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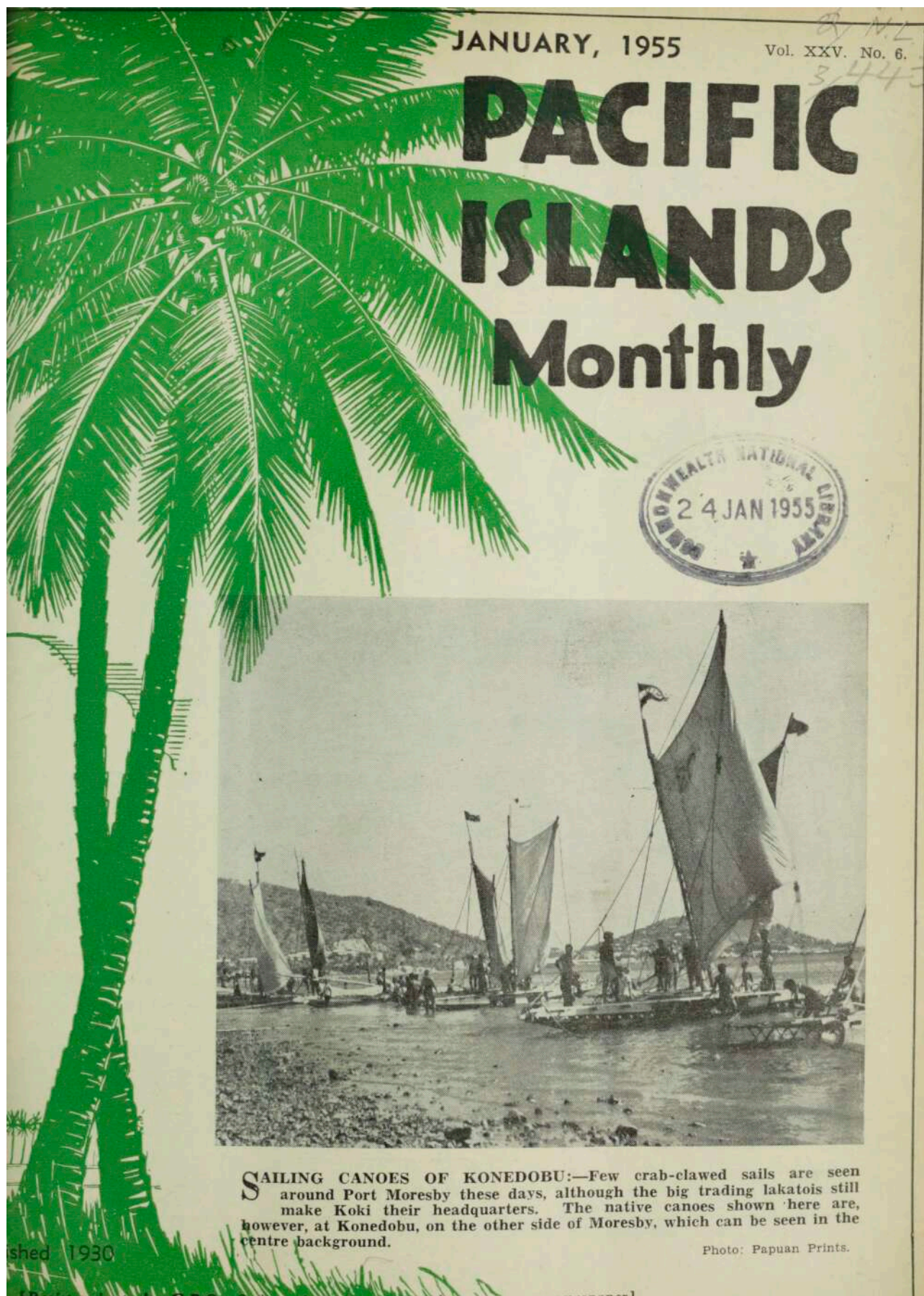
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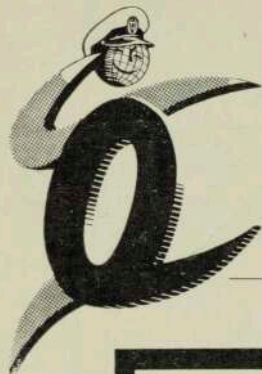
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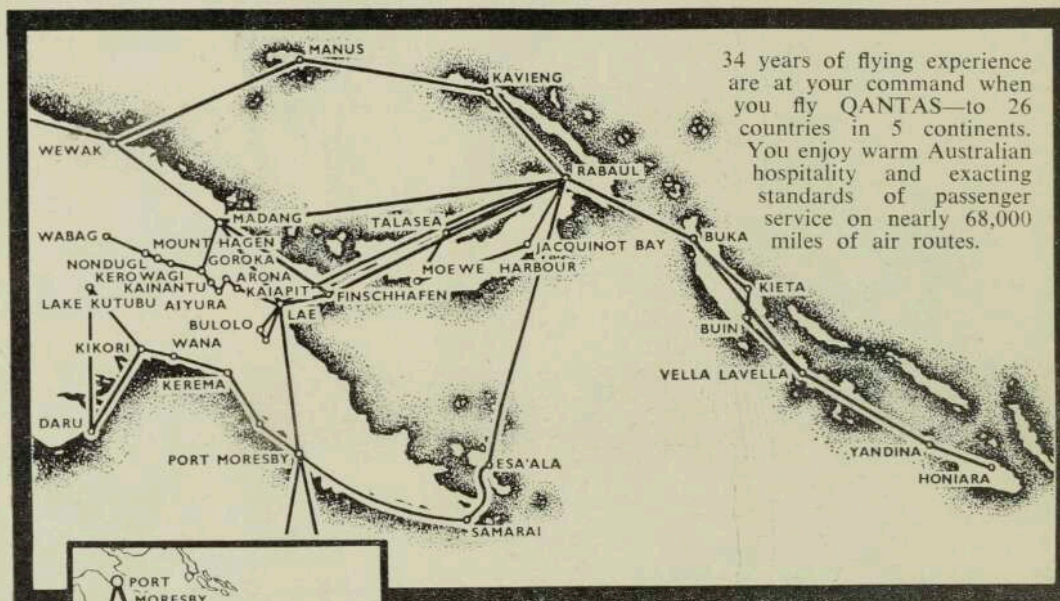
P20a

From Local Routes to World Wide Travel

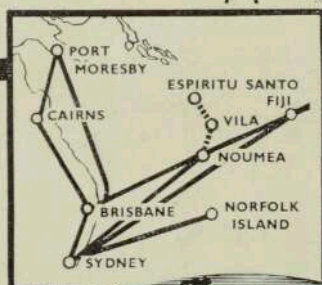


Linking the Pacific

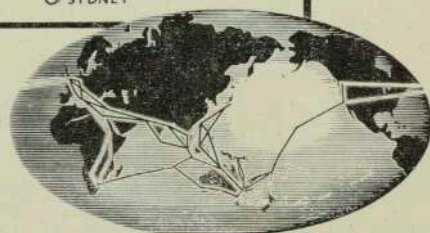
With AUSTRALIA AND THE WORLD



34 years of flying experience are at your command when you fly QANTAS—to 26 countries in 5 continents. You enjoy warm Australian hospitality and exacting standards of passenger service on nearly 68,000 miles of air routes.



Over 50 ports of call in the South-West Pacific and now linked with Australia and the world by QANTAS—Australia's Overseas Airline. From Australia fast, frequent services radiate to Europe, U.S.A. and Canada, the Orient and South Africa. Both First Class and Tourist Travel are available to most ports of call on the Qantas overseas network of air services.



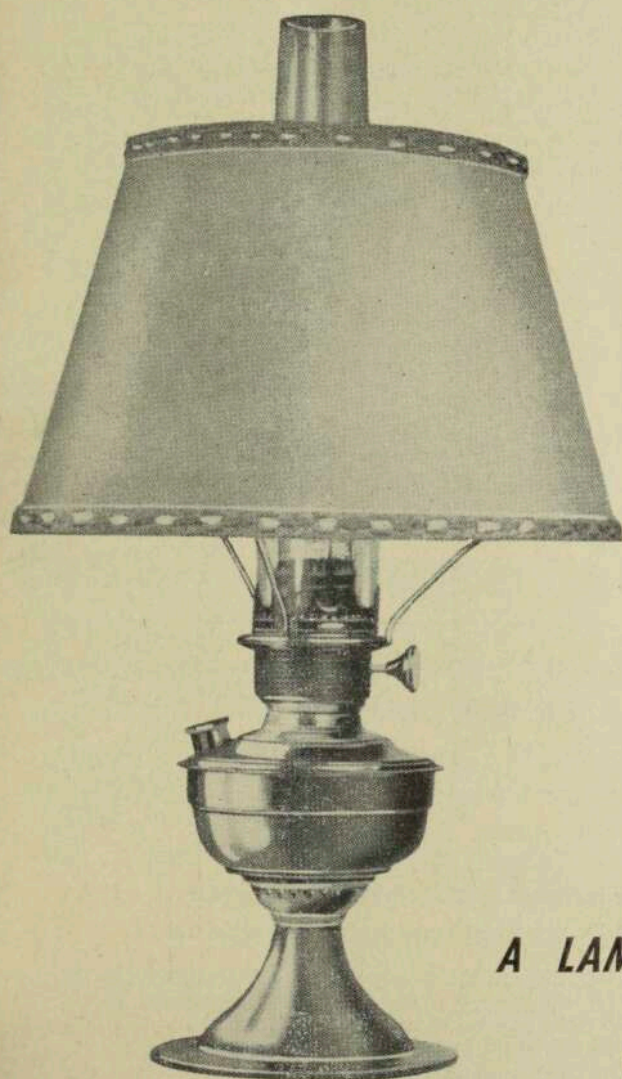
*Qantas Empire Airways Limited
in association with B.O.A.C. and TEAL*

AUSTRALIA'S OVERSEAS AIRLINE

QANTAS

Coleman

KERO-MAN TABLE LAMP



*Brilliant yet pleasant
incandescent white
light.*

*No pumping or pre-heating
necessary.*

Burns ordinary Kerosene.

*Heat-resisting glass
chimney.*

Centre draught feature.

Polished Brass finish.

A LAMP OF LASTING QUALITY

MADE IN ENGLAND

Representatives for Pacific Islands

54a PITT STREET
SYDNEY

ROBERT GILLESPIE PTY LTD

PEARCE & CO. LTD.
SUVA
FOR FIJI ISLANDS

Arnott's *famous* Biscuits

There is no Substitute for Quality

The following varieties are now available for export in No. 8 size soldered tins (8 tins crated, 3 ft. 6 in. cu.) and ½-lb. waxed packets in Cartons of permissible shipping weight (1 ft. 3 in. cu.).

VARIETY:	No. 8 tins Net wt. bisc. approx.	No. of ½-lb. pkts. per carton.
Adora Cream Wafer	5½ lb.	x
Afternoon Tea	6½	40
Arnella Crunch	5½	x
Arno Shortbread	9½	54
Butter Oat Cake	7½	53
Cherry Ripe	6	45
Cocoanut	5½	40
Creamy Chocolate	7½	52
Custard Cream	8½	x
Delta Cream	6	40
Ginger Nut	10	62
Golden Grain	5½	40
Jatz Cracker	5	x
Lacto Malted Milk	0	48
Milk Arrowroot	5½	40
Milk Coffee	7½	43
Nice	7½	52
Orange Slice	6½	45
Orange Tea	8	58
Osborne	7½	x
Princess	5½	40
Raspberry Fruit Cream	6	40
Sao (Carton 1 ft. 5 in. cu.).	4½	32
Scotch Finger	9½	54
Shredded Wheatmeal	5	33
Spicy Fruit Roll	10½	62
Tea Cake	0	33
Thin Captain	4½	x

o Not available in No. 8 tins.

x Not available in packets.

CABIN BISCUITS (As Supplied to the Royal Australian Navy)

Single Tins. Approximately 30 lb. net weight per tin of I.C. plate 12½ in. x 12½ in. x 18½ in.

Hermetically sealed with tagger top. Slip on lid spot-soldered.

Packed in cartons made of No. 2 board silicate gum sealed for permissible shipping uncrated, to hold one tin, size approximately 13 in. x 12 in. x 19 in., = 1 ft. 10 in. cu. (22 equal one shipping ton).

Or crated.—4 tins without cartons, crate size — 19 in. x 26 in. x 28 in. — 8 cu. ft.

WILLIAM ARNOTT PTY., LIMITED
HOMEBUSH, N.S.W.

Shipping Time-Tables

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 about January 12.

MV Malekula sails from Sydney for Samarai, Rabaul, Kavieng, Manus, Wewak, Dshafen, Madang, Lae, Samarai and return to Sydney. Next sailing about January 4.

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

MV's Soochow, Shansi and Sinkiang, 3,000 tons, provide regular service between Sydney and Papua-New Guinea. Sinkiang now provides a fast service Sydney-Brisbane-Port Moresby and return same route. Soochow and Shansi will continue Sydney - Brisbane - Moresby - Samarai - Lae - Madang - Kavieng - Samarai and return, with calls at Melbourne as required.

Next Sydney sailing, Soochow: Jan. 25.

Next Sydney sailing, Sinkiang: Feb. 8.

Next Sydney sailing, Shansi: Feb. 25.

The above dates are approximate, and are to be altered by as much as two days.

Details from New Guinea Australia Line S. Yuill & Co., Ltd., agents, 6 Bridge Street, Sydney.

Zealand-Fiji-Samoa-Tonga

Motor vessels Tofua and Matua, from New Zealand, serve Suva (Fiji), Nukunono and Vavau (Tonga), Niue Is., Pago

Australia - New Zealand - Canada - USA

Sailings of Orient Line Passenger Ships, 1954-55.

		ORSOVA	Orion	ORONSAY	ORCADES	ORONSAY
		1955	1955	1955	1955	1955
SYDNEY	depart	28 Jan.	25 Mar.	15 July	7 Oct.	18 Nov.
AUCKLAND	arr/dep	31 Jan.	29 Mar.	18 July	10 Oct.	21 Nov.
SUVA	arr/dep	3 Feb.	2 Apl.	21 July	13 Oct.	24 Nov.
HONOLULU	arr/dep	8 Feb.	8 Apl.	26 July	18 Oct.	29 Nov.
VANCOUVER	arrive	14 Feb.	14 Apl.	1 Aug.	24 Oct.	5 Dec.
	depart	15 Feb.	15 Apl.	2 Aug.	25 Oct.	6 Dec.
SAN FRANCISCO	arr	17 Feb.	18 Apl.	4 Aug.	27 Oct.	8 Dec.
	depart	18 Feb.	19 Apl.	5 Aug.	28 Oct.	9 Dec.
HONOLULU	arr/dep	22 Feb.	24 Apl.	9 Aug.	1 Nov.	13 Dec.
SUVA	arr/dep	1 Mar.	2 May	16 Aug.	8 Nov.	20 Dec.
AUCKLAND	arr/dep	4 Mar.	5 May	19 Aug.	11 Nov.	23 Dec.
SYDNEY	arrive	7 Mar.	9 May	22 Aug.	14 Nov.	26 Dec.

The liners Orsova and Orcares will each make an additional Pacific crossing in 1955. Orsova will leave Sydney for London on June 3 and will call at: Auckland, Suva, Honolulu, Vancouver, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Panama, Colon, Trinidad, Cherbourg. She will reach London on July 13. Orcares will sail from London on August 22 bound for Sydney via the same route. She will arrive on October 1.

Pago (American Samoa), Apia (Western Samoa). Tofua leaves Auckland for any or all 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 scheduled to leave Auckland February 1 and March 1.

Matua will leave Auckland January 22 and February 19.

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.

Full details on application to NZ Government Department of Island Terri-

tories in Wellington, or to any office of the Union SS Co. of NZ, Ltd., which Company acts as Agents 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 Norfolk Is.-New Hebrides Ports-BSI ports-Bougainville-Rabaul-Samarai-Sydney.

Sailing from Sydney about January 29. Details from Burns Philp & Co., 7 Bridge Street, Sydney.

Sydney-N. Caledonia-Tahiti

Vessels of Messageries Maritimes Line, coming from Marseilles, via West Indies

New Guinea Australia Line

Regular Service from MELBOURNE, SYDNEY AND BRISBANE TO PORT MORESBY, SAMARAI, LAE, MADANG, KAVIENG, AND RABAU

“SOOCHOW”

“SHANSI”

“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”

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.

Sailing dates:—

From Sydney, Northbound — Tahitien: January 7, May 24, 1955. Caledonien: April 11, August 23, 1955.

From Papeete, Southbound — Tahitien:

April 30, 1955. Caledonien: March 18, July 30, 1955.

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

Sydney-S. Africa-UK-Pacific Ports-Sydney

A service by Shaw Savill, with their new

all-passenger liner Southern Cross, commence from the UK early in 1955. Calls on maiden voyage will be made at West Indies ports, Panama, Papeete (Tahiti), Suva, Auckland, Sydney, Australian ports, South African ports, Cape Islands, UK.

Four round trips per year will be made and direction of service will alternate (i.e. the second voyage from UK will be South Africa about); about 1,200 one-way passengers will be carried. Single, double berth and multi-berth cabins are available. Fares Sydney-UK are from £100 Stg.; Suva-UK, via Panama, from £100 Stg.; via the Cape, from £132 Stg.; Papeete-UK, via Panama, from £100 Stg.; via Cape, £151 Stg.

Tentative sailing dates for maiden voyage: Papeete, April 22-23, 1955. Suva, April 28, 1955. Auckland, May 2-3, 1955. Sydney, May 6-9, 1955.

N. America-Fiji-Hebrides, etc.

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

Suggested sailing dates for the Thorsisle are as follows:

San Francisco (Southbound)	Jan
Papeete	Jan
Apia	Feb
Nukualofa	Feb
Suva	Feb
Lautoka (Vatia)	Feb
Noumea	Feb
Vila	Feb
Santo	Feb
Lae	Feb
San Francisco (Inbound)	Mar

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

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 — NEW GUINEA

GENERAL STEAMSHIP CORPORATION, LTD.

General Agents

432 California Street, San Francisco 4, Calif., U.S.A.

PAPEETE—Etablissements Donald Tahiti.

SUVA—Morris Hedstrom Ltd.

PORT VILA—Comptoirs Francais des
Nouvelles Hebrides.

APIA—Morris Hedstrom Ltd.

NOUMEA—Etablissements Ballande.

LAE—Burns Philp (New Guinea) Ltd.
SYDNEY—Birt & Co. (Pty.) Ltd.

Linking the

Pacific Islands with Europe, West Indies,

New Zealand,

Australia and South Africa

The new Shaw Savill
S. S. TOURIST CLASS LINER
SOUTHERN CROSS



For full particulars apply:

Fiji

Any Branch or Agency of
Burns Philp (South Sea)
Co. Ltd.,
Head Office:
Suva.
Cable address:
Burnsouth.

Tahiti

Etablissements Donald
Tahiti, Papeete
Cable address:
Donald — Papeete.

The one class tourist liner "Southern Cross" on the maiden voyage calls at Papeete (23rd April, 1955) and Suva (28th April, 1955), thence to England via New Zealand, Australia and South Africa. On the second voyage calls at Suva (1st November, 1955) and Papeete (5th November, 1955), en route to England via Panama, Curacao and Trinidad; thereafter two eastbound and two westbound voyages each year form this vessel's round-the-world itinerary.

Dates subject to alteration without notice.

Minimum Fares:

To England from Suva via Panama	£105 stg.
via South Africa	£132 stg.
From Tahiti via Panama	£100 stg.
via South Africa	£151 stg.

Airways Time-Tables

PAN-PACIFIC SERVICES

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

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

.. Fri. and Sun.*—Sydney-Nadi (Fiji)-
anton Is. - Honolulu - S. Francisco -
attle - Portland.
.. Thur.* and Sat.—Return via same
ute.

Additional departure days which will
te from October 3 till March 31, 1955.
s. and Fri.—Auckland - Nadi (Fiji).
rs. and Mon.—Nadi (Fiji) - Auckland.
nnecting with Strato Clipper at Nadi.

Y QANTAS EMPIRE AIRWAYS
(Super Constellation Service)

NORTHWARDS

* and Sat.* Sydney - Nadi (Fiji) -
anton Is. - Honolulu - San Francisco—
th every Saturday service and alt.
ednesday service extending to Van-
uver.

SOUTHWARDS

* and Fri.*—San Francisco-Honolulu-
anton Is.-Nadi (Fiji)-Sydney. Monday
rvice and alt. Friday service com-
ences from Vancouver.
o services — Wednesday northbound
Friday southbound—are "Connoisseur"
es: First class only.

AL DC6 services between Auckland
adi connect at Nadi Wednesdays and
days northward; Wednesdays and
ay southwards.

F CANADIAN PACIFIC AIRLINES
(CPAL)

(With Super DC-6B Aircraft)*

Every Tuesday—Sydney - Auckland - Nadi
(Fiji) - Honolulu - Vancouver.

Every Friday return from Vancouver by
same route.

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

SECTIONAL SERVICES IN PACIFIC

2. Sydney-New Guinea

Service by Qantas Empire Airways

NORTHWARDS

Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays
(Skymasters)*

Depart:

Sydney, 8.00 pm
Brisbane, 11.45 pm

Arrive:

Brisbane, 10.45 pm
Moresby, 6.35 am
(Wed., Fri., Sun.)

Moresby, 7.55 am

Connecting services north of Lae by
D.C.3 to Bulolo and Wau on Wednesdays.

* DC3 operating Moresby-Lae sector.

Sundays

(Sandringhams)

Depart:

Sydney, 7.30 pm
Brisbane, 12.20 am
(Mon.)

Cairns, 8.05 am

Arrive:

Brisbane, 10.50 pm
Cairns, 6.35 am

Moresby, 11.55 am
(Night stop)

LONDON - SUVA

FIJI DIRECT SERVICE

VIA
PANAMA

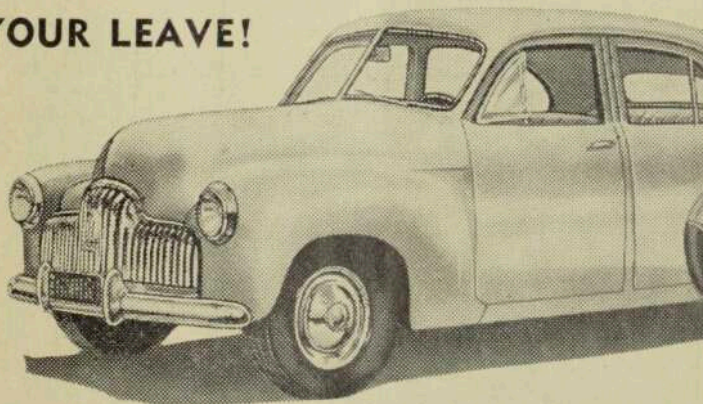
For Sailings and Further Particulars Apply To:—

BETHELL, GWYN & CO. LTD., BURNS PHILP (SOUTH SEA)
138 LEADENHALL ST., CO. LTD.,
LONDON, E.C.3. SUVA, FIJI

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR LEAVE!

Own your OWN CAR!

Yes, for the full duration of
your stay and we'll buy it
back when you leave!



SELECT FROM OVER 100 NEW AND USED CARS!

Own your own car to come and go as you please, where you please, when you please.
Write and tell us the type of car you'd like and we'll have a good new or used model
lined up for your arrival. Practically all our used cars are covered by a mechanical
guarantee and all by an N.R.M.A. Certificate. We can save you £'s! A ½ deposit is all we
ask — with 6% interest on new cars — and we buy back even though the purchase price
is not fully paid up. Tell us what you need — we do the rest! It's cheaper than a hire
car and you can select the car of your choice — not some high mileage "hack".

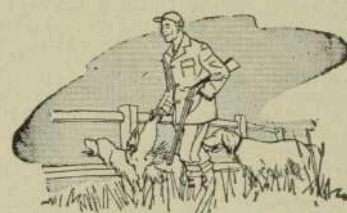
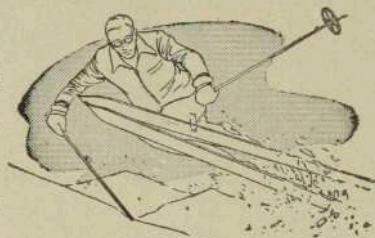
Many hundreds of clients have been satisfied by our "Special Island Arrangement"—so write for
particulars now to Sales Manager.

BROADWAY MOTORS (N.S.W.) Pty. Ltd.

184-200 BROADWAY, SYDNEY, N.S.W., AUSTRALIA.

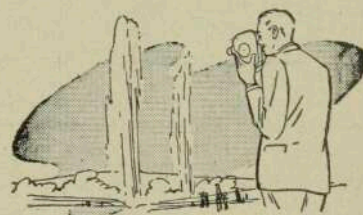
There's so much to do in **NEW ZEALAND**

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 spec-
tacular big-game waters . . . climbing in the towering
Southern Alps . . . deer shooting in virgin forest . . .
slaloming on perfect ski runs . . . swimming and boat-
ing in fascinating fiordlands!

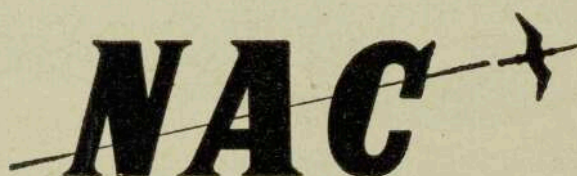


flying gives you so much more time

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.

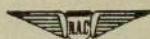


NAC



Linking all principal New Zealand cities and extending to Norfolk Island. Offices and
Agents throughout New Zealand, Australia and the South-West Pacific.

NEW ZEALAND NATIONAL



AIRWAYS CORPORATION

Moresby, 8.30 am Samarai, 10.30 am
(Tue.)
Samarai, 11.00 am Esa'ala, 11.40 am
(Alt. weeks)
Esa'ala, 11.55 am Rabaul, 2.55 pm
When Esa'ala is omitted, arrival Rabaul
2.00 pm.

SOUTHWARDS

Sundays, Wednesdays and Fridays
(Skymaster)*

Depart: Arrive:
5.45 am Moresby, 7.05 am
Moresby, 8.30 am Brisbane, 3.05 pm
Brisbane, 4.30 pm Sydney, 7.15 pm
Connecting services from Wau by Drover.
Leaves Lae 9.35 am Saturday.

DC3 operating Lae-Moresby sector.

Alt. Thursdays (Sandringham)
(Jan. 27, Feb. 10, etc.)

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 Brisbane, 2.15 pm
(alt. Fri.)
Brisbane, 3.45 pm Sydney, 7.05 pm

Alt. Thursdays (Jan. 20, Feb. 3, etc.)
(Sandringham)

Rabaul, 5.30 am Samarai, 8.45 am
Samarai, 9.15 am Moresby, 11.15 am
Passengers wait in Moresby until alt.
(Jan. 22, Feb. 5, etc.) then:

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

3. N. Guinea Internal Services

Operated by Qantas

—HOLLANDIA (Dutch New Guinea)
(DC3)

Alternate Wed. (Jan. 26, Feb. 9, etc.)
Leaves Lae 10.30 am, calls at Madang
and Wewak, and arrives at Hollandia
9 pm. Every alt. Thursday (Jan. 27,
Feb. 10, etc.), depart Hollandia at 9 am,
and, with calls at Wewak and Madang,
arrives Lae at 2.40 pm.

LAE-MANUS (DC3)

Every Wednesday.
Lae, 10.45 am; Finschhafen, Rabaul,
Kavieng, arr. Manus 5.45 pm.
Leaves Saturdays (dep. 8 am), via
Kavieng, Rabaul and Finschhafen; arr.
Manus, 2.55 pm.

MORESBY-DARU (Sandringham)

Yule Is., Kerema, Wana (optional),
Ikori, L. Kutubu.—Every alternate
Friday, returning same day (Jan. 21,
Feb. 4, etc.).

RABAU-MOEWE HARBOUR

(Sandringham)

Wed.—Rabaul-Jacquinet Bay-Moewe
Harbour-Talasea-Rabaul Jan. 19, Feb.
etc.

3.—The direction of operation changes
each service, i.e., each alternate
service operates Rabaul-Talasea-Moewe
Harbour-Jacquinet Bay-Rabaul.

NEW BRITAIN-BOUGAINVILLE

(Sandringham)

Wed.—Rabaul - -Buka - Kieta - Buin
Jan. 26, Feb. 9, 23, etc.
Wed. (same day) Buin-Kieta-Buka-
Rabaul.

LAE-MADANG-WEWAK-MANUS-

KAVIENG-RABAU SERVICE
(DC3)

Thur. Dep. Lae 6.30 am, Madang
arr. 7.35 am Wewak, Manus Is.,
Kavieng, Rabaul arr. 3.40 pm.
Only Dep. Rabaul 8.00 am direct
Madang, arr. 10.50 am, Wewak,
Madang, Lae arr. 4.35 pm.

CENTRAL HIGHLANDS (DC3)

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

LOWER HIGHLANDS (Drover)

Fridays—Lae (7.30 am) to Gusap, calling
at any of: Nadzab, Kaiapit, Arona,
Kainantu. Return to Lae arriving
10.30 am.

LAE-BULOLO-WAU (Drover)

Dep. Lae.—Tues. 3 pm.—Mon. & Sat.
7.30 am.

Dep. Wau.—Tues. 4.30 pm.—Mon. 9.00 am
—Wed. 1.00 pm. Direct to Lae in 35
minutes.

MADANG-GOROKA (DC3)

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

NEW GUINEA-NEW BRITAIN (DC3)

Fridays—Depart Lae 12 noon, Finschhafen
1.0 pm, arrive Rabaul 3.10 pm.

Saturdays—Depart Rabaul 10 am, Madang
1.25 pm, arrive Lae 2.30 pm.

SERVICES BY MANDATED AIRLINES

With headquarters at Lae, this company
runs regular services for passengers,
freight and mails to all New Guinea
settlements.

Scheduled Flights with DC3 Aircraft

Mon.: Depart Lae at 7.30 am for Goroka,
Madang, Wewak, Madang, Rabaul —
remaining overnight.

Tues.: Depart Rabaul at 6.30 am for
Madang, Wewak, Madang, Goroka, Lae.
Depart Lae 7.30 am for Goroka, Wau,
Port Moresby, Wau, Goroka, Lae.

Thurs.: Depart Lae at 7.30 am for
Goroka, Wau, Port Moresby, Wau,
Goroka, Lae.

Fri.: Depart Lae at 7 am for Madang,
Wewak, Momote, Kavieng, Rabaul —
remaining overnight.

Sat.: Depart Rabaul at 7 am for Kavieng,
Momote, Wewak, Madang, Goroka, Lae.

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

Mon. (January 3, 10, 17, 31, etc.),
Lae (dep. 6 am) — Finschhafen —
Rabaul — Buka — Vellalavella —
Yandina — Honiara, BSI (arriving 5.25
pm).

Tuesday (January 11, 18, 25, etc.),
Honiara (dep. 7 am) — Yandina
— Vellalavella — Buka — Rabaul —
Finschhafen — Lae (arriving 3.50 pm).

6. Indo-China-Brisbane- N. Caledonia

By Air France, Monthly.

Constellation aircraft depart Saigon
February 7 for Darwin - Brisbane -
Nooumea and return. Depart Nooumea,
February 10.

Australian agents: Messageries Maritimes.

7. Sydney-Lord Howe Is.

By Ansett Airways Pty., Ltd.,
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Twice weekly services, operating mainly
on Tuesday and Saturday, return same
day.

8. Sydney-Norfolk Is.

By Qantas, with Skymasters

Alternate Thursdays (Jan. 27, Feb. 10, 24,
etc.), returning same day.

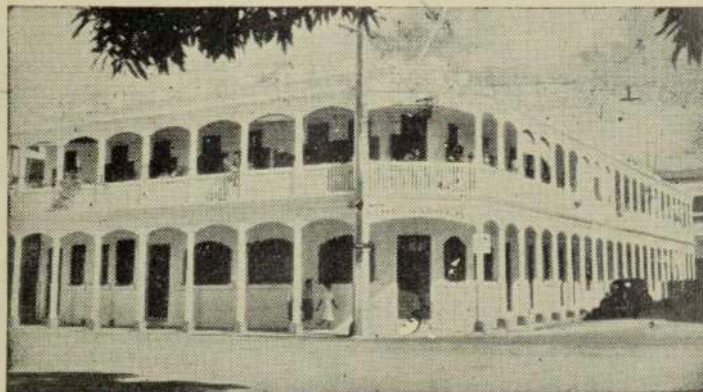
9. Sydney-New Hebrides

By Qantas with Sandringham
Flying Boats—Weekly

Depart: Arrive:
Syd., Wed. 8.30 pm Brisbane, 11.50 pm
Bris., Thu. 1.20 am Noumea, 8.00 am
Noumea, 9.30 am Vila, 12.05 pm

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Vila, 1.20 pm Santo, 2.35
 (Night stop)
 Santo, Fri. 6.00 am Vila, 7.11
 Vila, 7.45 am Noumea, 10.25
 Noumea, 12.15 pm† Sydney, 7.55
 * Every second service night stop
 Noumea to allow connection with Nou
 Suva service—see below, Table 10.
 † Alternate Friday, Jan. 21, Feb
 alternate Saturdays (Jan. 15, 29)
 departs Noumea 2 pm, arriving Sy
 9.40 pm.

10. Sydney-Noumea-Suv

By Qantas with Sandringham
 Flying Boats—Fortnightly
 Depart: Arrive:
 Noumea, 11.25 am Suva, 5.5.
 Alt. Fri.* (Night stop)
 Suva, 8.00 am Alt. Noumea, 12.30
 Sat.†

* Alt. Fri. Jan. 14, 28, etc. † Alt.
 Jan. 15, 29, etc.
 (Service allows connection at Nou
 with Sydney-New Hebrides Service
 above.)

11. Auckland-Norfolk I

By NZ National Airways, with DC
 Double services each Sunday from
 30 to Feb. 27, 1955.

12. Sydney-Auckland

Tasman E. Airways, with DC6 Alrc
 Mon., Fri., Sat.: Dep. Sydney 9.00
 arr. Auckland 4.15 pm. Wed.
 Dep. Sydney 12.30 am, arr. Auck
 7.45 am. Mon., Wed., Thur., Sun.:
 Auckland 11.00 am, arr. Sydney
 pm.

13. Sydney-Christchurch

Tasman E. Airways, with DC6's
 Dep. Sydney 12.30 am and arr. Ch
 church 7.40 am Mon., Fri.
 Dep. Christchurch 11.00 am, arr. Sy
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14. Melbourne-Christchurch

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 Mon.—Dep. Melb., midnight; arr. Ch
 8 am next day.
 Mon.—Dep. Ch'ch., 10 am; arr. Melb.,
 pm.

15. New Zealand-Fiji

Tasman Empire Airways, Ltd.,
 with DC6's
 Dep. Auckland every Wed. and Sat.
 Return to Auckland every Wed. and
 Dep. Auckland: Wed. 10.15 am, Sat.
 pm. Arr. Nadi: Wed. 3.30 pm,
 7.15 pm.
 Dep. Nadi: Wed. 5.00 pm, Sun. 2.00
 Arr. Auckland: Wed. 10.25 pm,
 7.25 pm.

16. Fiji-Tahiti

Tasman E. Airways Ltd., with Solen
 Services will depart Suva for A
 Aitutaki, Papeete and return fortnig
 or more frequently if required.
 Dep. Suva (Mon.) 9.00 am, cross Ir
 national Date Line; arr. Apia (S
 1.55 pm; dep. Apia (Mon.) 2.00
 arr. Aitutaki 7.30 am; dep. Aitu
 8.30 am; arr. Papeete 1.00 pm.
 turn flight dep. Papeete 7.30 am
 Thursdays.
 Next flights, eastbound: January 3, 18
 etc.
 Next flights, westbound: January 6,
 etc.

17. Fiji-Tonga

Tasman E. Airways with Solents
 Dep. Suva January 28.

Depart
a. 6.30 am
Nukualofa, 2.45 pm

Arrive
Nukualofa, 9.50 am
Suva. 4.35 pm

18. Micronesia

ivilian services, based on Guam, using 2-
ned amphibious Grumman Albatrosses,
regularly to Koror (Palau), Yap (West
olines), Truk (Central Carolines),
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as-Ocean Airlines, Guam, via Honolulu.

9. Fiji Internal Airways

Fiji Airways, with 3-engined Drovers

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and Friday.

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day and Sunday.

3 flights on Saturday.

-Suva: 1 flight on Monday, Thursday
and Friday.

2 flights on Tuesday and
Saturday.

3 flights on Sunday.

4 flights on Wednesday.

-Lambasa-Suva: Tuesday and Friday.

- Lambasa - Savusavu - Lambasa -
Suva: Monday, Wednesday and Satur-
day.

-Lambasa: Tuesday.

-Lambasa-Nadi-Suva: Wednesday.

-Savusavu-Suva: Monday, Thursday,
Saturday.

- Taveuni - Lambasa - Savusavu -
Suva: Tuesday.

- Taveuni - Savusavu - Lambasa -
Suva: Friday.

-Taveuni-Suva: Wednesday.

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TAX RELIEF FOR FIJI PARENTS

SPEAKING on the Income Tax
Bill in the Fiji Legislative
Council, Mr. H. B. Gibson
(Eastern Division) said how wel-
come to country people would be
the provision that a taxpayer may
deduct from his taxable income any
moneys (not exceeding £250 per
annum) spent on boarding and
other fees for a child at an educa-
tion institution.

"By his very isolation," said Mr.
Gibson, "the man in the remoter
Islands is forced to send his chil-
dren to boarding-school. This rel-
ief has come a little late in the
lives of many of us, but I want
the young people to remember with
respect the countless planters,
Officials, CSR employees, etc., of
the past who, although enjoying
comparatively good incomes and
paying heavy income tax, never-
theless spent more—and uncom-
plainingly, year after year—on the
education of children (whose com-
pany they seldom enjoyed) than
they ever spent on themselves."

Mr. Gibson pointed out that even

the lesser salaried taxpayer in the
remote Islands (who was compelled
to send his children to Levuka or
Suva boarding-schools) could claim
relief up to £250 per child.

¶ Mr. S. H. Yoeman, ADO at Wau,
NG, and Mrs. Yoeman, travelled
South on leave per December *Bulolo*.
Mr. E. H. Britten, from Lae, has
relieved Mr. Yoeman. Also travel-
ling south per December *Bulolo*
were Mr. and Mrs. H. Halliday, Mrs.
Clive Cook and two sons, and Mrs.
J. Hohnen, Snr., who had been
holidaying with her son, Mr. J.
Hohnen, General Manager of New
Guinea Goldfields Ltd.

¶ John Edward Ward, world famous
bird expert and artist, and the first
man to capture a New Guinea Bird
of Paradise, died in Sydney on
January 3, aged 89. Mr. Ward made
14 expeditions to NG to collect rare
birds.

¶ Bishop A. Sorin, MSC, Vicar
Apostolic of Papua, returned to Port
Moresby in January after visiting
his father in France, whom he had
not seen since leaving for New
Guinea in 1930.

¶ Monsieur Roger Duveau, Secre-
tary of State for French Overseas
Territories, paid an official visit to
French Oceania and New Caledonia
in December, calling at British
territories en route from Sydney. M.
Duveau was making his first official
visit to the Pacific Territories.

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Territories: E. Samoa, Hawaii.
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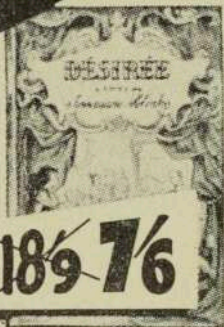
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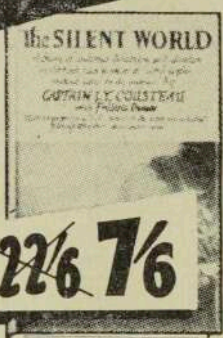
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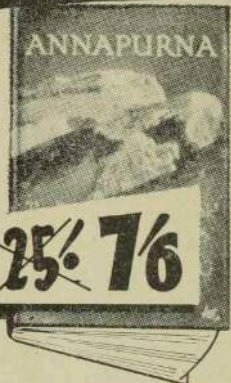
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Editorial . . .

WHAT THE SOUTH PACIFIC SEES IN THE DAWN OF 1955

MONG the more fatuous statements broadcast by so-called world leaders on New Year's was: "In 1954, the nations moved away from war—we now face 1955 with hope and confidence." There is the background against which the gentleman expressed confidence and hope:

The French Parliament, after weeks of backing and filling, finally approved the Paris Agreements by a majority so small as to be negligible. In other words, France is dominated to such an extent by organised Communists and organised Middle-of-the-Roaders that she is no longer to be depended on as a member of the Western European Alliance against Muscovite Mongolian Communism.

While France deteriorates, Germany is re-arming, and swinging wildly and definitely into line as the third most important member, after the United States and the British Commonwealth, of the Western Alliance.

In prompt reply to the re-arming of Germany, Moscow has announced the formation of a new military alliance between Poland, Czechoslovakia and East Germany.

A conference in Java of the five Southeast Asia countries of India, Pakistan, Ceylon, Burma and Indonesia reached some extraordinary and contradictory decisions—but all reported the summary that the meeting (which has called an Africa-Asia Convention for next year) was generally anti-West, and definitely anti-British.

It was formally announced that, if France is prepared to make a real effort to restore order and prevent Red expansion in South-East Asia, Britain will aid the French there with land, sea and air forces.

Any intelligent student of international affairs can find cause for hope and confidence in that settlement; he is entitled to a permanent place in a home for dangerous neo-optimists.

Nowhere is there an indication that the Muscovite-Mongolian dictators have in any way abandoned their plan to bring the whole world under Red subjection.

On the contrary, there are innumerable signs that they are intensifying their Cold War, and achieving some success. The outward shape of their campaign has altered considerably since the death of the ruthless and murderous Stalin—the undermining of Western

institutions now is more cunningly devised, more cleverly hidden, and it has gone more deeply underground.

The failure of the West to turn the Korean Armistice into a formal peace; the assembly of thousands of howling Communists in Paris streets while the unhappy Deputies debated and dithered; the organisation of crippling strikes in the Red-dominated transport unions of Western nations; the refusal of the Vietminh forces in Southeast Asia to observe the spirit of the Geneva agreement under which France surrendered the Tonkinese areas to the Chinese Reds; the celerity with which Moscow organised new military pacts in Central Europe, when the snarling Red dictators there realised that their plot to cripple France had been countered by the rehabilitation and re-arming of Germany—all these things, and many others, fit into a clear pattern.

It is a repetition of 1939. By then, we knew that the only way to halt the march of Nazi Totalitarianism was to smash the Rome-Berlin-Tokio Axis by force of arms. Today, 16 years afterwards, it is feared that nothing will shatter the plans of the Moscow-Peking Reds, and save our free Western world from the horrors of another kind of Totalitarianism, except the employment of force, armed with superior weapons.

THAT is the general picture. It is of particular interest to the South Pacific countries because of the phenomenal growth of Muscovite Communism in the Mongolian areas, and because of some very queer things that have been happening in Southeast Asia.

Asia, from our viewpoint, can be divided into three sections. There are the Mongolian section—mainly China—which is now completely under Moscow domination; the Indo-Chinese section which now is partly Red; and the Arab, or Middle East, section, where the Reds' underground is very busy indeed.

Under the calamitous rule of the British Socialists (1945-50), Britain prematurely gave independence to India, Pakistan, Burma, and Ceylon, and forced the Dutch to abandon the East Indies to the rabble which now calls itself the Republic of Indonesia. It was part of this political rearrangement that the four first-named should remain as loyal members of the British Commonwealth. We now have had, in December, the measure of their loyalty.

The five met in Java to discuss matters of mutual "regional" interest. But their acts were not "regional." For example, they invited all the countries of Africa and Asia to a great convention, to be held in Java in April; but they gave no invitation to South Africa, or to Israel, which are countries occupied by Europeans in Africa and Asia respectively; or to Korea, which presumably is too friendly to United States. They condemned "colonialism"; but they unanimously expressed support of Indonesia's claim to Western New Guinea, although the Papuans are no more related to the Indonesians than to any other race. If they want West New Guinea



"THEY want to show US how to live!"

to go to Indonesia, why do they not also claim Australian N. Guinea?

IN other words, this Africa-Asia move is not regional at all, but racial, and definitely and intensely anti-European. It is an attempt to stir up all the countries in Africa and in the Middle East against the West, directed especially against Britain and France, and indirectly against America. Britain has given away most of her Asiatic interests, but she still is by far the dominant Power in Africa. France retains a part of S.E. Asia, and has large interests in Africa.

The five countries which thus have given tongue to sentiments calculated to embarrass the West, at a critical time in history, are the countries into which the Western nations (including Australia) are pouring tens of millions of gift money, under an idealistic conception called the Colombo Plan. The string of published resolutions did not contain one word of gratitude for this.

Although the threat of Communism is the dominant subject in the world to-day, the precious five ignored Communism, whether as friend or foe; but they held out the right hand of friendship to Red China and Red Vietnam.

We are expected to believe that the fact that this Africa-Asia meeting and Convention proposal fits in exactly with the Muscovite-Mongolian campaign for the confusion and embarrassment of the West is purely coincidence. Maybe. But we may not forget that the dominant figure at the Java meeting was Mr. Nehru, of India, whose influence is sourly anti-British, and generally anti-West; and that the five Prime Ministers met as guests of the Indonesian "government", which now is kept in power chiefly by Communist influence.

But, whether pro-Red or not, this new attempt at an Africa-Asia alignment of forces and interests is a very important factor in the world situation, as we of the South Pacific see it. It gives greater influence and strength to the anti-West barrier across our northwest horizon, established there when the fuddled Socialist influence within UNO succeeded in 1945-46 in throwing the Dutch out of Indonesia.

HITHERTO, we of the South Pacific have seen the 1945-54 cleavage in world affairs mainly as a clash of ideologies, a struggle between Individualism and Communism. Disarmed, and putting our naive faith in UNO, we escaped disaster in 1945-50 only because certain Americans, by a combination of shrewd judgment and good luck, kept control over atomic fission processes, so that Stalin was afraid to take the final step into Hot War. Since 1950, we have retained sufficient supremacy in the atomic bomb to get time in which to re-arm; but the drift, nevertheless, still is towards another world war. The

Moscow gang still insists that the whole world shall submit to its special form of Totalitarian slavery.

If, on top of this, there is to be a racial struggle—as this Africa-Asia move so strongly suggests—then confusion becomes worse confounded, and horror may be piled on horror.

Probably, the Africa-Asia move of the Colombo Plan Premiers is opportunist, rather than a deliberate attempt to aid the Reds in the Cold War. Their idea is to drive the British and French out of Africa and Asia, while the West is preoccupied with defence against the Muscovite-Mongolian conspirators.

WHATEVER the motive, the move calls for only one answer. We of the West must build up our military strength to the point where we can meet any challenge to our lives and liberties, no matter what combination of races we face.

Basing our arguments on the facts of history and of biology, we may be certain of these things: No race on earth is the equal of the European Nordics, in peace or in war, and none has contributed nearly as much to human progress and the decencies of life. The Western Nations, in all their planning, envisage and make provision for the freedom and peaceful existence of other races; but that is not true of other races. What would be likely to happen to the Westerners if Muscovites or Mongolians or Negroes once were dominant; especially under Red leadership? Beyond any question, we should be enslaved and exterminated—especially the 12 millions of us isolated here in the South Pacific, within jumping distance of Asia.

Armed and resolute and ready, the West surely can protect itself not only against Totalitarianism,

but also against the countless hordes of Asia and Africa. Dithering leadership, or failure to recognise the growing danger, too much attention to the "stayed planners", or a combination all three, will mean the end of Western civilisation.

The pattern should become clear in 1955.

New Year Honours PAPUA-NEW GUINEA

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MBE—Inspector David Craw, bandmaster Royal P-NG Constabulary. Captain J. H. Evans, Manager of P-NG Shipping Services.

BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS

CMG—Robert John Minnitt, C. Secretary, WPHC.

OBE—Valdemar Jens Andersen, Administrative Officer, BSIP.

FIJI

CBE—J. E. Windrum who served years in District Administration, Fiji, and who until recently British Consul, Tonga.

OBE—Vishnu Deo, Indian elected Member Legislative Council since 1929.

MBE—F. V. Dunston, Resident Nausori., H. W. Halstead, Resident Engineer of Posts and Telegraphs Department. F. W. J. Plunk, Government Storekeeper. P. H. A. Ferris, SDA Missionary, Pitcairn Island.

Colonial Police and Fire Service Medal—J. F. A. Mote, Chief Officer Fire Brigade, Suva, for 25 years.

Certificate of Honour — Sir Vuni, 30 years chairman of Lands and Surveys Department.

ENTRIES SHOULD BE SENT NOW—

£25 for a Colour Photograph

ENTRIES in the above competition should be sent in soon.

Last date for acceptance will be the end of March. That means that by the time residents of some of the outer islands read this, they should be getting their entries away. Scenes, native people, birds, flowers, canoes, native institutions and customs, the social and commercial enterprises of non-indigenous people—are just a few of the subjects suitable.

PIM will be 25 years old this year; and in August, 1955, we shall publish a special anniversary issue.

For this issue we want colour-photographs and we will pay £25 for the one we consider best for our purpose; plus £5 each for any others used.

Anyone may enter and submit up to a maximum of three ordinary

colour transparencies, 35 MM. larger. Subjects, of course, must be Pacific islands subjects.

They should be typical of your Territory or Group, and not merely "pretty". Points will be given for originality, presentation, reader appeal and interest value. Scenes are, of course, not ruled out but remember that bold subjects are better for reproduction than those with a lot of fussy detail.

Write your name and address clearly and attach it to EACH of your entries—and, as well, give a clear description of the subject-matter. Address entries to: The Editor, Pacific Islands Monthly, Box 3408, Sydney, and endorse them "Colour Photograph Competition".

All transparencies not used will be returned. All entries must be received by March 31, 1955.

Copra Price for 1955—

PRODUCER-COUNTRIES FIGHT FOR BETTER THAN MOF OFFER

The UK Ministry of Food has offered 10 per cent. less for copra in 1955 than it paid in 1954—that is, £63.10 Stg. f.o.b. At January 10, however, negotiations were still going on between the interested parties.

The price paid by the MOF under the Copra Agreement (which expires at the end of 1957) affects virtually all British producers of copra in the South Pacific.

Meanwhile, both Fiji and British Somons have announced that the tentative price that their Copra boards will pay planters, will be 10 per cent. under the 1954 price. Fiji, Plantation grade will be £15/5/6 per ton at Suva and Nadi; FMS, £F61; and lower grades from £F59/15/- to £F57/15/- BSIP, Hot-air dried will be £2/10/-; middle grade £A61/10/- Fair-merchantable, £A60/10/- These tentative prices do not mean that the Governments concerned have withdrawn from negotiations, however.

The Territory of Papua and New Guinea has announced no change in the copra price, declared for January assessment of copra export is for a top-grade price of £A75 per ton—the same as in 1954.

By offering £7 Stg. less than in 1954, the MOF has taken full advantage of the clause in the contract that allows a maximum 10 per cent. rise or fall in any one year. For most of the years that the agreement has been in operation the price has been overwhelmingly in favour of the MOF and it is probably on this ground that the representatives of the producer countries still hope to break down the percentage fall for 1955.

During 1954, world market price for copra was around or just below the price the MOF was paying under contract. At the beginning of January 1955, the free London price was at £74 Stg. c.i.f.; taking freight, insurance, shrinkage, etc., into consideration, this would give planters an advantage under the old 1954 contract price. The price in 1954 was 7½ per cent. above that of 1953.

PREMIUM COPRA IN BSIP

The BSIP Government has postponed for a few weeks the scheme whereby the differential between the highest and lowest grade copra will be £10. When the new scheme comes into operation (probably about February) the lowest grade will be £4 below the price paid for middle grade; and the highest grade will be £6 above the price paid for middle grade.

NEAR MISS!

Hurricane Alerts Fiji Islands

MOST of Viti Levu and other parts of Fiji were battered down between January 4 and January 7 while a hurricane hesitated off the north-west coast. During this time, the Yasawas were hammered by gusts up to 116 miles per hour but the Group as a whole missed the full force of the hurricane.

The hurricane was born about 16 days before Fiji got its preliminary warning, when Pacific weather forecasters could see a low pressure forming north of the Solomons. Bad weather was experienced in Papua-New Guinea and New Hebrides over this period, then slowly the depression began to move towards Fiji.

By January 6 the hurricane, now fully fledged, came to a halt some 80 miles north-north-west of Lautoka, and there it sat while Suva, under preliminary warning, and Lautoka and other north-western areas of the group, sweltered under battered-down windows and stifling humid weather.

So the situation stood until the night of January 7, when by a happy change of pressure elsewhere, the hurricane slid off to SSW, well seaward of Nadi, and the alert was ended. On January 10 it was venting its spleen on the open ocean far southwest of Fiji, and promising some bad weather for the Kermadec weather men and North Auckland. Number one hurricane of the season was over as far as the Islands were concerned—although April and the end of the hurricane season were still a long way off!

During the Fiji alert the RNZAF cleared its Sunderlands away to Noumea. TEAL's Solent was flown to Auckland and the master of the cruise ship *Oronsay*, due in Suva January 7, from Auckland, headed his ship for Noumea instead—to the chagrin of the waiting Suva business-men and, doubtless, to the delight of Noumea.

Coral Route With Land Planes?

Sale of Solents to UK Company

TASMAN EMPIRE AIRWAYS early in December finalised the sale of all but two of the company's Solent aircraft to Aquila Airways, Ltd., of Southampton, England. The Solents will be used on that company's Lisbon - Madeira - Las Palmas service, one of the few remaining important services employing flying-boats.

Two aircraft have been retained to continue operating the Fiji-Tahiti Coral Route Service.

There are persistent rumours, however, that TEAL will withdraw these two Solents in 1955 and operate DC6's through from Auckland to Bora Bora, where the local RAI service would connect with its Catalina for the final stage to Papeete.

Apart from the obvious operational advantages to TEAL in using a single type of aircraft, Coral route "through" passengers would be saved the present connecting Nadi-Suva journey, and Rarotonga, administrative centre of the Cook Islands, might again find itself on an air route. Tahiti tourist passengers would also have a glimpse of Bora Bora, one of the most attractive islands in French Oceania.

On the debit side, Suva would find itself without any sort of international air service at all—Qantas proposes to withdraw its flying-boat services in 1955.

SYDNEY-SUVA SERVICE

INSPECTION and reconditioning work on aerodromes in New Caledonia (Tontouta) and the New Hebrides (near Vila and Santo) to take land planes is continuing. But it is not expected now that these airfields will be ready before June.

When they are ready, the present sea-plane services conducted by Qantas between Sydney-New Caledonia-Suva will end, and Skymaster aircraft will be used on a service between Sydney - Tontouta - Vila - Santo, with a branch service each week between Tontouta and Nadi.

Under the new arrangement, Suva will lose its last international airline, and all air transport out of the Colony will then be through Nadi about 130 miles distant from the capital.

Tontouta airfield is about 20 miles out of Noumea, so that what travellers gain in the faster land planes they will lose in ground travel to and from airports.

A Plea for Righting a Crime of 1899:

Why Not a United Samoa Now?

Without any prior discussion, both United States and New Zealand apparently have reached the same conclusion, at the same time—namely, that the Samoans have reached a stage of development when they may begin to assume increasing responsibility for their own government.

IT is a remarkable coincidence that while Western Samoa, under direction from New Zealand, should have spent the last weeks of 1954 in planning a new Constitution, the United States Government of Eastern Samoa should have been in active consultation with representatives of the people there, preparing a Bill of Rights under which Eastern Samoa, also, will eventually exercise self-government.

In view of this, is it unreasonable now to suggest that the time has come for the unification of Samoa? Why should this well-known and competent Polynesian people remain divided between America (Eastern) Samoa and Trustee (British, formerly German) Samoa?

If the United Nations Organisation is of any real use, can its usefulness not be demonstrated now in an approach to the United States and to New Zealand (holding the trusteeship for Western Samoa), asking that the necessary steps be taken to unite the two Samoas under one Government and Constitution?

Thus, some payment could be made for the political crime of 55 years ago when, under the Three-Powers Agreement of 1899, Germany annexed Western Samoa, and

United States assumed sovereignty over Eastern Samoa, with its very fine sheltered harbour of Pago Pago.

In all the South Pacific, Samoa is the only great archipelago, inhabited by one race, speaking the same language, which has been arbitrarily split by the European Powers into two separate and inde-

Report of proceedings of the Constitutional Convention appears, page 23, this issue.

pendent countries. The division was not justified in 1899; and no reason since has developed for maintaining it. But there are numerous reasons for unification.

ONE good reason is economic. Western Samoa now has over 70,000 people; and the Western Samoans are rich and comfortable because they established cocoa-production as their chief industry, in addition to coconut-growing, long years ago.

