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NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA

MARCH, 1954 Vol. XXIV. No. 8.

PACIFIC ISLANDS Monthly

25 MAR 1954

HOW TIMES HAVE CHANGED: Fijians made exhibitions of Fire-walking long before Europeans came to the South Seas. Then, if they travelled at all, they paddled their own canoes; and, for sustenance, they sat around a heap of food cooked in a ground oven. To-day, how different. When 25 Beqa men went to Auckland in January to demonstrate fire-walking, they travelled on one of TEAL's modern flyingboats. And, as for eating—well, here is a photograph of TEAL Flight Hostess, Miss V. Eggers, serving luncheon to one of the Fire-walkers.

[*Registered at the G.P.O., Sydney for transmission by post as a newspaper*]

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ISLANDS AIR SERVICES

Travel in the Tropics is *timesaving* and a *pleasure* when you fly by QANTAS—Australia's Overseas Airline with 33 years of flying experience.

Over 50 points in the S.W. Pacific Area are linked with Australia by fast, regular QANTAS services shown below.

NORFOLK ISLAND SERVICE
Sydney • Norfolk Island • Sydney.

SUVA SERVICE
Sydney • Brisbane • Noumea • Suva • Noumea • Sydney.

NEW HEBRIDES SERVICE
Sydney • Brisbane • Noumea • Vila • Espiritu Santo • Vila • Noumea • Sydney.

TROBRIAND SERVICE
Port Moresby • Samarai • Esa'ala • Rabaul • Samarai • Port Moresby.

BOUGAINVILLE SERVICE
Rabaul • Buka • Kieta • Buin • Kieta • Buka • Rabaul.

PAPUA WEST SERVICE
Port Moresby • Yule Island • Kerema • Wana • Kikori • Lake Kutubu • Daru • Kikori • Wana • Kerema • Yule Island • Port Moresby.

SOLOMONS SERVICE
Lae • Finschhafen • Rabaul • Buka • Vella Lavella • Yandina • Honiara • Yandina • Vella Lavella • Buka • Rabaul • Finschhafen • Lae.

BISMARCK WEST SERVICE
Lae • Madang • Wewak • Manus Island • Kavieng • Rabaul • Madang • Lae.

BISMARCK EAST SERVICE
Lae • Finschhafen • Rabaul • Kavieng • Manus Island • Kavieng • Rabaul • Lae.

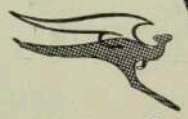
"GOLDFIELD'S" SERVICE
Lae • Bulolo • Wau • Lae.

N.G. HIGHLANDS SERVICE
Lae • Nadzab • Kaiapit • Arona • Kainantu • Bena Bena • Goroka • Nondugl • Banz • Minj • Mt. Hagen • Ogelbeng • Baiyer River • Wabamunda • Wabag and return.

NEW BRITAIN SERVICE
Rabaul • Jacquinot Bay • Moewe Harbour • Talasea • Rabaul (alternatively fortnightly) • Rabaul • Talasea • Moewe Harbour • Jacquinot Bay • Rabaul.

HOLLANDIA SERVICE
Lae • Madang • Wewak • Hollandia and return.

QANTAS



Qantas Empire Airways Ltd. (Inc. in Q'land) In assoc. with B.O.A.C. and TEAL

Australia's Overseas Airline

P16

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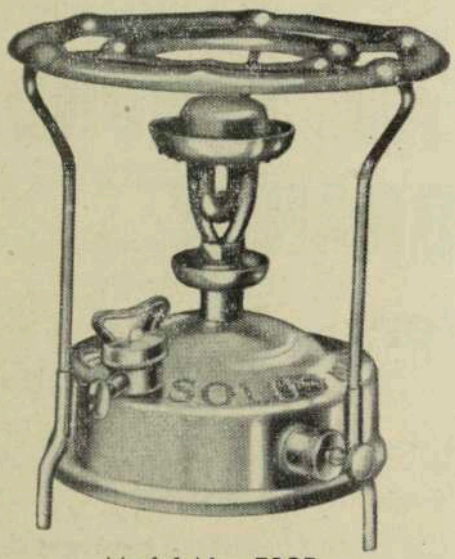
Coleman

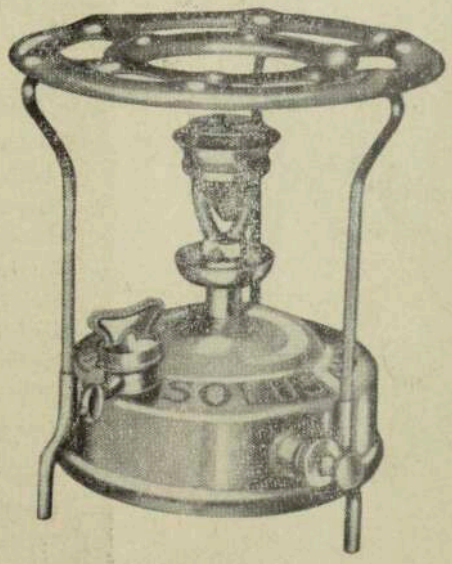
Solus STOVES

MADE IN ENGLAND



These two Coleman Stoves are of the one burner kerosene type and are available in both silent and roarer models. Their dimensions are height 8½ inches, diameter 8½ inches, approximate weight 2¾ lb. Both models have the same outstanding features.

Model No. 532E
SILENT TYPE



Model No. 531E
ROARER TYPE

1. Full-Size Fount with Filler Plug of wing type.
2. Air release on side of Filler Plug.
3. Heavy Brass pressure-tested Tanks.
4. Fount and Burner firmly soldered together.
5. European-type pump.
6. Grate and Grate Supports detachable to reduce shipping space.
7. Spare parts interchangeable with similar European Stoves.

Representatives for the Pacific Islands:

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CHATEAU TANUNDA BRANDY

..The Versatile Drink..

Serve these favourites:—

★ Chateau Tanunda Brandy with water or soda.

★ Chateau Tanunda Brandy with Ginger Ale, crushed ice and slice of lemon.

★ Chateau Tanunda Brandy with pure orange juice.

Also Brandy Crusta, Cafe Royal and as a Liqueur.

Ask for
"CT"
then it *must* be
Seppelts Chateau
Tanunda Brandy

CHATEAU TANUNDA BRANDY . . .

from all retail stores throughout the Pacific Islands. Wholesale supplies through B. Seppelt & Sons Ltd., Box 163, G.P.O., Sydney.

A PRODUCT OF THE HOUSE OF SEPPELT

GUARD YOUR HONOR

EST. 1851

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SHIPPING TIME-TABLES

There now are comparatively few shipping lines running on regular time-tables in the Pacific Islands. The following time-tables are only approximately correct—they are subject to much alteration at short notice:—

Sydney-Papua-N. Guinea

MV Bulolo, modern liner, sails about every six weeks: Sydney-Brisbane-Moresby-Samarai - Lae - Madang - Manus - Rabaul - Samarai-Moresby-Brisbane-Sydney.

Next sailing March 23.

MV Malekula sails from Sydney for Samarai, Rabaul, Manus, Wewak, Madang, Lae, Samarai and return to Sydney. Next sailing March 19.

Details from Burns Philp & Co. Ltd., 7 Bridge Street, Sydney.

MV's Soochow, Shansi and Sinkiang, 3,000 tons vessels, leave every six weeks approximately (making a three-weekly service): Sydney-Brisbane-Port Moresby - Madang - Rabaul - Pt. Moresby, Sydney. Next sailing Shansi, April 6. Next sailing Soochow, March 19. Sinkiang will include Melbourne in her itinerary, leaving from that port March 19, from Sydney March 23.

Details from New Guinea Australia Line (G. S. Yuill & Co., Ltd., agents), 6 Bridge St., Sydney.

N. Zealand-Fiji-Samoa-Tonga

Motor vessels Tofua and Matua, from New Zealand, serve Suva (Fiji), Nukualofa and Vavau (Tonga), Niue Is., Pago Pago (American Samoa), Apia (Western Samoa). Tofua leaves Auckland for any or all of above ports at approx. five weeks intervals. Matua calls at Wellington and Lyttelton (NZ), Lautoka (Fiji) and supplements Tofua's schedule in Islands, calling at ports as directed by owners.

Tofua's next voyages are scheduled to leave Auckland March 15 and April 12.

Matua will leave Auckland on her next voyage April 3.

N. Zealand-Cook Is.

The NZ Government's old motor vessel Maui Pomare is scheduled to leave Auckland every month for Rarotonga and other Islands in the Lower Cooks, subject to requirements of trade. This vessel carries 30 passengers. On her return to Auckland after January voyage will withdraw for annual survey, expected to take about 2 months.

Full details on application to NZ Government Department of Island Territories in Wellington, or to any office of the Union SS Co. of NZ, Ltd., which

REGULAR SAILINGS BETWEEN NEW ZEALAND AND ISLAND PORTS

M.V. "VASU"

FAST TRANS-TASMAN SERVICES—Refrigerated and general cargo

M.V. "VITI" S.S. "MADONNA"

Tonnage available for charter

AGENTS FOR: Flotta Lauro Line (Passengers and cargo to U.K. and Continent.)
Edinburgh Assurance Company Ltd.

ISLAND AGENTS: SUVA: Morris Hedstrom Ltd.
APIA: A. MacDonald & Co. Ltd.
NUKUALOFA/VAVAU: Burns Philp (South Sea) Co. Ltd.
NIUE: Robert Rex.

Also represented throughout Australasia.

TASMAN STEAMSHIP STEVEDORING AND AGENCY COMPANY, LIMITED

P.O. Box 2242, Auckland.

Telegraphic address: "TASVITI"

New Guinea Australia Line

Regular Three Weekly Service to PORT MORESBY, SAMARAI, LAE, MADANG, KAVIENG, AND RABAUL, VIA BRISBANE

"SOOCHOW" "SHANSI"

And from MELBOURNE, approximately every seven weeks, to PAPUA-NEW GUINEA, via SYDNEY AND QUEENSLAND PORTS

"SINKIANG"

Agents for PAPUA: STEAMSHIPS TRADING CO. LTD.

Agents for NEW GUINEA: COLYER WATSON (NEW GUINEA) LTD.

General Agents:

G. S. YUILL & CO. PTY. LTD.

6 BRIDGE ST., SYDNEY

Telephones: BW 2731 BU 6313 (Freight only)

Cable Address: "YUILL"

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Company acts as Agent for this vessel at some ports.

Sydney-New Hebrides-BSI-Rabaul, Etc.

MV Malaita makes a round trip at about 8-weeks intervals from Sydney to Lord Howe-Norfolk Is.-New Hebrides Ports - BSI ports - Bougainville - Rabaul - Samarai-Sydney.

Next sailing from Sydney March 30.

Details from Burns Philp & Co., 7 Bridge Street, Sydney.

Sydney-N. Caledonia-Tahiti

Vessels of Messageries Maritimes Line, coming from Marseilles, via West Indies and Panama, call about every six weeks at Papeete, Vila (New Hebrides), Noumea and Sydney, and return by same route. Details from Messageries Maritimes. Luxurious new liners Caledonien and Tahitien recently added to this service.

Small motor-ships Polynesien (Messageries Maritimes) and Neo Hebridais (H. C. Sleigh, Ltd.) maintain fairly regular service between Noumea and Sydney.

N. America-Fiji-Hebrides, etc.

Norwegian motor vessel Thorsisle, carrying cargo and passengers maintains a regular service between North American ports and French Oceania, Samoa, Fiji, New Caledonia and New Hebrides.

Sailing from San Francisco April 2, Papeete, April 14, Apia, April 19, Suva, April 23, Noumea, April 28 (dates approx. only).

Details from General Steamships Corporation Ltd., 432 California St., San Francisco, U.S.A.

AIRWAYS TIME-TABLES

TRANS-PACIFIC SERVICES

1. Australia (or NZ)-Fiji-Hawaii-N. America

BY PAN-AMERICAN AIRWAYS
With Strato Clippers, using Sleeperettes and Berths*

Tues. and Fri.—Sydney - Nadi (Fiji) - Canton Is.-Honolulu-S. Francisco-Seattle-Portland.
Tues. and Sat.—Return via same route.
† Tues. and Fri.—Auckland - Nadi (Fiji).
† Thurs. and Mon.—Nadi (Fiji)-Auckland.
† Connecting with Strato Clipper at Nadi.

BY BRITISH COMMONWEALTH PACIFIC AIRLINES (BCPA)
(DC-6 All-Sleeper Service)*

Wed. and Sat.—Sydney-Nadi (Fiji)-Canton Is.-Honolulu-S. Francisco-Vancouver.
Mon. and first Thur.—Dep. southwards, same route. On second or alternate Thursday, flight commences at S. Francisco.
Tues.—Dept. Auckland-Nadi-Canton-Honolulu-S. Francisco-Vancouver.
Fri.—Dep. Vancouver and S. Francisco alternatively; thence same route to Auckland.

BY CANADIAN PACIFIC AIRLINES (CPAL)
(With Super DC-6B Aircraft)*

Every Tuesday—Sydney - Auckland - Nadi (Fiji) - Honolulu - Vancouver.
Every Friday return by same route.

*** Tourist Class Services are available on these planes at 20 per cent. less normal fares.**

LONDON - SUVA

FIJI DIRECT SERVICE

VIA
PANAMA

For Sailings and Further Particulars Apply To:—

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138 LEADENHALL ST.,
LONDON, E.C.3.

BURNS PHILP (SOUTH SEA) CO. LTD.,
SUVA, FIJI

PACIFIC ISLANDS TRANSPORT LINE

Owners: Thor Dahls Hvalfangerselskap A/S — Sandefjord, Norway

— M.V. "THORSISLE" —

Regular Freight and Passenger Service between Pacific Coast Ports of U.S.A. and Canada
and
TAHITI — SAMOA — FIJI — NEW CALEDONIA — NEW HEBRIDES

GENERAL STEAMSHIP CORPORATION, LTD.
General Agents
432 California Street, San Francisco 4, Calif., U.S.A.

PAPEETE—Etablissements Donald Tahiti
APIA—Morris Hedstrom Ltd.
SUVA—Morris Hedstrom Ltd.
NOUMEA—Etablissements Ballande
PORT VILA—Comptoirs Francais des Nouvelles Hebrides

SECTIONAL SERVICES IN PACIFIC

2. Sydney-New Guinea

Service by Qantas Empire Airways

NORTHWARDS

Tuesdays and Saturdays (Skymasters)

Depart:	Arrive:
Sydney, 7.30 pm	Brisbane, 10.15 pm
Brisbane, 11.40 pm	Moresby, 6.30 am (Wed., Sun.)
Moresby, 7.30 am	Lae, 8.45 am

Connecting services north of Lae by Drover to Bulolo and Wau.

Sundays and alt. Wednesdays (Sandringhams)

Depart:	Arrive:
Sydney, 7.30 pm	Brisbane, 10.50 pm
Brisbane, 12.20 am (Mon. and Alt. Thur.)	Cairns, 6.35 am
Cairns, 8.05 am	Moresby, 11.55 am (Night stop)
Moresby,* 8.30 am (Tue.)	Samarai, 10.30 am
Samarai, 11.00 am	Esa'ala, 11.40 am (Alt. weeks)
Esa'ala, 11.55 am	Rabaul, 2.55 pm

The alt. Wednesday Sandringham from Sydney terminates at Port Moresby, a connection north to Lae on the following day at 9.00 am being by D.C.3.

* The Sunday Sandringham from Sydney arrives Moresby Monday and after a night stop then goes on to Rabaul via Samarai, etc., on Tuesday.

SOUTHWARDS

Sundays and Wednesdays (Skymaster)

Depart:	Arrive:
Lae, 10.25 am	Moresby, 11.40 am
Moresby, 12.40 pm	Brisbane, 7.15 pm
Brisbane, 8.45 pm	Sydney, 11.30 pm

Connecting service from Wau by Drover. Arrives Lae 9.35 am Saturday.

Thursdays (Sandringham)

Depart:	Arrive:
Rabaul, 5.30 am	Samarai, 8.45 am
Samarai, 9.15 am	Moresby, 11.15 am
Moresby, 12.15 pm	Cairns, 3.40 pm (Night stop)
Cairns, 8.30 am (Fri.)	Brisbane, 2.15 pm
Sydney, 7.0 pm	Sydney, 7.05 pm

Alt. Saturdays (Sandringham)

Depart:	Arrive:
Moresby, 6 am	Cairns, 9.25 am
Cairns, 10.55 am	Brisbane, 4.40 pm
Brisbane, 6.10 pm	Sydney, 9.30 pm

A connection from Lae, with a DC3

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o pick up Saturday Sandringham, arrives n Moresby on Friday at 8.20 am.

3. N. Guinea Internal Services

Operated by Qantas

AE—HOLLANDIA (Dutch New Guinea) (DC3)

very 4th Monday (Mar. 22, Apr. 19, etc.). Departs Lae 8 am, calls at Madang and Wewak, and arrives at Hollandia 1.5 pm. Every 4th Tuesday (Mar. 23, Apr. 20, etc.), departs Hollandia at 9 am, and, with calls at Wewak and Madang, arrives Lae at 3.5 pm.

LAE-MANUS (DC3)

Every Wednesday.
ep. Lae, 10.45 am; Finschhafen, Rabaul, Kavieng, Manus (5.45 pm)
eturns Saturdays (dep. 8 am), via Kavieng and Rabaul; optional call at Finschhafen; arr. Lae, 2.45 pm.

MORESBY-DARU (Sandringham)

ia Yule Is., Kerema, Wana (optional), Kikori, L. Kutubu.—Every alternate Friday, returning same day (Mar. 19, Apr. 2, 16, etc.).

RABAUL-MOEWE HARBOUR (Sandringham)

t. Wed.—Rabaul-Jacquinot Bay-Moewe Harbour-Talasea-Rabaul—Mar. 24, Apr. 7, 21, etc.
N.B.—The direction of operation changes ith each service, i.e., each alternate rvice operates Rabaul-Talasea-Moewe arbour-Jacquinot Bay-Rabaul.

NEW BRITAIN-BOUGAINVILLE (Sandringham)

t. Wed.—Rabaul - Buka - Kieta - Buin —Mar. 17, 31, Apr. 14, 28, etc.
t. Wed. (same day) Buin-Kieta-Buka-Rabaul.

LAE-MADANG-WEWAK-MANUS-KAVIENG-RABAUL GENERAL SERVICE (DC3)

on., Thur. Dep. Lae 6.30 am, Madang arr. 7.35 am Wewak, Manus Is., Kavieng, Rabaul arr. 3.35 pm.
ie. only Dep. Rabaul 8.00 am, direct Madang arr. 11.00 am, Lae arr. 12.35 pm.

CENTRAL HIGHLANDS (DC3)

idays.—Lae (8.30 am) to Wabag, calling at any of: Nadzab, Kiaipit, Arona, Kainantu, Bena Bena, Goroka, Nondugl, Banz, Minj, Mt. Hagen, Baiyer R., Wabag. Return to Lae arriving 6 pm.

LAE-BULOLO-WAU (Drover)

p. Lae.—Tues. 3 pm.—Mon. & Sat. 7.30 am.
p. Wau.—Tues. 4.30 pm—Mon. 9.00 am —Wed. 12.35 pm. Direct to Lae in 35 minutes.

LAE-FINSCHHAFEN (Drover)

ery 4th Tuesday, leaving Lae 1 pm, returning same day (Mar. 23, Apr. 20, etc.).

MADANG-GOROKA (DC3)

idays.—Depart Madang 8.25 am, arrive Goroka 9.00 am, returning same day; depart Goroka 9.30 am, arrive Madang 0.5 am.

SERVICES BY MANDATED AIRLINES

With headquarters at Lae, this company ns regular services for passengers, ight and mails to all New Guinea tlements.

Is your Will "proofed" against Time?

No matter how physically secure your Will appears to be, the chances are that it is out of date. Even if it has been revised recently, you may have overlooked appointing an Executor who is "proofed" against Time, too. Advancing years, premature retirement through ill-health, business difficulties, inexperience, ignorance—all conspire to render a private Executor useless when the time comes to tackle the job.

Play safe. Let your Solicitor revise your Will *after* you have read "Hands That Never Leave The Wheel". This 20-page booklet explains why the appointment of Burns Philp Trust Company Limited as your Executor protects your family.

Complimentary copies of this booklet are available at any branch of Burns Philp (South Sea) Company, Burns Philp (New Guinea) Limited, Burns Philp (New Hebrides) Limited, or from this Company's head office.

DIRECTORS:

James Burns. Joseph Mitchell.
P. T. W. Black. Eric Priestley Lee.

MANAGER: L. S. Parker.

SECRETARY: E. R. Overton, F.A.S.A.

BURNS PHILP TRUST COMPANY LIMITED

Executor • Trustee • Attorney

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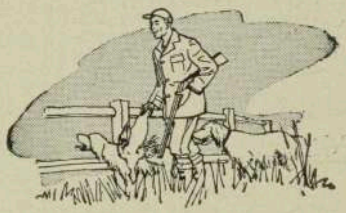
Imagine a holiday in this land of breathtaking beauty! At any time of the year there's so much to do . . . watching geysers play in wondrous thermal regions . . . fishing in placid lake or swift-running stream or spectacular big-game waters . . . climbing in the towering Southern Alps . . . deer shooting in virgin forest . . . slaloming on perfect ski runs . . . swimming and boating in fascinating fiordlands!



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Air travel will save you days in which to play, let you see so much more of this scenic wonderland. And it's so much more comfortable.

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NEW ZEALAND NATIONAL AIRWAYS CORPORATION

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4. Aust.-Dutch N. Guinea

By KLM Royal Dutch Airlines.

A weekly service with Constellations between Sydney and Amsterdam with a call at Biak, DNG, and Manila, Philippines. DC3 aircraft link Biak with Hollandia, Sorong, Merauke and Tannah Merah.

5. N. Guinea-Solomons

By Qantas with DC3
3 Flights Every Four Weeks.

Mon. (March 15, 29, April 5, 12, 26, etc.), Lae (dep. 6 am) — Finschhafen — Rabaul — Buka — Vellalavella — Yandina — Honiara, BSI (arriving 4.30 pm).

Tue. (March 16, 30, April 6, 13, 27, etc.), Honiara (dep. 7 am) — Yandina — Vellalavella — Buka — Rabaul — Finschhafen — Lae (arriving 3.30 pm).

6. Indo-China-Brisbane-N. Caledonia

By Air France, Monthly.

Constellation aircraft dep. Saigon, Mar. 7 and every 28 days thereafter for Darwin-Brisbane-Noumea, and return. Australian agents: Messageries Maritimes.

7. Sydney-Lord Howe Is.

By Ansett Flying-boat Service, with Sandringhams and Hythes.
Eight services per month, return same day.

8. Sydney-Norfolk Is.

By Qantas, with Skymasters.

Alternate Thursdays (Mar. 25, Apr. 8, 22, etc.), returning same day.

9. Sydney-New Hebrides

By Qantas, with Sandringham (Weekly Flying Boat Service)

Depart:	Arrive:
Sydney, Mon. 7.30 pm	Brisbane, 10.50 pm
Brisbane, 12.20 am (Tue.)	Noumea, 7.00 am
Noumea, 8.30 am	Vila, 11.05 am
Vila, 12.35 pm	Santo, 1.50 pm (Night stop)
Santo, 6.00 am (Wed.)	Vila, 7.15 am
Vila, 8.15 am	Noumea, 10.55 am
Noumea, 1.00 pm	Sydney, 8.40 pm

10. Sydney-Noumea-Suva

By Qantas with Sandringham Flying Boats—Weekly.

Depart:	Arrive:
Sydney, Thur. 7.30 pm	Brisbane, 10.50 pm
Brisbane, 12.20 am (Fri.)	Noumea, 7.00 am
Noumea, 8.30 am	Suva, 3.00 pm
Suva, Sat. 6.30 am	Noumea, 11.00 am
Noumea, 1.00 pm	Sydney, 8.40 pm

11. Auckland-Norfolk Is.

By NZ National Airways, with DC3's
Sundays—From Auckland double service returning same day.

12. Sydney-Auckland

Tasman E. Airways, with Solents

Tue., Sun.—Dept. Sydney 12 midnight, arr. 8.30 am following day.
Thur., Sat., Sun.—Dept. Sydney 8.30 am, arr. 5 pm.
Dep. Auckland 8.30 am, arr 1.30 pm Mon., Tue., Thur., Fri., Sat.

13. Sydney-Wellington

Tasman E. Airways, with Solents

Dep. Sydney 10.30 pm Mon., Tue., Thur., Fri. Arr. 7.30 am following day.
Dep. Wellington 10.30 am Tue., Wed., Fri., Sat., arriving 3.45 pm.

14. Melbourne-Christchurch

Tasman E. Airways, with DC4 Skymaster

Thurs.—Dep. Melb., 10.25 pm; arr. Ch'ch., 8.15 am next day.
Fri.—Dep. Ch'ch., 11 am; arr. Melb., 5.35 pm.

15. New Zealand-Fiji

SEE ALSO TABLE 18.
Tasman Empire Airways, Ltd., with Solents.

Dep. Auckland—March 23, 27, 30, April 6, 10, 13, 20, 24, 27.
Return to Auckland on March 22, 25, 29, April 8, 12, 19, 21, 26.

Depart	Arrive
Auckland, 9.30 am	Suva, 4.30 pm
Suva, 9.00 am	Auckland, 4.15 pm

16. Fiji-Western Samoa

SEE ALSO TABLE 18.
Tasman Empire Airways, Ltd., with Solents.

Dep. Auckland March 17, 28, April 13, 24, 27.

Depart	Arrive
Auck.. 9.30 am Sat.	Suva, 4.45 pm Sat.
Suva, 6.00 am Sun.	Apia, 11.05 am Sat.
Apia, 1.30 pm Sat.	Suva 4.35 pm Sun.
Suva, 9.00 am Mon.	Auck., 4.15 pm Mon.

17. New Zealand-Chatham Is.

In the 1953-54 season, Solents will make flights to the Chatham Is. as follows:

QUEENSLAND INSURANCE CO. LTD.

(Incorporated 1886 in Australia).

Assets Exceed £7,000,000

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Specialists in South Sea Fire, Marine & Accident Insurances

Apply to:—
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Burns Philp (South Sea) Co., Ltd.
VILA.—Burns Philp (N.H.), Ltd.
Comptoirs Francais Des Nouvelles Hebrides.
NOUMEA.—L. & W. Johnston.
NEW GUINEA.—Manager for the Territory of Papua and New Guinea, W. A. Anderson.
Resident officer at Lae, B. Bembrick.
PORT MORESBY—SAMARAI—LAE —MADANG—RABAUL.
Burns Philp (New Guinea), Ltd.
PAGO PAGO.
Burns Philp (South Sea) Co., Ltd.
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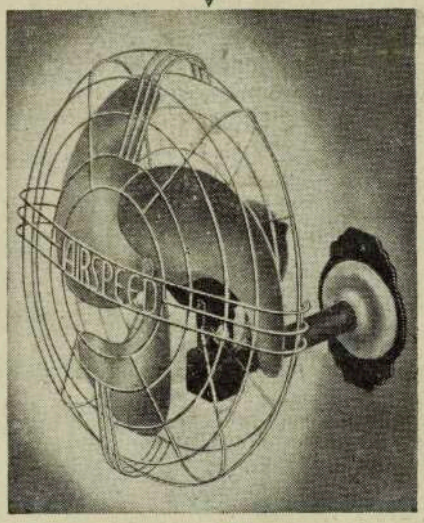

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Suva, 7.00 am (Wednesday)	Nukualofa, 10.20 amn (Wednesday)
Nukualofa, 2.00 pm (Wednesday)	Suva, 4.10 pmn (Wednesday)
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* No call on Sundays.

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FROM SYDNEY TO—	Single	Return	Table No.
Moresby .	£46 11 0	£83 16 0	2, 2a
Lae	55 7 0	99 13 0	2, 3
Rabaul ..	64 19 0	116 19 0	2, 3
Honiara, BSI ..	80 7 0	144 13 0	5
Vila, N Hebrides	51 9 0	92 13 0	9

Noumea, NC . ..	43	3	0	77	14	0	10, 9, 6
Norfolk Is.	25	0	0	45	0	0	8
L. Howe .	12	8	6	24	17	0	7
Nadi (Fiji) .	60	10	0	108	18	0	
Suva (Fiji) .	64	2	0	115	5	0	
Auckland	47	5	0	85	1	0	12
Wellington . ..	47	5	0	85	1	0	13
Christch. (from Melb.) .	52	18	0	95	5	0	
Honolulu .	225	9	0	405	16	0	1
S. Fran'co	279	1	0	502	5	0	
Vancouver	279	1	0	502	5	0	1
Papeete (via Suva direct) .	129	18	0	233	17	0	19

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	Single	Return	Table No.
Norf. Is. .	£15 12 0	£28 2 0	11
Fiji . . .	35 15 0	64 7 0	1 16
Samoa . .	47 2 0	84 16 0	16
Aitutaki .	67 11 0	121 12 0	18
Papeete .	82 10 0	148 10 0	18

¶ Our Brisbane correspondent reports that he recently met Mr. Charles McKinnon, who went to Papua 30 years ago from Western Australia to pioneer the timber industry at Port Romilly. The mill was then owned by Lewis Lett. "Charlie" grew up with the mill and, with Captain Fitch, founded Sawmillers & Traders Limited and, until last year was a director. Coolangatta is now Mr. McKinnon's home.

¶ Mr. Eliot Elisofon, well-known photographer of *Life Magazine*, and Mrs. Elisofon, were recently visiting Suva, Fiji. Mr. Elisofon has been to Tahiti, Western Samoa and the Marquesas taking photographs to illustrate an article on "The Loterary South Seas"—of places referred to by well-known writers on the South Pacific.

¶ Sir Geoffrey Clay, Agricultural Adviser to the Secretary of State to the Colonies, was in Fiji between February 6 and March 11. He had previously been in BSIP. He surveyed Fiji's agricultural development and opened the new Farm Institute at Koronivia where students will take a 2-years course in all aspects of agriculture.

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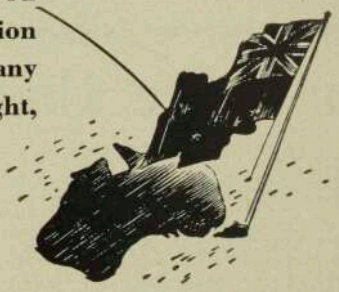

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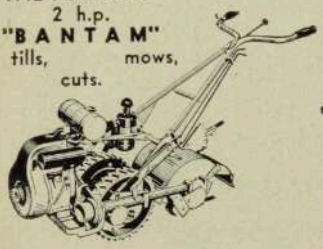

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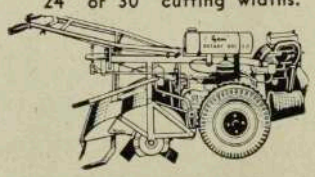

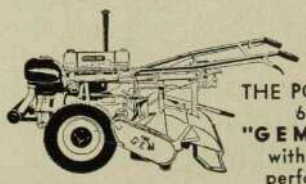

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Germany's Revival is Outstanding Factor in Changing World

THERE is a tendency to listen to the queer people who say that the Cold War is less acute—hat the danger of a hot World War III is receding.

That is blind and wishful thinking. The danger of World War III will remain and grow so long as the world is split into two camps, irrevocably divided on the fundamental issue of whether the individual shall be free, or merely a chattel of the State.

There is not a sign of reconciliation. All that has happened is the appearance of a new depth of cunning in Red diplomacy. The Muscovites are playing for time, on the belief that the Western world is moving towards socio-economic collapse, and so that the Communist *bloc* can overtake and pass the West's superiority in atomic weapons. To understand the game that Russia is playing it is necessary to pass some recent events in review.

The United States, which saved the West (including the Muscovites) from Axis Totalitarianism in 1941-5, again saved the West from being overwhelmed in 1950-53—this time by Communist Totalitarianism. It is certain that if America had not had superiority in atom weapons in that period, and had not shown in the Berlin air-lift and in Korea her readiness to fight, Russia would have attacked the nations of Western Europe, which were then war-weary, economically sick and politically staggering—and some of which are not much better now.

But while France and Italy, under steady Red penetration, have been growing weaker as units of Western European defence, Britain definitely has grown stronger, while Germany has emerged as the most startling and significant development of the post-war period.

Under our wise old Churchill, Britain is doing a magnificent job, despite handicaps which must at times be the despair of the British Government. Economically, Britain still is partially crippled by the conditions fastened upon her in seven full years of war (in which she spent the whole of her enormous savings) and five years of Attlee Socialism (in which the industrial masses were taught to believe that they can achieve a social Utopia without hard work).

Until 1939, Britain's economy was based on an income from oversea investments so large that her people could enjoy a good standard of living, while competing successfully in overseas markets against the products of low-standard countries. With the loss of those investments, Britain had either to produce much more per person, or accept a lower standard of living, or completely alter the national economy from secondary industries to primary production, so that the nation could feed itself, instead of exporting manufactured goods in return for imported foodstuffs. Probably, Attlee knew this as well as did Churchill; but Labour Governments, in England as elsewhere, never have the courage to implement logical reasoning if such implementation means a call upon the masses for a greater effort. Instead, Labour adopted its invariable remedy for the post-war problem—namely, nationalisation of key industries and spoliation of the rich.

BRITAIN, if she had had no international complications, would have worked the nonsense out of her system eventually, and got back to political sanity. Unfortunately for her, while she was truckling to the Trades Hall politicians, Russia was "making every post a winner." Not only were Communists boring into every trade union—quite rightly calculating that this can be the short cut to political control—but Red emissaries were arousing most Asiatic and African communities against the Western Europeans.

By the time that Britain, in 1950, had got around to throwing the Socialists out of office—and then by only a narrow majority—the Western European set-up was horribly close to surrender to the Communist thrust. Not one West European Power was healthily aggressive; while their Asiatic and African possessions were in a state of growing revolt. It was only America's possession of formidable weapons, and her manifest readiness to use them, that kept the Reds behind the Iron Curtain.

Since then, Prime Minister

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Churchill has accomplished something like a miracle. Britain, despite her fearful economic and politico-social embarrassments — for she has not yet solved the problem of how she is going to live, and she now is compelled to maintain large forces against revolutionary and Red-based movements in Malaya, Suez zone and Kenya—has regained her fighting spirit and has re-established her armaments (including some very special atomic weapons); and, furthermore, she has co-operated most effectively with United States in the rehabilitation of Western Germany.

OF all the set-backs which Soviet diplomacy and Red plotting have suffered in the last two years, by far the most startling is the reappearance of Germany as a military Power, staunchly aligned with the West. The Reds imagined that their imprisonment of East Germany behind the Iron Curtain would cripple West Germany: for (said the Reds) how could she function again when deprived of a quarter of her former area and population, and while divorced from helpful neighbours, like Austria, Czecho-Slovakia, and the Baltic nations?

But quite friendly relations have developed between the Western Germans and their Anglo-American conquerors; and the Germans, for at least four years, have been working like tigers to rehabilitate their country and turn it against the power they hate most beyond words —namely, Muscovite Communism.

When Churchill returned to office in 1950, his first vital decision was that France, for at least a generation or two, was completely undependable. So he turned, with America, to the rehabilitation of Germany. France still is France—the home of a very gallant people, the centre of Western culture—but France never has recoverd from 1940, and will remain sick until the nation's cleaner and more vital elements get rid of all the parasitical growths which eluster around professional politics.

Compared with 1950, there is a vast change in Western Europe. Britain, now closely aligned with America, is prepared and ready to fight; Western Germany, actively assisted by the Anglo-Americans, is rapidly building herself into wartime strength and readiness; and the sounder of the smaller nations —Netherlands, Belgium, and Scandinavian countries, Greece and Turkey—are loyal and dependable members of the Western alliance.

AS a vital part of the Cold War, there has been a terrific struggle between the Westerners and the Reds in the zone which extends from Northwest Africa, through Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, all the Middle East countries, Iraq, Persia, Malaya, to Indo-China, and in which may be included East Africa and Indonesia. For at least a couple of years, we suffered set-backs in all those countries; but, in recent months, the tide is flowing our way. Persia and Iraq have declared themselves for the West, and thus have cleared the way for a very new and important defence alliance between Pakistan, Persia, Iraq and Turkey—another set-back for the Reds, not only in the fact itself, but because this almost certainly will influence further elements of the Moslem world to ally themselves with the West.

Seeing, all this, the uninstructed optimists of our world are insisting that the danger is over—let's get on with the dancing, the racketeering and the horse-racing. The danger is not past—it never was greater. All that has happened is that we now are better prepared to meet it.

The Muscovite has not in any way abandoned his plan to conquer the world for Communism. In place of the heavy-footed campaigns of Stalin, we have the smooth and clever diplomacy of Malenkoff. The policy of the Reds now is to play for time, while Red armaments are improved, Asiatic countries enlisted and armed, and while Western Socialists are given every opportunity—encouraged and assisted, if possible—to undermine and pull down the established governments of United States, Britain and Germany. We have gained some advantages in the South Asia and Middle East countries; but the underground struggle there is as fierce and uncompromising as ever.

EVERY administrator, planter and trader in the Islands, whether Westerner or Islander, should watch these intensive developments in international relations, and try to fit each event into the world picture. Each has significance for all people here in the South Pacific.

If the Western alliance — which surely will now include Germany and which may include Japan—gains ascendancy, our future here may be secure, and our prospects of happiness good. But if Muscovite and Asiatic Communism should get control, we here have no future —Islander and Westerner alike will disappear under a horrible combination of Red Totalitarianism and Asiatic land-hunger.

Many good people who recognise the danger allow themselves to hope that it yet may pass, without war. They believe that unseen forces behind the Iron Curtain eventually will rise and destroy the apostles of Totalitarianism. We can only pray that they are right—the alternative, World War III, is too dreadful to contemplate. Our only course is to recognise the danger; build up our armaments; and, while hoping that the human spirit will re-assert itself behind the Iron Curtain, do all that we can do ourselves to combat the social and political evils that reflect so frequently and embarrassingly upon our own Western system.

Further investigations are being made of the hydro-electric potentialities of the Monosavu Falls, in the Nadrau Plateau region of central Viti Levu, Fiji, which the Governor visited in 1953. The Government Senior Geologist will visit the area this May. These falls are the only likely source of hydro-electric power on Fiji's main island.

¶ Captain R. C. Garsia, who was Administrator at Nauru from 1933 to 1938, died recently in Canberra, aged 67. He had a distinguished naval career, and was recalled to active service in 1940.

This Sketch-Map shows how the Soviet countries are pressing down on the Middle East, and the importance of the defensive alliance now being made between Pakistan, Iraq and Turkey.

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£70 STG. FOB IS NEW BASIC COPRA PRICE

Ministry of Food Concedes 7½ instead of 10 Per Cent.

IT was announced in Suva on March 2, after negotiations with the British Ministry of Food which had extended over two months, that the Ministry will concede a rise in the copra contract price of only 7½ per cent., and that the rate for first-class copra, in 1954 would be £70 Sterling f.o.b. Fiji ports, as compared with £65 in 1953.

This makes the prices to be paid by the Fiji Copra Board to producers in Fiji:

Grade	Per Ton Fiji Currency	Last Year
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Plantation ..	70 15 6	66 5 6
Fair Merchantable Sun-dried	70 10 0	66 0 0

At that date, the Australian Department of Territories, through its Copra Marketing Board, still was looking to London for 10 per cent. increase; but when it became known that the British Ministry of Food would rather sacrifice the 9-years' agreement than concede more than a 7½ per cent. rise, Canberra also accepted £70 Stg. f.o.b., P-NG ports.

It was announced in Canberra on March 12 that the 1954 price to producers (retrospective to January 1) for P-NG copra would be (in Australian currency):—

Hot air, at Copra Board depots, Papua and New Guinea, £75; (ex ship, Sydney, £97); fair merchantable sun-dried, £74.5 (£97); smoke-dried, £71/10/- (£96).

This is a rise of £5A per ton to the producer.

All other British S. Pacific Territories will follow suit.

This is a development reflecting badly upon the British authority which buys copra. The clear understanding of the 1949 contract was that the price should rise or fall by a maximum of 10 per cent., according to the world market. The world market, since mid-1953, has been rising steadily; and in mid-January the London quotation, c.i.f European ports, was £94/10/- Stg. for Fair Merchantable Straits—which on a f.o.b basis is equal to £80 to £82 per ton. Since Britain insists on buying at £70 Stg., f.o.b., she gets an advantage of at least £10 Stg. per ton on the world market.

Practically ever since the beginning of the MOF contract, Britain has had an advantage of some pounds Sterling per ton over the world market; and she seems determined to keep it.

The production of copra in the South Pacific that is subject to the MOF contract may now be 200,000 tons per annum. The 7½ per cent. rise is equal to £5 per ton—which means that the British South Pacific area, this year, will receive another £1,000,000 in revenue.

MEMBERS of the Fiji Copra Board were by no means satisfied with the final decision—they agreed by only four votes to three to accept the final MOF offer.

Members expressed strong dissatisfaction at the prolonged delay in negotiations and at the attitude of the Ministry of Food in its refusal to agree to an increase of 10 per cent., which all members believed to be fully justified. But the alternative, apparently, was to cancel the MOF agreement and sell the Colony's copra on the open world market.

COPRA FALLS

MARCH 5: The Bank of NZ Produce Circular reports that since beginning of Feb., there has been a sharp fall in London copra price—Straits falling from £94 Stg. to £80 Stg. Fall due to cheap palm kernel oil.

NG Cocoa Still at Phenomenal Price

FIRM price for New Guinea cocoa beans, landed Sydney in mid-March, was £A475 per ton. There were unconfirmed reports that one sale had been made at £A500 per ton.

At that date, high prices had held for eight weeks and no one in the trade was prepared to speculate on whether they would hold indefinitely. The bulk of Australian chocolate manufacture is done in winter months, and manufacturers like to have their raw materials in hand by this time in the year. This, coupled with a general world shortage of cocoa beans, may have had some influence on the high prices obtained since New Year. (See report on Samoan cocoa, elsewhere in this issue.)

NO SECOND HOTEL FOR LAE — YET

THE matter of a second hotel at Lae, New Guinea, has been temporarily deferred.

It was brought up at the February meeting of the Lae Town Advisory Council, and deferred until March. The Council said it considered there were sufficient liquor licences and accommodation for Lae at present. It was suggested, however, that a second hotel site might be reserved.

It is rumoured that there might be a third hotel for Port Moresby. It would go to Boroko, at the 4-mile, and cater for the thirsty people along the Rouna Road. There is the big Commonwealth Department of Works mess at 4-mile. Any new hotel would, of course, have also to cater for accommodation.

25 JAP LUGGERS FOR MOP OPERATIONS THIS YEAR

THE Australian Government has "conditionally licensed" 25 Japanese pearling luggers to operate in North Australian waters this season—April to November.

The conditions are that the Japs give an unequivocal undertaking to obey Australia's pearl-fishing laws.

It is a safe bet that Jap pearlers will not honour their unequivocal undertaking this year, any more than they have on any other occasion and that the season will be marked by the usual complaints from Australian pearlers.

In the meantime, it is reported that Australian master-pearlers are having difficulty in filling their lugger crews—many of the Torres Strait Islanders, who are the only divers now available to them, already having engaged on trochus fishing which began at end of January. Fishing for trochus seems to be a better proposition so far as the Islanders are concerned—they have not got to dive so deep, for one thing.

JAPS ARM TO PROTECT FISHING BOATS

It was reported from Japan at the end of February that they will arm eight 500-tons ships in March (3in. guns and 40 mm cannon) in order to protect their fishing fleets.

A reader, commenting on this development, asks: "Are they going to shoot? And if so, at whom, at what, and where?"

He wonders if they will be visiting Australian or Islands waters and what the reaction of RAN vessels will be—recalling the famous occasion up North, years ago and before the war, when a Navy ship—the *Larrakia* we think it was—went to apprehend a Jap shell-poaching vessel, broke down, and had to be towed ignominiously back to port by the "apprehended."

It appears that, one way or another, we are in for interesting times again in the waters north of Australia.

Sydney-Samarai 'Phone Link

SAMARAI, Papua, got a telephone link to Australia on March 1.

The new service goes through Port Moresby, and is for 30-minutes a day, five-days a week. The Samarai service means that 30-minutes less is available for the Moresby 'phone link. Samarai businessmen have been pressing for the link for some time.

Lae, apparently, is next on the list for a link with Australia. This link will also go through Port Moresby.

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Prominent Fiji-Indian in Singapore Constellation Crash

ONE of the victims of the BOAC Constellation crash at Singapore on March 13, was Pandit Ami Chandra, of Fiji.

He was on his way to the UK, on a Fiji Government bursary, to spend 4½ months studying teaching methods in secondary schools, and the Trade Union movement there.

He was principal of DAV College, Samabula, and President of the Fiji Industrial Workers' Congress, and one of the most scholarly Indians of Fiji. He graduated from Gurukula University, Kangri, Hardwar, in the United Provinces of India in 1922, going to Fiji in 1927, where he was appointed Head Master of the Gurukula Navosa, Lautoka. In 1946 he took his Diploma of Education at Auckland. In 1947-50 he was a Nominated Member of the Fiji Legislative Council. In 1948 he returned to New Zealand to complete his MA Degree, and in the following year was a member of the Fiji Delegation to the Pacific Science Congress meeting at Christchurch, NZ.

He has been vice-president and president of the Fiji Teachers' Union, is the author of educational books in Hindi used in Fiji schools, and recently became a member of the Fiji Broadcasting Commission.

Last December he was one of a small delegation which went from Fiji to New Caledonia to study labouring conditions offered by mining and plantation interests to Fiji Indian labourers there.

Pandit Ami Chandra was closely associated with the formation of Labour Unions in Fiji. As father and almost sole adviser to these infant Unions he undoubtedly had a great influence in the Labour Movement in the colony and a great responsibility to keep them on the right track.

He was a "moderate," and greatly respected by all sections of the community.

He is survived by his wife and a son and daughter in Fiji, by two daughters in NZ and another in India.

New RA For Mauke

MR. N. B. Stanaway, late Resident Agent, Mauke Island, Cooks, currently on leave in New Zealand, has tendered his resignation.

Mr. John Webb of Rarotonga is at present Acting RA, Mauke, and Mr. James Coombs, who has been RA for Penrhyn and is at present on leave in NZ, will be permanent RA.

In line with NZ policy, a Cook Is. Maori may now be appointed to Penrhyn.

Big Airline Deals Expected

IT is expected that by the end of March it will be announced that Qantas Empire Airways has absorbed British Commonwealth Pacific Airlines by buying out the shares of the British and New Zealand Governments; and that the Australian and New Zealand Governments have bought out the British Government's shares in TEAL.

It is believed that QEA will sell the four DC-6 planes, now used by BCPA, to TEAL which will gradually replace its present Solent flying-boats with these for the trans-Tasman services, and that QEA will use Super-Constellations on the trans-Pacific service.

¶ The newly-appointed Director of Education of Fiji, Mr. Lewis Jones, arrived in Sydney in early January

AMPLE ELECTRICITY NOW FOR UPOLU

WITH the completion of a new 300 KW diesel power generator at Salvalalo Public Works Department headquarters, near Apia, W. Samoa's immediate power famine is ended.

Last of the equipment recently arrived at Apia after a delay of 2½ years, due to the manufacturers having other priority contracts to fill.

Work on the Avele hydro-scheme is progressing steadily. The turbines is now under test with the manufacturers and should be shipped to Apia in March. It is hoped, on present indications, to complete the Avele scheme by October. The pipeline and headworks are now complete on the site.

Avele will provide an additional 1500 KW.

In addition, another diesel plant of 300 KW should come into operation at about the same time or a little earlier.

Fiji Sportsmen in New Zealand

This southern summer season has been a busy one for Fiji sportsmen. Three separate teams have been touring New Zealand. They are (top to bottom) Fiji Yachtsmen who took part in the 18-footer World Championships, held this year in Auckland. The Fijian cricketers who have been touring New Zealand. And the party of Fijian athletes who also took part in events in the Dominion.

—Photos by Caine's Studios

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THE EDITORS' MAILBAG

Ward Williams' Party Saw Telefomin in 1936-37

Mr. Eric Petterson, who was one of the men who made the journey from the Sepik to the Fly via Telefomin when the Japs invaded New Guinea in 1942, supplies some corrections to the history of that area which was told in December PIM.

It was stated there that no Europeans had actually been in Telefomin between the visit of Karius and Champion in 1928, and Taylor and Black almost 10 years later. He writes:

". . . I know that Ward Williams must have had quite a big station there in 1936 and early 1937. The late Bill Korn, with Joe Burke and Wally Kienzel were the ground-party, and were supplied by plane drops until they constructed a run-way at Telefomin. On our journey through the Telefomin valley (in 1942) we camped for a week alongside the old strip. You will perhaps remember that Bill Korn was mining with the late Gerry Keogh at Yamil (near Maprik in the Sepik district) in 1940. It was then that I first heard of Telefomin, and read something of the Williams' expedition. Bill told me that Townsend, then D. O. Sepik Dist., had been flown in to make an inspection of the work going on on the strip.

"One other thing we found in our stay in the valley was that the Kanakas had a livelier memory of Bill Korn and Joe Burke than of any other white men they had seen."

He is no doubt perfectly correct. WT knew that Ward Williams and others had been in the area, but when writing the December article had assumed from a line in Taylor's report that they had not actually been in Telefomin—or that part of the area where the Government station is now situated.

Checking back now, PIM's account of the Ward Williams' expedition in 1936-37 was of the sketchiest, and approached from the Papuan end. We reported them briefly in the upper reaches of the Fly, and heading towards the NG-DNG border, but at no time, except by inference, that they were ever in Sepik country.

Those were still the days when the NG interior literally swallowed up expeditions of that sort—and this one, so far as finding payable gold-dredging areas was concerned —was a failure.

In April, 1938, we reported that Ward Williams, who was an American mining engineer, was away somewhere on a similar quest in the mountains of Nicaragua.

Mr. Petterson reports that Stuart Campbell, who was Williams' chief pilot in the PNG venture, led one of the expeditions to Heard Island some years ago.

Well-Earned Honour

"I was glad to notice that our old friend, Wong You, well-known merchant in Bougainville, New Guinea, has been given the honour of inclusion in the special Territories delegation which will see the Queen at Cairns," writes a Sydney merchant.

"He started trading, long years ago, with nothing. Industry and probity won him success and he was in a big way when the Japs invaded. He was made a prisoner, and his stores were wiped out. He owed us £430 for goods supplied. He never got the goods—and he was ruined, anyway. We wrote it off.

"Somehow, Wong escaped, and spent the remaining war years dodging the enemy among the villages where, incidentally, he did much to help our Intelligence organisation. Soon after the war ended, Wong You, now nearly 60, went back and started all over again. A few months later, to our astonishment, he sent us the £430. A typical Chinese trader.

"He tells us, in a letter this week, that his inclusion in the party to see the Queen, as representing the Chinese section, 'is the greatest honour and pleasure of my life.'

"Maybe, as you say, the Asiatics in the South Pacific are a bit of a problem. But they would be less of a problem if they were all Chinese, and like Wong You."

Crime in Solomons

The Criminal Sittings of the High Commissioner's Court were held here in January," writes a resident of Honiara, BSI. "Six natives, guilty of nine offences, got sentences ranging from 18 months to seven years. I was struck by the proportion of sex offences—two of rape, and three of carnal knowledge. The only other crimes were manslaughter (1), attempt to strangle (1) and theft (1)."

Fish—Whole or in Part

As stated in February PIM, the strangely truncated fish shown on page 73 is undoubtedly a sun fish (writes a reader), and he says that it has the scientific name of *Ranzanta truncata*—with a world-wide distribution in tropical and temperate seas. The variety, according to Norman & Fraser's standard work, *Giant Fishes, Whales and Dolphins*, rarely exceeds 2 feet in length. They generally drift close to the surface in sunny weather, lying on one side. When swimming they assume an upright position but move forward in a zig-zag, wavy motion from side to side.

As an auxiliary engine, these fish can eject a powerful jet of water from their gills, or from their mouth when going astern. Drifting with the current, they will allow a boat to come right alongside them and are said to be "extremely stupid," frequently making no attempt to escape when speared.

ORIENT CO.'S WINTER-SPRING CRUISE PROGRAMME

Port Moresby Included

ALL of the post-war Islands cruises by overseas ships have been in the Southern summer, which is the worst possible time to go to the tropics.

At the beginning of March, however, the Orient Co. announced a programme of winter and spring cruises from Sydney this year.

The programme is:

Orion, from Sydney to Tonga, Fiji and New Zealand, August 13, for 17 days; *Orion*, from Sydney on September 1, to Port Moresby and the Great Barrier Reef for 13 days. *Orion*, from Sydney on November 4, to Fiji, via Brisbane, 13 days.

FATE OF NIUE MURDERERS STILL UNDECIDED

REPLYING to a further appeal in New Zealand on the part of the Howard League for Penal Reform, for reconsideration of the case of the three Niue Islanders, condemned to death for the murder of Resident Commissioner C. H. W. Larsen, the NZ Attorney-General (who is also NZ Minister of Island Territories) announced on February 23 that the request had been placed before Cabinet in Wellington but that Cabinet had decided not to do anything.

This decision will not affect the hearing of the appeal to the Privy Council which has been lodged against the NZ Full Court decision.

The case is still being fought in NZ newspapers, particularly between supporters of the LMS, on the one hand, and the Mormon Mission, on the other.

Fiji postage stamps of 2d, 1/- and 2/6 denominations, bearing the portrait of Queen Elizabeth instead of the portraits of the late King George VI, were issued in the Colony on February 1.

