs; and Dr. John Burton, Secretary of that Department, is a son of the Rev. Dr. Burton.)

However, the Rev. Dr. Burton settled matters by promptly resigning. Probably, he welcomed the chance—he wanted to drop out of the Commission many months ago.

PRINCE Tugli, of Tonga, whose thoughtful contributions to the discussions made him the outstanding figure among the delegates, caused a stir when he urged that a knowledge of English be made compulsory and general throughout the Islands. He pointed out that education is the Islanders' first need, and that the wide diversity of tongues is the chief factor against education.

The French delegations took the suggestion amiss—but had nothing really logical to urge against it. For centuries, and until a few decades ago, French was the international language and the language of culture. But now—especially since World War II and the advent of United States as the leading Power—English has become the international language. English is the official language in every country in the Pacific, except New Caledonia and French Oceania.

Prince Tugli also startled the Conference by urging birth control in the many Pacific Territories where there has been population revival, and where there is apparent danger of food resources becoming strained.

Tugli's arguments were supported by some delegates; but there was uncompromising hostility from Catholic sections.

THE Conference ended with well-served tributes to Sir Brian Freeston, whose capable and sympathetic chairmanship made the Conference the success it undoubtedly was; to Mr. Forsyth, Secretary-General, whose fine feat of organisation made the Conference possible; and to the 60 students of Nasinu College, whose help as messengers and servants contributed so much to the delegates' comfort and convenience.

(For report of Conference, and general comment, see other pages.)

New Links Across Tasman Forecast

CANADIAN PACIFIC AIRLINES, LTD., hope in the next few weeks to be able to land their aircraft in Auckland en route to Sydney from America, instead of flying direct from Fiji to Sydney as at present.

CPA do not intend to pick up passengers in New Zealand for Australia (or vice versa) and thus compete with Tasman Empire Airways, a spokesman said recently. All that they want is to get permission from the NZ government for passengers to stay overnight in Auckland as they do now at Honolulu and Nadi.

If such landing rights were given to CPA, no doubt similar rights will be given to BCPA and PAA.

This highly desirable move, which has been denied trans-Pacific air companies by former governments, would remove Auckland from the end of the blind alley where it has been, and put it in its right place in the natural Pacific air-circuit. At the present time CPA do not run a service from North America to New Zealand. BCPA and PAA, because of the prohibition upon them not to fly the Tasman, are forced to provide special services between Auckland and San Francisco and Vancouver.

Second Tasman Link

IT is believed that a second Tasman air link—from Melbourne to Christchurch—will be in operation by the end of the year. No indication has been given as to which air service will be chosen to run the service but five companies are believed to be interested—Australian National Airways, Ansett Airways, TEAL, the NZ National Airways Corporation and QEA.

Landplanes will be used and the terminals will be at Essendon in Melbourne (which was passed as up to international standard last February) and Harewood, near Christchurch, which will probably be up to standard by this December.

Private Australian airline companies have been interested in a southern link across the Tasman for several years. They could not gain permission to operate from the socialist governments then in power in Australia and New Zealand. The present governments, when in Opposition, frequently recommended that the route be given to a private company.

Mr. W. L. Bygrave has been appointed Senior Surveyor and Valuer in the Fiji Lands Department. He is at present acting as Deputy Director of Lands, Mines and Surveys.

TRAVELLERS FROM WESTERN SAMOA



Among passengers who recently travelled on the Matua from Apia to Auckland were (left to right): Misses Gurau, M. Smith, Webster, on holiday bent; Miss E. Perry, returning to NZ after two years in Samoa with Mrs. Marsack, wife of the Territory's Judge Marsack; Sister Nash, returning to NZ after nursing at Motootua Hospital; Misses McCarthy and Key, who will holiday in NZ.

—Superflash Photos.

PAPUA-N. GUINEA Many Changes Are In Sight

From a Special Correspondent

ALL reports indicate that the April visit of the Australian Minister for External Territories to Papua and New Guinea was of a character never before experienced in those Islands.

He went through Australia's Pacific Territories like a strong, cold, blistering wind. He blew the dust out of offices, wrenched apart the most sacred files, and upset the equilibrium of many gentlemen who never before had any doubt about the soundness of their stance. He has been called everything from "a first-class reforming Minister" to "an arrogant little Hitler."

Whatever he is, Mr. Spender's visit, after years of the frustrating and paralysing Wardist policy, has done immeasurable good in the Territories. Everyone now, from the highest official to the humblest toiler, is more or less on his toes. Much has happened already—and much will happen soon. I shall try to summarise, indicating what are official announcements, and what are not.

The government shipping monopoly has been wiped out. Privately owned vessels have been competing with Government ships for available business. The transport position already has been greatly improved. The Government ships will be sold, as soon as a suitable buyer is found. (Official.)

The forest reserves of Papua and New Guinea are to be opened to development by private enterprise, under reasonable safeguards. A plan is now being prepared by Forestry officials. The position in relation to the development of timber resources by Bulolo Gold Dredging Ltd. is being investigated. There will be a Ministerial announcement shortly. (Official.)

The native-labour one year indenture will be wiped out, in favour of a labour contract system. The Department of Native Labour will be abolished, and native labour will be controlled instead by a small branch of the Department of the Government Secretary. (Official.)

It is believed that the new native labour contract will be for a period of 18 months, with two provisions. If the contract has proved unsatisfactory, the labourer can be dismissed, and the Government will bear the cost of repatriation. If it is satisfactory, it may be continued for a further period of six months. (Unofficial.)

Deputy Administrators, stationed at Port Moresby and Rabaul, will be appointed very soon. The authority and prestige of the District Officers will be increased. (Official.)

It is not believed that the position of the Administrator (Colonel J. K. Murray) is affected. He was appointed by the Labour Government for ten years, and only four years of that term have gone. It may be significant that his name was mentioned two or three times as an "ideal" representative for Australia, when the representation of Australia on the South Pacific Commission was under official discussion in Fiji recently. It is argued that the S.P. Commission is Australia's "baby", and that it will die if Australia is not more vigorously represented in the future. (Unofficial.)

Names freely mentioned in connection with forthcoming major appointments to the Papua-New Guinea and SP Com-

mission services include Mr. D. M. Cleland (formerly head of the Production Control Board, and now a high official of the Australian Liberal Party), Mr. J. H. Jones (formerly a Colonel in ANGAU, and head of District Services, and now head of the Planning and Development Department), Mr. S. Lonergan (Government Secretary in Papua-New Guinea), Mr. Leonard Murray (pre-war Administrator of Papua) and Mr. J. C. Archer (now of the External Territories Department, who has held important posts in the Territories). (Unofficial.)

Taxation—probably of incomes—will be imposed in Papua and New Guinea at an early date. It is held to be unfair that heavily-taxed Australia should have to spend some £4,000,000 per annum on Papua-New Guinea, while private enterprise in the Territories is enjoying large incomes, despite all its troubles. (Official.)

Education policy in the Territories has been under review, but no immediate changes are contemplated. The Minister, however, in response to Territories' representations, cancelled the plan under which the children of all races were to attend the one school in Rabaul. (Official.)

The future of the Production Control Board, the future method of implementing the copra-purchase agreement as between Britain and the Australian Pacific Territories, and the best method of dealing with the Copra Stabilisation Fund, are now under close investigation but, as they present several difficulties, an official announcement regarding them may not be made for some little time. (Official.)

The Rev. J. W. Burton has resigned his position as Australian Commissioner on the South Pacific Commission; and it is unlikely that Mr. J. R. Halligan (Secretary of the Department of External Affairs) will also act in that capacity in the future, as he did in the past. Therefore, two appointments to the Commission will be made by Australia in the early future. The senior Commissionership has carried a salary of £2,000 per annum, and expenses. (Official.)

The Australian Government is determined that, as Australia is responsible for at least 30 per cent. of the cost of the South Pacific Commission, Australia shall in future be represented thereon by men with an intimate knowledge of Australia's Territorial problems, and a sense of responsibility regarding the Commission's financial obligations. (Unofficial.)

CANE IS BEING PLANTED Indians Repudiate Their Agitators In Fiji

SUVA, May 8

INDIAN cane-farmers are giving little support to the efforts made to persuade them not to plant sugarcane in the current season.

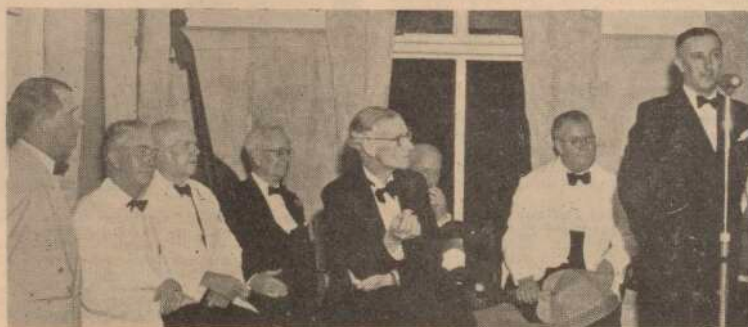
On April 22, a meeting of the Kisan Sangh (farmers' union) at Lautoka supported by a show of hands, the appeal of the president (Mr. N. S. Chalmers) to stop planting. Five days later, however, the Sigatoka committee of the Kisan Sangh refused to follow the president's advice and informed him that while the committee supported his attempt to obtain a higher price for cane, it intended to advocate continued planting.

Authoritative reports state that in other parts of Viti Levu most of the Indian farmers have been planting steadily despite the persuasions—in some cases, threats—by officials of the union who have been urging a general strike by the farmers.

In some cases farmers have stopped planting temporarily, only to resume as the Kisan Sangh officials have left the neighbourhood. In other cases farmers are known to have left the Kisan Sangh, joined another organisation, and proceeded with planting.

Vilikasa Ramaga, a Fijian Assistant Medical Practitioner on the staff of the Colonial War Memorial Hospital, Suva, recently spent nearly three months in New Zealand, studying anaesthetics at the Medical School at the University of Otago. The Medical Officer in charge of the Colonial War Memorial Hospital reports that Vilikasa has benefited greatly from his New Zealand studies.

OPENING OF NEW WING IN POPULAR SUVA CLUB



Fiji's Defence Club—it now has 500 members—had the Governor and Lady Freeston along on April 22, to the official opening of the new wing, which cost £15,000. The additions make the Club one of the biggest and most impressive, in appearance, in the Islands. The finely designed entrance is directly opposite the new Cathedral, now being built. When it was founded, in 1915, the Club had one room, a billiard table, and five chairs. To-day, it comprises not only club-rooms, but also bed-rooms, bath-rooms, kitchen, etc. The Governor, after he and his wife had been conducted over the fine new block by the Club president (Mr. L. G. Usher) and Mrs. Usher, said the ball-room probably was the finest of its kind in the South Pacific.

Mr. George Johnson was the architect; Fiji Builders, Ltd., were contractors; and the furniture was made by Millers, Ltd. Native woods have been most effectively used.

In the photograph, from right to left, are: L. G. Usher (president) at microphone; L. A. Lawler (life-member and former president and secretary); A. S. Martin (immediate past president, partially obscured); The Governor, Sir Brian Freeston (patron); A. A. Bagg (trustee and former president); W. Caldwell (life-member and former president); W. E. Goodsir (vice-president); H. H. Hemphill (secretary).

Sidelights on the South Pacific Conference

From R. W. Robson.

SUVA, May 2.
SAT below the dais of that most excellent chairman, Sir Brian Freeston, Governor of Fiji, and looked out over the hundred or more delegates to the South Pacific Conference and, like most other observers, I wondered whether this was anything more than a glorious waste of time and paper.

What I saw was like the United Nations in miniature. Rows of desks arranged in a half-circle, facing the chairman; the names of countries painted on signs above each desk; microphones placed carefully before each speaker; interpreters hovering attentively beside the delegations from the French and Dutch Territories; and the delegations, meticulously laundered and starched and barbered, sitting stiffly in their allotted places, and upon their faces—which ranged in colour from off-white to deepest black—an expression of earnestness and anxiety.

In a building right alongside this big central hall of the Nasinu Teachers Training College the real work of the Conference was being done. As a background to the sober, high-pitched voices of the selected speakers, one could hear the rattle of typewriters and the click of duplicators.

The super-organisers of the South Pacific Commission had assembled a team of expert young women from the various public services and they, assisted by another team—Fijian, Samoan and Tongan Training College students who had been co-opted as clerks and messengers—churned out copies of everything that was spoken before the Conference. It was organisation, plus. Never before did reporters have an easier job.

It was like a well-produced play. All dressing had been taken care of. There was not a word, or a button, out of place. There were no interjections. There was no spontaneity.

IN his opening speech, Sir Brian Freeston called it the Parliament of the South Pacific. A Parliament is an assemblage of the freely-chosen representatives of the people. Few, if any, of these representatives had been elected; practically every one was the nominee of his particular government—carefully hand-picked, groomed, and prepared for this Conference. In a large proportion of cases, the speeches read by delegates (from type-written paper of foolscap size) were the obvious products of departmental offices.

Behind each delegation sat the "advisers"—quiet, self-effacing, efficient European officials, for the most part, who saw that each delegate conformed to the general plan. Politics were most sternly forbidden. All the courtesies and formalities of a Western Parliament were rigidly observed.

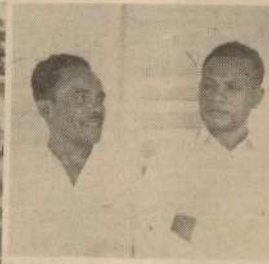
But it was not a Parliament. It was a beautiful and impressive play, shaped like a Parliament. It cost a lot of money. Australia paid 30 or 35 per cent. of it, the other five nations about 15 per cent. each. Fiji, as the host Government, shouldered much expense.

Out of each discussion (see formal report elsewhere in this issue) on each paper there came a series of resolutions, for submission to the South Pacific Commission. All the papers, and all the discussions, and all the resolutions, could easily have been prepared for the Commission by the officials of the 16 Territories, in postal communication, without all the work and worry and expense entailed in this Conference.

Observing all these things, most of the VIP's and pressmen present were at first inclined to write off the first South Pacific Conference as a solemn farce, of little practical value.

BUT, as the days passed, other considerations came into the picture; observers took a longer view; and the general conclusion was that the Conference, while in some respects a little ridiculous, was eminently worth-while, and an essential part of the plan behind the South Pacific Commission. Here are the answers to the destructive criticism which I have noted above:

• At the present stages of administrative development in the various Territories, it was not possible to choose representatives by popular vote. So, as far as possible, the Administrations selected what seemed to be representative natives. As it was essential that such men be educated to a standard to allow them to take part in a general conference, the choice was limited, especially in the Melanesian Territories.



TOP: Mr. Don Reed, recording secretary for the Conference, with the Makea of Rarotonga; Dr. Davis, Director of Health in the Cook Islands; Robert Rex, of Niue (obscured); and Rongomatene (Cook Islands). Markus Kasiepo and Nikolaas Jouwe, of Dutch New Guinea. Jacob Dagabwinare, of Nauru. Penetalo Teo, of Gilbert and Ellice Colony and Raymond Gadabu, of Nauru.

SECOND ROW: Mr. W. Grainger Johnson, of Suva, meeting Prince Tugi and Prince Sione Ngu, of Tonga—they were his guests during the Conference. Top: Frank Aisi, of Papua, a student at the Suva Medical School. Lower: S. H. Christian, New Guinea. Mr. J. B. D. Pennink (Netherlands New Guinea delegation. Miria Gavera, of Papua, who was a carrier on the Kokoda Trail and is now a responsible official in the Co-operative Section of District Services.

THIRD ROW: Dr. Baas Beeking, deputy chairman of the Research Council. Willie Gavera, of Papua. The Makea of Rarotonga (in private life, Mrs. Cowan).

—Photos by Colin Simpson.



The official party from Western Samoa (left to right): Hon. Tualalelei, Interpreter Talapu, Hon. Malietoa, Hon. Tamasese, Speaker Anapu. —Superflash photo.

• As it was not expected that anything much of practical value would come out of this first Conference, while it was hoped that these Conferences, in time, would become more representative and more useful, it was regarded as of first importance that the Conference should be given the right shape and structure, as a future guide. Great care was taken in this respect.

• The real value of this first Conference lies in what has happened outside the Conference room, where the men from 16 different Territories are living together in the comfortable quarters provided at the Training College.

It is that latter consideration, above all, which makes this Conference worthwhile. For the first time in history, Polynesians, Melanesians and Micronesians are living happily together in one group, getting to know each other on a friendly basis, and seeking a common outlook on the serious problems which confront the Pacific Islands as a whole.

On other occasions in the past, when these people have made contact, it usually meant a fight. This time, under the tutelage of the Europeans, and in the growing enlightenment of Western education, they meet as friends, eager to confer on matters of common interest, to engage in social experiments and—this most desirable of all—to laugh together, with and at each other.

KNOWING the high plans of the South Pacific Commission, and sitting and looking out over this carefully-staged Conference, one is appalled at the difficulties which confront the planners.

They may bring these scattered races into closer contact, may imbue a few instructed men with a desire for better food, better health and greater cleanliness in the village (these are the simple things, in order of importance, which engross the native mind)—but how are they going to carry on the plan unless they have native races sufficiently educated to understand what they are talking about, and a common language in which to instruct them?

In Polynesia and Micronesia, there are about as many languages as there are Territories. In Melanesia, where is found the overwhelming bulk of the South Pacific population—and almost complete illiteracy—there are hundreds of languages.

Thinking along these lines, one wonders whether this all-South Pacific Conference isn't a little premature. The Commission could do a great deal, fairly soon, with a Polynesian or a Polynesian-Micronesian Conference; but can the natives of Melanesia contribute anything of practical value while these enormous problems of education and language remain unsolved?

However, the Commission has put its plough into the earth, and started off with its hands on the controls. We can only wish it luck with the great experiment.

POLITICS have been strictly tabu. But we cannot forget international affairs.

Communism is sweeping across Asia. Under the direction of the blundering United Nations, the East Indies have been taken from the Dutch and given to the ill-conceived and immature "Republic of Indonesia." It seems certain that Indonesia soon will come under Communist influence. Then, the East Indies becomes a natural bridge between one thousand million people in overcrowded Asia, and the fertile, pleasant lands of the South Pacific, where there are only a few scattered millions. The Dutch were our natural protectors; the Indonesians are not.

In the circumstances, it is just as well that, per medium of the SP Conference,

or any other medium available, the Western nations should guide and direct the Pacific Islanders. Perhaps, in view of events in Asia and Indonesia, we may regard the SP Conference as an insurance.

THE more one sees of this Conference, the more one senses the difference between Islands peoples. Most of the Polynesians are big men; all are sophisticated, dignified, carrying themselves with the easy assurance that comes with pride of race. In this respect, the Fijians, although formally classed as Melanesians, must go in with the Polynesian-Micronesian group.

The Melanesians, on the other hand, are all small men, and even those who are well-educated and accustomed to European contacts, seem shy and bashful. Some observers point out that the delegates who are most at their ease in this gathering are those from races who for the longest time, have had a share in Government; whereas the apparently uncomfortable ones are from Territories where European administration still is complete and absolute.

THE outstanding figure of the Conference is Tugi, Crown Prince and Premier of Tonga—a very big man of attractive personality, and charming manners. He speaks perfect, cultured English—he was educated at Sydney University—and his contributions to the debates have been notable, obviously based on wide reading and the analysis of a keen, well-balanced mind. As the future ruler of the world's only independent Polynesian kingdom, he is entitled to official and social leadership; but he takes and confirms his leadership on his own personal quality—he is easily the most able man among the delegates. His brother, Prince John—now Governor of Vavau—is also a big, striking man, but, as he leaves the leadership to Tugi, he is not so prominent.

Other notable figures are Polynesian delegates—High Chiefs Tamasese and Malletoa, from Western Samoa, the attractive and well-dressed Makea of Rarotonga, Mrs. Cowan, and the well-known Fijian, Ratu Edward Thakombau. At the Conference, and at Suva's many social functions, these Islanders of noble lineage impress everyone by their dignified bearing, their good looks and the culture and charm of their English conversation.

BUT that does not mean that the other delegates are completely overshadowed. In the first day or two, the general shyness and reluctance to speak were almost painful—only the skill and sympathy with which Sir Brian Freeston controlled the Conference prevented some embarrassing situations—but after that they faced the microphone with confidence. The men from the French Colonies, a handsome, obviously Hurst-trained lad from Nauru, the Gilbert and Ellice Islanders—all spoke their allotted pieces with dignity and impressiveness.

The two apparently well-educated Papuans from Dutch New Guinea made a good impression. As their country is under imminent threat by Indonesia, and as the more easterly delegates were keenly interested in these brothers from the west, there was a strong temptation upon the Conference to "talk politics"; but the Dutch New Guinea men were under a double obstacle—the stern official ban on politics, and their inability to speak English.

The Papua and New Guinea men brought to the Conference by Health Director Dr. J. Gunther and Education Director W. C. Groves acquitted themselves well. They were interesting, as a demonstration of how these natives can be trained; but, of course, they could

(Continued on page 105)

PAPUA'S LAST MINE

In Voluntary Liquidation

THE shareholders in Cuthbert's Misima Goldmine, Ltd., of 22 Bridge Street, Sydney, decided at the Annual Meeting on April 28 to go into voluntary liquidation, and Mr. N. W. C. Draper, formerly local secretary of the Co., was appointed liquidator at £1,000 per annum and expenses.

Cuthbert's "Bonanza," before World War II, was one of the most profitable goldmines in the Western Pacific, and paid phenomenal dividends. It was abandoned during the war and, when operations were resumed, the cost of rehabilitation, plus the cost of seeking the lode (which had been lost in later operations) made it necessary to engage in considerable new capital expenditure. The money was not forthcoming so the directors decided on liquidation.

A BALANCE sheet issued by Goldmines of Papua, Ltd., as on June 30, 1949 (only nine months late) shows that the Co., in the year referred to, spent £100 on administration and £1,610 on salvage of equipment. GMP, nearly 20 years ago, took over the property of Mt. Sisa, Ltd., and proceeded to explore a reef on Misima which was believed to be an extension of Cuthbert's lode. It missed entirely, after spending about £200,000 on the enterprise.

In the past 50 years, from the Lake-kamu eastward to Misima, some famous goldfields were developed in Papua. All have faded out—Misima and the Yodda were the last of them.

Catalina Case

Delay Over Crown Witness

AT the Sydney Quarter Sessions on May 12, Judge Curlew directed that a cable should be sent to Douglas Lindsay, now living in Hong Kong, asking if he will come to Sydney to give evidence at the trial of Bryan Wills Monkton, managing director of Trans-Oceanic Airways.

Lindsay was a witness at the coroner's inquiry in February at which Monkton was committed for trial on a charge of maliciously damaging a Qantas Empire Airways Catalina flying-boat in August, 1949, at Rose Bay. Lindsay was formerly an executive of TOA but at the time of the inquest was in Hong Kong. He has since returned there.

When the case was mentioned on May 12, Mr. J. W. Shand (for Monkton) pressed for an early date of the trial. He said that cables received indicated that Lindsay would not be able to come to Sydney for at least three months—the position was clear—he did not want to come or was not allowed to come.

"The delay in hearing the case has already imposed a big strain on Monkton, and it is not right that his liberty should be further played with," Mr. Shand added that the Court could not compel Lindsay to come to Sydney.

The Crown Prosecutor, Mr. R. R. Kidston, said the Crown had information that Lindsay was ill and was to enter hospital for two weeks.

EXTERNAL TERRITORIES DEPT. NEW SYDNEY ADDRESS

THE Sydney office of the External Territories Department has been changed from Carrington Street, to the Palladium Building, Yurong Street—just off William Street and behind the Australian Museum. The telephone number is M 2671.

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FIJI'S INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Probably Nadi After All

WHEN it was officially announced, last year, that a committee of experts had recommended Suva Point as the site for the international airport in that part of the Pacific, and that between one and two million pounds would be spent on building the airport within the next two or three years, it was believed that the long argument between the Nadi-Lautoka and the Suva advocates was over.

But the matter has been reopened. It appears certain that the selection will go to Nadi, after all.

The responsibility for building the airport belongs to New Zealand. Under the present world set-up, NZ is in charge of the Fiji area, in respect of both defence and civil aviation. It was understood that NZ's defence organisation needed the Nadi airport.

But now it appears that Nadi is not needed for NZ's Air Force, exclusively. Moreover, the cost of the Suva Point airport will be nearer four than two million pounds. On top of that, NZ resources, engineering as well as financial, are all needed for urgent building of new civil airports near Auckland and Wellington, and for completing the huge international airport near Christchurch (which is to be the terminal of the Melbourne-New Zealand new air service, to start about the end of 1950).

The South Pacific Air Transport Council sat in Melbourne the first week in May, and considered all these things. On May 4, Fiji heard in dismayed silence an announcement that the site of the international airport probably would be in Tonga, instead of Suva. On May 5, however, it was formally announced that the SPATC had recommended Nadi, and the general belief is that Nadi, improved and developed, will remain as it is now—the Central South Pacific calling-place for trans-Pacific planes.

The chief objection to Nadi, now, as in the past, is the difficulty of getting from Nadi to Suva, 140 miles away. If the traveller does not like a slow and most

comfortless journey in an Indian bus, crowded with Indians and Fijians, he must pay about £7 Fijian for a hire car.

There is afoot a plan to establish an inter-island flying-boat service within Fiji. If this provides a regular daily connection between Suva and Nadi, or Suva and Lautoka, as is proposed, so that the traveller to Suva can reach his destination quickly, for a fare of 40/- or 60/-, then much of Suva's strong feeling against Nadi may disappear.

There are indications that, at last, international complications are being smoothed away, so that the Trans-Pacific airlines will do the obvious, logical thing, and include New Zealand in their itinerary. Instead of making the long hop from Nadi (Fiji) to Sydney, a proportion of the air-liners will fly from Nadi to Auckland, and thence to Sydney.

Ocean Island Murder Case Surprise

Execution of Tai Shek Postponed

A STAY of execution was announced by the Fiji Government on April 18 in respect of Tai Shek who had been convicted of the murder of Mr. Thomas Arthur Allen, on Ocean Island, in April, 1949. It was stated that fresh evidence had been presented and would be investigated. Tai Shek was to hang on April 19.

An appeal against his conviction was heard and dismissed by the Fiji Privy Council on March 29. A petition signed by Chinese residents of Fiji was presented to the Governor of Fiji recently but on the advice of the Executive Council he directed at that stage, that the law should take its course.

Mr. Allen was an engineer employed by the British Phosphate Commission on Ocean Island. He and his wife were murdered while asleep. Detectives and finger-print experts from Queensland proceeded to Ocean Island and took the finger-prints of everyone on the island. Most of the case against Tai Shek was based on the fact that his prints were found on the window in the Allen's bungalow. At the trial he was not, however, charged with the murder of Mrs. Allen.

TEAL's 10th Birthday

THE first Tasman air crossing was made by the late Sir Charles Kingsford Smith and his co-pilot, Charles Ulm, in the Southern Cross in September, 1928. It was the culmination of their amazing flight across the Pacific from California to Australia but was regarded by most people at that time as tempting Providence just a little too far.

However, Smithy and Ulm made it—in a flight lasting 14 hours 25 minutes. It was not until 11½ years later (April 30, 1940) that there was any real follow-up on the excellent job they had done in pioneering trans-ocean air transportation. On April 30, 1940, regular trans-Tasman flights were inaugurated by Tasman Empire Airways with the Aotearoa (the second flying-boat, Awarua, did not arrive in Auckland until seven months after Aotearoa).

From that day, under all conditions, TEAL flying-boats have maintained the link between the two dominions and were, during the difficult Pacific war and immediately post-war period, the only regular passenger and mail service between New Zealand and Australia.

The old Aotearoa and Awarua, which carried about 20 passengers and made the crossing in from 8 to 11 hours have, since the war, gone to the scrap pile. They were replaced by Sandringhams (peace time name of Sunderlands) and these in turn have given way to Short Solents, which carry 44 passengers and make the crossing in between five and six hours.

When the Solent, Aotearoa II, made the crossing from Auckland to Sydney on April 30, 1950, passengers were treated to a birthday party which included a large cake made and iced in the shape of the flying-boat. The plane was commanded by Captain C. Griffiths, who has been with TEAL since its inception.

NG Women's Club

MEMBERS of the New Guinea Women's Club of Sydney and their friends are invited to attend an American Tea on the morning of May 25.

The idea is to "bring a gift and buy a gift." Proceeds will go towards funds.

The tea will be held in the Feminist Club Rooms, 77 King St.



Coming Citizens of Fiji

This photograph was taken at a party recently in Fiji, when Sir Hugh and Lady Ragg entertained 20 grandchildren. Here they are, from left to right:—

Back Row: R. Chalmers, M. Sykes, J. French, P. Ragg, M. Ragg, C. Chalmers, D. Ragg, D. Ragg, H. Irving, Lady Ragg, Sir H. Ragg, M. Ragg. (Baby's name not known). Front Row: A. Irving, K. Ragg, M. Chalmers, A. Irving, M. Sykes, K. Ragg, P. Sykes, R. Ragg, A. French.

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RABAU ROUNDABOUT

From Our Own Correspondent

SINCE January 1, 80 inches of rain have fallen and rain is still pouring down. At 3.30 this morning squalls of gale force struck Rabaul. The Methodist Church was razed to the ground, one of Colyer Watson's stores was unroofed, and the men's quarters at the back of the PWD were badly damaged and flooded out. Telephone services are completely disrupted and most of the town is without power—caused mainly by trees crashing across the power and phone lines.

The famous trees in Mango Avenue, up to three feet in diameter, the majority of which survived the 1937 eruption and bomb damage during the Jap occupation, have suffered severely. Many are broken in half, as though cut with a giant scythe; others have huge limbs smashed off. Lesser trees have been torn bodily from the ground. Mango Avenue is deep in slime and smashed trees.

All roads are in chaotic condition and our sympathies go to the Works and Housing Department, which must try to get some order out of this mess.

and bruises in the fall and, according to doctors, this had no bearing on her death. Mrs. Conron was the mother of two boys, one aged 4 and the other 15 months. Her husband, a storeman in the Post and Telegraphs Branch, Port Moresby, was holidaying in Victoria with the elder boy at the time of her death.

THE Territory's Public Service will get more pay and other benefits under the latest re-classification which is said to be in its final stages. Public Service Commissioner, Mr. E. A. Head, told

storekeepers, who considerably overcharge the natives for their simple requirements. The Europeans suffer as a consequence.

MEMBERS of the RSL, Planters' Association, Chamber of Commerce and other residents expressed their satisfaction with the interest shown to their particular problems by the Minister of External Affairs and Territories, Mr. Spender, during his recent visit, and look to the future with confidence.

In reply to the request for the immediate appointment of a dentist at Rabaul, Mr. Spender stated that he would arrange to have two stationed in Rabaul. One arrived in Rabaul this week. It is hoped that he will be a fixture.

A vulcanologist has also arrived and has commenced investigations of the volcanoes surrounding Rabaul.

Mr. Spender, in replying to the unanimous protest from various bodies against the consolidated school, assured all "that there would be no consolidated school at present."

ANZAC DAY was observed by a march of local ex-Servicemen, led by the president of the RSL, Major Smythe, MC. A ceremony was conducted at the RSL Cenotaph and upon conclusion all members adjourned to the Club House to celebrate in the traditional manner.

The RSL club is an established success and it is now proposed to erect another building which will house a dance floor.

THE New Britain Club, under the capable presidentship of Mr. J. Gilmore, is enjoying a new lease of life. The grounds and building have been considerably improved.

VISITORS to Rabaul this week included old identities Messrs. Fred Archer, from Buka, and Tex Marshall and Lou Pay. Carpenters' popular plantation inspector, Mr. Tony Corlass, has been relieving manager Max Lees at Ulaveo Plantation during the latter's holiday in Australia. Lees returns to harness next week and Corlass resumes his routine of inspections.

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"IXL" BAKED BEANS,

"IXL" SPAGHETTI IN SAUCE

increased 100 per cent. A small bundle of beans (17 to be exact) now costs 6d. The Chinese, in their overwhelming numbers, purchase direct from the trucks bringing the goods into the market. One, in particular, buys up all the eggs, then resells them at a considerable profit, to the Europeans. Eggs have jumped from 4d. each to 6d.

The local Prices Commissioner has no control over primary produce but has ordered that eggs be reduced back to 4d. each. This instruction has been ignored to date.

Various women's organisations have called special meetings to discuss the problem and an approach is being made to the local District Officer seeking his assistance to have the prices restored to a sane level and closer policing of the market.

It is understood that the increased prices are native retaliation to the Asiatic

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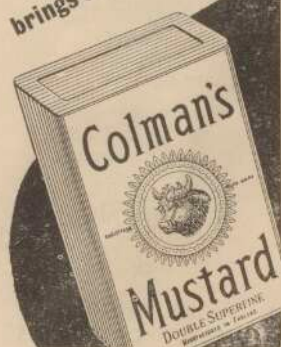


MISS FLORA GILMORE recently celebrated her birthday with a dinner party at her Nonga home. Guests included Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Perriman, Mr. and Mrs. C. Normoyle, Mr. and Mrs.

A little mustard



brings out the full flavour!



Some of the natives who, without Administration help, cleared the Rabaul-Kokopo coastal road after it had been blocked by the earthquakes of October, 1949. The Administration had abandoned this road. Photo by C. H. Meen.

Dix and Mrs. P. Chapman. Mrs. Perriman leaves this week for a holiday in Australia where she will shortly be joined by her husband.

Mr. and Mrs. Ryan have left for holidays south. Mr. George Clarke is relieving Mr. Ryan as BP's Rabaul manager.

The Territory of Hawaii paid 90,824,693 dollars taxes into the United States Treasury in 1949, thus putting it ahead of eleven mainland states in this respect.



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GUINEA GOLD'S PROFITS

IN the year ended February last, Guinea Gold NL, paid dividends equal to 8d. per 2/- share. This little Adelaide Co. was formed over 20 years ago to exploit the old found and leases acquired in New Guinea by the late Cecil Levien, who saw the possibilities of the Bulolo River flats and developed the plan of flying dredges into that isolated valley. Out of Guinea Gold NL there came some highly profitable establishments, including Bulolo Gold Dredging, Ltd., and Guinea Airways. Although Guinea Gold's issued capital is only £50,000, its shares in BGD, Ltd., are shown in its balance sheet as worth £353,625. The directors are Messrs. C. V. T. Wells, W. P. A. Lapthorne and S. Powell—the two former of whom were closely associated with developments on the Morobe Goldfield in the beginning.

THE MONTH IN MORESBY

From Our Own Correspondent

PORT MORESBY, May 8.
THE cause of the death on Anzac Day of attractive 26-year-old Mrs. Mavis Conron, of Port Moresby, seems likely to remain a mystery. After an inquest lasting a week, the Coroner (Mr. B. Faithorn) found that she died from an unknown cause.

A native police constable discovered Mrs. Conron lying unconscious in the grass 75 yards away from her home at 5 a.m. on April 25. She died in hospital three hours later.

When found she had a coat on over her dress. Medical examinations revealed neither natural nor unnatural causes of death. The Government Analyst at Brisbane found only traces of quinine in the stomach contents. The Coroner commended two natives, Lui and Ure, for their care of the dying woman before help arrived.

During the inquest witnesses said Mrs. Conron was a sleepwalker and had been known to dress herself while asleep. Police said she had apparently stumbled over a small stone wall near her house and rolled down the slope to the spot where she was found. However, she suffered only cuts and bruises in the fall and, according to doctors, this had no bearing on her death.

Mrs. Conron was the mother of two boys, one aged 4 and the other 15 months. Her husband, a storeman in the Post and Telegraphs Branch, Port Moresby, was holidaying in Victoria with the elder boy at the time of her death.

THE Territory's Public Service will get more pay and other benefits under the latest re-classification which is said to be in its final stages. Public Service Commissioner, Mr. E. A. Head, told

the annual meeting of the Public Service Association that he had "every hope" that the re-classification would date from July 1, 1949. He said that changes in the Public Service Regulations, also in the final stages, would increase child and travelling allowances and raise the salary level at which overtime can be earned.

Present system of assisted passages on recreation leave would be replaced by the more liberal Commonwealth provisions. Mr. Head added that all except a small portion of the fares of families of newly-appointed officers would be paid, as well as most of the freight on furniture. Sick-leave will be allowed to accumulate. Describing the proposed promotion procedure, Mr. Head said provisional promotions would be gazetted and would be subject to appeal.

WORK has started on a new general store to be built in Douglas Street, Moresby, by E. E. Kriewaldt & Co., Ltd. The store will be across the road from the District Office and next to the Administration women's hostel. It will specialise in clothing and Eastern goods and will have a self-service grocery section. All sales will be cash. Mr. Kriewaldt, who was formerly with Customs, says that the cash and self-service systems would reduce operating costs and enable the store to sell groceries at lower prices than those prevailing at present in Moresby.

Natives will not be allowed in the main store, he added. There will be a separate section for them at the rear. It's hoped to open the store in July. The building will be at street level with a bulk store underneath. It will be 40 feet by 40 feet, with two feet of glass louvres around the

sides and display windows in front. Later, a chemist's shop may be built next door.

E. E. Kriewaldt & Co., Ltd., has a nominal capital of £20,000. At a meeting of shareholders this month, Messrs. Kriewaldt, R. K. Caldwell and G. P. Pederson will seek election as directors. Mr. F. B. Godson will offer himself as an alternative director. Mr. Caldwell was formerly accountant with the New Guinea Company, Rabaul.

