

January 25, 1940

My dear Mr. Bryan:

As you probably know, Bill has been on Canton Island since the middle of November. We are keeping in touch with him through a local amateur radiophone station and manage to have a schedule at least once a week which helps no end as there is no mail service, practically, to or from Canton these days.

We had a schedule last night with them and Bill asked me to try and get your series of articles on the Equatorial Islands which has been running in the Honolulu Advertiser. I thought possibly you might be planning to make a book or pamphlet of them, in which case I shall wait and buy a copy. Will you let me know please? If you have no such plans, I imagine I can write the Advertiser for the back numbers. At home here we have been reading these articles from time to time and enjoying them very much, especially the one on Canton.

Bill also asked me to find out from you whether the Bishop Museum has any pamphlets on vascular plants on Johnson, Canton, etc. He has "Tropical Gardens" by Kuck and Tong, I believe it is, but wants something specifically on these Equatorial Islands, about plants grown on Islands where there is not much rainfall and soil. If you could recommend a book on the subject too I should be grateful.

I do not care to depend upon the selection Patten's might make for me if I gave them

a free hand in the matter so I am going to ask you if you would mind recommending an authority on each of the following so that I can order the books by name when I do write Patten's:

A book on Pacific fish, either game or tropical fish, with descriptions -- to be used as a reference.

A book on coral or coral formations. Also to be used as a reference.

You can see from this that the boys intend to do a heap of studying, along with their field work, for apparently Canton is a marvellous observation field for such studies. I do feel rather forward in imposing upon you to this extent as I know what a busy person you are but we do want the best practical authorities on these subjects and feel that no other person in Honolulu is better fitted than you to advise us.

The Young Hopeful and I shall join Bill on Canton as soon as they send another Clipper South which will be in about a month I think and hope. In the meantime my shopping list grows longer and longer, after each talk with Bill!

I shall look forward to a reply from you and many thanks in advance.

Yours very truly,

*Mary W. Mullahey*

(Mrs. W. J. Mullahey)

Box 724  
Hilo, Hawaii



January 26, 1940

Dear Mrs. Mullahey:

This is in reply to your letter dated yesterday, regarding the natural history of Canton Island.

Except for my series of articles, there is precious little non-technical and yet accurate published information available concerning most of the Central Pacific Islands. That is why I am writing the series. It will consist of about 45 parts, and when completed, some time next July, I hope to be able to reprint the whole of it in book form, with numerous photographs.

I cannot recommend anything which specifically describes the plants, birds, fish, shells, etc. of Canton. This is true principally because almost no one outside of this Museum has made a scientific study of the islands.

There are only about a dozen species of plants found on Canton, yet I doubt if you would be able to find any one publication which would contain descriptions of them by which an amateur could recognize them. Dr. E. Christophersen wrote up the results of the Whippoorwill expedition botany in a bulletin (no.44 of Bishop Museum) called Vegetation of Pacific equatorial islands. Most of the plants found on Canton are noted in that publication, but not described; and as the expedition did not go to Canton, there is no list of what is to be found there.

Major G.A.Buddle, who was a member of the New Zealand eclipse expedition, wrote a paper, "Notes on the birds of Canton Island," published in the Records of the Auckland Institute and Museum, vol.2, no.3, Nov.17,1938. But while he lists the species which are there, about 20 species, he does not describe them.

Jordan and Evermann's Shore fishes of the Hawaiian islands, a book which is now out of print and hence very expensive to buy, probably contains descriptions of a good share of the species of fishes which occur in Canton waters, there is no way for the person who is not an ichthyologist or an experienced fisherman to tell which species is which.

I can recommend Dr. C.H.Edmondson's "Reef and shore fauna of Hawaii", for crabs, shells, etc., but here again this applies mainly to Hawaiian shores, and one might have difficulty in identifying some of the Canton species.

The fact that Mr. Mullahey is interested in the natural history of the island suggests that others might be also. It occurs to me that, in the absence of good information on these subjects, here is a chance to make a real contribution to the subject. I realize that my notes in "American Polynesia" are too brief and sketchy for the person who really wants to learn about the natural history of any particular island. It would not be difficult for me to write out some popular notes on the plants and birds; and with a little digging I could probably also produce something which would be of use on the marine life, especially fish and shells. I would be willing to try, although all of my work on those islands was on the land plants and animals.



If any of the personnel on Canton would like to collect specimens and send them up here for identification, we would be glad to try to identify them, in return for the records of what is to be found on the island, and permission to keep for the Museum a reasonable number of duplicate specimens.

I could write out directions for making such collections, or a copy of my Hawaiian Nature Notes (last chapter) contains directions. [Will sell copies direct at cost, \$1.50, book stores charge \$2.00.]

I don't know whether the newspaper or the Paradise of the Pacific Magazine would be the better medium for publishing such a series, probably the latter. I will let you know if anything is printed.

With best regards to Mr. Mullahey and yourself, I am

Yours very sincerely,

E. H. Bryan, Jr.,  
Curator of Collections.

Mrs. W. J. Mullahey,  
Box 724,  
Hilo, Hawaii.

110 ) 4400  
      40  
      4400  
335 ) 4400 (13  
      335  
      1150  
      1005  
      145

14 pages



Western Pacific High Commissioner,

Suva, Fiji,

February, 1940.

Dear Sir George Tomlinson,

I have been meaning to write to you for some months but the war, coupled with the multiplicity of extra work that has fallen to my lot of late, has resulted in a constant postponement of all private letter writing.

As you will see from the above address we are living at present in Suva, as I <sup>have</sup> had to take a short leave in New Zealand owing to an attack of lumbago and since then have been making on special reports on <sup>various</sup> settlement schemes and other work in connection with the Central Pacific islands. The Phoenix Islands settlement scheme has been progressing very well and we now have three flourishing communities on Sydney, Hill, and Gardner Islands. I am really very pleased with the way things have turned out, as I had scarcely hoped, after the numerous

difficulties which beset us at the start, that we would have completed all the pioneering work in just over a year. Now that the scheme is comparatively smooth sailing I have headed me to Gallegher until I am able to return to the Colony - we are, of course, extremely lucky to have such a first class cadet available.

Everybody here was rejoiced to hear that increased funds are to be available for Colonial Development, it certainly came as a surprise to me as I had imagined that all development work would have to be cancelled for the duration of the war. I do



hope that it means that the schemes for the settlement of Christmas and the Southern Line Islands will now go through without delay as the Phoenix Group can only hold about a tenth of the number who are clamouring to be allowed to migrate.

I fear that you must have been somewhat puzzled by my having to ask Sir Harry Luke for promotion and transfer, if necessary outside the Pacific, before I went on leave in September. I do want to assure you that this is in no way due to any change in my affection for the Western Pacific or my present work, but purely due to financial reasons. My work as Commissioner for Lands and general adviser in native affairs, if it is to be done properly, necessitates incessant travelling and an expenditure far in excess of any which has to be faced by an administrative official. I have, fortunately, a small private means, amounting to about £120 in all, and for one year just I have ~~struggled~~ struggled spent this to make ends meet. ~~endeavour to pay out my job.~~ Recently, however, owing to the advent of an addition to my family, - and the consequent necessity for maintaining a <sup>near less permanent</sup> dual establishment, I have found myself obliged to dip into my capital to carry on. As you will, I am sure, readily appreciate, this method of meeting the situation cannot go on for long as the more we use up our capital the more desperate becomes our plight the following year. I should add that in my case the position was complicated by my illness in 1936, which has meant that I have had to give up the fish and chicken diet which is the mainstay of Gullet and Ellise Islands officials and live on expensive <sup>import</sup>



~~updated~~ vitamin foods. The present rapidly rising cost of living, due largely to freight rates, will add further to difficulties on our return.

I did not <sup>perhaps actually do</sup> discuss financial aspect with Sir Harry Luke, being rather reticent on such matters, but I have since told him that I have personally no wish whatever to leave the Pacific apart from the fact that salaries here are now too low to enable an officer, with a family to think of, to be free from constant financial worries. As I believe, however, that His Excellency has kindly recommended me for the position of Chief Native Lands Commissioner, with an increase in salary, I have <sup>not</sup> ~~no~~ desire to do otherwise than remain in the Pacific for the rest of my service. I felt, however, that

I ought to write to you to explain any apparent inconsistency and to let you know that everything is, I believe, settled satisfactorily.

The war has so far scarcely touched us out here ~~to get~~ though one imagines that this immunity from its effects cannot last for long. In the Pacific life still goes on at the old even tempo and it is ~~difficult~~ <sup>hard</sup> to realize what tremendous changes must be taking place in Europe. It is difficult to know whether one is justified in taking long leave in England when due as it seems scarcely fair to add to the number of non-combatants who must be fed and housed.

I read of your retirement in the Crown Colonist and would like to take the opportunity of respectfully wishing you many years of well-earned rest after the turmoil of life at the Colonial office. I imagine, however, that retirement in your case merely means a transfer of activities to other fields of service.

Both Sir Dore and I are next month, much to the joy of Fiji, and Cantonment in April from the Seychelles. It is also rumored that the new batch of cadets will be out earlier than usual, so we shall soon have no grounds for complaint as to staff.



If the new letters are as good as Wankam, Gullagher, and Berrington we shall not be able to complain about the quality either.

as I do not know your present address I am sending this letter care of the Colonial Office.

Hoping that you will find time to visit the Pacific before long,

Yours sincerely,



MEMORANDUM

Confidential.

13th February, 1940.

From:-

To:-

The Officer in Charge,  
Phoenix Is. Settlement Scheme,  
at Suva, Fiji Islands.

The Acting Secretary,  
Western Pacific High Commission,  
Suva, Fiji Islands.

---

As I am under orders to leave Suva on the 2nd March for the purpose of writing up the Historical Report on the Central Pacific Equatorial Islands at Beru Island it will be necessary for me (on Mr. P.D. Macdonald's estimate) to go through over 40,000 Minute Papers, as well as the bound volumes of reports in the High Commission office, in order to sort out the material to be taken, which will comprise several hundred Minute Papers and a few bound volumes. Mr. Macdonald has found in practice that it is impossible to deal with more than 3,000 files in a full day's work, and it will therefore be necessary for me to be relieved of all other duties if I am to have any prospect of completing my task before the date of sailing.

I feel that you should be informed in advance that it will be necessary, in order to prepare the report, to take with me, among other Secret files, current Minute Papers 50 (S) / 36 - 2 vols. and 98 (S) / 36 - 5 vols. These Minute Papers contain much essential information without which the report could not be written.

In order that I may be in a position to order the necessary stores I should be grateful if I might be informed whether I am  
correct in



correct in assuming that I shall be returning to Fiji on the a.s. 'John Williams', which is due to arrive at Suva on the 5th or 6th June. This would enable me to have time, provided my other duties while on Beru are confined to essential administrative work, to complete my report before my return.

*J.L.M.*

---



1507/35

Government House,  
Suva, Fiji

28<sup>th</sup> February, 1940.

My dear Jeffries,

I refer to my confidential personal letter to Tomlinson of the 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 1939, regarding Naudé's future and to your letter in reply No. 35846/C.R. of the 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 1939.

Naudé has now returned from leave and as a result of the transfer of Joy from the New Hebrides and the contemplated promotion of Blandy to the Resident Commissioner'ship, I have further discussed with him my proposition to recommend him for the position of Assistant Resident Commissioner. After discussing the matter fully in all its aspects Naudé has decided that he does not wish to be considered for the post, chiefly I think because if he is not to be transferred out of the Pacific in the near future he feels that his sphere of duty still lies in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands.

For convenience of reference I enclose a copy of my despatch Western Pacific No. 43 of today's date, which outlines a scheme for dealing more expeditiously with Native Lands Commissioner work in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands. You will see from that despatch that I have proposed that Naudé should be promoted to the post to be created of Chief Lands Commissioner, and that he should be put on a



salary scale of £880 x £40 - £1,000.

Nauke assures me that these proposals will satisfy his desire for advancement for some years to come, and I hope most sincerely that the Secretary of State will find it possible to approve my recommendations.

There is no doubt that Nauke's heart is still in the Gilbert Islands and perhaps will always be there; and, if he can achieve a speedy determination of the native land claims by the methods now proposed he will earn a reputation which will put him on the road for further promotion in the future. In any case I am sure you will agree with me that by his past services he has justly earned the promotion which I now seek for him.

Yours sincerely,

(signed) H.C. Luke.

---



WESTERN PACIFIC HIGH COMMISSION GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, 29th March, 1940.

RULES FOR GILBERTESE SPELLING.

1. That the letter B shall be used as the symbol to represent the B and P and intermediate sounds in Gilbertese words. This rule shall extend to foreign words incorporated into the Gilbertese language, though the discretionary use only of P may be allowed for those foreign words written in the original with P. Examples: Tabiteuea, Abemama, rabakau, buoka, kabo, aba; Beberuare (February), Buranti (France), batika (bicycle), boki (book), boti (boat); but Bauro or Pauro (Paul), bentira or pentira (pencil), beki or peki (pig), beba or pepa (paper).

2. That the single speech sound variously written as G, N, or Ng shall be written as Ng only. Example: Rongorongo, kanganga, Abaiang, Matang, ngaina, ngke.

3. That hyphens shall not be used to indicate suffixed possessive pronouns and the preposition N or Ni. This rule shall apply also to compound words forming single concepts. Examples: Barau, not bara-u; anganai, not angan-ai; i buakoia, not i buako-ia; abana, not aba-na, umani ben, not uma-ni ben; bati n tamaroa, not bati-n tamaroa; aonaba, not ao-n-aba; aontano, not ao-n-tano.

4. That diacritical signs shall not be used. Examples: Ba, not B'a (rock or oil); mane, not m'ane (male or money); kan, not k̄an (near or fruit stem); maka, not m̄aka (fear or power); kawa, not k̄awa (villages); wa, not w̄a (canoes).

---



WESTERN PACIFIC HIGH COMMISSION GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, 29th March, 1940.

RULES FOR GILBERTESE SPELLING.

1. That the letter B shall be used as the symbol to represent the B and P and intermediate sounds in Gilbertese words. This rule shall extend to foreign words incorporated into the Gilbertese language, though the discretionary use only of P may be allowed for those foreign words written in the original with P. Examples: Tabiteuea, Abemama, rabakau, buoka, kabo, aba; Beberuare (February), Buranti (France), batika (bicycle), boki (book), boti (boat); but Bauro or Pauro (Paul), bentira or pentira (pencil), beki or peki (pig), beba or pepa (paper).
  2. That the single speech sound variously written as G, N, or Ng shall be written as Ng only. Example: Rongorong, kanganga, Abaiang, Matang, ngaina, ngke.
  3. That hyphens shall not be used to indicate suffixed possessive pronouns and the preposition N or Ni. This rule shall apply also to compound words forming single concepts. Examples: Barau, not bara-u; anganai, not angan-ai; i buakoia, not i buako-ia; abana, not aba-na, umani ben, not uma-ni ben; bati n tamaroa, not bati-n tamaroa; aonaba, not ao-n-aba; aontano, not ao-n-tano.
  4. That diacritical signs shall not be used. Examples: Ba, not B'a (rock or oil); mane, not m'ane (male or money); kan, not k̄an (near or fruit stem); maka, not m̄aka (fear or power); kawa, not k̄awa (villages); wa, not w̄a (canoes).
-



F I J I.

No. 789/C3/18.

FROM the Senior Chemist.

TO the Secretary, Western Pacific High Commission.  
Through the Director of Agriculture.

SUBJECT: TODDY.

(Date) 3rd April, 1940.

General Composition: The average composition of unfermented toddy as established by chemists in Malaya, Ceylon, India, and the Phillipines agrees closely with the following figures:

Density at 15/15 C	:	1.07
Total Solids	:	17.50 per cent
Acidity (acetic acid)	:	trace
Ash	:	0.40 per cent
Sucrose	:	16.50 per cent
Invert Sugar	:	trace
Nitrogenous Compounds	:	0.60 per cent

Fermentation Processes: Immediately after the sap has been collected it begins to ferment in the following manner, (1) the sucrose is converted to invert sugar by the enzyme invertase (2) the invert sugar is fermented by the yeast with alcohol as the main product (3) as the alcohol accumulates it is converted into acetic acid by bacterial action. Actions (2) and (3) proceed together at rates dependent on temperature, concentrations of reacting materials and, in general, under clean collection conditions, reaction (2) proceeds at a greater rate. Reaction (3) is rapid under conditions favourable to the development of the bacterium such as the collection of the sap in dirty containers or permitting it to ferment in unclean vessels.

