



THE RESIDENCY, OCEAN ISLAND,
GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY.

3rd Jan^y, '35

My dear Maude,

I was awfully sorry to learn of your recent indisposition & do hope by now that you are once again sparkling on all vix & are really feeling quite fit for the fray. I realise only too well that you have got a devilishly difficult & exacting task ahead of you during the next few years & one that will require every ounce of your mental & physical powers of endurance, & I do ask

you, if at any time you begin
to feel that the strain is getting
a bit over the odds, to write to me
— I would like to feel as a
pal — & we will between us
worry out the future of things.
I myself have as usual been
going at the double ever since we
parted company at Bern & had
a most marvellous clean-up of
"matters pending" during the last
week in December which damn
nearly drove the members of H.C.
staff into open revolution & old
humburgers feet first into the past.



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I was just promising myself a
bit of a respite when I received
(this p.m.) two "urgents" from
the H.C. calling for immediate
reports upon the future of Govt.
Headquarters & a review of the
whole education policy of the Colony!
Thank God I forestalled the old
tyrant by completing the latter
a couple of days ago (quite a
gigantic effort of some twenty
odd pages) & it is bound for
examination at the hands of the C.O.
Advisory Committee on Education
per "John Williams." With regard
to H.C., despite H.E.'s almost

peremptory orders to put up a case for removal to the group, I am reluctantly — from purely personal motives, not consideration of H.F.'s indignation — compelled to come to the conclusion that the idea is not within the realm of practical politics, though theoretically it has everything to recommend it. It is a curse, however, having to waste time in explaining it all.

I recently figured out that during the last twelve months I have averaged $11\frac{1}{2}$ hours' work a day (week-ends included) & am beginning to feel like a breather — I only



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hope that I have managed to
achieve a little for D.A. which
is, of course, the whole box & dice
of the Service when one comes down
to the 'ultima thule' — but for
God's sake don't tell Usurers
& earnest Educationists & Medicos
that I ever said so. I am
sorry that you are not able
to compete in the new Annual
Report stakes — I am looking
forward with joy to some
stuff which will make the old
C.O. realise at last that the
Gilbert & Ellice Islands are
somewhere on the map.

I think that you will find the Auditor fellow quite a good chap to meet - at any rate his sojourn at Bern Theatre, to be very brief.

You will no doubt be interested to hear that old Baverstock, who is due back in February, will probably be taking over the S.G.D. District. The Fanning Island District is to continue to be run on present lines by the manager of the Cable Company as O.C.

I trust that, before this letter reaches you, you will have successfully breasted the hurdles



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of your Law Exam & that you
have gained First Class Honours.
It must at any rate be a
great relief to get the damned
thing over — I know that I gave
a few lusty cheers when I had
finished with mine.

My wife, I am sorry to say,
had to hop off to Australia
for medical reasons not long
after our visit to you at Beru
& I have been desperately lonely
without her — I have had no
time to make personal friends
during my stay at Ocean Island &
I found that I was relying

entirely upon my wife for company during the very brief interludes from work. At any rate I trust to have her back with me again in a fortnight's time.

I wish on our joint behalf to express to Mrs. Maude & yourself our very sincere thanks for all your kindness & hospitality on our last visit to Bern & we are both looking forward with genuine pleasure & anticipation to your promised visit to Ocean Island in the course of the next few months.

Wishing you wife & yourself the best of good luck & good health throughout 1935 - Yours sincerely,
J.C. Barley

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY.

Island of Beru,
Southern Gilbert Islands.
1st January, 1935.

S. G.
No. 1.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of His Honour's telegram of the 28th November requesting a report on the present system of cash allowances in lieu of rations and, in reply, to furnish the following observations.

2. In my letter No. 12 of the 14th January, 1934, written as Administrative Officer, Central and Southern Gilbert Islands, I submitted a full report on the operation of the system of cash allowances and my experience since that date has only served to confirm me in the opinions which I then expressed. For the first three months subsequent to the writing of that letter I was stationed at Tarawa and, from enquiries which I instituted during that period, I found that the native staff at Tarawa were predominately in favour of a continuance of the cash allowance system, since it enabled them to exercise a free choice in their purchases of food. The institution of the Tarawa Market in January enabled them to purchase
readily

The Secretary to Government,
Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony,
Ocean Island.

readily such items as fresh fish, kamaimai (the favourite native drink) and foodstuffs both native and European, either in a raw state or ready cooked in one of the three permanent restaurants.

3. On arriving at Beru in June I was informed by Dr. Steenson that it was impossible for his native staff to purchase any native food products whatsoever on the island and that they were forced to spend not only their ration allowances but their salaries also in the purchase of high priced European tinned goods. He also stated that they had endeavoured to rent coconut bearing land but without success. I expressed my surprise at this extraordinary state of affairs and promised to make enquiries. On questioning the Manager of the Local Co-operative Society, which is situated beside the government station, he informed me that, although he had thousands of coconuts lying in his fence which could be purchased for practically nothing, he had received no requests from any buyer among the government staff. Later, at a meeting of some of the principal natives on the island, I told the islanders about the complaints of the native medical staff. They appeared astonished that such a misapprehension could possibly exist, pointing out that there was virtually no money on the island, outside the circles of the government staff, and that they would be only too delighted to sell food-stuffs in any quantity required. They also said that any of the larger land-owners on Beru would be glad to rent some of their surplus coconut-bearing land.

4. Meetings were thereupon held, attended by the staffs attached to the Medical Department and the Department of District Administration as well as the personal servants of Mr. Cartwright and myself. At these meetings I told those present that I considered it a fact beyond controversy

controversy that unlimited supplies of all classes of native food could be easily obtained on Beru at very cheap prices and that I was surprised that some of them had so misinformed Dr. Steenson on the subject. In proof of my assertions I offered to provide food for any or all of them at the rate of 10/- per month per family and for this small sum I guaranteed to ration them on a scale higher than that enjoyed by 99% of the inhabitants. At the same time I warned them that if they did not take advantage of my offer I would treat their refusal as an admission that they were able to ration themselves and their families at a rate lower than 10/- per month and that I would notify His Honour accordingly. After discussing the question amongst themselves at some length they declined my offer stating that they were able to ration themselves satisfactorily. I heard later that what his staff had intended to convey to Dr. Steenson was not that they were unable to obtain local native food products at a cheap rate but that to live on imported European tinned foods cost them more than their monthly ration allowance of £1.13.4, a fact which I can well believe.

