

near 1/2 of the cost
Proctor had in 1912 to
best date to do the
the facts as now
arrived at

Rambis Is.

12th May, 1947.

Sir,

Iai karineami ni kani
karekea mai roumi to Kiai ae
eti i aoni baikai: -

1. Manen te tan man july 1912 - Ao/30
= $18 \times 5,000 = \text{£}90,000$. R = $\text{£}22,500$.

(Anne au katantau man ana
taeka Erioti R.C.)

2. Manen te tan man jan. 1931 -

Provident Fund. $\text{£}41,000 - 20,000 = \text{£}21,000$

$\therefore \text{£}21,000 \times 4\frac{1}{4} = \text{£}89,250$ B.R. 7.7. (8 $\frac{1}{2}$)

$\therefore \text{£}89,250 + 20,000 = \text{£}109,250$. " "

Botania: - 1912 = $\text{£}92,000$.

1921 = $\text{£}110,000$.

$\text{£}202,000$?

1947 = 12,000,000 tons.

20/2/47 r.g. O.K.

Rairia

③. Manen te fon are ango te B.P.C.
nakhon te Qua. (6^o perton)
Eriai n reke tibian Lambi iai
ke eaki?

④. Mikiran te eka are, ^{150 are} tuai ni ke-
naki; - Eriai nikakoroaki maitei
bona n ai aron te Berita ae bou
Nte aro are e na manga reke
riki kaka £50 nakhon te eka
ba e aonga ni bokaoi ma bou
te eka ae bou ae £200.

⑤. Tera Baican aia Boneti ten ababa?
Lai karneami ae bati ni
kani buokaki mai roumi
n te Koana ba e aonga n
tekeraoi ara bumbaa.

⑥. Kabarai burew ara taetae i
aon ara tangitang, ba tibon
tuai n ta.

Kambati n raba!

Ami toro

Rotan.

Rambi Island.

29th August, 1946.

Dear Maude,

As stated in my telegram, I was sorry about Karuokiti. You will know that it had nothing to do with the withdrawal of his acceptance. It appears that he had not told his wife, parents and others about his application, and the first news to these was that he was leaving the island. They then put pressure on him, as only Gilbertese (or Banabans) know how to do. I put the position fairly to him, as regards his own future, but he then wanted to stay. His English, I find, is weak indeed. He and I Kamawa are now under daily instruction. I Kamawa's English is very bad, too.

I received, or seemed to receive, a most sudden reception from the natives, on my arrival here. It was raining too and the mud was deep and sticky, particularly in the road up to the house. Then there was no one detailed to help with our things. Kennedy informed me that the Banabans had come forward when Windrum and later you had arrived, but that no doubt they would put up an excuse about not meeting me. They certainly did. They said bluntly that Kennedy had told them quite clearly that I was arriving by a later "Yanawai", and my arrival at the time therefore was entirely unexpected. I did not pursue the matter further. But I know this, that since that day, the Banabans and Gilbertese have flooded round, and have been cheerful, courteous and kind, in fact their old selves. Rolan surprised me by coming up early, to tell me that the store and accounts were open to me at any time.

and that he would be glad of all the help I could give him.

So far so good. I am now waiting a little more hopefully for the reactions, when the serious matters come up for decision. The majority of the people, however, as far as I could gather, are opposed to remaining in Rambi. This, it is true, is an early impression. I have not done any probing since.

I do need a copy of your memorandum, and have sent a request for it. Keep me in the loop, please, if you can.

It was a bit hard that Saakai and other key men left the day I arrived. Saakai knew all about the office and the accounts. Karuokichi had been merely a typist. The loss of the heat mechanic was serious, too. Others did not matter so much. Also to Elsie's distress, the electric light plant and the refrigerator ~~disappeared~~ also. However, we have settled down now, and the friendliness of the natives is a real joy.

There are quite insufficient resources for an application for Bose or for a Y.M.C.A. keeper. I must in this respect wait for the future to shape itself.

I wonder if this letter will catch you at Suva. All our good wishes to Honor & you & love to Elsie.

Yours sincerely,
J.H. Hollands

WESTERN PACIFIC HIGH COMMISSION,
SUVA, FIJI.

Personal & Confidential.

4th July, 1946.

My dear Major Holland,

Thank you for your letter of the 10th May, which I should have answered before were it not that all my private correspondence is in a hopeless state of arrears, as usual, while I pound away at drafts and minutes, alternating recently, I'm sorry to say, with bouts in hospital with some nervous stomach trouble: I thought it was an ulcer, but apparently its not - yet!

I owe you a great many apologies for not having sent the Reorganization Report, as I indeed promised. I have now rectified this by forwarding it by surface mail, together with Hard's recent report on Education which 'M sure will interest you; it has been approved by H.E. in principle and Hard has now gone to England on leave, where he is to discuss it with the Colonial Office.

However, to get down to business, I did certainly recommend to H.E. your appointment as Senior Administrative Officer - to train the cadets in the way they should go. He considered, however, that the question must perforce be postponed until it was established whether Colonel Fox-Strangways was coming back as Resident Commissioner or, if not, who was to be sent in his place. And this decision has still not been made, so far as I am aware.

But

Major F.G.L. Holland, G.M., O.B.E.,
14, Alverstone Flats,
Parliament Street,
Auckland, N.Z.

But last week Macdonald and I went to Rabi on a joint Fiji/High Commission mission to find out what was wrong with the Banaban settlement there. As a result H.E. decided to make a change there and wondered if you would care to take over the work of Banaban Welfare Officer, on a year's contract. The terms he offers are salary equal to the difference between £1,000 (Fiji currency) and your present pension, i.e. your total emoluments would be £1,000 p.a., of which part would be pension and part salary. You would of course get your passages (and Mrs. Holland's) to and from Auckland and Rabi and 6 weeks leave on full salary at the end of the period.

I should tell you at once that the Banabans are as difficult as ever and completely under the domination of Rotan, who has turned rather anti-European (or is it only anti-Kennedy?). They are making little effort to settle down on Rabi and set to work, preferring for the most part to idle away their time in gambling and football. I blame the unspeakable system of annuities for most of this, coupled with Rotan's money complex.

Their present idea is, I'm sure, to get possession of Rabi freehold and divide up all Banaban funds (capital and interest) whereupon they will all return to Ocean Island, using Rabi as a source of revenue (worked by Gilbertese or leased to Europeans). However, we have a scheme for circumventing this, in the interests of the younger generation in whom I have still great hope, and I am engaged in writing a long despatch to the Secretary of State on the whole question.

In the meantime, and pending the Secretary of State's reply, the Welfare Officer can do nothing but try and keep the Banabans happy and quiet and
prevent

prevent them, as far as possible, from killing off all the cattle, wasting the assets of the estate and generally making a nuisance of themselves. They refuse to co-operate in any way with Kennedy, but that may be Kennedy's fault, as they allege that he drinks too much and shows little interest in their welfare.

If the Secretary of State agrees with our proposals, we hope that some time next year the island will really be made into their homeland and there will then be a good deal of work to do.

Now I have told you the worst, the best is that it is a lovely island with a nice house and a good climate. Green and park-like and not too far from the amenities of civilization, it is a real little gem and I should love to have the job myself. There is a doctor on near-by Taveuni and several European settlers on the still nearer mainland of Vanua Levu. The "Yanawai" calls regularly on her rounds from Suva. Altogether and apart from the Banabans (who can be handled, I'm sure, with sympathy, tact and patience) its a regular "snip".

Well, what do you say to the proposition? Could you possibly let me know by telegraph, as the matter is rather urgent and you would be wanted as soon as possible? I rather believe your wife would like the absolute peace and quiet of it all, the house on a hill overlooking the sea, the vegetable garden, cattle and horses grazing below and the Gilbertese and Ellice Islands servants. And I feel certain you'd love it and that you're the person who would make a success of it.

I must stop now but hope to hear from you soon.

Honor and I send our very best to you both,
Yours very sincerely,

(Signed) H. B. MAUDE

Rabi,

3rd January 1946

Dear Harry,

We duly arrived here on the 15th Dec. after dropping the Ellice Islanders at Manua and Vaitupu. (There were no BPC people for Niutao).

Things have gone fairly well but supplies from Suva are haphazard and no one in WPHC office seems to be taking any interest in us or making any effort to help.

I am sending you a copy of a D.O. Confidential letter to Vaitupu outlining the situation to date.

The Benalians are working very well & there have been to date, no further symptoms of the laywers they displayed on Tarawa.

Pops & the bairns are well and we all send regards & Happy New Year's greetings to Honor Alani & yourself. In ~~my~~ ^{our} ~~best~~ ^{most} ~~kind~~ ^{cordial} ~~regards~~ ^{affection}

Confidential

RABI ISLAND,

FIJI,

1st JANUARY, 1946.

DEMI OFFICIAL

Dear Vaskess,

I have been working on a report of my activities in the matter of the Banaban Settlement since I left Suva rather more than two months ago. You will readily understand, however, that the multiplicity of small details here at Rabi, leaves me little time to get down to serious writing. I shall endeavour to get a full report to you before the end of January.

As expected, there have been many knotty points, the solution of which has called for much careful thought and painstaking discussions with the Banabans. I shall refer to these in my report and to the solutions or compromises found for them.

For the present I am pleased to say we have achieved a satisfactory working arrangement for the temporary settlement of the people on the sunny north-west coast. They are still in the main camp prepared for them at Nuku, but today, two parties comprising about 120 people, are moving out to other camps to participate in working the copra plantations on the other sides of the island. The others will soon disperse in community groups over the north-west coast where they will work the copra according to the temporary division of their allotments among family groups. This copra will be purchased by the Banaban Co-operative Society at Nuku, dried in the driers at that place, and exported from there.

The other side of the island comprising two plantation work centres, will ultimately be operated by the Co-operative Society, paying Banaban labour who will gradually

replace the 40 Fijians and Solomon Islanders at present working there under Crabbe.

The latter is not altogether satisfactory and his manner does not appeal to the Banaban temperament. The position is difficult for him but I do not think he is making a real effort to adjust himself to present conditions. Rather, there is every indication that he intends to persist in regarding the plantations on the other side as being in some sense a government concern. The Banabans, of course, are being watchful and jealous of anything that looks like further Government direction of their business affairs. They are anxious to learn the work of running the plantations and I fear that Crabbe is merely being obstructive, and has no intention of making a sincere effort to teach them the work. It is, of course, necessary to have someone to do so and I am proposing to re-engage a previous overseer who understands the work thoroughly, but who was discharged by Crabbe while I was at Tarawa. I had already offered this man a three months engagement to help in teaching the Banabans.

Crabbe's present appointment terminates automatically on the 15th January. I have asked the Co-operative Society to consider whether they are prepared to offer him further employment on a month to month basis. Crabbe has informed me that this would not be satisfactory ^{to} him and so I have come to the conclusion that the best solution in the interests of the Settlement Scheme generally will be to allow him to go and to carry on the plantation work under the guidance of two experienced overseers.

The book-keeping is quite simple and I have two capable Banabans already engaged on it with a view to having a system of accounts covering all transaction from the moment of their arrival here, which will be satisfactory for purposes of government audit.

There is sufficient copra in what I am calling the two plantations on the south east, (or unsettled) side of the island, to cover all ordinary running expenses, even at reduced output, and to provide a small margin for development and cleaning up the mass of undergrowth which Levers have permitted during the past four years. My reply to their letter on the question of compensation for this will be to the effect that a handing over statement signed by Witts and Crabbe, when the latter took over management in April 1941 showed that the plantations were free of all pests and undergrowth. The present state is due, not to one year's neglect during the period April 1941 - April 1942 when we purchased Rabi, but to the whole four years intervening since Crabbe took over from Witts, and that it must be assumed that the state of deterioration when we purchased the place in April 1942 could not have been more than 25% of the present deterioration, and that therefore our claim for £1200 should in fairness to Levers be adjusted by the deletion of this 25% deterioration before we purchased the island. That would mean a valid claim for £900 instead of £1200.

The Banabans can be induced to clean up the mess but they expect wages for the work from their own co-operative Society. The Co-operative Society does not like the idea of being saddled with the expenditure of £1200 at the very beginning of its operations here.

It is essential that the tangled mass of wild mint be cleared up immediately, for at certain times it breeds stick insects at an alarming rate, and these, as you know, utterly destroy the coconut palms. Two days ago I, myself, discovered an area of nearly 100 acres of young trees almost entirely denuded of leaves by stick insects. Today we have rushed a gang of 50 men to attempt to clear this area, and destroy this insect.

Crabbe should have taken steps a month ago to prevent this patch of insects from spreading.

I mention this only to indicate one of the difficulties (causing additional expense at an awkward time) with which we are faced in taking over some thousands of acres of dirty plantations.

The health of the community has been exceptionally good. There has been only one mild outbreak of diarrhoea. Two young lepers have been discovered and arrangements are being made for their transport to Makogai.

His Excellency agreed that the community should be rationed at the expense of the G. and B.I.C. Rehabilitation Vote for one month after their arrival here, this period will end on the 15th January. At that time there will be a certain surplus of rations which can be purchased by the Co-operative Society for sale to individuals. It will probably be necessary for me to order more through your office from time to time debiting Advances Banaban Community, but these amounts will be recoverable from the Co-operative Society after the sale of rations.

In the meantime I need an Imprest Account for current wages for the development of our new headquarters at Nuku, and payments of amounts under Deposits Sundries etc. ^{\$500 should} _{subsidy}

Furthermore I am sending you a telegram asking you to transmit by first opportunity the sum of £6,527/11/- in respect of arrears of annuities due to Nauru and Kusaie Banabans. I have complete and detailed lists of these, prepared by Dickes. In the same telegram I am asking for a further £2,145/14/10 in respect of arrears of interest due to Banaban landowners.

The amounts mentioned above are in Fiji currency. The people are asking for immediate payment in cash. I hope to induce most of them to deposit a large amount of what they receive

with their own Co-operative Society pending satisfactory banking arrangements for them in Suva.

I trust you will be able to remit all this cash by the present voyage of the 'Yanawai'.

The Co-operative Society has fairly large stocks of goods on order and we will have the surplus of the rations on hand, and for all these things the people will be clamouring for ready cash to make their purchases. Furthermore I am arranging for the supply to the Co-operative Society of locally grown vegetables, until the Rabi gardens are in progress, and for these, cash is essential.

There are many things which I would like to discuss with H.B., yourself, and the heads of various departments in suva, but I feel I ought not to leave Rabi for several months to come owing to the problems which are continually cropping up.

On the whole I am satisfied that things are going pretty well and perhaps rather better than any of us anticipated. There is a tendency on the part of the people not to commit themselves with regard to their future life on Rabi until they are satisfied that all is going well with their remaining interests on Ocean Island.

Yours sincerely,

Donald Kennedy

London Missionary Society.

Rongorongo Training Institution,
Beru, Gilbert Islands.

Jan 4th 1947

Dear Mr. Maude,

We were very glad to have the news you kindly sent us of your definite appointment as Resident. We hope for you and Mrs Maude a long and happy period of service in this capacity. As you told us you are expecting leave ere long, we are wondering who will carry on during your absence. Are you expecting to go Home to England?

You will be interested to hear THE BRIDGE IS BUILT. The bulk of the work has been done by kain Rongorongo. Some few Beru people have helped well, but in the main they have been disappointing. We measured up the timber you brought up from Funafuti but even with the masts it proved far too short to span the lagoon. So we had to cut all the 6 x 6 timber with our saw to 6 x 3, and also to split all the masts. In the end we managed to get enough to carry the bridge across.

We had cut up several hundred coconut logs into two inch planking, and we have made a strong job of it. We rigged up a kind of pile driver on our big lighter, and when we had most of the timber ready, in December I had most of our elder boys and our two carpenters busy on the job and went out myself every day to give some superintendence and encouragement. ETERA worked well the first week, and so did the Govt carpenter Taurabakai, but one week of working alongside kain Rongorongo was too much for them and the next week they pleaded illness and stayed away. However, we have the bridge built, and now we are waiting for the Beru people to build up the broken down causeway on the west side. We have lent our lighter several times and the Beru people got enough big stones to make the jetty at the Nuka end, but the other end and causeway remains to be done. We had our sawbench working for some weeks on end every day, cutting up the logs and timber, and it has run into quite a good deal of fuel oil used, but we are glad to have been able to help the Beru people and Govt in this way. The old bridge collapsed in place after place as we tried to use it when doing the work. The new bridge has had a testing with

London Missionary Society

the recent westerly wind, but has stood up to it well. I hope it will not be long before you can pay a visit to Bern and see the new bridge.

all send our good wishes for the NEW YEAR,

Yours sincerely,

G. H. Eastman

7th January, 1947.

Dear Mr. Morris,

I am writing to thank you most sincerely for all that you did to help Miss Judy Firth on the night of her tragic death. Your very prompt and expert assistance to her immediately after the accident would, I feel sure, have been instrumental in saving her life if anything could have done so.

I know that Miss Firth's parents would wish to convey their appreciation of your efforts but, as they are so far away, we should like to thank you ourselves for all you did, not only on their behalf but from us both too.

Yours sincerely,

H.C. Morris, Esquire,
Bairiki, Tarawa Island.

7th January, 1947.

Dear Dr. Goltz,

I should have written to you before to thank you very sincerely for all the work you did to try and save Miss Firth's life on Sunday morning: we were, however, so stunned by the tragedy that it was some time before we could realize clearly that she was dead.

My wife and I are writing to Miss Firth's parents and letting them know how hard you tried to prevent Judy's death but, as they are so far away and you may not be here when they receive our letter, we felt that we should like to express our gratitude to you on their behalf and to say that we know that if human care and skill could have saved her your efforts would have been successful. I had a long talk with Dr. Rose yesterday in which he mentioned more than once that he felt, as a brother medical practitioner with a lifetime's experience, that you had done all that was humanly possible.

Once again, please accept our heartfelt thanks not only on behalf of Miss Firth's parents and ourselves but also on behalf of the whole British Community here,

Yours sincerely,

Lieutenant Robert W. Goltz, M.C.,
Betio, Tarawa Island.

7th January, 1947.

Dear Mrs. Alexander,

I am writing to thank you most sincerely for all your kind work for poor Judy both before and after her tragic death. Honor tells me that you assisted the whole night through, as well as the next day, and did all that could be done to save her life.

I know that Miss Firth's parents would wish to convey their appreciation of your efforts but, as they are so far away, we should like to thank you ourselves for all you did, not only on their behalf but from us both too.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. W.G. Alexander,
Betio.

7th January, 1947.

Dear Major Deems,

I am writing to thank you most sincerely for all the strenuous efforts you made in trying to save poor Judy Firth's life after the recent tragedy: all members of our little community were loud in your praise as the organizer throughout of the team work which, if anything could, would have resulted in her being still alive.

I should be most grateful if you would kindly convey our thanks for all their painstaking and unselfish work throughout the night to all members of your staff, both officers and enlisted men, who assisted you both at the hospital and the boats. In saying "our thanks" I know I am speaking on behalf of the whole British community here, who could not but admire the speed and efficiency with which arrangements moved at such a time of crisis.

My wife and I are writing to Miss Firth's parents, explaining to them all that was done for her on the night by yourself and your force but, as they are so far away and you may be gone before they receive our letter, we should once again like to convey, on their behalf, our deep appreciation.

Yours sincerely,

Major Harold E. Deems, C.A.C.,
Commanding Officer, U.S. Garrison Force,
Betio.

7th January, 1947.

Dear Mr. Dunham,

My wife and I would like to let you know how much we appreciate the long and painstaking work you put in embalming and performing the last services for Miss Firth and supervising the sealing, tarring and enameling of her coffin.

I should have written before had it not been for the suddenness of Miss Firth's death, which caused it to be some little time before I could really realize that she was no longer alive.

We are writing to Miss Firth's parents and letting them know how much you helped at the time of her tragic loss, but their home is so far away that you will be gone long before they receive our letter, and so on their behalf as well as that of the little British community here, may we express our most sincere thanks to you for your kindness.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Morris Dunham,
Betio, Tarawa Island.

RADIO TELEGRAPHS.

No. Office.....

Date Stamp

Words..... Date..... Time.....

Sent to

Service Instructions.....

Time

To GLT MRS. BUCHANAN,

Received from

DOMAIN SUVA

Time.

Operator

MANY

THANKS

KIND

THOUGHT

APPALLED

AT

ACCIDENT

HONOR

RADIO TELEGRAPHS.

No. Office

Words Date Time

Service Instructions

To **GILT LADY ELLIS**

CAMBRIDGE, N.Z.

Date Stamp

Sent to

Time

Received from

Time

Operator

MANY

THANKS

MUCH

APPRECIATE

YOUR

KIND

THOUGHTS

HONOR

RADIO TELEGRAPHS.

No. Office

Words Date Time

Service Instructions

To FIRTH STALBANS

..... CHRISTCHURCH NZ

Date Stamp

Sent to

Time

Received from

Time

Operator

FUNERAL	TOOK	PLACE	7TH	HUSBAND
OFFICIATING	BURIAL	SITE	RESIDENCY	POINT
STOP	LARGE	GATHERING	EUROPEANS	AND
NATIVES	ATTENDED	AND	COLONY	POLICE
CARRIED	WHITE	COFFIN	COVERED	IN
FLOWERS	STOP	SENDING	EFFECTS	ABOUT
10TH	FREIGHTED	CHRISTCHURCH		
			HONOR	MAUDE

RADIO TELEGRAPHS.

6-1-47

No. **46** Office **CHRISTCHURCHNZ**

Date Stamp

Words **12** Date **5** Time **2005**

Sent to

Service Instructions

Time

To **MAUDE TARAWA**

Received from **VPD**

Time **0911**

Operator **BERIKI**

THANK

YOU

CABLE

GREAT

SHOCK

PLEASE

ARRANGE

BURIAL

TARAWA

FIRTH

RADIO TELEGRAPHS.

5-1-47

Copy

No. Office **TARAWA**

Date Stamp

Words **61** Date **5** Time **1030**

Sent to

Service Instructions

Time

To **FIRTH STALBANS CHRISTCHURCHNZ**

Received from

Time

Operator

VERY	SINCERELY	REGRET	JUDY	INJURED
LAUNCH	ACCIDENT	AND	DIED	IN
HOSPITAL	OF	SHOCK	AND	LOSS
OF	BLOOD	OWING	SEVERED	LEG
ARTERY	STOP	END	OCCURRED	APPROXIMATELY
FIVE	THIRTY	MORNING	FIFTH	JANUARY
QUITE	PEACEFULLY	STOP	PLEASE	ACCEPT
OUR	VERY	DEEPEST	SYMPATHY	TRAGIC
HAPPENING	STOP	WOULD	YOU	PREFER
BURIAL	HERE	OR	BODY	TO
BE	EMBALMED	AND	SENT	FIJI
OR	NEWZEALAND			
		MAUDE		

Western Pacific High Commission,
Suva, Fiji.

7th August, 1946.

Sir,

I have the honour to request you to be so good as to grant a passage by the forthcoming voyage of the R.C.S. "Viti" from Auckland to Suva for Miss Judith Firth.

Miss Firth is due to leave Suva for the Gilbert Islands, where she is to act as governess to my son, by the m.v. "Tamatea" on or about the 20th August. Should she not be able to arrive here by the "Viti" there is, therefore, little chance of her being able to make the connexion.

I should be most grateful if I could be notified (if possible by telephone) whether or not this concession could be granted to me and, if so, the approximate date on which the "Viti" is scheduled to leave Auckland and arrive here.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,

S.L.M.

The Honourable,
The Colonial Secretary,
Fiji.

TELEGRAM.

JUDITH FIRTH,

HEATON STREET, CHRISTCHURCH.

GLAD TO GET YOUR TELEGRAM. CAN YOU COME
SUVA BY "VITI" LEAVING AUCKLAND ABOUT 12TH
AUGUST ? IF SO PLEASE CONTACT NATHANS,
QUEEN STREET, WHO HAVE BEEN REQUESTED RESERVE
PASSAGE. IF NOT PLEASE TELEGRAPH NATHANS
TO CANCEL YOUR BOOKING.

MAUDE.

RADIO TELEGRAPHS.

No. _____ Office _____

Words _____ Date _____ Time _____

Service Instructions _____

To **GLT STAPLEDON** _____

HIGHCOMA SUVA

Date Stamp *15th Jan 47*

Sent to _____

Time _____

Received from _____

Time _____

Operator _____

MANY

THANKS

YOUR

KIND

MESSAGE

STOP

JUDY

WAS

SO

BRIGHT

AND

KEEN

WE

ARE

ALL

MISSING

HER

MAUDE

RADIO TELEGRAPHS.

No. 149 Office SUVA

Date Stamp 13/1/47

Words 23 Date 13 Time 1022

Sent to

Service Instructions GLT

Time

To GLT NAUDE TARAWA

Received from VPD

Time 131427

Operator JMILNE

JUST

RETURNED

FROM

SOLOMONS

TO

HEAR

OF

YOUR

TRAGIC

LOSS

STOP

DEEPEST

SYMPATHY

FROM

US

BOTH

TO

YOU

BOTH

^P
STABLETON

11



"Oakbrook"
6. Circuit Street
Christchurch. N.Z.
Jan 12th 1947.

The Resident Commissioner

Gilbert & Ellice Group,
Tarawa.

Dear Mr. Maude

My wife, self, & family have to thank you very much, for your kindness & consideration for us, in the trying time you must have had a week ago, & I do hope that Aleric was not injured or any way else hurt. One comfort to us is, that Judy was so happy with you all & liked Aleric & said what a bright clever boy he was, & how she loved the beauty of the sky & air in Tarawa. For me, I realise it's a sacrifice, & I must accept it & be thankful for having had such a joyous happy child, she was always happy. With grateful thanks
Yours sincerely
D. J. Fisher. N.Z.

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY.

CLAIM FOR SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE and/or TRAVELLING EXPENSES.

Name H.E. Maude

Office Chief Lands Commissioner.

Salary per annum £1,000.

To travelling expenses as detailed below:—

Date and time of leaving station 21st September, 1946, at 8.30 a.m.

Date and time of return to station 7th October, 1946, at 10.30 a.m.

Embarked at 8.30 a.m. on 21st September, 1946

Arrived at Funafuti on 26th September, 1946, and
disembarked at 10 a. m.

Embarked at 4 p.m. m. on 29th September, 1946

Arrived at on, 19....., and
disembarked at m.

Embarked at m. on, 19.....

Arrived at on, 19....., and
disembarked at m.

Embarked at m. on, 19.....

Arrived at on, 19....., and
disembarked at m.

Number of days claimed 3½

Rate of subsistence allowance 15s. Od. ^{plus} (including 2 servants at 5/-
under Regulation 17).

Amount claimed £2. 19s. Od.

Means of conveyance m.v. "Awahou"

Duty on which engaged Return to substantive duty on termination
of special duty with W.P.H.C.

Office of the Resident Commissioner,
Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony,
Tarawa.

13th January, 1947.

Dear Cowell,

I attach:

- (1) a description of a proved method for home manufacture of soaps; and
- (2) a well known Gilbertese formula for making bark tan for nets or sails.

These formulae were sent to me by Major Holland who states that they were used at the King George V School on Bairiki for many years with success. They may be considered worthy of ultimate reproduction in your magazines for the benefit of the Gilbertese and Ellice Islanders.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) H. E. MAUDE

T.R. Cowell, Esquire,
Bairiki.

111. 9. 34.

Dear Maude,

Did I not promise to let you have the recipes for soap and bark tan? Here they are. I found the originals yesterday.

Both recipes were used with success, on this station, some years ago. The effect of the insipidation has now dwindled to nothing. I suppose this is because of the caustic soda.

Yours sincerely,
H. M. Holland

HOME MANUFACTURE OF SOAP.

INGREDIENTS.

Caustic Soda	1 lb.
Rain Water	3 pints.
Coco-nut Oil	5 pints 12 fluid oz.

MOULD.

Wooden box, 24" x 4".
Calico (old, but without holes) 36" x 21".

MIXER.

A clean 5 gallon drum.
A wooden stirrer, 2 ft. long.

METHOD.

Dissolve the saustic soda in the water in the drum and as great heat is generated, it is well to let the solution cool for one hour before proceeding. Exercise care in working with the caustic soda - it is corrosive to the skin.

Prepare the mould ready placed to receive the soap.

Damp the calico and line the mould with it.

Pour the oil rapidly into the caustic solution and stir well to ensure thorough mixing. Do not stir for more than two minutes.

Pour rapidly into the mould.

Immediately remove the filled mould to a place of security and allow the soap to set for 24 hours.

Upturn the mould after 24 hours on to a flat clean surface and ease the calico so that the soap leaves the box.

Cut into bars as necessary and store in an airy place for one month, when the soap will be ready for use.

This soap may be used for personal washing, and for domestic washing of clothes, etc.

The quantities given above will make about 12 lbs. of soap.

The mould and the mixer are large enough to work with three times the quantities given above.

The two minutes mixing is important. Do not allow the mixture to get "stiff" before turning out into mould.

FORMULA FOR MAKING BARK TAN FOR
NETS OR SAILS:

Boil the contents of two large Biscuit tins rain water filled with "Te Ngea" bark, chopped up to inch squares, for 12 to 18 hours. Take off the fire and cool to blood heat. Then strain through hessian and again put the liquid on to boil. When boiling put in one large tablespoonful of boiled Linseed Oil to each tin and let it boil into the liquid for 3 to 4 hours. Take tins off the fire and allow to cool to blood heat when one heaping tablespoonful of Powdered Alum is put in each tin. After stirring well immerse the net or sail for 12 to 18 hours, or even more if a very heavy tan is wanted. Then put in Salt water for 12 to 18 hours. Then take out and dip in fresh water. The article when dried is ready for use.



GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

FIJI.

23rd January, 1947.

Dear Maude,

As I said in my telegram to you after my return from the Colony, I am extremely grateful to you and your wife, for your very pleasant hospitality. I was also impressed with the keenness that you have en^doused into your staff, and I could not but notice that the spirit was better than on any of my previous visits.

2. I was extremely distressed to hear about the death of Judy Firth. I can only hope that it has not upset you, your wife, and Alaric too much.

3. I am sending to you, under separate cover, plans of the new houses that we are going to build in Suva, for the High Commission, and also for two Fiji quarters. These are merely to give you some idea as to what we are doing. They are in no way intended as a model for what you should do at Abemama, where conditions and materials are entirely different.

4. You will, no doubt, be relieved to hear that following a discussion I had with Noel and others at Honiara, we have decided to close Bent's office in Sydney. The question of Morris having to use this office does not, therefore, arise.

5. I am glad that you have changed the names of "X" and "Y", for it would be a pity to have a second series of "M's".

6. There are in Suva, at the moment, two new Cadets. One for you and one for Noel. I think that /

His Hon. H.E. Maude. M.B.K.

that you have got the better of the two. I have not met Mrs. Maxwell, as she was in hospital, but the step-daughter aged 18, who looks old enough to be the wife of Maxwell, seems to be a pleasant girl, and prepared for anything.

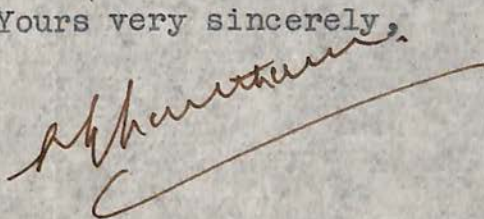
7. It is a good thing that you have given us the complete picture of Christmas Island, for now we can place the matter before the Secretary of State, and, as soon as we get the decision, will know exactly where we stand.