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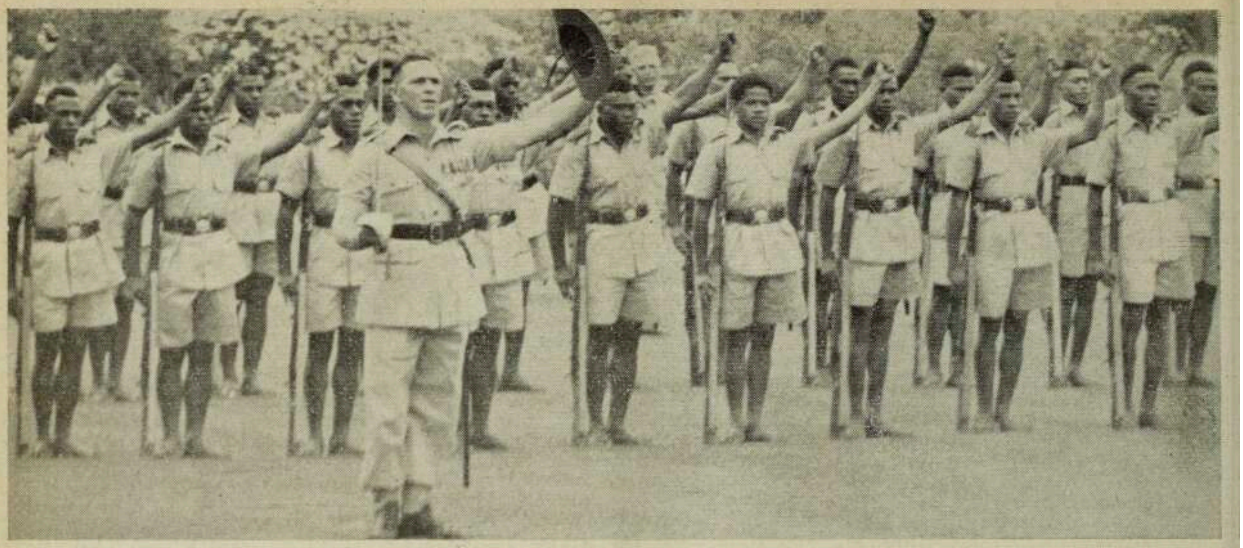

New Guinea troops, led by Major M. Bishop, give three cheers for Her Majesty, in Canberra on February 15. —Photo by courtesy Sydney Daily Telegraph.

Royal Visit In Retrospect:

GOD SAVE OUR GRACIOUS QUEEN!

(And, Particularly, The Duke of Edinburgh)

THE Royal Progress rolls on. The other day, in Melbourne, the Duke of Edinburgh received his sixth gift walking stick. He received the first in Fiji. He didn't say it—but he probably thought: "What do they think I am—a cripple?"

By the time you read this, the Tour will be winding to a close in South Australia and Western Australia. The Queen has already opened five Parliaments—with one more to go. She has a reprieve from this formal duty in Queensland and WA—possibly because these two States have no Upper House, and the Lower House is always traditionally *tabu* to the Sovereign.

In each city there have been a Royal Progress, a civic reception or welcome, a returned servicemen's rally, school children's rallies, a State dinner, a State ball (Melbourne had two balls), a Garden Party. Frequently, a luncheon for Her Majesty with women's organisations; a concert, a film show, an opera, or some other entertainment. In each country town there have been speeches of welcome by the Mayor (or Shire President), children's rallies, servicemen's rallies, country shows, fleeting visits to rural industries.

There have been variations on this theme—but that is the general pattern. By March, with still a month to go, journalists are running short on words in which to describe the same things, differently; radio commentators are producing the same running descriptions with deadly monotony.

AND what of Her Majesty? As some reader from Fiji has already written: — the Queen seems to have an inner strength. He did not mean exactly what we mean—but whatever she has, in order to sustain her on those monotonous occasions, she surely needs it.

And the Duke? Her Majesty, in a sense, has been brought up to withstand these public ordeals, and, from observation, I should say that within the established customs of these formal occasions she is entirely comfortable.

The Duke, on the other hand, has not been so brought up. Being an entirely human young man, he must find some of the repetitious formalities cruelly boring. During the Canberra festivities, at the presentation of new Colours at Duntroon, when duty compelled him to dress up in the tight pants and accoutrements of a Field Marshal and stand in the boiling sun, on an alien parade ground, he *looked* positively unhappy.

* * *

APART from the Royal Party itself, the Tour is made up of four sections:

- The VIP's, mostly political, who are seen everywhere: same people, different clothes.
- The comparatively small number of people who know someone who knows someone and can thus obtain an invitation to some of the functions.
- The crowds—the mobs, if you like it that way—whose place is behind the barriers.
- And the Press.

You may think that you dislike both the last two categories. But, without them, the Tour would have long since fallen flat on its face.

A few newspapers, occasionally, have departed from good taste and fair play in order to get a story or play up an angle; but on the whole, their conduct has been all that could be desired.

Between 60 and 80 press men and women are with the Tour continually. They do everything that the Royal pair do—and, in addition, write their stories, catch their deadlines, look after themselves, try to catch some sleep, keep an eye on their laundry, their transport, a hair cut or a hair-set, live in suitcases but appear well-groomed at any thing from a kids' rally to a State Ball.

By nature they are a cynical tribe. Yet their sole purpose seems to have been to build up this Royal Tour—when, at times, it would have been fatally easy for them to play down. The Press has been the vehicle on which the Tour has rolled on, on oiled wheels.

NOW, the crowds. It is my opinion that it is from these that the Queen draws that thing which our reader called "inner strength." The "Queen" feeling", engendered in a large waiting crowd—mass hysteria, if you want to put it that way—is quite a different thing to the feeling engendered in a select few VIP's at an exclusive occasion.

And the Queen, driving, smiling and waving through cheering people —when they keep at a safe distance—appears a different being to

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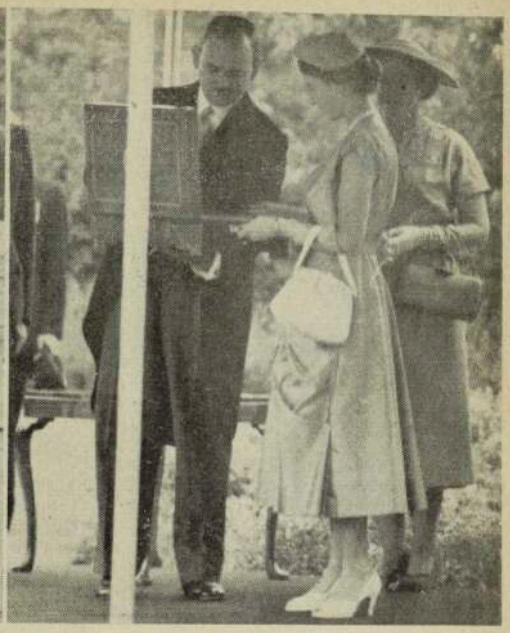

AT LEFT: Her Majesty shares a joke with Major Bishop as they inspect the guard. Men of the PNGVR in background. AT RIGHT: Her Majesty examining the album of protographs which Minister for Territories Paul Hasluck is holding. It was a gift from the combined Territories. Mrs. Hasluck in background.

—Daily Telegraph and Sydney Morning Herald photos.

the rather remote young creature who makes her formal appearance before the select VIP's.

Occasionally the crowds have become mobs, have been badly behaved; but generally—and in the circumstances—they have behaved well. They have waited for hours in teeming rain or blistering sun, packed a dozen deep, knowing full well that only a fraction of them will see anything more than a white, gloved hand raised in salute, or the brim of a tiny hat, in one fleeting glimpse.

It is all very like a stage production: The Queen and the Duke as the principals; the VIP's as the bit players—often only the props on which lavish gowns and gentlemen's best suitings are displayed; the crowds as the audience—pushed and harried and crushed, thrust as far off as possible behind the barriers, phenomenally patient—from them come the cheers, the

AT LEFT: Willie Gavera, of Hanuabada, Port Moresby, makes his bow to the Queen. AT RIGHT: Mr. Don Barrett, MLC, of Rabaul, chats with Mrs. D. M. Cleland, wife of P-NG's Administrator, after the Territories' function at Canberra on February 15.

—Sydney Morning Herald photos.

applause, the approval. Without them there would be no show.

* * *

The crowds have had a raw deal, on the whole. Yet, it is hard to see how it could ever be any different. There have been the usual cries that the VIP's and the politicians were monopolising the Royal couple; that they should be allowed to meet ordinary people; or young people or some other kind of people. But generally, it is difficult to see how this could be done. The crowd could not be let loose about them, that is certain—they would be crushed to death in the process.

But even if ordinary folks could be divided into manageable congregations I, personally, feel that the Queen would probably find it a considerable ordeal. Although she obviously has a deep feeling for the crowd—"my people"—and reacts tremendously to their enthusiasm and applause, she appears much more at ease in carrying out, in prescribed form, the tasks she is used to, than when she meets up unexpectedly with the unexpected. Then there is a momentary hesitation and a feeling of restraint.

The Duke, of course, is another proposition. There is probably nothing he would like better than to meet a lot of strange people doing strange things.

One Canberra citizen—who waited eight hours in the rain to catch a glimpse of Her Majesty's white glove as she flashed past, wearing her magnificent Coronation gown, on her way to open Federal Parliament on February 15—has a solution to this business of the mass-look. He suggested that the Queen sit on a saluting platform while the citizenry drive past *her*. Much more comfortable for the citizens, and probably no worse for Her Majesty than a march-past of massed troops.

* * *

THE Territories' gathering on the lawns of Government House, Canberra, on the forenoon of February 15, I think, could have served as an experiment in letting the Royal pair meet the people. Territorians themselves seemed very content with the proceedings, but to me it appeared a very formal little ceremony which could have had some of the stiffening removed without harming anyone. The Queen, on this occasion, seemed more remote and solemn than usual, and press photographers had to work hard for a smiling photograph.

The Royal dais was flanked on one side by a great body of top-hatted, frock-coated Federal politicians and their ladies; and on the other, by an equal-sized body of diplomats and their wives, all in exotic array.

The party would have been just as happy without them; and then, perhaps, Her Majesty and His Royal Highness would have felt inclined to chat informally with the assembled Territories people, after the more formal presentations were over.

Each of those delegates has led an interesting life, in places remote from the ken of either of our Royal visitors. All have a story to tell, and all Territorians like to talk. Here was a small group, of say 30, who could, if spared 30 minutes of precious Royal time, have given the visitors at least a glimpse of life in strange countries which they will probably never see.

The conversations attending the formal presentations, although they looked impressive enough as reported in the newspapers, in reality were of only a few seconds' duration.

THE conversation which Simogun, the native New Guinea Legislative Councillor, had with the Duke has been variously built up in the newspapers into many paragraphs.

Actually, Simogun bowed to the Duke, shook hands and the Duke asked him a question. Simogun replied in Pidgin—probably to the effect that he spoke only Pidgin. The Duke craned his neck forward in that characteristic attitude of his and looked as though he were saying, in some surprise, "U-m-m?"; and Simogun, evidently feeling that this was a conversation that led nowhere, moved on.

It was over in four seconds, flat.

After the presentations, the speeches and the acceptance by Her Majesty of the Territories' gift photo album, the Royal party went straight back indoors.

* * *

I WAS standing a few yards from the dais—close enough to hear Minister Hasluck when he presented the Territories' gift—but not close enough to hear what the Administrator of the Northern Territory said in his Address of Loyalty on behalf of all the Territories represented. The microphones were out of action and came on only after Her Majesty began her reply.

To the uninstructed onlooker, what happened was this: A worried-looking man appeared on the dais, read a few sentences from a paper, in an inaudible voice, presented it to the Queen, and hurriedly withdrew.

I was therefore surprised to find that, according to the official hand-out, the Northern Territory's Administrator said this:

"To Her Most Excellent Majesty Elizabeth II.

"May it please Your Most Gracious Majesty—

"We, the Administrators of the Australian Territories respectfully desire to convey to you and to His Royal Highness, the Duke of Edinburgh, the affectionate greetings of the peoples of those Territories and, on their behalf, to tender to you an expression of devotion and loyalty to the Throne and to Your Majesty.

"The delegations here to-day have come thousands of miles to bring this message to you. They have come from the far north and the centre of the Australian continent, from the Island of Norfolk, set gem-like in the South Pacific, from the tropical richness and mountain splendours of Papua and New Guinea, and from Nauru, the loneliest outpost of all, lying just below the equator in mid-Pacific.

These Territories are still engaged in the work of pioneering and development and the guardianship and advancement of dependent peoples. Both the native

(Continued on Page 137)

Same Titles—Different Hats

Mrs. Cleland, Brigadier D. M. Cleland (Administrator of P-NG), Brigadier H. B. Norman (Administrator of Norfolk Is.) and Mrs. Norman, photographed at the Royal Garden Party in Canberra, in February. Gentlemen wore any sort of headgear they fancied in Canberra during the Royal Visit, but so hot was the controversy about it—those who wore felt hats feeling superior to those who wore toppers, and vice-versa—Prime Minister Menzies felt called upon to read a public homily on the subject which, in effect, said that the hat didn't matter—it was what went on underneath it that counted. There is this to be said further, however: the felt hat is typically Australian, and, normally, toppers are rarer than fezzes. —Sydney Morning Herald photo.

KENAF TROUBLE

American Expert Is Angry

AN American Kenaf expert, Mr. J. Dempsey, in Port Moresby on March 4, accused P-NG Agriculture officials of neglect and indifference in relation to Kenaf production.

Mr. Dempsey was brought out by the Administration two years ago to give advice regarding the establishment of the Kenaf fibre industry. In co-operation with the Administration, certain Territories interests (led by R. A. Colyer, of Colyer Watson and Co. Ltd.) began the planting of Kenaf at Eriama Estates, some ten miles from Port Moresby.

The chief objects of the plan were to give Australia, spending millions of pounds on woolpacks, an alternative to jute; and to give the Territories a new industry.

Mr. Dempsey gave certain emphatic advice regarding the propagation of types of Kenaf suitable for P-NG, and especially care of seeds, development of new varieties, etc. When he returned, last month, he says, he found that his advice had been ignored, with the result that important experiments had not been carried out, and those concerned had had to go to Cuba, at a cost of £3,000, to get seed which should have been available in Papua. He said scathingly that "it is almost as though agricultural officers did not want Kenaf established here."

REPLY BY DEPARTMENT

Replying on March 9 to Mr. Dempsey's complaints, the P-NG Acting Director of Agriculture said that: • The Dept. had experimented with trial seed crops in 8 different localities in Papua and in NG and proved that the only safe area for seed production was in dry belt near Moresby. • The complete technique for kenaf seed production had not been worked out anywhere in the world—even in Mr. Dempsey's part of Florida. • The failure of the 1951-52 seed crop in Papua was due to unseasonable rain, not Departmental neglect. • Uneven germination of the 1953-54 crop at 10-mile—a part of the Eriama project—was due to inadequate land preparation. • The machines Mr. Dempsey had recommended for decortication were failures; when Eriama approached Dept. in 1953 to bring Mr. Dempsey to P-NG a second time, the Dept. would not support the proposal but Administration reversed the decision when Eriama asked again, stating that they wanted him to be there for trials of the Mohegan decorticator which they were importing and which Mr. Dempsey operates in USA. The Administration and Eriama shared his expenses.

URGENT TALKS AT HIGH LEVEL

THE PIM understands that this whole matter of the establishment of the Kenaf industry in P-NG is under urgent and top-level discussion in Australia.

Australia spends millions annually on jute for her two major industries, wool and wheat. It is believed that Indian interests are determined to kill the infant Kenaf industry.

The chief question is: In view of the probability of war, sooner or later, between Pakistan and Hindustani—or, at any rate, war in Southern Asia—dare Australia allow the Kenaf enterprise to be strangled at birth, thus making it possible for her major industries to be again at the mercy of Indian interests.

After the war, the high price demanded for jute caused woolpacks to rise to 29/-. After the Kenaf enterprise got under way, jute was steadily reduced, until now woolpacks are 14/-. Enough said!

Do You Remember ?

From PIM of 20 Years ago.

ALTHOUGH the price of copra was still at a disastrously low level, strangely, we said little about it in our March, 1934, issue of PIM. Although planters everywhere were still taking it in the neck financially, most of our news that month concerned New Guinea and Papua, where gold-mining was very much the thing. In those days "Gold" and "New Guinea" were almost synonymous terms. A great many of the advertisements concerned gold mining machinery, or were directed at gold miners.

Here are some other extracts from the March, 1934 issue:

Japanese MOP poachers were reported up around the Torres Strait. It was said that, as well as stealing shell, they were trafficking in lubras, ruining the northern shell beds and causing prices of MOP to fall.

* * *

Due to representations of the Governor of Fiji, Sir Murchison Fletcher, who had journeyed to Australia for that purpose, it was reported that Australia would "take a more reasonable attitude on the importation of Fiji bananas in future." (Hard results seemed, subsequently, to be nil; Australia did not get any more Fiji bananas).

* * *

Another expedition, all British this time, had set out from Papeete, Tahiti, for Cocos Island. They hoped to discover the Peruvian treasure said to have been buried here in the days of pirates and Spanish galleons.

* * *

Mr. O. F. Nelson, Mau leader in Western Samoa, was convicted of sedition after a long-drawn-out trial in Apia, and had been sentenced to 10 years' exile in NZ as well as eight months' imprisonment. He had, only a few months previously, returned to Western Samoa from five years banishment in NZ.

* * *

Prohibition had ended in USA and we reported ". . . The 3-masted vessel 'Marechal Foch', now owned by the heirs of Pere Rogier . . . has just returned to Papeete after delivering the last load of whisky to the bootleggers' mother-ship stationed off the Mexican coast." We said that Tahiti mourned the end of this profitable grog-running industry.

* * *

Under a heading: "Twin Sisters Spit at Each Other," we said that the plan to amalgamate Papua and New Guinea was not popular. A Rabaul correspondent wrote: "The Legislative Council scorns the idea and insists that NG be left alone to develop along her own lines." A Port Moresby correspondent had this to say: ". . . So New Guinea thinks it would be an 'insufferable indignity' to be tied to a 'stagnant Territory like Papua.' Let us say that Papua has never seriously considered the idea . . . Papua has not the slightest wish to be merely a port of entry and recruiting ground for NG."

* * *

There had been a series of clashes between wild bush natives and Administration forces, NW of the Morobe goldfields area in New Guinea. One European, Captain B. McGrath, prospecting for a Melbourne mining syndicate, had been killed by natives and in a six-hours' battle between native police under District Officer E. Taylor, 19 natives were killed and 16 wounded. There were also some wounded on the Administration side. (And strangely enough, there then was no one in New Guinea or without, to shout "Mau-Mau uprising!")

Better Bring Your Own, Boys!

AUSTRALIAN Rugby Union enthusiasts are already preparing for the 1954 tour of the Fijian footballers, due to start about May.

The Fijian team which paid a visit to NSW and Brisbane a couple of years ago, was tremendously popular and Australians have not forgotten the boost they gave to amateur sport.

Neither have they forgotten the appetites of the Fijians. The NSW Rugby Union has already set aside £300 in a "milk and fruit" fund which they will distribute to the hotels where the Fijians stop during the tour, to enable the proprietors to buy these extras.

When this fund was started, it was explained that it had cost the Union £43 in one week during the last tour to provide these items and that Fijians eat an enormous quantity of bananas.

The disastrous cyclone that lashed Queensland and NSW in February ruined most of the banana plantations and it is expected that bananas will be in very short supply, if not off the market altogether, for the next 12 months. So it might be as well if the Fijians brought some of their own.

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BRITAIN AND NEW HEBRIDES

3 Alternatives; and Why a Change is Needed

From a Special Correspondent

NOUMEA, Feb. 27.

IT was to be expected that high officialdom would deny all the reports that Britain contemplates the abandonment of her share in the New Hebrides, owing to the economic hopelessness of the British outlook in the Condominium, and the cost of maintaining her administration there.

Probably, no decisions have yet been reached; probably, no recommendation yet has been made to the British Colonial Office; but I can tell you, quite definitely, that the new High Commissioner for the Western Pacific, Sir Robert Stanley, has had the whole matter under review, and that he will not allow the set-up to drift along purposelessly as it has done for 30 or 40 years. I understand that the following are the three alternatives which are being considered by the British, and these alternatives are bound up, in some degree, with the Anglo-French conference to take place in Honiara within a few days:

- Britain shall give up her share of the New Hebrides Condominium, in return for some territorial concession elsewhere.
- Britain's share in the New Hebrides shall be taken over by Australia. (This is regarded by the British as a logical development, but the Australian Government has refused to show any interest in the proposal.)
- The Condominium Government at Port Vila shall be streamlined, and made to function more efficiently. There still would be two Resident Commissioners; but, instead of each nation having separate departments dealing with the same thing, there would be a joint staff, half of the officials British and half French.

The last alternative, I believe, is the one likely to receive close discussion in the Honiara conference. At present, each national office in Honiara has its own Public Works official, as well as there being a Condominium Public Works Department—a costly set-up.

There also is acute dissatisfaction with the Joint Court. When the two judges (one British and one French) cannot agree, there is no decision. The Condominium agreement provides that there shall be a chief judge or President (neither British nor French) who shall give a casting vote in such cases; but there has been no President for at least ten years.

There is need, also, for some sort of Supreme Court to which appeal can be made against the decisions of the Resident Commissioners. The latter (subject only to their respective High Commissioners) have dictatorial powers, and residents in the new Hebrides cite some cases of glaring injustice, as a result of it. Notably, there have been pro-French decisions by the French RC, and pro-British verdicts by the British RC, based on fundamentally opposite ideas of colonial policy.

I learn here that, in addition to the two High Commissioners and two Resident Commissioners, the Honiara Conference also will be attended by Mr. Peebles, a British Administration official from Port Vila, and Mr. Sanner, an inspector of French Colonies, from France,

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who happens to be here at present.

There is current here an interesting, but completely unofficial, report that the United States is taking a keen interest in possible future developments here in New Caledonia, and in the New Hebrides. Could be!

Dumb Complacency of Australia!

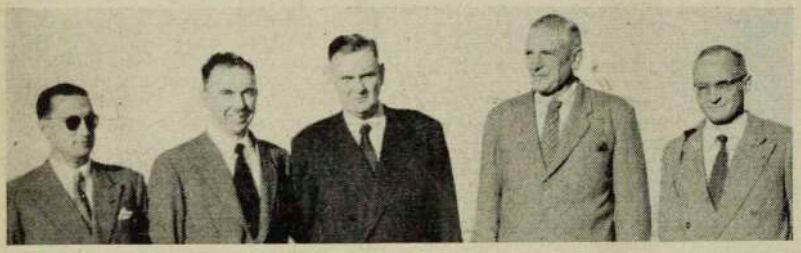
EDITORIAL NOTE

IT truly is an astonishing thing that while Australia is prepared to spend millions upon idealistic conceptions like an Antarctic Expedition and the Colombo Plan, she declines to show any interest whatever in the present condition and probable future of the New Hebrides and Solomons archipelagoes, which are her very near neighbours in the northeast.

Maybe, as the conspicuously unimaginative gentlemen who run the Australian Government from Canberra insist, Australia already has all the administrative and financial problems she wants in the Islands groups of New Guinea and the Bismarck Archipelago; and that it is hard, practical commonsense to leave the other groups to their present reluctant masters. But if it is wise to try to placate Asia with a Colombo Plan, how much wiser is it to keep some sort of control over New Hebrides and Solomons! It is not so long ago that Asians seized and occupied the Solomons, within easy flying distance of the Australian coastline.

Fifty years ago, Australia might have sat complacently at home, and ignored the implications of an enemy's presence in New Hebrides and Solomons. To-day, with aviation and radio and guided missiles in their present stage of development, such complacency is sheer lunacy.

Our correspondent reports that United States may be interested in what is going on around the South-west Pacific. That would not be surprising. The Americans are far more realistic and enterprising than the Australians.



From left to right.—Mr. Sanner, a French Colonies Inspector, from Paris; Dr. J. S. Cumpston, Consul for Australia in New Caledonia; Mr. Raoul Angamarre, High Commissioner for France in Western Pacific and Governor of New Caledonia; Judge Flaxman, British Resident Commissioner in New Hebrides; Mr. Anthonioz, French Resident Commissioner in New Hebrides. This group was photographed in Noumea in February, just before all the officials, except Dr. Cumpston, left for the conference with Sir Robert Stanley in Honiara, BSIP.

Visit by a High Official

THE President of the French Overseas Territories Commission, Senator Henri Lafleur, has arrived in the South Pacific, on an official inspection of conditions in French Oceania, New Caledonia and the New Hebrides. He is giving particular attention to industries, health and education.

It may be merely a coincidence that Senator Lafleur has arrived in the South Pacific while the leading officials of the British and French High Commissions for the Western Pacific (responsible for Solomon Islands, New Caledonia, New Hebrides, Gilbert and Ellice, etc.) are meeting formally at Honiara, in the Solomons.

Senator Lafleur will return to Paris at the end of April.

Honours for M. Angamarre

P. MORESBY, March 1.

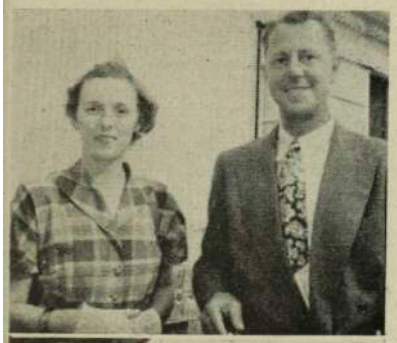
THE French High Commissioner in the Western Pacific, M. Raoul Angamarre, Governor of New Caledonia, en route from Noumea to Honiara for a conference, was accorded special honours when passing through Papua and New Guinea. The Deputy Administrator, Judge Phillips, met him at Jacksons Airfield, here; and there was a guard of honour for him at every airfield on his way through to Rabaul.

POOR TRANSPORT SERVICE

Editorial Note: The bankruptcy of the Australian-controlled transport system in the Northwest Pacific Territories of New Caledonia, New Hebrides and Solomons is illustrated in the case of the Governor of New Caledonia, and the Resident Commissioners in the New Hebrides, who were due to attend a conference in Honiara (in the Solomons, alongside New Hebrides). To get there, these high officials flew south to Sydney; thence flew by another air service to Lae, in New Guinea; thence by another air service from

Lae, via Rabaul, to the Solomons. Flying time from Vila to Honiara, direct, is about 3 hours.

Islands Travellers



In Auckland from the Islands in February:

Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Brownlee. Mr. Brownlee, following some years as accountant with Morris Hedstrom & Co., Apia, transfers now to Millers, Ltd., a Suva subsidiary, after furlough in New Zealand.

Monsieur Connan, Saigon business man, returned from a business visit to Papeete. With him aboard the TEAL aircraft was Judge M. Cavaelers of Papeete, enroute to France for vacation.

Mr. S. M. Sadaraka, of Aitutaki, returned from vacation at home to continue his Law studies at Victoria University, Wellington, and (right) Rev. Father A. McDonald, of Nukunono, Tokelaus, returned to Wanganui, NZ, on vacation after 11 years absence from New Zealand, the last six as the only male European in the Tokelaus.

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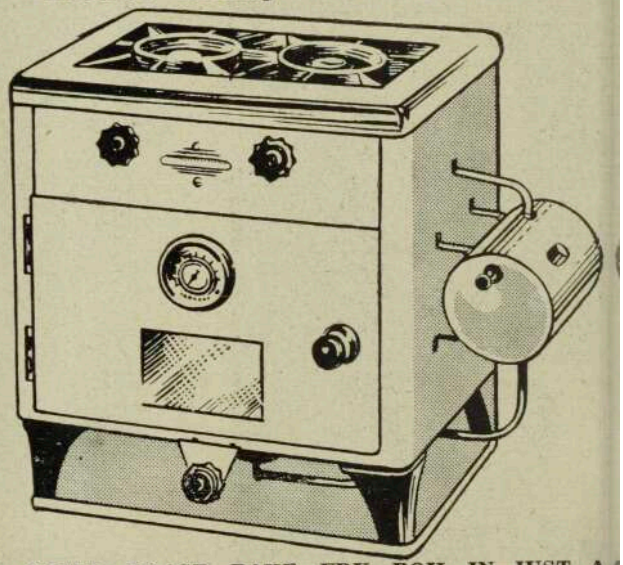

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Current News Items From Our Correspondents In Papua-New Guinea

PNG PREPARES FOR SEWERS AND EXPORTED CRAY-FISH TAILS

VIRTUALLY all of the PNG Government Gazette of February 17—over 50 pages—is devoted to meticulous rules and regulations under which sewerage work may be undertaken in the Territory. It covers everything—from the definition of a slop-hopper to the form of licence to be issued to sanitary plumbers and sanitary drainers. Somewhere in the regulations, it states that for natives an "Asiatic" type of pan may be provided—by which we conclude that, in these respects, natives and Asiatics are to be regarded as different to Europeans.

In a Gazette in January a large amount of space was devoted to the regulations under which the export, freezing, packing and canning of tuna and crayfish tails might be undertaken.

Both sets of regulations are what might be termed "forward looking." As far as we know, there is no sewered area (within or without "the meaning of the act") in PNG nor is any contemplated in the immediate future.

The same applies to frozen crayfish tails or canned tuna. (A former NSW superintendent of Fisheries said recently in Sydney that it was a reflection on Australian enterprise that her tuna resources had not been developed and that it was known that there was an abundance of tuna between Northern Australia and New Guinea. Perhaps the new regulations will mean something if the Japs are ever hired to show us how.)

DISTRICT SERVICES MEN AWAY FOR 4 MORE WEEKS OF SCHOOL

For 32 weeks of the coming year, eight officers of the PNG District Services Department will be "out of service" attending malaria-control school at Minj in the Western Highlands.

At the time of the murder of Harris and Szarka, near Telefomin late last year, it was officially stated that the District Services Department was desperately short of officers. At the same time, 37 officers of the same department were on a 2-years' course at the Sydney School of Tropical Administration.

The Director of Health considers that malaria is the major health problem of the Territory.

As well as the 4-weeks' course for 64 District Services personnel, there will be longer courses for field staff of the PHD, and three-months' courses for native personnel.

ODDMENTS

The But census district of the Wewak Sub-District has been closed

More and more new business premises are appearing in Lae, New Guinea. This store was opened recently in Seventh Street.

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Announcement

Mr. Bill May, of New Guinea, will do the round trip in the "Malaita" due to leave Sydney, April 4, with the object of meeting Planters and Traders to discuss Vessels, Hydro-Electric Installations and General Wholesale Buying matters.

Contact with Mr. May on board "Malaita" will be greatly appreciated.

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to recruiting for approximately the next 12 months.

Burns Philp (NG) Ltd. have been successful in a tender for an allotment of land at Goroka, Eastern Highlands. Does this mean that the Big Firm will be opening a branch in this growing Highlands town?

In the Government Gazette of January 27, a Town Advisory Council was established for Wewak, Northern New Guinea.

In the same Gazette tenders were called for the right to collect and sell "underwater war surplus materials" below high water mark in (a) port of Kavieng; (b) port of Samarai; (c) port of Finchhafen, Langemak, Dreger; (d) Milne Bay; (e) Oro Bay; (f) coast between Raihu River, Aitape, to the Dutch border; (g) a distance of one mile around the islands of Mushu and Kairuru; (h) part of Seadler Harbour in the Admiralties. Rights are for 12 months and tenders are to be on a royalty basis—"that is to say, payment of a percentage."

LARGE SHIPMENT OF HIGHLAND PASSION FRUIT GOES SOUTH

When the Burns Philp ship *Mangola* left Lae in February it took with it 18 tons of passion-fruit pulp from the Goroka area of the Highlands. It was consigned to Cottee, the Australian firm of fruit processors who sponsored, under Mr. George Greathead's guidance, the passion-fruit industry around Garoka.

This is the largest single shipment of passion-fruit pulp from the Highlands, to date.

NO OLD CLOTHES, PLEASE

At Kavieng on February 23, three Indian seamen from the *Mangola* were each fined £50 for bringing second-hand clothing into New Guinea without a permit.

An Administration spokesman said to-day that it had been suspected that some crew members of ships from Far Eastern ports had been smuggling second-hand, unfumigated clothes into the Territory and selling them to natives. Such clothes carried with them a serious danger of introducing disease.

RABAUL SOLICITOR RETURNS AS TEMPORARY JUDGE

Mr. Justice Rupert Charles Alfred Ollerenshaw was appointed an Acting Judge of the Supreme Court of Papua and New Guinea during the absence on leave of Mr. Justice Kelly. Mr. Justice Gore is at present also on leave in Australia.

The Acting Judge arrived at Port Moresby from Australia on February 24, and was sworn in by the Acting Administrator, Mr. Justice Phillips.

Mr. Justice Ollerenshaw's appointment will be for three months.

Prior to the war he was in practice as a barrister and solicitor at Rabaul for several years; since the war he has been practising at the New South Wales Bar.

HIGH PAY FOR YOUNG OFFICERS

The PNG *Government Gazette* of February 11 advertised that there were vacancies for 15 cadet patrol officers between the ages of 18 and 24.

Starting salary ranged from £567 at 18, to £920 at 23.

GOVT. AID TO KENAF INDUSTRY

Further Administration assistance to the infant kenaf industry in Papua, was given in February when imported materials for establishing a kenaf factory were exempted from Customs duty.

The material exempted includes material for factory building, electrical equipment for installing power and light, generators, conduit, wiring, etc.; machinery, shafting, bearings, workshop and laboratory equipment; bale strapping.

ADMINISTRATION'S GENEROUS SHORT HOLIDAY SCHEME

Full details of the short holiday scheme for PNG public servants at Wau, NG, have recently been announced.

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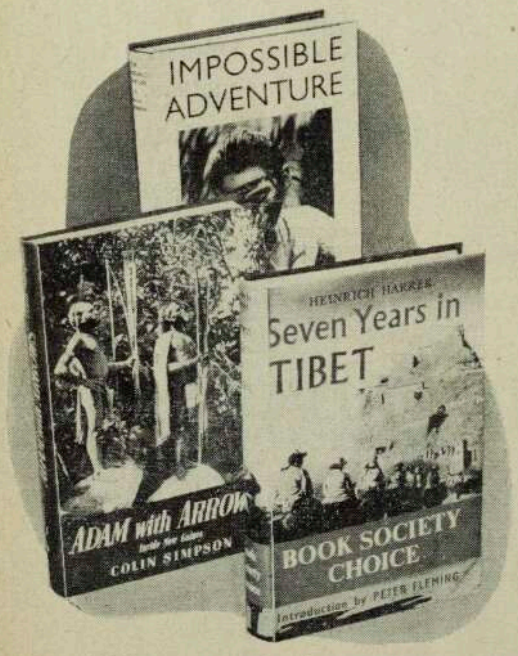

THE ASCENT OF EVEREST, by John Hunt.—A magnificent account of the British Everest Expedition, 1953. The foreword was written by H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh and one chapter by Sir Edmund Hilary. Illustrated with line drawings and photographs—8 in colour. 37/3 (post 1/5).

IMPOSSIBLE ADVENTURE, by Alain Gheerbrant.—"A modern classic of travel and exploration" of the area between the Orinoco and the Amazon. "As modest and unassuming as it is sensitive, colourful and fascinating." Illustrated. 22/6 (post 11d).

SEVEN YEARS IN TIBET, by Heinrich Harrer.—An account of the author's escape from internment in India into Tibet, where he became a friend of the young Dalai Lama. Illustrated. 20/- (post 11d).

TIGERLAND AND SOUTH SEA, by Olle Strandberg.—Takes us on a lighthearted tour of everything there is to see from India eastward to Hawaii. Illustrated. 22/6 (post 9d).

ADAM WITH ARROWS, by Colin Simpson.—A comprehensive survey of New Guinea, and particularly of the most notoriously hostile warrior tribesmen—the Kukukukus. This book has been widely read—and recommended—by residents of New Guinea and Papua. It's a wonderful gift book for overseas friends. Many photographs, 100 in colour. 25/- (post 9d).

BANDOOLA, by J. H. Williams.—A successor to the author's famous **Elephant Bill**, this is a book packed with adventures and dramas of beast and man. Colour and black-and-white illustrations. 18/9 (post 11d).

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MORE CO-OPS FOR MILNE BAY DISTRICT

Co-Operatives officer, E. O. Graham has transferred the headquarters of the organisation in the Milne Bay District, Papua, from Labe, to Samarai.

Milne Bay District is an active area for Native Co-operative Societies and it was expected that, after a survey in February, further societies would be formed on the Suau coast where the people are anxious to establish a society.

The Co-op vessel *Moutuana* is kept busy and has recently made visits to Woodlark and Conflict Islands as well as to societies in Milne Bay.

JAPS SHOW PREFERENCE FOR RABAUL

Rabaul had a visit from the Japs on February 6, but it was a little different from 1942. *They* needed help this time.

The fishing vessel *Azuma Maru*, of 148 tons, radioed from about 100-miles out a few days before that it had a crew member suffering from appendicitis, and was given permission to land him.

Two other vessels called on similar quests later—another appendix and a broken collar-bone.

Some Australian newspapers have chosen to make a mystery out of the incidents. They cannot understand why the Japs always pick Rabaul when they could go as easily to Honiara hospital, or maybe Buin. One Island wit has suggested that, perhaps, they have seen Honiara hospital.

The newspapers infer that the Japs are again up to tricks—probably spying. If the Japs do not know everything there is to be known about Rabaul now, after 3½ years occupation during the war, then they will never know.

Perhaps someone on the Jap ships has a nostalgia for Rabaul; perhaps, by insisting on going where no one wants them, they are doing a little bit of Japanese face-saving. Or it could be that they are waiting to be asked to show New Guinea natives how to catch fish.

LAP-LAPS IN THE NEWS

It has been reported from Sydney that an Island trading company wishes to buy thousands of yards of red and blue cloth which were used in Sydney for Royal Tour decorations. Purpose—lap-laps for PNG natives.

And a famous maker of ladies' foundation garments is currently advertising a new creation under the tag "Lap-lap." It is said to be "with lap-lap thigh ease," and the model in the advertisement is shown skipping about the page in her little elastic girdle.

NO LICENCES, BAD ROAD MANNERS IN MORESBY

Port Moresby's road-manners came in for some strong criticism during February.

The acting Commissioner for Police in the Territory, Superintendent C. Normoyle, told Port Moresby motorists that they were the worst in the Territory for bad hand signals and careless driving. He said he would like to have the public's co-operation; but if the police couldn't get it, there were other ways of straightening the matter out.

About the same time as Commissioner Normoyle's warning, the Port Moresby police had a lightning check on driving licences. Some people got quite a scare; and the local police station was inundated with motorists remembering that their licences were overdue, after all.

KEEPING CAPSIDS AND BEETLES IN N. BRTAIN

The Department of Agriculture has installed an officer at Rabaul to police the plant quarantine regulations. His job is to see that plants do not leave or enter Rabaul without authority.

Many passengers doing the round tour on ships, have been taking out such things as cocoa pods without permits; the Department wants to prevent such pests as cocoa capsid getting to the mainland. Although

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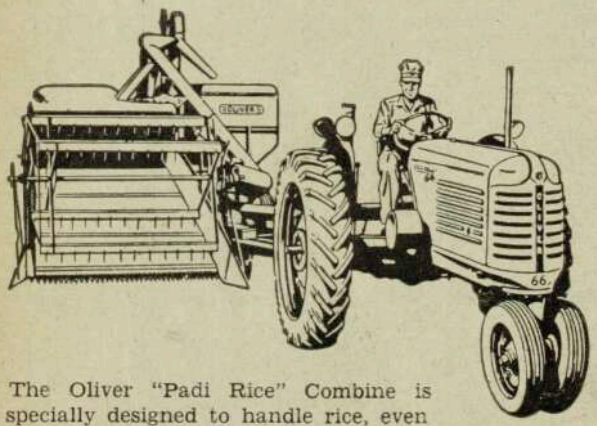

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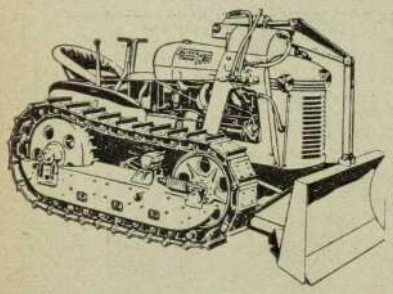

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FRENCH OCEANIA: Magasin Roy, Papeete, Tahiti.

the Regulations existed previously, the department has not had enough staff to fully police them.

JUNGLE JUICE

The days of the war-time jungle juice drinkers were recalled in Port Moresby recently when two half-castes died after a drinking bout.

The men, one the father of five children, became unconscious after drinking an unnamed spirit and were taken to hospital, where they died within a few hours of each other without recovering consciousness.

POLIO SCARE

Three cases of suspected polio were reported from Bogia, north of Madang, in February. They were all natives; and the first reported in the Territory for some months.

FLYING-BOATS—CURE FOR WATERSPOUTS

There is a theory that one way to make a waterspout disappear is to fire a bullet into the centre of it. The displacement of air is supposed to make the waterspout collapse.

It could be right or wrong, but on February 10 the crew of a Qantas Sandringham off the New Britain coast had an experience something like it. While on the usual New Britain run they sighted a large waterspout in Kimbe Bay, off Talasea.

The aircraft, skippered by Captain C. Fox, flew around it several times and estimated it to be about 800 feet high. It had a diameter on the sea surface of about 150 feet.

The crew reported that while they were making another bank to come around it, rather close in, the waterspout simply disappeared. They think its collapse might have had something to do with air disturbance created by the aircraft.

PAPUAN VILLAGES DESTROYED BY FIRE

A fire in the village of Saroakei, in the Rigo district, south of Port Moresby, burnt out 11 of 20 houses on February 9. Nobody was injured.

It was the second fire in the Rigo district in a month. On January 17, 52 out of 64 houses in Taruba village were destroyed. The Administration, in that case, too, sent some assistance.

P-NG MOSQUITOES ON MAINLAND?

Are man-eating *anopheles* mosquitoes from Papua-New Guinea taking trips to the Australian mainland aboard regular aircraft?

In February, a team of Army malaria experts went to Cairns to investigate, on the assumption that the mosquitoes had travelled. The team went from Sydney and is in command of Major K. J. Clinton, a specialist scientific officer at the School of Tropical Medicine at Sydney University. He is regarded as

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one of Australia's outstanding experts on tropical diseases.

However, before the team left for the North, the Territory's Director of Health, Dr. John Gunther, said from Port Moresby that he would be most surprised if anopheles had travelled to the mainland. He said it was a poor traveller. And aircraft were sprayed before they left the Territory.

PNG HAS OWN LIQUOR INQUIRY

An inquiry into the liquor licensing hours of clubs, hotels and other premises in Papua New Guinea started on February 15, at Lae.

It will continue into March after holding sittings at Madang, Kavieng, Rabaul, Samarai and Port Moresby. Mr. W. E. Sansom has been appointed a special commissioner to preside at the inquiry, which was set up following suggestions from the Legislative Council.

LAE WILL WAIT SOME MORE FOR PERMANENT AERODROME

The airport at Lae is likely to stay where it is for some time yet. In this financial year, at any rate, there is no provision for the projected move to Malahang.

The Malahang scheme was first announced in 1948, when they talked of a runway 6,000 ft, that would take the biggest aircraft.

The aircraft are now getting bigger but they are still using Lae's 5000-ft. runway, one end of which finishes on the brink of the Huon Gulf with Lae township blocking its rear end. Regulation maximum load of the Skymasters cannot be utilised.

There is still some belief, in the Lae district, that they may eventually get round to making Nadzab the airport for Lae, although it is 30-miles distant. But DCA has stated definitely that Nadzab is out, and Malahang is in—but when?

PUBLIC NOMINATED TAC's

Some new members of the Port Moresby Town Advisory Council will be nominated by the public when it is re-constituted in March. Two representatives for the West and Central wards will leave their posts, and a vacancy has existed since December in the East ward.

The Administration in January announced that it would seek nominations for people to fill the ward positions—nominations closed with the Government Secretary on March 4.

There has been a suggestion that all members of Advisory Councils should be elected and it was given official consideration. But nothing more has been heard, and it is reported to have come to nought.

(Ed. Note: It is difficult to see how the public can nominate a Council. Presumably final choice will still be left to the Administrator).

BAD LANDING AREAS TAKE TOLL OF SANDRINGHAMS

Another Qantas Sandringham damaged its hull in February, but this time it was done by running over a snag at Redlands Bay, in Brisbane.

The Sandringham did the damage when she was taking off for Port Moresby, with the result that she was put on the slips at Moresby and was three days behind schedule.

TOA planes had a lot of trouble from the same cause in the Brisbane river but at that time they used narrow Hamilton Reach. Hull trouble is something that flying-boats are apparently heir to. Last year there was some excitement when a Sandringham ripped a piece out of its hull on the New Britain run and had to make a dash for Moresby.

MORESBY'S DRYEST YEAR

Port Moresby, in 1953, had the lowest rainfall in the 10 years since records have been kept at Jackson's airport.

During the year, 3,332 points were recorded—the previous lowest year being in 1947 when 4,061 points fell. The highest rainfall in any year was 6,169 points in 1946.

The low registration for 1953 was caused by the failure of rains during February and March, 1953.

SYDNEY ALP ALLEGES VICTIMISATION OF ADHERENTS IN PNG

Papua and New Guinea is receiving a little news from time to time about the progress at the ALP sub-committee which is investigating, in Sydney, the alleged ill-treatment of Territory natives.

The committee was established by the NSW Executive of the ALP last year, and it has been hearing evidence from missionaries and others. One of the members of the committee is Mr. G. O'Donnell, who was formerly ADO at Kokopo, New Britain. During the inquiry the case of a European worker in PNG was cited. It was alleged that his contract was withdrawn and he was given three weeks to leave the Territory because he attempted to set up a Trade Union. Nobody at Port Moresby can remember anything about this.

There was another case of a worker who, it was alleged, was evicted from his mess in 1952 after he tried the same thing. Police then charged him with vagrancy.

Nothing is known about that either—or if somebody does know then they are keeping terribly quiet about it. The ALP has said that it will give facts and figures when the time comes. Territory people can hardly wait to hear about them.

LADIES' GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

It is planned to hold the first

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Territory-wide women's golf championship about June. It will be held at Lae about the same time as the 1954 New Guinea Open. It will be over 18 holes and women golfers from five centres will take part.

ADULT EDUCATION IN MORESBY

In Port Moresby in late February, classes in accountancy began at the Ela Beach school. They were arranged by the Papua Adult and Technical Education Assn., a newly-formed body, which hopes it can introduce classes in other subjects eventually and to extend the scheme throughout the Territory.

The Assn. has been in contact with the Workers' Education Association in Sydney; this body will give every assistance.

If the accountancy classes are successful, other classes will be started.

PNG PUBLIC SERVANTS PROTEST—AND WAIT FOR HOUSES

At a meeting in late February, the council of the Public Service Association decided to write to the Public Service Commissioner asking him to protest to Canberra about the local housing situation.

The council said that numbers of married officers arriving in the Territory had said that interviewing committees in various States had told them that married accommodation was available for them in Port Moresby, at from three to six months. But this was a "gross misrepresentation."

Only two houses had been allocated in Port Moresby since May, 1953; and in February, 1954 more than 60 married officers were on the waiting list.

Council suggested that staff appointments should cease until the position was clarified.

Rabaul's Public Servants meantime have been issued with neatly-typed sheets showing where, rather than when, they will be moving into new quarters. Houses for married personnel going up at the moment are sumptuous affairs: floor space of the living rooms is about the equivalent of the whole seven squares in Single-quarters, which house two. The Administration collects exactly the same rent on both.

The Nursing staff at Namanula Hospital have had to be evacuated while their quarters are once more patched and bolstered against the time when those poor Cinderellas, too, will be housed rather than quartered. Some of the Sisters have been sleeping in the hospital wards and others down at the Queen's Park Guest House.

Mr. Bill May, of New Guinea, will be making the round trip in *Malaita*, leaving Sydney on April 4, on behalf of William E. Reed, marine brokers, buying agents, hydro-electric equipment distributors.

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RALUANAS GAIN MORE TIME

"In Again, Out Again," Policy Makes Administration And Village Councils Look Ridiculous

THE Proclamation published in the *Government Gazette*, Port Moresby, on February 4, which included the Raluana natives of New Britain in the Village Council system, was revoked by another proclamation in the *Gazette* of February 25.

Round II, like round I, therefore appears to go to the Raluanas.

The history of the Raluana trouble is briefly: All but the 2,000-odd Raluana people, of the 30,000 Tolai people of the Gazelle Peninsula area of New Britain, have joined the Village Council scheme, which was introduced after the war, and whereby the native people are encouraged to run their own affairs under Administration guidance, as a preliminary to ultimate self-government.

The invariable excuse of the Raluanas, for not joining the Councils, was that they were too ignorant to engage in anything so advanced. These natives, however, are intelligent, industrious, have very shrewd leaders and have shown that they are quite capable of running their own affairs. The only difference is that they insist on running them in their own native way.

In May, 1953, the Rabaul District Commissioner, Mr. J. K. McCarthy, with other officials, went out to interview the Raluanas and told them in forceful language, that they must join the Council scheme, and that if they did not do so voluntarily, they would be forced to, by proclamation.

There followed some brawling, in which Mr. McCarthy was attacked by a one-legged native schoolteacher, Tuvi, with the butt end of his crutch. Tuvi was subsequently charged with assault and served four months in gaol.

No proclamation was made, as threatened; and some time subsequently, Mr. Hasluck, Minister for Territories, and the Administrator, Brigadier D. M. Cleland, interviewed the Raluanas with the object of persuading them into a Council. The Raluanas received them and heard them in silence.

Nothing further was done until mid-January, 1954, when Brigadier Cleland again visited them, apparently on another "or else" mission.

The Raluana natives he met on his occasion seem to have told him that they were ready to join a Council, and it was believed that the Raluana trouble had been peaceably settled.

Brigadier Cleland proceeded to Australia on leave and it was announced in the *Gazette* of February 4 that the Raluanas would become part of the Vunamami Native Village Council, which henceforth would be known as the Raluana-Vunamami Native Village Council.

WITHIN a matter of days of the proclamation, petitions from 14 native villages, signed with 3,600 names, was forwarded to the Acting Administrator, protesting against being placed inside a Council "with which they were unlikely to work in harmony" (which is probably true enough) and asking that action should be postponed until the petitioners were able to seek legal advice.

(It should be made clear, here, that there are only about half a dozen Raluana villages, with a population of something over 2,000. The other villages, with a population of about 1,200, which also sent petitions, are from the Nawuneram-Taviliu group of villages which—apparently reluctantly—joined other Native Village Councils over a year ago. The proclamations putting them into the Council system were also revoked by the *Gazette* of February 25—at least that is how we read the exceedingly bewildering phraseology used. The way we interpret it is that these latter villages decided to go quietly, in 1952 or

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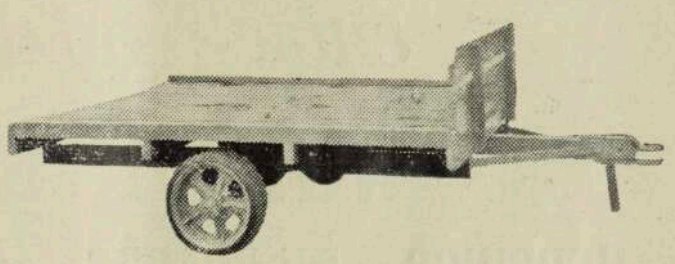

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1953, and join the Council scheme; but now that the Raluanas have shown that they can stay out, the second group feels that it should, too).

Mr. Cleland was then in Australia, but was informed of the petitions. He stated that the February 4th proclamation had been made by him because he had believed, following the interviews he had had with Raluana leaders on January 15, that they were prepared to join a Council. He has agreed, however, that no further action will be taken in the matter until his return to the Territory, sometime in April.

THE whole Raluana trouble is, of course, more than a local squabble with a rebel minority. It has become a matter of Administration, and Canberra, face-saving. Although Village Councils were described earlier as a voluntary system, since early 1953, the Administration's attitude has been: *Come in, or we will put you in.*

Strong words; but so far they had not been followed by strong action, and the Raluanas have continued to get away with it.

It is obvious that if the Village Council system, which in effect makes the natives provide a proportion of their own community requirements, is to function at all, there is no room in the structure for rebel groups who take all the handouts that the Administration is prepared to give, but will assume none of the obligations.

It is reported that the other Tolais are already restive; that they have stated that they are tired of the Raluana people who they say are "making fools of the government"; and that, with little more provocation, they could settle the Raluana trouble in their own way.

This would, of course, involve Australia in all sorts of United Nations investigations—and Australia is absurdly sensitive to UN's reactions—and although it probably would be one way of settling the difficulty, it could be a fuse to explode the gunpowder barrel. Once on the war-path, there is no guarantee that 30,000 Tolais would stop at just settling the Raluana problem.

It has been suggested that many of the 3,600 names on the petitions are there without the knowledge of the owners of the names. This may well be so—but it does not alter the fact that the Raluana leaders are still unwilling to join a Council; or that, through the petitions they have gained more time in their delaying war.

THE Village Council system was invented by some theorist in the days when Mr. Eddie Ward was Minister for Territories. It has been introduced in the Port Moresby and Rabaul areas, and opinion is divided in non-Administration circles—and this includes Missionaries—as to whether the Councils' desirable qualities outnumber their undesirable aspects. However, the Administration, and this Australian government, are now committed to them as part of native policy, and it is therefore up to the Administration to make them work.