5. During July a Beru Market was instituted and since then, i.e. during the last six months, the supply of fresh native food of all kinds has greatly exceeded the demand. I enclose a copy of the current local market prices, which have been fixed by the natives themselves, and I would submit that it conclusively proves, read in conjunction with the present report, that:-

- (a) Fresh local native food products are freely obtainable on Beru in almost unlimited quantities.
- (b) These food products are not only adequate in quantity but are of remarkable variety.
- (c) The prices ruling are so reasonable that a married man with children would be able to ration himself and his family for a sum varying between 5/- and 20/- per month, but in no case exceeding the latter figure.

figure.

My remarks are true not only for Bera but naturally apply "a fortiori" for all the 12 Central and Southern Gilbert Islands with the exception of Tarawa, where it would probably cost a married man with family a sum nearer 30/- per mensem to live comfortably.

6. I have already enlarged upon the improved health which resulted from the diet of my staff being changed from tinned to fresh food in paragraph 4 of my above-mentioned letter. Mr. Kennedy has since informed me that he noticed the same improvement among his Ellice Island staff. Surely there can be no reasonable doubt that a native and his family will keep far more fit and healthy on an adequate diet of fresh locally produced food than on imported European tinned goods. In this connection I would quote from page 7 of the Colonial Annual Report for 1924-26:-

"..... tinned food, which makes living in the Groups inordinately wasteful and expensive. Furthermore, the corrosive effect of the preservative substances present in all tinned foods renders residents peculiarly susceptible to dysentery and other serious intestinal and gastric troubles. These ailments are very apt to become chronic, owing to improper nutrition and the rarity of medical attention".

Although possibly Europeans are doomed to suffer from intestinal and gastric troubles, owing to their inability to adapt themselves to a native diet, there is surely no reason why the health of natives should be similarly impaired.

7. The great benefit to the native population which is caused by the present cash allowances was scarcely touched on in my previous letter and yet, in their present

impoverished

impoverished financial condition, I would suggest that it be seriously considered, should there be any question of discontinuing the system. The salaries paid to the native members of the Colony Government staff have always been on a generous scale and in these times, when the total income of an average Gilbertese family can seldom exceed £3 per annum, they would appear almost unduly lavish, yet, as long as they are partly expended on the purchase of local produce, they do undoubtedly do some good in causing a little money to circulate in the islands, whereas if the same amount had to be spent in the purchase of imported food from Sydney the benefit to the ordinary Gilbertese would be nil.

8. I would respectfully request that this letter, which refers more particularly to the operation of the cash allowance system during 1934, should be read in conjunction with my above-mentioned letter, No. 13 of the 14th January, since the points mentioned in it, though not repeated here, are as true now as they were then. In conclusion I would state that I am absolutely opposed to the reintroduction of the old system of rations in this Colony, which appears to me to be a retrograde proposal undesirable from every conceivable angle: I hope, on the contrary, that it may be possible to extend the system of purchasing only locally produced food to include the rations issued to bodies such as the Colony prisoners at Tarawa. Should I ever be stationed at Tarawa I should be glad to inaugurate such a system.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) H. E. MAUDE

Commissioner for Native Lands,
Gilbert Islands.

TE RAKHINI BANI.

Te Katenibong - 2 p.m. nakon 5 p.m.

Te Keonobong - 2 p.m. nakon 5 p.m.

A. Ika:-

- Mananana - 1d n 1 lb.
- Mai (umunaki) - 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d n 1 lb.
- Tarinaki - 3d n 1 lb.
- Kika (mananana) - 1d n 1 lb.

B. Mog:-

Man 3d nakon 1/-.

C. Bunri Mog:-

Aika a tiba bung - 6d n 12.

D. Baki:-

- Mananana - 3d n 1 lb.
- Mai (umunaki) - 4d n 1 lb.
- Nonon - 6d n 1 lb.

E. Bon:-

- Moinoto - 1/- n 150.
- Bon - 1/- n 150.

F. Tou:-

A Tain to Tou.

- | | | |
|----------|-------|------------------|
| Mibura | - 3d. | 1d. |
| Muka | - 3d. | |
| Uareroke | - 1d. | $\frac{1}{2}$ d. |

G. Babal:-

3d n 1 lb.

H. Kanaimai:-

6d n 1 te batore ni bia.

4d n 1 te batore ni bia. (Ngkana e kaokaki te batore.)

I. Tama:-

Te Tuae - 3d n 1 lb.

Te Bustore - 3d n 1 lb.

Translation.

HERN ISLAND MARKET.

Wednesdays - 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturdays - 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

A. Fish:-

Fresh - 1d per lb.
Cooked - 1½d per lb.
Salted - 3d per lb.
Fresh Octopus - 1d per lb.

B. Chickens:-

From 3d to 1/-.

C. Eggs:-

New laid - 6d per dozen.

D. Lard:-

Fresh - 3d per lb.
Cooked - 4d per lb.
Lard - 6d per lb.

E. Coconuts:-

Drinking Nuts - 1/- for 150.
Eating Nuts - 1/- for 150.

F. Pandanus:-

Large - 3d.
Medium - 2d.
Small - 1d.

In season:-

- 1d.

- ½d.

G. Bahai:-

2d per lb.

H. Coconut Melon:-

6d per 2 pint bottle.
4d per 2 pint bottle. (If the bottle is returned.)

I. Puddings:-

Te Tuae - 3d per lb.

Te hutoro - 3d per lb.

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY.

Island of Boru,

Southern GILBERT ISLANDS.

6th January, 1900.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram of the 24th October on the subject of the most suitable site for the District Headquarters for the Southern Gilbert Islands District and, in reply, to submit the following report. I regret that, owing to illness, my reply has been unfortunately delayed.

2. As far as I have been able to ascertain, during the early days of the Protectorate the Southern and Central Islands were combined in one District, comprising all islands from Abemama to Arorua, the headquarters of the whole District being at Abemama, which was at that time a port of entry of considerable importance. Mr. Murdoch was usually in charge of this large District but from time to time, however, European officials having the status of Island Agents were stationed on the principal islands in the south, for example Mr. Schaffy on Tabiteuea, Mr. Rice on Boru and Mr. Macdonald on Nukunono.