Eastern Samoa has less than 20,000—and they are much poorer than their Western brothers, because they produce little for export except copra—and not enough of that. During 50 years, while Pago Pago was an important American naval station, generous American

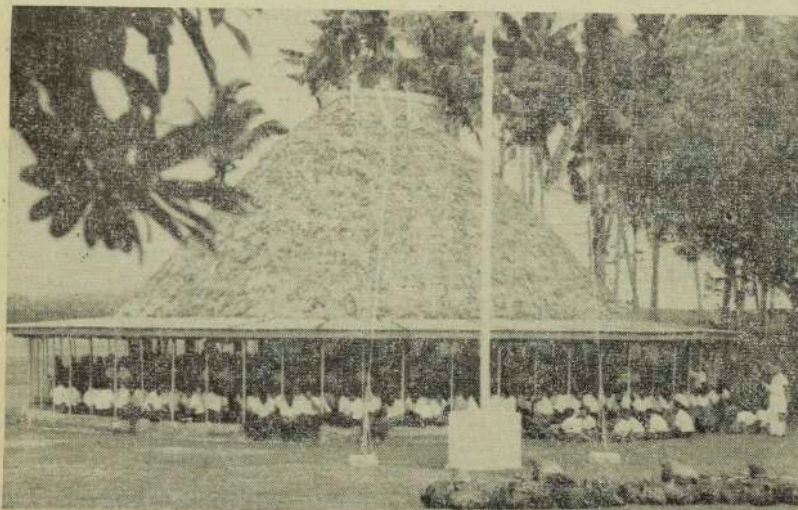
funds sent for the maintenance of the station provided most of the money needed by the Eastern Samoans to pay for their local administrative machinery and imported goods. Since the US moved out, and new Civil Governors took charge, the problem how to provide Eastern Samoa with an overseas income has been a long headache.

But if the silly political barriers were thrown down, and the Administration were simply ended over Tutuila and the little islands alongside, and the economy of Eastern Samoa joined to that of the West, the problem would disappear overnight. Eastern Samoan accounts must still be in the red, to the extent that local exports might not cover local imports; but the cost of local administration would be small, and the kinks in Eastern economy would soon be absorbed by the economy of 100,000 people, occupying one large, rich archipelago.

THERE is no reason, that one sees, for maintaining the separate territories. All the known facts, including the planning of 1954 of new, self-governing Constitutions for both countries, suggest that this is a most opportune time for reuniting Samoa.

New Zealand does not want Western Samoa, any more than the United States now wants Eastern Samoa. Both countries admit that the Samoans now are as capable of self-government as their cousins the Tongans.

Why cannot Samoa then be united under one Constitution, and give a large measure of self-government under the Trusteeship Council of the UNO, supervised by a Governor and a half-dozen European assistants agreed upon jointly by United States and New Zealand?—RWR.



The enlarged Fono House at Mulinu'u, during the Constitutional Convention.
—Photo by Edwards Studio.

India's New High Commissioner in Fiji

MR. DEVI DAYAL BHATIA has been appointed Commissioner for the Government of India in Fiji in succession to Dr. N. Raj Kumar, who has gone to India as Deputy Secretary General of the International Truce Supervisory Council.

Mr. Bhatia was born in 1907, educated at the Edwards Mission College in Peshawar, later graduating from the University of Punjab. He entered the Indian Government Service in the North-West Frontier Province.

In 1947, after the partition of India, he was appointed Under Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs. He was promoted Deputy Secretary in 1949.

Mr. Bhatia is expected to leave for Fiji in mid-January.

Fiji-Indians for the S-W Pacific?

In an address to the Fiji Legislative Council recently, the Governor of Fiji said that although Indian interest in going to New Caledonia had lessened, had been approached privately the possibility of supplying 1,000 more labourers to another Group, the "other group," which the Governor did not name, is probably New Hebrides.

Labour is acutely short in the ridges and some months ago when French interests evolved a whereby some of the displaced persons from northern Indo-China to be brought in to work in the Colony. It was desirable that importation of this labour be a Condominium rather than a British Government basis—as was the case in the indenturing of Indo-Chinese labour before the war.

However, it is understood that the British section of the Condominium is not enthusiastic about the plan suggested Fiji-Indians as an alternative.

It seems unlikely, under existing economic conditions in Fiji, that any Indians could be persuaded to go to work unless the inducements were very great. Wages would have to be sufficiently high for them to leave a large sum before they returned to Fiji; or there would have to be the possibility of permanent settlement and land-ownership in the new Territory.

There is little or no unemployment in Fiji—but there is a land hunger amongst the Indian community. At the same time there are large areas of land in both New Hebrides and the British Solomons which are idle. If the Europeans and natives cannot or do not work the land, why not the Indians?

Serpent Enters Paradise!

Norfolk Island Aflame Against Canberra Taxation

Practically the whole of the non-official population of Norfolk Island, an Australian Territory, is in rebellion against Australia. The first steps have been taken to demand independence—or at least to secure some measure of self-government.

NOT one word about this has, however, been published in Australia.

The 850 people on Norfolk Island are not aborigines. Most of them are full Europeans; a small proportion are the descendants of the original Pitcairners—part European, part Tahitian. All enjoy European status. But they are given no share worth mentioning in their government—that is controlled on a dictatorial basis by the Department of Territories in Canberra, through an Administrator.

These conditions have existed for 50 years. NI people have accepted them—they live very simply and quietly in their isolation, and have had little to worry about. The Pitcairners (descendants of the folk who settled there in 1856) live mostly on their own farms; the majority of the Mainlanders (people who have settled there in the last 50 years, especially retired business and professional men) have small private incomes.

For a community of 850 people, there is a ridiculous administrative set-up—an Administrator, residing in a Government House, provided by the Commonwealth, and a group of officials—all paid by Australia with an annual grant of between £15,000 and £20,000. As someone recently pointed out, such a community in Australia would be run as a Town Board or Road Board, under a Council giving honorary service, with a paid clerk and foreman of works.

However, this £15,000 per annum grant, plus the incomes drawn from overseas by private residents, plus revenue derived from sales of bean seed and similar products, plus a substantial income from visiting tourists (mostly New Zealand) gave NI enough overseas exchange to pay for its modest imports. It is an isolated place, so its imports are expensive. Its one port is so exposed and hard to work that Sydney-NI freight is £15 per ton—more than the England-Sydney rate.

For many decades the economic structure was balanced, and no one fretted. The Administrator was accepted as unchallenged dictator. He was supposed to consult with an Advisory Council. The Council met from time to time, and dealt with matters of no importance. For years, it has seen no finance figures, to show the state of the nation. It left everything to His Honour.

In recent years there came a change. There was a new Territories Minister (Mr. Hasluck) and he appointed a new Administrator (Mr. Norman—carrying the military title of Brigadier). And these interesting figures appeared in Australia's annual Estimates and Expenditure, under the heading of "Norfolk Island":

	£	
1952	15,223	Expenditure
1953	40,247	"
1954	58,256	"
1955	20,480	Estimate

In a sleepy sort of way, the Islanders probably realised that they had been given a special grant of around £70,000, and that the Administrator was spending it. But they were given no details, and they apparently were content to leave it all to the boss.

The centre of settlement and trade on NI is the hamlet of Burnt Pine. The administrative centre, always, has been in the ancient stone buildings of the convict-days settlement at Kingston Bay (on the South Coast, two miles from Burnt Pine). The people always have wanted such amenities as the Post Office, Library, Bond Store, and so forth, at Burnt Pine, but have lacked the initiative to make a fuss about it.

Sleepily, they watched the activities of the new Mr. Norman, at Kingston. They saw great additional

(Continued on Page 142)

TC Chief Retires

E. V. Crisp, recently retired the managing directorship of Shipping Trading Company, attended a dinner in his honour at the Papua Hotel, Moresby, on November 30, 1954. Crisp has been with the company since 1927. He is succeeded by Mr. Mitchell but remains as chair- man of the Board of directors. In the photo, from left to right are: Mr. N. Johnson, Mr. Crisp,



and Mr. Jack Mitchell.

Photo: Papuan Prints.

THE EDITORS' MAILBAG

Soltwedel's NG Uranium

"OTTO SOLTWEDEL, before World War II, insisted that he had located a valuable deposit of Uranium in New Guinea," writes a Wau old-timer. "Did he ever disclose to anyone the locality of the ore?"

We think "Solt" took his secret with him to his grave in Germany.

Although he was seized in New Guinea, and interned in Australia for seven weary years, we never regarded Mr. Soltwedel as an enemy. Scores of folk who knew him well during his 30 years in New Guinea held him in esteem; and many interceded personally with the Australian Government, seeking permission for him to return to New Guinea in 1946-7. But the responsible Minister—a Mr. Arthur Calwell, nowadays regarded as a perennial political joke—would not accept any assurances, and the unfortunate man was deported to a Germany which he had not seen since he was a youngster.

Early in 1950, the PIM learned that Mr. Soltwedel was living on "unemployed relief," and we began an appeal to the new Menzies Government for permission to allow the old New Guinea-ite to return; but he died rather suddenly on September 3, 1950, before anything could be done.

Writing in that year to PIM, "Solt" described his eagerness to get back to the country where he had lived most of his life; and he said: "In 1947 I offered the Australian Government my services in locating two deposits of Uranium (pitchblende-V3-08), of which I hold some professional and reliable information." Certain high officials recommended that his offer be accepted. But the implacable set-up (Mr. Justice Simpson and Mr. Calwell) shipped him away; and nothing about his Uranium deposits in New Guinea has since been heard.

That Mekeo Rice

A valued reader in Papua writes wryly of the rice project in the Mekeo area of Papua:

It is amusing to see the fuss made in the press (including sometimes the PIM) about the wonderful results obtained by the introduction of rice in Mekeo.

Two points are always missed—(1) that rice was introduced in Mekeo 40 or 50 years ago by a Missionary; and (2) that with all the machinery put into the Mekeo, and with all the rice "experts" help, the natives succeeded in 1954 in producing a little more than they used to, pre-war, without any expense to the Australian taxpayers.

Pre-war, the Kairuku RM, or a patrol-officer, used to go around the villages to impress on the natives the necessity of planting rice to pay their tax, and the Mission used always to buy their crop when it was harvested. Here are a few figures: 1937, 70 tons (unhulled rice); 1938, 110 to 150 tons; 1939, 138 tons; 1940, 122 tons; 1942-46—all taken by the Army; 1947, 85 tons; 1948-49, no figures; 1950, for 3 villages only, 12 tons.

In 1950 and 1951, the mission bought most of the rice produced by DASF Experimental farm, at Epo, while they were issuing Australian imported rice to their workers, because a "vitamin expert" had found that the Mekeo rice was "unsuitable for native consumption."

Rare Old Book

CAPTAIN G. O. Gatehouse, who was speculating as to the value of his "Rovings in the Pacific" (December PIM, p. 14) will be interested to know that an Auckland specialist in rare Pacific books lists a copy of this two-volume work, in very good condition, at £10/10/-.

The author's name, as given in this catalogue, is E. Lucatt—not Lucett—but there is no information as to Mr. Lucatt's exact connections with Tahiti.

Gamada Out—Tuba In!

A bright note from "Sanasi": Gamada is, of course, the Papuans' kava. At Daru, in Western District, I once had a police sergeant who was perpetually sozzled with the stuff.

When he ran out of supplies he would take a gang of prisoners and clean up the foreshore. The burn-

ing rubbish was his SOS for n gamada.

I could do nothing about it, the old scoundrel was a bit of a pet of Sir Hubert Murray, who the Native Regulations said "Gamada is bad for natives drink and therefore they must be prohibited from drinking it."

To the writer, Wally Maidment (now over 80) who has lived on D for over 50 years, sends the latest:

"They now have what they tuba, made out of coconut juice tapped from new leaves at head, with added metho.

"I heard that some had what ourselves call additives: One had coconut shell of tapped tree-juice one ditto of metho.; a present of tan-boot polish; and a little of soap.

"I asked: 'Why the soap?' and was told it was 'to make it fizz.' So, when Early Closing comes do not eke out the Sabbath misery!"

Wally Maidment is still st wright, boatbuilder, trader and planter at Daru, and sends Seasonal Greetings to all the hands of the WD, in Queensland and elsewhere.

P-NG Berores in Brisbane

A note from Brisbane from S says: "Working in Brisbane operation 'Comstat' (Census of 19 are some well-known ex-Papua. They are Syd. Chance, ex-RM; Holliday, who was Field Assistant with the APC at Kariava; A. Bayne, late of Beeps, in Mores Mrs. W. Haines, who used to manage one of the hotels up there a real "Before"; Ernie Hammo who went to Woodlark in 1911 who afterwards, with Jack Ry well-known planter, enlisted

(Continued on Page 151)

Qantas Has New Planes for New Guinea



One of Qantas Empire Airways new Beaver planes photographed in Sydney, December where it was undergoing tests. Four of these small planes will replace Drovers on Qantas internal routes in Papua-New Guinea.

The Beavers are made by De Havilland. Although single-engined, they have a high margin of safety and will be more suitable for work in the Territory than the three-engined Drover. They can carry up to seven passengers.

licence Trouble For—

CLUB HOTEL'S SOUTH SEAS LUXURY HOTEL

RENEWAL of the Club Hotel licence for 1955, was refused by the Magistrate's Court in Suva, at the end of the year, but the existing licence was extended one month, to December 31, 1954.

CLUB HOTEL'S ancient Club Hotel was partly demolished in the hurricane of January, 1952, and the rest of it was pulled down shortly afterwards. A bar operated in temporary quarters. Morris Hedstrom Ltd., who owned the premises, announced that they would construct a five-storey modern hotel on the site, and work on this began at the end of 1952.

In September, 1953, when Suva was hit by a severe earthquake, the ground floor was completed, the bar was functioning and part of the first floor had been commenced. Structural damage was sustained by the building in the quake, and work ceased. The architects who designed it had not taken earthquakes—hitherto almost unknown in Suva—into their building calculations. Considerable civic dissatisfaction had been expressed in Suva recently at the failure of the company to proceed with the building. Morris Hedstrom Ltd. announced, however, in December, that building would commence in 1955.

When complete the hotel will take guests—this will do something to relieve the acute hotel accommodation shortage in Fiji's capital.

Impressive Post Office For Suva

DETAILS of the new Suva Post Office—work on the foundations is already in hand—indicate that the £150,000 building will, when completed, be one of the largest in the Colony. The wing adjoining the Union Steam Ship Co.'s building, where work is now proceeding, will be 5 stories high. The remainder will rise to 3 stories. The building will house all the various branches of the Department as well as some other government offices. Actual construction will begin about July and will be to private contractors.

CUSTOMS HOUSE

A new Customs House, to replace the old building adjoining the post office, will also be built on a site adjacent to the new port area bounded by Rodwell Road, May Street, and Harris Road in the rapidly expanding new industrial area north of Wau Bay. This building is estimated to cost £60,000.

E. Highlands' Plain Talk to High Official

LAND SYSTEMS COME UNDER FIRE IN NG

No holds were barred in Goroka, New Guinea Central Highlands, on December 2, when an advocate of the Australian Territories Minister's new plan of land allocation and settlement in New Guinea met some of the plan's foremost critics.

THE advocate was Mr. Rupert Wilson (the new Assistant Administrator) and the critics were led by Mr. Jim Leahy and Mr. J. L. Taylor.

The PIM, in recent issues, has described the Minister's plan, and what is regarded as its defects. The Minister is trying to "mechanise and Departmentalise" the whole system of acquiring land from the natives and allotting it for new settlement; whereas those who really know the country, and appreciate the need for tying in European land settlement with the Administration's obligation to improve native standards of life, insist that the most effective method of land settlement is to select the new settlers individually and screen them carefully before finally allowing them to settle down beside native communities.

The Minister wants assessment of native land needs, purchases of native lands, soil surveys, decisions on what crops shall be grown, land subdivision, and disposal of land by tender to be made by Administration officials, in accordance with an over-all official plan. The "old hands" point to the notable success achieved in the East Highlands District under Commissioner Ian Downs, where prospective settlers were subjected to a preliminary screening by a sympathetic District Commissioner; encouraged to go in personally and contact the natives and indicate the blocks of land they wanted and could acquire; and then were admitted only after the DC and his officers were satisfied that the natives did not need the land, that the price was right, that the personal relationship between the European and the natives would be beneficial to the natives, and that the European had the knowledge and the finance to become a successful planter.

Sharpest criticism of the Minister's new plan—which makes land settlement mechanical and impersonal—has come from Eastern Highlands; and some of the critics obviously welcomed the chance of a talk with the Minister's representative (Mr. Wilson).

THE Chairman (Mr. Ian Downs, DC in Eastern Highlands) said that a special team, headed by Mr. McInnis (head of the Lands Department, who under the new plan is to assume most of the responsibility for new European land

settlement) had been recently in the Western Highlands and obtained several blocks of land for settlement. The Eastern District local officials also had secured several blocks—including 6 in Kainantu and 3 in Goroka and details had been sent in to the Lands Department.

Mr. George Greathead: Are they going through under the old system or under the new tender system?

The chairman said the land available would be advertised; and the Land Board would consider all applications. There would be some fixed price for these blocks. They would not necessarily go to the highest tenderers.

Mr. Leahy expressed confusion regarding the Administration's plans on soil survey, limitation of areas, and so forth. Was there a land policy?

The chairman said the Minister's policy was set out in his letter of October 11, to the Farmers' and Settlers' Association.

Mr. Leahy said he could not believe that the soil surveys made in connection with Highlands land purchases could have been properly done in three weeks. If they called the old system haphazard, what could they call this? Why was the old system totally prohibited?

Mr. W. B. Blackley said that the F. and S. Association intended to press for a re-introduction of the old system.

The chairman said that "planned settlement" was desirable and necessary where sufficient areas of land were available to make a proper survey possible—such a plan to embrace sub-soil tests, subdivision, provision of communications and other amenities. But in other circumstances the old system had its merits. There was need and room for both systems until the land available for settlement could meet the demand.

Mr. Leahy: But in small areas the new system is not worth while—in this District it is ridiculous.

The chairman: I agree—but this system was designed for the Territory as a whole, and the Territory needs it.

Mr. Leahy: No one objects to planning—but why stop genuine settlers from getting land under the old method? I should like to see the other system maintained.

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Controversial!

USE OF PIDGIN ENGLISH IN SW PACIFIC

"HANDS Off Pidgin English," a spirited defence of the commercial *Lingua Franca* of New Guinea, by Professor Robert A. Hall, Jr., will be published this month, and should be available in Islands shops and libraries in February.

The 1½ million natives in Australian New Guinea, mostly illiterates, speak hundreds of different languages. They have only a slight knowledge of English; and the Administration, long ago, gave up the attempt to establish one native language for the whole people. Consequently, the problem of how best to communicate with the natives, *en masse*, is officially still not solved.

Meanwhile, need has found a way. Planters, missionaries, shipowners, miners and, finally, the Administration officials themselves, now use Pidgin English as their chief, if not their only, means of communicating regularly and immediately with the great majority of natives in contact with Europeans.

Pidgin English ("Pidgin" is believed to be the result of a Chinese attempt to pronounce "Business") was brought to New Guinea from Southeast Asia over 60 years ago by the Germans, as a means of communicating with the thousands of plantation labourers whom they had brought in from the Chinese coast. It is mostly a corruption of English and some Malay words, pronounced in a particular way and used according to the prevailing native syntax. It is learned with extraordinary ease, and is in general use now in New Guinea, Solomons and New Hebrides.

The majority of educationalists are strongly critical of Pidgin—they declare that it never can be used as a medium of instruction and a means of improving native standards of life. Mr. Hall, who is Professor of Linguistics at Cornell University, USA, recently made a close and lengthy study of Pidgin, and he now insists that far from being spurned and rejected by scholars and officialdom, it can be adapted and used for all necessary educational and administrative purposes, thus simplifying immensely the problems of the Australian Administration.

The thousands of people who are connected in some way with administration and education in Melanesia will find that this 142-pages' book challenges their attention and interest. They may not agree with the author, but they cannot ignore him.

The three main sections deal with the history, nature and function of Pidgin, its structure and its apparent future; there is an excellent biblio-

graphy, showing the extent of Professor Hall's researches; and then there is a section giving samples of of Pidgin, and analyses.

Travels of Tongan Royalty

QUEEN SALOTE of Tonga will visit Auckland early in the new year, and will later go to Sydney.

The Premier of Tonga, Prince Tungi, will arrive at Auckland about January 24. He will then go to Wellington to confer with the Minister of Island Territories and other Government officials.

The Tongan Queen called her Parliament together on January 24 to consider the revision of salaries in Tonga's civil service.

The engagement is announced of Miss Phyllis Hudson to Mr. Lindsay Foster. Miss Hudson left recently to take up a teaching appointment in the New Britain District, T-NG. Mr. Foster is on the staff of the District Services of the Territory of P-NG.

Do You Remember ?

From PIM of 20 Years ago.

BEST New Year present for the Pacific Islands in January, 1935, was the advice from London that copra had suddenly risen £3/5/- per ton in a matter of five weeks. Sundried and smokedried was bringing £12 Stg. in London; hot-air was £12/15/- Stg. They were the best prices since January, 1933, and we described them as "astounding."

Reason for the sharp rise was attributed to the fact that America had made a rearrangement of the tariff that virtually had shut Philippines copra out of the USA. Under the new arrangement, Philippines copra would bring 10 dollars more in the US than in Europe—and as a consequence the European market was being left free for other copra producers.

Here are some other items from our issue of January, 1935:

In a stern editorial we warned of the apparently peaceful penetration of the Pacific Islands by Japanese. They were intensely nationalistic, we said, and it was inconceivable that they would be content to settle down under any flag but their own.

In Port Moresby, Mr. E. A. James, who was then editor and owner of the "Papuan Courier", and then, as now, was a champion of personal freedom, fought and won a legal battle against the Commonwealth Government over its decision to demand radio listener's fees from Territory residents. Mr. James had been charged with being the owner of an unlicensed wireless receiver.

"Pilot Colin Ferguson recently took off

FIJI CALLS TENDERS FOR AIR SERVICE

AS a result of the existing agreement between the Government and Fiji Airways being due to expire at the end of 1955, the Government is now calling for tenders for an internal service on a subsidy basis. Tenders will close on May 31.

With Fiji Airways now established in the Colony it would appear likely that there will be other tenders for the service.

His Lordship Bishop Aubin, Vicar Apostolic of the South Solomons, was invested with the Medal of the Legion of Honour by French Ambassador to Australia, Louis Roche, at a ceremony in Sydney on December 23. Foreign consular representatives and Catholic Church leaders were present. The award was made in recognition of Bishop Aubin's pioneering work in the Solomons. Bishop is a French citizen.

for Salamaua, NG, from Mascot in new Dragon for Carpenter's; he accompanied by his wife who is the woman to fly from Australia to Guinea."

"A small committee of Sydney acting on behalf of New Guinea residents have made a study of the case of James Larkin who in 1931 was sentenced 10 years' imprisonment for the murder of a native of Manus. As a result a petition is now being circulated, signatures in New Guinea, directed the Administrator, in which a prayer made for mercy."

W. R. Carpenter and Co. bought the trading and plantation business On Chong and Co., Ltd., in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony.

News had reached the coast at Salamaua, New Guinea, of the murder of the Rev. Father Charles Morschhe and the spearing of Brother Eugene (later died of his wounds at Salamaua near Mt. Hagen, in the recently covered New Guinea Highlands. (It was these two murders which caused the Administration to close the Highlands all but a selected half dozen European until after World War II).

Minimum wages for native labourer the BSIP had been reduced from per month to 10/-.

Fiji was preparing for a Royal visit—that of HRH the Duke of Gloucester in February. During the three days' it was planned to take the Duke to ancient island of Bau, and also to fire-walking island of Beqa to see mysterious ceremony. After Fiji, Duke's itinerary included two days Western Samoa.

and the Old . . .



SEEKING WAR DEAD IN SW PACIFIC

Jap Mortuary Ship in New Guinea

CARRYING a Japanese semi-official party authorised to pick up Japanese war dead, for re-interment in Japan, and erect small memorials at Jap burial places, the ship *Taisei Maru* was to leave Tokio on January 12 for the Solomons and New Guinea.

These appear to be the people responsible for the much-publicised and obviously absurd report that there are some 2,000 Japanese soldiers still living among the isolated native tribes of New Guinea; and they sought permission and Australian official co-operation in sending a plane to distribute circulars in the inland districts, asking these Japanese to surrender. Officialdom did not co-operate.

The Jap ship will call at Aitape to pick up four former Jap soldiers who were found in the jungle of

Dutch New Guinea, and who are being sent to Aitape from Hollandia by the Dutch.

The *Taisei Maru* will visit the following places in the following order; and the entire voyage will occupy 70 days from January 12.

GUADALCANAL. (The South Pacific's biggest battle was fought there, against the Americans. Presumably, the Japanese visitors will make their base at Honiara, built since the war.)

MUNDA. (The Japanese put up resistance in this area of New Georgia, after they were thrown out of Guadalcanal.)

BUIN. (The retreating Japanese made a stand at this point—a mission station and trade centre on the southwest coast of Bougainville.)

RABAU. (This, of course, was the Jap's main base in the Southwest Pacific; but General MacArthur by-passed it on his northwards drive to the Philippines, and the huge garrison, isolated and starved, and the town simply blown to pieces by American and Australian air forces. Rabaul has been rebuilt since 1945.)

BUNA. (This isolated station on NE coast of Papua was the scene of bitter fighting between the retreating Japs and the American-Australian forces.)

SALAMAUA. (An important sea and air port when the war commenced. Became an important Jap base, where the garrison was unmercifully hammered by our air forces, and finally driven out by Australian jungle forces. The little town was smashed to pieces and now is completely deserted.)

LAE. (Another Japanese base, which was wholly smashed before re-capture by American and Australian troops. Now rebuilt and a flourishing little town.)

FINSCHHAVEN. (An important base during the war; much fighting thereabouts. Now reverted to small mission and trade centre.)

MADANG. (Important base during the war, but was not as badly smashed as other centres.)

AITAPE. (Japanese forces were along this coast in large numbers and were badly punished when General MacArthur's forces were moved from Manus to Hollandia.)

MANUS. (Japanese garrison here was overwhelmed by Americans in a surprise attack on March 1, 1944, and many were killed in bitter fighting.)

Children's Xmas Fund

THE following contributions were made to the New Guinea Women's Club of Sydney towards their Christmas Party for children:

	£	s.	d.
Previously acknowledged	65	16	5
Mrs. M. Evensen	1	1	0
Mrs. E. B. Roberts	2	1	0
Colyer Watson (NG) Ltd.	10	0	0
Mrs. Clarence	10	0	0
Mrs. G. Thomas	5	0	0
Kokopo Sports Club	5	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. J. Dunbar-Reid	2	2	0

Total £86 15 5
H. Small and Co., Ltd., made a donation of chocolates.

¶ Mr. K. E. W. Salter, lecturer in zoology at Sydney University, left in January with a party of students for Heron Island on the Barrier Reef. The party will continue a survey of the distribution of coral types which was begun on previous visits.



The old tin structure which served as headquarters for the Port Moresby branch of the Bank of NSW since the war, ended service during December. Administrator, Brigadier D. M. Cleary, officially opened a new two-storey structure alongside on December 13. The new bank, in colonial style architecture, greatly adds to the appearance of the town (see photograph on 8, December PIM). The ground floor of the new building is the banking department; the upper floor provides accommodation for the bank's staff. The bank's Chief Inspector, Mr. R. R.

McKellar (standing, upper photo) visited Port Moresby for the occasion.

The Bank of NSW has been associated with Papua-New Guinea since 1910 when a branch was opened in Moresby. A branch at Samarai followed soon after. The first branch in the Mandated Territory opened in Rabaul in 1926.

In 1923 the Bank purchased property in Port Road, Port Moresby (near the site of the present Steamships Trading Co. premises), and this was its home until 1942. The lower photograph shows the pre-war bank.

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th Mataafa Dissenting Bitterly:

Samoa Adopts Self-Government Plan for Submission to NZ

In six weeks of mighty oratory, 170 delegates to the Constitutional Convention of Western Samoa, have battered into shape a preliminary blue-print of their future governmental set-up.

APIA, Dec. 23.

THE Convention was the culmination of over 18 months of preparatory work since New Zealand announced, in the early months of 1953, that Western Samoa would, by the end of 1954, be asked to devise its own future administration. The Constitutional Convention opened on December 22, 1954, with a speech by the High Commissioner (Mr. G. R. Powles). From November 10 it sat on 31 days, and the 170 delegates at the Convention the majority took part in discussions.

On December 13, it began discussion of the most important subject before the Convention—namely, the appointment of the Head (or Heads) of State—after the two pre-specified subjects, relationship with New Zealand, and suffrage, had been disposed of.

A total of 90 persons made speeches.

With the exception of a small minority, representatives of the royal family; supporters of the High Chief Mataafa; a few dissenters who wanted the appointment of only one Head of State; and those who wanted the four paramount chiefs of Samoa—Tamasese, Malietoa, Mataafa and Tuimaleaefano—to either elect one of their number Head of State or else form a Council of High Chiefs to act as Heads of State, the great majority of speakers agreed that to preserve peace and unity in Samoa, it would be advisable to appoint for life, the present Fautua, Hons. Tamasese and Malietoa, joint Heads of State and allow them to carry leadership of the Samoan people heretofore.

The oratory of the Samoan speaker was, as usual, on a very high level, though the continuous repetition of the same sentiments and issues was somewhat tiring to the ears. However, the delegates had given a promise that they would be given every opportunity to express their views and the chairmen exercised great patience in giving the representatives of the chiefs and the various organisations to speak at length.

With the Hon. Tamasese and Malietoa absent, the resolution on Heads of State, based on the majority opinion expressed during the debates, was voted on by the Convention on December 21. An

overwhelming majority supported it and only about half a dozen voted against it. It read:

"The present Hon. Fautua should together be the first Head of State. They should act together and with equal power. Their term should be for life but legal provision should be made to permit them to resign at any time. Future vacancies in position of the Head of State should be filled in a way to be decided by the Parliament of Western Samoa when the time comes."

Then, with Tamasese and Malietoa back in the Chair, the remaining six points embodied in resolutions drafted by the Steering Committee were submitted to the Convention for approval, and were unanimously passed:

CONTROL OF PUBLIC SERVICE.—(a) The Government of Western Samoa should control its own Public Service. (b) This control should be exercised by a Public Service Commissioner appointed by the Government of Western Samoa and subject to any directions on policy matters that he may receive from that Government.

LEGISLATURE.—A single legislature should replace the present Legislative Assembly and Fono of Faipule. This Legislature should be presided over by a Speaker elected by the House and should for the time being consist of the following members: 41 Samoan members, five European members, two Official members (Ministers of Justice and Finance). Elections should be held every three years, and the Legislature should not be dissolved save for these three yearly elections. The Legislature should have full power to make all laws necessary for the peace, order and good government of Western Samoa, subject only to the restriction of the suggested suspensory veto of the Head of State, and to any restrictions which may be advisable due to the relationship with New Zealand. The reserved subjects and enactments should remain as they are for the present, but should be reviewed as constitutional changes take place. The Legislature should eventually have full power to amend the Constitution, but subject to some delaying or restrictive procedure, which must be worked out.

CONSTITUENCIES.—The present 41 Faipule constituencies should be the Samoan constituencies when the new Legislature is first established; but the new Legislature should at an early date review the matter of Samoan constituencies with a view to increasing the number from 41 to 45.

EXECUTIVE GOVERNMENT.—A Premier and Cabinet should control the Executive Government from the time that the new Legislature is established. The Legislature should choose the Premier by a procedure which it should settle itself. If it could

not arrive at a single nomination by discussion, it would then be necessary to have a ballot for the Premier. The Premier could be dismissed by the Head of State only after a vote of non-confidence passed by two-thirds of the Members of the Legislature, but could resign at any time. Parliament should not be dissolved just because the Premier resigned or was dismissed: it should elect another Premier. The Premier should choose the Members of his Cabinet from the elected Members and refer them to the Legislature for approval. For the time being there should be two Officials (Minister of Justice and Finance) in the Cabinet.

SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH NEW ZEALAND.—The special relationship between Western Samoa and New Zealand should be maintained indefinitely although its form may change with changing circumstances and constitutional developments. This relationship should eventually be based on an alliance or agreement somewhat similar to the arrangement at present existing between the United Kingdom and the Kingdom of Tonga, but it is recognised that the Trust Status of the Territory may make special provisions necessary. There should be a Representative of New Zealand resident in Western Samoa. The status, powers and functions of this person will depend upon the nature of the relationship between New Zealand and Western Samoa. New Zealand will no doubt have its own suggestions to make as to what these status, powers and functions should be but it is clear that in some way they should concern defence, foreign affairs and seconded officers.

SUFFRAGE.—In the Faipule constituencies only Samoan matais should have the right to vote or to be nominated as candidates for election. A Register of Matais should be established for each Samoan constituency, listing the matais entitled according to Samoan custom to vote in that constituency. In any Faipule constituency, if any candidate is nominated by a majority of the Matais of the constituency, he should be declared elected, but if there is no such majority nomination a secret ballot should be held among the Matais of the constituency. In the case of the European elections, the suffrage, the method of election, and the qualifications for candidates should remain as at present.

DRAMATIC STATEMENT BY MATAAFA

THE last day of the Convention was marked by a dramatic incident when, after the resolutions had been passed, High Chief Mataafa addressed the Convention in a passionate speech in which he strongly protested against the decision of the Convention in electing Hons. Tamasese and Malietoa as Heads of State, and disregarding his claim, as member of the Royal family of Mataafa, to equal consideration.

He announced his intention to completely withdraw from public life and participation in the future Government of Samoa.

The speech of High Chief Mataafa came as a bombshell after the comparatively quiet and peaceful debates throughout the meeting.

A large number of delegates representing all factions of the Samoan community rose and appealed to High Chief Mataafa to respect the

nearly unanimous wish of the Convention and place the interest and welfare of the country and the realisation of Self-Government before personal ambition.

Several speakers suggested an adjournment of the Convention until next day, so as to discuss this matter, but this suggestion was defeated when the Chairman, the Hon. Tamasese, pointed out that a large number of delegates from Savai'i and other remote districts desired to have the Convention ended, as otherwise they would have no opportunity of spending Xmas at home with their families.

It was decided to ask the High Commissioner to attend and declare the Convention officially closed.

THE NEXT STEPS

The High Commissioner (Mr. Powles), in a farewell speech, congratulated the Convention on the splendid work performed during the long weeks it had been sitting, and on the wonderful spirit of unity, co-operation and good fellowship delegates had shown. He read a message of congratulation from the new New Zealand Minister of Island Territories (Mr. Macdonald) in which he announced his intention to pay a visit to Samoa, arriving in Apia on January 30.

The resolutions of the Convention will be forwarded to the NZ Government, for consideration.

The plan then will be submitted to the Trusteeship Council of the United Nations.

EDITORIAL NOTE

Mataafa and the Ancient Feuds

TO understand the protest made by Mataafa, one must know Samoan history. Ever since the Europeans came to Samoa, and for a long period before that, suzerainty of the archipelago was divided between three or four famous families—and more especially the families of Malietoa, Tamasese and Mataafa.

Right up until the annexation of Samoa by Germany late last century, the followers of these high chiefs were almost constantly embroiled in wars; and in the period 1850-1890 each of the three Powers seeking privileges in Samoa—Germany, Britain and United States—seemed to be supporting one or other of the contending chieftains. Bitterest rivalry was that between the Malietoa and the Mataafa sections.

These internecine hatreds flared up again in the Mau period (1920-1935), but although little has been heard of them for 20 years, they are not forgotten. It can be seen, therefore, that the plan that the present Malietoa and Tamasese shall be joint Heads of the new State, while Mataafa is nowhere, is gall

EVENTS IN THE MOLUCCAS BRING—

'War' Within Sight of New Guinea

A STATE of war exists in the South Molucca Islands, according to a formal statement by the government of Indonesia on January 5. The South Moluccas comprise the large islands of Ceram and Buru, the smaller but most important island of Ambon, the three small archipelagoes of Tanimbar, Kai and Aru, and a host of little individual islands.

According to Jakarta, the state of war affects Ceram and most of the little islands, but not Ambon, Buru or the Tanimbar archipelago.

There has been fighting recently in the Celebes, which adjoin the Moluccas on the west.

The Moluccas are practically within sight of Dutch New Guinea. The Kai and Aru archipelagoes are off the south coast of Dutch New Guinea, and lie across the western end of Torres Strait, and therefore are quite close to Australia and the Western District of Papua.

There is nothing new in this development. When "the Jakarta gang" made the agreement with Holland of December 27, 1949, it promised that Indonesia should be a Federation, which all the Indonesian States should be free to join, or leave at will. But immediately after Holland gave up her sovereignty, the so-called Indonesian government repudiated its undertakings, abolished the Federation and on August 17, 1950, proclaimed the "Unitary State of Indonesia", and proceeded to force each State into the union. This was the plan originally made by the Japanese invaders and the Indonesian Communists, and proclaimed by Soekarno on August 17, 1945.

The South Moluccans, whose centre and chief town is Amboina, then went into revolt against the "Jakarta Gang" in 1950, declared themselves to be "the independent republic of South Molucca"; and

and wormwood to the Mataafa section.

The adoption of a Constitution by this Convention means little, as yet. However, it shows the wishes of the Samoans, and provides a framework upon which the New Zealand Government and the Trusteeship Council will in due course spread out the set of rules under which Samoa will enjoy a large measure of self-government—but not necessarily the large measure sought by the Convention.

have been at war against Javanese set-up ever since. T repeated appeals for help, mad Britain, Australia, United St and, more especially, Ur Nations, have been ignored.

The "Government" of Indor now is in a state of political economic collapse; Communist fluences have almost taken con and an alliance between Indor and Red China has been long u discussion and is said to be completion. It is clear that Jak is trying to divert the attentio the 60 million Javanese from t home troubles by threatening t to war against the Dutch in New Guinea, and by actually gaging in war against the Molu

There is more Communist i and political smoke than mill fury about this "war". But a fact that the Moluccas are near to Australian New Guin just over the western horizon—that these events tend to give South Pacific Islands their taste of the hell's brew tha beginning to boil in South-Asia.

Lee-Fong Wedding



One of Rabaul's largest post-weddings took place on December 1954, when Miss Mercia Lee married John Fong. More than 500 guests attended the ceremony at the Church of Xavier. In the wedding group, from to right, are: Bestman, Mr. Fre Chan; bridesmaid, Miss Doreen Lee; the bride and groom.

Photo: C. H. M

Fijian Chief is first Speaker

FOR the first time in its history, the Fiji Legislative Council is to have a Speaker; and Ratu Sir Lala Sukuna, KCMG, KBE, is to be the first to fill the office.

In making the announcement recently, the Governor said, "I am glad that Honourable Members will welcome the creation of the office of Speaker of the Legislative Council. It represents an important and satisfying development of the status of the council, and it is a tribute to its sense of responsibility."

Outlining the functions of the Speaker, His Excellency said that when the office of Speaker is filled

the Speaker will normally preside over the Council. He will be independent and will not take part in the debates. His function will be to ensure that the business of the Council proceeds in an orderly manner, and that the rights of the members are upheld and that the standing Orders are observed. The Governor will retain his position as President and, when he considers it desirable to do so, he will himself preside at the meetings of the Council.

The Governor will preside, exercising his functions in the same manner as he does to-day.

Meanwhile, it is intended that Ratu Lala Sukuna should go to England in order, by attendance at the House of Commons and by discussion with its officers, to gain further experience in Parliamentary procedure. His appointment is unusual in Fiji.

FI RICE PRODUCTION

At the end of the rice season just ended, Fiji produced 14,820 tons of milled rice from the 34,966 acres planted. This quantity failed to meet local requirements and 603 tons valued at £47,783 were imported from the Colony.

There are indications that not all the locally grown rice was sold to the growers due to large stocks imported (and presumably better, less expensive) rice being on hand at the time that the local crop came onto the market.

A big rice development plan is presently being prepared in Fiji.

Miss Jan Eadie, of Port Moresby, arrived in Sydney on the liner *Orinoco* in January. She was on her way to visit her grandparents in New Zealand. Miss Eadie has lived with her parents in New Guinea for five years.

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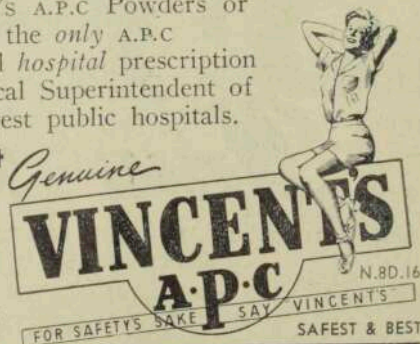


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TERRITORIES TALK-TALK

By Tolala

Here's wishing all Territorians a happy and a peaceful 1955. May there be a steady and smooth co-ordination in the working of all sections of the community for the progress and prosperity of the Territory as a whole.

Full Circle

As a result of the reorganisation of the P-NG government departments, along the "Secretarial system", the wheel of the Department of Native Affairs has turned full circle during the past thirty-odd years. It was started off when Civil Administration took over from the Military after World War I and Harry Cardew was appointed "Protector of Natives." Came then the Department of District Services; followed by District Services and Native Affairs. And now, where do we go from here? . . . A Dept. of Non-Native Affairs?

B.O.P. in England

A "Greater Bird of Paradise" hit the headlines recently in London papers when it was released by an unknown "marauder" from the Manchester Belle Vue Zoo, and eventually recaptured by firemen with ladders and searchlights. It was valued at £200. It is reported that there are only three BOP in Britain—not including, of course, those on ladies' hats. Apparently Mr. Frost (PIM, Dec., p. 19) hopes to gather in another 20 after his trip to the Territory.

Repeated attempts in the early days to keep BOP in captivity proved unsuccessful. Birds must be getting tougher—or captivity more congenial.

Give Vanilla

Beans a Go

Encouragement by an Australian firm to grow vanilla beans (Dec. PIM, p. 30) might give some of the Territory's planters an idea. I have seen prolific growth in a small area on a Bainings (NB) plantation, and also at Matanatar (Kokopo), which was Queen Emma's experimental station where, at one time, everything tropical was tested out.

Bad Publicity and Editorial

Ignorance

The libel on indentured labour in P-NG, mentioned in PIM, Dec., p. 97, is indeed dangerous and gives critics in the UNO *menage* an opportunity to fire some arrows at Australian administration. In this instance the *Age* was firing the missionary's bullets, perhaps unwittingly. Editorial ignorance is to blame.

Another instance—and more pronounced—appeared in a Sydney paper, penned by its "own staff reporter who recently returned from New Guinea." It was a feature article with a bold heading, "Profitable Trade in 'Black Ivory,'" starting off with "Trade in human beings is still one of NG's best businesses," and its final lines: ". . . there's lots of money to be made in the human-being business."

Such stories constitute anaphatic disservice to the Territory as a whole and the planter in particular. There are implication black-birding, African slave-forced labour; none of which exist as is well known to the initiate. It is this type of libel which forces the Administration—in order to protect itself from the barbs Trusteeship critics—to increase load to be carried on the backs of the planters and native labourers in general.

If these copy-hungry reporters realised the cross they create, which planters are unjustly criticised, they might take more care in the selection of facts for their "stories."

Old German (?)

Landmark

Reference in the Moresby paper to a truck being found "at the foot of Namanula Hill, in the vicinity of the old German Residency" seems a bit off-centre, if it refers to the old Government House, where Australian Administrators had been in residence since 1914, and was one of the last buildings to be blown in the extensive bombings of 1942.

It commanded a magnificent view of the town and the harbour. I remember once standing with J. Curle, author and world traveller, on the verandah gazing out over the scene and remarking on the view.

"Yes," he said thoughtfully, "of the grandest scenes in all my travels. But I mean that," he added as he noticed my rather sceptical expression. And then he went on to explain how many miles he travelled throughout the world, well as enumerating the number of games of "Miss Milligan" he played during that time.

When bidding "Good-bye" to his host and hostess (Sir Walter Lady McNicoll) he accepted his leave from the very solemn-faced native house-boy, threw it in the air, caught it on his head—much to the amazement of the "boy"—the amusement of the other guests. . . .

Yes, the old Government House in Rabaul was the meeting-place of many interesting and notable characters, and not the least of them during the time when the Military Administrator entertained, with Mrs. Kaumann (a niece of Queen Emma) as hostess.

"German Residency" is definitely a misnomer.

Ego Boosting?

It seems to be becoming a practice in P-NG publications to tend the courtesy of the phrase "Mr." to indigenes now, which seems—old-fashioned and conservative—appears to be carrying the tide of trusteeship and Bill of Human Rights just a trifle too far. It may

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he action ludicrous as applied to our NG natives, the best of whom, I feel sure, do not subscribe to this fatuous boost to their ego.

In time, presumably, we shall see Mrs., Miss and Master applied to the other members of the native household. And the next step will be—as adopted by the Javanese elite—a procession of "Drs."

Crazy Water

The argument over the permission for natives to drink alcoholic liquors is still being waged and several organisations deplore the administrator's attitude in supporting this very doubtful privilege to natives. I cannot see the Minister supporting this "freedom," when it has not been extended to Australia's own aborigines. Surely it is rushing our fences with the prospect of suicidal results.

In the Tolai language, booze is called *Tava na log-log*—crazy water. And that about sums up its effects.

Vot—No

Europeans?

I have just been reading the official Commemorative volume of the "Royal Visit" descriptive of our Queen's visit to Australia last year, and a very nice production.

But I was disappointed in the omission of any reference to Europeans from P-NG being presented to Her Majesty at Canberra. Natives and Chinese are mentioned, but so far as officialdom is concerned, the Europeans just don't come into the picture. To me, this seems a bit cock-eyed. Why should Europeans, who have given of the best years of their lives in developing P-NG, be ignored in such public functions? Posterity to know nothing of their efforts? Have they done so little as to merit this official snub?

A Christmas

Reverie

I was munching the last nut at my 1954 Christmas dinner, and hearing, for the forty-second time, a medley of "White Christmas," "Jingle Bells," and "Noel" coming over the air, when the music changed and the strains of "Stille Nacht; Heilige Nacht" took me back over the years to the day I first heard that old German carol.

It was Christmas Day, 1911. The recruiting schooner *Samoa* lay at the jetty at Mioko, in the Duke of Yorks, headquarters of the Deutschen Handels und Plantagen Gesellschaft (the "Long Handle Firm") in German New Guinea. Manager Helritz and his charming wife had staged a typical Islands party for the *Samoa's* black-bearded Captain Peters and his officers, before the ship left for Buka to fill up with

recruits to work on Samoan plantations.

There was Herr Keidel, the assistant manager, rosy-cheeked, just out from Germany. There was Auguste Englehardt, the sun-worshipper from the neighbouring island of Kabakon, intent on breaking every self-inflicted law of his creed, for his sole diet was the coconut and he discarded all clothing. (But for this occasion he had donned a lavalava and a white coat). In the background, around the Christmas tree, the children played, and from a distance came the beat of kudus and the monotonous sing-sing of the natives.

They were a civilised people even then, these Duke of York Islanders. In 1874 a white trader had sold them tobacco and beads for copra, and in the early Eighties, Tom Farrell and Queen Emma had made their home there.

And then . . . amid the laughter of the children, the hearty "Prosits" at the table, and the distant sing-song, came the blended harmony of a German choir singing "Stille Nacht; Heilige Nacht," recorded on an old-time phonograph; and then all joined in the singing, led by the black-bearded Captain, and the hilarious party of seasoned Islanders suddenly became a group of very home-sick, reverent folk under the nostalgic spell of an old-time song that momentarily transported them back to the Vaterland.

The record ceased; there was a short silence. "Ah, so! Prosit!!" said the Captain and glasses were lifted in a silent toast.

"You are listening to the ABC. . . ." I awoke from my reverie, and was back again in 1954, but . . . Ah, well, they were happy days.

The Good Old Days!

Yes; they were the good old days; peaceful days. In New Guinea, at any rate, there was no audible whisper of "Der Tag!" No sign of the wee, small cloud on the international horizon, which was to break in 1914, three years later.

A camaraderie existed between all the Europeans, irrespective of nationality; intersectional jealousies had not grown to to-day's dimensions. A white man was a white man, not looked upon by half the world as a potential Simon Legree or black-bird, but one anxious to maintain his status in a black country. There was no gaol for Europeans. If one committed a breach of the law he was promptly advised to take the first boat out; if he failed he was appointed an honorary Road-master for a period to fit his crime.

We had no radios; no aeroplanes; no spacious refrigerators and no polyglot assembly telling the government how to run the country. Native labourers were—for the most part—a happy crowd of adventurous "boys" out to see the world and

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content to be hewers of wood and drawers of water—in many instances accompanied by their families. They suffered from no inhibitions. Happy was the house-boy, clad in a clean lava-lava, twanging away at a jews-harp in the shade of a water-tank. And the Asiatics? Content to be good tradesmen—carpenters, engineers, boat-builders—while some were small-time traders and store-keepers.

Congenial living under pioneer conditions was the key-note of everyday existence. Mammon had not reached its present-day height of idolism. Living was a simple matter of commonsense, not a complex series of scientific adjustments and formulae to control the coming and the going of the individual.

Yes, they were happy days. But then who am I—old-fashioned and unprogressive—to criticise the present Elysian state of affairs?

To Whom Honour Is Due

P-NG is too often behind the door when Honours are being given out. But I am glad to see that Dave Crawley, who for so many years has done a great job with the Police Band, has at last had his persevering services recognised by receiving the MBE. The same honour goes to Captain J. H. Evans, who was manager of the P-NG

Shipping Services in the post-war years at Rabaul. Secretary C. R. Lambert, of Territories Dept., collected a CBE.

Oddments

A wedding of some social significance took place at Darling Point, Sydney, on November 27, when Miss Helen Mary Lysaght married Mr. Phillip Street. Phillip is the son of the late J. L. Street, who was well-known in pre-War Rabaul and lost his life as a NGVR when the Japs landed. Mrs. Violet Street lives in Melbourne. Father of the bride is a director of the John Lysaght firm. Phillip is a Veterinary Surgeon and the newly married couple plan to live in New Zealand. . . . A recently published book, "The Sovereign People: Analysis of An Illusion," is another controversial book from the pen of E. T. Brown, who was, some 30 years ago, a legal-eagle in Rabaul. After leaving Rabaul, "Bruno" toured the world for a while, visiting Russia amongst other places, and gave the world his impressions of international politics, pulling no punches. He writes well.

Miss Jan Christian, a descendant of Fletcher Christian of *Bounty* fame, performed Tahitian dances at the pre-Christmas cocktail party held by the Women's Australian Travel League, at the Hotel Australia, Sydney, on December 20.

No Easy Way of Guava Eradication

THE Fiji Department of Agriculture, after investigating enthusiastic reports of a parasitic disease that was attacking the noxious Guava weed in southern and western Viti Levu, has decided that the disease is unlikely to give any great relief.

The Department says artificial spreading of diseased plants may be an aid in suppressing guava but that landholders should not expect complete faith in it.

Wright-Whiteside Wedding

Two old Fiji families were united on December 4 when Miss Dianne Ed Wright, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. Wright of Nasese, was married in the Catholic Cathedral, Suva, to Mr. Al Arthur Whiteside, third son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Whiteside.

About 150 guests were entertained at the home of the bride's parents. The couple will make their home at Tavua.

¶ Miss Winifred Mary Waterman, who has been a missionary in the New Hebrides for the past twenty years, was married in Melbourne, on December 15, to Mr. F. W. Beaumont. The couple will both go to the New Hebrides in March and take up missionary work there together.

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SAVOIR-VIVRE INTERNATIONAL, Pierre Daninos et Dore Ogrizek.—Code de la susceptibilité et des bons usages à travers le monde. Articles by over 50 famous writers, wittily illustrated in colour by 6 artists. 43/3 (post 1/1).

BERLIN, von Theodor Plievier.—Die ersten beiden Buecher des beruehmten Kriegsschriftstellers Stalingrad und Moskau sind ja heute wohl Jedem bekannt. Der letzte Band der Trilogie Berlin fuehrt uns dem Ende des zweiten Weltkrieges zu: Der Fall Berlins. 36/- (post 9d).

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HEREIN OHNE ANZUKLOPFEN, von Ernst Kreuder.—In dem neuem Werk des Buechnerpreistragers nimmt der Leser an einem alle Gesetze der Alltagsschwerkraft aufhebenden Flug ueber die Grenzen zwischen Geist und Materie teil. 23/- (post 9d).

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A Chance for the Small Settler

Income Taxation in BSIP to be Overhauled

"Private enterprise is welcome in the British Solomon Islands Protectorate," said Sir Robert Stanley (High Commissioner for the Western Pacific), who arrived in Sydney on December 18. He has just returned from a flying visit to the United Kingdom to urge that the needs of his territories for development finance be considered when allocations are made under the new Colonial Development and Welfare Act to cover the next five years.

SIR ROBERT told the PIM that it was high time that the notion, (which seemed to have gained some currency) that the Protectorate Government had placarded the British Solomons with a series of "keep out" signs, was firmly and finally scotched.

The BSIP Government's Trade Scheme was started, he said, not because the Government wanted to trade, but because it had to create a trading organisation to provide an essential need which would otherwise have been unfilled.

"The Government will not continue to operate the Trade Scheme," Sir Robert said, "any longer than is necessary to enable it to offer a reasonably attractive commercial proposition to potential bidders. Meanwhile the Scheme receives no special privileges or preferential treatment."

Sir Robert said that his proposals for the development of the Protectorate had had a very sympathetic reception from the Secretary of State, who fully understood the special nature of the Protectorate's problems. "It is not yet possible," he added, "to give final figures of the allocations to be made to the Western Pacific Territories from Colonial Development and Welfare Funds, but I hope that these may be known within two or three months, and I am sure that the Secretary of State will do his best for us."

QUESTIONED about income tax, Sir Robert said that he had discussed income tax and surtax questions with the Secretary of State and his senior officials. As a result of his talks in London the way had been opened for some over-haul of the operation of the present income tax system. "Details will be discussed with Mr. Macleod-Smith, the Financial Secretary, who is due in England very shortly."

Sir Robert added that he had also discussed possible ways of stimulating the development of new enterprises. He found the Secretary of State sympathetic and this matter also will be carried further with Mr. Macleod-Smith, in England.

Discussing general conditions in

BSIP, Sir Robert said that the soil and climate were suitable for most kinds of tropical agriculture, and

land rents were not high. The Government was anxious to encourage the development of cocoa and there were probably as good prospects in this field as in any.

"There is a Government scheme," Sir Robert said, "for the provision of financial assistance by way of loans to the small man who may be in need of extra capital. We are planning to improve local communications and port facilities so as to reduce the cost of handling and transporting produce and to give better passenger communications among the islands. For the man who is prepared to take his coat off and get down to a job of work, for the man ready to blaze a trail, I believe that there are good prospects of success." (Over)

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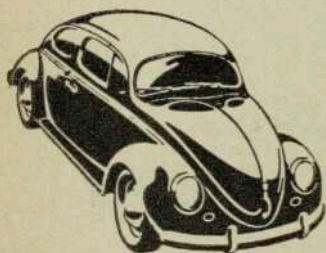
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The PIM asked: "Do you think the Colonial Office really appreciates conditions in the British Solomons?"

"I am quite sure that the Colonial Office is keenly alive to essential conditions and needs," Sir Robert said. "And I believe that the detailed background I have been able to supply has been useful. I am quite sure that the Colonial Office will do its best to help us to achieve our aim to put the Protectorate well and truly on its feet. But neither the Government nor the Colonial Office can do this unaided. I myself have faith in the future of the British Solomons and if others share I believe that enterprise will not go unrewarded."

Sir Robert's plane was late and he spent only 12 hours in Sydney before leaving for Lae and Honiara on December 18.

¶ Miss Florence Wilks, after spending a few months on the staff at

Torgil Girls' School, is now teaching at S. Hilda's School, Bunana, in the Solomons.

¶ Bishop Arkfeld, Roman Catholic Bishop of Wewak, New Guinea, left for America on December 11 for a six months' visit.

Then—and Now . . .

These photographs illustrate the extraordinary progress of the Walu Bay area of Suva, Fiji, in the four years since it has been reclaimed. Work was begun in 1949. During the time the job was being done 300 inches of rain fell, in Suva's wettest year on record. The area was built by pushing down a hill and filling in swampy ground. An area of 32 acres

was achieved, at a cost of a little over £F90,000. Photo at bottom shows how the area looked in 1950. Top photo shows how it looks to-day. The area was divided into industrial sites, for which a yearly rental is paid. The only feature common to both photographs is the factory chimney, in the top left of each photograph.

Photos: Fiji Public Relations Office.



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Rabaul Home-Builders Are Not Encouraged

From Our Own Correspondent

BUILDING loan conditions, as applied to home builders in the Territory, were strongly criticised by members of the Rabaul Town Advisory Council at the December meeting.

Under the terms of the Housing Loans Ordinance the maximum loan available to a home builder is £2,000. Never, in any instance, can the loan exceed 90 per cent. of the value of the house.

Before any portion of the loan is advanced to the applicant, he must first spend on the building at least the difference between the amount of the loan and the total amount the house will cost.

For this generous act on the part of the Government the rate of interest charged is 6 per cent., on which there is a rebate of 1 per cent. if all payments are met on the due date. These payments include a portion of the capital advanced.

A borrower granted a loan of £1,500 would first have to spend the initial 10 per cent. of the ultimate value of the home and then pay

back, in the first year, about £150. The yearly instalments will decrease gradually as the capital loan is repaid.

Amended Building Regulations now demand a relatively high standard of building from all home builders in the town area. In essence, they demand that anyone deciding to build a home without outside financial aid must be financially solvent to a far greater extent than the average Australian in his home country. To obtain Government help, the home builder must in addition give proof of considerable solvency and repay his indebtedness at a rate which, to many, would be a severe imposition.