8. I am off to Canberra in a couple of days time to attend this perishing Regional Conference. I expect that I shall have to be away for at least three weeks. On my return there will be a session of Legislative Council, at the conclusion of which I hope to get away on leave. If I can possibly manage it, I shall stop off at Canton between planes, but this may not be possible. I shall let you know definitely as soon as I can. In any case, before I leave, I hope that you will have given me your views on Roberts's suggestions for constructing a British building on the north side of the island.

9. I expect to be away on leave from four to five months, i.e. from Suva, to Suva.

With kindest regards to you both,

Yours very sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R. H. Hunt", is written over a long, thin horizontal line that extends across the width of the signature.

Office of the Resident Commissioner,
Gilbert & Ellice Islands Colony,
Tarawa.

23rd January, 1947.

Dear Bauro,

Your note dated 22nd January was received yesterday. I don't know who told you that your letter of the 30th December attaching a list of Gilbertese plants had not been received by me. Actually it was received long ago and a copy has been duly forwarded to the Bishop Museum Authorities at Honolulu where I know it will be greatly appreciated.

Many thanks for all the trouble you have taken in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) H. E. MAUDE

Bauro Ratieta,
Assistant District Officer,
Gilbert Islands.

Betio, Tarawa.
30th December, 1946.

His Honour
H.E. Maude Esq., O.B.E.,
Resident Commissioner, G.E.I.C.

Dear Sir,

I acknowledge with pleasure the receipt (on the 24th) of your letter dated the 17th December and in response thereto am enclosing a list which is complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

2. The Gilbertese names given in your letter are correct, with the exception of "RIKU" which should be "RUKU". The name "TWU" is also doubtful to me.

3. I have also included certain plants, presumably of European origin, but which can be grown locally, in the column "IMPORTED".

Yours sincerely,

Bairiki

Y.H.

I do not know who is to blame but this letter was despatched to you on the day it was written, possibly a day or two later. Whilst at Bairiki yesterday I was surprised to hear that it had not arrived at your office. I am therefore sending you this duplicate copy.

I hope this delay has not caused you any serious inconvenience especially as the matter was marked urgent.

B.P.
22/1/47.

Duplicate

PLANTS OF THE GILBERT ISLANDS.

<u>LOCAL.</u>		<u>IMPORTED.</u>
Aaio	+Mai	Akanta
Aitua	+Makemake	
Ang	Mao	+Bainaboro
Ango	Marou	Bam
Aoaua	Maunei	+Bankin
Arabaotin	Moteti	+Banana
	Mtea	Baubau
+Babai	+Mwenweara	
Baireati		
Baobao	Ngea	Kaibaba
Bararuku	+Ni	Kaibake
Bata	Nikabubuti	Kiebu
Bau	Nimatore	
+Beneka	+Non	
+Bero	Ntanini	+Mangko
Bin		+Meren
Bingibing	Obu	Meria
Bitati		
Bitikaina	Rauota	Orian
+Boi (Port ulacca)	Reiango	
Buka	Ren	+Raim
	Ritanin	Rauti
Ibi	Ruku	Robu
Ikaeariki		Roti
Inoto		
Itai		
Kabe	+Taororo	+Tabioka
Kabekau	Tarai	Tiare
Kaibaun	Toara	Tinia
Kaiboia	Tongo	Tua
Kaimaiu		
Kaimatu		
+Kaina	Ueuke ^e	
Kaitu	Ukin ^h	
Kanava	Uri	
Katuru	Uti	
Kaura		
Keanginimakin		
Kiaiai		
Kiaou	Wao	
Kitoko		
Kobukobu		
Kuao		
Kumara		
+Kunikun		

+Denotes "fruit" bearing.

13th January, 1947.

Dear Dr. Emory,

30.12.46.
Further to my letter of the 16th December I now enclose a copy of a letter from Bauro Ratieta, Assistant Administrative Officer, Gilbert Islands, in which he gives what he believes to be a complete list of the names of local and imported plants in the Gilbert Group.

As Bauro is an ~~amazingly~~ thorough and conscientious individual, I am sure that the list, if not complete, is very nearly so.

I have not written in the European names for these plants as, in most cases, I am bound to say I do not know them. This work can no doubt be undertaken by whatever future investigator comes to visit us: in the meantime the list may be of use to you for comparative purposes, as the Gilbertese names will, in many cases, be similar to those found in other neighbouring groups.

Yours sincerely,

H.E. Maude.

Dr. Kenneth P. Emory, Ph. D.,
Bernice P. Bishop Museum,
Honolulu, T.H.

Betio, Tarawa.
30th December, 1946.

His Honour
H.E. Maude Esq., O.B.E.,
Resident Commissioner, G.E.I.C.

Dear Sir,

I acknowledge with pleasure the receipt (on the 24th) of your letter dated the 17th December and in response thereto am enclosing a list which is complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

2. The Gilbertese names given in your letter are correct, with the exception of "RIKU" which should be "RUKU". The name "TWU" is also doubtful to me.

3. I have also included certain plants, presumably of European origin, but which can be grown locally, in the column "IMPORTED".

Yours sincerely,

Sam R. Davis

Duplicate

~~P.21/2/4.~~

~~No. 4.~~

Office of the Resident Commissioner,
Gilbert & Ellice Islands Colony,
Tarawa.

24th January, 1947.

The Editor,
"Tero",
Bairiki.

Dear Sir,

Please send "Tero" for 1947 to the following
address:-

The Reverend Father Choblet, S.J.,
Makogai,
Fiji.

I enclose 2/- subscription.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) H. E. MAUDE

TELEGRAM—SAVING.

From: Secretary of State for the Colonies.

To: High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

Saving No. 4.

(Date) 27th January, 1947.

242X44—3000

Administrative staff recruitment.

Your telegram No. 290 of November 19th, and connected correspondence.

2. Pre-war experience proved that only a small proportion of the men selected for the Colonial Administrative Service as a whole possessed the temperament, interests, and other personal qualities which would enable them to stand up to the special stresses which service in the Western Pacific implies, and since the resumption of recruitment we have been careful only to allocate such men to the West Pacific territories.

3. From 5,000 applicants, 700 men were submitted to the Colonial Service Appointments Board for administration, and from the successful candidates 28 men were handpicked and allocated successively to the Western Pacific. 13 of these men have withdrawn on receipt of the formal offer, though previously some of them had received with enthusiasm the suggestion that they should be posted to the Western Pacific.

4. No difficulty of this magnitude has been experienced in any other area, not excluding West Africa, and your staff requirements, though now complete unless further withdrawals occur, have taken a long time to fill.

5. I am well aware of the difficulties arising from the housing shortage and cost of living imposed by war, but the fact must be faced that almost 50% of present candidates are unwilling to accept your prevailing conditions.

6. You will appreciate that recruits of the reconstruction period (of whom favourable reports have been received from all Colonies), are very different from pre-war cadets. They are older, more mature, and have experience of the war years behind them. 30% are married, of whom many have working knowledge of separation and attendant expenses. Most of the bachelors are of an age at which, if not contemplating marriage, they require assurances that should occasion arise, conditions permit it.

7. Recruits have proved during the war that they can do well under strenuous conditions, but they are mature realists, and if we are to attract and hold them, conditions and especially housing, must be improved.

This present day sensitiveness to factors affecting family life is entirely understandable, and must be taken into account if successful recruitment is to be ensured. Moreover, it is a factor which at any rate to a considerable degree, will probably have to be reckoned with for at least another two or three years, if not permanently.

8. . I should welcome your suggestions, for until improvements can be made, recruitment will continue to be precarious, and some anxiety must be felt over the reaction of those recruits who have accepted appointments when they get first hand experience of local conditions.

RADIO TELEGRAPHS.

No. Office

Date Stamp

Words Date Time

Sent to

Service Instructions

Time

To **GLT SIR ALBERT ELLIS,**

Received from

ARGYLE STREET, IDERNE BAY.

Time

Operator

VERY	MANY	THANKS	PASSAGES	TRINZA
AND	BLUE	STAR	WOULD	SUIT
ADMIRABLY			MAUDE	

RADIO TELEGRAPHS.

No. 305 Office AUCKLANDNZ

Date Stamp 30/1/47

Words 26 Date 30TH Time 1255

Sent to

Service Instructions ETAT BG

Time

To H. E. MAUDE TARAWA.

Received from VPD

Time 301432

Operator J. MILNE

PASSAGES	RESERVED	FOR	YOU	TRIENZA
DUE	LEAVE	OCEAN	FOR	AUCKLAND
SECOND	HALF	APRIL	PROSPECTS	OBTAINING
PASSAGES	BLUE	STAR	VESSEL	EARLY
MAY				
		ELLIS.		
GLT in Albert	Ellis	Angley Street	Home Bay.	
Very	many	thanks	passes	Trienza
and	Blue	star	would	sent-
admirably	Maude			

RADIO TELEGRAPHS.

No. _____ Office _____

Date Stamp _____

Words _____ Date _____ Time _____

Sent to _____

Service Instructions **PTE PLN**

Time _____

To **GLT ROBERTS.**

Received from _____

Time _____

CANTON ISLAND

Operator _____

MANY

THANKS

FOR

YOUR

KIND

MESSAGE

WHICH

WE

BOTH

APPRECIATE

MAUDE

B 1148

RADIO FORM 1

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY

RADIO TELEGRAPHS.

4/2/47

No. 6 Office CANTON ISLAND

Date Stamp

Words 12 Date 3RD Time 1200

Sent to

Service Instructions PTE PLN

Time

To MAUDE TARAWA.

Received from ZIT

Time 041533

Operator Stephen.B.

PLEASE

ACCEPT

MY

SYMPATHY

RECENT

AKZZ

ACCIDENT

YOUR

FAMILY

CIRCLE .

ROBERTS.

Roberts

Canton Island.

many
thought.

thanks
Maude.

appreciate your

kind

Office of the District Officer,
Gilbert Islands District,
Tarawa.

5th February, 1947.

Your Honour,

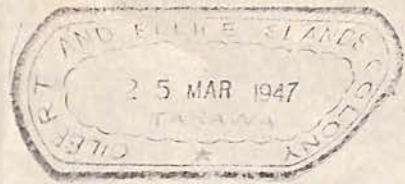
Just a word of thanks for your letter of the 22nd January 1947 about delay in replying to correspondence. Such things are so likely to happen and any way the volume of your correspondence is so immense that I could never be surprised if relatively unimportant correspondence should get a little delayed.

May I say that I greatly appreciate your courtesy in writing to explain the matter.

Yours sincerely,

H. C. R. G. G. Williams

His Honour,
H.E. Maude, Esquire, M.B.E.
Resident Commissioner,
Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony,
BAIRIKI.



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

6th February, 1947.

His Honour
Mr. H.E. Maude, M.B.E., M.A.,
Tarawa, Gilbert & Ellice Is. Colony.

Dear Sir,

This is in acknowledgement of your letter of the 14th December, 1946, which I was very proud to receive - a touch of my Polynesian pride in having the slightest contact with the high ranking officials. Now to the topics in your letter.

Rabi Island. - I have been behind my correspondence with Tekai and Bonebati and others at Rabi for some time now. Fortunately, Clerk Ikamawa, who arrived here last week, has given me the latest news of Rabi and though nothing calls for very specific mention, I am of the opinion that things there continue to move towards an ultimate success. There are, however, one or two things Ikamawa told me that you might like hear, unofficially of course. He told me that the Banaban elders have agreed to "baina" Rabi Island for the "sake of the young generations", though their majority (the elders) may elect to return to Ocean Island. This came about, to a certain degree, through some initiative on the part of a club of the young people at Rabi. Ikamawa and Burangke are, in my opinion, undoubtedly the life sparks of the club. The latter is well known in the Colony Wireless Telegraph Department.

A few minutes ago Mr. McKee was using this very machine to type his letter to you; and the following I give you in case he omitted from his letter. In company with Ikamawa, Master Naikara Kake and 20 students, arrived from Rabi on 26th January. The students have already been sent over to the Provincial School Eastern, Lodon. Naikara is now back with us at Maafu Street, awaiting the next sailing for Rabi. Ikamawa will also be returning by that same sailing. In addition to the above 20 students, two other students from Rabi also arrived on the same opportunity. One a girl of about 14 and a boy of about 13. I understand that these two have been enrolled at the Methodist Mission's schools at Delanivei (for girls) and Toorak (for boys) respectively. A good start for 1947 by and for the Banabans.

South Sea Marine Products, Ltd. - Fishermen. -

My scars of sadness are healing. It seems, rather it looks, that the company have found in the 3 Gilbertese and 2 Ellice Islanders at present in their employment something that they cannot find in the other islanders. This of course comes from my own observations (which so far have not let me down) and not from any of the officials of that company.

Of the 3 Gilbertese, one was a member of the 20 from Arorae and Tamana. He was in hospital at the time the 19 left. The second was one of the 'refugees' from Rabi during the Taakai exodus of 1946; while the third is Mareko Boutu of Maiana, a very active man.

Subscribers from Fiji to the Colony Government Publications.-

"Sta Teretia"
Sir, I thank you for the privilege of being asked to do this work. In fact I had been think of issuing a some sort of a circular note on the subject, but, I felt then an unseen accusing finger - "who gave you authority?" Since I have received your letter I have telephoned several people and talked to others. All it needs now, I think, is my calling on them. Soon after the port is cleared with the Colony fleet - "Awahou", "Kiakia", "John Williams", and "Tamatea"; plus the "Suva" and "Lautoka" of Carpenter's fleet on which ships our boys are and will be signed on - I shall make and I mean it, an honest "tax-gatherer's" job of collecting the subscriptions. I may use slogans on the line of "Subscribe or renounce your heritage"!

My small efforts have so far brought in 4s.0d.: 2 subscribers for one year each. To free you from trifle matters I am writing direct to the Editor concerned, giving him the names and addresses of the subscribers.

Please accept my sympathy in your untimely and sorrowful loss in Miss Firth.

With kind and respectful regards to yourself and Mrs. Maude.

Yours obediently,

Frank ofinga.

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY.

MEMORANDUM.

From: District Officer, Gilbert Islands, Betio.

To : Secretary, to Government, Bairiki.

F.124/44.

No. 115.

7th February, 1947.

Pen-cancelled stamps from Nonouti Island.

Ref. your memo. No. 358 of 3rd December, 1946.

During his visit to Nonouti this month Bauro Ratieta made a brief investigation of the pen-cancelled postage stamps on letters despatched from the island.

2. It was reported that:-

- (a) The official cancellation seal was unfortunately lost through enemy action when the Japanese landed at Nonouti during the month of September, 1942, since when the Scribe used the method reported in your memo. under reference.
- (b) The approximate dates between which stamps were pen-cancelled are September 1942 - March, 1946, when a new seal was supplied.
- (c) Approximately 300 covers were pen-cancelled during the period.

3. Stamps cancelled in this manner are in the handwriting of the Native Scribe and undoubtedly genuine. The Postage Stamp seal of Kuria was also souvenired in this manner but owing to the remoteness of that Island and the small population it is unlikely that there are any covers pen-cancelled from there: but it is possible.

(Sgd.) H.C.R. Fulford Williams

District Officer
Gilbert Islands District.

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY.

MEMORANDUM.

From: Secretary to Government, Tarawa.

To : District Officer, Gilbert Islands, Betio.

F.18/2/1.

No. 358.

3rd December, 1946.

Pen-cancelled Stamps from Nonouti Island.

During September and October, 1945, several letters were received in Fiji from Nonouti with the stamps pen-cancelled. Some of these stamps had only the word "Nonouti" on them while other stamps had "Nonouti" with the date written underneath.

2. Several enquiries have been received as to the genuineness of these pen-cancelled covers and it would be appreciated if you would investigate the circumstances which led to the stamps being cancelled by pen during your next visit to Nonouti. If possible, you should report:-

- (a) why the stamps were pen-cancelled;
- (b) approximate dates between which stamps were pen-cancelled at Nonouti; and
- (c) the approximate number of covers pen-cancelled during this period.

(Sgd.) P.G. Roberts.

Secretary to Government.

London Missionary Society.

Rongorongo Training Institution,

Beru, Gilbert Islands.

Via Sydney, N.S.W., or Suva, Fiji.

H.E. Maude, Esq., O.B.E., M.A.
The Residency, TARAWA.

Feb 8th 19 47

Dear Mr. Maude,

I have such a heavy lot of correspondence to get through that I venture to ask you to allow me to make this a kind of omnibus letter.

First we do want you to know how very deeply we feel with you all in the tragic accident which involved the death of Miss Firth. She was such a bright and charming girl it is dreadful to think of her life being cut off in this so entirely unexpected fashion. My wife tried to get a short note into the mail to Mrs. Maude, and we hope it caught the last ship. We can imagine what a shock this must have been to you all, and perhaps especially to Mrs. Maude and Alaric. When tragedies like this occur, we can but be very thankful for the consolations of our Christian Faith that this life is after all only an anteroom to the larger and fuller Life beyond the Veil.

Then may I thank you for your kind reply to our enquiry about the anticipated settlement of Christmas Island. In confidence, our informant was Captain Crowe, who seemed to be quite sure that in the case of Christmas Island the natives were being taken as settlers. We are grateful for your kind promise that when the time comes, the request of the L.M.S. for sites for religious and educational work will receive consideration.

Thank you for kindly trying to get paper for our Mission Press. You will know that through Mr. Roberts' kind offices we are hoping to get at least that small lot of $\frac{1}{2}$ reams, presumably American paper - judging from its measurements - from New Zealand. We have been glad to be able with the stocks we have, to meet the requests of the Government for printing various forms and the books of Islands Laws. Some time ago, at the request of Colonel Fox-Strangways, I sent to your office at Tarawa copies of all Government forms &c which we could find on our files here. I mentioned at the time that in many cases these were our only FILE COPIES, and that consequently it would be necessary for specimens to be sent to us of any forms required. At the same time I sent specimens sheets of several kinds of paper which we were then able to offer for printing Government forms &c. We still have a fair supply of tinted papers, mostly of fairly light weight suitable for printing on one side only, but also some heavier and better quality such as we have used for the Certificate of Marriage forms now being sent to Tarawa. We can still undertake the printing of a considerable quantity of such forms especially if tinted paper will be acceptable. It is white printing paper for Book work that we are short of.

I am enclosing a copy of a letter that I am posting to Mr. Protheroe, and if it is a matter in which you have a voice, we should much appreciate a friendly word from you to Mr. Protheroe or whoever is concerned with these matters, which might help to open the way for us to get our furniture and books & come to England by an expeditious and reasonable means, NOT NOW, but perhaps next year.

I am glad the collection of books reached you safely, and that you feel they will be of value. We have good hopes of receiving an ample supply of new NEW TESTAMENTS and some BIBLES in Gilbertese, when the John Williams arrives next month. We have no E.T.A. yet, but expect the ship about the middle of March. From information received it appears we shall have to go across to Ocean Island and Nauru to take there a newly appointed missionary for Nauru. I am afraid this will so cut down our time that we shall not then be able as I had previously hoped, to visit the Phoenix Islands on our way down to Suva; but I hope we may be able to call at Rabi. If there is anything we can do to assist in regard to these prospective calls, please let us know.

With very kind regards to you both,
I am, Yours sincerely,

G. W. Eastman.

THE POLYNESIAN SOCIETY

(INCORPORATED)

c/o Alexander Turnbull Library,
Box 16, Government Buildings,

Wellington, C.1.
N.Z.

10 February, 1947

H. E. Maude, Esq.,
High Commission for the Western Pacific,
SUVA, FIJI ISLANDS.

Dear Mr. Maude,

Referring to your letter of 30 November, regarding our proposal to supply binding cases for the Journal, I am sorry to say that so slight has been the response - a bare half dozen- that we are unable to proceed with the plan. It is hard to understand, because one would think that most people would wish to file their copies.

If I am correct in my inference that you have become the Resident Commissioner of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, please let me congratulate you upon your accession to such distinction. At the same time, I feel sure it would be difficult if not impossible to find anyone so well equipped for the post, and so appreciative of the problems of the people within your realm.

With all good wishes and kind regards,
Yours sincerely,

E. R. H. Taylor.
Hon. Secretary.

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY.

MEMORANDUM.

F.11/2/1.

No. 91.

10th February, 1947.

From: Secretary to Government, Tarawa.

To : District Officer, Gilbert Islands, Betio.

Land owned or leased by non-natives in the
Gilbert Islands District.

Your memorandum No. 70 of the 30th January, 1947.

The Resident Commissioner has commented as follows:-

- "(a) Ordinance No. 6 of 1942 is about to be superseded by the Religious Bodies Registration Ordinance, 1947 (it may, indeed, have already been enacted) which is a considerable improvement on the former law. I consider, therefore, that it would be best to wait a month or two until the new Ordinance reaches us and then insist on its strict application to leases by religious bodies.
- (b) The Government has no copies of pre-war leases of land in the Gilbert Islands District, all records of this nature having been destroyed by enemy action. The lessees (and less frequently the lessors) may have copies.
- (c) Virtually all Government leased land in the District was rented without any formal lease at all: simply a verbal agreement between some long defunct District officer and the ancestors of the present owners. Wherever leases existed, they have been lost through enemy action: unless the Southern Gilberts leases file can be found among the records retrieved from Beru. It is hoped to put all Government leases on a proper written footing, and a uniform rent per acre, at an early date.
- (d) The case of the Nanyo Boyeki Kaisha, as summarized by Mr. Pusinelli in the enclosure to this memorandum, is one of considerable complexity. Can the District Officer please find out the extent of the land owned by the Company and details of any other assets and debts? If these are large enough to warrant it, the High Commissioner can then be asked for a 'vesting order' and 'winding up order' in order to liquidate the concern. As regards leased land, it may be presumed that there was the usual proviso for re-entry after 3 months default in rent payments and that the lessors possessed the right to re-enter their land as from the 1st October, 1946?

(e)

(e) I know of no land owned by Messrs. Burns, Philp though I believe one or two pieces are owned by Messrs. On Chong (W.R. Carpenter and Co., Ltd.). The Chief Lands Commissioner will be responsible for locating and recording all land owned freehold by non-natives in the District and I have no doubt that he will approach both firms in this connexion: I have no objection, however, if the District Officer would like to conduct advance enquiries, should he consider them desirable. Before the war there were believed to be about 100 pieces of land owned freehold by non-natives in the District (all acquired prior to 1892) but I imagine several of these have reverted to native ownership.

As regards lands leased by the abovementioned firms, the position is that all leases in this Colony seen by me at any time bore the proviso "rent payable half-yearly in advance on the First day of January and the First day of July in each year and should default be made in the said payment for a period of three months then it shall be lawful for the said Lessor to re-enter and take possession of the said land". Assuming Burns, Philp's and On Chong's leases were no exceptions, the lessors had the right to re-enter their leased land on the 1st October, 1946, except on Bikati and Betio, but subject to the lessee's right of restraint, which neither firm have exercised and which in any case expires on the 1st April, 1947, on which date neither firm will have any interest left in such lands. I take it that, in practice, all lessors have long since re-entered?

The High Commissioner has been requested to terminate by Proclamation the "military occupation" of Bikati as from the 31st December, 1946, and of Betio as from the 28th February, 1947 (vide my despatch No. 6 of the 17th January)."

(Signed) P. G. ROBERTS

Secretary to Government.

Office of the Resident Commissioner,
Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony,
Tarawa.

10th February, 1947.

Dear Alexander,

On going through some of my old personal records, I have come across a report which my wife apparently prepared in 1938 on the organization and methods of work of the Nauru Co-operative Society.

I am sending it to you just in case it may contain a few hints of use. The Nauru Co-operative Society was always run on somewhat different lines to those in this Colony and was, perhaps, as a result, rather more successful in its activities. In particular, the fact that any member of the public was free to deal at the Society store on equal terms with members was a feature which we should do well to introduce in this Colony: the "divi" at the end of the year is, of course, a usual feature of Co-operative Societies and is reserved for members only.

I should be grateful if you would let me have the attached documents back in due course, as some day we hope to write a book on this Colony for which I am amassing a vast store of documentary aids. There is no hurry, however, as we shall not be wanting it for the next year or two at any rate.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) H. E. MAUDE

W.G. Alexander, Esquire,
Betio.

11th February, 1947.

Dear Lake,

I see that you incurred expenditure to the tune of £2.9.11. on the celebration of the King's Birthday at Funafuti. As there was no allocation for expenditure on this item from Government Funds, the Treasury have had perforce to charge the amount to your Advance Account, as in the case of one or two other officers who did the same. It will be different this year as I have once again put the pre-war provision for King's Birthday celebrations on the Estimates and you will be informed of the Ellice Island's allocation in due course.

Meanwhile, as I am anxious that you should not suffer personally on this matter, I am sending you by "Maureen" a bottle of Whisky and another of Rum. I hope that they both reach you safely.

I shall be going on leave early in April so may not be able to see you again until my return about March 1948. I hope you have an excellent leave and come back full of energy and vigour.

Bryant will be taking over as Acting Resident Commissioner during my absence,

With kind regards,

(Signed) H. E. MAUDE

A.G. Lake, Esquire,
District Officer,
Ellice Islands.

11th February, 1947.

My dear Fox-Strangways,

Thank you for your letter of the 23rd November which I should have answered long ago. Actually, however, there has been no outward mail since its receipt (except the plane on which it came) so my inexcusable delay is of no practical import.

You sound quite lyrical about Palestine and somehow I feel it in my bones that you will like it very much indeed. It is, of course, not everybody's meat but I hear that Clements, who has been transferred there from the Solomons, considers himself extremely fortunate. I should imagine that life there would be even more exciting than these islands must have been during the invasion.

Life here is pretty circumscribed these days and I honestly believe you would feel yourself in prison (and strait-jacketed at that). During the war you could at least move around a bit and an occasional new face appeared above the horizon: now, however, there is nothing from week to week. The Christmas mail is still in Suva and after the "Maureen" leaves here tomorrow with this letter there will not be a single vessel of any type or size left in the entire Colony. You may have felt that this was "sleepy hollow" before the war; what you'd think now, I can't imagine.

I'm not complaining myself since to me this place is home, or the nearest approach to one I've ever had; but to anyone who had any particular ties to the outside world it would be horrible. The one thing that never lets up is the work, which has tripled and more in the last year, due to the expansion of peace-time organizations generally, and not least the U.N.O., I.L.O. and South Seas Regional Commission. I see that I've written 150 letters and telegrams to the High Commissioner alone during January and our correspondence with the D.O., Gilbert Islands, was well in the hundreds by the first week in February. Alack aday, where will it all end?

V. Fox-Strangways, Esquire,
C/o The Secretariat,
Jerusalem,
Palestine.

All your personal effects have been duly forwarded to you by the last vessel to leave here: they were being stored here against your return and should be in good condition, despite severe westerlies, as they were kept in a very dry place. Neither Bencuro nor Livolo said or did anything about them - Livolo, in fact, left for Fiji soon after, where he now lives with his wife Clara Harris.

A few of your spoons and forks have been retrieved during the last few weeks by the D.O. at Betio: they were apparently left by you for use in the Betio mess. These are being forwarded by this mail. I sent a Circular round asking whether anything else of yours could be found anywhere: glass, kitchen utensils and the like, but have drawn a blank, so I hope there is nothing missing.

Many thanks for your assistance in getting the natives some war compensation. They have been very patient over the matter, but a telegram has recently arrived approving the necessary expenditure, so we can go right ahead. I don't know what your impression of the Colonial Office is: I suppose they're terribly busy, since they only approved our estimates for the year ending the 31st March a week or two ago. It's awkward not knowing what one can spend. However, when they do reply they seem generous enough and not obstructive in any way.

The Colony Trade Scheme is proving a great success and Alexander, as Co-operative Societies and Development Officer, is putting the local Co-operatives on a stable footing preparatory to turning the Trade Scheme into a Co-operative Wholesale Society run by an Executive Committee of the member retail Co-operatives. We are starting a Savings Bank in April and hope to persuade the Colonial Office to let the funds be invested in the Trade Scheme for the most part, which would enable us to repay the loan from the United Kingdom.

Pusinelli, who is in charge of Medals, decorations, pensions and gratuities, and incidentally a first-class secretariat officer, produced a letter a few weeks ago detailing the position regarding your Pacific Star, etc., which I duly signed, not knowing much about the subject myself. He, however, has such things at his finger tips. I see that you are also due for a little gratuity of EA62 odd (£50 sterling) in respect of your service with the G & E Defence Force and this should reach you through the Crown Agents in due course: Pusinelli tells me it does not include any gratuity in respect of your service

with the F.M.F., which is apparently up to them.

Wernham has gone to Malaya, Dickes to Nigeria, Clarke and Kennedy have retired, so there have been considerable changes since you left. The new Cadets, as you say in your letter, are pretty hot stuff and we are very pleased with one and all so far. They put people like old sleepy Major quite in the shade.

It was extremely generous of you to say in your letter I did anything at all to lighten your work out here. Personally, I feel you had an extremely tough time all round, what with the eccentricities of the Americans and the clannishness of the old Pacific squad. However, you are well out of the circumscribed life of the islands ("insular" is a most apt word) and now its over I don't imagine you regret it. Certainly no one could have kept the Colony going as you did during the very difficult period of the American invasion. I know, because I had just one month of it at Betio and another few weeks would have seen my resignation (incidentally, the last American leaves Betio in a week or two).

Honor joins me in wishing you and your wife the very best in Palestine and may you both enjoy every minute of it,

Yours very sincerely,

J.L.M.

105, Park West,
Marble Arch,
London, W.2.

23rd November 1946.

My dear Maude,

I write in some haste to tell you that you can now order a new R.C.! I have been appointed an Under-Secretary in Palestine, and expect to arrive in Jerusalem before the end of the year. My address will be:-

c/o Secretariat
Jerusalem
Palestine

and perhaps you could have this registered in my papers, in case there is any outstanding correspondence.

I wrote to the Ag. R.C. (?yourself) a couple of weeks ago asking if some enquiries could be made about 4 or 5 packages of mine which were to have been sent down, and probably were so sent, to Suva after me. All the rest of my kit has arrived from the WPHC store in Suva, but not these; I expect that they were put in a separate place and Burns Philp were not told to collect them. But if you could check up from Beneuro or Livolo that they did leave Tarawa I should be grateful. There were some rather valuable and quite irreplaceable reels in the stuff, besides some souvenirs I don't want to lose. And a pistol.

I hope that you are fit and having a good time; I wonder if your wife is up in the islands with you now. I had a cheerful letter from Roberts some time ago. I saw a telegram about some ships in Australia, one of which sounded like the answer to prayer. I have been lending what weight I could to the geographical dept. in their efforts to get out of the Treasury the money for war compensation for natives. I fear that some of the Whitehall folk think me a rude and unpleasant bushman; but I think we have stirred them a little.

I am very much thrilled with the idea of Palestine; I had always wanted to go back there, as it is such an astonishingly attractive country. I thought the Pacific quite lovely, and in very many ways would have liked to stay there; but when I think of an autumn morning in the Judaeian hills, with a singing wind and partridges calling just below one; well, the Pacific takes second place. And the flowers in the Spring; you literally can't put a foot down without crushing them. Horses too. It's frightfully expensive, but look what you get for it; a marvellous climate, and home leave every 18 months; a centre for visiting, on one's local leave, such places as Cairo and the Nile Valley, Constantinople,

Cyprus, Greece, and the Lebanon. My wife is delighted at the prospect of a job in civilization once more, after the bitter black country of Africa and the never-never of Fiji.