The Administration has spent over a year threatening the Raluanas. Soon it must do something—in order to save its face and keep faith with the other 20,000 or 30,000 Tolais who, with the European population of P-NG, are sitting cynically and very impatiently on the side-lines, waiting for the next act in the drama.

The "simple, uneducated" Raluanas, we understand, have the legal advice of a well-known European solicitor of Rabaul.

Inflated Land Values in Rabaul

A correspondent, from Rabaul, NG, writes:

"One sometimes wonders just where rising prices will stop. Have just heard that a block of freehold land has changed hands for the sum of £2,700. I expected to hear that a considerable area was involved, but was staggered to find that the land in question was a building-block in the business section of the town, with a street frontage measurement of 50 ft!"

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FIJI'S POPULATION

Startling Birth-Rate of Indians

AT the end of 1953, the population of Fiji, officially estimated, was 320,801—an increase of 8,123 in the year. The community factors which contributed to that 8,123 make the new total very interesting. Here they are, as on December 31 last:

Community	Pop'l'n	Year's Increase	Births per Thou.
Fijian	139,373	3,496	35.18
Indian	154,803	6,001	46.08
Europ'n ..	6,500	1,490*	
Part-Eur. ..	7,496	198	—
Rotumans ..	3,990	145	48.62
Chinese ..	3,857	138	—

* Decrease.

The Fijian death-rate was 10.60; that of the Indians, 8.12.

Actually, the figures insofar as they refer to Fijians alone are quite good, as compared with other native communities in the South Pacific. The Fijians' net annual increase is steady. It is only in comparison with the Indian birth-rate and death-rate that the Fijian community becomes overshadowed.

In 1926 there were 12,000 more Fijians than Indians; in 1936 their numbers were about equal; in 1956, there will be at least 20,000 more Indians than Fijians.

Gloomy Population Picture

SUVA, March 1.

WITHIN a few decades, Fiji's population will have gone past the half-million mark, with the Indian community outnumbering all the other races combined. And none has the faintest idea of how everybody then will make a living.

Food production can be increased by bringing a strictly limited amount of land into cultivation; but, after that, saturation point will be reached. In any case this will not provide jobs for the swarms of children who are already swamping the schools.

There has been some talk about an expansion of secondary industries; but whatever can conceivably

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be done along this line could not solve the employment problem of the fairly near future.

The alternative to a controlled Indian birth-rate as ex-Governor Sir Brian Freeston pointed out in 1949, is a decline in the living standards of a large part of the population.

No great hopes are pinned to the Commission of Inquiry promised by the British Government. At the best, such a Commission can recommend little more than stop-gap measures which would soon be nullified by the birthrate of the largest section of the population.

Chang-Chow Wedding

Mr. Luke Chang and Miss Brenda Chow were married at the Methodist Church, Rabaul, on February 22. The small church was packed to capacity with friends of the young couple. Later 800 guests attended a reception at the Kuo Min Tang hall.

The bride has been a teacher at the Chinese school for the past five years and a Guide leader since the inception of the movement in Rabaul. Her lovely wedding gown of white lace was chosen while in Brisbane undergoing a special training course for Guide leaders. Her sister, Miss Nellie Chow, was bridesmaid. Mr. Chang was educated in Australia and is on the staff of the Customs Department. His best man was Mr. A. V. Seeto.

PORT MORESBY DRAUGHT BEER NOW AVAILABLE ON THE "OTHER SIDE"

EQUIPMENT to dispense Port Moresby-brewed draught beer has been installed at the RSL Club, Lae, New Guinea, and members flock there to quaff the amber fluid, completely deserting their former favourites—bottled-beer brewed in other countries.

We now hear that Mr. Arthur Brown, of the Hotel Ascot, Rabaul, has been on a personal tour of inspection through Lae, and the brewery at Port Moresby, and has made arrangements to have draught beer equipment installed at the Ascot at an early date.

It is understood that Mr. Norman Lee, of the Cosmopolitan Hotel, Rabaul, also intends to instal the equipment as soon as the necessary arrangements can be finalised.—*Special Correspondent.*

His Majesty O'Keefe, Warner Brothers film made in Fiji in 1952 was released in the United States late January, and is reported to have been enthusiastically received by the critics. No Fiji screening date had then been set.

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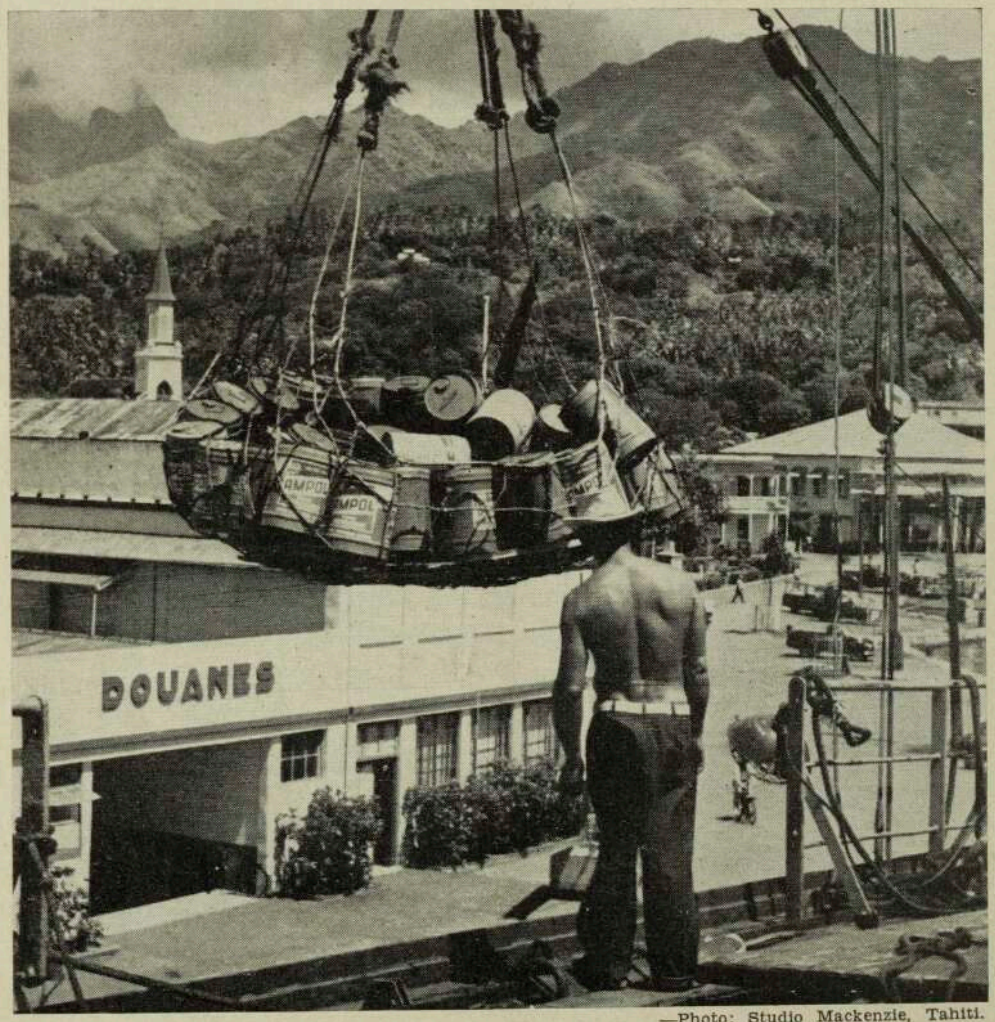

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BRITISH PREFERENCE IN WESTERN SAMOA

Various Angles on a Confused Situation

AS indicated in February issue, there is some division of opinion and clash in procedure in Western Samoa about the British Preferential Tariff.

It was reported in the PIM that the Tariff actually had been abolished. This was based on an apparently clear statement before the Trusteeship Council of the United Nations in New York several months ago by the New Zealand Ambassador, Mr. Munro, to the effect that, in accordance with the expressed wish of the Legislative Assembly of Western Samoa, the NZ Government had agreed to the abolition of the Tariff, which would take effect from March, 1954.

Mr. Munro evidently misunderstood the procedure. The Tariff is expected to come before the Samoa Legislative Assembly this month (March), when it appears likely that a final decision will be reached.

Many communications have reached the PIM on this subject—some maintaining that the position will not be altered hurriedly; some that it will be altered immediately the Assembly meets and votes; and others insisting that the Preferential Tariff should remain.

THE following official statement of the events which led to the present position comes from the Acting Secretary of the Government of Western Samoa, and is dated February 12:

"Almost all the non-British members of the Trusteeship Council of the United Nations maintain that a Preferential Tariff, such as is in operation in Western Samoa, is contrary to the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, and must therefore be abolished in Western Samoa—a Trust Territory.

"A contrary interpretation of the Charter is maintained by the British members, including New Zealand; but, in the face of constant requests, particularly from the United States, the NZ Government some years ago decided that the issue would basically be one for Western Samoa to determine for herself. As an initial step towards reaching a decision, the Legislative Assembly of Western Samoa set up a Select Committee. The latter took evidence from local interests, and others, and finally made a report in which it recommended the removal of the British preference.

"The NZ Government, as the Administering Authority of Western Samoa, then consulted with the countries which might have been directly affected by any such change. As a result, it was decided that the way was clear for the abolition of preference, should Samoa wish to go on with the proposal. Official statements were made, not only by the NZ Government, but also by the Governments of other Commonwealth Countries.

"After receipt of the news that the way was clear to take what action is desired, the Samoan Government commenced an active and careful inquiry into every aspect of the question.

"A Departmental Committee will shortly present a report, which will be given suitable publicity among commercial and other interests; and in due course, no doubt, a decision will eventually be made upon what Samoa should do.

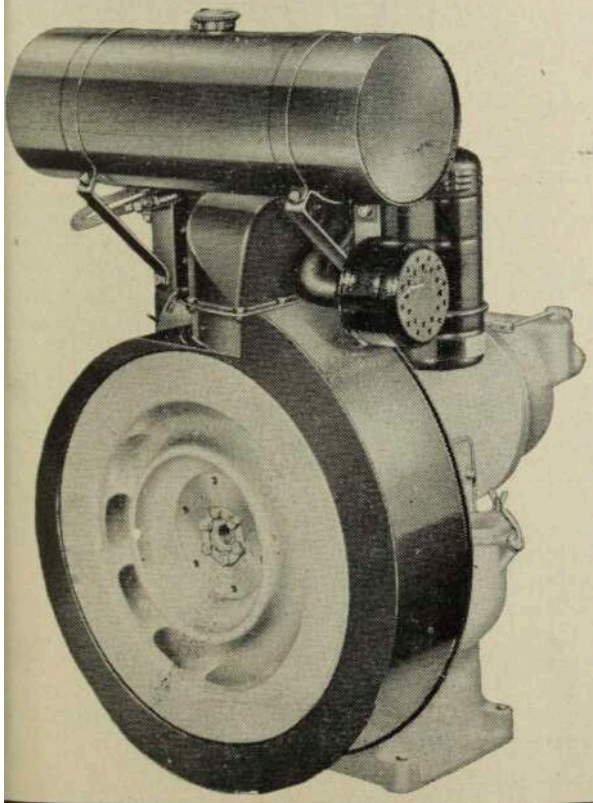
"It is quite incorrect to say that the Preferential Tariff is scheduled to come to an end in March. Whether it comes to an end at all has yet to be decided; and this will be done through normal constitutional processes in W. Samoa."

Unjustified Delay Claimed

From Our Own Correspondent

APIA, Feb. 20.

THE advisability or otherwise of a Tariff revision was fully investigated by a Select Committee of the Samoan Assembly in 1948. This



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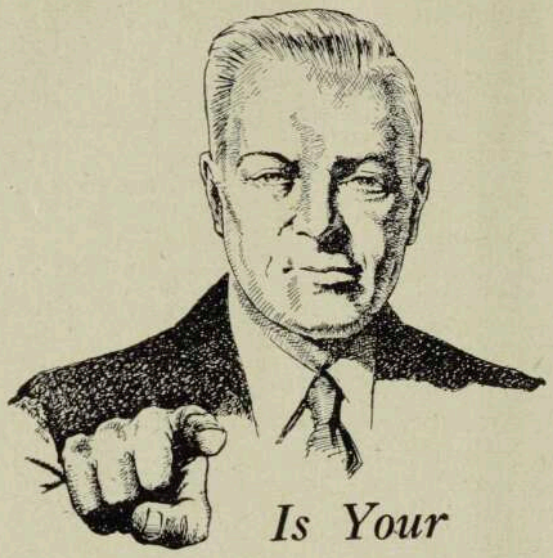

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Committee, after hearing evidence from all sections of the community recommended that the Preferential Tariff be abolished and the Customs Tariff revised. The NZ Government apparently took no steps to implement the recommendations (which were fully approved subsequently by the Assembly).

The Trusteeship Council Mission which visited Western Samoa in 1953 showed keen interest in the matter; and then the NZ Government, after 5 years' delay, declared its agreement with the recommendations.

It is claimed here that it would be unconstitutional for the Executive Government of the Territory to unreasonably delay the implementation of a resolution of the Legislative Assembly, which has been assented to already by the NZ Government and the Trusteeship Council.

A section of traders here argue that abolition will benefit the Territory; that it will not affect to any considerable degree the existing trade relations with New Zealand and Australia, from which countries Western Samoa imports practically all her food supplies; and that it will not cause an increase in importations from USA—at least while dollar restrictions exist.

EDITORIAL NOTE.

Apparent Conflict of Interests

THERE appear to be three parties, or sets of interests, contributing to this discussion. They are—

- The Executive Government of Western Samoa, which carries out the wishes of the NZ Government. It is advised but not instructed by the Legislative Assembly of Western Samoa.
- A section of the business community of the Territory, which is not particularly friendly to British interests, and which has an influential, if not a dominating voice in the Legislative Assembly.
- The strongest section of the business community, which speaks mainly through the Chamber of Commerce. It is generally opposed to abolition of the Preferential Tariff, for patriotic as well as commercial reasons.

The Executive Government is trying to hold the balance fairly as between all interests. It clearly is embarrassed, because big business interests, and pro-British sentiment, are in favour of retaining the Tariff; whereas the Wellington politicians, pursuing their idealistic policy of Samoa for the Samoans, have decided to let the Samoan Assembly decide the matter—and the indications are that the Assembly will abolish the Tariff.

The official statement from the Samoa Government, valuable as far as it goes, does not explain the delay of about five years which has occurred in dealing with this matter;

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nor does it make any reference to the general belief that the matter will come before the Assembly this month, and that, as "the issue is basically one for W. Samoa to determine for herself," the Assembly will naturally expect Abolition, which apparently it favours, to become effective at once.

Guadalcanal Club Meeting

THE Annual General Meeting of the Guadalcanal Club, Honiara, was held on January 28. Office bearers and Committee members elected for the coming year were as follows:—

President, Mr. E. V. Lawson; vice-president, Mr. P. M. Smith; hon. sec., Mr. G. G. Oakes; Committee Members, Mrs. A. C. Blair, Mr. J. A. Johnstone, Mr. J. Callaghan and Commander E. J. Deane.

Mr. R. Firth was elected as Auditor.

There being no nomination for the position of Treasurer, this vacancy will be filled by the Committee at a later date.

Recent blasting operations carried out at Atuokoro passage, Mangaia, Cook Is., according to an official announcement, have resulted in increasing the effective depth by one foot, the widening of the channel to allow two surf-boats to pass, and the reduction of slope of the rock face at the inner end of the passage to permit boats to be more readily hauled out and cargo more easily handled. This rock face will be cemented.

No Indians Yet For N. Caledonia

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, March 1.

THE proposal that Indian workers should go from Fiji to New Caledonia, to solve the labour problem there, remains wrapped in official silence, and young Indians are writing to the Suva newspaper seeking information.

Says one of them: "Unless the wage scale is commensurate with the general qualifications of the labourers, and is compatible with their standard of living, and is such as affords ample incentive for them to go to an alien country and subject themselves to God-knows-what-is-in-store-for-them, our men will never accept any offers, however tempting they may seem on the surface."

Pending a Government statement, there is a general impression that the official mission of inquiry from Fiji found that, economically, all that glitters in New Caledonia is not gold—mainly because of the inflated cost of living there.

Flour prices rose by 10/- per ton in Fiji in January. Australian flour-millers had discontinued the practice of allowing a discount of 10/- per ton on all flour exported.

NEW AND RARE BOOKS

NOVA GUINEA: Journal of Botany, Zoology, Geology and Palaeontology of the Papuan Region (edit. Drs. de Beauford, Pulle & Rutten), 1937. Vol. I, dealing with Dragonflies & Birds of New Guinea and Vol. 5, 1949, Dragonflies of New Guinea. £8/10/-, post, 7/6.

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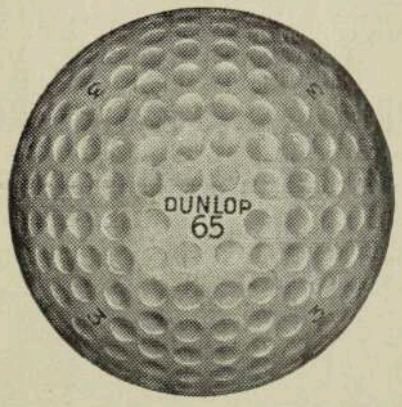

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TERRITORIES TALK-TALK

By Tolala

THE broadcast of the reception of Territories' delegates at Canberra came over quite well on the ABC. As was to be expected, the PNG native representatives stole the show, so far as the commentator was concerned. The man who is recognised as having done such a wonderful job during the Pacific War—Paul Mason—scarcely got a mention. One of the proudest men there, I expect, was Bandmaster Crawley for his untiring tuition of his native musicians was well rewarded. Both he and Sandy Sinclair can take well-deserved bows. The precision of the drill was excellent.

The danger of a little knowledge of pidgin was exemplified to a degree bordering on *lese-majeste* when a Sydney morning paper ran the banner heading: "Fuzzy-haired Pacific Islanders who speak only Pidgin greeted their No. 1 Mary belonga All with Fine Ceremony To-day."

No native refers to a white woman as a "Mary." Even the most Socialist Government officials will admit that; at least, they should. Papuans have their own word, "Sinabada"; and the generally accepted term in TNG is "Missus" —though the Methodist Missionaries have made an effort to establish "Marama" (from Fiji) to designate a white woman. Unfortunately it was not accepted generally—probably on account of its Mission origin.

Admittedly, "Missus" is an unlovely word, but certainly an improvement on "No. 1 Mary."

It is safe to bet that everyone of the native troops and bandsmen knew Her Majesty as "Queen," and nothing else.

As for the story about Simogun being unable to converse with the Duke, I accept with a pinch of salt. For over 40 years he has had contact with Europeans and is an exceptionally intelligent type. None other could have carried out the job of Police Sergeant and Sergeant-Major with the Coastwatchers, to say nothing of his post-war activities. He may have felt tongue-tied and preferred an interpreter, but that doesn't mean he could not have spoken and understood a conversation. (See "God Save Our Gracious Queen," page 18. Simogun was neither tongue-tied nor did he use an interpreter, as reported in some newspapers).

* * *

Captain Jimmy Duncan, well-known TNG skipper, planter and Harbour Master, celebrated his 80th birthday about the middle of last month, and there was a happy gathering at the Duncan home in Chatswood, supervised by Auntie Joan, who was always a popular hostess in Rabaul. The new Rabaul was to have been built on Jimmy's Rapopo estate, but the change of

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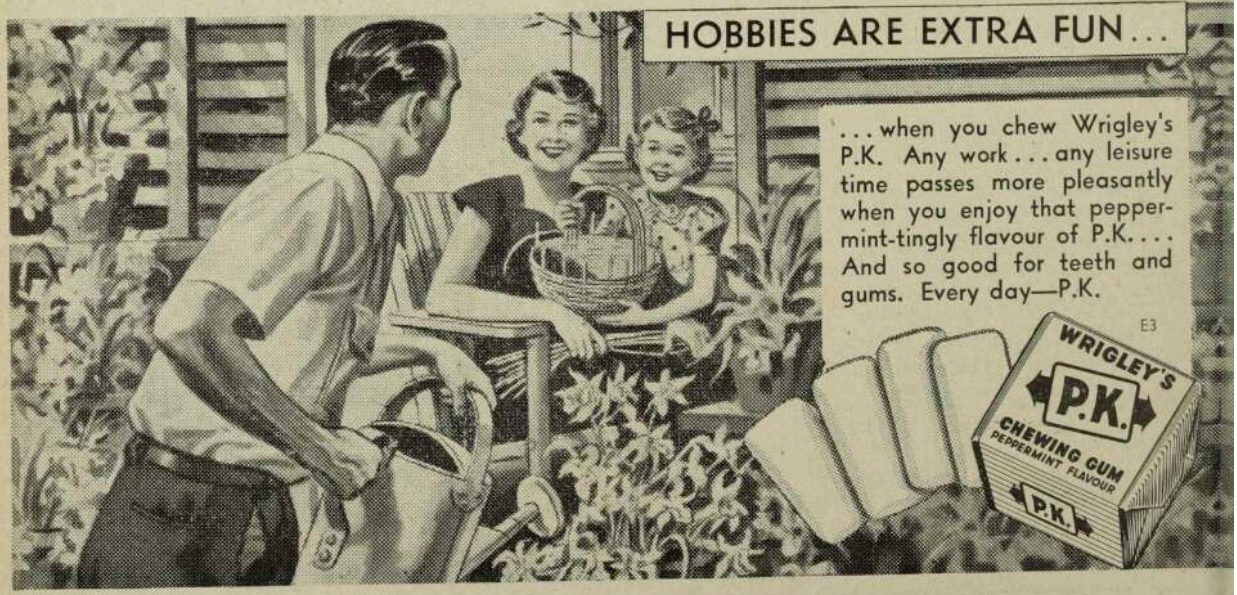

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the official mind does not seem to have worried the even-tempered Jimmy.

The Captain first arrived in TNG in 1916, skippered a naval vessel and then gave good service in 1920-21 with the *Wattle* expedition, the first Australian venture of its kind and one which gathered a fund of valuable geological, hydrographical and agricultural data. The late Mr. E. R. Stanley, Papuan geologist, submitted a valuable report which covered TNG from end to end and was contained in Australia's first report to the League of Nations.

After acquiring Rapopo from the Expro Board, Jimmy Duncan was for many years an executive officer of the Planters' Assn. of NG and has always been a public-minded resident. Many happy returns, Jimmy!

* * *

From Mrs. L. Miller (nee Hoepfel), comes word referring to my mention in January issue of Stephansort. She writes that the Neu Guinea Compagnie's first station on the NG mainland coast was at Hatzfeldthafen, where in 1891 her father and mother arrived from Sumatra, and Mr. Hoepfel was engaged in planting tobacco for the NGC. In 1892 there was a massacre of Europeans, Chinese and natives, the Hoepfel family escaping by a narrow margin, with a spear through Mr. H.'s arm. The station was closed down and the NGC moved then to Stephansort.

The Hoepfel family after the massacre returned to Sumatra, and it was there that Mrs. Miller was born. Later they returned to NG. Well do I remember Mrs. Hoepfel and her daughter Louise (Lulu) in the early days of War I. The latter married one of the AN & MEF members who later died and she, with others, had a grim time when the Japs came along in '42. She spent some time in the RC Remale camp eventually, and was one of those nursing Mrs. Kauman-Juker when she passed away in that camp just before the armistice.

* * *

Says M. Jean Pignon, French delegate on the UN Trusteeship Council, after his visit last year to NG: "I think the development of the collective or co-operative undertakings by companies partly or entirely state-controlled would be better in many ways than settlement by individual colonisers."

And where would the TNG have been without the development brought about by Private Enterprise? If he is endeavouring to squash this, then his regard for NG's progress along democratic lines must undoubtedly be questioned. I wonder from which particular hopper he comes from in the political grist mill.

The L of N was instituted primarily so that the "havenots" would not think War I was waged for the conquest of territory. The League proved a fiasco, UN took over, and has been a top-heavy instrument for the try-out of idealistic theories, which are not accepted by a materialistic world. It is so far off the beam that it cannot even organise successfully a steering committee prior to a conference. When it becomes truly united then it will receive my support—and the support of the public in general.

* * *

The politically-inspired snarl anent NG land laws, appearing in the *SMH* Correspondence column contiues. It's rather ironical, really, when one recalls the NSW

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Government's flair for resumption of lands from pastoralists, to say nothing of the despotic activities of the Cumberland County Council in resuming building areas, declaring prohibited zones and generally riding rough-shod over land-owners who can do nothing about it.

There's no need for anyone in Australia to worry about the NG native not getting "a fair go" in land matters, particularly with Chief Judge Phillips in the box seat; for what he doesn't know about native land laws isn't worth knowing. One should not forget that he did a good job of work in the BSI as a Special Commissioner of Inquiry into land matters there in 1920-25, and then after his appointment to TNG in 1928 he spent many months unravelling knotty problems concerning land in the Madang district.

A pity PNG is dragged into these political party snarls. It should be declared a political neutral area. The Territory never derives any benefit and is often given a bad name by people ignorant of the facts.

* * *

Mr. Justice Phillips (Acting Administrator) threw some light on the Ralauana situation recently when he stated that "previous statements on the Raluana issue had not been entirely fair." (See page 33)

Written petitions for 14 villages, consisting of six Raluana and 8 other villages, had been sent to the Administrator; and in all 3,654 names were subscribed to the petitions, in which they asked to be excluded from a village council until their position had been clarified legally. The petitions have been forwarded to Brigadier Cleland, who is away on three months' leave in Australia.

I'd like to comment on the advisability of "thinking native" in such cases; but perhaps it is best to treat the matter as more or less *sub judice* for a while. And here's hoping it won't be a long while, because even sophisticates from "The Hill" may not understand long departmental delays.

* * *

Tourist ships are again to visit Moresby—the *Coronia* in March and the *Orion* in September. Some people are unkind enough to ask: Why? Still, they must remember the town has a war history significance, if not typical tropical beauty.

In pre-war days, Rabaul proved a popular tourist port and officialdom went out of its way to discourage native salesmen from shipside bartering, as well as to control prices for goods which have a tendency to soar when visitors come ashore. Let's hope there's no exploiting by natives of the white tourists. "What goes up must come down" seldom ever applies to native prices.

And being old-fashioned, I can't refrain from expressing the hope that the female tourists will exercise at least a modicum of decorum in the matter of dress, or undress, when going ashore. But no doubt that is a vain hope in this age of so-called race equality.

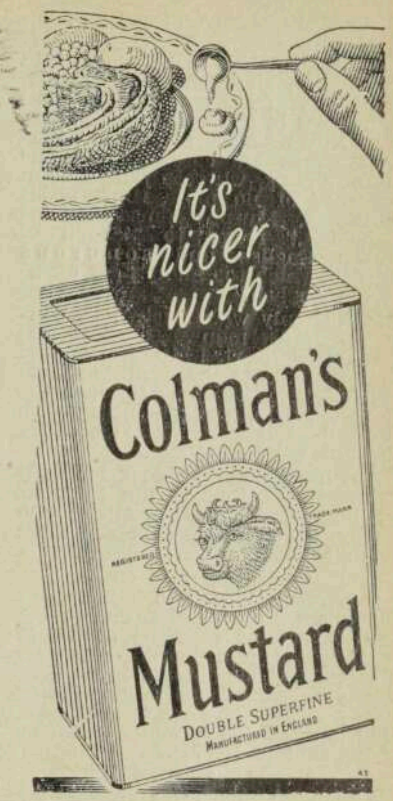
Which reminds me of the time in the late Twenties in Rabaul when a couple of Bright Young Things occasioned well-deserved censoring by one of the local Judges for appearing on the public tennis courts in most abbreviated shorts. Needless to say, the exhibitionists won out in the long run. It may have been merely a coincidence that shortly after their display on the courts there were several Peeping Toms and "on the curtilage" cases involving the lasses.

* * *

Papuan Boy Scouts created more than usual interest at Sydney Legacy on February 1, when they were entertained by the Intermediate Club. It was described as the finest night's entertainment the Club had ever had. One of the Scouts, Congregational Minister Rev. Reaton, secured special mention and spoke "fluent Enlish," but offered a prayer in the native dialect. Mr. and Mrs. Heape can take a well-deserved bow.

* * *

The Welshman, "Dafydd Ap Rhys," writing from Madang (PIM, Feb., p 151) mentions "The Book of Pidgin English," by J. J. Murray.



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It should have been, of course, John J. Murphy.

I'm not anxious to be drawn into this Pidgin argument. One reason being that real, true Pidgin isn't being used in the Territory. Proof? Mr. Rhys's own statement that 1,760 words are contained in the Murphy Book, whereas pure Pidgin consisted of no more than about 300 words. Murphy himself, in his "Apologia," refers to "jargon of broken English and sonorous twaddle which too many pass off as Pidgin English."

It was only with Australia's conquest of German NG that the vocabulary started to grow, and that was due to the English-speaking folk being too lazy to learn the correct Pidgin and ad-libbing with "broken English," which they thought quite adequate.

Another stumbling-block for English-speaking folk is the phonetic spelling used in connection with Pidgin, which makes it appear more complicated.

* * *

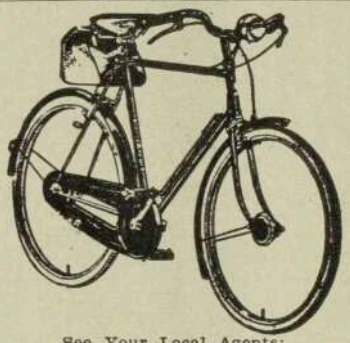
Congratulations to Rupert Ollerenshaw on his elevation to the PNG Bench as relieving Judge. It is 21 years this month since he first put out his shingle in Rabaul, where he established a flourishing law practice and was appointed later a MLC. He was a member of the famous NGVR.

* * *

A signal honour was enjoyed by the four judges of PNG when Her Majesty the Queen, presiding over the Federal Executive Council during her visit to Canberra, personally signed the Commissions of Appointment of Chief Judge Philips, Mr. Justice Gore, Mr. Justice Bignold and Mr. Justice Kelly. This is the first occasion in Australia that such commissions have been personally signed by the Sovereign.

* * *

The PNG Historical Society should have some interesting and exciting work ahead if a report, tabled at a meeting of the DAC in Moresby last month, is correct. It deals with the location of a Spanish galleon



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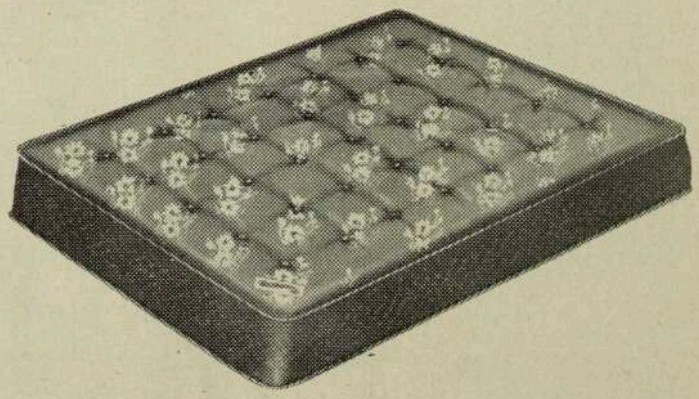

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wrecked off the Papuan coast. Calling Diver Johnston!

And that reminds me of a reported discovery of Peruvian pottery years ago on Watom Island, off the North Coast of the Gazelle Peninsula. And there should still be some interesting mementoes of the Marquis de Ray expedition down around Port Breton, on the South New Ireland coast.

What a mass of material the Historical Society has to work upon! It wants to beware that the government doesn't step in and grab the best relics for shipment to Canberra, or even farther afield. I have heard that the best collections of NG ornithological, and ethnological specimens are to be seen in New York or Chicago!

ONE OLD TERRITORIAN "GOES SOUTH FINISH"

Another Returns to TNG

MR. ROY COLLINS passed through Rabaul, New Guinea, in late February, on his way South to settle down on the Mornington Peninsula, Vic., build one or two holiday cottages to rent, and, to use his own words, "grow old gracefully."

The Collins brothers, Roy and Arthur, were well known in the Territory in the early thirties. Arthur was interested in flying, and was connected with Guinea Airways for many years.

Roy first arrived in 1927 to work at Peadon's Garage, Rabaul. Later, he was connected with the LU Company, New Guinea Goldfields Company, and Guinea Airways. He was also for some years with the Alexishafen Mission Air Services. During the war years, he worked in New South Wales on the Australian-built Mosquito bomber project.

At the cessation of hostilities, he returned to TNG—to Madang where he opened a garage, which business he has carried on until the present move to settle in Victoria.

Should old friends care to look them up, Mrs. Collins and the family are already settled in at 19 Flinders Street, Mentone.

On the same plane which took Roy Collins South, an old Territorian returned to Rabaul. He is Bill Holland, who first landed in New Guinea, at Wau, in 1935.

He was interested in radio, every type and description. Having dabbled in it, from crystal sets upwards, from childhood, he had progressed steadily along the road to apparent insanity on the subject, and was one of those "queer" creatures called a "Ham" who sit by a radio through the long night hours and talk to people on the other side of the world, said people likewise being interested in radio.

In those far-off days, Bill was interested in repairs and maintenance and tried to set himself up in business. However, the population was not then sufficient to ensure a full-time job, so he first tried his hand at mining, and later joined Bulolo Gold Dredging, on its electrical staff.

In 1936 he married Miss Jess Stewart, a younger sister of Miss Dorothy Stewart, well-known Territorian, and sister-in-law to Mrs. Flora Stewart, of the Hotel Cecil, in Lae.

During the war, the new and strange subject of radio location claimed attention, but as soon as he could wangle it, Bill obtained a release from this project to return to New Guinea with the Army. When the war ended he stayed for a short time, operating the first wireless station at Lae, but eventually returned to his family in Mackay, North Queensland.

Now, after seven years, Bill Holland has again decided that New Guinea is the land of opportunity, and that wireless repairs and maintenance is the field. He can be found at the Rabaul Music Store, twiddling his dials, cursing the tropic dampness which affects his wireless equipment, but thoroughly pleased to be back in the Territory at last.—*Special Correspondent.*

Persons who wish to obtain old copies of the Pacific Islands Monthly should get in touch with Mrs. Wanda Harris, of "Rathen," Dempsey Street, Annersley, Brisbane. She has copies extending back over many years, which she would be glad to dispose of.

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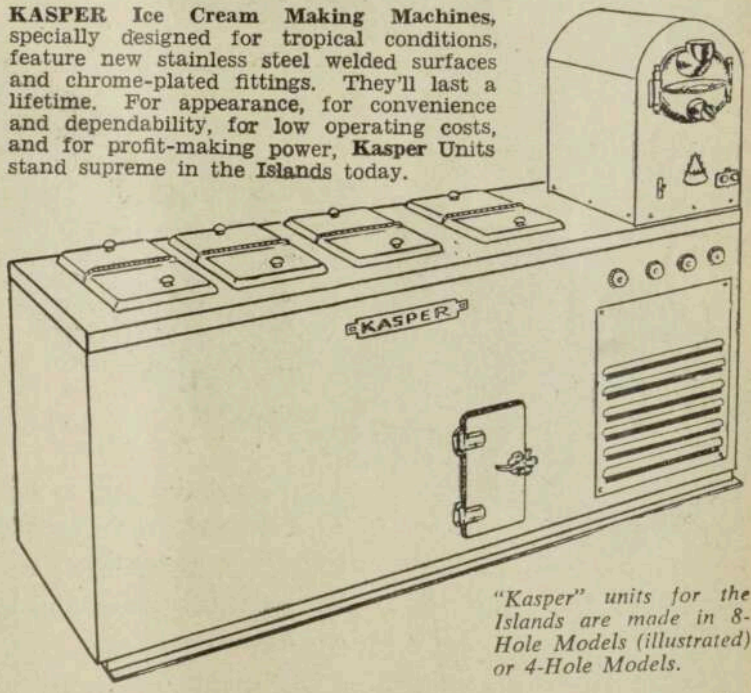

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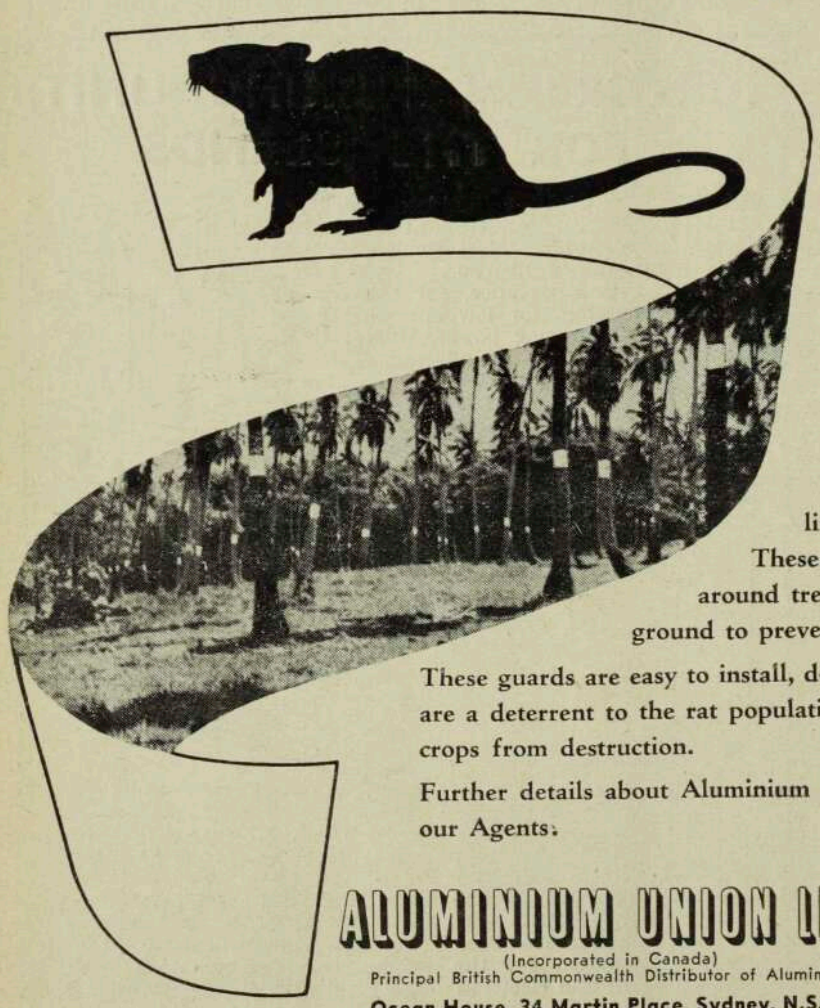

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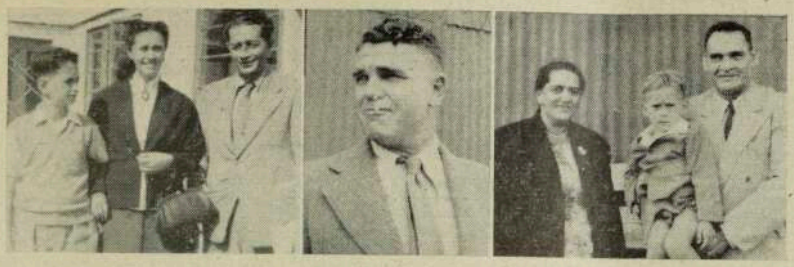
Islands Visitors to Auckland



They visited Auckland, NZ, recently (left to right):
Mr. and Mrs. Frances Sandford and son Georges. The Sanfords are the friendly hosts of dozens of international yachtsmen each year at their home at Bora Bora, French Oceania, where Mr. Sandford is school-teacher.
Mr. Ryan, Director of Public Works in the Cook Islands, paid a short business visit.
Mr. and Mrs. T. P. Makea and grandson Daniel of Rarotonga. Mr. Makea came south on Labour Union business.

Tonga is Now Interested In Vanilla

THE possibility of establishing a vanilla industry in Tonga and the problems associated with the growing thereof have been investigated in French Oceania by the Tonga Director of Agriculture, Mr. W. Straatmans, and two members of his staff.

The group, together with Prince Tungi, were to have returned home via Apia and Pago Pago in the Tongan Government vessel *Hifofua* late February or early March.

Probably Tonga's interest in vanilla originated with Prince Tungi, who has been anxious that Tonga should not become a one-crop country. French Oceania is the only Pacific territory where vanilla is grown extensively. It requires considerably tedious attention as the flowers have to be pollinated by hand.

¶ Mr. H. R. J. Lewis, recently appointed Crown Counsel, Fiji, arrived in Suva in January.

Damage at Buca Bay, Fiji

MR. A. P. WARD, well-known planter at Buca Bay, Vanua Levu, Fiji, reported that his property was heavily hit by the January near-miss hurricane. Over 20 palms were blown down near his new house and, damage was done also to other parts of his plantation.

It was the worst blow experienced in the area for many years.

¶ Captain Stan Brown, on vacation in New Zealand from the GEIC vessel *Tungaru*, joined the yacht *Ghost* in the Tasman Yacht Race from Auckland to Hobart.

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 and cultural centre for those interested in the Pacific Islands.

Regular meetings and social gatherings, with lectures, are held at the Feminist Club Rooms, 7th Floor, 77 King St., Sydney, on the fourth Thursday of each month, at 8 p.m.

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DEMOLITION TO MAKE WAY FOR NEW TAHITI

IN carrying out a programme to replace many old buildings in the business area of Papeete, Tahiti, the block of business premises near the waterfront containing the famous old Tahiti Yacht Club—now the Yacht Club Restaurant—will soon be demolished.

Amongst the firms occupying this block are the Faugerat Pharmacy, Alfred T. Poroi's offices, Nordman's billiard saloon, Circle Concorde, Lee Tini's store, Sin Tung Hing's store, and others. The building was erected in 1905. It will be replaced by a modern two-storey block, the upper floor taken up by Government offices.

Certain old buildings of great historical interest will be preserved and action will be taken to recondition them. The old Royal Palace is among them. A monument will also soon be erected in memory of Tahiti's last King, Pomare V.

Polynesians in Professions

AN Ellice Islander, Milaki Tihala, returned to Funafuti from Suva on the *Tovalu* in February after qualifying as an Assistant Dental Practitioner. He is the first ADP in the G & EIC, and his appointment should reduce the number of patients who travel to Fiji for dental treatment.

Another Ellice Islander, Kalepo Kolone, returned aboard the *Tovalu* as a sanitary inspector, a subject in which he specialised after being found unsuited for training as an AMP. He now has the distinction of being the only sanitary inspector in the G & EIC, and he will be engaged initially at the Government settlement at Bairiki.

Yet another Ellice Islander, Tualipi Lauti, recently returned to his home atoll after some six years in New Zealand, where he trained as a school teacher—J. Thornton.

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TO SEE QUEEN AT CAIRNS

29 P-NG Community Delegates

A DELEGATION of 19 Natives, 4 Asians and 6 people of mixed race will fly to Cairns by special charter this month to see the Queen when she visits that city on March 13. The delegation will leave Port Moresby on March 12, and return on the 14th.

The party will be in the charge of the Director of District Services Mr. A. A. Roberts, and Mr. R. Brennan, of the Department of the Public Service Commissioner. The membership of the delegation is as follows:

NATIVE DELEGATES

TOVIN TOBAINING, NEW BRITAIN. President of the Vunamami Native Village Council, and an enthusiastic leader of his people.

GOLPAK, of GASMATA, NEW BRITAIN. He has an outstanding war record, having been awarded the MBE and Loyal Service Medal. He has also given long and loyal service to the Administration, having first been appointed a Luluai in 1922.

GERARD BALAI, of Buka Island, BOUGAINVILLE, Luluai of Lemankoa Village, and a successful businessman and trader. He has land under cultivation and employs a staff of 18 natives. He speaks English well and can read and write. When the Pacific war started he was an apprentice printer with Mr. Gordon Thomas of the Rabaul Times and was sent back to Buka just before the Japanese occupied Rabaul. From Buka Gerard supplied valuable information to the Coast Watchers.

RAYMON, of NEW IRELAND. Secretary of the New Ireland Native Societies' Association, and thus represents 21 Native Co-operative groups in New Ireland. Raymon is well educated, and widely respected.

WILLIAM MATPI, of MANUS. He worked with an Administration surveyor until the occupation of Rabaul. Captured by the Japanese he was sent to Buna, where he escaped to the Waria area and then joined the PIB. Awarded DCM for outstanding military service.

GULU, of MADANG. Has 39 years' unbroken service as the Luluai of his people. During the War he rendered valuable assistance to the Coast Watchers. As the leader of 10,000 people in the Amele area, he fostered the new industry of rice growing among them: some villages now own their own rice mill and are marketing rice.

SALUM, of KAR KAR ISLAND. Paramount Luluai of Kar Kar and has served with the Administration as a Luluai for 33 years. He gave so much assistance to Europeans during the war that he was listed for execution by the Japanese, but evaded them. He has his own coconut plantation (150 bags per month) and has shipped the first consignment of cocoa from his own groves.

SILAS, of MOROBE. Served as a Native Medical Orderly from 1917 to 1941.

KABUA-GARIO, of HANUABADA. Interpreter at the Supreme Court, Port Moresby, since about 1911.

ATHANASIUS, of MEKEO AREA. Well educated, speaks both English and French fluently. Engaged in market gardening near Port Moresby.

TOUA KAPENA, of Poroporena (CENTRAL DISTRICT). Senior native clerk in Department of Education since 1946. Is well educated and has held responsible positions.

MUMARIPA, of NORTHERN DISTRICT. A retired Sergeant-Major of the Royal Papuan Constabulary—1919-1946. Has a distinguished record.

TIMEAUS SIMUBA, of GONA. Has had 15 years service as a Native Medical Orderly. He is one of the most influential persons among the Gona people.

MAHURU MARK, of MILNE BAY. Educated at Kwato Mission and served as a Schooner Master.

ROY NAMURA, of MILNE BAY. Is senior native employee (26 years) of Burns Philp (New Guinea) Ltd. at Samarai.

ROBERT TABUA, of WESTERN DISTRICT. Has been employed by Administration continuously for 21 years. He speaks, reads and writes English.

SERGEANT-MAJOR SEVESI, of GULF DISTRICT. Has splendid record of 36 years police service.

WAMP, of WESTERN HIGHLANDS. Appointed a Tul Tul in 1940, and has been a great assistance to his people.

BEPE MOHO, of EASTERN HIGHLANDS. An outstanding native of Goroka Sub-District.

ASIAN DELEGATES.

WONG YOU, of SOHANO, BOUGAINVILLE. Now aged 60, he has been a resident of New Guinea since 1912, and has built up a thriving company from his original small trade store. Three of his six children are being educated in Australia.

CHIN HOI MEEN, of RABAUL. Born

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at Rabaul in 1917; prior to 1942 was in charge of the Chinese Ambulance Corps. Was captured by the Japanese, but at great personal risk supplied valuable information to the Allied Forces. For this and other services he was awarded the King's Medal. He is a member of the New Britain Advisory Council, and one of the leaders of the Rabaul Chinese community.

TANG KAM HONG, of LAE. Leading member of the Chinese community at Lae, and a member of the Morobe District Advisory Council. Born in Madang in 1918.

AH WONG, of NEW IRELAND. A resident of New Guinea for 34 years, and is the Chinese representative on the Kavieng Town Advisory Council. He was interned by the Japanese, but in 1944 was contacted by an RAN unit and taken off the island. He then co-operated with the Allied Naval forces in operations throughout New Ireland waters.

MIXED RACE DELEGATES

PATRICK BRAY, of PORT MORESBY. Aged 23 and well educated. Although very young, he trained as a wireless operator with ANGAU, and served for nearly three years. Employed by Department of Works at Port Moresby..

JACK MARTIN, of PORT MORESBY. An active member of the social club at the Koki Catholic Mission and a very keen sportsman. Public Works technician.

OSCAR BOND, of BOUGAINVILLE. Well educated and is employed as a mechanic at Soraken Plantation.

HENRY LEWERISSA, of RABAUL. A leader of the Mixed Race community at Rabaul. Has been employed by Administration since leaving school. In 1947 he gave valuable assistance to an RAAF search party in locating the bodies of Australian airmen who were killed in operations over Hollandia.

KIM CHAN, of NEW IRELAND. A member of the AIF, 1942-46, including service with NGVR.

JOHN CONBOY, of MOROBE. Aged 30—his father from the Caroline Islands, and his mother from Guam. He was a clerk and radio operator at Wewak, and had previously been stationed at Aitape, Angoram and Maprik. When the Japanese forces reached Sepik in 1942, he walked to Bena Bena (Eastern Highlands) and was flown to Port Moresby. He served with Army Intelligence field parties in Japanese-occupied country in the Sepik, and was awarded the BEM for outstanding service. Later, he was in military operations in Borneo, and transferred to an Australian Army Signal unit. He returned in 1946, and is operating a trade store.

Tongan Precautions Against Fiji Rhino Beetles

QUARANTINE authorities in Tonga wish to make it clear to all passengers arriving there from Fiji, that the importation of native mats, tapa, native foodstuffs and handicrafts is absolutely prohibited due to the Rhinoceros beetle danger.

Any such articles will be seized and destroyed upon arrival at any Tongan port.

This announcement is of particular interest to the many deck passengers who travel from Suva to Tonga in *Tofua*.

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Travellers to the Islands

Mr. and Mrs. Ross Walker travelled from Auckland to Apia per February Tofua. Mr. Ross Walker is manager of Fruit Distributors Ltd., the organisation which imports fruit into New Zealand from the Islands.

Lower left: Dr. G. Y. McCririck, of Scotland, who has joined the South Pacific Health Service in Fiji. Right: Mr. Brij Mohan, of Suva, returned there after vacationing in New Zealand.

¶ To organise a mosquito control unit in the British Solomons and especially in the Honiara area, Mosese Natuna, of the Fiji Health Department, will spend six months in the area instructing Solomon Islanders.

A published summary setting out the disposal of Fiji's copra during 1953, shows that the Copra Board purchased 33,040 tons and had in hand 2,116 tons at the beginning of the year. Of this, 27,949 tons was crushed in the two local mills, the oil and most of the meal being exported; only 6,388 tons was shipped overseas for crushing, and 475 tons remained in stock at the year's end. Decreased production in 1953, as compared with 1952, cost producers about £½ million.

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ANOTHER ATTEMPT AT A GUAM MEDICAL SCHOOL

Students May be Withdrawn From Suva CMS

MICRONESIAN medical students at Central Medical School, Suva, may be withdrawn at the end of this year according to the US Trust Territory's official journal.

Though facilities and training at Suva are completely satisfactory, it is felt that it would in many ways be better, and possibly less expensive, to train medical students either at Truk, or at the new $5,000,000 hospital now being built at Guam.

In addition to the fees for board and training at Suva, which at present amount to £215 per annum per student, the Trust Territory Government is faced with a considerable transportation bill. There is also the factor that students training within Micronesia could be profitably employed amongst their own people during the training period—just as they now provide hospital staff for Suva.

There are at present 19 students at Suva, most of whom complete their training at the end of this year. Their interests are cared for by Dr. Earl Walter Udick, dental surgeon from the Trust Territory, attached to Central Medical School staff.

Micronesian students first went to Suva for training in February, 1951. It was an unexpected move and at the time of their arrival—there were 53 of them—very little had been done in Suva to accommodate them.

For a couple of years previously these students had been trained at a school set up by the US at Guam. The reason that the school was closed in 1951 (shortly after Civil Administration took over from the Navy) and the students sent to Suva was the same as the one given now for their withdrawal—expense. The Guam school had

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proved more costly to run than anticipated, it was said.

Some of the first American students to arrive in Suva had difficulty in getting the best out of the course because their general education was not up to standard. Because their arrival created acute problems of accommodation it is probable that their first year in Suva was not particularly comfortable for the students.

However, the fact that the Americans had sent their students to the CMS was taken as a great compliment and regarded as a manifestation of Anglo-American co-operation. Now that Suva has a new medical school—it was opened by the Queen in December—it seems a pity that the Micronesian students are to be withdrawn.

TAHITI'S BAD PUBLICITY FROM DOMESTIC FIGHT

TAHITI has had some bad publicity, and tourist-promoters there have been caused some headaches through a current Court case in Honolulu.

The case arose over an American-born woman, Mrs. Powell, slipping out of Papeete with her two children on December 29, aboard the American yacht *Venturer*, while a court case was pending in Papeete for custody of the children. Mrs. Powell and her British husband, John F. (Kim) Powell are estranged.

The Powells went to Tahiti in December, 1950, in their yacht *Wind's Will*, and have been resident there ever since, Mr. Powell now owing some property there.

The Papeete Court some time ago ordered that the children (Kim, aged 4, and another younger child) be held in a Mission home pending settlement of custody. Mrs. Powell alleged that it came to her knowledge that her husband intended to seize the children from the home and take them back to their Tahiti country home. She considered that life for children is insufferable in Tahiti; and, in the later action in Honolulu Court, produced two former Tahiti residents, a Mrs. Mitchell and a Mrs. Schultz, to support her. Some of the accusations: Billions of rats, billions of mosquitoes, no sanitation, and, according to Mrs. Powell, no doctors that she could trust.

As it was known that the yacht *Venturer* had cleared Papeete for Honolulu, Mr. Powell flew there via Fiji immediately and secured a writ of *habeas corpus*. Both parties have now been warned by the Honolulu Court against attempting to remove the children from Hawaii before the case is settled.

Meanwhile, Tahiti's Tourist Bureau is doing all it can to point out that there are millions more rats and mosquitoes in San Francisco than there are in Tahiti.

Returning to Islands

Bound for the Islands from Auckland in February. (Left to right): Mr. and Mrs. Norman Saggers and son who went to Apia, where Mr. Saggers has been appointed chief technician, Station 2AP. Mrs. R. Davidson, youngest sister of the famous late Queen Emma of New Guinea, returned to W. Samoa from a holiday in Auckland. Miss O. Keil, Mr. Jim Roberts and Miss E. Rivers returned to Apia from Auckland.