Of prospective home-builders in Rabaul at least 50 per cent. are Chinese, Malays, and half-castes, with average earnings of less than £12 a week. Many of them have large families.

Are these people to be relegated, for want of higher earning power, to an area outside the town boundaries where building regulations do not apply? Or be compelled to work for the Administration or a private employer (who will provide a house) and live in constant fear of losing their job and, with it, the roof over their heads? To aim for the elimination of

slums and stricter town planning a laudable civic goal—if tempered with practical far-sightedness.

The Territory needs the Government, and the Government needs the people. Not the itinerant or two-term civil servant, the planter who runs his property from the mainland through a manager or the investor who enjoys the fruit of his investments away from the country, but the home builder, the man with a real stake in the future of the Islands.

As Mr. Cummings, Chairman of the Rabaul Town Advisory Council said: "There are many governments in other parts of the world who would provide them (the people) with houses for nothing."

¶ Bishop John Aubin, French Roman Catholic missionary, returned to the Solomon Islands recently after having taken his home leave for 21 years. He has been home only three times since he began his ministry in the islands 47 years ago. Bishop Aubin said that in some ways his present state of 80 was having more trouble combating some modern influences among the natives than in stamping out cannibalism at the turn of the century.

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JI LEG-CO.'S RECENT 'PROVOCATIVE' SESSION

From Our Own Correspondent

SUVA, Dec. 2.

THE recent session of the Fiji Legislative Council has been described as one of the most provocative in its history. In the words of the Governor (Sir Ronald Arvey) it has been a "very constructive session" and "should bear fruit."

There seems to be general satisfaction over the session. Administration bristles with anomalies; and, some members describe present policy as one of "weak appeasement," there are more who applaud pleas for "peaceful co-existence" made by His Excellency and Ratu Lala Sukuna.

Important issues seem to centre on the fact that the Fijians, the primary race in the Colony, "show disappointing progress in self-government; and their most severe criticisms are some of the leading members of their own race. Decentralisation of administration, romantically shelved by Government in the hope that the Fijians would "evolve" a greater measure of responsibility, has been received by Fijians, one gathers, with some relief.

One member of Leg-Co. stressed the importance of choosing the right type of District Officer. Qualities needed, he said, are a good knowledge of the people and their customs; commonsense; and enthusiasm.

TAXATION

Taxation commanded most attention from the public, particularly in relation to future vested interests in Fiji. A drastic overhaul of taxation was recognised as necessary if investors are to be attracted towards promising new ventures; and, while Government's action in putting something back in the Development Fund kitty is meeting with general approval, and a 3d in the £ general reduction in income tax has been granted, it is felt that services generally are outstripping the Colony's ability to pay.

While Europeans grumble at the small return they get from all the money they pay, and urge improved educational facilities for their children in the Colony, the Colony is being pulled in the other direction by those who contend that a great proportion is being spent on education and medical services at Fiji cannot afford, and that this is a "fool's inflationary parade." That latter criticism, however, can be levelled at any country using its economy on to day's supplies and demands.

The Sugar Stabilisation Fund, proposed by Indian unofficial members, is an example of Government's desire to guard against the evils of



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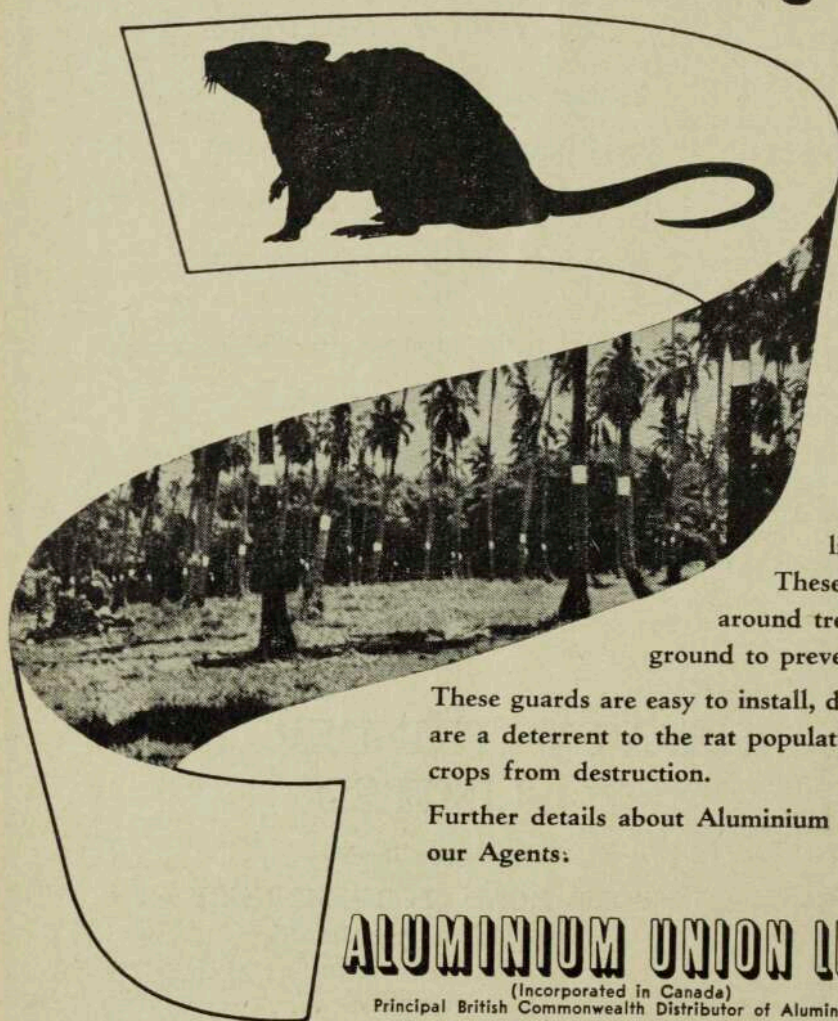
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inflation—likewise the Copra Cess, amounting to £10 a ton on copra and less official Cess on bananas (1/6 per case). These are enormously strengthening the position of the Indian and Fijian primary producer.

HOW LONG IN MALAYA?

On the vexed question of whether the Fijian troops should remain in Malaya, Government was not prepared to make an unequivocal statement—rightly so, perhaps, when to quote the Colonial Secretary, these matters can only be answered properly by Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom.

SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION

The South Pacific Commission, the value of whose assistance to Fiji was questioned, was defended on its grounds that, though Fiji is "interrupted" by SPC visitors—some inquisitive, some imparting knowledge, some giving advice—in the main Fiji benefits from the contact, the best example being the help given to the potential cocoa industry by the recent visit of an expert under the auspices of the SPC.

Domestic issues included the passing of the Fair Rents Bill, with amendments designed to protect over-paid members of the community against a sudden rise in rents. This is timely, in view of

the overcrowding in Suva, where the demand for houses far exceeds the supply.

LEAVE CONDITIONS

Leave conditions—a touchy subject on which there has been some uneasy speculation among civil servants, who expected curtailments of leave privileges when a general salary revision took place recently—remain untouched. Government, under "pressure of more urgent business," has shelved that thorny one in the meantime—but intends to appoint a Commission of inquiry, and to consider the question of "accelerated promotion and allied subjects," within the Colony.

INDIAN COMMUNITY

Mr. Vishnu Deo, the Indian elected member for Southern Division, referring to the need for proper control of the conditions of service of any Indian labourers sent to any other parts of the Pacific, was assured that this would be "carefully scrutinised and controlled so that the economy of this country should not be affected."

On the subject of immigration, and the amount of time which an immigrant should be allowed to spend away from Fiji without losing his right to return, the Indian member was assured that Government, though aware of the points raised, could not provide a speedy reply to his suggestions.

Mr. C. Kugelberg, of Oceanic Trading Co., of San Francisco, visited Tahiti in December to look over the local tourist facilities. Already well known there from his numerous visits, formerly as a representative of Williams, Dimond & Co., then as a Pacific Islands adviser to the US Government, Mr. Kugelberg said that his firm has just opened a tourist bureau.

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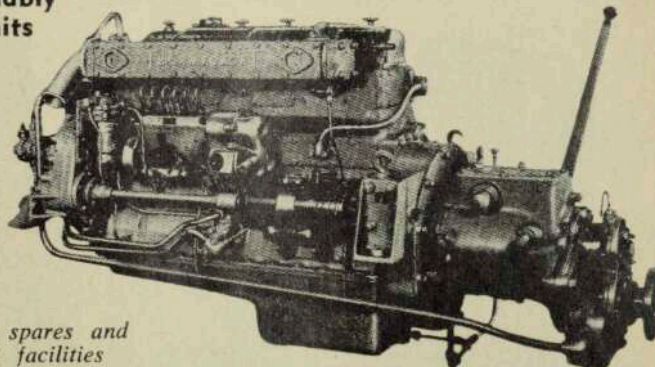
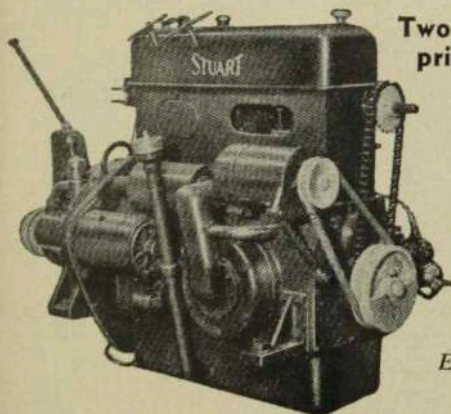
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MARKED INCREASE SHOWN IN P-NG MAIN EXPORTS

Some interesting export figures from the Papua-New Guinea statistical period—year ended June 30, 1954:

	1953-54 Tons	1952-53 Tons
Copra ..	105,000	85,060
Rubber ..	3,120	2,905
Cocoa ..	730	639
Coffee ..	84	47

GALVANISED IRON

There has been an embarrassing shortage of galvanised iron in the Territories, and the Department finally took up the matter with the Australian Department of National Development, with a view to getting an increased quota. For nine months Papua-New Guinea has been allocated 1,568 tons—practically all from Australian sources—compared with the 1,543 tons imported in 1952-53. P-NG now will have supplies at least equal to its needs.

Busy Banana Tourist

A BANANA tourist, with a difference, has recently been clambering over the mountains of W. Samoa, Fiji and P-NG.

He is Mr. N. W. Simmonds, a "syngeneticist" attached to the research department of the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture in the West Indies. For the past 10 years he and others have been

searching for a strain of banana resistant to Panama and leaf-diseases which have crippled West Indian banana export trade. The same leaf-spot disease is sent in Samoa in certain varieties.

Mr. Simmonds will visit various banana producing countries westward to north-east India during present expedition. He has covered in P-NG some varieties known elsewhere and seeds have been sent back to the West Indies.

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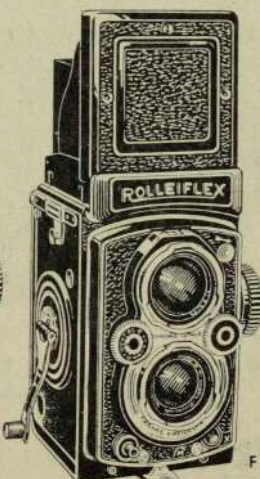
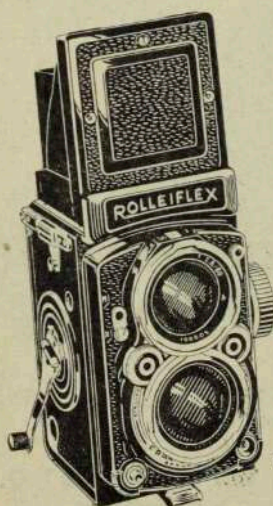
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Current News Items From Our Correspondents In Papua-New Guinea

HOMES FOR EX-SERVICEMEN

It is likely that an officer of the Australian War Services Homes Division will visit Papua-New Guinea about the middle of January. This follows the recent announcement by the Minister for Territories that a scheme would be set up in the Territory.

The P-NG State president of the RSL, Mr. George Whittaker, will visit all RSL branches with the representative to see, at first hand, which RSL members will be needing assistance.

JAP GRAVE SEEKERS

The Administrator of P-NG, Brigadier D. M. Cleland, said on December 6 that he knew none of the details of the proposed visit to the Territory of a Japanese war graves party, although according to Tokio reports, the visits would commence in January.

Brigadier Cleland said he would see the itinerary when it was finalised, and that mission members would be put under strict supervision. One of the reasons for this was to see that they behaved themselves.

JAPS IN TROUBLE AGAIN

About the same time that this statement was made another of those very active Japanese ships, *Kurahio Maru No 6*, went aground on a rock off Anir Island—about the same place where in the previous month, a plantation manager, Mr. Ray Lacey, gathered a shipload of Japanese together and took them to Rabaul, where they were charged with being prohibited immigrants.

The grounding apparently was first reported to the Department of Territories in Canberra by the Japanese Embassy, who asked for permission for two Japanese ships—which it seemed were not too far away—to go to the aid of the stranded ship. Permission was granted by the P-NG Administration.

Later in the week an Administration vessel, the *Rouna Falls*, left Rabaul with a police party to investigate, and found the Japanese ship still stranded, and abandoned.

The crew of *Rouna Falls* reported seeing three unidentified ships at various times near Anir Island, and while one was too far away, the two others made off at speed when the Administration vessel tried to approach them.

In December, the Administration was deciding whether to take over the *Kurahio Maru* as a wreck. No one knows what the ship had been

doing at Anir Island in the first place.

The Lacey case got a lot of publicity outside of New Guinea. American *Time* magazine reported it with the comment that "Anti-Japanese feeling dies hard in Australia"; and added: "Australia accused the Japanese of violating immigration laws (in the Lacey case), but the real charge was poaching shell beds in waters which the Australians insist they own—a claim which Japan disputes."

Time was wrong. There was no dispute that the Japanese landed illegally in an Australian Trust Territory, took food and attempted to get off with a dog, a bicycle and other odd items on the island without a by-your-leave to anybody. That is law breaking in any part of the world. It has been going on increasingly in recent months, and when these law-breakers were rounded up by Mr. Lacey the Administration decided that it was as good a time as any to put a stop to it.

It seems, in view of the Japanese Embassy attitude over the *Kurahio Maru*, that it did some good.

There has been much talk over anti-Japanese feeling. But many

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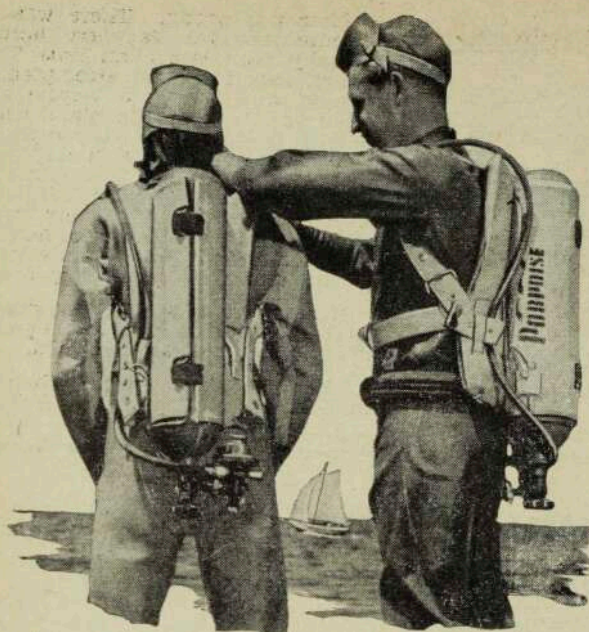
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people in the Territory, especially those on the outer islands, agree that they would have no objection to the arrival of a few Japanese fishermen from time to time, so long as they were well-behaved, asked permission first, and generally acted like visitors desiring some hospitality rather than pirates out to plunder what they can get.

That seems to be the whole point of it: Japanese fishermen who sneak about the islands like criminals can expect to be treated like criminals.

ADVICE TO COFFEE GROWERS

Highlands coffee growers have asked the Administration to make a coffee expert available, either by sending a local man overseas for training, or by importing someone of experience.

Highland landholders, generally, feel neglected, and as far as coffee is concerned they have to learn how to grow it themselves. They believe that there is a bright future for Highlands coffee—but they also believe that some members of the Administration do not share their views.

TIMBER

Prices of locally milled timber in the Territory were increased from December 9; price of imported timber remains the same.

General price increase was 8/6 per 100-super feet, and some further increases on special orders.

Stephen Cheong, 19, is an old boy of the Administration Chinese School, Rabaul, where he completed his studies up to the Queensland Scholarship Class before going on to the Brisbane Boys' College, then to the Teachers' College, Brisbane, where he trained as a teacher and early in December, along with other successful candidates, was presented with his teachers' diploma. He has since returned to Rabaul and will commence duties as a teacher in his old school in 1955. He makes history in that he is the first Territory-born Chinese ever to qualify in an Australian State as a teacher.

Photo: C. H. Meen.

The increases will raise the cost of an average timber home by about £50. Generally there was little re-

action in the Territory, where local timber is still cheaper than imported timber.

QUEEN ELIZABETH MOBILE CLINICS

Six mobile, infant-welfare clinics will be brought to the Territory following the close of the Queen Elizabeth Trust Fund drive which commemorates Her Majesty's Coronation.

The clinics will be sent to Madang, Wewak, Goroka, the Mekeo, Rigo and Buin.

The fund raised a total of more than £12,700—£9,700 of it by public subscription, including a very large native contribution.

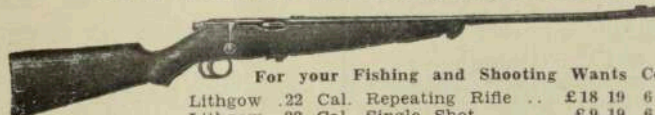
The clinics will be American ambulances, which are expected to arrive about the middle of 1955.

FIRST CHIEF JUSTICE

Mr. Justice Phillips was installed as the first Chief Justice of Papua-New Guinea on December 7.

(Over)

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His appointment followed a recent amendment to the Papua-New Guinea Act, and his new commission was signed by the Governor-General.

He was formally installed as Chief Justice in a short ceremony in the Supreme Court at Port Moresby, when representatives of the Bench, the legal profession and the police paid him warm tribute.

The Crown Law Officer, Mr. W. Watkins, said that for many years, representations had been made for the fuller recognition of the Territory and its officers, and it was very pleasing that the first major honor was bestowed on Mr. Justice Phillips.

The new Chief Justice was first appointed a judge in New Guinea in 1928. He was Chief Judge of New Guinea from 1938, and in 1946, when the Territories were combined, he was appointed Senior Judge.

TRUCK'S KOKI PLUNGE

Eighteen police were injured, none seriously, when a police truck crashed over an embankment at Old Koki Road, Port Moresby, on December 11. Three ambulances kept the hospital supplied with work for some hours.

The wonder is that there are not more accidents in Port Moresby with its twisting roads, and lack of safety fences. Old Koki Road is particularly dangerous in parts.

Port Moresby is big enough now to dispense with its "frontier at-

titude" of accepting risks as a normal day's routine. More safety fences and more safety road precautions are in order—to the extent of prosecuting drivers who persistently drive with one headlight, or refuse to dip their headlights on the winding roads out of town. "One-eyed" drivers are usually native taxi-drivers.

KAVIENG—A WHARF ON SCHEDULE

Kavieng's wharf, costing £67,000 has been completed.

The contract was carried out by Civil. Constructions Ltd., a New Guinea subsidiary of the parent company, Modern Constructions, Ipswich, Queensland, which did the

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job with a minimum of fuss, and within the time set down.

Few major works in the Territory are carried out according to plan. It seems that there will be a delay in the erection of the new Lae hospital because of a shortage of skilled European tradesmen who are reluctant to go to New Guinea while they are earning such big money in the building trade in Australia.

In December, construction of the hospital was behind schedule.

SOIL SURVEYS IN SHORT SUPPLY

The Morobe District Advisory Council in November supported a request from Wau to send the Agricultural Department's soil survey officer back to Wau.

The request was made to the Administration by the Wau RSL, which pointed out that the officer had gone to Kavieng while there was still work to be done at Wau.

However, the New Ireland people had been pressing for the services of the soil survey officer for months, and he was overdue there.

It seems that there is a shortage of soil survey officers in the Territory—as well as a shortage of most other things.

SECRETARIES ON LEAVE

The Acting Government Secretary of Papua-New Guinea, Mr. Claude Champion, left Port Moresby for Sydney in December, on five months' leave. The Government Secretary, Mr. Steve Lonergan, was himself still on long leave at the time, and was due back about the first week in January.

In the interim, the more pressing duties of the position, were carried out by Mr. Kevin Sheeky.

FIFTH TIME UNLUCKY

Whatever the reaction in Australia, Territory people had little criticism of the Government's decision to hang a native murderer in New Guinea during December.

The sentence was carried out in the Lae gaol at dawn on December 6, and the public first heard of it from an announcement made by the administrator, Brigadier D. M. Ireland, the same day.

The man executed was Usamando, who was found guilty by the Chief Justice, Mr. Justice Phillips, in August, of having murdered a fellow prisoner in the Lae gaol on June 22. Usamando, at the time, was serving a life imprisonment for murder.

He had, in fact, convictions on our previous counts of murder, dating from 1928, and committed in circumstances that showed he knew very well what he was doing. Murder seemed to be his hobby, and the

surprising thing was that he had not been hanged years ago.

Even in the Australian States, where the death penalty is looked at askance, there must surely have been little sympathy for a man who murdered at every chance he got, in or out of prison.

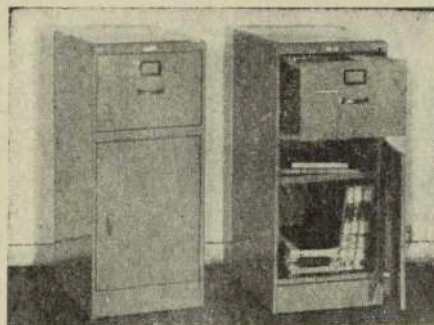
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Members of B. Company, PNGVR Rabaul, formed a guard of honour outside the church when Miss Norma Ellen Hendren married Mr. Noel Robert Scott at Rabaul, on November 27.

Photo: C. H. Meen.



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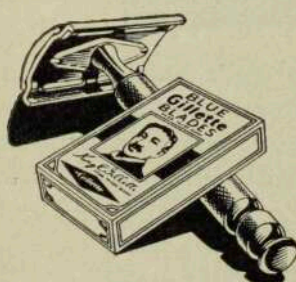
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General reaction in the Territory was that the hanging was a very good thing, and that it would act as a stern warning to others with similar anti-social ideas.

Even those inclined to be again hanging as a penalty agreed that the Governor-General-in-Council could hardly have decided otherwise in this instance, because gaol had not proved a deterrent, and Usamando could not be allowed to go on killing.

It was a high hurdle for the "anti's" to overcome.

The last hangings in New Guinea were of Piaru, Piplagi and Alukalo on February 2, 1937. In Papua, Kari was hanged on August 8, 1938, for the murder of a warder at the Koro gaol.

(Australian newspapers carried the story of the hanging, but there was virtually no comment on it, even from those who recently besieged newspapers with pleas for mercy in the cases of the Telamon murderers of Patrol Officer Harris and Szarka).



Bride and groom cutting the wedding cake at their reception. Photo taken after Mr. Carol Elizabeth Brennan was married to Mr. Graham Edwin Blake at the Church of St. Francis Xavier, Rabaul, on Saturday, December 11.

Photo: C. H. Mees

SURVEY SHIPS IN LAE

Two United States ships, which have been surveying the coast of New Britain for the past few months, spent a few days at Lae during the Christmas break.

The two ships, FS367 and FS210, had previously been using Lae for refuelling and had become popular visitors.

FS216 later left for Japan, after completing her tour of duty and the FS367 returned to its work on the New Britain coast. FS220 is due shortly to take over from where FS216 left off.

LEVIEN TROPHY WINS BY BULOLO

The first Levien Trophy match of the season was played between Bulolo and Lae at Lae during December. Bulolo won the cricket, tennis and billiards by 24 points to eight. The best Lae could do was to win the snooker and hold Bulolo to a first innings win in the cricket which became a half-day affair due to rain.

LAE WEDDINGS

Three young couples who met at Lae, were married at Lae, during December.

Miss Veronica Manicaros, only daughter of Mrs. L. Langham, of Mumeng and Mr. L. Manicaros, of North Queensland, married Mr. Brian Bretag, second son of that well-known Territorian, Mr. A. J. Bretag, at St. Mary's, Lae.

The bride wore a gown of white guipure lace over pale pink satin. She was attended by Miss Judith Glanville. Mr. John Bretag was bestman.

Miss Jean Swain, a Nursing Sister at Lae General Hospital, who came to Lae from England, wore a gown of white satin and lace for her marriage to Mr. Walter Nayman at All Souls Church.

The bride was unattended and Mr. Harry Thompson was bestman. Mr. Nayman is with Robert Gillespie (New Guinea) Limited.

Miss Lois Cook and Mr. Jaffrey Martin were married at St. Mary's Church.

The bride chose a ballerina-length gown of white nylon net over taffeta. She was attended by Mrs. Gene Mann, and Mr. Noel Symington was best man.

Mr. Martin is on the staff of Vacuum Oil Company, at Lae.

LAE BIRTHS

A daughter was born at Crown Street Women's Hospital, Sydney, during December, to Mrs. Windshuttle, wife of Mr. Dick Windshuttle, manager for Colyer Watson Ltd., at Lae, who is very well known throughout the Territory as captain and coach of the New Guinea League side which defeated Papua in the first inter-Territory fixture at Port Moresby last season.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Max Hardcastle in the Lae General Hospital early in December.

Other babies born about the same time to Lae residents included a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Colin Bathagte; and a son to Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Wagenast, of the Lutheran Mission. A daughter was born at the Lae General Hospital early in December to Mrs. Stockden, wife of the well known airman, Mr. Ray Stockden. (Over)



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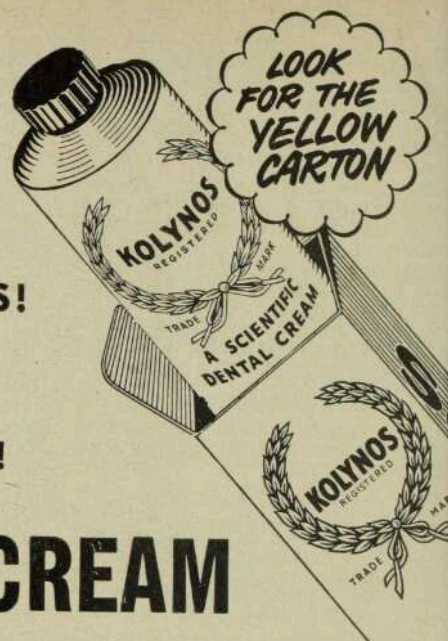
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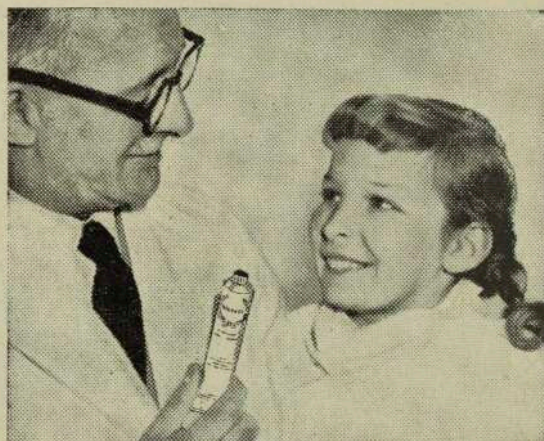
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SOCIAL ADVANCEMENT OF NATIVE WOMEN

Native Women's Clubs are proving popular in New Guinea as an effective medium of instruction in hygiene, child care, sewing, general handicrafts, improved methods of food handling and cooking, the spreading of a knowledge of simple English, and, generally, in widening the interests of native women.

Since the first club was established in Port Moresby in 1950, ten others have been established in that area, and 11 in other parts of the territory. Their useful influence was demonstrated in a big display of cooking, handicrafts, and needlework in Port Moresby early in December.

TB SURVEY

The Administration Anti-TB Unit, operating in the Wau area for the past couple of months, has made a survey of over 2,000 natives, including all working in the town area. Local Europeans have also been X-rayed.

THAT ROAD AGAIN!

The Wau-Edie Creek road, recently opened, has again collapsed at Blue Point and a survey is now proceeding to establish a deviation over the ridge to by-pass this point.

LODGE HONOURS LATE PERCY BLANDEN

The first meeting of "Blanden Lodge," the recently formed Masonic Lodge, was held at Wau on December 5. Named after the late Oswald Percy Blanden, former mining warden of Morobe District, and a great Masonic worker, the Temple for which tenders are now being called, will replace the pre-war Lodge Morobe. It is expected that construction of the new Temple will take about two months.

PAST ENCOURAGES THE PRESENT

The Forsyth Prizes, established by the late Mr. J. N. C. Forsyth (a son of "Queen Emma") in 1925, have this year been awarded to two students of the Utu Administration Central School of New Ireland, and to one student each of the Keravat and Dregerhafen Education Centres. There were 88 entrants this year, girls being contestants for the first time.

Prizes, valued at £10 each, went to the following students of the respective schools: Horatius Igua, Anthony Vaia, Nelson To Ngangane, and Gwakoro. Though examination papers were more difficult this year good results were obtained, a marked improvement in English and General Knowledge being apparent.

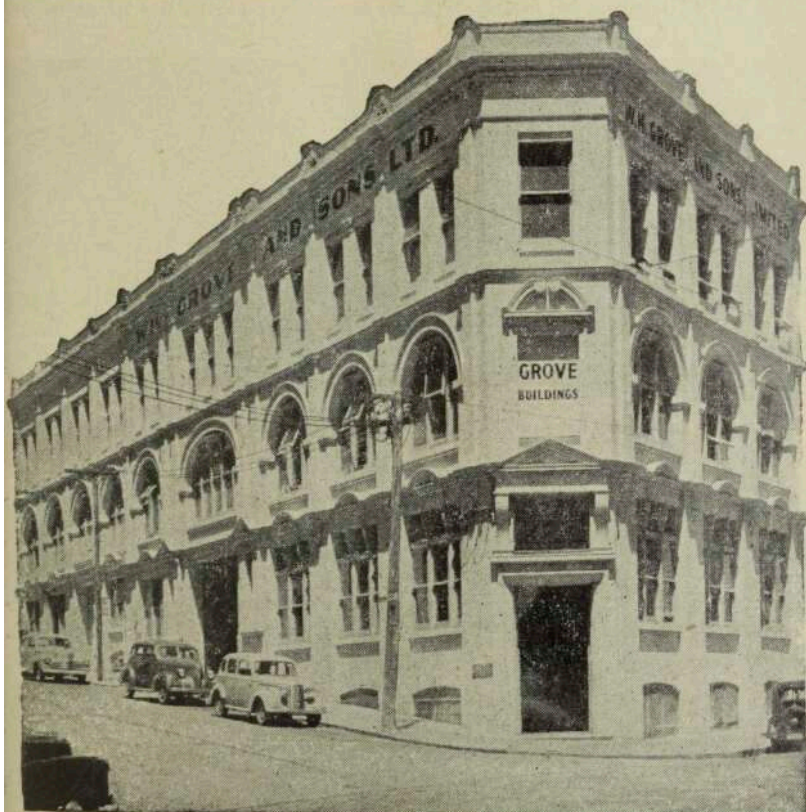
TAKING CIVILISATION TO THE HIGHLANDERS

Three important Government Patrols were recently completed in the New Guinea Highlands. The first was made from Chauve, Eastern Highlands, and traversed the Upper Bomai, Karimui, Lower Kaugel, and Au areas, south of the Wahgi Valley across the Kubor Range and south and south-east of Nondugl and Kerowagi.

This 57-day patrol was led by Patrol Officer H. S. Pegg, with Cadet Patrol Officer J. Colman in support. Principal feature of this patrol through country which varied from elevations of 1,000 to 11,000 feet, was its friendly reception by villagers who had never seen Europeans, though they had had much contact with natives passing through from European-controlled areas.

The second patrol was conducted by Patrol Officer R. M. Claridge, with Cadet Patrol Officer J. Hayes in support and occupied 64 days. The first section traversed the Middle Kaugel region, and the second section operated from Minj over the Kubor Range to Mt. Karimui and the Pio River 8 miles west of MacGregor Peaks, thence returning through the eastern end of the Kubor Range and crossing the Lower Wahgi River.

(Continued on Page 113)



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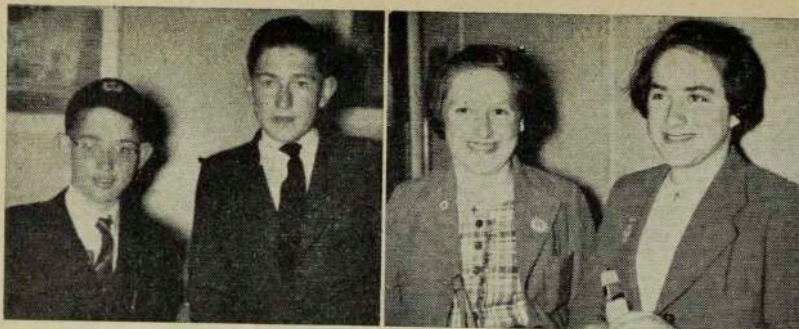
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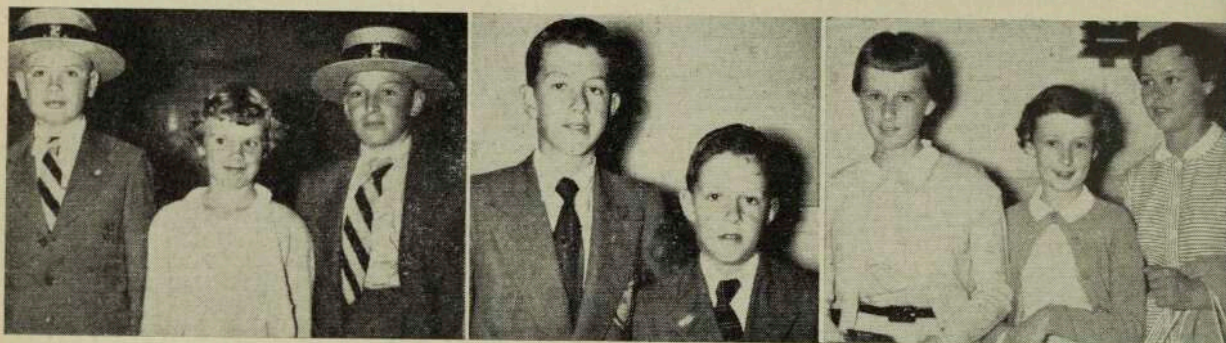


John Cumpston and Ian Johnston, sons of the Australian and British Consuls in Noumea respectively; and Nicole and Marina Brossier, daughters of Dr. and Mme. Brossier of Epi, New Hebrides.

Operation Small-Fr

DURING early December, Qant Empire Airways flew home the Islands from Austral where they had been at scho 600 children. They came fr all of the Eastern States and the destinations were Papua and N Guinea, the Solomons, Fiji, N Hebrides and New Caledonia.

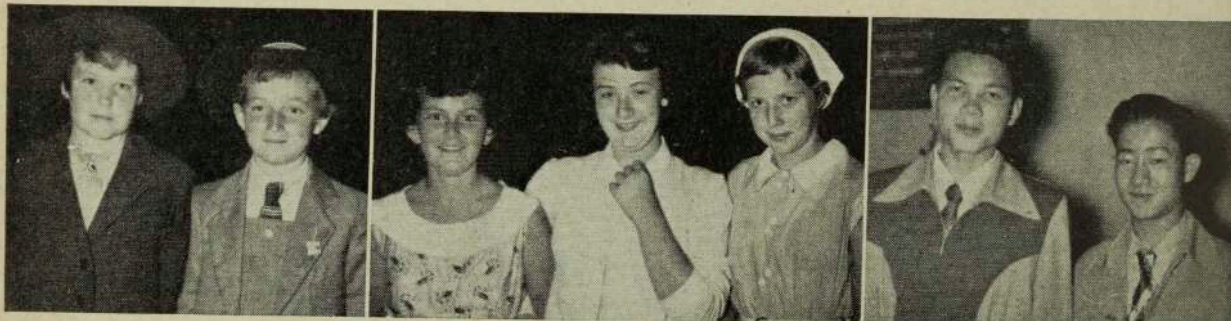
A vast amount of organisati was necessary to uplift the youngsters and get them home b



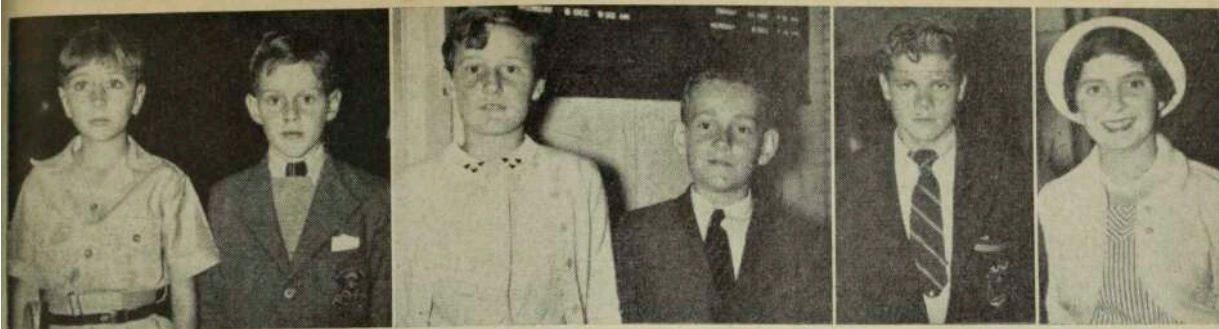
Left to right: Granville, Averill, and Jimmy Heape of Port Moresby; Harley and Terry Triggs of Port Moresby; Margar Hunt, of Sydney (left), who went to Kavieng, New Ireland, to spend the holidays with her friends Lynne and Patty Evans (right)



Colin and Eric Tang of Wewak; L. Tuckey of Lae; and Richard Leahy of Zenag, seeing off his friends Bill Maloney of Wau and Keith Morrissey of Port Moresby.



Diane Ireland of Wau; Kay Samuel of Port Moresby; Judy Wilton of Bulolo; Beverley Lambert; Jannice Lega; and Francis and Michael Chan, of Rabaul.



ore Christmas. And, at the end of January, or in early February, they must all be gathered up and brought back to Australia, and school, again. Our cameraman was able to take only a tiny percentage of the total number of young travellers—but their photos appear here and on page 46 opposite.

Christopher Edwards of Santo and Jean-Francois Guitel of Noumea; Wendy and Barry Holder of Santo; Andre Lancon and Yolande Nicholls of Vila.

Christmas in Sydney

CHRISTMAS was made for parties—especially children's parties. On December 13, the New Guinea Women's Club of Sydney entertained over 100 small guests. Our photographs, at right, below and on page 48, show some of the youngsters, all of whom received a gift from Santa Claus, were entertained by dancing and singing and had a lot of good things to eat. Many of the children are grandchildren of old Territorians now living in Sydney.

At right too, left to right: Bill Hornby, son of the secretary of the Women's Club; Susan and Simon Wynne; Anne Upex; Phillip Sinclair, grandson of Mrs. Barbara Barry; Suzanne Mears; Gregory Upex. Second row: Diana Downing, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Downing; Douglas Sharp; Marilyn Bell; Helen McFadyen, daughter of Mrs. McFadyen and Capt. McFadyen of the Mullama; Phillip Harris; Gai Innes, Robyn Blundell, Janet Blundell and Sue Innes (twin of Gai)—all four little girls the grand-daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Allen Innes. Third row: Jennifer Evans; David Chambers, Adriene Chambers, Lloyd Northam, Barbara McMullough and Richard Northam—the Northam boys are grand-sons of ex-territorians.



From left to right: June and Allison Sinclair; Jimmy and Jenny Lang; Merringay Taylour, grand-daughter of ex-Territorians Mr. and Mrs. Harold Taylour, of Wau; Jennifer Grimes, grand-daughter of Mrs. Gladys Clark; and twins Bruce and Ian Bennie, grand-sons of the late Mr. J. Bennie and Mrs. Bennie, well-known pre-war residents of Rabaul.

(Over to page 48, please)

(Continued from Page 47)



At the Sydney New Guinea children's Christmas party Wendy, grand-daughter of war Rabaul resident shows a little about Father Christmas (left), but Barbara (centre), with the support of "Mother Christmas" (Mrs. F. Croft) accepts her gift willingly enough. Right, Nell Muller, grandson of pre-war residents, Mr. C. Gascoigne and Mrs. Gascoigne, and David Bennie.



BOOKS OF ISLAND INTEREST

Primitive Heritage.—Writings in Anthropology collected and edited by Margaret Mead and Nicolas Calas. This work comprises: Funeral Ceremonies in Australia; Ceremonies by Natives Converted to Christianity; Precautions during Pregnancy in New Guinea; Marriage in Borneo; Aztec Human Sacrifice; Self-Mutilation; the Hebridean as an Artist, etc., etc. Available Soon—Orders Booked. £1/9/9, post, 1/6.

Fijian Way of Life (G. K. Roth).—A first hand account of the Fijians at home that will serve as a valuable source of information for inquirers. Illustrated. £1/1/-, post, 11d.

Social Anthropology in Polynesia (F. M. Keessing).—A survey covering not only the Polynesian region of the Central and Eastern Pacific, but also Fiji and certain adjacent Micronesian areas, the Gilberts and Nauru. Map end-papers. £1/7/6, post, 11d.

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Air Mapping of NZ Territories

PRELIMINARY work is being carried out by the Lands Department in Wellington, NZ, in an aerial photographic mapping of the Cook Islands and Western Samoa during 1955.

It is believed that only Low Group islands in the Cooks will be dealt with at the present time.

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Pastor S. Gander, of the Seventh Day Adventist Mission, shows a carved Sepik River (NG) figure to a small Australian friend. Back in the place from whence it came, death is the penalty for any native woman who looks upon it.

Each small shell around the highly coloured face is worth two day's work of a native. Hair of the figure has been taken from a dead chief of the tribe. The figure was given to the Pastor by natives who have accepted Christianity.



Mrs. D. P. Coote, of Vunapau Plantation, near Rabaul, NG, arrived in Sydney with her three small

daughters just before Christmas. She will return to the Territory in March.

Princess Mata'aho, wife of Prince Tugi, of Tonga, gave birth to a son on December 17. The new prince is the third child of the Royal couple.



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Suitable Place for Ducks

AFTER reading a Fiji Department of Agriculture report on farming possibilities in the Railevu Crown Freehold, south-west Taveuni, one could be excused for believing that the Department had deliberately despatched its survey team to the most unlikely piece of farming country in the entire Colony.

Results of the survey, says the report in grand departmental understatement, are "not very hopeful" from the point of view of developing the area for agriculture. How unhelpful may be judged from the fact that "in six miles, 150 creeks were crossed, many of them in ravines up to 200 feet deep . . . and often only a few yards apart, converting the country into a series of razor-back ridges." Rainfall in the area is estimated at "probably between 350 and 400 inches."

Very little timber of commercial value was seen—and only accessible by building a six-mile road with numerous bridges. There are no harbours. But there is plenty of other vegetation, e.g. Fiji cane "whose long vines with poisonous thorns tore repeatedly at the travellers' legs." Much time was spent "crawling in the dark round rocky outcrops with steep faces and precarious footholds." After a little of that, the team reached Lavena village where "they remained two

days recovering from exhaustion, and to give time for cuts and sores to heal!"

Though it has little to do with farming, in the ordinary sense, the team "found some compensation in the magnificent scenery" . . . Such as "the dozens of waterfalls . . . many of them up to 150 feet in height."

It is doubtful whether there will be a rush to take up the fertile lands of Railevu, though they seem to hold certain duck-farming possibilities.

¶ Mr. Jim Borron, Mago Island, Fiji, spent a period in a Sydney hospital in December.

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ASOPA Reorganisation:

TRAINING OF OFFICERS FOR P-NG SERVICE

ON December 14, when handing their Diplomas to the 11 students who had completed their 2-years course at the Australian School of Pacific Administration, the Minister for Territories (Mr. Hasluck) announced a reorganisation of the system of training young men for the Papua-New Guinea Service.

The School was established in Duntroon, Canberra, in the middle Forties, during World War II, and subsequently was moved to St. George's Heights, Mosman, Sydney. It is to be moved back to Canberra, when buildings are available.

The Minister said that the School was being reorganised on the basis that Territories men (being already educated) wanted specialised and not general training for their work; that a series of short courses often was more desirable than one long course; and that many Departmental officers, other than District Services, require special tuition.

The following is from his formal announcement of the changes:

(1) The Australian School of Pacific Administration is to continue as a separate institution with its own principal and staff. This involves the rejection of various other suggestions which had been advanced for linking it with other institutions.

(2) As soon as possible, it should be transferred from Sydney to Canberra, the national capital. An immediate move—i.e. in 1955—is recognised as impracticable.

(3) The facilities of the School are to be regarded as available to public servants in all Territories and to all departments in the Territorial Public Service; but for the time being will not be available to other persons.

(4) The work done at the School should go side by side with whatever arrangements can be made by the Public Service Commissioners in the various Territories for in-service training of officers, and whatever arrangements can be made by the Secretary of the Department of Territories, in co-operation with the Administrators of the Territories and with the Commonwealth Public Service Board, for taking advantage of the facilities provided for training in the Commonwealth Public Service.

(5) Continued attempts should be made to recruit officers for all departments of the Territorial Services at as high an educational standard as possible, to establish cadetships for the technical and professional

training of recruits, and to encourage and assist members of the services to use the public education systems for improving their basic qualifications, e.g. by external university courses and accountancy examinations.

(6) Courses are to be devised at ASOPA to meet the following need—

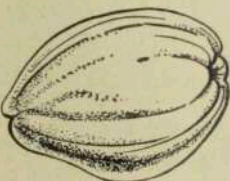
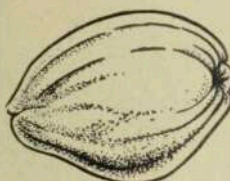
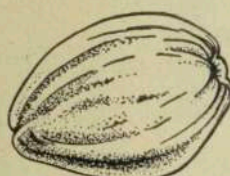
(a) Officers on first joining a Territorial service should enter on a short orientation course at the school before they take up duty in a Territory. These courses, which should be not less than three or more than six weeks in duration, should be planned year by year as required, having regard to the recruitment programme for each year.

(b) The School shall also con-

duct a long course of one year for selected officers of the Territorial services including patrol officers from the Department of Native Affairs but not confined exclusively to them. The students for this course shall be made available from the Territories in annual quotas.

(c) The School shall also conduct special courses of approximately six weeks duration for higher administrative officers. These courses may either deal with several subjects or with a single subject. They shall be planned year by year to meet the needs of the Territorial Administrators and, from the outset, an attempt should be made to draw in higher administrative officers from Territories other than Papua and New Guinea.

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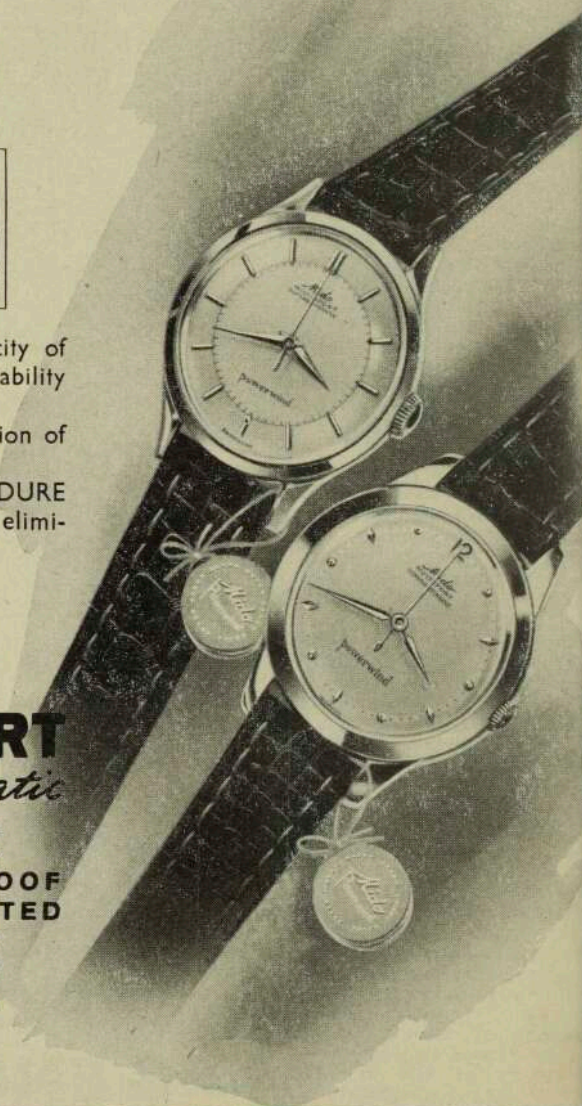


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(d) The one-year long course should normally be taken after officers have served for two years or four years in the Territory.

(7) The following temporary modifications will be made during the transitional period—

(a) During 1955 the Administrator of Papua and New Guinea will be relieved of the responsibility of sending any patrol officers to the long course but those patrol officers who have just completed the first year of their long course will continue at the school for the second year.

(b) In 1956 the Administrator will be required to send a sufficient quota of patrol officers as well as suitable officers from other Departments to commence a new long course of one-year only. Thereafter, each year a regular quota for the long course will be sent down from the Territory year by year, the aim being to ensure that the cadet patrol officers who have been recruited in the last three years should have all completed their long course of one year by not later than the end of 1958. That is to say that the aim is that those cadets recruited in 1952 should go through their long course in 1956, the 1953 quota in 1957 and the 1954 quota in 1958.

(c) As many as possible of the new recruits in education, agriculture, health, forestry, general ad-

ministration, etc. should do their short orientation course of three to six weeks at the school during 1955 before proceeding to the Territory.

(d) During 1955 the Administrator and the Department of Territories should attempt to select groups of comparatively senior officers sufficient to form at least two special courses on particular subjects in the second half of the academic year, each course being possibly of six weeks' duration.

The immediate effect of the foregoing will be that during 1955, the school will be called upon to provide the following courses—

(a) The second year of the long course for those patrol officers who did their first year of the old long course at the school in 1954.

(b) Orientation courses for new recruits.

(c) Two special courses of six weeks each for higher administration officers during the second and third terms.

Graduates of 1954

Most of the following successful students of the School, on December 14, received their Diplomas at the hands of the Australian Minister for Territories, Mr. Paul Hasluck (some were unable to be present at the ceremony). (Credits are shown in Italics).

ANDERSON, F. D.—*Anthropology; Government.*

BELL, R. S.—*Government.*

LEEN, B. K.—*Anthropology.*

MATHIESON, O. J.—*Law (1); Geography (1); Anthropology; Government; History.*

PARRISH, D. J.—*Geography.*

SHEEKEY, D. P.

YOUNG-WHITFORD, D. A. M.

CAREY, A. T.—*History.*

SINCLAIR, J. P.—*Anthropology (1); Government (1); History (1); Geography.*

BOTTRILL, A. M.—*Geography.*

JEFFERIES, A. C.—*Studies not to be completed until February for medical reasons.*

The R. W. Robson Cash Prizes for General Proficiency and for Law were both won by Mr. O. J. Mathieson.

That evening, at Princes Restaurant, Sydney, the happy conclusion of two years' work was fittingly celebrated by the William MacGregor Club, a social organisation maintained by members and ex-members of the School. Among the guests were Territories Minister Hasluck and Territories Secretary C. H. Lambert. The Acting-Principal (Mr. James McAuley) presided in the absence abroad (on a UNESCO assignment) of Mr. C. W. Rowley.

(Continued Next Page)

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Mr. Dudley I. Glastonbury arrived in Port Moresby in December to take up duty as Principal of the newly established Public Service Institute which is to conduct in-service training and evening continuation classes for Territory public servants.

The staff of the Public Service Institute will also comprise two full-time lecturers, and others will be engaged on a part-time basis for special courses. One lecturer, already appointed, is Mr. Brian P. Essai, formerly of the Department of the Administrator and subsequently on the staff of the Government Secretary's Department. He holds various English degrees.

On Saturday, November 27, about 30 golfers and visitors attended the official closing of the golf season at Rarotonga, Cook Islands. Trophies won during the season were presented by the Resident Commissioner and Mrs. Neville. Winner of the Senior Men's Championship was Mr. Bailey, and the Ladies' Senior champion was Mrs. Estall. Mrs. Estall also won two other trophies.

Economic Survey of E. Samoa

UNDER a Public Service grant from the Rockefeller Foundation, a 9-months' economic survey of Eastern Samoa is at present

being carried out by Miss Marie Berger, a Washington lawyer.

Miss Berger has had wide experience with UNNRA and the US State Department in foreign countries. She was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received in Athens in 1944.




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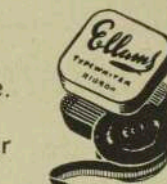
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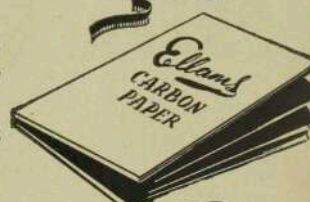


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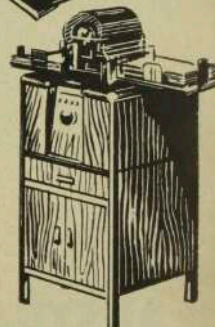
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Travelling on Malaita



December travellers per "Malaita" from Sydney for the Solomons included (top to bottom):

Young Ming and Ho Fuk Sing, Honiara business men, returning from Hong Kong.

Miss Joanne Vines of BSIP Audit Department (farewelled by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Vines).

Pastor Joseph Mave and Pastor Punukana Likaveke who returned home from a Seventh Day Adventist conference in Sydney.

The Sea Must Be Reckoned With

AFTER many years of having to worship in community halls the people of Pitcairn Island have built themselves a church. It took three months to erect and was dedicated by Pastor N. A. Ferris on October 14 shortly before he left the island. The Pitcairners are Seventh Day Adventists.

Some of the timber used in the building was a gift, but most of it was bought in Panama. A shipping company brought it to the island free of charge. The church building fund was assisted by donations from the Central Pacific Union Mission and from passengers on the cruise liner Caronia.

The arrival of a ship interrupted Dedication Day celebrations and rough seas made it difficult for island boats to get alongside. Several accidents occurred. An island woman lost a toe as two boats pounded together and Pastor Ferris was knocked unconscious when a mast fell in another boat. Another islander was also injured by the falling mast.

Pastor Ferris and his family were farewelled by Pitcairners on October 19 when they left on the ship for Australia. On the way back into Bounty Bay a boat was caught by heavy seas and driven onto the rocks. The men escaped with slight injuries and the boat was eventually salvaged.

¶ Miss Kay Souness, of Sydney, visited her brother, Mr. Tom Souness, and his wife, at Wabag, New Guinea Highlands, during the Christmas period.

An alliance between the 7th Gurkha Rifles (at present serving in Malaya) and the P-NG Pacific Islands Regiment has been approved by the Queen.

Net profit of Lolorua Rubber Estates Ltd. was £3,176 lower at £6,644 for the year to April 30, 1954. Dividend for the year was 6 per cent. against 8 per cent. in the previous year. Interim dividend was missed in December because of the low price of rubber.

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JANUARY, 1955—PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY

A NEW DRUG FOR HOOKWORM

THE following article appeared in the Johannesburg Times recently.

It is of interest to readers in the islands where hookworm is still a problem, despite the success of the late Dr. Lambert and the Rockefeller Foundation a generation ago.

In practically all parts of the world, with the possible exception of the Arctic regions, man and animals have throughout the ages been the unwilling hosts to parasitic worms. There is evidence from Egyptian papyri of the prevalence of the infestation in man as early as 1,500 BC.

Insanitary conditions and neglect of personal hygiene are the greatest factors in the persistence of infestation by the three parasites most commonly found in man—threadworm, roundworm and hookworm. It would be expected, therefore, that in the more enlightened communities, infestation would be rare, yet despite modern sanitation and improved facilities for ablutions, man has carried his unwanted guests into the new world.

Threadworm is ubiquitous in all communities, but in modern civilization the sufferer all too frequently conceals his affliction for reasons of delicacy and perhaps because he is not unduly inconveni-

enced beyond the slight sense of irritability and discomfort. So the life cycle of the parasite goes on undisturbed by any concerted attack.

Conditions in the tropics, particularly amongst native communities, are vastly different, for the roundworm and hookworm are a living scourge which bring intense suffering and misery to thousands.

With such a long history and widespread incidence it is hardly surprising that superstitions surrounding the infestations have been legion, and even more numerous are the potions, the concoctions and the witches' brews which have been propounded for their treatment. Until recently, in our own society, knowledge of the means of killing and eliminating worms has lagged behind our knowledge of the treatment of many other ailments to which mankind is heir. During the twentieth century some significant advances in treatment of all types

of the infestation have been made, but frequently the drug most potent in its effect on the worm has had a margin of safety for the host much too narrow for convenience in administration, with the result that a slight overdose has had consequences more serious than had the conditions for which it was employed.

New hope for sufferers has emerged from a series of studies which have just been completed by a group of British scientists working in the British Drug Houses research laboratories in London.

The lethal properties of a substance known as piperazine had been recognised, but like many earlier preparations, it lacked the necessary element of safety when administered to humans. Extensive research was instituted with the object of finding a way to produce piperazine without its toxic side effects.