THE money-raising campaign for Moresby's future Olympic swimming pool has got under way with a series



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CHOICE TOMATO SOUP, 16 oz. tin	11/9 doz.
"YOGA" TEA, Finest Ceylon & Indian, 6 lb. tin, 2/9 lb. (Plus tin, 1/10½ ea.; Export levy, 3/- lb.)	
"CROWN" WASHING SOAP, cases of 50 x 2 lb. bars, 55/- per case. (Export levy, 12/6 per case.)	
COLD CREAM TOILET SOAP, Pink, Lemon & Green, 3 oz. cakes 30/- per gross. (Export levy, 4/6 per gross.)	
"IXL" BAKED BEANS, 4 oz. tin 5/6 doz., 8 oz. tin 9/6 doz., 16 oz. tin 15/- doz.	
"IXL" SPAGHETTI IN SAUCE, 4 oz. tin 6/- doz., 8 oz. tin 10/6 doz., 16 oz. tin 16/6 doz.	
"Edgell" Julienne Carrots, 16 oz. tin, 12/6 doz.	
Table Margarine, 2 lb. tin, 4/6 tin, 52/6 doz.	
Detailed price lists available post free on application.	
Choicest Butter, 1 lb. tin, 4/3 tin, 49/6 doz.	
"Rosa" Jelly Crystals, full pint packet, assorted flavours, 6/3 doz.	

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of sweepstakes on Sydney's "race of the day." Prizes are: 1st £25, 2nd £10 and 3rd £5.

It's expected that a horse race meeting at Ward's Strip will be the first big function held in aid of the Swimming Pool Appeal. Plans for the races are in the early stages but it seems certain that enough horses will be provided by local owners to make the meeting successful. A straight

four-furlongs course has been suggested and there will probably be four or five races, including one for ladies.

The Swimming Pool Committee intends to follow the race meeting with a carnival night, an art union, boxing, sports and a ball, etc. At the recent public meeting at which the Committee was formed, Mr. Jack Lyons said at least £6,000 or £7,000 would be needed to build an Olympic Pool.

If all residents gave their support it would not be too difficult to raise the money.

Mr. Lyons suggested that the pool be built into the sea near the main swimming area on Ela Beach. The pool would fill at high tide and the water could be pumped out when necessary. Some of those at the meeting favoured a pool on the land and finally it was decided to put the matter in the hands of a sub-committee and invite residents and firms to submit designs and suggestions. Local firms and organisations are being invited to send representatives to the next general meeting. These representatives will be added to the Committee, which now consists of Mr. J. Lyons (president); Mr. D. Sullivan (vice-president); Mr. R. Prior (secretary); Mr. M. Creed (treasurer); Mr. J. Jeffrey (publicity officer); Mr. C. Mayoh, Mr. J. Ritchie, Mr. J. Cox and Miss J. Lane. A subscription list has been opened. Donations, made out to the Port Moresby Swimming Pool Committee, should be sent to the treasurer (Mr. Creed), Auditor's Office, Konedobu.

FIFTY-FOUR Kerema and Kikori natives were fined 5/- each at Moresby recently for riotous behaviour. They were among hundreds of natives involved in a brawl at Koki on the morning of Easter Sunday.

An argument between two natives started the fight. Keremas and Kikoris took sides and, yelling and screaming, they attacked each other with sticks and clubs. A few native police tried to break it up but the fight continued until European officers arrived. Ten natives were taken to hospital and two admitted.

NEXT large areas of land to be opened up in Port Moresby will be above Upper Port Road and along Lawes Road. Altogether, a hundred or more blocks will be made available. This in-

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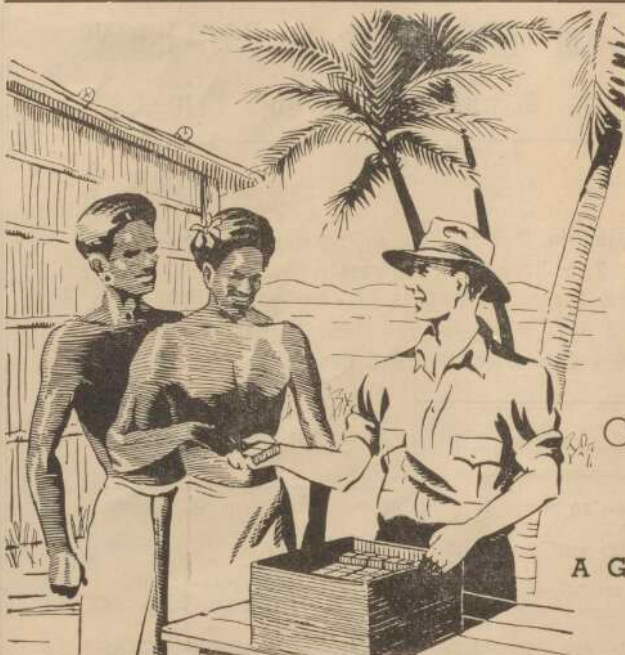
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formation was given to the Advisory Council's last meeting in a letter from the Government Secretary. The letter added: "The matter of the development of the Four to Five Mile area is involved in the provision of water and electricity. It is proposed to develop the water resources of the Laloki River as soon as possible."

In its efforts to open up building land the Administration is handicapped by a serious shortage of surveyors, said the Government Secretary. Advisory Council members said land was needed urgently in Moresby. Mr. E. J. Frame told the meeting that Mr. Spender had assured him that the town plan would be speeded up and would be submitted to the Council before being finally approved. Council decided that on receipt of the plan it would invite the public to inspect it and make comments.

Council carried a motion by Mr. J. H. Ahearn expressing concern at the delay in improving port facilities and recommending that overseas ships be unloaded into lighters in midstream "until adequate wharf and warehouse facilities are provided." It was suggested that until there are enough lighters, a tug should be provided to help overseas ships berth safely. Works and Housing will be asked to supply the Council with a plan of the new wharf before tenders are called.

Council will ask the Administration to set aside an area on Ela Beach for European swimmers and to build new dressing sheds, with showers. The Government Secretary advised that the Administration would carry out the anti-litter campaign suggested by the Council. He asked the Council, however, to organise the competitions to be held as part of the campaign.

N. F. MALONEY & CO. expects to open a general store at the Three-Mile within six weeks. The store will have separate sections for Europeans and natives and will have a European in charge. It is hoped to open it from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., with slightly shorter hours at week-ends.

A FATAL accident occurred at Rouna on Anzac Day when William Blunt, 23, of DCA, fell 100 feet while descending to the bottom of the Falls.

Blunt, a clerk, had been with DCA at Moresby since February, 1949. On Anzac Day he attended the Bomana Dawn Service, then, with Mr. John Sheedy (Met. section) and Mr. Ralph Ernst (DCA), he set out to walk to Rouna. At Rouna they took photos, then decided to descend to the foot of the Falls. Blunt took a different route to the other two. On their way down Sheedy and Ernst found Blunt lying badly hurt among the rocks on to which he had fallen. He died within the next ten minutes while Sheedy was on his way to the guest-house to phone for the ambulance. The funeral took place the same afternoon.

MR. VINCENT KEOGH, aged 55, who was the Directorate of Shipping's Assistant Engineer Superintendent at Moresby, died in the Moresby Hospital on April 26. He had been ill for a little more than a week. Mr. Keogh was the father of four sons and a daughter, all living in Australia. His wife and one son, John, arrived here to see him a few days before he died. He had been with the Directorate of Shipping at Moresby and Rabaul since October, 1948.

THE neck-and-neck Rugby League competition between the Maganis and Paga Hill is creating great interest. Attendance at the games gets bigger every Sunday. Up to date Paga and the Maganis have each won two matches. Players are anxious to get into one of the

two teams to visit Wau during the King's Birthday week-end in June. They are also competing for a number of trophies. President of the local Rugby League Association, Mr. Reg. Grout, has given a trophy for the most improved player. Mr. Hal Searle has donated one for the best and fairest player and Mr. Bob O'Neill one for the highest point scorer. Mr. Andy Larkin has given a Shield, conditions for which have not been finalised.

Australian Rules football will soon be under way in Moresby. APC is constructing a ground at Badili and should have it ready in a few weeks. Several Aussie Rules men are at present playing with the Maganis League team—and doing very well.

SAILING is well established as one of Moresby's leading sports. At least seven boats contest the races each Sunday morning and more are being built. AyJay (A. Murray) won the first

heat of the Kingsley Cup recently from Mistral (W. Connolly) and Lindy Lou (E. Johnstone).

(Continued on page 21)

STAMPS

Brunei, 1c.-\$1 (11), fine used 7/-
Cyprus, Geo. VI, 1/4p.-45p., fine used 10/6
Egypt, Farouk, £1, fine used 6/-
Commonwealth, B.C.O.F., short set to 1/- mint 8/6
Commonwealth, B.C.O.F., 1d. and 3d. im-print blocks, pair 10/-
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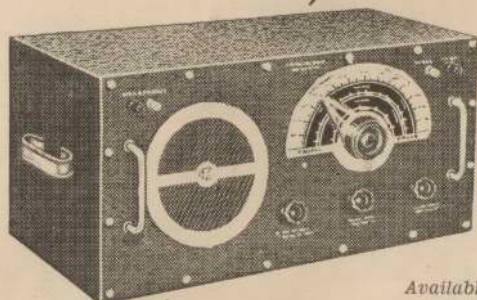
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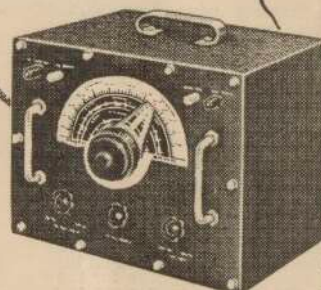
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LOOKING well after 10 weeks in Auckland (New Zealand), Mrs. Joan Brierley is back again at the Government Secretary's Department.

A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Pierre Donaldson at the Moresby Hospital recently. Mr. and Mrs. Donaldson are not long back from a holiday in England. He has now begun duty as a patrol officer at Samarai.

Field superintendent of APC's Vailala drilling area, Mr. A. D. Houston, has returned to Australia. His successor is Mr. J. G. Saunders.

Well-known Moresby resident, Mrs. G. McDonald has gone to Toowoomba to live. Mr. and Mrs. Ron Jennings and son David have left for Sydney. Mr. Jennings, who is with Qantas, is being transferred from Moresby.

Visiting Moresby is Mr. Noel Ford, of MGM, who is organising 16 mm film distribution in the Territory.

Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Cowley, who returned from leave recently, are now at Higaturu where Mr. Cowley is DO. They were formerly at Misima.

SUVA'S BOTANICAL GARDENS "NEGLECTED"

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA. April 17.
SUVA's Botanical Gardens, a dreary and uninspired corner but with obvious possibilities, is worrying the Town Council to the point where the council may have to tell the Government that the council's facilities will not allow the proper upkeep of the gardens.

Despite their air of comparative neglect, the gardens contain a collection of shrubs and trees of considerable botanical interest. Not long ago name-plates on the trees were neatly repainted. All was well until the Suva Town Council received a letter which pointed out that the plates had been replaced on the wrong trees. Whereupon the council hurriedly passed the buck to the Agriculture Department, which had inadvertently wandered from the path of accuracy.

More Migrant Doctors for Papua-N. Guinea

AN attractive young Yugoslavian woman doctor was among a party of 22 migrant medicos who left Sydney for Papua-New Guinea on April 15 to join the medical services there. She is Dr. Blanka Pracen who, since she came to Australia 11 months ago, has worked as a domestic and as a nurse in a mental hospital. She completed her medical course at Graz, Austria, just after the outbreak of World War II but during the war the Nazis forced her to work in munitions and tobacco factories.

The party of doctors—the second to go to the Territory in recent months—includes Czechs, Poles, Ukrainians, Hungarians, Latvians, Lithuanians and Estonians. Their degrees are not recognised in Australia. Most of them said they hoped to settle permanently in New Guinea—they could not afford years of study to qualify for Australian medical degrees.

POLICE FORCE RESERVE PAY

From Our Own Correspondent

MEMBERS of the Fiji Police Force Reserve, which has been established as a result of legislation passed at the December session of the Legislative Council, will be paid at the following rates per day when called out for emergency service: Inspectors, 22/6; sub-inspectors, 17/6; sergeants, 15/6; corporals, 15/-; and constables, 10/-.

If called away from home for continuous duty exceeding 12 hours, inspectors will receive an additional 12/6, sub-inspectors 7/6 and other ranks 5/-.

Provision is also made for the payment of an annual bounty of £4 for each complete year served by every member of the reserve force.

Mr. A. E. Fuller, treasurer of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony for the past four years, and Mrs. Fuller, were in Auckland, NZ, in February. They are on their way to England for six months' leave.

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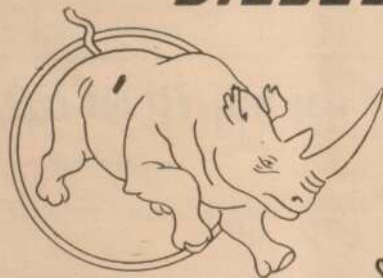
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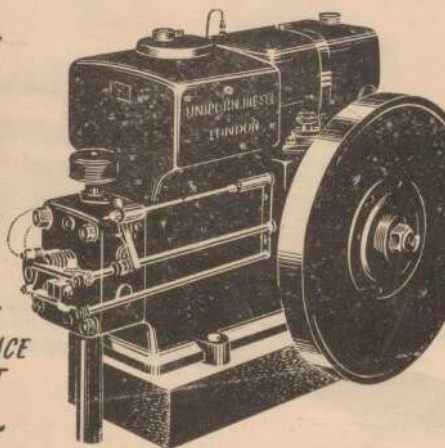
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TELEGRAMS: "SUNRISE", SYDNEY

Larger Flying Boats For QEA Island Services

QUANTAS EMPIRE AIRWAYS have bought two of the 30-passenger Sandringham flying-boats recently sold by Tasman Empire Airways after they had put Short flying-boats on the Sydney-Auckland run.

QEA will use the Sandringhams on the

services they operate (at present with Catalinas) to Suva, Noumea, Lord Howe Island and the New Hebrides.

Captain and Mrs. I. H. Thomas, arrived in Australia early in April from the UK and left for the BSI on April 17. Captain Thomas who is a school teacher will take over the Anglican Mission senior boys' school on the island of Ugl.

SECONDARY SCHOOL FOR WAU, NG

But Why Not a Hill Station As Well?

THE long-discussed secondary school for Papua-New Guinea moved just perceptibly nearer accomplishment in early May when land for the establishment was reserved, by proclamation, at Wau, in the Morobe District.

Madang residents discussed the question of this secondary school with Mr. Spender when he recently made his visit to the Territory and were promised that it was to receive early attention.

Presumably the school is for the benefit of Papua-New Guinea generally and will therefore need to be a boarding establishment for both boys and girls. It has been assumed that this school will be for European children but this, no doubt, will be a matter of Education Department policy. It will be remembered that at the beginning of this year there was a considerable amount of heartburning on the part of Rabaul parents when it was decided to turn the local European school into a mixed school (a decision since cancelled peremptorily by the new Minister for Territories).

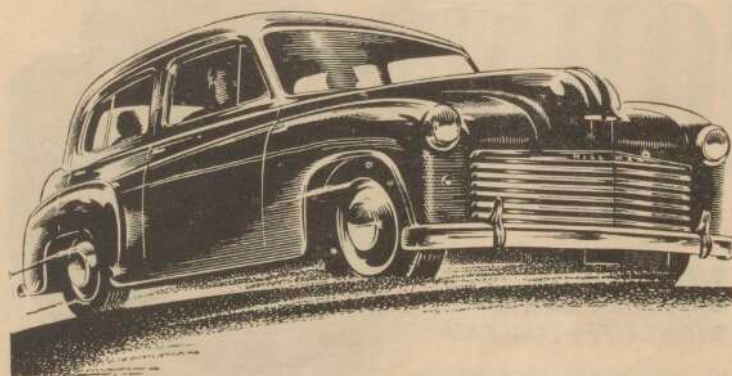
A secondary school in New Guinea will fill a long-felt need in a Territory where all children past primary school age must now be sent South. This, of course, is a great financial drain on the resources of those Territorians who are on a fixed salary. It seems unfortunate, however, that the Administration could not go the whole way and establish their school in the Central Highlands. Their fetish of



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keeping all but the chosen out of this area seems at times to reach heights of absurdity. The climate at Wau is better than on the coast, but the climate of the Highlands is ideal for a Hill Station—an amenity that all but the stubborn Australians would have established years ago. It seems ridiculous that residents of Papua and New Guinea are compelled to stew and sweat in the humidity of the coast, suffering its itches and rashes and fevers until such time as they are compelled to "go South," when within a plane flight of an hour or two, is the delightful, bracing climate of the Highlands.

There may be perfectly good reasons why this vast area should not be thrown open to all and sundry for permanent settlement, but there seems no valid reason why some part of it should not be turned into a European holiday settlement with cottages, a decent hotel—and a secondary school.

It has been suggested recently that the Highlands should be used to attract dollar tourists and this for some reason is regarded as a good idea. The idea presumably is to turn the area into a zoo for the amusement of Americans while bona fide residents of the Territory find it a great deal easier to enter the Pearly Gates than to gain permission to pay a fleeting visit to the Central Highlands.

It can be said, of course, that for reasons of economy Wau is a much more desirable site for a school. There is plenty of excellent timber in the Bulolo Valley and there are, too, the sawmills to cut it. But if some super effort is to be made to accommodate American tourists in the Highlands then very little extra effort would be needed to establish a school.

Doubtless, many Territory parents will continue to send their children South to school. Although there is one school of thought that believes it is best for a child to be brought up in the country in which he will live, whether climate is suitable or not, others believe that a child is best out of a native country in its formative years.

APIA HOLDS FIRST POST-WAR RACE MEETING

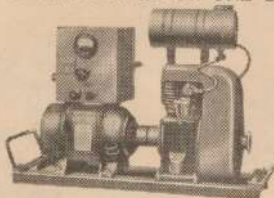
APIA, April 21.
THE race meeting held by the Apia Turf Club on Easter Monday was the first since 1945, but marked the 50th anniversary of horse-racing in Samoa, where the first race was held on Moataa beach, near Apia, in 1900, shortly after the raising of the German flag. In 1907 the German Government placed Apia Park, then called the Solf Field in honour of the German Governor, Dr. Solf, at the disposal of the newly-formed Racing Club and several race meetings were held at the Park annually. Enthusiasts of

all nationalities kept the sport going and during the last war the proceeds of race

meetings were devoted to the Returned Soldiers' Fund.

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1 PA357. WOVEN PASTEL PLAID GINGHAM with roll collar, unrolled pleats front skirt, flared back. Assorted. 13, 17; 14, 16, 18; 14½, 16½, 18½. 35/-

2 PA359. GINGHAM WITH EYELET Trim on magyar sleeved bodice. Dirndl skirt with sash. Blue or Red/White. Sizes: 13, 17; 14, 16 and 18. 32/6

3 PTR5211. VOILE with magyar sleeved shirred bodice. Corsette waist, unrolled pleats. Assorted. 13, 17; 14, 16, 18; 14½, 16½, 18½. 25/-

4 PTR5221. CANDY STRIPED COTTON, dart fitted bodice. Four gore skirt, self belt. Red or Navy/White. Sizes: 13, 17; 14, 16, and 14½. 27/6

Measurement Chart

Size	13	14	14½	16	16½	17	18	18½
Bust	32½	33½	33½	35	35½	36½	37	37
Waist	26	26½	28	27½	30	29	30	32
Seat	35	36	37	38½	38½	37½	40	40½
Length	46	46	46	47	46	48	49	47

Freight Chart

Freight 1/2 to all Pacific Islands except those listed below:

West Samoa, - - - 1/6.
East Samoa, U.S.A., - 1/6.
New Caledonia, - - 3/2.
Hawaii, U.S.A., - - 1/6.

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MYSTERY OF CHRISTMAS ISLAND

Rougier Interests Apparently Taken Over By Britain

THERE is in circulation in the Central Pacific a circumstantial story to the effect that the British Government—presumably through the High Commission for the Western Pacific—has purchased, from the heirs of the late Father Rougier, all that famous missionary-merchant's interests in Christmas Island, and has entered into possession of same.

There is evidently something in it. Father Rougier's nephew visited Suva last year, and remained for a long time at the Grand Pacific Hotel, while discussions proceeded with high officials. Early this year, the WPHC's vessel Nimanua proceeded from the Gilberts to Canton Island, with a new manager and a score of Gilbertese labourers for Christmas Island, under the orders of the High Commissioner.

Some reports say that the British Government paid £25,000 for the Rougier interests in Christmas. Others say the sum was nearer £500,000. The Government says nothing. The critics say that it was not necessary to pay anything much—the lease owned by the Rougier interests would presently have expired.

The Rougier interests owned very large plantations on Christmas and the copra produced from same, under present conditions, must be worth a lot of money.

There always has been mystery about the Rougier set-up in the South Pacific—ever since the days when Father Rougier succoured in Fiji, the ex-New Caledonia convict, Cecille, and got possession of his fortune; broke away from

his church; acquired interests in the Washington-Fanning-Christmas area; and settled down in Tahiti as a wealthy operator of plantations, with a reputation for good works and charity. Later, Rougier interests were somehow concerned with the Kong Ah scandals of Tahiti; and there were strange events and developments—never yet explained—during the Vichy Government phase of World War II.

Maybe the Christmas Island purchase by Britain ends a situation that both the British and French Governments considered undesirable. A British Colonial Office statement, explaining what has occurred, would not be out of place.

PLANTERS' ASSN. FORMED IN BSI

SEVEN people attended a meeting in Honiara, BSI on March 21 and formed the Solomon Islands Planters' and Commercial Association. Apologies were received from several others and it is believed that a number of planters who will give the association their support were prevented from attending by the prevailing transport difficulties of the Solomons.

Mr. R. C. Symes was elected president of the Association; and Messrs. J. C. Hammett, L. F. Gill, J. A. Johnstone, K. H. D. Hay and Father Palmer of the R. C. Mission become the committee. Hon. secretary and treasurer is Mr. R. G. Hodge.

In order to obtain funds it was decided that all members who are producers or purchasers of copra pay 2/6 per ton levy; that all commercial companies not engaged in production or purchase of copra pay an annual subscription of £10/10/- and private individuals who become members, £5/5/- annually.

There are some funds in hand from the pre-war association. These are in the Commonwealth Bank in Australia. Signatures of new office bearers are being forwarded to the Bank.

The objects of the association are "to represent and protect the interests of planters and commercial resources in BSIP and to ensure proper liaison and co-operation with the Government of BSIP in matters of importance to the welfare of all residents of the Protectorate."

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Suva War Graves

THE Imperial War Graves Commission has taken over the responsibility for the military cemetery at Suva.

The Secretary-General of the Anzac Agency of the Imperial War Graves Commission (Brigadier A. E. Brown), recently visited Fiji to inspect the cemetery.

It is intended to erect a stone cross with a bronze sword superimposed. A stone wall will be built along the road

boundary of the cemetery, the pathways will be dispensed with and the whole cemetery laid out in lawn.

More than £800 worth of the new 10/- and £1 Fijian stamps were disposed of, mostly to dealers and philatelists, on the first day of selling at Suva. The design of the stamps (a peculiar pawpaw tree and a stereotyped Police bugler) have been strongly criticised in many quarters.

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Admiral A. Radford, Commander-in-Chief of the US Pacific Fleet, and High Commissioner of US Pacific Trust Territories, is shown here with his pilot (right) during a brief visit to Western Samoa in April. He later went via Fiji to Australia, where he was the guest of the Government during Coral Sea Week in early May (in commemoration of Coral Sea battle in May, 1942).
—Photo by Superflash.

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GUINEA
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ONLY 745 RETURNED

Account of How Japs Took 1,200 People From Nauru

(FROM OUR SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE)

WHEN I met Mr. T. H. Cude, police chief of Nauru, in Fiji, I got, for the first time, the full story of what the Japanese did to the Nauruans.

When the war came, the Australian Administrator, Colonel Chalmers, and three other Europeans, refused a passage on the evacuation ships in 1942, and stayed behind to help the natives, who then numbered about 1,800. Eventually all the Europeans, and about one third of the Nauruans, were murdered or starved to death by the Japanese.

When Mr. Cude returned to Nauru in September, 1945, his first duty was to look for the Nauruans. He has been in Nauru since 1927 and is very fond of these people. He found only a half-starved remnant, numbering 600, of a once happy and prosperous community. He learned that 1,200—men, women and children, whole families—had been taken away overseas in July and August, 1943. Reports were received, through American channels, that there were some hundreds of them in the Carolines.

Mr. Cude was sent off, via Guam, to find these people, and report. The Americans helped him in every way, and directed him to Tol, in the atoll of Truk, in the Carolines, where, in December, 1945, he found 745—all that was left of 1,200.

They told him that, when food became scarce on Nauru, the Japs sent them away in small shiploads of 600, to Truk, where they were placed on the islets of Tarik and Tol. The local people were friendly, and gave them permission to gather toddy and cultivate gardens; but immediately they began to produce food, the Japs seized it.

The 1,200 Nauruans had as their leader their very competent chief Detudamo, and he helped them very much in their two-years struggle against starvation and the thieving Japanese and saved many lives. The ship was going back from Truk to Nauru for the remaining 600 natives, when it was torpedoed, and so they escaped deportation.

The Japs seized most of the able-bodied men on Tarik, and forced them to help build air-strips on Moen, and other islands, and the remaining people were not strong or numerous enough to produce enough food. The Japs would give food only to those who worked for them. When the Nauruans caught fish the Japs seized the fish. For long periods, the prisoners subsisted almost entirely on sweet potato leaves. They suffered terribly from malnutrition and dysentery. As the Americans battered their way northwards, and many Japs cleared out, conditions became worse. As many as 10 Nauruans died from starvation in one day.

When the Americans occupied Truk, they were appalled at the condition of the Nauruans, and gave them abundant food and medical care. When Mr. Cude contacted them, they were improved, but still were weak and sick.

Mr. Cude stayed with them, and arranged their food, and an American doctor saw them every day. When, in February, 1946, Australia sent the Trienza to Truk to embark the 745 survivors, there was only one stretcher case remaining.

The arrival of the 745 at Nauru, to be greeted by the 600 who had remained, was attended by scenes which Mr. Cude said he could never forget—joyous reunions in some families and a tragic seeking of missing people, in others. Of the two missionaries (Fathers Kayser and Clivaz) who went away with the natives to Truk, Father Clivaz returned—Father Kayser died of malnutrition.

MARIPOSA MAY BRING DOLLAR TOURISTS TO S-W PACIFIC

ACCORDING to Washington reports, the United States Maritime Commission has recommended that the refit of the 18,000-ton Mariposa be completed immediately and that she resume regular trips between San Francisco and Auckland and Sydney.

When reconditioned the Mariposa will

be able to carry 726 passengers—488 in first class, 238 tourist.

In Canberra, on May 5, the Commonwealth Minister for Supply (Mr. Beale) said that Cabinet had set up an Australian Tourist Division to encourage tourists to Australia. He said the American Matson Shipping Line had stated that it was willing to spend 20 million dollars to refit the Mariposa to carry 4,000 American tourists to the South West Pacific each year.

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COMMUNIST ACTIVITY IN FRENCH OCEANIA

And Papeete's Effort to Combat It

From Our Own Correspondent

THAPEETE, April 15.
THAT the Communist party is reaching out to control remote Pacific islands is shown by recent events in Tahiti. In October, 1949, in good time to take part in the elections about to be held here to appoint a Deputy to represent interests of French Oceania in the National Assembly in Paris, there arrived in Papeete, by TRAPAS airplane, Comrade Lachenal, Conseiller of the Union Française.

Evidently provided with substantial funds, he threw himself into local politics, espoused the candidature, for Deputy, of Pouvana Oopa, a prominent native political agitator, and, accompanied by interpreters to expound the ideology of his party to the natives, toured the island on his behalf. Oopa had not hitherto been regarded seriously as a candidate for the high office he was seeking. Unable to speak French, he would be inarticulate in an assembly in Paris whose members were ignorant of the Tahitian language. However, after a boisterous campaign in which promises impossible of fulfilment were lavishly made on his behalf, to the astonishment of the Colony he was elected Deputy.

Announcement of his success was acclaimed in Paris in the Communist newspaper, Humanité, which publication in the same issue carried an article, purporting to have been written by Mr. Oopa, assailing the South Pacific Commission then meeting and declaring that the said Commission was endeavouring to sell out French Oceania to a foreign government.

Current rumour in Papeete is that Oopa has already become a member of the Communist party which is awaiting his arrival in Paris.

By chance, by the same plane that brought M. Lachenal to Tahiti, there arrived also M. Gagnard, also a Conseiller of the Union Française and influential leader in anti-Communist activity in Paris. Upon arrival he sought out prominent Papeete citizens and emphasised to them the danger to the Colony of Lachenal's mission. In consequence, a new political party, called the Union Populaire d'Océania, has been organised in Papeete, and a weekly newspaper, published in French and Tahitian, has been established to combat the growing Communist menace in the Colony. President of the Union Populaire is Mr. Alfred Poroi, Mayor of Papeete, while editor of the newspaper (which is called La Boussole (The Compass)) is Mr. Gustave F. Spitz, prominent businessman of the city.

THE election for Deputy terminated to his satisfaction, M. Lachenal has returned to Paris, while Oopa has entered on an extensive tour of the islands

of French Oceania to harangue the electorate. Meanwhile the new Union Populaire, through meetings and the columns of La Boussole, is conducting an aggressive campaign to counteract the doctrines of Communism throughout the Colony.

ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF RABAU WORKS SUPERVISOR

From Our Own Correspondent

RABAU, May 5.
WORKS supervisor Alfred Philp was killed while supervising road works on Namanula Road, Rabaul, N.G., on the afternoon of May 4.

He and three natives were unloading 20 tons of volcanic rock, when the whole heap collapsed. The three natives moved clear but Philp was trapped underneath.

He was released by the efforts of 30 natives and a bulldozer. He was rushed to the hospital and placed in an iron lung, but failed to revive.

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Mr. J. A. Marais, who is at present a Postal Surveyor, Nyasaland, is to succeed Mr. W. F. Hayward as Postmaster-General, Fiji. Mr. Hayward expects to go on pre-retirement leave in July.

Mr. R. J. B. Ackland, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Ackland of Suva, Fiji, has left for England where he will be enrolled at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst. Mr. Ackland, Snr., has had a long association with the defence forces of the Colony.

EASTERN SAMOA CELEBRATES WITH SPORT AND SONG 50 Years Under the US Flag

From Our Own Correspondent

APIA, April 21.

FOR three days between April 17 and 19 the 50th anniversary of the raising of the American flag in Eastern Samoa was celebrated by festivities, Samoan dances, singing, school com-

petitions and sports in the presence of high officials from the USA, Eastern and Western Samoa and a crowd of 9,000 spectators, many of whom had come from Western Samoa.

Admiral A. Radford, Commander of the US Pacific Fleet was there from Honolulu. He was accompanied by Mrs. Radford and Commanders Finlay and Beeby.

On the first day of the celebrations the gathering was addressed by Admiral Radford who spoke of the great progress the Territory had made under the administration of the US Navy and through the co-operation, loyalty and own efforts of the people of Eastern Samoa. The High Commissioner of Western Samoa, Mr. G. R. Powles, conveyed the good wishes of the Government and the people of that Territory.

A ta'alo, dancing and singing competitions followed the opening ceremony. Singing competition was won by Western Samoa (which was represented by the Talealili district) while the Samoan dance competition was won by Eastern Samoa. A Samoan feast in true Samoan style followed.

On the second day the schoolchildren of Eastern Samoa gave displays of dancing, singing, marching, handicraft, etc., and the third day was taken up by an elaborate sports programme. Of 10 boxing bouts, Eastern Samoa won six and Western Samoa four. The fautasi (long-boat) race was won by Eastern Samoa.

An Estonian doctor, Dr. A. Aaronson, has been appointed to the medical staff of the South Pacific Health Service.

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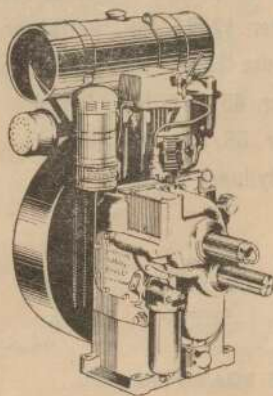
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ANOTHER TEA TALE FROM NEW GUINEA Pre-War Effort to Establish Tea in the Territory

HERE is an interesting addition to the tea saga of New Guinea. In our February issue we told how Mr. E. J. Hallstrom hopes to establish the industry at Nondugl in the Central Highlands, and how the Commonwealth Tea Controller had smuggled tea-seed out of India in 1946 and how the plants were subsequently lost.

Although experts agree that good tea can be grown in New Guinea, it is quite another thing to get the tea-seed with which to start plantations. Most tea producing countries guard their tea-seeds jealously.

The following story of how tea was got from British West Borneo and established in New Guinea before the war is told by that well-known Territorian, Mr. G. Rio. It would be interesting to know how his young seedling trees fared through the war years and if they are still alive. Although Mr. Rio does not know where they were planted it seems likely that Mr. George Murray, then Director of Agriculture of New Guinea, would have had them planted in the Central Highlands, somewhere in the vicinity of the cinchona plantations, which he established at Aiyura just before the war.

I CAN add something to the article, Tea from Nondugl, in February issue of PIM.

Years ago in the 1930's I met Mr. G. Murray, then Director of Agriculture in Papua. Both of us had got stuck in a dirty, wet and tiny rest-house some miles from Kokoda. It was some time after this that both Mr. Murray and I migrated to the Mandated Territory, he to become Director of Agriculture in that Territory.

I was on the mainland but whenever I was in Rabaul I called on him. At that time I used to go on shooting and bug-hunting expeditions about every three years, and it was after Mr. Murray's tour of Burma and Ceylon, etc., that I learned of his interest in black-tea seeds. During his tour he had asked the heads of tea companies for black tea seeds to start some planting in New Guinea but without success. I asked him then if I could get some from the East for him, because at that time I was going to Borneo, Japan and Mongolia (the Mongolian trip did not come off—the Japs who were running the show then would let me go only on a "conducted tour" if I hired a military escort of 22 Japs at £5 per day. "Bandits" was the reason they gave!) When I mentioned black tea seeds, Murray laughed at me. "If I couldn't get them, what chance have you?" he asked. I thought, however, that I would give it a go.

In Yokohama and Tokio I visited all the tea seed merchants and could locate plenty of green tea seeds but no black tea—this was during the period the Japs had kept me waiting for permission to go to Mongolia, and after six weeks, when they told me of the army I was supposed to support, I took the old Chitral and headed for Saigon.

I had friends there in Indo-China and they told me that on the Langbian Tablelands there were some gardens with some areas under black tea. Unfortunately, however, it was off-season and there were no seeds to be got there—not even green tea.

My next hope was in Sandakan, British North Borneo, and there I stayed with a friend on his rubber plantation. By this time the idea of getting tea seeds for Mr. Murray had become something of an obsession. My friend, an old resident of BNB, knew everyone and everything. He made a few discreet inquiries and discovered that there was a patch of black tea seed growing at the Government Experimental Station about six miles from Sandakan.

I HAD two letters of introduction to Officialdom, to assist me in collecting specimens of natural history for British and Australian museums, stressing the fact that I did this in a strictly honorary capacity (I don't do it now!) and paid my own way. One of the letters was from the late Harold Page, then Government Secretary, Mandated Territory; the other from Mr. Murray. At first I had a mind to ask outright of the Conservator of Forests, British North Borneo, for some seeds—they had already been very good to me in the way of allowing me to collect protected birds and animals. But caution prevailed and I decided to work from the bottom up. The man in

charge of the station was a Filipino, so I got me a pocketful of very good cigars (they are expensive in BNB) and took a car out to the station. The Filipino was

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friendly and eager to show me the place—perhaps the cigars helped a little, they were very good. And soon I found myself

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walking under a plantation of black tea trees—they were 15 or 16 feet high, unpruned and full of seeds.

"May I have some?" I asked.

"Take as much as you like," I was told and I filled my pockets. In the same generous spirit he also gave me some special tobacco seeds and bundles and cuttings of other plants.

On our way out who should we meet but the Conservator of Forests himself and he gave me some interesting information about the bundles of plants, etc., that he could see I was carrying. By this time I was feeling pretty mean about the tea seeds so I simply told him about them

and asked if I could take them back to New Guinea.

"Certainly," he said, "we will pack them for you in some loose dry soil—they don't keep very well."

And that is how Mr. Murray got his black tea seeds from British North Borneo.

WHEN I got back to the Territory I went to the goldfields and a week or so after I reached there I had a letter from Murray telling me that an agricultural officer, on a specially chartered plane had gone forth to plant the seeds—I forget the name of the place where they were planted. But from then on he would write me at intervals, giving me progress reports of the young seedlings and then the young trees. The last letter I had from him said, "Your seeds are 500 small trees, now," and soon after he left for Sydney on his last trip. (Mr. Murray returned to Rabaul by plane only a day or so before the Japanese invasion of 1942. He was lost with the other victims of Montevideo Maru.)

I still have Mr. Murray's letters with my shooting and gun permits and other papers from Burma, Malaya, Borneo and Indo-China.

Since the war I have tried to get more tea seeds, this time from the Langbian Tablelands in Indo-China—but have not succeeded. There is a war on there still and I can get neither seeds nor a visa.