Local Toddy: The samples submitted were all in active fermentation so that it was not possible to establish the composition of the unfermented sap although it probably does not vary much from the average figures recorded above. An Analysis was made of a sample which had been fermenting for just under 24 hours with the following results:

Density at 15/15 C	:	1.074
Total Solids	:	14.99 per cent
Acidity	:	0.30 per cent
Ash	:	0.20 per cent
Sucrose	:	0.05 per cent
Invert Sugar	:	12.30 per cent
Alcohol	:	1.72 per cent



The alcohol content varied as follows: 24 hours - 1.72%, 48 hours - 2.60%, 72 hours - 5.23%. After 72 hours the toddy also contained 1.27% acetic acid.

Uses: In Ceylon and Malaya toddy is used as a sweet beverage but not if fermentation has proceeded more than 24 hours. Up to 24 hours fermentation, the alcohol content corresponds to that of a light ale and the drink is refreshing and stimulating. After 24 hours under clean conditions the alcohol will increase up to 6% but usually considerable amounts of acetic acid and other products are produced at the expense of the sugar and alcohol. Toddy should not be consumed after 24 hours unless fermentation is arrested.

Toddy with an alcoholic content of 6% can be converted into a strong alcoholic spirit of from 55% to 90% proof spirit by distillation of the fermented material. Considerable quantities of this spirit known as "arrack" is produced in Malaya, Ceylon, India, and the Phillipine Islands under strict Governmental supervision.

In Ceylon and Malaya the sap is sometimes concentrated for the production of sugar. The preparation known as "jaggery" is obtained by the evaporation of the material after fermentation has been arrested by the addition of a small quantity of bark rich in tannin.

Finally, a good class of vinegar can be obtained by permitting acetic acid fermentation to continue until the alcohol is used up.

Claims have been advanced for treatment of beriberi with toddy. This is not due to the presence of vitamin B<sub>1</sub> in the sap of the coconut but to the rapid development of yeasts which possess the property of being able to synthesise the vitamin in the course of normal metabolism. On account of the high sugar percentage toddy constitutes an excellent medium for the development of micro-organisms. In order to obtain maximum effects in the treatment of beriberi it is essential to stimulate the growth of yeasts and limit the development of undesirable organisms. This can be accomplished by fermenting the sap under clean conditions so that alcoholic fermentation is in excess of acetic acid fermentation. A rough guide to vitamin B<sub>1</sub> activity could be obtained by the approximate assessment of the number of yeast cells in a cubic centimeter of the fermented toddy by microscopic examination and a more potent preparation could be obtained by concentration and standardisation against the pigeon unit. The value of toddy in the treatment of beriberi is dependent entirely on the activity of yeast and where preparations such as "marmite" and other standard products are not available or not easily obtainable the use of toddy both as a prophylactic and in treatment is of distinct value.

(Sgd.) W.J. BLACKIE.

Senior Chemist.



DETAILS OF MANUFACTURE - BRAY'S EMULSION.

Bray's Emulsion was introduced by Dr. G. W. BRAY at Nauru Island in 1926 in an endeavour to introduce vitamin B into the diet of the infants. It is presumed that the Emulsion contains vitamin B, as it is made from yeast, but as far as I can ascertain there is no record of any determination of the amount of vitamin B contained therein, if any, and some recent work indicated that many yeasts are deficient or lacking in vitamin B. The Emulsion when first introduced effected a dramatic improvement in the annual infantile mortality, but since 1935 results have not been satisfactory. There is no evidence for or against the yeast in this connection.

Bray's Emulsion is made as follows : The sap or juice from the green spathe of the coconut tree is collected, the product of many trees being pooled. This is then fermented for five days in 2-gallon glass bottles in a light airy room protected from direct sunlight. The yeast sinks to the bottom of the bottle, and the supernatant fluid can then be siphoned off. The yeast is then poured out of the bottle into a collecting <sup>yeast</sup> vessel, washed with fresh water to remove the major part of the alcoholic fluid and is then stored until required. A small quantity of chloroform may be added to preserve it, and it should if possible be kept in a refrigerator.

For use, the yeast is mixed with an equal quantity of cod-liver oil. The dose usually recommended at Nauru is one teaspoonful per day for infants 3-6 months; two teaspoonsful 6-9 months and three teaspoonsful 9-12 months, but the actual dosage depends largely on the laws of supply and demand.

For breast fed infants, it is also logical to administer the Emulsion to the mother.

*Thurston*

GOVERNMENT MEDICAL OFFICER.



MEMORANDUM.

14th April, 1940.

From:-

To:-

H.E. Maude, Esq.,  
at Suva, Fiji.

The Acting Secretary,  
Western Pacific High Commission,  
Suva, Fiji.

---

Old Papers of Historical Importance filed in  
the High Commission Office.

During the course of certain recent work which involved consulting the earlier documents in the High Commission office a number of documents were found, written prior to, or at the date of, the establishment of the Protectorate in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony, which are of considerable historical interest. In particular several of them would be of great assistance when compiling the proposed history of the Colony for use in schools and in preparing historical data on the Colony for publication in the proposed government periodical on Fiji and Western Pacific Studies.

2. I should be most grateful if I might be permitted to type, or have typed, copies of a few of these documents of especial historical importance, on the understanding that an extra typed copy of any manuscript at present unbound is made for record in the High Commission office. This procedure would be particularly



particularly important in cases where the original manuscript is showing signs of wear and tear.

llh.

---



COPY.

1507 / 35

WESTERN PACIFIC

CONFIDENTIAL

Colonial Office,  
Downing Street,  
20<sup>th</sup> April, 1940.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your confidential despatch of 9<sup>th</sup> January covering a report on the Phoenix Islands settlement scheme, which I have read with considerable interest.

The record of progress in the work of colonisation is impressive, and I share your appreciation of the valuable work done by Mr Harde and Mr Gallogher.

I have, etc,

(Signed) Malcolm MacDonald

High Commission

Sir Harry Luke, K.C.M.G.,

etc, etc, etc,





## PROCLAMATION

[No. 4 OF 1928.]

In the name of His Majesty GEORGE THE FIFTH by the Grace of God of Great Britain, Ireland and the British Dominions beyond the Seas King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India.

By His Excellency Sir EYRE HUTSON, Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, His Britannic Majesty's High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

[L.S.] EYRE HUTSON,  
High Commissioner.

PURSUANT to the powers vested in me by section 68 of the Gilbert and Ellice (Customs) Regulation No. 2 of 1912 I do hereby order and declare that on and after the 1st day of January, 1929, the goods enumerated in this Proclamation shall be exempted from the payment of Customs dues on importation into the Colony, that is to say:—

Printing and book-binding machinery and appliances, type and lithograph appliances and component parts thereof, imported by religious bodies to be used solely in the production of books, periodicals or other printed matter of a religious or educational nature, but so that in every case it shall be proved by the importer to the satisfaction of the Collector of Customs that the particular article or articles in respect whereof the exemption aforesaid is claimed has or have been imported solely for the aforesaid use.

2. Proclamation No. 7 of 1923 is hereby amended by the addition to the Second Schedule thereof (Exemptions) of the articles hereinbefore mentioned.

Whereof let all men take notice and govern themselves accordingly.

Given under my hand and the Seal of the Western Pacific High Commission at Suva in the Colony of Fiji this twenty-ninth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and twenty-eight.

*By Command,*

H. G. PILLING,  
*Secretary to the Western Pacific  
High Commission.*

M.P. 2888/28.



RECEIVED  
WILSON & COY.  
1111 1/2 ST. N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

UNION CLUB,  
GARLTON HOTEL TERRACE,  
S.W. 1.

April 1940

Dear Maude

I was very glad to get your letter of 28th February to know that you were enjoying a spell of the fresh pots of Suva.

Your work on the Phoenix Islands Settlement scheme must have been immensely satisfying. So often in administrative work one misses the concrete results of the kind to which people like engineers can point. But you at least can point to something tangible & can say "Exegi monumentum aere perennius".



UNION CLUB  
CARLTON HOUSE TERRACE  
S.W.1.

As regards yourself & your career  
I thought that my successor in the  
Colonial office (Mr. Jeffries) ought to  
see what you wrote, so I have taken  
it on myself to show him your  
letter. I hope very much that  
H.E.'s recommendation that you should  
become Chief Native Lands Commissioner  
will go through. & I also hope  
that there will soon be a revision  
of salaries & terms of service  
in the High Commission islands  
on the lines that were approved  
for Fiji. It is long overdue.



UNION CLUB,  
CARLTON HOUSE TERRACE,  
S.W.1.

It was annoying to leave my job in the Colonial Office last October, but I had given notice of my ~~the~~ intention to retire six months previously. Jeffries' promotion in my place had been announced at the same time. So when October came it had to stand. But I have got some war work - very much as a dug-out - in a temporary post on the Staff of the House of Commons. It bids fair to be very interesting.

If you have a chance of coming on leave to England even during the war, my advice is not to let any scruples of conscience deter you from



UNION CLUB  
CARLTON HOUSE TERRACE  
S.W.1

doing so. Malcolm MacDonald's five million pounds for Colonial development itself means that Colonial business must not merely go on as usual during the war, but must be keyed up for fresh initiative. That means that men must be fresh & keen & that means again that they must be refreshed by proper spells of leave. By the end of the last war most of us were completely played out by long tours & overwork caused by depletion of staff. Ground was lost which was not easily regained.

I saw a very good lad called Williams the other day at the Colonial office on an interviewing board. He ought now to be an



UNION CLUB,  
CARLTON HOUSE TERRACE,  
S.W.1.

his way to the Gilberts. Keep an  
eye open for him.

The war has deprived me for  
the present of a permanent  
home, but this address always  
finds me.

Let me know when you  
come to England. It would be  
a great pleasure to see you  
again.

With every good wish.

Yours very sincerely  
S. J. Faulkner



MEMORANDUM.

April, 1940.

From: -  
The Native Lands Commission,  
Gilbert Islands,  
at Suva, Fiji.

To: -  
The Acting Secretary,  
Western Pacific High  
Commission,  
Suva, Fiji.

Status of offspring of polygamous unions in the G. & E.I.C.

I should be grateful if a ruling could be sought from His Honour the Chief Judicial Commissioner regarding the status of the children of customary polygamous unions in the Gilbert Islands. The information is solicited for my guidance in connection with the inheritance of native land.

2. The custom of polygamy is, of course, of immemorial antiquity in the Gilbert Group and the records of European visitors from the time of the discovery of the islands to the date of the establishment of the Protectorate, testify to its prevalence. In 1892, when Capt. E.H.M. Davis was sent to place the islands under the protection of Great Britain orders were given that the existing native customs would not be interfered with (presumably subject to the proviso that they were not contrary to public peace or decency). In this connection I would quote from a despatch from Capt. Davis to the Commander-in-Chief, H.M. Ships, Australia, No. 36 of the 9th August, 1892, in which he details the procedure on the raising of the Flag at Abemama -

"7. .... I pointed out, in accordance with the instructions from the Colonial Office, the advantages to be gained by their accepting British Protection. Also that no taxes would be levied on them without their consent - or their just laws and customs (relating to natives only) be interfered with."

a similar undertaking was given at each island in the Gilbert Group, a fact which is still well remembered by the older generation of natives, who regard it as being of the nature of a declaration of their rights of a somewhat similar type to the Magna Charta or the Treaty of Waitangi.

3. When the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Protectorate was declared a Colony a section, VIII (3), was inserted in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Order in Council, 1915, which would appear to be somewhat the same in effect. Furthermore, by section VIII (1), the government undertook that all treaties and agreements previously entered into, of which the one mentioned in the previous paragraph was presumably the principal, should remain operative and in force, and all pledges and undertakings contained in them should remain mutually binding on all parties to the same.

4. In any case, however, no King's Regulation or Ordinance has ever, so far as I can ascertain, been enacted prohibiting the native custom of polygamy (it will be noted that there is no law relating to Bigamy in the Native Laws Ordinance, 1917,) and although by virtue of the Pacific Order in Council, 1893, English law applies in the Colony, this application has always been held to be subject to the proviso that where English law conflicts with native custom it shall be regarded as being modified by such custom except where there is any specific enactment to the contrary. That this interpretation is correct is, I would submit, supported by the terms of section VI of the Gilbert and Ellice Order in Council, 1915, which lays down that the Pacific Order in Council shall only apply "subject to the provisions of this order", which provisions

include



include section VIII (1) and (3) and therefore, by extension, the agreement, precedent to the establishment of the British Protectorate, made between the representative of Her Majesty Queen Victoria and the natives of the Gilbert Islands.

5. The only other point which would appear worthy of mention in this connection is the view occasionally met with that the state of polygamy is 'contrary to peace and decency' and therefore illegal. This contention, however, can scarcely be maintained seriously in view of the fact that probably well over half His Majesty's subjects in the Colonial Empire are polygamists and the Colonial Office has repeatedly affirmed the validity of polygamous marriages where such unions are in accordance with the 'lex loci contractus', by which is presumably included, as in the case of African and other tribes, customary usages as well as written law.

6. The existing uncertain and unsatisfactory legal position of polygamous wives in the Gilbert Islands is well exemplified in the following extract from a recent despatch from the Resident Commissioner, Mr. J.C. Barley, to His Excellency the High Commissioner, No. 151 of the 8th May, 1939, -

"2. .... it must be borne in mind that the Gilbertese were, and still are, a race which practises polygamy, although, since nowadays the Courts will seldom perform a marriage with a second wife, she has tended to assume the status of a legally unrecognized concubine, though none the less a wife according to native custom. On several islands, I understand, under European pressure the Native Governments now endeavour to suppress polygamous marriages and they consequently tend to take on the objectionable attributes of clandestine unions. On other islands, however, even members of the Native Government have more than one wife and such marriages, if they have not taken place in a Native Court, are regulated to this day in the matter of divorce by native custom alone."

7. The practical importance of the ruling sought is its bearing on the question of the transmission and inheritance of native land. If polygamous unions did not become illegal in the establishment of the Protectorate, by section 3 of the Native Lands Ordinance, 1922, the issue of such unions would be entitled to inherit the land of their parents in accordance with native custom and usage. If, however, such unions are to be considered contrary to law I imagine that the issue must be considered illegitimate and therefore, under section 2 of the Native Laws Amendment (Bastardy) Ordinance, 1924, to be only entitled to such land as the Native Court thinks necessary for their maintenance and support. The Native Court grant for a bastard child is, almost invariably, one piece and the child would thus stand to lose the major portion of the inheritance to which he is entitled by native custom. Further customs which would be affected are those known as "Bururu n rakaraka" and "Kao ni kibakiba", regulating presents of land between husband and wife.

---



Memorandum

April, 1940.

From - The Native Lands Commission,  
 Gilbert Islands,  
 at Suva, Fiji.

To - The Acting Secretary,  
 Western Pacific High Commission,  
 Suva, Fiji.

Fiji Tobacco for consumption in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony.

As directed by H.E. the H.C. I have read through the files dealing with the supply of Fiji grown tobacco for use in the G. & E. I. C. through the Department of Agriculture. As I have for some years been endeavoring, in a small way, to encourage the substitution of Empire grown tobacco for the American trust sold in the Colony, the following observations may be of some interest to the

Department

2. ~~From~~ In 1934, before I was aware of the possibilities of
- ← Fiji grown tobacco, I endeavored to interest the Empire firm
  - ← trading in the Colony in an Australian produced substitute for
  - ← "Empire" trust branded as "Sealand" tobacco. My impression was,
  - ← however, that the firm was so tied up with the American tobacco
  - ← company that they were not willing to give any Empire produced
  - ← substitute a fair trial. I therefore obtained a small shipment
  - ← direct from Sydney and had no difficulty in selling it at
  - ← cost price. In applying for a further supply, however, I was
  - ← informed that, owing to the lack of demand, the firm was no longer
  - ← making the brand.

The native reaction to this tobacco was good and several smokers told me that they preferred it to "Empire" as it was stronger and "knocked them out" quicker.



3. In my return to the Colony in 1937 I found that it was not feasible to obtain Fiji grown tobacco in stick form. A trial shipment was accordingly ordered (see (95a) of ~~report~~) but the Fiji Department of Agriculture was unfortunately unable to supply it (see (96) of ~~report~~). They offered, however, to supply a trial consignment of stuffed leaf tobacco and a 50 lb case was sent to me in 1938 (see (99)).

4. This tobacco was tried out by a number of natives during the course of 1938, the bulk of it being sold <sup>in connection with</sup> the Fada Commission work on Tamara Island. The reaction again was, somewhat to my surprise, very favourable and I could have sold 5 cases without difficulty on Tamara alone, which contains only 1,000 inhabitants. With regard to the tobacco my impression was that natives who use only occasional smokes preferred it to the "Emu", that the younger generation as a whole considered it at any rate as good as "Emu", and that the older and hardened smokers preferred "Emu" but were attracted by the relative cheapness of the Fiji grown product.