3. In 1900 the five southern islands from Boru to

Arorua

The Secretary to Government,
Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony,
Ocean Island.

S. O.

No. 2.

Arree were formed into a District under Mr. Derbyshire, whose headquarters were at Beru. On Mr. Derbyshire being transferred to Ocean Island the District was once again controlled from Abongma until, when Mr. Eliot was Resident Commissioner, Mr. Newton was assigned the southern islands. Mr. Newton immediately removed his District Headquarters to Onotoa Island, as being a more suitable and central island for controlling the District. He took to pieces the European house built on Beru by Mr. Derbyshire and used the timber in the construction of a native headquarters station on Onotoa. On Mr. Newton resigning from the service, Mr. Gribble was appointed District Officer in charge of the five southern islands, whereupon the District Headquarters were once again transferred to Beru in order that they should be close to the main station of the London Missionary Society. Mr. Gribble constructed a house of native materials which still remains the Administrative Headquarters.

4. On Mr. Anderson taking charge of the Southern Gilbert Islands Tabiteuea was added on to the District and Headquarters were at once removed to that island and, from 1919 to 1926, whenever a District Officer was resident in the southern islands his headquarters were invariably on Tabiteuea. I have already handed to His Honour a copy of a memorandum from Mr. Gribble informing Mr. Anderson that the High Commissioner had approved of Tabiteuea being the District Headquarters for the Southern Gilbert Islands. In 1927 Mr. Davenport was given charge of the Southern Gilberts District minus, however, the island of Tabiteuea and so District Headquarters had once again perforce to be transferred to Beru. In 1930 I was appointed to the Southern Gilbert Islands but it was not until July, 1932, that Tabiteuea was included in my District.

On assuming charge of Tabiteuea I immediately requested permission from Mr. Gribble to remove my headquarters to that island. He expressed himself as favourable to my proposal and I understood from him that he left it largely in my hands which island I considered it advisable to have as District Headquarters stating that, in any case, I would have to spend far more time on Tabiteuea than on Beru. Mr. Gribble, however, departed on leave before making any official pronouncement on the subject.

5. It will be seen from the foregoing that as long as Tabiteuea was included in the Southern Gilbert Islands District headquarters were situated there and, in my opinion, Tabiteuea is pre-eminently the most suitable island for District Headquarters. In the first place it is inhabited by nearly 4,000 of the most difficult natives in the Colony, who have justly earned for themselves the title of being the "Irishmen of the Pacific". At the time of the 1920 troubles on Tabiteuea, Mr. Beverstock, who visited the island from Beru stated in his report to the Senior Administrative Officer, who was in charge of the island, that in his opinion it should not be left without a resident European official. Major Swinbourne, in forwarding the letter to the Resident Commissioner, said that he agreed with Mr. Beverstock in considering that a European officer should be permanently stationed there. I have, unfortunately, not got a copy of this letter to refer to but it is, however, on file at Uessa Island. I would submit that, if there is any island in the Gilberts on which, from the point of view of native administration, an Administrative Officer should be placed, it is Tabiteuea. Beru, on the other hand, is a pleasant, sleepy, island whose indigenous inhabitants number under 2,000 and whose administrative problems have long since been solved. The island is, in my opinion, suffering

from ever rather than under administration and, after the first month, there is little local administrative work to occupy an officer's time other than interfering with the petty activities of the Native Government, who are only too pleased to shelve their own work on the shoulders of an energetic European and have thereby lost much of the initiative characteristic of the Native Governments of the other islands in the District.

6. Communications in this Colony are so bad that an Administrative Officer is unable to spend the optimum time on each of the islands in his District. While at his headquarters much of his time, it is true, is occupied in the writing of reports, letters to Colony Headquarters, Treasury work and the like but at the same time, under present conditions, a good deal of time is necessarily spent in enforced idleness or, in the case of a conscientious and energetic officer, in dealing with petty native government problems while waiting for suitable transport to his other islands. For this reason it is important that Administrative Headquarters should be situated on the island which will afford the maximum amount of important local administrative work for the Administrative Officer. As far as the Southern Gilberts District is concerned this island is undoubtedly Tabituea, with its population approximately the same as that of the Ellice Islands District, its length of nearly 50 miles and divided, as it is, into two districts with two separate sets of government quarters. In my opinion North Tabituea would occupy an Administrative Officer for two or three months in a year for some time to come, after which he could still spend a month or two profitably in the Southern Tabituea District. Furthermore, should Nonouti be included in the Southern Gilbert Islands District, as I am recommending in a separate letter, he would then, in the absence of transport elsewhere

elsewhere, still be able to leave at any time, by canoe, baurua or boat, for Nanouti, where a further two or three months work would await him.

7. Apart, however, from all questions of population and difficulty of administration, Tabiteuea would still be the most convenient site for District Headquarters owing to the exceptional opportunities which an Administrative Officer living there has of visiting his District.

Trading vessels visiting the Southern Gilbert Islands from the north usually call at North Tabiteuea on their way down, then touch at each of the southern islands, and finally call at South Tabiteuea on their way north again.

An Administrative Officer is thus able to visit the whole of his District in one trip of a trading ship or, alternately, to get off at any island with a reasonable certainty of being able to get back again to his headquarters on Tabiteuea. This he can do from no other island in the District, certainly not from Beru, where ships seldom call but once and that on the journey south. On Tabiteuea, therefore, an Administrative officer is in a key position with regard to his District and can visit any island he wants and stay there for a long or short period as he desires.

8. With regard to the only two reasons that I have ever heard advanced for preferring Beru to Tabiteuea as a District Headquarters, i.e. (a) that it is near the headquarters of the London Missionary Society and (b) that there is a wireless station there, I would state that, in my experience, nearness to the main station of the London Missionary Society is a disadvantage rather than an advantage since the few Treasury and Administrative matters that require discussion between the Mission and the government can be easily dealt with by letter or during a visit

to the island. The fact that a European official is at call on Beru merely means that he is asked to investigate a number of small and unimportant matters that are really in the province of the Native Government. For the greater part of this Colony's history the headquarters of the Sacred Heart Mission were at Nanouti - they are now, I believe, at Abaimg - yet it has never been considered necessary to station an Administrative Officer at either of these islands. With reference to the question of the wireless station at Beru I would urge that, while the fact that the Administrative Officer in the Southern District can be reached, when at his headquarters, by wireless must be a convenience to Colony Headquarters at Ocean Island, it cannot in any way outweigh the fact that the administration of the Southern Gilbert Islands must always remain less efficient than it might be as long as District Headquarters are at Beru rather than Tabiteuea Island. The few telegrams for the Administrative officer used formerly to be sent to Tarawa and from thence by the first ship to Tabiteuea and this procedure could no doubt be adopted in future. In addition to this telegrams could be sent to Beru as at present, to await a visit or opportunity for communicating.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) H. E. Maude.