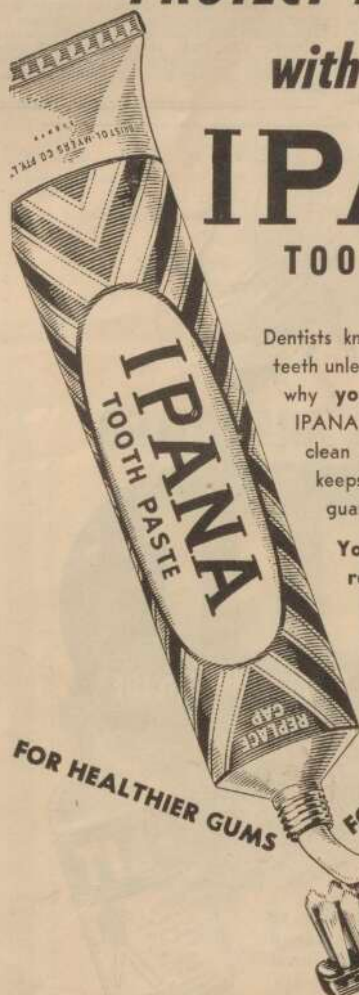
As far as the experimental station in Sandakan is concerned, my rubber planting friend tells me that the Japs made a POW camp in the middle of it. My friend spent his war years there and tells me that there is not a single plant left in the place.

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MYSTERY DECLINE OF NINIGO PEOPLE

Experts Work on Problem in Western Islands

From Our Own Correspondent

MADANG, April 30.

THE islanders of Ninigo in the Western Group, about 200 miles NW of Manus, are dying out and losing interest in life because a tired soil will produce no food. Previously birds fertilised the soil but these have migrated and the coconut palms have drained all fertility. The plantations are deserted now and no boats are calling at the group.

On the Laurabada recently, Mr. P. Molison, formerly acting-senior officer at Nauru and a group of specialists, including Dr. K. H. Pike, of the P-N-G Medical Service, called at Madang on their way to the islands. They will survey the position and perhaps move the natives to an island which proves itself more fertile.

Population on Ninigo has been declining for the last 30 years and at present they number between 200 and 300. The Western Islanders are Micronesians—possibly a blown-away offshoot of the Caroline Islanders.

Dr. Pike will medically examine every native and attempt to determine the cause of the decline. Such declines among native peoples are, of course, not uncommon. Most Pacific races seem to have passed through this phase at some time in the last 200 years. If only the remnants can be saved, however, history has shown that sometimes they make a surprising recovery and after a period of alarming fall the population will start to increase again at a healthy rate.

It has been suggested by Mr. J. Livingston, who recently was trading on the island of Ninigo, that the natives are allowing new-born female children to die.

Case History of Yali, New Guinea's First Native Leader

FROM time to time in the last four or five years there have been references to the activities and influence of Yali, a native of northern New Guinea. Most of the references have been vague. No one individual seems to know everything about Yali but he has been frequently produced as typical of the so-called new order for natives.

Recently, it appears, the affairs of Yali have been undergoing some sort of official investigation in Madang but proceedings have been very hush-hush and the findings have, so far, not been made public.

Yali, until his recent troubles, evidently has had the blessing of the Administration, with the idea of ascertaining whether or not natives with his influence and personality (and he seems to have both) could carry out local administration.

Yali, of course, is not just a product of the Ed-Wardian era in New Guinea, but is a phenomenon of the post-war era in native countries generally. As such his history is interesting.

FROM what we have been able to piece together, it seems that Yali was born near Saidor in the Madang district and is probably in his early thirties. During the war he served with the AIB and during this service was for some time at Darwin. It was here, apparently, that he picked up the idea that Brown Brother was being exploited (that overworked word of our lately-departed socialist masters!) and that henceforth the natives should receive everything for nothing from the Europeans.

After his discharge, he returned to Saidor, dressed in European clothes and

wearing service medals and ribbons, which from all accounts, he had every right to wear. His appearance and his bearing so impressed the local natives that he was able to set himself up forthwith as a petty dictator.

Possibly at this stage some inexperienced patrol-officer or other official of the starry-eyed persuasion helped the

Yali legend get really going by using him to direct the natives in planting their gardens, cleaning their villages and generally beginning again on a peace-time footing.

The inevitable happened, and Yali got too big for his boots. His activities spread throughout the district and he began to believe that he was above the white man's law. Plantation people, on the other hand, believed he was behind the disruption of labour that occurred at that time and that it was he who, for some whim of his own, recalled their plantation boys to their villages. This is open to some doubt because by this time his name was

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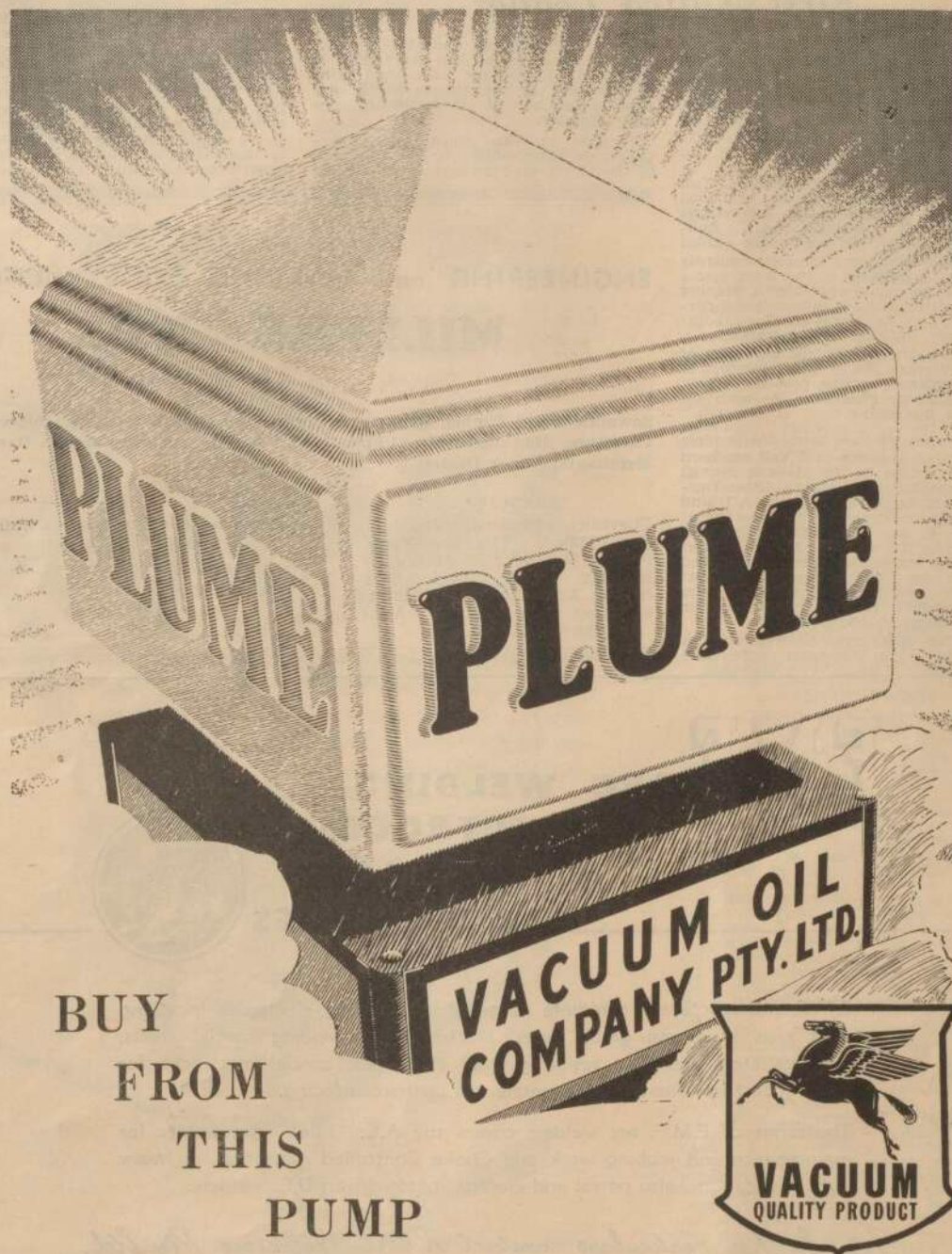


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used extensively not only throughout the Madang area but in other districts, by natives who did not want to plant gardens, or work or build new houses. His name was used also by adherents of the Cargo Cult doctrine who believed (or pretended to believe) that the cargo (European manufactured goods) which was really sent to them by their ancestors but which for years had been diverted into the white man's stores, would soon be in their hands, heralding a golden age where everyone lived in luxury and worked not at all.

Because of the complaints of employers of native labour against Yali, he and several other local native VIP's were sent to Port Moresby where they were given instructions in civic leadership and Administration policy, took tea with the Administrator and returned to Madang several weeks later with even bigger heads and even bigger ideas of their own importance.

Yali was welcomed home with many feasts and sing-sings, one of the largest being at the island of Bellau where the decorated roads, platforms and feasting were something in the nature of a seven-days' wonder.

Yali has been described to us as not looking the arrogant type; not well-educated—probably can read and write a little Pidgin but has a "clerk" to attend to his correspondence!

We do not pretend to know what has caught up with Yali, other than that his activities are, or have been, a matter of investigation, and that the experiment, if that is what it was, of using such men for administrative work was in this case a failure.

THERE is nothing new, of course, in using natural native leaders to further the interests of sound administration. It has been done all over the

Pacific and in other colonial countries. But its success depends on the native leader—and the Administration behind him.

Perhaps one of the most marked differences between Papua-New Guinea and the Solomons on the one hand, and Polynesia and Fiji on the other, is the dearth of native leaders in the two former territories. There are no Cakobaus, Malletos, Tamaseses or Sukunas there. Even the Papua-New Guinea delegates to the recent South Pacific Conference could in no way be called leaders of their people—the vast majority of whom have never heard of them and could not care less. The social set-up in Melanesia proper, as it still exists at the present time, the vast areas that still are in the stone-age stage, preclude anything in the nature of a national native leader. But the fact that there is a Yali proves that a start could be made; that the basic material is there and, in the right hands, could be a power for good.

However, such men as Yali, in whose minds the great exploitation myth has been inculcated, when instructed by the inexperienced Administration official who felt it incumbent upon him to espouse the cause of Brown Brother and turn official thumbs down on Euro-ean enterprise or Europeans generally, could be a great potential danger in a country like New Guinea.

Someone gave Yali a lot of rope and in this he has evidently gone close to strangling himself. But does the fault lie with Yali or with the supplier of the rope?

Four selected native lads from the island of Nauru appear to be making good progress as students at Knox College in Sydney. Two have been there for two years, and two for one year. One is a son of the well-known chief Detudamo.

A special Catalina flying-boat will be made available to carry a party of 20 from Brisbane to Papua on Monday, June 26, to attend the consecration of Arch-deacon David Hand as Bishop Coadjutor of Papua. The ceremony will take place on St. Peter's Day, June 29, at the church of St. Peter and St. Paul, Dogura, Papua.

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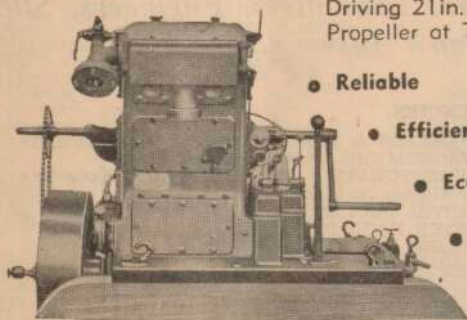
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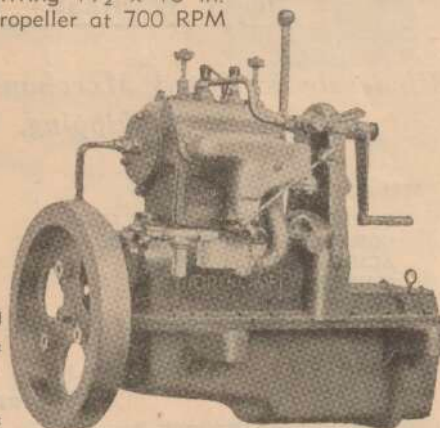
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Mr. J. C. Grover, of Sydney, who has been appointed for a term of three years to conduct a Geological Survey of the British Solomon Islands, arrived at Honiara by the April Morinda. Mr. Grover began his geological studies before the War, which interrupted them for five years. Demobilised, he began again and has had a distinguished University career. He will spend most of his time

in the Protectorate on expeditions to search for deposits of minerals and test their possibilities.

Mr. Richard Burt, who has been for the last four years an air pilot for Guinea Air Traders, Lae, New Guinea, arrived in Australia on leave at the end of April. He brought his own transport with him—two jeeps and a motor cycle.

Another Ship On Moresby Reef

TWO weeks after the Burns Philp cargo vessel, Mangola, went aground (and was refloated 19 hours later) on the reef off Port Moresby, an American cargo ship of over 8,000 tons, Pioneer Glen, went aground on another part of the same reef system.

Pioneer Glen was going in to berth at Port Moresby wharf, at 1 p.m., on April 20, when she swung too wide and struck a reef.

Barges took off some of the Pioneer Glen's cargo to lighten her and she was refloated at high tide that same night.

She was taking oil-drilling equipment to Moresby for the Australian Petroleum Company.

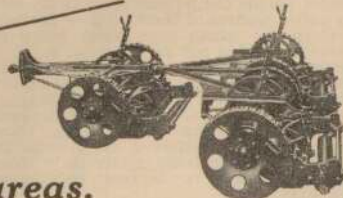
Lakemba Will Carry More Passengers

CARPENTER LINE ship, Lakemba, went into dock in Vancouver at the end of April for alterations. When she comes out she will have cabin accommodation for 100 passengers instead of 60, as at present.

It is expected that more attention will be paid in future to the passenger side of her business and that sailings will be made direct from Vancouver to Sydney. On the return voyage calls will be made at Suva, Honolulu and San Francisco. Accommodation from USA to Australia is already booked well into next year.

Mr. and Mrs. Rutledge and family, of Hohoro, Papua, New Guinea, have arrived in Brisbane on ten weeks' vacation.

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JOY ON MAKOGAI

High Chiefs Find A Mixture of Tragedy and Hope

SUVA, Apl. 30.

THERE were unprecedented scenes on Makogi Island to-day—and something, probably, that never will be seen again.

In this model leprosarium, there are patients from Fiji, Tonga, Cook Islands, Samoa, Gilbert Islands. At noon to-day, gathered here and there on neat lawns, under the shade-trees, there were eager, excited groups. The Samoans were meeting High Chiefs Tamasese and Malletoa; the Tongans were gazing with something like ecstasy upon their two princes, Tugi and John; the Cook Islanders were being greeted by their Makea and Dr. Tom Davis, the group's medical director; Mr. T. H. Cude, high administrative official from Nauru, was giving words of cheer to some Gilbertese men whom he knew.

The idea of giving the South Pacific Conference delegates a chance to visit the 750 lepers on Makogi was a very happy one. Nothing has greater terrors for the home-loving Polynesians than isolation; they literally hunger for news of their own islands. Their excitement as they saw their own rulers and chiefs coming ashore off the sea-plane was a touching thing.

The Polynesian leaders spoke words of encouragement and cheer. Some of the lepers have been there for many years; a proportion are beyond cure. But, to-day, there is more hope for the stricken ones than ever before. Chaulmoogra oil has come, and given some relief, but has been swept away, in the last year or two, by the new "Sulphone" type of drugs, which arrests the dreaded disease in a miraculous fashion. Scores of men, women and children, who seemed doomed to a horrible living death, may now hope to go home cured within a couple of years. But it is a tough treatment, with which doctors have to be extremely careful. The drug is taken by mouth, and every individual reacts differently—and some dangerously.

AS the visitors came ashore, they walked between lines of shy and smiling children, girls on one side and boys on the other, more than 70 of them. These are the real tragedy of Makogi. Children, when the foul disease fastens upon them, have less hope of recovery than adults.

The medical superintendent, Dr. C. J. Austin, and his helpers, 17 very competent Catholic nursing sisters, had made elaborate preparations for the visit. The delegates were shown every detail of the amazingly clean and orderly township.

A magnificent job has been done by the Fiji Government in the planning and construction of this place. An even finer job goes to the credit of the Lepers Trust Board, directed by the tireless Mr. P. J. Twomey, of New Zealand. The Board has given this stricken community almost all the amenities it could wish for.

One sees ten times more happy faces in Makogi than one would see among the same number of people in Sydney or Auckland. They have only one general complaint—they have seen their 35 mm films so often that they are beginning to loathe the sight of every character therein. They urgently appeal for new films. . . . But don't we all! Someone should explain the dollar shortage to Makogi.

Although the Europeans have done so much to fight leprosy here, they are not to blame for the introduction of this particular scourge to the South Seas. Leprosy was here long before the white men's first ships entered the Pacific. This thing—one of mankind's oldest curses—probably was brought here by the Polynesians from ancient Asia.

While it is not a dangerously contagious disease, it is such a terrifying thing that the authorities on Makogi wisely take extraordinary precautions against infection.

Normally, the Islanders are among the world's greatest hand-shakers. But to-day's visitors were not allowed to shake hands with the people ashore. They were requested not to touch anything used by the patients. Every building is wire-screened. Beside every door stood these pathetic, smiling children, to swing the doors backwards and forwards as required, so that the visitors need not handle them. The cleanliness of the floors, pavements and gutters has to be seen to be believed.

It is just possible that these new drugs will alter the whole outlook and technique in relation to leprosy—but it is too soon to say. Twenty years ago, the big drum was beaten over chaulmoogra oil. The oil marked a big advance—but it is not the answer to leprosy—the incidence of the disease has not lessened. A great authority has said that if, for one generation, children could be entirely separated from lepers (leprosy is not in any way hereditary) the horrible thing would disappear from the earth.

Recently, experts in charge of leprosy laboratories have been cabling each other, urgently asking for "nodules," the unpleasant swellings, full of bacilli, which

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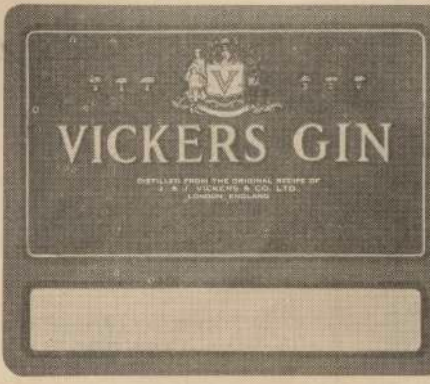
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are a feature of the commoner form of leprosy. The experts need these things for certain of their tests. But nodules are in very short supply—the unexpected, quick effect of the general use of the new drug. The doctors seem to think that this is very significant.

PALUDRINE UNDER A CLOUD

Medical Problems In New Guinea

From Our Special Correspondent

SUVA, May 2.
IN a chat which I had here with the New Guinea Director of Health, Dr. Gunther, I learned that the anti-malaria drug Paludrine—developed during the war, and for which great claims have since been made—is not a success.

It is not the fault of the scientists. All that they said was true, when they said it. Paludrine, when first used, is a cure and a prophylactic. The trouble is the extraordinary adaptability of the Anopheles mosquito.

It has been found in New Guinea, and in other malarial countries, that after the malaria germ has been encountered the Paludrine drug for a time, it somehow develops a resistance to the drug, and persons infected suffer severely from malaria. There have been announcements to this effect, lately, in the medical journals. Paludrine has not been abandoned. Under some conditions, it is being used, satisfactorily—but its usefulness apparently is limited.

There is thought to be much promise in a new drug now being developed in America—"chloro" something—but the efficacy of this is not yet completely proven—and, in any event, it is a dollar commodity, and difficult to buy.

So New Guinea now is going back to the old standby—quinine. The chief trouble is that owing to political troubles in the East Indies and to the knock which quinine manufacture took when Paludrine came into popular use, the available supplies of quinine are not large. New Guinea wants more rather than less anti-malaria drugs just now, because of the obligation to protect the Highlands natives. Large numbers of natives now are going as indentured labourers from the Central plateaus, where they are free of malaria and tuberculosis, to the coastal areas; and the medical officers are obliged to give all of them special treatment, to guard them against both diseases.

The Papua-NG administration is again giving very special attention to the cultivation of the cinchona tree, from the bark of which quinine is made. There are a limited number of trees, introduced from East Indies, growing well in New Guinea, and it is hoped to build them up into serviceable plantations.

SMALLPOX BARRIER PLANNED

THE medical department has another headache in the presence of bad epidemics of smallpox in East Indies—especially in Java. Failing adequate precautions in the Indies—and the change-over from Dutch to Indonesian control does not encourage hope of efficiency in that direction—this plague could easily break into Western New Guinea, and become a major disaster.

The Australian New Guinea medical service is proposing to put in a barrier between Western and Eastern New Guinea by vaccinating all the natives in a 50-miles strip along the Dutch-Australian border. It will be a colossal task, because the border runs right through the centre of New Guinea, through "uncontrolled" and only partly-explored country.

INDUSTRIALISM COMES TO THE SOUTH SEAS

Fine Enterprise of William Watson of Rarotonga

From Our Own Correspondent

RAROTONGA, April 20.

FOR almost a century it has been the accepted prerogative of Australia and New Zealand to supply the Islands with manufactured goods. Now, here is a story of a man who has reversed the process to the extent of exporting 60,000 shirts and other articles from Cook Islands to New Zealand.

He is Mr. William Watson, business man of Rarotonga, and member of the Cook Islands Legislative Council, and of the Rarotonga Island Council.

ALTHOUGH the sky-line of Rarotonga is not yet completely obscured by smoke-stacks and smog, Mr. W. Watson has made a good start in promoting us all to organised industrialism. The Watson Shirt, Pant and Shoe factory, as it is locally known, is now a well-established and profitable concern, but like most things between Cancer and Capricorn, its beginnings were a little peculiar.

Mr. Watson had already made a small venture into the factory business during the war years, when he turned out pearl-shell jewellery for the benefit of visiting American servicemen whose uncontrollable impulse to "take a curio home for Mom" had stripped these islands bare of everything even faintly Polynesian. At the war's end the Watson shell-cutting machinery was neatly packed away for some other time, and Mr. Watson started looking around him.

A native friend had recently returned from New Zealand where he had been given lessons in tailoring, so Mr. Watson sent some of his work to a New Zealand firm, solely with the idea of receiving in return, criticism and suggestions as to im-

provement of the work in order to make it more widely saleable in the islands. To everyone's dismay the NZ firm misunderstood the covering letter and sent back

a large order for goods "according to sample."

NEVER at a loss, Mr. Watson took down all the bolts of material from his shelves then sent scouts round the island to round up all sewing machines that were in working order and to bring the owners with them to do the sewing.

The NZ order was thus laboriously filled, most of the work being hand-done, and, although there was no profit from this first order, Mr. Watson was now badly bitten with the factory bug. He followed his bundles of shirts to New Zealand and spent his time there visiting clothing factories to find out if there was a fancy method of making button holes or a trick to cutting out more than one garment at a time. Fortunately he arrived at the time of the War Disposal sales, so re-

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turned to Rarotonga with an ample number of modern sewing machines, large orders for his goods and a notebook full of data on short cuts to the shirt business.

To-day the factory employs 65 hands working in two shifts on piece work rates. Over 60,000 articles are exported to New Zealand annually, apart from those sold locally and to the outer islands in the Cook Group. Mr. Watson says that the native girls make excellent factory wor-

kers, his only labour troubles arising from the fact that the girls stay at the factory only long enough to save up the boat fare to that Mecca of every Rarotongan—Auckland.

THE shoe factory had an equally accidental beginning.

A local European resident, a cabinet-maker by trade, in sheer desperation taught himself how to mend his own shoes. When Mr. Watson heard of this

he induced the gentleman to dismember some of the imported shoes in the store, then try to copy them. He did this in his own way and taught a number of native boys who, with their usual adaptability, improved on the original methods, so that now the only complaint we have against a Watson shoe is that it just won't wear out—this because the factory stoutly refuses to layer the soles with the result that we get double thickness solid leather in every shoe and suspect that the first shoe off the last is still trudging up and down the Avarua road.

Rarotongan shoes are now exported to Tonga, Niue, Samoa and New Caledonia and it is hoped that it will be possible to extend the trade to all Pacific islands.

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DEATH OF A.S. FAREBROTHER

SUVA, May 1.

MR. A. S. FAREBROTHER, one of Fiji's foremost campaigners for Fijian rugby and cricket, and a keen supporter of other sports, including Indian soccer, died at the Colonial War Memorial Hospital, Suva, on April 28. He was 61 years of age. He was born at Sydney, went to Fiji 28 years ago and subsequently built up the successful business of A. S. Farebrother and Co., overseas manufacturers' agent. For many years he was chairman of the management committee of the Suva Rugby Union and president of the Suva Cricket Association. He was a liberal supporter of all movements for the benefit of the Colony as a whole and of sport in particular.

Miss Kathleen O'Callaghan, of Port Pirie, South Australia, who has just spent seven months in Nauru will return there in October to relieve the matron of the local hospital while the latter is on leave.



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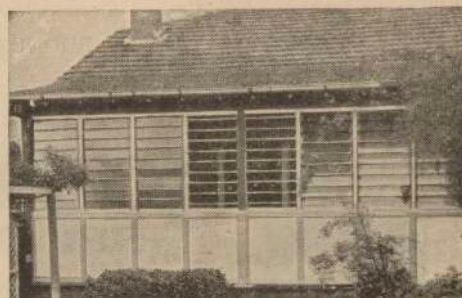
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Illustrated: Typical Suburban Home. Verandah (Sydney) glassed in with Cooper Louvres.

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Grow Rice in New Guinea and Save £50 A Ton

ALTHOUGH parts of Papua and New Guinea are suitable for growing certain types of rice, production has not yet reached much beyond the experimental stage. The Administration is anxious to encourage the growing of this crop by natives, whose natural diet is not of very high nutritive value. It would also be to the advantage of planters and other employers of native labour to do so.

To learn more about rice production, Mr. F. Hurrell, of the Papua-New Guinea Department of Agriculture, recently spent some time on the Murray Irrigation Area, NSW, studying methods in that district. In a radio interview at the end of March he told something of the problems that they are trying to solve in the Territory.

He said that the idea of encouraging rice production was to get the natives to supplement their own food crops, kaukau, yam, taro, bananas, etc., and so attain a better diet, but its value as a cash crop was another reason why his Department was sponsoring its cultivation.

If the natives could be induced to grow rice extensively it should be a steady source of income to them as demand for rice far exceeded production. "At present," he said, "New Guinea buys Australian unpolished rice for £65 per ton. The grower on the MIA, I've found, receives £15 a ton for his rice, while the native farmer in New Guinea has had to be paid up to £30 a ton to induce him to be interested."

The native saw Australian rice being sold across P-NG counters for £65 per ton and he simply did not see why he should not be paid a high price, also. Their agriculture was still primitive—the digging stick is still the main agricultural implement, supplemented by the hoe, the axe and knife that the European had introduced. To produce a ton of rice, a large number of men had to co-operate and total payment for the rice had to be distributed among them. Therefore, although the New Guinea natives were believed to be, per man, the largest landholders in the world, they were by no means millionaires.

OUTSTATIONS of the Department had produced considerable quantities of rice since the end of the war and there had been some native plantings. The main rice growing centre is in the Mekio district, about 90 miles up the coast from Port Moresby. The Department had 100 acres planted there and other plantings had been done by native co-operatives. The varieties of rice grown in New Guinea were upland types which do not need the submersion of the crop. The rainfall is sufficient over the growing period to meet the crop's requirements.

Rice grown by natives co-operatively is usually sold to the Department at the paddy stage and they do the hulling although a number of small home-hulling machines have now been distributed to the natives.

Mr. Hurrell said that the ultimate aim was to make Papua-New Guinea self-sufficient in rice production but that would take many years. The pioneering work had been done by the Department but "something further may be added to our efforts by private enterprise."

(Editorial Note: It is interesting to note that the MIA grower receives only £15 for the rice that is sold in P-NG for £65

per ton—that is, £50 disappears in "charges" somewhere along the line. Before the war, rice from Indo-China and other parts of Asia was landed in New Guinea ports and sold at prices that were at least six times cheaper than the present landed cost of Australian rice.)

MAY BE MORE RICE SOON

AUSTRALIAN Minister for Commerce, Mr. McEwen, said in Canberra on May 3, that he believed more rice might be available soon from Asia and that some home-grown rice might be released for Australian consumption. It is believed that both Burma and Indo-China have offered rice to Australia and New Zealand in recent months.

Rice has not been available in Australia since early in the Pacific war—most of it has gone to the Australian

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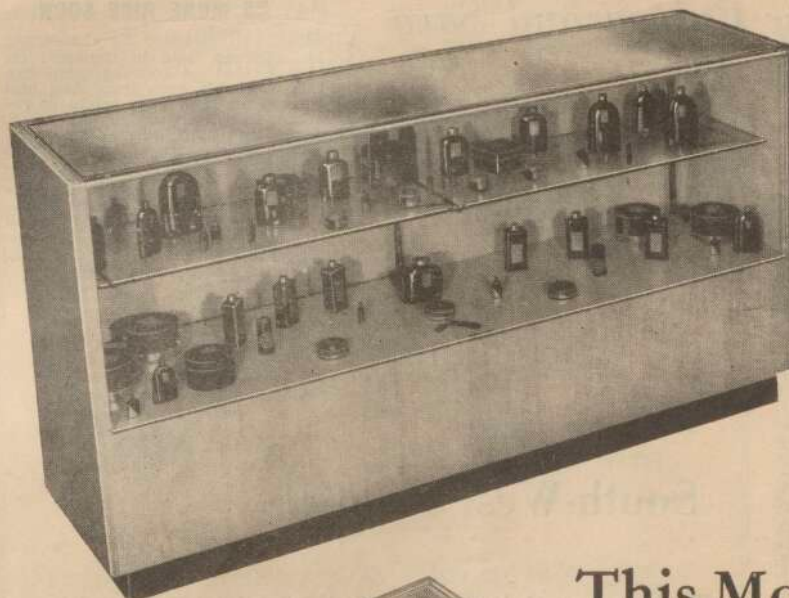
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Pacific Islands which were cut off from their regular sources of supply about the same time.

When (and if) Far Eastern rice becomes available in New Guinea again it will be interesting to see how the price compares with the Australian product.

DISEASED CATTLE IN SAMOA

THE reinstitution of the inspection of meat intended for human consumption, has revealed a high percentage of diseased (TB) cattle killed on the NZRE plantations whence the Apla butcheries draw practically the whole of their beef.

Mulifanua has the highest percentage of diseased beasts. Out of 32 killed one day, nine were wholly condemned, and four partially condemned. On another day, six out of 11 were condemned. Vailele, Vaitele and Aleisa Plantations also have a proportion of diseased beasts.

Members of the Legislative Assembly have been asked to seek the fullest details of this sorry state of Samoa's main meat supply.

Mr. Edward M. Grant, Mr. C. Prentice and Mr. A. K. Sahu Khan have been granted commissions as Justices of the Peace in respect of the Southern District, Fiji.

A new industry in Hawaii, the manufacture of hats from immature leaves of the coconut palms, and already providing goods worth 370,000 dollars annually, is attracting the attention of the authorities on account of its destruction of trees. It is proposed to establish plantations of palms especially devoted to this industry.

PAPUAN CONTRIBUTION TO QLD. SUGAR INDUSTRY

Letter to the Editor

I NOTICED in a recent issue of the PIM that some representatives of the CSR intend going to New Guinea to search for sugar cane. That brought to my mind a similar visit made by Sir Alfred Cowley, who was Chairman of the CSR back in 1910 or 1911.

He was accompanied by Captain Hunter, who was once captain of the Merrie England, owned by the old British New Guinea government, and was followed in that capacity by Captain Tornarus. Captain Hunter joined the BNGD Co. as a sort of Marine Superintendent and was, I think, with Sinclair, one of the men responsible for the BNGD Company being formed. One other member of the party was a Mr. Metcalfe, an Englishman with very pronounced English ideas.

At the time I was in Papua, in charge of the Laka River Estate, in behind Villurup, and we had a small nursery with some sugar cane growing. This came from a village some distance inland called Oruone, and was, so Sir Alfred said, the finest cane he had ever seen. He took some "suckers," I think he called them, and also arranged for me to collect more from the village mentioned. These were sent to Moresby, and Hunter had them sent on to some place in NQ where good results ensued, and one of their experts, who travelled to USA en route to Cuba, to attend a conference of sugar-producing areas, told what really fine cane the New Guinea sorts were.

It therefore seems as if history is re-

peating itself, and it should be remembered that in behind Paile, somewhere to the west of the headwaters of the Laka River, may be found some really good examples of sugar cane, and also wonderful pineapples.

I am, etc.,

J. E. NIXONWESTWOOD.

Wellington, NZ,
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Japs Repent With Bamboo Crosses

THE Anglican Archbishop of Brisbane (Dr Halse), on April 22, blessed 10 bamboo crosses and a plaque. They had been sent from Japan in the care of the Rev. Frank Coldrake as a sign of Japanese repentance for the brutal murder of Australian missionaries in Papua and New Guinea during the war.

The crosses will be placed in five New Guinea churches and five Queensland churches. The plaque will be hung in the Dogura Cathedral, Papua.

Some Territorians who have not yet reached a state of forgiveness where the Japs are concerned, will not be impressed.

APIA'S WETTEST MONTH SINCE 1923

APIA, Western Samoa, had 24 feet of rain in March (27.38 inches), according to Observatory records.

This is wet even for Apia, but records show that the town can do better. The wettest month occurred in 1923 when 51.08 inches were recorded in one calendar month.

KEY OF VANCOUVER FOR G. A. ADAMS

AN unusual honour was conferred on Mr. C. A. Adams, of Lautoka, Fiji, one week-end in April when the Mayor of Vancouver passed through Nadi on a Canadian Pacific airliner. The Mayor of the Canadian city presented Mr. Adams with a gold key, symbolising the key of the city of Vancouver, as a token of the esteem in which he is held in that city.

Mr. Adams, until recently, was chairman of the Lautoka Town Board and the Lautoka Chamber of Commerce. He is always willing to enter the arena in defence of the Lautoka side of Viti Levu as opposed to the "Suva side."

Recently he visited Vancouver as guest of Canadian Pacific Airlines. The Mayor, in presenting the gold key, said that no country could have a finer ambassador of goodwill than Mr. Adams had proved on that occasion.

Another Theodore on Emperor-Loloma Board

MR. N. B. THEODORE, son of the late Mr. E. G. Theodore, has been appointed to fill the vacancies on the boards of the Emperor Mines Ltd., and Loloma (Fiji) Gold Mines NL, caused by his father's death.

A special New Guinea exhibit comprising over 4,000 exhibits was opened in the Adelaide, SA, museum at the end of April. It covers every aspect of native life in Papua-New Guinea and adjacent islands with the exception of mountain areas opened up since World War II and Dutch New Guinea. It is hoped to get specimens from these areas later.

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WORLD STILL SHORT OF EDIBLE FATS, OILS

A RECENT survey shows that world production of edible fats and oils is still far short of pre-war level—about 1,800,000 tons—although world population, and demand, is increasing steadily.

With the exception of Germany, however, where the position remains acute, the consumption in most European countries, per head of population, is rapidly approaching pre-war figures. Germans are still getting less than two-thirds the fats and oils they consumed before the war.

Supply in Britain vastly improved last year when imports rose 13 per cent.

Huge US production has greatly relieved the world shortage. In 1935-39 America imported an average of 850,000 tons of fats and oils each year, but she is now exporting 300,000 tons.

But on the other side of the picture European production is 250,000 tons a year below pre-war. Exports from China and Manchuria have dropped from 630,000 to about 100,000 tons. Increase in population has reduced India's annual exportable surplus from 500,000 tons to between 100,000 and 150,000 tons. Indonesian palm oil production is about 100,000 tons below the pre-war peak and exports of linseed oil and animal fats from Argentina are down 500,000 tons a year.

Price levels reflect the shortages (prices in sterling): Straits copra has risen from £12/10/- a ton in 1938 to £79 last year; ground nuts from £12/10/- to £62; whale oil from £12/10/- to £85; tallow from £21 to £80 and NEI palm oil from £15 to £100.

PLANTATION INTEREST SOUGHT

FROM Dr. J. S. Phillips, c/o Royal Bank of Canada, Kingston, Jamaica, West Indies:—

I should like to buy a working partnership in a plantation in one of the island groups of Polynesia—viz. Tahiti, Samoa, Fiji, Tonga or the Cook Islands. Could you put me in touch with anyone who might be interested in such an offer?

I have had about 20 years' experience in tropical agriculture in various countries, including parts of the Pacific—though not in the above-mentioned groups. Plantations growing one or more of the following crops would be of interest to me—coconuts, bananas, citrus fruits, coffee and pineapples, but not sugar or sisal; and the plantation should be situated on an island of the volcanic type, not coral.

Though I should prefer a working partnership, I might wish to buy outright later on. Alternatively, I would be prepared to rent with a view to subsequent purchase.

I should greatly appreciate advice or assistance. Any offers should contain as much relevant details as possible.

Anyone interested should write direct to Dr. Phillips.

For the first time at Suva, the Inter-Church Committee (Anglican, Methodist, Presbyterian and London Missionary Society) sponsored a combined service at the Jubilee Methodist Church on April 30. The service was conducted by the Rev. D. N. MacDiarmid (Presbyterian) and the sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr. J. W. Burton (Methodist), who is attending the South Pacific Conference as an Australian representative on the South Pacific Commission. Anthems were sung by Fijian, Samoan and Tongan choirs.

A daughter was born, on March 26, to Mr. and Mrs. N. K. Wood, formerly of New Britain and New Ireland, but now living in Australia.

A recent visitor to New Guinea was 78-year-old American, Mrs. D. K. Handy, of West Hartford, Vermont. It was part of a 35,000 mile tour which she expects to complete in three months. She spent a week in Australia before she left for NG and in that time visited every capital city. In April she left for Fiji to spend a month. Mrs. Handy is a life-insurance saleswoman—a job she started when she was 63.