You have a nice fellow in your new Lands Commissioner. And I think that some of the new cadets, though not perhaps of the Barbary strain, are real good fellows and will do very well. At any rate they all seem keen, and I have done my best to impress on them that the Colony IS a delightful place and not the barren rock that most folk in Whitehall and elsewhere in England seem to think it is.

I will try in the next few days to write some farewell letters to the Native Governments; infuriating as many of them are, they are people whom I am really sorry to leave.

With very best wishes to your wife and yourself, and very many thanks for all the help you gave me, during difficult times, in all matters from ill-fitting greatcoats to the intricacies of development schemes. I appreciated it, and it made my job lighter.

Yours very sincerely
V. Rothemann

← First fold here →

Sender's name and address :-

V. Rothemann
Colonial Office
Whitehall.

← Second fold here →

H. E. Mudge, Esq. M. B. E.,
Acting Resident Commissioner,
TARAWA
GILBERT ISLANDS
via SUVA, FIJI.

BY AIR MAIL

AIR LETTER

IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED
THIS LETTER WILL BE SENT
BY ORDINARY MAIL.



← To open cut here →

→ To open cut here ←

London: 10/vi/46.

Dear Maude,

I am (as no doubt you already know) being seconded to the C.O. for an indefinite period. I expect to be there not less than 4 months and not more than 12, though of course it is impossible to forecast events with any accuracy. For your own information, it seems doubtful whether I shall return to the Colony: I tell you this merely because it may affect your own future plans and prospects.

My wife and I have just returned from a most enjoyable visit to Switzerland. We flew Air France, and returned Swissair + ~~Boone~~, and I am glad to say that of the three, ~~Boone~~ was definitely the most efficient. Switzerland is still, as you may imagine, a holiday place: after the rush & genuine overcrowding restrictions of London, its air of leisure and freedom and cleanliness was delightful. I ate myself nearly sick on chocolate and cream cakes: the wine was also unmeasurably superior to anything one can get at home (did I tell you that my first bottle of cheap Portuguese Port wine in London cost me £4/15/-?)

We have found a flat, at Park West: we had great luck in this, for there are long waiting

bits for all flats, but we can
"get in" by a salmon-fishing
friend. It will be wonderful to
have some sort of home again
after nearly 6 years of messing
about.

We still like England. Life
is not easy, as you know, and
the price would have made me
faint in 1939: even Britzland
is much cheaper! But all in
all, it is a good place.

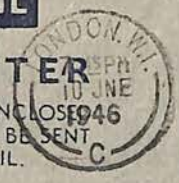
I have written to Charles about
unpleasant things like income tax
and the purchase of a typewriter.

I hope that you and your wife
are well. We were disappointed
not to see any Gilberts in
the Victory March: isolation again
no doubt! With best wishes to
both of you. Love very sincerely
V. Fox-Strangways

BY AIR MAIL

AIR LETTER

IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED
THIS LETTER WILL BE SENT
BY ORDINARY MAIL.



H. E. Maude, Esq., M.B.E.
Tarawa
Gilbert Islands
(via SUVA FIJI)
Western Pacific.

Second fold here

First fold here

To open cut here

Sender's name and address :-

V. Fox-Strangways
70 Colonial Office
London.

To open cut here

11th February, 1947.

Dear Mr. Trotter,

I am afraid I only came across the 500 stamps you ordered the other day: I had imagined that they had been sent to you on the last ship.

However, better late than never, and I trust that you will find them all in good order and condition.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) H. E. MAUDE

J. Trotter, Esquire,
Burns Philp (South Sea) Co., Ltd.,
Suva, Fiji.

M.J.F.
9.9.46.

Western Pacific High Commission,
Suva, Fiji.

9th September, 1946.

Dear Mr. Trotter,

Your letters of the 2nd and 7th September have been duly received, together with a cheque for £9.10s.6d. (Fiji currency). I note that you would like me to have 500 covers stamped with 1d. and 3d. Peace Issue First Day Covers and returned by registered post to you at Box 355 G.P.O., Suva.

I haven't sighted the 500 covers but presume they were sent direct to the Post Office and that I shall find them awaiting me when I get to Tarawa.

This note is just to acknowledge receipt of the money and to assure you that the job will be done and that it will cause no trouble at all,

Yours sincerely,

H. E. Maude.

H. E. Maude.

F. Trotter, Esquire,
Manager,
Messrs. Burns, Philp (S.S.) Co. Ltd.,
Suva.

Siva

7/9/46

Dear Mr Maude,

Herewith my cheque
for the approximate cost of the
G. G. S. Colony Peace Stamps
for my 7.5 Covers together with
service fees etc £9.15.6. Fiji Currency.

Should it be too
little. let me know & I will arrange
to credit you with the difference,
and if the reverse is the case
make up with ^{£2.10.0} Peace Stamps in
mint form

Many thanks for your
assistance

Kind regards

Yrs truly

Siva

P.S. Have sent the 500 7.5 Covers addressed
to you c/o P.O. Suva, G. G. S. Colony.

BURNS PHILP (SOUTH SEA) COMPANY, LTD

CAPITAL £2,000,000



REGISTERED OFFICE, SUVA, FIJI

ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO BE ADDRESSED
TO THE COMPANY, NOT TO INDIVIDUALS.

SUVA, 2nd September, 1946.

FIJI

CODE ADDRESS: "BURNSOUTH"

BRANCHES:

FIJI	SAMOA
SUVA	APIA
LEVUKA	PAGO PAGO
LAUTOKA	NEW HEBRIDES
LABASA	VILA
BA	SOLOMON I^{LES}
SIGATOKA	FAISI
ROTUMA I ^{LE}	GIZO
TONGA	MAKAMBO
NUKUALOFA	NORFOLK I^{LE}
HAAPAI	NIUE I ^{LE}
VAVAU	FUTUNA I^{LE}
ILBERT I^{LES}	WALLIS I^{LE}
TARAWA	

SYDNEY AGENTS:

BURNS, PHILP & CO. LTD.
7 BRIDGE STREET

LONDON AGENTS:

BURNS, PHILP & CO. LTD.
35 CRUTCHED FRIARS, E.C.3

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BURNS-PHILP CO. OF SAN FRANCISCO
MATSON BUILDING
215 MARKET STREET

AGENCIES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

H.E. Maude Esq.,
C/- Western Pacific High Commission,
SUVA.

Dear Mr. Maude,

Apropos our recent conversation on First Day ~~Cover~~ Peace Covers for G&E.I. Colony, I have forwarded to you a parcel containing 500 addressed covers, all ready for affixing to each a set of the Peace Issue comprising 1d. and 3d. denominations.

You will note I have addressed these "H.E.M.", c/- P.O., Tarawa to avoid the possibility of loss if each were addressed back to Fiji, so would you be kind enough to arrange for one of your junior native clerks to parcel the 500 cancelled covers and send under registered cover to Box 355 GPO, Suva.

I enclose a receipt for £A10-11-0 deposited with the Western Pacific High Commission Office, Suva, to cover all the known expenses likely to arise in having the job of work performed for me. It comprises:--

500 sets each 4d. (1d. & 3d.)	8	6	8
Service for 500 covers at 1d.	2	1	8
Reg. parcel post for return of 500 covers to Suva		2	8
		<u>11</u>	<u>0</u>
		£A10	11 0

I will be happy to meet any other expenses not included in the above.

Thanking you for your assistance which is appreciated.

Kind regards.

Yours truly,

Lowe

12th February, 1947.

Dear Mr. Eastman,

Thank you very much for your efforts, together with those of Kain Rongorongo, towards building the Beru bridge: I'm sure that it is a good and substantial structure and wish we could come down and see it. I should like to be able to repay you in some way for all the fuel oil and time spent on this work, but nowadays every item of expenditure not provided for in the Estimates has to be referred to the Secretary of State in London and the Auditor examines each voucher with a jealous eye to see that the British tax-payer's money has been strictly applied to the purpose for which it was voted. However, I hope that we shall be able to do you some reciprocal favour in times to come.

I have put £1,500 on the Estimates for the year commencing the 1st April for the construction of a permanent bridge at Beru, but it remains to be seen whether this will be approved or not. I feel, however, that it is going to go through all right and that we should be able to build quite a decent bridge or causeway for that amount. I am hoping that the Mechanical Engineer, when he comes to join us in May, will be able to superintend the work.

Yes, we are about to go on leave. We are due to leave Ocean in the middle of April by the "Trienza" or "Triesta" for Auckland and from thence to England by a Blue Star cargo boat early in May. I vastly prefer travelling by cargo rather than passenger ships. We should be back about March 1948 and in the meantime Bryant will act as Resident. He has had 15 years in the Colonial Service and has been transferred here from Nigeria in the substantive post of District Commissioner, Gilbert Islands.

The Rev. G.H. Eastman, O.B.E.,
Rongorongo,
Beru Island.

Two of our five new Lands Commissioners have arrived at Ocean Island with Bryant and await some vessel to bring them across here. I hope that one or two of them will be going down to Beru to learn the language and land customs. At all events I want to avoid their getting into the petty round of Colony Headquarters; where everything mills about and nothing seems to get accomplished. Alexander is now about to be transferred as Co-operative Societies and Development Officer and his work will be to put the various island Co-operatives on their proper feet and have them registered as members of the Co-operative Wholesale Society which is what the Colony Trade Scheme is about to turn into. The local Co-operatives will be divided into territorial groups and each group will elect an Executive Committee member who, with the rest of the Committee, will be responsible for the control of the Wholesale Society. We are trying, with a certain success, to interest the local Co-operatives in investing their surplus funds in the Wholesale Society, where they get 3%. I believe several hundred pounds have arrived recently.

I will write that notice for "Tero" re the Alfred Sadd Memorial Hall as soon as I can get down to it. Somehow try as I may I never seem to catch up with the correspondence.

With kind regards from my wife and myself to you both,

Yours sincerely,

J.C.M.

12th February, 1947.

Dear Tofinga,

There is just a few minutes before the mail closes to answer your note regarding Tebabure. Would you please let Teti know that I did my best to enable Tebabure to stay in Fiji but that it is absolutely impossible. The Fiji Government would not consider his remaining in Fiji nor will they consider his return to that country. The reason is that there is an Ordinance (you could probably find it in the Fiji Consolidated Laws) which states that no person, other than a resident of Fiji, shall be permitted to stay in or enter the country if he has been at any time convicted of any offence triable by the Supreme Court. The only person who can grant an exemption from the provisions of this law is the Governor himself: I tried this avenue but it was no use. As I expected he was not prepared to exert his prerogative in favour of a murderer.

In any case you might tell Teti that Tababure was tried here as a worker in the Public Workd Department but had to be dismissed as being a lazy troublemaker.

Yours sincerely,

J.C.M.

Tofinga Foua,
Western Pacific High Commission,
Suva, Fiji.

Nobe 14/11/46

Nakou

Toburanga

Ko na mauhi

Laiako Tobinga ko koa wangan te aine au peta au:

Nakou te Rine

Ko na mauhi

Ma te Unimane

ma Arariti:

La butiko ma tirako ko koa kataria i tatarua ma te Unimane
 i bura au atei ni manone au karamaika ea bon tua ni kane
 ma tau tataka te tua ni Fiti mai kouna ni karia raka
 Kiriati. So itangiria ko au manga ki mai nako Fiti bai
 ko atea ko akia buakakana ngai ea oturako ma in te karat
 - uti inaron Ruaiwa Namakaina iassi Fiti bai oimamane
 ko te tua kawa kina ma auati ma Abau ni ai aron natia
 te mane Mangkara tau e bon karia te unimane i ko kote a
 raba te aine ma te unimane:

Kam na kabaia mai poum te ma

Lia kabo katabo

Boni Ngai

Leit. 8.

Dear Mrs. Maude,

The story is that Teiti wanted me to type this letter
 for him. I am sorry that he sent it in 15 minutes before I set out to
 to take Tebabure to the "Awahou". Yrs obediently, *Jonah Ngai* 15.11.46

RADIO TELEGRAPHS.

No. _____ Office _____

Words _____ Date _____ Time _____

Service Instructions _____

To GLT KEEGAN

CARE BURPHILL, SYDNEY.

Date Stamp _____

Sent to _____

Time _____

Received from _____

Time _____

Operator _____

MANY	THANKS	YOUR	GOOD	WISHES
NO	THANKS SHOPPING	REQUIRED	THANKS	AS
LEAVING	FOR	ENGLAND	APRIL	SEE
YOU	OCEAN	GOOD	LUCK	MAUDE

82/118

RADIO TELEGRAPHS.

No. 116 Office SYDNEY
 Words 26 Date 12TH Time 1225
 Service Instructions GLT

Date Stamp 12/2/47

Sent to

Time

Received from VPD

Time 121925

Operator TOTI

To GLT MAUDE RESIDENCY TARAWA.

HIGH	COMMISSION	TOLD	ME	YESTERDAY
OF	YOUR	APPOINTMENT	HEARTY	CONGRATULATIONS
AND	GOOD	WISHES	TELEGRAPH	IF
YOU	WANT	ANY	SHOPPING	DONE
HERE		KEEGAN.		
Keegan	thanks	your	good	wishes.
many	shopping	offer.	leavings	for
and	April	no	shopping	see
England	Ocean	Maude.		
you				

"Greenways",
Cliffe Road,
Barton-on-Sea.
Hants.

13. 2. 1947.

Dear H. E. M.,

Many thanks for your note of the 6rd. December which has just come to hand. Thanks also for sending on the question of my leave to Stapledon - it is quite beyond me how they ever arrived at their figure in Suva. If Vaskess would only give up his favourite reading and study, instead, a sheet of blank paper, it might improve his mind; make him less destructive.

As a matter of fact, I have been in communication with Trafford Smith (tho' he has been transferred to the Palestine side as, perhaps, you know) but he seems as hazy as I am concerning the service angle. He is, however, putting me into touch with our own man at the Colonial Office and I'll probably see him before making an official howl to you - should that become necessary.

Things in England have changed terribly; nothing to buy or, at least, very little and that at a terrific cost. Suits take a year or more to get but Pooles of Savile Row are making me two as a great favour to be ready by the end of this month. (Sometimes it pays to go to the King's own pet tailor!) I ordered six suits and then asked the price. 35 guineas! After being delivered of a fine healthy child of 17½ lbs. I came to and was too weak to argue about it. Didn't have the guts to say I couldn't afford such fantastic prices. When I told my wife about it she said not

a word until a few nights later when we had a few people in for drinks: then she blasphemously used a story of Upton Sinclair's against me. (You know the story? St. Peter decided that God should be psycho-analysed because He was suffering from delusions of grandeur - He thought he was Grainger Clarke). Then she told the story of my suits! As a matter of fact I'll get benefit of reduced prices if prices fall before the suits are finished - if they fall! Then I went to Burberrys in the Haymarket and tried to get a sports jacket and a couple of pairs of flannels in a hurry. No hope of the jacket so I bought a ready made one - price £17. 8. 9, repeat 17! The damned slacks, tailored and delivery within a month, are a mere £8. 8. 0 a pair. So you see how it is with us at Home these days. Against these blows, however, God was very good to me in Australia; I hit several prizes in the State Lotteries and my brother then borrowed a fiver from me and insisted on putting it on a horse instead of repaying it. He knew the owner (sufficient reason, in my opinion, for not backing it), but the nag came home first, after all and we decided to throw a party at my brother's flat. During the show I discovered that he had put £10 on the nag so I allowed him to foot the whole bill. Did I say that we got 100 to 1? Very sinful, of course it was sinful, but why my damned brother didn't put £10 on for me instead of a lousy fiver still makes me savage. Still, it has allowed me to buy expensive clothes and I do love buying from the most exclusive people!

England is suffering from the worst cold spell in millions of years and I arrived in time for it, blast it. Temperature has been above

40 degrees on two or three occasions only and it is still freezing all over the country. Transport, both rail and road, is completely bitched; trains snowed up, roads impassable, ships held up and altogether things are in a most unholy mess. Coal is scarce as all hell and there are severe cuts in both electricity and gas. Fortunately, my spouse is a good Yorkshire housekeeper and she laid in a large stock of coal several months ago. Prescient wench; I approve of her acumen.

Much talk about the fall of the Labour Government, mostly wishful thinking, I'm afraid. Churchill refuses a coalition which probably it was never Atlee's intention to ask for, anyway. But without light and heating the poorer classes are having a damned bad time and there is murmuring in the land. Even the B. B. C. seem to be hitting slyly at the Government; one of their funny men told us over the air last night, apropos the lighting restrictions, "I've just written a song that I have dedicated to Mr. Shinwell, the Fuel Minister, "The Candles are coming, hurrah, hurrah". There is practically a black-out throughout the whole country; no street lighting to speak of and train lighting has been reduced so drastically that reading is quite impossible. Taking it all round I am beginning to think I came Home at not quite the opportune moment!

Down here in Hampshire we are luckier than most other counties as we had a day's thaw a week ago and there is hardly any snow. In most other places, however, there has been no thaw and feet of frozen snow lie everywhere.

So you are having Joan Hard back with you again, after all? Thank God! They came and

stayed with my wife for a time - much longer than the week-end for which they were invited! - and then they left England rather suddenly without communicating any further with my wife. Odd people, full of that old-world courtesy for which I have ever been remarked in the Pacific. I rather fancy that young Warren's threat about coming to England had something to do with their hurried departure. Hard told my wife that his idea was that Joan should live in Suva with the boy - the boy getting a job in the Fiji Service. God help Warren if he has to look after Mamma in a place where it is easy to get alcohol!

Don't fail to get into touch with me when you come Home - I'd like to have a yarn about things Pacific with you; it might influence certain things that I am thinking of putting up to the Colonial Office.

Anything further concerning salaries revision and compensation for war damage? I am writing you in regard to the latter - sending you a couple of insurance policies (copies) which I hope will support the claim I have bunged in Tarawa.

All the best to Honor and to yourself. And, if you are - or become - R/Commissioner, my very hearty congratulations. We may not have seen eye to eye on all points out there but at least we did have the interests of the Colony and the natives at heart. I hope your efforts won't be nullified by the thugs in Suva!

Yours aye,

S.F.

LIST OF OFFICERS - G. & E. I. C.

ADAMS, MISS J.	Sister in Charge, Central Hospital and Nurses' Training School, Tarawa.
ALEXANDER, W.G.	Cadet Officer.
ALLAN, P.	Radio Technician (Temporary).
BASTIN, R.S.	Chief Wireless Officer.
BAURO RATIETA	Assistant Administrative Officer.
BEDDOWS, MISS J.C.	Clerk, Treasury Department (Temporary).
BRUNDELL, J.E., M.Sc.	Cadet Officer.
BRYANT, H.C.A., B.A.	Administrative Officer (Grade I.)
CARTLAND, B.C., B.A.	Chief Lands Commissioner.
CLARKE, S.G.	Treasurer and Collector of Customs.
COOK, J.	Master, R.C.S. "Kiakia".
COWELL, T.R., B.A.	Passed Cadet.
DODS, MISS J.	Stenographer-Typist, Resident Commissioner's Department.
ENGLISH, P.T., M.B.E.	Clerk and Customs Officer (Grade I.)
FOON, W.	Foreman Mechanic, Public Works Department.
FOREMAN, R.	Mate, R.C.S. "Awahou".
FULLER, A.E.	Assistant Treasurer and Collector of Customs.
GRANT, A.F.	Superintendent of Police and Prisons.
HARD, G.E.	Director of Education.
HEATLEY, A.	Chief Officer, R.C.S. "Awahou".
HULLAH, T.H.G.	Government Storekeeper.
KERR, D.	Wireless Officer.
LAKE, A.G.	Cadet Officer.
LLOYD, E.E.	Administrative Officer (Temporary).
MAJOR, R.M.	Cadet Officer.
MALTHUS, R.D.	Chief Officer, R.C.S. "Kiakia".
MAUDE, H.E., M.A., M.B.E.	Acting Resident Commissioner.
MAYBER, C.	Engineer, m.v. "Maureen".
McEWEN, B.	Chief Clerk, Resident Commissioner's Department.

PEDRO, J., B.E.M.	Foreman of Works.
PENITALA TEO	Assistant Administrative Officer.
PITTS, W.H.	Chief Engineer (Relieving), R.C.S. "Awahou".
PROTHEROE, J.B.	Manager, Colony Trade Scheme.
PUSINELLI, F.N.B., B.A., M.C.	Cadet Officer.
RAMSAY, W.H.	Clerk and Customs Officer (Grade II.)
REIHER, W.	Master, m.v. "Margaret".
ROBERTS, P.G.	Secretary to Government.
ROBERTS, R.G.	Administrative Officer (Temporary).
ROSE, Dr. M.	Senior Medical Officer.
SINCLAIR, A.D.	Manager, Christmas Island Plantations, and Assistant Administrative Officer.
SINCLAIR, P.L.G.	Chief Engineer, R.C.S. "Awahou"
SOWANI, J.	Engineer, m.v. "Margaret".
STEAD, CAPTAIN H.	Master (Relieving) R.C.S. "Awahou".
TUTU TEKANENE, B.E.M.	Senior Assistant Medical Practitioner.
WALCOT, D.B.	Clerk and Customs Officer (Grade I.)
WERNHAM, D.C.I., B.L.	Administrative Officer (Grade II.)
WILLIAMS, H.C.	Master, m.v. "Maureen".
WILLIAMS, H.C.R.F., B.A.	Cadet Officer.
YAM SIK CHEUNG.	Clerk and Customs Officer (Grade II.)

Webster

February, 1947.

Dear Miss Pateman,

Thank you very much indeed for your extremely kind letter on my appointment as Resident Commissioner: you certainly have the gift of putting things nicely and Honor and I were quite overcome.

I must say we were glad to hear the news since I had refused one or two tempting offers elsewhere and we should have been upset if, after consistently refusing promotion elsewhere, we were then to be passed over in favour of some junior.

Mr Fox-Strangways is happy too at being transferred to Palestine. In his last letter he says "when I think of

quite lyrical
we have now got a ^{helpful} definitely settled feeling that we may be able to spend the whole of my service ~~in~~ in the Colony for, as you know, I ^{am to retire} am retiring at 50 (if not earlier) in order to devote our remaining energies to writing up the Colony, for which we have succeeded in arranging

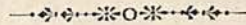
a vast amount of material

We go on leave in a few weeks: from
Ocean Island to Auckland by "Tuenja" and thence to
England by Blue Star - ~~no probability will be seeing you~~
~~in England~~, just as I met the Poyis at Livingston House

↓ I see from a prospect that you'll be going
home too this year so I hope you're coming
out again and not thinking of settling down at home. It
would be a tragedy if you were to stop writing, ^{and taking} for the
Galleterese: they need so much literature and there are so
few who can write for them in their own language as you can.

Yours very sincerely,

London Missionary Society.



Rongorongo Training Institution,

Beru, Gilbert Islands.

Via Sydney, N.S.W., or Suva, Fiji.

24th Dec: 19 46

My dear Mr & Mrs Maude

The good news of your definite appointment from London to the responsible position of Resident Commissioner of the Colony gives general joy & satisfaction. We have regarded you as the head of the Colony for sometime, but it is a relief to know that the appointment is confirmed & permanent.

Your knowledge of the peoples & conditions of the Colony; your sense of responsibility & trusteeship towards a subject people, & your genuine concern for their welfare combine to make you ideally fitted for the post. A wiser appointment could not be made.

On behalf of the girlhood of the Gilberts as well as myself I should like to offer ~~my~~ sincere & hearty congratulations, & to express our unqualified pleasure upon the appointment.

Yours very Sincerely

E. May Pateman

EXCH 150

Pitcairn Island

16th February 1947.

Sir;

I am in receipt of your letter NO. F. 77/15. of the 18th October, 1945. written to Mrs Watson, with reference to a ton of flour brought to the Island by the S. S. "J. Sterling Morton" as a present from yourself to the Community of Pitcairn.

I wish to inform that this flour have not been paid in with the general account of goods received at the same time, as I have checked up each individual accounts ordered, and nowhere shows that any one have paid for the flour, I think all the people understand that you bring the flour for the people as a gift from yourself.

I am writing to Mrs. Watson in regard to this matter as she forward your letter on to me to check up and to let you know what the position is.

We are very disappointed because the Duchess wont be able to called at the Island on her way home, we all have been looking forward to seeing her. owing to bad weather the ship was delayed, therefore he cant call.

We also heard whether it is Official or not that you will be passing this way on your home also about March, whether its only a rumor or not we hope its true.

I am keeping very busy these days tending to the Peace Stamps large amount of Orders coming infor the stamps. Hoping that this find you and the family all well as it is with us all. Katie wants to be remember to Mrs. Maude, also the two girls sends there regards to Alarie,

I am

Your obedient servant

Andrew Yess
Andrew Yess

T E L E G R A M .

From: Mr. H.E. Maude, Tarawa.

To : Major E.E. Lloyd, Ocean Island.

G. Code.

19th February, 1947.

I am informed by Commission that I have been booked by "Trienza" for Auckland in April. When approximate sailing date from Ocean Island is known grateful if you would pass it on to me.

Maude.

1947

RADIO TELEGRAPHS.

No. Office

Date Stamp

Words Date Time

Sent to

Service Instructions

Time

To GLT MITCHELL

Received from

CABLE AND WIRELESS SUVA

Time

Operator

WE

WISH

YOU

VERY

BEST

IN

YOUR

NEW

LOCATION

AND

MANY

THANKS

FOR

YOUR

ASSISTANCE

TOWARDS

SECURING

EMPLOYMENT

OUR

PEOPLE

MAUDE

B1/200

RADIO TELEGRAPHS.

No. 233 Office SUVA
 Words 30 Date 23 Time 1245
 Service Instructions GLT
 To GLT MAUDE TARAWA

Date Stamp 23/2/47.
 Sent to
 Time
 Received from VPD
 Time 231428L
 Operator RUOTAKE

JUST	RECEIVED	WORD	MY	TRANSFER
TO	ADELAIDE	AM	LEAVING	SUVA
FRIDAY	STOP	MOST	GRATEFUL	YOUR
MANY	KINDNESSES	WISH	YOU	AND
MRS	MAUDE	HAPPINESS	HEALTH	AND
SUCCESS				
	MITCHELL			

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY.

F. 99/44.

Office of District Officer,
Gilbert Islands District,
Betio, Tarawa,
25th February, 1947.

To All Non - Natives,
Gilbert Islands.

Communal Work.

Under Island Regulation No. 10, all Natives of the Gilbert Islands, unless exempted for any reason mentioned in the regulation, are liable to Communal Work of two days a week from, April to September under the authority of the village Kaubure.

2. Unless ~~any other~~ other reasons can be plead, it would be necessary to procure exemption for employees of Europeans and Non - Natives other than Missionaries.

3. This can be arranged either by payment of 30/-, to be paid to the Native Government as Commutation fee for the Native specified, or by making a labour agreement for a period over one month, exemption from Communal Work to be concurrent with the period of agreement.

4. Forms of the Memorandum of Agreement can be procured by application to the District Office and should be signed before a Deputy Commissioner for a fee of 2/6.

H. E. R. Fulford Williams

District Officer,
Gilbert Islands District.

27th February, 1947.

Dear Mr. O'Dwyer,

I wonder if you could kindly obtain say 300 copies of the attached pamphlet from the U.S. Military Authorities in Hawaii and forward them to me in due course? When I was in Honolulu a couple of years ago I heard, from a member of the Fifth Amphibious Force, that there were several hundred spare copies lying in their store and no longer required. They are useful to us for issue to Cadets and others requiring a brief elementary picture of conditions here.

We should, of course, expect to pay for the pamphlets and all charges in this connexion should be debited to the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony.

If you have no luck, I should be grateful if you would return the copy of the pamphlet now sent; as it is our only copy and consequently rather precious.

My wife and I hope to go on leave to England in April: the first time for eleven years, so there will be few who remember us.

I hope you enjoyed Sinclair's recent visit from Christmas. We are sending him a special ship in a few weeks and thereafter three times a year: furthermore, I'm putting a British wireless station on the island which should start to function in April - so he'll feel neglected no longer. It certainly seems time that we stood on our own feet in those parts.

I am taking Major away from Fanning by the forthcoming trip of the "Muliama" from here and, all being well, substituting a recently joined cadet by the name of Nicholson, who should go direct from Australia on the "Waihemo". I hope Dawson and yourself will take to Nicholson: all I know about him is that he is 24, single, a B.Sc. and formerly Staff Radar Officer to the British Naval Commander in Chief, Germany.

J.C. O'Dwyer, Esquire,
H.B.M.'s. Consul,
Honolulu, T.H.

The Colony service is steadily filling up and we now have over 60 Europeans, of whom about 20 are University Graduates from England in ~~one~~ one branch or other of the administration. It all means the more work for me until I don't know whether I'm coming or going. However the wartime state of chaos is gradually clearing up.

Many thanks for your efforts regarding the purchase of the Betio base: we still await the visit of the F.L.C. officer from Guam but now hear that he's got to liquidate China first!

Please remember me to Harry Dawson, but possibly he has already gone home,

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) H. E. MAUDE

Mrs + Mrs Maude ao Alalie Maude.

Kam na mauri!

P: Sate ni kukuei ni Korea ara seta aei
nako imi ni Kaoto ara Kanteninga ao nauwa
nako imi nke ti ongo Sa kam nang kitana
ara aono aei, ao tu Son nanokawaki iai ~~ao~~^{ao}
to tenana ara iango Sa tera nke e reke te
tai ni Kaitibo; main te Naure; Nouni ma
npava aika natini ni Kabane Kain Bern.
ao e Soni npe n aki reke ara tai ni Karaure ao
e riki te seta aei Sa oneani, muwin angatara
ni iobai ma ngkani ma ni Kangai P a Kabo
tanara ma tinara ao terita ke tibura ae

A. Maude.

P: Son nanokawaki; Sukim am Sukuti te
moa Sa e aki Sate n reke Sa e Soni Karako
ae kona n reke; Sukim Kangangan Karekeana
ma e na tai niniku nanom iai ao to e na
reke ae tau martina n te tai tenana nkanu
to arona.

P: a Kaseakoaia te moa Sa ara Sai n tangira
nako imi. Kam na Kabana; aon ami wakuri

P: a Kabo Boni npava

Unimanen Bern. (hi bami Saitu).

29/1/47.

Labukini Bern.

11th March, 1947.

Dear Emory,

Once again I owe you apologies for not replying promptly to your letter. There were several points in it which I wished to refer to District Administration and others but now I have got things straight. I should be delighted if Dr. Katherine Luomala takes up the Gilbert Islands as her special field of research. I am afraid, however, that I shall be leaving the Colony in a fortnight for long overdue leave in England and shall not be back again until March next year. I cannot, therefore, make any detailed arrangements for Dr. Luomala's tour and work here and you would need to get in touch with Mr. H.C.A. Bryant, who is taking over temporarily from me, when the date of her departure and probable date of arrival here has been settled. Mr. Bryant has not yet arrived at Tarawa from Africa, where he has spent his previous career, so I am unable to bring the matter up to him personally, but I will leave a note on the file, for his information.

I am sure that Mr. Bryant, and the rest of the staff here, will do all that they can for Dr. Luomala and any other anthropologists that may come here with your blessing: I am hoping, however, that it will be found possible to postpone Dr. Luomala's visit until my return in March as I have a good deal of information (written and oral) which I should like to put at her disposal and would probably be in the best position to put her on the right track for whatever research she wishes to commence.

I don't think that there will be the slightest objection on the part of the Gilbertese to women anthropologists; in many ways I think that they will have better opportunities than men. There are, of course, certain aspects of social anthropology which the guardians of the more important clans in the islands would be unwilling, I think, to impart to any woman; but even that remains to be seen.