5. The conclusions I have reached as a result of the above trials and discussions with native consumers are set forth below -

- (a) There is definitely a market in the Colony for Fiji grown stuffed leaf tobacco, provided it will keep in good condition during the interval of several months between shipment and ultimate consumption, and provided further that it can be sold to the
- (b) The time for small trial shipments is now over. The evidence produced by them is almost invariably conflicting, as so much depends on the island and the manner in which the tobacco is introduced to the native.
- (c) The two European trading firms operating in the Colony will do nothing to help, and will probably oppose, the introduction of Fiji tobacco owing to their long standing connections with the American tobacco trade.

6. As a result of these conclusions I would urge that the Government should purchase <sup>immediately</sup> a shipment of not less than 1,000 lbs of Fiji grown tobacco and re-sell it to the natives of the Colony through

I have personally tried out the unshredded Fiji stick as ordered & Mr. H.P. Tuck on me a finished native on my own island, Tamara. I do not consider that the price of 12 c/clo is a good price for it. (123) under.

& native at not more than 4/- per lb. (The price of the "Emu" stick being, I believe, 6/- or 6/- in some places and 6/6 elsewhere).



the medium of the local co-operative societies. The ~~local~~ administrative offices should be able to dispose of this amount without difficulty. The reports as to the active reaction to this tobacco after this large shipment should furnish us with really reliable data which would enable us to judge accurately the future of Fiji stuffed leaf in the Colony. I would again emphasize, however, that unless the difficulties of obtaining dollar exchange have caused the European firms to change their views, no assistance need be looked for from them and the marketing of the tobacco must be undertaken entirely by the government.

see (119)

7. With regard to the financing of this proposal, the only sum which the Colony administration would need to expend would be the purchase price of the 1,000 lbs. shipment at 1/3 per lb., amounting to £62.10.0. If this tobacco is sold, by the 20 lb case, at

3/9 per lb. to the local co-operative societies, as I suggest, the total receipts would amount to £187.10.0, which could be allocated as follows-

Cost of 1,000 lbs. Fiji stuffed leaf at 1/3	= £62.10.0.
Freight on "Morua" or "Kukua" at 1/3 - payable to govt.	= 12.10.0.
Duty at 2/- - payable to govt.	= 100.0.0.
Profit on sale - payable to govt.	= 12.10.0.
<u>Total</u>	<u>= £187.10.0.</u>

so the government would ultimately gain £125 from the transaction.

8. Should it not be considered desirable for the government to undertake the introduction of Fiji grown tobacco to the Colony market I propose, subject to the approval of the government, to take a trial shipment of 500 lbs., in 25 cases of 20 lbs. each, with an eye return to the Colony, a further shipment of 500 lbs. to be ordered should I dispose of the first consignment. This transaction will, of course, be undertaken purely in a private capacity and at my own risk and loss, and I confess, will be done not entirely <sup>with a view</sup> to assist Fijian industry but principally to help the co-operative societies in the Colony, who have no means



measures asked me for cases of Fijian tobacco which I was unable to supply. The fact that I shall stand to lose a comparatively large sum of money should I not succeed in disposing of the tobacco at cost price may be taken as an indication of my confidence in the ease with which Fijian tobacco can be marketed in the Colony provided it is done with enthusiasm.

9. With regard to the trust tobacco, either adulterated or unadulterated, I am unable to express an opinion until I have an opportunity of seeing the article - but I shall be surprised if the trial assignment of 12 lbs. of the latter set of W. H. J. J. produces any very conclusive results. In my opinion the Colony government should order a trial shipment of not less than 500 lbs. of each type for sale to the native co-operative societies at 4/3 per lb. Fairly this I shall be glad, on my return, to take several cases of each type ~~at my own risk~~ <sup>with me</sup>, the actual number to depend on my estimation, after personal inspection, of the suitability of the tobacco for local consumption.





OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER  
FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC,  
SUVA, FIJI.

No. 1507.

17th May, 1940.

Sir,

I am directed by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific to inform you that, with the approval of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, His Excellency has been pleased, under Section two of the Native Lands (Amendment) Ordinance 1940, to select you for appointment to the post of Chief Lands Commissioner for the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony.

2. Upon your assumption of your new duties as Chief Lands Commissioner you will receive a flat salary of £850 per annum, when your present consolidated travelling allowance of £75 per annum as Lands Commissioner, Gilbert Islands, will lapse; but you will be eligible to draw the usual subsistence allowances when absent from your Headquarters.

3. You will retain membership of the Colonial Administrative

H.E. Maude, Esquire, M.B.E.,

Native Lands Commissioner,

Gilbert Islands

at Suva.





-2.-

Administrative Service and the present fixed salary of the post will be subject to re-consideration on the introduction of certain reorganization proposals, which are pending.

4. The date from which your promotion will take effect will be communicated to you later, and I am to state that the salary of the post will be payable to you from the date on which you assume your new duties.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

  
R.H. Crane

Acting Secretary to the High Commission.



You dated 28<sup>th</sup> Feb, 70 43 20th Leeds  
Commissioner. I offer you proposal to  
create post of C.C.C. and the effect of  
move to this post, with effect from date  
on which he assumes his new duties i.e.  
providing a solution of present staff in  
organizational scheme. He would retain  
membership of C.A.S. I do not know  
on advice which you have given me, feel  
able to agree to a salary of £880-£1,000  
in view of great introduction of  
organizational proposals and I suggest that  
salary should be kept consistent by



£850 Bond. Date for which  
note is to take effect should  
be handed.

S.O.S.

---



Points for Discussion.

Phoenix Islands Settlement Scheme.

1. Future Settlement Programme
2. Finance of the Settlement Scheme
3. Services of Mr. G. B. Gallagher
4. Chartering of Vessels to complete the Scheme
5. Chartering of the m.v. "John Williams V".
6. Future of Gardner Island.
7. District Hospital for Sydney Island.
8. Communication between Ship and Shore in the Phoenix Islands.
9. Wireless Sets for the Phoenix Islands.
10. Official Nomenclature for the Phoenix Islands
11. District Headquarters in the Phoenix Islands.
12. The Phoenix Islands and the Closed District Ordinance.
13. Planting of Phoenix, Birnie, and McKean Islands.
14. Land required for Air purposes on Hull Island.
15. Mr. J. W. Jones.
16. Employment of Phoenix Islanders.
17. Secrecy of British Operations in the Phoenix Group - Confidential.
18. Proposed Canton Island Post Office.
19. Canton Island Postal Arrangements.
20. Canton Island - Ordering of Stores through Pan American Airways.
21. Canton Island - Ordering of Supplies through Ocean Island.
22. Canton Island - Position of Administrative Officer.
23. Canton Island - Status of the Island.
24. Mr. J. Fleming, Canton Island - Confidential.
25. Request that His Excellency shall visit the Phoenix Group.

Other Points.



Other Points.

26. Future of the Native Lands Commission, Gilbert Islands.
  27. Small Change.
  28. Savings Banks.
  29. Tokelau Islands
  30. Christmas Island
  31. Caroline, Vostok, and Flint Islands.
  32. Blasting of Reef Passages.
  33. Book on Gilbertese History for use in Native Schools.
-



Future of the Native Lands Commission, Gilbert Islands.

- (1) It is earnestly requested that the Native Lands Commission should be permitted to continue its work at the earliest opportunity. I have been Native Lands Commissioner for over 5 years (since the 1st July, 1934) and during that time have had the opportunity of doing only 3½ months lands work. This is probably inevitable, and it may be doubted whether the situation will be much changed during the next 5 years. It is submitted, therefore, that an Assistant who can be trained to take over the duties of Native Lands Commissioner is essential and it is understood that this necessity is now acknowledged generally. The difficulty in the past has been a practical one, in as much as all officials in the government either categorically declined to be considered as future Lands Commissioners or were manifestly unsuited temperamentally for the position. Fortunately, however, one of the three new Cadets, Mr. G. B. Gallagher, has unexpectedly proved to have a definite flair for lands work and the temperament necessary for a Lands Commissioner; I believe that he is, furthermore, willing to devote himself to lands work.
- (2) I would strongly recommend that this opportunity, <sup>which</sup> may never occur again, should be taken advantage of and that Mr. Gallagher should be definitely attached to the Lands Commission as assistant.
- (3) The paramount importance of the Native Lands Commission to the native community needs no emphasizing, as it has been continuously reiterated by every Resident Commissioner, and every other European with a knowledge of the Gilbertese native, for the last thirty years. Just as it is the most vital Department of the government, from the point of view of the native, so it is a  
Department



Department which ought never to be allowed to cease activities, even though to enable it to continue it is necessary to retrench on other branches of government work.

---



Non Phoenix.

For His Excellency.

Small Change.

- (1) The position with regard to small change is getting steadily more acute in this Colony. No Change can now be obtained from the Colony government, the Native Governments, Post Office, Missions, Traders, Co-operative Societies or individuals. Natives have to resort to such expedients as owning shares in pound notes, traders pay their change in matches, and as a government official I have been either paying to the nearest shilling in excess of the amount owed and standing the difference personally or tossing a coin to decide who should have the shilling. Natives wishing to purchase a penny stamp have been forced to buy 12 at a time.
  
  - (2) The position was reported to Sir Murchison Fletcher on his visit to the Group in 1931 and orders were given that it was to be remedied immediately. The situation is, however, far worse now and it would be hard to exaggerate the paralysing effect on native economic life. It is submitted that several thousands of pounds in 6d. 3d. 1d and  $\frac{1}{2}$ d coins should be provided by the Treasury and forced into circulation by Administrative Officers, who could be instructed to pay at least a fifth of all sums under £5 in coins of less than 1/- in value, in addition to a fifth of all Imprests given to Native Governments.
- 
-



Savings Banks.

- (1) Some time ago the Auditor reported in favour of the institution of a Savings Bank system in the Colony. Officers were later asked for their views and I believe that all, with the single exception of the Treasurer, were enthusiastically in favour of the proposal.
  - (2) It is submitted that a Savings Bank system is urgently needed in this Colony, that it would be one of the greatest benefits which we could offer to the tax-payers, that it would largely pay for itself, and that the burden of the work would fall, not <sup>on</sup> the Treasury, but on Administrative Officers, who are able and anxious to perform this service to the community. The Treasury staff has recently been increased and should be able to cope with the slight additional work without difficulty.
  - (3) At present the government gives absolutely no encouragement to thrift and the native is, as a consequence, afforded no opportunity to better his condition in life. The economic life of the community is stifled and natives have nothing to fall back on during times of drought and misfortune.
  - (4) Of particular benefit to Native Co-operative Societies would be an arrangement by which they could transmit funds, through the government, to firms in Sydney.
- 
-



For His Excellency.

Tokelau Islands

- (a) Any possibility of islands coming under us?
- 

Christmas Island

- (a) Any hope of the Gilbertese being permitted to settle the island?
- 

Caroline, Vostok, and Flint Islands

- (a) May I visit on next trip of "Nimanoa" to Phoenix. Islands appear to be ideal for settlement purposes.
- 
-



For His Excellency.

Blasting of Reef Passages.

- (a) Great benefit of this vote to the natives, probably exceeded by no other subhead in the Colony Estimates.
- (b) May it please be increased with particular emphasis on the Central and Southern Gilbert Islands.
-



For His Excellency.

Books on Gilbertese History for Native Schools.

- (a) Material all ready, if government will give me 3 weeks to write it.
  - (b) Mr. Mayhew writes asking why delay.
-



MEMORANDUM.

---

From:-

The Native Lands Commissioner,  
Gilbert Islands,  
at Suva, Fiji.

To: The Acting Secretary,  
Western Pacific High Commission,  
Suva, Fiji.

---

Reorganization of Native Lands Work  
in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands  
Colony.

The approval of the Secretary of State to the proposals for the reorganization of native lands work in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony contained in His Excellency's despatch No. 43 of the 28th February, undoubtedly removes at a stroke most of the difficulties hitherto hampering the progress of settlement. The following few points, which largely concern the relationship between Administrative Officers and lands work, are being brought up for the favour of His Excellency's decision in order that a detailed campaign of lands settlement may be drawn up without delay.

Numerical



Numerical strength of District Administration  
necessary for effective work.

2. Under the Native Governments Ordinance 1940, the primary work of lands settlement is to be undertaken in future by the Native Governments themselves, sitting as Native Lands Courts. At the same time, Administrative Officers, after passing their lower standard language examinations, are to receive a short intensive training in native lands customs and the procedure of lands settlement before being appointed Native Lands Commissioners. They will then hear appeals from the decisions of the various Lands Courts within their Districts and, as occasion offers, overtake the arrears of lands work in the islands on which they are for the time residing by hearing additional lands cases as Courts of first instance. The Chief Lands Commissioner will be the co-ordinating authority on which the ultimate direction of the scheme will rest - he will have both appellate and primary jurisdiction and in addition the task of keeping the Colony lands records and training and assisting the Administrative Officers in lands work, both directly by practical demonstration and written instructions and indirectly by codifying the various native customs with regard to land inheritance



inheritance and transmission.

3. It will be at once seen that the success of the scheme outlined above must primarily depend on there being a sufficient staff of Administrative Officers to enable the efficient working of the Department of District Administration. Should shortage of staff make it necessary in future, as it has almost continuously in the past, for one officer to control several districts and at the same time perform a never-ending series of minor treasury and customs duties, there will be little prospect of him finding any time for any but routine clerical work. The paragraphs following are, therefore, an attempt to establish the optimum number of officers necessary, while the various Districts are divided up as at present, if the Department of District Administration is to function as an efficient unit.

4. With the removal of Colony headquarters to Abemama there will be 7 permanent posts, normally reserved for Cadet officers, which should never be left unfilled. These are as follows -

Five District posts as Administrative Officer:

Ocean Island District

Northern Gilbert Islands District

Southern Gilbert Islands District

Ellice Islands District

Line Islands District.



Two specialist posts:

Chief Lands Commissioner

Secretary to Government.

In addition to these 7 basic posts one officer, at the very minimum, will invariably be undergoing instruction of some kind, either in the Colony Secretariat, the Treasury Department, or from the Chief Lands Commissioner. It is earnestly hoped, furthermore, that the present invaluable system by which Cadets are brought in, from time to time, to recover their sanity and sense of proportion by work in Fiji will be continued and the privilege extended to all Cadet Officers in the Colony service, irrespective of district in which they are serving; (it is urged, in this connexion, that a Cadet officer serving in Ocean Island is scarcely less subject to nervous strain and loss of mental balance than one resident in Beru or Funafuti, though the proximate cause may be different). It will be seen, therefore, that two extra officers are normally required in addition to the seven posts mentioned above, i.e. -

1 Cadet officer undergoing specialized instruction locally;

1 Cadet officer temporarily seconded for duty in Fiji, or engaged in special duties (as detailed below).

It is necessary, if the new scheme of lands settlement  
is



is to have a fair chance, that at any given period during the next three years at least one cadet should be receiving instruction in lands work and, while it may be reasonably argued that at times no officer will be on duty in Fiji, it must be remembered at the same time that no provision has been made for any spare officer being available for the innumerable special duties, such as settlement schemes, drought relief, legislative and census work and the like, which in practice have been the full time occupation of the present Lands Commissioner since his appointment. It is considered that these two additional unallocated officers are, therefore, the minimum number which must be provided if District Administration is, in future, to run efficiently.

5. According to the leave and passage rules contained in the Reorganization Report, approximately a quarter of the administrative staff will be on leave at any given moment. The position, under the existing leave rules, is much the same. It is necessary, therefore, to provide an additional three Cadets as relieving officers for those on leave, unless the rules are to be of only theoretical application, with the inevitable and expensive aftermath of physical and nervous breakdowns.

It will be seen from the foregoing that the  
minimum



minimum staff requirements for an efficient Colony Administrative Service is twelve Cadet Officers, allocated as follows -

In charge of Districts	...	5
In specialist posts	...	2
On special duties or undergoing instruction	...	2
Relieving those on leave	...	3
		<hr/>
	<u>Total:</u>	<u>12</u>

This total is based on the assumption that the Northern and Central Gilbert Islands Districts are to be permanently merged into one and that no officer will be required at present for the newly formed Phoenix Islands District.

6. To meet these minimum requirements we have at present on the Colony strength -

Three Administrative Officers :-

Swinbourne

Armstrong

Keegan.

One Secretary to Government :-

Cartwright.

One Lands Commissioner:-

Maude.

Two Passed Cadets:-

Wernham

Bevington.



Two Cadet Officers:-

Gallagher

Iremonger

or a total of nine officers. It is understood that a farther Cadet is at present on his way from Great Britain, which will bring our strength up to ten.

Recommendation I.