THE PACIFIC ISLANDS SOCIETY

(Founded 1937)

Visitors from the Pacific Islands to Sydney, or persons interested in Islands affairs, are invited to communicate with the Honorary Secretary of the above Society which was formed to constitute a social centre for those interested in the Pacific Islands.

Regular meetings and social gatherings, with lectures, are held at History House, 8 Young Street, Sydney, on the fourth Wednesday of each month, at 8 p.m.

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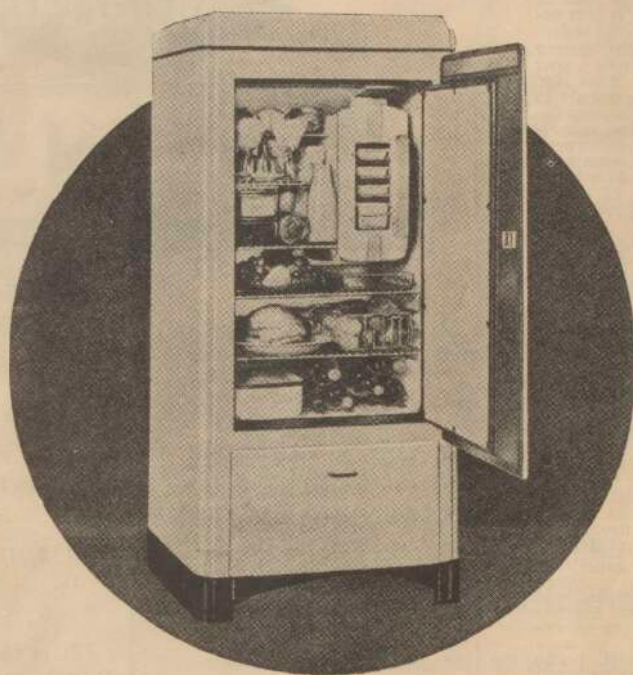
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NEW SERVICES FOR APIA



TOP.—This new dam has been built at Fuluasou, near the home of the late Mr. O. F. Nelson, and will give Apia a high-pressure water supply. A new hydro-electric scheme will supply not only Apia, but practically all the island of Upolu, with light and power. An installation of fluorescent lights for Apia's streets is on the way from United States. Apia, capital of Western Samoa, with its new buildings and services, hopes to become the most modern town in the South Pacific.

LOWER.—The new Intermediate School at Leifilifi, Western Samoa.

—Superflash Studio.

Mrs. G. Coster of Fiji was in Melbourne in April for the wedding of her daughter, Annette, to Mr. Clifton Dawe at St. John's, Toorak, on April 15.

HIGH COST OF OIL SEARCH

THE cost of the search for oil in Dutch New Guinea and in Papua had so far cost £27,000,000, said Mr. Harold Rabling, managing-director of the Vacuum Oil Company of Australia, in mid-April. Of the total, £7 million had so far been spent in Papua, the remainder in Dutch New Guinea.

So far the only oil actually being produced is at Klamono in Dutch New Guinea—about 4,000 barrels a day—but even under the happiest circumstances it is not expected that the investment already made in the area will show a profit for about four more years. Crude oil from this area is now reaching the Vacuum Oil Co's refinery at Altona, Vic.

To date there has been no return for the £7 millions invested in oil search in Papua and no oil has been recovered but prospects of doing so are still regarded by experts as excellent.

FIJIAN TEACHER TO GO TO AUCKLAND AND LONDON

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, May 1.

A TWO-YEAR scholarship under the Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme has been awarded to a Fijian school-teacher, 35-year-old Lival Volavola, to enable him to complete his BA degree course at Auckland University College and then to study for a year at the London University Institute of Education.

He is an ex-serviceman who served in the Solomons campaign and was commissioned a lieutenant. After the war he studied for two years at the Auckland Teachers' Training College on a rehabilitation grant and has passed a number of subjects for his BA degree. Recently he has been teaching at the Lelean Memorial School, Rewa, Fiji.

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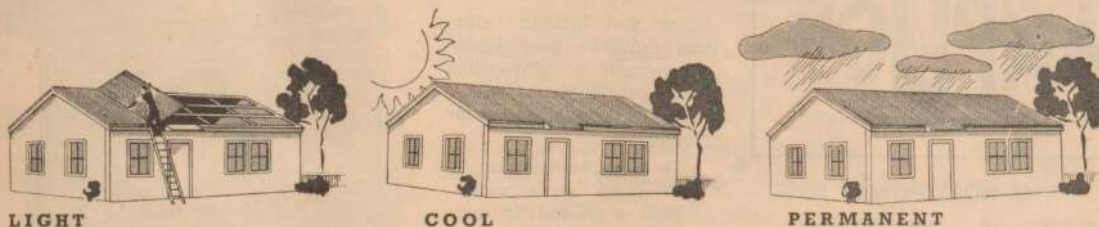
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DEATH OF MR. J. MENZIES

THE death occurred on April 21 of Mr. J. Menzies, an old and respected resident of Western Samoa.

He went to Samoa about 31 years ago and was for many years manager for Burns Philp (SS) Co. Ltd., at Fagatama, Savaii. Recently he has been attached to the Police Department staff.

He was 71 and a veteran of the Boer and 1st World Wars.

TREATMENT OF LEPERS

Fierce Argument in Hawaii

From Our Own Correspondent

CONTROVERSY, at times becoming acrimonious, is agitating Hawaii regarding the future site of the well-known Molokai leper settlement.

Central disputants in the affair are Lawrence Judd, former Governor of

Hawaii and at present Provisional Director of Territorial Hospitals and Settlements, and Dr. Norman Sloan, Medical Director of the Molokai settlement.

The former advocates abandonment of the present site and removal of the patients to a new location on the island of Oahu, more accessible to Honolulu. Dr. Sloan and some 70 per cent. of the settlement staff are unalterably opposed to such a plan, and are ready to resign should it be put into effect.

The settlement is now located on a mountain-enclosed promontory at Kalapapa, on the island of Molokai. The lepers of the Territory, although numbering some thousands of persons half-a-century ago, are now, owing to segregation and improved medical treatment, reduced to a bare 300.

Many of the patients at Kalapapa own their own homes, automobiles, stores and radios. Possessing a band, athletic clubs and such organisations, they lead the care-free existence of a protected village community, restricted only in their movement to the spacious district in which they are confined.

A special Legislature committee which visited Kalapapa recently heard the patients express themselves overwhelmingly in favour of remaining at Kalapapa, with Dr. Sloan as Director.

Dr. Sloan reported that the basic difference between Mr. Judd and himself was their conflict of opinion regarding Hansen's Disease patients. Mr. Judd advocated lessening segregation, moving patients to Oahu and eventually closing Kalapapa, while Dr. Sloan said he believed in treating Hansen's Disease as a contagious malady.

"I feel I can no longer work with a man who is not a doctor himself but is trying to spread what I regard as false views about the contagiousness of leprosy," said Dr. Sloan.

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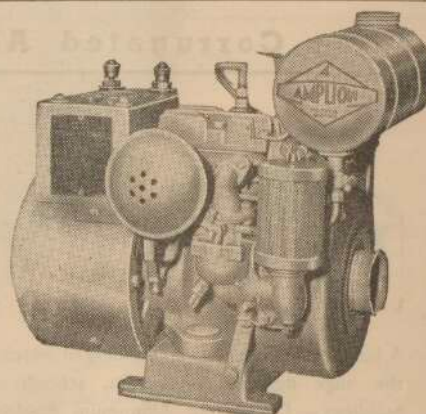
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FIRST SOUTH PACIFIC CONFERENCE

Another Plan For Co-ordination of Islands Administration and Policies Gets Off to Good Start

FROM R. W. ROBSON

SUVA put on its most charming cool-weather dress of green and gold to greet the opening of the South Pacific Conference at Nasinu Training College (5 miles out towards Nausori) on April 25. Hundreds of interested people of all races gathered to watch the assembling of delegates from 15 Territories, and to hear the formal opening addresses of the Governor of Fiji (Sir Brian Freeston) and other high officials.

Behind the constitution of this Conference there was a magnificent job of organisation, for which full credit must be given the Secretary-General of the South Pacific Commission (Mr. W. D. Forsyth) and his team of able assistants. Most of the delegates were strangers to each other and were seeing Fiji for the first time. They spoke not only their own languages, but English, or French, or Dutch, as well, and each called for special help and consideration.

The world's newspaper Press was well represented. Present were the representatives of world-wide news agencies, and also distinguished correspondents like David McNicoll, of Sydney Telegraph, Guy Herriott, of Sydney Morning Herald, Colin Simpson, famous radio commentator and producer. These men needed factual "background material," so the Commission very wisely borrowed from Wellington (NZ) Post the services of Eric Ramsden, well-known writer on Pacific affairs, and R. G. Paull, of the ABC, and their services as Public Relations Officers were of inestimable value.

As a result of it all, the Conference ran very smoothly from the first auspicious moment of its assembly; it was skillfully and sympathetically directed from the chair by Sir Brian Freeston; and at the stage of this writing (part-way through) it looks as if it will be completely successful in the objects which its planners hoped to achieve.

The following are the names of those present:—

Chairman

Sir Leslie Brian Freeston, KCMG, OBE, Governor of Fiji, High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

Representatives from Territories

Netherlands New Guinea.—Delegates: N. Jouwe, M. Kasiepo. Alternates: Dr. J. V. de Bruyn, P. J. Merckelijn.

Papua.—Delegates: Willie Gavera, Bondai Pita. Alternates: Frank Aisi, Miria Gavera, Aika Gu'u. Advisers: Dr. J. T. Gunther and Mr. W. C. Groves.

New Guinea.—Delegates: Waiiau Ahnon, George Kassi. Alternates: Kamono Walo, Aisoli Salin. Advisers: R. H. Boyan and S. H. Christian.

British Solomon Islands Protectorate.—Delegates: Belade, Gina. Advisers: Mr. M. J. Forster (Administrative Officer), Dr. J. S. MacKenzie-Pollock.

New Hebrides.—Delegates: Petero (Catechist at the Marist Mission, Tanna), John Kalsakau. New Caledonia.—Delegates: M. Raphael Bouanani, M. Maou Djoel. Adviser: M. Lescan du Plessix.

Nauru.—Delegate: Jacob. Alternate: Raymond Gadabu. Adviser: Mr. T. H. Cude.

Gilbert Islands.—Delegates: Mr. I. G. Turbot (Acting Co-operative Societies Officer), Tutu Tekanene (Senior AMP).

Ellice Islands.—Delegates: F. Penitela Teo (Administrative Officer), Josefa (Acting Headmaster of the King George V School).

Fiji.—Delegates: Hon. Joeli Raval, Hon. Vishnu Deo. Alternates: Hon. Ratu E. T. Cakobau, Hon. M. S. Buksh.

Kingdom of Tonga.—Delegates: HRH Tungi (Premier of Tonga), HRH Tu'ipelehake (Governor of Vava'u). Adviser: Mr. P. A.

Richardson (Secretary to the Government of Tonga).

Western Samoa.—Delegates: Hon. Tamasese, and Hon. Malietoa (both members of the Council of State). Alternates: Hon. Tualaulelei (Member of Legislative Assembly), Faipule Anapu (Chairman of Fono of Faipule). Adviser: Ainoa Kalapu.

American Samoa.—Delegates: High Chief Tufele, High Chief Tuitele. Advisers: High Talking Chief Tuasosopo, Lieut. Edward V. P. Horne (USN).

Cook Islands and Niue.—Delegates: Makea Nui Toremooana Ariki, Robert Rex. Alternates or Advisers: Rongomatane Ariki, Albert R. Henry.

French Oceania.—Delegates: M. Lucien Vayssiere (Director of Education), M. Paul Berniere

(West Coast Delegate to Representative Assembly).

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Secretary-General: Mr. W. D. Forsyth.
Deputy Chairman of Research Council: Dr. L. G. M. Baas-Becking.



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Australia.—Acting Senior Commissioner: Rev. Dr. J. W. Burton, Ex-President General of the Methodist Church of Australia. Adviser: Mr. T. A. Pyman, Officer in Charge, South Pacific Section, Pacific Division, Department of External Territories, Canberra. Adviser-Secretary: Mr. C. H. Cox, Department of External Territories, Canberra.

France.—Senior Commissioner: M. Robert Lasalle-Sere (Inspector-General of Colonies). Commissioner: M. Pierre C. J. Bonnard (Administrator of Colonies and Director of the Cabinet of the French High Commissioner in the Pacific).

Netherlands.—Senior Commissioner: Mr. J. B. D. Pennink (Netherlands Minister, Wellington, NZ).

New Zealand.—Commissioner: Lieut.-Colonel F. W. Voelcker, CBE, DSO, MC (formerly High Commissioner of Western Samoa). Adviser: Dr. T. R. A. Davis (Chief Medical Officer, Rarotonga).

United Kingdom.—Commissioner: Mr. H. H. Vaskes, CMG, OBE (formerly Secretary, Western Pacific High Commission). Alternate: Mr. H. A. C. Dobbs (First Assistant Secretary, Western Pacific High Commission).

United States.—Senior Commissioner: Dr. Felix M. Keesing (Professor of Anthropology, Stanford University). Commissioner: Mr. Milton Shallock (Attorney and Counsellor-at-Law, New York). Advisers: Mr. Claude G. Ross (US Consul, Noumea). Mr. Robert R. Robbins (Department of State, Washington DC).

Associate Members of Research Council

Mr. Howard Hayden (Director of Education, Fiji, and Educational Adviser, Western Pacific High Commission).

Mr. B. E. V. Parham (Senior Agricultural Officer, Fiji).

Dr. J. M. Cruikshank (Inspector-General of South Pacific Health Service and Director of Medical Services, Fiji).

Representatives from Official and Non-Official Institutions

Father Doherty.—The Roman Catholic Missionary Organisations in the South Pacific.

Rev. C. F. Gribble.—The National Missionary Council of Australia.

Archdeacon Hands.—The National Missionary Council of New Zealand.

(The Reverend C. F. Gribble and Archdeacon Hands jointly represent the International Missionary Council.)

Dr. Harold J. Coolidge.—Pacific Science Board of the National Research Council (USA).

M. Michel Legand.—The French Institute of Oceania.

Dr. J. van Beusekom.—Division of Information, from Non-Self-Governing Territories, Department of Trusteeship, United Nations Organisation.

Mr. C. H. Moore.—The World Health Organisation.

Mr. Andrew Hammond.—The Caribbean Commission.

"NEVER BEFORE IN HISTORY"

THE first day's proceedings consisted wholly of formalities and the presentation of opening addresses. One of the outstanding contributions to the Conference was the address wherein the Chairman (Sir Brian Freeston) declared the Conference open. Here is its full text:—

"Sitting before me in this hall during the next ten days I hope to see chosen spokesmen of three million people. You will have come from an area of the earth's surface which extends for five thousand miles from east to west, and for nearly two thousand miles from north to south.

"All the major races inhabiting that area are represented among you; Melanesian, Polynesian, Micronesian, European and Indian; and every territory—every political unit within that area—has been invited to send its representatives to take part in this Conference.

"Never before in the history of the world have all the peoples of the South Pacific met together under one roof; never before has an opportunity been afforded

for spokesmen from all the islands, spread over many millions of square miles of ocean, to meet each other on common ground, united by a community of interest, and animated by a common purpose.

"Need we wonder, then, that the news of this first South Pacific Conference has aroused attention far beyond the limits of the Pacific; and that our proceedings in this hall during the next ten days will be watched with interest, and let us hope with sympathy, from every corner of the globe.

"Of the various political units represented here to-day, all but one still occupy a dependent status. We are immensely gratified that Her Majesty the Queen of Tonga has been graciously pleased to send her two distinguished sons to take part in our proceedings.

"But the rest of you come from communities which have not yet reached the stage of political development, where they can stand upon their own feet; each is still subject to the tutelage and control, in varying degrees, of one of the six great powers—Australia, France, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States of America—which share between them the ultimate responsibility for the South Pacific.

"I need hardly remind you that three years ago these six great powers solemnly agreed to establish a South Pacific Commission, with the object of promoting, on an international basis, the economic and social welfare and advancement of the non-self-governing peoples in the South Pacific region.

"Of the activities of the Commission and of its Research Council you will be hearing more at a later stage. For the moment I am concerned to express to you what, to my mind, is the true purpose of this Conference, and its relation to the South Pacific Commission. Put shortly, it is this.

"The Commission represents the Gov-

ernments of the South Pacific; this Conference represents the peoples.

"For the information and the ideas on which it bases its activities and its advice the Commission relies normally, as is only right and proper, on governmental sources. But the sole object of the Commission, as defined in its charter, is to promote the social and economic welfare and advancement of the peoples in the Pacific; and this Conference has been devised as a means whereby those peoples, through

their chosen representatives, can make known to the Commission, direct and at first-hand, their hopes, their wishes, their needs and aspirations in all matters affecting their social and economic welfare.

"You are, in fact, a Parliament of the South Pacific peoples, subject to two important limitations which will have to be borne in mind throughout our proceedings.

(Continued on page 62)

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MAGAZINE SECTION

Territories Talk-Talk

By "Tolala"

HMAS TARANGAU certainly sounds better than the original name chosen for the Manus base (Seeader). "B" in Tropicalities (PIM April) gives Tarangau a Papuan origin. This may be so, but to me it seems to perpetuate the good old name of ANGAU, with a "Jack Tar" prefix. It is a happy thought, anyway.

If, as many people believe, the spirits of the departed foregather about the Cenotaph in Martin Place on Anzac Day, I hope they included that of J. H. L. Waterhouse who, I know, would have watched the Papua-New Guinea bandmen pass by with great feeling of satisfaction and pride (if spirits are allowed to have such emotions.)

It was J. H. L. who introduced the first bugle band to New Guinea, when he taught the native school-boys the three "R's" at the Government School at Nodup (and it is NOT Nordup, as is so often reported in Australian papers). It was from this source that many of Rabaul's first bandmen were drawn and placed under the patient tuition of Dan Crawley who had an uphill fight, with red tape and cynical officials to persuade them that the brown brother could be trained in the intricacies of sharps and flats and demi-semi-quavers. Dan has more than proved his point, but surely not in his wildest dreams did he ever think, in those early days, in Rabaul, that his band one day would lead the Anzac march in Sydney.

AND speaking of the Nodup native school, where J. H. L. inculcated the true Empire spirit into the souls of his young pupils, it was one of the local show places visited by itinerant VIP's and Waterhouse got a great kick out of showing how intelligent were his pupils. A quiz on mental arithmetic was always an outstanding feature and visitors were dumbfounded at the speed and accuracy shown by these young native lads. J. H. L. laid a very solid foundation for native education in the Rabaul area. Long may his memory live.

"OLD PLANTER'S" remarks (PIM April) about NG sulphur are apt and to the point. I remember at least a couple of companies being floated to exploit sulphur deposits—one from the Matupi crater (Tavurvur) and the other from Lolabau Island, off the New Britain coast. It seems a pity that reciprocal trade arrangements should affect the development of such a product, as suggested in the Editorial Note. Assays show the sulphur to be of excellent quality. A pity it couldn't become a dollar-earner. Another unexploited mineral along the New Britain coast is iron ore, which may come into its own one of these days.

TALKING of reciprocal trade set-ups: What is going to happen when NG is in a position to supply Australia's requirements of tea, coffee and cocoa? Is reciprocal trade with the Near East—Java, Malaya, etc.—to be permitted to affect the development of those primary products? Probably the economic section of the South Pacific conference will iron all this out. I notice that one of the P-NG delegates—Ahnon—hoped

the Territory eventually could supply Australia with its tropical requirements and compete in the world market with tropical crops. . . . And why not?

THE same delegate urged a more varied diet for New Guinea natives; another wanted more modern tools in order to produce greater crops. From their remarks, they are all reaching out to grasp our western civilised methods, but they must not forget that these questionable joys mean more work and the shouldering of greater responsibilities. Are the people they are representing prepared to give the one and to accept the other?

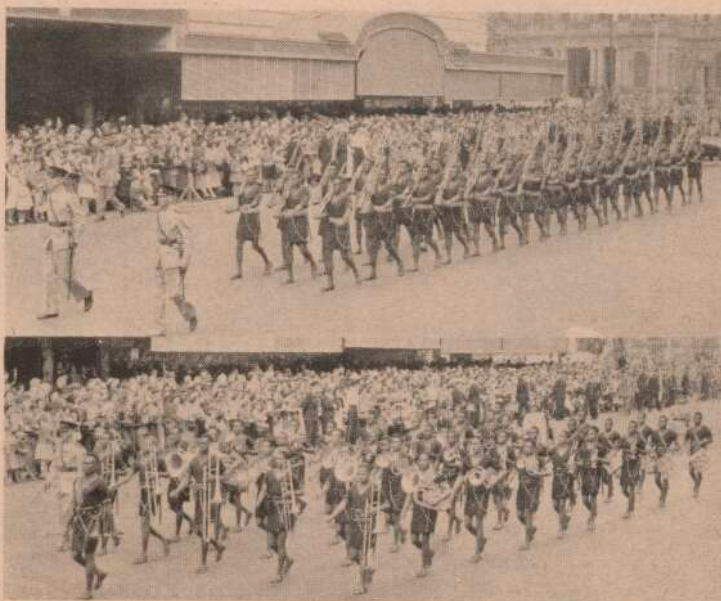
APROPOS economic questions: An excellent dollar-earner from NG would be banned bird-of-paradise plumes. This is a trade which has officially gone out of business since Australia dug her toes into TNG soil. The cause of the ban was a hue-and-cry set up about alleged cruelty in shooting the birds and leaving the young to starve. It was thought hunters were out after female birds. But it is the male bird's plumage which is sought by the hunters (the female is quite drab), and occasions no cruelty at all. The ban has only illegalised the trade and it would not be out of place for officialdom to inquire into (a) the alleged cruelty, (b) present supplies in the hinterland, and, if low, (c) who are and whence come the hunters. There could, of course, always be a closed season.

"THE Territory needs enterprise," said Minister Spender whilst at Port Moresby last month, and promised encouragement to private investment. It's good to see a Minister stepping off on the right foot, and his statements have given the white population new hope. He seems to have the right angle on the native welfare question, too. Let's hope Menzies' anti-Red drive will extend to the Territory and an intensive screening takes places of Fellow Travellers who are actively engaged in sowing seeds of unrest amongst both white and black in P-NG.

I WAS glad to read what Missionary (and ex-Coastwatcher) Freund had to say about the entrance of the Baptists into the NG mission field (PIM April, P38) and it is good to learn that a friendly understanding exists between the two denominations. I feel that the danger of denominational clashes lies with the over-zealousness of the native convert rather than with the white missionary, and this has been borne out by past events in NG, the history of which makes sad reading. I should be sorry to see still other sects of the Christian religion establish themselves in NG, for I feel there is a sufficient variety already there, but as "freedom of religion" is one of the clauses of the Trusteeship we can't do very much about it, even if we wanted to. Who knows when there might

(Continued foot Col. 1, Next Page.)

FAR FROM HOME



Royal Papuan Constabulary contingent and their band turn into Park Street from George Street (Sydney Town Hall at top right) when leading 40,000 ex-servicemen of two World Wars through Sydney streets on Anzac Day, April 25. The contingent was led by Commissioner of Police for Papua-New Guinea, Col. J. S. Grimshaw. Inspector D. Crawley was in charge of the band. The police-boys and their band also visited Brisbane, Canberra and Melbourne. Needless to say they were received with great enthusiasm by Australian crowds, who turned out to see them in hundreds of thousands.

HOME ON THE RANGE

By Our Honiara Correspondent

YOUR correspondent has just moved into a new house in Honiara. The house is part of the new Government building scheme; it is made of plywood on concrete piles, built in an L-shape, with bedroom and bathroom mosquito-proofed; has an open living room in the corner of the L; and a neat little kitchen, all shining clean and smelling of new wood.

From the living room you can look across at a bush-covered hillside, or down a slope towards the road, and beyond the road the sea dreams or surges (according to mood) between Guadalcanal and the blue islands of Savo and Ngela, and the point of Cape Esperance towards the West.

This house, like all the other new houses, has all mod. cons., including plenty of cupboard space, a refrigerator and a septic tank. (Some of the new residences hereabouts have a plumbing system that specialises in extraordinary rumblings and roarings, so that the surprised visitor emerges from the bathroom like a shot out of a gun, in case there might be some misunderstanding. This noise was once used, deliberately but not unkindly, to accompany a budding saxophone player who was playing Isa Lei at a party, and the result out-Spiked Jones. Reason for noise is supposed to be the excellence of the pressure in the mains.)

THE move to this house was a Caution. A large Works Department truck arrived at 11 in the morning and was loaded (by four lethargic types) with packing cases, suitcases, five chairs, a large cane settee, a year-old hibiscus in a box of earth, a large Malaita-work cane screen, a saucepan full of black coffee (brainwave of the staff in case Missus demanded it on arrival), a wheelbarrow, a mattress and about a hundredweight of firewood which the cookie had thoughtfully chopped beforehand and which was put on the truck by two, big-eyed piccanins who sprang up somehow from the earth as soon as the truck appeared. Truck, cookie and labour moved off up the hill in the midday heat.

Missus walked, followed by the two piccanins, each with a large knife, a small biscuit and the expression of a boxing fan with a ringside seat.

Missus carried an ex-Army hat, and in it, kept carefully level, two eggs, more precious than rubies between Morinda's; a bottle of Angostura; a bottle of Chanel

Talk-Talk

(Continued from page 53)

not be an influx of Moslem, Buddhist or Shinto missionaries bent on propagating each his own particular creed?

With that old-time sentimental poetess, Ella Wheeler Wilcox, I agree

So many gods, and so many creeds,
And so many paths that wind and wind,

While just the art of being kind
Is all this sad world needs.

SEEMS a pity NG's delegates to the SPC at Suva could not have been dinkum New Guineaites, with the true native outlook. Ahnon is a half-caste Chinese and Kass's mother was a Caroline Islander. The latter's associations have for years been non-native. As a records clerk in Administration he is "tops," but that does not necessarily qualify him to speak for the native peoples. Perhaps the selection shows how backward these people are in not having appointed a full-blooded native to this all-important gathering.

No. 5; and another of Shanghai. None of these had any effect on the aroma of the party, each one of which could have been used as a drag for hounds, including Missus who had had only an intermittent water supply at the last abode for nearly a week. (It was thought at first that Prawns in the Filter were the trouble, as our water supply is piped from river springs; however, a check revealed no prawns, only a broken underground pipe.)

THE new house is built in a small flat area cut out of the side of the hill. The garden has all to be made yet, from heavy rich black soil, with here and there lumps of buried coral bigger than your head. All the scrub has been cleared from the hillside except for countless young paw-paw trees. Some of them have had to go, although I apologise to each one pulled up for ending its young life—but you can't have about an acre of garden entirely made up of paw-paw trees.

I have planted some Giant Zinnias—the pictures on the packet were nearly as big as saucers; and certainly they are going ahead like bean stalks. And there are hibiscus and frangipani, and I shall have some lagerstroemia, which we call Pride of India, and bauhinias, and the cookie has found in the bush (where a friend of his, now gone home, put them to makim line round a garden) plenty too much Bird of Paradise trees. The Agricultural Department has provided seed for a lawn, and some young flowering shrubs. Sixteen packets of flower seeds are on the next ship, and the vegetable garden is partly planted already.

IT is odd what a difference there is between anybody else's newly-cleared hillside and your own. No doubt they all look alike to an impartial eye—but anybody else's is just rather desolate ground, while your own is full of entrancing possibilities. Already I can see the still unplanted shrubs and annuals flowering in a glow of colour. I think the pub will see much less of me (it is our only community meeting place until the new Club is built) and I shall gradually become one of those comfortable, fat middle-aged gardening women.

It only remains to develop a sense of proportion about things that go bump in the night. Certainly, my house is a little remote from the main settlement: if it was not there would not be all the beautiful green jungle hillside to look at. Sometimes it would be nice to feel more like Major Jim Corbett, the hunter of man-eating tigers, who, having considered the terrain on one occasion, "knew that he was quite safe as long as the tigress was behind him" And I should like to know who invented the phrase about landing as lightly as a cat. He couldn't have heard the crash-landings made by my cat.

The cat comes

On big dog's feet,
hoping at 4 a.m.
for something to eat.

From an eight-foot height
it thumps to the floor,
Oh, Macbeth or somebody
Sleep no more.

There are only two ways about the Solomons—either you can't wait to get out; or else they get you in. They've got me in—the sea, and the warmth, and the strong smell of copra; screaming white cockatoos, and red parrots, green plantain leaves; sparkle of fireflies on the hillsides. Mud and mildew and all.

PIM Crossquiz — No. 5

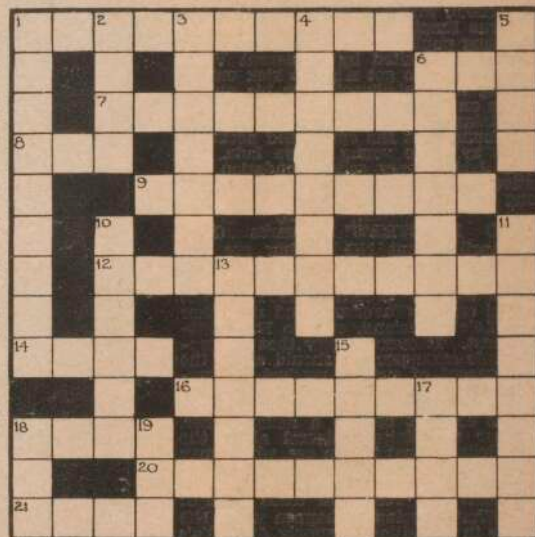
(Solution on page 59)

ACROSS

- 1.—Who saw a vision at Lourdes?
- 6.—Which word is now the other way?
- 7.—Who medically treats by the manipulation of the joints?
- 8.—Which extinct sea bird only laid one egg a year?
- 9.—How would you describe a person who dies without leaving a will?
- 12.—What is the term used for radio advertisements?
- 14.—What subtle emanation is an important part of Laura?
- 16.—Noel Coward's first picture was "The . . . ?"
- 18.—Which Italian city has Leghorn for its port?
- 20.—What is the second largest county in England?
- 21.—What over-sized heron is caught in the Hudson River in the shadow of New York sky-scrapers?

DOWN

- 1.—Which play title was taken from a musical instrument?
- 2.—Another name for the castle in chess?
- 3.—What is the term for a writing published under the author's real name?
- 4.—For what is Bayeux famous?
- 5.—What does the adjective "nival" relate to?
- 6.—Which famous American had the Christian name of Walt?
- 10.—Who fell into the sea when his waxen wings were melted by the sun?
- 11.—What is a fruit-tree trained on lattice-work?
- 13.—What duck has a peculiar odour?
- 15.—Which plant produces seeds used in cordial making?
- 17.—Anagram of liar?
- 18.—Step in French?
- 19.—What cannot one do with figures on a slide rule?



Prince Tungi of Tonga they put this caption: "His Royal Highness Tungi, Crown Prince and Prime Minister of Suva, wears an ancestral mat around his waist, a symbol of devotion to his mother, Queen Salote."

THE 1950 Pulitzer Prize for the best original American play has gone to the musical production, *South Pacific*, which was based on James Michener's novel, *Tales from the South Pacific*. Michener won the Pulitzer Prize for the best novel of 1948 with his story.

Tales from the South Pacific had many interwoven stories, arranged around the central theme of the assault on a heavily-fortified, Jap-held Pacific Island. The play, *South Pacific*, is based on only one of the stories—the love story of the American nurse and the New Hebrides cocoa planter.

THE PIM and its readers have taken considerable interest in the children of the late Robert Dean Frisbie since they met them in his book, *Island of Desire*, and renewed acquaintance in daughter Johnny's book, *Miss Ulyssus of Puka Puka*.

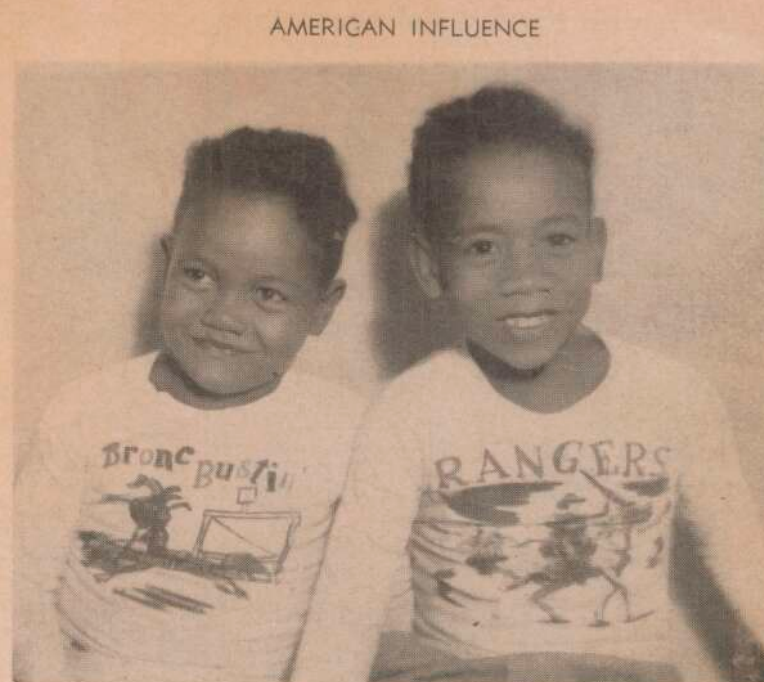
Since their father's death the girls have been living in Rarotonga, Cook Islands, but they will soon be scattered. Johnny, in May, will go to stay with friends in Honolulu; Elaine is to go to school in New Zealand; and Nga is under the care of Mr. William Watson of Rarotonga. The two boys, Charlie and William (Jakev of the books) are still training as jockeys in New Zealand.

Articles on Robert Dean Frisbie by his friend, James Norman Hall, appeared in the August, September and October issues of the *Atlantic Monthly* last year.

GETTING AROUND: They are telling this story in Sydney: A Qantas pilot met a bank manager friend in the street. It was a Wednesday. The pilot said he'd just got back from London on the Monday and was going to Fiji on Friday, back to Sydney on Sunday and to Noumea on Monday. He suggested a meeting at the same place for next Wednesday. His friend considered: "I'm going to Dungog (about 100 miles NW of Sydney) for the week-end, but I think I can make it," he said.

THERE was a notable event when the firewalkers of Beqa, in full ceremonial decoration, gave a demonstration in the grounds of the Training College, Fiji, where the South Pacific conference was held. Some 25 of them came across from Beqa Island, bringing all their mysterious equipment, including the stones. They

Solution to Crossquiz on Page 54



What smart young New Caledonians are wearing this year.

—Photo by F. E. Dunn.

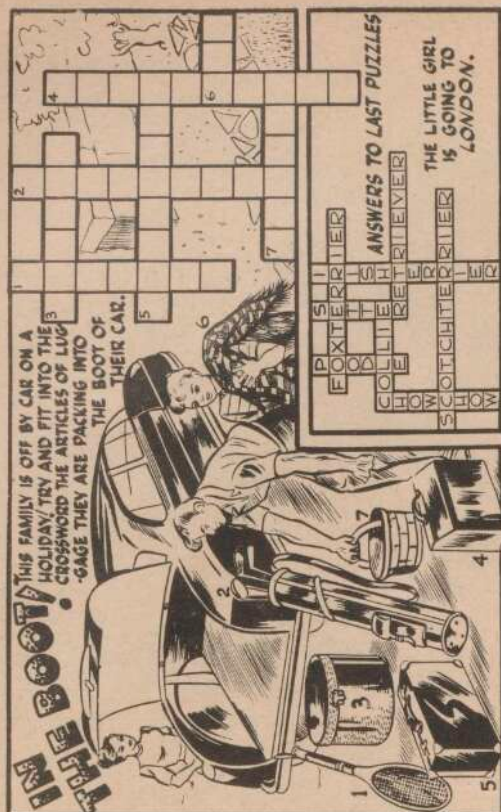
Do You Know Your Quotations?

EVERYONE uses quotations—often without realising it. Although some have become hackneyed and pretty meaningless their survival is justified in colloquial speech. But although their usage is so common, you will probably be surprised to find just how many you really know. Fill in the word or words missing from the 12 following quotations. Score one point for each completely correct quotation. A score of nine is exceptional; 6-8, very good; 3-5, better than average and 0-2 average. Turn to page 80 for answers.

1. . . . thing, but mine own.
2. To . . . the lily.
3. Pride goeth before . . .
4. Make assurance . . . sure.
5. Tomorrow to fresh . . . and pastures new.
6. I am escaped . . . the skin of my teeth.
7. When Greeks . . . Greeks.
8. Screw your courage to the sticking . . .
9. The devil can . . . Scripture for his purpose.
10. Rotten . . . the . . .
11. Chewing the . . .
12. I have nothing to offer but blood . . .

A quiet little ceremony marked the recent celebration of the 60th anniversary of the arrival in Samoa of the Rev. Sister Ambrose, of the Marist Order. She was born in France and has been in charge of Marist girls' schools in Savai and Leulua for many years. She lives at present at the Moamoa convent near Apia. A service of sixty years dedicated to missionary education work probably constitutes a record in the Pacific Islands.

CORNER FOR THE CHILDREN



fashion . . .

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FIRST SOUTH PACIFIC CONFERENCE

(Continued from page 51)

"First, your functions, like those of the Commission itself, are advisory only; you can express opinions and offer your advice upon matters of common interest—I need hardly say how warmly such advice will be welcomed; but you cannot, of course, take decisions.