Dr. Kenneth P. Emory,
Bernice P. Bishop Museum,
Honolulu 35,
Hawaii.

We should be terribly pleased if you are able to undertake research work in the Ellice Group. Judging from your letter that would not be until my return, so we shall have the pleasure of having you to stay with us.

Regarding planes, I am told that they put in at Tarawa from Kwajalein about twice a week. A few planes come here occasionally from Honolulu, but I believe that it is not the general rule. The airfield is on Betio Island which I seldom visit and so I have no real idea when planes come and go. It seemed, at one time, as if the Americans would have abandoned their Betio base by the beginning of this month, but I understand now that they may be staying on for a month or two longer.

My wife and I were rather amused at Dr. Buck's suggestion that we should do the ethnography of these Islands: I am sure that he cannot have the remotest idea of what is entailed in administering a Colony such as this, stretched over 4,000,000 square miles of ocean. It is true that I now have the assistance of a European staff of over 60, of whom 20 are University graduates, but nevertheless, I have to put in ten good hours a day seven days a week at the desk. My work is unfortunately now rather removed from the life of the Gilbertese themselves and I seldom speak to a native from one week to another. It is unfortunate, but cannot be helped, since the enormous volume of writing work keeps me chained to one islet on this atoll and there appears to be no chance of me visiting any other place even for a day.

One or two of the younger Administrative Officers in the service are trained anthropologists, but they too are rather overworked, since we are endeavouring to reorganise the Colony after its five years under the Japanese and to push the Gilbertese ahead towards self-government in the minimum space of time. However, I have hopes that with the stimulation afforded by the visit of the few professional anthropologists, some of the local staff (particularly one or two of the five Lands Commissioners) may commence to do a little research work of their own and perhaps publish their results.

I remember Dr. Capell well when he was doing the Fijian Dictionary and I have long had a scheme by which he would come to the Gilberts to take in hand the long overdue revision of the Grammar and Dictionary compiled by Hiram Bingham.

I am sending you a Gilbertese Grammar for Dr. Kuomala; also a recently published collection of Gilbertese myths and legends which she might use as a reading book and a work on Gilbertese composition. You I am sending Kennedy's Grammar and Vocabulary of the Ellice Islands dialect and a copy of the Native Government's Ordinance which was published this month: unfortunately we have very little written in Ellice. I have also subscribed to the Gilbert Islands news magazine "Tero" which we have recently commenced on behalf of Dr. Kuomala and to the Ellice Islands counter-part "Tala-o-Tuvalu" for yourself, and I hope you receive it direct from the Public Relations Officer throughout 1947. I cannot say how it will progress during my absence but at any rate I will have it revived as soon as I get back again as these magazines are of the greatest value to the natives.

Thanks also for your letter of the 1st February regarding Gilbertese plant names. I should say that these names may have local dialect variations, since there are five dialects in the Gilbert Group. No doubt Dr. Luomala will be able to collect them when she comes down here. You ask in this letter about Dr. Luomala's transportation. We have no regular service from anywhere and I can only suggest that you telegraph when you know when she would be ready and whoever is in charge here can let you know the best means of getting here: it would probably be via Fiji but I am afraid she might have to wait several weeks in Suva and that it would take at least two weeks to get to Tarawa from that port and then another ten days or two weeks before she could get on to any of our more isolated and untouched islands.

I am afraid that we are the true "back of beyond" and that anyone who comes here must give up all idea of time. As I believe I said to you before I cannot envisage any anthropologist really getting down to things in this Colony under a year.

I will write to you as soon as I get on leave and let you know my address.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) H. E. MAUDE

6/2/1
No. F.6/2/1.

OFFICE OF THE RESIDENT COMMISSIONER,
GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS
COLONY.

Tarawa,
17th Mati, 1947.

Te Tia Koroboki,
Abaokoro, Tarawa.

Ko na mauri,

Aio te mane ae maitina \$4. 10. 0. ba bon tikua mani
Makurin Aon-te-Aba ana tia makuri kainabau aika teniman, ba:-

- (a) Nei Teaira;
- (b) Nei Etita; ao
- (c) Nei Tangira.

2. N na bati ni kukurei ngkana ko kona ni kanakomaia nakoio
ni kakaokoro'i beba ni kakoaua ba e a tia ni kabakaki te mane
ibukia ataeinaine n tatabemania n te aro are a kona n angan te
Kaubure ba aia kakoaua ba a tiku mani Makurin Aon-te-Aba n te
ririki sei.

Ti ngaia ane,

(Signed) H. E. MAUDE

Te Unimane.

17th March, 1947.

My dear Butler,

I received your welcome letter of the 15th December yesterday, and it brought back memories of the bitter cold of Chicago and your kindness in helping me to obtain sufficient warm clothing to survive a month in England and a further month in Washington before returning to the balmy islands of the South Seas.

I wish I could help you more in your quest for some position in this part of the world. Unfortunately, shortly after my return to Suva I was appointed Resident Commissioner of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony and might as well be in another world as far as the rest of the Pacific is concerned. We are truly buried in the remote fastnesses of the South Seas and yours was the first mail to reach us since December last. Consequently, I no longer have the slightest idea of what is going in the more civilized regions.

There are only three Consulates in the South Seas: at Honolulu, Noumea and Tahiti. I do not think that you would like the Honolulu berth nor is it likely to be vacant, as it is quite a sought after appointment. The present Consul, O'Dwyer, is from San Francisco and I should imagine is likely to stay there for some years. Noumea is always given to a local man and only runs to an office allowance. Tahiti, on the other hand, I think you would like very much: there is not a great deal of work to do and it is extremely suitable for a man about to retire. The post is not, as a general rule, very much sought after, owing to the amount of scandal and gossip and sordid French politics that characterise Papeete. Nevertheless, if you can ignore all that sordid side, it is a beautiful country with a beautiful climate.

Why not apply for the Tahiti job? I feel that you might get it, as it has been vacant on several occasions recently; judging from the time taken to fill the appointment the Foreign Office must have been experiencing some difficulty.

The only position similar to a Trades Commissioner out here is on the staff of the High Commissioner's Department in Wellington. I do not know how they are situated now but a couple of years ago they were short staffed and I should imagine that if you wrote to the High Commissioner in Wellington you would probably get an offer of a position, in view of your experience in trade matters.

The only other posts which I know are going begging just at present, are on the staff of the South Pacific Regional Commission which is about to be formed. Its headquarters are to be at Sydney for the first six months and then somewhere in the South Seas, probably in Suva. If you could get in touch with the people concerned you might have a sporting chance of getting on the secretariat of the Commission.

I think you would like the position of Agent and Consul, Tonga, but I see that it is invariably filled by a Colonial Service officer, since the duties are mostly advisory and to a very limited extent consular.

We have just shipped our first large load of copra since the war and trade generally is picking up in this part of the world; not that it was ever very important here.

I am sorry not to be of more assistance to you but if there is any way in which I can help please write to me again. I am just about to go on long leave to England so a letter C/o. Colonial Office will be sure to reach me sooner or later.

Yours sincerely,

J.L.R.



RADIO TELEGRAPHS.

No. 111 Office OCEANISLAND

Date Stamp 19/3/47

Words 18 Date 19 Time 0829

Sent to

Service Instructions BG

Time

To SECGOV TARAWA

Received from VQK

Time 191023

Operator HOMASI

65	GRATEFUL	YOU	COULD	ARRANGE
TO	SELECT	AND	HAVE	MANSERVANT
WAITING	FOR	BRYANT	ON	ARRIVAL
				DISTRICT

RADIO TELEGRAPHS.

No. Office

Words Date 20.3.47. Time

Service Instructions BTE. PAID.

To BRYANT, OCEAN ISLAND.

Date Stamp

Sent to

Time

Received from

Time

Operator

OWING

IMPENDING

DEPARTURE

WE

HAVE

MOVED

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RESIDENCY

ESTABLISHING

YOU

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STRAIGHT

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WILLY

FURNISHED

AND

SUGGEST

YOU

SHOULD

USE

OUR

SERVANTS

FOR

TIME

BEING

MADE



20th March 1947.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
FIJI.

Dear Maude,

You probably think that I am just another of these careerists who uses the W. A. H. C. & Fiji merely as a stepping stone to a more important job, preferably in the territory whence he came. Believe me I do not come within that category. I really felt that I was doing some good here & that I should stay on for a few years longer in order to get our plans really going. I do however believe that normally a Gov. or H. C. should not stay on for more than 5 or 6

2/

years. Then as regards the personal side, my wife & I had made ourselves a lovely home here to which we were more attached than to any other home we have been in. You will appreciate that I am sure that it was with the greatest reluctance, both officially & personally, that I accepted the H. U. job. The more so as H. U. is in a mess & everything there is most unpleasant, I am told.

When you are feeling tired & depressed just count your blessings. You have got the job you would



GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
FIJI.

sooner have than any other
in the world & at the
most interesting time. I
enjoy you.

I was hoping to
have met you in London
when you were on leave,
but I'm afraid we
shall have left by
the time you arrive. We
have to be in Hong
Kong by the end of
June. We'll have to
~~postpone~~ our meeting
until you, or my, next

4

GOVERNMENT HOUSE
JULY

leave.

The kindest regards to
you, your wife & Alanie
& my remembrances please
to everyone at Tuncawa.

Yours ever,
Alexander Grantham.

Alexander Grantham

Koronen Kamakoron Kiribati ma Enet.

Ie Kamakoro, ae Sarawa.

22 n Mati, 1947.



Akon

Ie Unimane ae Rietata

Ho na mawi!

Iai karineam Irou ni kanakoi nako im
taian beba, ni kakaana i bukin tikuiia
ana ataeinnaine kain-abam ma ni-make-
rin, hon te kba.

Ii Anne

Igai am tabonibai Shakute

Ie Lia Koroboki.

London Missionary Society,
Rongoroggo, Beru:

22nd March, 1947.

Dear Mr. Maude,

As you are shortly going on long leave, and as I expect to be leaving the Gilberts in June, may I take this opportunity of a mail going north to send you our best wishes for your well-deserved leave, and at the same time kindly co-operation we have received from you in the past. We hope you will both come back much refreshed and ready for another term of service, and that in that term you may be able to effect much in the way of promoting the true well-being of the Gilbertese people, in whom you both take so warm an interest.

As I have already told you elsewhere, we ourselves are hoping to stay in Fiji for some nine months or so before going home to England, unless something occurs to change our present plans. So we may just possibly see you again in Fiji before we leave.

Owing to the policy of our Mission being in many respects different from that of Government in regard to staff, I am unable to tell you with any definiteness who will become Chairman of the Mission after I leave, but I have little doubt that Rev. J.V. Spivey, as he will then become senior member (male) of the staff, is likely to be elected. The position is an elective one, the Chairman for the ensuing year being elected each year by the members of the Mission District Committee. Personally, I do not consider it an ideal arrangement, but it is the plan provided for in the Society's regulations. I have been fortunate enough to have the cordial support of my colleagues, and have been re-elected many years in succession, which is quite as much a tribute to their good will as to my qualities which I may have had to fit me for the post.

It is expected that Rev. J.H. Spivey will come from Morikao to Rongorongo at the end of the mission visitation about to commence, and that he will be appointed Principal of the Rongorongo Institution, but that appointment is made from London: and owing to the extraordinary bad fortune we have had with mails, we have not yet received replies to resolutions and correspondence sent home to England as long ago as last July. Meanwhile after I leave in June it might be well to continue to address official letters impersonally to the Chairman, as has frequently been done in the past.

Believe me,
Yours very sincerely,

G.H. Eastman.

H.E. Maude, Esq., M.B.E., M.A.,
Resident Commissioner,
Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony,
Tarawa.

27th March, 1947.

Dear Mr. O'Dwyer,

Thank you so much for fixing up the 300 copies of "Notes on the Gilbert Islands": there is absolutely no hurry about them, especially as I shall not be back until next March. I should be also very grateful for the 30 copies of Emory's "South Sea Lore" which the Bishop Museum have kindly offered: they will do very well for handing to new arrivals to the Colony. We have over 60 Europeans on the Colony staff now and some of them are pretty green when they arrive.

I understand that the charts mentioned by you have arrived, presumably care of Major Deems. I will take action to see that the Chart No. F.34 is treated as "Restricted" until taken off the U.S. Security list.

I am just in the throes of handing over to Mr. Bryant who will act during my absence. Things are consequently rather hectic.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

J.C. O'Dwyer, Esquire,
H.B.M.'s. Consul,
British Consulate,
Honolulu, Hawaii.

RADIO TELEGRAPHS.

No. Office

Date Stamp

Words Date 27.3.47. Time

Sent to

Service Instructions

Time

To GLT ELLIS,

Received from

ARGYLE STREET, HERNE BAY, AUCKLAND.

Time

Operator

YOUR

LETTER

RECEIVED

TODAY

MANY

THANKS

BOOKING

US

AUSTRALIA

STAR

HONOR

AND

ALARIC

LEAVE

TRIENZA

SELF

LATER

BY.

AIR

MAUDE

RADIO TELEGRAPHS.

B1/221
No. 290 Office. SUVA

Words 9 Date 29TH Time 1245

Service Instructions

To MAUDE TARAVA.

Date Stamp 29/3/47

Sent to

Time

Received from VPD

Time 291416

Operator TITO

ALL	STAMPS	SAFELY	RECEIVED	FEBRUARY
28TH				
		GOOCH.		

RADIO TELEGRAPHS.

No. Office.....

Date Stamp

Words..... Date 27.3.47. Time.....

Sent to

Service Instructions

Time

To GLT GOOCH, BIRNSOUTH, SIWA.

Received from

Time

Operator

ALL PLEASE	STAMPS TELEGRAPH	DESPATCHED QUANTITY	FROM SHORT	HERE DELIVERED MAUDE

BURNS PHILP (SOUTH SEA) COMPANY, LTD

CAPITAL £2,000,000



REGISTERED OFFICE, SUVA, FIJI

SUVA, 11th January, 1947.
FIJI

CODE ADDRESS: 'BURNSOUTH'

BRANCHES:

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SUVA	APIA
LEVUKA	PAGO PAGO
LAUTOKA	NEW HEBRIDES
LABASA	VILA
BA	SOLOMON I ^{LES}
SIGATOKA	FAISI
ROTUMA I ^{LE}	GIZO
TONGA	MAKAMBO
NUKUALOFA	NORFOLK I ^{LE}
HAAPAI	NIUE I ^{LE}
VAVAU	FUTUNA I ^{LE}
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AGENCIES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

H. E. Maude, Esq.,
Tarawa,
GILBERT & ELLICE IS.

Dear Sir,

About two months ago, before Mr. Trotter left for New Zealand on sick leave, he told me to expect to receive from you 500 First Day Covers of the Gilbert & Ellice Is. Colony Peace Stamps, the envelopes for which were apparently fully addressed and sent to you. I was also to expect Covers from other sources.

A quantity arrived recently by the "Awahou" mail, but there was no indication from whom they were despatched and the quantity received did not tally with the quantity stated in Mr. Trotter's notes to me.

It will be two or three months yet before Mr. Trotter returns to duty, by which time it will be rather late to check up if his notes to me are correct and more particularly as he has given me instructions as to the disposal of these Covers.

It would be appreciated very much if you would be so kind as to let me know by return mail whether or not you were arranging the despatch of 500 First Day Covers for Mr. Trotter and whether or not they have been posted. *to him*

With thanks in anticipation,

Yours faithfully,

(F. C. GOOCH)
ACCOUNTANT.

RADIO TELEGRAPHS.

No. Office

Date Stamp

Words Date 18.4.47. Time

Sent to

Service Instructions

Time

To GLT MAUDE,

Received from

BEACH HOUSE MILFORD AUCKLAND NZ

Time

Operator

TELEGRAM

FOR

YOU

BURNS

PHILIP

ALL

WELL

PLANE

NOT

NOW

DUE

UNTIL

END

MONTH

ALARICS

CAMERA

RECEIVED

LOVE

HARRY

Mr. Havel
21st April, 1947.

Dear Mr. Eastman,

I see that the "Kiakia" is about to leave for the Southern Gilberts, which affords me an opportunity of thanking you ~~unnecessarily~~ for the good wishes expressed in your letter of the 22nd March and to say that I sincerely hope that you will still be in Suva when my wife and I return from leave; probably about March next year.

I find it difficult to believe that you are really leaving the Gilberts after all these years: you were both "old-timers" here when we first arrived in 1929 and it must be a stiff wrench, in a way, severing such long connections.

I need hardly say that both you and your good wife will be sadly missed by us all. When we first landed at Beru in May, 1930 we had been solemnly warned at Ocean Island that the maintenance of amicable relations with the Mission was an impossibility; and yet our relations over the intervening 17 years, both personal and official, have been pleasant and harmonious in the extreme. I cannot myself recollect a single occasion on which we have had a serious difference of opinion: certainly, if we had, it stayed on an official plane and never extended, as is so often the case, to our private lives. Incidentally, I may add that Sadd and yourselves were responsible for converting me from a theoretical opponent of Mission work to one who would gladly testify on their behalf at any public meeting.

It gives me a very real pleasure when I think how much Mission-Government relations have improved of recent years culminating in your receiving what was really the official "thank-you" from the Government for your lifetime work and an acknowledgement of the regard in which you have come to be held in official circles. I had hoped to be able to invest you with your insignia myself (it would have been a real Beru function) but, alas, the decoration has not yet arrived so the privilege will be another's; and now I can only thank you and your wife personally for all the kindness and help which you gave to us when Honor and I were a pair of inexperienced

Rev. G.H. Eastman, O.B.E.,
Rongorongo,
Island of Beru.

youngsters at Beru. We were often in sickness and usually in perplexity; and I can remember well how we both used to come across to Rongerongo in the touching faith that whatever was our trouble Mrs. Eastman ~~was~~ yourself would know what should be done. Such was our fortunate apprenticeship to this strange and specialized life, and we shall always feel indebted to you for it.

With best wishes for a pleasant sojourn in Suva,

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) H. E. MAUDE

NOTE TAKEN BY RESIDENT COMMISSIONER ON LEAVE,
TO GUIDE HIM IN SELECTING TREASURY OFFICERS.

The following officers are required for the Treasury Department.

- (1) Assistant Treasurer and Collector of Customs.
Present salary £500 x 20 - 600 x 25 - 700,
plus Cost of Living Allowance of £30 +
10% up to £600 p.a. and after that £90.
Proposed revised salary £400 x 25 - 600
x 30 to 720, plus Expatriation Allowance
of £200 on £400, £250 from £425 - £600
and £300 thereafter.

Stapledon's minute on this appointment, as agreed to by Sir Alexander Grantham on the 12th March, is as follows:-

"I agree with the Resident Commissioner (see his paragraph 7) that he stands a better chance of getting a good man through the Crown Agents in the United Kingdom than through Burns, Philp, in Auckland. I think also that the Resident Commissioner may have it in mind that he might be able to persuade the Colonial Office to transfer a serving officer to this post."

- (2) Grade I Clerk and Customs Officer (if Mr. English is transferred).
Present salary £420 x 20 - 500, with Cost of Living Allowance £30 + 10%.
Proposed revised salary £300 x 25 - 400 with Expatriation Allowance of £200.

With regard to the transfer of Mr. English Mr. Stapledon's minute reads as follows:-

"I agree that Mr. Maude should by personal enquiry at the Colonial Office try and see if he can get Mr. English transferred to some post, such as a Librarianship under the British Council, provided that he makes it quite clear that we do not recommend his transfer as a Treasury Officer."

- (3) Grade II Clerk and Customs Officer (unless my proposal that a native appointment should be made is accepted).
Present salary £270 x 20 - 400, with Cost of Living Allowance of £30 + 10%.
Proposed revised salary £180 x 20 to 300, with Expatriation Allowance of £180 on £180 and thereafter £200.

(4)

*R. A. F. Sgt
Equipment expense
very nice.*

- (4) Government Storekeeper.
Present salary £300 x 20 - 450, with
Cost of Living Allowance £30 + 10%.
Proposed revised salary £300 x 25 - 400
with Expatriation Allowance as above.

Mr. Stapledon has minuted as follows:-

"It is disappointing that the Resident Commissioner does not feel able to recommend a native for this post. Presumably there is none yet sufficiently well educated. On that understanding I agree that Mr. Maude should try and find a replacement for Mr. Hullah in New Zealand."

- (5) Savings Bank Officer.
Present salary £420 x 20 - 500, with
Cost of Living Allowance as above.
Proposed revised salary as for Grade I
Clerk and Customs Officer.

Mr. Stapledon has minuted as follows:-

"I agree that the Resident Commissioner should try and earmark an experienced Savings Bank Officer in New Zealand to go up if and when the Secretary of State approves the Estimates, but I consider that a good native should be selected for training under him with a view to his taking on the responsibility alone whenever wastage occurs in the European strength of the Treasury."

- (6) Clerk and Customs Officer (Tempy).
Salary and Cost of Living Allowance as
for Grade II Clerk and Customs Officer.
No revised salary provided for.

Mr. Stapledon has minuted as follows:-

"This is a temporary appointment required until the Treasury has been brought up to strength with the appointment of the Assistant Treasurer. I agree that the Resident Commissioner should endeavour to fill Mr. Ramsay's vacancy and this temporary appointment by selecting candidates either here or in New Zealand. There is one prospective candidate here."

2. Mr. Stapledon has minuted that "in his paragraph 6 the Resident Commissioner has advanced reasons for obtaining all fresh staff required from the United Kingdom rather than the Dominions. I feel myself that, because of heavy expense of passages to and from the United Kingdom, he should at least try the Dominions first."

25.4.47.

Note:

Ref. para. 8 of (16), suggested lines of further representations would be as follows:-

- (1) We cannot at the moment colonize Fanning, Washington or Christmas, or indeed any other island: settlement of Flint and Caroline would, therefore, serve as an earnest of our intention to implement oft-repeated colonization promises by some concrete action. It would thus have a considerable moral and propaganda value.
- (2) Flint and Caroline Islands are ideal "nursery" islands on which the newly-appointed L.C. can cut their teeth. They will inevitably make mistakes at first but far better make them on a small scale than large. Mistakes made later when colonizing large islands such as Christmas may cost thousands of pounds and there is no school of colonization so valuable as actual experience.
- (3) Delay in the colonization of these islands means delay not only in dealing with war damage compensation in the Ellice Group but also the finalization of the Lands Commission there - so near to completion - for it is a waste of time adjudicating on lands disputes which in any case will settle themselves by one or both of the parties becoming colonists.
- (4) As stated in para. 2 of (10), Ellice Islanders have already been advised of imminence of colonization of Flint and Caroline. They will regard it as a distinct breach of faith if we now back out and hand them over to French interests.
- (5) It seems most unfortunate, from every point of view, that, if islands (for some obscure reason) have got to be exploited by commercial interests (rather than by the Government on behalf of future settlers), the commercial interests cannot be local residents rather than a Frenchman using French labour. Why should our people not have the very large profits from this undertaking? I could organize a non-Government co-operative Group to deal with the whole business in a few weeks.

- (6) Under the present proposal, it should be emphasized that the copra produced on a British island is being lost to the United Kingdom, which urgently needs it, and handed over to foreigners. This is so unnecessary, when we can handle it all.
- (7) The difficulty in communicating with the Southern Line Islands, over-emphasized in recent correspondence, will practically vanish with the arrangement for quarterly supply ship to Christmas coupled with an 83 footer for the Line Islands District.

25.4.47.

Labiang Bern.
29th April 1947.

Mrs H. E. Standa.

Ko na mauri!

Ia Korea au rēta aei ma te paraoma ae
bati nako iwi ngke Ia tū n tāotāona
nanou i ān motin au tāeka ni Katūaeau
; Iukin au sure are Ia tū ni Karavia
n au tū ni makuri ; B Iukin te Lau-
tēka, ao Ia Son tū ni Karavia ma te aki
~~no~~ ngurengure Ia e a bon riai Katūaeau
ao I bati ni Kaitāu nako iwi Ia e a tū
n riki Katūaeau ; poum ba te seisei ae
moan te bongana ; Iukin māu n te
aro are Ia bon namakina ba e a bon
aki riai are Ia tū ni Karavia, ao I Son
riai n aki manga oki ni Karavia

Ho Ia kareka nanou n te tū aei
ngkai Iongo ba ko nang Kitāna te aono aei
ao ba ko bia tūaoka ni Kabara au bure ;
māu Kitānakin te aono aei ; poum n te
aro are aongkwa te n temama ngai i bua-
koia Kain te abamakoro aei ae aki Kabua
karakaki māu te tū-tēka. Iaki bubuti

Kabaran au bure ba n te aro are Na
manga okiri aroa ma Ibutiko bukina
ngke Ia Son ta n namakina au bure
ma ni manga oneaki ba te aomata ae
raoro mauma ao ae nano ni mane ao
ke te Suokai te Atua iai!

Isoni Kantanga peken te manga
inaomata mauroum nkaia Son atun te Pau-
taeka nkae n te aono aei, ao e mena
tekae i nanoni Saim ko'bia atataiaoma-
ta ni Kariaia Kabaran au bure ma ni
Kaotia naton te Pau-taeka n aomata; Peru
Ia Ison tibe ni kainaki man peken taiani
Kabaia nai muwin mokkan taekaw i poum
ni Karokoa te bong aei, ao Kanga Ison
namakina te kain nano iai, ma Ia Sone Kariaia
ao Ia Son aki ngurengure iai nkae Son
te Sai ae riai nako Iu. Ho nkae Ia Karama
ma ni Kabara au bure ko Sia taiaoka ni
mutiakina au Iubute.

P. npaia.

Ngai J. Kariri.

Au inga ae Saki naton Mrs Waunde. ao
naton Alalie Waunde e kam na mauri!

29th April, 1947.

Dear Fox - Strangways,

Your letter of the 12th January has just arrived and I hasten to reply to it. I am extremely sorry that you should be worried about your personal effects as I feel certain that they will have all arrived by now. I have had renewed enquiries at Betio and Bairiki and I am informed that all the articles enumerated by you were forwarded to Burns, Philp and Co., Ltd., Suva, by the "Tamatea", which left Tarawa for Suva on the 25th January.

Shortly after this your fish service and certain oddments of silver, which had been left by you for use in the Mess, were duly collected and forwarded on through Burns, Philp by despatch which left here on or about the 17th February.

Finally in response to a telegram from you your revolver was recovered from Mr. Yam and sent to you by registered mail which left here by the "Nairnbank" on the 20th March: the "Nairnbank" was proceeding direct, or almost direct, to England.

I do sincerely hope, therefore, that you will have by now received everything missing, but if there is still something to come, please let me know and it will be recovered, even though I have to search everybody's house on the station.

I hope to leave here for Suva in a few days time on a business trip to Suva, Sydney and Wellington, after which we are due to sail for England on long leave: I think we sail from New Zealand about the 11th June. As I have only had one long leave in the whole of my service, and that 11 years ago, we are looking forward to it.

I gather that in Palestine you get your leave every year so possibly I may come across you during the course of the next few months.

We are in the throes of revision of salaries and conditions of service and I have just finished a long report on this subject. It will entail us coming under the Expatriation Allowance system, which I believe was first introduced in Palestine.

Yours sincerely,
(Signed) H. E. MAUDE

Y. H.

The goods enumerated
in Col. F. S. letter were
forwarded to B.P. & Co. Suva
per 'Samatea' ^{that} sailed 20/1/47.

B.P. & Co. were written
to see (116) ^{that} ^{hates} his
fish service and oddments of
silver were collected see (121)
and (122) and finally his revolver
recovered from Per Yam.

The silver was forwarded
through B.P. & Co. Suva but the
revolver went registered mail
N.A. bank see (130).

There is nothing remaining
in the Colony now which
is F.S. unless it is the
brass ash trays at the
Residency.

B.W.

29/4/47

Gaza, Palestine

12.1.47.

Dear Maude,

Many thanks for your letter, which arrived just before I left Jerusalem on tour. I was much dashed to hear from McKee that the W.P.H.C. had no trace of my missing kit: I had no reason to suppose that it was not in their store all this time. Now I am being like Coode about it.

At the risk of wearying you, I will say again that as far as I remember there were 5 packages, which were to have been sent down from Jerusalem by first opportunity after my plane left. They were, I think,

- 1 small box containing firing rod & jaff etc.
- 2 smallest wood cases with books, photographs etc: nets, and a .22 pistol.
- 2 do. do. cases with some of my bedding, cutlery etc: also brass "shell-case" souvenir ashtrays etc.

These were all packed by Hirolo and Benvenuto. Pedro made 2 of the cases. I have a feeling that they were all sent over to the Postoffice Office at Birzeit for onward despatch. Of course I have forgotten what ship was expected to take them: I must have left in the middle of November '45.

I don't want to lose these things, as apart from the 2 nets which are valued at £50 each now, and the pistol which I have had for 13 years, there are

BY AIR MAIL

AIR LETTER



IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED THIS LETTER
WILL BE SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL

H. E. MAUDE, ESQ., M. B. E.

Acting Resident Commissioner

TARAWA

GILBERT and ELLICE Islands Colony

via SUVA, FIJI.

WHEN FOLDED THE LETTER MUST CONFORM IN SIZE AND SHAPE WITH
THE BLUE BORDER WITHIN WHICH THE ADDRESS ONLY MAY BE WRITTEN

SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS -

V. FOX-STRANGWAYS

c/o Secretariat

Tararua, Tokelau.

books given me by American friends, and souvenirs
which are irreplaceable.

I am glad that you are so happy and
that things are going so well: I trust your wife is fit.
You will be glad to have Carl and the other fellows
from Nigeria.

This is a hell of a country - berbed with police,
soldiers, and "pines" wherever you go. And expensive! I
am much worse off, in some £1850 sterling, than I was
in the Islands. But very well worth while: it is a bit
of a thrill, I must admit. I have just done a tour -
been prejudiced well by both sides, Sewal Maruma,
what a problem. Good luck to you and to all my
friends up there: with your kind wishes and your news.
Yours sincerely V. Fox-Strangways.

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY.

MEMORANDUM.

F.11/1.

No. 5.

30th April, 1947.

From: Resident Commissioner, Tarawa.

To : Chief Lands Commissioner, Tarawa.

Land Records.

This morning, while searching for some of my personal effects in order to pack them, I came across a box full of files, among which I discovered:-

- (a) the papers containing my report on the colonization of Christmas, Fanning and Washington Islands, together with other miscellaneous papers dealing with the settlement of the Line Group: this report was asked for by one of your officers the other day and, as there was no record on file in this office, we were about to send a Savingram to the High Commissioner asking that it be copied out from their files and forwarded here; and
- (b) the missing draft of my provisional and preliminary Land Code for Beru Island, which will, I think, be found to be the most exhaustive Lands Code, except possibly for Ocean Island, in existence.

2. It will be noticed that, as in the case of most preliminary codes, this one includes both customs still in use and those which have been obsolete for some time. The customs, furthermore, have not been tested for authenticity and I know that Land Custom No. 45, entitled "Te Bobai" was regarded by the Commission as highly suspect and a modern innovation.

3. I should be grateful if both these files could be returned to me on my return from leave, as they are my own personal records and not Government copies.

(Signed) H. E. MAUDE

Resident Commissioner.

30th April, 1947.

Dear Mr. Nicoll,

Thank you very much for your letter: I certainly appreciate your kind remarks about my appointment and would have replied long before this had there been a mail. Alas, we seem to get more isolated as time goes on and I believe we've only had two inward and one outward mail in five months.