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Various derivatives were tried and finally one, piperazine adipate, proved to possess all the characteristics for which the investigators were searching. It was effective not only against threadworms, the most common of all the infestations, but also against roundworm and hookworm. Not only was it effective, but it was found to be entirely free from dangerous side effects; it could safely be given to children and moreover its stability was such that it could be made into a tablet for convenient administration by mouth.

Supplies of the new drug in the form of what is known as Entacyl tablets, are already available.

Danish Gymnasts Visit Fiji

A PARTY of 30 Danish gymnasts and folk-dancers, 15 men and 15 women, are to visit Fiji from December 19 to January 19, on their way to New Zealand and Australia.

The team will give public performances of Danish gymnastics and folk-dancing while they are in the Colony.

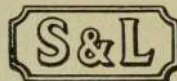
¶ The Rev. Gordon Dicker, BA, BD, of New South Wales, has been appointed to work within the Council of Churches of Indonesia. Before proceeding to Indonesia, he will marry Miss Helen Potter, B.Sc., Dip.Ed.

Information on Fiji Fish

AFTER a delay of 14 years, a book on the fishes of Fiji will shortly be published by the Fiji Government. The manuscript was purchased in 1939 from Mr. Henry W. Fowler, curator of the Fishes and Reptiles Division of the Academy of

Natural Sciences, Philadelphia. War interrupted publication at that time. Mr. Fowler has offered to revise the manuscript and assist with proof reading.

With its 200 drawings of Fiji fishes, it should be of interest to scientists and to Islands fishermen when it appears.



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ISLANDS BOXERS IN NEWS IN AUSTRALIA AND NZ

TWO Islands boxers caused upsets among boxing fans in both Sydney and Auckland in December, 1954. They were Samoan heavyweight Fossi Schmidt who lost to a NSW timbercutter; and Tongan heavyweight Johnny Halafihl who beat the NZ champion Chub Keith.

A wild right to the chin by bush heavyweight Ross Jenkins caused Schmidt to blotch his fine record of 51 unbeaten professional contests. The Samoan began the fight as 10/1 favourite. The contest took place at the Sydney Show Ground as a preliminary to the Dawson-Dione fight.

Jenkins drew first blood when he floored the Samoan with a wild swing in the second round. Schmidt regained his feet quickly but was obviously severely shaken. He was knocked down for a second time in the same round but was saved by the bell.

Soon after the start of the third round Schmidt again hit the canvas. Although he tried gamely to fight on he was beaten at the ropes where referee Jack Burns stopped the fight to save him from unnecessary punishment.

Tongan light-heavyweight Johnny Halafihl won £1,200 at Auckland on December 7 when he scored a sensational win over the NZ champion Chub Keith. Over 14,000 people watched a display of devastating and accurate punching which could quickly have beaten a boxer of less defensive skill than Chub Keith. The fight ended in the sixth round.

Halafihl took the offensive early in the contest and scored with many long swings and hard lefts and rights. Keith impressed greatly with his clever defence and, at times, had the Tongan forced against the ropes or in a corner where he dealt out heavy punishment. This was particularly noticeable in the fourth round where Halafihl's defence looked that of a novice.

In the fifth round Halafihl concentrated his attack on Keith's head and by the end of the round had the New Zealander badly shaken. The end came in the sixth round, when Halafihl closed in, landing powerful blows at will, until the referee stepped in and halted the bout.

Shortly after Halafihl's great win, NZ boxing circles buzzed with conjecture as to who the Tongan would fight next. "New Zealand Herald" boxing correspondent suggested that Australian heavyweight champion, Ken Brady, would be a logical opponent.

Halafihl-Brady fight would be a huge event, but the Tongan would be faced with serious physical disadvantages. The correspondent suggests, however, that Halafihl's terrific punching power might compensate for the difference of about one in weight and considerable height. Whatever happens, he said, the NZ association would try to provide him with a fight; if this were impossible, Stadiums, or the Australian Boxing Club would undoubtedly sign him up.

Australian Scholarship for Fiji

A RECENT announcement from Fiji, that the Australian Government had decided to make a scholarship available to a Fiji student under the South East Asian Scholarship Scheme, appeared at first as though someone in Australia had confused his geography. Inquiries in Sydney, however, indicate that although originally such scholarships were confined to South East Asia, more recently they have been extended to certain Pacific Islands areas. There are at present three such scholarships for New Caledonia.

Provision will be made for a Fiji

student to attend an Australian University or other technical institution. Fares will be provided both ways, all tuition fees will be paid, and there will be a living allowance of £A460 per annum. The scholarship will be allocated by the Fiji Government; as far as Australia is concerned the successful applicant could be any Fiji-born person, regardless of race.

Mr. Harold Gatty, of Suva, Fiji, left Nadi in December for San Francisco, en route for Europe. He was to visit London and Paris and spend Christmas in Holland. He will return with Mrs. Gatty at the end of January.

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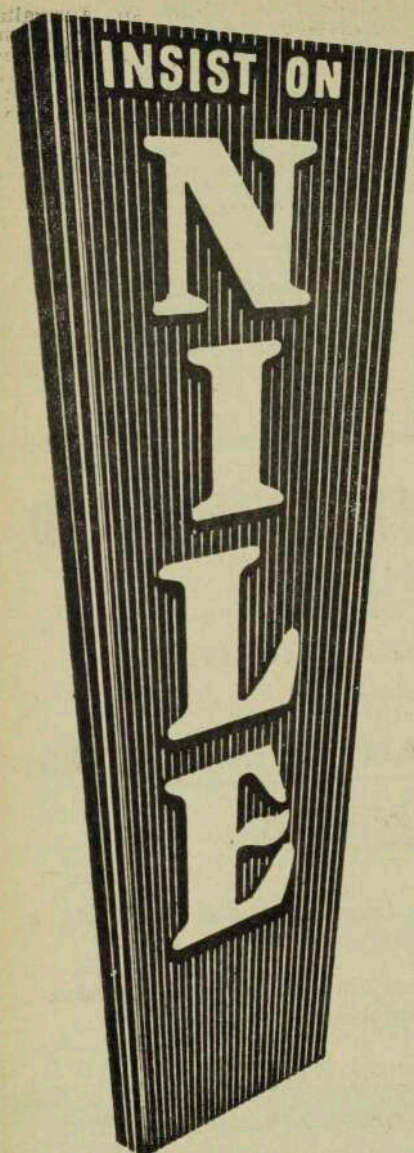
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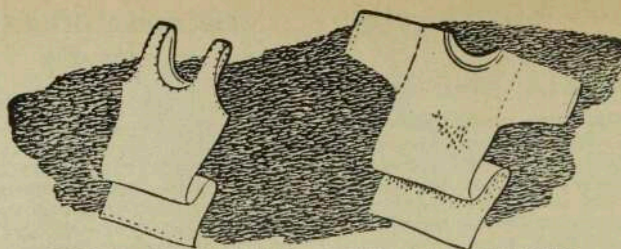
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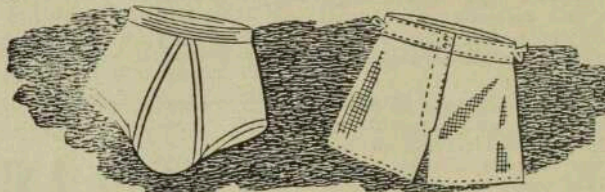
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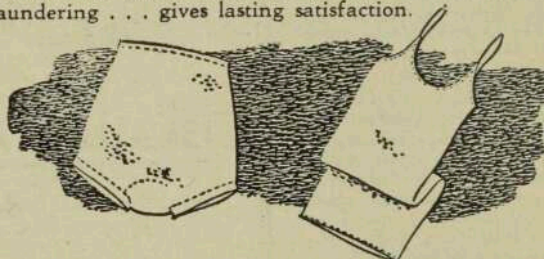
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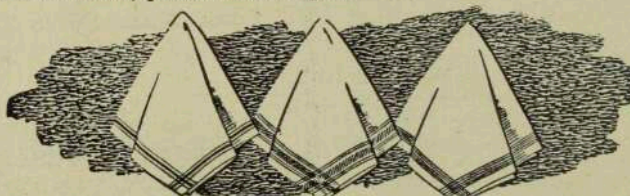
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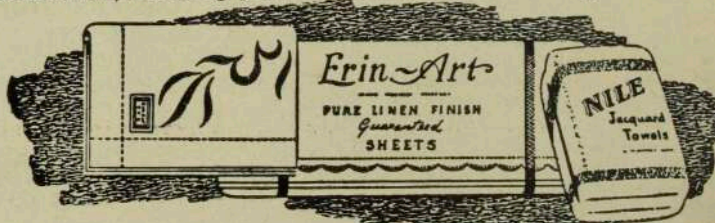
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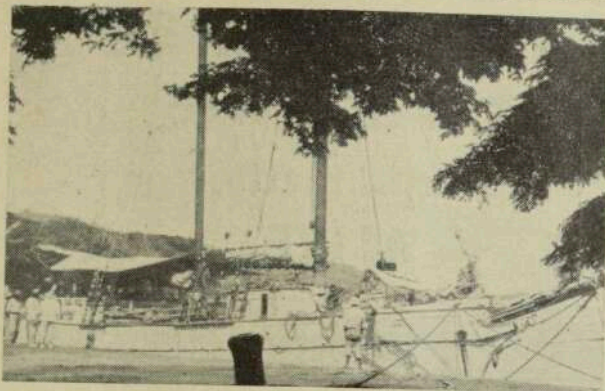
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A Link With War I

M. Claude Nouveau died in Papeete last September. The fact that he was born at sea aboard the Tahiti schooner "Gauloise" on September 17, 1897, is of no great interest but "Gauloise" later became "Lutece" (shown herewith), and "Lutece" had a history worth recalling.

As "Gauloise" this vessel was owned by Societe Commerciale de l'Oceanie, affiliate of the famous DHPG firm, until she was seized at the outbreak of World War I and, under new ownership, given her name of "Lutece". It was little realised then that three years later she would return to German ownership under dramatic circumstances.

In command of Captain Pedro Miller she was about her normal business when she sighted a vessel stranded in Mopelia lagoon. A too-close examination proved that it was the German commerce-raider "Seeadler" which since leaving Germany the previous December had sunk the vessels "British Seaman" and "Pinmore" in the Atlantic and the three American schooners "A. B. Johnson", "Manila", and "R. C. Slade" near French Oceania. Many survivors of these and part of the officers and crew of "Seeadler" (ex British "Pass of



Panama"), were on the beach. Some of the latter promptly seized "Lutece". Von Luckner and others had departed some time earlier in the ship's launch, touching at Atiu, Aitutaki, and Niue in September, 1917, as they headed west—to be captured in Fiji. But that is another story.

"Lutece", with the remaining Germans,

headed west towards South America, and the population of Easter Island watched with interest and finally amazement as the schooner came up to that Island on October 4 and promptly went ashore, to end her days. The Germans got ashore, and were eventually taken to Chile by a Chilean warship. Donald's "Tereora" (which foundered at sea during World War II) under Captain Joe Winchester picked up the castaways from Mopelia.

Natives Removed from Volcanic Island

IT was decided in December to evacuate the native population of Bam Island off the New Guinea mainland. The 420 natives will be located near Madang.

The New Guinea Administration's decision follows renewal recently of volcanic activity on the island, and it was considered that the people did not have enough canoes to get them off in an emergency.

Natives of Long Island (also near Madang) were removed from their island in 1952, but returned in 1953.

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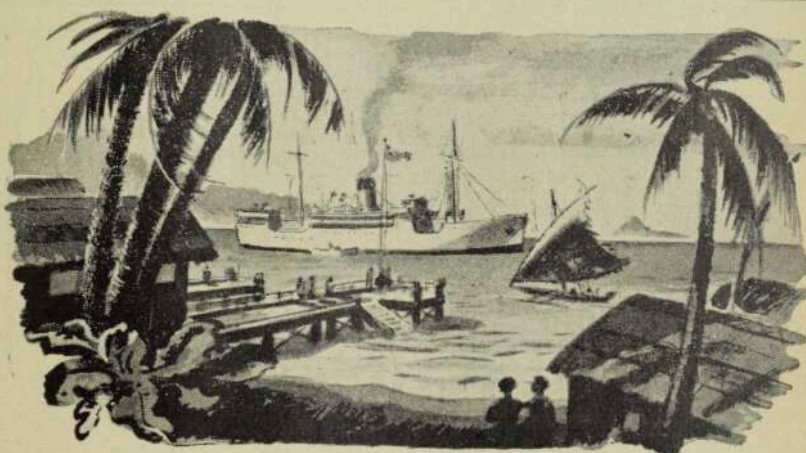
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RHINO BEETLES CAUSE PRIVATION IN WALLIS GROUP

A SITUATION approaching famine has been reported in the 40-square-mile, 13-island Wallis Group, north-east of Fiji, by the Rev. Father M. Teppaz, SM, who is stationed at that French outpost.

Father Teppaz says that Rhinoceros Beetles have now so seriously reduced the coconut crop, which is the main source of income and food, that a large proportion of the 5,000 people is becoming seriously under-nourished.

This news is surprising as the main island of Uvea is well-watered and has always been considered fertile and capable of growing all the usual high-island food crops in abundance.

Calling all Corries!

MISS AGNES CORRIE of Betio islet, Tarawa, Gilberts, a daughter of the late Robert David Corrie, one-time trader of Maiana island is trying to locate the children of her sister Mary, now believed dead.

Miss Corrie last heard from her sister in October, 1915. Mary Corrie was twice married, first to Mr. Webb Crawford; and later to a Mr. Gitters. Known children were Teddy,

Ivy, and Maisie, but by which marriage Miss Corrie does not state and possibly does not know. Mr. Gitters was a Customs officer and the family was living at Abbotsford, Sydney, in 1915.

Persons with information could write to Miss Corrie, c/o the Betio Club, Tarawa, G&E Colony.

¶ Mr. C. Harvey, Director of Agriculture in Fiji, returned to the Colony in December after overseas furlough.

¶ Resident Commissioner and Mr. G. Nevill left the Cook Islands by air early in December for furlough in New Zealand.

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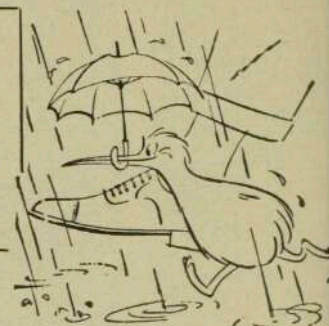
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LITTLE DEMAND FOR ISLANDS GINGER

GINGER, although it is expensive to buy in Australasia, does not seem to have many prospects as a side-line for Pacific Islands agriculturalists.

That seems to be the opinion of the Fiji Department of Agriculture which recently has issued a useful report on export possibilities—possibly as the result of inquiries by Fijian co-operatives and others interested in reviving a former profitable, though small, export trade.

The Department gives world export and import figures for 1952, latest available. Main exporters were: Sierra Leone, 1,500 tons; India, 3,200 tons; Jamaica, 1,350 tons; Nigeria, 450 tons. Principal importers were: United Kingdom, 1,300 tons; Aden, 1,650 tons; Canada, 150 tons; Malaya, 1,150 tons; USA, 1,750 tons; Arabia, 600 tons.

There is a small prospective market for Fiji dried ginger in the UK and the USA, and for ginger in brine—at a price—in New Zealand. Some Fiji growers have recently been selling green ginger here at about £F37 per ton. Chinese ginger in brine is bringing £F130 per ton in New Zealand. Nigerian dried ginger £F250, and Jamaican dried £F275, the two latter prices being c.i.f. a UK port.

Peeling is essential, whether dried or exported in brine, and this operation is estimated by the Department to cost 4d per lb. in Fiji, if done by hand. There are mechanical peelers on the market.

For brine exports, only tender roots less than four months old are suitable, but mature roots are best for the dried product. Root shape is important.

Drying can be done in the sun in very dry areas, but elsewhere artificial methods would be essential. About 10 lbs of green ginger makes 1 lb of the properly dried product. Drying has to be done at comparatively low temperatures.

The Department considers that the careful work required in peeling and preparation, to produce a satisfactory export product "is possibly beyond the present ability of growers or co-operative societies" in Fiji.

Chinese ginger in brine has proved a serious competitor to Fiji exports of green unprocessed, ginger and it is unlikely that the price of it per ton will be maintained on the market.

Over 500 Fiji Girl Guides recently ended the annual one-day rally in Suva. During a day of contests and examination for certificates the girls were addressed by Lady Garvey, President of the movement.

Medical Benefits Scheme for P-NG

A COMBINED hospital and medical benefits scheme will be introduced in Papua-New Guinea in 1955.

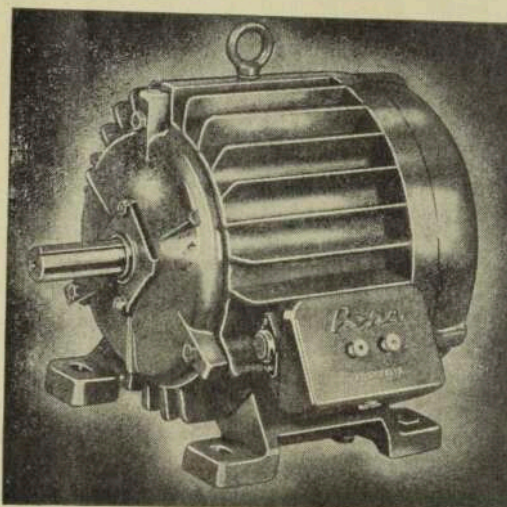
This was announced by the Administrator, in early December.

An ordinance making the scheme possible will be introduced into the March session of the Legislative Council at Port Moresby. It is hoped that the scheme will be operating by July 1.

Introduction of the firm scheme will mean the end of several years of planning and discussions, during which several plans have been suggested and then shelved.

The scheme has plenty of problems peculiar to the Territory, where specialist medical attention is not always available. This means that patients may sometimes have to be flown to Australia. There is also an odd set-up of Government and private doctors working in the Territory in overlapping fields.

¶ Passengers returning to Fiji per *Orcades* in December included: The Rev. H. W. Figgess and Miss Figgess, of Holy Trinity Cathedral, Suva, after vacation in England; Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Sherwood, after holidaying in Australia; Lieutenant-Colonel A. H. Stafford and Mrs. Stafford, after two years in England.



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NSW Ramie or Papuan Kenaf?

While the Papua-New Guinea kenaf fibre industry is officially still in the experimental stage, and apparently is to remain so until some sort of Government assistance is forthcoming, there has been a spate of publicity for ramie fibre in New South Wales. Ramie is not new in itself—but what is new is a processing method that, for the first time in the two or three thousand years the plant has been known, permits successful separation of the fibre from the stem.

A HIGHLY successful method of extracting ramie fibre was announced in Sydney recently. It is thought the process will make ramie one of the leading fibres in the world.

The ramie plant is described as a herbaceous perennial, and its growing habits are somewhat like a chrysanthemum. That is, it throws up tall stalks and when these die, they are harvested, shoots spring again from the plant's roots.

In a chrysanthemum, the new shoots spring away once per year; with ramie, the shoots are springing continually.

Chief of the NSW Department of Agriculture's Division of Plant Industry (Mr. W. Poggendorff), believes that it could more than compete with flax; it could strongly compete with cotton; and present indications are that it could even

replace jute and kenaf in the industrial fibre field.

Mr. Poggendorff said that a Sydney businessman, Mr. M. Wise, submitted ideas on a method of extracting the fibre about 12 years ago. Experiments had continued ever since. Mr. Wise's invention was revolutionary, and it had proved highly successful.

Ramie has been grown for thousands of years in China, and Ramie cloth was used to bind Egyptian mummies. But hitherto commercial production had not been considered practicable because existing methods of processing, by retting and mechanical decorticating, were unsatisfactory because of natural gums present in the plant.

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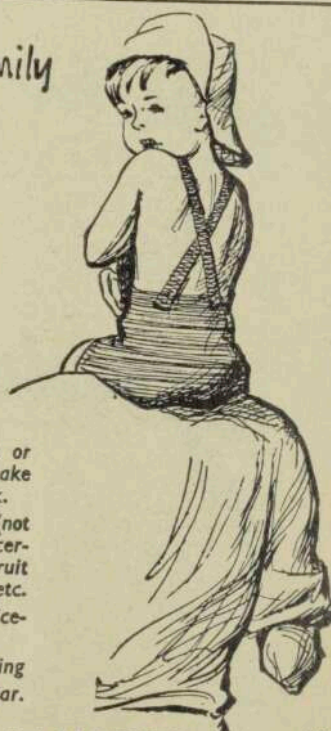
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can be fashioned into materials as fine as linen. Its tensile strength far exceeds that of flax and cotton, and, unlike other fibres, its strength is greater when wet than when dry. It takes both vat and printed dyes readily.

Mr. Poggendorff said the plant will thrive in areas where there is a rainfall of at least 50 inches. But the ground must be well drained. Although the plant will stand complete immersion for several days it will not live if water lies round its roots. It is a perennial; some areas of P-NG should be ideally suited to its production.

Average life of the plant is from 10 to 15 years, and it can be harvested two or three times a year. The plants grow to five or six feet in height, and the fibre is found in a layer around the stems.

The extraction method is an entirely new steam process, as opposed to previous mechanical and chemical methods which have failed. To be economic, ramie must be grown on a large scale, and with careful planning. The plants could be harvested by mechanical means but they must be processed immediately. This entails having the processing plant, including the costly steam boiler, relatively near the planted fields. Estimated yield is about 20

tons of green stems an acre each year, from three cuts. Recovery of the fibre is about five per cent.

An English textile firm undertook weaving tests on some of the first yarn prepared in Australia. The

results delighted the company and it has indicated that it will purchase all ramie produced.

The department had proved that ramie fibre can be produced economically, said Mr. Poggendorff.

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But the Department itself could not enter into commercial production. It now rested with the Government or with private enterprise to put the new industry on its feet. Growers should have a ready market for their produce, and the Department will make available all technical information so far obtained.

Following newspaper publicity about the new method of extraction, the NSW Dept. of Agriculture received many inquiries about the growth and use of ramie fibre. Many of the inquiries, including one from New Guinea, came from farmers who wanted to know more about ramie as a possible crop. Many of them failed to realise that it would be useless to begin growing ramie unless there was a processing plant near them. Numerous inquiries had also come from textile manufacturers requesting samples of the fibre to test its suitability for their particular lines. Some of them already use small quantities of it to give added strength to their materials.

Editorial Note

It is obvious that ramie, like kenaf, to be successful, will have to have behind it good organisation and a substantial amount of capital. Whether they are provided by Government or private enterprise does not matter very much.

To operate ramie on a commercial scale it is essential to have a processing plant within reach of the growers. In fact, what is required is a modification of the sort of set-up that exists between cane-farmers and sugar-millers in Northern NSW and Queensland. If production were undertaken on this scale, the NSW Department of Agriculture is certain that ramie could compete economically with any other fibre. The advantage that ramie has over kenaf or jute is that it is much more versatile. In fact, Mr. Poggenpfeiffer wears a shirt made from ramie; we have yet to see a shirt made from kenaf.

Another obvious advantage is that it could be grown in Australia—and if there is to be any Government assistance given to a new industry, something on the Australian mainland would have greater claim to political sympathy than would a prospective industry in the voteless Territory of P-NG.

GROWTH OF C'WLTH-NG TIMBERS

MORE machinery for the big Commonwealth New Guinea Timbers plywood factory at Bulolo, New Guinea, arrived at Lae the end of November aboard the American vessel *Thorisle*. The ship then loaded, for the United States, a shipment of 12,000 tons of plywood. It is reported that the company is

looking about for contracts for house building in the Territory. They have built their own houses, and have supplied a few "Bulolo-houses" to Government and private individuals; but if they now took up the business in a big way they could make a big impression on the housing lag in P-NG.

Mr. Jeff Jackson and Mr. Edward du Crux of Coral Sea Productions have been shooting under-water scenes at Lord Howe Island recently as part of a travelogue film which that company is preparing. They planned to visit Elizabeth and Middleton reefs north of Lord Howe in January when the local motor-cruiser *Flying Cloud* was to make a special trip.

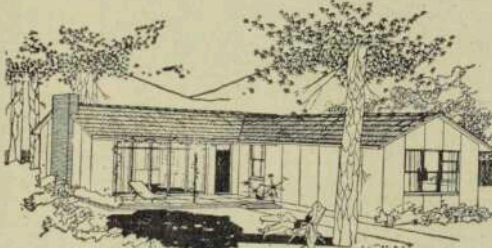
Coffee Growing Increases in Highlands

GOROKA, Dec. 4.

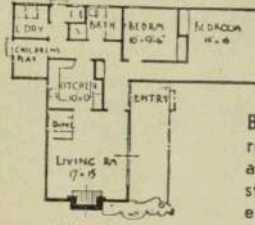
THE enormous interest in coffee growing in the New Guinea Highlands is now extending as far west as Wabag, where 70,000 seedlings are in Administration nurseries awaiting distribution to the natives.

Eventually, every patrol-post in the sub-district will be growing some coffee.

The District Services men are doing it—as well as their other onerous duties—and making a success of it, too.



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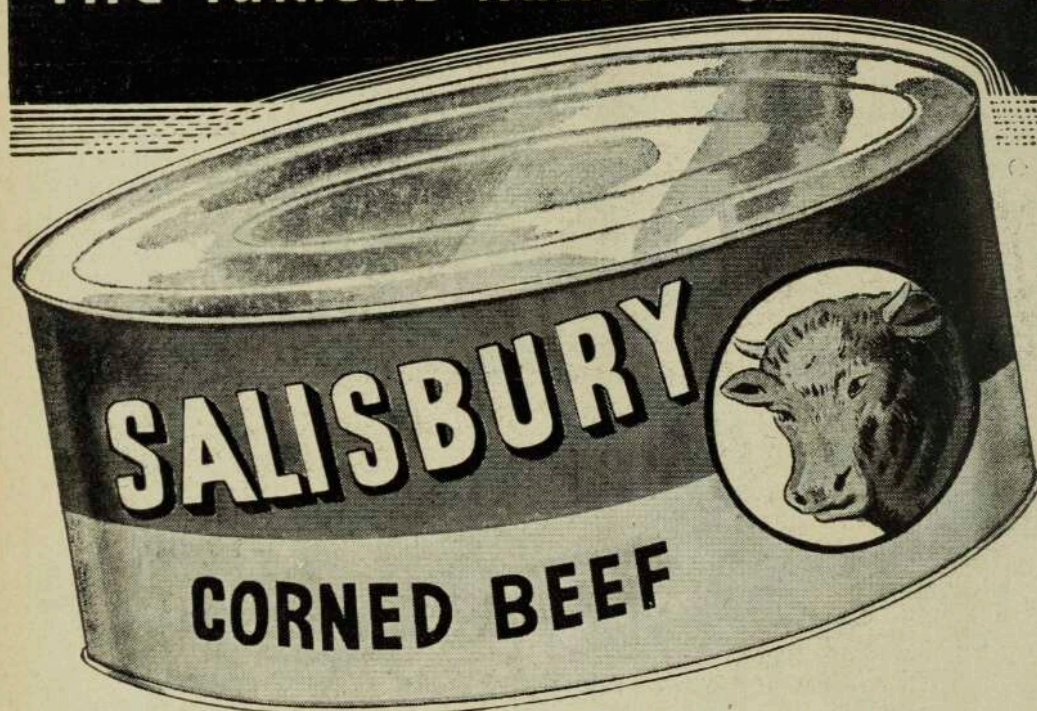
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WHAT THE IONISPHERE IS DOING FOR YOU

FOR several months now, a United States military aircraft has been grounded at Nadi, Fiji, due to fire damage. When the accident was re-

ported many people probably had their interest stirred for a moment by the announcement that the aircraft had been engaged on ionispheric re-

search—and naturally asked: "What is the ionisphere?"

The ionisphere consists of a number of rather vague layers of ionised gases enveloping the earth at various distances out in space; the actual distance out varying from day to night,

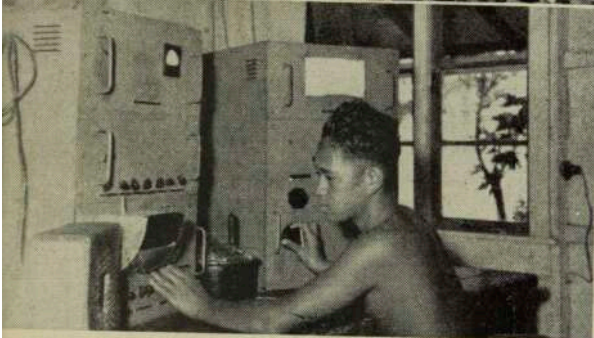
season to season, and under the influence of sun spots.

The study of radio reflections by stations in the Islands, as part of a world-wide research organisation, is a story scarcely known even to Islands residents.

If it were not for the reflective effects of the ionisphere, radio communications would be possible for little more than line-of-sight distances. The public servant at Kavieng, home from work and tuning his receiver to the news from Radio Australia, may not appreciate the fact that the signal has been bounced from sky to earth, possibly more than once, before it reaches him.

He may curse the surging and fading—due to the wavering of that vague, invisible layer, at a point perhaps a hundred miles or so directly above Willis Islet, midway between his receiver and the Victorian transmitters.

And he might be even more surprised to know that but for what is going on in a building surrounded

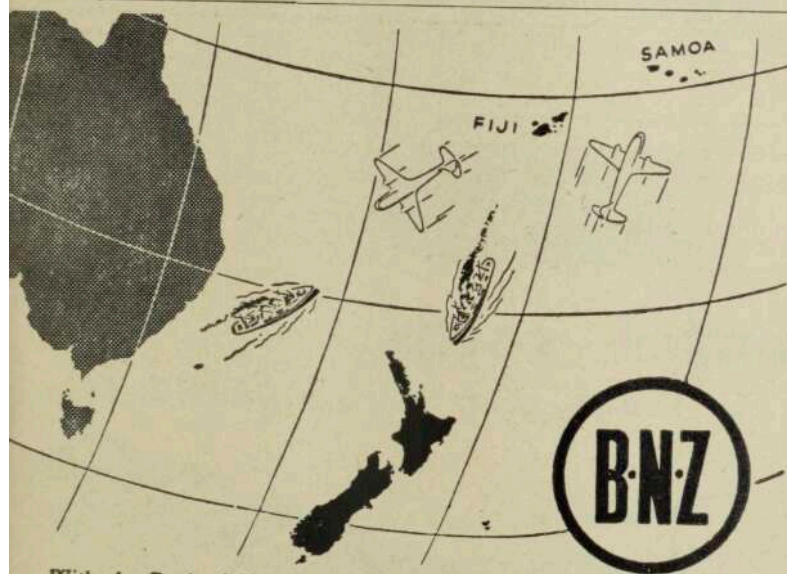


Upper: The Rarotonga ionisphere station. Lower: An observer at work. On right the transmitter and on left the receiver with hooded display-tube like a television receiver. Between them stands the time clock which records in the sealed office next door. The loudspeaker on the left merely provides entertainment between duties.

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by palms and tropical vegetation a mile or so up a quiet valley on Rarotonga, his reception might be a lot worse. For the ionosphere measuring station at Rarotonga is the only remaining one in the Islands.

It had been known for many years that long-range short-wave communications were governed by the height of the several ionosphere layers, but during World War II it became vital, especially in connection with some of the major landing operations in the Pacific and in Europe, to know, in advance, approximately what the ionospheric situation was going to be. The design of all the radio equipment, and especially the portable equipment, was dependent on a prior knowledge of what radio frequencies would be best. Those frequencies were governed entirely by the height of those mysterious ionised layers. Thus, there was set up a network of stations all over the world designed to take hourly or even half-hourly measurements of those heights to see whether their rising and falling followed any rhythmic pattern.

The actual establishment of the South Pacific stations was accomplished in a series of interesting operations involving the little New Zealand auxiliary vessels *New Golden Hind* (since sunk in the Tuamotus), *Tagua* (now owned in Papeete), and *Rarui* (now engaged on crayfishing in the far south of New Zealand). Some of that story

is told in the New Zealand war history pamphlet *The Coast Watchers*.

The first station was established at Raoul, Kermadecs, in May, 1943; then a station was erected on Campbell Island, away to the south.

Later that same year, a station was set up on Pitcairn, and in February of 1945 the Rarotonga station

and one in Fiji came into operation.

The Americans had stations at Christmas Island (later shifted to Palmyra) and Guam, and are still maintaining others at Maui, Adak and Okinawa. Australia at present maintains a station at Macquarie Island.

The Rarotonga station had several temporary homes before settling into a new, permanent building in

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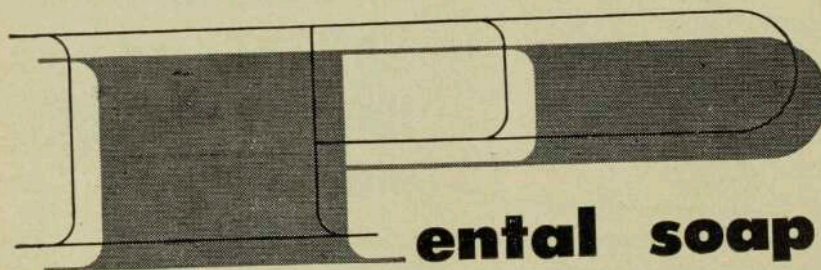
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mid-1948. It is something of a surprise to come across this "bofinery" in its secluded location up the Takuvaine valley, inland from Avarua. A visit is not only interesting but also an amusing study of the battle of the conscientious European officer-in-charge with an Island staff whose outlook on life is typically Polynesian.

Ionospheric measurements must be taken hourly, day and night. Obviously the European officer cannot maintain supervision throughout the 24 hours, and his young Maori observers are prone to turn in for the night after he has gone, "cooking" the records early the following morning on the basis of their experience and what they think the readings ought to be. This has led to a battle of wits. Next to the observing room is an office. In it is a time-recorder which must be actuated by the observer on duty pressing a lever in the other room—every hour.

The office is locked and every door and window is fitted with burglar alarms which once set off cannot be stopped until the office is unlocked and the power cut off. It was found that even with this arrangement, or something similar, the Maori observers had devised ways of faking the records over a long period of time. To-day the system is believed fool-proof—though a punishment list of gardening duties for boys who sleep in is displayed on the office notice board!

The equipment consists of a radio transmitter which can be tuned, like a radio receiver, over a band of frequencies from 1,700 to 1,8000 kc/s. Beside it is a receiver. The transmitter sends pulses of radio waves to the ionosphere. They are reflected back and picked up by the receiver. As their speed of travel is accurately known (about 186,000 miles per second), it is possible to determine the height of the reflecting layer by measuring the time taken for the return journey.

Instead of the receiver feeding to a loudspeaker, as in an ordinary set, it feeds instead to a display tube similar to that on a television receiver. With the aid of a scale, the heights of the layers—sometimes three are in evidence—are accurately given.

From the information obtained from this and other stations of the new world-wide network, it is now possible for a central office to predict with fair accuracy what the situation will be months ahead. Since the announcement from time to time made from Radio Australia and from all other short-wave stations—that seasonal changes of frequency will be made so that listeners everywhere will be provided with the best possible signal strength.

Barotonga takes observations at quarter to every hour. The "sweep" takes 10 minutes to complete. The results are telegraphed to

New Zealand once each month, and from there passed on to a central office in Washington, DC, where published predictions are made available to the world. Even the USSR co-operates in this work, which serves the communication requirements—including propaganda broadcasts—of all the world.

¶ The Rev. Dudley Tuti, a Solomon Islands student at St. John's College, Auckland, NZ, was ordained a priest on November 21, at St. Mary's Cathedral. He is believed to be the first Melanesian ordained a priest in the Cathedral. He left NZ shortly afterwards to take charge of a school in the New Hebrides.

Flying Missionaries

THE Anglican Bishop of New Guinea, Bishop Strong, said in Port Moresby at the end of November, when he returned from a four months' overseas visit, that the American branch of the Anglican Church had offered a light aircraft to the Anglican Mission in the Territory.

The Mission has accepted and the plane will arrive in the middle of next year. The Catholic and Lutheran Missions who are already in the flying field, also plan to get new aircraft in 1955.

¶ Dr. Russell Branster returned to Fiji recently after two years absence.

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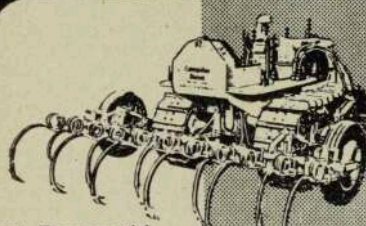
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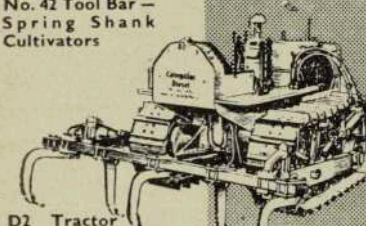
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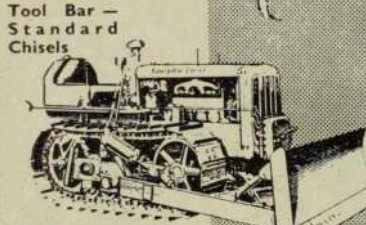




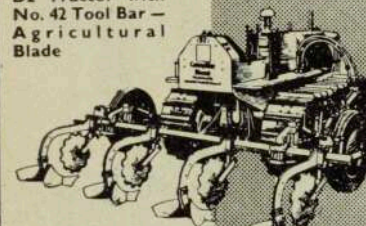
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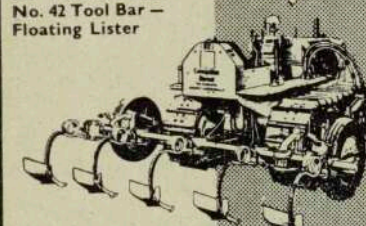
D2 Tractor
with No. 42
Tool Bar —
Standard
Chisels



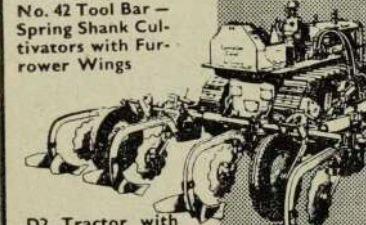
D2 Tractor with
No. 42 Tool Bar —
Agricultural
Blade



D4 Tractor with
No. 42 Tool Bar —
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D2 Tractor with
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Quensell-Imrie Wedding

The marriage took place at St. Paul's Anglican Church, Nukualofa, Tonga, at the end of November, of Miss Sarah Quensell, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. D. Quensell, to Mr. Murray Clive Imrie.

The bridal group (at left) shows, left to right, Mr. I. T. Simmonds (bestman); bridegroom and bride; Miss Rose Quensell (bridesmaid); Mr. G. D. Quensell (father of bride); and two little bridesmaids, Miss Janet Quensell and Miss Linda Brahne. A reception and dance was held in the evening at the old College Hall, Nukualofa, where hundreds of guests thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

—Photo by Hettig.

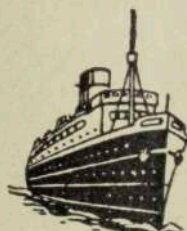
The Pacific Islands Society (Founded 1937)

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.

Address for correspondence:—

THE PACIFIC ISLANDS SOCIETY,
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In the Cook Is

COPRA IS NOT KING

From a Special Correspondent

THE Cook Islands Group is one Pacific territory that has not got rich because of the post-war copra boom. There the industry is unorganised and languishing. Producers in other Groups who receive around £75 per ton for their copra will find this state of affairs difficult to understand.

That dealing in Cook Islands copra is a gamble is the opinion generally held by local traders. One firm lost £3,000 in three years of copra dealing; another acts now only as an agent for buyers, preferring to keep out of the tricky business of buying and selling.

This attitude may seem hard to understand, when local growers get around £30 per ton and the Auckland millers paying out about £70 per ton.

There is *always* a loss per ton to buyers through copra being of poor quality, or because it has been badly dried, or has become wet and mildewed during shipment from the outer islands to Rarotonga.

The standard set by Abels, in NZ, who have the buying monopoly

through the UK Ministry of Food, is high, and much copra is rejected by the local inspectors after its purchase by the traders.

One private shipowner and trader says that he now ships only a ton or two from Atiu, which formerly provided 20 tons. He says the Atiuans are indignant that so much copra was rejected, and that it is no longer worth their time and trouble to produce it. The same can be said of Rarotonga where very little, if any, copra is now made.

Many people thus favour a return to the free-market where they say they will have no trouble selling their copra.

Prices paid by C.I. traders to growers vary with the quality of the copra, and range from 31d to 4d per lb, which works out at £30/6/8 to £37/6/8 per ton. The Rarotonga merchants then have to pay out the following expenses, some of which fluctuate greatly with costs of local labour, lighterage, and shipping costs:

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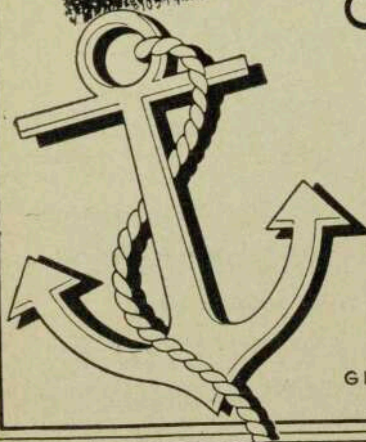
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(Entoletion is a special new purifying process which reduces the risk of insect infestation).

	Per ton
Buying Agent's 5 per cent. commission on £70 per ton	£3 10 0
Bagging, screening and weighing at outer islands	1 15 0
Lighterage	3 10 0
Carriage	0 6 0
Freight from Lower Group to Rarotonga ..	4 16 0
Minimum handling charges Rarotonga ..	0 10 0
Storage per week at Rarotonga	0 12 6
Screening, rebagging, reweighing at Rarotonga ..	2 0 0
Transport to wharf	0 17 0
Freight, etc., from Rarotonga to Auckland	5 19 6
Export tax at 5 per cent. of Auckland value ..	3 10 0
Total Expenses	27 6 0
Plus original buying price, at say, 3½d per lb	32 13 4
Total cost to merchants ..	£59 19 4

These costs do not include loss of weight during the storage period of up to three months.

From the above figures it can be seen that the profit margin is not large, and the buyer's time has yet to be deducted from that. Obviously many of these figures will vary greatly. The biggest variable item is the quality of the copra bought. A buying agent has neither the time nor opportunity to check the contents of each sack; the time between buying at Rarotonga and selling in Auckland affects loss by weight and storage charges.

In addition, freights from the northern group are higher than from the Lower. Local shipping services are irregular and there is no guarantee that cargo space is available. Weather conditions affect time of unloading and the risk of the copra being spoiled by rain. Lighterage costs in the outer islands vary with each individual boatowner. The loss by weight of poorly dried copra can run as high as 20 per cent.—which in three months means a loss of £14 per ton to the buyer. Matters could be greatly improved by the installation of proper kilns throughout the group. At least one firm would be prepared to pay £5 per ton extra for copra that could pass the inspectors without oil; but under present conditions the profits of one shipment are too small to be swallowed up by the losses of the next.

The Rev. Father John Rausch, who was a Roman Catholic missionary in Bougainville before the First War, recently celebrated the 50th anniversary of his ordination in Sydney. He spent nine years in New Guinea, and has since been associated with the Australian headquarters of the Marist Mission of Oceania.

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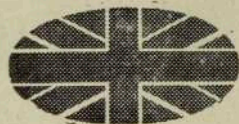
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MAGAZINE SECTION

Tropicalities

THE QUEEN'S DAIMLERS— GOING CHEAP

MIGHT we see one of the Queen's Daimlers, which she used during her New Zealand tour last year, in use in Fiji?

A very large advertisement in the local Suva newspaper recently offered the two cars "used solely by Her Majesty and not at any time by other members of the Royal entourage" for ££3,900 each, or ££6,600 for the pair.

The advertisement says that to ride in these cars is "thrilling and delightful beyond even the fondest expectations."

The Daimler that the Queen used most in Australia, after being topped the bill at the Sydney Motor Show, was auctioned recently in Melbourne. It went to a local rabbit merchant who just happened to be there and entered the bidding. After he had been knocked down to him, he wailed that he didn't want it—he didn't know what had come over him but guessed that it must have been loyalty—and, in any event, he already had a Jaguar Mark VII and his wife a fluid-drive Dodge. That was more, he would feel like galah, driving around in the Queen's car.

He sold it a few days later—to a circus.

THE HAPPY TAX-GATHERERS

It seems to us that Officialdom is apt to get off the beam, at times, in its use of modern terminology.

Thus we have the Fiji Commissioner of Inland Revenue (Mr. W. J. Drysdale) promising that next year, officers of his department will go to various centres in the Colony on an *income-tax goodwill mission*. How on earth could income-tax be connected with goodwill, in shape or form?

Those who have had any dealings with the tax-gatherer might well ask themselves that—but it seems that Mr. Drysdale's harangues of goodwill will perform the miracle. Some "unconscionable so-called tax agents" have been getting illiterate cane farmers and coming returns of income which, to Mr. Drysdale (although we do not think tax men had such phrase in their vocabularies), are obviously non-taxable.

HARD TIMES FOLLOW TERE

DWIN GOLD writes from Mangaia under November date: "The

great wisdom of recent Cook Islands' LegCo's decision to limit the number and duration of *teres* (inter-island visiting), is endorsed by current food shortages on Mangaia, formerly called the Good Island by reason of cheap living.

"The sweet, licorice-like roots of the ti-plant are being dug and roasted in the villages. When this happens, Mangaian economy is definitely 'in the red.' The root is chewed along with taro, in lieu of something out of a can, unavailable in straitened circumstances. This in spite of Makatea earnings, pineapple funds, and other alleged local sources of prosperity.

"Sales of NZ flour have been enormous, those who possess money purchasing 50 lb bags to tide their families over the stringency. The small export of pineapples last ship was no aid to the island in general.

"Food shortages always mean, on Mangaia, increased discontent and political activity. The post of Resident Agent becomes an onerous one, the Government being, as usual,

Little Sally Hofeni, the complete traveller from Niue, takes her first look at New Zealand from Whenuapai airport near Auckland—and apparently doesn't much like what she sees.

—A TEAL Photo.

blamed for the hard times."

LIFE WITH A BELL

WHEN mutineer Fletcher Christian drove HMS *Bounty* crashing onto the rocks of Pitcairn Island in 1780, to set up his little world apart, it was the end of the ship, but not of the ship's bell. To-day, the descendants of Christian and his men still spring to its sound—one stroke for a general muster of the island's present 138 souls, two strokes to report at church, three for the men to present themselves for public works, and five for that happy event, the sighting of a ship



with its mail, stores, and possibilities of trade in fruit and curios.

MURDER IN THE YAM PATCH

HORROR swept a respectable suburb of Papeete recently. A gentleman quietly tilling his garden on a hot November morning turned over a spade full of soil and gazed with shocked amazement at what he had uncovered.

Regaining his composure, he called across to the neighbours. The word spread like wild fire. A senior gendarme was quickly on the



scene to take charge, and people, running from all directions, were kept at a respectable distance.

While statements were taken and an ambulance called, those who were nearest could see a man's hand, horribly bloated, projecting from the bottom of a shallow grave. The body had obviously not long been buried.

With the police camera-man's task completed, the senior gendarme, grim-faced, gestured to his men to proceed with the exhumation. The crowd gazed in fascinated horror as the spades went to work—and out rolled an innocent yam, shaped like a swollen human hand! Our photograph shows the yam held by M. Chalvidant, of the *Caledonien*.

BP BANKNOTES STILL ACCEPTED

ISLANDS old-timers will know all the answers in regard to Burns Philp's unusual 1954 Christmas greetings card and its two attached bank-note reproductions. But for a large number of not-so-old-timers, some details supplied to PIM by Mr. Joseph Mitchell, the company's

general manager, should be of interest.

The bank-notes were issued in two denominations—£1 and £5—about 70 years ago, there being separate issues for Thursday Island, Port Moresby, Samarai, and the New Hebrides. They bore the signatures of two directors in Sydney, and of the local manager, and were printed on both sides, on good bank-note paper.

Some of the notes were still circulating in the New Hebrides up to 22 years ago, and some (presumably marked Fanning Island) are still in circulation amongst the Gilbertese labour on Fanning and Washington. At least three quarters of the New Hebrides issue was lost aboard a schooner in that group—but BP's will pay 25/- for any of the New Hebrides notes that can be produced today—and collectors would probably pay that and more!

For gambling purposes, especially at Thursday Island, the £1 notes were often cut into four, and were freely accepted in that form. The notes were in general use by the public and by no means confined to company transactions, but at the time they were used there were no banks in those areas and BP's were about the only people in business there in a big way. The Thursday Island issue was in use throughout Queensland.

"JOHNNO'S" STORY—AS TOLD BY FRED

DIVER John Johnstone and Planter Fred Archer were fellow-inmates of Rabaul Hospital in November; and the irrepressible Fred tells this story of an impromptu gathering around his bed.

"Johnno" was induced to describe the job he did several years ago, when he recovered some £2 million in gold from the liner *Niagara* sunk off New Zealand by an enemy mine. He had come to the point when they had very nearly reached the gold.

"Up the grab . . ."

"Better take me up for a spell . . ."

"Down the grab . . ."

Then came the great moment: "I could hear her hit on something that wasn't the ship's steel—not a clang, see, but a sort of dull sound. 'That's the gold,' I said to myself . . ."

And then "Johnno" described how the grab got hold of something, and they took the first gold to the surface. "And there she was, boys—gold, and no bloody error this time!"

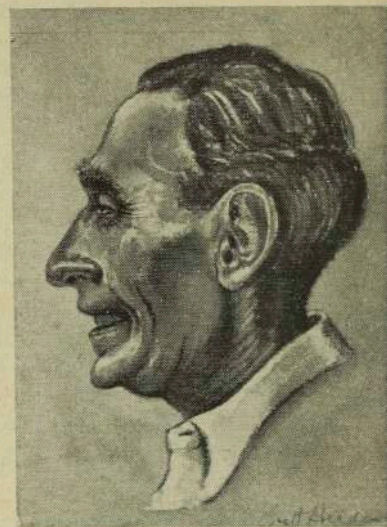
Followed immediately (says Fred) by a soft-voiced chorus from the audience, mostly parked on his bed: "Jesus, eh!"

THAT REEF OFF AUSTRALIA!

ALL New Zealanders please note: In a recent quiz-session on a US TV programme, a woman contestant had answered all but one of the questions—if not intelligently, then at least accurately enough to satisfy the quizmaster. Came the

jackpot question: What is the name of the famous reef off the east coast of Australia?

"New Zealand," she said.



ERNIE PALMER, doyen recruiter of native labour in the Solomons, is widely loved for his indestructible enthusiasm, his perennial cheerfulness, and his untiring energy. He can tell countless tales of Islands life and native customs, and has an engaging personality. Definite the wrong type to ask in for a quick drink after dinner, if you want to go to bed before the dawn!

Ernie was born in Johannesburg, 1904, went to school in England, and arrived in the Solomons with his father in March, 1919. He started recruiting very early, about 1923, and in the 1930s was in partnership with Tommy Elkin. Tommy and Ernie are so alike that they could pass as twins. The partnership was dissolved when Ernie married Inge Svensen, daughter of one of the pioneers in the Solomons.

About 1936 Ernie became the chief recruiter for Lever's, and continued recruiting until he enlisted in 1941. He joined the AIF, serving in the mysterious Independent Companies. He was transferred in 1943 to the RAN, in the AIF which was the Coastwatchers' organisation. His job was running supplies around the coasts in motor launches, where he was given command, and he served the rest of the war as Lieutenant RANVR.

After the war, Ernie returned to Lever's and recruiting. He was skipper of the lovely schooner "Matoma" which was wrecked in 1952, and which was finally left to rot at Lingatu after months of heartbreaking toil. He then got ship of his own, the yacht "Sirius" of Sydney, and he also has the "Diane" chartered from Lever's, in order to keep up the rapid flow of recruits.

A couple of years ago Ernie and Inge and their crew of six children settled in a most unusual home at Butete Island near Pepesala in the Russell Group, the Solomons. This was a Quonset hut built on a pontoon, one end of which was stranded on a sandy spit of island, while the other end was anchored off. As the pontoon slowly sank it moved the Quonset hut ashore, to see until their new home is built on the higher part of their lovely island.—**BRE HILDER**.

SAMOAN CRICKET—

Why Don't They Play it More Often?

By "AMEL"

IN my young days, in Fiji, I thought cricket was a fine game. We played it with a kerosene tin for a wicket, a piece of box-wood for a bat, and we had lots of fun, slogging the ball into the nearest frog-pond.

We didn't fret about maiden-overs, silly legs, mid-ons, slip-ons, roll-ons, or any of the incomprehensible cricketing terms which so confuse one to-day.

But the idea of playing the game for the love of it has apparently gone, and it has deteriorated into a grim, cheerless contest which causes more argument and strife than anything else. It almost caused a divorce in our family, when I ventured to say that I thought cricket was stodgy.

Until we went to Samoa, I still thought cricket was stodgy. And then my illusions returned with a swoop. For I found that Samoans play cricket as it *should* be played—for the sheer fun and joy of it.

The Samoan version of cricket commences at dawn, and ends at dusk (on the same day). The teams may be men or women, and consist of any number, from 60 to 100 a side—the more the merrier.

The object in having such large numbers is not only to have sufficient reserves to bowl for the bowlers, run for the batsmen and field for the fieldsmen, but also to out-scream, out-dance and out-sing the members of the opposing team. This they do, with gusto.

The teams, wearing gay uniforms, are led onto the field, in an apparently endless stream, by a cheer-leader banging a biscuit tin. When the preliminary speeches are over, the players are dispersed about the field, to such good effect that scarcely a square foot of ground is visible.

The game is a joy to watch, full of life and movement. According to the somewhat elastic rules, a batsman is not necessarily *caught* out; and, as the wicket comprises only one stump, he is seldom *bowled* out. But the umpire, an important person equipped with a megaphone and a whistle, occasionally declares a batsman to be out, for some reason or other, probably quite unconnected with cricket.

Whereupon the scoring team stops away to do a dance of jubilation. They wriggle their hips, kick up their legs and clap their hands, while their supporting musicians on the sideline triumphantly go to town with, "You Are My Sunshine," and the rival band, not at all depressed, churns out, "The Three Little Sisters." Oh, wouldn't it be

lovely at Lords!

The bowlers bowl over-arm, under-arm, or throw the ball, as the fancy takes them. The runners who run for the batsmen carry long, thin sticks which save both time and energy. The idea is that the runners run half the length of the pitch, while the sticks cover the remaining half! This idea could well be adopted by leg-weary Test cricketers.

At a Samoan cricket match, one does not see a few players entertaining thousands of inanimate spectators. On the contrary, thousands (hundreds, anyway) of cricketers disport themselves on the field, to the unrestrained delight of the singing, dancing, applauding spectators, who prepare a large feast for

Samoans seem to be equipped to carry the crusade for brighter cricket abroad, too. This extract is from the NZ "Herald" of recent date:

"A remarkable batting record for Auckland city and suburban cricket was set by M. Louse, a Samoan who scored 106 in 30 minutes for Harbour Board in a senior B game against Manukau at the Domain on Saturday. Louse hit 10 sixes and 6 fours.

"The hit which gave him his century was one of the greatest seen on the ground. He struck a bouncing delivery over his head on the leg side and the ball scattered motorists 60 yards away. From nine balls, Louse also took four wickets for five runs."

the players when the game is over.

An international tour by a Samoan cricket team would be a sensational success. Transport of the players would require a ship, or a fleet of planes, but this is a detail. The gate-money would more than cover expenses. And think what a fillip such a tour would give to that stodgy English game of cricket.

HAVE SOME KOKOMOR SOUP

By PETER ENGLAND

WHAT, kokomor* soup? No, thanks, it's a bit too rich for me. Look, let me tell you a story . . .

We were prospecting over the other side of the Ramu, out from Madang, at the time, me and Sam. This particular day I had gone out on my own, with one boy to carry a dish and a pick and a bite of lunch. I had crossed the Simbai fairly high up, and had panned a few dishes here and there up a creek on the far side. Well, it was getting on lunch time, and I hadn't even seen a colour, so I picked a good shady tree and sat down for a smoke while the boy boiled the billy.

Presently he brought the tea and retired to have a sleep himself.

I had a light snack and made another smoke. Now and then a faint drip fell on the back of my head. Probably the moisture from the early morning rain; anyway I was too comfortable and too lazy to move.

Rather a bare looking place, not the usual crop of undergrowth, and the trees themselves were a bit stunted. Unpleasant odour, too. We were evidently not far from a habitation of some sort. . . . Filthy habits these people have. Only the other day I went into a house to shelter from the rain; there, sitting on a shelf in the communal living room, hunched up with his knees under his chin, and laced with split cane, was an ancient grandfather. Must have been dead for a couple of years. Sometimes they park them

on trestles in the back yard, surrounded by a low, stake fence.

I must have dozed off. Next thing I remember was being awakened by quite a substantial "splosh" on the top of my head, and something trickling down behind my ear. As I started up there was a flutter of wings and a familiar honking cry. I looked up in time to see two kokomors fly away . . . and I saw something else . . . I turned and ran for the creek.

I washed and soaked and scrubbed for a couple of hours. When I got back to the camp it was dusk and Sam was just sitting down to dinner. He said, "You must have got on to something good. I thought you were going to stay out all night. Well, kai's ready. Come on, hop in, you must be pretty hungry by now."