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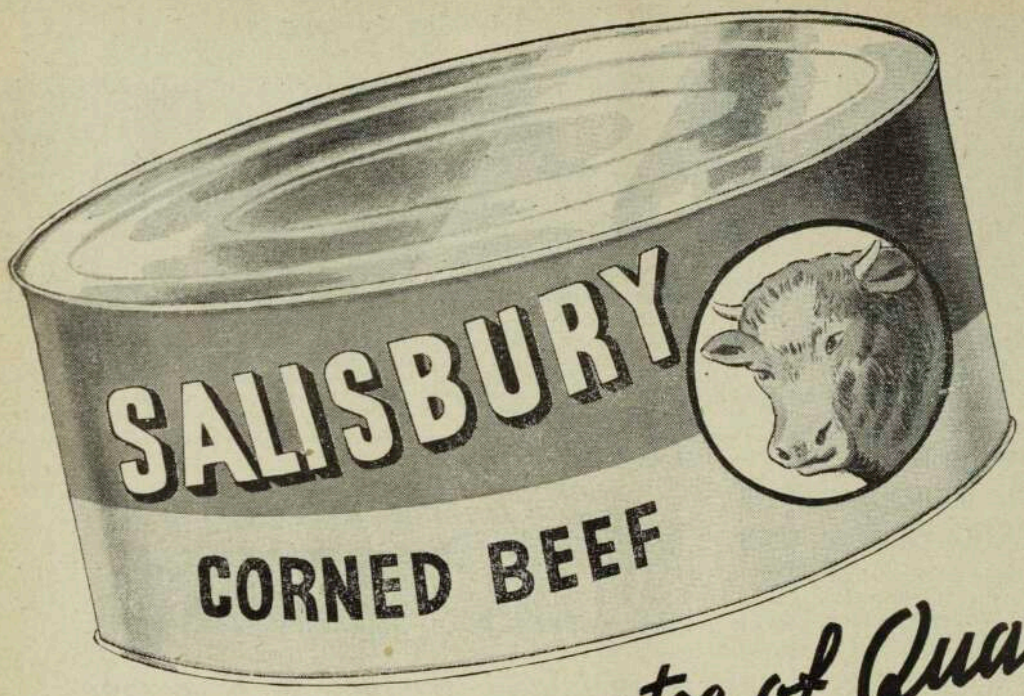

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When the volcano on Ambrym Island, New Hebrides, erupted some months ago, a number of the native communities on the island were in grave danger. A planter and trader, Mr. Andre Houdie, went to the help of the people, and he took the inhabitants of one village, about 150 men, women and children, across to his plantation at Mele, near Port Vila, and settled them there in a place which he had prepared for them. In this photograph, by Fung Kuei, Mr. Houdie is seen in the new village, with about half of the newly established community.

The new Fiji Central School was opened by the Governor at Nasese late in January. The school will cater for the 680 Fijian children of Fijians permanently employed in Suva. Construction has been largely financed by money-raising efforts on the part of Fijians.

¶ Miss Mary Dawn Trotter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Trotter, formerly of Suva and now of Auckland, has announced her engagement to Mr. Frederick Reed Alan Hellaby, son of Mr. F. A. Hellaby, of Auckland. They plan to marry in April.

Scouting in Fiji, where the Governor is Chief Scout, has a bright outlook according to the annual report of the executive committee. Membership is steadily increasing, 1,638 at December 31, with improved training facilities and more trained staff in sight. The Australian State of Victoria is giving useful assistance to the Fiji Scout movement.

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Death of Noted Tahiti Resident

The late Mr. Lewis Hirshon of Tahiti, whose death we reported in January PIM. His ashes were returned to Tahiti from Lima, Peru, by Mrs. Hirshon who arrived in Papeete on January 25. The ashes were interred at the family vault, Paurani, a large gathering of local residents attending the last rites of this popular business man. He was American born, but had made Tahiti his home for 20 years.

Rhinoceros beetles are still being found in the vicinity of Suva, Fiji, and as far afield as Tailevu, and at country saw mills on the south coast of Viti Levu. A favourite breeding place has proved to be saw-dust heaps and methods of dealing with this problem are being considered.

The Governor of Fiji has appointed a Rehabilitation Committee to prepare a rehabilitation scheme to assist returned servicemen from Malaya. Mr. H. M. Scott is chairman, and the members are Ratu E. Cakobau, Luke Vuidreketi, Mr. A. D. Leys and Mr. R. M. Major, with Major S. H. Eliott as secretary.

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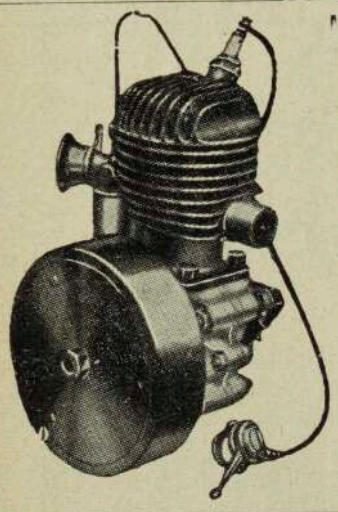

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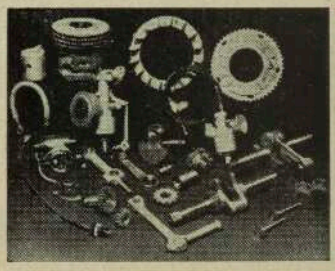

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The Government Only Hopes it is, But—

"Marching Rule" Nationalism is Not Dead in BSIP

SOME private residents of the British Solomon Islands Protectorate describe as only wishful thinking the official contention that Marching Rule—the local nationalist movement—is a spent force.

Marching Rule manifested itself strongly after the war and there have been numerous theories as to its cause—the most popular that it is the result of native contact with large numbers of American troops during the war. Marching Rule was and is a militant movement and was strongest on the island of Malaita which contains about half the population of BSIP, and where the natives have always been difficult to handle.

As a result of this nationalism, the rehabilitation of the Solomons was made more difficult. To the neglect of the war years, total destruction of all buildings and in some cases destruction of plantations, and to total lack of assistance from the Government in starting anew, was added total lack of labour.

Malaitamen, who traditionally supply most of the BSIP labour market, decided that Malaita should be for the Malaitamen, and the Solomon Islands, generally, for the Solomon Islanders, and refused to go out to work. They would run their own affairs, they said, in their own way. Levy their own taxes; get rid of the white men and thereby succeed to the European's wealth and power.

This attitude to going out to work had been tempered in the ensuing years by economic necessity and the labour situation now is not as bad as it was in the early post-war years. But Marching Rule still is affecting the labour situation and labour of all kinds is desperately hard to get in the BSIP. It has been reported to us that MR—quite apart from its influence on the labour market—is still very much alive in Malaita, has had a resurgence on San Christoval, and is spreading on Guadalcanal.

AS a counter to MR, the Government has set up native Councils in Malaita and elsewhere, which are designed to give the natives the local authority they seek, while still keeping them under Government control. Many of the leaders of these Councils are adherents of MR, either openly or covertly, and many Europeans see in the Councils a real danger.

We have several letters, written by native councillors to European employers of labour, which make it quite clear that these Councils still attempt to control the engagement of labour. The letters are written in extraordinary English, but the burden of them is: "Send back the boys who have gone to work for you—you know that you must ask permission of the Council before you engage each boy."

Whether they think clearly along the lines that by controlling labour they control the economy of the country, or whether it is just blind instinct for throwing a spanner in the works, is of small concern: the results are the same.

THE Colonial Office, through the BSIP Government, since the war, has made no apologies for actively discouraging European enterprise—firstly by making it as difficult as possible for private Europeans to go back, and then, for those who persisted, levying crippling taxation upon them.

Many people say that the only reason for continued British government in BSIP is in order to lead the natives gently up the virtuous path to self-government and a self-supporting native economy.

If the results of eight or nine years since the end of the war are any indication, it has been a wasted effort. While the shrewder natives

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have availed themselves of some of the benefits provided by the government, in general, they continue to "hate the Government's guts." If there was any way of being rid of European government to-morrow, they would obviously welcome it. One of the letters here before us is from an unfortunate native tax collector who bewails the unwillingness of the natives to pay taxes to the Government.

THE group of islands that comprise the Solomons make up a fair and fertile country. And, as a country, it is as capable as Fiji or Papua-New Guinea of big development. In actual fact, not one penny of new money has been invested there since the war. Rehabilitation has been made possible only from UK grants, royalties on scrap-iron and ex-war materials, and a buoyant copra market. No investor in his right senses would think twice about the Solomons when there still are much more promising fields for his £'s and $.

And, elsewhere, in spite of high talk and mountains of paper-work in Government offices, only a token scratching has been made at giving the Protectorate a soundly-based native economy. Even under the happiest auspices, at the present BSIP rate of jog-trot, we should have to wait another 50 years to see any results from that: the natives are too busy being their arrogant selves; or, alternately, too apathetic, to care two hoots for the Colonial Office's high resolve in this matter.

Perhaps we can afford to wait 50 years. But will the rest of the world? The whole BSIP set-up is, of course, on a high theoretical plane; but realistic, unromantic European residents who hope to make a living out of the country can scarcely be expected to regard it in this altruistic light. Small wonder if they see these government-sponsored native councils, not as the beginning of better things, but as natural forcing beds of native nationalism which, in the very nature of things, must make life even more difficult for the Europeans.

¶ A RNZAF Sunderland aircraft made a flight from Lauthala Bay, Fiji, to Funafuti and Tarawa, G & E. Islands Colony in late January. Passengers included Mr. J. A. Hunter and Mr. Holly, of Meteorological Office, Nadi; Mr. G. Davidson, radio engineer of Civil Aviation Department, Wellington, NZ, and Squadron Leader and Mrs. Laird currently engaged on mosquito research in the South West Pacific.

¶ The Rev. Percy Chatterton and Mrs. Chatterton called at Auckland in February en route to England on furlough from Delana mission station, Papua, where they have been stationed since 1939.

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"Tourist" Air Fares to UK and USA

A TOURIST air-service from Sydney to London will be introduced by Qantas Empire Airways from April 3; and now they have the approval of the Governments concerned, Pan American, BCPA and Canadian Pacific Airlines will begin tourist services across the Pacific from Sydney to North America about the same time.

Tourist fares will be 20 per cent less than first-class fares—which is about £A100 saving on the Sydney-London return fare, and a similar saving on the return fare Sydney-San Francisco.

Qantas will run one tourist plane per week and, in conjunction with BOAC, five first-class services per week.

For tourist-class, there will be 60 seats per plane instead of about 40; meals will not be so lavish; and the free baggage allowance will be slashed to 44 lbs.

It is a different set-up with the Pacific operators who will provide for their tourist passengers in the same planes as first-class passengers—the tourists will simply occupy a special compartment.

Although few people will boggle at travelling in an all-tourist plane, there probably will be some considerable boggling when first and tourist passengers are accommodated in the same plane in first and tourist compartments.

One of the most pleasant things about international air travel has been the first-class service that goes with it. The introduction of a tourist rate on first-class planes cannot help but result in two different standards of treatment from airline personnel.

The move for tourist travel is, of course, the airlines' effort to bring air travel to the people. But the people who can find £537 for an air fare, tourist class, are not likely to be put off by having to find £637 for a first-class fare.

The only advantage so far as the Pacific air services are concerned is that it might encourage more American tourists to Australasia. Would-be tourists from Down Under to America cannot get dollars in any event.

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Other Days and Other Ways Of Making Money

IN view of Tonga's investigation into Vanilla planting (see elsewhere this issue), it is interesting to read a report on trade in the Islands made by Mr. C. D. Whitcombe, of Auckland, in August, 1885. The report followed a survey voyage by *Janet Nicoll*, as a result of which a regular shipping service from New Zealand to Polynesia was established.

The report shows that in 1883 Tonga exported 40 tons of Arabian coffee, and, believe it or not, 120 bales of wool. Both those commodities would be valuable to the Kingdom to-day. The coffee came mainly from a plantation on Tongatabu owned by the Deutschen Handels und Plantagen Gesellschaft; and the wool from 15,000 sheep established on Eua, just south of Tongatabu, by the Parker brothers.

But even in 1885 the sheep flock was declining, due to a serious infestation of scab, for which, at that time, there seemed to be no known cure.

Across in the Cooks the value of exports for 1884 exceeded the value of imports (£24,000) by £4,000, and the Territory was self-supporting. Mr. Henry Nicholas exported 1,500 bales of cotton (450 lbs per bale) in 1885 from Rarotonga, as well as large quantities of good-quality coffee and arrowroot. There was no legal currency and the Chilian dollar was much in vogue until Chief Te Pou, journeying to Auckland, discovered that the Cook Islands traders were on a good thing in currency-trafficking at various rates of exchange.

It is interesting to note that in regard to Apia, Mr. Whitcombe reported: "There is a large consumption of lager beer, as many as 4,000 cases being consumed annually in Apia alone. The wholesale price is £2/8/- per case of 4 dozen reputed quarts, and it is retailed at 2/- per bottle." Presumably without a permit!

Elsewhere the report says: "New

(Continued Col. 2, page 63.)

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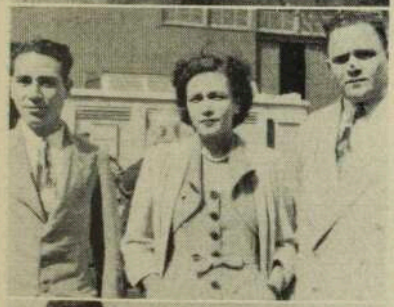

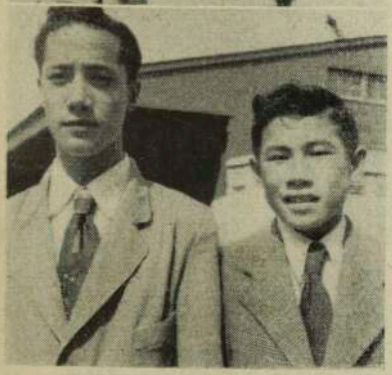

Recent travellers from the South Pacific to NZ included (top to bottom): Mr. J. A. Boyer, with Lawrence and James, who arrived in Auckland from Apia. Major and Mrs. C. V. Phillips who were on vacation from Fiji, where Major Phillips is Development Officer, Fiji Government. Mr. B. Ah Kiau and Mr. and Mrs. N. J. Hellesoe, who are on three months holiday from Apia. Allan and Eric Southon, of Apia, to attend school in New Zealand.

(Continued from Page 62.)

Zealand meats, here as elsewhere, will speedily drive others out of the market, but beef alone is saleable to the natives; if mutton reaches the traders' hands the sheep pictured on the tin is rubbed off and the contents sold as beef."

The Fiji Forestry Department last year planted 90 acres of mahogany and kaucula trees in the Colo-i-Suva area and surveyed and enumerated the timber resources of 50,000 acres of Viti Levu island. This year a further 200 acres will be planted up in the Colo-i-Suva area. The kauvula timber will eventually be used for fruit cases.

A Commerce & Industries Office has been established in Suva, Fiji, as a branch of the Secretariat following the recommendations of the Economic Review Committee last year. The Office will act as a liaison between Commerce and the Government and should be of value to overseas business firms seeking information about the colony. The Office has also taken over existing import control and allocation of foreign currency, will include local price control in its functions and gather statistics which later will be published in a periodical bulletin.

A Fijian Grammar, compiled by Mr. G. H. Milner for the Fiji Government, will soon be printed in Suva.

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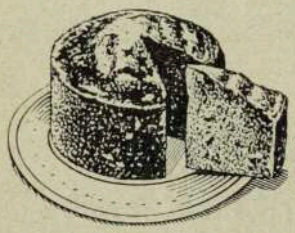

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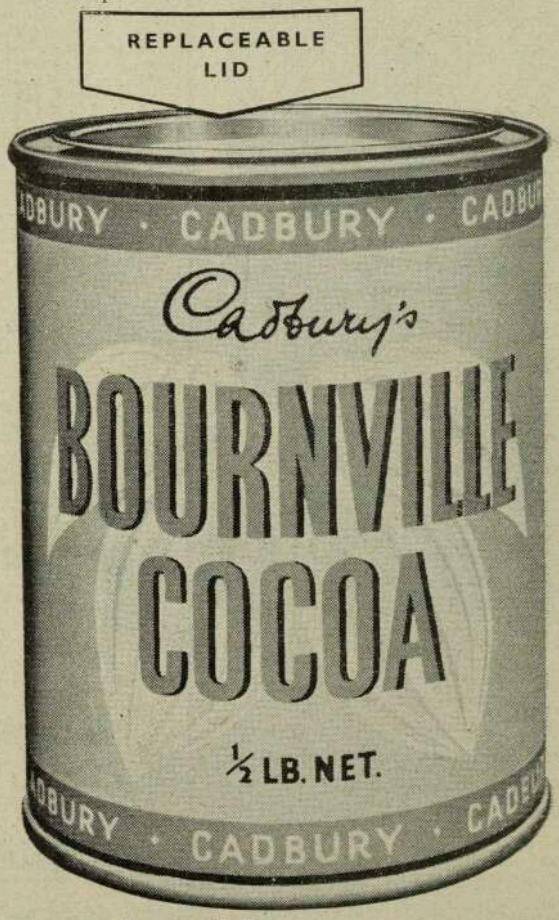

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THREE NEW ISLANDS BISHOPS

IN mid-February, the most Rev. John H. Rogers was consecrated, at Wellington, NZ, Catholic Vicar Apostolic of Tonga in succession to Bishop Blanc.

At Honiara, in the Solomons, on May, 30, the Rev. A. T. Hill will be consecrated Anglican Bishop of Melanesia. The ceremony will be carried out by the Most Rev. R. H. Owen, Primate of New Zealand, assisted by the Rt. Rev. A. H. Johnson, Bishop of Dunedin, NZ, the Rt. Rev. P. N. W. Strong, Bishop of New Guinea, and the Rt. Rev. G. D. Hand, Coadjutor Bishop of New Guinea.

On May 19, the Most Rev. John Dieter, SM, will be consecrated Catholic Vicar Apostolic of Samoa, in a ceremony at Apia, by the Apostolic Delegate, His Excellency Archbishop Carboni, who will journey from Sydney.

All these consecrations are events of considerable importance to the adherents of the churches concerned.

Bishop-elect Dieter was born in Germany in 1903 and ordained in 1933. He has been in Samoa since 1937. Since 1949 he has been Director of the Seminary at Moamoa. He has a perfect knowledge of the Samoan language and customs.

The retiring Bishop is the Most Rev. Joseph Darnand, who is now 75 years old. His many friends are pleased that he will spend his retirement in the Territory and will live at Moamoa.

Fiji regulations governing control of imports from non-Sterling countries have been considerably relaxed, licenses now being required only for certain luxury items from European countries outside the Iron Curtain. Regular importers will be given reasonable allocations even for the listed luxury items—alcoholic beverages, confectionery, jewellery, passenger vehicles, perfumery, photographic equipment, radio sets, musical instruments, toys, games, sporting equipment, watches and clocks. Imports from dollar sources remain, as before, under strict control.

W. Samoa's MLA's Meet in Pre-Election Session

From Our Own Correspondent

APIA, February 18.

THE Budget session of the W. Samoan Legislative Assembly is to open on March 15 and will probably continue for 3 to 4 weeks. The preliminary votes for all Government Departments which are to be submitted to the Assembly, have been cut down by an amount of £50,000.

The three-yearly election of European and Samoan members of the Legislative Assembly will be held on April 15, 1954.

So far no European candidates have been announced, though it is believed that all sitting European members intend to stand for re-election.

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Champion Gardener

Mrs. C. T. Yarrow (above) and her husband, are grand championship winners in the Garden Show held recently at Baroko, Port Moresby.

Fiji has been reprimanded by New Zealand banana-importing interests for three times failing in January to meet the export quotas. The Colony was short by 2,000 cases of its 15,000-case quota on two voyages of the *Karamu*, and extra fruit offering at Apia and Nukualofa was refused by *Tofua*, the ship then not being filled by the Fijian producers. Reasons given in Fiji are: floods associated with the January near-hurricane reducing the crop—and a prolonged holiday spirit which delayed packing in the Fijian villages.

¶ Mrs. J. Dharam Dass recently returned to Suva on completion of training as a nurse at Adelaide, SA.

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Pago Pago Has An Embarrassment of Fish

Cannery Now in Full Operation

THE six Japanese long-line fishing vessels which are employed by Tokio Marine Products Corporation, and are fishing on a poundage basis for Van Camp Sea Food Inc. off Pago Pago, American Samoa, are proving beyond a shadow of a doubt that there are plenty of tuna in the South Pacific and that the Japanese know how to catch them.

A new Island industry is born. Mr. Paul H. Hedrick, plant manager for Van Camp at Pago Pago, presents Governor Richard B. Lowe with the first can of Chicken-of-the-Sea-Brand tuna, produced by the recently-opened cannery, while Government and cannery officials look on.

The fish cannery at Pago is now in action and canning 48,000 tins of tuna a day—wh'ch is the capacity of the plant at present.

The former Byrd Antarctic exploration ship, the 1,642-tons *Nor.h Star*, has been converted to a freezer ship and now lies off the cannery storing 900 tons of fish at a time, and producing 20 tons of ice per day for the fishing boats.

Van Camp are reported to be paying the Japanese 162 dollars per ton for tuna and slightly higher for albacore, the only fish being canned.

The rest is being sold locally through the local Government, and Western Samoa is being offered as much as it likes of cleaned fish at 14 cents a pound ex Apia wharf. It is believed that the Japs are anxious to supply Fiji if *Matua* or *Tofua* will lift it as freezer cargo. No doubt the Japs would be happy to provide other fishing craft to give Fiji—or any other Pacific territory—fresh fish at a low price.

Although the islanders' diet is traditionally fish and coconuts, there is no fishing industry worth the name in any of the Pacific islands. Fish is scarcer and dearer there than in any of the cold countries. A great deal of money has been spent by individual Pacific governments and by the South Pacific Commission on fishery surveys, but none of them have so far produced any fish. The smart thing would be to employ the Japanese to provide the Islanders with this cheap food. They have both the know-how and the ships.

Governments are not given to doing smart things, however. They believe that it is better to have Pacific Islanders managing their non-existent fishing industries than it is to employ foreigners to actually produce the goods.

TEACHING THE SAMOANS

It has been suggested that it is not the plan of the American Samoan Government to allow the Japanese permanently to fish off that Territory to supply the local cannery. It is believed that the Japanese are to fish there just until the Samoans learn how it is done.

The Japanese are not given to teaching anybody anything; and the Polynesians are not given to putting into fishing, or anything else, the sustained effort that is producing the sort of results the Japs are getting around Samoan waters. If the Americans have any of their good Yankee common sense left they will not attempt to exchange high theory

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for the actual fish that are keeping their cannery going at the present time.

The charter of the present fleet of Jap fishing vessels expires in April. Presumably they will be replaced by others from Japan.

PAGO PAGO TUNA CANNERY IN OPERATION

The Van Camp Sea Food Company formally opened up its plant on February 11 in a ceremony wherein Governor Richard Barrett Lowe received the first can of tuna prepared by the Company, and also the first case, containing 48 more tins. The fish was presented to the Governor by plant manager, Mr. Paul Hedrick.

The plant actually went into production on February 8. First day's output amounted to 90 cases, but a daily output of ten tons or 48,000 tins will shortly become routine.

Cannery men are said to be pleased with the quality of the canned tuna, which equals or betters that being canned in California. It was feared that the larger tuna being caught off Samoa might not be of high quality. This fear has proved groundless.

The firm will shortly make canned tuna available for local sale through Pago Pago merchants, but the bulk of the output will probably be shipped at intervals to the States aboard President Line vessels returning from Manila. These shipping arrangements have still to be made.

By mid-February the industry was employing 56 male and 52 female local Samoan employees.

Fiji Fish—But Buyer-Resistance!

WHILE the Japanese pull enormous quantities of tuna and other fish from the sea off Samoa, in Fiji, Mr. Harold Gatty's small and worthy fishing venture, relaunched six months ago with the small launch *Marau* is meeting more than its share of troubles.

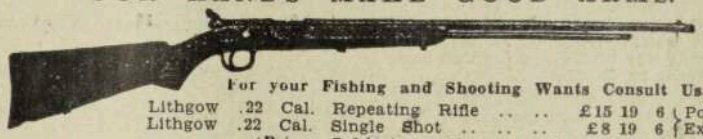
No great quantity of fish has so far been produced, and several hundredweights recently offered in the Suva market met with unusual buyer-resistance.

It seems that in Fiji a cleaned and gutted fish is looked on as a fish that is not fresh—although the very reason that these were gutted was to make sure that they would still be quite fresh on delivery at the market. Without gutting they cannot be brought from any great distance.

It is understood that a small cannery is now being considered—and to blazes with the fresh fish trade!

There was an exodus of sportsmen from Fiji in January including 15 representatives of a cricket team to play a series of matches in New Zealand; five Fijian athletes for engagements in the South Island and nine yachtsmen who represented Fiji in the 18-footer world yachting championships which were this year held in Auckland. In addition to the sportsmen, there were 23 Fijian firewalkers and two Indian dancers for the Auckland birthday carnival.

"OUR HANDS MAKE GOOD ARMS."



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Qantas Man Farewelled

Mr. Geoffrey Potts, popular catering officer at Qantas mess, Port Moresby, with two friends who attended a farewell party in his honor on February 7.
—Photo by Papuan Prints.

¶ Mr. Bob Bunting, Manager of A. H. Bunting Ltd., Samarai, returned there recently after attending the Coronation and touring Europe with Mrs. Bunting.

It Costs More Now to Travel on Maui Pomare

ISLAND Territories Department, Wellington, NZ, has announced an increase in fares for its New Zealand-Cook Islands service vessel *Maui Pomare*. The vessel resumed the service March 12, following refit in Auckland.

Fares to or from New Zealand ports and Rarotonga have risen by £2—the fare Auckland-Rarotonga now being £NZ25.

There has been an increase of about 10 per cent. on the fare between individual islands, the minimum between any two islands now being £NZ3/5/-. Though "deck" rates are listed, it is understood that passengers are no longer accepted in the Cooks at "deck" rates; although frequently travelling deck, they pay saloon fares.

Maui Pomare loses a great deal of money annually, and the increase in fares will make no difference to this.

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THE BUREAUCRATS TAKE OVER

Story of Swains Island

FOLLOWING an Executive Order published January 21, 1954, regarding local government on Swains Island, to aid employer, employees and families thereon, an official party departed from American Samoa on February 2 by the Government ship *Manu'a Tele*.

Labour troubles and disputes had arisen earlier on this copra-producing island, which resulted in the Samoan Government holding an investigation. (See PIM, November). The outcome was this Executive Order which, in brief, authorises establishment of a Village Council, with a village mayor and a policeman. These officials are to have the same duties as those in American Samoan villages.

A Government representative will now reside on Swains—this being an annual appointment.

All employees on the island are to get written contracts, showing terms and provisions, that will be subject to Governor's approval. Employees are to be Samoan or part-Samoan; no contract may be cancelled without Government authority; either party may appeal to the High Court.

The party which went to Swains to put the new plan in action included Samoan Affairs Officer John C. Cool, Mr. Sonoma Liufau, High Chief T. Le'iato (who is also Governor of the Eastern District of Tutuila) and Mr. John Leasau, school teacher. The latter has been appointed Government Representative on Swains.

THE 800-acre island has belonged to the Jenning's family since 1856. Swains is geographically part of the Tokelaus but was declared US territory in 1925. The population came originally from nearby Tokelaus to work copra for the Jenning's family, but recently they decided they would like some of the island themselves, and claimed squatters' rights.

There have, in the past, been numerous examples of the Jenning's type of feudal family government, but one by one they have been swamped by the march towards total bureaucracy.

The spread of "new thought" since the war has encouraged the mass of workers to imagine that they have a just claim to the creations of the "boss." A generation or so ago, this would have been regarded as the Reddest of Socialism. Now it is looked upon as democratic—and quite normal.

The present head of the Jenning's family declared—and not without proof—that the labour was inefficient, and producing less than two-thirds of what was the desirable output of copra. He wished to replace them with other Tokelau islanders.

When Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Lawlor, of Suva, passed through Singapore recently on their way to Hongkong, Mr. Lawlor visited six Fijian soldiers in hospital. He was accompanied by Mr. G. W. Patton, chief representative of the Carreras Tobacco Co., in Malaya. Mr. Patton took gifts on behalf of his Company and intends to provide frequent further gifts. Mr. Patton is in close touch with Mrs. Meakin, wife of the Port Chaplain at Singapore, who has made the welfare of the men from Fiji her special care.

¶ Dr. A. C. Smith, of the Smithsonian Institute, USA, a world authority on the plants of Fiji, has just completed his third collecting visit to the Colony.

During her visit to Timaru, NZ, the Queen noticed a group of Boy Scouts from Western Samoa. She chatted to them for about five minutes.

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120 YEARS OF NURSING AMONGST THEM

By Edward W. Johnson

FEBRUARY of this year marked the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Samoan Nurses' Training School in American Samoa.

The Navy, in its 14th year of administration of the islands of Tutuila and the Manua Group found that its Medical Department was in extreme need of female nursing assistants, and sent Navy Nurses Mary H. Humphrey and Corinne Anderson to set up a school of nursing for Samoan Girls.

The LMS Atauloma Girls' School under the able tutelage of Miss Jean Begg offered the best material. Miss Begg recommended three young ladies, Misses Winnie, Initia and Pepe. The girls lived in the same quarters with the Navy Nurses while undergoing two hard years of work.

Pepe was considered far too small to carry such a big load and was advised to give up the course. She refused and not only graduated with the other two but in time became first Samoan Chief Nurse of the Hospital. The first class scattered after graduation in 1916.

Initia to duty in Western District and Pepe to the Eastern while Winnie remained in the hospital. Six months later positions were exchanged. The ensuing classes were also small but as fast as they graduated they filled positions in the districts and hospital.

Initia resigned to marry in 1918 and Winnie in 1921. Both departed with their Missionary husbands for other islands. Initia went to New Guinea and worked as missionary's wife and nurse until her husband died of malaria. She then returned to Samoa and nursing practice.

Winnie performed similar work with her husband in the Gilberts, had four children, returning to American Samoa in 1939, shortly

Eastern Samoa's three original nurses, left to right: Winnie, now Chief Samoan Nurse; Initia, now serving in Papua-New Guinea; and Pepe, now Mrs. Max Haleck of Pago Pago.

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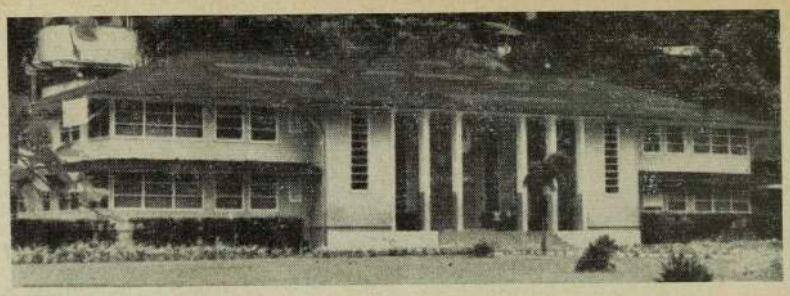
after her husband's death.

Pepe meanwhile remained single until 1936. She was sent to the United States for six months' training with the Navy Nurses at the Mare Island Hospital in 1919, going to a civilian children's hospital in San Francisco for two more months' training before her return to Samoa. She assumed duty as nurse instructor, was a valuable assistant in the operating room and became Samoan Chief Nurse in 1927.

She was sent again to Hawaii in 1928 to represent American Samoa at the Pan Pacific Conference. In 1936, after 22 years nursing service, Pepe married Max Haleck, successful merchant, and left active nursing duty, being relieved by Initia.

The training courses were lengthened to 3 years in 1923 and to four years in 1927. Prior to 1927 all the girls were invariably chosen from Atauloma Girls' School but now they were selected through competitive examinations from all schools. There have been over 35 graduating classes since the inception of the training school. The largest class totalled 51 and the smallest, one. To-day there are 164 nurses, half of whom are graduates and whose monthly pay is about £22. Even after marriage the girls are permitted to continue nursing.

Several graduates have left for Hawaii and the US to continue their education with an eye toward



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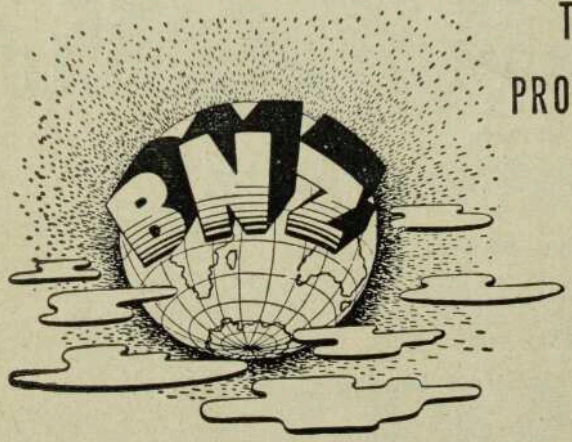

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obtaining an RN from that area. Initia and three other nurses are again in Papua, where they serve the people under the auspices of the LMS.

Winnie now is Chief Nurse for the greatly enlarged flock. She is a little grey around the temples as she is 58; while Pepe, who recently celebrated her 60th birthday, is as tiny as ever and spends her leisure time in Welfare Work and YWCA activities. Both women are proud of the success and great expansion of the Training School for Nurses in American Samoa.

NG Goldfields Seem Entitled to Some Simple Justice

THE savagery with which governments can tax private enterprise, so that operations are handicapped and initiative discouraged, is shown in the case of New Guinea Goldfields Ltd.

Chairman J. Kruttschnitt, at the annual meeting in Sydney recently, pointed out that, although the Co., on ordinary standards, is doing reasonably well, its profits definitely are limited by (a) the imposition of a 5 per cent. royalty on the gross value of all gold produced, irrespective of the cost of getting the gold; and (b) the maintenance of a large import duty on NGG timber entering Australia from New Guinea, although New Zealand timber, and the products of the new Commonwealth-Bulolo Gold Co., are relieved of this burden.

It is hoped that the system of assessing the gold royalty in New Guinea will be altered soon, so as to give the operators there a chance of developing new goldbearing country. Since the premium on gold has disappeared from the world's open market—a very recent event—it becomes imperative that the Australian authority in New Guinea shall implement its old promise, and review the royalty system. Otherwise, a good many gold shows will fold up, and likelihood of new development will disappear.

Why Bulolo-Commonwealth and New Zealand timber producers should get a preference over timber-producing NGG is one of the minor mysteries of officialdom. Sheer justice will demand a revision of this thing, also—if NGG remains active, and yells loud enough.

The Rev. Father A. McDonald, M, was in New Zealand on vacation from Nukunono, Tokelaus, in February. He reported that an epidemic of infectious jaundice had recently affected a large number of people in two of the atolls, and it would doubtless spread to the third.

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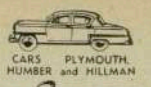
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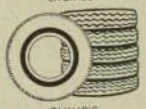
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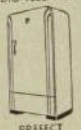
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MAGAZINE SECTION

Tropicalities

GOBBLEDEGOOK

FIJI manganese miners, following the issue of an Order-in-Council dated February 9, know that the Fiji Government will, in future, collect a royalty on all manganese exported.

But do they know how much? The Order-in-Council says:

"(i) Where the yield expressed as a percentage of the annual sale value does not exceed 20 per centum, royalty shall be at the rate of 3/40 of 1 per centum of the annual sale value for each 1 per centum of yield expressed as such percentage.

(ii) Where the yield expressed as a percentage of the annual sale value exceeds 20 per centum, royalty shall be at the rate of seven and one-half per centum of the yield, together with an additional 1/8 of 1 per centum of the yield for each 1 per centum by which the yield expressed as such percentage exceeds 20 per centum.

"'Yield' means the difference between annual expenditure and annual sale value. Annual expenditure is defined in the Order."

FIJI OFFENDS AGAIN

GRANNY, of the *Sydney Morning Herald's* Eighth Column, runs a single-handed war against coined words, bad English and officialese.

He (we presume that Granny makes history by being the only masculine granny in the world) recently took exception to an advertisement for a health inspector for Fiji.

Snapped Granny:

His duties, states the advertisement, include "deratisation," and "disinsectisation" of aircraft and shipping.

I suppose they talk that way to impress the natives.

HARD LIVING

A MAN dropped into PIM's Auckland office the other day, bursting with information about the Pago Pago fishing industry.

"Yes, we passed the Jap fishing boats at work the other day," he said. "Funny thing, there were flocks of seagulls round them, flying on one wing."

"What! Been injured, or something?"

"Oh, no. Just carrying their lunch under the other wing. *Jap* fishing-boats, you know!"

A NEON-LIGHTED VALLEY OF AMAZONS

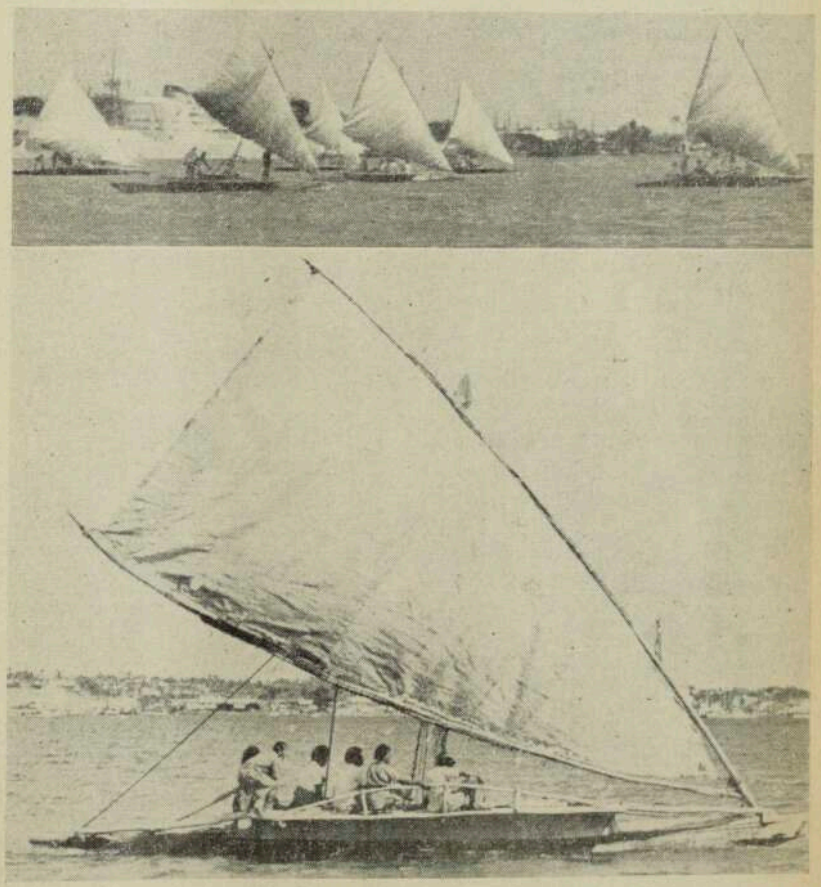
THAT story which we reported in December PIM (about the valley of Amazons in some unspecified place in New Guinea, where the men are kept in caves and only allowed out for purposes of reproduction) is still going the rounds.

An American reader, serving in Korea, sends us a clipping from a Chicago negro paper called *Jet* which repeats the story—with some embellishments.

Our American friend also served in New Guinea, and asks somewhat urgently if there can be any truth in the story; he evidently feels that he missed out somewhere during his stay in the Territory.

According to *Jet* the story was first told at a London conference on street lighting, by a delegate called C. S. Downey. The Amazonian valley is put somewhere near Mt. Wilhelmina, in Dutch NG, and it is said that the women light their village with "weird neon-like moons . . . a system of perfected artificial illumination equal, if not superior, to the gaseous tubes of the civilised 20th century." The moons are described as stone balls about 12 feet

The Canoes Sail Suva Harbour Again



Some people who have visited Fiji frequently, or have even lived there, have never seen large sailing canoes like these. Fiji is, in fact, one of the few places in the South Pacific where every kid is not equipped with a small out-rigger canoe.

These large sailing canoes—17 of them—came from Fiji's outer islands to escort the Royal Yacht Gothic up Suva Harbour on December 17. Gothic can be seen in the background of the top photo.

—Photo by C. White.

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in diameter and mounted on high columns.

We have never heard of Mr. Downey; and neither has anyone else whom we have asked. But he deserves top marks for ingenuity and—as the politicians would say—"without fear of contradiction" introduced, at what was probably a very dull conference, something best calculated to arouse the interest of street-lighting experts—and others.

Mr. Downey's trouble was that his story was too tasty a morsel to be reserved exclusively for electrical engineers. It has been served up in every newspaper from Chicago to Port Moresby, and beyond. Our original story came via South Africa.

AND AN ISLAND OF BEAUTIFUL VIRGINS

DURING his recent Queen-seeing visit, we told the story to Mr. Paul Mason, of Bougainville, who was suitably amused. His belief is that many of these fantastic furphys emanate from the natives themselves who frequently indulge in wishful-thinking about erotic delights that are supposed to exist beyond the reef or over the mountains.

He said that one group of Solomons natives had told him of an island of beautiful virgins which they had never seen but knew all about.

Only slightly less fantastic—and this time true—was one of Mr. Mason's own experiences when on the run on a Coastwatching job behind the Jap lines in Bougainville during the war. In the high mountains they came upon natives who lived entirely without water. The large party which was with Mr. Mason had perforce to do the same, and managed for some weeks without too much discomfort—so long as they kept to native foods and ate no meat or salt.

Drinking water was obtained from a growing bamboo for a native who was suffering from malaria; but the rest of them got sufficient for their requirements from native foods and from endless chewing of sugar-cane.

SENT BACK HOME

FROM Sydney *Daily Telegraph*: "We hear that the Burns Philp ship *Mangola* loaded in Lae a couple of weeks ago—2,000 dozen bottles of Australian beer which the locals wouldn't buy, apparently preferring the Moresby-made South Pacific draught beer.

"By an extraordinary coincidence, mainland breweries sent greatly increased supplies of bottled beer to New Guinea about the same time as the South Pacific brewery opened in Port Moresby."

Actually, Mrs. Flo Stewart shipped 2,200 dozen beer to her Sydney agents. We understand the shipment comprises West Australian and Victorian brands, which the Morobe folk simply refuse to drink when they can get the Moresby brew.

NOUMEA BEER IN NEW CHANNELS

ON the subject of Pacific Islands beers, it is interesting to learn that the bottled product of the Noumea brewery, to which reference was made in PIM not long ago, has now virtually disappeared from the European market in New Caledonia. The lawmakers of New Caledonia, in pursuance of their policy of liberty, equality and fraternity, decided to legalise beer-drinking by persons of native status; and, within a month, supplies of the Noumea beer, which sells at a price decidedly less than the imported article, had been diverted to native markets. Noumea Europeans report sourly that, as only imported brands are available to them, they now must either drink less or pay more.

DOGURA'S NEW BIBLE COST £120/15/-

WHEN the well-known merchant of Samarai and Lae, Mr. R. F. (Bob) Bunting, returned from England to P-NG at the end of January, he brought with him as a gift for the Anglican Mission, Dogura, Papua, a Coronation Bible which cost him 115 guineas—Sterling guineas, we imagine.

Only a very few of these Bibles were printed and 11 of them were for sale, the rest going into museums. The Bibles were hand printed and hand sewn and one of them was used by Queen Elizabeth at her Coronation.

Mr. Bunting has presented the Bible to the Dogura Cathedral in memory of the late Rev. Dennis Taylor, who lost his life at Higatura during the Mt. Lamington eruption in 1951.—H.

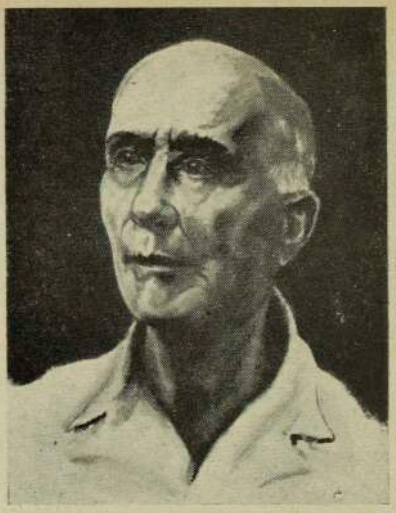
US TRAVEL AGENTS LEARN ABOUT HURRICANES

SURELY the most amusing aspect of the January near-hurricane in Fiji must have been the unhappily timed efforts of Mr. Bob Howlett, head of Fiji Visitors' Bureau, Mr. Harvey Hunt, of Hunt's Travel Agency, and Mr. Paul Harricks, Pan American's District Traffic Manager, in attempting to display the travel virtues of Fiji to a party of United States and Canadian travel agents at the height of the blow.

The main blast happily missed Viti Levu, but there was still a great deal of wind and rain, and the travel agents arrived just prior to the start of it all. But look-around plans went ahead, regardless.

Just why Fiji should be spending large sums of money bringing groups of travel agents to Fiji—even in good weather—when the Colony is incapable of housing even the routine travellers and business people from overseas, has never been clearly explained.

There is one school of thought which considers that encouraging



Charles Bernard Dupertuis has now spent 50 years in the Pacific. He was born in Switzerland, educated in France and Spain, and apart from a brief visit to his homeland in 1931, has spent the last 30 years in the New Hebrides.

Most of his work has been on various aspects of plantation management, particularly entomology. His best effort was when he went to Java and obtained the parasite "Pleurotropis", which saved the copra production in the New Hebrides. In 1939 he went to New Guinea and the Solomons to study the entomology of "nutfall", but the war interrupted this assignment. Mr. Dupertuis is now, at the age of 74, living in semi-retirement near Santo.—BRETT HILDER.

American tourists to Fiji, at this stage, is likely to damage the trade in the long run. This is especially true in regard to Suva, where there is certainly no sign of any tourist accommodation becoming available in the forseeable future.

ONE MINUTE QUIZ

1. Even if you have never visited London, you have heard of the London Mews. Situated in back streets and lanes, they are the old stables of the great houses of a by-gone age. In this day of the motor car, the mews have been converted to other purposes—often to fashionable dwelling places for the arty fraternity. You know all this, but do you know where the term "mews" originated?

2. Occasionally you hear it said of a sailor that he "came up from the fo'castle"—meaning that he started life as an ordinary seaman whose quarters (before the post-war era which has given greater consideration to the comfort of the AB at sea) were down in the bows of the ship. Although the word is pronounced "fo-castle," it should be written "forecastle." Why is this word applied to this forward part of a ship?

(Answers on Page 87)

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CHARLEY HAS A SPELL

By BILL GILL

"THE infernal racket in this town," said Charley peevishly, "is getting me down." He had to shout to make himself heard above the din of passing trams, trucks, buses and other traffic; and I, who had enjoyed his hospitality in the Islands on so many occasions, could sympathise with him.

I well remember the brooding stillness of his verandah, broken only by the rustle of the wind in the palm fronds, the murmur of the surf on the reef, and the subdued thunder of his gastric indigestion.

"I'm heading for the bush for a spell of quiet," he continued. "Leaving to-morrow to stay with an old mate of mine who's got a place out West. Angus McPhee is his name—used to be Spanish Consul until they found him out. His wife has left him on account of him being obsolete, so he'll enjoy my company."

I assured Charley he couldn't do better; and, after arranging to see him off, we parted.

* * *

On the following morning, I held his suitcase whilst he approached the booking office.

"I want a ticket," he said. "Return."

"Where to?" asked the clerk.

"Why, to here, of course! I've got to come back here, though I hate the sight of the place."

The clerk eyed him in silence for a while. Then: "You want to return here, you say. Now, tell me this, where do you want to return here *from*."

It took Charley a few moments to digest this rather involved question, but the meaning gradually dawned on him. "Why, back from McPhee's place, of course," he cried. "You don't think I'm going to camp with him *permanently*, do you?'

"Listen, mate," began the clerk with a dangerous edge to his voice. Then, to his ever-lasting credit, he swallowed his wrath and continued in a quieter tone: "This McPhee, where does he live?"

"Why, in Bellbird Gully, of course," Charley answered. "Where else, I'd like to know!"

"A return to Bellbird Gully," said the clerk "will set you back two pounds fifteen."

"*WHAT!*" shouted the outraged Charley. "Come again?"

"You heard me," said the clerk. "Two fifteen—cash."

"I won't pay it," howled Charley. "I don't want to *buy* a train, I only want to travel a little way in one. Why, I'd sooner pad the hoof than pay a price like that."

"Suit yourself, Pop!' said the clerk, indifferently.

"Now listen here, young fellah—I'll go as far as thirty bob for a ticket, not a penny more."

"Okay. There's a lot of places you can travel to for thirty bob, but Bellbird Gully isn't one of them."

"Is that so?" said Charley, bitterly. "In that case I'll walk"—and he turned away from the booking-office with a brave air of finality.

The clerk grinned derisively, and Charley knew he was licked.

"Very well, then," he said, slapping down a couple of notes. "I'll take a ticket to Bellbird Gully—*single*. And I'll never use your perishing railway again as long as I live."

He boarded the train breathing fire and brimstone, and vowing to shake the dust of Sydney from his feet forever.

* * *

A couple of days later who should I bump into but Charley!

"I thought you said wild horses wouldn't drag you back to Sydney again," said I.

"Well, they didn't," Charley replied.

"But something did," I rejoined. "Tell me."

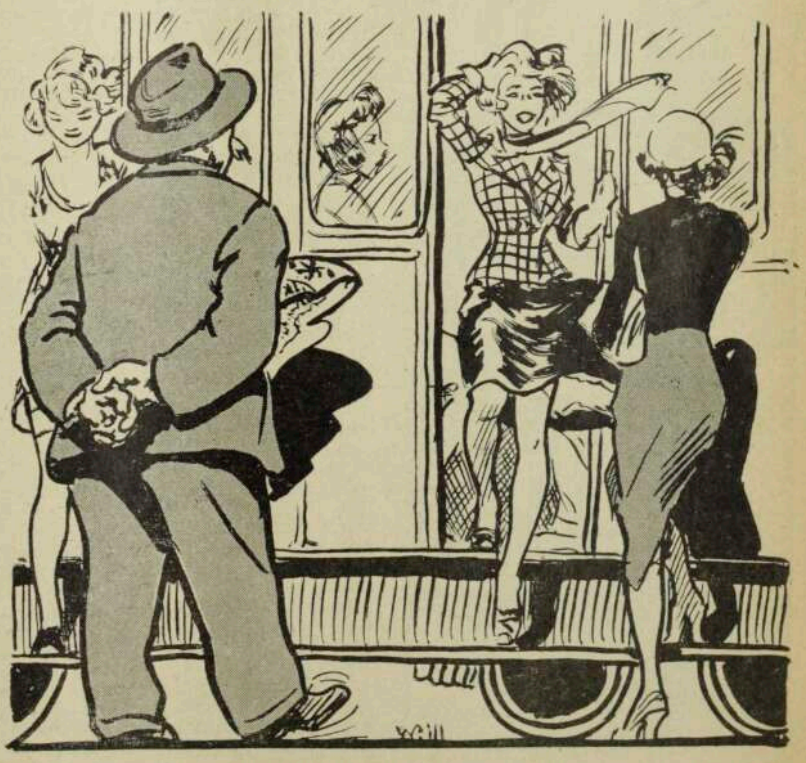
"When I arrived at Bellbird Gully," said Charley, setting down his glass, "there's McPhee all set to board the train I'd got off. 'I'm going to Tasmania,' says he. 'Just heard my wife's won the lottery there so I've decided to forgive her.

"Where to?"

You go on up to my place,' he goes on. 'You'll easily find it—just help yourself!'—and he hopped on the train and off!

"It *wasn't* so easy to find his place, at that, but I got there in the end

There's always a sea breeze . . .



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with the help of providence and an asthmatic jalopy. The house looked all right, too, set in a garden abloom with wolf-bane and stinking roger, and quiet as they come, except for the wild howling of a million mosquitoes. But it was nearly midnight before I'd rustled up a feed for myself and collected a mattress and a few blankets from different parts of the house.

"I'd hardly got my head down, it seemed, when an eldrich screech nearly lifted my scalp off. It was only a rooster, big as a Cassowary, perched on the window sill. After I'd bounced both my boots off his chest and cracked him over the skull a few times with the curtain rod, I managed to dislodge him, close the window, and get back to bed.

"I was just dropping off again when an Imperial bang rocked the house off its foundations, almost. I leaped up and poked my head through the shattered window: 'What the ——?' I began; but a young fellow interrupted me: 'Pull your head in, Pop,' says he. 'We're only blasting out a few tree stumps to clear this site for a railway marshalling yard.'

"Well the blasting went on all morning. Then along came bulldozers, graders, pneumatic drills and heaven knows what, and I started yearning for the quiet racket of the city again—so here I am.

"And there's always a sea breeze in Sydney," Charley concluded, "I get a kick out of that."

It was only a rooster.

FAMOUS EX-SULTAN TO LIVE IN SOUTH SEAS

SINCE it was officially announced that the deposed Sultan of Morocco, Sidi Mohammed Ben Youssef, is being sent by France to live in Tahiti, European and Australian newspapers have been tingling with stories about what one of them calls "this bloody, sadistic Bluebeard."

The stories are of two classes. In some of them, Ben Youssef is shown to be a focal-point of grave political danger in the Middle East, with France determined to get him as far away from North Africa as possible. Hence, Tahiti.