It is recommended, therefore, that the Secretary of State should be requested by telegraph to select two farther Cadets for the Colony Service or that, alternately, one Cadet should be asked for and the possibility considered of transferring the second Cadet from either the British Solomon Islands Protectorate or Fiji. It should be noted, however, that this recommendation makes no allowance for the possible retirement of Major Swinbourne, who has passed the age limit of 55, or the transfer of Mr. Armstrong.

The Appointment of Native Lands Commissioners.

7. In the past few Administrative Officers have considered the settlement of native land disputes to lie within the sphere of their duties, the vast majority having been only too glad to leave the work to a specialist officer. It is most important, therefore, that in future all Administrative Officers should not only become accustomed to considering

lands



lands settlement work as an integral and important part of their duties but also that they should have the necessary available time for devoting to this work. Steps towards the latter end can be seen in the present attempts to reduce the volume of Treasury and Customs work being done by Administrative Officers, particularly at Tarawa, and to increase the Native Clerical staff attached to each District headquarters.

Recommendation II.

With regard to the first point it is recommended that each Cadet, on passing his lower standard language examination, shall be seconded for approximately three months practical instruction in lands settlement work under the Chief Lands Commissioner, and that appointments as Native Lands Commissioners should be made by the Resident Commissioner on the recommendation of the Chief Lands Commissioner, following upon, and as a result of, this course.

8. It is urged, farthermore, that all Administrative Officers should be required, as a condition of their farther advancement in the service, to qualify as Native Lands Commissioners and undertake lands work in their districts, and to this end attention is directed to Recommendation XXXI. in the Re-Organization Report on the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony which requires that "within six years of



of the date of original appointment, Administrative Officers should be required to pass examinations in -

(d) lower standard of the native language not already taken; and

(e) higher standard of the language taken prior to confirmation."

Recommendation III.

It is recommended that the following requirement should be added to those proposed above -

"and to have -

(f) undergone a course of instruction to the satisfaction of the Chief Lands Commissioner, in the customs governing the inheritance and transmission of native land and the procedure used in settling native land disputes."

The Integration of Administrative and Lands Work.

9. The main aim of the present reorganization is to prevent the work of lands settlement from becoming the preserve of a separate and specialized department and to keep it as part and parcel of the normal work of District Administration. That this policy is the correct one is, I think, undeniable, for lands settlement work is bound up with so many other aspects of District Administration that it is often impossible to state where one begins and the

other



other ceases. Farthermore if Administrative Officers are to be persuaded to consider the settlement of lands disputes as a part of the normal work of administration it is important that they should be controlled in lands matters not by an official of another department but by a senior member of the Department of District Administration itself.

10. This principle of the Lands Commissioner being a member of the Department of District Administration was observed in the case of the former Lands Commissioner, Sir A.F. Grimble, who was a First District Officer and Lands Commissioner, and in Fiji with Ratu Sukuna. It has also been approved by the Secretary of State in my own case that the Chief Lands Commissioner shall in future be graded as an Administrative Officer, Grade 1.

Recommendation IV.

It is urged, therefore, that on the appointment of the Chief Lands Commissioner, the post should not be converted into a separate department but that, precisely as Lands Commissioners are in future to be Administrative Officers in the Department of District Administration, the Chief Lands Commissioner should, pending reorganization, be classed as a Senior Administrative Officer within the same Department.

.....

14th May, 1940.



MEMORANDUM.

From:-

The Native Lands Commissioner,  
 Gilbert Islands,  
 at Suva, Fiji.

To: The Acting Secretary,  
 Western Pacific High Commission,  
 Suva, Fiji.

Reorganization of Native Lands Work  
in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands  
Colony.

h at The approval of the Secretary of State to the proposals for the reorganization of native lands work in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony contained in His Excellency's despatch No.43 of the 28th February, undoubtedly removes a stroke most of the difficulties hitherto hampering the progress of settlement. The following few points, which largely concern the relationship between Administrative Officers and lands work, are being brought up for the favour of His Excellency's decision in order that a detailed campaign of lands settlement may be drawn up without delay.

Numerical strength of District Administration  
necessary for effective work.

2. Under the Native Governments Ordinance 1940, the primary work of lands settlement is to be undertaken in future by the Native Governments themselves, sitting as Native Lands Courts. At the same time, Administrative Officers, after passing their lower standard language examinations, are to receive a short intensive training in native lands customs and the procedure of lands settlement before being appointed Native Lands Commissioners. They will then hear appeals from the decisions of the various Lands Courts within their Districts and, as occasion offers, overtake the arrears of lands work in the islands on which they are for the time residing by hearing additional lands cases as Courts of first instance. The Chief Lands Commissioner will be the co-ordinating authority on which the ultimate direction of the scheme will rest - he will have both appellate and primary jurisdiction and in addition the task of keeping the Colony lands records and training and assisting the Administrative Officers in lands work, both directly by practical demonstration and written instructions and indirectly by codifying the various native customs with regard to land inheritance and transmission.

3. It will be at once seen that the success of the  
 scheme



scheme outlined above must primarily depend on there being a sufficient staff of Administrative Officers to enable the efficient working of the Department of District Administration. Should short-age of staff make it necessary in future, as it has almost continuously in the past, for one officer to control several districts and at the same time perform a never-ending series of minor treasury and customs duties, there will be little prospect of him finding any time for any but routine clerical work. The paragraphs following are, therefore, an attempt to establish the optimum number of officers necessary, while the various Districts are divided up as at present, if the Department of District Administration is to function as an efficient unit.

4. With the removal of Colony headquarters to Abemama there will be 7 permanent posts, normally reserved for Cadet officers, which should never be left unfilled. These are as follows -

Five District posts as Administrative Officer:

Ocean Island District.  
Northern Gilbert Islands District.  
Southern Gilbert Islands District.  
Ellice Islands District.  
Line Islands District.

Two specialist posts:

Chief Lands Commissioner  
Secretary to Government.

In addition to these 7 basic posts one officer, at the very minimum, will invariably be undergoing instruction of some kind, either in the Colony Secretariat, the Treasury Department, or from the Chief Lands Commissioner. It is earnestly hoped, furthermore, that the present invaluable system by which their sanity and sense of proportion by work in Fiji will be continued and the privilege extended to all Cadet Officers in the Colony service, irrespective of district in which they are serving; (it is urged, in this connexion, that a Cadet Officer serving in Ocean Island is scarcely less subject to nervous strain and loss of mental balance than one resident in Beru or Funafuti, though the proximate cause may be different). It will be seen, therefore, that two extra officers are normally required in addition to the seven posts mentioned above, i.e. -

- 1 Cadet officer undergoing specialized instruction locally;
- 1 Cadet officer temporarily seconded for duty in Fiji, or engaged in special duties (as detailed below).

It is necessary, if the new scheme of lands settlement is to have a fair chance, that at any given period during the next three years at least one cadet should be receiving instruction in lands work and, while it may be reasonably argued that at times no officer will be on duty in Fiji, it must be remembered at the same time that no provision has been made for any spare officer being available for the innumerable special duties, such as settlement schemes, drought relief, legislative and census work and the like, which in practice have been the full time occupation of the present Lands Commissioner since his appointment. It is considered that these two additional unallocated officers are, therefore, the minimum number which must be provided if District Administration is, in future, to run efficiently.

5. According to the leave and passage rules contained in the Reorganization Report, approximately a quarter of the administrative staff will be on leave at any given moment. The position, under the existing leave rules, is much the



same. It is necessary, therefore, to provide an additional three Cadets as relieving officers for those on leave, unless the rules are to be of only theoretical application, with the inevitable and expensive aftermath of physical and nervous breakdowns.

It will be seen from the foregoing that the minimum staff requirements for an efficient Colony Administrative Service is twelve Cadet Officers, allocated as follows -

In charge of Districts	...	5
In specialist posts	...	2
On special duties or undergoing instructions	...	2
Relieving those on leave	...	<u>3</u>
<b>Total:</b>		<b><u>12</u></b>

This total is based on the assumption that the Northern and Central Gilbert Islands Districts are to be permanently merged into one and that no officer will be required at present for the newly formed Phoenix Islands District.

6. To meet these minimum requirements we have at present on the Colony strength -

Three Administrative Officers:-

Swinbourne  
Armstrong  
Keegan

One Secretary to Government :-

Cartwright.

One Lands Commissioner:-

Maude.

Two Passed Cadets:-

Wernham  
Bevington.

Two Cadet Officers:-

Gallagher  
Ismonger

or a total of nine officers. It is understood that a farther Cadet is at present on his way from Great Britain, which will bring our strength up to ten.

Recommendation A.

It is recommended, therefore, that the Secretary of State should be requested by telegraph to select two farther Cadets for the Colony Service or that, alternately, one Cadet should be asked for and the possibility considered of transferring the second Cadet from either the British Solomon Islands Protectorate or Fiji. It should be noted, however, that this recommendation makes no allowance for the possible retirement of Major Swinbourne, who has passed the age limit of 55, or the transfer of Mr. Armstrong.

... ..

(Signed) H.E. Maude.



Office of the High Commissioner  
for the Western Pacific,  
Suva, Fiji.

1st July, 1940.

Gilbert & Ellice.

No. 170.

Sir,

14.5.40.  
With reference to correspondence ended with your telegram No.96 of the 13th March, on the subject of Cadet Officers required for the year 1941, I have the honour to forward, for your information, an excerpt from a memorandum received from the Commissioner for Native Lands, Gilbert Islands, relative to the reorganization of native lands work in the Colony.

2. As a result of Mr.Maude's views, with which I concur, a telegram was sent to the Secretary of State requesting that three Cadets might be selected for service in the Colony in respect of 1941.

Circ.No.105-20.6.40.  
3. On the 21st June, a Circular telegram was received from the Secretary of State, relative to the question of recruitment for the Colonial Services in respect of the same year, and I enclose a copy for your information. In the meanwhile the Colony's draft Estimates for the year 1940-41 had been received, showing an estimated deficit of £17,255.

No.132 -26.6.40.  
4. Although I was most reluctant to reduce the number of Cadets for which I had previously asked, the serious state of the Colony's finances compelled me to reconsider my previous decision, and a telegram was therefore despatched to the Secretary of State, of which I enclose an excerpt for your information.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) H.C.LUKE

High Commissioner.



COPY.DECODE

# TELEGRAM.

136X42-3 rms.

From THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

To ~~THE HIGH COMMISSIONER~~ THE GOVERNOR.

No. .... (Date) 20th June, 19 40.

Circular No.105. In the light of the principle laid down in my telegram 91 Circular I have considered the question of recruitment for the Colonial Services.

2. Colonial Administrative Service. Cadets who remained for the Third Term Course will be ready to sail early in July. In addition I propose to secure immediately 58 Cadets who have recently been selected by the Colonial Service Appointments Board against 1941 requirements. 36 (most of whom have completed military training) will be available during the summer, the rest in the autumn. I hope also to make a further selection in the autumn from candidates whose applications could not be considered at the selection recently held. In considering whether these young men should take up their appointments in the Colonial Service, following points are of special importance.

- (a) The war situation makes it increasingly important to build up reserves for officers cadre of local forces.
- (b) Opportunity for recruiting such well qualified men for the Colonial Administrative Service may not recur for a long time.
- (c) There is absolutely no question of these "war" cadets seeking to avoid military service. They have only agreed to accept appointments with the full approval of the Army and Air Force Authorities and on the clear assurance that if selected they would best serve the national cause by going into the Colonial Service.
- (d) I am assured by the Colonial Service Appointments Board that the candidates successful at the selection are excellent material and at least up to normal standard of quality.
- (e) Some of those selected last year and practically all those selected this year have had or will have had military or Air force training. Many are already Commissioned Officers. They will be an invaluable addition to reserve of man power available for local forces and unless required for urgent civil duties I assume they will be employed on military duties with these forces.
- (f) Apart from immediate situation, by securing these candidates now we shall have effected a most valuable insurance against such break in



continuity of administration as caused serious dislocation of essential services at the end of last war. In short it is my definite view that taking up of their appointments by these "war" cadets would not be a diversion of man power from the war effort. Candidates who were selected last year and have completed their course will therefore go out to the Colonies to which they were allocated last October. Further, I am of the opinion that the colonies which have notified vacancies to be filled in 1941 should take men who have been or will be selected this year against those vacancies. But these men cannot be expected on being released from forces to settle down to a university course, and release cannot be deferred beyond the preliminary stage of army training. The cadets will accordingly proceed to their colonies as and when they become available without any course, and will be technically supernumeraries in so far as they are not filling up vacancies in approved establishment. I shall be obliged if Governments concerned will inform me by telegram of respective numbers they would prefer to take (a) in the near future of (b) later in the year.

(g) Other branches of the Colonial Service. For similar reasons to those given above I am proceeding with recruitment as opportunity offers for the Medical, Education, Agricultural, Forestry, Veterinary, Police and other essential services in which vacancies exist or are expected, and for which recruitment of suitably qualified personnel is likely to become more difficult as time goes on. But I suggest that Colonial Governments should review outstanding vacancies for technical or other officers who could be usefully employed on munition production or other essential work in this country. I shall be glad if you will advise the Crown Agents for the Colonies at an early date whether any technical vacancies they have been asked to fill may be suspended.

3. In conclusion, I would emphasize that candidates who are selected in the present circumstances for administrative or any other branch of the Service are coming out because on the strength of an assurance from me they conceive it to be their best way of doing their duty in the national effort. I feel sure that I can rely on the Governor to see that there is no misunderstanding in the Colonies as to either reasons for candidates being sent out or their motives in accepting the appointment. Similarly, Governors will, I am sure, appreciate the importance of giving them a real job of work to do when they come out. It would be a misfortune for the Service and a grave injustice to these young men if there were any misunderstanding of their position in either official or unofficial quarters or if they were given any reason to feel that their sacrifice of their natural desire to serve in the armed forces in Europe has not been worth while. You have full discretion to use the information contained in this telegram as you may think best in order to make the position clear to all concerned.

Please repeat this telegram to High Commissioner for Western Pacific.

Secretary of State.



# TELEGRAM.

RECODE.

~~EXX.~~

EXCERPT.

155X43-2000

[CODE.....]

From THE HIGH COMMISSIONER.

To THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

No. 132.

(Date) 26th June, 19 40.

... ..

Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony requires two Cadets, but in view of the estimated deficit of £17,000 shown in draft Estimates, I have some hesitation in asking for more than one.

I shall be glad if Cadets may proceed to the Territories as soon as they can be released.

High Commissioner.



65241

No. **PC** 012023

MALDON, ESSEX

6-6-1960

395

**WESTMINSTER BANK LIMITED**

MALDON BRANCH



PAY *H. E. Mawds*

or Order

the sum of *one pound five shillings & six pence*

£ *5-6*

*A. L. Fells*

This Cheque requires endorsement



FROM

REV. A.L. SADD.

RONGORONGO,

BERU,

GILBERT ISLANDS.

6 - 6 -1940

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Maude,

Teikarawa came over the other day to say that your tobacco was going mouldy; and that last time you wnet on fur<sup>l</sup>ough you had to throw away all your stock of tobacco on your return. So he though that it would be better if he and other members of the Government bought your stock off you now and used it. Whether this idea was purely altruistic, or whether it was influenced to a certain extent by the fact that Kwong is nearly out of tobacco, and there seems no likelihood of any other ship bringing any more, I could not be certain. But in any case it seemed a fairly sound idea. so I agreed to accept the money and forward it to you.

This morning Ikamawa brought me over 25/6 for 3 lbs of it at 8/6 a lb. So I enclose a cheque for that sum. + strongly advise you to pay it in as soon as possible, for if Hitler was to attack the east of England and render the securities on which my overdraft is raised, valules, the bank might refuse to cough up.

So far things are running pretty smoothly here. G.H.E. and Mrs. Eastman went down to ~~Suva~~ N.Z. in January on the advice of MacPherson and McGusty. Bevington went to Suva for a spell on the Kiakia. And I believe that Gallagher is now coming back from the Phoenix to replace him here for a bit.

I think, for the first time for many years, a chappy was flogged the other day for attacking a woman with a knife. but apparently the cat was rotten and broke up, so it did not have much effect.

I got a notice from E.R.B. a little while ago saying that a subscription was to be raised for the red cross. So I put it up, and to my surprise nearly everyone wanted to give something to it. You would realk have thought that these people would have been justified in taking the line that this was a whiteman's war; but apparently they do not propose to do so.

The launch has now been painted and varnished for the second time and is afloat again, and sails pretty well; though we have had a certain amount of trouble with the Engine. However I think that she will be running again in a day or two now. And what Teikarawa does not know about it before long will not be worth knowing.

I must stop now.

Yours ever

Alfred



## C. M. McNAUGHT

WHOLESALE & RETAIL DEALER IN  
POSTAGE STAMPSStamps and Collections Wanted  
for Prompt Cash

P.O. BOX 166,

WELLINGTON, C.1.,  
NEW ZEALAND.