"Secondly, the matters with which you are concerned relate only to social and

economic welfare; politics are no concern either of the Commission or of this Conference; and, as your Chairman, I do not propose to allow any member of this assembly to waste his own time and that of the Conference by talking politics."

His Excellency then, as Governor of Fiji, extended a warm welcome to the visitors from other Pacific countries. He assured

them of the warm and sympathetic interest of the King of England, and read a goodwill message from the British Secretary of State for the Colonies. His Excellency concluded:—

"Let me conclude by reminding you that, during the next ten days, you will be making history; and that throughout the length and breadth of the Pacific, the generations to come will look back on this Conference as an outstanding landmark in their progress. Let us remember that we are embarking together on a momentous experiment, and setting our hands to a great adventure; and let each and every one of us determine that the experiment shall be fruitful of good, and that the adventure shall be crowned with success."

WHAT RESEARCH COUNCIL IS DOING

IN a friendly, informative address, the Deputy Chairman of the Research Council (Dr. Baas Becking) explained to the Conference the purpose of the Research Council, and its relationship to both the Conference and the Commission.

"In order to illustrate the work of the Commission," said Dr. Baas Becking, "let us compare it to the ways of a medical man. He is called to see a patient and his first duty is to find out the nature of the ailment. The process by which he arrives at this, what he calls his diagnosis, may be easy in some cases, long and laborious in others. From this diagnosis the nature and the stage of the disease, the general condition of the patient and of his environment, he ventures a prediction as to the course the disease will take and this he calls the prognosis. From the diagnosis and the prognosis he builds up his treatment. This treatment may be either active or preventive, medicative or surgical.

"Now, the work of our Commission may be compared to the work of medical men in more than one respect. In the first place, it has nothing to do with politics,

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colour or creed; it only wants to see a sane organism. You will object, perhaps, that it seems unflattering to compare communities to diseases. We must remember, however, that a great deal of the work of a modern doctor lies in the prevention of trouble rather than in an active fight against it. Preventative medicine requires also rigid diagnosis and prognosis.

"The goal we are all aiming at is a happy community with a low mortality, and a still lower infant mortality, where people are free from the great diseases of the region, where they are able to procure adequate food by adequate agricultural methods, where they will form a market centre from which they will guide and equilibrate the inflow and the outflow of goods necessary to maintain the economy of their community.

"In some cases, now, we have most of the data. We know what is the matter with a certain community. In other cases we are still ignorant. Therefore we have still much work to do in diagnosis, in finding out things.

"We are still studying the preparation of suitable infant food, prepared from the usual village staples and accessories. We are still gathering data on the existing diet and nutrition of communities. We are still studying what pasture grass will be suited to a region, what soils are present and what we can do with them; how land is used and whether it is used for the proper purpose; whether land is wasted.

"We know next to nothing of the habits and the quantity of fish present in our vast ocean.

"We have to investigate the social structure of communities in order to see in what way they can best be brought to greater prosperity.

"We have to know these things and many more things and there are only few of us and there are many things to be done. For, after we have made our diagnosis, after we know a certain condition, we have to make a good guess as to where it will lead to, and, the more regions we have studied, the more similar data we can compare, the more confident we will become as to the validity of our prognosis.

"This is why one of us has made a study of the copra situation, both in this region and in the consumers' area. This is the reason why he studies our economic mainstay, the cocoa palm, in every aspect.

"Never has there been a time when the world, apart from a circumscribed area, has been so open to inspection. Excellent statistical surveys will give us at a moment's notice data on the infant mortality in Sweden, of the milk production in New Zealand, on the import of textiles in almost any small island. Because the world lies open to inspection we may start to compare. Because now we have a basis for comparison. We will say that the people in a certain community are far from healthy. But we know now how far.

"Comparison of our area with other tropical areas will show clearly where our problems lie. Like in trade, we cannot in our diagnosis remain isolated. Let us suppose we know where the evils lie, what are we going to do about it?

"There are a great many people all over the world who like to sit under the tree and wait to be saved. Wait for a marvelous ship to come, in which are all the things they need. Even if such a ship did exist, it would not solve our troubles. For Man has created his own condition by sitting under the tree. By holding up the hand like a beggar we will remain beggars, and beggars are poor.

"It is therefore that the greatest thing that could happen to this region (and it has happened and is happening right in this place where we gather now), is that education in all the skills necessary to promote the development of a healthy community is extended to all of those that are capable and willing to take it.

"I do not mean primarily the graces to be derived from the reading of newspapers, but development of good craftsmen who may build upon the foundations given by their own culture. Good hygienists and medicos, agriculturists and fisheries specialists, who may graft new scions on the old traditional stock. For the old plant of your own civilisation should not be uprooted, because that is not only a treasure to you but also a treasure for the whole world.

"And now for the treatment. One can lead a horse to water, but one cannot make it drink. All measures which are imposed upon you, sometimes well meant but ill fitting in your scheme of things, will remain useless unless they find a resonance in yourself, unless you are willing to take over yourself and shape your own community, self-respecting, open to all inspection and for the world to see.

"If the specialists interested in this region may take part in this work, it will be a great thing for them to witness a development by the people and for the people and they will find their reason for existence in the fact that they are wanted as friends and as advisors to help you prepare a better future."

THE GENERAL PLAN

"NINETEEN out of the 28 projects, that is approximately two-thirds of the projects recommended by the first meeting of the Research Council of the South Pacific Commission less than a year

ago, are already in operation," said the Secretary-General, Mr. W. D. Forsyth, in



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a prepared statement, on the opening day. In connection with nine of these projects, experts are or have been at work in the field in territories of the South Pacific. It is less than two years since the Agreement establishing the Commission came into force.

"The Commission's tuberculosis team has almost finished the first stage of its work in New Guinea and will shortly go on to New Caledonia and later to Western Samoa and Tahiti to continue its work.

"A nutritionist is at work in New Guinea.

"A study of the best ways of using motion pictures and other visual aids in schools in the islands has been completed.

"A study, which promises to be of immense importance to the area, of the needs for technical education in the South Pacific territories, is in progress.

"Gardens, in which plants which may usefully be grown in the region can be tested, have been begun in Fiji and New Caledonia.

"Some study of the possibilities for production of cocoa in the region has been made.

"The weeds which menace agricultural production in the South Pacific are being studied, with a view to finding methods for combating them.

"In addition to these and similar investigations the Commission's staff has begun to collect and distribute technical information."

Mr. Forsyth said that the idea of a South Pacific Conference had been in the minds of men of vision for many years. In this wide oceanic region, sprinkled with a multitude of islands, they could see, as well as the wide expanses of sea dividing them and the differences of language and custom, many similar features of geography and climate, of natural resources

and economic life. They could see the need of the peoples to find ways of preserving the best in themselves in the face of a vigorous alien culture. They could see also that peoples and governments trying to do this might, by sharing their experience, profit from one another's successes and mistakes.

But this could not easily be done. In the course of the past century the islands had become divided between six governments and, under these governments, between a number of separate administrations. On the whole, there was not a great deal of contact between these separate authorities. Useful work done in one territory might never be heard of in others.

Some people had hoped for the day when those who were working for and with the peoples of the South Pacific could come together and compare notes on what they were doing. Some looked further forward to the day when the peoples of the territories themselves would not only play a greater part in improving their own conditions but would

also be able to meet people from the other islands labouring to the same end, and by talking with them, discover what each might have to learn from the other.

These hopes have begun to bear fruit. The South Pacific Commission and its auxiliary bodies, the Research Council and the South Pacific Conference, have been set up for these purposes.

These organs of the Commission have a common purpose, though their tasks are different. The Research Council advises the Commission in what ways scientific methods can be applied in the territories to improve health, education and production. The Conference exists to tell the Commission what the people think about these things, what their needs are, what things the Commission might give attention to, how the Commission can help them.

The Governments have not set up the Commission to rule the territories. There has been and is no idea of the Commission becoming a super-state. Just as the Conference and the Research Council ad-

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vise the Commission, so the Commission is an adviser to the Governments. What the Commission, with the help of the Research Council and the Conference, can do, is to bring together the experience and opinions of people in and out of government services, whether living in the islands or elsewhere, and define certain practical things that can be done to make life better for the peoples living in the area.

What the Powers Give to the Islands

IN the combination of gifts together with experience, which each of the Powers represented brings to the South Pacific Commission, we see a flowing together of the histories of those countries and their best ideals and aspirations for the benefit of the peoples of

the South Pacific," said the Prime Minister and Crown Prince of Tonga (Prince Tughi) in a special statement, after the Conference had opened. "A body founded under such auspices must surely meet with great success in all its endeavours."

Each of the Powers represented, declared Prince Tughi, had in its past history struggled for certain ideals for its own people. "This effort to assist the peoples of the South Pacific to meet modern conditions seems to be an extension to others of what they have already achieved for themselves."

Each Power had something unique in its past history and present circumstances that appeared to make its contribution a very natural development.

The United Kingdom, said Prince Tughi, was probably the first of the great Powers to achieve liberty and equality, respect for law and order, and Parliamentary sovereignty. While her long experience in governing colonies was incomparable, it was the lesson of the American Revolution that had taught Britain how best to deal with the national aspirations of her dependent peoples. Britain's experience had fitted her peculiarly for the role she had played, and would continue to play, in colonial affairs.

France was possibly the first nation on the continent of Europe to emerge from the inequalities and the swaddling clothes of feudalism into the light of what was now regarded as democratic political life. Much of her experience and thinking had been based on the organic unity of her colonies with metropolitan France, and the solidarity of the colonial peoples with Frenchmen in all aspects of life. That assimilation of colonial peoples, rightly or wrongly, had been something unique in the history of colonial powers. "So that France, too, has something from her history and nature to contribute towards the efforts of the Commission," he said.

The United States, Prince Tughi continued, began her history with what was

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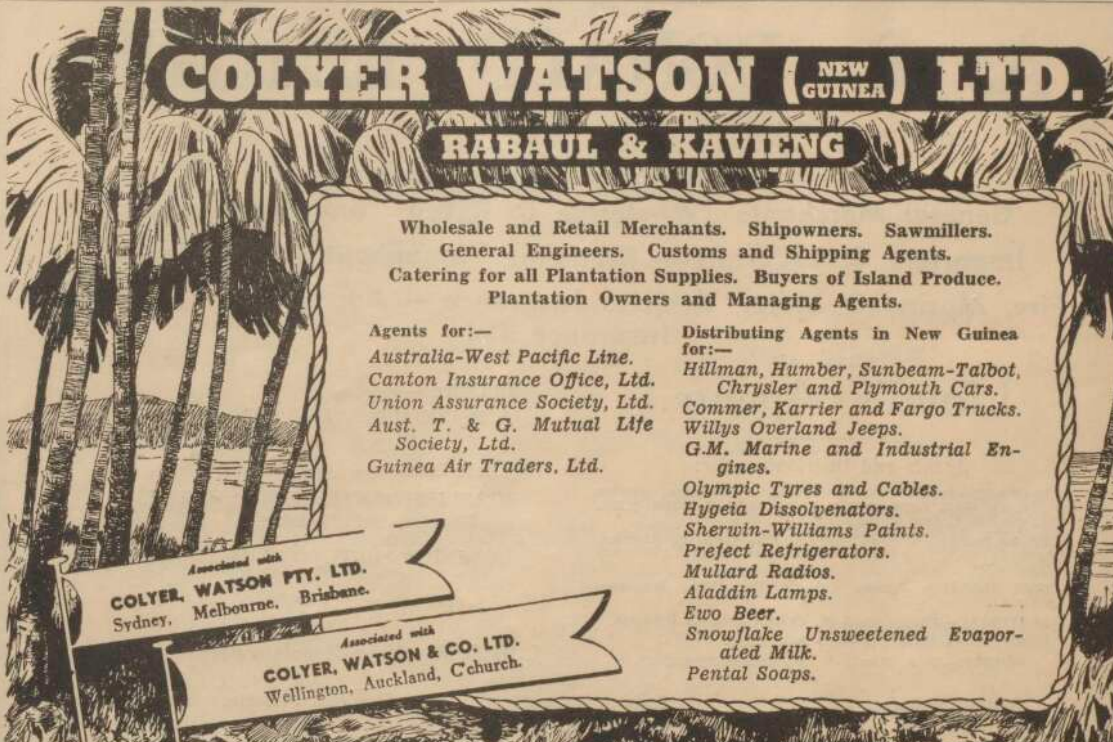
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probably the biggest revolution against a modern power known until then. To-day, the United States led the world in very many branches of physical and social science as well as in technology. That fund of expert knowledge, together with her short but honourable career as a colonial power, fitted the United States to make her own peculiar and unique contribution to the success of the Commission.

The Netherlands began her national existence with a long struggle against Spain for religious and political liberty, and, through her own efforts, gathered unto herself a great colonial empire. Her statesmanlike settlement of differences with Indonesia had resulted perhaps in the most recent example of nation-building by a great colonial Power.

Australia must be given credit, said Prince Tugli, for having possessed the courage and enterprise and vision to initiate the Commission. The Commonwealth was fast developing into a highly industrialised country, and was already in a position to supply many of the manufactured commodities, apart from primary products such as flour, which the Pacific peoples required.

"So that her interest and participation must be of inestimable value to the attainment of the aims of the Commission," added Prince Tugli, who also pointed out that Australia had colonial interests that were essential to her security and welfare.

"From the viewpoints of security and defence, New Zealand is vitally concerned with the Pacific. New Zealand is the nearest British Dominion to many of the South Pacific areas. As such she is the country to which the greater number of students from these Pacific countries must go for their higher education. New Zealand has also been remarkably successful, I think, in handling her race relation problems with respect to her own Maori people, and, therefore, should have much of the experience and goodwill so necessary for the success of an organisation of this kind."

GOODWILL FROM OVERSEAS

CORDIAL messages of greeting and goodwill were received from different parts of the world and read to the Conference by the chairman. They included radiograms from the Australian Minister for External Affairs and Territories, Mr. Spender; the New Zealand Minister for External Affairs, Mr. Doidge; the High Commissioner for Western Samoa, Mr. Powles.

Mr. Spender expressed confidence "that your deliberations will assist the Commission and its Member Governments to intensify their efforts to bring to the peoples of the territories which you represent, improved standards of living through the use of all available resources in the fields of education, health and economic development. In all these matters, increasing knowledge is required and the utmost confidence and co-operation between administrations and all sections of the community in each territory."

Mr. Doidge said that "the wishes, intentions and responsibilities of the six administering Governments cannot accomplish all that must be accomplished without the continued efforts of the peoples of the Territories. The understanding, knowledge and co-operation which are essential to the success of this great venture must, in fact, come from the people themselves. If the South Pacific Commission is to work successfully, it must have your enthusiasm, your interest, understanding and co-operation."

Control of Mosquito Pest

ON Wednesday, April 26, the Conference got down to serious business. Seven papers, on matters of importance to the native communities of all the South Pacific Territories had been prepared. Each of these was presented, in turn; discussed by the delegates; and, in relation to each,

a series of resolutions was adopted, to go as recommendations to the South Pacific Commission.

The first of these was a paper on Mosquito Control, prepared by the Papua-New Guinea delegation. After some several hours discussion, the following resolutions were adopted:—

This Conference has greatly welcomed the opportunity of exchanging information and views regarding the problems of mosquito control in the different territories and the means hitherto taken to overcome them.

The Conference recognises that to achieve success permanent collaboration is necessary between the expert, the ad-

ministration and the people, each having its own part to play.

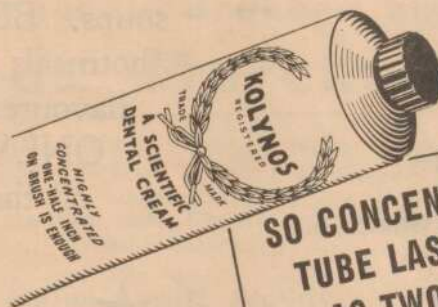
The Conference is convinced of the importance of ensuring that each territorial administration should have expert advice at its disposal, and urges the Commission to consider the provision of a team of ex-

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perts in mosquito control whose services could be placed at the disposal of any territory which asks for such services; full information should be provided by all territories and made available through the Commission.

The Conference feels that in order to enable the populations to play their part, emphasis must be laid on propaganda—e.g., by means of cinema films, particularly in the schools.

The Conference suggests that in view of the work which is at present being carried on against filariasis in several South Pacific territories the Commission should arrange for a conference of experts to meet next year, possibly in Tahiti, where one of these projects is in progress.

As regards the control of mosquitoes in villages the Conference brings to the notice of the Commission the following suggestions: (a) that at least one day in each month should be devoted to mosquito eradication (b) that each village should appoint its own mosquito controller, either voluntary or paid (c) that in each village a system of raising funds by means of a voluntary levy should be put into effect. The Conference recognises that mosquitoes are not limited to villages and equal attention should be given to eradication in townships and larger settlements.

The Conference recommends that the Commission should examine the question of training mosquito control personnel with a view to extending such facilities as and when required.

The Commission is invited to consider the possibility of providing or increasing the supply of *Gambusia affinis* for territories where the need exists.

The Conference recognises the seriousness of the possibility that dangerous mosquitoes may be introduced into parts of the area where they do not at present exist, and urges all concerned to take all possible steps against such introduction.

The Healthy Village

A PAPER on the Healthy Village, prepared by the American Samoa delegation, produced an interesting discussion.

"In these Pacific Islands it is hard to change the customs of the people," declared the Hon. Tamasese, M.L.C., one of the Western Samoan high chiefs.

"You must educate them first—you must tell them the reason why change is necessary," continued Tamasese. "Our people cannot be driven." The speaker commended the work of women's committees in Western Samoan villages, emphasised the importance of preventive medicine, and urged that the South Pacific Commission should consider ways and means to improve water supplies in his territory.

There was no short cut to good health, said the Prime Minister of Tonga (Crown Prince Tugli), but rather it was a subject for long term planning. Dress was a factor to be considered, likewise the cultures of the people concerned. Some Pacific peoples, he said had as yet no conception of a scientific approach to the problem, but clung to what was traditional. Others believed that disease was a form of punishment for wrong doing. "We have to depend on education and time for solving these problems," he added.

A recent survey in Rarotonga showed that sanitation was still faulty, remarked the Makea Nui Toremooana Ariki, and that between 80 and 90 per cent. of the people suffered from intestinal worms, particularly hookworm, and in that manner the vitality of the villagers was lowered. The speaker criticised the European-patterned houses in use in Rarotonga, and asked the Commission to consider the designing of a type of dwelling suitable for the tropics.

"Tuberculosis is the scourge of the Pacific," the Makea declared. "We know that. There is no need for us to wait for that superfluous information." Progress

could not be achieved by individual territories, she said, but only by united action.

The Makea also directed attention to the fact that the Cook Islanders had now acquired a taste for European food, thus introducing into their diet debris-forming food "without the benefit of tooth-brushes." The consequence was that dental health in those islands was in a very sorry state. While general medical treatment was free, the people had to pay for dental services. Unfortunately, the

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average Cook Islander was economically unable to afford dental treatment.

After other speakers related experiences on their islands, the Commission's Member for Social Development, Mr. H. E. Maude, referred to the projects approved, which included teacher and training facilities, extension of visual aids in teaching, a study to ensure more efficient methods of teaching to read and write in the various vernaculars of the South Pacific area, a survey of the languages, another on house building types, especially for school buildings in the tropics, and pilot experiments in community development.

It had been decided to hold a conference of educational experts from the area, said

Mr. Maude, but for various reasons that had been postponed.

The Conference approved of the following recommendations:—

The Commission was advised that in the low coral islands further advice was needed concerning the protection of wells against pollution, also as to the best types of latrines.

The problem of health should be regarded as one having economic, cultural, and educational aspects, and all those aspects should be taken into any programme for the improvement of health in the villages.

Emphasis was placed on the importance of greater attention to preventative public

health measures in villages rather than on merely curative measures.

Attention was drawn to the importance of education and propaganda for public health. It was recommended that films suitable for public health education be made available for distribution to territories.

The outstanding part played by women in the health of the village was recognised, particularly the value of women's committees as a means of promoting knowledge in the practice of hygiene. It was suggested that where such committees do not exist they should be established.

The South Pacific Commission's Research Council was invited to advise territorial administrations on modern techniques for the conversion of house and village refuse into compost for the enrichment of the soil.

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Education Problems

THERE was an interesting discussion on The Village School, a paper presented by the Research Department of the Papua-New-Guinea Department of Education.

While parents permitted their sons to go to school in Dutch New Guinea, said Nicholas Jauwe (one of the two native delegates from that territory) there was opposition to the instruction of girls in the schools. The argument used by parents concerning girls, was that if they learned to write they would cause "too much nuisance" by sending letters to young men in the villages in a language the parents could not understand.

Furthermore, if the girls were educated, he said, they would no longer submit to the old marriage customs of New Guinea and the parents would lose their dowries.

Jauwe advocated the separation of parish work from the usual duties of school teachers, and said that the former work should be carried out by mission workers solely. He asked the South Pacific Commission to give special attention to educational problems of New Guinea.



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Hon. Vishnu Deo, M.L.C. of Fiji, commenting on the parents' objection to sending girls to school, remarked: "If you teach them English or any other language they will write to young men in precisely the same way!"

Tonga's Prime Minister, Prince Tugi, (who is also Minister of Education) said that English should be the second mother tongue of Pacific Islanders, and so enable them to adjust themselves to a modern tongue. At the same time he favoured the retention of the local languages. The Islanders, he declared, no longer lived in the days of whaling vessels: "Nowadays we are within eight hours of Sydney and five days of London. We have to accept this world whether we like it or not."

"The aim among our people must ultimately be English as a second mother tongue. Those people associated with France and Holland must have three mother tongues. That is not so ridiculous as it sounds. The Swiss have four mother tongues!"

However, the indigenous languages, in Prince Tugi's opinion, embodied certain ways of feeling and thinking, and should certainly be retained, as they contained thoughts that in many cases could not be translated into English. "The position is that the South Pacific child cannot do without English and attain the benefits which modern civilisation can provide," he added.

While it was necessary to supply literature in the local languages, he reminded the Conference that the mass of technical information from Britain and American sources was in the English language, and it was most important in their own interests that the Pacific Islanders should have access to it.

M. Lucien Vaissiere, Director of Education for French Oceania, said that France believed in teaching the native peoples in the French language. But that did not necessarily mean that the local languages were to be ignored, the French view being that such instruction should come later, and not in the early stages. He suggested that the Commission should consider an exchange of teachers, possibly during the holiday periods, between the territories, also the establishment of what he called "a pool of literature" for schools to be compiled in both French and English.

Of the one and a half million people in New Guinea and Papua, said Alsoli Salin (who came from Kavieng) very few were literate. The difficulty of so many languages and dialects, he declared, accentuated the problem. "We have no common tongue," commented Salin. "To make our people literate is the job of the village schools. It is a most difficult and complex problem. We have a long way to go along the road of education. As yet we have hardly taken the first steps."

Future of Co-operative Societies

AN outstanding feature among many native peoples in the Pacific to-day is the establishment of co-operative societies. A discussion on this subject was led by Ratu Edward Cakabau when a paper was presented by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies in Fiji. The co-operative societies, he declared, offered a new development from the old form of communal life, and assisted the people to adjust themselves to modern conditions.

When the peoples of the Gilbert and Ellice Group first began the movement, said Mr. I. G. Turbot (who spoke on behalf of the delegation), there was a tendency to dismiss staff over-night. However, that situation had been remedied with understanding, and officials now generally fulfilled their full term of a year. The movement now owned two 120 ft. vessels, each with a capacity of 100 tons, for the collection of copra among the islands, and had also purchased several trucks.

Branch stations had been established at Canton and Ocean Islands, he con-

tinued, and had been most successful. While the movement generally had been guided by the administration which, in certain instances had advanced finance,

there were inherent co-operative characteristics in the people themselves on which to build.

(Continued on page 73)

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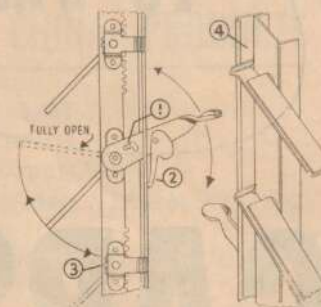
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The South Pacific Commission was asked by this delegation to explore the possibilities of an inter-territorial buying and selling co-operative society with headquarters, either in Australia or New Zealand so as to facilitate both imports and exports for the islanders.

A SAD story of the destruction of the co-operative movement by the Japanese during their occupation of Nauru was related by Raymond Gadabu, a delegate from that island. Prior to the war, he said, the co-operatives had invested £5,000 in Australia. All stores and equipment were lost during the war. However, with Government assistance the movement had been re-established, and was now venturing into the field of furniture manufacturing for the new homes now under construction at Nauru.

"Apart from keeping a fatherly eye on the accounts, which are audited by Europeans," said the delegate, "the administration does not interfere and we are left to manage our own affairs." Profits were accumulating, he added, so as to facilitate trading conditions, and, for the present no bonuses would be distributed.

"Our co-operative societies are the fruit of much labour and concentrated effort," he said. "We believe that co-operative societies should be established for the benefit of all the peoples, and not merely for a section."

Land transport was a serious problem for the co-operatives, said George Kassi, of the Australian New Guinea delegation, because of vast distances and difficult terrain, and the only means available for communication with remote areas was by human portage.

This speaker asked for the compilation of literature concerning co-operative societies in other parts of the world, and for its distribution through the Commission. "We want to know what the other fellow is doing," he said.

Though no co-operative societies had as yet been established in New Caledonia, stated M. Raphael Bournari, a native delegate from that colony, he supported the request for information through the Commission. "We want to know how to adapt this movement to requirements in our own territory," he remarked.

Miria Gavera, who has had a wide experience with co-operative societies in New Guinea, and is secretary of a concern with an annual turnover of £10,000, asked: "Would it be better for one society in the village to handle marketing, store-keeping, community advancement, and other activities of the villagers, or would it be preferable that a separate society should be established for each activity?" The tendency in Papua, he said, was definitely towards multi-purpose societies.

A LBERT HENRY said the Cook Islands Producers' Co-operative Society had a membership of 6,000. Financial resources were meagre, but the New Zealand Government eventually advanced £11,000, and that enabled a vessel to be purchased. The latter left on its first trading voyage among the islands in May, 1949.

While certain difficulties had to be overcome in Western Samoa, said high chief Tamasese, the movement for co-operatives was well worthy of study. It was his opinion that it was more suitable for some territories than others. "People should be careful though," he observed, "that Government advice and help do not necessarily mean Government control!"

The movement was still in its infancy in French Oceania, declared M. Paul Berniere, of Tahiti, but it had emerged spontaneously in the Tuamotus and Australas as a natural characteristic of the peoples. Each worker who went from Kurutu to the phosphate island of Maka-

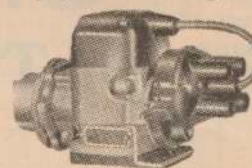
tea sent home a proportion of his wages to be used at home to build a trading schooner. It was essential to make a beginning with the most simple and elementary types of co-operative societies.

The scheme, he believed, could be introduced in districts in Tahiti, where the people could share a tractor or an electric plough, and that would involve only the cost of a mechanic for maintenance pur-

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poses to be paid by the society. The plan could be still further expanded in time by the provision of copra dryers and storage facilities.

As yet, only one co-operative had been established in Dutch New Guinea, that had stood up against the competition of Chinese and other shopkeepers, said Nicholas Jauwe. He supported a request from the Gilberts that the Commission should obtain the fullest possible information of the movement in other parts of

the world and disseminate it through the territorial administrations.

The chairman (Sir Brian Freeston) informed the Conference that a project in relation to co-operative societies had already been approved by the Commission, and would be undertaken as soon as possible throughout the Pacific area.

IN a series of resolutions, the conference noted that delegates from territories where the movement had not been

established had derived help and encouragement from accounts given by others where it was firmly established.

The Commission was requested to explore the possibility of establishing an inter-territorial co-operative buying and selling society in Australia or New Zealand. The purpose of such an organisation, it was stated, comprising all territories participating in the conference, would be to facilitate transactions between co-operatives in the territories.

The Commission was recommended to collect, at its headquarters, full information on the functioning of such societies, in the South Pacific and elsewhere; the documentation to include information concerning community advancement societies. The information, it was suggested, should be available to administrations.

The Conference suggested, further, that the Commission should recommend member governments that they provide facilities for representatives of other administrations to study on the spot in South Pacific territories the practical functioning of co-operatives.

The Conference noted that the Commission, on the recommendation of its research council, had already included in its list of approved projects a study of the development of the co-operative movement throughout the area.

Problem of the Islands' Future Food

ONE of the most interesting discussions took place on May 1, when a paper on the Improvement and Diversification of Food and Export Crops was presented by the Papua-New Guinea delegation.

"We do not want to stay on Australia's back for all time," said Waiatu Ahnon, a delegate from Australian New Guinea,

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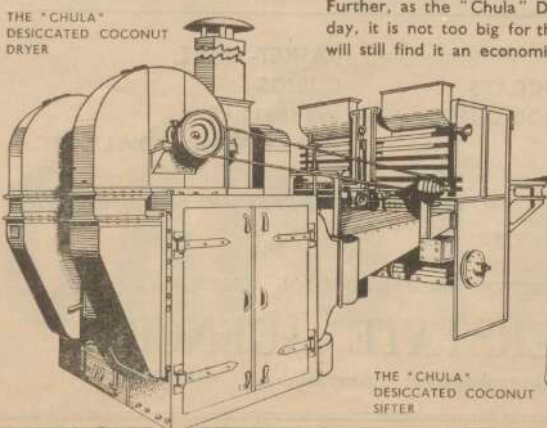
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so, therefore, we are casting our eyes in fields of economic development beyond our country." The economy of his territory, he declared, was dangerously tied to copra production. But it was felt that the co-operative societies would stimulate the native population in other directions. For example, New Guinea at present imported some 10,000 tons of rice, but there was no reason why that commodity should not be produced locally in considerable quantities. More attention must also be given to the production of nutritious foods.

"That we lack a nutritious diet has been demonstrated to us clearly at this conference," stated Ahnon, who is a man of small stature. "There are men here from other territories of considerable height and physique, while we are men of comparatively small size." One method by which the physical stature of peoples in New Guinea and Papua might be increased, said Ahnon, would be by the provision of meals at schools for under-nourished children.

THE peoples of the Solomons, said Belshazar Gina, were not allied so closely to a copra economy. "Those who have coconut trees have all the money they require at the moment," he remarked, "but those who do not possess them have no money." It was felt that in the event of a fall in price of copra it was essential that other crops should be developed, and the delegate asked for expert advice.

At the conference, said Gina, he had observed many people eating chocolate. There were numerous cocoa plants in his territory, but at present the seeds were wasted as the people did not know how to make the best use of them. Pepper, which was now in much demand, was also grown easily in his territory. The islanders wanted to know which were the best varieties of trees to plant, and about marketing possibilities.

A COUNTRY'S best asset was a healthy population, declared the Hon. M. S. Buksh, of Fiji, and a balanced agricultural programme spelled health. One of the most serious problems that faced the South Pacific peoples was the lack of proteins both for man and beast. Fiji, realising the situation, was making a successful attempt to increase the colony's milk production.

"The Gilbertese have rightly been called 'the Lowlands Scots of the Pacific,'" said Mr. I. G. Tubott (Gilbert Islands) "because their time and effort are mainly employed in a subsistence agriculture. But their desire is to rise above that state. They cannot advance rapidly while they remain on a subsistence level. Through their co-operative societies they now have the necessary capital to enter into a modern economic enterprise."

Mr. Tubott asked for guidance in the establishment of alternative cash crops from copra, improvement in coconut planting methods, and the introduction of additions of diet for the Gilbert and Ellice Islanders.

MARCUS KASIEPO, from Dutch New Guinea, declared that his people desired to be informed as to the best methods of storing and conserving food. Considerable supplies of foodstuffs were now wasted, following meetings of his people.

Public enemy No. 1 in Western Samoa, said the Hon. Tamasese, MLC, was the rhinoceros beetle which was accidentally introduced into that territory in 1910. While it was being reduced, it was still a serious menace, and he asked the Commission to find a parasite that would relieve his islands of that pest.

Bananas still led in food value in Western Samoa and, with taro, was the principal crop, said the delegate. During 1948-49, some 15,000 tons of copra were exported, also 2,900 tons of cocoa, and

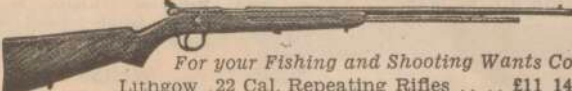
37,000 tons of bananas. Tamasese believed that those three principal exports would retain their premier position for many years to come, also that high rates would be obtained for them.

Speaking of the production difficulties in Western Samoa, Tamasese said that the growing of cotton had been abandoned because the work was considered laborious and the return uncertain. There were, nevertheless, other products that could be developed. His own belief was that the

territory's future food supplies would be abundant.

The difficulties of living on a small island with only a small portion available for the growing of foodstuffs, combined with an inadequate supply of water, were commented upon by Jacob of Nauru. When the phosphate there was worked out, he declared, much of the area would be waste. Most of the soil was porous and unsuitable for agriculture, except on a minor scale. He requested that one of

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the Commission's experts should visit Nauru and advise as to what crops could be grown there successfully.

PRINCE TUGI, Prime Minister of Tonga, a keen advocate of mechanisation in agriculture, said: "If we do not improve our tools for tilling, weeding, and harvesting, we cannot hope for much progress. At present we are merely planting to keep our people alive—we are not planning for export. Mechanisation would change that situation. To-day we expend many man-hours in cultivation, whereas the work could so easily be performed by machinery. I believe that the use of the latter is of crucial importance if we are to raise the living standard of the Pacific peoples."

While the New Hebrides was not so dependent upon copra as were other territories, said John Kalsakau, a comprehensive survey of the resources there was essential. He asked for a soil survey, an economic survey, and information as to the marketing of new products in the Pacific. His people were anxious to export provided they had the necessary information and understanding of safeguards.

Makea Nui Toremoana Ariki, of Rarotonga, urged the necessity of afforestation for the Cook Islands in an effort to prevent further erosion, which was a serious problem, and to provide timber for orange and tomato shipments. Though rats were one of the main causes of the loss of food crops, she said, haphazard and ineffectual methods were employed to eradicate them.

Experts believed that there would be a large increase in population in the Group within the next decade; therefore, it was essential to plan for future food supplies. There were many points, Makea added, on which the Commission could give advice.

HOW the American administration had controlled the sale of copra in his territory on a non-profit making basis, and disposed of it in San Francisco to the highest bidders, was related by high Chief Tufele, of Eastern Samoa, and he thought that information of the system would be of value to other Pacific groups.

A complete study both of local conditions, particularly of soils, also of markets overseas, was essential, said M. Maou Djoel, of New Caledonia, if plans to export were to succeed.

An increase in population in French Oceania had brought new problems in its train, said M. Paul Berniere, of Tahiti. The people were now consuming considerable quantities of canned foods, though experts had directed attention to its disadvantages, and were not producing sufficient natural foods. The peoples had yet to be convinced of the necessity for a balanced diet, and that could only be accomplished by propaganda methods. Much could be done to influence parents by establishing gardens at schools.

As for exports, it was his opinion producers would have first to be assured of stable and remunerative markets. What was the use, he asked, of diversifying foods and improving crops if, overnight, prices fell? Such tendencies had in the past discouraged people from experimenting with new crops. The speaker asked for experts to give practical advice on these problems.

The Importance of Fish

AN introductory paper on fisheries methods in the South Pacific territories, was presented by M. M. Legend, oceanographer at the French Institute of Oceania, Noumea.

If there was too great exploitation, said M. Paul Berniere, of Tahiti, there was a

grave danger of causing irreparable damage to fish supplies, and he instanced tuna. He urged that the South Pacific Commission be requested to institute an investigation into resources, techniques, and market possibilities.

Much could be done to re-awaken the native peoples' interest in fishing, declared M. Raphael Bouanani (New Caledonia), if pilot fishing enterprises were undertaken; and he asked that documentation be supplied to the territories concerning fish, also as to illnesses caused by eating poisoned fish from the lagoons.

There was a wide variety of fish-catching methods in New Guinea, said Willie Gavera, a delegate from that territory, and research had been undertaken by the Australian Government with a view to exploiting resources commercially. There were vast lakes in Papua which, he believed, would prove suitable for fish culture. This delegate asked for information on research into pond fish culture.

Tutu Tekanene, a senior assistant medical practitioner from the Gilbert Islands, said there had been no commercial fishing by Europeans in his Group; but the co-operative societies had for some time been exporting sun-dried fish to other islands quite successfully, and had plans for deep-sea fishing on a commercial basis. However, technical advice was necessary on certain aspects before the scheme could be proceeded with.

Michael Belade, of the British Solomon Islands, who spoke in his own tongue, asked the Commission "to make a book with pictures in it to show the different fish."

As commercial fishing was likely to be undertaken on a considerable scale in Pijian waters, said Ratu Edward Cakabau, it was essential that care should be exercised to see that the local domestic

supply was not diminished. He questioned the wisdom of sending women out into the water to fish, at all hours of the night, which took place in some districts, and which he believed was detrimental to health. "And health, sir," Ratu Edward added, "we have made No. 1 priority at this conference!"

Nicholas Jauwe, of Netherlands New Guinea, asked for information concerning deep-sea fishing. His people, he said, had had experience only of shore fishing.

Few Nauruans were now engaged in fishing, said Raymond Gadabu, as they found more profitable work elsewhere—yet the waters around Nauru teemed with fish. No scientific survey of resources, he said, had yet been undertaken.