The other stories are concerned more with the ex-Sultan's harem—it appears that he is accompanied by numerous concubines, and that Ben Youssef governs this institution in a manner not usually followed in the South Pacific Islands.

The original report, early February, said that the ex-Sultan and his menage were going to Tahiti via Mauritius. This indicated a Qantas-TEAL air-booking. There was no record of such a booking; so the *PIM*, publishing the report, cast doubt on its authenticity.

However, a couple of weeks later, in New York, Senator Henri Lafleur, President of the French Overseas Territories Commission, on his way to the South Pacific, told the newspapers officially that the French Council of Ministers had decided to send Ben Youssef to Tahiti; and it then appeared that the ex-Sultan and party had already started the journey to the South Seas in an Air France charter plane.

THERE has been nationalist unrest in Morocco for a long time. Last August the French, having decided that Sultan Sidi Mahomed Ben Youssef was assisting an independence movement, deposed him. They permitted him to make his own domestic arrangements—under official supervision, of course. So, with a considerable establishment of wives, sons, daughters, concubines and servants, Ben Youssef took up his residence at the Napoleon Bonaparte Hotel, in Bastia, in the French Mediterranean island of Corsica.

But it has been an uneasy interlude. The nationalist movement in Morocco is active; and impetus has been given to it because, for some reason, General Franco, Dictator of Spain, who is the official head of Spanish Morocco, gives his moral support to Ben Youssef.

Some sensationalist newspapers reported, not long ago, that Franco had got into touch with the former Nazi paratroop ace, Otto Skorzeny (famous for having rescued Mussolini, by air, from a mountain-top) and offered him a fantastic sum if he could get Ben Youssef away from French control in Corsica, and back into anti-French Africa. All this disturbed the French because—as seen in a dozen places at this moment—the whole Arabic-North African world is in a ferment.

An artist's impression of Ex-Sultan Sidi Mohammed Ben Youssef, from Sydney "Daily Telegraph."

ON January 25, the French carried out a coup. Ben Youssef and his family were aroused early that morning, and conducted politely but firmly to a large plane that had been chartered from Air France. According to some reports, another plane followed with a large quantity of luggage and foodstuffs. Both planes flew directly to Brazzaville, in French Equatorial Africa; and on January 27 the party arrived at Tananarive, in Madagascar (the large island, owned by France, off the east coast of Africa).

One report said that the party included two wives, two sons, and seven concubines; another said three wives, two sons, three daughters, and 20 concubines dressed in blue robes; while other reduced the wives to one, and the concubines to eight.

Late in February, the ex-Sultan and his party were still in Madagascar, while the French were organising transport (an Air France charter was indicated) and proper housing in Tahiti.

Transport probably was a difficulty, because Air France organisation does not extend eastwards

(Continued on Page 86)

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RANCHING ON THE ISLAND OF INSCRUTABLE IMAGES

WHENEVER Easter Island is in the news, it is almost always in connection with its great stone images or its uses as a possible air-route staging point. And so, as Percy H. Edmunds is not a scientist or an aviator, the newspapers overlooked his visit to New Zealand recently.

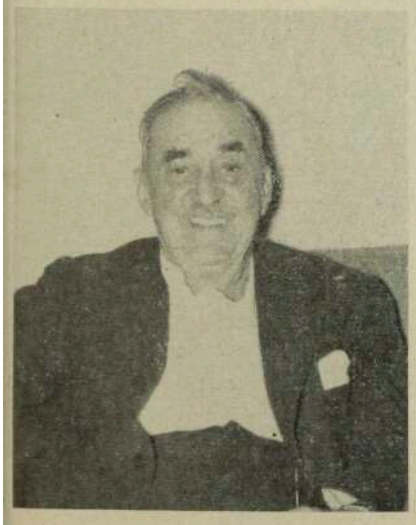
Yet for 28 years Percy Edmunds managed the 40,000-acre sheep-and-cattle station that has given the island its only real importance all through the years. What a history he could write of those 28 years—if only he felt inclined. He has an amazingly clear recollection of numerous interesting events—of trouble on the island, of droughts, of scientists calling, and of shipwrecks. The very ship that took him there in 1900 was promptly wrecked on its arrival.

The horrors of that voyage are still very vivid to him.

The Picpus Fathers seem to have been the first outsiders to introduce stock—partly for their own purposes but also to encourage the local people to develop a trade with ships needing such supplies, and perhaps with South America.

Up to their arrival in 1864, the island had been a sort of no-man's-land, and a happy hunting ground for the nitrate and guano slavers. French warships, after 1864, watched the interests of the missionaries, and the island began to develop ties with Tahiti for that reason.

By the early 1870's, John Brander, of Tahiti, who saw the business possibilities of the island, established a manager there. Alexander Salmon seems to have been the first, then later a retired French army captain, a veteran of the Crimea War, took over, and a period of great unrest developed due to his strong antagonism towards the missionaries. This culminated in the temporary evacuation of the missionaries, who went, in 1878, with 300 faithful supporters, to Mangareva. At about the same time, Brander took 500 other natives to Tahiti to work the sugar plantations at Atimaono, and also bought the stock on Easter which belonged to the missionaries.



Mr. Percy H. Edmunds. This photo was taken in Auckland during January.

IN 1888, the island was formally annexed to Chile. Possibly the Chilean Government then bought out the Brander interests—because soon afterwards a Valparaiso man with big pastoral interests, named Enrique Marlet, acquired the stock-raising concession by tender or auction. A man named Cooper was placed in charge. A few years later a London firm, Williamson, Balfour & Co., with interests in North and South America, gained the major share from Marlet, who was said to have originally paid £4,000 for the concession.

It was at this stage that Percy Edmunds' association with Easter began.

He was a young Englishman, and went to Chile after working on stations in the Argentine. At Valparaiso, in 1899, he met Marlet and was persuaded to take the job. At that time, like most people, he knew nothing about this 12-by-5 miles island that lies over 2,000 miles west of Valparaiso—and there was precious little enlightenment in the encyclopedias which he consulted.

But the following year he was on his way, in the chartered Chilean Government schooner *Sarita*, which had been launched only three years previously.

No adjectives, says Edmunds, can adequately describe the discomforts of that long voyage. The ship was filthy, the food frightful, and he was very seasick. The island was overshot but was located by the Swedish skipper and his German mate after a few days of beating about in bad weather. She had scarcely made her anchorage, before she was ashore, dragging her anchor in a squall. She become a total loss.

Only regular contact with the island then—as now—was by the supply boat once each year, in mid-Summer. But, luckily for *Sarita's* crew—Japanese, Polynesian, Chilean, Scandinavian—a passing vessel called and took them with her. Six months later, the British warships *Flora* and *Cambrin* called, picked up the master and mate who had remained, and landed them at Suva.

On his arrival at the island Edmunds found a human population of about 200 (which rose to twice that during his 28 years "reign" and is now about 700), a great many cattle of indeterminate strain, and about 5,000 Merino sheep. Each Summer, wool, dried meat, hides and tallow were shipped away. But prices declined and in 1904 the company decided to abandon operations, sending orders that as many cattle as possible were to be killed. About 2,000 were shot before Edmunds left, returning to England for a holiday. Three years later, operations were again commenced, there then being some 400 cattle. This number rose during the years to 23,000 head and 7,000 sheep—drought and lack of food being the limiting factors.

In 1932, three years after Edmunds departed for the last time, there were said to be 30,000 head of cattle on the island. Marlet died about 1910.

PERCY EDMUNDS travelled to Valparaiso every five to seven years for a look at the outside world. He recalls that in 1921 he returned to the island aboard a yacht recently mentioned in PIM and now in Sydney—*Cariad I*, now owned by A. W. Flitton, of South Africa. She was then the *Fidra*, which had been purchased for £5,000 from Lord Dunrevan, by a group of Swedish reserve Army and Navy officers. One of them later wrote a book—*Around the World in Fidra*—which contains a photo of Edmunds aboard the vessel. But the nautical history of Easter Island is a considerable story in itself.

Somewhere in the mid-1920's a Mr. Charlie Daley gained an important interest in the pastoral company, and it was he who took over from Edmunds in 1929, but in the late 1930's the company became a public one with its shares quoted on the Valparaiso stock-market, Williamson, Balfour & Co. continuing to have a substantial interest.

For some years now, an Australian named Jack Lord has managed the holding. In recent years a radio station, operated by the Chile administration, has been established and the present manager makes daily contact with Daley, who appears to be the overall manager, at Valparaiso. From him Percy Edmunds has lately heard that as from January 1, of this year, the pastoral concession was nationalised by the Chilean Government. The present company may, perhaps, continue to manage it on the Government's behalf. They were given a 20-year concession in 1944.

Percy Edmunds has lived in quiet retirement in Tahiti since he left the island in 1929—apart from one trip back to Valparaiso on business, a trip home to England, and an occasional visit to his grown-up family in New Zealand. He returned to Tahiti from NZ in February.—*JIM SHORTALL.*

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How Segi Rose and Fell

Personal War Tragedy of Harold Markham

MANY famous people—especially world-travellers and writers—will learn with sorrow that Harold Aubrey Markham, aged and sick and poor, died in Sydney on February 8. In the two decades between the World Wars, H. A. Markham became famous as the South Pacific's finest host, and for the beauty of the plantation home he personally built on the Morovo Lagoon, in the Solomon Islands.

Before the turn of the century, Harold Markham was probably the youngest quartermaster in the Union Castle Line. But his post on the *Northam Castle* did not satisfy his itchy feet, and he left the service in South Africa. He was successively officer in charge of the Durban fire brigade, and the Kimberley fire brigade. The latter job included some police duties. Markham used to bash the side of his hands on wood, to toughen them for the frequent occasions when he had to handle criminals—illicit diamond buyers made the pace in Kimberley's crime list then.

Came the Boer War, and Markham went through the campaign in a Light Horse regiment. He wandered around and then he went to Australia as quartermaster of the Aberdeen White Star liner *Nineveh*. In Sydney, in 1912, he agreed to go to Ontong Java (Southern Solomons) to take charge of a Lever's trade-store and copra-buying agency.

So the Islands "got" him. He was then in his middle thirties, and seeking an anchorage. Ontong Java is a Polynesian outlier, and Markham met an attractive Polynesian girl, and settled down there with her—after a few years he was called "the uncrowned king of Ontong Java."

WHILE a trader in Ontong Java, Markham decided to plant up his own plantation in the Solomons; and he chose, as the site of his new home, a very beautiful place on Njai Passage, at the south-west end of the Marovo Lagoon. He not only planted coconuts—he personally designed and, over a period of six or seven years, built his famous homestead, Segi.

Segi had everything in the way of amenities and beauty—a private wharf, crushed coral roads and pathways, lawns and gardens, a 6-holes golf-course, even a quarter-acre of English clover maintained at a cost of £200 per annum, so that the owner could walk about in comfort with bare feet. The house was surrounded by a very deep verandah, and was planned with an eye always to comfort and coolness.

After the lapse of some seven years, in the early 'Twenties, when the palms were big enough to give an income, Markham sold his Ontong Java place to "Tas" Walton, and settled down at Segi, to live the life he loved best—complete independence, and dispensing hospitality to countless friends and visitors.

Markham bought from Jack London the famous yacht *Lily*, and

BELOW: The people who returned to BSIP in March, 1946, with Harold Markham (left to right) G. R. Younger, A. Olsen, Lieut. A. M. Andreson, R. Laycock, H. Markham, Mrs. Georgina Seton, Mr. C. W. Seton. Front row: J. S. Mill, O. Bergin, T. H. Elkington, R. C. Symes, G. W. Johnson.

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ran her for years before he sold her to "Bob" McKerlie, of Malasogo, Vella Lavella. (Mr. McKerlie now has a hotel in Bathurst Street, Sydney). Markham's one daughter by his Ontong Java wife was named Lily, after the yacht. *Lily* was wrecked while in McKerlie's ownership.

All kinds of famous and rich people were guests of Harold Markham at Segi. Among them was the American yeast millionaire, Fleischman, who travelled in one of the most magnificent yachts of that time, the *Canargo*. The American loved Markham's home; and, one day, he said:

"Harold, I'll trade you *Canargo* for Segi.'

"Nothing doing," said Markham. "I would not sell Segi at any price."

Every voyager who sailed through the Solomons in the 'Thirties had stories to tell of Segi. To know Markham was to become his friend, for all time. He appeared in many books.

WHEN the Japs invaded the Solomons in 1942, all Europeans were evacuated, and Markham spent four miserable years in Australia, and doing war work.

Early in 1946, after the Japs had surrendered, the BSI plantation-owners gathered in Sydney, clamorous to get back to their homes. Finally, they sailed off as the scratch crew of the mission ship *Southern Cross*—here is the group photograph which the PIM published in March, 1946, Markham among them.

It was a heartbreaking experience for all of them. Their plantations had either gone back to jungle, or were smashed. Unlike the Papua-New Guinea planters, they got no war damage compensation. None was worse hit than Markham.

The war had rolled right over his property—the great battle of Munda was actually fought around Morovo Lagoon. Segi's famous homestead had been literally blown to pieces.

Markham, now over 70, had neither the means nor the heart to start all over again. He hovered around for a while, and then he said goodbye to the famous place of his dreams. It was one of the real tragedies of the war.

He accepted a position from the Western Pacific High Commission, and was administrative officer at Christmas Island for a couple of years. But he was a sick man, and his spirit was broken. He came back to Sydney, and made his home with his daughter, Lily, now a widow. He was bed-ridden for four or five years.

. . .

I HAD written the first paragraph of this article, and was trying to piece together the story of H. A. Markham's life, when a voice called me on the telephone. "Could you tell me, please, how I could get in touch with H. A. Markham, who used to have Segi plantation, in the Solomons?" I told him that the old man died, at 78, on February 8.

He was silent a moment, and then he said: "I have been away for years—I have been waiting for my return to Sydney to look him up."

He was Captain Harold Robinson, who used to run Burns Philp ships to the Solomons over 30 years ago, and who then was a very close friend of H. A. Markham. It was he who gave me most of the foregoing details of Markham's early life.—RWR.

What is a Spinet?

THE young daughter of an Islands resident, attending a Melbourne school, sat for a music exam. and had to write an essay on Johann Sabastian Bach. Apart from his use of a spinet, she had evidently been most impressed by the unusual size of his family. "Bach was a great musician," she wrote. "He had 21 children and every day he practised on a spinster."

: Mr. H. A. Ragg has been appointed Director of Public Works, Fiji, in succession to Mr. J. P. Bruen, who recently resigned. Mr. Ragg, who was born in the Colony, has been Deputy Director since 1952.

MONKEY BUSINESS

A young man named Cholmondeley Colquhoun
Once kept as a pet a babolquhoun;
His mother said, "Cholmondeley
I don't think its colmondeley
To feed your babolquhoun with a spolquhoun."

PIM CROSSQUIZ NO. 49

Solution on Page 84.

ACROSS

1.—Who wrote an autobiography under the title of "Melodies and Memories"?

7.—What was the name of G. K. Chesterton's best-known character?

9.—Bronze is an alloy of copper and . . . ?

10.—"No . . . . is so general which admits not some exception"

11.—Who composed "The Count of Luxembourg"?

13.—In which country is the volcano Mt. Hecla?

15.—What is the title given to a prince of Afghanistan?

16.—In which State is America's most famous speedway?

17.—What do we call the stomach lining of cattle?

19.—What lizard is remarkable for its power to change colour to resemble its surroundings?

21.—Which former New South Wales teacher has written many works concerning the psychology of sex?

22.—Where was St. Francis born?

DOWN

1.—Which ancient Egyptian queen is best known to this generation of all the great beauties of the past?

2.—Which of Jonathan Swift's characters maintained that boiled eggs should be cracked at the small end?

3.—Who invented the 3-colour process of colour printing?

4.—What feminine christian name means "lovable"?

5.—What laudatory adjective was applied to Richard I of England?

6.—In which English village is the Grand National run?

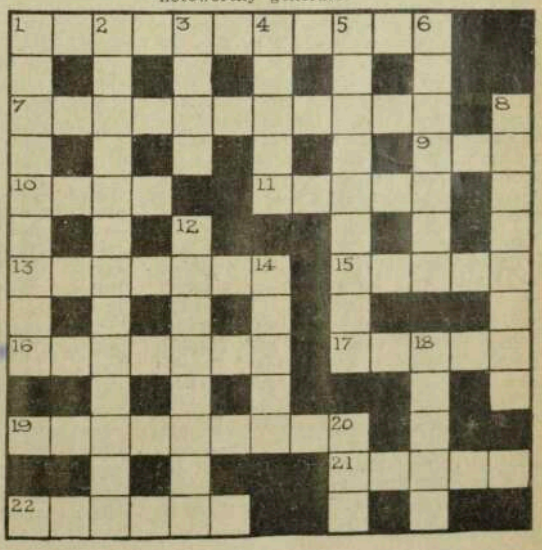
8.—Who is considered the most gifted writer of fairy tales the world has known?

12.—In the Middle Ages, what name did the Crusaders give their non-Christian enemies?

14.—To whom was Sir Henry Newbolt referring in his poem when he said "An' drum them up the channel as we drummed them long ago"?

18.—What fibre obtained from the immense leaves of a Mexican tree is used very extensively in making carpets, sacking, etc.?

20.—Who was one of Napoleon's most noteworthy generals?



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MAKE USE OF LOCAL GREEN VEGETABLES

(Extracts from talk broadcast from ZJV by the Nutrition Section of the South Pacific Health Service).

There are numerous green leaves both wild and cultivated commonly used for food throughout the Pacific Islands.

Generally speaking the young leaves, shoots or fronds are used, and cooked in a small quantity of water or coconut cream. (Recipes for coconut cream or lolo have been published previously in PIM.)

Young dalo (or taro) leaves are one of the best local greens and provide a good source of vitamins. They should be well cooked and the water changed during cooking, to ensure the removal of an irritating substance. A very common way of serving young taro leaves is in a dish called "rourou" in Fiji and "palusami" in Samoa.

This is a very popular dish in all parts of Fiji and other islands of the Pacific. To make it, cook the young dalo leaves in a little water, discard and add a thick lolo, or coconut cream, just before serving. A little onion is sometimes cooked with the leaves for flavouring.

If the coconut cream and young leaves are boiled together the coconut cream is inclined to curdle and this spoils the appearance of the dish.

In Samoa palusami is prepared in the following way:

PALUSAMI

3 bunches taro leaves (about 60 leaves).
1 teaspoon salt.
2 cups coconut cream (from 4 coconuts).
3 young banana leaves.
3 breadfruit leaves.

Wash the taro leaves, remove the stem and tough veins of the leaves. Divide the large leaves into several pieces. Arrange about 20 leaves in the palm of the left hand, forming a cup to hold the coconut cream. Pour about ½ cup coconut cream into the leaves. Fold the leaves over each other to keep in the coconut cream. Put this bundle into a piece of banana leaf about 6 by 8 inches in size. Over-wrap the edges and place on the shiny side of a breadfruit leaf. Overlap the edges of the breadfruit leaf, tuck the stem through the midrip of the leaf to fasten it. Steam or bake for about 2 hours. Before serving remove the breadfruit leaf but not the banana leaf. Serve from the banana leaf hot as a vegetable.

In many island recipes, banana and breadfruit leaves are used for wrapping foods and these leaves take the place of parchment cooking paper. Greens, fish and meat are placed in the leaf and made into a bundle which is then steamed, baked or boiled. Foods cooked in this way keep their flavour and nutritive value.

Bele is another good green vegetable. It grows as a shrub and is a good substitute for spinach. It is often planted between other crops in the gardens. The plant lasts for 3 or more years and it grows to about 6 feet in height.

Bele grows easily from cuttings or seed and thrives best in rich or well manured soil. When planting, place the cuttings in rows and the plants can then be staked for support if necessary. The plant has fleshy green lobed leaves and yellow flowers which are very similar to cotton and hibiscus. The young leaves and shoots are usually cooked and eaten with taro or other root vegetables.

Chinese Cabbage is a good substitute for English cabbage and is nearly always obtainable from the market. It is easily recognised by its white stems and bright green leaves.

This is a vegetable which is easily grown at home from seed. Sow the seeds in a seed box containing well-worked soil or in a well-prepared bed. Cover the seeds with ¼ to ½ an inch of soil, press down and water thoroughly. When the plants are big enough to handle, transplant into beds, setting the rows 18 inches apart. A dull or light rainy day is the best for transplanting.

When the plants are well established give them a dressing of blood and bone manure using about 3 oz. for each square yard, or if available, 2 oz. of sulphate of ammonia or nitrate of soda per square yard. This will help the plants to be tender and to grow quickly.

FRIED CHINESE CABBAGE

Wash the China cabbage, take out the stem portions, chop roughly. Melt a little dripping or lard in a frying pan and fry a handful of the cabbage at a time for about a minute. Scrape to the side of the pan and continue to fry handfuls of the cabbage until all is cooked. Serve very hot.

There are many other useful greens some of which you may have growing in your garden already. The young shoots of the kumala (or sweet potato) plant make a good spinach and these provide a source of vitamins A and C. Young tapioca leaves are used in the same way and are known to be one of the richest sources of vitamin C. They are also rich in iron and calcium.

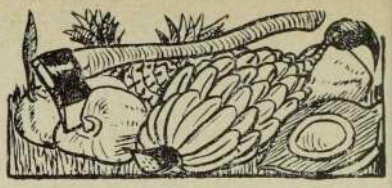
SWEET POTATO LEAF SALAD

1½ lbs. kumala leaves or 2½ cups cooked leaves.
Pinch salt.
2 medium sized tomatoes.
2 hard boiled eggs.
6 tablespoons French dressing.
Grated coconut.

Wash and remove the tougher stems from the kumala leaves. Place in a pan and cover with the lid, do not add any water. When the leaves start to cook, remove the lid, add salt and cook until leaves are tender. Drain and chill thoroughly.

Slice eggs and tomatoes, arrange around the edge of a flat dish—and place the cooked kumala leaves in the centre. Season with French dressing and decorate with grated coconut. Allow to stand for about quarter of an hour before serving. One large onion sliced or spring onions can be used as a change from the eggs.

The tips of the young green shoots of the pumpkin plant are delicious added to salads or chopped up and added to soup.



RECIPE CORNER

READERS are invited to send in recipes using Pacific Islands ingredients or ingredients readily obtainable in the Islands. Ten shillings will be paid for each one used.

PAW PAW YEAST

(Sometimes for no apparent reason, bread refuses to rise in the Tropics. This yeast is guaranteed by the reader who sent it, to have the kick of a mule.)

Boil down a whole paw paw including skin and seeds and strain the liquid. For a loaf containing four cups of flour, save 1½ cups of the paw paw liquid; add to this, when cold, 1½ level tablespoons of sugar, 1½ tablespoons of flour and 1 teaspoon of dried yeast. Mix well, put in a bottle, cover for use next morning.

With some yeast left in the bottle, only 1 tablespoon of flour and 1 tablespoon of sugar to each cup of paw paw liquid will be required for the next lot.

Boiled down yam, like boiled down potato also makes a good yeast. The paw paw, yam and potato all soften and preserve the bread. —"Pandanus" (NG).

TROPICAL FRUIT PUDDING

1 cup fresh breadcrumbs.
1 cup mixed fruit—or what is available, sultanas, etc.
1 cup mashed bananas.
1 tablespoon brown sugar (white will do).
1 tablespoon milk.
½ level teaspoon carb. soda, pinch salt.

Dissolve the soda in the milk. Mix all the ingredients together and steam for 3½ hours. Serve hot with sweet sauce, brandy sauce or ice cream.

This pudding tastes full of butter but is not "heavy" like a suet fruit pudding. —Mrs. M.S. (NG).

Solution to Crossquiz From Page 83

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Ex-Sultan For South Seas

(From page 80)

beyond New Caledonia. Air France planes run regularly from South-east Asia, via Brisbane, to New Caledonia. A land plane could get beyond that point, to Fiji; but, after that, a flyingboat is required.

MEANWHILE, some newspapers really let themselves go on the history of Ben Youssef's harem in Morocco. *France Soir*, which has the biggest daily newspaper circulation in France, reported early in February that the Sultan once learned that some half-dozen of his concubines had been seduced; and, immediately thereafter, seven palace servants were arrested and the angry Sultan gave them the choice between revolver bullets and lions. Officials interceded, and the seven were sent to prison for life. Here are some more juicy morsels from the same newspaper (*France Soir*):

One junior officer of the Sultan's Imperial Guard who seduced a concubine was sentenced to 1,000 blows of the whip, at the rate of 100 lashes a day. At the end of three days and 300 lashes he died.

Once, when the Sultan sent male servants to flog some women for "a peccadillo," the men "were conquered by their charms, and, tossing aside the implements of torment, subjected the pretty victims to a more tender treatment. The monarch found them in *flagrante delicto*.

The women were whipped while the Sultan laughed at their screams, and they were then thrown into foul cells, where they were kept on starvation rations. The men were also whipped and then chained to the walls of their cells.

HOWEVER, when a prominent personage is dragged down, the sensational newspapers are prone to publish imaginative stories of this description; and these colourful pictures of life in a Sultan's palace should be well salted before being taken, and not accepted as an indication of what is likely to happen in Tahiti.

Some writers, in recent articles, have had good things to say about Ben Youssef, and have presented him as a courageous Moroccan patriot who was prepared to sacrifice his throne and privileges in the cause of freedom and independence.

Life in Tahiti always has been colourful and picturesque, and it would appear the establishment of the ex-Sultan there will not detract from those qualities.

Mr. Harold Cooper, who was Information Officer in Fiji during the war and who later became Public Relations Officer in Nigeria, has retired from the Colonial Service. He now is living in America, and is active in broadcasting and television.

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Answers to One Minute Quiz From Page 78

1. A mews was originally the place where the King kept his hunting hawks confined—or mewed up. The first Royal Mews was near Charing Cross, but in Henry VIII's day the Royal stables burned down and Henry put his horses in with his hawks. Hawking declined in favour, and mews became associated with horses. When new stables were built behind Buckingham Palace for George IV, about 200 years later, the name still stuck. The horses which Queen Elizabeth uses on State occasions are stabled in the same Royal Mews.

2. When England first engaged in naval battles, the ships in use were only modifications of the old Viking ships and the most deadly weapon was still the bow and arrow. To enable the archers to operate, castle-like platforms were built at bow, stern and sometimes amidships. "Forecastle' is still the name given to that part of the bow of a ship.

Construction of the New Bank of New Zealand building in Apia on the corner of Beach Road and Post Office Road, next to the new Methodist Church, has commenced. At a ceremony in January, the President of the Apia Chamber of Commerce, Mr. H. Gow, turned the first sod. The new building, construction of which is supervised by Mr. L. A. Pearson, who built the adjoining church, will be a two-storied concrete structure, estimated to cost about £38,000.

Micronesia to Have Commercial Radio

FIRST commercial broadcasting station to be established anywhere in the Pacific Islands outside Hawaii is opening at Guam. A private-station monopoly has been granted to an American business man, Mr. Harry Engel, for an undisclosed period.

Programme material will be under certain supervision.

Engel, who may later establish a television station at Guam, thinks the monopoly will be a highly profitable venture from the advertising point of view. Guam has a population of about 70,000, including 20,000 Americans and 10,000 Filipinos; in addition, the station (which will supplant the present Armed Forces Radio Service station), will serve most of the rest of the Trust Territory of Micronesia through its transmitter KUAM.

Mr. D. T. Lloyd, Senior Surveyor and Lands Officer in Sierra Leone, has been appointed Deputy Director of Lands in Fiji. He is 36 and is a graduate of Bristol University.

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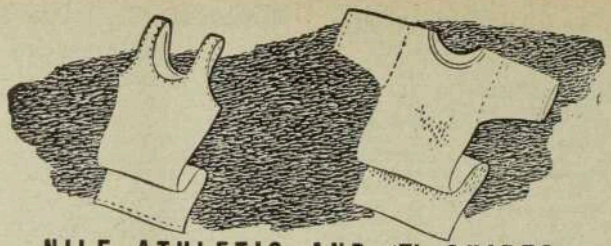

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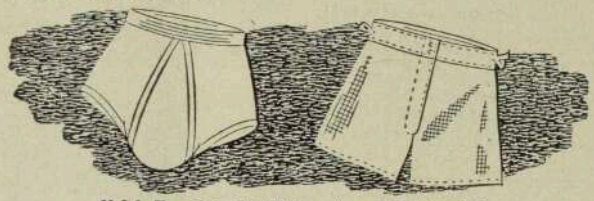

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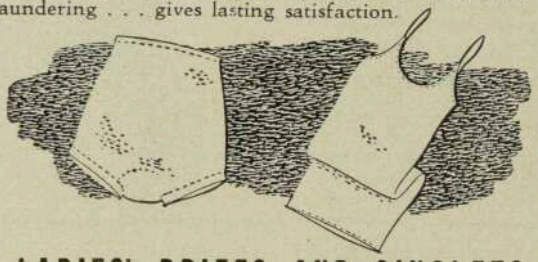

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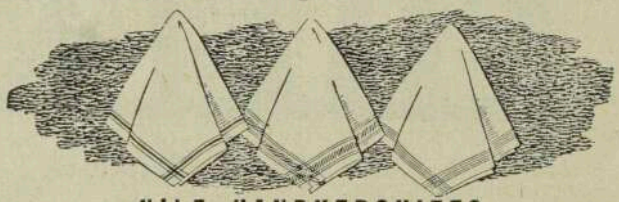

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McDonald-Yates Wedding

Mr. and Mrs. K. McDonald, leaving the Roman Catholic church, Port Moresby, after their wedding on February 13. The bride was formerly Miss H. Yates.
—Photo by Papuan Prints.

Mr. N. Pearson, who is to succeed Mr. C. S. Reay as Fiji Commissioner of Labour, has arrived in Suva.

SAMOAN SENATORS TO GO TO SCHOOL

New Governor's Plans for Development

GOVERNOR Richard Barrett Lowe, addressing East Samoa Senate and House of Representatives, spoke of some agricultural and governmental reforms which might aid development.

Mr. Lowe is impressed by the wealth which the Reparation Estates bring to Western Samoa and has noted that there are large undeveloped areas on Tutuila and other islands of Eastern Samoa which might be similarly developed, by his Government. He said encouragement would be given to the planting of cocoa and coffee by owners of suitable land. The Department of Agriculture would make full use of more trained Samoans, to work more closely with local village authorities.

To help E. Samoa to help itself, there will be a number of administrative changes. Mr. John Cool had been appointed a liaison officer between the Fono and the Governor's Office. The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House might be given ex-officio positions in the Samoan Affairs Office, to keep them fully *au fait* with the day-to-day operations of the Government.

The Governor suggested that, to familiarise Senators and Representatives more fully with their duties and responsibility, a training institute should be established after legislative elections next November.

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WHY PAWPAW IS NOT NZ-ERS' NO. 1 DISH

THE export of papaya (or paw-paw) from the Islands to New Zealand is a very limited trade. Australia can, of course, grow her own. Not everyone likes the fruit, but it is popular with many Europeans in the Islands.

In the United States, Hawaiian pawpaws bring from 30 to 90 cents per pound weight—the growers realising a profit of about 4 to 6 cents per pound. The industry is being expanded by a company which has just established a 50-acre, 25,000-tree orchard on Hawaii Island, from which it expects to harvest 150,000 lbs of pawpaws per month, when the quick-growing trees reach full bearing.

One reason why paw-paws are not seen much in New Zealand is that they do not travel as well as bananas, oranges or pineapples. They do not taste the same after they have travelled, either.

Pawpaws grown in Queensland, shipped all the way to Melbourne, for example, and eaten there, are a sad disappointment to people who are used to picking them off the tree in the Islands and eating them at once.

Hawaii is fortunate in having 150 million Americans within trading distance because in those 150 millions there is a proportion who can afford pawpaw at 8/- a pound and who will pay correspondingly high prices for other exotic foods.

The number of people in Australasia who desire or who would pay for these luxury foods is small. Almost all of the fruits and nuts produced in Hawaii for the US market can be grown also in Australia—but the average Australian could not care less. Which probably proves nothing except that the food habits of the Australasians and the Americans are poles apart.

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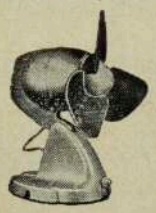

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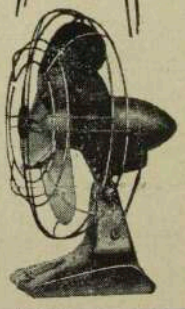

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Iron Industry For Fiji Maybe, Someday

Experts Survey of Viti Levu Deposits

A LONG report by the Senior Geologist of Fiji, concerning iron deposits in Viti Levu, was released in mid-February.

The report contains many technical terms and involved official terminology but, in brief, states that:

- There are four deposits of high grade iron in Viti Levu: at Tukeriki, and Nawau, in Nadronga province; four miles S-E of Nadi; and at the headwaters of the Wainivesi River and Wainivola Creek. Low grade ore is found near the Queen's Road, north of Momi Village.
- The iron ore in the high grade deposits is exceptionally pure. It is estimated that from 20,000 to 30,000 tons exist in the form of boulders on the surface of the ground and that it would be easy, by means of a magnetic survey to detect deposits below the surface. (The presence of iron distorts magnetic instruments and thus makes it possible to map an outline of areas containing lodes).
- In view of lack of loading facilities for export of ore, and expenditure involved in working and locating further deposits, it is considered unlikely that the iron deposits could be economically worked as individual claims; the known deposits would have to be worked as a whole.
- Although there is an increasing market for high-grade iron ore in USA and Europe—and the ore has been transported economically by sea as far as 4,500 miles—transportation costs, harbour installations and loading facilities are factors to be reckoned with and "small producers should secure a market before proceeding too far with mining activities."

EDITORIAL NOTE

Doubtless, the iron deposits of Fiji have to be examined and plotted someday, but whether they warrant very much being spent on them at the present time, is questionable. In 10 or 20 years, when something may be done to exploit them, another expert will be sent to look them over and the findings of all previous experts ignored. In the meantime, of course, it is nice to know that the deposits are there.

Large steel companies do not usually buy iron ore from another country; they own the mines and the ships which transport the ore and wharf facilities for handling it.

For years it has been suggested that New Caledonia, which lies about 700 miles off the Eastern coast of Australia, could supply iron ore for Australian smelters. Ships already are on a regular run between Noumea and Newcastle to lift coal from the latter for the nickel smelters of New Caledonia. They could back-load iron-ore from the large deposits of Caledonian iron which are not now being worked.

Australia has not been interested, although the trade balance with New Caledonia is embarrassingly in her favour. The distance between New Caledonia and Newcastle is many times shorter than that between any of the Australian smelters and Yampi Sound or other iron deposits in North Australian waters.

Before the war the Japanese had a concession to mine ore in New Caledonia; in just two months in 1939 they shipped 24,000 tons to Japan. They have not been permitted to return to New Caledonia.

The Japs are probably still interested in New Caledonia's iron. And they would probably be interested in Fiji's iron, but apart from that, the chance of an iron industry in Fiji, at present, seems remote. It is a business singularly unsuited to the "small man" and if anything can be done it would have to be at top Government level.

Probably, if any interest decided to dig out and export the ore, the Government would slap on an export tax. That is how it rewarded the people who are exporting manganese!

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ONE MAN THEY COULD NOT HANG

A Tale of Old Levuka

By F. J. RYAN

TO be marched past your coffin, to stand by your open grave while part of the burial service was read over you, and then to be hanged by the neck, is an experience few men have lived through, to tell the tale.

It was just one of the many things that could have happened only in Fiji. It happened in Levuka, in the days of good King Cakobau. The prisoner, a rough sailor man, had committed murder and was duly sentenced to be hanged. But (records a resident of those days) "the job was done by amateurs and was badly bungled." It was true that he was hanged by the neck, but not hanged until he was dead.

Those early reports do not seem to have mentioned the name of the prisoner. Probably, he was the least important among those present on that interesting occasion. Though important enough, no doubt, to the poor wretch who, in that fresh morning scene, was looking across the calm water at the tall ship which for him had indeed dropped its last anchor.

The victim's name is also not mentioned. But, strangely enough, it crops up in the reminiscences of a Treasury official, a Mr. J. Chisholm, who states the victim was a native of sorts by the name of Muvi, who had been stabbed to the heart in a quarrel on a vessel called the *Marion Rennie*, then lying in Levuka Harbour. The Treasury was apparently interested in the affair because the knife had passed through a wad of Fiji notes that the victim had in his breast pocket and which, says Mr. Chisholm, "were in a fearful state with coagulated blood, and were brought to the Treasury to be exchanged." "Some persons of a morbid state of mind wished to buy them," remarked the Treasury official, "but they were burned."

In the Government which had been formed by King Cakobau in 1872 the members of the Cabinet, with the exception of the King and the Viceroy, were Europeans or Americans. A commentator of those days described it as an honest effort on the part of the Executive "to rule" while Cakobau "reigned." In this case the accused, having been found guilty by a jury of his countrymen, the King, on the advice of his ministers, signed the death warrant.

THE first hitch came when all had assembled at 7 a.m., on May 27, for the execution. The Sheriff who was to carry it out was, however, not among those present. He sent word to say that his wife was dying and he could not leave her. There being no deputy sheriff the execution was postponed.

During the day, efforts were made to have the sentence commuted on the grounds that, as the King's warrant fixed May 27 for the execution, it could not apply to any subsequent date. The Court impeached the Sheriff for neglect of duty, appointed a deputy sheriff, and ordered him to execute the King's warrant at six o'clock the next morning.

The gruesome preliminaries were again enacted, and the hangman, his face masked, proceeded with his task. He then found that the rope, which had been hanging in the tropical rain all day and night, had swollen to such an extent that it

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would not move freely in the noose. By this time the "amateur" hangman was no doubt only too anxious to get the unpleasant business over as quickly as possible and, trusting to the six foot drop to tighten it around the murderer's neck, he slipped the rope over the man's head and pulled the bolt. The prisoner dropped.

For ten minutes not a muscle moved. The man was apparently dead, and the crowd began to move away. Suddenly he began to struggle. He got one hand loose and, seizing the rope above his head, began to pull himself up. Then, in a husky voice he called out: "Shoot me! I cannot die like this!"

The chief of police cut the rope and the man was led back to his cell by the Chaplain.

What had happened was that the rope had simply caught the tip of his chin and the back of his neck, and left the wind-pipe untouched. While the drop had rendered him unconscious, it did not interfere with his breathing through the nostrils. He said his first sensation when he recovered was that he was drowning.

An hour after he had been cut down the condemned man was eating a hearty breakfast of beefsteak, which had been prepared for the hangman. The Premier, in the meantime, had decided to take the case to the King, and the sentence was commuted.

But this was not the end of the difficulties which the bungled hanging involved. With Government's permission, the chief of police had drawn up a will under which the prisoner had left £25 to the Chaplain for his kindness to him, and £25 to the Wesleyan Missionary Society. Sitting "in banco" the Chief Justice, Sir Charles St. Julian, decided that the man was legally dead, and ordered the will to be executed. This was done, but the money bequeathed to the Chaplain and the Missionary Society was returned to the prisoner.

He subsequently left Fiji for San Francisco, and the Rev. N. Nettleton, who wrote an early account of the episode, stated that when last heard of by the Chaplain he was doing well in a small business he was conducting under another name.

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AS a footnote to "Through the Rewa Delta" (January PIM):—
It should be remembered that the usual route for launches and yachts includes the passage through the Rewa Canal. Constructed long before the arrival of Europeans in Fiji, the canal is about two miles long and 60 feet wide. It was cut with wonderful engineering skill to accommodate the largest of the old-time Fijian canoes. The objective was to shorten, by 20 miles, the journey between the headquarters of the two great chiefdoms, Rewa and Bau.

Many years ago a writer pointed out that for this immense task the implements were nothing more than "staves to dig the ground, hands to shovel it up, and baskets to carry it away."

The Rewa Canal is a useful Fijian illustration to support the well-stated case argued by Patricia Matheson (January PIM) in defence of the Tongans. The legend of traditional indolence among the South Pacific islanders is part of the claptrap kept alive mainly by superficial tourist-writers in the South Seas.

The truth is that the islanders have always had to work fairly hard—and in places like Fiji very hard—to produce sufficient food. Further, in all the low islands life has always been a struggle for bare existence. Again, the amount of work put into the building of houses and large and small canoes, with only the most primitive implements and no metals (in pre-European days) should have disposed of the legend at the start.

One reason for the illusion of idleness among island peoples was that, like many other tropical races, they wisely adapted their working hours to the climate. The hardest work was done in the cooler hours of the day, and many strenuous tasks would be reserved for the cooler months of the year. Labour was thus ruled by the sun and not, as in Europe and America, by the clock.—J.K.S.

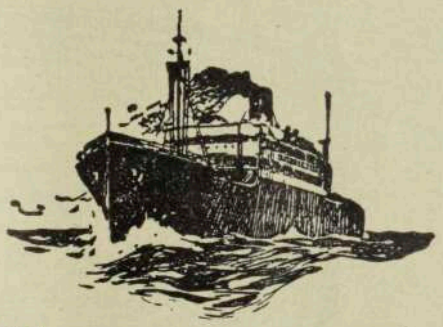
In order to study methods of improving work and organisation of Fiji Government Departments, representatives of the London firm of business consultants, Urwick Orr and Partners, have arrived in the Colony.

Mr. W. J. Drysdale is the new Commissioner of Inland Revenue in Fiji. He has been acting in the post since Mr. R. B. Ackland retired last year. Mr. Drysdale went to Fiji from Australia in 1948 as Assistant Commissioner of Inland Revenue.

Remember Sir Ernest Shackleton, famous Polar explorer? This advertisement appeared in *The Times* in 1901: "Men wanted for Hazardous Journey. Small wages, bitter cold, long months of complete darkness, constant danger, safe return doubtful. Honor and recognition in case of success.—*Sir Ernest Shackleton.*" Union bosses of to-day may be surprised to know that he could have filled his complement ten times over.

At the end of 1953 the amount held in the Fiijan Development Fund to the credit of Native Fijian copra producers was £321,154. The money comes from a deduction of £10 a ton from the price received for copra and can be be drawn by the contributors to finance development or welfare schemes approved by the Fiji Development Fund Board.

¶ To carry out a study of the Fiji national income for the Fiji Government, Miss Carleen O'Loughlin, of the Australian National University's Department of Economics, recently arrived in Suva.



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To Nursing School in America

These four girls from American Samoa, Rufo Suiaunoa, Sinira Talatonu, Repeka Isara, and Ofeira Tuliau, are graduates of the High School of American Samoa, and are now bound for the United States to train as nurses at the Kaiser Foundation School of Nursing, Oakland, Cal.

—Photo by Pan American Prints.

¶ New Zealand author, Ronald Syme, during his sojourn in the Cook Islands during the past six months, has stimulated great interest in the old songs and chants of the Cook Islands and in singing in general. Prior to his departure from the Group in January he donated a cup to stimulate competition between villages and islands. A tape recording which he made for use by the BBC, caused particular interest. Singers from four Rarotongan villages, ranging in ages from 9 to 70, performed under the supervision of Snr. Sgt. Nia Rua, with Syme providing the commentary. The effort was supported by the Further Education Department. Mr. Syme, now on his way to England and America to arrange further programme material for radio and television, plans to return about August. At a send-off party attended by the Resident Commissioner, Mr. Nevill, speeches of appreciation were made in acknowledgment of the assistance given by Mr. Syme and the interest stimulated amongst the population in various activities.

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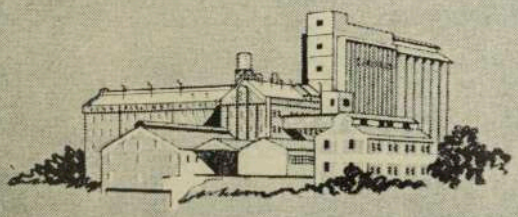

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TOO COLOURFUL PICTURES OF FIJI

Unhappy Effect of Royal Visit

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, Feb. 8.

SOME of the publicity given Fiji from the Royal visit does not present accurate picture. Some splash the "Idyllic South Sea Island" and there are people in Fiji who are a little dismayed at the exotic, colourful picture of Fijian pageantry and carefree plenty that is being built up by films, newspapers and magazines.

Nowhere is it emphasised that the two glittering days and nights of the Royal visit were something lifted high above the humdrum facts of everyday life. No visitor at Suva or Lautoka during the Royal Visit appears to have been told that in the fairly near future Fiji will have to make some very difficult decisions. Overseas records of December 17-18, while giving a more or less faithful account of a gorgeous two days, create the illusion that here is a land with no worries, no problems and no apprehensions.

LONDON *Daily Mirror* gave a double-page spread of pictures under the headline, "South Sea Island Magic." They were excellent, but few of the *Daily Mirror's* 4,000,000 subscribers are likely to know that there is virtually no relation between the exotic pictures and everyday life in Fiji.

Many reports published in London unintentionally implied that Fiji is still practically an all-Fijian country. In this respect there has been a good deal of journalistic mixing-up of Fiji and Tonga.

"Queen and Duke Fly to the Blue Lagoon" stated a five-column London headline. The story was about the visit to Lautoka, "scene of the British film, 'The Blue Lagoon.'" The film, of course, was made mainly

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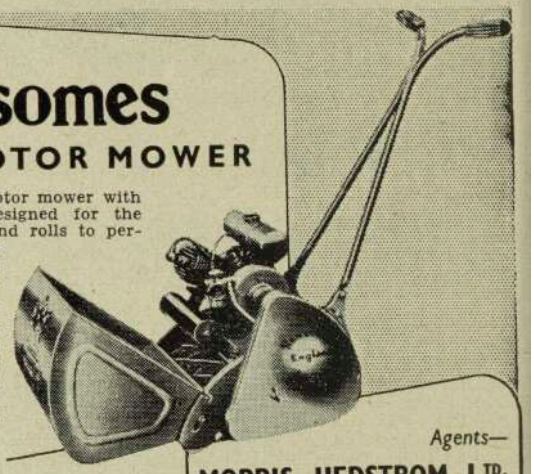

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in a London studio, but many of the outdoor scenes were filmed in the Yasawa Group, well across the western sea from Lautoka. On December 18, flower-bedecked Lautoka really did look picturesque, but that is not the same thing as a Blue Lagoon setting.

Injudicious glamorising in the overseas press is one thing; but quite another is the attitude taken in a considerable number of Colonial Office statements, reviews and reports.

Sometimes Fiji gets no mention at all in general surveys, and at other times it only creeps into notice with a fleeting reference. The New Year Review by the Secretary of State for the Colonies (Mr. Oliver Lyttelton)), for instance, noted in a few words that there had been a Royal visit to Fiji—but mentioned nothing else, largely because most of the statement was taken up by the uproar in Malaya, Kenya, Uganda and British Guiana, and by last year's earthquake in Cyprus.

Here again it seems to be tacitly suggested that Fiji has nothing to worry about, and people may be forgiven for presuming that in the eyes of the Colonial Office anybody who is seriously concerned about certain overshadowing trends in Fiji today is simply a nuisance, if not a downright troublemaker.

This rather links up with the criticism of occasional officials who work in Fiji for comparatively short periods and seem to be constantly (but inaudibly) muttering: "For goodness sake let's keep everything quiet until I get out." In some cases such criticism is unfair; but occasionally, in the post-war period, it has seemed well-deserved.

Last year, a PIM contributor wrote a sharply-worded note about a Government official who made carefully soothing—not to say fatuous—replies to pertinent questions after he had given a lecture on Fiji in London. This sort of thing is as exasperating as the fulsome inaccuracies produced by transient visitors who make a superficial survey along well-beaten paths.

In yet other cases there is a suspicion of deliberate window-dressing by writers whose status is sufficiently high to warrant their being quoted as authorities but whose information is apparently wrong and whose deductions are unreliable.

In view of the care and attention lavished on the noisier units of the Colonial Empire, it may be wondered whether officialdom is not putting a premium on the stupidity of fanatical nationalism.

Fiji may be comparatively small; it may be remote from London; and, because it is not in a political ferment based on hysterical nationalism of one kind or another, it seems that it will continue to be overlooked unless something goes bump in the night, somewhere.

If this is the attitude in high places, it is a mistake. A good many unpleasantnesses around about the Empire (including British Guiana) could have been headed off if the Colonial Office had properly faced trouble while it was still at the peaceful stage of political problems.

¶ Mlle. Roberte Charon, daughter of Monsieur Robert Charon, Norwegian Consul in French Oceania, and of Madame Charon, was married in France, on December 22, to Monsieur Jacques Lafleur, Senator of New Caledonia. The parents of the bride, at present touring Europe, are expected to return to Papeete later this year.

A Bank of NSW Review of the Fiji sugar industry shows that sugar represented 57 per cent. of export earnings in 1952, with copra providing 26 per cent. and gold and silver 12 per cent. Figures for 1953 were not analysed.

¶ Mr. M. Gray, LLB, has returned to Australia from Tarawa with his wife after resigning from Government service in the G & EIC last November, and it is reported that he will join a law firm in Melbourne. Mr. D. R. Freeguard, who succeeded Mr. Gray as Secretary to Government, G & EIC, has been appointed District Officer, Canton Island. Mr. I. Turbett now has been appointed Government Secretary.

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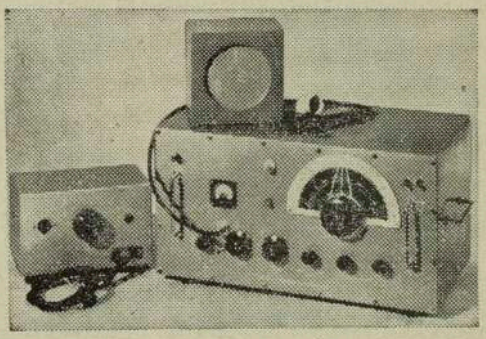

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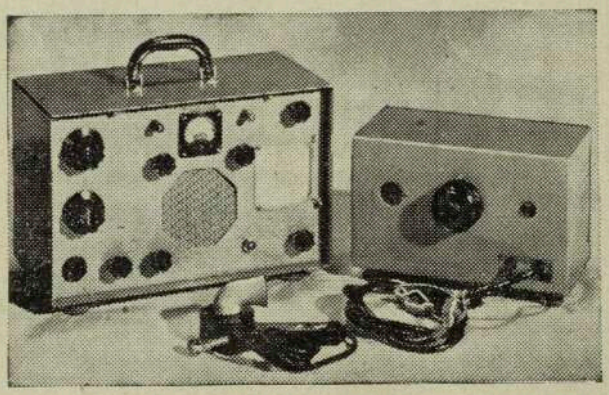

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ISLANDS HAMS: Let your Pacific neighbours know you're active by checking in on your favourite band with a CQ at 0100/0700/1900z. Use of a known time will help you—and them.

INTEREST this month centres on Samoa. Arnold, ZM6AC, is back in Christchurch, NZ, having completed his term at Apia with the meteorological office. He has been heard active on 14 Mc/s phone from ZL3FV.

Pat, ZM6AC, is expected back in New Zealand in February and will go to a broadcast station at Christchurch also. Replacing him as chief technician at broadcast station 2AP, Apia, is Mr. Norm Saggers, late of 3YA Christchurch recording studios. Though not a ZL Ham, he plans to become a ZM6. With his wife and son he left Auckland per February Tofua. Also now active from Apia on 14 Mc/s phone is Ron Berry, ZM6AR, formerly ZK-I-BA, and son of ZL2BY; and Bill Tarlton, ZM6AP, late ZL2AAB, who recently opened a radio business there.

Now on 7 Mc/s CW, but not yet very active, is Eddie Hickford at Niue with the call ZK2AC. He recently took over from Bill Scarborough, former ZK2AA, who is now heard with the call ZL-I-BA.

There's big news regarding Easter Island. Stan, VR2AS, has word from CE3AG (who as CE-O-AA last August caused great excitement on the DX bands), that two Hams are to be stationed on the Island this year. One, a doctor, will use the call CE-O-AC, and anticipates being there for a year; and the other, a meteorological observer, will operate under CE-O-AD. They will probably be active by the time this appears. One report said that they would be at Easter by January 20, with AC on phone only, and AD on phone and CW—presumably 14 Mc/s.

Stan also reports that Barry, VR2BZ, would be off the air for some time from February while away crewing another Solent on delivery flight from England to Fiji. Some of the VR2 boys, including these two, suffered antenna damage in the January near-hurricane.

Keith, VR2CS, of Suva broadcast station ZJV, long silent, has appeared of late with a good 14 Mc/s phone sig from a IR-II rig.

The VHF men, VR2CB and VR2CG, made history on December 30 by contacting VK2WH and other VK2 stations on 50 Mc/s in the first-ever VR2-VK2 50 Mc/s QSO. VR2CB actually making the first contact.

Way up in the Carolines, KC6AA reports that a crop of new native Hams are on the air from Truk, Panape, Koror, Palau and other islands, having recently qualified for the beginner-bands. Hatch is himself active on 7 Mc/s phone. He was formerly KH6ANZ.

KH6IJ in his Honolulu Star-Bulletin Ham column, reports that W6UXX, commercial fishing vessel radio operator, operated for 10 hours in December from Cocos Island over near Panama under the call TI-9-UXX, with portable gear ashore. He worked 7 Mc/s CW only—and those who worked him have a really rare country as Cocos, though belonging to Costa Rica, counts separately.

From Fanning, Phil, VR3C, and the new arrival across the bay, VR3D, have both been heard active during February.

In the Solomons, Frank-VR4AE, keeps Honiara on the map with his 14 Mc/s phone.

Voice of America stations have instituted an ionispheric prediction service of interest to Hams. Entitled "Listen to the World," the short programme takes the air on many VOA frequencies at 1825 GMT Sundays (Monday morning in V. Pacific).