10th August 1940

H.E. Maude Esq.,

Dear Sir,

Thankyou very much for your very kind reply to my letter of 26th ultimo. I greatly regret that I did not have a chance to ring you while you were here owing to my being out of the City. I hope that this note will reach you before the departure of your ship. I am grateful to you also for the printed memorandum regarding orders for stamps and first day covers for the new Pitcairn issue and shall order these at once in the manner there set forth.

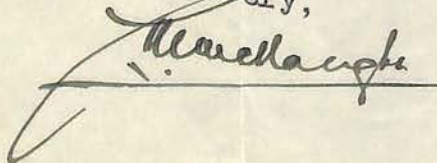
Many thanks too for the information regarding Mr. Mornin Star. I should like to repeat, too, my offer to perform any little service etc. any time for you in this City should this be of use to you at any time.

Not knowing whether this will reach you before your departure, I shall forward a carbon copy to the Gilberts and shall hope that in due course it will reach you there.

In regard to the covers sent manuscript-cancelled from Sydney, Hull and Gardner Islands during 1939, would there be any chance of my securing any of these on complete covers? I have a collection of covers from strange and out-of-the-way places which I keep personally, including pre-stamp covers of Ascension, covers from Rapa, the Tuamotus and other outlying French Oceanic Settlements, Tristan da Cunha, Tibet, etc. and these are items I should very much like to add to the collection if you could assist me personally or suggest to me where I could purchase any of these items. I can quite understand the bewilderment of the A.S.M. writer as to how and what they were as doubtless information of this nature is not readily accessible.

I trust that you have a very pleasant and interesting visit to Pitcairn and, I hope, a visit not too busy to permit you to enjoy your stay thoroughly.

Yours sincerely,





OVERSEAS LEAGUE  
(AUCKLAND BRANCH)



Club Rooms:

QUEEN'S ARCADE (3RD FLOOR)  
QUEEN STREET  
AUCKLAND, C1  
N.Z.

The Overseas League is  
a non-party Society of  
British Subjects residing  
in all parts of the  
world.

Its main object is to  
render service to the  
Empire.

October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1940:

H. E. Maude, Esq.  
H. C. S. British Overseas League,  
Gilbert Islands  
Central Pacific.

My Dear Mr Maude:-

I trust  
you will not think I have  
overstepped the bounds of  
propriety by writing to you.  
Looking through the  
Club Register I saw your name,  
and since I have tried every  
other way that I know to  
get to the Islands, I thought  
perhaps you might not object



to my writing you, if for no other reason than the fact I am one of the oldest members of the Club, having joined as a life member before the War.

I have assisted in the Junctions of the Club in California, New York, Rio-de-Janeiro, Buenos Aires, Senegal, British West Indies, South Africa and numerous other places.

Should you care to correspond with me, I can be reached here but I am anxious to obtain employment anywhere or over seas or anything. I speak Swedish, Hindustani, and Spanish, understand stock, Have been a Radio Man in Hollywood. I am as fit as a fiddle, have been in N.Z. Forces as a Private, was a Captain of



"Gunnery" in last war. Solitude I welcome  
but it is important to me to be in the  
Tropics, and am encumbered, ready for anything.

I have tried Bourns' Pills, Morrison's  
Colonial Sugar, etc; but no luck so far. At the  
moment I am Sales Manager for Southland  
Building Society here, have only been in New  
Zealand 15 months, but after my active  
life selling Building Society shares is rather  
pensive.

I have plenty of tropical clothes  
if you can "hold" me a job I can come  
at once. I am a good sailor, have been  
Purser, Chief Steward, worked my way to NZ.  
as an A.B., so think I would  
make some use a useful man

Thanking you in eager anticipation  
for a reply.

Yours Respectfully  
Richard White



Pitcairn Island,  
Eastern Pacific,  
12th October, 1940.

Dear Hall,

Just a note to let you know that we are still keeping the British Empire together here and to ask you whether you'd be good enough to do a couple of favours for me.

The first request concerns a tin of tea I'm sending you under separate cover. In it you'll find, I hope, a number of exposed films and I'd be most grateful if you'd take them round to Kodaks - or somewhere better if you know of a place - and ask them to develop them and make a couple of prints of each. Tell them they must produce results by hook or crook, as some of the exposures may be wrong and the negatives may require intensifying (or whatever the word is).

The trouble is that my electric exposure meter has got damp and refuses to work and as I have never used Verichrome before I may be sadly astray; so would you please send me a telegram saying "Over exposed" or "Under exposed" or "Correctly exposed" and I'll know what to do with the next batch. There is no charge for radio messages to this Pacific Utopia.

One more trouble - could you please go to Whitcombe and Tombs where you will find, or would have when I left



Wellington, two copies of a second-hand book entitled "Narrative of a Whaling Voyage around the World", by F.D. Bennett. Both are in two volumes but one is priced at £5 and the other at £3.10.0. Please buy the cheaper one for me and send it along.

I am sorry to bother you with these commissions but I feel sure you'll have compassion on a benighted Empire builder out on the far fringes, etc. I enclose a Fiji cheque for £5 which should prove sufficient - if not, I'll pay you the balance when I next see you. I'm afraid my New Zealand bank account is only £5 at the moment, and on the wrong side at that.

I duly received your letter on arrival here and we should of course be delighted to stay with you on our return from Pitcairn. But I feel that with the infant we should be rather an infliction - anyhow don't hesitate to let us know if you cannot have us after all. All being well we should leave here in December but I'll let you know definitely when the time comes. We shall probably not be talking English by then but anyway Pitcairnese is not a difficult language to understand.

We have been given quite a nice house - or rather cabin - to live in, and it is at least airy and, when it doesn't rain, remarkably dry. The islanders are, individually, kindness itself and cannot do enough to help; but



as a community they are, I really believe, past praying for. As you know, I am no blooming puritan and have lived for years among people with no more morals than the average cat; but at any rate they were unmoral, whereas these people are actively immoral. Not that an odd spot of immorality matters much, I guess, among friends, but a thick fog of sanctimonious hypocrisy broods over the whole place and while there are people here who I imagine would stick at no crime in the Calendar, provided it could be done in secret, the very same people would be the first to throw up their hands in horror at anyone so abandoned to vice as to play a game of cards or drink a cup of tea.

However I must close or moral indignation will burn the paper. While you're at Whitcombe and Tombs would you please also get 2 copies of Norman Hall's "Shipwreck" - I think they are only 2/6 each there.

Hoping that wife, family and yourself are all well and Honor says she has been going to write to Vanda, but Pitcairn, though you wouldn't believe it, is work from morning to night and no time for anything,

Yours etc.,

J.E.M.

I'll send you a "first day cover" of the new stamp issue when they come out the day after tomorrow. Don't open the envelope as there will be nothing but newspaper inside, as a stiffener.



41 Waterloo Rd

Lower Hutt, Wellington

24.7.40

Dear Maide,

I was equally surprised and pleased to see that you were reported - according to our invariably accurate daily paper - to be passing through Auckland on your way to Pitcairn Island to bestow on it the twin blessings of law and postage stamps. I hope, as you return from this civilising mission, you will have time and excuse enough to come to Wellington. It would be very refreshing to see you again. In fact, I hope you will bring your wife and child to stay with us, as you pass through.

I have been married for some time and have two boys, aged 7 and 5. At the moment I am employed by The New Zealand



Government helping to bring out a rather formidable series of historical publications - the excuse was the New Zealand Centennial. The war has stolen most of our thunder but has not quite abolished our labours. A pleasant by-product is that I am learning something about New Zealand history at the public expense.

I hope the Pitcairn Islanders are being nice to you. I have seen them only when boats laid to to let them on board to swap fruit and baskets etc. They rightly regarded all Thames passengers with extreme suspicion and handed us out tracts on the virtues of 7th Day Adventism. What with this and their contacts with New Zealand to have teeth and appendices removed, I gather they have acquired an extreme respectability - of which I hope you can see them in some measure.

Please remember me to Hancock - who probably does not remember me  
Yours sincerely,  
David Hall



Pitcairn Island,  
Eastern Pacific,  
15th October, 1940.

Dear Mr. Taylor,

I see from the enclosed paper, which I found in my copy of the 'Polynesian Journal', that you intend to publish four or five additional special memoirs provided sufficient people can be induced to subscribe. I hasten, therefore, to add my guinea to the rest and sincerely hope that at any rate your bibliographical contribution will be forthcoming - the other papers I am not really interested in, but as I gather one has to pay 15/- for one memoir and 21/- for the lot I might as well have all.

We are much enjoying our stay on Pitcairn though I must confess that the islanders, in spite of being kindness itself, take a bit of getting used to. They have given us a very comfortable house and we have quite settled down to the peaceful life. The laws are nearly finished now and the people appear satisfied with them, which is the main thing.

I am enclosing this note in an envelope franked with a set of the first issue of Pitcairn Islands stamps, posted on the opening day, - a partial atonement, I hope, for my tardiness in forwarding to you the money I owed for the photostats you so kindly had done for me, an omission which I have never ceased to blame myself for. I doubt whether you are addicted



to the vice of stamp collecting yourself, but they may interest some friend who is. Owing to the international situation, very few 'first day covers' are being posted from the island, so I imagine that they will be quite valuable in the near future.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

*H.E.M.*

H.E. Maude.



Pitcairn Island,

Eastern Pacific,

15th October, 1940.

Dear Dr. Norman Hall,

Knowing your interest in Pitcairn I am taking the liberty of sending you a first day cover with a complete set of our first stamp issue - even though you probably do not collect yourself the set may serve to remind you of your recent visit here. The person standing on the stem of the 'Bounty' on the 1d. and 2/6 stamps is Fletcher Christian himself.

My wife and I are staying here for a few months engaged in bringing the islanders the twin blessings of a legal code and a postage stamp issue. We spend most of our leisure scrambling about the cliffs, being keen climbers, and have succeeded in recording most of the place names on the island for our own amusement - many of them are full of historical associations.

Arthur Herbert Young was giving a graphic account of the wreck of the 'Pro Patria' on Timoe at a party a few days ago, so I have lent him my copy of 'Shipwreck' where he will no doubt be gratified to learn that you found him more interesting than an entire volume of the 'Encyclopaedia Britannica'.



I have often wished that our paths in the Pacific might coincide some day in order that I might have the pleasure of meeting you personally, having read all your books with great interest. My wife and I have lived for 11 years in the South Seas, mostly in the Gilbert, Ellice, Phoenix, and Line Groups and, Japan permitting, we hope to remain on the atolls for the remainder of our lives. Since 1937 I have been engaged in the interesting task of colonizing the uninhabited Phoenix Islands with settlers from the Gilbert Group. The work is now complete, with nearly 1,000 permanent residents now living on Hull, Sydney, and Gardner, and smiling villages where just over two years ago there was nothing but bush and sea-birds. We carried out the migration as nearly as possible in the manner in which the Gilbertese ancestors themselves set off whenever their islands became too crowded and the whole colonization venture had a romantic appeal about it which grips me still whenever I think of it.

We hope to return to our home on Beru, in the Southern Gilbert Group, before Christmas and should you ever care to visit the more isolated and primitive islands of the South Seas in search of local colour we shall be only too pleased to put you up for as long as you care to stay. We have a lovely, rambling house, built entirely of native materials, on the shores of the most peaceful lagoon one can imagine, and I think that I can guarantee that the Central Pacific



atolls would furnish you with material for a dozen books.

Arthur Young, Parkins and the rest send their greetings. I suppose you know that Edgar Christian, who was for so many years Chief Magistrate, died a few months ago - Uncle Ben Young and Ann McCoy have, of course, long since ceased to be.

Yours sincerely,

H.E.M.

H. E. Maude.



Pitcairn Island,  
Eastern Pacific,  
15th October, 1940.

The Deputy Director,  
Posts and Telegraphs,  
Mail Branch,  
General Post Office,  
SYDNEY, N.S.W.

Dear Sir,

Your letter A'38/106, of the 5th July, stating that 3 bags of mail addressed to me were lost with the R.M.S. "Niagara", has just been received at Pitcairn Island.

Owing to my constant changes of address during the last year, it takes many months for my mail to reach me and as a consequence it is difficult for me to state with certainty whether the bags lost were Postal ones or private, but as far as I can ascertain none of them belonged to me. Should you find, however, that one of them was, in fact, a private bag, I should be glad if you would notify me, stating the cost of replacement, in order that I may send a cheque for the amount without delay.

Yours faithfully,

*H.E. Maude*

H.E. Maude.



Commonwealth of Australia



Postmaster-General's Department

In Reply Please Quote  
No.A'38/106.MAIL BRANCH,  
GENERAL POST OFFICE.  
SYDNEY, N.S.W.Telephone No. B 040 Extn. 242.  
Telegrams: "Sumail" Sydney.

5th July, 1940.

Mr. H.E. Maude,  
Ocean Island,  
GILBERT & ELLICE IS. COLONY.

Dear Sir,

I regret to inform you that advice has been received that three bags of mail originating from Sydney and received at Auckland, New Zealand, on 15/6/40 redirected to Suva, Fiji, were lost at sea owing to the sinking of R.M.S. "Niagara".

It is not known whether the bags lost were Postal ones or your private bags, but if the latter, it is presumed you will immediately take steps to have them replaced.

Yours faithfully,

F.R. BRADLEY.  
For A/G. DEPUTY DIRECTOR, POSTS & TELEGRAPHS.



Pitcairn Island,  
Eastern Pacific,

15th October, 1940.

Dear Dr. Coulter,

I don't know how to apologize enough for not having answered the letter which you wrote to me such ages ago. Actually, since my return to the Pacific Islands from Africa in 1937 I have seldom been fortunate enough to spend more than a few weeks in any one place and as a consequence your letter did not reach me until nearly a year after it was written. It was forwarded on from island to island until it eventually found me at Sydney Island, in the Phoenix Group, when it then seemed too late to require an urgent reply and, in the disorganization caused by constant travelling, it got mislaid. For the first time in years I have had some leisure, while on this island, to attend to private correspondence and while engaged in sorting through a pile of old letters I found yours, whereupon my conscience has smitten me very deeply.

Since 1937 I have been engaged in colonizing the uninhabited Phoenix Group with settlers from the Gilbert Islands and this entailed, during the early stages, working out the whole scheme, and in the later months, constant travelling between the Gilbert and Phoenix Groups, choosing the colonists, taking them to the 'promised land' and



settling them in. As far as possible I ran the whole show along the lines of a true race migration, the ancestors of the present generation being accustomed to venturing forth whenever the islands got as crowded as they are now. Once I had landed them in the Phoenix I gave them 50 coconut trees for each married man and the same number for each wife, plus a grant of unplanted land 25 fathoms square for each dependant.

I shall never forget the day I landed on the beach with the first small party of settlers, with their wives and children, early in 1938. All around us was wild bush and the thousands of sea-birds deafened us. The settlers were all rather frightened with the eeriness of the strange island and we huddled together under a tarpaulin for the first night, with fires lit around us to keep off the enormous coconut crabs. In the course of 1938 and 1939 we built schools, hospitals, churches, co-operative stores and the like, all of local materials, and now the scheme can be considered as finished, with nearly 1,000 contented permanent settlers on the three islands of Hull, Sydney, and Gardner and smiling villages where only a few months ago there was not a vestige of human life.

You ask in your letter for information regarding available meteorological data. As you know, my 'beat', as it were, is the Gilbert, Ellice, Phoenix, and Line Groups, and I can only speak of the islands in these areas, numbering 42 in all, as shown in the following list -



<u>Gilbert Group.</u>	<u>Ellice Group.</u>	<u>Phoenix Group.</u>	<u>Line Group.</u>
Makin	Nanumea	Canton	Fanning
Butaritari	Nanumanga	Enderbury	Washington
Marakei	Nuitao	McKean	Christmas
Abaiang	Nui	Birnie	Malden
Tarava	Vaitupu	Phoenix	Starbuck
Maiana	Nukufetau	Hull	Caroline
Abemama	Funafuti	Sydney	Vostok
Kuria	Nukulaelae	Gardner	Flint
Aranuka	Nurakita		

Nonouti

Tabiteuea

Beru

Nikunau

Onotoa

Tamana

Arorae

----

Ocean Island

You might be interested in the native names for certain of these islands as, after all, the European names are only used between Europeans, and few Europeans are interested in these parts.

Ocean Island is called Banaba  
Canton Island is called Abariringa  
Hull Island is called Orona  
Sydney Island is called Manra  
Gardner Island is called Nikumaroro  
Fanning Island is called Tabuaeran  
Washington Island is called Teraina  
Christmas Island is called Titimataeran.