I said, "No, thanks. I don't think I'll eat anything to-night. I'm a bit off colour—touch of fever or something."

"Well, just have a drop of this soup," said Sam, "It'll put you right, the real McCoy, kokomor soup—plenty of body in it!"

I staggered to the door and was violently sick for the second time that day.

What, aren't you going to finish your soup. Hope I didn't put you off it.

* Kokomor—A large bird of the hornbill type, found in New Guinea. They make an extraordinary noise with their wings in flight, are said to make good soup—and incidentally have some less pleasant habits.

It's Timber and Fish at Vanikoro

By DOROTHY JOBLIN



Top to bottom: Logs loaded on decks of "Aros".
Niki, the bearded one.
The hospital.

FROM the moment we left Hong-kong there seemed two schools of thought about this Vanikoro. One expressed by the Chief Engineer and his lifeboat: "Are you coming fishing with us at Vanikoro?" I had visions of long dismal hours spent on the end of a line, and nothing happening. . . "But not at Vanikoro. It is a Fisherman's Paradise. *Everyone* catches fish there."

The second school of thought (the Captain and his officers) took a gloomy view: No wharries to work the ship at Vanikoro; the crew must do it themselves. From 6 am till 10 pm—no Union hours—a supreme effort.

Vanikoro is one of the smallest of the Solomon Islands, in the Santa Cruz group; one of the last small ones in the long chain. Uninhabited until the Kauri Timber Company went there, to fell the giant Kauri pines that grow in its jungle, and send them down to Australia.

There are only 22 Europeans on the Island, and these are divided into three factions—the representatives of the Company; the Contractors who do the job, and who live in one little settlement; and the men who camp up on the jungle heights, felling the trees and hauling them down through the jungle to the water's edge.

Native labour has been imported from Malaita. These people are fairly primitive.

We were the "Timber Ship," going down to collect the logs for Australia—Aros, which called once every three months and was the only link, barring radio, that Vanikoro has with the outside world. We brought the only mail they ever got, the only books, the only goods, and when we left we took with us the only news which friends and relatives got of this lonely little settlement.

We had picked up at Rabaul, in New Britain, Meg, a young Australian nurse, who was going down to Vanikoro to take over the job of Medical Department on the Island. She would be IT; no one to appeal to or to share responsibility with.

As we drew nearer, Meg became more apprehensive. Understandably she began to wonder if she had not bitten off more than she could chew. In Honiara, Guadalcanal, her nearest medical post, she and I visited the hospital and talked to a Doctor. He was busy on the phone, energetically putting the finishing touches to arrangements for a two weeks' cruise around his islands, on a medical survey. I thought enviously, "What a lovely life!"

He clapped a reassuring hand on

Meg's shoulder. "You'll be OK," he said. "Don't forget there is always the radio. If you get in a real jam we'll charter a plane and get down to you, somehow."

A chartered plane would cost from £500 to £600, but it could be done. No outpost, however "faflung" could ever be as isolated as this modern age, as in the old pioneering days.

WE were up at 6 am to watch our arrival at Vanikoro. There before us lay a small, mountainous, completely tree-covered island, the only sign of habitation a small cluster of houses around a long pier that pointed at us like an accusing finger from the shore.

The Island seemed completely cut off from us by a coral reef which showed a pale creamy-green line around the island. But awaiting us outside the reef was a small white speed-boat, ready to escort us in through the channel. And so we made our triumphal entry, escorted on one side by the little speed-boat that seemed to fairly dance with joy; on the other side more dramatically, by a line of 30 or 40 porpoises, which seemed quite carried away with the general excitement and tumbled head over heels in a abandonment of gaiety.

As soon as we stopped some distance from the pier, the speed-boat swept up with a magnificent flourish and two men in white shorts leaped up the gangway. They leaped down again shortly, hugging great arms of mail.

There is much activity on shore. People pour in single file down the pier, and we receive a stream of callers, in all sorts of small craft. The Malaita natives arrive in small dug-outs, towing two rafts which float on empty drums. The Malaita men wear lap-laps only, and have great mops of bushy hair—convenient places for carrying things. Some have a long wooden comb parked there; it looks something like a forked butterpat. Others have cut their hair short, except for an enormous pom-pom on the forehead which is peroxided blond; and they wear gay scarlet hibiscus. One has an enormous black beard, and his hibiscus sits rather oddly on top of such a masculine growth, but when I later photograph him he turns his bearded face into a powerful shoulder and giggles like a schoolgirl.

The derricks get busy and unload the drums of diesel oil, that have been lining our decks, onto the rafts; and deposit with great care in the centre of the rafts, the powerful little haulage tractors that have been sitting up forward, a

(Continued on Page 94)

Charlie Meets Sir Isaac

By BILL GILL

"THERE'S more bull put over about plantation management than any other lurk I know of," said Charley.

I remember once (he went on) when things were looking up a bit, I thought I'd like to know if all I'd heard about Jap women were true. To look after the place while I was away I thought of a niece of mine. Josie had just got married to a fellah with all the advantages: education, family, breeding and what not. Everything, in fact, except the wherewithal, the spondulicks, the mazuma. Meaning he was broke.

Well, I was her rich uncle (to her way of thinking) and all they had to do was write me and ask for a job, generous salary. OK, thinks I, why not give the young couple a spin? So I fixed up their passage from South and bye-and-bye they arrived. They had so much gear with them that they nearly sank the coastal hooker and I had to get



"On a man's own verandah, mind you . . ."

all hands and the cook from the two neighbouring villages to help my own boys carry the stuff over the two hundred yards' stretch from the beach to the bungalow.

They were pleased as Punch with the scenery, and who wouldn't be? The house, too, was all right except, as Josie kindly pointed out, that it was in a filthy state.

I had not noticed it much myself but I turned round and cussed poor old Peter, my house-boy. He'd been with me for years and this was the first he'd ever heard of it but, knowing me, he took the cussin' philosophically. For the next few weeks things were pretty middling on account of the smell of soap, soda and wet paint but the nephew-in-law began to take over the running of the plantation. I had a pretty good team of boys, all casuals, who'd worked with me, off-and-on, all their lives. They knew the ropes; how many bags of copra they could get off each block, and we had always rubbed along comfortably. But when the young fellow started to introduce stream-lined efficiency and that sort of nonsense, the production started to drop and the boys suddenly remembered dying relatives back home in their village, and quit.

I had to put my foot down and the young fellow didn't like it and sulked around the verandah for a few days, whispering a lot with Josie and only favouring me with an occasional remark such as: "When are you taking that trip of yours to Japan?" or "Uncle Charley, don't you think it's a waste you keeping a dog and doing all the barking yourself?"

I wasn't too happy about this state of affairs so I kept mum and presently the fellah started dogging my footsteps as I took my daily cruise around the plantation and he never lost an opportunity of airing his education.

Says he, one day, with a sly look

out of the tail of his eye, "Why do all these nuts keep falling down do you suppose, Uncle?" Blind Freddie could see he was trying to take a rise out of me, so I thought I'd give him a run for his money.

"I've been worrying about that myself for some time now," I tells him. "Lately the nuts have all been turning brown and falling off. Must be some terrible disease that's got into 'em."

But he wasn't that dense: "No," says he, "there's no disease; what I asked was, why do they fall down?"

I stopped and studied him real hard for a while, thinking he'd maybe been giving the Scotch a bit of a nudge. But no, he seemed sober enough. "And why wouldn't they fall down?" I answers, "what is there to stop them?"

"Tut, tut! Uncle Charley, you don't understand. Why don't they hang on forever?"

"They don't hang on forever," I answered slowly, "on account of they fall off."

"Now, Uncle," says he scornfully, "there's no point in losing your rag. Answer my question scientifically."

"Why, dammit," I said, getting real peeved, "everything falls off, coconuts, oranges, apples and *everything* except strawberries, and they're on the ground already. What is there so scientific about that?"

"It's easy seen, Uncle, that you've never read Sir Isaac Newton and the apple. It's the law of gravity that does it."

I turned this over in my mind, then I says, "I've heard of gravitation water works but never of gravitation coconuts—or apples for that matter."

"It's the law of gravitation, Uncle; the earth attracts the coconuts to it, and so they fall."

"Listen, young fellah," I says, "you're getting far too deep for me!"



I'd heard about Jap women . . ."

PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY—JANUARY, 1955

Talking about the earth attracting coconuts. Why don't it attract your head?"

"Because it's fastened on."

"And the nuts, aren't they fastened on?"

"Uncle Charley," he says, "you're too thick-headed—you don't understand these scientific things. Now, for instance, if you throw your helmet into the air, why does it fall down again?"

"My poor fellah," I replies, "I'm beginning to think you're a shingle short, eh? Bats in the belfry, what? Rats in the garret?"

"Quite," says he, smugly, "but answer my question." I blew loudly through my nose, disdaining to reply.

"Gravitation again," says he, smugger (if there is such a word!) than ever. "Now if you strike a ball along a billiard table, why will it roll a certain distance and then stop? Why not keep rolling in perpetuity?"

"Now what's the strong of all this gibberish about falling nuts and rolling balls? What gives you the idea that there's any science in that? This Sir Isaac Newton and the apple you mention, I remember a recitation about him when I was a nipper. Wasn't he the fellah that fired an arrow at an apple on his grandfather's head?"

"No, no," he cries. "That was William Tell. No relation. I'm afraid you're not very well read, Uncle."

Maybe not, says I waspishly, but I can write better than you can: a cheque for instance. Tell me this, since you know so much, and it would be something really worth knowing: What is meant by money being "cheap"? Could I go to a bank and get a cheap quid note for nineteen bob? And what about fluctuation? Isn't money always fluctuating from one pocket to another?

And the young fellah, with all his education, couldn't explain this to me. He agreed that a quid, whichever way you looked at it, was still a quid.

"There you are," I lectures him, "worrying your brains into machine oil over studies of falling helmets, or coconuts, or what have you, when you could employ them nutting out some simple way of getting a pound note for less than twenty shillings. I'm getting more disappointed in you every day." He slunk off with his tail between his legs and was pretty quiet for a few days.

Then, one morning, he got my goat completely. You know how it is living on a plantation for years: a man gets set in his ways, up at the first hint of daylight, a planter's breakfast, then he's ready for a few preliminary bouts with the boys sneaking back from romantic visits to the villages.

Well, this morning his nibs came stalking out, with Josie on his hammer, the earliest appearance they'd ever made. "Uncle Charley,"

says he, "Josie and I think it's time you cut out all this hawking and spitting and other vulgar noises. We think it disgusting and besides it disturbs our rest."

On a man's own verandah, mind you! I was too flabbergasted to say a word.

"And another thing," his highness goes on, "we'd like you to take more care of your appearance and to consult us more on the running of the Estate, after all there is a certain dignity to be maintained as a Manager among these Island people."

Well, I'd got my breath back by this time and I can tell you I was boiling. "So!" says I, "a man can't spit off his own verandah? You've got a lot to learn yet about the Tropics let me tell you. And as for the dignity of management, I could walk down to that beach, board one of BP's steamers and sail across to Africa, capture a chimpanzee, bring him back here and teach him to manage a coconut plantation in a fortnight."

He didn't like that I can tell you! He turned and made off like a scalded cat and before the week was out the pair of them had packed and gone.

Charley sat back and chuckled at the memory.

"So you didn't get your trip to Japan after all?" I asked presently.

"Oh, yes I did," said Charley, "or near enough. I left old Peter, the house-boy, in charge and found as much copra made as if I'd been there myself all the time. The only reason I didn't actually make Japan was the cargo of opium lamps, snuff-bottles, door-knockers, sandal woods fans and ceremonial scrolls. I'd loaded myself down with it. Upper Lascan Row, Hongkong. And even if my prehistoric polka excited wide admiration on the dance floor of the ultra modern night haunts, I still had time for private pleasure aplenty."

"But I never found out if what they say about the Japanese sheila is true."

A new Bible House is to be built at Port Moresby by the British and Foreign Bible Society. It will be dedicated as a memorial to the men and women of Papua and New Guinea whose devotion and sacrifice saved the lives of many Australians and Americans. The NSW secretary of the Society announced this recently. He said an appeal for £6,500 had been launched.

† Mr. Theo (Mick) Thomas, Kokopo, New Guinea, who has been residing for some months in Sydney left for New Zealand in December and will be absent in the South Pacific for six or seven weeks.

PIM CROSSQUIZ NO. 59

Solution on Page 89.

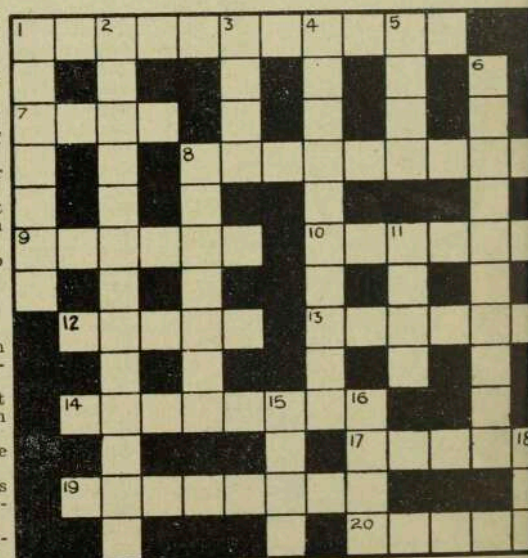
ACROSS

- 1.—What volcano of Tanganyika is believed to be extinct?
- 7.—What was the name of the nursemaid in Peter Pan?
- 8.—Who was Philo Vance?
- 9.—Who was Brown's partner in the first Transatlantic flight?
- 10.—Which sheep would you find in Rome if you looked closely?
- 12.—What is an anagram of ulcer?
- 13.—To cover in bandages?
- 14.—What was a form of knightly combat?
- 17.—Who is famous for his Thesaurus?
- 19.—What island is about 20 miles off the Californian coast?
- 20.—What was believed to be food from Heaven?

DOWN

- 1.—What name has been given to the natives of Polynesia?
- 2.—What is the lowest non-commissioned rank in the Army?
- 3.—Who wrote Rule Britannia?
- 4.—Which film star has called his daughter Portland?
- 5.—What was the Kon-Tiki?

- 6.—In which county does Plymouth lie?
- 8.—Who was Boz?
- 11.—What is another name for quires?
- 15.—Who was the messenger of the gods?
- 16.—What is the unit of mass in the metric system?
- 18.—The making of which drink is ceremonial custom in Japan?



This Month's New Reading

REVIEWS BY JUDY TUDOR

FULL-RIGGED SHIPS AND IRON MEN

Sails Beneath the Southern Cross will please those who like a story with a good salt-tang to it. Its author, P. A. Eaddy, is rising 73, but in writing of the era of sailing ships that has now passed, his enthusiasm is that of a young man.

Even in the period of which he writes—from the 80's to the beginning of the First World War, the sailing ship was fast disappearing. But as yet it has not become ancient history, and the author's breezy, unpretentious style can induce nostalgia in the most land-lubbery amongst us.

Mr. Eaddy's voyages mostly started from Auckland and fascinating are his descriptions of that city when it was much less a metropolis than it is to-day. Likewise what he has to say of the life of a child who had the good fortune to grow up around the bays of Auckland harbour, or in the New Zealand bush, will awaken memories in any New Zealander who had similar beginnings—of which your reviewer was one (although no one need run away with the idea that it was at the same time as Mr. Eaddy).

He describes how the "long ratlines" swinging loosely from the great trees overhanging some deep pool in the river also provided great fun in the summer, as we would swing out over the clear water and go with a splash. . . . Was there ever a NZ kid who did not experience that exquisite delight?

Mr. Eaddy writes of a time when fewer of the material comforts of life were demanded—and, heaven knows, fewer of them realised. An average less orientated to the pay envelope, but in which adventure was slier to come by. In these days of sail, an AB got £4 per month, and the creature comforts provided for him were close to nil. A Master was paid £16 a month; a Mate got with £8. But somehow they managed to marry and raise families.

In those days, Auckland was the home port of the small sailing ships that traded to Polynesia, and Mr. Eaddy's own Island adventures, as well as the famous Islands ships of the period, are fully described. From Auckland, also, he shipped to Australian ports, to the Americas and around the world. Illustrated with a score of photographs; and an excellent index allows the reader to pinpoint any of the hundreds of sailing ships that he mentions. In short—an invaluable book for all those who are interested in ships.

Published by A. H. & A. W. Reed, 182 Seaford St., Wellington, NZ. New Zealand price, 17/6.

BLOOD AND GOLD

The seventh of E. V. Timms' Australian series, *The Fury*, was published during the recent centenary of the Eureka Stockade. It was a happy coincidence because the latest Timms covers this part of Australian history.

The central figure in the story is Sally May Lorne, who was orphaned on Black Thursday—February 6, 1851—the day on which bush fires swept across the whole of southern Victoria—New South Wales as it still was—ravaging the country as far west as the present South Australian border, and northwards and over the Dandenongs.

Sally May is adopted by an ex-gentleman turned wandering pedlar, and it is through her eyes we see Victoria in the mid-century years when recently discovered gold was forcing revolutionary changes on to a colony which in many respects was unwilling to take them.

Timms, although a Queenslander, had made his name as a writer—mostly of 17th century historical novels with a European setting—before he embarked on his Australian saga. He now has a large following and, as with all popular writers, it is no longer a matter of reviewing, so much as whether the individual reader likes Timms or not.

Some of the characters of the previous volumes receive honourable mention in *The Fury*, and the Gubbys, uncouth, kindhearted Martha and her meek little husband Henry, turn up in Ballarat—somewhat with the appearance of having been dragged into the narrative by the hair of their heads, but there nonetheless.

Timms plans a dozen novels covering the growth of Australia from 1831 to World War II. Two of his novels—the first in the series, cover Western Australia; two New South Wales; two Victoria and one Queensland. So far Tasmania, South Australia and Australia's Territories remain untouched—but there is enough material in each of them to provide for the missing five books.

(Published by Angus and Robertson, Ltd. Australian price, 16/-.)

CLUNE ON THE KELLYS

The combination of Frank Clune—master of the cliché—writing about Ned Kelly is sufficient to make the stoutest-hearted book-reviewer quail.

Or so I thought; and was wrong. In *The Kelly Hunters*, Clune not only has produced some good, straightforward writing, but a history of early Victoria, and of Australian institutions, that is hard to equal. It has an extensive bibliography and a catalogue of

source material that will be invaluable to future historians.

The research that obviously has gone into this book is prodigious, and in this department far outdoes *The Fury*. Yet the two books complement each other, and it is no bad thing to read them as a pair.

Edward Kelly—soon to be nicknamed Ned—was born in June, 1855, six months after the Eureka Stockade, and the whole 25 years, five months of his life, before it ended at the end of a rope in Melbourne, was against that tumultuous background of Australia's early years.

As a man may be the product of his early environment, so a country. Little discernment is necessary to see in the Australian characteristics of to-day, a hangover from those early days when a foundation of convict settlement was overlaid by the peculiar land laws that permitted wholesale "squatting" that, in turn, had produced a variant of a landed gentry class with peculiar privileges; the whole complicated by the discovery of gold and the resentment by Authority and the Squattocracy of that fact, all leavened by the entry of poor immigrants and the enforced residence of time-expired convicts. For although, as Clune points out, full provision was made for the release of prisoners who had served their sentences (seven years deportation in the case of Ned Kelly's father who stole two pigs from a local farmer) no provision whatever was made for returning them to their original homes. Most of them, therefore, had no alternative but to stay in Australia.

The Australian mob's notorious contempt of established order and those who administer it—they will still watch while a policeman is done to death by a bunch of hooligans—is easier to understand against this background of early Australia when law was not so much a matter of justice as of power and prejudice. Although so far as Kelly v. the Law is concerned, we suspect that Mr. Clune's sympathies are slightly on the Kelly side of centre, the reaction of most Australians reading of these events to-day is that they too, would have joined the Ballarat miners behind their stockade in defence of their personal liberties against the petty, persecuting methods of the colonial police; possibly, too, would have joined the Kellys in their fight against the lop-sided state of the society of their day.

In all these aspects of those early years, it is easy to see the genesis of the average Australian's fierce defence of what he takes to be his private privileges; and his acute class-consciousness which makes him forever distrust the "boss." A hundred years has failed to breed out these characteristics.

In his treatment of the Kelly story, Clune goes away back beyond

(Continued on Page 90)

Poultry Keeping in the Tropics

A Brooder to Aid in Raising Chickens

By R. F. RANKIN

THERE are three courses open to the backyard farmer who wants to establish a poultry run. He can order day-old chicks to be flown up from Australia or NZ; he can order some three-months-old pullets from the same source or he can obtain a broody hen with a setting of eggs.

To avoid disappointment and to be sure of getting good stock, I advise the beginner to start off with three months old pullets. They cost between 15/- and £1 each but are reasonably sure of reaching maturity which, without the utmost care, is more than one can always say about day-olds and hen hatching in the tropics.

Three-months-old pullets can go straight into the house described in the previous article. (Don't forget to lime the ground well to get rid of any parasitical worms, a week or two before the pullets arrive; and when they do arrive, keep them inside the run. To get rid of any worms they have, it is advisable to dose them all after fasting overnight with a 1 c.c. capsule of carbon tetrachloride (approx. 5/- a hundred).) Order from reputable hatcheries and make sure that the pullets come from blood-tested pullorum-free stock. State and provincial Departments of Agriculture are usually willing to help Islands residents with advice in this matter.

Have a hopper full of chick-mash before them all the time. Give plenty of green feed such as Chinese cabbage or spinach and, of course, be sure they have fresh clean water. In the evening a half-and-half grain food of wheat and kibbled maize can be given. Make absolutely sure that the house is rat-proof, because rats will take chickens up to six and seven months old.

At five months a crumbly wet laying mash can be given in the morning. At six months, discontinue feeding chick-mash and have, instead, a hopper full of poultry pellets freely available. Feed wet mash night and morning and the grain feed can be discontinued. Continue feeding plenty of green feed. All this time the wet mash can be augmented by a little coconut, banana, paw paw and household scraps.

Never feed anything that has salt in it or has been cooked with salt, otherwise the hens will be poisoned. They cannot absorb much salt.

If there is anything left in the food trough an hour after feeding, you are giving them too much. If it is cleaned up too quickly they are not getting enough. Experience will soon show how much to feed. It is generally recognised that a hen eats four ounces a day. They should lay in 6-10 months.

The following dry season, those who like poultry will be keen to hatch and raise their own stock. With care and proper management this is easier to do

in the tropics than elsewhere, because of constant high temperatures.

Most backyarders will find that setting a broody hen or two will supply sufficient new stock for their needs. For the more ambitious, small kerosene incubators with 70-100 egg capacity are available at a reasonable price. All instructions are generally supplied with these incubators, so I shall concern myself only with the natural, or broody-hen, method of incubation.

A BROODY hen can easily be recognised by its staying on the nest, clucking, and ruffling its feathers at anyone's approach. If you have two or three broody hens so much the better. If they all sit at the same time, it greatly facilitates the raising of the resultant chickens. The eggs you set should all be of a good size and shape. Setting small eggs only leads to the degeneracy of the breed.

Chickens from over-large eggs are liable to lay large eggs and this is likely to cause complications such as the protrusion of the oviduct or a "blowout".

If eggs are kept cool and turned daily they can be kept for 10 days or more before setting.

Breed only from mature active hens. One rooster to 10 hens should ensure fertility. It seems to be a common belief in the Islands that unless the hens have a rooster to keep them company, they will not lay. This is quite false; but naturally, unless you have a rooster the eggs will be infertile and no amount of incubation will ever produce chickens.

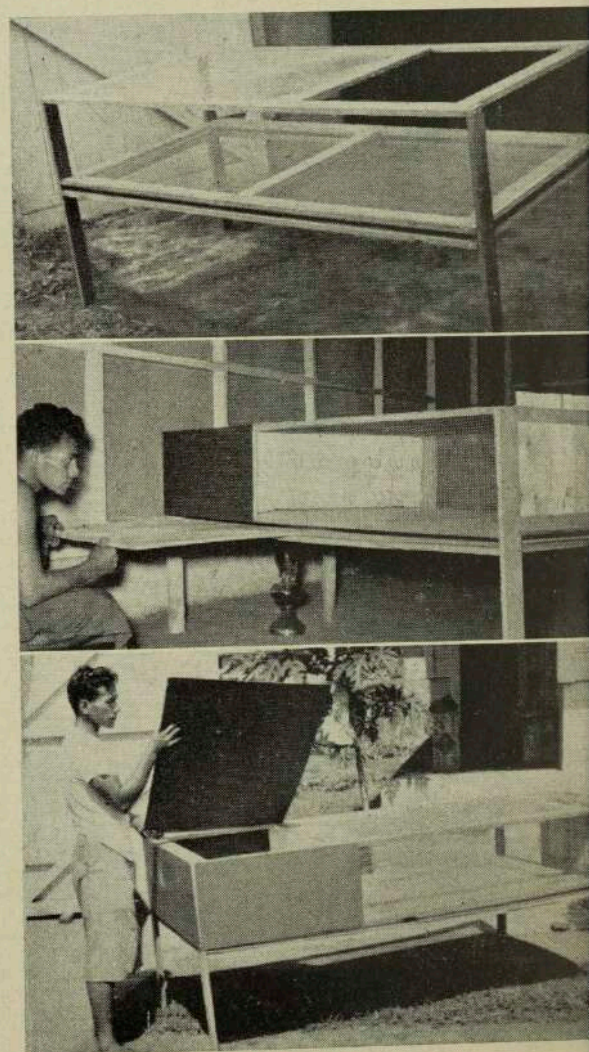
The nest box should contain straw and have a two inch board across the front to prevent the eggs rolling out. Put the nest or nests on the floor of a cool, quiet, ratproof room with subdued light. After giving the hen a dusting with DDT powder to kill any lice or external parasites, place her on the nest in the evening, putting a sack over the front of the box, half closing her in. Next morning have a look at her, being careful not to alarm her. If she is sitting happily, take her out and give her a feed of grain, grit and water and then replace her in the box. When she has



From top to bottom the photos show: The brooder half completed. This is what it should look like when the legs are nailed on. The legs are 2 ft 9 in. long with a 1 ft space between top and middle frame and 1 inch between middle and bottom frame.

The completed brooder showing how the trays slide out for cleaning. Notice the lamp in position for heating up the galvanised iron tray which in turn spreads the heat throughout the housing. The towelling hanging down in front of the housing permits easy exit and entrance for the chicks but retains most of the warmth. The simple boxwood panel at the near end slides up to give entrance in to the brooder.

Showing how the top of the nousing can be removed. It can be slid forward and the towelling lifted up to control temperature in later weeks—but beware of rats.



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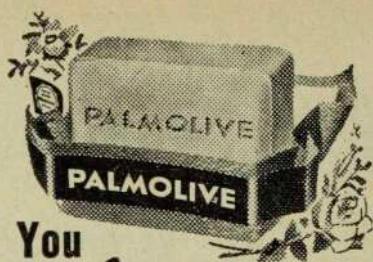
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settled down again, slip eggs under her. One hen can take 12-15 eggs.

Leave her for two days, when she can again be removed for 15 minutes for food and water. Grain feed of wheat and maize and water should be conveniently placed beside her and a dust bath of dry earth and sand should be provided.

If she will not eat or drink she must be lifted from the nest for a ¼ hour or so each day. Around hatching time i.e. the 20th and 21st day—she should be left alone.

If there are two or more hens sitting in the same room, make sure two do not crowd in one nest, leaving one setting of eggs to get cold. Eggs can be left for over 12 hours and still hatch but this is not very advisable. The eggs must be kept clean. If an egg is broken, the nest must be cleaned and the remaining eggs washed with lukewarm water.

As soon as the chicks have dried out after hatching transfer them to the brooder. Put the mother in an open cage by herself, until the broodiness has worn off, when she can be returned to the flock.

I am absolutely convinced that the only way to ensure continued success with chickens in the tropics is to keep them in a brooder up to six weeks of age. In a brooder they have no contact with other birds which might be diseased; they can be easily supervised and fed properly, protected from rats and, best of all, have no chance of picking up gall worm which causes so much death and retarded growth among Island chickens.

THE brooder described here is cheap and easy to make and operate. Last year I raised 50 day-olds from NZ in this brooder without losing a single one. The brooder holds 50 chicks up to 5 weeks old.

Materials required are as follows:—

- 6 3 x 1, 6 ft long;
- 9 3 x 1, 2 ft 10 in. long;
- 4 3 x 1, 2 ft 9 in. long;
- 3 3 x 1, 1 ft long;
- 12 ½ x ¼, 3 ft long;
- 15½ ft ¼ in. mesh cocoa wire;
- 1 6 x 3 sheet of flat galvanised iron;
- 1 6 x 3 sheet of hardboard;
- a thermometer and a kerosene lamp;
- a packet of tacks, and some 1½ and 2 in. nails.

The mode of construction can be understood from the accompanying photographs. First, nail together the 6 ft 3 ft frames. The two bottom frames have a crosspiece in the middle and the top frame has a crosspiece with its ends two feet from one end. Tack the cocoa wire on one bottom frame and along the four feet of the top frame. Nail on the four uprights having one foot between the top and middle frame and one foot between the middle and the bottom frame.

Insert two 12 in. uprights by the crosspiece, two feet from one end and the other upright in the middle of the front end. Cut out the cocoa wire and tack on. Then cut out the hardboard and nail it around the three sides of the brood housing. The top sheet just slides in place so that it can be lifted to enter the brooder and allow ventilation when required. It must fit snugly or else

will force an entrance and kill the chickens.

The end opposite the housing can be fitted with a simple sliding wooden panel to facilitate feeding and catching chickens. Cut the 6 x 3 sheet of iron in half and nail the $\frac{1}{2}$ x $\frac{1}{4}$ round the extreme edges. The two halves now slide between the two bottom frames and act as dropping trays to make cleaning easy. The lighted lamp stands beneath the centre of the housing and the heated iron spreads the warmth evenly throughout.

As soon as the chicks begin to come out, light the lamp. Spread several sheets of newspaper on the floor of the housing. This spreads and retains the warmth and protects the chickens' feet from the wire. Place the thermometer inside the housing and when it reaches 90 deg. Fahr. check the flame and keep the temperature constant.

When put into the brooder the chickens will raise the temperature two or three degrees. The first week in the brooder the temperature should be kept at about 90 degrees. The second week about 86 and the third week about 82. Probably during the second and third week the lamp will only be used at night and after the third week, only if the temperature drops much below 75 degrees. During the first week or so the operator must check the temperature frequently day and night.

A heavy cloth must be hung from the front of the housing to contain the warmth. On hot days and after the fourth week this can be lifted. The roof can be opened slightly for ventilation as well, but beware of rats. When chicks

are first put in the brooder a barrier should be put in about a foot from the front of the housing. Otherwise they will wander to the far end of the brooder and, forgetting where the warmth is, catch cold. The barrier can be moved forward after the first two or three days and removed after the first week. The brooder should be kept in a ventilated shed free from draught, and mosquitoes should be discouraged as they can cause considerable discomfort to young stock.

When the chicks are put in the brooder they may have access to water but no food for 36 hours after hatching. The

best system of watering is a powdered-milk tin with a small hole punched half an inch from the top, half filled with water and inverted into a cake tin of slightly larger diameter and with sides of about one inch high. This supplies a constant supply of water and does not allow the chickens to wet themselves and catch cold. It should be cleaned daily.

After 36 hours, the chicks may be given rolled oats together with some fine grit, sand and scoria. This may be scattered on the newspaper for the first two days. The newspapers must be changed when dirty and can be dispensed with after the

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- 12-oz. Corned Beef W/C.
- 12-oz. Taper Corned Beef.
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second week. After two days have a hopper full of chick mash freely available and feed chick grain in the evening before it gets dark.

Give plenty of green feed after the first week. It must be soft, like cabbage or spinach. Don't feed tough grass as it is liable to ball up in the crop and choke the bird.

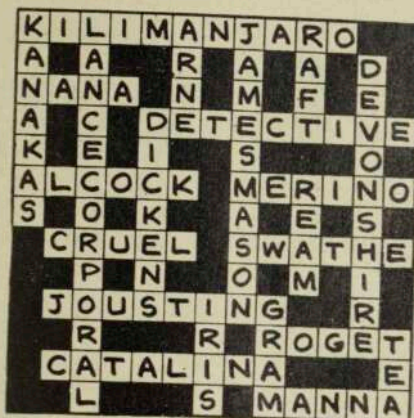
From the sixth week wheat and kibbled maize may be given instead of chick grain. Have fine grit available at all times.

At six weeks they can be transferred from the brooder into the fowl house. Have the house open on three sides only in fine sunny weather. Close up the two sides in the evening for the first two or three weeks depending on the weather. Don't let them out into the sun for the first week. Make sure the house is ratproof. They should now be trained to perch at night. Otherwise they will all crowd into one another in corner with the danger of suffocation and sweating bringing about colds and low feathering.

Have your perches running across the house about a foot high. Cover them with small mesh wire netting and run the netting over the front on a slope to the ground. Now the birds can walk or be driven up the netting to the perches. After a week or so of driving them up to sleep on the perches they will learn and the netting can be removed. As the chicks grow, the perches can be raised about two feet. Careful supervision needed the first few weeks out of the brooder.

If the operator takes the trouble and exercises reasonable care, he should have every success in raising chickens in the tropics.

Solution to Crossquiz from p. 82



During November a 15-years-old girl named Aki, was caught in the strong out-going current of Avarua harbour, Rarotonga, while swimming. Watched by a crowd of Islanders that had gathered to

farewell friends on the *Inspire*, two Atiuan youths, Varo Teio and Tua Boaza, swam out and rescued the drowning girl in rough weather. Later the same month a two-years-old girl was saved from drowning in the lagoon by her mother, who had the knowledge and presence of mind to use artificial respiration to save her child.

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This Month's New Reading

(Continued from Page 83)

Australia into Ireland; and traces back all the little tributaries, that, flowing together to make a flood, forced young Ned along the narrow channel that inevitably he had to travel.

In tracing this history and telling this story, the author has given a fascinating account of that country that Victorians (many of them these days without knowing why) still call the "Kelly Country"—from Melbourne north along what is now the Hume Highway to Donnybrook and Beveridge (where Ned was born), over Pretty Sally Hill to Kilmore and north-east to Seymour and Euroa, Benalla and Glenrowan. West again to the Strathbogie and Buffalo ranges.

If Clune, in his case for Kelly, has not entirely proved that he was altogether innocent and misjudged, he has at least proved that Kelly was no 19th century version of the modern gangster. Only his times and those circumstances could have produced him. A Ned Kelly would be impossible in 1954.

FOOTNOTE: It is interesting to discover that Ned Kelly's paternal grandmother was a Mary Cody, kinswoman of William Frederick Cody, born in Iowa, USA, and better known as Buffalo Bill. Thus the Cody blood produced two folklore

heroes born within the same decade, but half the world apart.

(Published by Angus and Robertson, Ltd. Australian price, 25/-.)

THE QUEEN IN FIJI

The second last of the Royal Visit books (Tonga is yet to come) has been published. *The Royal Visit to*

Fiji is a fitting companion to the other two, the Royal Visits to New Zealand and Australia, which were both printed in Australia.

The Fiji book was wholly produced in Fiji, by the Government Printing Department and the result is technically of top grade, with modern layout and reader appeal.



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The narrative was written by Mr. J. W. Sykes, who was secretary of the Fiji Royal Visit Committee and later Tour Manager. He also has done a first-class job.

The book contains over 30 black and white photos, most of them by Fiji's ace photographer, Rob Wright, and many of them have not been published before.

Royal Visit has been a best-seller in Fiji in recent weeks, although it was not published until almost a year after the events described took place. A special copy of the book has been presented to Her Majesty. (Fiji Price of "Royal Tour" is 12/6.)

GRANDPA WAS NOT A NICE MAN

Not a whodunnit but in the same category and likely to appeal to the same sort of readers is *The Better To Eat You*, by Charlotte Armstrong.

A "suspense" novel—you know that grandpa is the evil genius but the heroine does not find out until the last page.

If you can accept the fact that the Very Nicest Kind of female has the wool pulled over her eyes very easily, you'll accept this as is. But you prefer your females to be made of sterner stuff, then occasionally you will have an impulse to pick a pin into Sarah Shepherd, even sympathise with grandpa.

Apart from that, however, the book is first-class thriller fare with an American setting—recommended to all those who occasionally (or more frequently) read for relaxation and amusement, rather than for the improvement of their minds. The story concerns Sarah, who thinks she is pursued by a jinx: something nasty often happens to people who take her out or become interested in her. The man she married dropped dead at her feet at the wedding reception. Sarah—chaps not unnaturally—develops a neurosis about it. A young college professor, David Wakely, sets out to prove it is no jinx. And David, of course, is right.

Published by Peter Davies, Ltd.; Australian price 13/3.)

VERSE—VARIOUS

Probably the less said about a collection of modern verse the better. Particularly when it is a collection of Australian modern verse.

There is no special reason why Australian variety should be worse than other varieties, of course; I know of no reason to suppose any better, either.

All I can suggest is that if you are given to poetry, you buy *Australian Poetry—1954*, and try it out for yourself.

I have self-sacrificingly read the collection myself; and although it makes really sweet music to my ears, a little of it is not as good as I had feared. The two poems which came nearest to ring-

ing bells are "To John (1940)," by Mona Brand; and "Crow's Nest," by Douglas Stewart. The former is about a billy-cart ride—which is something my cramped, cultural-soul can understand; and the other is a few terse lines about that inner North Shore suburb of Sydney where, involved in the usual Monday-morning traffic snarl, I have often felt along the same lines as Mr. Stewart.

(Published by Angus and Robertson, Ltd. Australian price, 10/6.)

THE VERY CAREFUL PEOPLE

The prize of one green lemon goes this month to *The Careless People*, a combined effort by Helen Fowler and Bernard Harris.

This is an Australian novel, written on the flimsiest excuse in the maximum number of words. It might be tagged an introspective novel; and, summed up in a sentence, its theme is that the world is not well lost for love because God wouldn't like it.

The scene is Sydney and the nearby Hawkesbury country—this is so clear that one could almost put one's finger on exact street or village, but for heaven knows what reason, all these places are given fictitious names.

The first quarter of the book is taken up with the thoughts of the heroine, Esther, as she waits in a holiday cottage above the Hawkesbury for her lover, Martin.

Esther is married to a plonky

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barrister; Martin to a young matron of fixed suburban ideas. It is essential—for the usual conventional reasons—that no one should find out about Esther and Martin. That is the essence of the whole book.

At various stages during these first 60 pages of prose, Esther freezes like a startled fawn as she imagines that Martin is at last approaching. But no dice. Martin does not show up.

Part Two describes Martin at home, fixing the babies' bottles and pushing the babies in the pram while his wife is out shopping. And, now at last he makes his get-away to the waiting Esther.

Unfortunately, by the time he reaches the Hawkesbury, it is dark, and in climbing to his loved-one he falls and cracks his skull, or very near it. Exit Martin.

Part Three: Esther returns to the city and plonky husband. Come Monday she goes to the office. No Martin.

Suspecting what has happened he leaves the office, and by train and launch, returns to the Hawkesbury, follows the road Martin must have taken—and finds him, still unconscious.

There follows a description of how, with the aid of an understanding oatman-cum-milkman, she gets Martin out of their joint predicament, into hospital and under the care of the family doctor and Martin's suburban wife.

Still no one has the slightest suspicion of their affair.

One might legitimately expect that having got to this stage, there would come the great renouncement scene, either by Martin and Esther of their respective spouses who, heaven knows, are presented in such an unsympathetic light anyone would be excused for running away and leaving them to stew in their own juice. Or, having had the fright of their lives, by Martin and Esther deciding to play safe and conventional in future, which is the normal end of nine-tenths of illicit affairs.

But the authors want it a little each way. The scene shifts on two years, when Esther and Martin, having spoken no word to each other in the interval, come suddenly together out in the vicinity of their old haunts.

Esther has been very ill. But both have been cleansed in mind and spirit. During the time that Esther had been near to death, she had found that she was in no position to die—that she had been cut off, by her own hand, from the Divine Love that she and Martin had rejected. She learned that life was a mere apprenticeship for death.

Martin, too, had wrestled "with his demon"—and so, when they came to part, they knew that in future they could meet in an atmosphere of decency, honesty and sanity.

So moral. And so confoundingly unconvincing.

There is, of course, the germ of something here that could have made a good novel. But in the way the authors have presented it, it is as inspiring as a gallon of tepid milk—when one might have expected a magnum of champagne.

NB: The title, "The Careless People," comes from a line in Housman's verses, "A Shropshire Lad."

(Published by Angus and Robertson, Ltd. Australian price, 16/-.)

† Sainiana Sorawale, the Fijian girl who represented her country at the Empire Games in Canada last year (in the broad-jump section) has joined the office staff of the Fiji Visitors' Bureau, Suva.

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It's Timber and Fish at Vanikoro

(Continued from Page 80)

are to be used for hauling the Kauri logs down to the water.

But our Captain is an impatient man, and anxious to be onto the real business. Aros has been fairly snorting and pawing the water with all this fiddling about. She gives three warning blasts and makes off round the coast, the cargo still only half disgorged from her holds. The people on shore, look up disapprovingly from checking of stores.

We drop anchor in an almost land-locked cove, further round the coast. It is indescribably beautiful with jungle-clad hills sweeping to the water's edge, and mangrove trees crawling out into the water on long spidery legs, and the still, oily surface reflecting all this as in a polished mirror. Here awaiting us are long lines of logs, roped together and tethered to a mooring log.

A disconsolate trail of small craft follow us round to the cove, to collect the rest of their gear. This is very nice for us, for we thus keep up a lively social intercourse with the shore, during the rest of our visit.

The masts of a small schooner appear alongside the deck rail forward. I decide we are being boarded by pirates, as a man wearing a pirate's handkerchief on his

head, shins up the masts and lands on our deck.

"Meet Mr. Jones," says the First Mate, who is at the forward hatch.

Mr. Jones takes off his pirate handkerchief, and reveals a bald patch that he has been protecting from the sun. He is an island trader with his HQ on Vanikoro. He has lived in these parts for 25 years, and in his little schooner he visits his many trading posts in other Islands.

The rest of the gear is piled on a raft and towed over to the mooring log—no danger of wind squalls in this sheltered cove—and Mr. Jones can be seen brooding over the raft, on and off, for the rest of our stay. Meanwhile the captain gets cracking smartly. A long chain of logs are detached from the mob, and towed alongside Aros. One set of natives manoeuvre the logs in the sea, walking nonchalantly over them or swimming about amongst them. Another set scurries about in the cavernous depths of the holds. They roll the whites of terrified eyes at the Swedish officers who bellow instructions at them in broken English. They come forward when they should go back, and flurry about like demented autumn leaves, caught in a whirlwind.

The derricks lean down and pick

up a log by a steel chain round its middle. These monsters are from three to ten tons, and give off a fishy foetid smell. The derricks lift them with surprising ease and dandle them a while in the air, like giant babies, with water streaming off their rear portions, then over the rail they come, whanging the ship's side once or twice in passing, crashing against the hatch rim, so that the whole ship shudders, and finally are settled down into their beds in the holds.

These logs are covered with huge black crabs, and those that don't fall off en route, come aboard with them, so that life is never quite the same after Vanikoro. We always have to go down to the swimming pool on the forward deck, armed with the teeth against these horrors.

BUT we people of leisure were on every available moment to the reef in the lifeboat. I have always thought of fishing as a tranquil static kind of sport. But not at Vanikoro. We zoomed around the edges of the reef trailing bright coloured lures behind us; and fish that looked like bits snapped off flamboyant rainbows, were being hauled in two and three at a time. I could see what they meant about the "fisherman's paradise". And, peering down through the crystal-clear water, we could see fantastic and amazing coral shapes clustering along the bottom—a ne

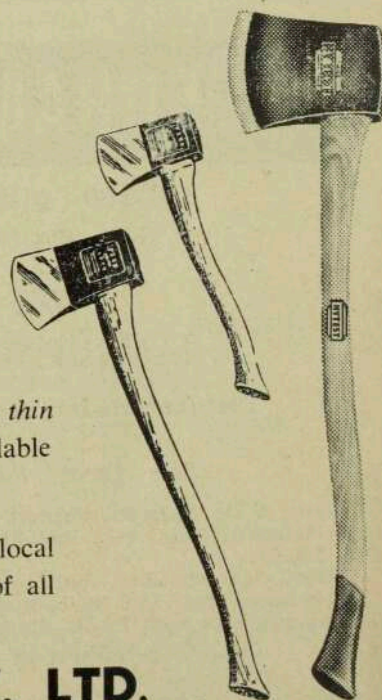
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world, indeed. Goggle-fishing is one of the chief delights of the people living on the Island, and most of their leisure time is spent out on the reef, goggling at this underworld, and collecting turtle shells, mother-of-pearl and cowrie shells.

I can see now how living in this calm, never-changing climate, so remote from the world, engenders a kind of leisurely philosophical, almost dreamy, attitude to life. These folk must develop this or go mad! Consider the difficulty of replacing equipment or spare parts—just one instance. An order can be expected only once every three months. If by chance, the order is overlooked or delayed, then there is a wait of six months before it can arrive.

We made many shore expeditions and to the settlement. We would walk single file along the pier—there is no room for walking in twos—towards the shore where coconut palms leaned their heads together

if gossiping. The houses, all clustered in one clearing, are built high on stilts, against damp and insects and are cool and airy for that tropical climate.

Meg took me to visit her hospital, and we stood, depressed, looking at a long ramshackle verandah running the length of a crude building. The broken chair gave it an even more "lost" look. The ward—a faded and sorry-looking collection of wooden slabs—was more like a morgue than a ward. It stood empty, but no doubt those Forest ants will not submit to the indignity of being lead away in chains of captivity, without fighting back. No doubt crushed and mangled slabs will have to be mended somewhere . . . here.

As we leave, the natives on shore follow us curiously down the pier, to watch our departure. Most of them have been catching fish in the surf with bows and arrows. They stand above us on a rocky shore, two bronzed statues armed with bows and arrows, like something from the stone-age. They raise their arms, solemnly, in farewell. The last log is finally in place. Goodbyes are said. The shore people brown and white—pour down onto every available small craft. "Glad to see you come, glad to see you go," says Mac., the head of the company. "You upset our routine." The two others step into the speed-boat. They carve a neat curved slice out of the oily, dark water as they rocket away. They are going ahead to show us the passage through the reef, David King Goliath. Aros has been through a lot in the last few days. Once-white elegance is scarred, battle-worn; here and there crumpled and hanging; enormous scratches and bruised areas on the sides. Her engines start to chug, and the gangway folds upwards as the legs of a bird taking flight.

She salutes the impassive jungle with a long siren blast, and we are off in the wake of our tiny guide, edging our way gingerly through the narrow passage.

We gazed back towards the shore. The houses seem to be trying to hide their long gangling legs with flaming hibiscus bushes. Under the coconut palms on the sands, I can see a lonely, girlish figure in a blue cotton dress, standing very still.

"Good luck, Meg! You'll settle down when the ship is gone."

We are through the reef, and the speed-boat sweeps round and comes to rest facing us.

Aros raises her voice mightily and gives three dignified blasts of farewell, and then the excitement of the moment quite carries her away,

and she goes on shouting hilariously—blast upon blast. The little figures in the speed-boat raise brown arms and wave them in great sweeping semi-circles. Mac's hands come together over his head and are shaken in a gesture of acclamation. "Well done, Gus . . . 100,000 cubic feet in three days . . . a record to date. . . Well done Aros!"

The speed-boat turns and rockets off, back to routine, and we turn our faces towards Home.

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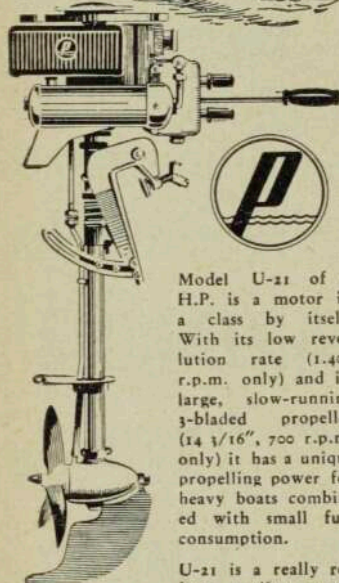
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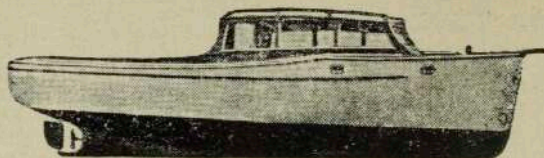
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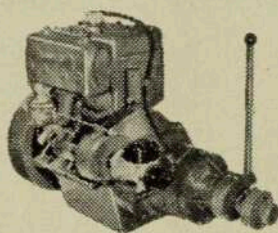


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News of the Small-Ships

IT HAPPENED IN THIS MONTH:—In January, 1870, as the result of a marine inquiry at the then British Consulate in Levuka, a certain Captain, Finley M'Liver, was removed from command of the Auckland schooner *William and Julia* for sending to promote and encourage most illegal traffic—to wit, slave trading.

From a nautical point of view the case, at this distance, is interesting in that the schooner is mentioned as being owned by a Maori chief—though he was not aboard. Captain M'Liver was found to have "been in command for 9 months in excess of his Agreement; sailed under no flag; did not know whether he was a British Subject or not; and kept no log."

He had taken aboard four native men in the Gilberts on a verbal agreement to work as domestics in Fiji. He had received £20 for two of them—as passage money, he received—from "Mr. Leefe's overboard at Nananu"; and the other two were to be disposed of in Fiji "for the benefit of the vessel." The defence seemed to suggest that Captain M'Liver and his command have been engaged in this for some time.

Captain George Frost sailed the schooner to Auckland after the Inquiry.

ANOTHER CABLE SHIP:—Last

month we reported that *Stanley Angwin* had called at Suva to load telegraph cable en route to a repair job near Fanning Island. At about the same time Cable & Wireless Co.'s latest addition, the fast 3,300-ton *Recorder*, soon to relieve *Stanley Angwin* on the Singapore station (which handles Pacific deep-sea jobs), was in collision with the Danish vessel *Uruguay*, while en route from the Tyne shipyard to London. A 6-ft hole was torn in *Recorder's* starboard side in the way of the engineroom.

POLURRIAN DAMAGED:—Too late for inclusion last month came word that the Bougainville Company's smart 339-ton M/V *Polurrian*, after suffering plate-damage when she struck a Queen Carola Harbour reef on November 1, was to undergo repairs in Hongkong. An ABC report stated that she was to be towed there from Rabaul. Meanwhile Coconut Products Ltd.'s 390-ton *Meklong* has been chartered and will maintain the Buka-Bougainville service together with the small vessels *Nuguria* and *Nusa*.

Meklong herself was the subject of an interesting salvage operation some time ago. She is the same type of oil-burning steel steamer as the Fiji trader *Ai Sokula* (ex *Hong Ann*) owned by another W. R. Car-

penter subsidiary.

LAURABADA REPLACEMENT:—To replace the old *Laurabada*, mentioned last month, as a personnel vessel for the P-N-G Administration, the 70-ft M/V *Lila* has been acquired and will be renamed *Laurabada II*. Purchased from the

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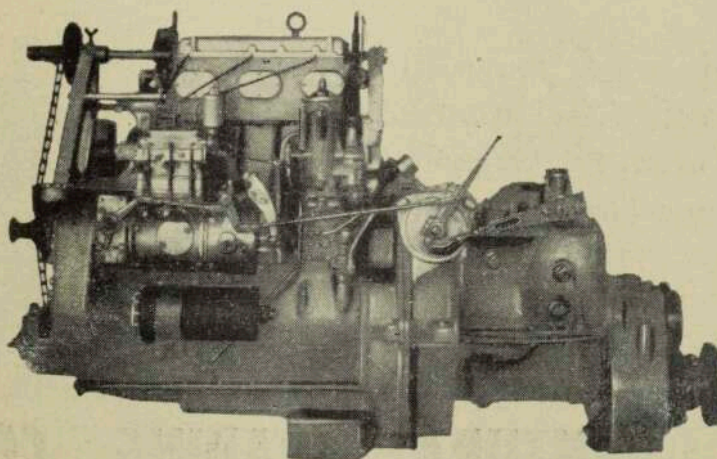
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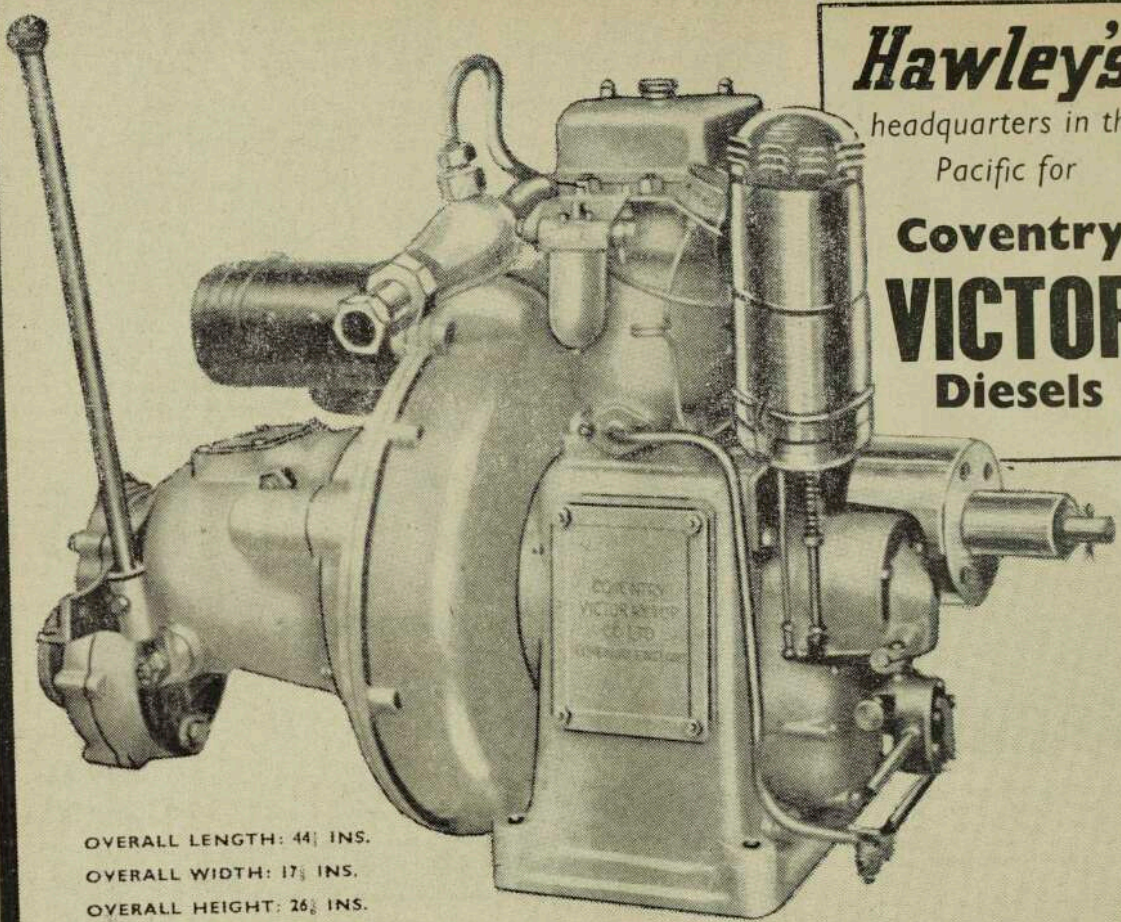
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have been less favourable for long-distance results.

Completely independent of batteries, the modern lifeboat set has a hand-cranked generator—which creates difficulties in lone-hand operation. Recently we mentioned that experiments are going ahead on a hand-powered transmitter which could require no cranking. But it would require sunshine. Now the search department of All India radio has developed a kerosene-powered radio for use in rural areas. Its application to the ship's lifeboat may prove important. The Indian receiver will give 3 hours listening per day for a month on about 6/4 worth of kerosene. The same power it would operate a small transmitter.

MIENA:—Inquiries made since an accident was reported aboard the Solomon Islands trader *Miena* while fishing off the Queensland coast, show that Captain J. W. Richmond has not sold the vessel and is himself aboard.

ABSENT FRIENDS:—Captain Lindstrom and Mr. Willie Putz, well known in the Gilberts, arrived Sydney for Dunedin, NZ, in mid-December with the new fishing vessel *Olwyn*, which they were departing from the Ulladulla shipyard of Auto-Diesel Co. After leaving the craft before departure, Captain Tom Milner, now second officer in the new Sydney-Twin freighter *Wongara*, and

Captain Carl Johnson, harbour-master/pilot of Tonga. Captain Johnson, on leave in Sydney, came south as a guest of the Orient Line aboard *Orion*, after piloting that cruise-ship through Tongan waters several months ago. Also present: Mr. Bill Crawford, formerly of W. R. Carpenter and Co.'s shipping department in Suva.

REEF EXCURSION:—The Lord Howe motor-cruiser *Flying Cloud* (see December PIM) was to make a run in January with a large party of Lord Howe fishermen, to Elizabeth and Middleton reefs, 130 and 165 miles to the north. Fishing is said to be extremely good when the weather permits anchorage within the encircling reefs. Remains of some old wrecks are still visible on these reefs which are gradually building up into typical, almost circular atolls.