Commissioner for Native Lands,
Gilbert Islands.

16/34. "C".

TELEGRAM.

From the Resident Commissioner, Ocean Island. (Mr. Barley),
To the Commissioner for Native Lands, Gilbert Islands. (At Beru Island).

24th October, 1934.

Rec'd: 25th.

24th October - Grateful if you will submit at your earliest convenience report on (a). Question of the most suitable site for the District Headquarters for the Southern Gilberts. (b). Question of the inclusion of Nonouti in the Southern Gilberts District.

Resident.



Tarawa.

11th January, 1935.

Dear Mr Maude,

I am more grateful than I can properly express for your letter of the 12th September and its attachments. The sections of the "Short History" fill gaps that I had doubts of ever seeing bridged. The synopsis of "A Gilbertese History" appears to me as a miracle of wise selection. I nearly used the word "miracle" in the official letter on the subject, but in the end reflection induced the use of a milder term, though not one of spontaneous birth. I do hope that you can soon begin work on the history book.

2. Annexed hereto is a copy of the "Short History", together with my covering letter to Headquarters. A copy of a letter which covers your synopsis of "A Gilbertese History" is also attached.

Yours very truly,

H. H. Holland

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY.

Education Department,

Tarawa. 7th January, 1935.

R. C.

No. 7.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward, for information, a copy of a "Short History of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands". It has been written in a form suitable for study in schools. Copies will be distributed locally to those in authority over native education. The history is not the first of its kind, but its predecessor contained much less material.

2. The section on "Ancient History" has been culled from the writings of Mr A.P. Grimble, and the section on "Modern History" has been written, in the main, by Mr H.E. Maude. Such exceptional assistance calls up deep appreciation.

3. This historical sketch will, in general, serve as the precursor of "A Gilbertese History" the plan of which was despatched to you under cover of my letter No.96 of the 20th December, last.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) F.G.L. Holland,
Superintendent of Education.

The Secretary

to the Government,

Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony,

Osan Island.

SHORT HISTORY OF THE GILBERT AND ELLICE
ISLANDS.

Ancient History.

The ancient history of the Colony has been handed down from father to son, and has thus been remembered by being stored in the memory, and not by being written down. From the stories carried in the memory of native men, we have learnt the various events in the long story of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands.

The first inhabitants of these islands were a race of black-skinned folk. They were small-bodied and short, had curly hair, flat noses and large ears. They were skilled in magic, were dirty in their habits, and were eaters of human flesh. Their gods were the Spider (Na Areau) and the Turtle (Tabakea). The black folk lived in these islands from a date that is not known until about 300 A.D. They were then attacked by a sea-loving race, large-bodied and tall, bushy haired, and light brown in colour, who came from the East Indies near Gilolo and other islands near the Macassar Strait. They had no knowledge of magic, and were very afraid of it. They were great fighters, and quickly overcame the black folk, killing the men and taking the women as their wives. Only a part of this army of invaders settled in the conquered islands, the main body moving southward through the Ellice Islands and Rotuma and on to Samoa. They remained in Samoa for so many hundreds of years, that this country came to be known to them as their ancestral home. Yet canoe journeys up and down from the north seem to have been frequent, so that a full knowledge of the old

sea route was retained.

About the period 1200 A.D., the Samoans attacked their enemies, that is, the descendants of the invaders of Samoa, whom we now call the Tonga Fiti, defeated them and drove them out of Samoa. The Tonga Fiti scattered in many directions but a large body travelled northwards, along the old track, and fighting against their ancestral kin, gained a foothold in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands. Thus it can be seen that the present Gilbertese are the product of the fusion of the black-skinned folk with the first fair-skinned invaders and the later invaders from Samoa.

Until about 1500 A.D., the natives living in the Ellice Islands were probably like the Gilbertese. At that time, the Ellice Islands were attacked by a Samoan invasion. The inhabitants were driven north out of this group, which was then occupied by the Samoans. Two hundred years later, Gilbertese who had left Abaiang, Tabiteuea, and Beru arrived at Nui, conquered this island, which to this day is Gilbertese in speech and custom.

In 1700 A.D. Beru became a powerful island in numbers and war spirit, and an army from that island swept over most of the Gilbert Group, getting as far north as Marakéi. The culture of Beru appears to have been impressed on most of the conquered islands.

The pre-Christian worship of the Gilbertese was that of the ancestor and the ancestral skull. These ancestors were Auriaria, Tabuariki, Taburimai, Nei Tituabine and Nei Tewenei. Na Areeu was regarded as the creator of the world, but not as a god.

Modern History.

European Discovery of the Island. It is believed that the famous Spanish navigator De Quiros sighted the island of Makin as long ago as 1606, when crossing the Pacific and, indeed, it is most probable that some of the Northern Gilbert Islands were sighted by the Spanish ships which visited the Caroline and Marshall Groups in the 16th and 17th centuries.

However the first definitely known discovery of a Gilbert Island was in 1765, when Commander Byron, who was in charge of a British Naval Expedition of discovery, sighted Nikunau from the "Dolphin". He had dealings with the islanders, who came off to him in sixty canoes. The next visit to these islands was not made until 1788, twenty-three years later, in which year the two English navigators, Captains Gilbert and Marshall, sighted the Group while on their way from Sydney, in Australia, to China. After discovering Abemama, Kuria and Aranuka, they sailed past Maiana in the night without seeing it, and the following day sighted Tarawa and Abaiang. From Abaiang they went north, and, missing Marakei, discovered Butaritari and Makin. At first the Gilbert Islands were called the Kingsmill Group but later they were called after Captain Gilbert, who discovered so many of them.