I must admit that I was relieved to hear that I had at last got a substantive post. After nine years of acting all round the Pacific I had begun to feel that I was destined never to hold a permanent position.

We have a very good crowd of officers in the Colony at present and all seem to work together with considerable enthusiasm. Of course it's difficult not to be enthusiastic about these people and even the most hard-boiled soften in their attitude after a few months contact with Gilbertese or Ellice Islanders.

I hear that I am to leave here on the 5th May for Suva and again on the 7th for Rambi. It would appear, therefore, that I shall only have a few hours in the capital and am therefore writing to thank you for your kind congratulations in case you are busy or away and it may not be convenient for you to see me.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) H. E. MAUDE



THE SECRETARY

F.I.J.I.

30 December, 1946.

My dear Maude,

I was delighted to hear when I returned the other day that you had got the appointment of Resident Commissioner, Gilbert & Ellice. I saw Fox-Strangways in London and understood that you were still acting at the time because a job had not been found for him, and I hoped that it would not be long before the matter was fixed up. My most sincere congratulations to you. The Gilbert & Ellice are fortunate.

I travelled out with Hard, Bryant, Laxton, Townsend and Mrs. Pucinelli. I was very favourably impressed with the three new officers who struck me as being of good calibre. The Bryants, a pleasant couple, said they were delighted to get the transfer from Nigeria and all of them were determined to like the Gilbert & Ellice. Laxton is the more serious type and, of course, is much older than most cadets. He will certainly work hard and he is very keen on his land job.

My regards to your wife.

Yours sincerely,

COPY.

Western Pacific High Commission,
Suva, Fiji.

8th July, 1946.

Dear Major Holland,

In my letter to you written the other day I forgot to mention one other point. His Excellency is rather keen on appointing a Y.M.C.A. or other Welfare Officer to work with the Banabans and try to stir them up to help themselves. We had several of this type working in Fiji during the war and people were rather impressed with the good they did.

Despite their hardships under the Japanese regime, we have reason to believe that the Banabans still retain a sneaking affection for them; and for one reason only: the fact that they mixed freely with the natives and, although harsh, did not indulge in the same social (I can't very well call it 'colour') distinctions as we do.

What is wanted therefore is a missionary type of Y.M.C.A. or Salvation Army man who would mix with them all the time and act as a go-between with the Administrative Officer up on the hill. He would not be highly paid, as that alone would alienate the Banabans, and need not be a man of any great education. Just Christian sympathy and understanding, absence of colour feelings, and a hard-headed, practical nature.

If you can find such a paragon, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) H.E. Maude.

Major F.G.L. Holland, G.M., O.B.E.,
14, Alverstone Flats,
Parliament Street,
Auckland, N.Z.

C O P Y.

Minute by the Financial Secretary, W.P.H.C. -
16th May, 1947.

Mr. Maude,
Chief Secretary.

My minute of the 12th March to H.E. and his in reply were discussed at Tarawa with Mr. Maude and Mr. Bryant.

2. As regards the post of Treasurer, it is becoming apparent that Mr. Fuller has not as much drive as is desirable in the Head of this Department, i.e., he does not chase his own officers hard enough, and I doubt whether he is as firm as he should be with other Heads of Departments. On the other hand he knows his job, and I think he has on occasions been able to help the R.Cr. with useful advice, e.g., as regards the proposed Savings Bank. (I understand from Fiji P.M.G. that Mr. Fuller is something of an expert on Savings Banks). The conclusion provisionally reached between the R.Cr. and myself was that there is no possibility of getting locally anyone better than Mr. Fuller. Accordingly we propose to wait and see what success the R.Cr. has in recruiting a man through the Colonial Office and/or the Crown Agents in the U.K. If the Colonial Office agree to transfer an officer from another Colony it may be that he will be a man more able and experienced than Mr. Fuller. In that case the new man would take the post of Treasurer. Otherwise the new man will take the post of Assistant Treasurer and Mr. Fuller will be promoted.

3. As regards all the other appointments to be made, Mr. Maude will now have plenty of time to see what can be done in New Zealand.

4. As regards Mr. English, it was decided that no further action should be taken except to try and get him transferred. I have dealt with this on his C.P.F.

(Intd.) F.S., F.S.
16.5.47.

Minute by Mr. H.E. Maude - 25th May, 1947.

Chief Secretary,

Please see F.S.'s minute above. This sets out the position to date as regards Treasury Dept. personnel. Necessary action will be taken by me in N.Z. and the U.K. to find candidates for the various Treasury posts, in accordance with H.E.'s instructions in his minute of the 12th March and I will report, with my recommendations, as soon as I have obtained any results. No engagement will be made without seeking H.E.'s approval (or that of the S. of State in the case of persons resident in the U.K.)

2. In addition to the points recorded in the F.S.'s minute above it was also decided that, subject to your approval, the position of Grade II Clerk and Customs Officer hitherto held by Mr. Ramsay should be offered to Tofiga, of the High Commission staff. It would be proposed to second Pasifika from the G. & E.I.C. to the

W.P.H.C.

W.P.H.C. in place of Tofinga. Pasifika is an exceptionally good Treasury clerk and, with the wider experience which he would gain in the High Commission office, should make fully as competent an officer as Tofinga. Should you approve, the appointment will be offered to Tofinga by Mr. Stapledon forthwith (it is understood that he is about to proceed on leave).

(Intd.) H.E. M.

25.5.47.

(91)

Mr Maude,
C.S.,

(88) and (89) were discussed at Tarawa with Mr Maude and Mr Bryant.

2. As regards the post of Treasurer, it is becoming apparent that Mr Fuller has not as much drive as is desirable in the Head of this Department, i.e. he does not chase his own officers hard enough, and I doubt whether he is as firm as he should be with other Heads of Departments. On the other hand he knows his job, and I think that he has on occasions been able to help the R. Cr. with useful advice, e.g., as regards the proposed Savings Bank. (I understand from Fiji P.M.G. that Mr Fuller is something of an expert on Savings Bank work). The conclusion provisionally reached between the R. Cr. and myself was that there is no possibility of getting locally anyone better than Mr Fuller. Accordingly we propose to wait and see what success the R. Cr. has in recruiting a man through the Colonial Office and/or the Crown Agents in the U.K. If the Colonial Office agree to transfer an officer from another Colony it may be that he will be a man more able and experienced than Mr Fuller. In that case the new man would take the post of Treasurer. Otherwise the new man will take the post of Asst. Treas. and Mr Fuller will be promoted.

3. As regards all the other appointments to be made, Mr Maude will now have plenty of time to see what can be done in New Zealand.

4. As regards Mr English, it was decided that no further action should be taken ~~to~~ except to try and get him transferred. I have dealt with this on his C.P.F.

F.S.
16.5.47.

(92)

C.S.,

Please see (91) above. This sets out the position to date as regards Treas. Dept. personnel. Necessary action will be taken by me in New Zealand and the U.K. to find candidates for the various Treasury posts, in accordance with H.E.'s instructions at (89) and I will report, with my recommendations as soon as I have obtained any results. No engagement will be made without seeking H.E.'s approval (or that of the S. of State in the case of persons resident in the U.K.).

2.

(Tufin's immediate offst.)

H.E.M.
25.5.47.



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

30th May, 1947.

*As to hope you had
a good trip & found them
Main well - very sure
not too old. I find you quite
like it. Sincerely Maude*

I enclose a copy of Snell's reply to my letter, which you saw, about Protheroe's successor, and a copy of my further letter in reply to Snell.

It is in character that his reaction should be so prompt and constructive as well as destructive. I imagine that he has not consulted his Board but that he is confident that he can carry them with him.

I anticipate that you will now make a serious effort to find someone suitable through the New Zealand Government. If you fail would you let me know whether you know Palmer and if so whether you think his merits outweigh the possible disadvantages of continuing our obligation to Morris Hedstroms.

Yours

H.E. Maude

H.E. Maude, Esq., M.B.E.,
C/- Burns Philp,
Auckland, New Zealand.

Morris, Hedstrom, Limited,
Suva, Fiji.

27th May, 1947.

Mr. R. de S. Stapledon,
Western Pacific High Commission,
SUVA.

Dear Stapledon,

FROTHEROE'S SUCCESSOR

I refer to your personal letter of the
26th instant, P.F. 429.

The difficulty in this matter is to get a fellow with the necessary training and I am afraid the New Zealand government could not help much to this end. The proper man must have I think South Sea shipping and merchandise experience, and above all must have ability to get on with South Sea Island natives. It is possible that the New Zealand Government might have one of their administrative officers in Samoa or the Cook Islands who had shown an ability to get on with South Sea Island natives, but it is very unlikely that such a man would have any shipping or merchandise experience.

I think we had better try to help you again.

I could cordially recommend Palmer, who is now our manager in Levuka, as a man with the necessary experience and qualities, and I think we could spare him for two or three years (I say this period because I doubt if he would be any more willing than Protheroe has proved to be to stay for a longer period).

Palmer draws rather more from us than Protheroe did when he was seconded by us, and I do not think Palmer would be attracted by Protheroe's salary of £1,000 a year Australian currency, but £1,100 a year Australian currency might attract him.

I have ventured to write to him, of course in purely non-committal style, to ask whether he would like us to put his name forward to you, and have of course emphasised that the appointment is in your hands and not our hands and that all we could do would be to suggest him to you.

The alternative that I mentioned to you on the telephone would be to suggest to Protheroe that if he will stay on another year and repeats his advice that after that Henshaw should be appointed to succeed him, and if Maude or other commissioner for the time being then recommends Henshaw, you would agree to appoint Henshaw.

I rather like this latter idea myself, but I fear that Protheroe would not agree to stay on another year. If you think the proposal worth trying I would suggest you should telegraph Protheroe.

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) H.E. Snell.

PROTHEROE'S OFFICE

I refer to your personal letter of the 22nd instant, 1914.

The difficulty in this matter is to get a follow with the necessary training and I am afraid the New Zealand Government would not help much to this end. The matter must have been settled before the shipping and travel restrictions were put on. It is most desirable to get the best of the service as possible. The Government is not likely to have any of their own men for this kind of work. The Government is not likely to have any of their own men for this kind of work. The Government is not likely to have any of their own men for this kind of work.

I have been thinking of the matter since your letter of the 22nd instant.

I could easily find a number of men who are now doing similar work in other parts of the Empire and could be sent to New Zealand. I have no objection to your trying this method. I doubt if it would be any more successful than the one now being tried for a larger scale.

I have been thinking of the matter since your letter of the 22nd instant. I have been thinking of the matter since your letter of the 22nd instant. I have been thinking of the matter since your letter of the 22nd instant.

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Copy for Mr. Maude.

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

P.F. 429.

30th May, 1947.

Dear Snell,

Thank you for your letter of 27th May regarding Protheroe's successor, and for your offer to see if you can help us.

I am sending a copy of your letter to Maude in New Zealand. I fancy that he has in mind some particular individual who has island trading experience but who is at present in the service of the New Zealand Government. I imagine that Maude will know Palmer, or at least know of him, and that the knowledge that Palmer is a possibility will provide Maude with a useful yardstick by which to measure any candidate he may find in New Zealand.

As to your other proposal that Protheroe should be asked to reconsider his decision and stay on another year, I agree that this would suit us admirably. But he is aware that until we get another man it is open to him to reconsider his decision, and I do not think that any useful purpose would be served by telegraphing him now. Next time I write to him I shall mention it as confirming the conversation I had with him on the subject.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) R. de S. STAPLEDON

H.E. Snell, Esquire,

Suva.

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL:
ARTHUR DOUGLASS B.Sc., Dip. Ed.

TELEPHONE 3184

N.Z. FRIENDS SCHOOL
WANGANUI

12th June, 1947.

Dear Mr Maude,

As I have been unable to get any response to my communications, I have taken Alaric's name off the list and given the place to another boy.

Thank you for interest in our school.

Yours sincerely,

Arthur Douglas



Tarawa Island,
Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony,
11th September, 1947.

A. Douglas, Esq., M.A.,
N.Z. Friends School,
Wanganui, N.Z.

Dear Mr Douglas,

I must apologize for not having written to you before to let you know that my son, Alaric Maude, will not be attending the Friends School as we have decided that Wanganui would be too far away from his guardians and friends in New Zealand, all of whom live in or around Auckland, and also possibly too cold in winter for one born and bred in the tropics.

We sincerely trust that this tardy notification will not upset any arrangements but presume that, in actual fact, you were not expecting him, since you had not heard from us that he would definitely be coming.

Yours truly,

H.E.M.

H.E. Maude.

N.Z. Friends School,
Wanganui.

31st. July, 1946

Dear Parents,

There are several items of interest to bring to your notice.

1. The Prospectus for 1947 is enclosed.
2. The Price Investigation Tribunal has authorised an increase in Fees of £5 per term for boarders and £2 for day scholars. (See page 8 in Prospectus) The School Committee (Governors) regret the increase but there is no alternative and our fees are still the lowest in New Zealand.
3. The Director of Education has provisionally granted the request to have the Secondary work in our Form 111 recognised. This means that satisfactory Form 111 work may now be accredited as one year towards University Entrance. (Matric.)
4. Howard Dyson. B.A. (Oxon.) has been appointed Senior Assistant Master. He is an experienced teacher having completed 8 years as Junior House Master at Ackworth, the biggest Friends School in England. He is due to arrive in September with his wife and three children.
5. A building permit to add another class-room also Science and Art Room to the Schoolroom block has been applied for. It is not intended however to exceed our maximum number of 100 pupils. The money for this project has been made available by the sale of the Friends Hostel, Wellington.

All our parents take a keen interest in the progress of the school so I am pleased to pass on this information. If these considerations, particularly items 2 and 3, necessitate a change in your plans please let me know promptly.

Please advise friends to enter children for St.3 or St.4. about three years ahead. Apart from a few day scholars in Standard 1V the roll for 1947 is complete, the boarders roll for 1948 is nearing completion and there have been many disappointments.

Yours sincerely,

Arthur Douglass.

PRINCIPAL

CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL:
ARTHUR DOUGLASS B.Sc., Dip. Ed.

TELEPHONE 3184

N.Z. FRIENDS SCHOOL
WANGANUI

25 MAR 1947

Dear Mr Maude,

I am forwarding most recent prospectus. It should now be definitely known whether Alarie will be ready for Pt III next year.

It will be necessary to pay a deposit of £10 towards the fees for first term 1948.

Please let me know promptly if there is to be any change in the arrangements. Owing to pressure of applicants I have to seek this definite information.

Yours sincerely
Arthur Douglas

Please let me know Alarie's progress soon for holidays.

M. V. "Hauturu"
at Picton

463 Mt Eden Rd
Auckland n-z.

June 14, 1947

Mr. H. E. Maude,

Dear Sir,

I in regards

to what I was talking over the
phone to you about by way
if your office in Suva
hadn't got a wireless operator
in n-z to take over Dyett's place
in Pitcairn Island.

the chief operator on the
R.M.S. "Kumutaka" was telling
out here last voyage that he
could take it over for two years
at the salary quoted. his wife in
England & he have 2 kids
so if you write to H. C. W. P.
Suva & tell the Secretray about
him this is his address
in England. Mr Allen Stanning
48 Woodfield Avenue.

North Wembley, Middlesex
England.

Off course the boat will be
 leaving London back for N.Z.
 in a weeks time.

they could get in touch with him.
 and also there is another matter
 has been ask for long enough.

N. Dyett have ask permission
 to Broadcast from Pitcairn Id
 & other Amateur stations have
 ask Pitcairn to broadcasting
 singing & talks etc. we have
 all equipments there ready &
 it will be some change of
 amusement from the Island
 I know they dont take the
 interest in Suva, as they should
 about Pitcairn & this crewman
 who will take over. he'll want
 to Broadcast as well from
 Pitcairn & if you could write &
 mention to Head office the men
 who go there will take more
 interest in the place. & Dyett

3,

ask me to ask you, as he knows that you are the only one who takes any interest in the Island etc. 2 months ago. I had 5 minutes talk on board the "Roanoke" in Auckland alongside Queenswharf, & it's good so if you could help in any way for Mr Pyett & any one who will believe him, get the permit to Broadcast will help them all a lot & all the equipment is on the Island it won't cost any more expense. Well I trust that you & your family have a good Voyage home & have a good Holiday if you mention to the Captain on the Sydney Star to call at Pitcairn on the way home I am sure that he'll be too pleased to call & they at home will be pleased to see you all & they could ask you.

any things that they are not
 to clear on the Australia-
 star. pass close coming down
 & if they want a doctor for two
 accident cases. & the Brisbane
 Star always stops coming out.
 so I think that you wont
 have any trouble in calling
 there on the way. Now
 we are promised a berth on
 the "Rangitiki" leaving
 26 of July from Auckland.

Yours truly

Floyd. H. McBoey

P.S. Mr Warren in Bowen Philip in
 Auckland told me last week that he
 have all the furniture for the wireless
 home on Pitcairn ready to go & the shipping
 company told him they cant take it on
 Ruahine no. the Rangitiki. is there
 any likelihood chance that they would
 send the "Tagua" to Pitcairn with the goods if so
 could I be notified as I may send some opine by her?

Midland Hotel,
WELLINGTON,
19th June, 1947.

Dear Mr. Shanahan,

With reference to our recent conversation regarding certain personnel which it is desired, if possible, to recruit in New Zealand for the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony, I am forwarding, as promised, particulars as to the salaries, etc., attached to each post.

(1) Savings Bank Officer.

The salary at present laid down for this position is £F.420 x 20 - £F.500, with a Cost-of-Living Allowance amounting to £F.30 + 10% of salary and a Duty Allowance of £A.50 payable while residing in the Colony. Free partly furnished quarters are provided.

The reorganisation proposals at present being considered by the High Commissioner provide for a basic salary scale for the post of £F.300 x 25 - £F.400, with an Expatriation Allowance of £F.200 and a Duty Allowance of £F.100 payable while residing in the Colony. A deduction of 10% of salary would be payable for the rent of Government quarters. No guarantee can be given at this stage, however, that the above or any salary revision proposals will be approved.

There has not hitherto been a Savings Bank in the Colony and the officer would be required to possess a good all-round knowledge of Savings Bank work, including the keeping of all necessary books and records and the investment of funds, while not least among his duties would be the training of native staff. He would work under the general direction of the Colony Treasurer (who is also Chief Postmaster) and, as it is not anticipated that his Savings Bank activities would constitute full-time employment once the initial organization had been completed, he would be required to assist in general Postal and Treasury work whenever possible.

If considered feasible, it would be desired to obtain an officer of the New Zealand Savings Bank staff on a two or three years' secondment, on such terms as the New Zealand Government may consider equitable; the officer could then train a suitable local official to succeed him.

(2) Assistant Government Storekeeper.

The present salary attached to this post is £F.300 x 20 - £F.450, with a Cost-of-Living Allowance amounting to £F.30 + 10% of salary and a Duty Allowance of £A.50 payable while residing in the Colony. Free partly furnished quarters are provided.

The salary reorganization proposals under consideration provide for a basic salary, Expatriation and Duty Allowances, and rent deduction, identical with that set out above for the Savings Bank Officer. It should be again emphasized, however, that these proposals have not been approved.

Foss Shanahan, Esq.,
Department of External Affairs,
WELLINGTON.

/The

The Government Stores position in the Colony is in an unsatisfactory state, and an experienced officer is required to reorganize the whole system on a proper footing and inaugurate proper books and records. He would work under the general supervision of the Colony Treasurer (who is ex officio Government Storekeeper) and, in particular, would have to undertake the ordering of Government Stores and the setting up of an adequate Unallocated Store, of considerable importance in a territory having such limited communications with commercial centres. The appointment could either be on two years' probation in the first instance, with a view to joining the Colony staff on a permanent footing, or else on a two or three years' secondment basis.

(3) Manager for the Colony Trade Scheme.

The term of service of the present Manager of the Colony Trade Scheme, under secondment from Messrs. Morris Hedstrom, Ltd., of Suva, is about to expire, but he has agreed to stay on until March 1948. As a successor, the Government is looking for a good commercial organizer with experience in the buying and distribution of general merchandise, management of shipping, and handling of cargoes. If possible, he should have experience of Pacific Islands trading.

The present Manager is on a flat salary of £A.1,000 per annum but, if necessary, the Government would probably be willing to consider a higher remuneration for a really first-class man with all-round experience of the work which would be required of him. The appointment would be for two years in the first instance, with the possibility of renewal by mutual agreement.

The Government Trade Scheme is at present the sole commercial enterprise in the Gilbert, Ellice, and Phoenix Islands and undertakes the supply, through their Agents, Messrs. Morris, Hedstrom, Ltd., of all classes of merchandise required by the local population and their distribution through the native-run retail Co-operative Societies established on each island. It also manages the purchase and sale (to the British Ministry of Food) of all copra produced in the three Groups, the distribution of goods and collection of copra being effected by the two inter-island vessels belonging to the Trade Scheme itself and various small craft owned by the Colony Government.

It is proposed that the Trade Scheme shall be converted in the near future into the Colony Co-operative Wholesale Society, with an Advisory Managing Committee consisting of the Resident Commissioner of the Colony as Chairman and six members elected by the retail Co-operative Societies, thus ensuring to the native inhabitants a considerable measure of participation in the Colony's trade and economic development. Even in its present form, however, the Trade Scheme has proved a commercial success and enjoys the confidence and support of the people to a remarkable degree.

In asking for your assistance in our staff problems it is realized that staffing difficulties in the New Zealand Government service may well make it impossible for anyone to be spared at the present time, even were suitable candidates available. During the war, however, you were good enough to select a number of officers for the Colony service, several of whom are still with us, and the impression they made was so favourable that we are anxious to explore the possibilities of obtaining additional personnel from the Dominion before looking elsewhere.

As I am about to proceed on leave to the United Kingdom, I am forwarding a copy of this letter to the Western Pacific High Commission Office in Suva, and should be grateful if you would communicate direct with the Chief Secretary should you be in a position to recommend any candidates for the above positions.

I should perhaps emphasize that, owing to the destruction of houses and property during the Japanese occupation, living conditions in the Colony are at present rather primitive. In particular all housing is built of native materials, and the number of quarters is still insufficient to accommodate the families of all married officers. Any married candidate should be warned, therefore, that it may not be possible for him to be accompanied by his family for the first few months of his service and that, in any event, he would be well advised to proceed to the Colony alone in the first instance, in order to see conditions for himself before deciding on whether or not to send for his family. These cautionary remarks would not, however, apply in the case of the Manager of the Trade Scheme, who already possesses native-built quarters suitable for a wife and family.

Again thanking you for your co-operation in our personnel troubles,

Yours sincerely,

All correspondence should be
addressed to: "The Director of
Education, Wellington C.1."
Telegraphic address:
"Education, Wellington."

NEW ZEALAND

IN REPLYING

E. 18/1/1

PLEASE QUOTE THESE NUMBERS.

Education Department,

WELLINGTON C. 1,

20th June, 1947.

H. Maude, Esq.,
Resident Commissioner,
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS.

Dear Mr. Maude,

I am glad to be able to inform you that Toalipi has at last arrived in New Zealand; he arrived in Auckland by 'plane on the 5th of May.

Unfortunately there seemed to have been some duplication of arrangements and he was met at the aerodrome by our Auckland Officer and by Burns Philip's representative. Toalipi was taken safely to Wesley College and by now he should be well settled down. When I next visit that College I will have a talk with the boy and see how he is getting along.

I have just returned from another tour of the Islands, but unfortunately my work was interrupted somewhat by the prevalent influenza epidemic. I hope the epidemic has not managed to reach your Islands.

While I am shivering in Wellington's winter cold I can imagine you basking in the tropical sunshine of the Gilbert & Ellice Islands.

Kindest regards to Mrs. Maude and yourself,

Yours sincerely,

W. Parsonage

P/s. My daughter collects stamps - would be glad of any from your colony. W.P.

Confidential.

c/o The High Commissioner
for the United Kingdom,
Wellington, N.Z.

21st June, 1947.

Sir,

4.6.47

With reference to my telegram of the 20th June, forwarded through the High Commissioner for the United Kingdom in Wellington, regarding my recent visit to Sydney in connection with the proposed purchase of Fanning and Washington Islands, I have the honour to forward a copy of a letter which I received from Mr J. W. Mitchell, a Director of Messrs Fanning Island Plantations, Ltd., in which he sets out the terms under which the Company are prepared to sell the two properties to the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony Government.

2. My reception in Sydney by Messrs J. Burns, J. W. Mitchell and the other Directors of Messrs Burns, Philp and Co., Ltd., was most cordial and I feel, furthermore, that it was successful in its main objective: the reduction in the price at which the subsidiary Company was prepared to sell its rights and assets on both islands. All conversations on this subject were conducted with Mr Mitchell himself and I gathered, from his remarks, that the main reasons which had actuated the Board of Directors

His Excellency

The Acting High Commissioner
for the Western Pacific,

of Directors in withdrawing its offer to sell the Fanning and Washington properties for £103,000 were:-

- (1) a feeling that the Government were delaying the decision regarding the purchase in anticipation that the Company would be compelled to increase its capital equipment, plant and stores on the islands, which would thereupon be taken over without compensation;
- (2) the fact that the Company had actually shipped boats, stores and other equipment to the islands since the making of the original offer; and
- (3) the additional fact that the Company had recently spent a very considerable sum in repatriating its labour on the islands and transporting a new labour force there, which Mr Mitchell thought would be a great asset to the Government as obviating the cost of bringing colonists from the Gilbert Group.

3. Once I had convinced Mr Mitchell that the Government was guiltless of the subtle project at (1) and that the delay in making a decision was simply due to the necessity for the scheme for colonizing the islands being given most careful consideration by the Colonial Office, he readily agreed to make a fresh offer. His first proposal was that, in view of the considerations mentioned at (2) and (3) above, the original offer of £103,000 (Australian Currency) should be changed to the same

sum

sum in sterling. I pointed out, however, that while the new labour force taken to the islands was no doubt an asset as far as the Company was concerned it was a potential liability from the Government's point of view, since few labourers were likely to be selected as settlers and the vast majority would have to be returned to their homes at our expense. As regards (2), furthermore, Mr Gould (a Director of the Company, who was present at the conference) was good enough to produce figures showing that the total value of all stores and new equipment sent to Fanning and Washington Islands, since the date of the Company's original offer, did not exceed £4,000 landed cost and was probably worth much less now, since a considerable portion would have been expended.

4. Mr Mitchell thereupon agreed to let the original offer of £103,000 (Australian Currency) stand for a further six months, to be extended by mutual agreement, subject to:-

- (1) all copra on hand being taken over by the Government at British Food Mission f.o.b. price, payable on in-store weights less 5%, together with any cash on hand; and
- (2) all stores on hand and new equipment being taken over at landed cost plus 5%, the estimated value being less than £4,000.

It appears to me that the above proposals, which were subsequently agreed to by Mr Burns, the Chairman of the Board of Directors, are generous when looked at from the standpoint of the Company. Little exception can be taken to the proviso

CONFIDENTIAL

at (2), especially since the new stores and equipment (and particularly the new boats) will be of direct value to the Government, while to the best of my recollection the proviso at (1) was already included in the Company's first offer.

5. Rather to my surprise, Mr Mitchell did not press the rise in the price of copra, recent or impending, as a reason for advancing the sum required for the islands, although he mentioned it in passing. I gathered, though I may have been wrong in doing so, that the reason that he did not stress the point was his recognition that most, if not all, the increase would probably be offset by rising costs (particularly labour costs) and increased taxation. He stated, however, that the information possessed by Messrs Burns, Philp indicated that the Ministry of Food price for copra, as paid to Malayan and other Colonial producers, would be the standard world price for at least five years, and that any marked deviations above or below that figure would tend to disappear. He was, therefore, not surprised at the drop in the Philippine price, which he considered to be far above the world standard, and in this connexion furnished me with an excerpt from the "International Bulletin of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce" for the 26th May, a copy of which is attached.

6. While I consider that Fanning and Washington Islands, together with the assets of the Plantation Company on them, are fully worth £A103,000 (whether as coconut plantations or future homelands), I formed the impression that a counter-offer

26.5.47.

offer of a lesser amount, if made personally by Your Excellency to Mr Burns, might be successful, since Mr Mitchell emphasized more than once that Messrs Burns, Philp and Co., Ltd., now possess more lucrative openings for capital investment in Australia itself than the Pacific Islands. It would require, however, to be supported by a statement that the amount asked for cannot be obtained and a personal appeal to the Directors based on humanitarian grounds.

7. It may be stated, for purposes of record, that I left Auckland for Sydney on the 2nd June, by Trans-Tasman Airways, and returned on the 6th June.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Excellency's obedient servant,

(Signed) H.E. Maude.



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

CONFIDENTIAL.

C.F.48/27.

21st June, 1947.

Dear Maude

I fear we should have let you know that the new copra price of £A.47.0s.9d. bulked f.o.b. came into force on June 9th, but I expect you will have seen a report of it in the press.

We now understand that Laucala Island, 3,000 acres off Taveuni, is likely to be in the market and could possibly be purchased for about £A.30,000. No action is being taken at present, but if the Line Islands look like falling through we should consider informing the Secretary of State of the possibility of purchasing Laucala as a partial remedy. Will you therefore let us know as soon as you can the result of your talk with Burns, and if necessary what you think about Laucala.

*I do hope you are also keen
for a well set to sailing voyage &
love*

*Yours
Phillip Maude*

H.E. Maude, Esq., M.B.E.,
C/o Burns, Philp Limited,
P.O. Box 410,
Wellington, C.1.,
New Zealand.

H.E. Maude, Esq.,
C/- Midland Hotel,
WELLINGTON.

With the compliments of the
Official Secretary.

Copy of telegram to ^{HIGHCOMA}~~Governor of~~
Suva, dated 20th June 1947.

Office of the High Commissioner
for the United Kingdom, 20th June 1947
Wellington, New Zealand.

Code.

TELEGRAM

FROM: High Commissioner for the United Kingdom, Wellington.

HIGHCOMA

TO: ~~Governor~~, Suva.

Despatched. 20th June, 1947 1110 hours.

NO. 3

Following from Maude begins.

As a result of visit to Sydney Burns and Mitchell agreed to renew offer of Fanning and Washington at original figure of £103,000 Australian currency for period of six months to be further extended by mutual agreement. Only additional charge would be for any unexpended stores and equipment purchased since original offer at 5% on landed cost. Total value of these, however, is estimated at less than £4,000 and is steadily decreasing as stores get used up. Letter follows. Ends.

UNITED KINGDOM HIGH COMMISSIONER

JR/20.

FANNING ISLAND PLANTATIONS LIMITED

REGISTERED OFFICE: SYDNEY, N.S.W.

MANAGING AGENTS:
BURNS, PHILP & CO. LTD.
7 BRIDGE STREET
SYDNEY

4th June, 1947

AHG, RMcC

Sir,

FANNING AND WASHINGTON ISLANDS

In order that you may submit a concrete proposal to the Secretary of State for the Colonies for the purchase and colonisation of Fanning and Washington Islands, we now offer firm these properties for a period of six months, or any extension as may be mutually agreed, upon a walk-in walk-out basis, for the total sum of £103,000 Australian Currency.

Also all copra on hand to be taken over at British Food Mission f.o.b. price, payable on in-store weights less 5%, together with any cash that may be on hand.

Also to be taken over at 5% on landed cost all stores on hand and new equipment, the estimated total value approximately £4,000.