Norm Ashwell, planning to come on the air from Rarotonga, had not appeared with a ZK-I call up to late February, so far as could be determined.

As ZL3JA still shies clear of a yes-no answer to inquiries regarding his alleged ZM7 expedition, we may assume that it is not likely to take place in the forseeable future.

¶ Mr. C. W. Barraclough, recently appointed Senior Education Officer, Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony, left London by sea for the Colony early February.

¶ Mr. Norman Pearson, recently of the Windward Islands, BWI, has been appointed Commissioner of Labour in Fiji, in succession to Mr. C. S. Reay. He is expected in Fiji in March. Mr. Reay will then go on furlough.

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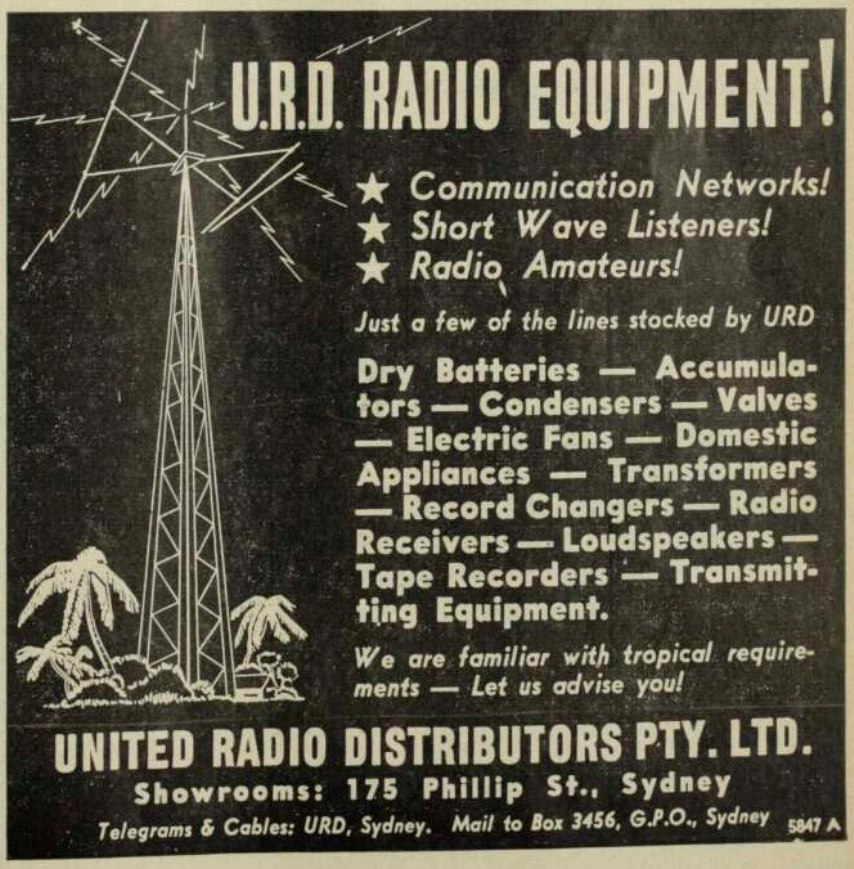

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Who-Won-the-War Dept.:

JAPAN BUYS SCRAP FROM MILLION-DOLLAR PT.

SALVAGE of scrap from the vast American under-sea dump at Million Dollar Point, Santo, New Hebrides, is being continued steadily by Monsieur Gubay who now owns the rights.

Salvage from seaward was originally undertaken by New Hebrides Trading & Shipping Co., with Captain A. Duff controlling operations from *Vila Star*. However, during last year all rights were handed over to M. Gubay, who has been working with grabs from the landward side. He purchased *El Retiro* (ex *Kapiti*) from Captain Savoie, of Noumea, for use as a salvage vessel. To serve this purpose the old ship had to be moored alongside the reef —and she was caught in this situation last June, unable to get offshore in time, when a squall set her onto the reef, where she now sits, hard and fast, another contribution to the pile of scrap that will eventually be shipped to Japan.

Million Dollar Point, of course, is the small point jutting into the Segond Channel where the Americans—to keep faith with manufacturers who feared a post-war market glutted with wartime goods—dumped millions of dollars worth of machinery and gear at the end of the Pacific war.

Not far away from the point lies the *President Coolidge*, ex liner, ex-troop carrier which, given wrong docking instructions in 1942, ran into a defensive mine, then backed into another. She was beached and subsequently sank. Tenders for her removal as scrap were called by the US Government about a year ago, but, as far as we know, *Coolidge* still lies beneath 200 feet of water in Segond Channel.

¶ Captain E. L. James, Assistant Harbour Master, Suva, is at present on 6 months' furlough in Australia.

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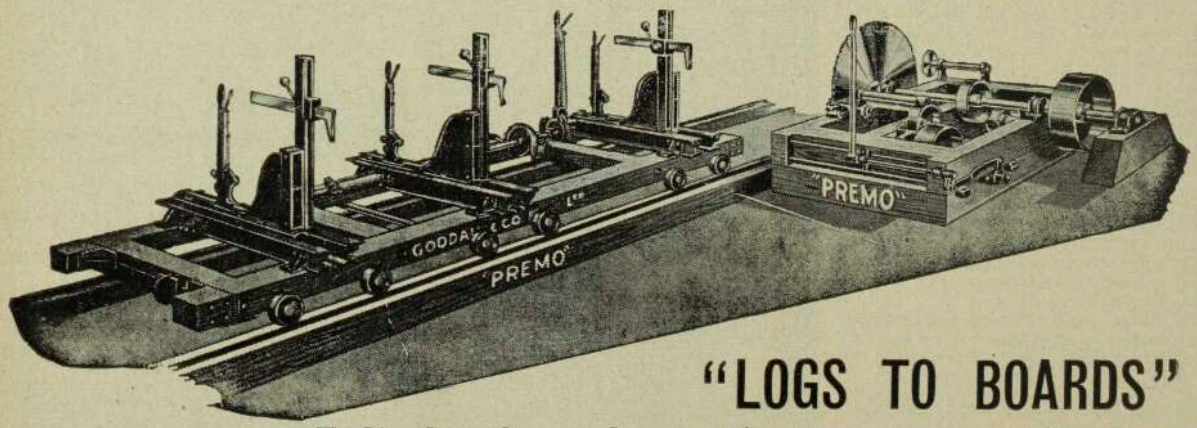

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NEWS OF THE SMALL-SHIPS

NOUMEA-VILA RADIO SCHEDS:.—Noumea maintains radio watch for smallships on voice on 6280 kc/s for two half-hour pediods daily, commencing 0500 and 2100 GMT, replies being made on 6300 kc/s. Vila now maintains continuous watch on 6900 kc/s from 2100-0000 GMT and from 0330-0660 GMT, local shipping replying on the same frequency. This channel is used also for general New Hebrides inter-island communications.

INCLUDE THE NUMBER:—With so many Japanese fishing vessels now operating in the South Pacific, attention is drawn to the fact that the name frequently includes a number. For example, the vessel *Azuma Maru*, which landed a sick seaman at Rabaul in February, could be any of the eight similar craft with same name (but followed by a number), shown in Lloyds Register. In reporting violations of territorial waters this number would, of course, be vital—as vessels of the same name belong to various owners. At least two of the Japanese vessels operating out of Pago Pago—*Takuyo Maru* and *Shinko Maru*—belong to a similar series. It appears from an examination of names, that Japanese fishing fleets are frequently made up of vessels of identical type, in the vicinity of 150 GT, belonging to various owners and chartered to a single operator, or fishing on a tonnage basis for the owner of a freezer-ship. The arrangement of numerous nominal owners may be a means of complying with laws restricting large combines in Japan.

ANOTHER FOR TASMAN STEAMSHIP:—Tasman Steamship Stevedoring and Agency Co., owners of *Viti* and *Vasu*, have added another to their fleet—*Madonna*, a former corvette, now en route from England to enter the trans-Tasman frozen-cargo trade. She was built by Harland and Wolff Ltd., Belfast, in 1940, but nothing is known of her war history. She lately has been running bulk supplies of herrings in oil from Yarmouth to the Mediterranean. She was under the Danish flag for a time. Dimensions are 193 ft x 33 ft x 16 ft and tonnage 755, 293 nett. She is equipped with refrigeration machinery and is powered by two reciprocating engines.

ADMIRALTY NOTICES:—Buoys in Peu Bay, Vanikoro, have been removed and the positions of those remaining are unreliable. At Nairai Island, Fiji, leading lights have been established bearing 042 degrees. Lower light has an elevation of 85', upper 120'.

DRIFT ENDS:—Fiji readers will be interested to know that the 18-ton, 48' Glasgow yawl *Petula*, in which former Nadi meteorological observer Claude Dickson was met. observer, has completed its drift across the Atlantic from Dakar to Barbados in 82 days. Distance drifted was 2,500 miles.

Main purpose of the drift, which had the support of scientific bodies, was apparently a biological study of the water to a depth of six feet. Weather observations were also made from a raft platform which was attached to the yacht. Few details are so far available. The three-man party was headed by marine biologist F. Evans, aged 27, of Glasgow.

SPATE OF HURRICANES:—The November-April hurricane season which sometimes passes by with scarcely a mention of a blow, has been very much the reverse this season. To late February, at least six hurricanes have appeared on Pacific weather charts. First formed north of New Caledonia and moved down the central Tasman Sea eventually filling as it crossed the South Island of New Zealand. Next came the January near-miss in Fiji, that one running away south-east between Auckland and the Kermadecs. Number three formed near Palmerston Island in the Cooks, but dissipated without approaching land. Next developed north-east of Willis Island in the Coral Sea, heading south-east past Lord Howe and filled south of New Zealand. Next,

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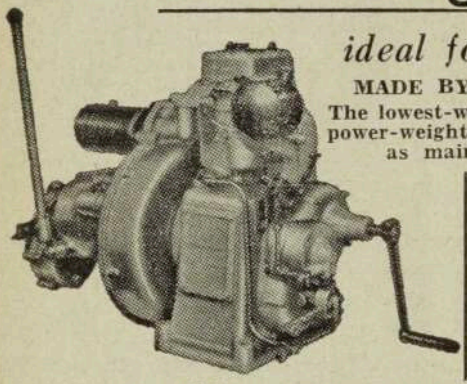

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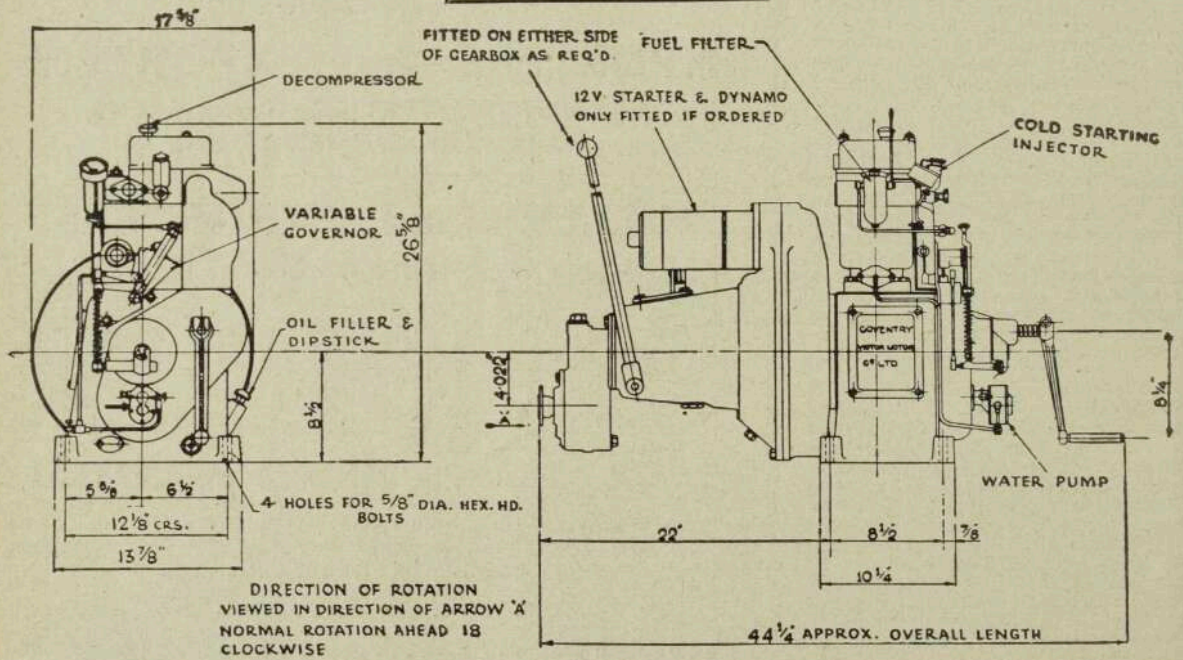

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again born near Willis Islet, swept into Queensland causing heavy flooding and damage. Last and most spectacular formed on February 13 west of Rotuma, ran away westward, crossed the Banks Group—and would seemingly have done damage there—swung south-west just north of the New Hebrides, turned south when 100 miles east of Maryborough, finally veering to the Australian coast-line just north of Brisbane. Great flood and wind damage was done in southern Queensland and northern New South Wales. This cyclone, which raked the whole coast of eastern Australia, was last heard of off Southern Tasmania and heading for the Antarctic.

A feature worth noting was that meteorological office predictions as to direction of movement of this cyclone from day to day, while it was in the Islands area and later, were frequently not realised—by as much as 45 degrees. An expected curve to the south and south-east did not occur. New Hebrides and New Caledonia, though they must have had heavy weather, were extraordinarily fortunate in that the course of the hurricane was a little north of that predicted.

It crossed the Australian coast twice—north of Brisbane and north of Newcastle—and at one time was centred somewhere near Armidale, NSW. Predictions were that it would head towards Bathurst—but instead, it went out to sea again.

CAPTAIN W. R. PERCY.—After 15 years' service with Burns Philp & Co., Captain W. R. Percy recently resigned from the position of Master of *Yanawai* in the Fiji inter-island trade, to become Marine Superintendent in Suva for the Union Steam Ship Co. Captain Percy went to Fiji in 1921 as a pilot for the Colonial Sugar Refining Co. He was in command of BP's *Malake* and *Matafele* before joining *Yanawai* some years ago.

WELCOME TO PEARSON:—A baby was born aboard *Tofua* shortly before she arrived at Auckland recently. The arrival was somewhat unexpected. Later, the mother announced the name of the son and heir—Pearson—after Captain Pearson, master of the vessel.

HMNZS *HAWEA* IN G & E:—First New Zealand naval craft to show the flag in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands for several years was New Zealand frigade HMNZS *Hawea*, which was to spend about a month in the area from mid-February before continuing on to Korean waters.

INQUIRY CALLED FOR:—A Fiji Marine Board made a preliminary inquiry recently into a collision at 1 am, December 15, in open water, 8 miles south of Suva between the 59-ton Government auxiliary ketch *Adi Maopa* and the 17-ton auxiliary cutter *Chum*, belonging to Mr. A. Lepper, of Savu Savu. The Board found that *Chum* was running without a mast-head light and that *Adi Maopa*, instead of holding course and speed, altered course to starboard, thus contributing to the mishap. The Board noted that *Chum* was carrying 26 passengers in excess of her license for 29, and decided for a formal inquiry

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from the Pacific Coast to Honolulu, in competition with Matson's *Lurline*, the Hawaiian Pacific Line passenger vessel *Aleutian* was held up by a dispute between rival stewards' unions early December, and by late January it appeared as though the 300-passenger vessel might never enter the service. Fifteen-day round-trip schedules had been published and bookings accepted up to the end of August. The hold-up has caused enormous financial loss to the owners in Hawaii and San Francisco.

WRC FLEET ADDITIONS:—W. R. Carpenter & Co., through their subsidiaries, have purchased two oil-fired steam vessels from Singapore for use in the Fiji and New Guinea inter-Island trade respectively. Both are steel vessels of 394 GT, 112 nett, measuring 144 ft x 27 ft x 8 ft with triple-expansion single-screw drive and a fuel consumption of 6 tons per day at 9 knots. They were built at Beverley, England, in 1945, and were recently owned by the Hong Kong Steamship Co. (1932) Ltd. The company owned three of the same type—*Hong Ann, Hong Soon* and *Hong Tat*. *Hong Ann* (ex *Empire Maybury*) and one other sailed together to Rabaul, *Hong Ann* then proceeding on to Suva where she has been now renamed *Ai Sokula*—the name formerly owned by *Oliver Mac*—with the approval of the Fijian Chiefs. She entered the Fijian service early February. Carrying rather more cargo than *Oliver Mac*, and with superior accommodation for deck passengers including a large com-

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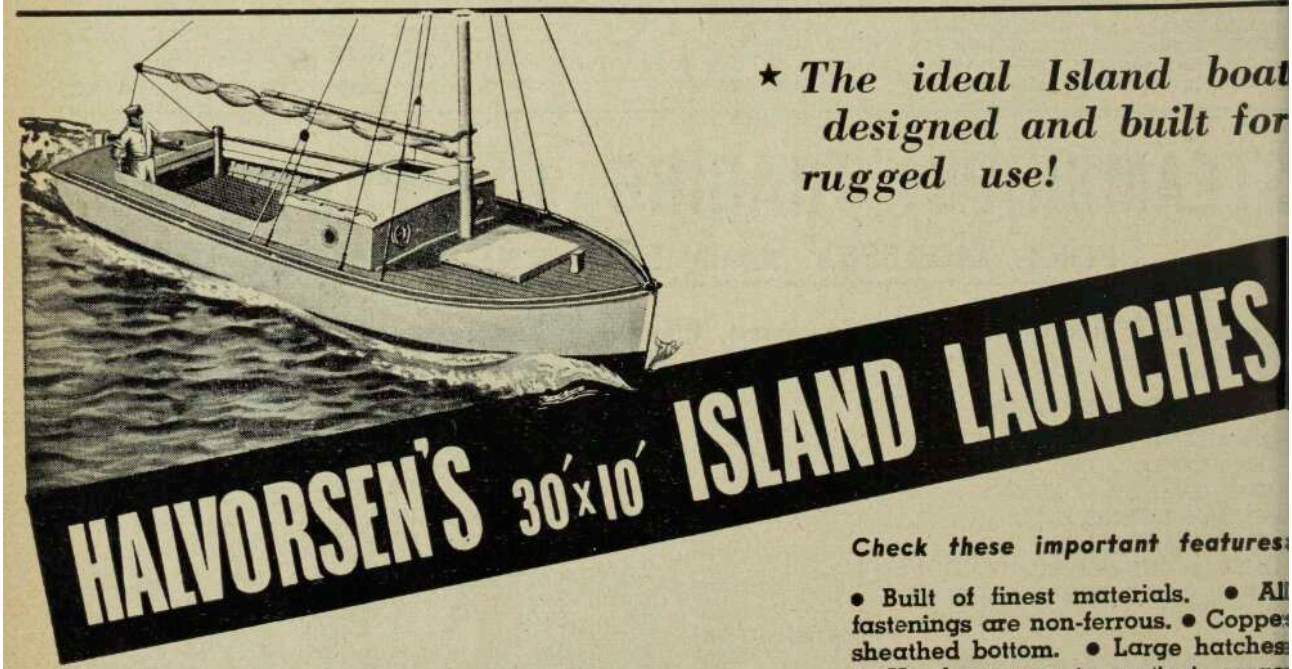

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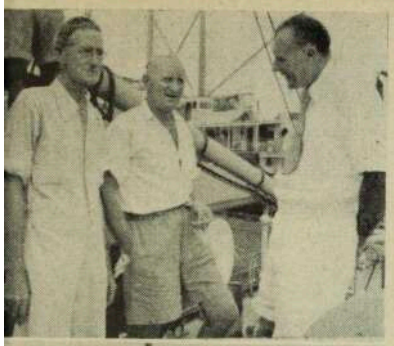

mon room, it is expected that she will prove a useful vessel. Captain Macdonald, formerly of *Kurimarau*, was expected to take command.

Details are lacking as to which vessel went to Rabaul. Her Malayan and Chinese crew, due for repatriation, caused a stir at Madang by at first refusing accommodation offered them aboard a vessel sailing from there. They finally accepted.

The former *Ai Sokula* has been named for Carpenter's marine superintendent, Oliver MacRoberts.

UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY —At present at Fiji taking underwater colour-photographs for the American National Geographic Society is Louis Marden, complete with two aqualungs and a 2,400 lb-per-square-inch portable compressor. He has lately been working, with the aid of hired boats, at Vatulele and Korolevu. (Over)

Hong Ann, renamed Ai Sokula, arrived in Suva from Singapore. Captain Andrew (centre) and Chief Engineer Overell (left), were greeted by Captain A. M. Harvey, Pacific Shipowners' Suva Marine Superintendent.

Hokitika, which with Holmburn, was acquired by Captain Emile Savoie of Noumea in February.

J. Rockefeller's 40ft schooner Mandalay of Greenwich, Conn., at present in French Oceania waters.

Kona, 39ft Honolulu ketch, belonging to Paul Blackford and Robert Houtz, at Papeete.

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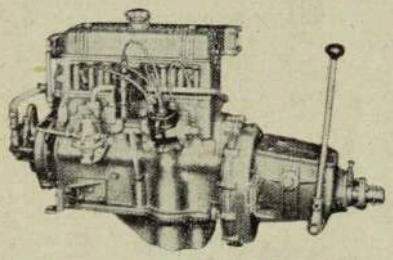

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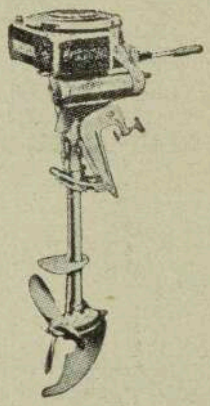

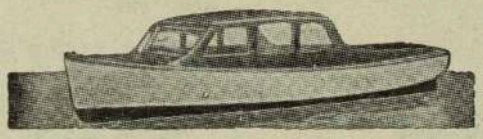

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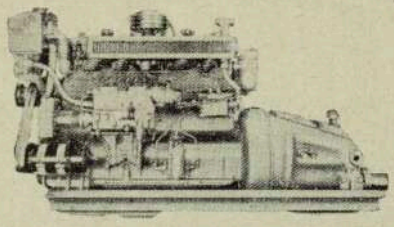

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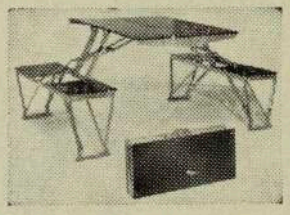

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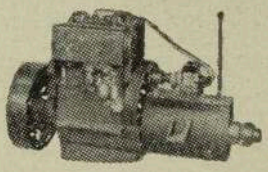

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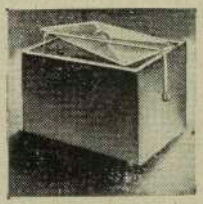

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WPHC MOVEMENTS:—The 60-footer *Myrtle*, with Captain H. Wilder in command, and a crew of 11, arrived at Samarai from the Solomons late January for dry-docking at Borrow's slipway, Sariba.

Captain Farrell recently handed over the command of *Nareau* in the Gilberts to Captain Lindstrom and has left for New Zealand on furlough.

Kiakia made a voyage to Fanning and Christmas Islands from Tarawa in January.

Captain S. B. Brown, on leave in New Zealand, unable to keep away from little ships, sailed in the yacht *Ghost* on the Trans-Tasman (Auckland-Hobart) race in February. Owner of the yacht, Stan Brown, is no relation.

NEW DARU WHARF:—Coinciding with the collapse of a section of the 30-yard approach to the old Daru wharf, it was reported in February that work will go ahead immediately on a new wharf at this western Gulf of Papua port.

FOR SALE IN SOLOMONS:—Additional to Captain Richmond's *Miena*, reported last month, we learn that the Fairymead Sugar Co.'s 80-ft vessel *Rowena*, built in Newcastle in 1947, and two standard-type trawlers are also for sale in the Solomons. Prices were said to be £20,000 on *Rowena* and £10,000 each on the others.

TIGHTENING UP?:—From Honiara it has been reported unofficially that there is likely soon to be a tightening up of regulations governing the issue of trading licences to Chinese-owned craft in the group.

ONTARIO LOOKS IN:—HMCS *Ontario*, cruiser, bound to the Hobart centenary celebrations, made a call at Suva late January.

EX *MARIPOSA* MAY APPEAR:—The Former Matson liner *Mariposa*, sold to Home Lines Inc. last year and renamed *Homeric*, may appear in the Pacific next year as a cruise ship. Registered in Panama the 18,000-tonner, now owned by Greek and Italian interests, has been undergoing conversion. She is expected to enter the Piraeus-New York passenger run, but her first voyage may be a world cruise.

SUBMARINE—OR MYTH?:—A determined search was to be made by a diver during February to clear up a persistent story that an American submarine lies on the bottom of Port Moresby Harbour. Though harbour authorities believe it a myth, and local spear-fishermen have failed to produce any concrete evidence, the legend is well established, complete with details. The sub is said to have been an American training craft, moored in a certain spot with five anchors, and scuttled when the Yanks pulled out. Seems strange that the story could not be immediately confirmed or denied by the US Navy who *should* know how their training craft were disposed of.

SOUTHERN CROSS VIII?:—*Southern Cross* No. 8 seemed closer, judging by an announcement made by the Bishop-elect of Melanesia, the Rev. A. T. Hill, early February. Of New Zealand's share of £35,000 towards financing a new Anglican mission ship for the Western Pacific, Mr. Hill said that £20,000 had already been accumulated, including about £1,000 from native church adherents in the New Hebrides.

Total cost of the ship, as we reported in December, 1952, was expected to be about £100,000. Whether a new ship will be built, or whether another suitable vessel will be pur-

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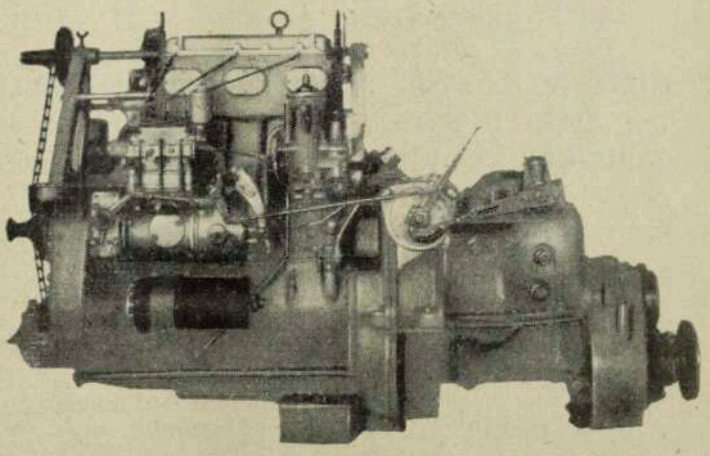

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chased and converted—as was done by the London Missionary Society in the case of their present *John Williams VI*—has not yet been announced.

FROM CRAYS TO TROCHUS:—New Hebrides Trading & Shipping Co., owner of the tramp-freighter *Vila Star*, has acquired the refrigeration Fairmile *C-Gull* for trochus fishing in the New Hebrides. It will be recalled that *C-Gull* left Sydney last year with the shareholders and their families aboard, bound on a cray-fishing venture in the Gulf of Papua. The vessel did not get north of Townsville, where she was offered for sale some months ago.

PEARLIN FOR FISHIN':—The Tongan Government took delivery in February of a well-known Auckland Seine-fishing vessel named *Pearlin*, for use as a fishery research and experimental craft. Skippered by Captain Carl Johnson, Harbour Master at Nukualofa, and with Henry Ah Sam, Government junior mechanical engineer, as engineer, and two Tongan crew members, the 48 ft single-screw craft, powered by a Gardiner 80 hp diesel, cleared Auckland February 17. At Tonga she will be under the command of Mr. McKenzie, fisheries expert from Indonesia, who has been there since 1952, instructing Tongans in various fishing methods.

A'ONIU FOR SURVEY:—Captain James McCormick was to bring the Tongan Copra Board's 80-ton ketch *A'oniu* to Auckland for annual refit late February or early March.

DISTRESS CHANNEL:—Although 2182 kc/s has been accepted, in principle, by most countries as an official voice distress channel—equivalent to the 500 kc/s morse channel—slow progress is being made in acual implementation of the world-wide distress-watch system on the frequency.

Three Hawaiian Coastguard stations and three New Zealand stations are maintaining an efficient watch. Sydney is listed as main-

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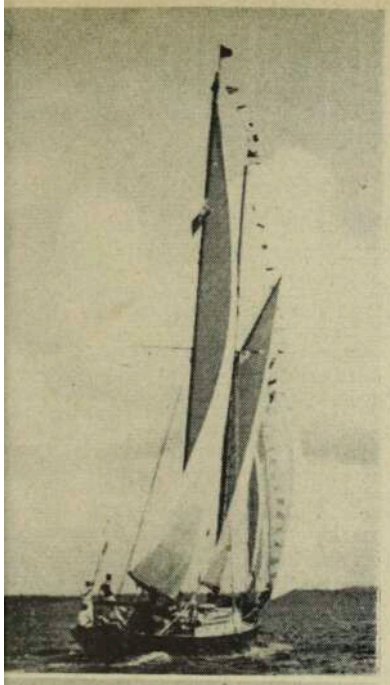

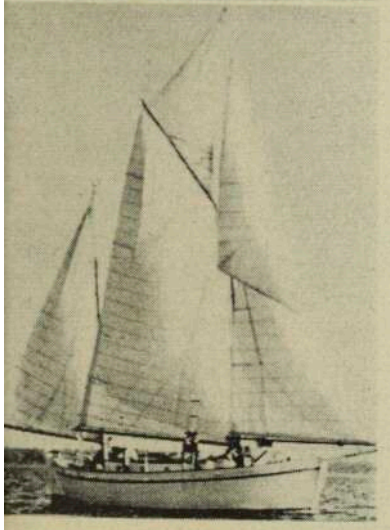

Upper: Windjammer, Peggy Poor's 57 ft
ew Orleans schooner, Island-bound.
Lower: Captain Jean Gau's Colin Archer
tch Atom. The 30-footer will soon ar-
ve in French Oceania bound round the
orld from New York.

ining a continuous speaker watch
it it is reported to be inefficient
id several stations in the Islands
sted as maintaining part-time
peaker watch on the frequency,
e not actually maintaining the
iblished watch period.

Staffing is the main difficulty. In
opical areas the tendency is also
cut back the volume due to
ashes of static, and the general unlikelihood of hearing any vessel on the frequency in any case. A recent "Notice to Mariners" announces, however, that twice each hour, commencing on the hour and half-hour of GMT, a three-minute silence period has been established. Vessels equipped with 2182 kc/s should therefore note that these are the times that distress calls are most likely to be heard. For vessels equipped only with the more common Island frequency of 6280 kc/s, there is still no official distress watch at all, and chances of being heard outside the various Island coast-station watch periods are probably even less than on 2182 kc/s. Throughout the night, heavy interference from overseas stations now exists on this frequency—with Teheran and a Yugoslavia broadcast station sharing time on the channel.

GAUALOFA TOTAL LOSS:—Further to our January report on this small W. Samoa coaster, the vessel was being raised when bad weather demanded that an attempt be made to shift the waterlogged craft to a more sheltered spot. The launch *Noue*, after six hours of towing, was forced to cut the derelict adrift, whereupon she sank in deep water. A marine court in Apia in January found the master, Mr. W. Hicks, free of all blame in the original stranding that occurred through unusual circumstances of weather and sets. (Over)

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Gaualofa was of 43 tons nett and was built in Apia. She was insured. The owners, O. F. Nelson & Co., have announced that another vessel similar to *Gualofa* is already being built in Apia by the same builder, Mr. A. Krause. She will be 60' overall with a beam of 18'. She will have a rounded stern instead of the square stern of *Gaualofa*.

News of Cruising Yachts

• We now have a Balboa correspondent who will keep us advised of yachts coming through Panama canal and bound for the Islands. In January he reported the following:

WINDJAMMER, an unusual shallow draft centre-board schooner with dimensions 57 ft x 15 ft 6 x 4 ft 9in., owned and skippered by an attractive New Orleans blonde, Peggy Poor, with navigator Jim Cox and two West Indian seamen, was due to clear Balboa late January for Galapagos, Easter, Pitcairn, Tuamotus, Societies, Cooks, Tonga, Samoa, Fiji and New Zealand. Miss Poor says she is in no hurry. The voyage began from New Orleans, December, 1952, and the circumnavigation may take 5 or 10 years to complete. WINDJAMMER, built in 1924, has a creditable racing record—three firsts in the St. Petersburg to Havana Race, and once the amazing average of 14 knots over a 500 mile race from Cape May to Halifax.

ATOM of New York, skippered by Captain Jean Gau, cleared Balboa December 23, with projected ports of call given as Galapagos, Mangareva, Marquesas, Makemo, Tahiti, Samoa, Fiji, New Hebrides, then via Torres Strait and Cape Town. Captain Gau and ATOM made an Atlantic crossing to Europe in 1947, returning to New York in 1949. Back in 1937, after crossing the Atlantic in the 40 ft schooner ONDA, lost her in a storm on the coast of Spain. ATOM measures 30 ft x 10 ft x 4 ft and the present cruise will probably take three years.

(OVER)

Skipper Hugh Williams (with hat), engineer Les Livingstone, and Rarotongan crew brought the Brixham trawler Inspire (left) to Auckland from the Cooks for refit.

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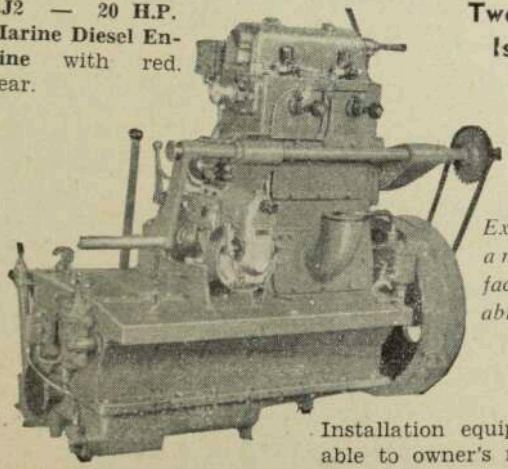

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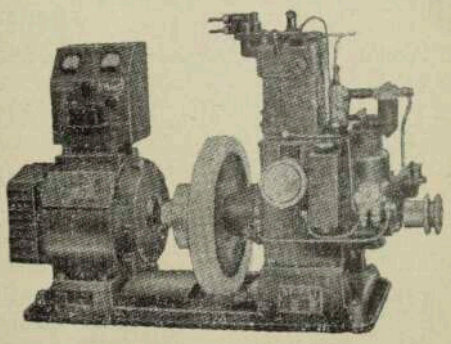

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TERN II. is next on the list. Lieutenant B. C. Pester, RNZN, and companion Peter Fox sailing this old-timer from England to Auckland, departed Balboa for Galapagos December 20. TERN II. was one of a series of TERNS owned first by the late Claude Worth, noted yachting writer. Lieutenant Pester, homeward bound after a course in England, plans to make the routine calls—Marquesas, Tahiti, Rarotonga, Auckland.

● LEDA, 54 ft cutter from Tauranga, NZ, still lies for sale at San Francisco, but her skipper and part-owner, Mr. C. G. Wilson, returned by air to Auckland early February. He reported that the yacht had been warmly welcomed in the States and has since done a little racing.

● Remember "Stainless Steel" Murnan and his yacht SEVEN SEAS II.? Well, Bill and his wife, having just completed a 4-months dry-land cruise all over the States in their specially equipped auto, are preparing films and scripts for a lecture tour in the Midwest and East, including Canada, soon. Subject: Cruise of SEVEN SEAS II. A book on the cruise will soon appear, too. Not completely converted to a dryland existence, they recently slipped aboard the brig YANKEE to swap Pacific reminiscences with Captain Irving Johnson and his wife before they sailed, November 1, on their present world cruise. The Murnans send regards to all their many Island friends.

● Dr. I. J. Franklen-Evans of STORTEBECKER III. wants some volunteers to crew his 33 ft yawl on her return cruise to New Zealand this year. He hopes to clear Victoria, B.C., in mid-April for San Francisco, Fanning, Christmas, Penrhyn, Apia, Tonga and Fiji. Meanwhile he has made a quick trip by orthodox means to Europe. A letter care of Box 163, Coronado, California, would reach him.

● Lee and Ann Gregg, of NOVIA, which cleared Tahiti in December, are cruising and fishing in the Hawaiian Islands.

● CALYPSO, which cleared Papeete the same day as NOVIA, reached Hilo January 1, two days after NOVIA. Calms and squalls had plagued CALYPSO.

● MARINER, on the contrary, made a wonderful passage from the Galapagos to Pitcairn, the boat steering herself with the aid of twin staysails for 31 of the 35 days passage, with glorious weather all the way. Arriving in time for Christmas,

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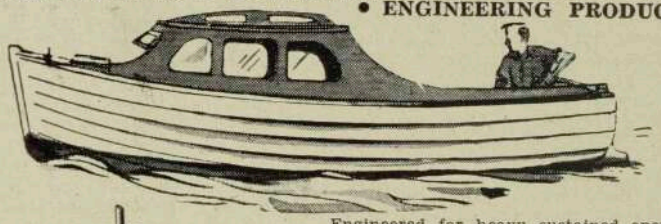

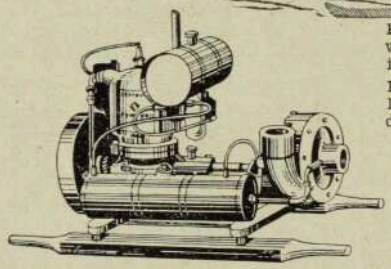

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Jim Robinson and George Karl were warmly welcomed by the Pitcairners. Next advice from Papeete—via ports—probably.

● The California sloop PRIMAVERA (Springtime) was the scene of an unusual wedding ceremony late December when owner Paul Hurst was married to Miss Powlison Morrison, of Honolulu, as the yacht cruised off Diamond Head. The marriage was performed on deck by the Rev. Samuel Keala standing near the flower-entwined tiller. PRIMAVERA, believed about 40 ft overall, will sail for Tahiti and other island ports via the Marquesas within the next month or so. The yacht competed last year in the Trans-Pacific race.

● Friends of Captain Alexander Watchlin, who came through the Islands in 1952-53 en route to New Zealand from Europe, will be pleased to know that the stranding reported some months ago on the New Zealand coast did no serious damage to his 83 ft schooner FITHEACH BAN. Captain Watchlin, his niece, Miss Laura Webb, and Claudio Candido, one of the Italian seamen who came out with the yacht, have resumed cruising in coastal waters. There are reports that FITHEACH BAN may sail back to Europe in 1954-55.

● ARTHUR ROGERS, Tom and Diana Hepworth's Brixham trawler, is also coastwise cruising in northern New Zealand waters at present, with a number of guests aboard. Two 15-day cruises out of Auckland are planned. Manase of Tonga is still with the ship.

● PAMPERO has been sold to Chinese traders in the Solomons and Ronald Johnson, who sailed the yacht up from Sydney to Honiara last November-December, has returned to Australia for a third yacht. When Johnson sailed from Sydney in PURPLE SEA last July he intended to cruise north through the Western Pacific Islands to the Philippines and beyond. In the Russell Islands he was offered a good price for the yacht, so sold her, and promptly returned to Sydney to start again. Whether yacht number three will head for the Solomons remains to be seen—but we are assured that a further experiment with a female crew is unlikely.

● BEYOND, T. C. Worth's 43 ft aluminium motor-sailer, continuing her westbound circumnavigation, arrived in Cairns, Queensland, January 29, having called at Brisbane en route from Sydney. Skipper Worth and his wife are reported to have won nearly £300 on a radio show in Sydney. Left Thursday Is. for Christmas Is. (Indian Ocean) and Aden February 18 on last lap on round-the-world voyage, back to England.

● KERERU, little Auckland craft, still at Norfolk Island in mid-February, was planning to head north for Noumea as soon as a good weather chart appeared. A hurricane moving round the northern New Hebrides and down to the southwestward past New Caledonia was one good excuse for remaining in port. One crew member flew back to Auckland—and work.

● FLAMINGO, 31-foot Auckland sloop, which entered the Sydney-Hobart Race in December, was heading north for the Great Barrier via Sydney. Two members left the ship at Hobart, leaving owner W. McCarthy and W. Pledger to push on alone on what they plan to be a world cruise.

● BEATRIX of Holland, revolutionary humpbacked steel 26 ft ketch, was reported in and out of Nukualofa late January. She arrived Newcastle, NSW, March 1—Skipper J. S. Leyden said they had "gone through hell" in a 4-day cyclone off the Australian coast. Leyden, his wife and two crew members said they might settle in Australia.

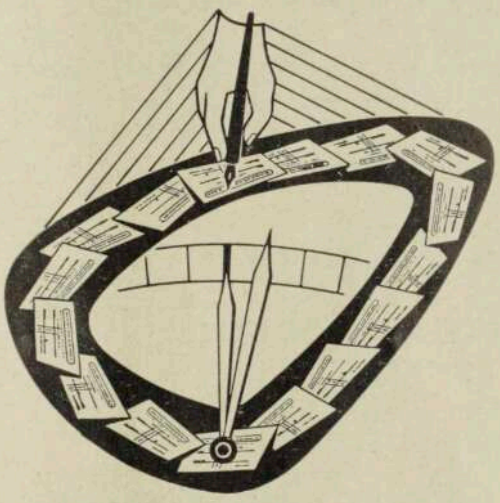
¶ Mr. Ray Williams, whose voice as chief announcer at ZJV, Suva, is well known within Fiji and overseas, has completed his term of duty in Fiji and returned to Sydney with his wife (nee Miss Wendy Read, of Suva.)

Torres Strait Dancers For The Queen

THURSDAY IS., Feb. 15.

FORTY dancers from Badu, Maubaiag, Yam, York, Coconut and Murray Islands started rehearsals to-day, beyond the public eye, of dances to be performed before the Queen at Cairns. One is a war dance never before seen in Australia by a white person, and the dress for this is cassowary plumes. The amulets, head gear, shields and spears will not be exhibited until the Royal Visit.

¶ Mr. A. E. Pearce, well-known Suva business-man, made a visit to Australia in March.



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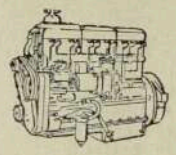

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EDUCATION BOARD LACKS REALISM

Rabaul Decisions Examined

THE teaching of English in the native primary schools of Papua and New Guinea—a matter of ome concern to the future of the erritory—was discussed at the econd meeting of the P-NG ducation Advisory Board, held in abaul at the end of February. hose present were Mr. W. C. Groves Director of Education), who is hairman; Messrs. G. T. Roscoe, . N. Boisen and D. Owner, of the ducation Department; Mr. S. lliott Smith, of District Services; nd Revs. B. Roberts, Father J. wyer and M. Heist, representing nglican, Catholic and Lutheran issions, respectively.

The official report says:—

"While advocating an earlier start on aching English in Primary Schools, ard members stressed the importance native children becoming literate in e vernacular as well as in English. ey agreed that the teaching of English s essential for the general social and onomic advancement of the native ople, and should be the principal edium of instruction in the Primary hools. However, literacy in the ver- cular was also essential to ensure re- ation of their own culture and traditions, and as a medium for the teaching of English."

The Board resolved that the first 8 years of schooling be known as Primary—four years of Village School, and four years of Village Higher School.

In the first two years, the children would be taught in the vernacular; in the second two years they would begin to study English.

Instruction in English would continue through the Village Higher Schools—that is, through the fifth to eighth years of the child's education period.

The pupil then could go on to three years at a Central School, when it is assumed that he would be "reasonably fluent and literate in English."

The Board "lays stress on the necessity of teaching native students to read and write in the vernacular"; and it proposes that the period of compulsory education shall be eight years.

The Board in a three days' session spent a considerable time on discussion of regulations covering registration of schools and teachers, school inspections, compulsory attendance, district education committees, and so forth.

EDITORIAL COMMENT.

A Lack of Realism

The official report of this meeting emphasises, to a degree, the lack of realism in officialdom's approach to the problem of educating the native children of New Guinea.

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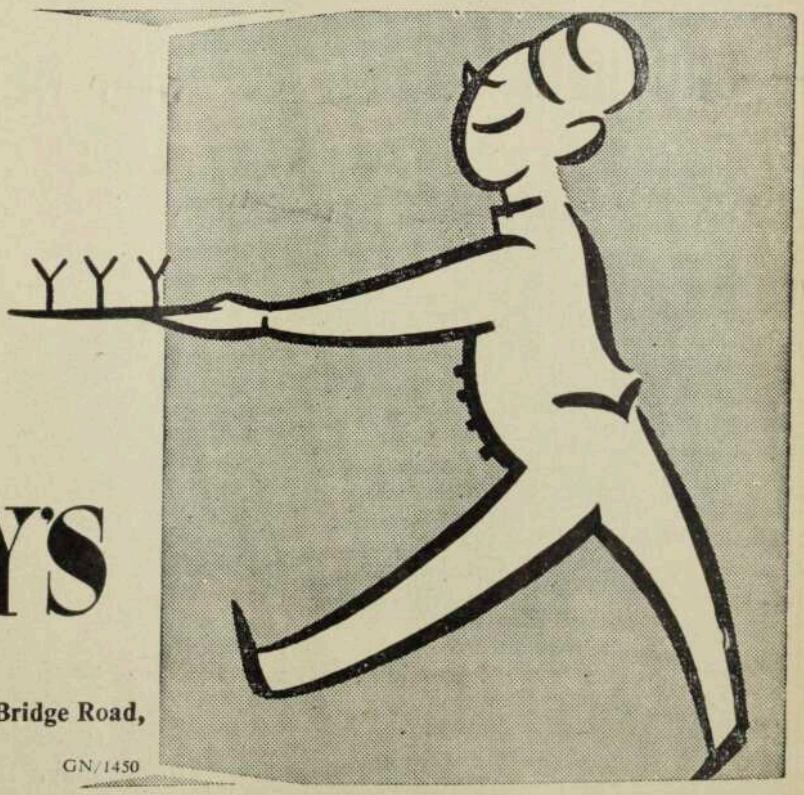

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GN/1450

This could be the report of an Education Board sitting in a Western country, dealing with the system of educating the children of an old-established, civilised community.

There are at least 1½ million native people in Papua-N. Guinea. A small minority, who have been in contact with Europeans for a long time, might be handled as the Advisory Board suggests. But the vast majority are primitive savages, speaking a really extraordinary number of different languages.

If the PNG Education Department is going to deal with this mass of primitive jungle folk, then it must solve the problems of providing village school teachers, before it makes any other plans. The official report does not indicate that the Board in three days even mentioned village school teachers.

If the Department's policy is to provide primary education only for the native communities in close contact with Europeans, then the Department is letting down the Administration, which now is committed irrevocably to the taming and teaching of the mass of New Guinea natives—and no uplift in native living standards is possible until some degree of literacy is introduced among them.

The Board says that the young children should be taught first in the vernacular. Which vernacular—there are scores of them? How can they be taught in a particular vernacular until something practical is done to supply personnel from that language group, trained to teach in the vernacular, and to bring the pupil along from vernacular to English?

It looks as if the chief purpose of this Board's meeting in Rabaul was to try and streamline the Mission Schools, so that they may be integrated with a general Administration plan. If so, there is no word of the general plan.

It seems absurd, at this stage, to talk of forcing the children of these primitive jungle communities to go to school for eight years. The chief problems are to make them understand what a school is, and then to provide facilities and trained

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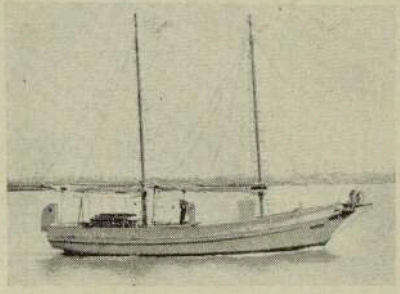

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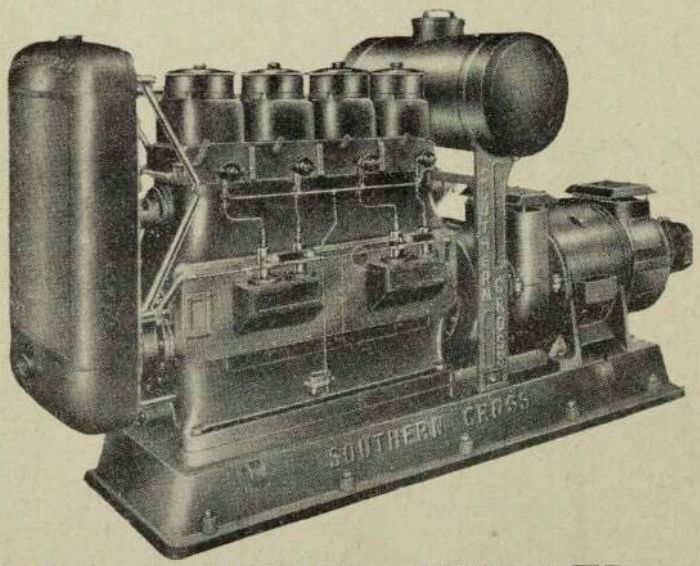

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teachers, so that they can go to school at all.

The public is satisfied that every member of that Board, including Mr. Groves himself, is a sincere and earnest educationist, eager to devise machinery for the assistance of the natives, and of the Administration in its colossal task. Why, then, does the Board not get to grips with the real problems of native education, instead of wasting precious time in idealistic planning, as if it were dealing with primary education machinery in an Australian State?

SAMOAN COCOA BEANS
Small Supplies, High Prices

APIA, February 18.
From Our Own Correspondent

THE present boom period for Samoan cocoabeans continues unabated and recently it was reported that for a small lot, £450 per ton f.o.b. was realised.

However, there are only small quantities of Samoan cocoabeans offering at present, as the main cocoa crop is not expected to come in before the end of March, with the peak of the crop being picked during April.

NO BSIP REPRESENTATIVES TO SEE THE QUEEN

FIJI and Tonga were actually visited by the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh. And representatives from Samoa, Cook Islands, Niue, Pitcairn Island, Papua-New Guinea, Nauru and Norfolk Island went specially to New Zealand, Australia or Fiji to pay their respects to the Royal couple.

Only the British Solomons Islands Protectorate and others of the Western Pacific High Commission islands missed out. The omission caused some heart-burnings in the BSIP. If a plane had been chartered to take some official representatives to Fiji or Australia, they say, there would have been no difficulty in filling the other seats with unofficial visitors. Special planes are being run from New Guinea for the Royal Visit to Cairns. Why could not the BSIP join in?

Delegations were sent to the Coronation from WPHC territories. Their omission from Royal Visit festivities in the South Pacific is regarded by some people as "odd."

¶ Mr. G. W. Johns, Manager of the Grand Pacific Hotel, in Suva, is at present on vacation in New Zealand. In his absence, Mr. Hurley, former purser in RMS *Aorangi*, is manager of the GPH.

NZ Governor-General To Visit NZ Pacific Islands

APIA, Feb. 18.

THE Governor-General of New Zealand, Lieutenant-General Sir Willoughby Norrie, accompanied by Lady Norrie, Miss Rosemary Norrie and party will visit Western Samoa from May 29 to June 3, 1954.

The Vice-Regal Party will arrive by plane from Suva, and leave by plane for Aitutaki, where they will joint the cruiser *Black Prince* for a visit to the Cook Islands.

The Governor-General will attend the functions in celebration of Western Samoa's Flag Raising Day and the Queen's Birthday on June 1 and 2.

It has been customary for each Governor-General of New Zealand to pay a visit to NZ's Islands Territories during his term of office.

The National Science Foundation of Washington has awarded the Bishop Museum a grant of 30,000 dollars to continue its major research programme on the insects of Micronesia. This is the first time that such a large-scale project has been attempted in Pacific entomology, and it has great economic significance, as well as in the field of public health. Micronesia is a potential reservoir of pests, whose invasion of adjoining lands could create new problems.

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Another Bug Joins Rhino Beetle To Harass NB Planters

MR. HAROLD KOCH, during a recent visit to Rabaul, NG, told us that his plantation, down towards Gasmata in the centre of New Britain's south coast, is in the area at present threatened by something which he calls Promecatheca disease. It seems that he did not watch more closely for Japs in his Coastwatching days than he does now for Promecatheca bugs.

This insect lays its eggs between the layers of the palm fronds. The coconut palm breathes through the fronds, and when the disease attacks the palm, the fronds die and the palm no longer breathes. Result—no production until the terminal shoot starts breathing and the fronds form.

A palm attacked by the disease is usually out of production for 18 months to two years.

Koch states that the disease is at present 90 miles up the coast from his plantation and is advancing slowly in his direction through the native groves.

There seems to be a brighter side to the picture, however. Kerevat Department of Agriculture Experimental Station is still trying to breed the Zanzibar wasp which it started to import about 18 months ago in an attempt to combat Rhinoceros beetle, and these will, so Koch says, also attack Promecatheca larvae.

The first batch of wasps from Africa did not appear to multiply when released around Kerevat; subsequent batches are believed to be doing a little better. However, they have not made any appreciable difference to the ravages of the Rhino beetle, and they will have to breed a lot faster before they can be expected to do much to eradicate Promecatheca.

It is understood that production has virtually ceased on Lindenhafen Plantation, in the Gasmata area. With copra bringing around £70 per ton, the thought of no production for up to two years is a terrifying one for local planters.—*Special Correspondent.*

(It is understood that Promecatheca is not a new pest in NG, and has always existed there: what has happened is that there has been some un-balance of nature that has interfered with this bug's natural predator. An old planter says that when the plantations are kept clean of undergrowth, and tidy, there is no shelter for the bug's enemy, an ant, and so Promecathaca gains ascendancy. When undergrowth takes charge—as it did during the war years in New Guinea—the ant can get in and attack the bug, and the palms flourish again.)