ABRASIONS AND FRACTURES:—Fiji Medical Department's smart little 77 GT *Vuniwai*, bound from Savusavu to Suva, with Drs. F. Tross and W. J. Whelan, of World Health Organisation, two hospital patients, and a medical department clerk as passengers, went up on the reef 5 miles NNE of Wakaya lighthouse in the early hours of December 3. The mishap occurred at high tide, and *Vuniwai* adopted a 45-degree list, pounded the reef, and soon sprang a leak. Radio calls brought the Levuka-Natovi passenger

launch *Ovalau* to take off the passengers, and Captain Harness, Suva Harbourmaster, in an RNZAF Sunderland to fly over and view the situation.

The PWD lighthouse tender and maid-of-all-work *Degei*, hailed from Gau, succeeded next day in towing *Vuniwai* clear and beaching her for temporary repairs at Levuka, from

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where she later proceeded to Suva for some more serious surgery on a slipway.

The 3-years-old, 55-ft vessel was in trouble in August, 1953, when she lost her propeller at sea.

NG LOSS:—The small NG coaster *Weston* became a total loss in November when she went ashore south of Vanimo on the mainland north coast and became a total loss. The vessel had been recently refitted at Madang. All hands got safely ashore. An inquiry was to be held at Wewak in December.

ILL-LUCK DOGS PAGO PAGO FLEET:—Last month's reported misfortunes to the Jap fishing fleet under fishing contract to the American tuna cannery at Pago Pago, were added to in December. On December 1, shortly after the first two vessels arrived from Japan, a Japanese seaman was killed when struck by a cargo hook.

THE MISSIONARIES WERE HOSTILE:—A Fiji-born seaman, named John Atook, while waiting for a launch to take him aboard the "missionary vessel *Suva*" in Sydney, was bashed and thrown into the harbour by two other men from the same W. R. Carpenter & Co. ship—according to a December Sydney newspaper report. *Suva*, a trans-Pacific freighter, seems to carry a particularly hostile type of "missionary."

TEMPORARILY MISSING:—The New Hebrides Administration ketch *Concord*, five days overdue, with five persons aboard, was the cause of an air search by an RNZAF Sunderland from Fiji in mid-November. *Concorde*, presumably with motor disabled and no wind-power, was located off Erromanga Island,

whence the French naval sloop *Tia* from Noumea was despatched render aid.

TASMAN STEAMSHIPS: *Madonna*, recently acquired flagship of the New Zealand ex-servicemen Tasman Steamship Co., cleared Auckland for Hongkong with

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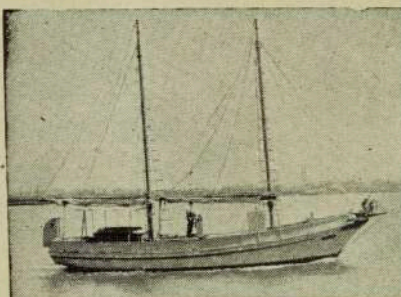
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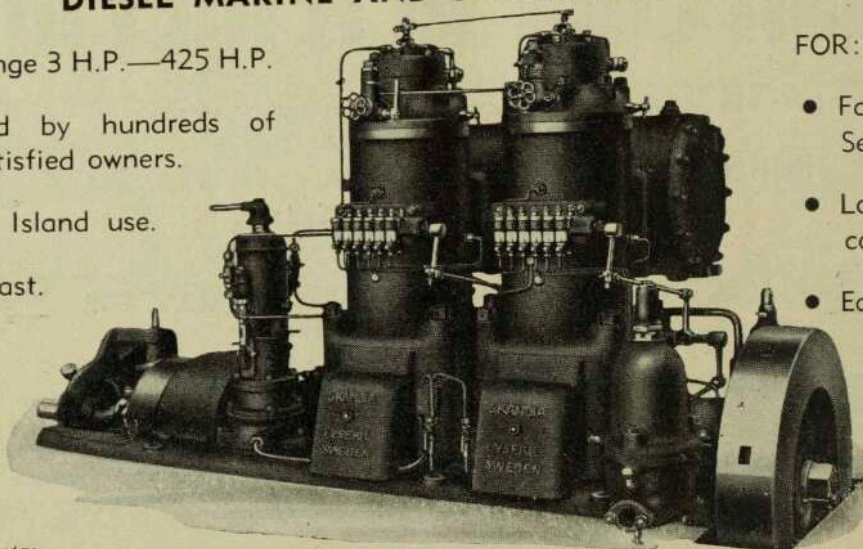
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Chinese crew on December 1. As result of the company's financial difficulties the vessel was taken over by the Southern Marine Mercantile Company of Hongkong which apparently had the main financial interest in the converted freezer vessel. A Chinese crew took over at Auckland.

Viti meanwhile was in difficulties with the water-front unions in Auckland when she arrived there with a cargo of 5,218 cases of Man-a-pineapples.

It was alleged that nine Cook Islanders aboard were being employed on Fiji terms, at lower rates of pay and standards of accommodation than those applying to vessels registered in NZ.

The crew was paid off and returned on NZ terms, and the cargo was then discharged. *Viti* then made two runs south to Campbell Island, exchanging staff and carrying stores for the southern weather station.

In mid-December it was reported

that *Viti* might be sold to Fiji buyers. The small *Vasu* was then on a charter voyage from Fiji to the Gilberts and there were reports from Samoa that she might start a fairly regular service from Suva eastward to as far as Tahiti, as cargo offered.

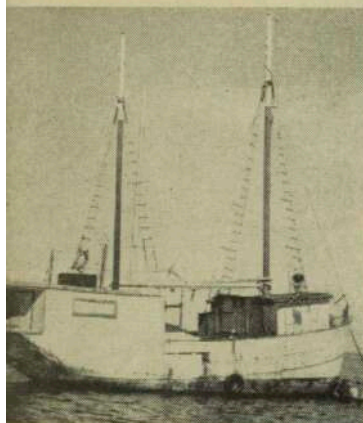
UNUSUAL CARGO:—Mr. Hugh Williams' converted Brixham trawler *Inspire*, which trades in the Cook Islands, had an unusual cargo from Aitutaki to Rarotonga in December—30 school-teachers bound to the capital for a refresher course.

LEPER VESSELS:—After lengthy delays over standard design, plans have now been approved for the four vessels which the New Zealand Lepers' Trust Board announced more than a year ago that it would

provide for service in the Western Pacific.

It is assumed that tenders will now be called for the construction of the 55 ft x 16 ft wooden single-screw auxiliary ketches. They are to be well equipped, including refrigerators, and, of course, radio telephones and will have 7-8 tons of cargo space. The 80 hp diesels should drive them, without sails, at 7 knots. The vessels will actually be operated by four different mission denominations in the Solomons-New Hebrides area. They should now be in service by the latter half of 1955.

SPECIAL TRIP:—Societe Miniere et Metallurgique Hagen's 1,300-ton steamer *Neo Hebrides II* was in Sydney in mid-December prepar-



"leur d'Océan" which ended her days at Foau atoll reef late in October, and, w, the San Francisco yacht "Makai" at Papeete.

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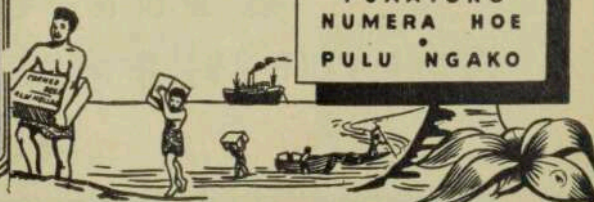
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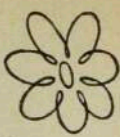
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News of Cruising Yachts

• **WINDJAMMER**, Peggy Poor's 57 ft. centre-board schooner from New Orleans, y have been lost on Easter Island several months ago, if unconfirmed reports ching Balboa are correct. Miss Poor, h American navigator Jim Cox, and fish West Indian Gordon Nicol-Sey, are Balboa last January for Galapagos, ter, Pitcairn, and French Oceania, but July it was reported that WIND- JAMMER would about-turn at Easter and some South American coastal cruising ore continuing across the Pacific.

• **CHANCE**, 36 ft centre-board ketch n Koln, Germany, bound for the Pacific, been delayed. Our Balboa corres- pondent reports that though the yacht erred there for Galapagos and east- ed in July, it put back some time later medical attention to Frau Vangeninden, mother of a child which had then n born on board. ailing again some days later they were t reported in a Costa Rica port, hav- put back there after losing the centre- rd. They may now be in the Gala- os. Aboard the yacht is owner Theo- ten and his wife, each aged about and Herr and Frau Vangeninden, a of 14, and the infant.

• **FLAMINGO**, NZ, a. Auckland from mea via Norfolk Island Nov. 21, com- ing her Western Pacific cruise. (Dec.,

• **LANDFALL II**, US, a. Auckland y December, 16 days out of Suva. and Mrs. Holcomb plan to stay several ths in NZ waters, then head for sey. Working his passage home after ing in Fiji was Mr. Don Roberts.

• **MARINER**, US, a. Auckland Dec. 7 from Suva which she cleared a few days before **LANDFALL II**, and like **LANDFALL II**, met bad weather. Owners Robinson and Karl will spend some time in Auck- land and have no firm plans. With them since Tahiti has been Australian John O'Donnell. (Feb., '54).

• Another unnamed twin-hulled 23 ft catamaran left Brighton, UK, recently for a shake-down cruise in the European in- land waterways before heading for the Pacific. Owners are Jim and Ruth Wharram.

• **NAITAMBA**, last mentioned in July PIM as clearing San Francisco for Wellington, called at Rarotonga and cleared for Wellington December 3. With American R. K. Smith (now of Wellin- ton) were Messrs. Hilton and Dobson who travelled north at their own expense to assist in sailing **NAITAMBA**, which is equipped with a radio transmitter.

• **SOLACE**, Commander Victor Clark's 30 ft ketch which was cast on the Palmerston Island reef November 14, has been gradually worked across a broad stretch of shallows into the lagoon with the aid of log rollers and the local people. She was then floated with empty drums and in early December again beached on a sandy beach a quarter mile from where she was wrecked. It should now be possible for repairs to be carried out, but evidently Commander Clark and his companion from the West Indies may have to spend the hurricane season on that atoll.

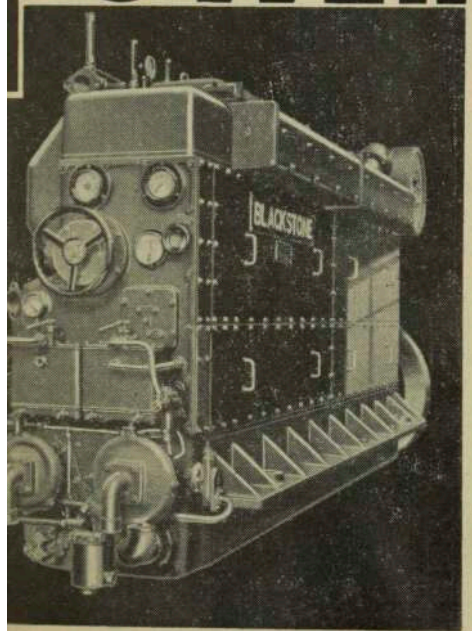
• Dr. Earl Reynolds, a US atomic scientist, with his wife and two children, and three Japanese crew-men, arrived at Honolulu early December after a 48-day passage from Japan in a ketch, details of which are not yet available. Dr.

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Reynolds indicated that he might later head south from there through Polynesia to Australia.

● Rarotonga Sailing Club officially opened its season on December 4. In addition to the fleet of outriggers, the Club this season has three Moth-class boats in the water.

¶ Mr. Fred Ball, who is well known in the BSIP and New Guinea, was flown out from Rabaul in September suffering from a cerebral haemorrhage. A doctor accompanied him to his home in New Zealand. He first visited the Protectorate in 1947, and spent some time on the Gold Ridge and Sorvohio Goldfields with Messrs. R. Laycock and A. Olsen. He was impressed with what he saw, and intended to return, but was delayed for four years by a serious illness. In 1952 he returned with Mr. J. Broadhurst on behalf of Anglo-Oriental (Malaya) Ltd., but both were disappointed to find that their main objective, the Kovagambi Alluvial Valley, was already being tested by the Bulolo Company. When his duties were finished, Mr. Ball left the Anglo-Oriental Company and returned to Guadalcanal later in 1952, and staked a claim on the Sorvohio River, immediately above Kovagambi. He had barely started his gold-mining operations, when as a result of his hard work he had to return to New Zealand to undergo another operation. He recovered well from this

but was forbidden to return to the tropics. However, in spite of this, early in 1954 he returned to Bougainville with Mr. J. Broadhurst on behalf of Anglo-Oriental (Malaya) Ltd., and with light drilling equipment tested the Jaba River alluvial gold deposits. It was after this work that he became ill and

had to be taken back to New Zealand.

¶ The Reverend D. S. W. Hoey the Melanesian Mission, with wife and son, arrived in Sydney November for a short furlough which they intended to spend in West Australia.

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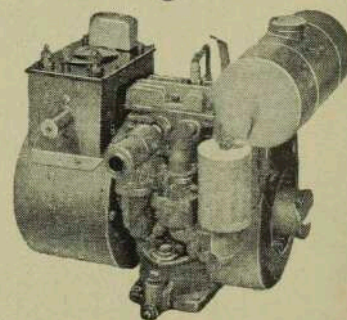
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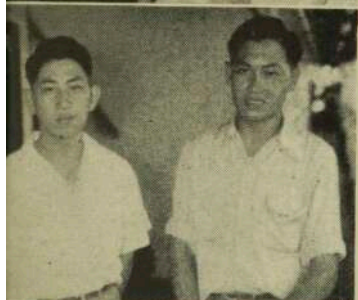
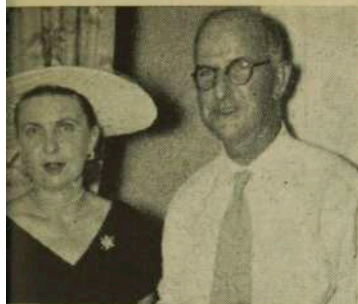
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South-West Pacific Travellers



Member "Malaita" travellers from
y included (top to bottom):—
H. E. Millar, movie technician for
F. Dalrymple Hay's new Honiara
e theatre, was farewelled by his
ter, Mrs. B. McDonald of Sydney.
ph and Lucius Chow who returned
to Rabaul for the school vacation

Elaine Bruce of Health Depart-
Rabaul, and Mrs. W. Gaudry who
ound for Auki, Solomons.

e former well-known Central
ic Administrator, Sir Arthur
ble, is following up the success
s book, *A Pattern of Islands*,
a similarly successful series of
icasts talks about Pacific
ds Life. *Assignment with an*
pus was the title of the first of
Sir Arthur was born in
Kong, joined the Colonial
ce in 1914, and spent 19 years
District Officer in the Gilbert
Ellice Islands before moving on
higher posts in the Seychelles
the Windward Islands.

ss Jessie Rae, daughter of Mr.
under Rae, of Ba, Fiji, recently
unced her engagement to Mr.
Costello, youngest son of Mrs.
leen Costello, of Tavua.

Fair Rents Bill for Fiji

FAIR Rents legislation was intro-
duced in the Fiji Legislative
Council at its recent session.
The Bill provides for rent control
to dwelling houses only, and pre-
dominantly to dwelling houses
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Only buildings of less than £4,000 in
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accommodation is available for the
tenant. But where the lessor ob-
tains possession will not be
able to sell in under two years, or
if intending to again let the pro-
perty before 6 months have expired
must offer the dwelling to the
ejected tenant.

The Crown as a lessor or lessee is
exempt from the provisions of the
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† Mrs. R. A. Derrick, MBE, of Suva,
has been appointed a member of
the Fiji Broadcasting Commission
in place of Mrs. I. B. Chalmers, who
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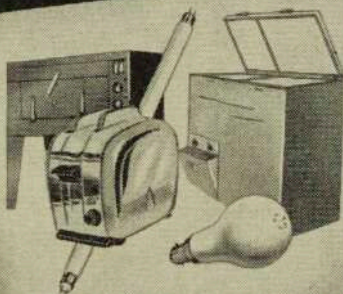
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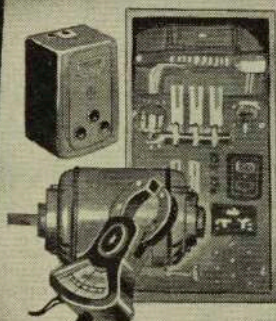
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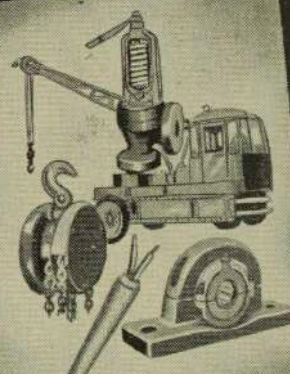
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Restoring an Ancient Marae Tahiti

THE ravages of time and weather and the neglect of man are gradually destroying what little material evidence remains of the ancient culture of the native peoples of the Pacific islands.

Therefore, in an effort to preserve something for future generations, the Tahitian Societe d'Etudes Annetiennes is utilising a grant made in 1952 by the South Pacific Commission to restore an ancient Tahitian marae. The society has chosen the Arahurahu marae, at a distance of 14 miles from Papeete, and restoration work is now nearing completion.

Writing in the February issue of *Annales Tahitiennes*, the chairman of the Society (M. Henri Jacquier) defines the marae as "the open air temple of the Polynesian religion." He says they played an essential part in the life of the Tahitian people, although many present-day Tahitians do not know what they are, or what they represented.

Many were built on the shores, in mountains and valleys of Tahiti, and although similar in design—and re-

sembling the Inca monuments still found in Peru—they varied greatly in size.

The maraes consisted of a platform of shaped basaltic rocks or coral, ranging from three feet to 45 feet and over in height, called an *Ahu*, enclosed by an oblong paved yard and surrounded by a wall, forming the *Paepae*. The enclosure of the marae was sacred and the altar or *Ahu* was definitely tabu. Nobody climbed its steps except the idol bearers and visionaries in trances who were themselves tabu at the time.

The Tahitian religion contained a variety of ceremonies, and these called for different

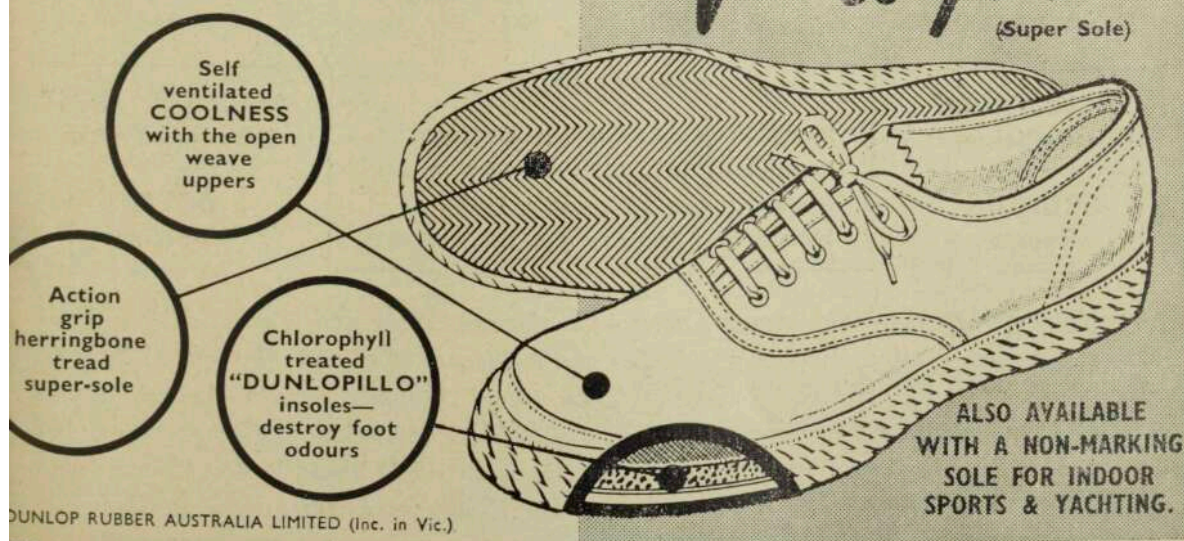
classes of maraes. Four main classes were recognised. They were: the royal or national marae, generally located on promontories; native marae raised in memory of a hero or god; kinship marae; and guild marae—especially for fishermen.

The restored marae at Paia — reconstructed from a drawing loaned by Dr. Emory of the Bishop Museum, Honolulu.



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PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY—JANUARY, 1955

109

and canoe builders. Women were excluded from all ceremonies and chiefs and noblemen sat on the *Paepae* according to a rigorously observed hierarchic arrangement. The crowd stood at a respectful distance.

The important role these marae played in community life is seen by the fact that a man would not say, "I am from such and such a district" but "I am from such and such a marae." They were used for every manifestation of religious and political life. There, the gods were honoured with prayers and offerings, the kings and chiefs were consecrated, and war or peace was decided upon according to the omens observed by the priest.

Many were dedicated to the God Oro, but some were dedicated to Tane, a particularly bloodthirsty divinity requiring human sacrifices. Human victims—unlike other offerings which were laid out on wooden platforms placed outside the enclosure—were trussed up in a coconut leaf basket and laid down in front of the *Ahu*. After the ceremony, they were buried behind the altar.

THE Arahurahu marae, at Paea, was selected for restoration as it was comparatively undamaged and easily accessible. It is 103 feet long and 54 feet wide. Constructed almost entirely and with great care of basalt stones shaped like prisms with rounded bases, the pyramid shaped *Ahu* has three steps

slightly under twelve feet in height. About a thousand shaped stones were missing but these were replaced from similar ruins in the vicinity.

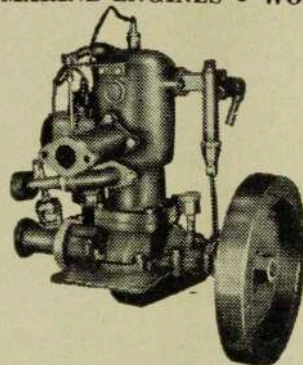
M. Jacquier believes that this is the first time such restoration work has been undertaken. He thinks it will be of great interest alike to the islander, anthropologist and the tourist.

¶ A son, Henry Nigel, was born Mr. and Mrs. Henry Krone, Casala Plantation, Western Samoa on October 16.

¶ Mr. Maurice McGrath, acting Deputy Director of Education in Fiji for some time past, has been appointed Chief Inspector of Schools in the Colony. Mr. McGrath has been in Fiji since 1936.

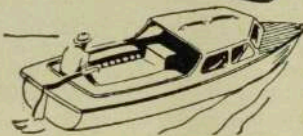
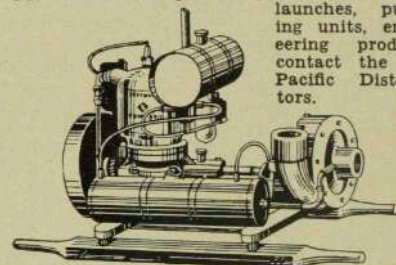
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RIPLEY

OM POLYNESIA:

By Frigate Bird Post

NE morning, late in August, Resident Commissioner Nevill, of the Cook Islands, found an extraordinary message on his Raronga office desk. It had come by radio from little Rakahanga atoll, the Northern Cooks, and read as follows:

For Your Honour, I am informing you of a swallow flying overhead at the moment spot yesterday about 11 o'clock for our service while the congregation singing home the bird perched and we selected it and we found a piece of cloth with the insign of French flag on one wing. A purse with 20 francs was found at the owner of the swallow was Hape the second was Terii Kati the swallow Tahiti on 23rd August this year and shed here yesterday we found a piece of letters in the purse that gave us the story. Clerk in Charge."

perplexing, indeed but some of the inquiries and replies, and subsequent receipt of purse and contents explained the matter and told a remarkable story.

The "swallow" was, in fact, a frigate bird, and it had arrived, not in Tahiti, but from Raraka atoll, the Tuamotu, 1,000 miles south of Rakahanga—presumably "ports," as the journey had taken six days. Under one wing was a small French flag; under the other the purse with the following message and the 20 francs referred to:

To Hape at Katiu. Greetings, of Jesus Christ's name, amen. Hape there isn't news over here. We are all well. I received the money this morning. Just 23, I would like you to answer a little note. I am sending you 20 francs as a little gift. Give my regards here and Tu. Would you send back guitar? I remain here, Teri Tapu."

Katiu atoll is only 25 miles south of Raraka and presumably Teri used his frigate-bird as a carrier-pigeon before.

Though the "postman" mis-read the address, the letter has finally been delivered—by frigate-bird, sea-mail, orthodox airmail from Aitutaki Papeete, and finally by inter-island cutter to Hape on Katiu.

That letter, with affidavits attached, should be worth a lot of dollars in that land of collectors, the United States!

Junior Chamber of Commerce in Suva

As a result of a visit from New Zealand by Mr. Peter B. Watts, vice-president for Oceania of Junior Chamber International, steps are being taken to form a Junior Chamber of Commerce in Suva. W. J. Tollworthy has been appointed chairman and Mr. John Wisdom vice-chairman of a committee set up to make the necessary arrangements.

Suva Rates Go Up

THE unimproved capital value of land in the Fiji City area has been very considerably raised as a result of the recent triennial re-valuation by the City Council.

This means that rates will be more, although the actual rate per £ has been lowered.

Total amounts to be raised through rates, as compared with 1954, are as follows: General rate, Suva Ward, £1,660,086 (£997,008); Samabula Ward, £1,029,346 (£914,752); Sewage rate, Suva Ward, £1,765,448 (£1,068,179); Education rate, all Wards, £1,364,759 (£938,572).

† Major A. Wainwright, Master Gunner at Suva Battery during the war years, and in charge of local gunnery training at that time, paid a short visit to the Colony with his son in December.

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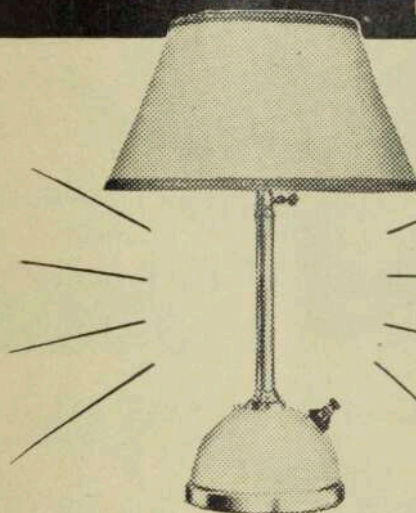
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News Notes from Papua-New Guinea

(Continued from page 45)

This is all steep country, most of it heavily timbered, the only level stretches being south of Mt. Au and the Karimui Plateau. The region is sparsely populated. Population estimates were: Middle Kaugel, 300 at the 5,000-6,000 ft level; Monon Valley, 500; Mt. Au Plateau, 100; Karimui Western Plateau, 3,000. Everywhere the people were found friendly, and intermarriage between tribes formerly always at war was noted. Evidence of malaria was found up to 6,000 ft. Medical Assistant E. Burchett travelled with the patrol.

The third Patrol was from Okapa station in the Eastern Highlands through the North and South Fore areas in the Kainantu Sub-District. Patrol Officer J. R. McArthur led the 37-day patrol. Okapa is located about 40 miles south-west of Kainantu. A great deal of road building has been going on in the controlled area and the North Fore can be regarded as controlled territory. The natives in that sector have planted about 500 coffee trees and are growing European vegetables.

In the less advanced South Fore was noted that the village stockades are being allowed to fall into decay, which indicates freedom from inter-village warfare over the past

year. Sorcery, however, is still widely practised in both areas and almost all matters brought before Court had reference to sorcery in some way.

Total population is estimated at about 10,000. About half the region is forested, including some good hardwood and softwood stands. Okapa is situated at 6,400 ft elevation and is the only Highlands station not served by an airfield, contact being by road from Kainantu.

ELECTRICITY—AND C OF L UP
Xmas bombshell was the Administration announcement that electricity charges would be increased in January, probably about January 17.

They will be on a new sliding scale, instead of the previous flat rate of 3d a unit for domestic users and 4d for commercial. Under the new rates, users will pay much higher rates for the first units, up to 150 (for domestic) and 4,000 (for commercial). After those figures have been reached everyone will pay 3d a unit.

Domestic users are hardest hit—the average bill will go up about £2 a month.

The Acting President of the Public Service Association, Mr. D. J.

Sullivan, said it seemed a queer way for the Administration to earn more money to pay the cost of its power services. There was no argument that the Administration needed to earn more revenue somehow, as last year it lost almost £200,000 on its electricity operations.

The Port Moresby Town Advisory Council discussed the matter in late December and asked for the facts and figures on which the Electrical Authority had based his increased charges.

GOLD NUGGET AT WAU

A gold specimen weighing about 98 ounces was found during sluicing operations, at Koranga Gold Sluicing at Wau on December 22.

The gold content was about 65 ounces. It was the biggest find for some years although certainly not the biggest on the Morobe Gold Fields.

POLICE AVERT NEAR-TRAGEDY

Well known Port Moresby auctioneer, Mr. Dick Armstrong, and his wife, were rescued from heavy

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Boarding School for Girls to Intermediate and for Boys from 7-10 years. Vacancies for 1955.

Special attention Islands children. Mrs. T. F. Higgins, B.A., Principal.



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seas outside Port Moresby Harbour on December 28.

They had been out for the day in their 30-ft launch when a troll line fouled the propeller. Armstrong left his wife in the launch while he headed ashore in a dinghy for help.

However, somebody had stolen his rowlocks and he had tied the oars on with rope. As a result of this, the dinghy capsized and he spent a couple of hours in the water, in driving rain and darkness, until he was picked up by police after a long search.

Meanwhile Mrs. Armstrong's launch had been drifting towards a reef but police were able to tow that in, too, before it came to serious grief.

The police had only a hand torch with which to search for Armstrong in the dark, and it was only by luck that he was picked up. Police some time ago approached the Administration for a police launch, equipped with a search-light, after the style of those used by water police on the Mainland. But the request was refused.

It is true that DCA have a crash launch at Moresby, but these vessels are not always available when needed.

RAIN AND STORMS

A series of storms ushered in the New Year for the Territory. Severe blows did damage at Wewak, Rabaul and Port Moresby, and along the

coast of Papua towards Yule Island.

Worst hit was Port Moresby, where big trees were blown over and many wires blown down and power cut off; several vessels sunk or blown out to sea, and many houses damaged.

Air-sea rescue operations searched for two launches with natives aboard missing from Yule Island, and they

were located the next day. Aircraft also searched, in vain, for three natives missing in a canoe which was last seen being blown out to sea from Port Moresby as the storm struck.

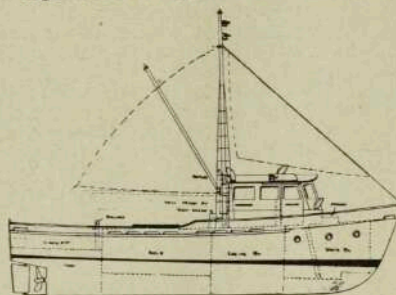
At the end of December they had been given up for lost—but in early January, the party, consisting of a uncle and his nephew and niece

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ere found miles westward along the coast. Their canoe had broken up, and they had drifted on the wreckage and swum for a day. Other natives at first would not believe that they had survived in the way they said they had.

This is another example of the extraordinary powers of survival possessed by Pacific Islanders.

AIR CRASHES

Papuan Air Transport had some bad luck in December when within three days it crashed two of its planes at different Papuan airstrips. In both cases the pilot was Captain Frank Goossens.

The first crash occurred on December 18, at Embi airstrip, near Pondetta, when the aircraft, apparently affected by a flat tyre, ran off the side of the strip. The derelict collapsed.

DCA instituted search and rescue operations when no signals came through, and Goossens was picked up at the strip unhurt.

The following Monday, Goossens was landing an Anson at Bereina, in the Mekeo district, when it crashed. Goossens and the passengers escaped injury.

However, bad weather prevented DCA from investigating straight away and later water came down from the mountains, flooding the Bereina strip over Christmas. The craft was submerged, although one of the radio and other moveable gear was taken out by the station staff.

It was a wet Christmas for them, but they spent paddling around the strip on a makeshift raft.

Civil Aviation officials flew over twice at the Christmas week-end to see if they needed help.

The same week-end DCA flighted Goossens and passed him as operational for commercial flying. In November, 1953, Goossens shed a PAT Moth on the dried-bed of Lake Myola when on a flight between Port Moresby and Godea. He walked out, but the plane was a total loss.

ADMINISTRATOR VISITS S-E PAPUA

The Administrator, Brigadier M. Cleland, with Mrs. Cleland, left Port Moresby just before Christmas on a five weeks' tour of the Milne Bay district. They travelled on the Administration vessel the *Leander*.

They spent Christmas day at Marai and later began a full itinerary, calling at many places which get few visitors, including Boyne Lagoon, Nimoa, the Rossellands (where the party visited the Orne brothers), Misima and Odark (where Mr. and Mrs. Regan were visited).

The party was enthusiastically received everywhere by natives, some of them, in fleets of sea-going canoes, who had never seen an Administrator before.

NEW PHONES BOOKS

Papua-New Guinea got the first issue of its new telephone book just before Christmas, but it will be mid-January before everyone gets them. It contains a few pages more than last year.

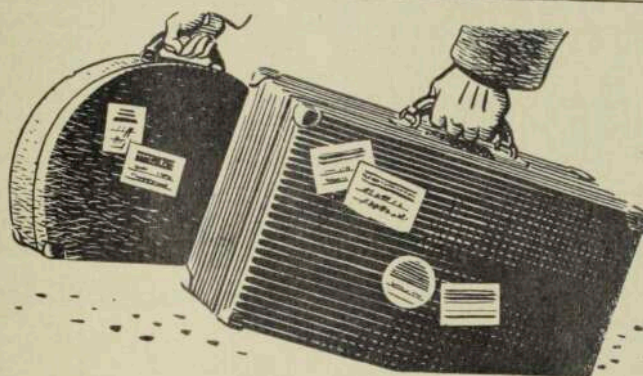
WAGGA AND THE JAPS

The Australian corvette *Wagga* arrived in Port Moresby from Sydney on Xmas Eve and the 80 members of her crew spent the holiday

season as guests of the town. The navy got a warm welcome, which apparently was appreciated because the crew of the little vessel had not expected to be away from home for Xmas.

Recently the frigate *Hawkesbury* has been doing the Territory patrol, keeping its eye on stray Japs and poachers, but it returned to Sydney shortly before Xmas, trailing a paying-off pennant.

Wagga was then despatched



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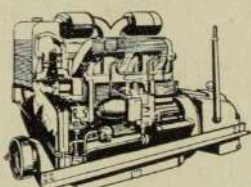
The man behind the wheel knows

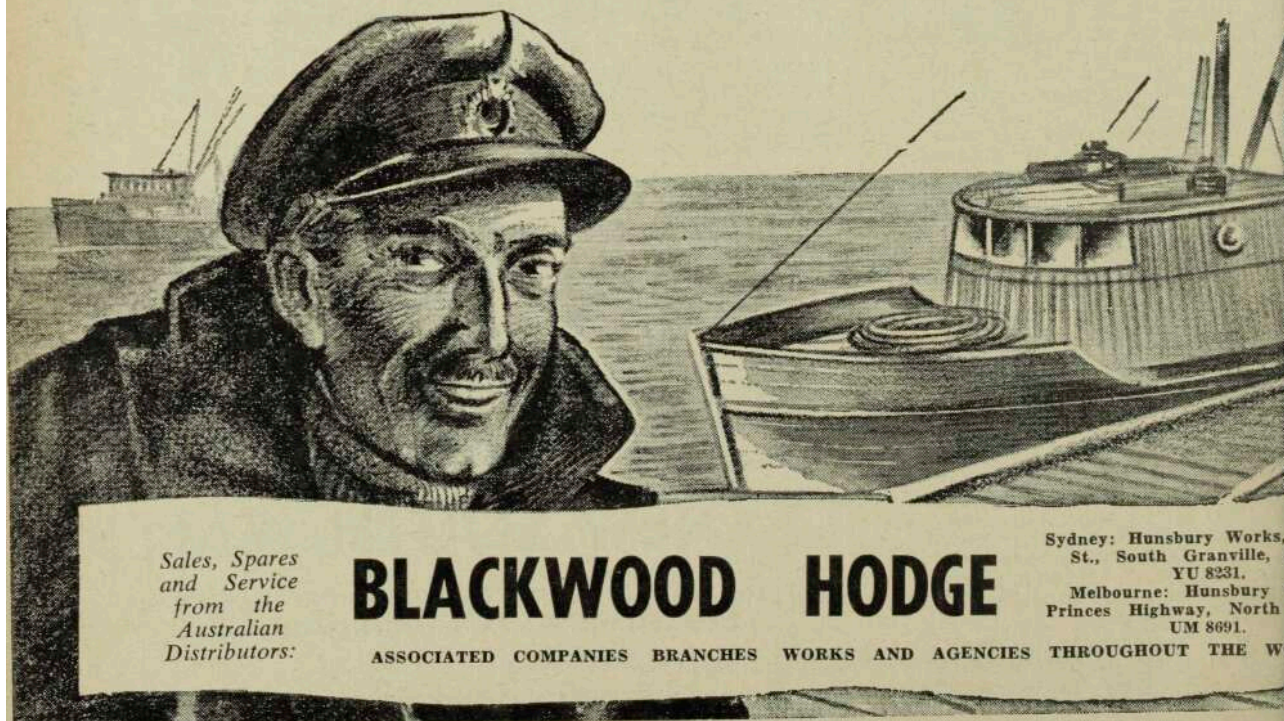
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thwards hurriedly. She should be a pretty busy time in the next months, as among its other duties it will probably have to keep an eye on the Japanese vessel which is bringing the war-graves mission to Territory late in January.

The Jap vessel will be sailing around Territory waters, from the commons to the Sepik, for about two weeks, calling in at odd places for little ceremonies.

It is believed that most of the ceremonies will be closed to the press, as the Administration wants to keep a little prominence given the whole matter as possible in the hope that the whole Japanese business can be covered with a minimum of fussing Europeans or natives.

JAPS RELEASED

The 23 Japanese seamen arrested on a Territory planter, Mr. Ray, at Anir Island in November, were released from gaol in Rabaul before Xmas, after their fines were paid.

The amounts, totalling £1,650, were paid by the fishing company operating the vessel, the *Sakea* No. 3. The men had each been sentenced to three months imprisonment on charges of being procured immigrants.

The Japanese seemed pretty glad to get away from Rabaul—they left the strains of "Auld Lang Syne" ringing over the loud speaker.

US PRAISE FOR THE COASTWATCHERS

FIFTEEN officers of the US Marine Corps arrived in Australia on November 3 to take part in the dedication of a memorial gateway at Camp Balcombe, near Melbourne.

The officers were members of the 1st Marine Division which rested at Balcombe after the battle of Guadalcanal—the first American offensive of World War II.

Leader of the party, General L. C. Shepherd, spoke highly of the Australian Coastwatchers' work in New Guinea and BSIP during the war and made a substantial donation to Coast-watchers' Memorial Fund. The memorial will take the form of a navigation light at Madang, NG.

Other American donors have been Richard Nixon (Vice-President of the USA), Lieut.-General R. L. Eichelberger, Fleet Admiral William S. Halsey and Mr. James A. Michener, who praised the watchers in his book, *Tales of the South Pacific*.

Miss Dilys Rowlands, principal of the Queen Salote College for Girls, in Nukualofa, Tonga, and Miss Liu Tongilava, a senior Tongan teacher at the school, will be delegates to the women's Pan-Pacific Conference, which will open in Manila on January 19.

Passengers departing from the Cooks per *Maui Pomare* in December on vacation included Mr. and Mrs. Leon Pitt and family; Mrs. Paget (Health Department Registrar), Mrs. Leopard (whose husband is Union Steam Ship Co. manager), Mrs. Tiare Foster, Mrs. K. Andersen, and Mrs. Wilkinson.

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"Miss New Ca
donia"—Mlle. Juan
Chatelain, who v
a trip to Sydney.
November, at R
Bay airport w
Newcastle jock
Keith Mackenzie w
was the only A
tralian male esc
to pass the screen
of (right), M
Marie Dufou
chaperon, and brot
Claude Chatelain.

ANOTHER SPC SPECIALIST FOR EASTERN SAMOA

AT the invitation of the Governor of Eastern Samoa the South Pacific Commission's consultant on socio-economic problems, Professor H. Belshaw, of Victoria University College, Wellington, New Zealand, left Auckland for Pago Pago.

He will help in making long-term plans for the social and economic development of the Manu'a district where the Administration is engaged in a project to build the first docking facilities and roads.

Later, he will advise the Administration on methods by which the energies of the local community

might be directed towards other important development activities.

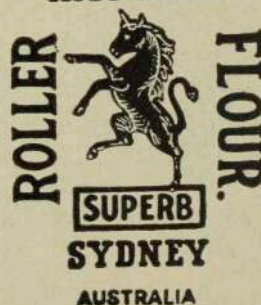
During the past four years SPC has been associated with programmes of community organisation and development in Fiji, Papua and New Guinea, Netherlands New Guinea, the Cook Islands, and Koror in the US Trust Territory of Micronesia.

Joeli Kaumaitotoya, first Fiji to qualify for the theory section of the Post Master General's First Class Certificate in Radio Telegraphy and Telephony, has gone to New Zealand to complete certain sections of the examination.

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Travelling to P-NG



Passengers travelling to Papua - New Guinea from Sydney in December included: S. M. Bendall and Miss L. Tuckey, whose destination was Lae; they travelled by air. Pastor Ngava Duke of Samarai and Mr Kila Galama of Daru, who had been attending a Seventh Day Adventist conference. Mr and Mrs. W. T. Croxton and child, Babaul, who travelled north per "Malekula". Mr L. Howie, lay worker at the Holy Mission, Wabag, and Mrs. E. S. recently of Honiara, rejoining her husband in his new post at Samarai. They travelled per "Malekula".

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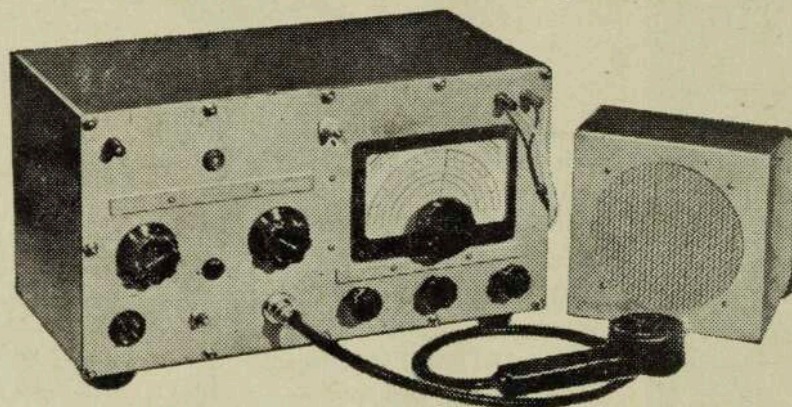
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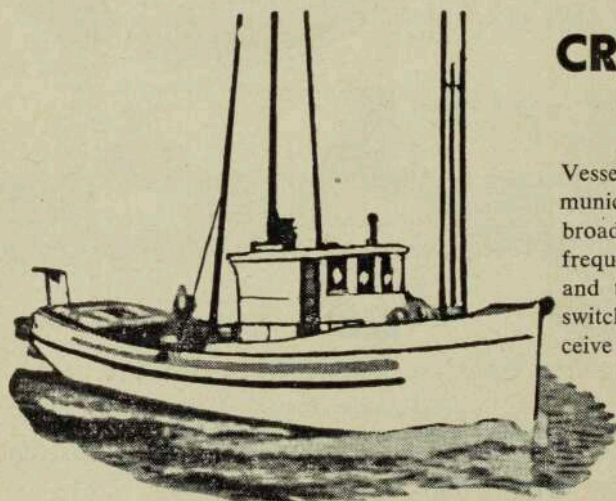
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Radio★

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FROM Bari, VR2EZ, we have an interesting report on his latest Tokelau expedition and some other news of interest. His photographic blocks could be prepared in time for this issue will appear next month. The RNZAF derland left Lauthala Bay, Fiji, a later than forecast and Bari eared on the air eventually from unono for about one hour on the ing of December 14, making 13 cons on 20-metres, six on phone. ructions had been received in Apia to use the ZM7 prefix this time. A sion is being made in Wellington reing a Tokelau prefix and it is learnicially that ZK3 is a future ibility, as these islands have the e status as the Cooks and Niue— 1/2.

om a DX point of view therefore, the mber expedition was probably dis- into to the cardsters, as the call this time was VR2EZ/A on CW, and 2EZ portable Tokelau Islands" on e. Bari remarks "It had most of chaps baffled I think, because there not sufficient time for me to spread word about the change".

nd conditions were quite different time, and W stations were hardly le on 20, but VK's were coming gh well, a couple of the SSB boys included amongst those worked.

contact was with Stan, VR2AS, Bari's home rig, which is located next to Stan's. Only DX station ioned is PY2CK, Santo, Brazil.

ly two nights were spent at Nuku- atoll and on the second of these the people put on a big entertainment the visiting Catholic Bishop who lled from Apia in the aircraft. This, the fact that he was ready for some after the flying of the previous day, out further hamming for this trip. ZM6AS, was also in the Tokelaus bout the same time, travelling per usual chartered vessel "Manu'a Tele", though he had his gear with him he ot get on the air at all. He was work- at each of the three atolls by day, in the evening, there being no orages, "Manu'a Tele" put to sea cruised slowly up to the next atoll g the night, laying off until dawn. erseas Hams probably do not ciate the conditions prevailing in okelaus. An overnight stop is never at any of the atolls unless the er prevents completion of cargo ing in one day. The ship Master's concern is to get clear of these ous atolls at the earliest moment.

RNZAF Sunderland aircraft has ings only in Nukunono lagoon, the al of the three atolls, and the air- returns there each night after ag daylight flights to the others. alrcrow thus do have nights ashore, usually only at Nukunono. o aboard "Manu'a Tele" this trip two other ZM6 Hams on official ss to the Group. So had there been ashore a great deal of Ham ty may have eventuated. l reports that next RNZAF flight

is scheduled probably for February, but he does not expect to be aboard as his period of service with RNZAF in Fiji will be completed by then. It is possible however, that Jerry Ayres, VR2AB, a recent arrival, may be aboard with a ZC-1 rig.

Other news from Bari: Keith, ex-VR2CS, formerly with ZJV broadcasting station in Suva, is expected back from Australia to join the staff of Fiji Broadcasting Commission's VRH—and is expected to be active on the Ham bands again. Bari and Stan, VR2AS, erected new beams in December—Stan now has a Vest Pocket, and Bari's is a full-sized 20-metre beam.

From Papeete we hear that Roland d'Assignies, late F08AD of Rapa, is departing on a tour of W Ham-shacks, enroute home to France. No word of his future plans.

From our Balboa correspondent we hear that Bud Devine, an American who has been resident several years in the Galapagos, is now licensed and active on 10, 15, and 20 metres as HC8GL. Best time to catch him: 2300-0100 GMT.

No late news from Christmas Island (Pacific) but we understand that KP6AK is still active on Palmyra using a TBS-20 rig.

For a new angle on BCL troubles a despatch from London dated December 19 is interesting. James Raddings, of Ryde, Isle of Wight, complained recently of mystery voices. Fortunately before his relatives "put him away" he was able to note down the name and address of one of the voices. It turned out to be a Ham, Tony Fowler, of Ryde, whose phone sigs were modulating poor James' hearing aid!

¶ Mr. L. M. Browne, veteran radio communications officer, has retired after 40 years of service in the Fiji communications field. Mr. Brown was born at Natukiwai, Rewa, and joined the Fiji P. & T. Department in 1915 at the age of 16. He served with the Government in various parts of the Colony and joined Amalgamated Wireless (A'sia) Ltd. in 1928, when that company took over the Colony's radio communications. During World War II, Mr. Browne was engineer in charge of all overseas communication equipment. Mr. and Mrs. Browne, now on leave in Australia and New Zealand, have not yet decided where they will settle.

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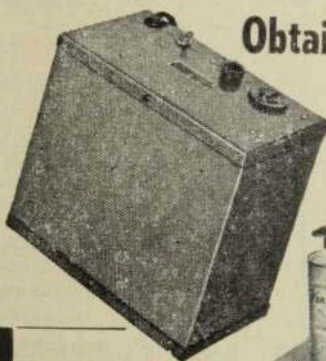
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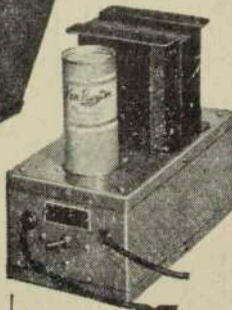
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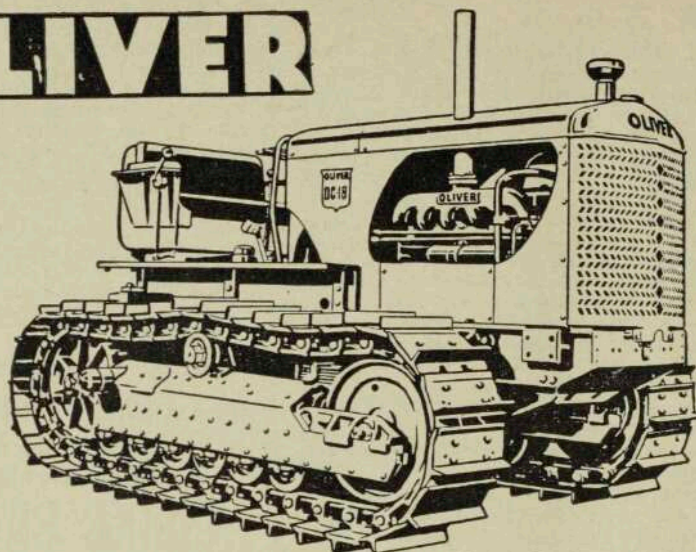
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At Last—Perhaps—

NC Iron Ore For Australian Smelters

NOUMEA, Nov. 2.
IT has been stated in the local Assembly that New Caledonian interests have recently signed a contract to supply the BHP, of Australia, with 180,000 tons of iron ore. The contract has been negotiated by a syndicate comprising Nickel Co., Maison Ballande and Henri Lafleur.

The ore will be taken from Provençal, Southern New Caledonia, and far from the mines worked by the Japanese before the War. Transport of the ore will be undertaken by the boats of the Nickel Co., which usually go to Port Kembla to pick up their cargoes of coal for the smelters here.

(This course has been urged for years—but, although numerous investigations have been made, nothing has come of them).

Red or Pacific Chrome

The Governor of NC has received from the Ministry of Colonies in Paris the assurance that in the Russian-French trade treaty (duration 18 months only) 15,000 tons of chrome will be imported from Russia instead of the 30,000 tons contemplated. Efforts will be made to cut even this figure.

This will be a shot in the arm to the NC chrome industry from which many workers were dismissed recently. (See December PIM, p. 71).

They're Coming South!

JAPS' 4-YEARS PACIFIC FISHING PLAN

JAP fishing boats are likely to be seen soon in increased numbers in Polynesian waters. A Japanese Fisheries Board report confirms suggestion that recent increased fishing activity south of the Line has been caused, at least in part, by atomic pollution of the former valuable Marshall Islands fishing area.

The Board has asked the Diet for a first year's appropriation of £A457,000 to cover cost of an intensive four-years survey of the Pacific waters. The 1955 operation will centre round Tahiti, covering waters from 10 to 20 degrees South and 140 to 170 degrees West—which includes most of French Oceania, the Cooks, Niue and the border of Eastern Samoa. Presumably the areas can expect incidents similar to those that have recently taken place in Western Pacific waters.

Uninhabited atolls and islands like Suvarrow with its sheltered anchorage, should be worth water under this interesting Survey Plan.

Mormons Visit Outer Cook Is

MANGAIA, Nov. 18.
THIS island has been free for many years from the incursion of religious teachers other than the three accepted creeds. Mormonism, particularly, never before attempted to explore the local fields, though a Jehovah's Witness endeavoured to interest natives in his beliefs around 1934, for a few weeks. Two American Mormons are currently residing here, and their views have been heard with interest by the natives. No resistance appears to be offered by accepted missions to the innovation. The two young Mormons made a favourable impression, being distinctly handsome, Nordic types, of gentlemanly appearance. As they abstained from alcohol and tobacco, their abstinence inclines older Mangaians to view the Elders (paradoxically, very young men) with favour. It is stated that the two Mormon teachers came from Niue Island, and that their reception there was cordial.—E. GOLD.

First Fiji Chinese to win a degree in Civil Engineering, Mr. Hong Yee, son of Mr. Yee Choy, of Suva, returned to Fiji in December on completion of studies in England.

VALUABLE RADIO EQUIPMENT RUSTS ON GARDNER ISLAND

NEARLY ten years after VJ-Day, a great deal of valuable radio equipment and other machinery lies rusting in its buildings on Gardner Island, Phoenix Group—a part of WPHC territory.

The equipment is a complete Loran radio station, with several diesel generators to provide power, and other camp equipment, including several big refrigerator units.

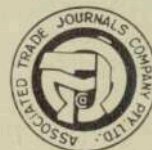
Loran—or long-range radio navigation—stations operated in groups of three, emitting signals from which a ship in the general area could accurately fix its position without recourse to star navigation methods. The companion stations to Gardner were on Atafu, in the Tokelau and Bikini islets, Makin atoll, in the northern Gilberts. They were established by the Americans at the height of the Pacific war when the area was alive with American shipping; personnel with a rudimentary knowledge of celestial navigation manned them.

Whether the Americans wished the stations to be left intact in case of future trouble; or whether their disposal has been tied up by red tape may never be known. The Atafu station was finally purchased by the New Zealand Government and dismantled by a team under

the supervision of the Apia radio superintendent about three years ago—by which time much of the radio gear had suffered weather damage through neglect.

The Bikini station may still be intact. The Gardner buildings are no longer weather-proof, and thousands of pounds worth of valuable dollar-source equipment appears likely to be left to perish.

At Easter, 1955, Mrs. Gardner Hales (better known to radio listeners as Hilda Morse) will marry Mr. Lee Johnson, of New Caledonia. Mr. Johnson is the elder brother of the present British Consul in New Caledonia.



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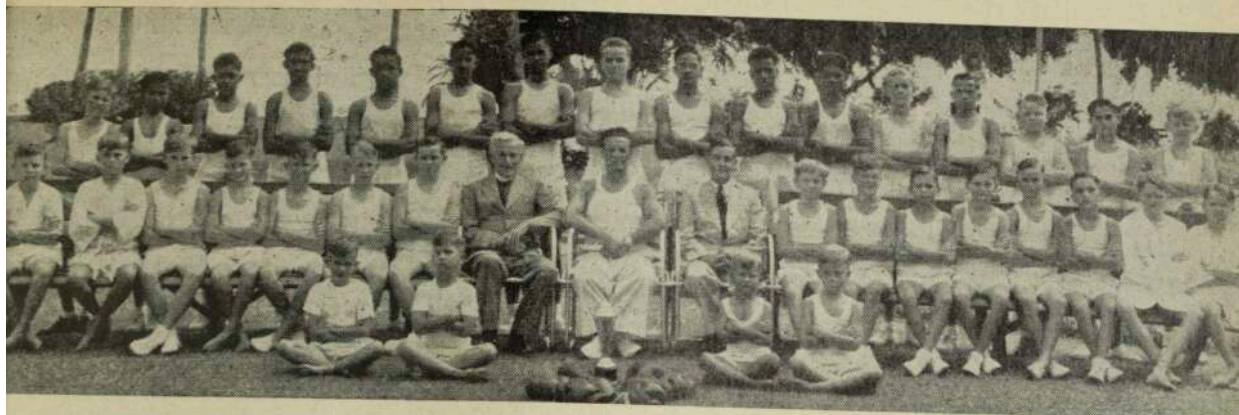
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Fiji's All-Races Amateur Boxing Competitors



The youngsters who took part in the Fiji Junior All-Races Amateur Boxing competition held in the Town Hall Suva, 1 December; their instructor, Cpl. H. Charman (white singlet, centre, seated); and two active supporters, the Bishop in Polynesia and Fiji's Commissioner of

Police. The photo shows: BACK ROW: J. Figgess, Sanaila, A. Sawani, D. Segaren, B. Ali, G. Prasad, J. Wong, H. MacDonald, T. Schuster, Etika Sue, M. Samson, F. Freeman, T. Curtis, J. Warren, G. Sinclair, S. Wigley. MIDDLE ROW: D. Mote, R. King, A. French, A. Fraser, C. Gough, I. MacPherson, R. Hunt,

Bishop L. S. Kemphorne, Harry Charman (Boxing and Judo Instructor), The Hon. E. K. Laws, MVO (Commissioner of Police), P. Laws, C. Currie, C. Crabbe, A. Molyneux, G. Fraser, A. MacDonald, P. Pinson, P. Figgess. FRONT ROW: R. Ragg, J. King, R. Lepine, A. Philbrick. Photo: Caine's Studios.

"Drunk as a Tourist"

From Our Own Correspondent

NOUMEA, Nov. 11.

THE liner *Orion* reached Noumea on November 8 on a cruise. Fine weather was experienced and the tourists made a determined effort to enjoy themselves. A considerable number of male tourists bibed, rather unwisely, of Noumea's plentiful and varied liquor supply. They provided splendid explanations for those curious about the Noumean expression: "Drunk as a tourist," which is the local adaptation of the French saying: "Drunk as a Pole."