We have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servants,
FANNING ISLAND PLANTATIONS LIMITED

James Mitchell

Director

His Honour,
H.B.M.'s Resident Commissioner,
Gilbert & Ellice Islands Colony,
SYDNEY.

PHILIPPINE ISLAND COPRA PRICE DROPS.

The biggest price development in P.I. markets last week was another sharp drop in the price of copra, the FAR EAST TRADER reports.

In Manila, the quotation closed Saturday at \$12.25 per 100 kilos, a drop of \$3 from the previous week's close.

This brought the Manila price per long ton, f.o.b., to \$122.50, as against \$152.50 the week before. The quotation was almost 50 per cent below the peak price of \$237.50 per ton of April 5, and nearing the \$103.50 figure of the former U.S.-P.I. purchasing pact.

At week's end, however, observers said they saw indications the market was somewhat stabilised.

In the provincial markets, nervousness and anxiety of traders sent the price even lower than that in Manila, with the quotation in Cotabato at \$9 per 100 kilos, and in Zamboanga at \$11.

Producers, alarmed by the continued slump, are demanding complete decontrol of the commodity, which would mean lifting the requirement for export licenses. The licensing is in accordance with P.I.'s commitments under allocations by the International Emergency Food Council.

The government, however, refused these demands, and reassured producers that it believed the drop was only temporary, and that resumption of buying within a few weeks would likely bring higher prices.

CONFIDENTIAL.

F. 35/47.

District Office,
Gilbert Islands District,
Tarawa.

20th March, 1947.

Your Honour,

In reply to your letter F.11/6/3 of 19th March,
1947.

I was introduced to Mr. Burns by Mr. David Maughan at the Australian Club, Sydney in May 1946 and was much interested in his conversation both on that occasion and also on a later occasion in his office when he gave me a note of introduction to Mr. Trotter in Suva.

As a newcomer, not yet arrived in this Colony, I was not able to take any part in the conversation and not being then familiar with all the facts to which he referred, I am unable now to recall all the details.

Mr. Burns spoke mainly of pre-war trading conditions and the trading situation as it was then, in May 1946, with particular reference to difficulties of labour and shipping, and the possibilities of his company's return to this colony. He referred to an enquiry from the W.P.H.C. concerning the purchase by the Government of Fanning and Washington Islands, and I understood from him that he had named a price which he considered to be particularly reasonable. He appeared to be annoyed in that he had received either no thanks or insufficient thanks from the W.P.H.C. for this offer and indicated that unless the W.P.H.C. had the business sense and the courtesy to take action at once in the matter, his own view was that he would be likely to increase his price at some future date. It appeared that the W.P.H.C. might have mentioned to him the benefits which he might confer upon the Gilbertese people by agreeing to the sale of the islands and thus making possible their colonisation by people now suffering from land starvation and overcrowding, and that in his opinion, he had replied in this spirit. He thought that subsequent inactivity of the W.P.H.C. belied the importance and urgency to them of the matter and was not likely to improve his own attitude.

His Honour the Resident Commissioner,
Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony,
Bairiki, Tarawa.

Since I was not, and am not, familiar with the correspondence concerned, I was then, and am now, unable to state anything whatsoever. I remarked that it was probably possible for him to make immediate decisions in such a matter, whereas the use of money belonging to the Gilbertese or British taxpayer probably involved much Government action before a decision would be authorised. With this he agreed but again mentioned that he considered that there had been some lack of courtesy towards him in the matter which was not going to help the cause of the Gilbertese people.

Your Honour asks me for an opinion which I am reluctant to give. Possibly Mr. Keegan or someone else from W.P.H.C. may have seen Mr. Burns more recently, or later correspondence may have changed his attitude. I can however say that in May 1946 Mr. Burns seemed dissatisfied on account of what was in his opinion a failure of someone in Suva to make adequate reply to his offer, that his attitude was most friendly and that the best action possible would seem to be for someone from the Colony with the interests of the people at heart and the facts and figures at his fingertips, to speak to Mr. Burns and inform him of any delays or difficulties which might be foreseen on the Government side. There did not appear to be any difficulty which personal contact and discussion would not overcome, and Mr. Burns seemed to be ready and in a position to give a clear straightforward statement of his own side of the case.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) W.G. ALEXANDER.

Office of the Resident Commissioner,
Gilbert & Ellice Islands Colony,
Tarawa.

19th March, 1947.

Dear Alexander,

A few days ago I heard a story, I don't remember from whom, to the effect that you had seen Mr. Burns when in Sydney and that he had discussed with you the suggested sale of Fanning and Washington Islands to the Colony Government. My informant mentioned, I think, that Burns had complained that he had made what he considered to be a very generous offer to the High Commission but was feeling "browned off" about it as he had not had the courtesy of a reply and that, as a result, future dealings would be on a strictly business footing.

The matter is of considerable interest to me as I see from correspondence by this mail that H.E. would like me to fly from Suva to Sydney in an endeavour to soften Mr. Burns' heart on the question of selling these islands. I imagine that I would have to expand on the poverty and urgent need of the Gilbert and Ellice Islanders and appeal to him, on patriotic or other grounds, to reduce his price.

I should be most grateful, therefore, if you could let me know in due course the gist of your talk with Mr. Burns, and give me your opinion as to whether you consider that a personal appeal to him would be of the slightest use and, if so, what lines you think, from your conversation with him, it would be best to take.

I may mention that Mr. Burns is asking £103,000 for Fanning and Washington but that, following a recent letter from his Secretary it appears that he is about to revise the figure in an upward direction owing to the recently increased copra prices.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) H.E. MAUDE.

W.G. Alexander, Esquire, M.B.E.,
Betio, Tarawa.

COPY

DECODE.

[CODE Cypher.]

TELEGRAM.

1 X101 47-2 rns.

From THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

To THE HIGH COMMISSIONER.

No. 99.

(Date) 20th May, 1947.

Your telegram No. 102, Confidential.
Line Islands copra prices and colonization.
See my telegram No. 144. It would be premature
to assume new copra price will be £45. It is
unlikely it will exceed parity Malayan price of
£40 per ton bagged equivalent to £37.12s.6d.
bulked F.M.S. Fiji. I see no reason why Maudé
should not discuss proposal in your paragraph 4
in general terms with Burns, Philp. It will of
course be appreciated that any formal negotiations
cannot be undertaken at least until colonization
project as modified in your despatch Confidential
of 25th February has been approved in principle.
I regard this project as an integral part of the
development plan as to which receipt (position?)
remains broadly as in paragraph 2 of my Savingram
No. 21.

Secretary of State.

c/o The Secretariat,
Jerusalem,
Palestine.

22nd. June 1947.

My dear *Mandi,*

Many thanks for your letter of the 29th April, which reached me yesterday. I am so sorry that you have had so much bother over my few bits of kit. I am much obliged to you for all the trouble you have taken, and I have no doubt that all the stuff will turn up all right. It was hard luck on Yam having to disgorge my old pistol; but the dangerous weapon was rather a friend, and I need it here.

You told me that you were sailing from New Zealand about the 11th of June, so I am sending this to the C.O. If they run true to form, they will immediately send it out to Tarawa. I am afraid that I shall not get home on leave this year: I do not want to go just yet, as we are only now on the point of achieving a house, after living all this time in a pension waiting for a house or flat to become vacant. Nor, probably, shall I be able to afford leave till next June! The cost of living out here is fantastic, and despite a very handsome salary and allowances I hardly save a bean.

We both like Palestine, however; it really is a lovely country. And it is so well situated for visiting other interesting places; you can get to Egypt or the Lebanon in 4 to 6 hours by car, to Cyprus in an hour by air, to Turkey or

Syria or Iran or Greece without much difficulty. The climate is magnificent - it may be a little hot in the coastal plain, but here in Jerusalem it is wizard; cloudless skies, cool breezes, nights that are almost cold, and early mornings that have nothing whatever second-hand about them.

I hope that you and your family are all well, and that you will thoroughly enjoy your leave. Do you intend to go back to the Islands? I wonder whether Noel has yet achieved his heart's desire of a move.

With kindest regards to your wife and yourself from both of us,

Yours sincerely,

J. L. Thompson

c/o Secretariat
Jerusalem
Palestine.
28th February 1947.

My dear *Maudie,*

I was very glad to get your wire to-day to say that my errant kit has at last been found and is proceeding towards me. There were things in it which, in the present state of the tackle industry, I should have hated to lose. It is also excellent news to hear that you are forwarding Roscoe 737083, to the arrival of which (possibly at just about the time when the United Nations finally "fix" Palestine) I shall look forward. I am quite ready to pay the Colony for this, if the Treasurer so advises and you wish. The fact that I got it at all is due to the incidence of Colony service, which ~~is~~ is why I handed it in.

I have just returned from a trip to Haifa - nice to think that you can do what is the longest normal duty trip in this place in less than three hours! I went up to see the transshipment of a bevy of illegal immigrants; quite an experience. The ship concerned changed her name, before arrival, to a Hebrew one; whereupon the Royal Navy, never at a loss, signalled her "Happy birthday". Some of the boys and girls cast themselves over and swam ashore; they had interesting stories to tell, and some may have been true. I watched one very pretty girl try all her wiles on an uncommonly tough Airborne officer, and came to the conclusion that the future guards of Heaven's streets have nothing on the British paratrooper.

I was lucky; I had arranged to meet my escort (yes, we have to have them, and mine had 7 ribbons including the DFM) at Barclay's Bank. Rather fortunately we were both delayed; in the interval the unruly ones blew the place up with a loud report.

We fled back to Salem, out of this atmosphere of frustrated longing, troops, smoke, filth and sweat, at an easy 75 to 80 m.p.h., so good are the roads and the Secretariat cars. The country is looking wonderful; dark green of cypresses, grey-green of olives, bright green of young barley: red and ochre earth, and splashes and sheets of wild flowers; dark blue lupins, salvia, late jonquils, pink and yellow and blood-red anemones and many others. Through-the-looking-glass country; here the flowers, and there some Arab men sitting and smoking while the women weed the crops; perhaps a string of camels, or some patient, overloaded donkeys; and there again, a road-block, or a long roaring column of A.F.V.'s, or a walled and sandbagged piquet in a strategic spot. Almond trees in full bloom, and generals with such dazzle dados that they seem to be blossoming too. From the hills, pure air that is better than a glass of Tip Pepe; from the road, high octane fumes.

Still, it is a wonderful place. This job is quite the most interesting I have ever had, and I am enjoying it more than I thought possible. I haven't got a house yet; but as we are all behind the iron curtain, one does not worry so much about that. One just feels that in peace time, when one could get about, this country takes a lot of beating.

My little Fiat goes well; as it set me back £600 I feel that it should do. Things here are expensive; butter 12/- a pound and 12-bore cartridges 4/- each. A suit of clothes can now be had for as

little as £47.

I hope that you are fit and that all goes well with your family. I miss several island things - my jeep and my whaler especially! I shall always be glad that I served in the islands; so few Colonial products have even heard of them that it is quite an outstanding experience. And there are some admirable folk there. I should be so glad if you would give my salaams to those whom I did chiefly know - Kabunare, Bauro, Tutu, Tione, Mutagha, Pedro, Sapoa and many others; also the Ellice birds when you see them. (I fancy that I always liked the Ellice islands best, as the first place I went to). Also Old Faithful Roberts, if he is still with you.

I live a rag-time life; the proprietors of this pension are an ex-Secretariat clerk and a Lebanese playboy; the housekeeper, a Polish lady-journalist-refugee; and the chef, a Czecho-Slovakian vet (who gives us many a bran mash). The staff, all-Arab, all forgetting, ever willing and ever charming; and bush as hell. We are seldom dull.

Good luck to you and all in the Colony.

Yours very sincerely

V. K. Thompson

BY AIR MAIL

AIR LETTER

IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED THIS LETTER
WILL BE SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL

H. E. Maude Esq, N. B. E.

Resident Commissioner,

TARAWA

Gilbert Islands,

Via SUVA, FIJI.

WHEN FOLDED THE LETTER MUST CONFORM IN SIZE AND SHAPE WITH
THE BLUE BORDER WITHIN WHICH THE ADDRESS ONLY MAY BE WRITTEN



Thompson

Secretary

V. K. Thompson

SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS

BY AIR MAIL.

M.v. "Sydney Star".

3rd July, 1947.

Dear Stapledon,

I have been re-reading your letter of the 30th May and see that you ask me whether I know Palmer, whom Snell recommends for the job of Manager of the Colony "Co-operative Wholesale Society". I'm afraid the answer is in the negative - I've heard of him by name and that is all.

Knowing Snell, I feel that as far as commercial experience and ability is concerned Palmer would be all right, though it is a bit difficult to understand why, if he's any good, he is in a dead and alive place like Levuka and why, as Levuka Manager, he should be paid more than Protheroe was at Nukualofa. But perhaps the ramifications of Morris, Hedstrom in Levuka are more extensive than one suspects.

What one would like to know more of, however, is Palmer's personal characteristics and his attitude towards Government commercial enterprise: it would be fatal to introduce a non-cooperator into the limited local circle and doubly unfortunate should he put the interests of Morris, Hedstrom before those of the Colony. But probably you are in a position to make enquiries among those who know him, both inside and outside the firm.

Mention of Palmer's name reminds me that there is another Palmer, working for Burns, Philp, whom I know well and am sure has all the personal qualities we require and,

I should think. as

I should think, as much commercial experience as we are likely to get. He is at present Manager of Fanning Island Plantations, Ltd., at Fanning Island itself and has, consequently, a good knowledge of the copra trade, shipping and the Gilbertese. He runs the local store there and does his own buying.

I fancy that this Palmer would be quite willing to consider a post with us in any event (he has always co-operated well with the Government); and certainly should there be a chance of our taking over the island, when he would, I feel sure, jump at the Managership rather than face the prospect of a transfer to one of Burns, Philp's plantations in New Guinea (which would be his most probable fate).

After thinking over the position carefully, I would recommend that the first move should be to endeavour to bribe Protheroe to stay on with us for a further two years by offering him a salary of £1,500. It would be a tempting bait which he might find it difficult to refuse and I think that you will agree that he would be worth every bit of the money.

If this should fail, I would suggest that tentative enquiries should be made as to the suitability of the Fanning Island Palmer for the job and as to his willingness to accept it. Personally, I doubt whether the fact that he has not worked in the main merchandise branches of Burns, Philp would necessarily preclude him

necessarily preclude him from consideration, especially in view of the fact that he would have good assistants: he should be able to learn the ropes soon enough as far as this aspect of his work is concerned. I would rate him before Eden (mentioned in a previous official letter) but this may be only because I know him better.

It is bitterly cold on board and all we can think about is keeping warm and counting the days until we reach sunshine latitudes once again.

Yours,

J.H. Maude.

A copy of this letter has been
forwarded to the Ag. R. Cr.,
G.&EE.I.C.

m.v. "Sydney Star",

5th July, 1947.

Sir,

I have the honour to address Your Excellency regarding the desirability of amending the Pensions legislation of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony with a view to making pensions paid from Colony funds subject to Colony Income Tax.

2. Owing to the existence of a clause in the Colony Income Tax legislation no tax is at present leviable on Government pensions, in cases where the pensioner is residing outside the Colony. This clause was no doubt inserted in the supposed interests of the pensioner himself but, under conditions existing today, it is actually proving very much to his disadvantage, since it automatically renders him liable to the payment of income tax on the pension to the Government of his country of residence.

3. In view of the fact that income tax rates in all countries to which Colony officers have retired, whether New Zealand, Australia or the United Kingdom, are considerably higher than those ruling in the Colony the unintended, but

none

His Excellency

The Acting High Commissioner

for the Western Pacific,

Suva, Fiji.

none the less unfortunate, effect of the clause is to deprive the Colony of much-needed revenue while at the same time adding to the difficulties of pensioners by compelling them to part with a large percentage of their pensions to other administrations.

4. During my recent visit to Australia, representations were made by retired Colony officers which convinced me that they were suffering genuine and unnecessary hardship as a result of having to pay Australian income tax on their pensions and I undertook to request Your Excellency for a review of the legislation with a view to rectifying their position. It is emphasized, in this connection, not only that the Colony can ill afford to lose revenue from the taxation of pensions but that the position is at present one-sided and unfair since, in the admittedly unlikely event of a pensioner of the New Zealand, Australian or other Government coming to reside in the Colony, his income tax would be deducted at source by the country paying him the pension and he would, consequently, be exempt from Colony income tax on the amount in question.

5. In view of the above considerations, I would recommend the enactment of an amending Ordinance repealing the section which exempts Colony Government pensioners

from Colony income

from Colony income tax and their notification by circular when this has been done.

6. An additional hardship inflicted on retired Colony officers is the non-payment of any Cost of Living Allowance on pensions, in cases where the pensioner resides abroad, despite the fact that such allowances are paid by the Government of Fiji. It is understood, however, that recommendations that these allowances should be paid in future are being made by the Acting Resident Commissioner and I need only add that they have my full support. It is hoped, furthermore, that Your Excellency will see your way to direct that pensioners should receive such allowances retrospectively to the date of their introduction by the Government of Fiji.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Excellency's obedient servant,

(Signed). H.E. Maude.

Resident Commissioner.

M.v. "Sydney Star",

7th July, 1947.

Dear Major Swinbourne,

Please forgive me for not having written before to thank you for your kindness in having me to lunch in Sydney. I would have sent a letter from New Zealand but got caught up in a round of work, in addition to Honor being laid up with bronchitis, due to the extreme cold of Wellington.

I had a horrible journey back across the Tasman the morning after our meeting: it was blowing great gusts and the plane rocked and swayed till I was quite scared. I must say its not the kind of trip I would choose for pleasure.

However we're very comfortable on this ship - only 26 passengers and we have our own cabin and bathroom with Alaric next door, so cannot grumble. And the sea so far has been as calm as can be.

I have duly written to the High Commissioner on the pension matter you mentioned to me and attach a copy of my letter. I hope that they act on it quickly, as there seems to be little doubt that the matter is susceptible to adjustment and that it should be set right without delay.

It was really very good indeed of you to have me
along to the

along to the Wentworth and I need hardly say that I enjoyed myself thoroughly seeing you all again: especially as, to my astonishment, neither your wife nor yourself seemed a day older than when we last met. I should honestly say younger, if anything. You must have found the secret of perpetual youth; but I expect really its because you're always busy and lead a full life; so many people just vegetate when they retire.

I expect somehow that it will not be long before I'm back in Australia again - things move rapidly these days - and I hope that you will all be able to come to lunch or dinner with me next time. I was so rushed during my recent visit that we never really got down to a talk.

With kindest regards from us both to your wife and yourself,

Yours very sincerely,

(Signed) H.E. Maude.

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Dear Mr Burns,

I very much thank you for
your help during my recent visit to Sydney and for
the memorable dinner I had with you the night before
I left. While I must confess that I could hardly
be ^{in the dark} ~~able~~ to distinguish the body gem from one
produced from any other body, I shall say least of
my ~~work~~ tested such a rare old vintage.

I had quite a rocky trip back to
Auckland: rough part of the way, with the floor
mazy, and pitching till I was quite seasick. It seems
to me the trans-Tasman crossing can be one of the worst.

I have written to the High Commissioner about
~~my~~ acquainting him with the result of my talks with
Mr Mitchell regarding Fanning and Washington Islands and
will tackle the Colonial Office when I get to England.

It is to be hoped that a decision can be obtained one way or the other and not held up by the the hands of Sir Alexander. No news yet as to when the new High Commission is to be, but its possible that it may be settled before I reach England and that I may be able to see him there.

These questions the weather is getting warm again, after the abnormal cyclone we had in Wellington.

Yours sincerely,

J Burns, Esq.,
 Director, Messrs Burns, Philp and Co., Ltd,
 7, Bridge Street,
Sydney, New South Wales,
 Australia

Chambers of Deacons,

M.v. "Sydney Star",

9th July, 1947.

Dear Ian,

I cannot imagine what you must think of me for not having replied before to your very kind note of congratulations on my recent confirmation. Or rather, to be exact, I know only too well what you must be thinking (and it makes my ears burn).

However, I do have a few excuses; insufficient though they may be. I refrained from replying at Tarawa since I was extremely busy settling things up and knew that I would be flying down to Suva by the plane which brought the mail: once there, I made certain of seeing you (as indeed I did; at a distance).

But once in Suva I went down, as you know, to one of Fiji's celebrated germs and spent all but the last few days of my stay in hospital; and the rest trying to fit in three weeks of work into three days. I did not forget you, however, and rang you up in your office, but once you were out and once engaged.

However, I am writing now to thank you most sincerely for your letter and for the extremely flattering and untruthful remarks about myself which it contained.

Heigh ho for the open sea, we had a brutal time in New Zealand, what with rain, cold, 'flu, bronchitis and goodness knows what; but all is now over and I sniff the

briny with delicious anticipation.

Never by any chance travel on a passenger boat if you can go cargo. We are supremely comfortable with every luxury we could wish (cabin for two, Alaric next door, private bathroom, etc.) and as there are only 23 other passengers there is plenty of room to move around in. We have even a private sitting-room, in effect, for no-one else seems to use the particular one we favour. No doubt they think that we are the world's most consummate snobs, but actually we're a bit shy.

I hear you're a great secretariat specialist these days. You'd better take care or you'll find yourself in for a secretariat career like Paddy. Too much work and too little exercise: one has to be tough to survive it.

I'm hoping that I shall succeed in persuading the Colonial Office to let me tour England looking for a Colony vessel for the G. & E. We do need one so badly, but I must confess that I haven't the remotest idea how one finds her: nor, apparently, have the C.O., for they do nothing about it.

We've not heard a word ~~of~~ ~~who~~ the new Governor/High Commissioner is to be but I expect that it will be out long before this reaches you. I must endeavour to see ~~him~~ in England, if I can, in order to impress him in advance how much more important the High Commission (and in particular the G. & E.) side of his work is than anything connected

with Fiji!
clear for the present and we hope to see you
in our return (if indeed you are still speaking to me),

Yours, etc.,
H.C.M.

The Secretariat,
Suva

Fiji L.
26.1.47.

Dear Harry,

This is a very belated note, but
one I have seen meaning to write for
some time — to congratulate you on your
promotion. I should say yours is the
most worthy and at the same time most
straightforward appointment the C.O. has made
in many means. Best wishes for a
good term. You will now be able to
get going with a lot of previously
wanted plans for the Group. Paddy tells
me you now have a good staff and
I wish you every success. How is the
more to Abemama progressing?

Things haven't changed very much
in Suva since you left. The cost of living
remains high, possibly is even higher than
when you left and Salaries Revision has
not brought much relief, except perhaps
to the European members of the
service. From the staffing point of view
we are getting more and more of
the latter into permanent posts, which
of course is a step forward, but at
every turn one has to combat the
conservation of our European colleagues. I
think I know now why conditions became
so sticky in the West Indies.

We were all very upset to hear
of the death of Miss Ruth and know
what a shock it would be to you all.

How are Honor & Annie? I hear
whispers that you are sending Annie to
school in NZ, so we may see you
when you pass through.

Regards
Best wishes
Yours.

lan.
—

M.v. "Sydney Star",

9th July, 1947.

Sir,

With reference to telegram Saving No. 117 of the 28th May, 1947, from the Acting High Commissioner for the Western Pacific to the Acting Resident Commissioner, Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony, regarding the payment of Detention Allowance in respect of my wife's residence in New Zealand awaiting onward transport to the United Kingdom, I have the honour to inform you that my wife and I embarked on the m.v. "Sydney Star" on the 27th June. Owing to bad weather, however, the vessel did not actually sail from Wellington for Panama until the 1st July.

2. It would appear, from the terms of His Excellency's savingram, that Detention Allowance is payable from the 14th April to the 27th June inclusive and it would be appreciated if the amount due could be lodged to the credit of my account with the Bank of New Zealand, Suva.

3. A copy of this letter has been forwarded to the Secretary to Government, Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) H.E. Maude.

H.E. Maude.

The Chief Secretary,

Western Pacific High Commission,

Suva, Fiji.

TELEGRAM—SAVING.

From: **Acting High Commissioner.**

To : **Acting Resident Commissioner, Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony.**

Saving No. 117.

(Date) 28th May, 1947.

364 X109 46—4 rms.

Your telegram Saving No. 82 of 21st April, Detention Allowance Mrs. Maude. I approve the payment of Detention Allowance in respect of Mrs. Maude from the 14th April (the date of her arrival in New Zealand) until the date of sailing of Mr. and Mrs. Maude from New Zealand to the United Kingdom, assuming this date to be not later than June 27th.

2. A copy of this telegram Saving has been addressed to Mr. Maude, C/- Burns Philp and Company Limited, Auckland. Mr. Maude will no doubt advise this office of the exact date, and any other necessary particulars of his claim, so that payment can be made as requested to his bank in Suva.

Acting High Commissioner.

Mr. Maudslayi

TELEGRAM-SAVING.

From: Resident Commissioner, Gilbert & Ellice Islands
Colony, Tarawa.

To : High Commissioner, Suva.

Saving No. 02 (Date) 1st April, 1947
242X44-3000

I should be grateful for formal approval for the payment of Retention Allowance during my wife's unavoidable detention in New Zealand awaiting my release to proceed on leave.

2. The circumstances of my wife's unforced separation, passage to New Zealand and detention there are as follows:-

- (1) my wife and I were, with the approval of the High Commissioner, booked to leave the Colony for New Zealand by the s.s. "Tricosa" on the 5th April - vide my telegram No. 95 of the 7th February;
- (2) to suit the convenience of the Government, instructions were later received to cancel these arrangements as far as I was concerned, since it was desired that I should proceed to Fiji on duty and thence to New Zealand by air - vide your telegram No. 150 of the 26th February;
- (3) owing to the difficulty in obtaining air passages for my wife and child from Fiji to New Zealand, I was still directed by the High Commissioner to send my wife by the s.s. "Tricosa" as originally planned - vide your telegram No. 150 of the 26th February;
- (4) while my wife and I could, by arriving in New Zealand by the s.s. "Tricosa", have connected with the s.s. "Bangitote", leaving for the United Kingdom during the middle of April, (and no doubt with other vessels) we were precluded from doing this by the High Commissioner's notification that I should not have completed my official duties by then - vide your telegram No. 185 of the 6th March.

3. In view of the High Commissioner's instructions, therefore, I had no option but to send my wife and child alone to New Zealand and leave them there from the 14th April (the day of their arrival in Auckland) to the date of the departure of our vessel for the United Kingdom.

4. While the Government agrees with me that there is no doubt that Retention Allowance should be paid under the circumstances set out above, nevertheless I am naturally averse to approving any payment made to myself and I should be grateful, therefore, if my claim could be ascertained in the High Commissioner's office and the Chief Clerk authorized to pay the amount due into my account with the Bank of New Zealand in Suva.

Resident Commissioner.



The Church House,
Great Smith Street,
London, S.W.1.

28th August, 1947.

Dear Maude,

I enclose a copy of a letter I have just received from Cartland touching on the Colonisation and Rehabilitation Schemes in the Gilberts. You will see that he has written privately to me and has asked that I should show you this letter.

I should be most grateful if you could find time to let me have your comments on the points he makes. I gather from Harding in our Finance Department that it is proposed very shortly to have a talk about the Colonisation Scheme with you, so it may be useful for you to have Cartland's letter without delay.

Yours sincerely,

(F.D. Webber)

H.E. MAUDE, ESQ., O.B.E.

Copy

Tarawa,
Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony.

15th July, 1947.

Dear Webber,

When I rang you up shortly before leaving England you suggested my writing to give you my impressions on the place and the job. I have been here long enough now to have read through the available records and to have discussed the various land problems with the A.O.O. who have some knowledge of the people and the general set-up. However, before giving you my impressions I wish to ask a favour; namely if you will be so good as to try to get me some papers on land registration. They are the three written by Sir E.M. Dawson and V.L.O. Sheppard and called "An Introductory Note on Registration of Title to Land" (1929), "The Establishment of Registration of Title to Land" (1938), and "Memorandum on Registration of Rights to Land". The last named was published by More's Modern Methods Ltd., 12 St. Bride Street, E.C.4., as an advertisement for their registration books. I have no idea from where the other two can be obtained, but it occurred to me that the Librarian at the Colonial Office might know. As regards meeting the cost, my father (c/o Imperial Bank of India, 22 Old Broad Street, E.C.2.) would do that unless the suppliers could wait till I received and settled their bill. If none of the papers are obtainable, it might be possible to get hold of a copy of Sir J.S. Wallace's "Principles of Land Registration".

What struck me most forcibly about this Colony is the direct approach in administrative matters. By that I mean the way in which officers deal directly with the individual islander instead of through the Native Government. This is possible on account of the large staff relative to population. The Admin. staff is c. 1:1,800, as compared with c. 1:58,000 in Nigeria, for example. One must make allowance, of course, for the transport difficulties and the time wasted by officers in moving and waiting to move around, but I still feel that we are over-staffed, particularly for a grant-aided Colony. The Ocean, Fanning, Christmas and, though to a lesser extent, the Canton postings are virtually sinecures, with only a few hours work to do a month.

/ I found

I found it somewhat startling to discover, on discussing current projects with Admin. Officers, that the Native Govt.'s views are not known because they have not been consulted. There is no doubt about the European officers being fond of the islanders, but the prevailing attitude appears to be that the latter are children who are incapable of knowing what is best for themselves or of managing their own affairs. This particularly affects me in that it is going to make the Lands Commission job unnecessarily (in my opinion) lengthy and laborous. For instance it is seriously proposed that every single conveyance and demise should be vetted and confirmed by a Lands Commissioner! It is recorded that the Native Govts. "know relatively little about land customs" and it is considered that they cannot be entrusted with the administration of land matters ab initio, even if a dissatisfied party has the right of appeal to a L.C.

This stage of affairs is probably due, in part, to the low standard of education of even the more advanced islanders. It seems that not a single native of the Colony has ever reached matriculation standard. The two who have been appointed A.Oo. have not got the educational standard usually required of clerks elsewhere. As for the local clerks, they are incapable of doing more than a little, slow, inaccurate typing and keeping the correspondence register. One finds oneself having to do much of the clerical work, which should not be the case after all these years. I am told that before the war there were very few locally domiciled clerks in Govt. service. The Admin. and Treasury Depts. still employ European - or rather non-native - clerks.

Another peculiarity of the place is the way in which we launch forth into far reaching policies without first collecting accurate information and getting the facts straight. This seems particularly so in the case of lands and resettlement (colonisation). For example the latter scheme is based on the assumption that the Colony is over-crowded, but no real attempt has been made to prove this. In para. 41 of the 10 Year Plan Report it is stated that the "barren coral sandbanks" are "capable of bearing only a strictly limited population". No estimate of the population bearing capacity of the land has been attempted, however. On

/ scratching

scratching around for data on which to base such an estimate I came across various calculations as to the average density of coconut trees (per acre), yield per tree, etc. which were made in connection with the assessment of compensation for war damage. Correlating these with the S.M.O.'s approved scale of diet and the average copra export for 1934/35, 1935/36, 1937/39, it works out that 1 sq. mile can support 520 persons. This is with the land in its present state and a generous allowance is made for village lay-outs and other non-productive (food) uses of land, but it presumes fairly equitable distribution; the lack of which is, I feel sure, at the root of all the present trouble. If the trees were properly planted and spaced out, and old trees past full bearing were regularly cut down to make room for young ones, a considerably greater population could be supported. This appears startling at first sight, but "barren" is hardly apt when used to describe land bearing the highly productive coconut tree and in point of fact the people live nearly as much off the sea as off the land, and the former is limitless. One of the A.Co. here informs me that in the Indian census of 1931 a population density of 4090 per sq. mile was given for Cochin, an area producing both rice and coconuts, but mainly the latter. I find that difficult to believe! I am not suggesting that it is desirable to have a population density as high as 520 even, but I feel that the question of optimum density should have been considered and a comparison made with the actual density, when the case for over-population was being put forward.