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FIJIAN WAY OF LIFE

New Book Comes Opportunely

THERE is valuable material in Mr. G. K. Roth's book, "Fijian Way Of Life," which has just been published by Oxford University Press, Melbourne.

Apart from the wealth of information made available to the student of Pacific affairs, the chapters on the "The Principal Customary Ceremonies" and "The Fijian Administration" are of particular interest. Authentic and reliable data on these subjects hitherto has been meagre. Mr. Roth earns our gratitude for the way in which he has presented these subjects.

This reviewer (who was born in Fiji and lived there until middle age) relished, as no doubt others will, the subtle manner in which the author handled the "Yanggona Coast (Vakavitho)"; and he recalls with delight the occasions when he had personal experience of the custom; whilst the information which Mr. Roth gives about the origin and significance of the "Tambua" is valuable indeed.

The chapter on "Fijian Administration" supplies an excellent picture of the position of the indigenous race in Fiji to-day, as far as its own local government is concerned, and traces the steps which the administration in its wisdom has taken from 1874 to the present day. To the uninformed reader, the picture might appear almost Utopian, but for the well known fact that the Fijian has been outstripped numerically by the other races who have migrated to the Colony. The main trading and industrial businesses—copra and banana production being the possible exception—are in the hands of the immigrant races; and in the light of present-day affairs, the question is posed of whether the Fijian can afford the luxury of having a separate civic administration.

To the student of political affairs in Fiji, the book emphasises the lag

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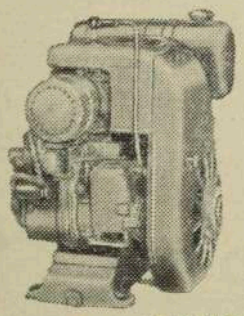

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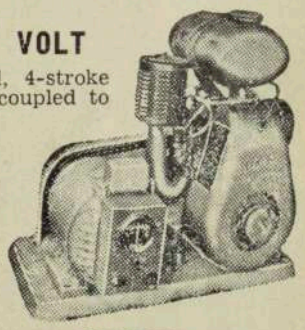

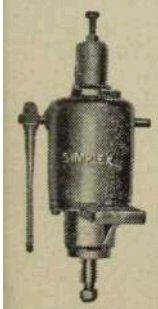

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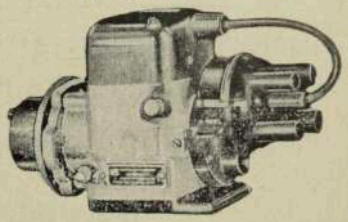

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in the development of the Fijian in this sphere, *vis-a-vis* the other races. This reviewer is of the opinion that a continuance of the present policy is not enough; and, to quote the last sentence in the book, "successful evolution in Fijian Affairs would thus appear to rest nowadays, as in the past, on the close connection of the Fijian and his land, and on his economic use of it." But, as the PIM pointed out in its principal article in February, this only partly solves the problem.

THE present Fijian Administration's structure, as described by Mr. Roth, shows that it is very well equipped, indeed; and this reviewer holds that, with a change in policy, it could merge with and absorb all local government machinery in the Colony, to embody all races in its next stage of logical development. By adopting such a policy, the Fijian could become equipped to take his proper place alongside the other races, and undertake his new responsibilities when the Colony reaches self-governing status. Kept apart, as he is to-day, the Fijian is being severely handicapped in his political development.

Just as surely as ecological considerations made the choice of bush materials obligatory for houses in the early days, so for the same reason the "mbure," or grass hut, will disappear from the Fijian scene, in favour of something more durable; and as in Hawaii—which in many respects can be taken to parallel the position in Fiji—the grass hut will become a novelty or showpiece for the tourist. With the money economy developing, the Fijian will surely follow a pattern similar to the Hawaiian, although the transition will not be so rapid; whether this is a good or bad thing is a debatable point. Some students of Pacific affairs hold that the Fijian, at any rate, has had, up to now, more time to enjoy what is left of his early culture; but

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few deny that he has to be given more political responsibilities to enable him to take his proper place in the affairs of the Colony.

AS it seems inevitable that Fiji will have to assume in time a more democratic form of government, both local and central, one wonders — idle, speculative and horrible as the thought may appear to some readers!—whether the Fijians might not have been better off materially and politically (with the industrial development dictating the immigration policy which was rightly or wrongly followed) if Thakombau's final effort at government had succeeded, and been adopted by Governor Sir Hercules Robinson (*vide* pages 134-135) instead of the policy of indirect rule which the latter instituted, and which was afterwards consolidated by Sir Arthur Gordon and successive governors.

On this controversial note the reviewer concludes by recommending the book to everyone interested in Fijian and Pacific affairs. It is easy to read, of moderate proportions, well-written and illustrated, and, for a book of this kind, reasonably priced.—TAVITE.

EDITORIAL NOTE: In fairness to Mr. Roth it should be pointed out that, as a civil servant, he would not be able to bring any debatable policies into his book. He is, however, more than competent to implement the kind of policy advocated by the reviewer. Apart from his experience in Fijian Affairs, and as a senior Administrative Officer, Mr. Roth, curiously enough, was one of the first, if not the first, "official" Chairman of the Suva Town Board, during the interregnum before the present civic administration came into being.

At a training course in boxing for Samoan policemen in Apia, during a sparring bout, the trainer, Toti Schmidt, floored one of the trainees, a Samoan policeman named Taipou. The latter struck his head on the wooden floor and died instantly.

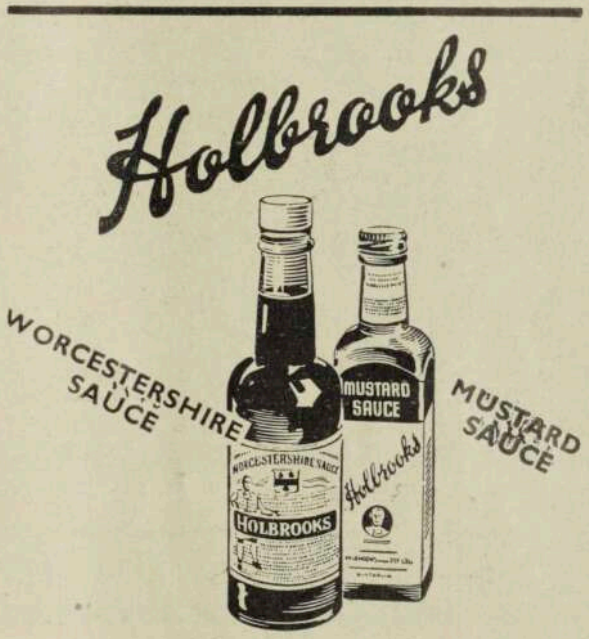
Coast Watchers' Fund, £4,000

DONATIONS to the Australian Coast Watchers Memorial Fund now total nearly £4,000. The memorial will take the form of a navigational light at the Southern entrance of Madang Harbour, New Guinea.

The European cost-of-living index continues to rise in Fiji. Based on the figure of 100 for August, 1939, it stood at 235 by December 31, 1953. There was a rise of 5 points over the last quarter of the year.

A committee has been established in Fiji to consider methods of establishing rent-control in the Colony. Letters from the public setting out personal views are invited by the committee.

Good progress is being made in the clearance of Hell's Point ammunition dump near Honiara, BSIP. During January a total of 22,169 shells were dumped at sea by 2 Aust. Bomb Disposal Section. These included 1,724 155 mm white phosphorus shells, 1,270 155 mm HE shells, 8,700 105 mm HE shells, 2,775 90 mm HE shells, 7,050 75 mm HE shells and 650 81 mm white phosphorus mortar bombs.



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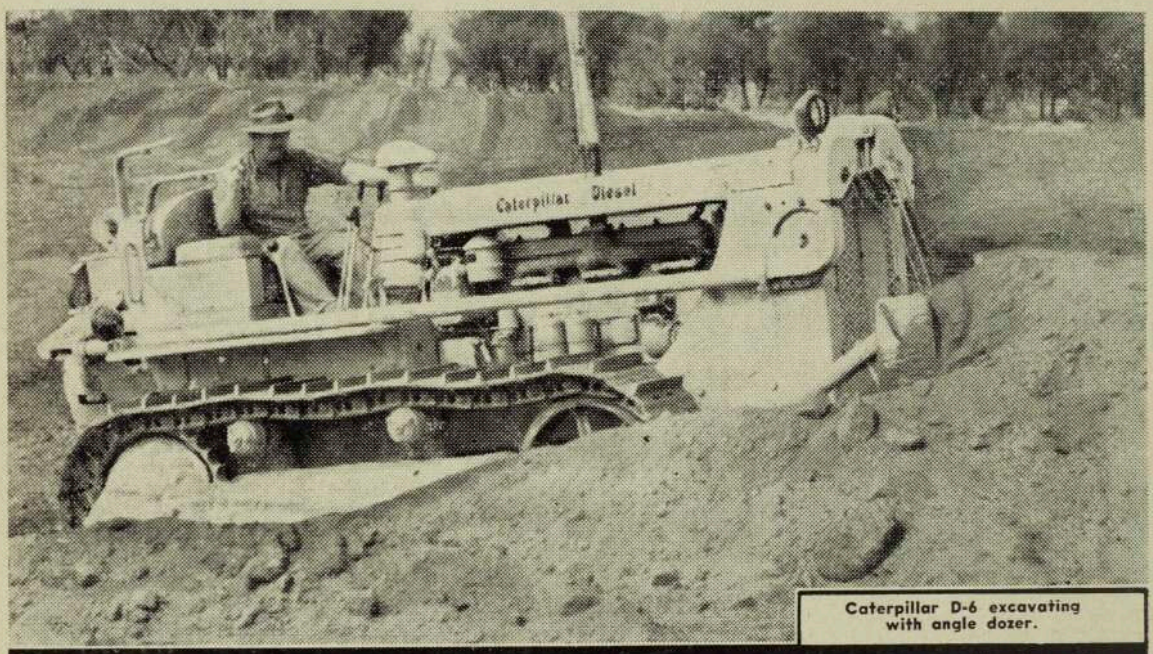

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Defence of the Native Starlings of Fiji

By Elizabeth Hennings, of Naitamba, Fiji.

I NOTE that the strange starlings which appeared on Ono-i-Lau have been getting some attention, and a high authority from Australia wants them eradicated because, he says, they could do a great deal of damage if they reached the main islands of Fiji.

But no word has been said, so far, of a close relative of the Ono-i-Lau starling, which is indigenous to Fiji. I have known and observed them ever since I came to live on this island.

There are two kinds. The larger is called MITI, and the smaller one, KAISI VAU.

The starling is a cherished bird in Germany. We used to run out, at home in our garden, with our arms under our aprons on account of the cold, to listen to the first one back from Italy, as he whistled joyfully from the gaunt old chestnut tree close to the house.

My father put up nesting-boxes on all tall trees, with the holes exactly the right size, to encourage as many as possible to come and rear their families with us. They tested these holes with their beaks, to find out whether they were of the right width, and those unsuitable found no tenants. There was great joy when bits of pale blue eggshell indicated that the young had hatched. Then they took over from my father, among his fruit trees; and a starling makes a thorough job of grubbing, not only the visible but also the hidden insects under bark and rubbish.

If they enjoyed some ripe cherries, they were no worse than the sparrows; and, all being insectivorous my father considered them entitled to their share. By the time his apples and pears were ripe, the starlings had collected in big swarms on the stubble fields, doing big exercises in preparation for the winter exodus.

To explain this departure into Nature's history, I would say that the native starling here has exactly the same habits. Once, our children found a nestling in the high grass, which the parents were feeding. To protect him against cats, they had him in a wee basket during the night, putting him out again for the day. The parents brought enormous quantities of food, *insects as well as small sweet berries.*

The Fiji starlings nest in hollow branches, and their song is exactly like the European starling, the only

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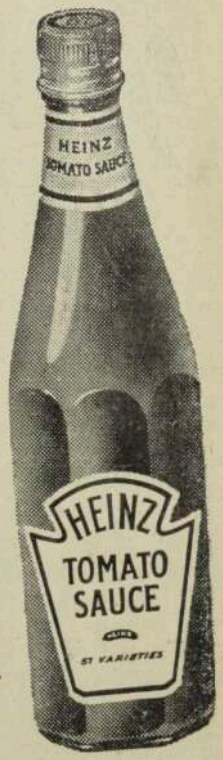

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difference being in size and plumage.

Certainly, the Miti is a nuisance among pawpaws, mangoes and bananas, but quite a minor one compared with the devastation wrought by the loathsome flying-foxes. And nobody has yet proposed to exterminate them.

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Captain Taylor left Sydney early in February for England, to bring out the new flyingboat.

A nursing Sister from the Sacred Heart Mission is at present in charge of the Asiatic Hospital, Rabaul, TNG, which is listed to be renovated and enlarged.

¶ Mr. Noel Barry has been appointed a member of Rabaul Town Advisory Council, replacing Mr. R. Arrowsmith, who resigned after transferring to his Tobera plantation which is outside Rabaul Town limits. Mr. Barry has been a resident of Rabaul for many years and is highly respected by all sections of the community.

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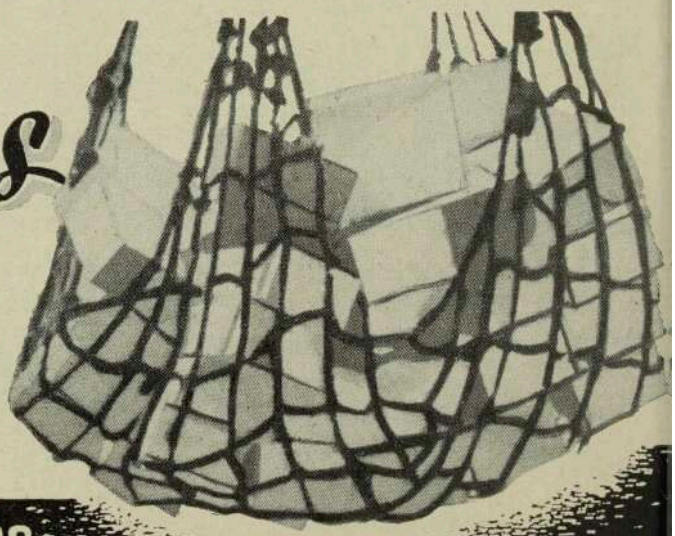

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AUSTRALIAN OFFICIAL'S LACK OF REALISM ON ASIA

From a Special Correspondent

LONDON, Feb. 17.

YOUR readers may be interested in statements made by a gentleman on the staff of Australia ouse, when he (on invitation) gave lecture to "the Far Eastern Panel the Conservative Commonwealth ouncil."

I do not imagine that this body ay be taken very seriously—I find indication that it has any inence on the moulding of Colonial ffice policy. I had a chance to atnd this lecture; and I think some the lecturer's statements are a ir indication of the unrealistic itlook of the average public serce bureaucrat.

In answer to a question, the cturer said that New Guinea is t Australia's first line of defence. alaya and South East Asia are.

The lecturer was of opinion that donesia should be treated toleritly. He gave absolutely no incation of the state of chaos in e country. He did not think an tack on Dutch New Guinea was all likely. The same opinion was pressed by an MP who had been cently on a visit to Indonesia.

This lecturer expressed horror at suggestion that Australia should ithdraw from Trusteeship System New Guinea. Is there not a type mandate whereby the Trusteeip council does not inspect or sit territories where vital defences e involved? Did not United States clude the "Trustees" from Micro-sia on these grounds? Does not ew Guinea come under that type, o?

The lecturer exhibited a touchg faith in the Colombo Plan. He d not take seriously a suggestion at it was "money down the drain." Australia is now slightly more lerant towards Japan, he said.

MORESBY CRICKETERS' SUCCESSFUL VISIT TO CAIRNS

A team of 14 players (Mr. Ken Beck, retary, and Mr. Les Michel, manager) ited Cairns and the Queensland Tableld on Australia Day weekend.

This visit made history: Although a irns eleven visited Port Moresby in 1924, is Moresby side was the first ever to part from the Territory of Papua and w Guinea for Australia.

Two matches were played on the tour a two-day game against a strong Cairns even, and a one-day match against a mbined Tableland side at Malanda.

Port Moresby scored a great fighting n against Cairns by 18 runs on the st innings. They were defeated at alanda in a tense and exciting finish one run on the first innings.

Mr. Michel said that the great win against Cairns would give added prestige to cricket in the Territory, and that local players would receive much benefit from the trip.

The Moresby team enjoyed the wonderful hospitality and sportsmanship of officials and players from Cairns and the Tableland, and the chairman of Cairns Cricket Association (Mr. Jim Duffy) hopes to send a combined Cairns and Tableland side to Port Moresby next September.

¶ Mrs. Ann Gardiner bought Tradco, Rabaul, TNG, on a "walk in walk out" basis and walked in on February 1. Her brother from Sydney will help her run the Taxi side of the business while she will attend to the Hairdressing and Frock Salon.

¶ Mr. B. H. Smith, Accountant at the Suva Branch of the Bank of New Zealand is to return to New Zealand shortly to become Manager of the Takapuna branch of the Bank.

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Economic Hopes and Fears
In the British Solomons

IT is less than 18 months since the new British High Commissioner for the Western Pacific (Sir Robert Stanley) took personal charge of the British Solomon Islands; and the lengthy report and review of BSI conditions, which he submitted to his Advisory Council in February 11, indicate that he has been completely on the job since then.

It is a good review, because it does not appear to hide anything; but it is a dismal review because it shows so clearly the almost insuperable difficulties of doing anything much with the British Solomon Islands under present conditions.

The report indicates that the Government has a double job—to lift the standard of native life, and so so stimulate economic development that the huge archipelago presently may not only be self-supporting, but also provide funds for real progress and better living standards.

APART from a modest export of timber, BSI has only one industry — copra production. Sir Robert, with perfect logic, urges more agricultural production, through the stimulation of the existing coconut industry, the introduction of cocoa and rice growing, and perhaps cattle-farming. But — although he does not directly say so—it it clear from his review that he recognises that there can be no real progress in these things until the BSI Government has solved the problems of transportation, labour supply, and land tenure.

The existing coconut industry, though it is heavily battered by an export tax and a tax on income, is still doing pretty well, because of the consistently high world price of copra. In 1953, BSI produced 5,500 tons of copra, worth over £1,000,000. But, with the immense acreage available in the Solomons, there should be a much bigger coconut industry operated there by Europeans. But European capital is reluctant to go into the Solomons because of the uncertainty of future markets, land tenure and labour supply.

If that is true about copra, it is equally true about cocoa and rice. Maybe, in the decades to come natives can be trained to cultivate coconuts, cocoa and rice; but that means a long-term programme of applying expert advice and practical help in education, medicine, agriculture, and marketing. World developments, and events in Asia, suggest that time for these things is what the BSI Government has got.

Sir Robert reports that, with a view to seeing how much suitable land is available for new enterprise, a Lands Commission is now surveying a part of the Archipelago—a slow business, which may take years. He does not refer to the labour problem, which now exists for the discouragement of big-scale European development. There are less than 100,000 natives in the Solomons—mostly on Malaita, which is only one of the half-dozen big islands.

He has been pressing hard for more agriculture experts to instruct the natives—but an embarrassing lack of trained staff is shown in various sections of his review. He can do little on the native side without expert assistants. He reports that the Secretary of State has received favourably a request that a Commission should be appointed to review salaries and conditions of service in the Western Pacific Territory.

SIR ROBERT looks hopefully to developments in relation to timber and metals. A company, for years, has been milling Kauri timber in Vanikoro, and shipping it to Melbourne; and there also has been some lumber production around Honiara. But this industry is not growing much. The High Commissioner is arranging a survey of all the timber resources of the Territory, especially Kauri.

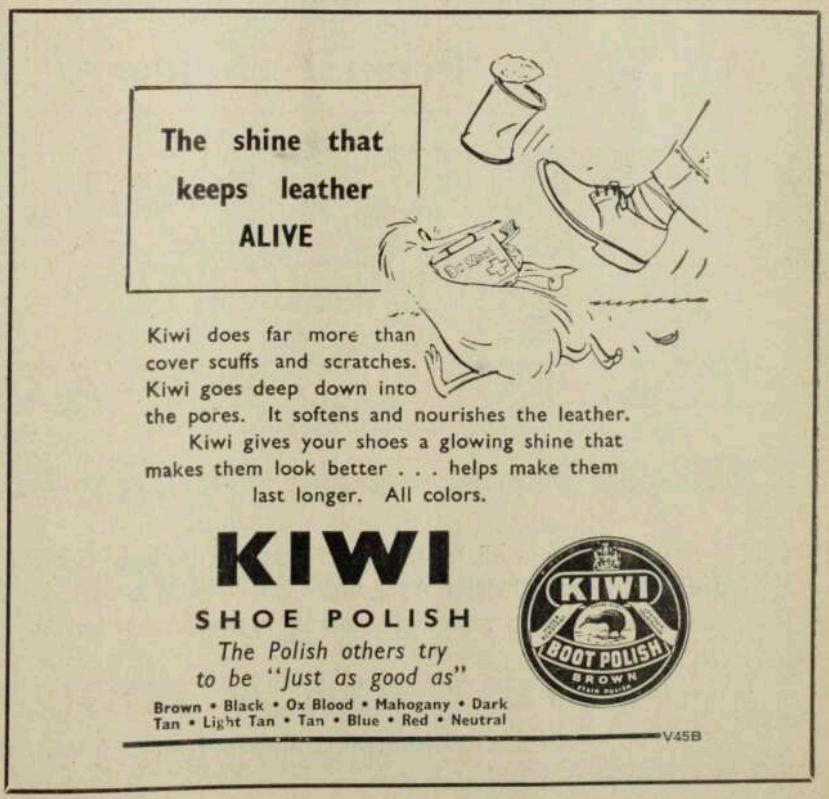
Sir Robert recognises frankly that the Territory is handicapped gravely by lack of transportation. He is urging the provision of more little ships, wherewith there can be better communication within the archipelago, and he does not mince words in pointing out the grave handicap imposed by the lack of port facilities at Honiara. It would appear, however, that Government activities in that direction are at present limited by the more urgent necessity of providing housing for staff at Honiara, and hospital buildings generally.

The BSI Government has been without its senior geologist for a long time, which handicaps the Government in its wish to follow up the possibilities of mineral deposits—notably, a deposit of manganese, near the head waters of the Poha River. Geologists, however, are now busy on exploration and mapping.

It is noted that two small ships (108 ft.) are to be made available to the Administration very soon, for inter-island work.

The Government is actively encouraging experiments in cattle-raising. This has been handicapped by lack of staff, but results are good.

Pending the provision of a suitable wharf at Honiara, "the off-loading of cargo by lighters at Pt. Cruz has reduced the delay, breakages and pilferage inevitably caused



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by trans-shipment and consequent double-handling at Tulagi."

STATISTICS FOR 1953

The following is a summary of interesting figures quoted by Sir Robert in relation to the Territory's finances:

	£ (Aust.)
Total revenue for 1953 (excluding special grants)	571,000
Excess of Customs duties over estimate (due mainly to export tax on copra)	73,000
Receipts from Income Taxation	100,000
Actual expenditure in 1953	598,000
Amount by which expend're fell short of estimate, due to lack of material and slowness of building	190,000
Imports in 1953	1,084,000
Exports in 1953	1,614,000
Tons of copra exported, 1953	16,488
Tons of copra exported, 1952	12,925
Tons of trochus and green shell, 1953	563
Tons of trochus and green shell, 1952	240
S. ft. of timber exported, 1953	2,634,265
S. ft. of timber exported, 1952	3,294,303

It is interesting to note that, although the Solomon Islands essentially are a British headache, the above values are given wholly in Australian £'s. That is because the economy of the Protectorate is dominantly Australian. Yet Anstralia, in a political sense, will have nothing whatever to do with the Solomons.

Looks as Though it is Permanent

WORD was received in Fiji in February that good progress is being made in Malaya on houses being built for the families of Fijian soldiers serving there against the terrorists. Four Fijian families are expected to be installed soon.

The Fijians originally were sent to Malaya for 2 years. They are now into their third year.

And, after Malaya, there is always Kenya!

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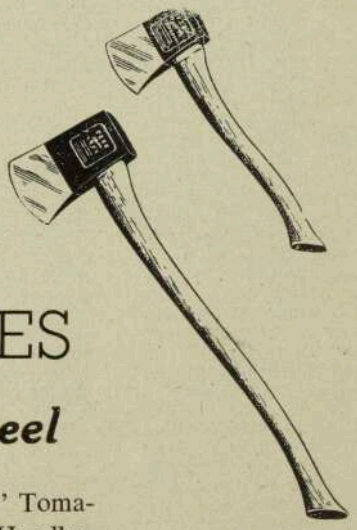

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HOW CAN WE HELP THE FIJIAN?

andicap of Ancient System In Modern World

AN old, highly-esteemed resident of Fiji, in the course of a private letter to the Editor of PIM, makes some incisive comments upon the problem of how to help the native Fijians to meet the difficulties of over-population. It was not written for publication; but some parts are published as a helpful contribution to an interesting discussion.

To my mind (writes our correspondent) it boils down to the old ring that you cannot help people o won't help themselves.

t is impossible to form an nion about the Fijian and his blems without having lived *for ny years among them.* A Fijian as good or as bad as the leader-p he receives.

Nothing is more irksome to him n to have to make a decision and *nd by it.* It is so much easier slip in behind the multitude, and along with it. And the direction y will go depends entirely on the n in front.

ormerly, there were European trict Commissioners, who were tioned in one place long enough get a working knowledge of their ple. With this authority on the way of life, right among them, rts to send them in the right ction were understood and re-ded; and moves in the wrong ction were swiftly corrected.

low, the official, coming round asionally and always duly an-nced by wireless, is shorn of st of his authority; while the ive official, now endowed with nority, has a hard struggle to do ood job, battling without moral port against a public opinion still n to the old way of living.

herever there has been progress d there is evidence of remark-progress in places—it has been eved under close European ion and supervision. Withdraw and see what happens.

everything a Fijian does, he looks to his born chief. It was the chief who set the example, ther in the food plantations, the ge councils, or the fishing ex-tions. His lady led the women he proper performance of their estic duties, in and around the se.

remember one woman with m my family was closely asso-d—a very great lady. She was r idle, right to the week she . There was always a mat in ess of being plaited—and hers the finest. Any stray woman ng in found herself plaiting, the usual exchange of greetings. Even whilst talking, she usually scraped and polished a coconut cup. She never returned from an outing without bringing back something useful: a few sprouted coconuts for the pigs, a broken coconut leaf for a basket, or some medicinal leaves for somebody sick. There was order around her; no woman was allowed to be idle; children were kept in order with small duties, as cleaning up, weeding, collecting vegetable leaves, or the small edibles at low tide. And they all had in mind their manners. And what is more dignifying to man than good manners?

ANOTHER vivid recollection of my early days in Fiji was a visit we once paid to Ratu Pope and his young wife. They lived in one of the houses at Draiba, probably as a police officer. He had dined with us the night before, looking like a young Roman god—tall, muscular and slim, flashing eyes and teeth, and his hair cut in the shape of a helmet and groomed to perfection.

His wife received us with shy courtesy, silencing with a gesture several sewing machines which had been going at top speed when we entered. A bevy of giggling maidens disappeared behind billowing heaps of some pink stuff, all of which was being worked up into frocks for the church choir, to be worn that same evening.

An adorable little baby regarded us with perfect composure, and I

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30 H.P. three cylinder	£925	£855/12/6
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remarked how much he looked like one of the two little angels before the Sistine Madonna.

Then Ratu Pope came in, called from where he had been working in his taro patch. With perfect ease, he sat in the doorway, explaining that he was too dirty to come further, and we chatted until it was time to leave.

You see, he was working with his men and she with her women—where would the Fijians find their chiefs now?

Another factor against these people—and, to my mind, never sufficiently stressed—is their communal system. Just as the pace of the Canterbury Pilgrims was adjusted to the slowest horse, so that of the community needs be adjusted to the laziest beggar. Which means the doom of any individual enterprise.

THE worst millstone round their necks—and such a cherished one—is the *Kerekere*. The new Fijian Dictionary says: Kere—to beg. Kerekere, a system of gaining things by begging for them from a member of one's own group, is a recognised system in Fijian society. So there you have it in a nutshell.

Observe the significant delicacy surrounding this subject. It is quite definitely not restricted to members of one's own group. Its use is *unlimited*. Its effect is paralysing.

Why should a man make an effort to improve his lot when he knows perfectly well that he will never reap the benefit? On the other hand, why should anybody be so foolish as to provide for an emergency when all he needs do is to Kerekere, and get it?

It boils down to this: If we say that we are standing by the Deed of Cession, to help the Fijian against the Indian, we ought to be told and made to realise what we are letting ourselves in for. On the other hand, the Fijian should be told some home truths, and made to realise that he can't expect others to struggle, while he sits at ease to reap the benefits.

The Fijian chiefs should give a clearcut lead, and their teachers and preachers should speak up, even if the topic is unpopular.

NG Children's Xmas Party

These were the final donations to the Sydney New Guinea Women's Club, for their Children's Xmas party:—

	£ s.
Previously acknowledged ..	109 11
Kokopo Sports Club	5 0
New Guinea Club	5 6
Mr. and Mrs. Haviland ..	10
Mrs. A. Innis	1 1
Cadbury, Fry and Pascall ..	Chocolate
	£121 18

At Norfolk Island on March 1 Miss Judith Hart, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. P. Hart, will marry Mr. Michael Mount of Adelaide, So

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HAVOC AMONGST THE TOMATO SAUCE

From a Special Correspondent

RABAUL, February 2.

ABOUT 7.40 p.m. last night Rabaul experienced another earthquake. We understand rom the grapevine that the strength vas "No. 5." The shake lasted pproximately 25 seconds, and was ather more a prolonged shudder, han, the usual gentle beginning, orking up to a violent jerk, then gradual tapering off.

During the night and up to 4.30 .m. three more movements were oted; but these were only minor hakes, not sufficient to wake more han a few people.

The majority of stores report their rocery departments as shambles his morning with the usual bottles f tomato-sauce smashed and mixed ver a variety of tins and packages hich were thrown from the fixtures.

One would imagine that it would e easy enough to invent some way f protecting tomato-sauce bottles uring "gurias."

Private homes reported broken ockery, but so far have not heard any large loss by any one house-older.

Neither the Ascot nor the Cos-opolitan hotels suffered damage to ock, though both houses carry a rge open storeroom with hun-reds of bottles ready for immedi-e access.

New Order of Nuns for Moresby Slum Work

THREE Little Sisters of Jesus, Paule-Madeleine, Odile-Andree, and Jacqueline-Odette, arrived Sydney in early March on *rontes*. The first of a number of ins of this Order who will go to ork in Papua, they will do social ork amongst the natives and half-stes. The Order was founded in e Thirties by Father Charles de ucauld, a French officer who be-me a priest and lived in the hara among the turbulent Arabs. e was killed by one of them in 16.

The ideal of the Order is to live nongst the most abandoned and orest people and to bring them a better way of life—not by aching or preaching, but by arity, good example and prayer. One does not usually consider the eople of our Pacific Islands bandoned" or of being particularly or. But certainly some of the tive settlements close to Port resby — including the "new" naubada—are near-slums and far m beautiful—good seed-beds for mmunism and other troubles. It is understood that it is in these roundings that the Sisters will st go to work.

Norfolk Is. Blames NZ for Its Ants

From Our Own Correspondent

NORFOLK IS., Feb. 12.

NEW ZEALANDERS are blamed for bringing ants to Norfolk Island—they are thought to have arrived in Army huts in war time. Now these ants have multiplied beyond belief and are controlled only by continual vigilance and the use of the "flit" gun. Nests seem always to be under houses and, therefore, inaccessible; and some means of permanent eradication is necessary.

(Our correspondent does not say what sort of ants these are—white ants (termites) or the more ordinary field ants. It seems odd, in any event, that NZ, which is not a particularly "anty" country, should be blamed for the invasion when they could as easily have got in over the years from Australia, which swarms with ants of every variety, from the minute foreigner, the Argentine, to the inch-long Bulldog whose sting is as painful as that of a hornet. A comparatively new substance called chlordane is supposed to effectively rid large areas of ants of any variety. Recently thousands of pounds were spent by Sydney suburban Councils in Argentine-ant eradication. When Colyer Watson (NG) Ltd. built their new store in Rabaul, NG, the whole foundation area was impregnated with chlordane as an anti-ant protection. Norfolk Islanders, remembering how introduced rabbits turned small neighbouring Philip Island into a desert in recent years, are naturally wary of introduced pests of any description).

Dalai Maniana and Maria Fioni who are attending the Firbank Church of England Girls' Grammar School under the Australian scholarship scheme for Papua-New Guinea pupils, were among 2,000 Junior Red Cross members who lined the route of the Royal couple when they attended divine service in Melbourne on February 28. They are probably the first Papuan girls to see the Queen and the Duke.

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Fijians Indifferent to Credit Unions

THE Fijians are not rapidly accepting Credit Unions, though four have been established in the Suva area since the Rev. Father Ganey, of British Honduras, at the invitation of the Government, commenced work in the Colony several months ago. He has been lecturing and explaining their advantages; there is considerable interest, and questions are asked, but action has not followed rapidly.

Although these are the First Credit Unions to be established in the South Pacific, they are already well-established in Hawaii, where 103 separate Unions were operating successfully last year, with 62,000 members and assets of over twenty-seven million dollars.

Muslim League, Fiji

The annual general meeting of the Lautoka Muslim League held in February, at Lautoka, Fiji, elected the following office-bearers: Patron, Moulvi Rahmatullah Khan; President, Mr. Abbas Ali; Vice Presidents, Messrs. David Shan Ali, Wali Mohammad, Saiyad Ishaque and Mastan Sahib; General Secretary, Mr. Sultan Mohammed Khan; Asst. Secretary, Mr. Samut Ali; General Treasurer, Mr. Imam Ali; Asst. Treasurer, Moulvi Taz Mohammad; School Manager, Mr. Jaffar Ali; Auditor, Mr. Asgar Ali, and 17 committee members.

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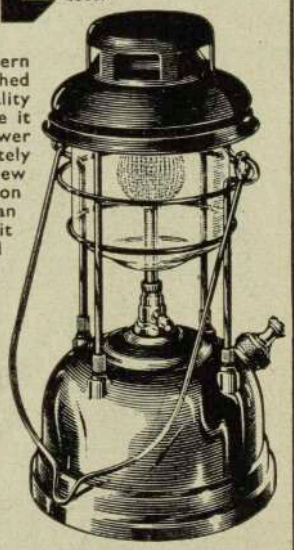

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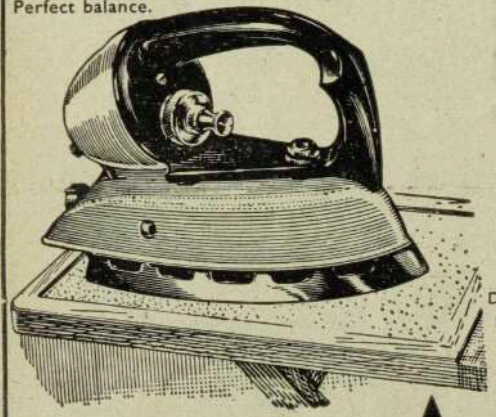

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Strange Case of the Missing Gnashers

IT appears that during Christmas and New Year festivities around Kavieng, New Ireland, when some Very Important People were visiting thereabouts, a well-known resident of NG (we will call him Mr. X), had the misfortune to break his denture.

History does not tell us whether he dropped it in the marble bath, or bit it in two with rage. Be that as it may, the Sister-in-Charge of the local hospital offered to help. So both Mr. X and the Sister hie hastily to the back room and find one only tin of Ye Olde Sticke Faste guaranteed to fasten hair to a bald head.

This particular type of Ye Olde Sticke Faste apparently takes ten minutes to set after the broken pieces have been clamped together. As both Mr. X and Sister are keen cricket fans, and as the locals are playing the Navy on the village green, they leave the denture in all its glory to "set" in the middle of a large table, and scamper back to watch a budding Bradman from the Navy show the locals a thing or two.

Some ten minutes later they return to the scene of the crime to find: Nought!

Not a sign of the teeth, and not a clue as to their fate has been discovered to this day.

Our friend, who had planned some pleasant hours with the VIP's, was "indisposed' 'and out of sight during their visit.—*Miss Y.*

By Hypodermic—New Way to Take Coconut Milk

PASSENGERS per MV *Baker* which called at the Gilberts and Suva from Micronesia during January, included Mr. and Mrs John Wheat, who will study at Fiji's agricultural experimental station and Dr. Arobati Hicking, who will visit members of his family in the Gilberts.

Dr. Hicking, who belongs to Tabiteuea, has just completed a year's internship training at Hilo Memorial Hospital, Hawaii. During the war he was interned by the Japanese on Kusaie, between the Marshall and Caroline Islands. He saved many from the effects of starvation by giving them intravenous injections of coconut milk drawn directly from the coconut by syringe and needle—something that had never previously been tried.

Mr. J. S. Thomson, Administrative Officer, Fiji, is on leave to the United Kingdom and at the end of his leave will be seconded for service for a time in the Colonial Office in London.

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NOTES FROM NORFOLK ISLAND

From Our Own Correspondent

NORFOLK IS., March 1.

ADMINISTRATOR and Mrs. Norman were pleased to note, on their return om their Queen-seeing visit to Canberra, February, that half of Government ouse had been re-roofed.

At the same time, the old historic ilding down by the jetty is now ready r use as a goods-shed and Customs-use. The "Malaita," on her last trip ought steel girders for repair work to e jetty. Brigadier Norman, backed by e interest of Minister Hasluck in the and, is getting a lot of essential work ne.

Mr. Hasluck is keen to have many of e old convict buildings restored. An storical Society, if formed, could be lpful in producing a pamphlet about se old buildings for the many tourists o are always seeking information.

Norfolk Islanders on holiday in New aland at present include Mr. and Mrs. ed Tattle, and Mr. and Mrs. Spencer wley. Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Goddard re in Australia in early March en route China and Japan for a holiday.

The Island has a lot of absentee land-ds who pay no taxes and, by their ence, avoid the small Public Works y. It has been suggested that enforce-nt of the Noxious Weeds Act would se absentees to sell their properties to avoid expense and, in this way, much valuable land would be made available for cropping and farming.

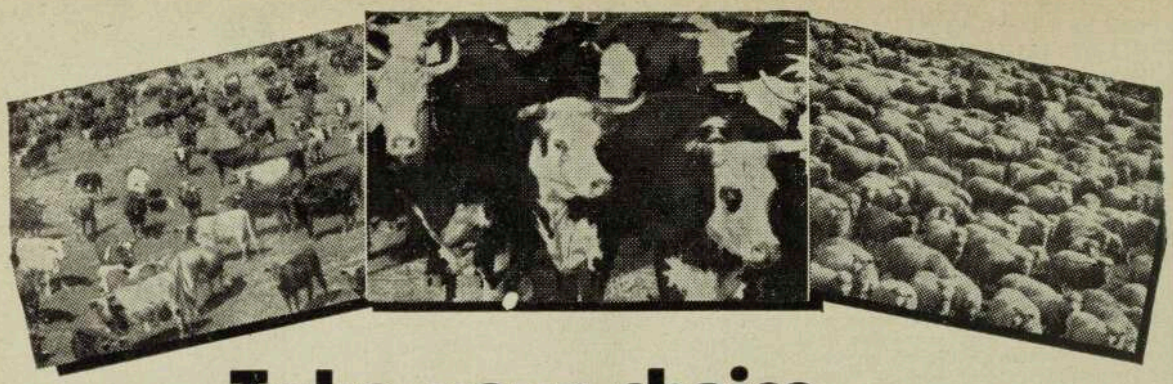
VANUA LEVU PINEAPPLE EXPERIMENT IS NOT A SUCCESS

THE Colonial Sugar Refinery seems likely to abandon what it, and the Fiji Government, hoped might become a major pine-apple-growing and canning in-dustry on Vanua Levu.

Although the Government gave the company full support and assist-ance in establishing roads and facilities through the 20,000-acre area which was made available, many difficulties have been en-countered since 1952 when 40,000 suckers were established in plots covering representative soils of the area.

Experiments will continue on a 6,000-acre section to the west of Natua, but in view of difficulties so far encountered it does not appear that a major pineapple industry will be established on the island.

¶ Mr. H. E. Snell, managing director of Morris Hedstrom Ltd., Fiji, spent a short holiday in New Zealand in February-March.



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God Save Our Gracious Queen!

(Continued from Page 20)

eoples and the Australians are seeking to ork together for mutual benefit and for ie progress of the lands that are their mmon home.

"Whether in palm-thatched village or on ie vast expanse of an inland cattle ation, whether on the sea-fringed plan- tion or the garden among the island nes, they live under laws, shielded by stice, served by an administration and nited in a loyalty and a hope that all rive from the British Throne.

"It is the regret of all their inhabitants at they have not the opportunity of elcoming you in person to their own ores. They pray, that, on some future casion, Your Majesty may yet be able honour them with a visit. Meanwhile, ey hope and trust that your visit to eir mother country, Australia, will be uitful and enjoyable and they unite in shing you safe return, at the conclusion your tour, to the companionship of ur beloved children.

"Signed at Canberra, on behalf of the oples of the Australian Territories and th a renewed avowal of our own per- nal loyalty and affection, this Fifteenth y of February, 1954."

Signatories were F. J. S. Wise, H. Boyd rman, D. M. Cleland, J. K. Lawrence, that order.

I should like to take an even bet at he read no more than the first ragraph. And I cannot blame m for boggling at the lush rest it—far removed from how Terri- rians would describe their own rritories.

We understand that the speeches ide to the Queen, on this tour, d her speeches in reply, were all epared months ago and approved Buckingham Palace before she t London. There are, therefore, surprises in any of them for yone; they are completely made of generalisations to fit a gen- l, not a particular, situation.

t is a great pity, however, that nething could not have been itten into the Queen's speech in ise of the native servicemen ose bearing and drill, as her ique guard, were really excellent. These native people were sent to nberra in order that they might ve some close contact with the een whom they are taught to nour and obey. But only Simo- n, as a Legislative Councillor, was mitted to see Her Majesty in magnificence of her Coronation vn and glittering jewels. To the t, she probably appeared much any other very personable and sed young European woman.

* * *

ATIVE members of the Terri- tories' delegations attended many of the important Canberra ctions and took them all in their de with a quiet and natural nity—often foreign to Europeans) are given to fluttering and bling on high social occasions. here were 3,800 people at the al Garden Party at Government se, Canberra, on February 17— ng them about 30 Territorians. ent an hour and a half look- ing for these 30, but, although scouts reported them here and there during the afternoon, I succeeded in running to earth only half a dozen, including Simogun.

Simogun, like me, had given away the idea of seeing the Queen and the Duke in the crush of well-dressed people, and was sensibly established outside the tea marquee, deep in conversation with Namat- jira, the Arunta tribesman of Central Australia who has become a famous painter of landscapes and a social lion (and doesn't let it bother him) and with Micky (Ginger one) Maureen, who runs an Administration launch around Darwin. They were fortifying them- selves with orangeade, ice-cream and iced-cakes, and discussing painting, maybe, or launches—or Europeans.

I got myself a cup of tea, and Simogun courteously assisted my search.

"Masta James? He no stop. Be- fore me look'im—now he go finish," he said.

Simogun comes from near Wewak, TNG. Once, I used to call this part of the world home, too. I never thought then that, some day, I should find myself in his company at a Royal garden party in Can- berra—and by that I don't mean that it was incongruous to do so, although I might have thought so once.

One can meet, at a Government House garden party, a lot of less interesting folk than the native representatives of our Territories and Pacific Islands.

MEANTIME, the Queen and the Duke were doing what, accord- ing to the official book, is de- scribed as "mingling informally with the guests." This consisted of the guests forming a tight little circle, ten deep, around each of them— the inner circle being kept off the Royal personages by members of their staff.

From a distance, these circles of people looked like a plot of a couple of erratic cyclones—the Queen and the Duke representing the "eye" of each. Wherever the Royal visitors moved, so did the tight rings of people.

However, the Canberra party guests were comparatively well be- haved. I saw no top-hatted gentle- men up in the trees or chiffon- draped dowagers standing on chairs straining for a view—as has been reported about similar parties in Sydney and Melbourne.

After an hour and a half of do- ing my duty, mostly vainly, and long before Her Majesty could do likewise, I escaped. In my case, to the privacy of the Press bus where, in company with a tired police- man, a soldier and a bus-driver, I put my feet up.—*JUDY TUDOR.*

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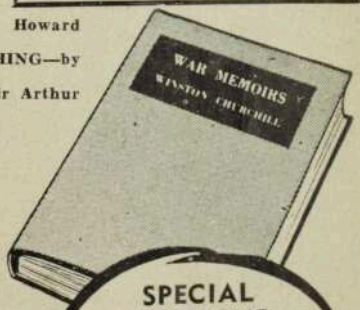

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LAVE—FIJI'S GIFT TO BOXING

(That's What They Say in Suva)

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, Feb. 8.

A STATEMENT published overseas that Kitione Lave, the young Tongan boxer now in New Zealand, and said to be going to Australia in March, "learned his boxing from American sailors calling at Tonga" is fiercely contradicted in Fiji.

Lave, born in 1934 at Hunga, Vavau, Tonga, might he described as a Fijian gift to boxing. He was one of the star pupils of Daunibau, undefeated Fijian ex-middleweight and light-heavyweight champion, who, in 1947, went to Tonga at the invitation of a Tongan nobleman, Vilai Tupou, to help Tongan boxers end a long succession of failures against Fijian fighters.

Lave has won 18 of the 20 serious bouts of his career to date—14 knockouts and four wins on points—with a draw and a loss on points to complete the list.

The only man known to have floored Lave is the Fijian Semi Galoa. A terrific right-hand walloper, Semi caught Lave unexpectedly in the fifth round of a return bout. Lave got up before a count and promptly had Semi flat on his back for a full count.

Lave was defeated by Ken Brady of Australia early in February in a 12-round bout at Auckland—but not by a knock-out. The fight, in fact, was far from decisive, most of the spectators not knowing who had won until the judges gave their unanimous decision.

A New Zealand report, that another Tongan in the Dominion, G. Naufahu, had won 18 out of 20 bouts in his career the two losses being to Lave, is no correct, either. It is on record tha Naufahu has lost four bouts—two to Lav in Tonga and two in Fiji, where Fijia Jo Vucago knocked him out after seve rounds in 1947 and Fijian Mike Ravul trounced him over 12 rounds in 1953.

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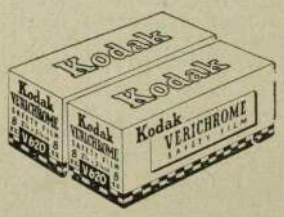

FROM ALL KODAK DEALERS THROUGHOUT THE ISLANDS

Emergency Out in Bougainville

Vic Fryer is Lucky; Someday May be Rich

WAY back in 1928, Mr. Vic Fryer did not think he was particularly lucky. In that year he arrived n Salamaua, New Guinea, as a arpenter for the old Ellyu Com- any. Since those days the man his nates knew as "Dim" Fryer has ived and worked in various parts f the Territory, acquired himself wife and family, and generally mbled along through the years.

When the war finished, he re- urned to Rabaul and for many nonths attempted to get timber oncessions, but without much suc- ess. However, he travelled down Bougainville and after joining orces with a partner, he came to n agreement with the Marist Mission, and proceeded to set up sawmill to mill timber on Mission nd on a royalty basis.

This mill has been operating about year, and, although many inquiries r timber have been received from abaul, Port Moresby, and the olomons, the total output has been sed locally on Bougainville Island. utput has varied, but with a full aff the mill is capable of turning it four to five thousand super feet r day. It is the present intention Install a four-headed planing achine to dress flooring and eatherboards, which are in great mand.

The timbers milled are hardwoods ich as tawn, tollis, and quila, and very good softwood for which the tive name is taminilli brasi, which akes an excellent flooring, but is less for exposed portions of build- gs.

As there are some 25,000 acres of nber in the mill area, it would m that Fryer and his partner will able to work along quietly into e future.

And this is where the luck— hich Vic Fryer did not know he ssessed—comes in.

Just after New Year, Mrs. Fryer t to go South and spend some ne with her children. Before she t Territory waters she was re- lled. Her husband was gravely

On a New Guinea outpost, a ptured duodenal ulcer is not pre- ely a small problem. However, e Cunningham, skipper of Drum- nd Thompson's boat from Numa ma, transported the sick man m Mibiri to Tearuki. At Tearuki, ster Leo, an American Marist ssion sister who is a qualified MD, ated him with Plasma IVI, then anged for Capt. Fox of the proaching QEA Sandringham fly- -boat, due on its fortnightly it, to transfer the patient to hos- al in Rabaul.

For a couple of weeks, Rabaul doctors gave the patient no chance; then only a fifty-fifty hope; finally, after further weeks had slipped by, "Dim" was able to sit up and listen to what his doctor had to say.

Some days later, he left for South to recuperate, but medical opinion is that he should not be alive:

- Apparently Sister Leo had the only supply of Plasma IVI in the Territory.
- The men who brought the sick man in, had no way of knowing what treatment would be required.
- Had anything happened to delay the boat from Numa Numa, Fryer would probably have died before reaching Tearuki.
- Had the men decided to take Fryer direct to Rabaul without appeal for help to Sister Leo, he would have landed in Rabaul to find Plasma IVI was not available—and Plasma IVI is the only drug which would be of use, and had to be administered with a few hours of when the rupture occurred.

It is no wonder then that "Dim" Fryer says, prefaced by his crooked grin, "It's better to be born lucky than rich!"—*Special Correspondent.*

A young American Samoan, Sonny George Curry, 16, was electrocuted in Utelei, Tutuila, when he came in contact with high-tension wires at the top of an electricity pole. No one knows what he was doing there.

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FAMOUS ESCAPE FROM CYCLONE

The 'Calliope,' March, 1889

EXACTLY 65 years ago—on March 16, 1889—there occurred a violent cyclone which swept down upon the north coast of Upolu, Western Samoa, and destroyed six warships—*Vandalia*, *Trenton* and *Nipsic*, of the United States Navy, and *Adler*, *Olga* and *Elbe*, of the Imperial German Navy. The British warship, *HMS Calliope* escaped. These warships, and many commercial vessels—which were lost—were lying in the reef-protected port of Apia.

It was a time of tension in the South Pacific. Germany was aggressively seeking new colonies. Samoa was in a state of political turmoil the result of bitter jealousy between the three chiefly families; and three Powers with interests in the Pacific (Great Britain, Germany and United States) were watching each other suspiciously, each hoping to achieve dominance in the Samoan archipelago. Each had sent warships to the focal point of trouble; and the old records indicate that a serious clash would have developed had not Mother Nature intervened with a first-class cyclonic storm.

When the visitation was past, all the ships except *Calliope* were either sunk in the lagoon or piled up on the waterfront—the bones of Adler are there to this day. A large proportion of the ships' personnel were drowned.

That event cooled the ardour of the Powers; but the Samoan problem was not really settled until 1899—when Germany took over Western Samoa; United States got Eastern Samoa; and Britain was bought off by the withdrawal of German claims to the Solomon Islands and Vavau.

When the cyclone struck, all the ships tried to get out of the death trap formed by the lagoon-harbour but only *Calliope* succeeded. Some gave credit to Captain Kane's seamanship; some said her escape was due to the good Westport (NZ) coal she used. As, inch by inch, she crept out of the port, in the teeth of the hurricane, the crew of the doomed American warship *Trenton* although deeply preoccupied with their own problem, lined the rail and cheered her—an incident never forgotten by the British Navy.

Another memorable incident was the behaviour of the Samoan chieftain, Mataafa. Although the purpose of the warships' presence there was directed against him and his rule, when the danger developed he called on all his men for rescue work; and the fine effort they made undoubtedly saved many European lives.

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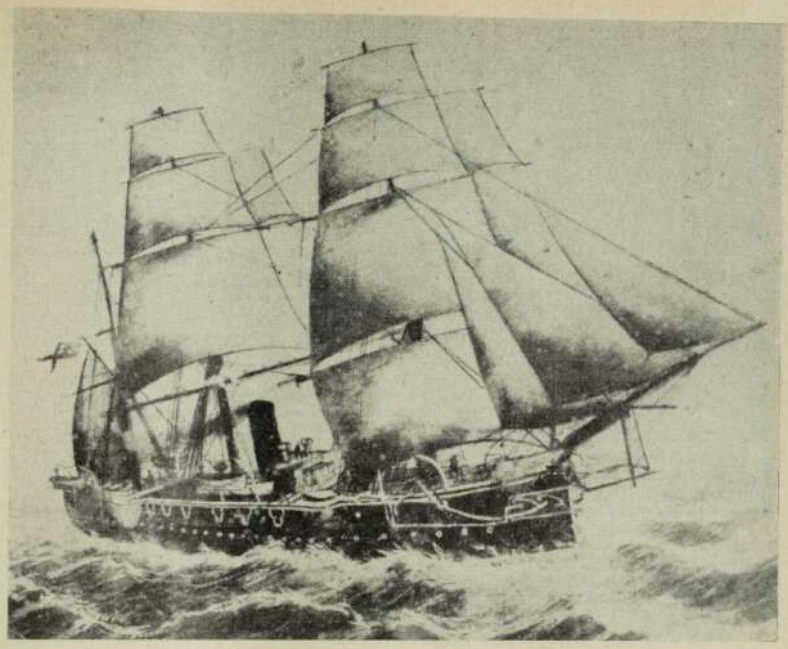
e Sailed in the "Hurricane Jumper"

VHEN Mr. J. D. Whitcombe, of Auckland, loaned PIM some old photos associated with the Apia rricane disaster of March 18, 1889, told us of an Auckland resident iom he believed to be the sole rviving crew member of HMS *lliope*, only vessel to escape from e harbour. Our Auckland repre-ntative went to see Mr. Richard ffers, the gentleman referred to; t we later learned that there was ll living in London, at the end 1953, another survivor, Rear-imiral Cecil Fox, CB (retired), io was a midshipman on *Calliope* the time of the hurricane.