An innovation to the normal Sydney-Noumea cruise route was introduced this year. Instead of going to the Boulari Pass, and then heading direct for Australia, the *Orion* ran down the south coast, up the west coast as far as Thio, out through the pass of that port and then down around the Ile of Pines to Sydney. The extension includes some of the most beautiful coastal scenery in New Caledonian waters.

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Malaria Close to But Not in Australia

MALARIA surveys were made in the Torres Straits Islands and adjacent mainland of Australia in 1949, 1952 and 1953.

The eastern Torres Islands were found to be normally free from malaria, but an epidemic of pure *P. falciparum* infection occurred on Murray and Darnley Islands in 1952. By 1953, the infection had disappeared from Murray, but had persisted on Darnley Island. The natives showed considerable racial tolerance to their infection.

In the western islands, a few cases of malignant tertian malaria were found on Boigu and Dauan, close to the New Guinea coast. Saibai, which is also very close to New Guinea, was remarkably free from infection. Two quartan infections were found at Kubin, on Moe Island. *P. vivax* was seen only once, in a native of Saibai living on Cape York.

No malaria was found in Australian natives in settlements on the mainland near Cape York, nor in other native settlements in the Gulf of Carpentaria. There is no evidence that malaria is now endemic anywhere on the mainland of Australia.—*South Pacific Commission Bulletin*.

"SOUTHWEST PACIFIC"—A NEW HANDBOOK

A FAIRLY detailed geographical description of Australia, New Zealand and the Islands of the South Pacific is contained in *South-west Pacific* by Dr. Kenneth B. Cumberland (Professor of Geography at Auckland University) and just published by Whitcombe and Tombs Ltd. The compilation evidently represents a great deal of research; and, while it is mostly a summary—a scanning of the geographical and, in some degree, the political highlights—it has the merit of being up-to-date. It has some statistics—none later than 1951—but it is mainly designed as a handbook for students who need a general picture of the South Pacific.

In the Preface, it is claimed that the book "draws attention for the first time to an area in which the two countries (Australia and New Zealand) have special responsibilities—responsibilities which have often been neglected or overlooked." The *Pacific Islands Year Book* was first published in 1932, and is now in its seventh edition, and has world-wide distribution; but apparently Dr. Cumberland has not heard of it.

The last section of the book, in which Dr. Cumberland makes a politico-geographic survey of the South Pacific, should be of much

value to all students who are trying to visualise the future of this important area.

† Mr. W. G. Johnson has retired from the chairmanship of the Fiji Travel Assn., and has been succeeded by Sir Hugh Ragg.

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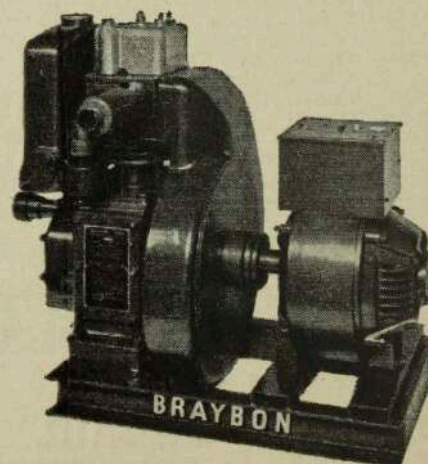
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CHINESE IN FERMENT

Allocation of Lots in Rabaul

RABAU, Dec. 10.
An accusation and counter-accusation, engendering hate which is likely to endure, has been the immediate outcome of the Land Board decisions in the recent sittings here.

With more than 200 applications for the 132 blocks of ground opened for tender in the Matupi Farm area, not even a Solomon could have satisfied all tenderers.

Wisely, the Land Board sittings were held in public. All applicants for land gave their evidence in the hearing of their rival tenderers, who were quick to point out even the slightest divergence from the truth. Deliberate misrepresentation of facts, when discovered, meant automatic disqualification of the tenderer.

The greatest number of tenders, and the highest prices tendered were for those allotments in the present business section of New Matupitown. Since the War, this section has grown to considerable commercial importance. General merchants, taxi companies, importers, and numbers of small trade stores and native restaurants crowd together in a twisting warren of activities.

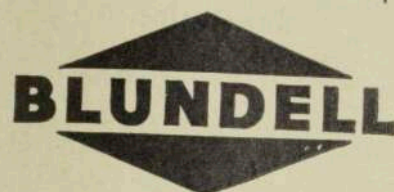
Most of the larger merchants with established businesses retained their sites. But many of the smaller traders have lost their positions or been allocated to an area outside the business quarter; and it is these people who are complaining most bitterly against the findings of the Board—and they comprise a large portion of the Chinese community. For the artisan and the office worker, who, content to earn his living, sought a home site, it was immaterial where he lived, as long as he could get a block which was his own. But for trade-store owners, loss of their sites has been a major calamity.

Hard work is a forgotten habit with these people and they have a desire to relearn it. Crowded, windowless (and often doorless) dwellings that rival the worst aspects of Hongkong's Kowloon slums, they pay on natives—whom they often overcharge—for their income. It might be no bad thing if it were necessary for them to earn their living in some other way.

Finalisation of the tenders as recommended by the Board will not be the end of the oversize headache. One of the conditions imposed by the Board is that buildings of a certain value—£1,500 in some instances, £3,000 in others—be erected on the lots within nine months. Many of the successful bidders either have, nor are likely to have, the funds required to meet this commitment within the specified period.

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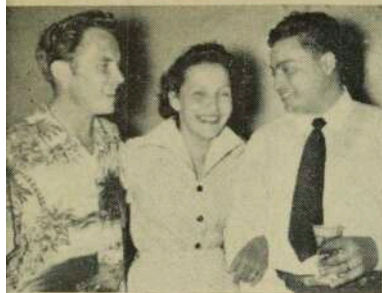
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At Sydney Polynesian Association



Some of those who attended the pre-party of the Sydney Polynesian Association were:

ABOVE, top to bottom: Mr. and Mrs. C. Kindness, and Captain W. Schutz of the Gilberts. Mrs. Kindness (nee Gilbert) has relations in Fiji, Gilberts and Solomons.

Below, Mr. and Mrs. J. Irvine, lately of the Gilberts, were enroute to a new position in W. Samoa. Below, Mr. Clarry Robinson and Mr. and Mrs. Griffith, all ex Fiji.

RIGHT, Upper: The three ladies at the party, though associated with the Gilberts, are not identified. Others, from left, are Captain W. Schutz, of Tarawa, a lady friend; Mr. Keith Strachan, an engineer in On Chong & Co. and R. Carpenter & Co. vessels in the Gilberts and New Guinea waters, and, in the center, Mrs. Strachan (nee Daisy Raymond, a native of the Gilberts); and Captain Carl Johnson of Tarawa.

Below, Mr. Len Moran, Hon. Sec., and Mr. Len Moran, "father" of Sydney Polynesian Association, and Mr. and Mrs. George Deighton of Fiji. Mr. Deighton is brother of Mrs. Cubis.

Below, Mr. John Tukia, of Tonga, and his wife, and Mr. George Waqasaka (son) of Fiji and his wife.

Below, Mr. L. Martin, of Pearce and Martin, Suva, recently returned to

Fiji from a visit to the United States. Mrs. Martin will return in January.

Progress of CMS

38 GRADUATES

SUVA, Dec. 20.

A RECORD number of graduates (26 medical and 12 dental students) received their certificates from the Governor at the Central Medical School, on December 17, the anniversary of the opening of the building by Her Majesty the Queen.

The total enrolment of medical students has increased from 42, in 1949, to 123 in 1953, and there has been a proportionate increase in the number of dental students. In addition, there are 35 students of auxiliary medical subjects such as pharmacy, sanitation and laboratory work, and a number of former students have been returning to the school for post-graduate studies.

The school now draws students from Fiji, Papua-New Guinea, Gilbert and Ellice Islands, Western and Eastern Samoa, Niue, Nauru, the New Hebrides, British Solomon Islands Protectorate, Tonga, the Cook Islands, Guam and the islands of the United States Trust Territory (the Eastern and Western Carolines, the Marshall Islands and the Marianas).

At the present rate of progress it could be that the fine new Medical School building will prove inadequate to meet the needs of more students, and it is to be hoped that funds will magically appear when this does happen.

No finer contribution is made to the Pacific peoples than to equip them to look after themselves; and nothing would have warmed the heart of the late Dr. S. M. Lambert more, when he wrote his book, *Doctor In Paradise*, than a foresight

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Following are the Central Medical
School graduates and prize-winners for
1954:

MEDICAL GRADUATING STUDENT
Isoa Ratunamoli Bakani, Fiji; Lorin
Vunivola Batirerega, Fiji; Senikaraya
Buadromo, Fiji; Calistro Camacho Cabre
US Trust Territory; Aeru Christoph
Fiji; Aisea Tuidraki Drui, Fiji; Alfor
Faustino, USTT; Willie Finiki, Gilb
and Ellice Is. Colony; Joseph Fot, F
Antonio Bolvuu, USTT; Tilo Imo, S
Samoa; Bertin Burton Jeno, UST
Utuma Kuresa, W. Samoa; Kalai
Laupepa, G. & E. Colony; Isikeli Lewe
qila, Fiji; Waisake Ratulevu Lomala
Fiji; Moeka Teariki Maeva, Cook Islan
Terepai Maoate, Cook Islands; Jose
Maraeu, Fiji; Koeke John Mokotu
Cook Islands; Alipate Jimi Pareti, F
Eliuel Pretrick, USTT; Ram Naray
Sewak, Fiji; Varinava Rokoseba Til
duadua, Fiji; Kinijoji Vakawaletob
Fiji; Etika Vudiniavoia, Fiji.

DENTAL GRADUATING STUDENT
Yilibu Waaz, USTT; Udui K. Mar
USTT; Teheltoeh Robert, USTT; Francis
R. Ngiruhelbad, USTT; Jeton Anja
USTT; Menassa M. Emil, USTT; Naka
Sonish Joshua, USTT; Sanchiro S. Le
USTT; Sasauo Haruo Lee Pils, UST
Olter Koole Paul, USTT; Jacob All
Kanku, USTT; Etisin Etse, USTT.

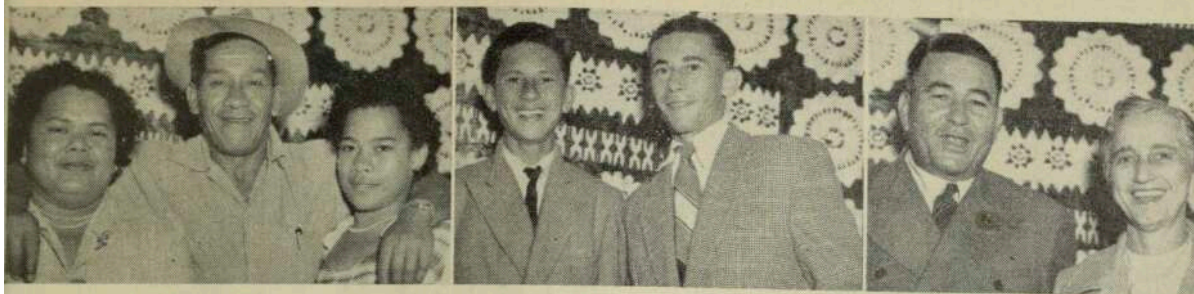
Sir Henry Scott Gold Medal in Anat
1954, Pita Nadiri (Fiji). Burns Philip G
Medal in Physiology, 1953, Peter B
(Solomon Islands). Burns Philip G
Medal in Physiology, 1954, Shiv Nand
(Fiji). Sir Maynard Hedstrom Gold Me
in Public Health, 1953, Senikarawa Bu
romo (Fiji). Dr. Gosden's Prize
Forensic Medicine, 1953, Antonio Aguu
(USTT). Dr. Gosden's Prize in Patholo
1953, Alfonso Faustino (USTT).
Alport Barker Gold Medal in Medic
1954, Alfonso Faustino (USTT). Brit
Medical Association (Fiji Branch) G
Medal in Surgery, 1954, Alfonso Faust
(USTT). Rotary Club of Suva Gold Me
in Obstetrics, 1954, Buadromo (F
Dr. Frater's Presentation to Head Stud
1954, Isoa Bakani (Fiji). Mrs. A.
Frater's Prize to Most Improved Gradu
1954, Moeka Maeva (Cook Islands).

† Major Ralph Connor, who, bef
World War II, worked in N
Guinea with an island trading fir
has been appointed Comptroller
the Household of the Austral
Governor-General (Sir Willie
Slim). Major Connor, a 40-year-
bachelor, will be promoted to Lie
Colonel.

† Mr. R. G. Rodger, at pres
Senior Education Officer, Gold Co
has been appointed Deputy Direc
of Education in Fiji. Mr. Rod
is a married man, 34 years of a
He and his family expect to arr
in the Colony about May.

† Mr. Harold Gow, manager
Apia, Western Samoa, for Bu
Philp (SS) Co. Ltd., recently
turned from Auckland, New Z
land, where he went for med
advice. He was accompanied
Mrs. Gow.

Air Travellers on Hibiscus Route



Some recent travellers on TEAL's Hibiscus Route to New Zealand included

(left to right): Mr. and Mrs. Hafoka and daughter Nora of Tonga; Henry Groom

and Christopher Hennings of Suva; and Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Hennings of Suva.

—TEAL Photo.

Administration Honours Fidelity of Papua-N. Guinea Natives

THE P-N-G Administration in mid-December announced the award of the Loyal Service Medal (Civil Division), to a large number of Papuan New Guinea native public servants at least 25 years service.

Those who received the medal were: Ho-Kamea, Tanobada, 40 years service as Steward at Government House, Port Moresby, now retired.

ua-Gavera, Hanuabada, 37 years as Clerk's Assistant; also has son in the Government Printing Office.

go-Morea, Poreporena, seven years in Public Health, and later clerk for 25 years. Now senior clerk in the Native Affairs Department, and an active social worker.

ba-Hila, Tanobada, 31 years service as clerk.

o-Igo, Hanaubada, 29 years service as clerk; now in the District Office, Port Moresby.

pu-Teau-Veata, Pinupaka, 29 years service as a Nursing Assistant; served on the island throughout Papua. Now stationed at Lae.

rea-Dago, Hanuabada, 26 years service as a telephone technician.

atau-Reuben, Soroa, 26 years service as Medical Orderly; now and for many years in charge of a native hospital at Lae.

ai-Daval, Elevala, a Foreman Fitter for 25 years; now at the Commonwealth Government of Works workshop; Moresby.

olo-Hekure, Tanobada, 28 years as a home mechanic.

e-Koai, Hohodae, Native Medical Officer for 26 years.

o'kila Iakobo, Saro, Nursing Assistant with an outstanding record.

iri-Sovai, Rigo, 36 years as bridge engineer and road supervisor.

ui Gau, Elevala, a Foreman Plumber, 25 years service in the PWD.

ia-Toua, Hanuabada, 27 years service as clerk; now stores clerk with PWD.

no Alapi, Hula, 25 years service, as a Telephone Mechanic, then as a clerk.

a-Tutuhi, Hanuabada, 25 years service; now foreman plumber at Commonwealth Works.

Logona, Hanuabada, for 25 years service—now a Leading Hand Plumber in the Works Department.

a-Gaudi, Hanuabada, 25 years service as Clerk and, during the war, as a wireless operator.

Toua-Oape, Hanuabada, now an electrician with Commonwealth Works, with 25 years service in several capacities. Owamu-Kai, retired, over 30 years service as an Interpreter.

Kaipu, Beara, over 30 years service as a Court Interpreter.

(All above are from Central District.)

Kulni (Kwin), Panelati, Misima, 47 years service as a Police Constable; conspicuous war service.

Toma, Suau, Milne Bay, an Engineer in Government service ashore and at sea for the past 28 years.

Kenneth Klaw, Misima, 20 years service as a Clerk at Misima.

Nansen Kaisa, Susu, Milne Bay, now a Co-operatives Inspector; almost 30 years service as a Clerk.

Velo-Somijango, Ioma, Northern District, over 25 years service, 12 years as a Constable and then as an Interpreter.

Sirobu, Deune, Northern District, 33 years service as a Village Constable; now retired and succeeded by son.

Takapan, Logogon, New Ireland, one of four Paramount Luluais in Kavieng District; 25 years service as a Luluai.

Singera, Baiket, New Hanover, 25 years service in the Police Force. Now a Luluai

and Director of New Ireland Native Societies' Association.

Tongunual Turandawai, Ratung, New Britain, 34 years service as a Luluai, and as Paramount Luluai from 1920 to 1951, when he was elected Councillor on the Rabaul Native Local Government Council.

Anton-Tomale, Matupit, New Britain, 34 years service as a Tultul, Luluai, and finally Paramount Luluai of Matupit; now Adviser to Local Government Council. Tombunbun Tomatupit, Nodup, New Britain, 26 years as Luluai; now Adviser on Native Customs to Nodup Native Local Government Council.

Alpai, Kandoka, New Britain, 15 years with the Police Force, and 10 years as Luluai and later Paramount Luluai. Twice recommended for BEM.

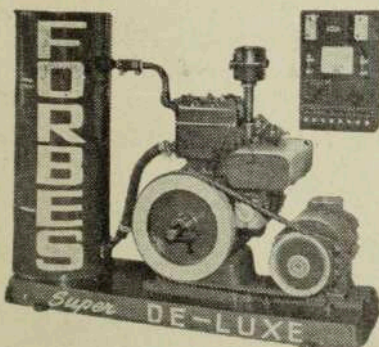
Kauri Kabasu, Gule, New Britain, 27 years service; now a Technical Instructor in carpentry.

Laua, Nantambu, New Britain, 25 years service as a Luluai; distinguished war service.

Nason, Nanga Nanga, New Britain, Luluai and later Paramount Luluai, over 25 years; now president of Unadidir-

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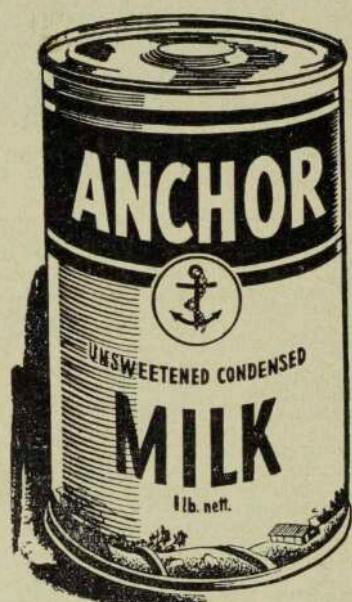
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oma-Nanga Nanga Native Local Government Council.

Popol, Vunakalkalulu, New Britain, over 20 years service as a Luluai and later Paramount Luluai, President of Reimber Council since 1950.

Joseph Ritako, Papitalai, Manus, 29 years service as a teacher, and, during the war, as a Medical Orderly; now Senior Native Teacher.

Labihu, Patuku, Ninigo Islands, 25 years as a Luluai.

Lauwaiyan, Liot, Ninigo Islands, 25 years as a Luluai.

Maradimi Wildbonga, Tambenan, Sepik, 15 years as a Medical Orderly.

In addition to above, 14 natives were awarded the medal for rendering some outstanding service to the Administration in the interests of the native people. They were:

Robert Tabua, Daru, Western District, for loyal and meritorious service over 23 years with the Administration in the capacity of clerk, radio operator and reman.

Alta Watkins, Port Moresby, for outstanding service as a nurse among the five people of Woodlark Island.

Elisa of Swawili village, Milne Bay District, for loyal service to her people for many years in the capacity of Ad- viser to Local Government Council.

Medina-Biagege, Kenwansasap Village, Western District, for devoted service to the Administration as Court Interpreter Tufi.

Labata of Butimbun Village, Morobe District, for outstanding leadership among people and loyal service to the Administration in the capacity of Para- mount Luluai.

Omni Paio, Kainantu Village, Eastern Highlands, for 21 years' outstanding service to the Administration as an interpreter.

Agame Amugl, Singgen Hamlet, mbu, for 16 years' loyal service to the Administration as an interpreter in the Western Highlands.

Epe Moho, Yaviyufa Village, Eastern District, for 16 years' loyal service as an interpreter to the Administration.

Unji of Mogel Group, a Luluai in Western Highlands, for his great assistance in the establishment of law and order in the West Wahgi.

Is Bingami, Bogia Village, Madang District, for loyal service over 21 years contribution to malarial control in Highlands.

oski Tom, senior native teacher at Erankang Village, New Ireland, for standing zeal and loyalty throughout 25 years' service with the Department of Education.

os of Vunamami Village, New Britain, loyal service to the Administration for 19 years as Luluai, Paramount Luluai and President of the Vunamami Council. He is the hereditary leader of Vunamami people.

rius Tomawua of Malakua Village, New Britain, for outstanding service in field of education since 1929. He is her-in-Charge, Vunamami Rural Education Centre, Rabaul.

lias Tomaira of Baia Village, New Guinea, for 17 years devoted service in establishment of educational facilities in the Rabaul area.

Two Samoan students, M. Muli- and P. Taofinu'u, were raised to the priesthood by the Vicar- apostolic of Navigators' Archipelago, Bishop Dieter, in Apia, Western Samoa, last month. The new priests completed their studies at Mount Mary's Seminary, Greenmeadows, Zealand.

MAROONED, BUT RELUCTANT, ON NASSAU

SINCE the Pukapuka people of the Cook Islands purchased Nassau Island several years ago, it has been the custom for the families engaged on copra production there to abandon the island and return home during the hurricane season.

When *Charlotte Donald* made one of the few calls of the year late November, bad weather halted load-

ing of copra and passengers, and finally, when a boat had been holed on the reef and some women and children thrown into the sea, it was decided that those still ashore would have to remain there.

Unfortunately, the island's wire- less operator, together with his gear, had already been taken aboard, so the island is now without com- munications—probably until this April, unless a special call is arranged by the Administration.

Only 4 tons of the 13 tons of copra was loaded before weather halted operations.

Stanfield-Macpherson Marriage in New Ireland



A marriage of great P-NG interest took place recently at the plantation home of Mr. and Mrs. J. Stanfield, New Ireland, when their son John was married to Miss Juanita Macpherson. The photograph shows, from left to right: Mr. J. Stanfield, father of the bridegroom; the bridegroom and bride; Mr. Lussick, bestman; Mrs. Joan Beath, matron-of-honour; Mr. Macpherson, father of the bride. Seated, Mrs. Macpherson and Mrs. Stanfield.

Photo: F. A. Kersken.

Four Generations . . .



Mrs. J. H. Leaver, of Suva, extreme left shown with her daughter, Mrs. W. O. Payne, her granddaughter, Mrs. J. Hancox (daughter of Mrs. Payne), and great-granddaughter, Lauren Talei Hancox, who was celebrating her first birthday.

Photo: C. L. Cheng.

P-NG'S PROBLEM OF EDUCATION

Sogeri Produces 17 New Trained Teachers

IT is possible that December 9, 1954, will be chalked up in red, as a date to be remembered in the native education system of Papua-New Guinea. On that day, at Sogeri, 17 native students—the first to complete the full 6-years' training course at the Sogeri Education Centre, on the cool uplands at the back of Port Moresby—received their certificates as qualified school-teachers.

The problem of bringing literacy to P-NG's 1½ million natives is the biggest and ugliest in the Dual Territory. If they are to be brought to higher standards of living, as a united community, the natives must attain some literacy and, if possible, use one—or, at most, two or three—languages. At present, they have no common language, except Pidgin English.

Handing the certificates to the 17 new native teachers, Administrator D. M. Cleland said that the native people were eager for education and general progress; and, if money was available, it was a comparatively easy matter to build schools. But it was a much more difficult task to staff the schools; and the training of native teachers therefore was a matter of major importance to the Administration. Plans now were being made to meet this need.

Sogeri Education Centre was commenced modestly by ANGAU in 1944, when it was seen that educated and trained natives would be in much demand in the future for administrative work; and it now has grown to an important institution, educating some 200 students to the Australian Intermediate standard, and giving them special training for professional and business fields.

Describing the work done at Sogeri, the Director of Education (Mr. W. C. Groves) said the ultimate plan was to have a chain of similar establishments working at the same high level throughout the Territories. Trained men were needed not only as school teachers but for all sections of industry and for the Departments. Technical as well as scholastic training was given at Sogeri.

All the new 17 teachers already have been posted to school work in Papua and New Guinea.

NATIVE APPRENTICES

The organisation introduced by the Administration to provide for the training of native apprentices, in co-operation with private employers, is beginning to function. District committees are being established in Port Moresby, Lae, Wau, Rabaul and other centres to investi-

gate and control industrial conditions for apprentices. The aim of course is to produce competent tradesmen in accordance with a co-ordinated plan, and to give the native youths the usual protection and security while they are in training.

MEDICAL TRAINING OF ISLANDERS

Some Critics Slightly "Off the Beam"

CONTRIBUTED

ACCORDING to August issue of a recent meeting of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene in London discussed the training given at the local medical schools in a few colonial tropical territories.

Dr. C. C. Chesterman stated that, in his opinion, the "near doctor" has had his day in tropical Africa. While there still was a need for "assistants" for registered doctors, they should be considered as temporary and replaced as soon as there are enough qualified persons to meet the demand.

Dr. K. W. Todd, however, said that in Papua large numbers of medical aides, with modest training, were wanted, rather than more doctors with full qualifications.

Since 1886, there has been in Fiji a system of training medical assistants. Although, at first, this training was very elementary—restricted to training in public vaccination only—considerable progress has now been made—eg, in 1929 by the inauguration of the Central Medical School in Suva; and in 1953 by the erection of the new Medical School at Tamavua which was opened by HM Queen Elizabeth during her recent visit.

Native students from Micronesia, Polynesia and Melanesia are selected by their own Administrations for admission to the Central Medical School in Fiji. Their educational standard on entry is dependent on the educational facilities in their own Islands group—unless as in a very few cases, they have been to schools in New Zealand or Australia.

For the majority of the students, on entry, their educational standard is low. For Melanesian students it often has been found necessary to get them to Fiji two or three years beforehand so that they may receive some elementary schooling in Fiji prior to entering the Medical School.

The opinions of medical officers (and especially the European members of the staff of the Central Medical School) are strongly divided on whether the medical training in Fiji should be that for assistant medical practitioners only, and to

continue indefinitely as such; or whether it should be advanced as rapidly as possible to the fully qualified medical officer stage, comparable with the medical training in the home countries.

A few moments' consideration suggests that the latter course is impossible unless all the students on entry have passed a university entrance examination; and to achieve this, students from Micronesia, Melanesia, and probably also from Polynesia, would have to go to New Zealand or Australia for elementary and secondary education.

It therefore would appear more reasonable that this limited number of students should continue on in New Zealand or Australian medical schools, where they might obtain entry, rather than return to the Islands for medical training.

The inauguration of a new medical school, with a complete staff and facilities for giving a complete medical training that would be recognised by overseas authorities, is not a simple matter of money and material. The advocates of a rapid expansion of native medical training in Fiji into a six years' course would do well to sit back and reconsider (a) the educational standards of the students on entry, and (b) the medical requirements of the isolated communities in the more distant groups.

Costs More to Die in Fiji Now

UNDER a Bill introduced to the Legislative Council in Fiji recently, the period in which a gift will cease to form part of the estate of a deceased person will be extended from three to five years. However, the period is reduced to one year where the gift is made to a charitable organisation.

Rates on death and gift duties are to be increased slightly. They vary from 3 per cent. on value ranging between £1,000-£2,000, up to 20 per cent. on amounts exceeding £200,000.

INS AND OUTS OF ISLAND NEWSPAPER PUBLICATION

THE new Cook Islands newspaper to be issued monthly by the Administration, has been named *Cook Islands Review*. First issue was expected to appear in Rarotonga, mid-December. The price will be 6d per copy, or 6/- per annum posted.

In Papeete, the Territorial Assembly voted in December to cease publication of *Nouvelles Tahitiennes*, a particularly well produced Government periodical which commenced publication earlier in 1954. The Assembly was told that loss involved in publication (no advertising is carried) are estimated at 450,000 francs per annum—about £3,220.

Oil and Gold in 1954

BOTH Pacific oil and Pacific gold had varying fortunes during 1954. Gold in the area is, of course, a declining industry and results obtained during the year held surprises. But oil went through "boom-and-bust" phase and ends the year as it began it—with nothing in Australia or in Papua or New Guinea proved one way or the other.

OIL PROSPECTS IN PAPUA-NEW GUINEA: Hopes are based mainly on the efforts of Australasian Petroleum Pty., Ltd., and Island Exploration Co., Ltd., to find oil in Western Papua. Investors interested principally through Oil Search, Ltd., which itself has been interested in oil prospecting in the Territory for 25 years but which, in 1937, sold its majority partners Vacuum Oil Pty., Ltd., and Anglo-Iranian Oil Co., Ltd. (through D'Arcy Exploration Co.).

Oil Search's share in the two operating companies is now only 10 per cent., although at one time it was much higher. The fall in proportion is due to inability to raise capital to keep pace with the expenditure by the two major partners. During 1954, interest has centred on Omati bore west of Kikori in the Milne Bay Province, where, over a year ago, two cave-ins at 13,743 feet after it was believed to be a significant finding of high gas pressure. Fishing operations for the drill which became stuck as a result of the cave-in were continued during 1954 and the hole re-tracked from 11,666 feet. In December, the side-tracked hole was 37 feet below the bottom of the original cave-in hole—but no additional information concerning the original gas show was available at end of first week in January.

April, 1954, Number 2 well was begun at Omati and this, by the end of the year, had reached 7,500 feet.

During 1955, the operating companies expect to spend £4 million on an accelerated search for oil in Papua—Oil Search's proportion of this will be £1,000,000 and it is likely that they will look for an increase of capital to cover the coming year.

Directors of Enterprise of New Guinea and Petroleum Development, which holds a prospecting permit over 1,650 square miles in the upper Sepik and East River areas (near the Dutch border) have advised that their survey will probably be withdrawn soon, certainly no later than February—with the onslaught of the wet season.

An expedition under the direction of the company's New Guinea manager, Mr. Jentzsch, began a survey of the area in September.

During their wet-season withdrawal, the company will plan the next phase of their campaign.

The directors of Papuan Apinaipi Petroleum Co., Ltd., report that the company's further application increasing to 10 square miles the area sought for oil, has been gazetted in the Territory of Papua and New Guinea Government Gazette.

GOLD MINING IN PNG AND FIJI: Production at Bulolo Gold Dredging is expected to fall again with the closure of No. 2 dredge at the end of 1954. The close down leaves three dredges still

working—No. 4 which will dredge through tailings until about the end of 1955 before quitting; and Nos. 5 and 7 which should continue in operation until mid-1959.

A profit of about 700,000 dollars is expected in the current year (ending May 31)—well over 200,000 dollars less than for the previous year.

The company may distribute early in the new year, the balance of the amortisation fund, amounting to about 70 cents Canadian a share.

One dollar a share, absorbing one million dollars, was distributed from the fund last March.

In Fiji, Emperor Mines, Ltd., in conjunction with the Loloma and Dolphin companies, will embark on a three-years developmental and exploration programme which will cost £500,000. This was announced by the general manager of the company, Mr. N. E. Nilsen, at the annual meeting in Melbourne in December.

Emperor had a profit of £106,107 in the year ending June 30, 1954—in the same period Loloma made only £7,752 from mining (and over £87,000 from investments). Barely 2 year's supply of ore is available for milling at Loloma.

Mr. Nilsen told shareholders something of Fiji manganese deposits also. He said that many small pockets of high-grade manganese had been found on Viti Levu—and if six or seven of them could be worked together they could prove profitable.

When the Rev. Father Gehberger, SVD, returned to New Guinea in December following his first vacation home to Vienna for 20 years, he said that he had spent most of his leave in hospital with a broken hip after being knocked off his bicycle—seemingly deliberately—by a Russian vehicle. Though an Austrian policeman who witnessed the event gave court evidence in Father Gehberger's favour, the Russians made no compensation. With him on leave also was Brother Heribert and Brother David, SVD. Brother

Heribert was one of a large number of prisoners which the Japanese were transferring from Alexishaven to Hollandia during the war when American planes heavily bombed the ship killing many prisoners aboard.

The four Fiji Government Scholarships for study at Gatton Agricultural College, Queensland, have this year been awarded to Konone Ragitawa, Muthu Sami, Sekove B. Raboiliku, and A. L. Hazelman. The first two recipients are Field Assistants with the Department of Agriculture; the third is an Assistant Master at Ratu Kadavulevu College, and the last, a clerk with the Posts and Telegraphs Department.

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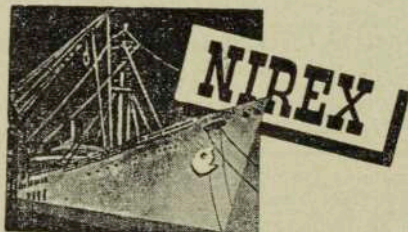
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Red Sox Downed in Exciting Rabaul Baseball



The baseball season at Rabaul closed December 5, 1954, with the Grand Final of the Competition played between Silver Lions and the Red Sox. Over 500 excited spectators saw the Silver Lions snatch a one run victory in the final innings, making the final score 6-5. Baseball has rapidly gained popularity

in the town. The new diamond in Queen Elizabeth Park has a tiered stand which can hold about 500 spectators. Ten teams played in the 1954 competition, and the final results of the season's games were: Grand Final Winners, Silver Lions; K.O. Competition, Red Sox; Minor Premiers, Red Sox.

Pictured above are eight of the 10 competing teams. They are, from left to right, top to bottom: Silver Lions, Red Sox, Blue Sox, Comworks (Dept. of Works), Dodgers, Norths, Kokopo Sports Club, and the Administration team. The two teams not shown are New Guinea Club and Colts.

Photos: C. H. Meen.

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Land Systems Under Fire in NG

(Continued from Page 19)

Mr. D. McBeath, the Rev. Father A. Schaefer, and Pastor A. Campbell supported Mr. Leahy in advocating "the individual approach. The natives might favour a particular European settling among them, and the Administration might approve; but under the new system no one could tell whether the person whose application for land succeeded could maintain good relations with and help the native no matter how acceptable he might be to Land Board officials. "If the old system is wiped out, it will be a great drawback to the country and will stop partnership between Europeans and natives, progressing side by side," said Father Schaefer.

Mr. J. L. Taylor said the Minister had been wrongly advised but no one knew who was his adviser in this matter. Why the mystery?

MR. WILSON, who had listened to this discussion without remark, now said that the basic factor in the Minister's policy was that land would be made available for European settlement only when it was surplus to native needs. In that respect, the old system had disadvantages.

He said that the survey of Western Highlands was done by a party which included representatives of Lands, Soils and Forestry and despite the short period they were there, the survey was thorough. The Board, which would deal with applications for the blocks becoming available, would satisfy itself that applicants were genuine land-seekers, that they knew something about land use, and that they had sufficient finance to get along. The investigation would be thorough when there were more than one applicant of similar qualification there would be a ballot. The new settlers must be a good example to the natives; it was desired that European settlement be interspersed with native communities; but—this was where the Minister insisted on planned settlement—there must be roads and communications and similar amenities before Europeans could settle.

Mr. Leahy protested that all the things had been taken care of quite successfully in Eastern District under the old system—soil survey, roading, care of native interests. "Now you say stop and wait for the experts, and everything is held up! So far as this District is concerned, this is just giving it another name—and taking six times longer."

Mr. Wilson said that the new team knew their job and would do a better survey. There had been cases of land speculation.

Mr. Leahy: There has been no speculation here—there is a law to stop that.

Mr. Taylor: Since the War, there has been hardly any new settlement of land elsewhere. This may help other Districts—it will not help us.

In reply to Mr. Wilson, the Chairman said that there had been a huge number of land-seekers in the Eastern District; but since October, 1953, apart from certain blocks in a special category, there had been no land granted to anyone—settlement had come to a dead stop. Applications from all quarters, for land, averaged three a week. Pleading an arrangement under which consideration of the individual applicant should go hand-in-hand with the new system, Mr. Downs said:

It is impossible now for any man to come here and get land under his own initiative. People who have capital and an overwhelming desire to settle in the Territory (and there are dozens of them) could not be turned away at this stage. Could we not be attracting decent people, who are keen and bold, to the Territory?

One of the men among those who came to see me about land this morning was of this type. If he, or others like him, were allowed to seek land under guidance, subject to every possible safeguard, I can see no danger and only hope for our future. To await the Administration's convenience is hazardous.

We have nothing to be ashamed of. This is a big country. The public does not expect miracles, and would appreciate being allowed to help us to help the land. I think there should be a way of dealing with them and helping them. There should be a provision for people like this man who came here this morning.

At this stage land is required urgently. Settlement is essential to defence. The wishes of the Members of this Advisory Council, which it is my duty to convey to the Administration, are to be respected. As an officer I am glad to carry out and policy implementation. Here I am a Council Member.

This is the Council that suggested the controls to force quick land improvement. This is the Council that asked for erosion prevention clauses in each lease. This is the Council that asked for re-afforestation on each lease. These men have a very high regard for their interests and native welfare.

I assure you, Sir, that each and all of our land. They are not log-rolling on their own or their friends' behalf. They are loyal and intelligent. The feeling here is to refuse the assistance of the land in getting land at a time when settlement may mean the difference between peace and war. The soldiers will need the wall of the Bismarck Range (the mainland of New Guinea) is the greatest natural defence line this side of Switzerland."

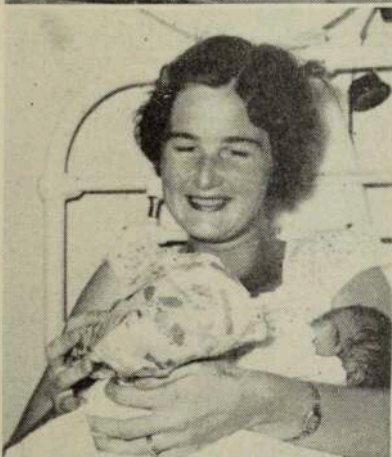
Mr. Downs said that he had a file of applications for land. But for a useful purpose could be served by dealing under the new system with this type of applicant, except to send them copies of the advertisements offering land for sale. The people who would answer advertisements

were a different type. "You should not label land at this stage—this is a period of risk and experiment," said Mr. Downs.

MR. WILSON said that the Minister had very definite ideas (with which he agreed)—namely, that settlement should be directed by the Administration and not by individuals. That was necessary in order to secure orderly development.

Mr. Leahy, supported by the

Helicopter for Santa



The tropic heat must have been too much for Donner, Blitzen and Co. when Santa arrived at Port Moresby on December 18 (top photo). For the first time in the Southern hemisphere the old man with the beard arrived by helicopter. He landed at Ela Beach on his way to a children's party at the RSL. Later, he visited the European hospital, where—as shown in the lower photo—not even the newest arrival was forgotten.

Photo: Papuan Prints.

chairman, said it was agreed that planned development was necessary; but they knew exactly the native tribal requirements, and orderly development would not be prejudiced by having land made available to particular applicants, until such time as the Administration was in a position to have land ready and waiting for all reasonable demands. The system of dealing with individual applications had every reasonable safeguard. There was room and need for both systems.

Mr. Leahy again roundly condemned the waste of time involved in the so-called Survey.

Mr. Wilson argued that, once the Survey system got under way, land would be made available more quickly than before. He admitted that there now was a lag, and a bank of applications; but he thought they might "get through" by next March.

Mr. Leahy said they might not see the Survey team in the Highlands for another year; and it would be the usual excuse—lack of staff. The old system had worked successfully—why was it stopped?

(Continued on Page 141)

Now On Sale

Handbook of Papua & New Guinea

The Handbook of Papua and New Guinea, 1954, is now on sale throughout the Pacific Islands and Australia. Price is 15/- (posted: 1/- extra within British Empire; Foreign, 1/9) or \$2.00 U.S. (including postage).

Comprising 320 pages, with a special map of the two Territories, it contains all details of the administrative and commercial organisation in both Papua and New Guinea, plus a complete list of all European residents.

There is a description of each of the 15 Districts, with some local maps; a list of all Departmental officers, showing correct names, titles and positions; lists of all trading firms in each District; details of all communications—such as airfields, radiophone networks, timetables; lists of fees and taxes; the Customs tariff.

The structure of the Administration is described, with an outline of the activities and responsibilities of each Department.

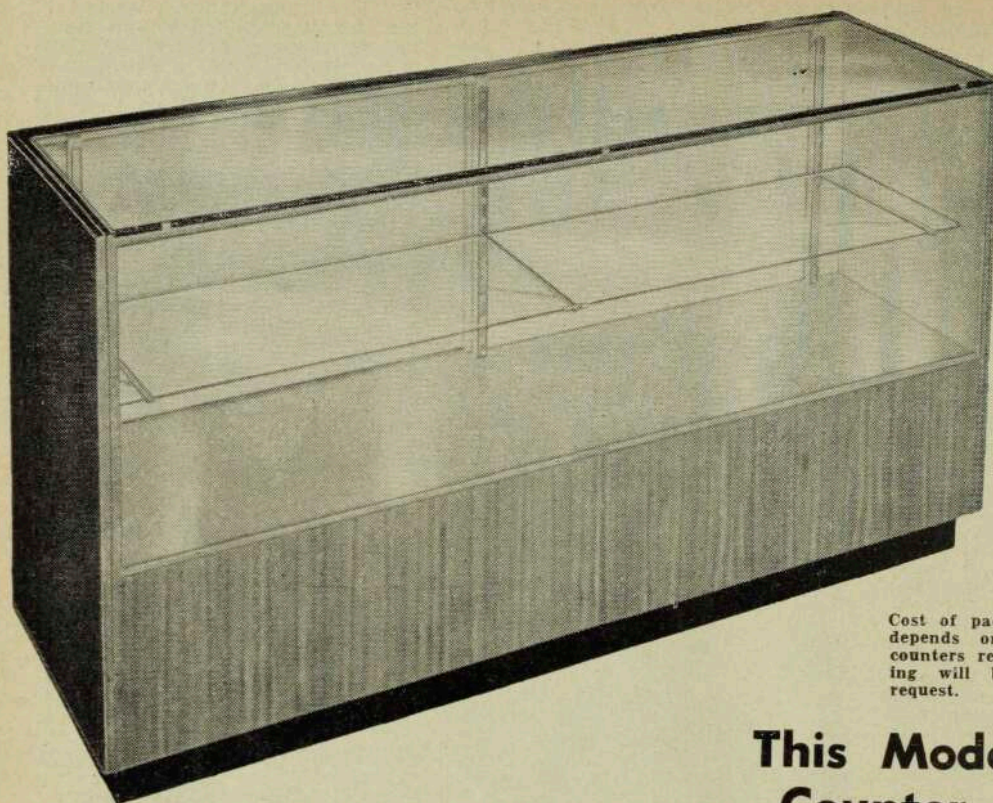
A section is devoted to the Statistics of the combined Territory.

There are particulars of commerce and industry, and of the Missions.

This is a Handbook which any person dealing in any way with Papua and New Guinea must have on his desk.

Copies may be obtained at most bookstores in Australia; at all stores in Papua and New Guinea; and from the publisher:

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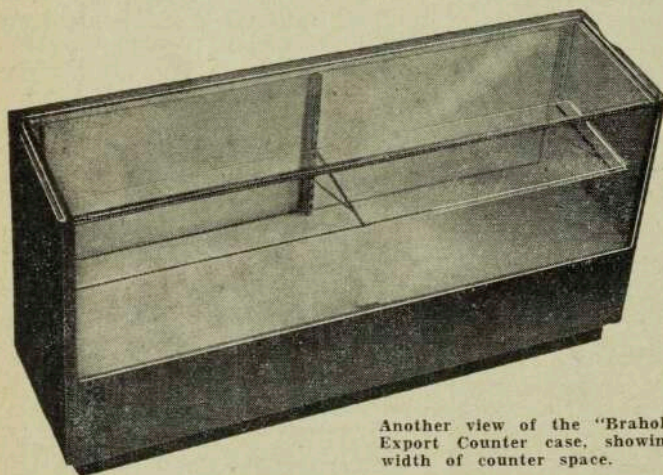
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Another view of the "Brahol" Export Counter case, showing width of counter space.

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The chairman said that the council would like to see machinery provided for taking care of people who came along, with finance and a pioneering spirit, seeking land on which to settle. He would like to see such a man shown around the District; facilities given him for land selection; and then the Lands Department formally advised that a settler of a good type was there, waiting land. They used to deal quickly with such a case. But all that now was useless because, under the new system, such an applicant would not be considered until land was advertised as available—he was on the same footing as a speculator.

Mr. Taylor: I should like to know where the old system ever went wrong.

Mr. Wilson said that there were a lot of persons around Lae acquiring blocks and doing nothing with them.

Mr. Leahy: But you have the means of compelling people to do something with the land they acquire and thus curbing speculators. Mr. Taylor: If a man goes out and finds his own land under the guidance of the District Commissioner, and goes into the problems of arranging with the native owners, a man who is more likely to be a sensible man, whereas anyone who goes in for unseen land is less likely to succeed.

Mr. Wilson: *I am against tendering altogether. I feel that it is most satisfactory. I think the system will be wholly on applications.*

THE CHAIRMAN: There is nothing wrong in the Minister, at the request of the District Commissioner, making a special inquiry about a selected man. If the Minister thinks a certain man, as a settler, will aid the development of the Territory, it is both wise and proper at this stage of pioneering to help him. We should also save time and money. Mr. Wilson: But why should this man have a greater claim on the land than anyone else?

Mr. Leahy: *Because he has had the initiative to come and look for land that he requires for a particular purpose. Because this is a country that needs pioneers with courage and imagination.*

The chairman: It is a full-time job to find land for these people. They themselves can help us in the task, the task is so much easier. Mr. Wilson: I feel that you are a bit premature. Soon, lists of land available will be flowing out, and there will be no further cause for complaint.

EDITORIAL NOTE

WE have reported this discussion at length, because it so sharply defines the differences between the Minister's stubborn viewpoint, the stand taken up by the East

Highlands people, who have had practical experience and much success in introducing suitable Europeans to suitable land, situated close to native communities whom they can benefit.

The differences are those between a rigid, mechanical and unimaginative system, typical of a Totalitarian regime and apparently favoured by the present Minister, and a system based on individualism, where the character and capacity of the man matters a great deal more than bureaucratic planning.

Opposition to the Minister's lands "policy" has been expressed in various quarters in New Guinea. We predict that the new system will not be withdrawn but that, in deference to public opinion, it will be administered in such a way that its worst features will be eliminated. Land Board instrumentalities will control and direct settlement, but the suitability of the prospective settler will be a dominating consideration.

The trouble will come when the various authorities try to find a measure by which to assess suitability. Different high officials will have different standards.

Fiji Hotel Changes Ownership

THE popular Beachcomber Hotel at Deuba, south coast of Viti Levu, has had a reorganisation of ownership. Mr. Barry Philp has sold his interest to Mr. Hope Gibson, of Australia. Mr. David Philp will continue to manage the hotel.

It is now intended to build a fresh water swimming pool, a tennis court, and to improve the beach facilities. The hotel proprietors are planning the construction of a modern big-game fishing launch for the use of guests.

Mr. Barry Philp will continue to manage the Mocambo lounge and hotel at Nadi Airport.

Local musicians and vocalists in Port Moresby received a boost on December 27. On that day radio stations 3LO and 7ZR broadcast a recording, made under local conditions, of a concert organised by the Papua Arts Council. Artists who took part included: Bass vocalist John Wall, pianist Elizabeth Roscoe, contralto Patricia Gordon, tenor Ian Wharton, soprano Patricia Loonan, cornet player Gordon Jier, duettists George Bottriell and Ian Wharton, and the Port Moresby Choral Society.

The volcano on Falcon Is., Tonga's jack-in-the-box island, which keeps appearing and disappearing, was erupting again in late December.

PAGO CANNERY AGAIN OPERATING

VAN CAMP'S PAGO PAGO tuna cannery resumed work at the beginning of December following the arrival of the first two vessels of a new Japanese charter-fleet.

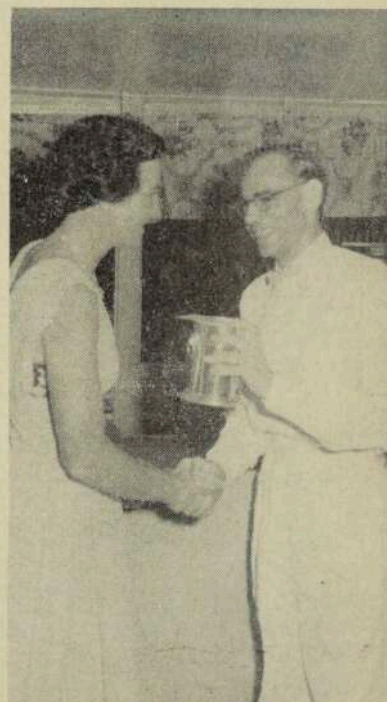
The second vessel had 40 tons of fish aboard on arrival.

Within five days of resuming, 4,500 cases of tuna were ready for export and work was proceeding at the rate of about 15 tons of fish canned per day.

As elsewhere reported, a Japanese seaman, Takeichi Hasegawa, aged 22, was accidentally killed by a swinging cargo hook. He was buried in a plot of ground donated by Mr. Francis Shimasaki, a local part-Japanese.

Two other fishing vessels have been chartered to replace two lost en route from Japan to Samoa, and the fleet this year consists of the following vessels: *Nissho Maru No. 3, Sansei Maru, Zenshu Maru, Shoho Maru, Hakutaka Maru, and Taiyo Maru.*

Trophy for the Winners



At the annual dinner-dance of the Softball Association, held in Port Moresby on December 18, 1954, the winning trophy was presented to the captain of the Konedobu team, Miss J. French, by Mr. E. E. Kriewaldt.

Photo: Papuan Prints.

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Norfolk Island Aflame Against Canberra Taxation

(Continued from Page 17)

comfort brought to Government House (built on a sort of promontory, in Kingston Bay) at a cost unofficially estimated at £11,000; they saw the old stone buildings refurbished, and roads and other public conveniences attended to; but they saw no effort made to remove administration facilities to Burnt Pine. They still were obliged to go two miles or more to post a letter, or change a book, or get their grog issue.

But they took it philosophically. Obviously, the new Administrator was enjoying himself very much.

AND then came the bomb-shell. At the beginning of December, without any warning whatever, the people were advised by *Gazette* notice that substantial increases had been made in the rates of duty imposed (on an ad valorem basis) on practically all imported goods. Motor cars were slugged 10 per cent. and jewellery 20 per cent. The new duties fell with particular harshness upon goods then approaching NI in the *Malaita*, intended for Christmas trade. Most had been ordered, and some paid for, at the old rates. The traders simply took the rap.

NI then awakened with a vengeance. Angry protests to Mr. Norman got nowhere—he refused to accept responsibility, and referred them to the Minister. Territories Minister and Prime Minister in Canberra were bombarded with radiograms. They were blandly ignored. Canberra could not care less. NI has no votes.

All the enraged Islanders got was an assurance that the Island's revenues had not been taking care of the Island's needs in education, hospitals and like services; and they must do so in future. The new duties would remain.

Then came another blow. The Administration proposed to impose a landing-tax of £1 per head on visitors to the Island. This sent Islanders' blood pressure even higher. NI's principal industry is tourist traffic from New Zealand—and already that had been harassed by a NZ National Airways decision to raise passenger fares. Anything more stupid than a tax on individual visitors could scarcely be imagined.

The Tourist Bureau met, to curse the Administration with bell, book and candle. Speakers pointed out that although tourist traffic is vital, the Administration's sole financial help to the Bureau over the years was an annual grant of £102—and the recent repair of the Emily Bay baths by convict labour! At date of writing, it is not known whether this head tax on tourists will be imposed.

MEANWHILE, the very angry Islanders settled down to calculations. What had the Administrator actually done with that £70,000 grant? Was it possible that he had spent it all on Government House, and in doing so the ruins of the old Kingston buildings?

They pointed out that half £70,000 should have been ample for even the most extravagant dictatorial needs, and the other half would have helped substantially in carrying on the school, hospital, forest services and other amenities which the Island is directly responsible for.

They pointed out the extravagance of present Administration control. The hospital was too big a lavish for the Island's needs; the running of the school (150 children) cost £53 per head per annum. If the Island could not afford such things, why did not the Administrator cut down these costs, instead of imposing taxes which threatened to cripple the Island's main industries?

Finally, 250 people (practically the whole adult population) attended a public meeting on December 20, and engaged in a discussion which was not flattering to either Administration or Minister. It was resolved to make a strong protest to the Minister against the proposed Landing Tax, and a further protest against the new customs duties.

Steps also were taken to prepare and get signatures for a petition to the Queen, asking for the repeal of the new taxation, and begging for a much larger measure of self-government. A section of the people are ready to cut the painter with Australia; and many, less outspoken, sympathise with their sentiments.

More sober people are asking why Australia should spend £20,000 a annum on a top-heavy, monumental and generally useless Administration; when a grant of only half that amount, and an acknowledgment that this small community of less than 1,000 people is quite capable of governing itself without so much fuss and expense would solve all the Island's economic troubles, and leave it to fulfil its destiny as a quiet, isolated, peaceful and happy little corner of the South Pacific.

On present appearances, Minister Hasluck and his chosen henchmen have certainly made a mess of it. *Special Correspondent.*

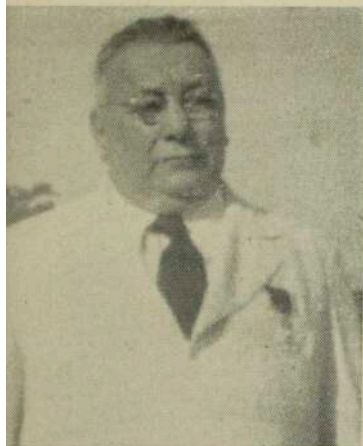
† Pastor J. B. Keith (President of the North Queensland Mission, Seventh-day Adventists with headquarters in Townsville) has been appointed President of the Central Sea Union Mission of Seventh-day Adventists in succession to Pastor H. White.

DEATHS OF ISLANDS PEOPLE

M. ALBERT LÉBOUCHER

M. Albert Leboucher, 67, one of the most public spirited and popular citizens of Papeete, Tahiti, died of a heart ailment on November 29.

M. Leboucher was affectionately known as "Papa pute Tane." He was a forceful opponent of all influences he deemed harmful to the colony and to the Tahitian people. He was a successful merchant, once commanding the three-masted schooner *Maui* to the United States. He was a skilled healer by the use of these needles (known locally as *tu Poncture*), his services being



M. Leboucher.

highly sought in this capacity by the local people.

In the political sphere M. Leboucher had for years been President of the Territorial Assembly, and was a recipient of the Medal of the Legion of Honour.

His death will be regretted also by the Orafara leper patients who benefited greatly by his efforts as President of the leper aid committee.

M. Leboucher is survived by his three sisters, three sons, and daughters.

MISS BEATRICE WILKINS

Miss Beatrice Wilkins, better known to all in Fiji as Sister Wilkins, died at Lautoka hospital shortly after a brief illness.

Sister Wilkins first went to Fiji as Sister-in-Charge of the CSR Co.'s hospital in 1915, remaining there until her retirement in 1939.

She was immensely popular and during her life at Labasa officiated at the birth of a great many people living in Fiji or now scattered over the world.

After her retirement Sister Wilkins had a small house built at Korotoga, and it became a port of call for many people motoring round Vevu.

Sister Wilkins is survived by a daughter, Jack, of the CSR Co., Labasa.

M. JEAN SIMON

Monsieur Jean Simon, a very well-known citizen of French Oceania, died in Papeete on November 26. M. Simon had held many Government posts. He was at one time a notary at Uturoa, and later Court Recorder in Papeete. He was associated with the French Phosphate Co. for a period. His father was for many years Harbour Master at Papeete.

M. Simon, who was aged 54, is survived by two sisters, Madame Pierson and Madame Dubouché. His wife died some years ago.

MR. R. DIXON

Mr. R. Dixon, a steward on the *MV Malaita*, died on December 31, at the Central Hospital, Honiara, BSIP, from a heart attack.

Mr. Dixon, who was over 70, had previously suffered from severe heart attacks, and was admitted to hospital when he became very ill during the recent visit of the *Malaita*.

MISS S. V. GLOSTER

Residents of Honiara were shocked by the death in her sleep, on December 8, of Miss Susanne Vere Gloster, a very popular young employee of the Treasury Department.

Miss Gloster, who went to the Solomons in 1952, was due for leave early in 1955 and had planned a trip to the United States. Her death was possibly due to a head injury which she suffered in Sydney some years ago and which had caused her to suffer headaches from time to time.

MR. W. H. RAMSAY

Mr. William Hamilton Ramsay, Marine Assistant in the BSIP

Marine Department, died at Honiara on December 17 from pneumonia. Mr. Ramsay joined the staff of WPHC in Suva in 1932 and in 1936 was posted to the GEIC. During the war he served as a Lieutenant in the Gilberts defence force. In 1947 he was transferred to the Solomons. Mr. Ramsay was the youngest son of Dr. and Mrs. W. Ramsay, of Suva Point, Suva. He was aged 44.

MR. PERCY WILLIAM GLOVER

Mr. Percy William Glover, a resident of Western Samoa for the past 30 years, died suddenly in the Apia Public Hospital at the end of November. A Science graduate of Canterbury College, NZ, Mr. Glover first went to Samoa as a meteorologist at the local observatory. Later he established himself as a Commission Agent and Accountant. He was a keen astronomer, many of his articles on this subject having been published in scientific journals.