-----  
I have not got any papers with me here, and so cannot guarantee any of my statements, but I think I am right in saying that daily rainfall statistics are kept on -

- (a) every island in the Gilbert Group, <sup>including</sup> ~~except~~ Ocean Island;
- (b) every island in the Ellice Group, except Nurakita;



(c) every island in the Phoenix Group, except McKean, Birnie, and Phoenix; and

(d) Fanning, Washington, and Christmas in the Line Group.

On Canton meteorological data is, I understand, collected by both the British and American authorities and on Enderbury by the Americans alone. The rainfall for each island, by months, is sent in yearly to headquarters at Ocean Island and is always published, as far as I can remember, in the Colony Annual Report, as well as in the Colony Annual Blue Book. As regards Caroline, Vostok, and Flint, I believe rainfall statistics are kept on Flint, and possibly on Caroline, but they are not sent to us as the islands are not politically part of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony. I have, however, the annual rainfall figures for Flint for the years 1911 to 1919, and for Caroline for 1919 and 1920, and might be able to get others if you are interested.

More detailed meteorological statistics as to temperature, Humidity, wind velocity, etc. are kept -

(a) as representing the Gilbert Group, at Ocean Island;

(b) as representing the Ellice Group, at Funafuti;

(c) as representing the Phoenix Group, at Hull; and

(d) as representing the Line Group, at Christmas.

These are also, I believe, published in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Annual Colony Blue Book.

A considerable amount of meteorological data was collected at Malden during the long period when the guano deposits there were being worked and this is, if I remember rightly,



summarized in Volume II of the Pacific Islands Pilot.

My wife and I are at present spending a few months on Pitcairn Island, engaged in bringing the islanders the twin blessings of a legal code and an issue of postage stamps. I am enclosing this letter in an envelope franked with a complete set of the first issue for the island, posted on the opening day, in the hope that it may be of interest to you or some stamp collecting friend. We find the people here very kind and friendly and the life quite a change from the Central Pacific atolls.

We hope to return to Beru, unless the international situation gets worse, before the end of the year and should be delighted if you can spare the time to visit us. I cannot, I'm afraid, guarantee that you could manage a visit in four months, as shipping communications are so bad, but possibly you could arrange an extra month or two. Six months would make it quite feasible. I should be very glad to assist you with any anthropological or other information on the area that I may possess or, as you suggest, we might combine on some study.

Accurate meteorological data of all kinds are kept on Pitcairn by a competent observer, but none are obtainable for the three other islands in the Group - Henderson, Oeno, and Ducie. You might be able to obtain the Pitcairn data from the New Zealand government.

At the end of your letter you mention that you are



writing to my wife and sending her some seeds. Unfortunately neither letter nor seeds reached us, but they may possibly be at Beru now, awaiting our long expected return. My wife and I send our kind regards and hope that you are keeping well and are still interested in the South Seas.

Yours sincerely,

*H. E. Maude.*

H. E. Maude.



**THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII**

**HONOLULU, HAWAII**

October 13, 1938

Mr. Henry Evans Maude, M.A.  
Commissioner for Native Lands  
Island of Beru  
Gilbert Islands  
Central Pacific

Dear Maude:

I was sorry I could not take the time to visit your islands during my recent sojourn in the Central Pacific Islands. I spent five months in Samoa and Fiji. Some other time I hope to go. If you know of any way I could make the trip there and back during our four months summer vacation, June to September, I'd be pleased if you will tell me.

At this moment I write regarding meteorological data for Gilbert and Ellice Islands. Are there any available for rainfall, temperature, storms; how far back do they go, and where can I get copies? I have undertaken to collect all the weather data for Pacific Islands and make it available for research in meteorology. Such data would be especially valuable by months--that is, the average annual rainfall for January, February, etc.

I hope you still find time for your anthropological work. If I can get out there sometime, we might combine on human geography and anthropology! I am writing to Mrs. Maude and sending some seeds.

With good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

*J. W. Coulter*

J.W. Coulter

JWC/or



Pitcairn Island,  
Eastern Pacific,  
15th October, 1940.

Dear Dr. Vaughan Jones,

I must apologize for not having written to you before to thank you for so kindly sending me the spare parts for my 'Buttner' pipe. My delay in replying was not entirely due to tropical lethargy, as I left the Gilbert Islands in September of last year on a short visit to Fiji and New Zealand and, as so often happens, I have never succeeded in getting back, having been side-tracked by more pressing work in other islands. Since I last saw Surg. Lieut. Jones on board H.M.S. 'Wellington' I have been to the Phoenix, Ellice, and Line Groups, as well as Fiji, Samoa, and Tonga, so it was a difficult matter for my mail, which included your letter, to reach me.

I was naturally jubilant at receiving the filters, as I had tried every firm in Auckland without success. In fact for several years one had to purchase a new Buttner every time one wanted a filter, as the New Zealand shops, for some reason, did not seem to stock spares - for more than a year, however, they have even run out of pipes as well.

Surg. Lieut. Vaughan Jones asked me to get him a model Gilbertese canoe and deliver it to the Navy Department in Auckland for him. When I arrived in New Zealand it was,



STANDARD  
AGENTS

unfortunately, war time, and although I tried to unload the canoe on to the authorities they protested that they had no idea where H.M.S. 'Wellington' had got to and were in any case too busy to send model canoes around the world. I have, accordingly, stored the canoe in Auckland with a lot of other gear of mine and will duly succeed in delivering it, I hope, when the war is over. I should be most grateful if you could mention the matter to him when you write and let him know that I did not forget my promise and still have the canoe.

CR  
STAN  
AGENTS

I am now spending a few months on Pitcairn Island engaged in giving the descendants of the mutineers of the 'Bounty' the twin blessings of a code of laws and a postage stamp issue. It is very interesting work, as the islanders have never had a government official settle down amongst them, with his wife and family, before and it takes a certain amount of adaptation to get accustomed to the simple life led by the two hundred odd Christians, Youngs, and Warrens around us. We have been given a little house, or should I say cabin, by the great grandson of Fletcher Christian and are very comfortable. My wife has had a bit of luck since, when planting some yams last week close by John Adams's grave, she dug up what appears to be the old gold ring of Midshipman Young, which was used in all the marriages held during the first forty years of the settlement, there being none other on the island at the time.

I am sending this letter in an envelope franked with a

P.O.W.



full set of the first issue of Pitcairn Island stamps and posting it on the first day of issue. There may be someone in your family who collects stamps and will be glad of them. First day covers of the Pitcairn Island stamp issue will be philatelic rarities as, owing to the international situation, very few have been posted here. Hence, when the situation improves, they should be worth quite a lot. As one can well imagine, the genuine postal requirements of this remote spot are small indeed.

You must be having a very nasty time of it in Great Britain, to judge by the news - one feels so out of it in the Pacific, though it may not be for long. We all tried to join up at the beginning of the war, but without success, so have to content ourselves with carrying on out here. All being well I hope to return to my old home on Beru by Christmas, but it is difficult to plan ahead these troubled times.

Once again many thanks for your kindness,

Yours sincerely,

*J.R.M.*

Please excuse my typing this letter, but my handwriting is recognized by common consent to be indecipherable.



# Roanoid (Birmingham) Ltd

SOLE MANUFACTURERS OF ROANOID FITTINGS

DIRECTORS: J. BODEN, S. BODEN, A. V. JONES, H. S. ROWAN, E. J. BODEN

Telegrams  
COLORITE  
BIRMINGHAM

KINGS ROAD · TYSELEY  
BIRMINGHAM

Telephone  
ACOCKS GREEN  
0 2 8 2

MD

OUR REF

YOUR REF

DATE

H. E. Maude Esq. M.B.E.  
Native Lands Commissioner  
Belru.

Aug 21<sup>st</sup> 1939.

My dear Sir.

It had, to me, almost a touch of the romantic that Surg. Lieut. Vaughan Jones had found in your possession a Butcher Pipe — out there, in the Pacific. He tells me that you are short of 'spares' and I hasten to make good the deficiency. I trust these will arrive intact & safely and that you will find much relief from boredom in their use.

The newer model is 'out of print' for the moment and it is not a better smoke than this — the Standard one.

I am charmed to make a 'third leg' to this coincidental contact

Believe me

Yours very truly

W Vaughan Jones



Pitcairn Island,  
Eastern Pacific,  
15th October, 1940.

Dear Dr. Shapiro,

I hope that you will excuse my taking the liberty of writing this brief note, when I cannot even claim to have met you. I have, however, been spending the last few months on Pitcairn with my wife and son, engaged in giving the islanders those twin blessings of civilization, a legal code and an issue of postage stamps, and your 'Heritage of the Bounty' has naturally been of the greatest interest and assistance. As the correspondence on file here indicates that you still take an interest in the affairs of this island, I thought that you might like to have a complete set of our first stamp issue, posted on the opening day, as a reminder of your recent visit - hence this letter.

I have a Committee to assist me in coding the constitution and laws, consisting of David and Andrew Young, Parkins and Fred Christian, Arthur Herbert Young and a few others and you would be amused to see us working steadily over the appendix of your book, night after night, in an endeavour to straighten out the kinks in the present constitution. Fortunately little change seems to be required, though I am doubtful how long the present voluntary system of government will last, with individualism and a money economy steadily



creeping in. The system of public trading has already ceased to exist and the public boats seem to be on the eve of disappearing too.

We do hope that you have not been misled by the wild stories of poverty and starvation on Pitcairn which have been appearing, in some sections of the press, since the war. When the islanders realized that fewer ships would be calling here, owing to the international situation, they set to and planted in a way that they have not done for years, and as a result there is quite an abundance of food on the island. Indeed, the people have recently sent a telegram offering to supply food and homes for 35 refugee children from England.

My wife and I hope to return before Christmas to our home on Beru, in the Southern Gilbert Islands, where we have lived for 11 years, but in these troubled times it is impossible to make plans ahead and the Japanese news does not sound too reassuring. Since 1937 I have been engaged in colonizing the uninhabited Phoenix Group with settlers from the Gilbert Islands - a most fascinating task which is now complete, there being nearly 1,000 permanent residents on Hull, Sydney, and Gardner, with smiling villages where there was nothing but bush and sea-birds when we landed just over two years ago. We carried out the migration as nearly as possible in the manner in which the Gilbertese ancestors themselves set off whenever their islands became too crowded



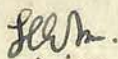
and the whole colonization venture had a romantic appeal about it which grips me still whenever I think about it.

Although I was trained as an anthropologist and took my degree at Cambridge University, England, we are naturally not doing any work of that nature here. As we are both keen walkers and climbers, however, we spend most of our leisure scrambling up and down the cliffs here and as a result I have recorded most of the place names on the island - many of them of considerable historical interest. I do not imagine any journal would publish such a useless compilation, so we are completing it merely for our own amusement and to give us an excuse to get out - the islanders call us "the goats".

Should you ever care to visit the remoter and more primitive islands of the South Seas we should be only too pleased to put you up for as long as you care to stay. We have a lovely, rambling house, built entirely of native materials, on the shores of the most peaceful lagoon one can imagine, and I think that I can guarantee that the Central Pacific atolls would prove, from an anthropological point of view, well worth a visit.

As you probably know, Uncle Ben Young and Ann McCoy are both dead, and also Edgar Christian, who was Chief Magistrate for so many years. David Young is now Chief Magistrate and Fred Christian the Church leader.

Yours sincerely,



H. E. Maude.



Pitcairn Island,

Eastern Pacific,

15th October, 1940.

Dear Mr. Fisher,

Just a line to send you a 'first day cover' of the first issue of Pitcairn Islands stamps. Owing to the international situation, very few first day covers are being posted from the island so I imagine that they will be quite valuable in the near future.

We are much enjoying our stay here, though I must confess that the islanders take a bit of getting used to and the amount of 'gossip' that goes on all the time is colossal. We have been given a comfortable house to live in and have quite settled down to the peaceful life. The laws are nearly finished and the people seem quite satisfied with them, which is the main thing.

The cave carvings I mentioned to you are in two different localities on the island. They are really quite remarkable and my wife has been trying to reproduce them, but it takes a long time and the caves are almost inaccessible. I'm sorry to say that some of the best stone artifacts, of which an incredible number seem to be found on the island, are being sent to collectors in the United States, where a better price is obtained for them. It makes me wild but we can do nothing about it, I'm afraid. I've advised all I've spoken



to to send what they find to the Auckland Museum but money interests them more than scientific considerations, as one would imagine. I do not think that you could compete with wealthy Americans, to whom financial considerations are probably immaterial.

Hoping all are well at the Museum,

Yours sincerely,

*H.E.M.*

H.E. Maude.



Auckland Museum,  
Auckland, SE1.

19th August, 1938.

Received from Mr. V.F. Fisher the sum of  
£3/17/10 to be held in trust for Mr. H.E.  
Maude for purchase of materials as may be  
desired.

A. S. Stevenson



DIRECTOR :  
GILBERT ARCHEY



AUCKLAND INSTITUTE AND MUSEUM

AUCKLAND, S.E.1. NEW ZEALAND

22nd August, 1938.

Mr. H.E. Maude,  
Ocean Island,  
GILBERT & ELLICE COLONY.

Dear Mr. Maude,

First of all please accept my heartiest congratulations on the arrival of a son & heir.

With reference to your collection, I have carefully checked this and have registered every article, and it is now in order.

I still have £3/17/10 in hand from the amount you sent over. This I have handed to Mr. A.G. Stevenson, who is doing part of my work during my absence. He will either forward it to you at your request or pay it to you when you come down on furlough. I enclose statement and also acknowledgment from Stevenson.

I leave for U.S.A. today, so you can imagine the hurry.

With kind regards to all,  
Yours sincerely,

*V. F. Fisher*  
ETHNOLOGIST.

VFF/mp



To Cheque		£5. 0. 0
Exchange cheque	1. 2	
Typing Wilkes		
S. Poc. Directory		
Dana	9. 0	
Typing Description		
new duck		
Museum Godeffray	12. 0	
BALANCE	3.17. 10	

---

£5. 0. 0

£5. 0. 0

---

---

ARIEL BOND



Pitcairn Island,  
Eastern Pacific,

15th October, 1940.

Dear Mr. Plunket Woodgate,

A few days ago, while engaged in sorting out a pile of old correspondence, I came across a letter from you written to my wife in 1937. It must have been passed on to me because you appeared to be interested in the Phoenix Islands and I was at the time living in that Group. Actually, the Phoenix are my pet islands and I should have dearly loved to have had the opportunity of discussing them with one of the few people in the world who have ever heard of their existence.

I was the first to claim the Phoenix Group for the Empire and went round in a small cutter planting the Union Jack and a notice on each of the eight islands. Having explored them fully I wrote a long report recommending that they should be colonized forthwith. Somewhat to my astonishment, the report found favour and since 1938 I have been engaged in settling the uninhabited islands with natives from the Gilbert Group. We have now neraly a thousand permanent residents in the Group and it is a thrilling sight to see smiling villages, filled with prosperous and contented natives, where in 1937 I found nothing but bush and sea birds.

If the war ends and I succeed in reaching England, you might care to hear the story of the settlement - an almost



incredibly romantic episode of which the world has heard, and will hear, nothing.

However, enough of my doings. My wife and I have been living on Pitcairn for the past few months and today we start the first island post office, complete with an issue of postage stamps for its very own. I thought you might care to have a "first day cover" from the island as, owing to the international situation, very few have been posted and they should be fairly rare and valuable in the near future.

My wife is very pleased at the moment for, while planting some yams close to the grave of old John Adams, the mutineer, she dug up a gold ring which appears to be the one which originally belonged to Midshipman Young. It was the only gold ring on the island during the first forty years of the settlement and all the early marriages were performed with it.

This island is picturesque and romantic in the extreme, and we are very happy here, living in a rough wooden cottage leant by the Christian family - the great grand-children of the mutineer. Anthropology being my hobby, I am busy making a collection of stone adzes and other relics of the pre-Bounty folk.

The islanders often talk about England and wonder how things are going on there with the war on. They are intensely patriotic and have just sent a telegram off offering to look



incredibly romantic episode in this sordid era and one of  
which the world can be

AGENTS  
STANDARD  
CROWM

AGENTS  
STANDARD  
CROWM

AGENTS  
STANDARD  
CROWM



after 35 refugee children.

Please excuse the terrible composition of this hurried note. Today being the first day of the new issue, I have an enormous number of letters to get written before midnight.

Yours sincerely,

See



TELEPHONE,  
WHITEHALL 9841.  
TELEGRAMS,  
UNICLUB, PICCY, LONDON.

UNION CLUB,  
CARLTON HOUSE TERRACE,  
S.W.1.

24<sup>th</sup> Oct. 1937.

Dear Mrs Maude.