The method of stupefying fish by vegetable poisons put into the lagoons, and so catching them, claimed Tamasese, MLC, of Western Samoa, was introduced by missionaries on returning from New Guinea. "Is this fish good for human

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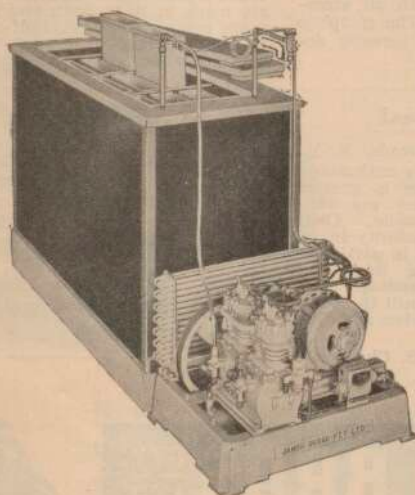
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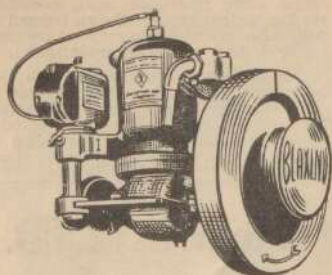
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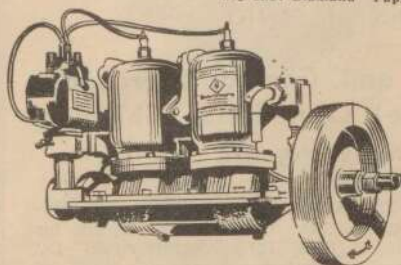
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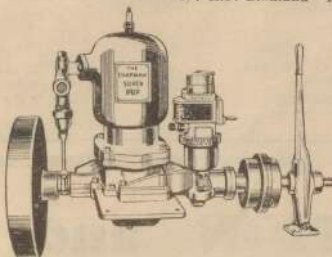
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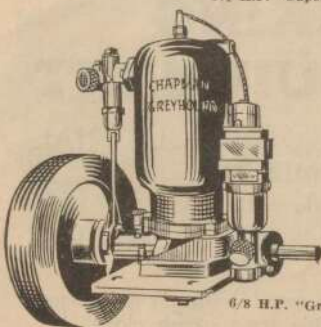
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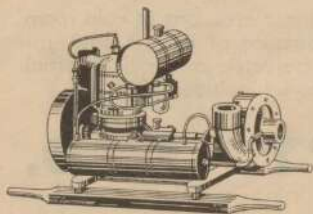
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consumption?" he asked. He also reminded the conference that quantities of young fish were destroyed in that way, and he asked for an investigation.

"Why are some fish poisonous in one region and not in another?" was a question concerning which he asked for more information.

Petero, a New Hebrides delegate who spoke in French, also asked for an investigation into fish resources in his territory, and for protection against the use of explosives in catching fish.

There was a possibility that commercial fishing in the Cook Group, said Rongomatane Ariki of Atiu, would upset the local economy of the atolls. At the same time, he favoured sending fish to those islands which were constantly without such a diet.

The use of both poison and explosives was prohibited by the Government in American Samoa, said the high chief Tutele, who suggested a recommendation on those lines to the Commission. "If we continue such habits," he said, "in 50 years' time we will not see any fish around our beautiful reefs!"

The balance of our report of the discussions and recommendations of the South Pacific Conference will be published in the June issue.

The Rev. R. P. Garrity, vicar of All Saints', Birkenhead, New Zealand, has been accepted for mission work by the Melanesian Mission. He will be stationed in Honiara. He has had two previous terms in the diocese of Melanesia. His wife and son will go with him.



The twin daughters of Mr. Frank Mills, head councillor of Naghir Island, in the Torres Group (Torres Strait), were married recently. The photograph shows the two brides, Misses Cessa and Ina Mills, outside the church. The Mills family are held in high esteem in the Torres Islands.

Mr. John W. Cox, who recently spent his leave in Queensland, has returned to Kieta, Bougainville, where he has been promoted to Works Supervisor, PWD.

Mr. C. Baines who is on the staff of one of the Administrative Departments in Port Moresby, and is also local scoutmaster, arrived in Brisbane recently on leave. He said that there were now two groups of scouts in Papua numbering 54 youngsters. Papuan scouts wore a lap-lap with the scout emblem sewn on one corner. The idea was to teach them self-reliance—a quality which Papuan natives had lost since the days of their fathers and grandfathers.

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BE.1y

(From Page 59.)

YOU will probably be surprised to find how few you really knew. Congratulate yourself if you scored two or more. No need though, to give up using quotes. Origins now are sometimes obscure but in their more commonly used form they have become part of our language.

- reads, To gild refined gold, to paint the lily.

3. Destruction (not fall). Again, the full quotation runs: Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

4. Double (not doubly).
5. Woods (not fields).
6. With (not by).
7. Joined (not meet). The quotation ends: . . . then was the tug of war.
8. Place (not point).
9. Clife (not quiet).
10. At . . . heart (not to . . . core). Full quotation: A goodly apple rotten at the heart.
11. Food (not cud). The quotation goes on: . . . of sweet and bitter fancy.
12. Toil, tears and sweat; the correct order is often mixed.

LIVE fruit-fly maggots found during a routine inspection of Australian oranges at Suva were the cause of the Agriculture Department's ban on the importation of all citrus fruits to Fiji.

Imposed last October and rigidly enforced, the ban is officially stated to have been clamped down to protect the local fruit industries against the risk of Mediterranean and Queensland fruit-fly damage.

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HALF-FORGOTTEN PARADISE

(Continued from Page 55)

On the following day, our back packs replenished with oranges, bananas and Salisbury canned beef, we set out over the trail that leads to the Haapaa valley. This is the same trail that the victorious Taipi valley warriors took when they surprised their sleeping neighbours, the Haapaa, and slew them with their war-*cuus*. Now only two native families live in the steep, narrow valley. From the Haapaa we climbed over a long gradual rise for several hours. About noon we rested on the summit and feasted our eyes on the great bay of Taiohae. Here on this spot where we sat, Captain Porter of the United States Navy, first declared the Marquesas an American possession in the year 1813. His efforts were in vain, for the American government never ratified the claim.

CAUTIOUSLY we picked our way down the dangerous incline that drops precipitously into Taiohae. The soda spring that quenched the thirst of Porter's men a century and a half ago still bubbles up along the trail and its waters still quench parched throats.

Taiohae is the home of Stanislaus Taupotini, third generation descendant of the great Temoana, Marquesan chief who was captured by the English and exhibited in British circuses and carnivals. Here also lives Bob McKittrick, a Scotchman, who with Henry Lee, a Norwegian, are the only two non-French whitemen in the entire Marquesas group. Bob, who was completely washed out by the great 1946 tidal wave, has now rebuilt his trading store and his home. Because he had a gas refrigerator which yielded plenty of cold water, his home was my hangout during the days I spent in Taiohae. At Taiohae, too, is the French administrative quarters for the Marquesas. Dr. Brunis, the only medical officer in the entire group, also serves as resident governor and criminal and civil judge. Comptroller Bay, which opens into the broad Taipi valley, served as a refuelling stop for the Queen Mary during the recent war when she was being used as a troop transport. The same bay was used in World War I by the German cruisers *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau*.

In Hatheu valley, *Establissemments Donald, Ltd.*, are building a new trading store to replace the one lost in the 1946 tidal wave. Their only other trading post in the group is at Atuona. In Hatheu, also, the resident priest of Nukuhiva is constructing a huge new Catholic church.

FROM Nukuhiva I took passage on the schooner to Ua Pou, where I hiked back into the jungle to photograph the only three remaining stone tikis now still standing in the Marquesas. Of hundreds there at one time, all the rest have been carried off to museums. With so few inhabitants in many of the valleys, it is not difficult to carry off these unguarded valuable treasures. Neither here, nor on neighbouring Ua Huka, are there any white men living.

From the northern or Washington Group we put-putted our way down to Hiva Oa, Tahuata and Fatuhiva, the only inhabited islands in the southern group. Of these Hiva Oa, 23 miles in length, is by far the largest. On it rests the peaceful little village of Atuona, the only real settlement in the islands worthy of the name of a village. Here lives Johnny Samoa, one of the best-remembered characters I've ever met in my travels. Johnny, who is now in his late forties, is crippled by elephantiasis. Despite this handicap, he acts as minister of the local Protestant church and works his own copra. But what es-

pecially attracted me to Johnny, who was born in Savaii, Western Samoa, was his command of English. After weeks of hearing nothing but Marquesan, Tahitian and French, it was good to talk without effort in one's own tongue.

Situated at Atuona is a Catholic girls' school and also the headquarters of the

group's Catholic Mission, under the supervision of Monsignor LeCadre, now in his 50th year in the Group. While I was there I watched him perform the marriage ceremony for Teoho Teikinohea, the bride, and Mahai Scallamella, the groom. Following the church ceremony these two young native newlyweds went

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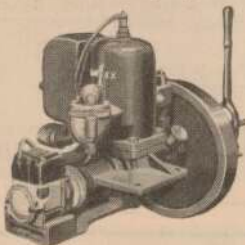
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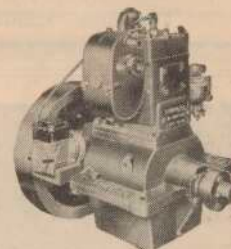
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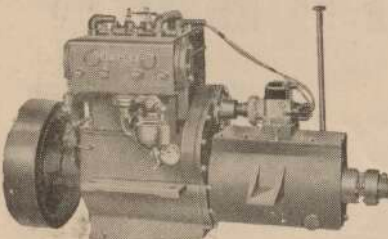


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to the home of the bride where they entered the house by walking over the bodies of their parents, who, in old Marquesan custom, had prostrated themselves, white suits and dresses notwithstanding on the ground. One of the weirdest sounds I ever heard was on the night before the wedding, when the female relatives of the betrothed couple wandered through the valley, at 2 a.m., chanting the genealogy of their forebears back through some 40 generations. Despite the power of the Catholic church, these old Marquesan tribal customs continue to thrive.

Following the housewarming for the pair, a feast was held in a specially-built pavilion in which 500 friends and relatives gorged themselves for five hours on breadfruit, poi, popoi, fish and the roasted meat of nine beef cattle and 10 pigs. At eight in the evening a dance was held. This was one of the few dances allowed by the Catholic Missionaries in Hiva Oa, and the dancers made use of the occasion by continuing, with only brief breaks until 6 p.m. the following evening. As an American, whose knowledge of the native dance is defi-

nately limited, I provided the comic relief.

IN the valley of Tahauka, close by Atuona, lives M. LeBrunne, who with Henry Lee of Eiaone valley, Bob McKittrick and Father LeCadre, are the veterans of the Marquesas. LeBrunne and Lee both have spent 39 years in the islands, while McKittrick has been there for only a few less. Formerly the three of them worked for the German firm, Societe Commerciale de l'Oceanie, as sailors aboard their copra schooners. When the company went out of business at the time of the first war, the men took plantations of their own and have been copra men ever since.

Each of them is an expert in the lore of the ancient Marquesans, but I discovered that LeBrunne, an inveterate reader, was the only one who had heard of the A-bomb. (This is before the announcement of the H-bomb). Therein lies the happiness of these islands; their isolation from all the fears and strifes of the modern workaday world.

The Marquesas, like the Tuamotus and the Australs, never knew the presence of troops and airplanes and implements of war as did 90 per cent. of all the other Pacific islands. That, if nothing else, has kept them happy and still "native." It is good to know that there is still somewhere in this world where one can go to escape, if not the effects, at least the worries of the H-bomb and kindred items of our new horror warfare. It may be like the ostrich hiding his head in the sand and making believe no trouble exists, but as someone has said, "If the ostrich hides his head in fear of the atom bomb, he is wiser than we are; he may soon be the only fellow with a head."

THERE are, of course, two schools of thought on this isolation business. One school chastises the French Government for not taking better care of the natives' medical, educational and economic needs; the others credit the colonial administration for its foresight in the policy of *laissez faire*, hands off, and leaving the natives pretty much to their own devices.

I am not sure that I favour either school completely. I do feel this: I discussed the disease rates in the islands with the colonial doctor. His figures on the high percentages of leprosy, venereal disease and elephantiasis shocked me. Despite the fact that the doctor makes rounds of the group whenever he can by boat (which is woefully inadequate) and that there is a dispensary at Atuona with Nurse Salmon in charge, there just isn't anywhere near enough medical attention. In such highly-unprofitable islands the administration of course, is not willing to increase its appropriations for upkeep. But one small seaplane, based anywhere in the islands, could handle a Flying Doctor service set-up on the Australian plan. It would mean adding small radio transmitters on Ua Huka, Ua Pou, Fatuhiva and Tahuata, but these need not be manned by special operators. The valley chief could be instructed in their use for medical emergencies. The same plan could be used to advantage in the Tuamotus and the Australs without really depriving the natives of any of their isolation and yet giving them great benefits.

The economy of the islands, a copra economy, is no worse and no better than that of any other Pacific island which rests its entire fortunes on copra. The Marquesas, which boast the largest coconuts to be found anywhere, produce just over 2000 tons of copra annually at present. They have produced much more; and much less. Droughts that seem to

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run in seven-year cycles plague the islands and force the copra output way down. They are still recovering from the latest drought that hit them four years ago. The large plantation in Tahauka valley, which formerly belonged to the German firm, but which is now operated by a young red-headed Frenchman just out from metropolitan France, last year was able to produce only 25 tons. Five years before it was producing 70 tons annually.

It does seem to me, though, that much of the fertile land is lying useless. Though the population of the group is now nearing 3,000 from its low of 2,100 a decade ago, there is still arable land and fish in the sea to support ten, maybe 20 or 30, times that many people. On the Ahoa plateau, which lies above Hanamenu on Hiva Oa, thousands of people could find living and farming room. In many of the valleys where only 200 or 250 people live now, once 4,000 or 5,000 people supported themselves. As recently as 100 years ago, more than 100,000 people lived in the Marquesas. With our new knowledge of scientific farming, and with our need for room for Europe's unfortunate DP's, surely there is an opportunity going begging in the Marquesas.

Until transportation improves, there is no real reason for increasing the production of fruit in the Marquesas, although the oranges I ate there were sweeter and juicier than any I had ever tasted anywhere (Florida and California Chambers of Commerce, please note!). Breadfruit, mangoes, papotapo, bananas, limes, lemons, grapefruit, and various native fruits grow easily and without much care. Were transportation to an available market an easy matter, surely the Marquesas could become one of the world's greatest fruit-growing areas.

In fields other than agriculture, the Marquesas have no real outlook, except

the chance presented by tourism. While there is no hotel and no cafe in all the islands, there are tourists who would delight to hear that fact. One cannot venture into the Marquesas without having the closest contact with the natives, which in Polynesia is a pleasant thought; in Melanesia it would be to the contrary. For the person who would really like to get away from it all, and live on native fruits and fish, without all the accoutre-

ments and paraphernalia of a holiday in a more complexly civilised place, there is nowhere in this world like the Marquesas.

Mr. J. D. A. Germond, a senior District Officer from the British Solomon Islands, who has acted on occasion as Resident Commissioner, passed through Sydney in May on his way to Britain on long leave. It is reported that his next post will be in Bechuanaland.

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The Noumea fire brigade has received a cheque for 10,000 frs. from Etablissements Ballande for their success in putting out a fire which started in their premises recently. The damage is estimated at 20,000 frs.

New Caledonian jam producers are unable to compete, so far as price is concerned, with Australian imports. Australian jam sells at 18.18 francs a kilo (2.2 lb.), whereas the Caledonian product is retailed at 40 francs a kilo.

Seadog and Tiger On Loose Again!

Another Tongan Gaol-break

From Our Own Correspondent

NUKU'ALOAFA, April 20.

THE Kingdom's two most notorious criminals, Mahe Tupou (alias the Seadog), and Tupou Ngata (alias the Tiger) have once again made a bold

bid for freedom by breaking from the Matakileua Prison with another prisoner, a youth named Villami Maka, on the night of April 11.

After evading a determined police search, the escapees got away from the Kingdom on the night of April 18 on a 14 ft. sailing boat (belonging to Mr. R. Skeen, Government Printer) which had been anchored at the Nuku'alofa waterfront.

This was Mahe Tupou's fourth escape from the Kingdom. On the first three, he and his companions landed on islands of the Lau Group, Fiji, whither most likely they are making on their present venture. Mahe Tupou's first escape from the Kingdom was remarkable for the fact that it was made in a crudely made canoe, and during the 15 days he and his companions drifted across the 400 miles of windswept ocean between Tonga and Fiji they lived almost solely on coconuts, plus some raw shark meat.

Tupou Ngata, on the other hand, has never gone beyond the Kingdom before this, but he caused a sensation some years ago when he escaped from prison and ventured across the treacherous passage between Tongatapu and 'Eua on a frail canoe. By hiding in almost inaccessible parts of the island of 'Eua, he defied police searchers for weeks before he was captured on one of his forays for food into one of the villages on the island.

The alarming increase in prison escapes in the last few years and their resultant unnecessary wasteful expense of public money is causing much public criticism of the Gaol Department.

(Editorial Note: We seem to remember that a year or so ago, the necessary legislation was passed in Fiji and Tonga whereby criminals from Tonga could be made to serve their sentences in the greater security of Suva gaol.)

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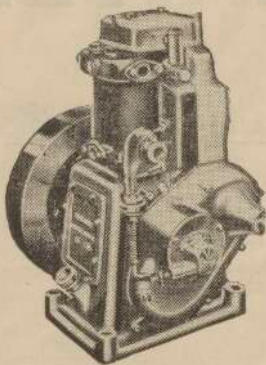
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THEY STILL BELIEVE IN CARGO CULT

A New Guinea reader sends this photograph of a cargo-house (built like an aeroplane) and writes as follows:—

IT is impossible to understand how the New Guinea natives can go on clinging to this mad cargo-cult idea. The arrival of their ancestors' "cargo" has had to be postponed so often now that one would think that even they would wake up.

The movement is found all over New Guinea (and apparently further afield) simmering here and flaring up there. Here are a few examples that have come to my own notice: A village on Manam Island (off the Madang coast) where, after night the villagers gather around at midnight, sitting in a circle to await the arrival of the heavily laden cargo boats that they believe will soon come. Another village where they have built large houses in the shape of an aeroplane (see photo) and a jeep—evidently to indicate the kind of transport that they think their ancestors will use. Others

have built more orthodox sheds to house this heaven-sent cargo, when it comes.

Recently I visited a village where no European had been since the end of the war. In the middle of it was a two-storey house, built, I was told, for a lieutenant of that stormy petrel, Yall. I saw a boy with hair dyed blue and for a joke I called out, "Loman i kam," meaning the "Lawman has arrived"—the "lawman" in this case being the new law for the promised golden age. To my surprise they took me seriously and were keenly disappointed when I pointed to the blue-headed boy. I was given to understand that my sense of humour was misplaced.

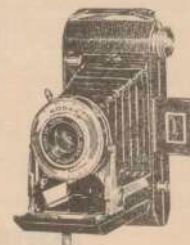
Mrs. C. F. Corbett, of Fiji, returned to the Colony in early May, after spending several months in Sydney with her sister.



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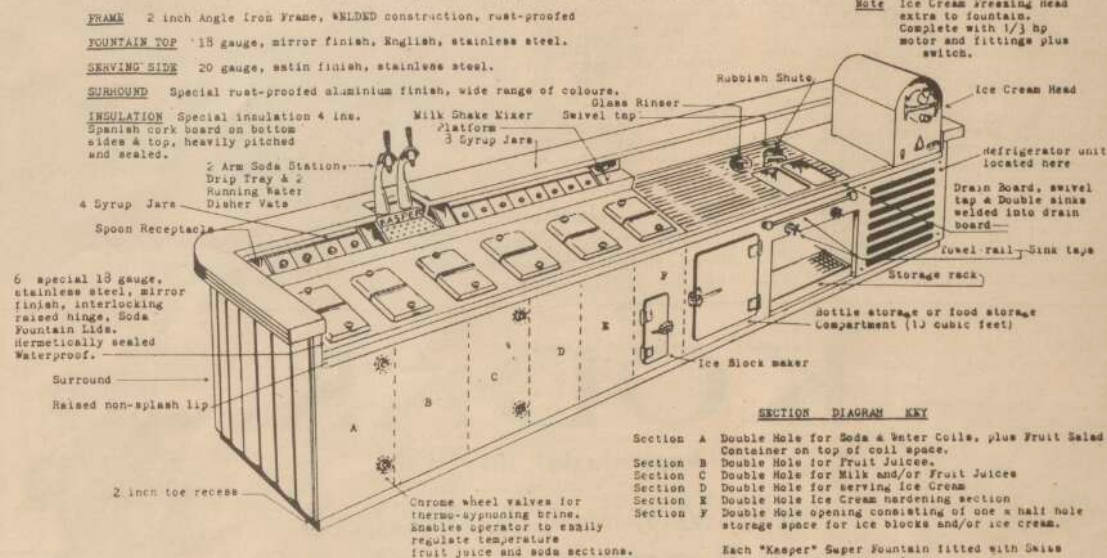
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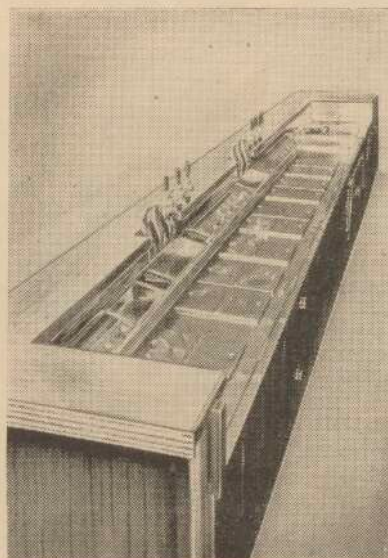
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HEBRIDES NEW VOLCANO

Letter to the Editor

I WAS most interested in the photograph appearing in your issue of November, 1949, under the caption "Birth of a Pacific Island."

As resident missionary on the island of Tongoa, New Hebrides, I have had the opportunity of watching this island from its beginning to its present stage of development. Actually, the first activity in the formation of the island took place early in 1948, when a submarine volcano began eruption approximately midway between the islands of Tongoa and Epi. The spot lies some two miles off shore from a thermal region on Tongoa and is probably from the water which was active at the end of last century when an island, which later subsided, was formed. A very graphic account of this earlier eruption is to be found in "Misi," the autobiography of the Rev. O. Michelsen.

At the commencement of the recent activity, I submitted a brief report to the Government Meteorologist in Vila, who, I understand, forwarded the observations to the Commonwealth Meteorological Bureau. Eruptions were fairly consistent over a period of approximately two months, during which time the crater threw up smoke, steam, ash and rubble; and during this period a low island (some ten feet high and about one hundred yards long) was formed. Then activity ceased and during the following south-east season, the rubble was washed below the surface. The volcano was dormant for some months until in October of the same year activity recommenced with greater force. Since then the eruptions have been fairly consistent (with brief quiescent periods) so that now an island of 300 feet has been raised.

When the volcano is performing it presents a most impressive sight. Ash-

laden smoke is thrown high into the air; and, as well, molten rocks are catapulted to fall sizzling into the sea. Sometimes a few minor explosions are followed by a large one and then activity is subdued for a matter of minutes till the performance is repeated. At other times as many as five major bursts follow one another from the crater, the last issuing while the first is still ascending.

As I have not yet set foot on the island, I cannot give an accurate estimate as to area, but it must now be a few acres in extent.

I am, etc.,

ROBERT W. MURRAY.

Tongoa,
New Hebrides,
April 1, 1950.

(Editorial Note: After our November photograph, we published (in March issue) an account of how two New Hebrides residents landed on the new island and named it Karua.)

Lone Voyager Sails From Suva For Cairns

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, May 1.

SAILING alone, Mr. Patrick David Dillon, a young Irishman who came to Fiji last December, left Suva in his 30 ft. yacht, Tara, on April 29 bound for Cairns, Queensland, which he hopes to reach in about two weeks. The Tara has no engine but carries water and provisions sufficient for a much longer voyage than that to Queensland. Well fitted-out and Marconi-rigged as a cutter, the Tara was built at Suva this year by Mr. Frank Woodhouse to Mr. Dillon's order.

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Sphere	W.	6 11 3
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PRICE OF PEARL SHELL SOARS

MENDIS AND SONS, representing Miltenberg, New York, in mid-April at Thursday Island, offered £575 a ton for top grade pearl shell, an increase of £110 on last season's price.

It is the second highest price ever offered. Several contracts have already been closed at this price.

Interesting developments are expected shortly.

Sunshine Gold

SUNSHINE GOLD DEVELOPMENT, LTD., cleaned up 202 oz. gold for February, March, and part of April, at its leases in Morobe district, N.G. Heavy rains caused the company to lose 49 days' sluicing.

Parasite War On Amblypelta

Combatting Nutfall in BSI

From Our Own Correspondent

HONIARA, April 30.

Mr. B. A. O'CONNOR, Fiji Government entomologist, is expected to arrive in the British Solomon Islands in May to investigate the possibility of establishing a parasitic fly on *Amblypelta cocophaga*, the bug which is responsible for premature nutfall of coconuts.

The fly, *Trichopoda pennipes*, was imported into Fiji from Florida in December last year and is being bred in the laboratory at Suva. Main reason for its importation was to attempt its establishment in the Solomons to control *Amblypelta*. The parasite lays its eggs on bugs which act as host for hatching eggs and are destroyed in the process, and it is hoped that it will lay them on *Amblypelta*. Secondary object of this research is to see if the parasite fly will lay eggs on another bug, *Axiagastus campbelli*, which would offer a useful host for it in areas where *Amblypelta* is not plentiful and enable a constant supply of hatching, mating and breeding parasites to be maintained as an insurance against *Amblypelta*. *Axiagastus* occurs in considerable numbers on coconut spadices in nutfall areas on Guadalcanal, and other islands.

Mr. O'Connor may begin his research on Fairymead's Baununu plantation on Malaita.

With Mr. R. Leach, plant mycologist from Cambridge, he visited the Solomons in 1948 on behalf of Lever's. A summary of their report on nutfall was published in the PIM during 1948.



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SOUTH SEAS ARTIFACTS Oldman Collection Distributed In New Zealand

THE recommendations of the Art Galleries and Museums Association of New Zealand for the distribution of the W. O. Oldman collection of Maori and South Sea artifacts, bought by the New Zealand Government in 1948 for £44,000 have been approved by the NZ Government. As a result, the Canterbury Museum will have the first choice of two of the sections in the collection which were most highly prized by Mr. Oldman—the Hawaiian and Easter Island sections.

The Maori collection and three of the 12 South Sea sections will go to the Dominion Museum in Wellington, and the choice of the remaining nine South Sea sections has been decided by ballot among the other three metropolitan museums. The duplicates in each section will be shared among the four major museums and the remainder will be distributed among smaller museums.

The collection is regarded as the best private collection in the world of Maori and South Sea artifacts. The new arrangement is designed to give New Zealand students a chance to study all phases of Maori and Polynesian arts and crafts without travelling to the British Museum, the Bishop Museum in Honolulu, or the Museum of Ethnology in Berlin, which previously held the best collections. One result of the allocation will be that research in the area covered by each section will be the responsibility of the museum with that section. The Marquesas will be covered by the Dominion Museum, Tahiti, Tonga, and Samoa by Auckland, and the Cook Islands by the Otago Museum.

One of the main exhibits allotted to Canterbury Museum will be the largest and most perfect example in existence of the feather cloaks worn by kings and chiefs of old Hawaii. This cloak, which is five feet from neck to hem and 13 feet along the bottom margin, is entirely covered with red and yellow feathers from birds which are now extinct, worked in by hand on a network base. It was brought to England in 1812.

The Easter Island section contains a number of small carved wooden figures, which next to stone statues are the most famous products of the island's art. These apparently represent departed ancestors and are shown as emaciated corpses; but their exact purpose has still to be

properly ascertained. These figures were collected before the islanders began to produce inferior carvings for trading with European sailors.

Research Into Pacific Languages

From Our Own Correspondent

HONIARA, April 30.
MR. GEORGE MILNER, from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, who has spent two years in the Pacific conducting research into native languages, returned to Sydney in April to return to the UK in the Orcades.

Mr. Milner brought sound-recording equipment to the Pacific and made many records of native music and a considerable number of language recordings. The last six months of his tour were spent in the British Solomon Islands where he obtained some very interesting material. Some of his recordings will be used to familiarise cadet officers in the British Colonial Administrative Service, posted to Pacific Colonies, with languages and

native customs which they may encounter there.

Solomon Islands music and languages have never previously been recorded in this way. During his stay in the Solomon Islands Mr. Milner concentrated mainly on the languages of the Western Solomons.

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SHIPPING AND PLANE SERVICES

THE following sea and air services are running to schedules in the Pacific. Not all of the regular services which were suspended, owing to war conditions, have been restored; but preparations are under way for their early reintroduction. As they become available they will be announced here.

SHIP SERVICES

Sydney-NZ-Fiji-Hawaii-Nth. America

THE itinerary of the Canadian-Australasian liner "Aorangi" (17,500 tons) is Sydney, Auckland, Suva (Fiji), Honolulu (Hawaii), Victoria (Vancouver Island), and Vancouver (British Columbia, Canada). Time-table for the Pacific section of her run is:—

RMS "Aorangi"					
Honolulu	May 4	July 6	Sept. 7	Nov. 9	Jan. 11
Suva	May 13	July 15	Sept. 16	Nov. 18	Jan. 20
Auckland	May 16-18	July 18-20	Sept. 19-21	Nov. 21-23	Jan. 23-25
Sydney, arr.	May 22	July 24	Sept. 25	Nov. 27	Jan. 29
Sydney, dep.	June 1	Aug. 3	Oct. 5	Dec. 7	Feb. 8
Auckland	June 5-6	Aug. 7-8	Oct. 9-10	Dec. 11-12	Feb. 12-13
Suva	June 9	Aug. 11	Oct. 13	Dec. 15	Feb. 16
Honolulu	June 16	Aug. 18	Oct. 20	Dec. 22	Feb. 23
Vancouver	June 23-29	Aug. 25-31	Oct. 27-Nov. 2	Dec. 29-Jan. 4	Mar. 2-8

Subject to Alterations Without Notice.

Sydney-N. Caledonia-Tahiti

LINERS of the Messageries Maritimes maintain a service at about two-monthly intervals between Sydney, Vila (New Hebrides), Noumea (New Caledonia) and Papeete (Tahiti), en route to Marseilles, via the Panama Canal; and they return by the same route.

NEW CALEDONIA—NEW HEBRIDES

THE New Caledonian Government has subsidised and maintained the coastal shipping services. The East Coast, the West Coast, and the Loyalty Islands, under present conditions, receive 10 round trips per annum. The ships call at the following ports:

EAST COAST.—Yate, Ounila, Thio, Nakety, Canala, Kouaoua Kua, Moneo, Ponerihouen, Tibarama, Poindimie, Wagap, Touho, Tipindje, Hienghene, Tao, Oubatch, Pouebo, Dalade, Pam, Arama, and return.

WEST COAST.—Pouembout, Kone, Temala, Voh, Ouaco Gomen, Koumac, Tangalou, Tiebaghi, Nehoue, Poume, Baaba, Belep and return.

LOYALTY ISLANDS.—Mare (Tadine), Lifou

(Chepenehe) Ouvea (Pajoua, St. Joseph) and return.

The steamer "Neo Hebrides" runs regularly between Noumea and Sydney, with occasional trips to the New Hebrides (mostly Anaitum). The owners are Societe Maritime et Maniere Hagen, Noumea. Sydney agents: H. C. Sleight, 254 George Street, Sydney.

The Messageries Maritimes motor-ship Polytechnic sails from Sydney about every six weeks to Noumea, Vila and Santo (New Hebrides) and outports, with occasional trips to the Wallis and Futuna Islands. Details from Messageries Maritimes branch office, in Sydney, Noumea and Vila.

New Zealand—Fiji— Samoa—Tonga

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Auckland	May 18	June 20
Suva	May 22-23	June 24-25
Nukualofa	May 25-26	June 27-28
Vavau	May 27	June 29
Niue	May 27	—
Pago Pago	—	June 29
Apa	May 28-31	Jun. 30-Jul. 3
Suva	June 3-4	July 7-8
Auckland	June 8	July 11

* Western Time.

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New Zealand—Cook Is.—Niue—Samoa

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Sydney—Norfolk Island— New Hebrides

THE SS "Morinda," Burns, Philp & Co., Ltd., runs at approximately three-monthly intervals from Sydney to Lord Howe Island, Norfolk Island, and main ports of the New Hebrides, and return.

Sydney—Papua— New Guinea

BURNS, PHILP LINE motor-vessels "Bulolo" and "Malaita" maintain regular services between Sydney and ports in Papua-New Guinea.

"Bulolo" leaves Sydney, northbound, approximately every six weeks; "Malaita" every seven weeks.

"Bulolo" calls at Brisbane, Port Moresby, Samarai, Lae, Dregarhafen, Rabaul, Samarai, Port Moresby, Brisbane, thence back to Sydney.

The "Malaita's" schedule varies considerably. She calls at Port Moresby only occasionally, but usually calls at Samarai, Lae, Madang, Manus, Rabaul, Samarai, thence direct to Sydney—ports of call being in that order. Sometimes the order of calls is Samarai, Rabaul, Manus, Madang, Lae, Samarai. Intending passengers should check with Burns, Philp & Co., Ltd., Sydney, or Island branches.

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Summary of Pacific Air Services

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NEW HEBRIDES.—Frequent regular flying-boat service from Sydney by Trans Oceanic Airways. Service from Noumea by French plane runs twice weekly. Qantas plane from Sydney to NH on alternate Tuesdays.

NORFOLK ISLAND.—Regular service from NZ by NZ National Airways; from Sydney by Qantas; from Fiji by NZ National Airways.

LORD HOWE ISLAND.—Regular weekly service from Sydney by Qantas and Trans Oceanic Airways.

Fiji.—Regular services from Australia by Pan American, BCPA and CPA (to Nadi); Auckland by NZ National Airways (to Nadi); from

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WESTERN SAMOA, COOK ISLANDS AND TONGA.—Regular service from Fiji by NZ National Airways.

TAHITI.—Monthly service from Noumea by TRAPAS plane via Fiji, W. Samoa, Cook Is.

DUTCH NEW GUINEA.—Regular weekly service from Batavia by KLM.

AUSTRALIA-NEW ZEALAND.—Regular service by Tasman Empire Airways.

AUSTRALIA-NORTH AMERICA.—Regular Trans-Pacific services by Pan American Airways, BCPA and CPA.

EUROPE-INDO-CHINA-N. CALEDONIA.—Fortnightly service by Air France.

Sydney-Vancouver BCPA Service

BRITISH Commonwealth Pacific Airlines, Ltd., operate a twice weekly trans-Pacific service from Sydney to Vancouver, via Fiji, Canton Island, Honolulu and San Francisco; and a weekly service between Auckland and Vancouver, via the same ports.

Planes leave Sydney every Wednesday and Saturday, and Vancouver on the Southbound trip every Monday and Thursday. Every fourth trip from Sydney terminates at San Francisco instead of Vancouver.

Planes leave Auckland every Tuesday and arrive in Vancouver the following Wednesday. The Southbound trip to Auckland commences from Vancouver every alternate Friday. Every other Friday the service commences at San Francisco.

B.C.P.A. services make regular connections at both San Francisco and Vancouver for onward carriage, via either New York or Montreal to the United Kingdom or Europe. The through fare from Sydney to London is £325 (Aust.).

The fares for the Pacific flight are: Sydney-Nandi (Fiji), £A57/15/- single, £A103/19/- return. Sydney-San Francisco, Seattle, Portland, Los Angeles or Vancouver, £A265/8/- single, £A477/14/- return. Auckland-Nandi (Fiji), £NZ21 single, £NZ55/16/- return. Auckland-San Francisco, Seattle, Portland, Los Angeles or Vancouver, £NZ197/2/- single, £NZ354/15/- return.

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Pan-American— Trans-Pacific Service

PAN-AMERICAN World Airways clippers now provide the following services in the South Pacific, using DC4 planes, equipped with Sleep-ettes:—

Planes leave Sydney Monday and Friday for San Francisco, via Tontouta (New Caledonia), Nadi (Fiji), Canton Island and Honolulu.

The return flights are made from San Francisco every Monday, Thursday, via Honolulu, Canton Island, Nadi and Tontouta; and from Seattle every Monday, via Portland, Honolulu, Canton Island, Nadi and Tontouta.

Planes leave Auckland every Wednesday, and fly via Nadi, Canton Island and Honolulu to San Francisco. They leave San Francisco for Auckland every Saturday by the same route. Fares, in Australian currency, are:—

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
	Single.	Return.
Sydney-Seattle ..	265 10 0	477 18 0
Sydney-Frisco ..	265 10 0	477 18 0
Sydney-Fiji ..	58 0 0	104 8 0
Sydney-Honolulu ..	217 15 0	391 19 0
Auckland-Seattle ..	246 5 0	443 5 0
Auckland-Honolulu ..	199 0 0	358 4 0
Auckland-Fiji ..	39 0 0	70 4 0
Auckland-Frisco ..	246 5 0	443 5 0

(Time-tables and fares subject to alteration without notice.)

To convert to Fiji currency, reduce above each kilogram of excess.

Free baggage allowance is 30 kilos per person. Excess baggage at 1 per cent. of single fare for figures by about 10 per cent.

Sydney-New Hebrides

A QANTAS plane leaves Sydney for New Hebrides on alternate Tuesdays. It flies via Noumea and Port Vila to Santo, and returns.

Sydney-Lord Howe Is.— Norfolk Is.