MR. M. CARRICK

Mr. Merwin Carrick, well-known Pacific Islands identity, died in London in December, 1954. He was the son of Dr. Carrick, who served some years as CMO in Tonga. Mr. Carrick was married to Tu'ifua Veikune, the eldest daughter of one of the high chiefs of Vava'u and a relative of Queen Salote. Mr. Carrick is survived by his widow and three daughters.

MR. EDWIN JAMES BRADNAM

Mr. Edwin James Bradnam died in Auckland on December 21 aged 85. He was a resident of Fiji for many years, being employed with the CSR Co., the Vancouver Fiji Sugar Co., at Navua, and with the

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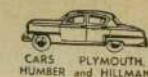
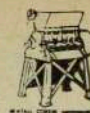
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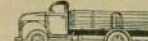
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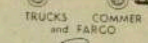
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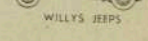
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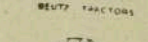
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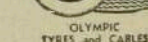
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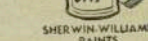
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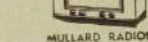
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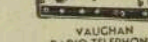
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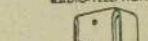
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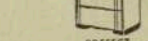
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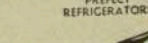
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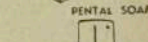
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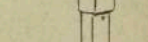
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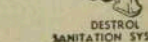
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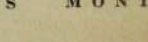
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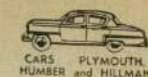
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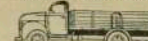
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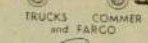
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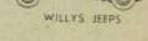
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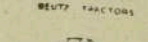
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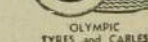
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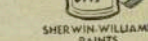
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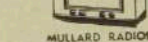
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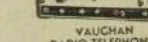
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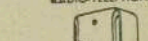
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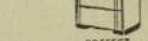
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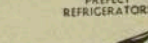
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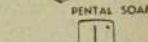
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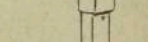
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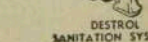
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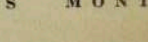
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Public Works Department. He was also manager of a copra plantation on Cicia Island for a time. He left the Colony in 1942 to retire to New Zealand, where he was born. Mr. Bradnam is survived by a large number of children of two marriages, four of whom are resident in Fiji at present.

MR GEORGE BATTY

Mr. George Batty, well known resident of Fiji for the past 40 years, died at his Suva residence in December at the age of 86. His wife died in August, 1954.

Mr. Batty was employed by several firms, including Sturt, Milvie Ltd., Burns Philp (SS) Co. Ltd. and A. M. Brodziak Ltd., and was also for a time caretaker at the Fiji Museum. He is survived by a daughter in Wales and a son in Australia.

MR. S. POWELL

Mr. Sydney Powell, a member of a very well known Levuka, Fiji, family, died recently aged 54 years. Mr. Powell, for many years, was in the employ of Morris Hedstrom, Ltd. In 1949 he was appointed accountant to the Central Fijian Treasury. He is survived by his wife, formerly Miss Alice Eastgate, Levuka.

PASTOR MARUATA

Pastor Matemutukore Maruata, 75 years-old former LMS pastor of Nguaia, Cook Islands, died suddenly on November 17, 1954. The pastor was a pupil of the pioneer missionary, the Rev. C. W. Harris. He had a record of more than sixty years' unbroken church attendance, and was a prominent figure in local affairs. He was a landowner among the chiefly caste of the Veitatei, and was an immensely strong moral influence among his people. Papa Mate, as he was familiarly known, was twice married, and a large family from both marriages scattered among the Cooks and Australs. His funeral was conducted in his own compound by Pastor Tuau, of the LMS Mission.

THE REV. BROTHER PAMPHILIUS

The Rev. Brother Pamphilius (Joseph M. Rohrer), who recently completed 50 years' teaching in Western Samoa, died on November 1954, aged 80 years. Born at Lake Lucerne, Switzerland, Brother Pamphilius entered the Marist Brothers' organisation in 1891 and 12 years later arrived in Samoa where he specialised in teaching the lower grades. "Affilio," as he was affectionately known in Western Samoa, refused to retire and worked with his pupils until the day of his death. His funeral ceremony at the Apia Cathedral was attended by the largest number of mourners ever in the territory.

MR. L. THOMAS

Mr. Leonard Thomas, of the BSIP, died in Sydney on November 29. He was 50.

He is survived by his wife.

MRS. EMMALINE MACLEAN

The death occurred at Namanula Hospital, Rabaul, New Guinea, on January 3, of Mrs. Emmaline Wild Maclean. She had been in ill-health for some time.

Mrs. Maclean was the widow of Charles Hector Roderick Maclean, who lost his life when the Japanese ship *Montevideo Maru* was lost while taking civilian internees to Japan in 1942.

The Macleans went to Rabaul, where Mr. Maclean was shipping manager for W. R. Carpenter and Company, in the early 20's.

They had four sons, Ian, Alistair, Colin and Donald, all of whom were well-known in the Territory. Ian, who was a dentist in Rabaul before the war, was also lost on the *Montevideo Maru*; Alistair, who had planting interests, died in the Territory after the war. Donald has planting interests in the Bainings; and Colin, until recently, was District Commissioner, Bougainville. He resigned from the service a few months ago and now intends to plant-up a cocoa plantation in the Bainings.

Mrs. Maclean loved New Guinea and in spite of advancing years, returned to the Territory after the war and had spent a great deal of time there, mostly with Mr. Colin Maclean. She was an enthusiastic member of the New Guinea Women's Club of Sydney.

MR. T. C. PHILLIPS

Mr. T. C. Phillips, Commissioner of Crown Lands in Western Samoa, died there suddenly on January 6.

Mr. Phillips commenced a three-year term as Commissioner last year.

MRS. M. E. GOSS

The death occurred in the Concord Repatriation Hospital, Sydney, on January 5, of Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Goss, well-known resident of Papua-New Guinea. She was 58.

Mrs. Goss went to New Guinea first as a nursing sister at Namanula Hospital. She married Mr. "Tommie" Goss, of Toma Plantation, in 1934. About a year before the Japanese invasion, she returned to nursing at the Rabaul hospital and with other nurses remained in the Territory when European women were evacuated. She was taken prisoner by the Japanese and subsequently spent 3 years in Japan as a POW.

When she was released, she joined the staff of a Sydney school for two years and then returned to nursing in the Territory where she remained until her last illness.

VILAI TUPOU

The accidental death occurred in Nukualofa, Tonga, on December 14, of Vilai Tupou, half brother of Queen Salote of Tonga.

Vilai was electrocuted when he went to the aid of a young female relative (also killed) who had come in contact with a live wire that was connected to a radio aerial.

He was 56 years of age and had held the post of Commandant of the Royal Guards and Aide-de-Camp to Queen Salote since 1923.

Vilai is survived by his widow and 7 children.

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PRICELESS BUTTERFLIES
FOR PAPUA-N. GUINEA

Brent, and the Hallstrom Collection

A priceless collection of butterflies and moths comprising 35,000 specimens, many of which were previously unknown, has been presented to the people of Papua-New Guinea by well-known Sydney philanthropist, Sir Edward Hallstrom.

SIR Edward has been interested in the Territory for a number of years. His concern for native welfare led him, in 1949, to give the Commonwealth Government £20,000 for the establishment of the Hallstrom Trust sheep station at Nondugl in the Central Highlands.

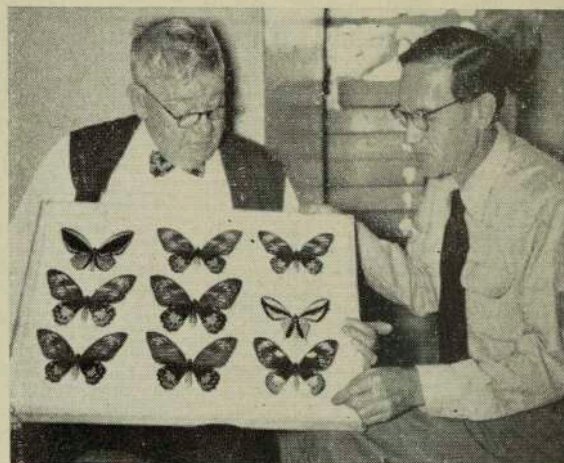
He said in Sydney on December 22, that the butterfly and moth collection would be housed in Canberra until suitable show and storage space could be found for it in the Territory.

The collection is the result of five years work by world-renowned entomologist, William Brent. Every butterfly and moth in the collection has been caught, classed and artistically mounted by Brent himself. He has also had the task of naming many of the 800 species

and 1,000 subspecies represented in the collection.

William Brent is the personification of every quality and characteristic one would expect to find in a "butterfly-man." He is small of stature, and, when first encountered, almost painfully shy. His hands could be

Sir Edward, Mr. Brent and some of the butterflies.



those of a surgeon and his intense eyes reflect a mind completely devoted to its work. Often, his listeners' questions are unconsciously ignored as he explains in detail some obscure point.

One could not imagine him without a net in his hand or a tray of specimens somewhere within his reach.

Although of British parentage Brent was born in Russia, and lived there until he was about nine years old. It was about that time that he began to collect butterflies. E

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own collection, stored somewhere in Sweden, contains nearly every known species to be found in Scandinavia and northern Europe.

Sir Edward and he joined forces in 1949, and since that time Brent has tramped through the jungles and rugged mountain country of mainland New Guinea, New Britain, Bougainville, and the Admiralty islands, putting together the Hallstrom collection.

During the collecting trips Brent was usually accompanied by about 20 native carriers and several native police-boys. The party carried collecting cases. When these were full, they were taken to the nearest port and given to the master of a Sydney-bound ship for delivery to Sir Edward Hallstrom.

Brent explains that there is more to collecting butterflies than just running after them and netting them. They must be caught relatively soon after hatching from the pupae. If the insect is more than two days old it is generally damaged, and thus useless for collecting purposes. Hence, wherever possible, Brent sits, like a midwife, beside some unhatched pupa and waits for the emergence of a future specimen. In this way he is assured the creature will not be damaged.

When caught, the butterfly or moth is gently placed in a bottle containing potassium cyanide. The insect dies quickly and, while

It relaxed, is pinned to a special apparatus which allows the wings to be extended. The creature is tied and then placed in a moisture-proof collecting case. The Hallstrom collection is possibly the most beautiful and varied in the world. Its exhibits range from a giant moth, with a wing span of nearly 10 inches, to a creature so tiny that it is carried by the pin which holds it; from butterflies in which riotous colours are combined with delicateistry, to a superbly proportioned moth of indefinite colour. One of the most striking things about the whole display is the meticulous care with which Brent has arrayed and labelled the creatures in their insect-proofed display cases. William Brent leaves Sydney in January, this time for Morarai, Papua, to add even more species to the already incredible Hallstrom collection.

French-Brennan Wedding



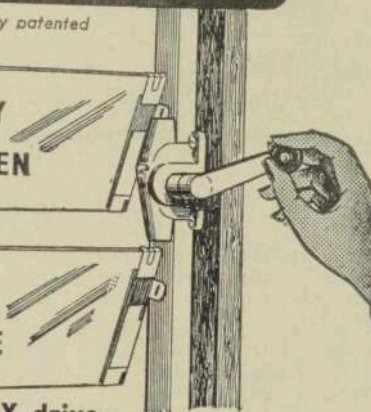
bride (formerly Miss Judith) signs the Register at the church. John on the Hill, Port Moresby, December 22, after her marriage to F. Brennan. They will live at Tufi. —Photo by Papuan Prints.

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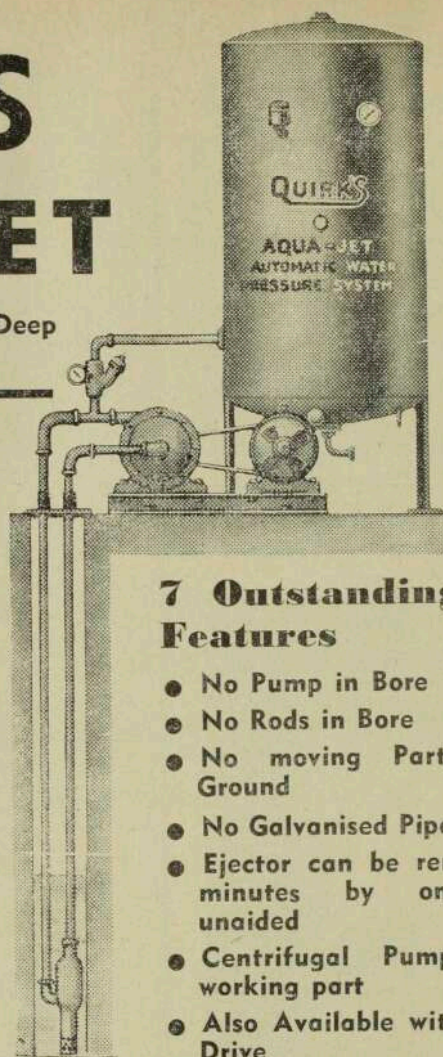
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THE MARKHAM SPANNED!

Bridge Open for Traffic in January

From Our Own Correspondent

THE last span of the Markham Point Bridge was put into position late in December and by mid-January the bridge should be open to light traffic.

It will be a week or so later before the big, heavy diesel trucks which take stores to Wau and Dolo, and bring out plywood and lumber, will be reaching Lae via the bridge instead of by the ferry at Mabu at the mouth of the Markham.

Rigging makes is impossible for heavy vehicles to use the bridge once—a flying-fox and other equipment block the way at present.

The Markham Point Bridge is 30 feet long—a single width Bailey type bridge of sixteen 100-ft spans and one 60-ft span.

It is nine miles from the mouth of the river and has taken 18 months to complete—although the last span was only laid in place in February.

Workmen now have to work on rathmings the clusters of piles to prevent logs and debris from catching, and considerable work has yet to be finished on the approach roads.

This project was carried out by Enbrook Constructions Ltd. at a cost of £175,500—an amount that not include construction of the approach road through a couple of miles of swamp. Work in the early stages was continually held up because the river changed course or dried—two phenomena for which Markham is notorious. Some residents are still unconvinced that the bridge has been put in the right place—although the Administration engineers insist that it has.

The bridge will, however, be of estimable value to the Morobe district, eliminating as it does the strating delays caused by the ferry at the mouth of the Markham.

Dollar-Sized Pounds for Samoa

BECAUSE there is heavy wear and tear on the unduly large Western Samoa bank notes, only through the public creasing and to fit their pocket-books, the Government has decided to shortly issue a new note issue.

The new notes will be about the size of the US dollar bill.

AUSTRALIA MAY LOSE BOATBUILDING INDUSTRY

PLANTERS and traders in the Southwest Pacific are affected by a new decision of the Australian Department of Customs, which now insists that overseas motors, installed in small vessels built for the Islands trade, shall pay duty, at the rate of from 15 to 20 per cent. ad valorem, as if they were imported for use in Australia.

Hitherto, Australian boatbuilders would instal overseas motors, if requested. If the boats remained in Australia, the duty on the motors was paid. If they went overseas, the motors were not taxed. But bureaucrats somewhere considered the position, and the ukase went forth: "Motors of foreign manufacture shall be taxed, if there is a comparable motor of Australian manufacture available for installation."

There are three firms in Australia making motors suitable for boats—Southern Cross (Queensland), and Ronaldson & Tippet and Kelly and Lewis (Victoria). But boatbuilders want a free choice—they say some clients prefer certain overseas makes; and operations in other yards are standardised to particular motors.

But officialdom is adamant. Australian manufacturers cannot stand up to overseas competition and want protection. Result (inevitable): A section of the valuable Islands boatbuilding industry will be removed from Australia to Islands centres, like Suva and Rabaul—but more probably to places like Singapore and Hongkong.

A Boost for the CI Pearling Industry

IT appears that a serious effort is to be made to extend the valuable mother-of-pearl fisheries in the Cook Islands. South Pacific Commission's Fisheries Officer, Mr. Van Pel, is to go to the Northern Group in April to organise a transfer of black-lip shell from Manihiki to Pukapuka. A special tank has already been constructed for experimental transfer of live oysters.

More than one "beach European" with faith in the potential of these islands, but no capital, has asked why New Zealand has diverted so much money into the fickle, perishable, citrus industry with all its problems of prompt shipment, cooler space, etc., and nothing at all into valuable alternatives like coffee, cocoa, and an extension of the shell beds in the north.

Over the past five years, at the outlay of almost no capital at all—except a few second-hand diving machines—the mother-of-pearl shell industry centred almost entirely on the one little atoll of Manihiki, has earned £397,000—almost all in dollars. The citrus industry of six Lower Group Islands combined, at considerable capital outlay, has earned £225,000 (in NZ currency) over the same period.

Had a fraction of the money spent on the citrus industry been diverted to a serious effort to transfer shell to Rakahanga, Pukapuka, and possibly Manuae, after the war the total earnings of the Cook Islands might have been very considerably augmented by now.

No early results can now be expected, even if the transfer is successfully accomplished next year.

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TALK OF PRICE CONTROL IN RABAU

RABAU, Dec. 15.
PUBLICATION by the *South Pacific Post* of a recent increase in the price of local timber brought Rabaul's attention to the laxity of price control here.

The new price ranges are from 122/6 per hundred super feet to 135/- per hundred for selected timber. The former price was 106/6. For the past twelve months New Britain sawmillers have been charging from 140/- to 160/- per hundred super for their timber. To fall in line with the latest gazetted prices they would have to reduce their prices substantially.

They claim that, to fall in line with Moresby's edict, would be financial suicide. And perhaps they are right. The onus is on the Administration to investigate their claim.

Differences in the cost of fuel, imported labour, and freight can add substantially to the cost of production. The making and mainten-

ance of roads in areas which are soggy swamps during the wet season are very costly items.

A ruling which suits both the Administration and the millers should be made soon. Otherwise, if the millers withhold their produce rather than sell at a loss, Rabaul's rebuilding programme will be at a standstill.

A tour around the local stores would convince anyone that Rabaul needs a Prices Officer. The anomaly of identical articles selling at different prices, within a range of a few hundred yards, would suffice to prove that point. Chinese souvenir and gift stores whose profit margins range from 50 per cent to 150 per cent—depending on whether one is a local or a tourist—could be first on the list of the industry.

AND SOME EDITORIAL COMMENT

WITH all respect for our correspondent and the Rabaul interests for whom he speaks, we must point out that he promulgates an economic absurdity. The answer to "profiteering"—

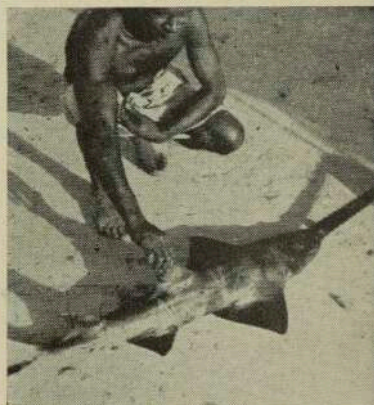
always provided that supply conditions are normal—is less, not more price control.

If merchants make excessive profits by charging prices beyond the limit justified by custom and practice, other merchants inevitably will come in to share the honour and will force prices down to the correct level.

Government control of prices is justified only when supply cannot take care of demand, so that merchants handling an essential article can exploit buyers. When there are insufficient supplies, and other merchants cannot enter the picture, the law of supply and demand is out; competition cannot come in to challenge the exploiter and the public, being ruthlessly exploited, must be protected either (a) price control or (b) cutting the throats of greedy and unscrupulous merchants.

As the former method is the less messy of the two, it usually is the one adopted; but it, in turn, leads to economic evils—one of which is the black market, and another the discouragement of private enterprise. (We know that we have presented the Communist, at the point, with build-up for a couple of ready-made arguments; but space does not allow us to follow the fascinating discussion any further.)

Fish, Not Shark



In many of the streams and rivers of PNG and northern Australia dwell creatures which are commonly mistaken for Saw Sharks, but actually are Sawfish. This one was caught about 100 miles up the Sepik River by Mr. A. Geyle, officer in charge of the Great River Patrol Post. The Sawfish, says Whitley of the Australian Museum, is really a very modified ray. The snout is produced into the well-known saw for chopping prey; the fins are well developed and there are two breathing-holes behind the eyes. Though derived from marine ancestors, the fish lives and breeds in fresh water and is known as Leichhardt's Sawfish. Sawfish are generally found in waters around the southern coast of Australia.

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Editors' Mailbag

4. Jack Ryan (seen around town and again) went to Egypt, Ernie was one of the "Kana" Boys who was sent to Rabaul. Ryan and Hammond had meritorious service with the Light Infantry in all the Desert Campaigns.

Amel' Is New Challenger

Not long ago, we said that "Amel", our well-known contributor, was born in Fiji. A pointed note from Mrs. Rosella Price, of Savu West, Fiji, says that is incorrect—she was born and educated in Morrinsville, New Zealand.

Mrs. Price should know—"Amel" is her daughter Lema, now the wife of a well-known official of the New Zealand Philp organisation. "Amel" has written a delightful book about her life as a youngster on the family plantation in Vanua Levu, and it should be published this year.

Beginning McBirney

Our recent reference to veteran horticulturist McBirney, of Rarotonga, has done much to bring off the memory of Mr. J. Nixonwestwood, of Wellington, N.Z. He says that, about 1907, he was associated with W. G. N. Taylor, in the Islands fruit trade, and he was responsible for the despatch to Rarotonga of McBirney, his wife, and three children, and H. Mansfield, who was expected to marry one of the McBirney girls. Mansfield returned to England afterwards; and McBirney stayed along in fruit-farming—he was a pioneer, if not the actual introducer, of tomato production for the NZ market.

Many years afterwards a man wanted information about the McBirneys, and was sent along to Nixonwestwood, by then an official in the New Zealand Commissioner's office in Rarotonga.

"You don't need any data about the McBirneys," said Nixonwestwood. "I have been there." The man believed it.

"Yes," said the official. "You know Arthur Mansfield, and I myself arranged your passage to the Cooks with the McBirney family on the old ship."

He still denied it; but later he changed his mind and said he would like to get in touch again with McBirney. Nixonwestwood supplied address, but Mansfield never was heard from again.

King Pen Friends

The King Pen Friends industry is growing, and letters are in from Australian youngsters, seeking correspondents in the Islands. Names and addresses:

(Continued from page 18)

Master D. Slade, 93 Stafford Road, Kedron, Brisbane, Queensland, wants to exchange letters with persons interested in stamp collecting, on a reciprocal basis.

Master Allen Soule, Yarrowryah, North, Victoria, aged 16, wants correspondents in the Solomons and in Samoa. Hobbies: stamp collecting and handicrafts.

Miss Beverley Quinn, 12 Shackleton St., Kedron, Brisbane, aged 10, interested in all kinds of games, would like to exchange letters with children in the Islands.

NI: Terra Incognita!

An English reader called at Australia House, London, to ask for guidance in sending a refrigerator to Norfolk Island. Australia House was completely blank—apparently had never heard of NI. Finally, after frantic flappings, it was persuaded that NI was an Australian Territory, and dug deep into its records for data on import conditions. Its latest official advice was dated 1937!

Our correspondent quotes the kind of salaries paid to Australian House officials, and is bitter on the subject.

W. Samoa Wedding

TUALAGI, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Rasmussen, of Apia, was married on November 25 to Mr. Augustine Otto Hansell, popular member of Burns Philp & Co.'s Apia staff. The wedding took place at the Catholic Cathedral and was followed by a reception at the Tivoli Theatre.

Third Term

The NZ Government has re-appointed Mr. G. R. Powles as High Commissioner in Western Samoa. It is his third term in the Territory.

LAVE BEATS BRADY AT THIRD ATTEMPT

TONGAN heavyweight boxer, Kitone Lave, scored a sensational last round knockout win over the Australian champion Ken Brady at Carlaw Park, Auckland, on December 23. On their previous two meetings, one at Auckland and the other at Melbourne, Brady had defeated the Tongan.

The win, which followed a fight described by boxing correspondents as the finest ever seen in Auckland, marks Lave as one of the greatest heavyweights in the Southern Hemisphere.

Both men provided a display of boxing which had the crowd on its feet almost continuously during the 12 round bout. Lave's incredibly powerful left hooks and extremely quick reaction had Brady in continual trouble. On the other hand, Brady, with his great courage and fighting skill, kept the points score fairly even until the final round.

The savage climax came shortly after the bell rang for the start of the 12th and final round. Both boxers hit wildly for several seconds until Lave landed a right and then a left hook of terrifying power. Brady struggled to his feet at about eight and backed into a corner. Lave threw a right, followed by another hard left and the Australian fell through the ropes. He was bleeding from the mouth as he half rose, feeling rather than seeing the rope near his left hand. And then it was all over.

Weights were: Brady, 14.5; Kitone Lave, 14.0. The purse of about £1,000 was to be divided 60-40.

Mr. Art Mawson, director of the Australian Boxing Club, said he was going to claim the Australian title for Lave, as he had beaten the champion by a knockout. Lave, who is managed by Mr. Mawson, was to fight again in Singapore on January 14.

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SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION : TECHNICAL PAPERS

The following Technical Papers are available from the South Pacific Commission. Copies may be procured from the South Pacific Commission, Noumea, New Caledonia, or from the S.P.C. G.P.O. Box 5254, Sydney. Except where otherwise stated, price per copy is 2/- stg., post free by surface mail.

1. **The Co-operative Movement in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands.** By H. E. Maude. February, 1949. 31 pp.
2. **Community Development.** March, 1950. 27 pp., bibliogr.
3. **The Village Library.** April, 1950. 9 pp., book list.
4. **Visual Aids in Education in the South Pacific.** By A. L. Moore. April, 1950. 58 pp.
5. **Fisheries and Animal Health Research Projects, conducted under the authority of the C.S.I.R.O.** May, 1950. 9 pp.
6. **A Preliminary List of Economic Plants of New Caledonia.** By J. Barrau, Director of Agriculture. July, 1950. 10 pp.
7. **A Preliminary List of Plants Introduced into Tahiti.** July, 1950. 21 pp.
8. **Insect Pests in the Wallis Islands and Futuna.** By F. Cohlé. July, 1950. 30 pp.
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. 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, W. Samoa. May, 1951. 7 pp.
15. **Libraries for Beginners.** By Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Todd, Kwato Mission, 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.
18. **Report on Nutrition Investigations by the South Pacific Commission, 1950.** Nov., 1951. 77 pp., tables, graphs.
19. **Report on Copra Grading.** November, 1951. 20 pp.
20. **Research Workers in the South Pacific.** Dec., 1951. 15 pp.
21. **Note on the Mycoflora of Rice Seed in the Territories of the South Pacific.** By Dr. F. Bugnicourt. Jan., 1952.
22. **The Chemical Composition of the Milk of New Hebridean Mothers.** By F. E. Peters. February, 1952. 7 pp.
23. **Nutrition Research Conducted in New Hebrides during 1951.** By Sheila Malcolm. April, 1952. 51 pp., tables, graphs.
24. **A Survey of Leprosy on the Island of Nauru.** By Dr. C. J. Austin. April, 1952. 8 pp., table, graph, map.
25. **Report of Fisheries Conference, Noumea.** May, 1952. 46 pp., appendices.
26. **Further Education in the Cook Islands.** By P. F. Henderson, Officer for Further Education. July, 1952. 13 pp.
27. **A Survey of Leprosy in the British Solomon Islands Protectorate.** By Dr. C. J. Austin. July, 1952. 12 pp.
28. **Coral as a Building Material.** July, 1952. 10 pp., bibliogr.
29. **Current Research in the South Pacific in the Field of Economic Development.** July, 1952. 82 pp., map.
30. **Bibliography of Cargo Cults and other Nativistic Movements in the South Pacific.** By Ida Leeson, former Mitchell Librarian. July, 1952. 16 pp., map.
31. **Cocoa Plantation Management in W. Samoa.** By D. R. A. Eden & W. L. Edwards. Oct., 1952. 20 pp.
32. **Types of Organisation in Adult and Mass Literacy Work.** By D. B. Roberts. August, 1952. 10 pp.
33. **A Survey of Malaria in the British Solomon Islands Protectorate.** By Dr. R. H. Black. Nov., 1952. 38 pp., append.
34. **Rhinoceros Beetle Control in the Kingdom of Tonga.** By L. J. Dumbleton. November, 1952. 7 pp.
35. **The Purari Delta—Background and Progress of Community Development.** November, 1952. 37 pp.
36. **Cocoa Growing in Fiji Islands.** By D. H. Urquhart. December, 1952. 20 pp., map, appendices.
37. **Cocoa Growing in Netherlands New Guinea.** By D. Urquhart. January, 1953. 14 pp., maps, appendix.
38. **Coffee Growing in New Caledonia.** By D. H. Urquhart. Jan., 1953. 27 pp., maps, appendix.
39. **Cocoa Growing in Western Samoa.** By D. H. Urquhart. Jan., 1953. 22 pp., maps, appendices.
40. **Cocoa Growing in New Hebrides.** By D. H. Urquhart. Jan., 1953. 30 pp., appendices, map.
41. **Social Problems of Non-Maori Polynesians in N.Z.** Rev. R. L. Challis. Feb., 1953. 15 pp., bibliogr.
42. **The Co-operative Movement in Papua and New Guinea.** Prepared by the Registry of Co-operative Societies, Port Moresby. Feb., 1953. 28 pp., sample records.
43. **Research in Queensland on Tropical Plant and Animal Industries.** By J. Barrau. 70 pp., illust., maps, appendices.
44. **The Use of the Vernacular in Teaching in the South Pacific.** By G. J. Platten. 34 pp., appendices.
45. **The Nimboran Community Development Project.** By I. J. van Baal, Netherlands New Guinea. June, 1953. 42 pp.
46. **The Koror Community Centre.** Reports from U.S. Territory of Pacific Is. Aug., 1953. 34 pp., illus.
47. **Central Vocational Training Institution.** By F. J. Harlow. Aug., 1953. 82 pp. (Price 5/- stg.; plans 5/- stg.)
48. **The Management of Coconut Plantations in W. Samoa.** By D. R. A. Eden. Sept., 1953. 32 pp., illus., diagrams.
49. **The Social and Cultural Position of Micronesian Minorities on Guam.** By R. R. Solenberger. Oct., 1953. 11 pp., map.
50. **Nutrition Investigation in New Caledonia.** By Sheila Malcolm. October, 1953. 33 pp., maps, graphs.
51. **A Bibliography of Co-operation in the South Pacific.** December, 1953. 17 pp. (Revised of Paper No. 10.)
52. **Social Science Research in the Pacific Islands.** December, 1953. 34 pp. (Revised edition of Technical Paper No. 2.)
53. **Reclamation of Tidal Mud Flats in Tonga.** By W. Stramans. March, 1954. 18 pp., illus., diags., tables, bibliography.
54. **Commercial Relations in the Pacific Islands.** By V. Stace, Reserve Bank of N.Z. March, 1954.
55. **Grading of Fresh Fruit Exports from South Pacific Territories.** Apr., 1954. 14 pp., tables.
56. **Leprosy in Netherlands New Guinea.** By Dr. N. R. Sloan. Apr., 1954. 16 pp., tables, maps.
57. **Leprosy in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Is.** By N. R. Sloan. Apr., 1954. 18 pp., tables, map.
58. **Bibliography of the Nutritional Aspects of the Coconut.** By F. E. Peters. Apr., 1954. 35 pp.
59. **Dietary and Nutritional Problems in the Pacific.** By E. Massell. Apr., 1954. 13 pp.
60. **Some Aspects of Malaria in the New Hebrides.** By Dr. H. Black. May, 1954. Illus., maps, graph.
61. **Malaria in the Trobriand Is.** By Dr. R. H. Black. May, 1954. 60 pp., tables, map.
62. **Leprosy in American Samoa.** By Dr. Norman R. Sloan. July, 1954. 7 pp., map.
63. **Diet and Nutrition in American Samoa.** By Sheila Malcolm. August, 1954. 62 pp., tables, maps, graphs.
64. **Dental Conditions in School Children of American Samoa.** By Dr. Raymond G. Neubarth. August, 1954. 19 pp., tables, maps.
65. **Annotated Bibliography of Filariasis and Elephantiasis.** September, 1954. 63 pp. (5/- stg.)
66. **Distribution of Filariasis in the South Pacific Region.** Dr. M. O. T. Iyengar. September, 1954. 62 pp., maps. (5/- stg.)
67. **Ophthalmological Survey of the Trust Territory.** By H. E. Crawford. September, 1954. 16 pp., illus., tables.
68. **Malaria in the Torres Straits Islands.** By M. Joseph Mackerras and Dorothea F. Sanders. October, 1954. 29 pp., illus., tables.
69. **Leprosy in Western Samoa and the Cook Islands.** By Norman R. Sloan. October, 1954. 23 pp., maps, tables.
70. **A Linguistic Survey of the South-Western Pacific.** By A. Capell. 234 pp., maps. (20/- stg.)

News Notes from the Cook Islands

FOLLOWING an application by the Cook Islands Industrial Union of Workers, Industrial Relations Officer, Mr. L. K. t. awarded a general wage increase of per day. Earlier, agreement could not reached between the Union and the al employers.

akea Nui Teremoana Ariki, appealing contributions to her Makogai Christ-s Fund, reported in December that re are at present 34 Cook Islands ients at the central leper hospital.

he Savage Maori-English dictionary, copyright of which is owned by NZ and Territories Department, is now be-printed. The cloth-bound volume of at 500 pages, will sell at approximately NZ per copy. This dictionary of the k Islands Maori language is in the n Maori-to-English only. Orders may placed with: The Further Education arment, Rarotonga.

arotonga broadcasting station is ually extending its hours with test rammes. At present the station will ound on 5050 kc/s between 0430-0500 f on Tuesdays, and sometimes on r days.

o classrooms of the Tereora College nearing completion and work is slow-pending the arrival of plans for next block.

anwhile at Aitutaki the new hospital medical practitioner's residence are g shape, and eight 10,000 gallon water s have been completed in outer ges. Pumping plant and pipes for water reticulation scheme are now on there.

Mangaia a new fruit control shed neroa is progressing, and two 10,000 n water tanks are being built to t water from this new catchment On Mitiaro a roof-catchment, two 0 gallon tanks, and a dispensary and are going ahead.

Access for Rob Wright of Fiji PRO

UR of six photographs sub-mitted by Mr. Rob Wright, of Fiji Public Relations Office were ntly accepted for an important ed Kingdom display.

r years Mr. Wright's outstand-photographs have illustrated y official and unofficial publica-on Fiji. Others have appeared e world's press.

e present photos were of the l Visit to Fiji and Tonga and submitted in a competition sored by Encyclopedia Britan-and the Institute of British ographers to select 1954's "Hum-Best" press photographs. In 210 photographers submitted photographs.

Notes from Fiji North-West

TWO Indian men have been arrested at Ba for the alleged murder of a Fijian woman, Sokovati, whose body, attached to iron weights, was recovered from a river near Ba. The men, both of Ba, were arrested and remanded in custody pending preliminary magisterial enquiry to be held at Ba on January 6 or 7.

To aid the Natabua Primary School Young Farmers' Club, Girl Guides, and to provide sports equipment, a bazaar was held at Churchill Park, Lautoka, on December 4. Refreshments and lunch were served at moderate rates, and sales from sewing and flowers were encouraging. In spite of the bad weather, there was a large attendance.

The CSR Co.'s Pineapple Cannery has commenced its summer packing season. Fresh pineapples are carted in trucks from Lega Lega, a distance of 12 miles from the factory. Pineapples are grown by the Estate and by the Indian farmers.

The Fruit Canning Division of the CSR Co. has an up-to-date plant. Pineapples are processed and packed under 8 different brands, and are exported to various overseas countries, including New Zealand, Canada, United Kingdom and Saudi Arabia. Fijian women are employed in the Cannery on twelve-hour shifts.

Seventeen trees, including Mahogany, African Tulip, Bentham's Cyprus, Honduras Pine, Cassia Siamea, Yemene and Jacaranda were planted in a formal Harbour Day service on November 22, in the compounds of Gurukul School, Saweni, Lautoka. The first tree, a sturdy young Mahogany, was planted by Mr. D. K. Paul, Divisional Forest officer, Western.

The Head-teacher formally welcomed Mr. Paul, who was garlanded by two senior girls. Prayer was offered and National Anthem was sung by the assembly. The Head-teacher cordially thanked the Forestry Department for making the trees available.

Pointing to the hills at the back of the school, Mr. Paul said that over 50 years before the bare hills once were covered with beautiful forest trees, but early settlers had acted like vandals, destroying the bush and trees.

Married in Rabaul



Miss Pat Crozier who left Port Moresby on December 13, 1954, by Sandringham for Rabaul. She was to marry Mr. Alan Willis of the New Guinea Co. on January 1, 1955.

Photo: Papuan Prints.

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Heated Debates on New Tahiti Land Tax

LAND tax was the principal subject of some very heated debate at the November session of the Representative Assembly of French Oceania in Papeete.

It appears that the tax was introduced and passed by the Assembly at one of its sessions last year, but that its full import was not realised fully by some members—or perhaps by their constituents. Application of the new law has caused a considerable outburst by land-holders, especially owners of unexploited lands.

The tax was to provide a large part of the 30 million francs to be found within the Territory for the current budget.

The land tax debate provided an opportunity for representatives to express, in unrestrained terms, their feelings in regard to the maintenance of a large number of very highly-paid officials from France within French Oceania. The attack was led by M. Frank Richmond and supported by M. Albert Leboucher and M. Walter Grand. Eventually certain revisions were carried.

Also debated was a law whereby motor vehicle registration fees would be levied on a horse-power basis.

Popular Official Leaves The Marquesas

A Correspondent at Taiohae, Nukahiva, wrote on November 29:

THE very popular Administrator of the Marquesas (eastern section of French Oceania), Monsieur Gilles Reboul, who came here from Pondicherry, leaves today by the trading schooner *Vaitere* on the first leg of his journey home. The second will be from Papeete to Marseille by *Caledonien* in December.

I am reiterating the opinion of all others here when I quote the speech of an old resident at a reception to farewell Mons. Reboul and to welcome his successor, Mons. Maurice Bazin, who comes to us from French West Africa.

"Mr. Administrator Reboul, it is now 4½ years since you came among us, followed a couple of months later by your charming sweetheart, Francine. You honoured our small village when you led Francine to the altar in the church of Sacred Heart. Yet, later, our village had the distinction—at intervals—of being the birthplace of those two fine boys, Teikietahuaoavoenui and Temoana, your sons.

"I can say in all truthfulness that never, among our previous and most numerous Administrators, have we had one who has worked so hard for the advancement of the Mar-

quesas and the welfare of its people. Without preaching, without ostentation, you have led us all to love France and its people and in every way have shown yourself to be a Colonial Administrator in every sense of the word and I suggest that it would be fitting to name the new Taiohae jetty—built under your supervision—'Quai Reboul'. I wish you long life and all the best. Vive la France; Vive les Marquesas!"

Mr. Jim Peterson Leaves Lae

ONE of the best known post-war residents of Lae, New Guinea, Mr. James Peterson, left there permanently in December.

He was Lae manager of Burns Philp (New Guinea) Ltd. After leaving he will take over the management of Hall's (Macksville) Ltd., a general store recently acquired by Burns Philp and Co. at Macksville, on the North Coast of NSW.

Mr. Peterson joined the BP Company and has been with the Firm in the Ellice Group as well as in Fiji, where he spent 15 years, where he and Mrs. Peterson were well known; his last post there was at Sigatoka.

In August, 1941, he was transferred to Rabaul and had settled in when the Japs invaded.

He joined the NGVR and on a fatal morning of January 23, 1942, with the rest of his mortar detachment, made a stand against the vading Japs near Vulcan. It was soon over, and Peterson, like hundreds of others, took to the British bush. He was at Tol plantation but left 15 minutes before the Japs landed; the Japanese mass of prisoners at Tol has now become history.

Peterson lived in the jungle for months and finally was one of the picked up from Jacquinot Bay, taken to Papua by the *Lakatos*.

He later joined ANGAU with the rank of Captain. After the war Burns Philp sent him to Lae as manager. He has been a member of the Lae Town and Morobe District Advisory Councils, and an enthusiastic worker for ex-servicemen. Residents said farewell to him with genuine regret.

Mrs. Peterson, also well known in NG, has been living in Sydney since last year.

To view progress being made in Tonga's small local defence force and to assess further requirements a party of senior New Zealand and Australian military officers visited the Kingdom in December. Some months ago a large amount of military equipment was air-lifted to Tonga in Bristol freighters. Captain A. M. J. Millar, of New Zealand, is in charge of the Tonga force.

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FIJI'S ANTI-TB CAMPAIGN

SOME interesting facts on the TB situation in Fiji and the cost of the anti-TB campaign are recently supplied to the Legislative Council in reply to questions by a Fijian member, Ratu Mara. Based on results of the radio-logical survey, which is still providing, the following incidence of live pulmonary TB amongst Fijians has been found: 0-14 years, 1.0 per 1,000; 15-34 years, 10.0 per 1,000; over 35 years, 17.5 per 1,000. The total cost of the campaign for August, 1954, according to figures provided under a number of headings, amounts to £262,714, but this apparently does not include certain salaries under the heading "Maintenance" of capital equipment.

Before any work could commence a very large sum had to be laid out for equipment. Of the above sum, £315 has come from Colonial Development and Welfare sources.

YAWS CAMPAIGN

A pilot project in connection with UNICEF/WHO and Fiji Health Department anti-yaws campaign commenced at Savu Savu in January. This is the first anti-yaws campaign in which the World Health Organisation has assisted in the Pacific Islands area. Two experienced medical men, Dr. F. S. and Dr. M. J. Whelan, have been made available. The Fiji campaign will be under the control of Dr. L. Verrier of Fiji Health Department.

Dr. D. R. Huggins, WHO Regional Adviser for the Western Pacific, recently visited Fiji and the Solomons. He said in Suva he said that a large yaws control campaign would soon be launched in Western Samoa.

RUBBER BOUNCES TO HIGHER LEVELS

THE price of natural rubber has continued to rise during the month (up to 36.6d per lb. Australian) due to a shortage of synthetic rubber and as an aftermath of the UK dock strike. Those interested in the industry are watching keenly to see whether the price will rise at these levels—as it could do. These scattered thoughts on the rubber situation have appeared in papers in various parts of the world recently:

FROM AMERICA: If and when private enterprise takes over the US Government-synthetic plants (negotiations still continuing) the price of synthetic will rise. (This is good news to planters as the price of synthetic puts a ceiling price on natural rubber).

FROM CEYLON: The Prime Minister of Ceylon, Sir John Kotelawala, said that the synthetic rubber industry in the United States is threatening to "ex-

terminate" natural rubber producers in Ceylon and other South-East Asian countries. If that happened "then there is no alternative to Communism in Asia".

FROM NEW YORK: Although the new process for exactly duplicating natural rubber synthetically has been perfected, at present it costs more to produce than plantation rubber.

FROM LONDON: World natural rubber production in October amounted to 160,000 long tons.

Output for the first 10 months of 1954 was 1,460,000 tons.

Consumption in October amounted to 152,500 tons including estimated imports into China of 3,500 tons.

Total consumption for 10 months of 1954, 1,415,000 tons, including estimated imports into China of 55,000 tons and into the USSR of 425 tons.

Record Shipment of Fiji Bananas

THE *Karamu* left Suva on December 22 with a record cargo of bananas for Wellington. Officers of the Fiji Department of Agriculture, supervising the shipment (22,090 cases) believe that it can be bettered. Given the incentive, more freedom from exacting communal duties, more supervision and a better appreciation of the necessity for better weed control and spraying to improve the quality of the fruit, the Fijians should go on to greater heights of production.

If the Fijian "wharfies" took credit to themselves as the last case swung into the hold, one does not blame them—they gave the lie to some who said, "It can't be done." Working in temperatures said by old-timers to be the hottest in years, they worked cheerfully at short notice.

Six million bananas at one "go" should be appreciated in NZ.

Tongan Newsletter

VAVA'U, Dec. 25.

Mr. Andrew Fraser, of Auckland, has been in Vava'u where he has investigated the possibility of installing a telephone system in Neifau, the main village and port. Mr. Fraser is responsible for the extended service which has recently been put into Nukualofa.

Mr. and Mrs. Lorne Denny will leave soon for Auckland where they will be in charge of the Tongan Government Hostel, "Atalanga", in Remuera. Mr. Denny, a member of an old island family, has been Chief Postmaster in Nuku'alofa for some years. The couple will be accompanied by their young son.

Mr. Ben Apon, who has recently returned to Tonga from leave in his native Holland, has been appointed Chief Postmaster in Nuku'alofa to succeed Mr. Lorne Denny.

On his return from New Zealand leave in March, Mr. Selwyn Jones will take over the management of the Tongan Government Stores in Nuku'alofa. Mr. Jones has been connected with the department of the Treasury in the past.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Secomb and their three young children have flown to Australia for home leave. The busy missionary couple have been in charge of Tolosa College for Boys.

The Tau'ataina Committee, a civic and social organisation founded in Vava'u by Prince Tu'ipelehake has recently given its first Annual Harvest Dinner and Dance. The affair, attended by about 200 guests, marked the high point in the Vava'u social season.

Mr. William Matheson of Auckland and Glasgow has been visiting his brother, Dr. Farquhar Matheson, Consultant to the Medical Department in Vava'u. Following his stay in Tonga, he will go on to Samoa, where he has many friends. It is almost 40 years since he lived in Apia and served as Chinese Commissioner.

Chief Justice Hunter visited Vava'u in November. It is his first trip to the northern group since he arrived in Tonga, and he has been busy with court cases and other legal work.

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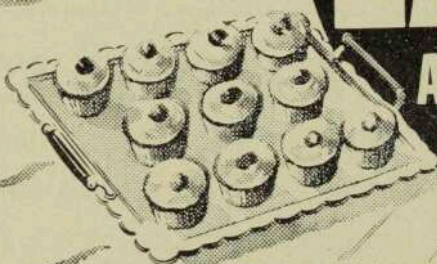
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Agricultural Education:

HELPING FIJIAN TO HELP THEMSELVES

From Our Own Correspondent

THE need for more agricultural education for Fijians is recognised in Fiji.

At a recent meeting of the Agricultural Advisory Council in Suva, it was stated that not more than 100 Fijian youths were receiving full training in agriculture at existing institutions, whose facilities are far below capacity for dealing with the numbers available for training.

Three times the number of trainees presently dealt with would like to avail themselves of the opportunity of such training but these institutions are not capable of any great expansion in the near future, and though the Education Department has a scheme for extending the pre- and post-primary training in agriculture and village handicrafts, the Advisory Council recommended that an action should be prepared to deal with the situation.

It was suggested that training should be established to cater for 250 youths annually; it was recommended also that adult agricultural clubs and young farmers' clubs be encouraged and also advised consideration of incentives such as some financial assistance and the formation of social services for the youths at the right stage.

The old European resident has observed that the Fijians are no better farmers than they ever were. "What's the use of sending all those young fellows to Gatton College if the Vitis don't know what they're doing about when they come home and care less?" he says. "The first thing all aspiring Fiji farmers should be taught is just how to do their own sustained work, if you ask me."

It could be right, but at the same time the Government has a moral duty to provide the knowledge of modern agricultural methods to Fijians if they want it.

Basically, it is a matter of money. The Department of Agriculture is already understaffed and overworked, and expansion of agricultural training must necessarily require more staff.

Trochus Price Improves

Early in December, the London shell market reported an acute shortage of supplies of trochus, a consequent sharp increase in prices being offered for on-spot or early shipments. This rise is reflected in a £A30 per ton in Sydney this month—prices being as high as £A375.

Fiji Board Reports on Beetles

THE Rhinoceros Beetle Eradication Board, which was formed in Fiji in May, 1953, recently issued its first report. It is for the period March 7, 1953, to May 31, 1954.

In the beginning, the Board worked on funds made available by the British Treasury. Over £20,240 was advanced until May 31, 1953. In early August, 1953, however, the first moneys from a tax on copra were received.

Up to May 31, 1954, nearly £89,500 had been received by the Board from the copra tax and from a pound-for-pound Government contribution. The original grant has been almost completely repaid. The beetle tax on copra was fixed at £2 a ton as from June, 1953. But this was reduced by the Fiji Legislative Council to 10/- per ton with effect from January 1, 1954.

Attempts to completely eradicate the beetle have failed, states the report. But the measures taken and the results achieved in greatly restricting any increase in numbers and distribution of the pest have justified the considerable expenditure.

Primary objective of the campaign now is to prevent the beetle reaching the other islands of the Fiji Group. New methods of control have been developed locally, such as dusting the palm crowns with insecticide, and it is hoped the South Pacific Commission will evolve better and less costly methods.

The Rev. Father Emmet P. Costello, son of Mrs. K. Costello and the late Mr. D. B. Costello, of Suva, was consecrated a priest of the Society of Jesus by Cardinal Gilroy in Sydney on January 5.

SERIOUS QUAKE IN NEW HEBRIDES

WHILE Fiji waited under threat of a hurricane early in January, a series of heavy earthquakes hit the central New Hebrides.

Though details are few, Mr. Oscar Newman reports that Tisman Bay, on Malekula, seemed to have suffered most damage, with buildings shaken down and concrete hospital water tanks destroyed.

No serious injuries were reported though there was evidently a good deal of alarm.

Tremors commenced on January 6 and culminated in a major shake at 3 pm next day. The shakes appear to have originated from one of the numerous under-sea volcanoes in the area. They were recorded in Australia and New Zealand.

Recent Suva Weddings

MAYNE-PATTERSON

MEMBERS of the Fiji Broadcasting Commission were present when Miss Alma Mayne was married in Suva recently to Mr. Jon Patterson. The bride, who wore a gown of white brocade, conducted the children's session over VRH and the bridegroom is also on the station's staff. Bridesmaids were Jane and Susan Lamont.

After the ceremony a reception was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Lamont.

MARR-TWYFORD

Miss Beatrice Monica Marr, daughter of Mrs. W. Marr of Suva and the late Mr. Marr, was married recently in Suva to Mr. Ian Twyford, of the Fiji Department of Agriculture.

The bride wore a gown of embroidered nylon tulle and was attended by Miss Pauline Gleeson of New Zealand, and Miss Judy Ragg of Suva.

A reception was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Storck, where Mrs. Marr received over 100 guests.

TRUCK MOUNTED CRANES

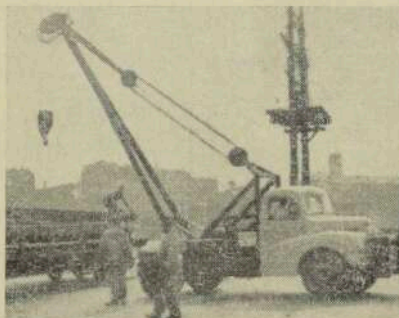
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ANY NEW BOOK (English), which is in print now, posted to you in a few days. I also find rare and out-of-print books to order. Large Pacific clientele. Banking accounts at Sydney and Wellington. Write **Philip R. Boulton**, Bookseller, Westbury, Wilts, England.

WANTED TO PURCHASE

GUEST HOUSE or similar.—Middle-aged English couple, seeking semi-retirement within next 12 months, desire purchase Guest House, or any proposition giving small income with easy life; sub-tropics. Norfolk Island or similar climate. **R.M.G.**, 151 Sea St., Herne Bay, Kent, England.

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LILI-NA-KAIA PLANTATION, NEW GUINEA, one of the most attractive properties in the Territory, is available for private sale. A general description is given hereunder—full details may be obtained on application to the vendor's solicitor, who will also arrange inspection for genuine prospective purchasers.

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Area: 241½ hectares (approximately 600 acres); approximately 190 hectares cleared.

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Labour: Approximately 100.

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ton, f.o.b., chief Territories ports. Each Governmental authority, handling and shipping the copra, makes deductions from the £70 Stg., such charges being different in each Territory. The following are the prices now being paid, per ton:—

PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA			
	At Main Ports	Crushers, Ex-ship Sydney	
Hot Air	£A75 0 0	£A97 0 0	
FMS	£A74 5 0	£A97 0 0	
Smoke-dried	£A71 10 0	£A96 0 0	

FIJI			
Pltn.	£F70 15 6	(60 pts. & over)	
FMS	£F70 10 0	(45-57½ pts.)	

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SOLOMONS:—Hot Air: Honiara/Gizo £69/5/-, Yandina £69/10/-; Mixed FM £1 less; FM £2 less, respectively.

NEW HEBRIDES:—Jan. 4, 77,000 Pac. francs per long ton (approx. £A55/4/-).

FRENCH OCEANIA:—Latest quotation 9.50 and 9.03 Pac. francs per kilo for the two gradings in use, delivered in bulk, Papeete. (£A67—£A65/15/- per long ton.)

COOK IS.:—See page 74.

COCOA:—Islands prices are based on the rate for Accra cocoa. Sydney January 5 quotations varied from £Stg.377-£Stg.395, c.i.f., Sydney.

N.G.: £A440-450, ex wharf, Sydney. Samoa: £Stg.380, f.o.b., Apia.

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VANILLA BEANS.—Sydney quotation by Victor Karp, Tulk & Co.: Tahiti.—White and Yellow label 82/-, Green 80/-, c.i.f.

RICE.—Price adjusted May 1 each year. P.-N.G.: Dry brown and dressed £83 per ton, f.o.b. Other Pacific Islands £90.

PEARL SHELL.—Prices fixed between Torres Strait producers and Otto Gerd Co. (USA) for 1954: Sound grades, £A7 D, £A390; E, £A300; EE, £A225, f.o.b. Australian port. Manihiki: Div. receiving 1/10d per lb. for cleaned black lip. Rarotonga f.o.b. price about £Stg. per ton.

TROCHUS SHELL.—First Grade 1 quoted early Jan. £A375 per ton, wharf Sydney, less rejects.

GREEN SNAIL SHELL.—N.G., 1st grade £A250 per ton less rejects, ex-wharf Sydney.

LONDON AND U.S. PRICES

Copra:—London, Dec. 17: Straits, c. £Stg.74/5/- (£A92/16/- approx.); Hebrides, afloat, 79,000 metrop. fra (£A102 approx.); Philippines, Dec. 1 delivery \$198½ (£A88/10/- approx.).

Cocoa:—London, Dec. 17: Accra/La £Stg.375 January delivery, c.i.f., Ma delivery £Stg.380, May £Stg.380; New York, Dec. 17: spot 45.80 cents, delivery 45.36 cents.

Coffee:—London, Dec. 17: Uganda/Buk native robusta, f.a.q., unwashed, f. Mombasa, prompt delivery £Stg.332/1 Feb.-Mar. £Stg.321; Kenya "A" £S 726/10/-, "B" £Stg.665/10/-, "C" £Stg. all prompt delivery; Brazil, no sale New York quotes: Santos, delivery 1 68.37 cents, Mar. 62.65 cents, May 50 cents.

Trochus:—London, Dec. 17: Singa, early delivery, c.i.f., £Stg.465, S Macassar £Stg.380, Mergui £Stg. Padang £Stg.300.

Greensnail:—Singapore, £Stg.340.

ISLANDS MINING SHARE

FIJI			
	Aug. 1939	July, '54	Jan.
Emperor	b9/11	b17/9	s16/6
Loloma	s25/6	b27/-	b23/6

PAPUA-NEW GUINEA			
Bulolo	b124/-	s60/-	s60/4
Mandated All.	b3/8	b1/-	s1/1
N.G.G. Ltd.	b1/10	b1/11½	s2/4
Oil Search	s3/11	b32/-	s19/6
Ent. of N.G.			s4/9
Oriomo Oil	b5/-	s15/6	s9/-
Papuan Apin.	b4/11	b7/2	s4/9
Placer Dev.	b68/6	b260/-	s300
Sandy Creek	b1/5	s6d	s6d

EXCHANGE RATES

FIJI.—Through BANK OF NSW, BANK and BANK OF NZ. Australia on basis £100 Fiji: Buying, £A111/2/6; Sell £A113. Fiji-London, basis £100 Lon B. £110/12/6; S. £112. NZ-Fiji, basis NZ: B. £111/11/9; S. £110/4/3.

SAMOA.—Through BANK OF NZ. tralia on Samoa, basis £100 Sa B. £A123/12/6; S. £A124/10/9. Sa London, basis £100 London: B. £100 S. £101/10/-. Samoa-NZ, basis £100 B. £100; S. £100/10/-. Samoa-Fiji, £100 Samoa: B. £111; S. £110.

PAPUA - NG.—COMMONWEALTH B (Port Moresby, Lae, Rabaul, Kav Madang), BANK OF NSW (branches Moresby, Lae, Bulolo, Rabaul, Ma Samarai; agency: Wau) and ANZ B (Port Moresby) quote exchange Australia-Papua-NG: 10/- per £100.

BSI.—COMMONWEALTH BANK (b at Honiara) quotes exchange rate tralia-BSI: 10/- per £100.

FR. PACIFIC COLONIES.—Pacific fr most valuable of the three franc g in French Union, are used in New

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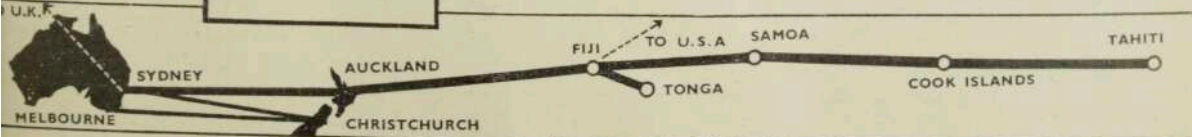
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