Mr. Jeffers, now aged 82, recalls e hurricane very clearly. In his inion, *Calliope's* escape must be ributed not to the quality of the coal in the bunkers, but to the e seamanship of her command-officer, Captain Coey Kane, RN.

Mr. Jeffers, trained as a signaller, ned *Calliope* in 1889, in England; d *Calliope* went immediately erwards to Australian ports, and to Apia.

As a signaller, Mr. Jeffers was are that the other warships in ia harbour had ample warning



This valuable old record is part photograph, part painting, and it shows "HMS Calliope," under sail and steam, bound from the Islands to Sydney, just after escaping from the cyclone in 1889. It comes from the collection of Mr. J. D. Whitcombe, of Auckland, NZ, who has kindly loaned it for reproduction.

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Mr. Richard Jeffers, of Auckland, aged 82, was a signaller aboard "HMS Calliope" when she escaped the Apia hurricane on March 18, 1889. Only two men of that gallant company are now known to be alive.

of the approaching hurricane. That they did not immediately get out of Apia was probably due to political reasons. Captain Kane, a good seaman, had due regard for the safety of his ship and company, and was ready to leave when conditions became dangerous. The other six vessels were not ready.

Signalman Jeffers recalls that, when they got clear of the harbour, tears were streaming down Captain Kane's face as he saw what was happening to the other vessels.

Calliope was a composite barque—a wooden ship built on iron frames. She was powered by a small horizontal steam-engine driving a two-bladed propeller, and depended largely upon her sails for motive power, setting fore and main royals, topsails, lower studding-sails and a spanker. She was one of six similar craft.

Following her spectacular escape from Apia, *Calliope* was ever after referred to in the Navy as the Hurricane Jumper. She was broken up in 1951. She served for many years prior to that as a training ship moored at Jarrow-on-Tyne, England. One of her company who was in the Apia hurricane was Midshipman Hood, who, as an Admiral, went down with *HMS Invincible* in the Battle of Jutland, in World War I.

¶ The Rev. Father E. M. de Klerk, a Dutch priest of the Catholic Mission in the BSIP, returned to his mission recently after 12 months holiday in Holland and America. For his outstanding services to American servicemen in Guadalcanal in the Pacific war, he was awarded the American Medal of Freedom and the Bronze Cross by the Netherlands Government. During his recent visit to America, Father de Klerk met many of the men he had assisted during the war.

Queens to Meet Again?

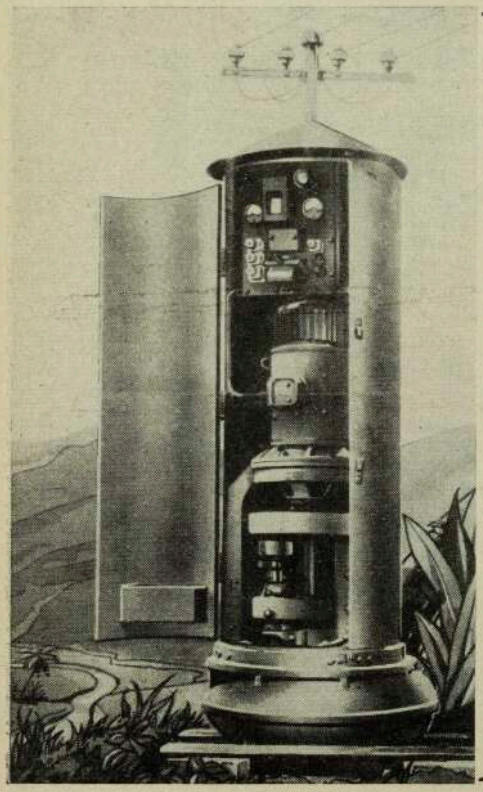
ACCORDING to the *London Dai Mail* of February 14, Quee Salote of Tonga may soon pa another visit to London—possib in the middle of this year—and, so, would stay at Buckingha Palace at the invitation of Quee Elizabeth.

Agents for Tonga in New Zealar said that they knew nothing abo it.

New British Consul for Tong

ON the retirement of Mr. J. Windrum as British Agent ar Consul at Nukualofa, Tong Mr. C. R. H. Nott, a District Con missioner in Fiji, and Administrati Officer, Class I, of the Britis Colonial Service, will succeed hir Mr. and Mrs. Nott recently r turned to Fiji from furlough ove seas.

Talking Chief Tuiasosopo le Pago Pago, American Samoa, early February on his way to ho pital in Honolulu. He has been leading figure in Samoan politi for many years and is the manag of American Samoan Industri which is the main outlet for nati mats, tapa, kava bowls and oth Samoan handicrafts. He was a companied to Hawaii by his wife.



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?ORT MORESBY HAS ;OME PLEASANT IATIVE STREET NAMES

MORESBY has some new street names and the suburb, loosely called the "Lawes Road area," as been called Eladorina.

Some of the new street names re: Aviat, Elanese, Vanama, Ela Iakana, Chester, Ogoa and Davara.

Just for the record—and perhaps or historians of the future—this what the Motu names mean:

ELADORINA—Heights of Ela. Ela was one of the early native llages in the Port Moresby local-y, and later was abandoned in vour of another site.).

ELANESE—Native place name—terally "the ridge of Ela."

VANAMA—Native place name, rmerly a native garden area.

ELA MAKANA—Native place ame meaning the saddle of the ill.

OGOA—The area where the na-ve people used to collect black one used in painting themselves r ceremonial dances.

DAVARA—Native place name, erally "the road to the sea."

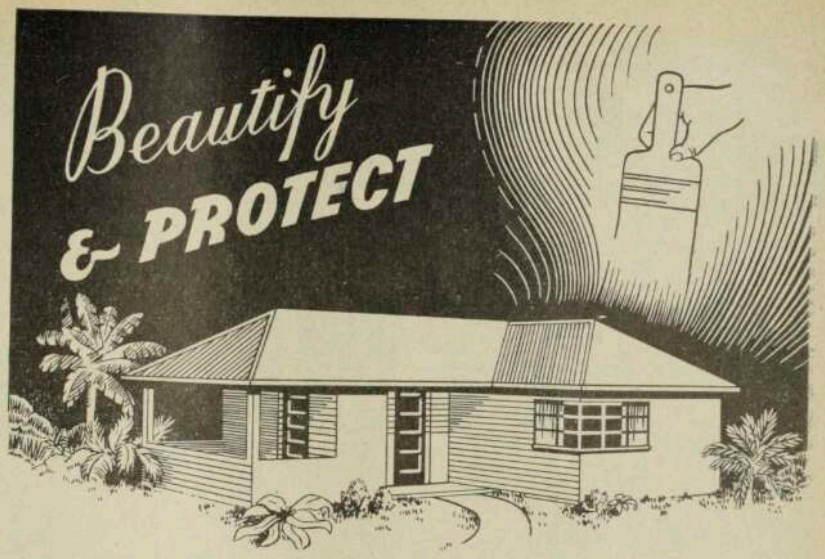
Chester Street was selected as one the names because of the his-rical association of the Chester mily with Papua. The late Mr. M. Chester raised the British g at Port Moresby on April 4, 83, taking possession in the name the British Government. Mr. ester was then a Thursday Island ficial, acting on instructions from e Queensland Government, and her members of the family have rved with the Administration er since. The Superintendent of ores and Transport, Mr. W. N. M. ester, is a grandson, and he has o sons in the District Services partment, making a total of ur generations on the records of e Territory Public Service.

s Rarotonga's Cool Store Coming Soon?

TINE carpenters left Auckland per March sailing of *Maui Pomare*, bound for Rarotonga, . They understood that they re to be engaged on the long-jected cool-store.

t had earlier been reported from rotonga that considerable filling-of the building site would still required before constructional rk could begin. According to one n, material was to be dredged m Avarua Harbour and dumped the cool-store site with drag-e equipment still to be imported.

Mr. J. E. Pery-Johnston, Lab-tory Superintendent in the Fiji dical Department, has been nted leave for further study in w Zealand.



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DEATHS OF ISLANDS PEOPLE

CAPT. J. L. RAWSON

Shortly after he had taken over ommand of Steamships Trading Co. *Doma*, Captain J. L. Rawson ied suddenly at sea on February 0, while the vessel was between Daru and Kikori, in the Gulf of Papua.

The Captain was well known in he Solomons and in other parts f the SW Pacific.

He served with the Cunard Line n the Atlantic for many years, but owing to a slight defect in his ight was unable to continue in hat service. In the early Twenties, e went to the Solomon Islands s Captain of the Lever Brothers' *S Koonakarra*. In 1930 he went o Hongkong to take delivery of heir vessel the *MV Kurimarau*. He ontinued in service as Master of he *Kurimarau* for many years in SIP, and in 1942, when the Jap-nese invasion appeared imminent, e was responsible for the evacua-ion of all Lever Brothers' staff, ogether with many other Euro-eans—130 persons in all—and anded them safely in Sydney.

Captain Rawson and the *Kuri-arau* were commandeered by the oyal Australian Navy and en-aged in the submarine blockade f Darwin. She was bombed on everal occasions, but remained float.

After the Americans had landed n Guadalcanal, Captain Rawson as seconded to the US Navy Intel-gence. He was stationed on Guadal-anal with Admiral Turner's staff nd later joined Admiral Turner's lagship, *Macaulay*, as Pilot for the nvasion of Munda and Kolom-angara. He piloted the invasion eet into these waters, and dur-ng the operation, *Macaulay* was unk by enemy action. Captain awson, one of the last to leave he ship, was picked up by a US estroyer and was later transferred General Macarthur's head-uarters and served in the Philli-nes area until the end of the war.

His next visit to the Solomon lands was in 1947 as Captain of he *Admiral Chase*, which was load-ng war salvage from Tulagi for . R. Carpenter & Co. Limited. n 1949, Captain Rawson again re-urned to the Solomons and acted r a short period as Marine Super-ntendent for the BSIP Govern-ent at Honiara.

SISTER ETHEL McMILLAN

A pioneer nursing sister of the ethodist Mission in BSI, Sister thel McMillan, died suddenly in elbourne on January 17.

Sister McMillan opened the ethodist Mission's work among omen and girls on the island of hoiseul in 1915, and served there r 26 years.

Inter-tribal fighting was still go-g on in Choiseul in 1915; and a eat many women died in child-birth as a result of hard work in the village gardens. Motherless children were brought to her at the mission house, and in most villages on Choiseul to-day there are young people who are alive because of her care.

Sister McMillan revisited Choiseul 11 years after her retirement in connection with the celebration of the golden jubilee of the Methodist Mission in BSI.

WING-COMMANDER J. BRAY

Wing Commander John Bray, OBE, a former commander of the RNZAF station at Laucala Bay, Fiji, died in England on February 22, after a brief illness, at the early age of 40. He is survived by his wife (who was Miss Peg Costello, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Pat Costello, of Suva), and two young daughters.

Wing Commander Bray was due to return to Air Department, Wellington, after four years as Senior Air Staff Officer at RNZAF Headquarters in London. He was held in high esteem, both in and out of the Service, and his unexpected death terminated what promised to be a successful career in the Air Force. Mr. and Mrs. Costello returned only a few weeks ago from a visit to Europe, where they saw much of their daughter and her husband.

MR. ROBERT DAVIDSON

An old and respected European resident of Apia, Western Samoa, Mr. Robert Davidson, passed away on February 18. Mr. Davidson had been a settler in Samoa for 30 years and had taken an active interest in business and in sport. He was over 70.

His widow, Mrs. Nellie Davidson, who was on her way home after a visit to New Zealand, is the youngest daughter of the famous Coe family, and therefore a half-sister of the late Mrs. Paul Kolbe ("Queen Emma") of New Guinea.

RATU ETUATE AND RATU KINIJIOJI

The death occurred recently of Ratu Etuate Wainiu, highest ranking Fijian chief by birth, at the age of 90 years, at Bau Island.

Ratu Etuate, who held the title of Vunivalu, was the eldest son of Ratu Cakobau's eldest son and uncle of Ratu G. K. Cakobau.

Another chief, Ratu Kinijioji, of Burebasaga, Rewa, died at about the same time following a lengthy illness, aged 66 years.

MR. WILLIAM G. GARNETT

Mr. William G. Garnett, son of an old established Fiji family, died in Suva, January 17, in his 62nd year. Mr. Garnett had been with Burns Philp and Co. in Fiji for over 30 years.

He is survived by his wife and two sons, one a resident of Suva, the other of Sydney.

MRS. C. B. TILNEY

Mrs. C. B. Tilney died in Suva in February, after a long illness.

Mr. and Mrs. Tilney were for many years well-known residents of Ba.

MR. DOUGLAS QUAYLE

Mr. Douglas Quayle, aged 54, died suddenly at Samarai, Papua, in March. He was well known to many residents and he was accorded an RSL funeral. The service in the Anglican Church, Samarai, was conducted by Bishop P. N. W. Strong.

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Governor Petitbon Welcomed Back to Tahiti

GOVERNOR Petitbon, accompanied by Madame Petitbon, was warmly welcomed back at Tahiti for a second term of office on March 3. A large gathering was at the wharf, headed by Mayor Alfred Poroi and Government officials, to greet the governor as he came ashore from the TEAL aircraft.

School children from the island's schools sang a song especially composed for the occasion, as the Governor and Madame Petitbon passed under an "Arc de Triomphe" laden with flowers. Boys located in the branches of trees lining the route to the Government Residence threw more flowers onto the official car as it passed on its way.

This is the first occasion that a Governor of French Oceania has returned for a second term of office.

By the same aircraft, Monsieur Pouvanaa a Oopa, Deputy of French Oceania, returned from Paris and was enthusiastically welcomed by his followers.

¶ Mr. Ram L. Regan, son of Mr. Regan Mahajan of Suva, recently passed his final examinations as a barrister in London where he was reading for the Bar at Lincoln's Inn, and has returned to Fiji.

¶ Diane Cilento, daughter of a former Director of Medical Services in NG, was voted the "Wickedest Lady of the London Stage" at a party given in February for "bad" girls of the theatre—actresses who had "wicked and tough" parts. Diane has a part in Clifford Odet's play, "The Big Knife."

¶ Mr. D. A. Butler, Suva Manage for the Union Steam Ship Co., i at present on vacation in New Zea land.

¶ Mr. Hugh Frewen, Suva small ship owner, returned to Fiji i February after a visit to the Unite Kingdom and Australia.

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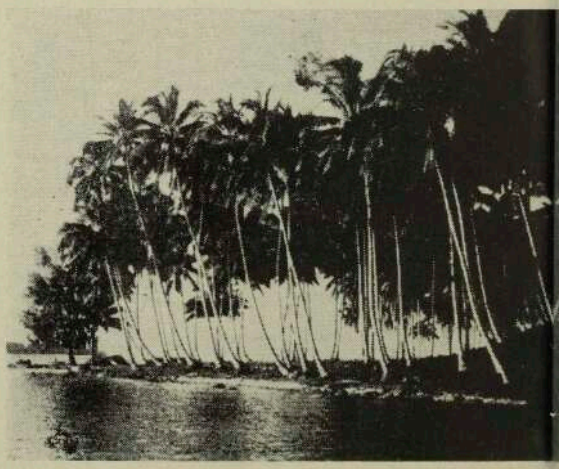

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Cook Is. "Costly" Buildings

The Other Side of the Picture

(From a Special Correspondent)

RAROTONGA, Feb. 10.

N reading the article "New Zealanders for the Cooks," in December PIM, local residents re surprised to discover that eir territory had been invaded "flocks of excursionists" dis-ised as public servants.

While it is true that the Euro-an staff of the Administration s expanded in recent years to e with increased activity in the lds of education and citrus-rming development, it is very true to state that many of these ropeans could, at the present ne, be replaced by local men.

n actual fact, the European staff the Administration is only 9 per nt., the remaining 91 per cent. ng Maoris. It has always been policy to replace NZ officials h Maoris where practicable.

n the last two years, 24 Maori cers were appointed, and of the ee Resident Agents in the rthern islands two are Maoris, d the remaining European may sently be replaced by another nder.

n spite of major developments constructional and agricultural neres, the number of European cers employed over the last two rs has remained unaltered.

OOK Islanders were also dis-turbed to learn that "vast sums of money" had been ured into magnificent residences soft-living officialdom.

Three houses of coral-lime con-uction, and one of concrete, e been built, and a fifth is al-st completed. These are the y houses built by the Adminis-tion in the last 30 years, and e erected to replace old build-s no longer usable.

wo of the four timber houses at airstrip, built by MOW for the Department, have been upied by Administration men, now the houses are required in by the Air Department, thus ensifying the housing problem.

n addition to the five new dences, two others were pur-sed, the inclusive price for all ldings being £21,729, or £3,104 h. The locally developed method ime construction, where the use costly imported material is stically reduced, is the chief son for this modest figure.

fore houses will be necessary the education and orange de-pment schemes are to go ahead. veyors and co-operative develop-t officers show an odd re-

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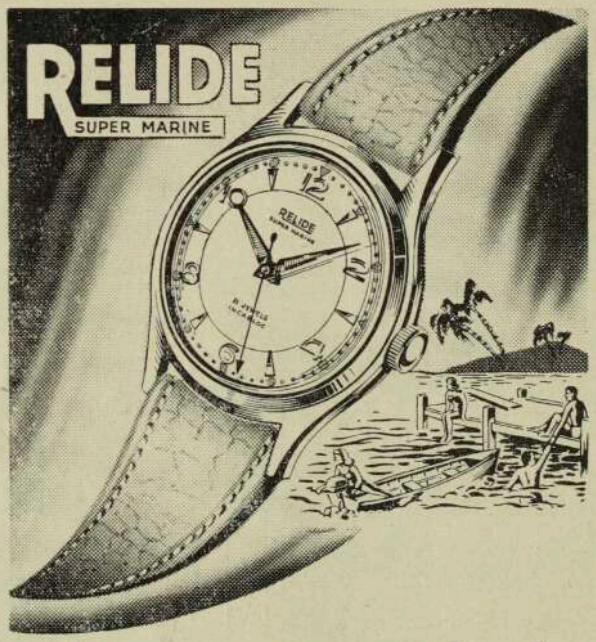

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uctance to bring their dependants rom comfortable NZ homes to Rarotongan shacks of kikau and acking-case timber.

ORAL-LIME and local basalt chips were also used extensively in building the new ublic Works Depot, some miles ut. Critics of the location overook the nearby metal deposits and rusher site, the advisability of ocating a Works Depot away om residental areas, and nonvailability of other sites.

The depot's joinery factory anufactures furniture and school quipment for the 15 islands of he group; a motor repair shop ervices all Government vehicles nd tractors used in the orange evelopment scheme, and concrete uilding blocks, pipes, telegraph oles, etc., are cast here for Islands se. There are also tradesmen's ops, shipping stores, main stores nd offices. The complete Depot as produced for only £27,169.

Criticism, when just and conructive, is welcomed. But that ased on guesswork and misconptions can help no one.

NOTHER COOK IS. VESSEL LOST

HE converted Fairmile cargo- and-passenger vessel *Mahurangi*, which has been operating in e Cook Islands inter-island trade nce February, 1948, foundered veral miles off Aitutaki on Febary 27.

The vessel apparently sprang a rious leak which her pumps could t handle. All her crew got safely hore and a part of the cargo of iation gasoline in drums was ved.

Mahurangi, purchased by Mr. R. Jenkins, of Auckland, after had disposed of his former hooner *New Golden Hind* (later nk in French Oceania waters), s first fitted out as a motor yacht. that capacity she made one oyage from Auckland to Tonga d Fiji. There she was chartered a trading craft and operated r a while in the Fiji inter-island ade. Less than a year later, she s chartered to Mr. D. C. Brown, Rarotonga, for the Cook Islands ade, and has since carried mainly OP shell from Manihiki to Raronga, and copra from other ands.

Frequently in trouble with her gines, she has figured in several arine incidents, involving assistce from other craft.

After lying idle at Avarua, Raronga, for a long time with engine ouble, the vessel narrowly escaped randing there recently when she turned from a voyage to Mangaia, r engines failing when near the ef.

Mahurangi has been skippered by Mr. John Blakelock, well-known in Apia and Papeete, during most of her time in the Cooks.

Official Hush-Hush About Missing Canberra Jet

THE loss of an RAF Canberra jet bomber somewhere between New Guinea and the Carolines at the end of February caused some interesting speculation.

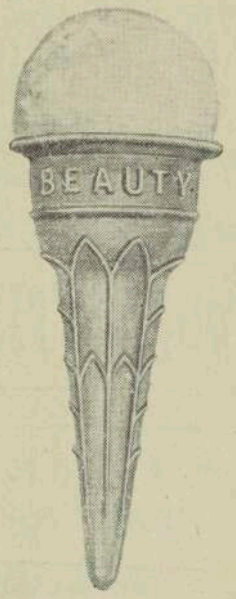
Extraordinarily little publicity was given to the widespread search by ship and aircraft which was carried on unsuccessfully for five days, searching vessels including HMNZS *Hawea*, bound from Korea to the Gilbert and Ellice Islands.

Earlier, this and other Canberra jets had started a spate of "flying saucer" stories as their vapour trails, at very high altitude, assumed strange shapes after the aircraft had passed, non-stop, across New Guinea from an Australian airfield.

It is believed that the Canberras were measuring radiation at high levels caused by atomic or hydrogen-bomb tests made by the United States in the Marshalls at about that time.

It will be recalled that United States long-range bombers made unofficial flights in the vicinity of Australia at the time of the Monte Bello test, and some days later, when the atomic dust had drifted at high altitude across Australia and the Tasman Sea, a specially equipped bomber made an unheralded flight non-stop from Guam to New Zealand—remaining under close guard by US personnel while refuelling there. The object of the flight was merely reported as "a long-range flying exercise of a routine nature."

McNIVEN'S



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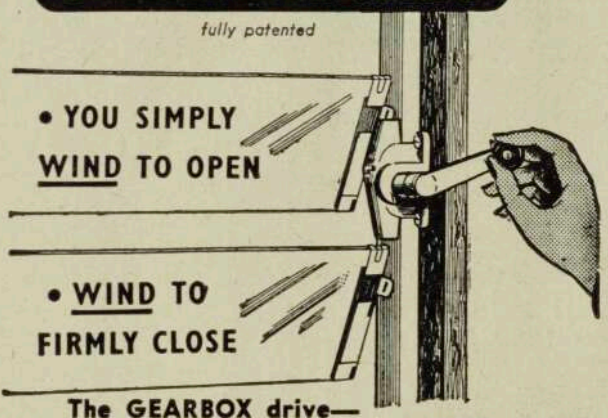

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BRITISH FLAGS IN SUVA

Some Contrasts and Questions

SUVA, Feb. 10.

ON January 26, the banks and one or two other institutions in Suva were asked why they flew Union Jacks and Australian and New Zealand Ensigns on "Republic of India Day." The people concerned explained politely that the flags were being flown for "Australia Day," which also is January 26.

The Indian flag was hoisted at the India Commissioner's office and, in the evening, the Suva Town Hall was specially illuminated for the "Republic Day" cultural programme, which was attended by high Government officials.

The portrait of the Indian President was displayed along with the portrait of Queen Elizabeth. "God Save the Queen" was played at the beginning of the programme, and the entertainment ended with the singing of the Indian national anthem by more than 1,000 Indians.

The Commissioner for the Government of India in Fiji (Dr. N. V. Rajkumar) gave an eloquent address on India's progress since the attainment of independence; and "Bande Mataram" (the song that was banned in Fiji during the war) was the accompaniment to a tableau of Mother India.

The precise status of the Indian Commissioner in Fiji is still a subject of some debate. The "Republic Day" demonstrations have given rise to misgivings among a section who doubt protestations of undivided allegiance to the British Crown.

On the other hand, there is no logical reason against the celebration of "India Day" in Fiji. Would the "old and bitter" protest if the Australians in Fiji similarly celebrated "Australia Day"? Both Australia and India are officially members of the British Commonwealth of Nations.

The answer, of course, lies in the general political background. There is no doubt of the loyalty of Australia to the Crown and the British flag. Can the same be said for India, nowadays?

Tahiti Tourist Bureau Changes

MONSIEUR ROUVIN has replaced Mlle. Muriel Gooding in charge of the Tahiti Tourist Bureau, Mlle. Gooding having recently resigned. M. Rouvin's assistant is M. C. Duprat.

M. Rouvin speaks excellent English and will be able to give English-speaking visitors full assistance on their arrival at Papeete.

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THE TROUBLES OF FIJI'S TOURIST TRAFFIC

SUVA, Feb. 15.

WE hope that if you enjoy your visit to Suva you will tell others about it," said a broadcaster, in the course of the usual greetings session for the benefit of tourists in the liner *Oronsay*, the evening before the cruise-ship arrived on a 2-days' visit.

To-day, the *Oronsay* entered Suva harbour on a perfect South Sea morning, but most of the day was occupied with a Suva downpour. Some of the travellers went for motor-trips, but the rain covered most of south-eastern Viti Levu and the inevitable cameras for the most part remained idle.

Judging by some of the disuntled comments, in which Australian adjectives abounded, it had never entered the heads of many of the visitors that they might encounter a tropical deluge. After all, this is the middle of the wet season, and most of Fiji has a lot of leeway to make up after last year's drought.

The trouble seems to be that so many people are so bemused by imaginative flights about the idyllic South Sea Islands that such things as rain and hurricanes are overlooked.

With the *Oronsay* in port on February 15 and 16, and the *Caronia* from New York, due February 17, there is commotion in Suva tourist circles.

For tourist purposes, the Suva hotel situation remains unchanged and completely restricted. No work has been done on the trimmed-down South Seas Hotel since the earthquake on September 14.

American Anthropologists In New Britain

MORE American anthropologists have arrived in Papua-New Guinea for a six-months' study in popular period.

The latest are from the Anthropology Department of the University of Pennsylvania—led by Dr. H. Goodenough, accompanied by Mr. Daris Swindler and Miss Ann Downing.

The party went on to the Talasea area of New Britain where they will be making a study of the villages of the Nakanai group. It is many years since these natives were last studied—probably not since Germman days.

Dr. Goodenough decided on Talasea when he was in eastern Papua on a survey visit in 1951. Incidentally, he traces his family connections to the Goodenough after whom the Islands were named.

Completing his Pacific photographic work for *Life* Magazine, after covering the Marquesas and the Cook Islands, Photographer Elisofon spent two short days in Pago Pago, American Samoa, in February, to get "rain shots." Ever since Maugham made it famous, people have expected it to rain in Pago but Elisofon looked up at a persistent sunny sky and wailed, "Where is this famous rain?" Old Rainmaker mountain must have heard him—within ten minutes, the skies opened and he got all he wanted.

¶ Major A. H. Diffey and Mrs. Diffey will settle in the United Kingdom after 25 years in Fiji. An explosives expert, Major Diffey has been attached to the Fiji Army.

A Public Service Institute which will conduct tutorial and correspondence courses for officers of the PNG Public Service will shortly be established in Port Moresby. At the same time, an Anciliary Division of the PS will be established for natives —this will be a "training section," aimed at fitting natives for ultimate entry to the Third Division.

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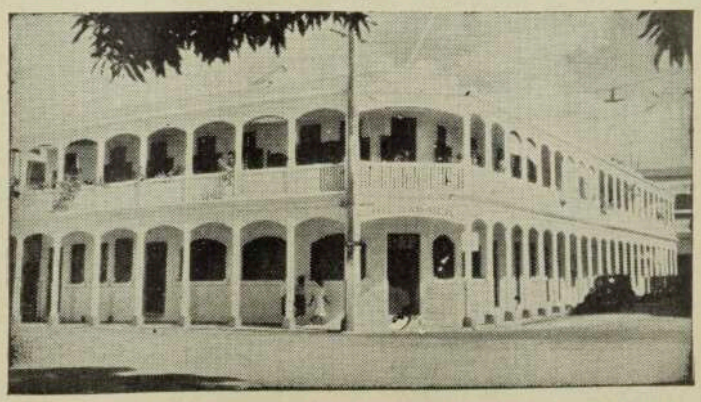

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FIJI'S SOIL CONSERVATION EXPERTS MAKING SOME PROGRESS

BATTLING against soil erosion in Fiji, the Agriculture Department's soil conservation officers in the last four years have terraced about 1,000 acres in the Nadi-Sabeto Basin of Viti Levu and "by field propaganda and instruction have made the farmers of the area aware of the dangers of erosion and have led them to appreciate the value of the conservation measures applied to the land."

This was stated at the first meeting of the Land Conservation Board, set up last year, which is now setting out to cope with the problems involved on a substantial scale.

Soil erosion in Fiji is caused mainly by two factors—bad farming and the "mining" of the soil and the destruction of forest and other natural cover in the high country. When the present Governor (Sir Ronald Garvey) arrived in 1952, he was shocked at the extent of erosion in Viti Levu and warned that the denudation of watershed areas was the first step to the loss of vital water supplies.

To help the new board, soil conservation committees are to be set up in three areas—Nadi-Sabeto, Macuata Province in Vanua Levu and the Suva-Nasinu-Colo-i-Suva triangle in the south-eastern corner of Viti Levu. With landowners or occupiers in a majority the committees will advise the board on conservation questions within their respective areas, collaborate with the conservation staff and support the staff's educational campaigns.

Most small farmers will need either a loan or time in which to repay the cost of conservation work done on their properties, and the board is to take up this point with the Government.

The Conservator of Forests told the board that great havoc has been and is being done by river bank erosion throughout Fiji. It was decided to ask the Government to consider the appointment of an overseas expert to visit the Colony and advise on the control of river erosion. At the same time it was agreed that riverbank erosion was a symptom and that the basic cure was proper land-use to reduce excessive run-off from the watersheds. It is possible that a Conservation Order will be issued covering the cultivation of river and stream banks within certain distances from the water's edge.

Indiscriminate grass-fires and the protection of watersheds by the maintenance or establishment of forests and the prevention of overgrazing also came into the dis-

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ission. Two full-time fire rangers e to be appointed to work with e police in western Viti Levu. There are already signs that the griculture Department is making eful headway against the ig- rance and prejudice which used Indian farmers to plough out ntour lines as soon as official monstration parties were out of e way, but the erosion problem s become too big to be dealt with ecemeal. A flight round the coast south-eastern Viti Levu, after avy rain, will indicate how much od soil is constantly going out sea.

The Sultan Flagged Off!

T is understood that at the next session of the Assemblee Territoriale in Papeete, Tahiti, a otion will be presented calling on e Governor to debar the exiled ltan of Morocco and his wives, nily, and concubines, from settling Tahiti as has been rumoured ely. (See Magazine Section, this ue).

In any case, there is everything suggest that Mohammed Ben ussef would not be at all satisd with the set-up in Tahiti. He accustomed to a suite of several zen rooms to house his retinue strict privacy. When exiled from rocco he was first given a hotel Corsica by the French Governnt but promptly complained that s one was too small—so was en most of the space in another ger hotel.

Now at Madagascar, the ex-Sultan l followers are occupying a threerey ex-army club.

Where he would hope to find this d of accommodation in Tahiti, hout disrupting the entire tourist lustry, is difficult to see—unless special hotel is built for him. sumably, on the way through to peete by air, an acute accommotion problem would arise in va.—JPS.

A letter has been received by the tional Parks Assn. of Queensland, m the Director of Wild Life nservation, in Natal, congratulat- the former on steps that have n taken to establish National rks in Papua-New Guinea. So far we know, no National Parks ve been declared in PNG, but, least, the Queensland Assn. is the job.

The World Health Organisation awarded Dr. H. E. Knowles, of Fiji Medical Department, a lowship, to assist him in completstudies for a diploma of iology at the Sheffield University, ere he is at present studying io diagnosis. Dr. Knowles' specied knowledge of radiology is exted to be of particular value to Colony in connection with the i-TB campaign.

Fiji's Anti-TB Campaign is Not Just a Matter of X-Rays

THERE is increasing speculation in Fiji among those interested in the welfare of the Fijians as to progress being made in the anti-TB campaign.

For reasons best known to the Fiji Health Department, very little appears to have been done in the way of informing the man in the street of the magnitude of the problems involved in eradicating the disease from the Colony.

On the face of it, a clear statement of some of these problems would appear wise.

Although, so far as we know, no figures on the incidence of the disease throughout Fiji have been published, it may be taken for granted that it is widespread.

To the public who imagine that all that has to be done is to X-ray the population, determine immediately who has, and who has not the disease, then to get busy with a needle and a supply of Wonder Drugs, the seemingly lengthy delay in doing anything is aggravating. But here, in plain language, are some of the problems:

THE actual X-raying of the population presents quite a problem on outlying islands—but even when the photos are taken they do not provide a "yes-no" answer. A great number of people have suffered TB of the lungs and other lung infections without being aware of it. The disease has become arrested or has healed of its own accord—but the X-ray shows the damage.

By investigation and observation it must be determined whether or not these people still have TB in an active form. With the Fijians it is believed that a high percentage show "shadows"—signs of past or existing infection. Are all these people to be kept under close observation for six months or more? Some only become infectious occasionally. This can only be determined by sputum examination at intervals over a lengthy period. They should be held in a sanatorium during this period, but imagine the accommodation required for this purpose.

Having sorted the unfit from the fit there comes the treatment.

There is not to-day, and possibly never shall be, a drug which alone will cure pulmonary TB. If the disease is caught very early—and that is not the case at the commencement of an anti-TB drive—the patient may require only a few months of bed-rest together with other forms of treatment—surgery, injections, or localised partial (and temporary) collapse of a lung. But if the disease has been established

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for a year or two and is in a dor mant form, common in Fiji, th treatment will certainly be pro longed if surgery cannot be re sorted to—which is very frequentl the case in Fiji where both lung are affected. If one lung only i involved, the surest "cure" is per manent collapse of that lung by sur gical means.

If both lungs are involved, per haps one extensively, that one ma be permanently collapsed and th other one temporarily collapsed. O both may be temporarily collapsed

The point here is that a consider able programme of surgery by ver skilled surgeons would be calle for, though the period of hospital isation might not be more than few months. But with partial col lapse methods the treatment ma well continue for many years, wit out-patient attendance weekly o fortnightly at a clinic—often after very lengthy period of hospitalisa tion.

Treatment clinics would eithe have to be established on ever major island, or these long-ter patients, quite capable of wor while under treatment, would hav to remain away from their hom islands and in the vicinity of clinic.

Those who know the dispositio of the Fijian are well aware that very high percentage of patient once released from a sanatoriu would never again appear for the regular treatment—injections of a between chest-wall and lung to kee the infected lung collapsed an rested. The alternative: traine medical staff to make a person weekly round of every village round up and treat the defaulter

Then what of the advanced cas in a highly infectious condition These people are frequently to a appearances in reasonably goo health. They move about, are ofte capable of work—but many of the also spit indiscriminately in the houses or in the market place. The may be the primary source of fu ther infection.

If all these were rounded up Fiji they would occupy a great de of expensive accommodation an would cost a great deal to keep isolation. They are untreatable, ca perhaps never be rendered non infectious, and may well live for long period of years. And unle they are rounded up they will a most certainly continue to infe others, especially children.

Whether Fijians who have passe middle age and are set in the ways, can actually be educated forms of hygiene and self-isolatio so that they can look after them selves and not infect others, seem extremely doubtful. The only sol tion appears to be the establisl ment of colonies or villages of the chronics where they could very w look after themselves. It means u

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ooting them from home and amily. The survey figures probably ill show a large number of such ases.

Or are these chronic cases to oc-upy all present available sana-orium and hospital space while ose early cases, who can be cured, re forced to perhaps go without fective treatment?

This latter is, of course, a prob-m in many countries.

The Fiji Health Department un-oubtedly has a considerable prob-m on its hands—in providing ained staff, in education of the ijians as to the things involved in dding themselves of this scourge, id in making the weighty decisions to policy. Aware of these matters, e man in the street may be less patient with the seeming slow-ess of the anti-TB campaign in e Colony.

Z Tax-Gatherer oes After ook Is. Tax-Dodgers

A TAXATION expert of the New Zealand Taxation Department left Auckland in mid-March spend six months in the Cook lands, investigating the books of ssible tax-evaders there. In the st the Department has not shown uch interest in the Cook Islands, d it has been a tax-free haven r all except those who have made luntary payment, as required by w.

With high prices for Islands oduce, many Islanders, as well as ropeans, are now earning tax-le incomes.

The Social Security system does t operate in the Cook Islands, d wage-earners there are not quired to pay social-security tax, t they are required to pay or-nary income tax if earning over 50 per annum, and in any case to ake annual returns of income.

One well-known Cook Islands der was "stung" heavily last ar when he showed himself in w Zealand with a wad of notes. hers may now be feeling appre-nsive.

The expert is said to have plenty time and is not going to rush ngs. Culprits paying up volun-ily may be forgiven some of their st sins—so reach for the cheque-ok, gents!—**J.P.S.**

Ed. Note: It comes as a surprise find that the parliamentarily-celess Cook Island residents are bject to NZ income tax. And we ve certainly never heard before anyone *voluntarily* paying income t.)

Water from a Wartime Hide-out

By Mrs. Marjorie A. Long, Bonis Plantation, Bougainville.

THERE was no running water on our plantation; and, during the first two or three years after the War, we had to rely on a few small tanks for household water. Corrugated iron was scarce and difficult to procure, and we had only a small catchment from the iron roof over the kitchen and bathroom of our bungalow, the rest of the roof being *sacsac*.

During one of the dry spells, when our tank water was very low, one of our house-boys said to my husband:

"Masta, me savvy one pella hole 'e got plarnty water 'e stap."

"Dis pella hole 'e stap where?"

"'E no long way too mus, 'e close to!"

Further questions brought the information that the "hole" was a cave where some of the natives had hidden from the Japs during their occupation of Bougainville. There was, apparently, an underground spring in the cave. Taking a supply of food, natives who had been unwilling to co-operate with the Japs had there found a successful hiding-place.

The cave was in a rocky cliff, rising above the beach about 1½ miles from the boundary of our plantation, and was accessible from the Government Road, which runs along the top of the cliff above the seashore.

My husband decided to investigate; and, one morning early, several large petrol drums and some smaller ones were loaded on the tray of the plantation truck and a number of native labourers were detailed to be "water-getters."

Our truck was a hybrid affair, built up partly from a war-time Chevrolet Ambulance, of which the housing portion had been replaced by an ordinary tray. One of many such ambulances remaining after the War in a military camp at Torokina, in Bougainville, it had suffered the ravages of a tropical climate, in addition to the wear and tear of war service. Its springs were worn out and, except for a dilapidated horse-hair cushion on the driving seat, all upholstery and/or padding were gone from the cabin. However, it was a useful vehicle for plantation work, if not quite suitable for lady passengers.

My husband drove and our body-guard of natives stood rigidly on the tray behind us, holding the drums and supporting each other over the very rough road. One of our house-boys stowed away and was not discovered until we arrived at our destination. He was made to "work his passage" by helping to fill the water drums. . . (Over)

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SUDDENLY we stopped. "We have arrived," said my husband. "The track to the cave starts here."

The thick growth on both sides of the road seemed forbidding and impenetrable.

"Oh", I said. "I'll take your word for it! Can *you* see any track?"

"No, but the boys know and they'll guide us. I'll go behind the leader and you follow in my tracks."

In a few minutes we found ourselves on a narrow foot track. It was clear enough when we got to it, but invisible from the road and the bush around it. Several natives went ahead with bush knives to cut a wider track for us and prepare a return path for the water carriers.

A quarter-hour's walk brought us to the top of a cliff, above a beach bounded by a flat, coral reef. There was a narrow track down the cliff side, which I negotiated by a sitting-sliding motion; then we came to a deep hole in the ground. It was about four feet across and gave access to a cave, feebly lighted by daylight through the opening.

It was impossible for anyone but a native to climb down inside without risk of broken bones, and I was glad to be informed that there was a second opening into the cave lower down the cliff, near the beach level. A further short scramble brought us to a low, narrow opening in the face of the cliff, well hidden between boulders. We had torches, and there were two hurricane lanterns to light us into the interior, which was pitch dark.

WE had to stoop to enter the tunnel and, inside, we could not stand upright. We crawled along in a crouching position, our torches lighting up the dusty rock walls and floor strewn with stones and some big rocks, which made our progress slow and awkward. Fine coral sand that had settled everywhere gave the tunnel a dirty, dusty appearance. It was obvious that the natives were still using the cave as empty tins, bottles and other rubbish were lying about in the way that the native always leaves things when he has finished with them.

Suddenly, we came to the end of the tunnel, which opened into a larger portion forming a cave about eight feet high, with a number of boulders and rocks in a tumbled mass on the floor and along the walls. We were able to extinguish our torches, as the daylight from the opening we had seen as we climbed down the cliff was immediately above the centre of the cave.

There was a spring of crystal clear and very cold water in a deep depression in one corner of the cave, half hidden under some rocks. We had a cup and a kitchen dipper with us, and my husband climbed down to the pool to sample the water. I watched the proceedings from a higher rock and awaited my turn as official taster. As the cup

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as being passed up to me, a native locked it against a rock, breaking so a second sample was handed in the dipper. The water was ghtly brackish.

He crawled back through the nnel, and my husband set about ganising the line of carriers to ng out the water. In the mean- ne, I decided to have a look round e beach reef. A rag-and-bobtail dyguard of native children fol- ved me, for by this time we emed to have collected all the al piccaninnies from the villages. ne of the bigger ones were pressed o service to aid the water riers, but the smaller fry, whose s ranged from about five to eight, iled along behind me. The eldest d the youngest both carried bush ives—one about sixteen inches g. The youngest, aged five, drew er figures with it in the sand my edification, but I found them ntelligible. The older lad showed artistic prowess by drawing a oe with a sail on a slender mast. ecognised that one. As conversa- n between my followers and my- f was only possible in pidgin glish, which I then did not know, had little to say to each other. ried to make them understand, vever, that I liked the drawings. ad nothing with me to give them a reward and they soon drifted ay, the novelty of my presence ing worn off.

CAME upon the wreck of a small barge, half buried in the sand; its engine, apparently intact, submerged. It was a Japanese c, aground on the reef, which tched widely away from the ch. There was a rolled-up ana leaf hidden in the wreck, taining some native food, which probably been put there by e native women as a hiding e from the other thieves and bers of her kind.

n my way back I discovered the ains of a Japanese patrol camp, len behind a natural barrier of lders above the beach. A fissure ween two huge boulders, so ow that it was a squeeze to pass ugh, led into a small cleared le, outside an enormous shallow in the cliff side. There were remains of fireplaces, cunningly ened in the cave and ends of sticking out of the rock face cated that there had been some of telephone connections. There a number of bottles, tins and r rubbish lying about and a ered Japanese army helmet re- ned, a mute relic of defeat.

here was ample room in the e to move around and, from ous points, one could see parts he beach, and bush, and out ea. It must have been a good ng place for a patrol during the nese occupation of Bougain- .

surprising feature was the p's proximity to the cave with

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2. **Community Development.** March, 1950. 27 pp., bibliography.
3. **The Village Library.** April, 1950. 9 pp., book list.
4. **Visual Aids in Education in the South Pacific.** By A. L. Moore, Visual Aids Consultant, Commonwealth Office of Education. April, 1950. 58 pp.
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9. **Report of Plant and Animal Quarantine Conference, Suva.** April, 1951. 24 pp., two annexures.
10. **Bibliography of Co-operation in the South Pacific.** April, 1951. 10 pp.
11. **Interim Reports on the Moturiki (Fiji) Community Development Project.** By Howard Hayden, Director of Education, Fiji. May, 1951. 48 pp.
12. **Tuberculosis Investigations by the South Pacific Commission in 1950.** May, 1951. 124 pp.
13. **Vocational Training Facilities in Australia for Students from South Pacific Territories.** May, 1951. 8 pp.
14. **Educational Broadcasts to Samoan Village Schools.** Department of Education, Western Samoa. May, 1951. 7 pp.
15. **Libraries for Beginners.** By Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Todd, Kwato Mission, Eastern Papua. July, 1951. 21 pp., book list.
16. **Some Notes and Suggestions Regarding Conservation of Important Archaeological Sites and Archives in South Pacific Territories.** By Dr. F. M. Keesing. August, 1951. 19 pp., bibliography. (Price, 5/- stg.)
17. **Conference of Experts on Filariasis and Elephantiasis, Tahiti: Summary of Proceedings.** September, 1951. 22 pp.
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54. **Commercial Relations in the Pacific Islands.** By V Stace, Assistant Economist, Reserve Bank of N.Z. Ma 1954.

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underground spring. The dist-
e was not more than 300 yards
l the fact that natives could
roach and hide there without
Japanese knowing, as the
ives maintained, was astonishing.
ere must have been a more
ctive means of disguising the
rance than appeared when we
it.
hen I returned the water-
iers were toiling up the rough
k with full drums on their
ulders to the trucks, while an-
er line was bringing back the
pty drums for refill. A bucket
rope attached, was dropped
n the perpendicular opening to
ves inside the cave, who filled
nd returned it to those outside.
re was only one bucket and
ves are slow workers.
o fill in the time, I went with
husband into the bush, where
inspected various sorry-looking
ks of motor vehicles left by the
anese, seeking parts which he
t utilise in our plantation truck.
found some "possibilities."
hen the large drums on the
k were full, the native workers
assembled and instructions
n for the casual local hands,
had assisted, to call at the
tation later for their pay (twist
cco). We lost some of the water
he road, going over the bumps.
e of it slopped down my back
a drum immediately behind

one morning, I had visited a
et" cave, discovered a wreck,
ored a Japanese camp site, and
stigated derelict motor vehicles;
much more to the point, our
estic water supply had been re-
ished.

MPER YEAR FOR COOK IS. TOMATOES

By W. H. Percival

ST year, Cook Islands tomato-
growers shipped a record of
5,610 cases to New Zealand. The
ous best was 1946—69,550 cases.
adequate shipping normally
es local fruit exporters to re-
tomato crops as a gamble, but
year no less than 24 fruit boats
d at the Cooks after April,
ng it possible to better the
figures by 26,060 cases.
ces varied from 11/3 to 20/6
ase, working out at an average
d per lb. nett for the local
er. We try here to supply the
ate winter market demand for
toes, and in 1953 this was very
table.

. Carl Koster and Mrs. Koster,
residents of Fiji, recently left
Colony to retire to Sydney. Mr.
er has recently been senior
inspector in the Department
griculture. His father went to
Waimanu River district of Viti
prior to Annexation.

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FREEHOLD PLANTATION.—2,600 acres; 400 bearing nuts; pre-war output 160 tons yearly; necessary buildings erected. Situated near Bougainville, New Guinea. Further particulars from: **"Jaycee",** C/- P.I.M., Box 3408, G.P.O., Sydney.

Position Wanted

Australian, 28, married, child (3 years), requires Chef or Cook's position in the Islands or North Queensland. Has spent 3 years in New Guinea. Wife able to do secretarial work, also has knowledge of nursing. Go anywhere.

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COPRA

(The following are based on the MOF contract prices in the Territories named.)

PAPUA-NEW GUINEA.—Copra Marketing Board rates: Main ports, Hot air, £75 per ton; FMS, £74/5/-; Smoked, £71/10/—at main ports (except Kokopo, where rates are 17/6 less). Sydney crushers will pay, in 1954: Plantation Hot-air: £97, FMS £97, Smoked, £96. The above prices were officially announced on March 12, to operate from January 1.

FIJI.—At Suva and Levuka, 1954: Plantation grade (60 points and over) £F70/15/6 per ton; FMS (45-57½ points) £F70/10/-.

W. SAMOA.—MOF (1953) contract was £Stg.65 per ton, f.o.b., Western Samoa; producers received about £10 less. 1954 price is expected to increase by 7½ per cent.

BSI.—Prices based on 1953 MOF contract of £Stg.65, per ton, f.o.b. Rates to producers were: £A62/3/4 per ton, delivered Honiara; £A63/3/4, delivered Tulagi or Yandina; £A62/18/4, delivered Gizo. 1954 price is expected to increase by 7½ per cent.

COCOA.—Islands prices are usually based on rate for Accra cocoa (W. Africa), quotation (from Colyer Watson Ltd., Sydney) for which on March 11 was £Stg.442/10/- (£A553/2/6 approx.) c.i.f., ton, Cont. ports.

N.G.—£510 approx. per ton, in store, Sydney.

Samoa.—Sydney agents in March quoted Samoa cocoa at £Stg.430 (£A537/6/- approx.), f.o.b. per ton, first grade. (Samoan currency equals Stg.).

COFFEE.—P.-N.G. Overseas market increases have brought Territories coffee to 6/- per lb. All supplies assured of quick sale.

New Caledonia.—Crop mainly exported to France. Recent quotation was 398 Metrop. francs per kilo (£A513 approx. per long ton).

RUBBER.—Market still weakening. **Papua - New Guinea.**—Price based on Singapore figure which fluctuates from day to day. Quotation on March 12 was 26-2/3d Aust. lb. Singapore rate March 12 No. 1 grade RSS (sellers) spot 53⅞c. lb. c.i.f. (approx. 24-1/3d Aust. lb.).

VANILLA BEANS.—Sydney nominal quotations (by Victor Karp, Tulk & Co.): **Tahiti.**—Stocks still unavailable. New season expected to commence about July. Nominal price white & yellow, 60/- c.i.f., Sydney.

RICE.—Price for 1954. **Papua - N.G.**—Dry brown £90 per ton; dressed £96 per ton. **Other Pacific Is.**, except NZ dependencies, £96 per ton.

PEARL SHELL.—Prices fixed between Torres Strait producers and Otto Gerdau Co. (USA) for 1954: AA/A/B grades, 85c lb. (£A850 approx. per long ton); C, 80c lb. (£A800); D, 55c lb. (£A550); E, 40c lb. (£A400); EE, 30c lb. (£A300)—all c.i.f., New York. No change fro last season. **Manihiki.**—£NZ292 (£A36 c.i.f., Auckland. **Rarotonga.**—£NZ2 (£A287/10/-) f.o.b., Auckland.

TROCHUS SHELL.—N.G.: £280 per to ex-wharf less rejects. Market very quie sales difficult to confirm. Price indicati only. **Fiji**, £F200 per ton f.o.b., Suv

GREEN SNAIL SHELL.—Market fair steady in Sydney at present. **N.G.**, £2 per ton less rejects. **N.H.**, £205 per to free ex-wharf. **B.S.I.**, No. 1 grade £17 £190, Spotted £80 both per ton e wharf.

PEANUTS.—P.N.G.: Quality of nuts in proved. Recent price was 2/- lb. wi kernels. Market expected to ease slight when Australian nuts are again availabl

LONDON PRICES

LONDON, March 5.

Copra, c.i.f., Continental Ports, ton:

New Hebrides	97,500 Metrop. fran (£A125/16/- approx
Tahiti	98,500 Metrop. fran (£A127 approx
FM Straits	£Stg. (£A100 approx
Philippines, bulk, March	$2 (£A91/10/- approx

Coconut Oil, c.i.f., Continental Por ton:—

FM Straits, 3½%	£Stg.1 (£A170 approx
Ceylon, Jan.	£Stg.1 (£A168/15/- approx

Cocoa, per 50 kilos, c.i.f., Nth. Co tinental Ports:—

Accra, March	£Stg.22/1 (£A565 approx. per long ton

ISLANDS MINING SHARE

	Aug., 1939.	Feb. 1	Mar. 1
FIJI			
Emperor	b9/11	b17/-	b17/6
Loloma	s25/6	s26/-	b23/6
PAPUA-NEW GUINEA			
Bulolo G.D.	b124/-	b67/-	s75/-
Mandated All.	b3/8	b10d	b10d
N.G.G. Ltd.	b1/10	b2/2½	b2/2½
Oil Search	s3/11	b21/9	b25/3
Oriomo Oil	b5/-	b10/6	b11/-
Papuan Apin.	b4/11	b8/3	b8/3
Placer Dev.	b68/6	b300/-	b260/-
Sandy Creek	b1/5	b3d	b3d

EXCHANGE RATES

FIJI.—Through BANK OF NSW, A BANK and BANK OF NZ. Australia on F basis £100 Fiji: Buying, £A111/2/6; Selli £A113. **Fiji-London**, basis £100 Lond B. £110/12/6; S. £112. **NZ-Fiji**, basis £ NZ: B. £111/11/9; S. £110/4/3.

SAMOA.— Through BANK OF Australia on Samoa, basis £100 Sam B. £A123/12/6; S. £A124/10/9. **Sam London**, basis £100 London: £100/7/6; S. £101/10/-. **Samoa-** basis £100 NZ: B. £100; S. £100/1 **Samoa-Fiji**, basis £100 Samoa: B. £1 S. £110.

PAPUA-NG.—COMMONWEALTH BA (Port Moresby, Lae, Rabaul, Kavie Madang), **BANK OF NSW** (branches: Moresby, Lae, Bulolo, Rabaul, Mada Samarai; agency: Wau) and **ANZ BA** (Port Moresby) quote exchange Australia-Papua-NG: 10/- per £100.

BSI.—COMMONWEALTH BANK (bra at Honiara) quotes exchange rate **A tralia-BSI: 10/- per £100.**

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