QANTAS, Sydney, run a Sandringham once weekly from Sydney to Lord Howe Island. Fare, single, £12. Return, £21/12/-.

Qantas run a DC4 Skymaster alt. Thursdays (returning same day) from Sydney to Norfolk Island. Fare, £22 single; £39/12/- return.

(For Norfolk Island, see also under NZ National Airways. For Lord Howe, see also under TOA.)

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Suitable for Islands Trade.
Prices Are Right—Trade Enquiries
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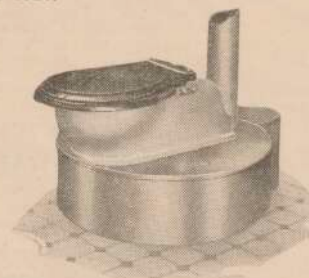
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Since the discovery of Nixoderm, the scientific medicine, it is no longer necessary for anyone to suffer from ugly, disgusting and disfiguring skin blemishes such as Pimples, Itch, Ringworm, Psoriasis, Acne, Blackheads, Scabies and Red Blisters. Don't let a bad skin make you feel inferior and cause you to lose your friends. Clear your skin this new scientific way.

A New Discovery

Nixoderm is an ointment, but different from any ointment you have ever seen or felt. It is a new discovery, and is not greasy but feels almost like a powder when you apply it. It penetrates rapidly into the pores and fights the cause of surface skin blemishes. Nixoderm contains 9 ingredients which fight skin troubles in these 3 ways: 1. It fights and kills the microbes or parasites often responsible for skin disorders. 2. It stops itching, burning and smarting in 7 to 10 minutes, and cools and soothes the skin. 3. It helps nature heal the skin clear, soft and velvety smooth.

Works Fast

Because Nixoderm is scientifically compounded to fight skin troubles, it works fast. It stops the itching, burning and smarting in a few minutes, then starts to work immediately, clearing and healing your skin, making it softer, whiter and velvety smooth. In

just a day or two your mirror will tell you that here at last is the scientific treatment you have been needing to clear your skin—the treatment to make you look more attractive, to help you win friends. Nixoderm has brought clearer, healthier skins to thousands such as Mr. Bob Weedon, Edmund Street, Fremantle, who writes: "I was troubled with pimples ever since I was 13, and have spent pounds and pounds on so-called cures without results. I then tried Nixoderm with astounding effect. The pimples seemed to fade away, and after a week there was not the slightest trace of them."

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Get Nixoderm from your chemist or store to-day. Look in the mirror in the morning and you will be amazed at the improvement. Then just keep on using Nixoderm for one week and at the end of that time it must have made your skin soft, clear, smooth and magnetically attractive—must give you the kind of skin that will make you admired wherever you go, or you simply return the empty package and your money will be refunded in full. Get Nixoderm from your chemist or store to-day. The guarantee protects you.

Nixoderm

For Skin Sores, Pimples and Itch.

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There are so many things which cannot be learned from official publications that it is often difficult for overseas traders and intending visitors to obtain information which will satisfy their particular needs.

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As agents for Whites Aviation Ltd., of Auckland, we can supply a very fine series of aerial photographs and scenes of native life.

We are also licensed Stamp Dealers, and are in touch with philatelists all over the world. We offer complete sets of new issue Cook Islands postage stamps for 9/- in New Zealand currency (\$1.30) per set.

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Trans-Tasman Service Sydney—Auckland

TASMAN Empire Airways, Ltd., operate a flying-boat service between Rose Bay, Sydney, and Mechanics Bay, Auckland. Large flying-boats, capable of carrying 45 passengers, are employed. The trip is comfortable, and takes approximately 6 hours.

Flying-boats now depart Sydney and Auckland daily.

Aircraft leave Rose Bay at 8.30 a.m., and Mechanics Bay at 11.15 a.m.

Fares: £35(A) (£28 NZ currency) single; £63(A) (£50/8/- NZ currency) return.

Bookings may be made at Tasman Empire Airways in Auckland and at Qantas Empire Airways, Carrington Street, Sydney.

N. Caledonia—Tahiti

TRAPAS (Société Française de Transports Aériens du Pacifique Sud-Nouméa) runs a monthly service from New Caledonia to Tahiti. Departing at 8 a.m. from Nouméa, every third Thursday, the plane flies via Fiji (Nadi), Western Samoa (Faleolo), Cook Islands (Aitutaki) to Papeete, where it arrives at about 11.40 a.m. two days later. One evening is spent in Nadi and one night in Aitutaki. The plane returns by the same route in the following week. Fare from Nouméa to Papeete is 16,000 Pacific francs single, and 28,800 return. (100 Pacific francs equal £1 Australian). While the plane is at Papeete it runs one round trip between Papeete and Bora Bora.

New Caledonia— New Hebrides

TRAPAS (French Air Line) operates a service between Nouméa and the New Hebrides. The plane leaves Nouméa every Tuesday, and flies direct to Vila and Santo, and returns. Return fare for the journey, Nouméa-Santo, is approximately £42 Australian.

KLM Dutch New Guinea Service

K.L.M. Royal Dutch Airlines run a regular weekly service from Batavia to Dutch New Guinea, via Sourabaya, Makassar and Ambon, on the following schedule: Batavia dep. Sundays at 10.30 a.m., Blak Island arr. Mondays at 4.40 p.m.; dep. Tuesdays at 6 a.m., Hollandia arr. Tuesdays at 6.10 a.m. On the return journey the aircraft leaves Hollandia at 9 a.m. on Tuesdays; Blak Island arr. 11.10 a.m., dep. 12.15 p.m. on Tuesdays; and Batavia arr. 6 p.m. on Wednesdays.

The aircraft used are C.47s, a type of DC-3, and the single fares are Batavia-Blak Island £A80; Batavia-Hollandia £A91/15/-; and Blak Island-Hollandia £A11/15/-. Return fares, double single.

France—Indo-China— Aust.—N. Caledonia

THE French national airways, Air France, runs a fortnightly service between Paris and New Caledonia, and return. Stops are made at Cairo, Karachi, Calcutta, Saigon, Djakarta, Darwin, Brisbane.

Constellations and DC4 Skymasters are used in the service, and Messageries Maritimes are agents in Australia.

Fare between Brisbane and Tontouta (New Caledonia) has been fixed at £A29/8/- (one way), and £A52/18/- (return ticket). Sydney-Tontouta £A35 single; £A63 return.

Sydney—Queensland— New Guinea

QANTAS Empire Airways, Ltd., employing DC3 planes, operate a regular service between Sydney, Port Moresby, Lae, Finschhafen, Madang, Rabaul, Bulolo and Wau, and return via Brisbane, Rockhampton, Townsville and Cairns.

This service is now known as the "Bird of Paradise" Service. Skymaster and DC3 aircraft are used.

Skymaster aircraft leave Sydney every Tuesday and Saturday at 8.30 p.m., and making a night-flight calling only at Brisbane, arrive at Port Moresby the following morning at 7.20 a.m. They return to Sydney the same day (Wednesday and Sunday). A DC3 shuttle service operates between Moresby and Lae to connect with Sky-master service. This is only a temporary measure, pending repairs on Lae strip, when Sky-masters will complete the journey as formerly.

DC3 aircraft leave Sydney every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 8.35 a.m. for Lae, calling at Brisbane, Rockhampton, Townsville, Cairns, Cooktown, Port Moresby. An overnight stop is made at Townsville and Port Moresby.

Weary, Dreary People

Put Some GO Into Your Life

Too many men, women and girls suffer aching backs, headaches, and feel dreadfully tired—tired, always tired. The cause? Very often, anaemia or bloodlessness.

You see the symptoms in dull eyes, pallid cheeks and lips, breathlessness, vague aches, exhaustion after the slightest exertion. Young children, especially girls, suffer frequently.

If you haven't blood normal in red corpuscles, you are not receiving sufficient energy-giving oxygen which is dispersed by the blood throughout your body every second of the day and night. Your nerves, organs and tissues are not properly nourished and you remain weary and dreary.

Get the GO which rich red blood can give you. Take the famous Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for a few weeks. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are specially compounded to provide you with a normal rich blood supply. Always at your chemist or store.

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You can buy any Westclox with confidence. Look for that trade mark on the dial of the next clock or watch you buy.

- QUALITY •
- RELIABILITY •



Baby Ben—This alarm may be adjusted to loud or soft. Quiet tick. Made in two finishes—ivory and gold colour; also black with nickel trim.



Big Ben is made two ways—There's Big Ben Loud Alarm with booming intermittent call. If you want a more gentle awakening, there's Big Ben Chime Alarm which first calls you with soft chimes. If you ignore these chimes, there's a loud call in reserve.

PACIFIC ISLANDS TRADING CO.

244 CALIFORNIA ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF., U.S.A.

is reached at 11.10 a.m. the day after leaving Sydney.

Return trips are made from Lae to Sydney (calling at the same intermediate airports as on the northern journey) each Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday. Planes depart Lae at 5.45 p.m. and reach Sydney at 10.15 p.m. the same day.

The plane that reaches Lae from Sydney on Tuesdays later that afternoon flies on to Bulolo and Wau and returns to Lae.

The plane that reaches Lae from Sydney on Thursday flies on to Rabaul on Friday, via Finschhafen, returning to Lae the same afternoon.

The plane that reaches Lae from Sydney on Saturday at 1 p.m. flies on to Madang, returning to Lae the same afternoon.

Bookings may be made at Qantas offices at any of the towns named. At present, berths are available only to passengers holding official permits to visit Papua or New Guinea.

QANTAS SUBSIDIARY SERVICES IN PAPUA-NEW GUINEA-SOLOMONS

Qantas Empire Airways run the following subsidiary services in Papua, New Guinea, and British Solomons:—

A Douglas DC3 leaves Lae, New Guinea, every

Wednesday, and flies to Rabaul, and Kavieng, and returns to Lae; but every alternate Wednesday the plane goes on from Kavieng to Manus, and returns via Kavieng to Rabaul (overnight) and returns to Lae on the Thursday morning.

Every Wednesday a plane flies from Lae to Madang and Wewak, and thence direct to Rabaul. It returns from Rabaul to Lae on Thursday. This service is primarily for the carriage of native labour to and from Wewak, and Europeans travelling on this service are always advised of the fact.

Every alternate Monday, a Qantas Catalina flies from Port Moresby, westward to Daru, via Yule Island, Kerema, Kikori, Lake Kutubu and Lake Murray, remaining overnight at Kikori and returning to PM next morning.

Every alternate Wednesday, a Qantas Catalina flies from Port Moresby eastward (dep. 9 a.m.) and calls at Abau and Samarai before flying out to the Archipelagoes in the afternoon. Calls are made at Esa'ala and Losuia (where an overnight stop is made), and the following day (alternate Thursdays) at Deboyne Lagoon, before returning to Port Moresby, via Samarai and Abau.

Every alternate Monday, a Qantas Catalina leaves Port Moresby for Rabaul, via Moewe Harbour, and Talasea (New Britain); next morning (Tuesday) it flies to Buka, Kieta and Buln (Bougainville) and returns to Rabaul; next morning (Wednesday) it flies to Talasea, Moewe Harbour and Jacquinot Bay, and returns to Rabaul; and next morning (Thursday) it returns from Rabaul direct to Port Moresby.

Every alternate Monday a Qantas Douglas flies from Lae to Rabaul, and continues on to Honiara (British Solomon Islands), via Torokina; remains overnight at Honiara; and returns to Lae the following day (Tuesday), via Torokina and Rabaul.

Every Tuesday and Friday a plane leaves Port Moresby at 7 a.m., reaches Higatara (Popondetta) at 8 a.m., departs at 8.30 a.m., arrives at Kokoda at 8.35 a.m. and departs again for Moresby at 9.15 a.m.

NZ National Airways South Pacific Services

THE Pacific services run by the New Zealand National Airways Corporation are as follows:—

Books For Every Reader

THE BEDSIDE ESQUIRE, edited by Arnold Gingrich. Here are gathered, in one pleasure-laden volume, some of the best and most diverting writing of our time, taken from the magazine "Esquire." Price 15/-.

SIR HUBERT MURRAY OF PAPUA, Statesman and Empire Builder, by Lewis Lett. A book which must be regarded as the definitive biography of the outstanding personality of Papua's great administrator. Price 21/-.

MAKE YOUR MONEY GROW, By W. H. Roberts, B.Ec. A thoroughly practical guide to Stock Exchange dealings, giving invaluable information and guidance to both the novice and the experienced speculator. Price 8/6.

THE DUKAYS, by Lajos Zilahy. A long compactly written novel set in the glorious sunset of European aristocracy, richly entertaining, brilliant in colour, packed with real characters. Price 14/-.

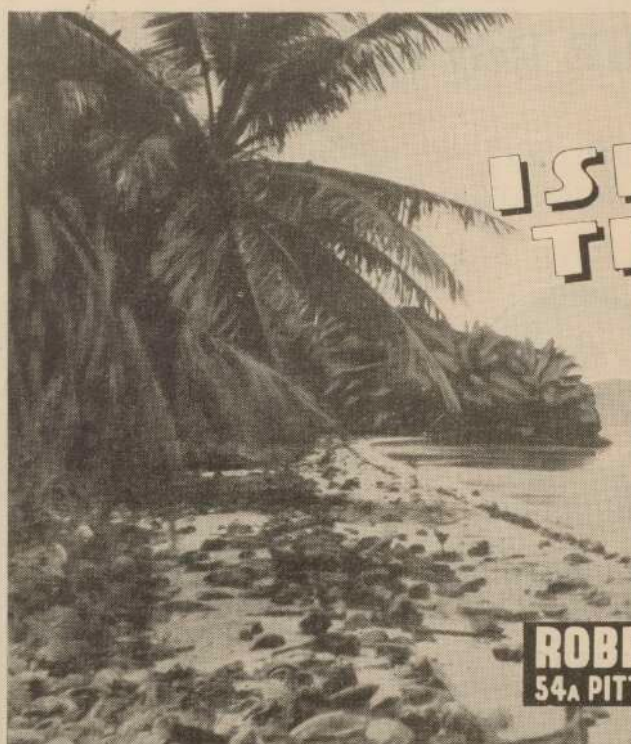
FLOWERS ON THE GRASS, by Monica Dickens. "A book that cannot fail to give pleasure... a completely satisfying novel without a superfluous line or a dull moment."—Liverpool Post. Price 11/9.

PRIVATE ARMY, by Vladimir Peniakoff ('Popski'). The story of the smallest independent unit of the British Army, working behind the enemy lines, and their amazing exploits. Price 25/-.

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AUCKLAND-LAUCALA BAY (SUVA): A "Sunderland" flying-boat leaves Mechanics Bay, Auckland, at 11.30 p.m. each Monday for Laucala Bay, Suva (arrives 8.10 a.m. the following day).

The aircraft departs from Laucala Bay, Suva, on the return journey at 7.30 a.m. each Wednesday, and arrives at Mechanics Bay, Auckland, at 4.15 p.m.

LAUCALA BAY (SUVA)-LABASA (VANUA LEVU): A "Sunderland" flying-boat operates this service on a charter basis. A return trip is made between Laucala Bay and Labasa each Tuesday.

AUCKLAND-NORFOLK ISLAND-FIJI-TONGA-WESTERN SAMOA-COOK ISLANDS: A "Douglas" airliner leaves Whenuapai, Auckland, on alternate Tuesdays at 9 a.m. (May 16, 30, June 13, etc.) for Norfolk Island (arr. 12.55 p.m.; dep. 2 p.m.), Nadi (arr. 8.40 p.m.; dep. 3.40 a.m. Thursday), Nausori (arr. 6.25 a.m.; dep. 7.30 a.m.), Tonga (arr. 10.50 a.m.; dep. 11.50 a.m.), *Faleolo, Western Samoa (arr. 4.5 p.m. Wednesday, dep. 8 a.m. Thursday), Aitutaki, Cook Islands (arr. 1.50 p.m. Thursday, dep. 2.50 p.m.), Rarotonga, Cook Is. (arr. 4.5 p.m.).

The aircraft departs from Rarotonga on the return journey on alternate Saturdays (May 20, June 3, 17, etc.), at 8 a.m. for Aitutaki (arr. 9.15 a.m.; dep. 10 a.m.), Faleolo, W. Samoa (arr. 3.15 p.m.; dep. 8 a.m. Sunday), *Tonga (arr. 10.55 a.m. Monday, dep. 11.50 a.m.), Nausori (arr. 2.40 p.m.; dep. 3.40 p.m.), Nadi (arr. 4.25 p.m.; dep. 5 a.m. Tuesday), Norfolk Is. (arr. 10.55 a.m.; dep. 12 noon), Whenuapai, Auckland (arr. 4.50 p.m.).

*Crosses International Date Line.

AUCKLAND-NORFOLK ISLAND: A "Douglas" airliner leaves Whenuapai, Auckland, every Sunday at 8.15 a.m. for Norfolk Island (arr. 12.10 p.m.), and departs on the return flight at 1.10 p.m., arriving at Whenuapai at 6 p.m.

FARES, single (in NZ currency): Auckland to Norfolk, £12/10/-; to Fiji, £31; to Tonga, £31; to Samoa, £34; to Aitutaki, £39; to Rarotonga, £39/10/-. Norfolk to Fiji, £19. Fiji to Tonga, £8/15/-; to Samoa, £13; to Aitutaki, £22/15/-; to Rarotonga, £21. Samoa to Rarotonga, £17/15/-; to Aitutaki, £18/10/-; Suva to Labasa, £4/10/-. Return fares, less 10 per cent.

BOOKING OFFICES: Wellington, Govt. Life Bldg., Customhouse Quay; Auckland, Airways House, Customs St.; Dunedin, 8-10 Maase St.; Christchurch, 104 Gloucester St.; Glashburn, 74 Peel St.; Palmerston North, 107 Broadway Ave.; Hamilton, 8 Alma St.; New Plymouth, Grand Central Building, Egmont St.; Blenheim, 13 Queen St.; Hokitika, Southside Airport; Norfolk Is., Burns Philp, Ltd.; Fiji, NAC at Nadi and Suva; Burns Philp, Labasa and Lautoka; Tonga, Mrs. F. F. Melrose, Pou-amotu Airfield; W. Samoa, Burns Philp (SS), Ltd., Apia; Cook Is., Mrs. P. McVeagh, Aitutaki, and Mr. J. D. Campbell, Rarotonga.

TOA Services

TRANS Oceanic Airways run the following Pacific services:—

SYDNEY-LORD HOWE IS. A regular fortnightly service with large four-engine flying-boats from Rose Bay. Fare: £12 single; £21/10/- return. Free baggage allowance 50 lb. Excess baggage and freight rate 8d. per lb.

SYDNEY-NEW HEBRIDES: A regular monthly service with large four-engine flying-boats from Sydney, via Noumea, to Vila and Espiritu Santo (overnight stop). Fare: Sydney-Vila, £45; Sydney-Santo, £50; Noumea-Vila, £12/10/-; Noumea-Santo, £18/15/-. Freight: Sydney-Vila, 2/- per lb.; Sydney-Santo, 2/3.

SYDNEY-SOLOMON ISLANDS: A regular monthly service from Sydney, via New Caledonia and New Hebrides to Tulagi and Honiara, Solomon Islands. This service is frequently extended to Lingatou, in the Russell Islands, and calls are sometimes made at Vanikoro, in the Santa Cruz Group. Fares: Sydney-Tulagi-Honiara, £65. Free baggage allowance, 60 lb.; excess baggage and freight, 3/6 per lb.

Papua-NG Local Services

MANDATED Airlines, Ltd., of Lae, New Guinea, and other private operators, run air services between Lae and the New Guinea mainland centres of Wau, Bulolo, Madang, Wewak, Altipa, Mt. Hagen, Finschhafen, Moresby, Kokoda—in fact anywhere in Papua or New Guinea where there is an air-strip. These planes carry passengers, mails and cargo on regular schedules or charter flights.

Sydney-Noumea-Suva

THE following is the time-table of the Qantas Sandringham flying-boat:—

Sydney	dep. 10 p.m. alt. Tues.
Noumea	arr. 6.30 a.m. alt. Wed.
Noumea	dep. 7.30 a.m. alt. Wed.
Suva	arr. 2 p.m. alt. Wed.
Suva	dep. 6 a.m. alt. Fri.
Noumea	arr. 10.30 a.m. alt. Fri.
Noumea	dep. 11.30 a.m. alt. Fri.
Sydney	arr. 6 p.m. alt. Fri.

Intending passengers may book through Qantas offices in Australia, Burns, Philp (South Seas) Company, in Suva; and T. Johnston in Noumea.

	The fares for this service in Aust. currency are:—	
	Single	Return
Sydney-Noumea	£27 10 0	£67 10 0
Sydney-Suva	55 10 0	99 18 0
Noumea-Suva	20 5 0	36 9 0

CPA Sydney-Vancouver Service

CANADIAN Pacific Airlines, Ltd., run a trans-Pacific service between Sydney and Vancouver. For the present there will be one northbound and one southbound trip per fortnight. Stops are made at Nadi (Fiji), Canton Island, Honolulu and San Francisco. The northbound flight commences from Sydney every alternate Tuesday.

Four-engined, pressurised "Canadair" aircraft are used; 36 passengers can be carried and a crew of 7. Flying is done in daylight. Overnight accommodation is provided at hotels in Nadi and Honolulu, which is, of course, complimentary.

Fares are (in Australian currency: Sydney-Vancouver, San Francisco-Los Angeles and Portland-Seattle, £265/10/- single, £477/18/- return; Fiji-Vancouver, £207/10/- single, £373/10/- return).



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Information & Bookings: Qantas Empire Airways Ltd. (B.O.A.C. General Agents in Australia) at Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Townsville, Cairns, Darwin or from Travel Agents in all cities and towns.

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Full particulars of the Company's many services are given in "Hands That Never Leave the Wheel." A complimentary copy of this 20-page booklet can be obtained from any branch of Burns Philp (South Sea) Company, Burns Philp (New Guinea) Limited, or direct from the head office of this Company.

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MANAGER: L. S. Parker

SECRETARY: E. R. Overton, F.F.I.A.

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turn; Sydney-Fiji, £58 single, £104/8/- return; Sydney-Honolulu, £217/18/- single, £391/19/- return.

Bookings may be made at the Union Steam Ship Company of New Zealand, Limited, Sydney, or Melbourne; Union Steam Ship Co. of NZ, Ltd., Fiji; Canadian Pacific Airlines, Vancouver.

MORE NAURU RECORDS IN MARCH

From a Special Correspondent

NAURU, April 10.

THE announcement by Mr. R. B. Kirk, Nauru manager for the British Phosphate Commissioners, that the record monthly drying figures, established in May, 1940, had been exceeded by 800 tons in March of this year, is eloquent of the magnificent effort made by all concerned since the Commissioners resumed their activities after the war.

Phosphate raised in May, 1940, was 101,500 tons while the new record stands at 102,300 tons.

The extent of this colossal output cannot be fully realised until the numerous development projects have been taken into consideration. Number One priority over the past twelve months has been the erection of houses for the native population. In that time a hundred homes of concrete blocks and wood-frames have been completed and many more are in various stages of erection. These houses are large and airy. They are in every way superior to the palm-thatch, or rusty-iron, huts they replaced, but the dreamer, perhaps may sigh with regret when the last of these age-old habitations has given way to the march of time.

The building of more houses for the European employees has been kept up, and a fine new hospital to cater for the 1,500 Chinese workers has just been completed.

It is a scant five years since the BPC stepped ashore to face its gigantic task of rehabilitation. There was chaos everywhere. Machinery lay rusting, phosphate cars had been cemented into strong-points for machine-gun crews, cableway towers stripped of their steel for a dozen other purposes. Hardly a building stood. All this, plus the shortage of all types of material in the post-war world, stamps the creating of an all-time record at this stage, as a truly remarkable achievement.

PACIFIC ISLANDS SOCIETY

THE next meeting and social gathering of the Pacific Islands Society will be held at History House, Sydney, on May 24. Films of topical interest will be shown.

The June meeting will be held on the 28th and the annual general meeting is set down for July 26. Nominations for office bearers must be in the hands of the secretary of the Society by July 5.

BUNTINGS EXPAND TO NEW GUINEA

MR. HENRY G. EEKHOFF, who has been in business in Lae, New Guinea, for many years (recently trading under the name of Ventura Trade Agency) has sold his interest to the well-known Samarai (Papua) firm of A. H. Bunting.

The new owners of the business are erecting a steel building in which the premises of Anderson's meat shop will also be incorporated.

MADANG NEWSLETTER

From Our Own Correspondent

MADANG, April 29.

DURING their recent visit to Madang, the Australian Minister for External Territories and External Affairs, Mr. Spender, and his wife stayed with the district officer and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. C. Bates. In the official party were the Administrator, Col. J. K. Murray; the Secretary for Department of External Territories, Mr. J. R. Halligan; the Director of Planning and Development, Mr. J. H. Jones; general manager in New Guinea for Qantas, Mr. Norm Denny; and Mr. Spender's personal secretary.

During his visit, Mr. Spender saw representatives of all sections of the business community, various departments of the Administration and natives in their villages. Two announcements pleased the district very much. That consideration will be given to extending native labour contracts to two years; and the promise of a High School at Wau, before the end of the year.

Mr. Spender replied to a suggestion by the Planters' Association that he would not permit a return to private recruiters as it would flout world opinion too much. Two jetties for small craft were promised for Madang in the near future.

A buffet dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bates gave Mr. and Mrs. Spender an opportunity for meeting representatives from various departments, missions, and private enterprise. Later in the evening they were welcomed at the Madang Social Club and met other members of the community.

Wherever the Minister and his wife went, residents were impressed by his personality and by his wife's outstanding poise and charm.

METRO GOLDWYN MAYER representative, Mr. Noel Forde has been in the Territory to interview picture theatre owners and managers. A library supplying one new film a month and other films in Port Moresby will be at disposal of theatres.

THE Anglican Bishop of Papua and New Guinea, The Rt. Rev. P. N. Strong, visited Madang in mid-April as guest of the district officer, Mr. Bates and Mrs. Bates. He was given the opportunity of meeting people in the district at an afternoon tea given by Mrs. Bates. His visit was made to discuss the formation of a church in Madang. During the visit the Bishop conducted services and communion in the European School.

ONE hectic week-end was spent by Madangites in Rabaul at Easter. Basketball, tennis, cricket, baseball, swimming, billiards and snooker were participated in by the two teams while rain stopped much of the play at Kokopo. Two wins were recorded for Madang in tennis and basketball.

MRS PERKINS of Potsdam is in Madang hospital at present. She has been in the Territory for 37 years and this is her first trip to Madang from Potsdam in four years. She says that Potsdam residents have lost their weekly refrigeration plane service owing to the sudden (and unexplained) closing

of the Aerodrome. As the drome was kept in order by Mr. Rouse, as his own expense, this seems unusual. In Mrs. Perkins' case, it meant an unexpected delay of medical attention for more than a week. At times a delay like this could mean life or death to planters and their families.

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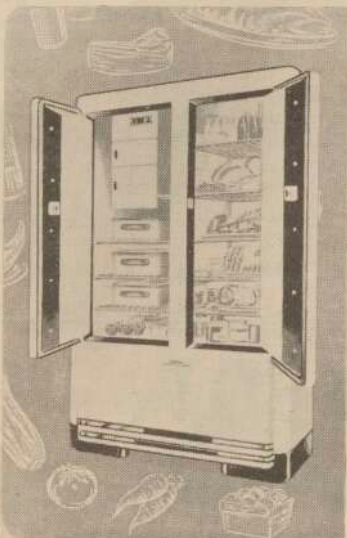
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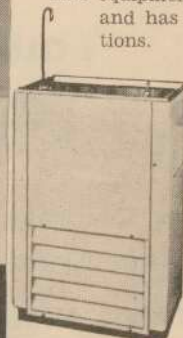
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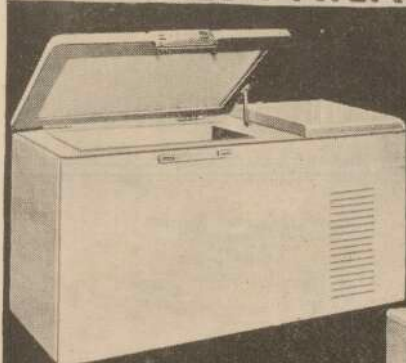
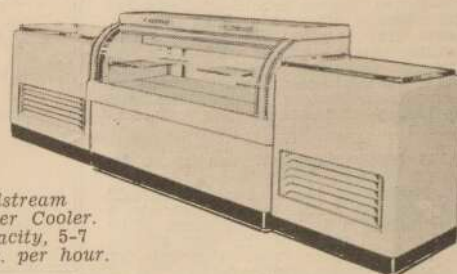
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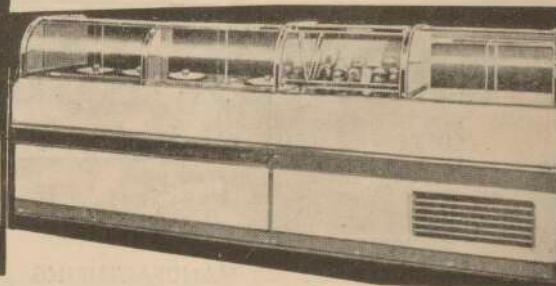
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MR. TOM CUNNINGHAM, public health inspector, is making a fine job of cleaning up Madang. He is being supported ably by a line of Highlanders. It is a joy to see decrepit Army gear being trucked off to Astrolabe Bay for final burial. With it go old coconut stumps, relics of many bombed palms. Mr. Cunningham has declared war on the rats and though they do not follow him like the Pied Piper, at least his assistant from Chinatown (called Masta-bilog-Rat) bags them each morning and takes them away, not by pipe, but by bike.

MR. JACK GOAD is relieving Mr. A. Shields as Collector of Customs for a few months. Mrs. Goad is with her husband.

OUR relieving police master, Jack Grainger, in April, went to Australia with the Papua-New Guinea native police band. Mr. Grainger has been relieving Mr. Allen Phillips who is on leave with his wife in Australia.

LT.-Col. Maahs and his wife of the American Lutheran Mission have delayed their leave to America in the interests of movie making. Assigned the job of illustrating a mission script, they reconstructed settings from the story at Amele Mission station. The script called for a witchdoctor, who was not forthcoming at the mission, so a mission boy dressed up and obliged.

MADANG Native Hospital has been transferred from Gum to a point near the Agricultural Station residence on the Modillon Road. Mr. Ron Chugg is in charge. In recent weeks his daughter Audre (now married and living in Melbourne) has been staying with him.

MR. AND MRS. JOCK ESSON and small son Sandy expected from South in early May. Mr. Esson is

a seasoned Territorian, an inspector, for expropriated Properties.

MR. AND MRS. BEN HALL were in town for the Minister's visit. He is busy with plans for the new all-electric bakery which he intends to build.

MR. DAVE REES representing Madang at the recent RSSAILA conference at Lae.

SOME interesting visitors to the port over the past two months included the District Officer from Rabaul, Mr. J. K. McCarthy, the inspector of police in Rabaul, Mr. Chris Normayle; the District Officer from Manus, Mr. Tom Aitchison; Mr. A. A. Roberts, Assistant Director of District Services, Port Moresby, and Mr. A. Duncan, treasury inspector.

CONSIDERABLE interest is being shown by prospective tenderers for certain blocks in the recently acquired Modillon Estate. The number of blocks for lease are much less than the number of people requiring them.

THE delayed arrival of the MV Malaita caused some shortages in the town. These included eggs, butter, flour of all kinds and variety of tinned meat. By the way—1/- for one orange seems an astounding price to pay, even in New Guinea.

ELECTRIC light bills retrospective to September hit the townspeople with a smack recently. Most of the stoics, made that way by an excessively high cost of living, remarked, "Well now we can go bankrupt properly."

ON Anzac Eve a dinner was held at the Club for all returned men. On Anzac morning a dawn service was

held. At the eleven o'clock service, Mr. Lloyd Noland conducted the service, while Mr. C. D. Bates gave an address to the Europeans and, in Pidgin, to the assembled natives. The Anzac verse was read by the president Mr. A. J. Clarke.

After wreaths were laid at the landing plaque, they were carried by diggers on the march to the cemetery.

TOWARDS the end of April, Messrs. Caldwell and Frazer of the Commonwealth Treasury, were in

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Madang, during a Territory-wide survey of the Administration stores.

AN unfortunate incident occurred in Madang on April 26 when Mr. J. L. Tolgetti, a recent arrival to the Territory and a member of the staff of Mr. Roy McGregor took his life. Mr. Tolgetti was a member of the armed services and his home is in Sydney. A coroner's inquest was held on April 27.

Appeals against the Fiji Magistrate's Court conviction in January of Ratu Apakuki Nanovo, Roko Tui Kadavu, on a charge of converting to his own use £80/19/-, the property of the people of Kadavu; and of Bull Epeli, of Nacsva, Kadavu, who was found guilty of the fraudulent conversion of £47/8/6, the property of the people of Kadavu, have been allowed by the Supreme Court.

PAYMENT FOR NG COPRA AT PLANTATION

WHEN Mr. Max Babbage, secretary of the Bougainville Planters' Association interviewed officials of the Department of External Territories in Canberra in mid-March, one of the things discussed was the payment for copra held by planters in their own stores.

Later, Mr. Babbage said that the Australian government was favourably inclined to institute a scheme whereby copra which, due to shipping difficulties, cannot be got away quickly, can be paid for up to about 70 per cent. of its value on a written certificate from a local government official.

It is understood that the Commonwealth Bank has agreed to finance such a scheme, which would be of great benefit to planters in isolated ports where shipping has been, since the war, most erratic.

NEW MISSION KETCH FOR G & E COLONY

Early Troubles on Voyage to Home Port

THE delivery voyage of the 80-ft. ketch, Halgard, from Sydney to the Gilbert and Ellice Island Colony (where she will be used by the Sacred Heart Mission) was not without incident in its early stages.

Halgard left Sydney on April 25 but struck engine trouble 350 miles out and returned to port on April 30. The trouble was rectified and the ketch got away again, Noumea-bound, on May 3.

Three priests (including Father Klipfel who will take charge of her from Suva to the G & E Colony) and three nuns were passengers. Crew members were Mr. George O'Brien, skipper as far as Suva; D. W. Reed (of the islands firm of William Reed) who sailed as radio operator; Les Williams, as engineer; W. Ruder, cook; and Martin, a Gilbertese deckhand.

The second trip to Noumea from Sydney has been described as "difficult"—the steering cable broke and a hand-tiller had to be used. But Noumea was reached on May 10 where the steering was repaired before the ketch left on the second leg of the journey with Suva the next port of call.

Mr. Ruder, the cook, was sick for most of the voyage to Noumea, the result of a recent smallpox vaccination it is believed. He left the ketch in Noumea and flew back to Sydney on May 11.

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GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN FIJIANS AND PAPUANS

A WARM friendliness which quickly developed between the Papua-New Guinea delegates and the Fijians was commented upon by the Papua-New Guinea Director of Education, Mr. W. C. Groves, when he passed through Sydney on his return to the Territories, in the second week of May, with the Papua-New Guinea delegates.

Mr. Groves did not join much in the Fiji junketings—he remained mostly with the New Guinea native delegates, and assisted them wherever he could in their activities outside the Conference room. "I was most interested in noting the interest and friendship that developed between our fellows and the Fijians," he said. "The Fijians might be described as being at one end of the Melanesian scale, and the Papuans at the other end; but the Fijians extended a warm greeting to our fellows, and took an interest in their viewpoint, and showed them round, and treated them most hospitably.

"I formed a warm admiration for the Fijians—their fine spirit and pride of race. I only hope that, in course of time, our policy of helping and training our native people will bring them to the stage where the Fijians are now.

"I had a look at the students we sent to the Suva Medical School. One man is in his third year, and doing well. Two others, who had to undergo a couple of years of training in simple education, in Suva, before they could enter the School, are now coming along satisfactorily."

The old-established Newsagency business conducted for many years in Victoria Parade, Thursday Island, by E. H. and E. A. Vowels, has been sold owing to the continued ill-health of Mr. E. H. Vowels. The business has been taken over as from March 1, by Mr. Richard James Moore, who recently went to TI from Queensland.

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NEWS FROM NEW IRELAND

From Our Own Correspondent

KAVIENG, April 30.
TOMALABATT PLANTATION, Tabar Islands, formerly the property of the late Mr. J. S. Talmage, has been bought by Mr. Woo You, one of Kavieng's most popular Chinese residents.

Seeto Young, 51, who had been in New Guinea for 37 years, died at Put Put, near Kavieng, on March 20. He was a brother of Seeto Gui, well-known New Britain planter and trader.

The Minister for External Territories, Mr. Spender, and Mrs. Spender seemed delighted with their short stay at Kavieng in April. Arrangements for their reception and well-being went off without a hitch.

They received addresses of welcome in English by prominent natives; Mr. Spender listened attentively to the woes of the planters; and a Chinese deputation, also a half-caste deputation waited upon him. He seemed to have had the situation well sized up before he came to Kavieng, judging by his general knowledge and grip of New Guinea's problems.

He did not fail to emphasise that the Territory was costing the Australian taxpayer £4,000,000 a year, and said that if residents wanted further facilities and amenities they would have to pay for them.

Largest European gathering for years was at the residence of Mr. Peter V. Saunders, where the planters provided an excellent buffet supper in honour of the distinguished guests, among whom was an old New Guinea friend, Captain "Orm" Denny, popular pre-war goldfields pilot of Guinea Airways, Ltd.

HAPPY, unsophisticated Chimbu natives are working conscientiously around Kavieng. They seem to be taking kindly to their new surroundings and are being watched with much interest.