I cannot tell you how pleased and how surprised I was first of all to receive the cover and then, a few days later, to receive your own very charming letter.

The question is How on earth can I repay it? When are you coming home? Will I even have the opportunity of thanking you in person?

I have been a terrific traveller myself tea-planting in Ceylon. Soldier in India Africa - Palestine - France. Notes Russia - Malindi and Constantinople. Farmer in India and South



UNION CLUB  
CANTON HOUSE THE WAY  
17 W 2

Africa, but even in the U.S.A. but - and  
it is a big - But I have never been in  
Oceania or Down Under and though I  
am sitting at this moment facing the  
Mall and Imperial London on a rainy  
day, yet I feel a sort of an awe and  
reverence to find myself writing to a  
resident of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands.

I have heard of them vaguely through  
a small and very unworthy stamp collection.  
To me it means nothing more than the  
Falkland Islands or the Turks and Caicos  
Group - I envy you being there in spite of  
all the troubles and messes, associated with you  
far more than they ever were with me. And  
yet here is the check of the man - I have  
been seriously contemplating writing a book



TELEPHONE,  
WHITEHALL 9841.  
TELEGRAMS,  
UNICLUB, PICCY, LONDON.

UNION CLUB,  
CARLTON HOUSE TERRACE,  
S.W.1.

on Pacific Relations! I hold the view - no body else does - that the affair last June in the Phoenix Islands was an infernal piece of insolence and that our attitude in allowing that sort of thing to pass with impunity is nothing more nor less than an invitation to a foreign Power to do the same thing again.

I am no lover of the U.S.A. They talk of Imperialism as if it was a crime and then proceed to pulverise Mexico, Cuba, Panama, the Philippines. Is it not rank hypocrisy and humbug to talk like that? And when they get control of those places, they do not improve them but simply drag them lower than they have ever been before.



I certainly did not mean to write this  
to you when I started this letter. But I  
am very keen on the subject in spite of  
the fact that publishers say that there is  
too much writing on Pacific Relations and  
not nearly enough reading and that writing  
books of this sort is a waste of time and  
publishing them is a loss of money.

Why don't you write something for the  
Overseas League magazine or the Blue Peter?  
You only want some very, very good pictures  
which means of course a very good camera.

Yours sincerely

H. Plunket Woodgate.

---



STANDARD  
AGENTS  
Pitcairn Island,  
Eastern Pacific,

15th October, 1940.

Dear Mr. Reekers,

A few days ago, while sorting through some old letters, I came across a note from you in which you say that you would be glad to have any stamps from the South Seas. It so happens that we are today engaged in closing down the small postal agency formerly run by the New Zealand Postal Department on this island and starting a proper Pitcairn Islands post office, so it is possible that you would like a first day cover of the first issue of stamps ever printed for these islands.

Since I last wrote to you I have been very busy exploring the uninhabited islands of the Phoenix Group, in the Central Pacific, and then colonizing them with natives from the Gilbert Islands. In two years we have succeeded in settling nearly a thousand permanent residents on the three southern islands of the Phoenix (Hull, Sydney, and Gardner) and it is wonderful to see the contented and prosperous settlers in their smiling villages where only two years ago I found nothing but virgin bush and sea birds.

After leaving the Phoenix Group I went to the Line Islands (Fanning, Washington, and Christmas), which took a



month in a little 80 ton vessel. From there we eventually got to New Zealand where we spent 3 months, followed by six in Fiji, and four months ago we left Fiji for Pitcairn, via Samoa and Tonga; so you'll see that we do not get much rest.

I wonder how the war affects you in South Africa - here in the South Seas there is little change as we are too remote from the world to feel many of the repercussions of passing events. However, if Japan should enter the scene I imagine that we are all in for a pretty hot time. Many of us have been trying to goin up with the fighting forces, but the government does not appear to want men from the outer Colonies at the present juncture.

My wife, son and myself are all living in a little roughly built wooden house lent to us by the Christian family, the great grand-children of Fletcher Christian. It is a wonderful island - grand and picturesque in the extreme, and the people, who are of course the descendants of the "Bounty" mutineers and their Tahitian wives, are very kind to us. Actually I am the first government official to ever settle down in the island and am kept very busy making a new constitution and code of laws for the island.

I don't know if you know anything of the history of Pitcairn Island - you would find it very romantic. My wife is very pleased for, while she was planting some yams last week close by John Adams' grave, she dug up what appears to



have been the gold wedding ring of Midshipman Young. This ring was the only one on the island during the first forty years of the settlement and all the early marriages were performed with it.

If the war should end we hope to have an opportunity to live on the island of Tristan da Cunha which is nearer your part of the world. It is a very similar place to this in every way and our experience here should prove invaluable.

I see that your wife asks if I came from Bolton in Lancs., but I'm afraid that I cannot claim the honour. I was born, and spent my early life, in India and have only twice been north of Cambridge in England - once to go climbing in North Wales and once to do the same in the Lake District. We were just about to return to England (or rather the Channel Islands) for a short spell when the war broke out.

Please excuse this scrappy note, written at somewhat high pressure owing to it being the first day of the new stamp issue. The first day covers should be very valuable if conditions improve as, owing to the isolated situation of this island and the international situation, very few covers have been issued. Only a fraction of what I remember elsewhere. On sorting through the mail being posted I can find only two other letters for South Africa so you can see how scarce the covers will be.

With kind regards from us both,  
Yours sincerely,

*J.R.D.*



L. G. REEKERS.

8, HUMEWOOD ROAD,  
HUMEWOOD,  
PORT ELIZABETH.

8 Febr. 1938.

Dear Mr. Maude.

I was very pleased to have your letter of the 10<sup>th</sup> December and also the covers which were enclosed, for which ever so many thanks - I had no Coronations of the Islands, nor of 'Nauru', so the covers you sent are doubly welcome.

I see that you have been doing some travelling since you wrote me from Guernsey, you seem to make a speciality of living on Islands wherever you go.

I am glad to know that your health has improved, may it continue to do so.

I can quite understand that it is useless trying to live anywhere else once one is used to life in the South Seas, I have tried to live in Europe after some years in Africa but found it impossible.

I am sorry that you had no opportunity to visit the Union while you were in Tanganyika, South Africa is such a wonderful and magnificent country with a glorious climate.

As you have two sisters living in Natal, you



2  
will have heard something about the beauties of that Fair Province.

My wife wants to know whether you are Bertie's name from Bolton (Lancs), she knew a smart boy of that name there many years ago, my wife was a Miss Gardner before she married me.

What are striking figures, never heard of them, I am interested in all things, please let me know when you feel in the mood to write me again.

I know that you are not interested in South African stamps, so I am sending you a calendar by same post, you may like the pictures.

Any stamps from your part of the world will always be appreciated by us, we do a good bit of exchanging and also assist youngsters with their albums, so everything will be very useful at all times.

With our kindest regards also to your good wife.

Yours sincerely

W. Lee



GOVERNMENT HOUSE,  
SUVA, FIJI.  
2nd November, 1940.

*My dear Maude*

I was very interested to receive yesterday your letter of the 14th October with your impressions of Pitcairn, so much so in fact that I am sending a copy of it demiofficially to the Colonial Office. It will give them a good insight into a Possession whose publicity value is in inverse proportion to its size and remoteness from the world.

I am glad you have settled down in reasonable comfort and have managed at all events to get a house to yourselves.

I hope stamps are doing well. We have just had a telegram from the Crown Agents to say that the London supply is running out, which is an excellent portent. I have strongly endorsed to the C.O. your recommendation for salaries for the local officials. I quite agree with you that, in view of the fact that office is not sought after, the best people must have some inducement to serve. I don't see how they can fail to see the wisdom of this at home.

I hope you are keeping fit and that Honor and Alaric

H.E. Maude Esq., M.B.E.



are flourishing. I have not yet received Honor's promised letter, but it may be trickling in by the next mail.

Things appear to be settling down well in the New Hebrides and New Caledonia. I hope you will have received my letter of about a month ago giving you an account of the "Viti's" blitzkrieg there. We have just finished, thank goodness, the first session of our new Legislative Council and, all being well, I may manage to get over to Tonga between now and the next one. The Garveys write cheerfully from Vila, and Paddy has just come back from New Zealand whither, as you probably know, he escorted Delia. Mrs Iremonger all but died at Vaitupu and we were very worried because there was great difficulty in getting a ship down to her with a doctor. Fortunately Isaac, who has succeeded Steenson (who has been promoted S.M.O.), was on his way to the Group and we managed to <sup>get</sup> /him there in time. Both the Iremongers will be coming down here for a change by the next "John Williams".

I am so glad to hear that both your families got safely away from the Channel Islands.

Best wishes to the 3 of you.  
 Tomson  
 Stay safe



Western Pacific High Commission,  
Suva, Fiji, 9th November, 1940.

Dear H. E. M.,

Many thanks for your letter which arrived a few days ago. I had hoped to get an answer away last week, but man proposes and Vaskess disposes in this world of ours.

Before giving you the little news that there is from this world enshrined in red tape, let me answer the points in your letter. As you say, the tempo of work here shows a level, if not upward, line on the graph. But so much of it seems unnecessary - or perhaps I should qualify that by saying that it is the mechanics that are required to produce a given result that are so appallingly complicated. H. E. has been introducing a number of minor reforms, which have alleviated the position to a certain extent, but the reactionary elements are deep-seated and take some removing. One of H. E.'s dictums was that as I was supposed to be an executive officer, I was to give up cyphering and registering of secret correspondence, but alas I plod the same weary way and no change looks like eventuating. I am beginning to understand - or I should say - I am increasingly understanding why Garvey accepted that post in the New Hebrides. It is virtually impossible to please some people - all one's drafts are torn up or hacked to glory, and one seldom seems to be able to do anything right. It becomes rather disheartening. Curiously enough the only draft of mine he has let stand untouched was my despatch to the S. S. about the declaration of Gardner Island as a closed district. I must admit it was not bad. However ...to something else.

Your description of the office organization - or disorganization - was amusing, or would have been, if it had not been so tragic. However, I am sure that a man who has received his tuition in the Secretariat in Ocean Island under the Major, can safely cope with such a situation. The point is, will they keep up a decent system once you have inaugurated it for them. As regards duplicates of letters from there, I suppose the real trouble is that as all the letters are written in longhand, they are too weary to make a copy. I must say there seems something to be said for their attitude. Could not we supply them with a second hand typewriter? I imagine someone could bang the stuff out on the keys - albeit laboriously.

Sent you by the last mail - by which I had hoped to answer you letter - 50 M. P. jackets, 2 thick packets of followers paper and two packets of slide-on brass clips. I hope they arrive before you leave. They should do so. I have addressed them to the Deputy Commissioner, Pitcairn Island. If they do not arrive before you leave, better send a telegram to the Chief Magistrate from Wellington, telling him what the parcel is, and to open it.

Sorry I was not there to advise you on the vexed question of the mode of your address to Henry Harrison. Between normal persons, it should have been "Dear Vaskess", but then some aint normal, and I guess I agree with you that in this instance it might have been considered presumptuous to leave out the handle.

We are avidly awaiting your promised report on the "sexual morality of the Pitcairn Islanders". We need to have something like that in the Assistant Secretary's office, so that when depressed he can turn to it - like one used to, to the old Island Regulations - and have a damned good laugh. But I must say the attitude of the people sounds pretty revolting.

As regards staying on in the island till the end of December, I feel sure that you will be allowed to do so. As a matter of fact I showed H. E. your letter, and he said that you could certainly stay on if you wished to do so.

He said he would take the matter up with H. H. V. but whether the latter has yet moved in the matter or not I don't know. However I feel that he too will support for you will remember that he was in favour of your staying six months in the first place. Anyway I am glad the laws went through so well, and I hope you can get the Government you want before you leave.

As you say, the "refugee telegram" was treated with a certain amount of levity - "one of Maude's wildcat schemes" y'know, but from the point of view of publicity alone, I think it was worth while. Anyway you could scarcely do anything but send it on if the offer was made, as otherwise you would have queered your own popularity with the local folk, I should imagine.

Don't talk about H. E.'s visit to the New Hebrides and New Caledonia. As far as I was concerned it was a nightmare - the ether was red hot with cypher messages from morn till eve - AND THROUGHOUT NEARLY EVERY NIGHT. The telegraphic correspondence was terrific. Of course it could not be helped, but it was pretty hot work while it lasted. Anyway everything went off very well, and things have settled down nicely in that part of the world, with the exception of the economic situation, which must obviously remain unstable to a certain extent - e.g. difficulties of marketing copra etc.



You are probably cursing me for this bad single line typing, but we are supposed to be saving paper for all we are worth. The boss of course does not but we do our best to do so.

And while I remember it, after H. E. had read your letter to me, he said anent the statement that you were extremely busy all day long - "Pouf! There cannot possibly be that amount of work there". And I dont think he is convinced that there is. The idea of reorganizing the records seemed to him a job of a few moments. I did my best however to convince him, and talked a lot of nonsense of doubtful verity.

You say "Pitcairn Island is such a muddy place" - how on earth? I thought the rainfall was like the Central and Southern Gilberts.

Religion evidently is taken pretty seriously - I only hope Alaric doesnt become an Anabaptist or British Israelite when he returns. Looks as though a course of practical religion (like the parable of the bloke who went down to Jericho and fell among thieves) is needed. But I dont suppose anything counts if you can be hypocritical enough.

Hooray for the first day covers - we aint seen them yet, but maybe its still a bit early. I hope Fuller remembers the ones I gave him the cash for, for myself.

Yes, Ambler is on leave and will be there till April, 1941. If you want to get in touch with him in Auckland, ring his brother V. M. Ambler on the phone.

H. E. brought back with him from the Hebrides a bloke named Main, who is a qualified accountant, married to a French dame, who had been doing the Accountant's work in the office of the R. C. at Vila and had just finished. H. E. really is most thoughtful. If he had not brought this bloke back, poor Ambler could not have got a relief and got some leave. Main is a quiet inoffensive sort of bloke, does his job well, and things Government's methods of getting things done is rather mad.

Spoke to H. E. about your stopping in N. Z. on your way back to the Colony - talked a lot of rot about how delicate you were, and had to have regular spells of leave to keep up to concert pitch and produce your best.

He agreed, and I am sure he will Okay whatever you put up. As regards returning to the G. and E., I murmured that you might wish to come here and discuss points arising out of your visit to P. I. which could be better discussed than written about, and here again, I am sure H. E. will do just whatever you want to do. Incidentally the "Nimanoa" is due down about January, so counting 2 months for refit here that should just suit you.

Indidentally, H. E. wanted to send your letter to me on to the Colonial Office, as he said that was the sort of meat they liked. However, we decided against it in the end in case you might not like it. Of course he is terribly keen on this D/O stuff.

So much for your letter. Now for some local news. And while I think of it you old blighter. You remember your famous report on the P. and L. Is, and that I to CXV index of references at the end. You old devil you left out number VIII in the Index, and did I sweat for a merry morning trying to find out what it was. I did it though in the end.

Whilst on the subject of the report and books - I have here with me in the office - how it arrived I dont know, unless it was presented to H. E., a book written by Ernest Sabatier, M. S. C. entitled "Sous L'Equateur du Pacifique - Les Iles Gilbert et La Mission Catholique, 1888 - 1938" - a French publication. A most detailed work embracing all aspects of the Colony including a section on the Government. Yippee!! Let you see it when you return. You ought to have a copy for your library, or a note of it anyway on your bibliography.

Talking of islands, do you know those other lousy bums have now stated that they refuse to indicate in advance the grounds of their whatnot. And not only do they now propose to discuss those places we dealt with, but also any other places they may feel inclined to as well. Of all the ruddy insolence. You and I will have to get together and write three tomes on every place in the ocean. I foresee the Gs. being argued about, also T., and possibly the remainder of S. I hope you understand.

News of X. is encouraging. R. cannot be located so we cannot buy the ruddy place. However, as it is now empty, it has been okayed that we can let some Gs in to keep it going and any loss incurred on the working will be met by Govt. What about trying for the job?

Swinbourne at Fanning Island is becoming a bigger nuisance every day. I wish to heavens we could out him. Wont I kick his bottom when he passes through here on retirement.

You knew Wheels was back and is straightening things up in Ocean Island. Barley went on "sick" leave and Holland is acting. B. is due back soon though



Iremonger's wife as recently extremely ill at Vaitupu with, as far as could be gauged, peritonitis. The "Kiakia" was rushed down, and she has since recovered. However, they are coming down here in January, and wont I have to mind my ps and qs about cards and calling then. Iremonger himself has been I understand, none too well. Apparently, it is a little like Moliere's play "Le Medicin malgre lui" with them.

Wernham is to relieve in the Ellice Islands, and Keegan who is going a course under Wernham at Tarawa, is to relieve at Tarawa.