Eleven years later, in 1799, Captain Bishop discovered Nonouti and Tabiteuea on the brig "Nautilus", and in 1809 Captain Patterson sighted Arorae and Maiana from the "Elizabeth". Marakei was discovered in 1824 by the French Admiral, Duperrey, when on a voyage round the world on board the "Coquille".

The remaining

The remaining three Gilbert Islands - Beru Onotoa and Tamana - were discovered in 1827 by Captain Clerk on the "Francis", and Banaba was first sighted from the brig "Ocean" in 1804.

Mendana, another famous Spanish sailor, is said to have passed an island in the Ellice Group in 1595. The Ellice Islands are considered, however, as being discovered between 1781, when the Spaniard, Maurelle, sighted Nanomea and Nanomanga, and 1825, when Nui was seen by two Dutchmen. Funafuti was discovered by Captain De Feyster in 1819.

In 1841, the "Peacock" and the "Flying Fish", two ships belonging to the United States Exploring Expedition and under the command of Captain Hudson, visited many of the islands and mapped and charted the reefs and anchorages round them. It is on the work done by this Expedition that the charts used by the navigators of to-day are based. Two Englishmen were taken off the islands and from their accounts we can learn what the Gilbertese of that time were like.

Christianity. Dr Hiram Bingham of the Boston Mission, who landed at Abaiang in 1857, was the first to introduce Christianity to these islands. Bingham worked in the Northern Gilberts until 1868. He reduced the Gilbertese speech in writing, translated the Bible into Gilbertese, and wrote a dictionary of the language. Samoan Missionary teachers were placed on all the islands of the Ellice Group by the London Missionary Society, Samoa, between the years 1865 and 1869. In 1870 the Revd S.J. Whitmee of the London Missionary Society placed Samoan teachers on the islands of the Southern Gilberts. In 1917, the
American

American Board handed over its work in the Northern Gilberts to the London Missionary Society.

In 1888, the Sacred Heart Mission founded its first mission station at the island of Nonouti, where there was a congregation of natives, as on some other islands, converted during their time on plantations in Tahiti and elsewhere. The pioneers of this mission were the Revd Fathers Bontemps and Leray. The latter became the first Bishop of this mission.

Rongerongo, Beru, the principal station of the London Missionary Society, was established in 1900 by the Revd W.E. Goward. St. Joseph's School of the Sacred Heart Mission was founded at Abaiang in 1902, by the Revd Father Cochet.

Blackbirding. "Blackbirders" raided the Ellice Islands and the Southern Gilbert Islands, from Beru to Arorae, between 1860 and 1875. The earlier ships took the people to work on the plantations in South America and Tahiti and few ever returned to their islands. Later the ships took them to work on the sugar plantations in Fiji where they were better treated and usually sent back again after they had worked for a few years. Captain Palmer was sent by Queen Victoria in 1869 to enquire into this bad trade, and in 1870 and 1875 two laws were passed (the Pacific Islands Protection Acts) which put a stop to the activities of the "ships that steal".

Whaling. About the year 1830 the Gilbert Islands began to be visited by ships looking for whales, and for the next forty years a great number of whalers visited the
islands

islands each year. The whaling men used often to live ashore while boiling down the whale blubber and one of their old villages can still be seen on the north point of Kuria, while many of their huge iron boilers are still used, for storing water, by the people of Kiebu on Makin. The first Europeans resident in the Gilbert Islands were deserters from the whaling vessels and so, while in 1840 there were only 7 Europeans living in the Gilbert Islands, by 1860 there were many more Europeans living here than there are now. By 1870, however, it was becoming hard to make ^s profit out of these cruises and the number of whaling ships visiting these islands became steadily fewer, although the last occasion on which a vessel visited here was as late as 1904.

Commerce. At first the only reason Europeans came to these islands was in search of whales, but in about 1850 the first trading ships arrived and a flourishing industry was soon started in the Gilberts - that of making coco-nut oil. In those days the ships did not buy copra as they do now, but only the oil after it had been extracted from the copra with a native press. Later, however, a German named Weber started to buy the copra and sell it to be pressed in machines and soon this was found to be the best way.

By 1860 most of the trade in the Group was in the hands of a Sydney firm whose manager, named Randall, had great power and influence throughout the Gilbert Islands. He had resident European traders on nearly every island and visited each in turn himself. Besides

coco-nut oil a good deal of "beche-de-mer" was sold in those days, the slug being split open, dried in the sun, and sold in bags to the traders.

Soon after this time several other firms began to trade in the Colony, including two American companies and one German. When On Chong and Co. came, they took over the interests of many of the old smaller companies and, after the war the German company, and ^{so} gradually nearly all the trade of the Colony has come into the hands of On Chong & Co., and Burns, Philp & Co Ltd., the latter firm having arrived soon after the coming of the flag.

Phosphate was discovered at Ocean Island in the year 1900, which resulted in the founding of the present phosphate industry on that island.

Stevenson. The Gilbert Islands were visited by a great writer in 1889. He was Robert Louis Stevenson, who afterwards died in Samoa. Stevenson made lengthy visits to Butaritari and Abemama, and wrote many stories and essays about his travels and experiences in the Gilbert Islands.

Government. The Gilbert and Ellice Groups became a part of the British Empire in 1892. A Protectorate was proclaimed over the islands, and the flag was hoisted by H.M.S. "Royalist" first at Abemama (27th May, 1892) and then at Tarawa, and by H.M.S. "Curacoa" in the Ellice Islands in September, 1892. Ocean Island was included in the Protectorate in 1900, H.M.S. "Pylades" hoisting the flag on 28th September, 1901. The two Groups were proclaimed a Colony of the British Empire in 1915, and Ocean Island, Fanning and Washington Islands were included in the Colony in 1916. Headquarters of the Government was first at Tarawa but later it was moved to Ocean Island.

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY.

Education Department,

Tarawa. 20th December, 1934.

R. C.

No. 96.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No.31 of the 26th October, on the subject of publishing the vernacular texts of Gilbertese traditions.

2. In my letter No.26 of the 26th March, at paragraph 9, I have expressed a strong desire to have a text book that would embrace traditional material for use in schools. I am happy to report that progress has been made with the idea. Mr H.E. Maude, to whom I appealed at the time, has already prepared a scheme of contents of a book to be written by him. The synopsis appears to me to presage the ideal text book for local use. A copy of this synopsis is appended.