There have been many visitors to Kavieng recently. We have had anthropologists, dieticians, nutritionists, baby-welfare nurses, doctors and a collector of native curios for a Swiss museum. If one among them can stick some vitamins into the local lads so that they will at least have energy enough to bring their sick offspring to the free hospitals so generously supplied by a paternal Administration, and by various mission bodies, then their visits will not be in vain.

Unless our New Irelanders get off their backsides and work—for work is the antidote for most ills—then they must die off much faster than they did before the war. Mr. Love, cousin of the world-famed Maori anthropologist, Sir Peter Buck, is doing some X-ray work among the natives here. He never fails to extol the virtues of "God's Own Country" (New Zealand) but so far he has passed little comment on NG!

Anzac Day was celebrated with due solemnity, but subsequent revelry. A ceremony took place at the flagstaff and an address was given by the Rev. Ben Chenoweth, Methodist Overseas Mission. The smart detachment of the New Guinea Police Force was under the command of A/Sub-Inspector F. E. Towner. The "Last Post" and "Reveille" were sounded, and the large gathering lifted up its voice and sang "O God, Our Help in Ages Past." A Digger of the two world wars placed a lone wreath at the foot of the flagstaff, after which native women and children placed small bunches of flowers around it. At the end of the two minutes'

silence, a fine, well-sounding voice rent the quiet air—

"They shall not grow old . . ."

It was Kavieng's most impressive and best-attended post-war Anzac Day ceremony. Chinese trade stores supplied native ex-servicemen with free lemonade, biscuits and sweets.

Later, ex-servicemen adjourned to "House Pig," where the old songs were sung and the old stories told. The beer flowed and the yarns went on—on an average, each man drank seven bottles of beer, which shows that those who served in the recent war will soon be emulating the deeds of their fathers.

PALM trees swaying in the gentle breeze and fringing a silvery, white-sand beach, with rollers breaking over the nearby reef, made a pleasing setting for Kavieng's quiet but attractive wedding on April 8 when Miss Anne Weldon Lowrey,

formerly of London, England, and now a stenographer with the Administration at Rabaul married Mr. Kenneth James Lang, a patrol-officer, also stationed at Rabaul.

They were married at "Lebrechtshof," near Kavieng, the plantation home of Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Schultze. Officiating minister was the Rev. Ben Chenoweth, Methodist Overseas Mission. Best man was Mr. Jack Percival, of the Department of Native Labour, Rabaul. Miss Kerry Lamerton, Government Stores, Rabaul, made a charming bridesmaid, while mine host, Mr. H. L. Schultze, gave the bride away with due dignity.

Twenty-four guests, some of whom had flown from Rabaul for the occasion, were at the reception. After spending their honeymoon at Soubu Plantation, the New Ireland residence of Mr. and Mrs. Le. W. Bell, the couple left Kavieng for Rabaul by plane on April 20, where they will resume their former duties.

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Heard in April over the ABC in a Bach and Beethoven recital was pianist Margaret Stevenson who in private life is Mrs. C. L. Barrow, wife of a British Administrative official in the New Hebrides. Born in the North of Ireland she lived in the south and studied in England. She says that keeping a grand piano in the Hebrides is a "bit of a responsibility"—she keeps a hurricane lamp going inside hers to keep out the damp. With her two small children she will be leaving Australia for Ireland in June.



WELL-KNOWN MISSIONARIES

The Rev. and Mrs. H. Whyte, of the London Missionary Society, on the day of their departure from Apia, W. Samoa, on the Matua for Auckland and ultimately Brisbane. Mr. Whyte has been in charge of Malua Training College, W. Samoa, for the past four years. He was previously minister of the LMS Church, Apia, for eight years.

—Photo by Superflash Studios.

HISTORY OF CALVARY GROUP IN PAPUAN ISLANDS

IN an article and photograph in February PIM, we sought information concerning a Calvary figure which had been erected on one of the islands east of Samarai, Papua.

Captain K. McGhee, master of the mission vessel Morning Star, has kindly informed us that this was originally part of a Calvary group at Milne Bay and, when the Japs came, the figures were hidden by Father R. Baldwin, MSC. Sometime later, the group was taken from the earth by an American Chaplain and was placed in the Catholic Chapel at Ahloma, Eastern Papua. Later, it was transferred to the Catholic Chapel of the RAAF at Ladaba, Milne Bay.

Late in 1948 the Cross figure—not the whole Calvary group—was taken to Nimosa Island, Eastern Papua, where it was erected and is cared for by the Catholic Mission station (Sacred Heart) conducted by Father K. Twomey MSC.

One report said that the figure had been erected over the grave of an unknown missionary—but that is not correct.

DEATH OF MR. C. V. CALDWELL

MR. CHARLES CALDWELL, a former District Commissioner in Fiji, died in Sydney on May 6.

He was born in Fiji in October, 1884, and was the brother of Messrs. R. N. and W. Caldwell, who are now living in Suva.

He entered the Civil Service in 1908 and served in the Customs Department until 1910, and eventually as a District Commissioner. He served in every district in the Colony, including Rotuma.

His last appointment before retiring in 1942 was District Commissioner, Southern. During this time he was an official member of the Legislative Council.

Mr. Caldwell was an outstanding sportsman—he played tennis, golf and cricket and was a first-class shot and a keen fisherman. He practised and played with the Australian Davis Cup Team in 1929. In 1938 he beat Harry Hopman in the semi-final and was narrowly beaten by Jack Crawford in the final at Pratten Park, Sydney. He was the holder of the Barclay Cup, open singles championship of Fiji, for 14 successive years.

On April 11, a dinner was held at the Oriental Hotel, Melbourne, to celebrate the 5th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. N. Foxcroft. All the original bridal party were present and at the conclusion of this dinner a presentation of a silver tray, which was sent by air, was made on behalf of the committee and members of the New Guinea Women's Club, Sydney. On her return to Sydney, Mrs. Foxcroft, who is president of the Club, was welcomed back at a morning tea at the Feminist Club, when a further presentation was made.

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SIDELIGHTS ON SOUTH PACIFIC CONFERENCE

(Continued from page 11)

hardly be regarded as the representatives of the million or million and a quarter natives in the Australian Territories.

ONCE the opening ceremony was over, the Conference followed a simple system. Each morning a paper, carefully prepared beforehand, was read by one of the delegation. After that, there was a discussion upon it.

It was not a spontaneous discussion. Delegates brought a prepared commentary, of strictly limited wordage, and read this through a microphone.

When all such commentaries had been read, a small committee was set up to draft, for submission to the Commission, a set of resolutions arising out of the paper and the discussion. The resolutions were submitted in the afternoon, and usually provoked some little discussion, of a most orderly character. This would be over by 3.30 or so, and then the delegates were free to be amused, or amuse themselves, until next morning.

Various entertaining or instructive functions were arranged—a visit to Bau and another to Makogai, for example; and the delegates seemed to enjoy themselves very thoroughly for the fortnight, at the ultimate expense of the ratepayers of six nations.

THE more prominent people of the Polynesian delegations did not take quarters at Nasinu. High Chief Tamasese, of Samoa, the Makea Ariki, of Rarotonga, and several of the French delegations, stayed at the Grand Pacific Hotel; the two Tongan princes are the guests of Mr. W. Grainger Johnson, managing director of W. R. Carpenter (Fiji) Ltd.; and High Chief Malietoa, of Samoa, is residing with a friend.

The Tongans and Samoans wear their national dress, but all the other delegates are in European clothes.

THE delegates have been provided with really excellent accommodation at the Teachers' Training College at Nasinu, about five miles out of Suva. Several scores of selected young men of the Fiji and adjoining Territories are being trained here as school teachers—the Suva Central Medical School system applied to education.

A large proportion of the students have gone home; but about 60 bright lads have remained, voluntarily, to act as cooks, messengers, batmen and bottle-washers to the delegates. Everyone seems comfortable, and a spirit of goodwill is becoming more manifest every day. Officials of the South Pacific Commission are keeping a close eye on all activities in and out of the Conference room.

Everyone praises the achievements of the Secretary-General, Mr. W. D. Forsyth, and his staff. His organising work, which he directs from a hurriedly prepared office behind the Conference hall, is superb.

Members of the Research Council, and various official observers, have their places here, and there is an atmosphere of pleasant co-operation.

Hardest-working team is the American group of officials and observers, led by Dr. Felix Keesing, Australian-born American anthropologist. It is generally recognised that, although the Americans have the smallest land area in the South Pacific in their care, their contribution to this South Pacific Commission, in energy, enthusiasm and personnel, is probably the biggest and most important.

One meets Americans everywhere in these South Pacific groups to-day—an interesting commentary on post-war developments. Generally, there are close co-operation and good feeling between Americans and British.

THROUGH extraordinary bad luck, the Trans Oceanic flying-boat, which was to carry the Solomon Islands and New Hebrides delegates to Noumea,

en route to Suva for the opening on April 25, had an engine break-down in Honiara, and the delegates could not get away.

The inclination, at first, was to cancel the trip; but the Commission finally de-

cided to incur some trouble and expense and bring them over, and they arrived to fill the empty places in the Conference Room on April 30.

It was a wise decision. Rightly or



LAY ON MACDUFF!

who hasn't read
How bold Macbeth was slain,
But now he's been so long since dead,
Why rake him up again?
Then let him rest, he's out of date,
We'll turn to something newer,
If you've a cold be not too late,

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wrongly, the failure of the Western Pacific High Commission to send Solomon Islands natives to the Victory March, in London, in 1946, is still regarded with resentment by the gentlemen behind the Marching Rule movement, and is deplored by many Europeans. A failure to send BSI men to the Suva Conference would have rubbed salt into the open wound.

Although the BSI natives are noted for their intelligence—they are given a higher rating in this respect than the average Fijian—it is not likely that they will contribute any more to the Conference than the rest of the Melanesians.

ISLANDERS are laughter-loving people; but the awfulness of the Conference set-up created among them, in the beginning, a solemnity that could be felt. The influence that eventually broke it down was a leg-pulling High Chief, Tufele, from American Samoa.

They were discussing mosquito control. Everyone agreed that the communities should be forced to set aside certain days, each month, for the attack upon mosquitoes. The only question was, how many days. Various delegations suggested various times. Fiji thought one day each month would be ample.

American Samoa could not agree. Some islands were worse than others. In the case of Fiji, he thought there should be more frequent attacks on mosquitoes.

Fiji delegates bristled. One could see their minds working: "All through the centuries, we had to fight these damned Samoans—looks as if we'll have to fight 'em again."

The chairman looked grave. International complications!

"Yes," continued High Chief Tufele, in his broad American accent. "Judging by the amount of sleep each night since I've been here, I am in favour of making the Fijians work three days a week, destroying their mosquitoes."

The hatchet was buried in the first chorus of laughter the Conference had heard.

SOME time later, the chairman put an end to some little argument that had developed by quoting the rules of the Conference.

The leg-puller from Eastern Samoa arose portentously. He did not think the chairman was properly interpreting the rules. He doubted whether there was any rule really covering the situation.

The chairman's brow was furrowed with care. The delegates stirred eagerly. Thank God for a fight!

American Samoa lifted his voice. "Show me the Conference rule which allows us to smoke," he demanded. "Yet we're all smoking."

Conference relaxed. The chairman grinned. "Nothing in the rules allows us to smoke," he said. "Nothing in the rules allows us to breathe."

Conference signified approval of the kind of logic that appeals to the Polynesian mind.

THE funniest incident occurred outside the Conference. That most serious man, Dr. Baas Becking, deputy chairman of the Research Council, had spoken to delegates about the need for better health in the average Island village. "What we need," he said, "is a lower village mortality and a higher birth-rate."

But the gremilins which attend all newspaper composition saw to it that when the Fiji Times reported this statement, the "t" was left out of mortality.

That evening, in the GPH, a band of solemn scientists led Dr. Baas Becking aside, and presented the newspaper, and tut-tutted softly as he read the amazing statement. At first, he stared unbelievably; then he choked—and then he joined in the laughter.

"I'll stand by it," he said. "Damn it, yes, I'll stand by it!"

Which proves that, contrary to popular belief, scientists engaged in Pacific research can be quite human, at times.



WHITE SATIN

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Burns Philp (SS) Co. Pays 10 Per Cent.

THE accounts of Burns Philp (SS) Co., Ltd. (which is that section of the big firm that operates in the Pacific Islands from the New Hebrides eastwards) show that in the year ended January 31 a profit was made of £96,702, compared with £94,018 in the previous year. The dividend, increased to 10 per cent., absorbed £75,000.

This Co. has an issued capital of £750,000 and it uses over £775,000 of reserves in the business. Its assets include £594,000 in real estate, shipping and shares and bonds; £975,000 in merchandise; and £100,000 in book debts. £170,000 owing by a subsidiary company in the previous year, has been paid and is now included in an investment of £304,000 in a subsidiary co. The directors are Messrs. James Burns, Joseph Mitchell, P. T. W. Black, John Trotter, F. E. Loxton, and Sir Henry Milne Scott.

Who Has Longest Fijian Name?

51 Letters is the Present Record

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, May 8.
POLICE Inspector Levani Tamanikairu-kurukuiovalau, who for obvious reasons is usually known as Inspector Levani, has taken seven months' leave and, accompanied by his wife, has gone to New Zealand. He will study fingerprint and ballistics work with the police, and psychology at Victoria University College, Wellington.

The New Zealand press has been vastly impressed by the inspector's name, and he has been labelled the "world's longest-named policeman."

Back in Fiji, the New Zealand reaction has produced a search for Fijian names of greater dimensions than the inspector's 24-letter complication.

First came Isikeli Daucakacakawaso-mamainavalenivevesumainavavaoa. This is an authentic Fijian name which is translated as Isikeli. Habitually a Prisoner-at-Navavaoa. With 46 letters it leaves Inspector Levani out of the running. Isikeli's second name was quoted as the "longest Fijian name ever known" until Akulla S. Tawake, at present a patient at Tamavua Hospital, established a new record with his.

His name is Senikaunikatonimatekeiratutaselikinikiniilaukinamoli. Barring lapses along the line, the preliminary count gives 51 letters, and Akulla, by way of the Press, has challenged all comers to beat it. His name means "Flowers on the coffin of Ratu Salei Kinikiniilau at Namoli," and, like the name of Isikeli, it follows the Fijian custom of basing names on deeds or events connected with a well-known relative or ancestor.

Incidentally, most of the exceptionally long Fijian names come from the Lau Group.

NEW COMPANIES HANDLE WAR SALVAGE

TWO companies have been formed to deal with war salvage in the British Solomons.

South Pacific Traders, of Honiara, were successful tenderers for all scrap and materials in the Protectorate; and the Co. is already at work, shipping salvage away to Australia and New Zealand.

The Ayrton Metal Co. of New York were the successful tenderers for the American equipment left on Guadalcanal. A local company has been formed to handle this enterprise, and the goods will be sold in Sterling.

Mr. Arthur Westhoven, who is now living in Honiara, is the managing director of both companies. He was formerly manager of Milne Bay Merchants Ltd.

Sauni Kuresa, a musician, of Samoa, and Saimone Vula, an athlete from Fiji, were in Christchurch, New Zealand, this month, addressing meetings under the auspices of the Seventh Day Adventist Mission. Saimone Vula is a pastor of the church. Sauni—who already is known to fame as the composer of the Samoan national anthem—was front page news. It was discovered that he could play two cornets at once, in perfect harmony, and a large published photograph showed him doing it. The two men were booked to return to the Islands on May 15.

The Bank of New South Wales has appointed Mr. F. G. McMullen, manager of its branch at Meekatharra, WA, to be manager of its branch at Rabaul.

SERVICEMEN'S CLUB IN WESTERN SAMOA



Western Samoa ex-Servicemen, like those of Rabaul, have a club. It is housed in this modern building which was presented to the Returned Soldiers' Association by Nelson and Co. in memory of the late O. F. Nelson.

—Photo by Superflash Studios.

The Rev. J. D. Robinson, with his wife and four-months-old son, left Australia for New Guinea in May where he will be-

come superintendent of the Methodist Mission Circuit of Ulu, Duke of York Islands, near Rabaul.

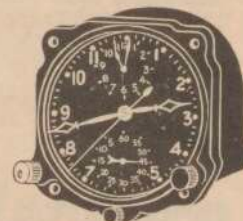
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No. 4 Art Union

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in presence of the Police, Press and General Public,
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Mr. R. J. S. HICKS, 36 Alfred St., Mascot.

3rd PRIZE: One Simpson Washing Machine. Ticket No. 682493.
Mr. JIM ARROLD, 23 Commissioner St., Cooma.

4th PRIZE: One Hotpoint Ironing Machine. Ticket No. 594231.
Mr. L. BURTON, c/o Mr. J. Murphy, Hillside, Victoria.

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Mrs. A. J. SEAMONS, McIntosh Street, Echuca East, Victoria Ticket No. 80848

Mr. J. MONAGHAN, 31 Edwin Street, Croydon Ticket No. 248484

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(BLOCK LETTERS)

P.I.M.

Gracious Gesture From NG Delegates to Fiji Hosts

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, May 8.

ONE of the highlights of the South Pacific Conference was the visit of more than 50 delegates, officials and pressmen to one of the most famous places in Fijian history, the tiny island-stronghold of Bau.

During the afternoon a unique ceremony was carried out. Addressing Ratu George Cakobau, who had received the conference visitors and who was responsible for the organisation of their lavish entertainment by the people of Bau, one of the New Guinea delegates (Waiau Ahnon, of Rabaul) said that his people had waited many years for an opportunity to acknowledge a debt they owed to the Fijian people.

The delegate presented a great coil of New Guinea shell-money (tambu) to Ratu George in recognition of the fact that Fijian mission-teachers were prominent among those who first took the Christian Gospel to the territory in 1875. "Your teachers found us fighting one another in a state of savagery," Waiau told Ratu George. "They taught us how to live in peace with our neighbours."

The gift was handed to Ratu George who insisted, however, that it must be accepted Fijian fashion.

He passed the money ring to two old men sitting with about 100 others. They held it with bowed heads, while a low murmur arose from the group.

Dr. G. T. Barnes, Pathologist in the Medical Department in Fiji, has been transferred to a similar post in Nigeria.

PAPUA-NG DELEGATES IN SYDNEY

ACCOMPANIED by the Director of Education for Papua and New Guinea (Mr. W. C. Groves) and Mr. R. H. Boyan, the party of native delegates and advisers which represented Papua and New Guinea at the South Pacific Conference, spent a week in Sydney on their return from Suva. The party visited numerous cultural institutions and industrial establishments and displayed a keen and intelligent interest.

The three New Guinea representatives

were present at the weekly gathering of the New Guinea Womens' Club where they met ladies formerly resident in the Territory.

The party, which was accommodated, while in Sydney at the Y.M.C.A., returned by Skymaster on May 13 to Port Moresby where they will return to their respective Districts.

The Rev. C. F. Gribble, general secretary of the Methodist Overseas Mission, attended the South Pacific Conference in Fiji as a representative of the National Missionary Council of Australia and the International Missionary Council.

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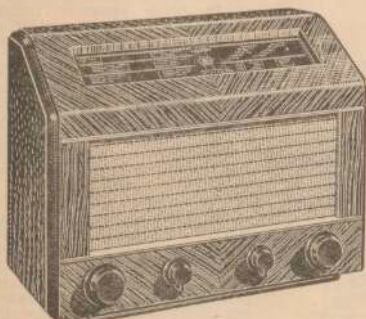
Mendaco not only brings almost immediate comfort and free breathing, but builds up the system to ward off future attacks. For instance, J. Richard, Hamilton, Ont., Canada, had lost 40 lbs., suffered coughing every

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A. H. BUNTING LTD., SAMARAI, PAPUA

Mr. R. A. Derrick, Superintendent of Technical Services in Fiji, who is conducting, for the South Pacific Commission, a survey of facilities for the professional and technical training of people of South Pacific Territories, paid a brief visit recently to the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony.

PHOTOGRAPHS

South Pacific Conference and of Separate Delegations

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CAINE'S STUDIOS,
Suva, Fiji

Why Dutch Eurasians Fight For A Home In New Guinea

Letter to the Editor

IN your editorial of March, you quoted Mr. Osmar White, of the Melbourne Herald, who described the very unsatisfactory conditions in the recently established Eurasian settlements in Dutch New Guinea, the existence of which is being threatened by an Indonesian boycott.

During my stay in Java, from 1940 till October, 1942, and later, in 1946, I had the opportunity to learn what was the underlying cause of Eurasian-Indonesian enmity.

Before the war the Eurasians had the same rights and obligations as people born in Holland, and quite a few of them

played a prominent part in developing Indonesia into a country in which there was, instead of racial strife, a peaceful collaboration for the mutual benefit of Europeans and Indonesians.

The war found all Eurasians on the Allied side. Many of them were pilots in the airforce; others fought very well in the navy and army. Like Europeans of Dutch descent, they were all interned after the capitulation, and many were eventually sent to Siam, Burma and Japan.

The end of the war brought no victory for them, however. A few days before the Japanese capitulation, Marshal Terauchi, supreme commander of Japan's armies in South East Asia, summoned Sukarno and Mohammed Hatta to a conference, from which they returned with Japan's recognition of Indonesian independence.

Because the first landing of Allied troops was delayed for two months, these two Indonesian leaders had plenty of time to establish themselves, and arm their followers, with arms mostly surrendered by the Japanese occupation forces.

Military activities started immediately after the first Allied landings. Mostly they were of a terrorist type and committed against defenceless people of no matter what race. Because Eurasian women and children had not been interned in "protective" camps during the absence of the heads of families, like the Dutch ones—but, instead, were living amongst the population—many of them were murdered in cold blood.

For many months "liberated" ex-P.O.W. Eurasian and Dutch husbands and fathers were kept waiting outside Java, knowing that their families over there were at the mercy of a mob stirred up by many years of Japanese teachings of intolerance and anti-Europeanism.

There were sincere Indonesian leaders, but they were obviously powerless to control the Japanese-armed hooligans.

IS it to be wondered at that Dutch Eurasians do not wish to live in Java any longer, or in any part of Indonesia, but that they are trying to establish themselves in the only nearby country in which this is still possible? A successful Eurasian settlement will mean the eventual establishment of 200,000 adaptable, progressive citizens born and bred in the tropics, who could be a barrier against the designs of any foreign power against New Guinea. The Indonesian Government knows this and accordingly tries to prevent supply ships reaching the struggling Eurasian colonists.

If the Indonesians succeed in destroying the settlements, the only opportunity of populating the empty spaces of Dutch New Guinea with a people who have proved to be loyal and industrious and are used to tropical conditions, and who suffered so much because they defended their country against Japanese aggression will have gone, and forever. This will directly affect Australia's interests which are connected with New Guinea in its entirety in connection with defence and foreign affairs.

Accordingly, help for the struggling Eurasian settlements in New Guinea is not only commendable from a humanitarian point of view, but also from a political one and this might pay rich dividends in the possibly very near future.

I am etc.

D. de GRAAFF

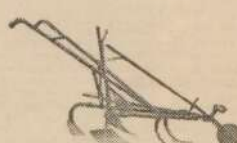
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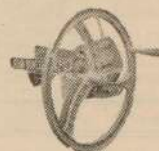


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SEARCH FOR OIL IN PAPUA

Commencement of Drilling at Wana

AUSTRALASIAN Petroleum Company announced in May that drilling has commenced at Wana in the delta area of the Gulf of Papua, 218 miles north-west of Port Moresby.

This marks the completion of preparatory and development work which has been in progress during the past year. Work was commenced in January, 1949. In the low-lying delta area in which Wana is situated, all geological evidence at surface is lacking and the site for the first test of underground conditions and oil possibilities has been based on geophysical evidence. A reconnaissance gravity meter survey of the area was carried out in 1940, but detailed gravity meter and seismic surveys, leading to the final selection of the site, postponed during the war, have only recently been undertaken.

Wana, a year ago, was a small area of low-lying ground, not more than a foot above high water level, surrounded by swamp and densely covered with jungle. Movement about the area was most difficult and hardly a step could be taken without the aid of an axe or without sinking knee deep in mud.

To-day the area has been cleared of jungle and drained. A wharf has been constructed and a light railway laid to handle equipment and supplies. Twenty houses, ten large huts, a mess and club and two hospitals have been constructed to accommodate the 30 members of the European staff and 150 native labourers required to operate the drilling outfit and to maintain the area. Service buildings, comprising offices, geological laboratory, workshops, in which all necessary machine tools have been installed, a power station to provide power and light and stores buildings have also been erected. This preparatory development work has cost £23,000 and equipment installed cost £10,000.

A National 50 drilling outfit, capable of drilling from 6,000 to 7,000 feet, depending upon the type of formation encountered, and comprising a 140 feet derrick, rig machinery, slush pump engines and much ancillary equipment and costing £250,000 to purchase, has been installed. Australasian Petroleum Co. expects to carry this hole to maximum depths.

APC is now operating in five areas. Three of these sites, Hohoro, Upola and Wana are drilling; one site, Malalaua, has completed preparatory development work and rig erection is in progress; and one site, Oriloli has commenced the construction of a 5½ mile road.

Shareholders in Australasian Petroleum Company Pty., Limited, are Vacuum Oil Co., Anglo-Iranian Oil Co., and Oil Search Limited.

OTHER progress reported by APC is in respect of:

UPOIA: The hole has been deepened 826 feet from 4,272 feet to 5,098 feet.

HOHORO: Depth remains at 4,721 feet. Completion of hole preparatory to running 9½ inch casing is continuing.

MALALAU: Rig erection has been continued.

ORLOLI: Jungle clearing of road alignment has commenced.

Mr. B. C. Carpenter, who has been manager of the Suva branch of the Bank of New Zealand for the past two years and nine months, has returned to New Zealand. His successor in Suva is Mr. C. D. Barford.

Classified Advertisements

POSITIONS WANTED

EXPERIENCED Canadian, newly-arrived in Australia from the tropics, requires employment in the Pacific, either in commercial or plantation management. Wide experience in office management, personnel and public relations. Used to tropical climates and handling of native and Indian labour. Age 40, married, no children; Bachelor of Arts and Commerce degrees. Any reasonable offer will be considered; accommodation a consideration. Reply, by airmail:—E. W. W. Eley, c/o Box 3408, G.P.O., Sydney, N.S.W.

MARRIED COUPLE.—Keen young man and wife desire opening in the Islands in any capacity, both working, if necessary. Man has general experience as operator, mechanic and fitter, diesel and petrol engines, and as fitter in machine toolmaking shop; knows Islands well. Wife experienced in bookkeeping and general clerical work. Replies to: "Reliable," c/o Box 3408, G.P.O., Sydney, N.S.W.

COMPETENT, commonsense worker, anxious to help solve your water transport problem. Wages, salary, or share. Experienced mechanic and general engineer. Capable of putting into commission and handling water craft. Will discuss any proposition. Replies: "Transport," Box 3408, G.P.O., Sydney, N.S.W.

STAMPS FOR SALE

TO STAMP DEALERS.—Persons wishing to buy used or unused stamps of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony should communicate with Mr. P. Poznanski, Bairiki, Tarawa, Gilbert Group, Central Pacific, who has taken over the Colony's Stamp Agency from the G. & E. Government Handicraft Department.—(Signed) P. Poznanski, Bairiki, Tarawa, G. & E. Group.

WANTED TO BUY

PLANTATION OR BUSINESS.—Islands resident (now in Papua) wishes to buy a plantation, commercial business, or hotel in the South Pacific—not necessarily Papua-New Guinea—but it must be a going concern, capable of full investigation before purchase. Reply, by airmail preferably, to: "Genuine," c/o Box 3408, G.P.O., Sydney, N.S.W.

Classified Advertisements

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MCGREGOR, Roy, formerly a plantation manager for Burns, Philp & Co. in New Guinea.—Will he or anyone knowing his whereabouts kindly communicate with the Public Trustee, 19, O'Connell Street, Sydney, N.S.W., Australia.

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ISLANDS PRODUCE

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COCOA

Cocoa beans imported into Australia from the Pacific Islands come mostly from New Guinea and the New Hebrides and are purchased almost wholly by the Commonwealth Chocolate and Confectionery Manufacturers' Association. The buying price is based on the ruling rate of Accra beans (produced mainly in the Gold Coast Colony, West Africa). Prices for the 1950 crop have shown a tendency to fluctuate—in March they dropped to around £200 Stg. but recovered in April and rose again early in May.

Accra (quotation by Colyer, Watson Pty. Ltd., Sydney): £225 sterling (equivalent to £281/5/- Aust.), c.i.f., Sydney.

Western Pacific cocoa beans were quoted on the Sydney market in mid-May, at: New Guinea: £A220 per ton, ex wharf.

New Hebrides: £A225 per ton, ex wharf. Most of Western Samoa's cocoa production goes to USA, where it is allocated by the International Control Board. The price in Apia fell disastrously last year (to £110 Samoan per ton, f.o.b.), but later recovered. In mid-May, Samoan beans were quoted at £220 Samoan per ton, f.o.b., after being £200 early in April. (Samoan currency equals sterling.)

TROCHUS SHELL

Irregular shipments are handled in Sydney by some Pacific Islands trading firms. Nominal Sydney quotations are: Thursday Island shell, £91 per ton, f.o.b.; New Guinea shell, £78 per ton, c.i.f., Sydney—no sales reported during the month; Solomon Islands shell, £85.

Fiji merchants recently paid for trochus £F60 (£A68/17/6) per long ton on the beach at Suva.

COFFEE

Prices for coffee produced in British Colonies increased in 1949, following devaluation of the £ stg. and Pacific Territories prices advanced similarly. Nominal quotations are:—

New Caledonia: Production exported to France at higher than normal rates (equivalent to around £400 Aust. per ton for Arabica and £350 Aust. for Robusta).

New Guinea and Papua: Nominally £350 to £370 per ton (c.i.f.), according to quality. Java: No exports coming to Australia from Indonesia at present.

VANILLA BEANS

Production of the main South Seas vanilla-producer, French Oceania, mostly goes to USA.

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Papeete merchants quote 325 francs per kilo. Price for Tahiti vanilla beans (White-Yellow Label) quoted on the Sydney market (by J. C. Merrilees Pty., Ltd.) is 16/6 per lb., c.i.f. Australian ports.

RICE

No free-trading in rice at present. All the Australian crop goes to the Commonwealth Government for allocation to countries where rice is a staple of the native peoples. Rice shipped from Sydney to Islands ports is fixed at £45 per ton White and £49 per ton Brown.

GREEN SNAIL SHELL

Nominal quotations in Sydney are at £25 per ton, c.i.f., for f.a.q. shell.

PEARL SHELL

By a three-years' contract between the Otto Gerdau Company (principal Mother of Pearl Shell buyer in USA) and the majority of Torres Strait pearlers, the Thursday Island shell prices were fixed in the middle of 1949 at: Sound grades, £A325 per ton, f.o.b. "T"; "D" grade, £A325; "E" grade, £A125—all prices were plus bonuses declared by the company.

Independent quotations for 1949 season: Top grades, £A405 per ton; "D," £A340; "E," £A240.

The Torres Strait pearling season re-opened during April. Contracts for the independent pearlers' output were not finalised by mid-May. One New York firm has offered £A570 per ton for first-class shell and there are reports of still higher bids.

PRICE OF GOLD

The Commonwealth Bank's price for gold bought in Australia is:—

Fine	Standard	oz.	oz.	£14/4/-
..	£15/9/10	..	..	..

(Australian Currency).

COPRA

Fiji Local Buying Price, in Store, Fiji Currency.

	Plantation	FMS
June, 1942	£16 0 0	£15 0 0
July, 1942	16 12 6	15 12 6
June, 1944	19 10 0	18 0 0
October, 1944	20 0 0	18 10 0
December, 1945	19 7 6	17 17 6
January, 1946	18 5 6	16 6 0
August, 1946	23 10 6	23 5 0
February, 1947	29 15 6	29 10 0
June 9, 1947	36 19 0	36 13 6
December 8, 1947	38 5 6	38 0 0
March 15, 1948	46 5 6	46 0 0
January 1, 1949	49 10 6	49 5 0
January 1, 1950		53 14 3

Since January 1, 1949, the British Ministry of Food has had a 9-years' contract with the Fiji Government to buy the Colony's copra at fixed prices yearly. Each year until 1958, the price will be adjusted by negotiation.

New Hebrides

From a maximum of £70/12/6 (Aust.), per ton, in 1948, the price of New Hebrides copra has risen to £A59 per ton.

Western Samoa

Samoa has a 10 years' contract agreement with the UK Government—exporters during 1949 received £45 Samoan per ton (an additional £3 per ton being held by the Copra Board towards a Stabilisation Fund).

French Oceania

Papeete firms are paying planters 9,350 francs per 1,000 kilos for Tahiti copra, which goes either direct to France or to Canada for crushing.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA-NEW GUINEA
ANGPCB Fixed Price, Delivered to Ship's Slings or to the Board's warehouse.

	Hot-air	Smoked
Jan. 7, 1947	£28 0 0	£27 0 0
June 17, 1947	23 2 0	23 2 0
Nov. 23, 1947	23 10 0	23 10 0
April 8, 1948	24 0 0	24 0 0
March 1, 1949:		
Pt. Moresby	24 0 0	24 7 6
Samurai	24 0 0	24 7 6
Madang	24 0 0	24 7 6
Rabaul	24 0 0	24 7 6
Kokopo	24 6 17 6	24 6 5 0
Kavieng	24 5 17 6	24 5 5 0
May, 1950	24 8 10 0	24 7 6

The 1950 price is subject to a premium up to £1/5/- for superior grades.

Official Price for P-NG Copra sold in Sydney:

	Hot-air Dried	Smoked
January, 1947	£36 10 0	£35 10 0
July, 1947	35 5 0	35 0 0
April, 1948	36 1 0	35 7 6
April, 1949	36 10 0	35 17 6
May, 1949	36 15 0	35 2 6

From March, 1949, Australia agreed to sell a proportion of P-NG's production annually to the UK Ministry of Food, for nine years, at fixed prices. For 1949, the price to the UK was £48 Stg. per ton (planters received £48 Aust. per ton). The new 1950 price has been fixed at £48/10/- Stg. per ton, f.o.b. Territories main ports.

RUBBER

Since the Australian Government's wartime price control on rubber was lifted, most Sydney trading firms use the London and Singapore day-to-day quotations as a basis when buying Papuan rubber.

An average rate during May for No. 1 grade RMA (Rubber Manufacturers' Association) was: 24½d. Stg. per lb. (79½ cents Singapore), equivalent to 30 5/32d. Aust. per lb.

QUOTATIONS FOR MINING
SHARES

	Aug. 1939	Apr. 1	May 1
Emperor Mines	b9/11	s13/9	b13/3
Loloma	s25/6	s27/-	b27/-

NEW GUINEA

Bulolo G.D.	b124/-	b75/-	s84/-
Enterprise of N.G.	b27/6	b15/-	b12/6
Guinea Gold	b13/3	b6/6	b9/-
N.G.G. Ltd.	b1/10	b1/9	b1/6
Placer Development	b58/6	b125/-	b134/6
Sandy Creek	b1/5		
Sunshine Gold	b6/5	s10/6	b9/3

PAPUA

Cuthbert's Misima	s16/8	b3/6	b10d.
Mandated Alluvials	b3/8	b2/-	b2/9
Oil Search	s3/11	b4/10	b4/8
Oriomo Oil	b5/-	b2/4	b2/-
Papuan Apinaipi	b4/11	s4/3	b3/3

Exchange Rates

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

FIJI

Through Bank of NSW and Bank of New Zealand:—Australia on Fiji on basis of £100 Fiji: Buying, £A111/2/6; selling, £A113. Fiji-London on basis of £100 London:—

	Buying	Selling
£ s. d.		
Telegraphic transfer	111 2 6	113 0 0
On demand	111 2 6	113 0 0

WESTERN SAMOA

Through Bank of New Zealand:—Australia on Western Samoa on basis of £100 Samoa: buying, £A123/12/6; selling, £A124/10/6. Samoa-London on basis of £100 London:—

	Buying	Selling
£ s. d.		
Telegraphic transfer	100 7 6	101 10 0
On demand	99 9 3	101 10 0

Samoa on New Zealand, on basis of £100 NZ:—Buying, £100; selling, £100/10/-.

Samoa on Fiji, on basis of £100 Samoa:—Buying, £111; selling, £110.

Samoa on USA on basis of £1 Samoa (telegraphic transfer): Buying, 2.797 dollars; selling, 2.786 dollars.

The Bank of NZ in Apia pays the following Samoan currency prices for overseas notes:—

NZ, £1 for £1; Australian, 15/6 for £A1; USA, 7/3 (approx.) per dollar; Fiji, 17/6 per £F1.

PAPUA-NEW GUINEA

Bank of New South Wales, which has branches in Port Moresby, Lae, and Rabaul quotes an exchange rate between Australia and Papua-New Guinea of 10/- per £100.

Similar rates through Commonwealth Bank of Australia (branches at Port Moresby, Lae, Rabaul and Madang).

FRENCH PACIFIC COLONIES

SINCE the end of 1945, the franc, instead of having the same value in all parts of the French Empire, has been given different values in different Colonial Groups. There are three groups. Group 1 (using Metropolitan francs): France, North Africa, West Indies, French Guiana, Group 2 (using African francs): All African Colonies, Madagascar, Reunion, St. Pierre, Miquelon. Group 3 (using Pacific francs): New Caledonia, New Hebrides, French Oceania. Exchange values, in francs, at present are (nominal only):—

	£ Stg.	USA Dol.	£ Aust.
Group 1 (Metrop)	961	349.20	777
Group 2 (African)	490	175	388
Group 3 (Pacific)	178.37	60	141.75

All quotations are subject to daily fluctuations

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