Later on in the same para. of the Report it is stated that "on several islands.... the density per sq. mile exceeds 400". There is a census being taken at present and the officer conducting it is trying to get information on the areas of the islands in order to give population density figures. He tells me that the figures given in the Blue Book and elsewhere are merely rough approximations and that Maude thought so little of them when he did the census in 1931 that he left out population density calculations rather than use them. It is strange that this 400 per sq. mile figure should now be used. Similarly there are no local records to cover the estimates of 6,000 awaiting the opportunity to emigrate and of 76,000 land disputes awaiting settlement. When I went to see the Secretary to Government about them he told me that they were "guesses". I think we should do better than that

before asking the British taxpayer to provide large sums (relative to the population of the Colony) for resettlement. I recently made a summary of the pros and cons regarding the case for over-population, and I enclose a copy of my notes in case they should be of interest to you. I have tried to examine the evidence as objectively as possible. My conclusion is that the arguments lead one to surmise over-population, but actually prove nothing.

So far as I can discover there has been no approach to the question from the angle of effective utilisation of the available land. In the correspondence on land matters there has been virtually no reference to fragmentation, excessive sub-division, absenteeism and the other ills from which a land tenure system may suffer. Nor has there been any serious attempt to assess the effect of customary land law on the distribution of land and its development. There is just the blind faith that if the ancient land customs, purged of all practices which appear somewhat immoral by European standards, is rigidly adhered to all will come well. This in spite of the fact that the lands situation has steadily deteriorated throughout the period of British administration. All the Admin. Officers with whom I have spoken are agreed that most of the characteristics of a band land tenure system are prevalent and that the land is not being used to anything like the best advantage, even on the most thickly populated islands. Maude himself was very concerned about the amount of waste land which he saw when flying over the atolls. I am getting the Lands Comms. down to fact finding surveys while they study the language (it has been ruled that they must not start lands settlement work until they have passed the language examination). From the available data it seems clear that the 800 or so who were resettled in the Phoenix before the war could have been absorbed by Abemama and its two satellite atolls in the northern Gilberts with the greatest of ease. I think it would be most unwise to go on with the resettlement of the Line Islands scheme until we have more facts and figures. It appears somewhat anomalous to talk about over-population while so much land is left unused, but the survey may show that owing to allowance for draught periods and for the requirements of future generations resettlement is necessary. Alternatively higher Imperial policy may decree it. In either case I think it might well be found that, since the communications are so much easier with Suva, it will be more economical and preferable in other respects to run the Line Group

was a separate Colony under the High Comm. Western Pacific. I cannot help feeling that Imperial policy must be behind the whole business, since the case from the point of view of the G. & E. is so flimsy and the serious drawbacks of spreading the Colony across the Pacific so obvious that I do not see how the scheme could have got so far otherwise.

I do not like the way in which the rehabilitation of those who suffered war damage is being handled. The War Damage Claims Commissioner is coming to make assessments for compensating those who suffered war damage I understand, but in the meantime the S. of S. has been told that the natives of the six islands affected require urgent rehabilitation and he has been asked to produce £144,000 for the purpose. At the same time it has been suggested that rehabilitation should be combined with re-settlement and the alleged destitutes on these six islands who refuse to emigrate should have their "rehabilitation" payments cut. It so happens that these six islands are just about the last from which resettlement would take place! It appears to me that the S. of S. only agreed to approach the Treasury for Imperial funds for rehabilitation on the understanding that the recipients were without other sources of livelihood or means of support. It can be categorically stated that anyone who suffered any war damage whatsoever on these six islands was encouraged to claim rehabilitation and no attempt was made to inquire whether they had other sources of livelihood. Furthermore recent inquiries have shown that there is virtually no destitution and that where persons are living on the charity of their relations it is almost invariably because they are too lazy or proud to go out to lands which other members of their families could loan them, without inconvenience, while their own is coming back into production. I realise it is a serious matter to allege that the S. of S.'s instructions have not been complied with and that a largish grant (considering that only some 1,600 recipients are concerned) is being sought under more or less false pretences, but I feel that justice should be done to the British tax-payer, who has suffered enough in all conscience, and I am confident that what I have said is no more than the truth.

As you will have gathered, I am not altogether happy about my job though from every other point of view the set-up suits me

/ very

very well. The climate is not too bad, the Gilbertese (I have not met many Ellice Islanders yet) are very pleasant to work among and it is a great advantage being able to have the wife and children with me for a while. However, I do not wish to remain in the job unless I can make something of it. If I have to tackle it on purely anthropological lines, which appears to be indicated by the direction given me regarding "the absolute and rigid unconditional adherence to custom at all costs", I do not feel I shall be serving any useful purpose by staying on. (An indication of the scanty regard paid to the "lands" and "development" sides of the job is the fact that the Department has no file with correspondence re maps! and does not possess a single survey instrument!) I fully realise that any land code not based on custom is virtually bound to fail, but I believe that customary practices should be examined and judged in the light of experience and when they are found to lead to undesirable results, every effort should be made to persuade the people to alter them. Similarly we should not arbitrarily suppress new practices, which are not objectionable in themselves and which have sprung up to meet present-day requirements, just because they are not hallowed by ancient usage. I should like to treat the islander more as an ordinary human being with every right to have a say in his own affairs, than as an anthropological museum piece, to be preserved in statu quo under a glass case. It is most unfortunate that Maude had to depart on leave a few days after I arrived. Most of my doubts and queries concern policies which he has advocated and it would have been very helpful if I had been able to put them direct to him. Incidentally you may be seeing him while he is on leave and, if you have the time, I suggest that you show him this letter and so get the other side of the picture.

I am afraid that this letter is rather dismal and that I must have already contracted the local disease of taking one's self too seriously and losing one's sense of proportion. Mental horizons are pretty narrow here and one is apt to forget how small and inconsequential these islands really are. I hope things are looking up at home and that you having a good supper. If you have the time to write I should be very glad to hear from you and to learn what is going on in the old metropolis. The few people here who have wireless sets seldom listen in to the news and our papers are all about 3 months old by the time that we receive them so we feel most frightfully cut off. Incidentally, when is the new High

/Commissioner

Commissioner W.P. cum Governor Fiji going to be appointed. We have been speculating as to whether the Whitehall file on the subject has found its way into P.A. instead of B.U. !

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) B.C. Cartland

ENCLOSURE.

Summary of arguments adduced in "proof" of over-population with comments thereon in parenthesis.

Large number of land disputes. This is held to indicate much competition for land owing to its scarcity. [From what I have seen recorded and heard stated it is mainly due to Native Courts and Administrative Officers not being allowed to deal with such cases. There is a pronounced esoteric atmosphere: only the initiated may adjudicate in land matters. At the same time I understand that the Lands Commission has only functioned for a matter of six months since it was reconstituted in 1934. Another cause is the islanders' proclivity for indulging in land disputes for want of a better pastime. Moreover recent estimates based on the few areas for which we have accurate figures, show that the cases awaiting hearing are likely to be far fewer than the 76,000 previously estimated. See (g) in Appendix B.]

2. Diminution of abortion and infanticide. It is argued that the practice of abortion and infanticide in former times indicated over-population and that the decline of these practices only serves to aggravate the position. [In those times warfare, and the general insecurity of life, and ignorance must have prevented the land from being used to the best advantage. A population that might be considered excessive then would not necessarily be so now, if proper development was carried out.]

3. Former practice of parties setting sail in search of new lands, which is described as land hunger. [It may well have been due to maldistribution whereby

/some

+ Abortion and infanticide are not invariably associated with over-population. For example they were common in Papua, where land is plentiful.

some have insufficient land and must migrate, not being strong enough to purloin land from their neighbours. At the same time others have surplus properties; to dispose of which would be a breach of custom. Also this "setting sail" habit is not peculiar to the Gilbertese and it occurred in other parts of the world, where it could not be attributed to land hunger. The motive is, to a large extent, the spirit of adventure and this may well have been instrumental in producing recruits for the pre-war resettlement scheme. [The fact that some of the settlers have now applied to return to their home islands in the Gilberts supports this assumption. If it were only a matter of land shortage they would not now wish to return: their desire is, however, quite understandable if the craving for adventure has been satisfied.]

4. Medical Department activities have reduced the death rate. [This would increase over-population if it already existed and must be borne in mind when considering the land requirements of future generations, but of itself proves nothing.]

5. More coconut trees, and therefore land, per person are required now than in pre-annexation days, since formerly the meat of the nut was only used for personal consumption whereas now it is also required for making copra to pay tax and to procure cash for buying imported goods. [The remarks made on the arguments quoted in paras. 2 and 4 above are equally applicable here.]

6. "Owing to the inevitable inequality in the distribution of land in the Gilbert Islands, where individual ownership prevails, I consider that several families could be found on nearly every island who are willing to emigrate." (Commissioner of Native Lands' letter of the 19th of November, 1937.) [This begs the question whether inequality is due to individual ownership. Minor inequalities are no doubt inevitable, but when they are on so large a scale that extensive areas are left unused, being surplus to the requirements of their owners, it is important that the cause should be examined. The former Commissioner of Native Lands puts it down to individual ownership. From his and Mr. (now Sir Arthur) Grimble's writings on land custom I gather that there is no absolute individual ownership; only something like fee-tail. An individual is allowed not more than life tenure of one or more

of the family lands. Every obstacle is put in the way of the conveyance of land from one family to another. This most inflexible system of land tenure is most probably the cause of the "inequality in the distribution of the land" and is itself due to the fact that only part of the customary land law has been retained, leaving an unbalanced residual land code. In pre-annexation times there were numerous means whereby land could pass from one family to another. (e.g. by conquest, as a penalty for murder, theft, adultery, seduction, killing a domestic animal or a servant, disturbing the surface of a grave. Land also passed voluntarily at marriage, at adoption, for fostering a child, for helping another family during a drought, for setting bones or curing sickness, for long friendship and concubinage, for saving an old man from embarrassment or simply by being solicited in a traditional manner. On many islands land was being sold for money or goods.) These have been suppressed and nothing substituted in their place. Consequently the lands of a family which wanes in numbers are likely to become in excess of its requirements, while those of a family which waxes in numbers become quite inadequate. We thus have the paradoxical situation in which there is land-hunger while large areas are left unused (i.e. there is not necessarily over-population.)]

M.v. "Sydney Star",
15th July, 1947.

Dear Sir,

I am taking the liberty of enclosing a few official letters, addressed to various Government officers in Fiji or the Western Pacific, and should be most grateful if you would be so good as to forward them by air mail to the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific in Suva, who will arrange for the onward transmission of those not addressed to himself. The cost of this service is chargeable to the funds of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony, through the Foreign Office.

I am sorry to have to trouble you with this request and would not do so were it not that the letters concern official matters of considerable urgency and that the ship on which I am travelling is not, as I now learn, stopping at Panama, so I am unable to come ashore to attend to the posting myself.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) H.E. Maude.

Resident Commissioner,
Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony.

H.B.M's. Consul,
Panama.

M.v. "Sydney Star",
Curacao,

19th July, 1947.

Grumble

Dear Sir Arthur,

I am taking the liberty of enclosing a copy of a recent number of the Gilbertese news-magazine "Tero", in the hope that it may amuse you for an hour or two. We have a similar production called "Tala o Tuvalu" circulating in the Ellice.

Honor and I often wonder if you ever think of your former Pacific Colony: I expect so, for one doesn't easily forget one's first love. We are still building up on the foundations you laid so securely before you left, and although I am now the only person who actually had the privilege of serving under you the local calendar still recognizes only two Residents - Telfer Campbell and yourself - and all modern administration dates from "ana tai Miti Kurambo".

You would scarcely recognize the Colony now, with its wireless station on every inhabited island (by the end of this year), its little fleet of ships plying in and out of Tarawa, its Savings Banks, employment scheme, co-operatives of all descriptions and all the trimmings of a modern administration.

We are trying to speed-up the rate at which we are able to hand over the administration to the people themselves, and have over 50 Gilbertese and Ellice Islanders now at various secondary schools and

secondary schools and training institutions in Fiji (and hope to have an average of about 10 at the university within a few years). But intensive modernization unfortunately requires men and money and our European staff has reached a peak of 70 and the Estimates this year balance (or rather don't) at over half a million as a result: I expect, however, to be able to prune steadily from now on.

As the founder of "Lands Settlement" you will be interested to hear that we have at length started to tackle lands seriously, with five full-time European lands officers and a determination to settle every dispute within 7 years by straight-out lands settlement coupled with a colonization programme designed to relieve population pressure. Just at the moment, however, we are all thrown into unutterable confusion by a totally unexpected bolt from the blue from the Colonial Office, who have in their ripe wisdom thought it best to turn down the carefully thought out Government ^{project} /for the colonization of Fanning and Washington (and certain islands in the Fiji Group) in favour of a commercial speculation put up ~~by the same Government~~ by Lever Brothers by which parties of Gilbertese will be herded on to their land in the Solomons as cheap labour. Would that you were with us to fight it: for you know, as few others can, what will be the fate of the Gilbertese in dark, malaria and blackwater infested forests (I believe that one early statement has it that they will have no outlet to the sea). ~~of Mr~~ of Mr

sea). Shades of Mr Murdoch and the Guatemala experiment!

On the economic side, however, we have managed to force the pace and now all commercial activity in the Gilbert, Ellice and Phoenix Groups is in the hands of local native-run Co-operative Retail Societies (organized by a full-time Co-operative Development Officer) divided geographically into 6 co-operative districts, each of which elects a member on the committee of the Colony Co-operative Wholesale Society at Tarawa. There is similarly a Co-operative Society handling all manner of native village products and Co-operative Producers Societies exploiting the copra plantations on Niulakita and elsewhere. Burns, Philp and On Chongs have left and we hope to have a democratically run commercial system which will, at the same time, keep any profits made inside the Colony, where we need them for development. Protheroe, from Tonga, runs the whole show - and runs it well, with a turnover this year approaching half a million and a profit of over £40,000 (despite the fact that the aim is service and not profit). We were lucky enough to buy two brand new trading ships for the show from the Navy - each with space for about 250 tons of copra.

In administration the old Native Governments are still going strong but we have burnt our boats and abolished I believe 130 native laws and island regulations, revising the whole code more along the lines of local custom as it exists today. There is no longer any curfew, for example, divorces are granted on the grounds of

the grounds of "^{inimptability}~~incompatibility~~ of temperament", inter-island travel (whether by canoe or ship) is unregulated, and the famous dancing regulations have gone (much to Mr Eastman's disgust).

Please forgive me for boring you with all this local shop but Macdonald, whom you met when he was stationed at Trinidad, told me the other day that you would be interested to learn how your baby had developed and that many of the Gilbertese still remember you well. Mautake, in particular, you would be glad to meet now, as he never ceases to quote you as an oracle and the standard by which the shortcomings of the present staff may be measured: he used to be Chief Kaubure of Tarawa in your time but now rejoices in the title of Government "Adviser on Gilbertese custom" and perambulates around Colony headquarters the every epitome of a benevolent patriach, and very proud of the B.E.M. he got recently. Next year we hope to have got headquarters removed to Abemama, when it is intended to inaugurate the new "Council of Representatives" consisting of 40 elected members from the various islands in the four groups; and Mautake is to design and superintend the erection of the gigantic maneaba to seat such an august body (the "toa" of all maneaba). As you know, such work is the function of a member of the "maerua" clan.

Holland is in charge of the Ocean Islanders at Rabi Island and seems very well, as does his wife: it must be the first time she has been free from her migraine for years. The

Banaban community, by an overwhelming majority, have elected to make Rabi their future homeland, so the Colony has lost them to Fiji. I flew there the other day to negotiate the terms of transfer and felt quite sorry to think that I might be seeing the old familiar faces for the last time (Iete, Rewi, Auriaria and the others) though I firmly believe that the removal is for their own great benefit. I was interested to see that although they have been on Rabi for only a year, their canniness and rugged individualism is paying good dividends already, and they have now got over 70 Fijians from the mainland working for them as wage labour.

I do hope that Honor and I may have an opportunity of seeing you and chatting over old times once again. Meanwhile Honor has just said that I'm to give you her very best respects and to let you know that she often thinks of you and the old days at Ocean Island. We walked round the phosphate workings the other day, but felt like a couple of shades resurrecting the scenes of a long-buried past. Scarcely anything you knew still stands, and the new diggings steadily encroach on what is left. Of the old Residency we discovered three of the cement steps still standing: that, and a few pieces of sensitive grass, was all now left.

Yours sincerely,

J.L. Maude.

we are at the moment en route to England, where we expect to stay about 3 months before returning to New Zealand. The first time we have been here for 11 years.

TELEPHONE
WHITEHALL 8688.

TRAVELLERS' CLUB,
PALL MALL,
S.W.1

14th July 1947.

Dear Maudie,

I am very sorry
that we shall have
left for Hong Kong, - we
depart to-day, - before
you get home.

I hope that you
have a good time.
I am sure that
coming home to Eng-
land will be a
"good thing", even tho'
the conditions may be
more austere than
they are in N.Z. We

2/
found them not at
all too bad. We
haven't done very
much, for Maurice
has been recuperating
from his ear opera-
tion most of the
time. Everything is
expensive, but you
probably know that.

A very good place
for eating is Cunniff-
ham's at 51 Curzon
St. We only discovered
it yesterday. They only
serve fish I believe.
But we found it

TELEPHONE
WHITEHALL 8688.

TRAVELLERS' CLUB,
PALL MALL,
S.W.1

3
better than any of
the ^{other} restaurants to
which we went.

We saw few
plays. "Present Laughter"
a light comedy in
typical Noel Coward
style we enjoyed
thoroughly.

I shall always
have a soft spot
in my heart for
the B. E. L. C. I
believe that govern-
ment policy has got

4
them going on the
right lines.

I met Grumble
the other day, & told
him that you were
on your way home.
He has just returned,
from the Governorship
of the Windwards, or
is it the Leeward (?).
All the best,
both here to
you from us

Yours ever,
M. M. M. M. M.

M.v. "Sydney Star",
near Curacao Island,
21st July, 1947.

Dr J.L. Grumbridge, O.B.E.,
48, Wrentham Avenue,
London, N.W. 10.

Dear Dr Grumbridge,

I was delighted to receive your letter of the 14th December and to learn that you were still in the land of the living and, more surprising to me, still interested in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony. It arrived just as I was in the throes of handing over preparatory to going on leave so, being very busy, I postponed answering it until the voyage home.

It was indeed sad poor Mr Ross passing away so suddenly we were all fond of him. I hear that there is a new Stamp Agent established at Ocean Island, but have forgotten his name for the moment. We have such a large number of stamp enquiries and orders in the Gilberts too, now that we have removed Colony headquarters there, that I arranged for a Mr Schutz, of Tarawa Island, to start a Stamp Agency. I am a bit dubious as to whether he will be able to manage it successfully (he is a capable business man but has no experience of the stamp trade) but am hoping for the best. Government servants are not supposed to undertake the work (as a business, that is) and nobody's wife was willing.

I am glad that you succeeded in contacting Mr Eastman:

he has now, unfortunately, left the islands for good (being long past the normal age for retirement). He will stay in Suva, completing a re-translation of the Bible into Gilbertese, until the end of the year, when he plans to return to England and settle down; near Ipswich, I believe.

Mr Eastman unintentionally misled you in conveying the impression that my transfer to Zanzibar was a recent event. It took place in 1936 and did not last more than a few months. Having made my home in the islands and being quite devoid of ambition to go elsewhere, I threatened to resign (even before I got to Africa) unless I was allowed to return to the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony. Since then I have several times been bribed by tempting offers elsewhere but they leave me quite unmoved. I have but one interest in life, the Central Pacific Islands, and after over 20 years of living, breathing, thinking, reading and writing "islands" the romance and beauty of island life still grips me as it did when I first landed: it will always be a mystery to me why people continue to live in such places as England when they could live in a near approach to paradise.

When I was a boy (at Highgate School) I read Robert Louis Stevenson and vowed to live in the scenes described in "In the South Seas". With that end in view, I went up to Cambridge and took a degree in anthropology (specializing in the Pacific Islands) and immediately applied for appointment to the administrative service of the G. & E.I.C. (the only real "South

Sea Islands" service).

Fortunately, I married a girl more "island struck" than myself before I left England and since then we have never wavered in our allegiance to our first love, the "Central Pacific Equatorial Islands" of the Gilbert, Ellice, Phoenix, Line and Northern Cook Groups, though I have lived on I think 63 islands scattered all over the Central and Eastern Pacific.

My particular pursuit is the collection of any scrap of information bearing on the Central Pacific Islands, to which end I have been steadily obtaining for some 20 years every book, article, pamphlet or mss. ~~unavailable~~ on the islands. The hobby is not entirely without point, as I have already published several monographs on various island topics (mostly for the Government) and hope to retire before long in order to spend the rest of my life in writing an exhaustive reference work on the area.

Anyway, all this rather boring background study is by way of assuring you that I am only too willing to provide you with any information I am able on the Colony, and neighbouring groups, so do not spare your questions.

As regards the particular matters mentioned in your letter.-

- (1) No, we do not propose to settle Birnie, McKean or Phoenix, as they are so small that the largest could not support more than, say, five families, even if fully planted. I have given them, as tributary islands, to the inhabitants of Hull, Gardner and Sydney (Orona, Nikumaroro and Manra) respectively, the idea being that they should be planted

and used for the common benefit of the whole community. We planted 600 coconuts on Birnie in 1938 but I have not seen or heard whether any came up. The others remain unplanted to date and I am thinking of re-allocating them to be exploited by some of the more hard-pressed Gilbert Islands.

- (2) We have never had a Post Office on Enderbury, since no British subject has resided there since about 1870, when the last of the local guano was exported. The Americans put 4 part-Hawaiians, in charge of a Chinese-American, there about 1938 to run a sort of weather station, but they have long since left and the island is quite uninhabited.
- (3) I'm afraid that its quite impossible to say from official records when the various Post Offices were opened in the Colony: all our records were destroyed by the Japanese. However, I hope some day to send someone around endeavouring to ascertain the dates from the local Island Government records (if any) or from oral statements. I am as much interested in the matter as you are.
- (4) The only changes in Post Offices that may be in the offing concern Niulakita, Flint and Caroline Islands, as in each case I hope to work the island plantations by means of co-operative producers groups, who would very possibly turn into permanent colonists. The group (from Vaitupu) who are to work Niulakita have already commenced production and there must now be some 30 - 40 residents on that island. This information, however, is not for publication, as matters are far from finalized yet and I have not even begun to think of postal facilities. I might try and get some cancellation stamps made in England while I'm here, as they take a long time if ordered from Australia (witness the Phoenix Islands settlement, where we were forced to indulge in pen-cancellations, owing to the non-receipt of the cancellation stamps, ordered some time before). Perhaps you would like first-day covers from the new Post-offices, if and when opened?

May I ask you for one or two favours in return for the above information?:-

- (1) Could you possibly let me have a list of articles, etc., on the Colony which have appeared in the philatelic press? I will then have the issues bought or, if this is not possible, the articles or excerpts copied or

photostated. I believe that I am pretty complete to about 1935, or at least up to the time of publication of Harris' Catalogue of Philatelic Literature, but have lost track a bit since then. Altogether I have about 10 philatelic articles of various sorts.

- (2) I am anxious to purchase a complete collection of Colony stamps. Not that I am a stamp collector, but I have collections of almost anything connected with the Colony and its history and stamps are certainly an interesting aspect. Could you advise me how to set about it?
- (3) I have about £100 worth of mint Colony Victory issue stamps and 500 Pitcairn Island first-day covers. How could I best sell them in this country, supposing they are saleable? Would they fetch their face value, do you think?

I expect to be about 3 months in England before returning to the Pacific and possibly we could meet some time when I am in London. I flew home last year on Government work (Tarawa to London, via the Marshalls and Hawaii, in 9 days) but otherwise I have not been in England for some 11 years, so I'm afraid I do not know my way about at all. Actually, I have been rather dreading coming home, after the peace of the islands, and shall, I expect, be very glad to leave again. My address is:-

C/o Lady Maude, O.B.E.,

Loretto,

Candie,

St. Peter Port, Guernsey,

Channel Islands;

and if there is any information I can possibly give you, or any other service I can do, please write and let me know.

You say that you would like certain official notices

sent to you. This could probably be done all right if you let me know the type. The Colony Government (which now has 70 Europeans and about 1,000 natives on the staff) turns out a fair collection of official matter, including the official Gazette (published in Suva and mostly concerning staff movements and legislative amendments), Blue Book, Annual Report, Civil List, two monthly vernacular news-magazines and all sorts of special Departmental and other reports: but possibly you only want data relating directly or indirectly to postal issues?

The "acting" went last year and I am now in charge of the Colony, for better or worse. The whole administration has changed (and expanded) a good deal since the war and, among other things, we have taken over all the commercial activities of the former trading firms; but it is a long story and I must stop, as we are in sight of Curacao.

I see I have a number of Gilbertese postmarks with me (my wife packed them, why I can't think as they belong to my collection at Tarawa) and you may care to glance through them some time in case there is one missing from your collection.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed). H.E. Maude.

H.E. Maude.

48 WRENTHAM AVENUE
LONDON N.W.5.10.

14/10/46

Dear Mr. Hinde -

I wonder if you remember me?
The last letter I had from you was
sent from Pitcairn in 1940. Since then
I have been in the RAF, found
unhappy for 3 years in Iraq & Palestine,
and am busy picking up the threads
of civil aviation and stamps!

Anyway, having lost poor old
Ross during the war, who was my
faithful correspondent in the Gilberts,
I took the chance of writing a pleading
letter to Mr. Eastman of the G.P.S., &
mentioned you in passing. He has been
good enough to reply, and is being
quite astonishingly helpful by
having letters sent to me from all of
the islands to give me the present
postcards. And he tells me you are a

very good friend of his, & that you have
found your way back to the islands
after a spell in Zanzibar. Also that
you are acting Resident Commissioner.
Congratulations - I hope the "eddy"
disappears soon.

I won all accounts you have
had, & am still having, quite a
hellish time. I have read "Among
those Present" & feel a certain reflected
pride in what "my" Gilberts did during
the war. I feel somewhat possessive,
as people always pull my leg about
my enthusiasm for a place they've never
heard of! And I am still about the
only English Philatelist taking an
interest in the Gilberts.

I had a big article in the
American press early in the war on
the postal history of the islands, & am
now trying to get all my "gen" sorted
out to get the postmarks written up. I

You ever have time, if your special position permits, to give me any information you think has grateful I would be. Are you going to settle Tarawa, N. Keen & Phoenix, or are any other changes in prospect, haven't we got an idea on Endeavour, and is it possible from these records to say when the various GBE islands first opened their Post Offices? You see, I am stuck the same - shooting out questions hopefully.

But whether your position or time enable you to keep me in any researches or not (could any special notices do as be sent to me?) you know I would be delighted to hear from you.

It will be a bit late reading of, but may I send you herewith my best wishes for 1947

Yours very sincerely

Jack Drummond

BY AIR MAIL

AIR LETTER

IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED
THIS LETTER WILL BE SENT
BY ORDINARY MAIL.



H.E. MAUDE ESQ
ACTING RESIDENT COMMISSIONER
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
TARAWA
GILBERT ISLANDS
WESTERN PACIFIC
(Via Sydney NSW or Suva Fiji)

First fold here

Second fold here

To open cut here

Sender's name and address :-

DR. J.L. GRUMBRIDGE OBE
48 WRENTHAM AVENUE
LONDON NW10
ENGLAND.

To open cut here

M.v. "Sydney Star",
Curacao Island,
21st July, 1947.

Colonel A. Grey,
Fort d'Auvergne,
Jersey, Channel Islands.

Dear Colonel Grey,

Your letter of the 13th February arrived at Tarawa just as I was about to leave for Fiji. Since then I have been rather busy with official work which took me to Australia and New Zealand. The voyage home, however, gives a breather to catch up with a tide of private correspondence which has been rising steadily for the past few months.

At the same time as your letter (we had not had a mail for some three months) there arrived a number of envelopes returned by the Post Office in Jersey; evidently the first set which, I see from the postmarks, my Secretary sent to you on the 22nd December. You had left the Normandie Hotel when they arrived in Jersey, apparently without leaving any forwarding address: or else the Hotel authorities deserve a good talking to for the good of their ^{side} ~~souls~~.

The five envelopes I enclose are all I can find in my suitcase, but others may have been slipped in elsewhere in the hurry of departure. If so, I'll send them on to you when I come across them on unpacking in Guernsey. I

don't just know how Miss Dodds did the envelopes, so can't say how many are missing (if any).

My address while in Guernsey will be:-

Loretto,

Candie,

St Peter Port;

and I expect to dump my wife and son there as soon as we arrive in England. Unfortunately, however, the Colonial Office do not leave me alone for long, even on our rare holidays (this is our first long leave for 11 years), and I had a telegram yesterday telling me to fly to Australia as soon as I land in England. I should not be away more than a month, I hope, as I am anxious to get at least 2 months in England before leaving for New Zealand for the antipodean summer.

My wife's sister married a Voisin so we have plenty of relatives in Jersey and expect to fly over for a few days visit at least. I presume that there is a frequent service from Guernsey.

Its a pity the Jersey post-office seem to have ruined some of your envelopes with their clumsy franking stamp: however, if you want some more done and can afford to wait until my return to the islands some time next year, just send me the stamped addressed envelopes and I'll post them. Or if your in a hurry I can have them done by some friend up there.

Yours sincerely
J.L. Maude.

Fort d'Anversgne.

Jersey. C.I.

13 Feby '47.

Dear Mr Maude,

Thank you so much for your
letter of 3 Decr which reached me yesterday
& for the four sets of stamps on covers
which arrived this morning.

It was really too kind of you to have
taken all the trouble that you did in
unsticking the stamps & putting them on to
new covers. If I had known what trouble

was involved I would not have worried you.

I am most grateful to you.

The first set has not arrived yet but I still hope it may turn up.

I am sorry to say that we did not meet Lady Nanda in Guernsey - We may go back there later this year & if we do will call on her.

Yours sincerely

Alroy.

The Residency,
Tarawa Island,
Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony,
Central Pacific,
21st July, 1947.

The Scribe E,
Loloma Royal Arch Chapter,
Box 40, G.P.O.,
Suva, Fiji.

Dear Sir and Companion,

Referring to your letter of the 11th March, I
attach a cheque for £1. 1s. 0d., being my dues as an
Overseas member of the Loloma Royal Arch Chapter to the
30th September, 1948.

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

(Signed). H.E. Maude.

H.E. Maude.

Daloma Royal Arch Chapter

No. 281 S.C.

PRINCIPALS:

M. Ex. Comp. J. E. PERY-JOHNSTON.

Z.

M. Ex. Comp.,
NOEL LEVY,
H.



M. Ex. Comp.,
F. E. M. WARNER,
J.

Box 40, G.P.O.

Suva 31st January 1947

Dear Sir and Companion

F. E. Maude

By authority of the Principals I hereby
convoke the Chapter to meet at the Masonic
Hall, Suva, on Wednesday 18th February 1947
at 7.30 p.m. precisely.

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

A. O. BARRACK, P.Z.

Scribe E.