3. The book mentioned is the educational desideratum of the moment and I am naturally anxious that nothing should be allowed to intervene, until it is issued. From this book will come a hunger for the study of native texts, when their publication might well be undertaken. I feel that, important as this matter of
the

The Secretary

to the Government,

Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony,

Ocean Island.

2.

the publication of texts is, it is not urgent enough to demand action at the moment, even if action is possible.

4. It is open to doubt whether a large enough number of texts are immediately available. Fragments only have been printed in scientific journals. Mr Grimble did not leave his collection of notes in the Colony, as he had the intention of working up his material at a larger date. It seems however that he was mistaken in assuming that those natives possessed of historical narratives had become extinct. Mr Maude informs me that natives in his area hold this valuable knowledge. At the King George V School, where recitals of traditions are given by old men, no great difficulty has been experienced in obtaining knowledgeable chroniclers.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) F.G.L. Holland,
Superintendent of Education.

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY.

Island of Beru.

Southern Gilbert Islands.

12th January, 1935.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you of the following circumstances with regard to my examination in Law.

2. For some time previous to November I had been working, during my spare time, almost without intermission, in an endeavour to master the various branches of English law. Mr. C. G. F. Cartwright having returned from Arona I arranged with him to sit for my examination on the 3th November, but unfortunately on the 4th November I was taken ill and was unfit for any work for the next 6 weeks. During this period I made two attempts to recommence my law studies but in each case I was compelled to give up again. In December the Rev. G. H. Eastman, who was, in the absence of any doctor, acting as my medical adviser, stated that as the root of my trouble was nervous and mental and caused by overwork and worry in a tropical climate he considered that the only way I could recover without leave would be to sit for my law examination directly I felt physically fit enough but without any further study or revision.

The Secretary to Government,
Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony,
Ocean Island.

revision.

3. I naturally took Mr. Easton's advice and therefore had preferred to sit for my examination while convalescent from an illness caused by my desire to do well in it and, with the exception of reading through my notes just prior to sitting, I was unable to study or revise any law for about two months previous to the examination.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) H. E. MAUDE

Commissioner for Native Lands,
Gilbert Islands.

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY.

Island of Beru,
Southern Gilbert Islands.
4th February, 1935.

S. C.
No. 3.

Sir,

With reference to your telegram of the 24th October on the subject of the inclusion of the island of Nonouti in the Southern Gilbert Islands District, I have the honour to submit the following report. I regret that my reply has been unavoidably delayed owing to my recent illness.

2. While the arguments in favour of the transfer of Nonouti to the Southern Gilbert Islands District are considerably strengthened should District Headquarters be transferred to Tabiteuea Island, I am in any case strongly in favour of Nonouti being included in the Southern Gilberts District, for the following reasons. When in charge of the Central Gilbert Islands District I more than once mentioned in my Travelling Diaries that the Central Islands of Abosma, Kuria, Aradua, and Nonouti were largely unadministered territory, as far as European supervision was concerned. This statement contains no reflection on the officers in charge of the Central Gilberts District who,

until a

The Secretary to Government,
Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony,
Oceania Island.

until a sub-accountant can be stationed in the Group, must necessarily remain primarily Treasury Officials chained to their headquarters on Tarawa Island by the volume and urgency of their Treasury, Customs and Postal duties. As a result of this the Native Governments of the Central Islands and, in particular, the islands of Nonouti, Abesama and Aramuka, have relapsed into an ineptitude and ignorance hard to credit.

3. The Native Government of Nonouti fully realise their ignorance and inefficiency and excuse themselves on the ground that they are virtually never visited by a European Official and that when one does visit them he is far too busy to pay any attention to island matters. They are far from satisfied with this state of affairs, however, and in 1931 and again in 1933 appealed to me to petition the Resident Commissioner on their behalf to have the island transferred to the Southern Gilbert Islands District, to which they recognise that they Traditionally and ethnographically belong. This I was unwilling to do for fear of creating a misunderstanding, as I was in charge of the Southern District myself during both the years mentioned.

4. There is no doubt, however, that the Administrative Officer in charge of the Southern Islands has far more time than his colleague at Tarawa for devoting to problems of native administration and that, if transferred to the Southern District, the island of Nonouti would be more efficiently administered since it would receive far more attention than it can be given at present. Admittedly, the Administrative Officer in charge of the Southern District would have a very large district in point of view of native population but he is able to keep constantly moving

ly moving round his islands carrying his Treasury and other headquarters work with him. This cannot be done by the officer in charge of the Tarawa District, who would still find it hard enough to visit and administer efficiently his outlying islands of Maiana, Abanama, Kuria and Aranuka. Should the headquarters station of the Administrative Officer, Southern Gilbert Islands District, be situated on Tabiteuea Island, as I have recommended in a previous letter, he would find it easy to visit and keep in touch with Nonouti whenever he desired, as communication between the two islands is simple and safe except during very rough weather. In this connection I would mention that the Father in charge of the Roman Catholic Mission station on North Tabiteuea informed me recently that he was more conversant with what was going on at Nonouti Island than on more distant South Tabiteuea.

5. Apart from questions of administrative expediency, however, I would urge that the ethnographical line dividing the Gilbert Islands lies, not between Nonouti and Tabiteuea, but between Nonouti and Abanama. The people of Nonouti speak the same dialect as the natives of Tabiteuea and have the same customs and social organisation, which differ widely from those of the islands to the north of the dividing line. The kingdoms of the north end with that of Tokatake on Abanama, Kuria and Aranuka, and with Nonouti begins the democracies of the south, which extend without a break to Arorae. An Administrative Officer from Tabiteuea or Beru who is, as he should be, thoroughly conversant with the customs of the Southern Gilbert Islands, would find it, therefore, easy to administer the island of Nonouti by

applying

applying his knowledge of the Southern Gilbertese, whereas an officer coming down from the central islands would in all probability increase the present confusion on the island by working with faulty knowledge in an unfamiliar environment.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) H. E. MAUDE

Commissioner for Native Lands,
Gilbert Islands.

