

JOORD-JOORD, THE LAZY SHAG.

The shag was a woman named Joord Joord, with two sons.

Every day her sons went into the pin-dan-a (bush) to catch lan-goor (opossum) and other wallee (meat), and always brought home their game, giving their mother as much as she could eat.

Joord Joord should also have gone out hunting, for vegetable and root food, but she was very fat and lazy, and every day, every day, she gave the boys nothing but nyeel-guru and ngar-ran (white ants and their eggs), which she got without going far away.

She filled her bin-jin (bark vessel) with these because they were easy to get. When the boys came home with all sorts of wallee, they saw only the same food in the bin-jin and that was all their mother would trouble to get for them.

They got tired of eating the ngar-ran (white ants' eggs) and at last threw it in the fire, where it made a crackling noise while burning.

Joord Joord called out "What's burning? What's that noise?"

"Nothing," the boys said.

Every time they came home and saw only nyeel-guru and ngar-ran, they burnt it.

One day they came home early, bringing fat lan-goor and other wallee, and they saw their mother sifting the nyeel-guru and ngar-ran.

The older boy said to his brother, "We will kill our mother now, for she gives us nothing but white ants, white ants' eggs, while we bring her home good meat."

When Joord Joord saw the boys coming, she said to herself, "They are going to kill me because I give them nothing but ngarran," and she picked up her milgin (digging stick) and

hit the boys with it.

They got a fire-stick, mo-ar-doo baa-loo, and hit her on the back, ne-al-gun, and now Joord Joord has a black back, and goes along crying "Joord-joord, joord-joord."

Jandy (women) should bring home proper mai (vegetable food) when their sons fetch good wallee (meat) to them.