Irishman still in the Phoenix Islands as far as we know - at Gardner. No news from him for a long while.

Erb is at Beru, with wife and child, so Honor and Alaric will have some company if they go there.

Clarke is back at Ocean Island, with Mrs C. and the lad, who is I hear a bonny lad. L., is I understand, confidentially, to be retired. Blaikie must be on his way to the Solomons now, as the new Police Officer Doxat, late of Palestine and British Honduras, has arrived. Two new Cadets since you were there - Williams, a red headed Welshman, late of the staff of the Daily Mirror, and another has just arrived whose name I forget at the moment. I know the latest Cadet for the B. S. I. P. is named Attlee, and is a cousin of the Lord Privy Seal, or a nephew, I forget which.

Kennedy has settled down in the Solomons and according to Marchant is doing a good job of work. He has been acting as D. O. Nggela, and Supt. of Police and Prisons pending Blaikie's arrival.

Had a line from Garvey the other day. He like myself is moaning. He says he is back at the good old stage of filing correspondence and x-referencing M. P.s. There seems to be something wrong with the Service that executive officers should have to do this. It looks as though what we really need is an efficient clerical service.

No other news of personnel, I think.

Nothing much to tell you about the office - its the same eternal grind. No reply from S. S. yet about Native Laws. Co-operative Society Ordinance and Rules are going through with one or two minor amendments suggested by the S. S. That futile Coastal Traffic Ordinance was repealed. Amending Ordinance to Native Passangers Ordinance went through " Nothing in this Ordinance to apply to any native-owned canoe or other craft of under five tons burthen". Status of half-castes legislation has gone down a rabbit-warren in the boss's room. Heaven knows if it will ever be done while he is here.

Just had a very long letter from Erb, who talks about life in the G. & E. and so the following extracts may interest you. "I feel the advent of Keegan is a curse of major importance". "Enid met the Iremongers at Vaitupu on the way up. She was wearing some very tight trouser affairs and looked like a balloon barrage.....Enid found Mrs. I very patronizing, overpoweringly so: she took Enid aside and gave her all the tips about life in the Colony".

"Which brings me to Terrienne who has of course violated the Closed District at Sydney Island absolutely intentionally and flagrantly - I believe - to force the issue. Sadd tells me that Gallagher told him clearly in front of him, Sadd, that if he landed at Sydney, he would be prosecuted. Terrienne is pumping up some silly excuse about a clause in a letter from the Resident saying 'if you have any representations to make, I shall of course be pleased to hear them'. The trouble is that Barley is still deceived by the dirty Froggie's cunning diplomacy. How I love the Bishop! "

There is also a lot about the death of poor old Tiger Tim Levett. It was a tremendous blow to the Mission. It seems that some arsenic used to catch rats had been out in Sadd's store room and had somehow got mixed with some flour. Both ate, but Sadd by the mercy of heaven had the sense to take a powerful emetic directly he felt ill and so saved himself. Poor Levett passed away. It was all the worse as the Eastmans were away, and Levett's wife and children were not with him.

God, all this typing is hard work! I will therefore give you the other news in brief, as I have 23 other letters to write, thank the lord, not all as long as this.

Delia went down to N. Z. by Matson boat on 1st October, and H. E. very decently allowed me twenty-four days leave to go down with her and come back on the same boat. I got back on the 25th, leaving Delia behind. We found it bitterly cold down there especially in Wellington. Of my seventeen days in N. Z. I spent 7 inside the Nany Office working. What a leave. However they seemed a very decent crowd of blokes. Then I went an' got bronchitis because of the weather and spent a week in bed. We tried to see your uncle as I was desperately keen to get him to



look at my legs. Alas and alack, he left for Australia the same day on the same boat by which we arrived. Was I mad? I certainly was disheartened he had to choose that time to buzz off. We met Lady Robertson and went to tea with her, and I have heard from Delia that she has since met some friends of Honor's called the Mappins. I expect Delia has given Honor the low down on all this though.

The only cheering piece of news is that H. E. leaves for a tour on Monday the day after tomorrow, for a visit to T., PP and S (A). Dr. Mac, Charlton, Archie Reid, self and H. E. form the party: should be good fun. I'm only going because H. H. V. wont as he does not trust me to behave myself in the office while he is away!

No other news. I must cease now. Do call in here on your way back, as we do want to have a talk with you about the P. I. Group. ~~Kanxxxx~~ Delia is greatly looking forward to meeting Honor when you pass through N. Z. on your return. The great event is timed for 8th or 9th December, and so the son and heir and/or daughter and heiress should be there when you meet Delia. Care of the Bank of New South Wales Auckland will always find her.

Ti ngaia ane,

Ti a kabo,

Yr Mac  
Suz

Incidentally you had better get back to the Colony quick as Barley is trying to play the fool with the Board of Gilbertese examiners, by saying that if you are not there, Terrienne, Pujubet, and Co. can form it. B---s!

Nearly forgot - I told Bank on 6<sup>th</sup> August to arrange transfer to your a/c in Sydney (from my a/c in Sydney) of Aussie equivalent of £150 (Fiji). It worked out at £A. 166 odd. Transfer was made late August or early September.

Best wishes to Honor & Alaic.



Queen Mary Hospital,

Hammer Springs,

S. S. N. 2.

13<sup>th</sup> Nov., 1940.

Mr. Maude,

High Commissioner's Representative,

Pitcairn Isd.,

S. P. Ocean,

Dear Mr. Maude,

I have a dual purpose  
in writing you. Firstly to tender my  
sincere thanks to you & Mr. Maude for  
the friendliness & kindness you have extended  
toward my wife & family since your advent  
to Pitcairn, which I very much appreciate,  
& which means much to me under the circum-  
stances.

Mr. Coop related to me in her  
last letter how nice you had both been to  
her, which simple fact has been the  
means of lightening my burden considerably.

Secondly, I figure that a word  
in season from you the first time you  
have the people together, might have the  
effect of stalling their wagging tongues, &  
so make more tenable here, my wife's pres-  
ent unenviable position. To quote  
her last letter of 13<sup>th</sup> prox. — "you do not  
know what I have gone through, with the  
people all teasing me & telling me you had  
deserted us, etc. They have all been wanting



me to get a divorce & marry somebody  
else "although I tell them I do not  
believe in divorce, it seems to make no  
difference & they continue to pester me  
with their foolish non-sensical suggestions."

Surely Mr. Maude, my wife's lot is  
hard enough having been separated for  
almost two years, with the family responsibility  
falling upon her shoulders almost entirely,  
little help from me, & no prospects of  
our reunion either immediate or in the  
near future (for unless I improve at a  
rate contrary to the expectation of my numerous  
medical advisers, I shall remain where  
I am for six months or more) without these  
short-sighted, uninformed, & foolish people  
making it worse for her. I am constrained  
to write thus, knowing Pitsaia & its people as  
I do. I could write volumes concerning my many  
& varied experiences during the ten long years  
of my exile there. I found the people to be the  
very antithesis of what I had been led to believe  
they were, & was glad of the opportunity to work  
my way back to N.Z. on the Chimantaka, although  
I would willingly return to the Chimantaka, although  
serving to do there, if I thought work I was endeavoring  
to do there, if I thought work I was endeavoring  
could accomplish any good there for a moment. I  
whereas I gave them one & a half, faithful  
dental service, at a figure (it would be  
a misnomer to say fee), commensurate with  
the bare cost of materials, it would seem



That my pure motives & best endeavours  
were almost universally unfringed.

Enclosed please find a memo  
from Dr. Archer, not at all on your account,  
but that the people there may have evidence  
that I am not malingering, as they have  
most likely long since concluded.

Please excuse the scrawl,  
as most of this has been scribbled in  
bed.

Must stop to catch the mail.

Trusting this finds you & yours  
enjoying the best of health, & to do full  
your short-sojourn in our Pitcairn, & with  
kind regards to yourselves & all the  
people of Pitcairn,

I remain dear Dr. Maude,

Yours sincerely,  
Geo. V. Coy



HAWKE'S BAY HOSPITAL BOARD.

FALLEN SOLDIERS' MEMORIAL HOSPITAL,  
HASTINGS, N.Z.,

4. 11. 1940

This is to certify that Mr  
L. George has been under  
my care for some months  
suffering from Neurosthenia  
He is ~~to enter~~ Hospital  
in a few weeks time for  
further treatment.

Yours faithfully,

H. R. Arch

M.B. Ch.B.

---



Pitcairn Island,

Eastern Pacific,

11th December, 1940.

Dear Grinsell,

I suppose you have long ago given up expecting any reply to your letter, which you wrote such ages ago. I must apologize most humbly for my rudeness, but I have been very busy indeed during the last year or so and have had to neglect all my private correspondence. Actually I see your letter reached my home in the Gilbert Group, where I never seem to live, in August, 1939, and was redirected to New Zealand and thence to Fiji, where it caught me early this year.

It certainly was a welcome surprise to hear from you for I had no idea that anyone at Highgate, much less someone I actually knew, had anthropological leanings. I can remember you in the second form, though a bit vaguely I admit - as far as I can remember I never did a stroke of work so it must have been a miracle my getting out of the form at all. Its sad how one gets out of touch with one's old school out here - I have never met a single person from Highgate since I left Cambridge in 1929; they just don't seem to exist in the South Seas.

I wish I could claim to be an expert on archaeology



or anthropology, as you very evidently are with so many published works to your credit. It seems ages since I wrote anything in that line and I don't see much hope of doing any serious anthropological study in the future unless I can settle down on some island for at any rate a year.

I do not know whether I shall ever be able to visit England again, but if I do I shall most certainly endeavour to get in touch with you. I'm afraid, however, that you'd find me a very boring person, for 11 years of living in the remoter islands of the South Seas do not fit one for ordinary civilized life. Once one has felt the strange call of the South Sea atolls one cannot live happily very far from the lagoons and palm trees. I came home to England in 1936 but could find no-one who had apparently heard of the Pacific Islands so was glad to finish my leave in Hawaii, where people could, as it were, speak one's own language. Since then I have confined my visits to civilization to such places as New Zealand, where there are groups of people interested in Pacific studies.

Since 1937 I have been busy colonizing the uninhabited Phoenix Islands. It has been a most fascinating job - when we first landed on them they were just empty atolls, lying out in the very centre of the Pacific, and there was something about their loneliness which just gripped the imagination.



Now, as a result of 2 years effort, there are nearly 1,000 permanent residents on the three southern islands of Hull, Sydney, and Gardner, with smiling villages full of contented settlers where only a few months before there was nothing but birds and surf.

Since last August we (that is my wife, son aged 2, and myself) have been living on Pitcairn Island, engaged in devising a constitution, code of laws and system of government for the benefit of the descendants of the "Bounty" mutineers. Being the first government official to live here for any length of time everything has to be worked out from scratch, but the various Christians and Youngs are very kind to us.

We have now completed our work here (which included supervising the ~~new~~ first stamp issue, which you'll see on the envelope) and are waiting for a ship to take us on to my next assignment, which is in the Kingdom of Tonga. Its a bit of a strain waiting for a ship to put in an appearance for of course we receive no warning of when to expect one - so far we have only been waiting about 10 days and one may come tonight, or on the other hand its just as likely that there wont be one for three months; and they only wait half an hour for one to be packed and away!

You'd be interested in the collection of adzes and other prehistoric stone implements which I have succeeded



in obtaining on Pitcairn. Emory lists 17 stone implements from Pitcairn in American Museums. There are 36 in the British Museum and 50 in the Pitt-Rivers Museum at Oxford. Well, as a result of six months intensive searching and digging, in which I got the whole island to assist, I have got over 1,500 different artifacts - I imagine that its easily the largest collection of Polynesian archaeological material from any island in the South Seas. We have packed up the stones into 11 cases and I'm taking them with me to New Zealand and sincerely trust that the Germans don't sink the ship on the way, or the loss to Pacific students will be quite irreparable.

Of course we couldn't collect 1,500 stone adzes, etc. in 6 months by digging alone, but fortunately the Islanders had been collecting for years in case someone would want such stones - so I bought all their collections for spot cash. Much of the material consists of types hitherto unknown in the Pacific area and will, I hope, cause no little excitement in the small circle interested in Pacific archaeology.

I must stop now as its time to go for a scramble up the cliffs before turning in. I'll send you anything I write on the Pitcairn stuff, as I think it might interest you, but much time will be needed to write it up - probably years, as there is so much to do all the time.



I do hope that the world is treating you well, with none of this bombing one hears so much of on the wireless. I have refrained from touching on war subjects, as it must be quite bad enough living in the middle of it without having one's letters filled with war talk.

With many thanks for the article from "Folk-Lore" which you sent me and which both my wife and I have read with great interest.

Yours sincerely,

*J.R.A.I.*

P.S. Some years ago Henry Balfour promised to write up the material from Pitcairn in the various British Museums. If you ever meet him you might remind him of this and say that his results are being anxiously awaited.

Thinking of Henry Balfour made me realize how cut up into watertight compartments anthropology is. I get every anth., arch., historical, or scientific publication on the Pacific area and the house is always littered with the stuff - yet I have never seen a copy of J.R.A.I. or "Man" in 5 years. Several years ago I tried to join the Royal Anth. Inst. and Tommy Hodson, who was always having



a war with them, promised to fix it up; but nothing happened. Again in 1936 Camilla Wedgewood and Prof. Elkin in Sydney said that they'd arrange it; but again nothing happened. So I take it they consider me an undesirable member, or else don't want to rob me of my life sub., which is still waiting at my English bank. If you ever visit the place I should be eternally grateful if you would find out what I have done to merit permanent exclusion.

*see*



Highgate House Club,  
CARINGTON GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
142, BUNYON 19-11.

11th December 1938.

H.E. Maude Esq.,  
Gilbert Islands, %Central Pacific.

Dear Maude,

It was with very deep interest that I noticed, when browsing over the recently published Highgate School Register, that since you left Highgate you have been studying my favourite hobbies,-- archaeology and anthropology, and are now studying native races first hand. It is evident that you are the fellow who sat next to me in the Second form under K.R.G. Hunt, and that you were in Fitzroy Lodge (I was in Eastgate). The collecting instinct, which manifested itself in stamps in 1921-3, has in both our cases developed into a mania for collecting archaeological and anthropological data and stringing them together in the form of books and papers.

It is indeed over fifteen years since we last met at Highgate, but the years have not dimmed my recollection of you (rather sandy hair and dolichocephalic cranium) and it is wonderful what a common enthusiasm for arch. and anth. can do: it can easily bridge a gap of fifteen years and a distance of several thousands of miles; the more so as, at anyrate in Europe, we are living under a cloud and are not sure whether <sup>it</sup> will burst upon us or be dispelled, and so it behoves us to make the best of our time now.

I very much hope that things will straighten out in a way that is just for everyone, ~~so~~ <sup>and</sup> that we shall be able to look forward to a dotage of ~~not~~ attending meetings of the Royal Anth. Inst., and kindred societies, and reading of papers etc., and in any case I hope it will not be another fifteen years before we again exchange greetings.

As a matter of fact I am ~~not~~ only a dabbler in arch. and anth., as on leaving school rather prematurely in 1923 I was obliged through force of circumstances to go into a commercial business straight



away, but while still at Highgate I began collecting flint implements. Although only a dabbler, I have already had over 40 papers published on archaeological subjects, mostly about barrows, as well as a book on Ancient Burial Mounds of England which appeared in 1936; and my second book will appear in a few weeks, when I shall be very happy to send you a complimentary copy. It deals with the Berkshire Downs in Archaeology and Folklore. I am now writing my third book, which will probably be entitled Megaliths, Earthworks, and Superstitions, and will deal with the traditions connected with prehistoric sites in England and it will also include material from Wales, Ireland, Scotland, Brittany, and perhaps parallels from elsewhere. Meanwhile I enclose for your acceptance a little preliminary paper I did as an introduction to the larger work ~~at~~ which I am now compiling.

Presumably you are not in the Gilbert Islands for ever, and if and when you intend coming to England, or within striking distance of London, perhaps we could arrange to meet. I should be glad to learn what kind of barrows they have in the Gilbert Islands, and whether there is worship of stones there, and whether anything in the shape of megaliths is erected, for religious or funerary purposes.

I remember the first two lines of a poem you wrote about the school sports : "The sun did brightly shine;  
The sports were very fine."....., but I forget the rest !

I probably know lots of people who were doing arch. at Cambridge when you were there., e.g., Burkitt, J.G.D.Clark, etc., and I also know Prof.J.H.Hutton (Nagas of Assam) who is next year's(1939) president of the Folklore Socty.

A thousand good wishes for you,  
from

Yours sincerely,

L.V. Grin sell.

I am so sorry I typed this as I feel it should have been written. Anyway it is legible!