London Missionary Society,

Roñoroño Training Institution,

Beru, Gilbert Islands,

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

March 12th 1935

Dear Mr. Maude,

I have much pleasure in sending you herewith a letter of introduction to Rev. A. M. Chirgwin, M.A., the General Secretary of the London Missionary Society, which I hope you will make an opportunity of using while you are in England. If he should happen to be out when you call, please ask for Rev. Godfrey Phillips, M.A., or failing him for Rev. Nelson Bitton, the Home Secretary. You are pretty certain to find one of them, and even if they are out there are lots of other officers of the Society who would be glad to give you a welcome.

Livingstone House, is in Broadway, Westminster, exactly opposite the tube station of St. James' Park. Quite a good way to get there is to take the tube to St. James' Park, go out of the exit to Broadway, cross the road, and there you are at Livingstone House. Or you can approach it up Tothill Street from Victoria Street, Westminster Abbey end. Or from Buckingham Gate across the Park from Whitehall.

Please let me know if I can be of any help to you in the way of any other introductions in the Old Country. My own people are mostly living in the country, and you are hardly likely to get their way, but if chance should take you there and you care to keep this letter, please do not hesitate to call upon my brother Arthur H. Eastman, J.P., at "Penlands", Hadleigh, Suffolk. Or if you should be in Ipswich, call on my wife's brother, whose business premises are right in the centre of the town close to the Town Hall, Mr. S. C. Grimwade, J.P., of Grimwade & Sons, Cornhill, Ipswich.

If your journeyings should take you to Lincoln, and if you are interested in big engineering works, call on my wife's brother in law, Mr. Victor Bohe, either at the RUSTON-BUCYHUS works, of which company he is Managing Director; or at his private house at the top of the hill leading up to the Cathedral, by name "Lindum Holme", a very interesting old house dating back a long way, with some interesting ruins of old monasteries and the like in the grounds.

Or if you are calling on His Majesty at Windsor Castle (†) I have a cousin, Mr. Howard Hetherington, living at Eton, to whom anybody would direct you, and who could doubtless get you any sort of private inspection of the College at Eton which you might like to visit. Also another cousin, Miss Alma Hetherington, living at "Bucks", York Road, Windsor, who could show you the sights of Windsor, as she has lived in Windsor and Eton all her life.

Yours sincerely,

A. H. Eastman.

By the way, I see it is March 11th, not 12th today. The J.W. arrived at Funafuti yesterday and left at 3.p.m. for Beru via Vaitupu.

In case you want to make an appointment by phone, the L.M.S. number is

VICTORIA 5057 (3 lines)

London Missionary Society,

Ronoroño Training Institution,

Beru, Gilbert Islands,

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

March 12th 1935

Rev. A. M. Chirgwin, M.A.,
General Secretary,
London Missionary Society,
Livingstone House, Broadway,
WESTMINSTER S.W.1.

Dear Mr. Chirgwin,

This letter will serve as an introduction for the bearer, H. E. Maude, Esq., M.A., Commissioner for Lands, Gilbert & Ellice Islands Colony, who is shortly visiting England on leave, and who hopes to call upon you at Livingstone House.

After some years in the Administrative service, Mr. Maude was appointed a short time ago as Commissioner for Lands in this Colony. He has already commenced his work in the Lands Commission, but health necessitates his taking leave in England before he can proceed far with the Lands Commission work, which involves a good deal of travelling through the Group.

Mr. and Mrs. Maude are both keenly interested in the Gilbertese, and in their history, customs, folklore &c. Mr. Maude is a keen anthropologist, and has published several short monographs on anthropological subjects. During their somewhat broken periods of residence at Beru, Mr. & Mrs. Maude have been in close touch with us at Rongorongo, and have shown a very cordial interest in our work here. Mrs. Maude has very kindly presented the prizes on our Annual Prize Day on several occasions.

Mr. Maude is collecting a valuable library of all published books on the Gilbert Islands. I am sure he would be interested if you could let him see some of the Society's early records relative to the Gilbert Islands, which you have preserved in the Library at Livingstone House.

I think it would be valuable if you would very kindly arrange if possible for Mr. Maude to meet Rev. G. E. Phillips, M.A., the Foreign Secretary for the South Seas Field, who may be glad to have the opportunity of discussing with him the Society's policy in regard to Mission Lands in particular in the Gilbert Islands.

Commending Mr. & Mrs. Maude to your kindly hospitality at Livingstone House,

I am,

Yours sincerely,

G. H. Eastman
Chairman, Gilbert Islands District
Committee.

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY

Island of Beru,

Southern Gilbert Islands District,

25th March, 1935.

S. G.

No. 30.

Sir,

With reference to Section 6 of the enclosure to your letter No. 52 of the 18th September, 1934, on the subject of the suggested return of certain Tabit-eueans to their ancestral lands, we have the honour to forward the following reply. We have ventured in this case not only to answer this letter jointly, since our views on this question are very largely coincident, but also to treat the matter somewhat more generally than was originally requested, as it would appear that the question of permitting the re-population of Central Tabiteuea is only part of the more general one of allowing natives to live in their own ancestral "ksinga".

2. There is not, and so far as we know there never has been, any legality for the compulsory gathering of natives into villages. For reasons which we outline below, it is our firm opinion that there never should be any such legality.

3. (a). The basis of Gilbertese social organisation was, and, in spite of hindrances, still is, the clan. It is very doubtful whether even an enforced

The Secretary to Government,
Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony,
OCEAN ISLAND.

enforced village system would ever oust the clan from being this paramount factor. At the moment the traditional clan and the European village system to a large extent merely mitigate each other's usefulness.

(b) Among the problems with which an Administrative Officer has to deal, by far the majority may be traced to one of two causes - land and women. There can be no doubt that any loosening of the tie between the landowner and his land must introduce a weak link of which others can, and do, take advantage. The present village system, which in many cases separates a landowner from the greater part of his land, is here obviously less satisfactory than a system whereby he would continually live on, and retain undisputed control over, his property.

The complications caused by compulsory village life in the matter of disputes over women, and the general lowering of sexual morality, need little elaboration. Conversation with the older men suggests conclusively that the sexual morality of the Gilbertese to-day is far below that which obtained when the people were living on their traditional homesteads. There can be little surprise at this when one considers the intimate authority exercised by the hereditary leader of the families forming a "kainga" in comparison with the cold, impersonal (and often blase) attitude of the present-day kaubure to the hundreds of villagers in their care.