Arrears of Dues: £ : :

Dues to 30/9/47 £ : 10: 6

Total £ : 10: 6

Business :

1. To open the Chapter.
- 2.—To read and if approved confirm the minutes of the last Convocation.
- 3.—Consideration of Correspondence.
- 4.—To pass accounts for payment.
5. To ballot for :-
Bro. A. N. Brown
M.M. of Lodge of Fiji No. 1931 E.C.
Bro. W. F. Watson
M.M. of Lodge of Fiji No. 1931 E.C.
6. To Receive and Exalt 5 of the following :-
Bro. C.W. Anderson
Bro. A. Savery
Bro. D. G. Lockwood
Bro. P. C. Studman
Bro. M. J. Bsy
Bro. P. C. Gooch
Bro. P. K. Becher
7. Such other business as admitted by M.E.K.
8. To Close the Chapter

Usual place,
Chapter of Rehearsal,.....
Usual time,

Monday
10/2/47
7.30 pm



Loloma Royal Arch Chapter

No. 281 S.C.

SUVA, FIJI ISLANDS.

11th. March, 1947. 194.

Dear Sir and Companion,

In reply to your enquiry dated 17th. December, 1946, I am pleased to state you have already been transferred to "Overseas Member" of this Chapter.

Your dues will now be 10/6 annually as from the 1st. October, 1946.

Greetings from the Principals and Companions of the Loloma Royal Arch Chapter No. 281, S.C.

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

S. Barrack
..... P.Z.

Scribe E.

H.E. Maude Esq.
Resident Commissioner,
TARAWA. Gilbert and Ellice Islands.

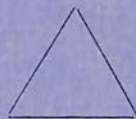
Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners and
Council of Knights of the Red Cross
holden within the Toloma Royal Arch
Chapter, No. 281 S.C.



N.

N.

M.



H.

J.

S.

J.

L.

J.

Suva,

13th March 1947

Dear Son and Sir Knight,

You are fraternally requested to attend a
Regular Meeting of this Lodge and Council to be
held at Freemasons Hall, Suva, on Tuesday
1st April 1947, at 7.30 p.m.

By Order of W.C.N. & M.E.C.

P.O. Barrack
Recorder and Chancellor.

Br. & Sir Kt. H. E. Maude

Lodge of Rehearsal, usual place ~~and time~~.

7.30 pm Monday
 $\frac{31}{2}$
47

Business.

Confirmation of Minutes.

Consideration of Correspondence and Accounts.

To propose and
To Ballot for *comp* J.W. Cummings
" C.W. Anderson
" Arthur Savery
" D.G. Lockwood
" M.J. Bay

If accepted

To confer degree of
Royal Ark Mariner *on Companions.*

*J.S. Whysall, J.W. Cummings
C.W. Anderson, Arthur Savery
D.G. Lockwood & M.J. Bay*

To confer degrees of
Red Cross Knights

Presentation of Diplomas.

Propositions.

General Business.

M.v. "Sydney Star",

21st July, 1947.

My dear Rogers,

Thank you so much for your kind letter on my appointment as Resident. You say that it was obvious that I would get the job: not to me, it wasn't; I always felt certain - rather to the High Commissioner's amusement - that it would be given to someone transferred from outside the Pacific. I cannot but admit, however, that I should have hated to have seen someone else take over; however good he might have been.

Your present post must seem peaceful enough after the hectic storms of being P.S. to the divinity who shapes our ends: but you of the Colonial Office must be nothing if not versatile since, to judge by the List sent us every month, you all seem to spend your time being moved around like a game of chess. I see that you have the task of fitting everyone into the new accommodation at Church house; a proceeding which could, one imagines, be the cause of much grief and anguish among Heads of Departments whose floor space has been decreased.

Your letter arrived (we had not had a mail for 3 months) just before I left Tarawa on leave, so I brought it with me to answer on the voyage. Now we are passing through the West Indies - scenes of your former drinking sessions - and the heat of the tropics again stimulates me

to active work: curious how comatose one gets in cold weather, I never do a stroke.

Do you mind if I come and worry you for a brief space when I get to London. I have been briefed to get one or two matters settled with the C.O. during my leave, to wit:-

- (1) the purchase of Fanning and Washington Islands for immediate settlement, from a C.D. & W.F. grant;
- (2) the resumption of Christmas Island from its former lessee;
- (3) the purchase of the much-needed Colony vessel;
- (4) the selection of an Assistant Treasurer, Savings Bank Officer and Government Storekeeper;
- (5) the incorporation of Flint, Caroline and Vostok Islands within the boundaries of the Colony; and
- (6) the political future of Pitcairn Island.

I realize that none of these things exactly fall within your province, but you know (being the Establishment Officer) what a rabbit warren the C.O. is and I'm sure you could guide me in each case to the only man who could deal with that particular problem. I see that Robinson is no longer in International Affairs but in charge of West Africa (of all places) so you are my only hope. I was solemnly warned in Fiji to go to A or B about each point (but not to C or D, who were obstructionists) but as I cannot now remember the names of either the co-operators or the obstructionists all the well-meant advice was rather wasted.

A telegram arrived from Sidebotham yesterday saying

that I should be ready to fly back to Australia (where I was staying last month) as soon as I arrived in England. I expect, and most sincerely hope, that you'll be coming too: indeed, you may have already gone for all I know. I must say I'm quite looking forward to it and trust that something is settled this time. If possible, I feel strongly that Pitcairn Island should be dealt with at the same time; for, between you and me, we are making rather a mess of things there and the island seems to be just nobody's darling. One cannot but feel sorry for the wretched people, compelled to suffer through official indifference.

My wife and son are with me and, once again, will require dumping - this time in Guernsey - if and when I go to Australia. However, this time it suits them as they can now go and spend longer with their relations than would otherwise be possible: we are anxious to get back to New Zealand before the winter really sets in.

Hoping to see you again before too long,

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) H. E. Maude.

Colonial Office
Downing St
London S.W.1.

19. 12. 46.

My dear Maude,

I was delighted to see in my telegram box this afternoon the news of your substantive promotion to be Resident-Commissaire. I am delighted — indeed I have been waiting for the news for some time, before writing a long intended letter. It was of course obvious that you would get the job, but it is always well to know that there is no slip in what is fitting & proper.

How are you, & how is your family? I hope you found them well ^{on} after your return from the States, & that they are with you now. Our efforts came to nothing after all, alas (as it

alas? — I'm not convinced of that. But
anyway, the Regional Commission is making
thank god. I "prodded" as soon as I got
back, & happily the Australians took it
up at the Dominican P.M. Conference, so
things happened (not because of me, I fear —
I claim no credit for such high & mighty
things!).

I came back to a pretty tough job
as P. Secretary — just when the lid was
blowing off in Palestine, Malaya in an
uproar & trouble in many parts, so
that life was indeed hectic. However, it
was intensely interesting & I am immensely
glad to have had the experience. I am
also very glad to have been covered on
— I now, for my sins, am Establishment
Official (internal C.O. staff, not colonial
Service) & have to cope inter alia with the
work of the office to thank those.

Do write & send me your news
if you ever have time. Meanwhile
very happy New Year to you, & congratulations

promotion
to the Gilbert & Ellice Islanders in your
 promotion

Yours sincerely
Philip Rogers.

Mrs "Sydney" Star

21st July, 1947.

Dear ^{Russell} ~~Mr~~ Harry,

Thank you very much for your kind letter, written from Barbados, on my appointment as Resident Commissioner. I have little doubt that it is to no small extent due to your generous intercession on my behalf that I at length got the job.

Harry and I are both very happy to be sent back once more to work among the Central Pacific Islands. They have become our real home and we should have been sorry to have had to leave for good - yet we were determined to do so rather than see the natives under another careerist from Africa. However, all's well that ends well, I hope, and we have got together quite a good little service; many of them with ideas of service to the community and a real aptitude for island life. As you mention in your letter, I was home

and you for a few weeks work at the Colonial Office.
 of the first things I did was to ring up the
 British Council to ^{ask for} ~~enquire~~ your address; also only to
 learn that you had returned some days before to
 Trinidad. I then went on to Washington, where I
 had about a month at the Embassy before returning
 to Fiji.

Heaven and Alanie, who are both very well
 (though Alanie is prone to seasickness on the slightest
 provocation), are with me and enjoying the voyage as
 you may remember we are cargo boat enthusiasts and
 our choice is ~~undoubtedly~~ ^{undoubtedly} justified this time; for whereas on
 a passenger steamer we would be packed with 20 or
 more unfortunate in dormitory accommodation here we have
 our own cabin and bathroom, with Alanie next door and,
 as there are only 20 other passengers, the ship is not
 over-crowded.

We will certainly ^{not fail to} get into touch with you as

soon as we have settled down in England: not in
England, perhaps, as our address will be Forester, 10
St Peter Port, Guernsey, but we hope to move
to the mainland once we have got established and unpacked.

Unfortunately, however, our plans have been a bit
altered this morning by the receipt of a telegram from
the Colonial Office telling me that they want me to fly
to Australia as soon as I arrive in England. So I
hope that you will excuse me if you don't hear from
me for a month or two after the receipt of this: it
will nearly indicate that they have carried out their present
intentions, and that I have been whisked off to Canberra
as soon as I set foot ashore.

I have read both your "Britains and the South
Sea" and "From the South Seas Diary" with much appreciation.
The latter is so thickened from being passed around the
Gullbots that I have had to seek off for a second copy
for my own Pacific library, which I am glad to say
grows steadily. Owing to an impending commitment to the

Legislation is to be permitted to retire
at any time after 20 years service, and I am contemplating
doing so after completing my period as Resident
Commissioner, in order to write up the Central Pacific
area. However, this is one of the matters on which
I would appreciate your experienced advice: perhaps we
could have a talk, if you can spare the time.

Meanwhile, thank you once again for your
kind congratulations, which we both very much appreciate.
I am only too conscious that but for you I should
still be a District Officer on one of the remote islands:
if, indeed, the Japanese had not belated me five
years ago.

Have a safe New Year and we hope that
you are well and that we may have the privilege of
~~seeing~~ you once again before returning to the islands,
Yours very sincerely,

Bridgetown, Barbados, 26-1-47

My dear Harry, I've just heard from Paddy
that at long last you've got your substantive
appointment as R.C. I'm so very glad, both
for your sakes as for those of the Gilbertese &
Ellice Islanders; but I wish you hadn't
had to wait so long for it. Was for the first
time for many years the G.L.F. will get
the right sort of substantive R.C.

I hear you were home for a short time
in 1945. I'm not sure but believe I was home
then too. I'm sorry I didn't know you were
there. I expect to be back in England about
end of April or early May. Please don't fail
to let me know & me at James's Club, Piccadilly,
when you are coming home. I gather you're
getting leave then.

My love to you all. How are Honor &
Maurice & Gosh? Ronald is well - sending with
me & I'm getting him to add a line
yours truly

Dear Maude, I, too, would like to add my
congratulations to those of our excellent High
Commissioner.

It is grand to know that somebody in the ~~Colonial~~ Service has really got the job he wants & for which he is, above all others, best fitted. I hope you H.Q. is at Akenana. You will not be fettered in the High Commission office as I understand that H.A.V. has now returned. What a glorious opportunity you ~~to~~ now have to turn the J.E.C. into the best administered territory in the Colonial Empire - un-disturbed by politicians & outside influences. You might write me a line some time. In the meantime all joy & success in your job. ~~Yours~~ ~~W.C.~~

First fold here →

To open cut →

Sender's Name and Address :-

Second fold here →

← To open cut

BY AIR MAIL

AIR LETTER

IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED THIS LETTER WILL BE SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.



His Honor the Judge in B2
 Resident Commissioner

GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
 COLONY

PACIFIC

The Residency,
Tarawa Island,
Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony,
Central Pacific,
21st July, 1947.

The Hon. Secretary,
The Anthropological Society of N.S.W.,
Australian Museum,
College Street, Sydney, N.S.W.

Dear Madam,

With reference to your letter of the 17th September last, I attach a cheque for £1. 10s. Od., being my subscription to the Anthropological Society of New South Wales for the years 1946, 1947 and 1948.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed). H. E. Maude.

H.E. Maude.

The Anthropological Society of New South Wales

(AFFILIATED WITH THE AUSTRALIAN ANTHROPOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION)

AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM
COLLEGE STREET
SYDNEY, N.S.W.

17th. September, 1946

H.E. Maude Esq.,
Western Pacific High Commission,
Suva,
FIJI.

Dear Sir,

I have your letter in reply to mine of 9th. April last and am pleased to note that you are rejoining the Society. The annual subscription is 10/- which you may forward to either the undersigned or to Mr. F. D. McCarthy, Hon. Treasurer, c/o The Australian Museum, College Street, Sydney.

I am,

Yours Sincerely,

Gwen Bell
Hon. Secretary.

164 Prince's Highway,
ARNCLIFFE, N.S.W.

M.v. "Sydney Star",

Curacao Island,

21st July, 1947.

Rev. A.M. Chirgwin, M.A., D.D.,
Livingstone House,
Broadway, Westminster,
London, S.W.1.

Dear Mr Chirgwin,

Thank you very much for your letter of the 24th February conveying the congratulations of the Directors of the London Missionary Society on my recent appointment as Resident Commissioner of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony. Your considerate action in sending me this note, not to speak of the rather flattering references to my endeavours to promote Mission-Government harmony, are most sincerely appreciated and I hope that the excellent relations which have now for so long existed between the two organizations may continue throughout my stay in the Colony.

I have always held Colonial Government service to be, like Mission service, a true vocation - a call to dedicate one's life to the service of a primitive people. The administration must, therefore, co-operate to the full with all other organizations having a like aim (though they may be working from a different angle). And, in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony, so much can be done by the Mission and the administration, in co-operation,

which neither can achieve single-handed.

It was, of course, a bitter blow to us all when the much-loved Sadd was murdered, and I hear that the Mission is about to sustain a further loss in the retirement of the Eastmans. I hope, therefore, that your headquarters are sending out urgently required reinforcements: a missionary, a teacher-training expert, and a layman accountant-storekeeper are the minimum requirements, in my opinion, and the Government will pay the salary and expenses of the second.

I paid a brief visit to England last year, flying both ways, and took the opportunity of calling on your Foreign Secretary, the Rev. Leonard Hurst. I hope to be able to pay a repeat visit when I next come up to London and should like, if I may, to state a few personal views on the staffing, salaries and conditions of service in the Gilbert Islands Mission and the oft-recurring problem of a European missionary for the Ellice Islands. I realize that these matters are not really any affair of mine but I feel sure that the observations of a well-wisher long resident in those remote parts will not come amiss.

Unfortunately, however, I have just received a telegram from the Colonial Office directing me to fly to Australia on urgent business as soon as I reach England, so my call must perforce await my return.

With renewed thanks to the Directors of the Society and yourself,

Yours very sincerely,
(Signed) H.E. Hande
H.E. Hande

24th February 1947.

His Honour the Resident Commissioner,
H. E. Maude Esq., O.B.E., M.A.,
Tarawa,
The Gilbert & Ellice Islands Colony.



Dear Mr. Maude,

A letter from the Rev. G. H. Eastman of Beru has brought the information that you have now been definitely appointed as Resident Commissioner of the Gilbert & Ellice Islands Colony. I want immediately in the name of the Directors of this Society to extend our very warm congratulations on this well deserved appointment and to say with what gratification this information is received here at Livingstone House. You have been so close and good a friend of the Gilbertese people, as well as of this Society, that your appointment as Resident Commissioner is a matter of the greatest possible interest. We hope that you will have many years of service fully satisfying to yourself and richly fruitful to the people of the Colony.

I gather from Mr. Eastman that you are likely to be in London later in the year. I hope that it will be possible for you to find time for a call here at Livingstone House. My colleague, Rev. Leonard Hurst, who is our Foreign Secretary for the Pacific, and also for India, is at the moment in the latter country, but he will be back in the course of a month or so, so that he will be here to welcome you, I trust, on your arrival.

With warmest good wishes,

Yours very sincerely,

A. M. Chapman

General Secretary.

The Residency,
Tarawa Island,
Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony,
Central Pacific.
21st July, 1947.

The Secretary,
European Civil Servants Association,
Fiji and Western Pacific,
Suva, Fiji.

Dear Sir,

I attach a cheque for 10/-, being my
subscription to the European Civil Servants Associa-
tion for the year ending the 30th June, 1948.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) H.E. Maude.

H.E. Maude.

Telegram.

To: H.E. Maude, m.v. "Sydney Star".

From: Mr Sidebotham, Colonial Office, Downing Street, London.

Rec'd: 22nd July, 1947.

21st July, 1947.

We may have to ask you to fly to Australia shortly after arrival here in connexion with issues you were studying during your visit to this office in February, 1946. Please call Colonial Office earliest possible on arrival United Kingdom. Please acknowledge.

Sidebotham.

-

Telegram.

To: Mr Sidebotham, Colonial Office, Downing Street, London.

From: H.E. Maude, m.v. "Sydney Star".

23rd July, 1947.

Ready fly Australia any time required. Will contact
you on arrival London approximately August second.

Maude.

-

M.v. "Sydney Star",

23rd July, 1947.

Dear Major Holland,

I distinctly remember you asking me at Rabi whether I had received a letter from you on my confirmation as Resident - and I replied that I had and thanked you for it there and then. Indeed, however, I could not have for it has appeared (dated the 25th February) among a pile of letters sent on from somewhere or other and hitherto unanswered.

May I thank you now, belatedly but none the less sincerely, for your kind congratulations which I need hardly say are more appreciated coming from yourself than from anyone else. It was ever you who befriended me when I was a shrinking Cadet, refreshed my rather idealistic outlook on Colony affairs and prevented the development of the cheap cynicism to which I am prone when things go wrong. And now, out of the whole administration when I came, only you and I are left, and the others (who add up to quite an astonishing number) are all either dead or scattered.

I wrote to Mrs Holland as soon as I got on board to thank her for the lovely time I had at Rabi with you all. I'm afraid I was a good deal exhausted after a strenuous month trying to finish off everything at Tarawa

(indeed, I went to hospital as soon as I returned to Suva) but I certainly did enjoy myself, and particularly the "elections". Taking all in all, things went off a lot better than I had anticipated, considering that the Government insisted on the Banabans being attacked bull-headed by Macdonald and myself, and not slowly and calmly over a long period by yourself, as both you and I had recommended. However, as I emphasized in my report, the hours of patient explanation and propaganda which you had evidently put in, coupled with the new happiness and prosperity of the community since your advent (the more spectacular, when contrasted with the miseries of the previous régime) were factors sufficiently weighty to turn the scales despite the crudity and haste of the final approach.

The Colonial Office must have found out where I am for we've just had a telegram instructing me to be prepared to fly to Australia (a conference at Canberra) as soon as I land in England. I flew there last month from New Zealand so will have been round the world in 2 months if the trip materializes. It always amazes me (when I stop to think) how nonchalantly one flies to the other end of the world these days.

I do hope that your wife keeps in good health (I hadn't seen her so well for ever so long) and Barbara too. I am still a bit stiff after our ride but it should wear off after another month or two!

Once again many thanks for your kind and inspiring letter. I pray that I shall prove, in the event, worthy of your faith in my ability to be of service to the Colony as Resident; but you set rather a high standard, you know. However, I shall certainly try and there's no knowing what one can do when really refreshed by a long leave.

Yours very sincerely,

(Signed) H.E. Maude.

Rambi Island.

25th February, 1947.

Dear Maude,

Papa, on arrival here, said he had heard at Funafuti, of your appointment as R.C. Confirmation came later, when I observed that your telegrams no longer ended "Acting R.C." but "R.C." I did not send a telegram about it, but you will know that of the many people delighted at the news, my delight would be the greatest. The appointment has been my wish for years, and never was wish more sincere. May health, strength & good luck go with the job!

I gather from a copy of a telegram recently sent to me that you are contemplating leave and further that H.C. had you in mind to come here. You will have seen my telegram urging that no officer may visit Rambi, for the purpose of concluding an agreement with the Banabans. The necessity for the agreement, as detailed in your memorandum, no longer exists. It did exist, very much so, when you wrote the memorandum. But progress has been made since that time, thanks to the memorandum, and the ground gained has been consolidated. To give up that ground and start again would be ruinous. Hassle and formality equally so. It remains for me to complete the job, on the line's followed to date. But I wish to add that a visit from you would be welcomed. That would be different. When I telegraphed as I did, I had no idea of course that you might be asked to come.

There was good news in your letter - change of

spirit among your officers - morale seldom been higher - faith in
the future of the Colony - Keeness every where. That made excellent
reading.

The "J.W." may arrive here today, on the journey
back. I like a connection at Bern will bring this letter
quickest to you.

With all good wishes, for every occasion,

Yours very sincerely,

F. W. Holland.

M.v. "Sydney Star",

23rd July, 1947.

Dear Sir Albert,

I am writing to convey our most grateful thanks to you for all your multitudinous acts of kindness during our recent stay in New Zealand: no-one could have possibly helped us more than you did and I am afraid we came to rely on you to get us out of every kind of difficulty.

Your choice of the "Sydney Star" has certainly proved most felicitous for I can never remember travelling on a more comfortable ship before. Our cabin is unexpectedly roomy, we have a large private bathroom, Alaric is very happy next door with two other boys and all the other passengers are nice people. Being a cargo boat there is plenty of deck space and we have discovered a small sitting-room (away from the main rooms) which we have almost monopolized. I only hope that we can come back by the same line, but that is really too much to expect.

We both called on Mr Rowlands when we were in Wellington and he was very good to us, even sending Honor some flowers the day the ship left. I do not think that he is connected with the Blue Star Line, except indirectly through the meat business, but no doubt he wields considerable influence: several of the other passengers are connected with Vestey's.

It looks as if the Colonial Office are not going to

let us have our leave in peace, even after 11 years, for I had a telegram the other day instructing me to be prepared to fly to Australia as soon as I arrive in England. I do not think that I should be long there, however, and presumably they will fly me back to England to commence my leave when it is over. One imagines that it is some conference on the islands and, if so, I would not like to be out of it for, as you know, politicians are often hopelessly ignorant about the Central Pacific Groups.

The only drawback about cargo boats is the fact that they do not, except by good fortune occasionally, enable one to go ashore anywhere en route. The "Sydney Star" is no exception in this respect; for we rushed through the Panama Canal without stopping and took a load of fuel at Curacao late on a Sunday night. However, we didn't so much mind as others, since we had seen both places before.

I have your kind letter before me in which you congratulate me on my appointment as Resident Commissioner. I did not reply to it in writing, as perhaps I should have done, since it arrived as I was about to leave Tarawa and I knew I should be seeing you. Anyway, may I now reiterate the verbal thanks I expressed when we met.

I suppose that you will have returned from your visit to Rabi and Ocean Island long before you receive

this and trust that everything went off all right and that you found the Banabans well and happy. I have a feeling that there will be a lot of travelling on the part of the Banabans at first, between Rabi and Ocean Island, but that this will gradually decrease as the former place becomes more and more home to them. It is understandable that at first nostalgia will call them powerfully to Banaba but I am confident that in years to come it will call no less powerfully to Rabi: even now, to most of the younger folk, Rabi is the true home.

Honor asks me to thank you, in particular, for sending the young man with a car to get her to the train when she left Auckland. They only just caught it, as it happened, owing to the ferry returning from Devenport without taking any cars on board.

Once again, thanks ever so much for all your help and hoping to see you before the end of the year,

With our kindest regards,

Yours very sincerely,

(Signed) H.E. Maude.

TELEPHONE 43 816

DILWORTH BUILDING,
QUEEN STREET,
AUCKLAND. C.I.

30th January, 1947.

H.E. Maude, Esqr., M.B.E.,
Gilbert & Ellice Islands Colony,
Via SUVA.

Dear Mr. Maude,

By recent letter from Mr. Gaze I learned that you have been appointed Resident Commissioner. Please accept my hearty congratulations on this well earned promotion.

In response to a letter from Mrs. Maude dated at Tarawa 20th ultimo, we have been inquiring regarding passages from Ocean Island to New Zealand and on to England, arriving there if possible by June.

As regards Ocean Island to this country, I have been in touch with Mr. Gaze and passages are reserved for you per "Trienza" due to leave the Island during second half April for this port. Passages from here to England have not as yet been secured though Mr. Bissett has consulted all the shipping companies. In the case of each sailing there is a long waiting list and the matter is difficult. In view, however, of the urgency of your movements I feel sure that something can be arranged by the date you arrive here. The Blue Star Company offered accommodation by the "Brisbane Star" leaving about 10th April but that date was too early for you. We have asked them to keep you in mind for the next vessel which they anticipate will be early in May. As soon as we have anything definite I will advise you by radio message. Meanwhile the following is being sent to you at Tarawa today:

"Passages reserved for you Trienza due leave Ocean for Auckland second half April prospects obtaining passages Blue Star vessel early May"

Later.

Since writing the foregoing I have been speaking by 'phone to Mr. Rowlands the head man out here for the Blue Star Line. He is just back from England so I took an early opportunity of telling him of your requirements. He has met you, he says, and is very definitely out to do all he can to help.

I have mentioned other news in the accompanying letter to Mrs. Maude.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,



P

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

Gentlemen,

I have to inform you that I arrived in the United Kingdom
on the **2nd August,** 19**47** on leave of absence from the
Government of **the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony.**

I disembarked from the S.S. **"Sydney Star"** at the
port of **London** on the **2nd August,** 19**47**,

and until further notice my address will be*

**"Loretto", Candie,
St Peter Port,
Guernsey,
Channel Islands.**

*Officers should endeavour, as far as possible, to supply a permanent address to which all communications for them can be sent. *Military Officers must furnish private addresses, not addresses c/o Agents.*

My appointment is that of **the Resident Commissioner,
Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony.**

I am,

Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

The Crown Agents for the Colonies.

J.L.M.



5th. August, 1947.

Dear Mr. Maude,

I have received from Sydney letters from Mr. Burns and Mr. Mitchell in which they express the hope that I may be able to have a talk with you.

I trust that you have had an enjoyable trip and that the rooms engaged for you at the Mayfair are to your satisfaction.

Kindly let me know when and where I could meet you. If convenient to you, I think perhaps this office will be the best place. Any day next week and any time would suit me if you will let me know.

Yours truly,

A. K. MACKINTOSH.

H. E. Maude, Esq.,
The Mayfair Hotel,
Mayfair,
LONDON, W.1.

"Loretto"
Candle,
St. Peter Port,
GUERNSEY, C.I.

9th August 1947

The Under Secretary of State
for the Colonies,
Colonial Office,
Downing Street,
LONDON, S.W. 1.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you
that I arrived in the United Kingdom on the
2nd August, 1947, on leave of absence from the
Government of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands
Colony and that, until further notice, my address
will be as above.

A copy of this letter has been
forwarded to the Acting Resident Commissioner
of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) H.E. Maude.

Resident Commissioner,
Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony.

"Loretto",
Candie,
St Peter Port,
Guernsey, Channel Islands.
15th August, 1947.

My dear Surridge,

Thank you for your letter of the 13th. I shall be very glad indeed to have the opportunity of a talk on cooperative affairs in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony, and I am optimistic of interesting you in our little problems since our cooperative movement is relatively of long standing and virtually the whole commercial life of the community is in the hands of wholesale or retail cooperative societies: probably to a greater extent than anywhere else in the world.

I expect to be in London by midday on the 21st and will get in touch with you by telephone as soon as I am free of Sidebotham and others, who are anxious to brief me in connexion with Canberra Conference matters. I understand that I am due to leave for Australia by Lancasterian a.m. on the 24th and do not as yet know the approximate date of my return; but no doubt we shall be able to fix some mutually convenient time for a discussion on either the 22nd or 23rd.

Yours sincerely,
H.E. Maude

H.E. Maude.

B.J. Surridge, Esq.,
Dover House, Whitehall, S.W.1.



Dover House,
Whitehall.
S.W.1.

13/8/47.

My dear Maude.

I have been told by Armitage Smith of the Ceylon and Pacific Dept that you may be in London shortly. If so I shall be grateful if you can spare a few minutes to discuss the scheme for the appointment of a Registrar of Cooperative Societies in your territory.

I took up duty in April as Adviser on Cooperation to the Secretary of State and my room is No 1 at Dover House.

Perhaps you will telephone and fix a time suitable to you? I much look forward to meeting you.

*Yours sincerely,
B. J. Surridge.*

(B. J. Surridge.)

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

Larawa
Gilbert Islands.
15. 8. 57.

Dear Mr. Wade,

You may remember that before you left Larawa, you invited me to write to you should any matter arise on which I required your advice. Whilst I regret to trouble you with official affairs during your vacation, still I think it only proper that this letter should be written.

During your absence, drastic changes in the policy of the New Colony Headquarters have been announced. Since many of the directions I have received conflict with directions given by your good self, I find myself in an awkward and invidious position.

Firstly there has been a reversal of policy by the W.P.H.C. regarding the type of dwelling house to be constructed. The idea of building permanent dwellings from durable materials has been abandoned and it has been decided to proceed with native type construction except for the bathrooms which will be done in fibro cement. However as I know that you favour such construction, I am not worried on that score but merely mention it as a point of interest. My plans have been altered accordingly and the general set up is not much altered.

The second basic change in policy however appears to run contrary to your wishes and that is that the Administration Buildings should also be constructed of native material instead of permanent material as visualised. This is a local ruling given me by the acting Resident Commissioner after conference with the Financial

Secretary, during a recent visit by that gentleman. Admittedly this is a matter of no major importance but I think it best to acquaint you.

There is however one vital matter that was contrary to your opinions and recommendations. It is now proposed by the Acting Resident Commissioner that Colony Headquarters should be located at Kefau and active steps are being taken to implement such proposal. Personally I feel that Shebana is a more suitable location for the Capital and I furnished a lengthy report thereto which conclusively established that the saving in money to be made by settling at Kefau rather than at Shebana, is negligible. Mr Bryant made a three day tour of Shebana from which he concluded that Tebanga was most suitable for a settlement, and so I am now directed to prepare lay-out plans for Kefau.

When I was new to the Colony I must admit that Kefau seemed a logical place to settle, but my nine months of occupation have served to convince me that such is not the case. Any lingering doubts which I may have had, were dispelled when I completed my layout plans. Examining the hospital, education department and district administration for which there is not sufficient room, I found that houses would have to be placed 200 feet apart throughout the length of Kefau and along the ocean side, to accommodate the necessary numbers. Since I know that such a suggestion is anathema to you, I think it only fair to advise you of the proceedings. However it is proposed to reserve the eastern tip of Kefau for the residency 'Beloué' and knowing Mr. Hand's aversion to West Winds I think it only fair to mention that point also.

As I have the future of glory Headquarters
very much at heart, and I am loathe to do
anything which I do not think is in the best
interests of that project, you will appreciate
the difficult situation in which I am placed
by you as to obey orders and already it has been
intimated to me that my duty "is to carry out
instructions and not to make suggestions", so
that I have no alternative other than to be a
party to a situation which I believe runs
contrary to your wishes. I am therefore taking
the liberty of acquainting you with matters,
so that you will not associate me with any
recommendations that might be forthcoming
in the matter of Helio.

I understand that a conference
will shortly be held in Suva, at which certain
definite recommendations will be made. In the
interim I am doing my best to temporize and take
no action that would involve me in an accusation
of interference. After all it is not my affair, as
I do not have to live in the Gilberts personally, but
I think that I would be failing in my duty as an
agent if I made no effort to prevent a settlement
on such a barren and wind swept spot as Helio.

Yours respectfully,

A. C. Thomas