Sexual morality has been mentioned, but it is not, of course, only in this that the authority of the head of a homestead was so usefully felt. The hundred-and-one infinitesimal squabbles (such, for example, as the ownership
of a

of a canoe-paddle, or the straying of a pig) which at present are inefficiently settled by kaubure, and cause and Administrative Officer's life to be almost a farce, were, and could be again, more amicably and satisfactorily dealt with by the more immediate authority of the head of a "kainga" or clan hamlet.

c. By the above we do not intend, or visualise, that the present appointment of kaubure should be discontinued. The system of return to the kainga would rather represent a devolution of part of the present work of the kaubure. The minor questions alluded to above would, in our opinion, be satisfactorily settled by the heads of kainga themselves, and the major questions would be referred to kaubure, by whom they would either be settled or brought before the Native Court. We do not anticipate any official recognition of these heads of kainga as an entity in the administrative whole. Their authority would be purely traditional and patriarchal, and would for that reason be all the more unquestioned among the members of their own "utu".

The work devolving on a kaubure would possibly be slightly less. They would be in charge of the same number of people as at the present time, but their territorial districts would be somewhat enlarged. In no case, however, can we recall an instance in which these territorial districts would be unwieldy in size. The work of the kaubure and police would, we believe, be actually decreased by virtue of the lesser volume of minor questions which would be brought to them for adjudication. It might be considered that this lessening of the volume of work devolving on the kaubure is actually undesirable, but we venture to remind you that they at present receive no remuneration
for their

for their services and that therefore, other things being equal, all possible steps are desirable which introduce a lightening of their duties, particularly if, as we believe in this case, an increase of efficiency is simultaneously brought about.

d. The conflict between the proposed system and legislation at present in force is almost negligible. The only difficulties involved are in respect of Island Regulation No. 44, enforcing the 6 and 9 o'clock curfews on villagers. Quite apart from any other considerations, it is our firm belief that this regulation is an unjustifiable imposition, and it is one of our greatest hopes that the removal of the village system would bring about its downfall. We believe that we are far from being alone in this opinion. Furthermore, we understand that it has already been ruled that the regulation is not binding on those who (as some already do) live outside villages. If its retention is considered absolutely vital, it will not effectively curtail the success of the return to the kainga, and its enforcement will entail little difficulty.

e. Of the medical advantages or disadvantages of a return to smaller communities, we are not entitled to speak. Conversations with villagers, however, suggest that they believe the present herding into villages to be one of the main causes of any ill-health which may now exist. In any case, it requires no medical knowledge to see the insanitary and unhygienic results of the present overcrowding in large village aggregates, or to realise the extent for which the compulsory herding of the native population is to blame for the spreading of infectious or contagious diseases.

f. It must

f. It must, naturally, be assumed that the present Administration of this Colony is particularly interested in the economic success of the natives to which it belongs. The present village system, by removing natives from their lands, is directly preventing economic expansion in the form of better cultivation. It is of little avail to enforce by Regulation one day's compulsory cultivation per week, when the native is in many cases forced to live at a distance of several hours' walk from his land and return to his village by sunset.

g. We have found Missionaries who are even more anxious, if possible, than ourselves to see the natives freed from the unnecessary and stifling curfew laws and able to dwell where they desire - it was a Missionary who described the present system as being akin to slavery; it is conceivable, however, that some slight opposition might be met from those who feared that attendance at Church and school might be made more difficult by the distances to be covered between a native's home and the nearest Mission centre. While respectfully submitting that this is entirely a matter for the Missions to settle, and that these grounds are quite insufficient to warrant an enforcement on the native of an administrative imposition which is unjustifiable and undesired, we consider that in actual practice the objections on this score will prove to be practically negligible. In fact, in the case of the question of Tabiteuea to which we are directly referring, no Mission school exists in the central villages of Aiwa and Bangai, although these villages have been established for close on forty years. The case of the central portion of Tabiteuea may be regarded as being quite exceptional, and
on all

on all other islands it is a fact that the habitation of traditional kainga would seldom involve the inhabitants in any further journey than is at present entailed in journeying to school or Church from their village houses.

h. The aesthetic side of the question may, perhaps, not be considered as being very cogent from an administrative point of view, but we submit that it is worthy of consideration if no contrary principles are involved, especially as the present situation cannot fail to have a most adverse effect on native psychology, deadening inventiveness and stifling initiative. On one's first visit to the Gilberts, one cannot help being struck by the appalling monotony in the sameness of every house in every village in every island. In those rare cases in which break-aways from village life have already taken place, we are greatly impressed by the extraordinary artistic sense which is shewn by the native in choosing his site, and the pride which he takes in designing and building his homestead, a pride which is generally unknown in the repressive atmosphere of a village. It is a fact which the old men among the natives have themselves noted that life in large villages turns out a set type of individual, devoid of resource and with a herd mind only capable of being led, whereas those dwelling as freemen on their own lands develop a natural individuality and initiative.

4. It now remains to turn to the more immediate question of the return of the Tabiteueans to their central islets, as mentioned in the correspondence referred to above.

In this case, we venture to apply all the above reasoning without qualification and, as mentioned above, we beg to remind you that, of the islands of the Gilberts,

Tabiteuea

Tabiteuea may perhaps be regarded as being an extreme example. The only question which is affected by this, however, is that of the distances of the proposed kainga from established schools or Churches, and we have attempted to shew that, particularly in the case of Tabiteuea, this introduces no cause for the Government to withhold this extension of liberty from the natives. It was, in actual fact, at the earnest entreaty of the Roman Catholic Father in charge of North Tabiteuea that one of the signatories to this letter forwarded, last year, the new settlement of Tenaatorua on one of the central islets.

It is, perhaps, the most cogent argument in favour of allowing the return of the landowners to these islets that in the past they supported a population of approximately three thousand people (very little short of the present population of the whole island). The majority of this population perished in the great slaughter of the pagans by the Christians in 1873, and there is no reason to believe that the land is not now just as capable of supporting this number as before. In actual practice, it is doubtful whether as many as five hundred would take the opportunity of returning to their lands in this part of the island, and there is no doubt that natural resources are abundantly ample for their needs.

It should be borne in mind that in the case of Tabiteuea, as much as a full day's journey is sometimes entailed in a landowner's reaching his lands from his present village, and that therefore on this island more than any other the most desirable results are likely to be achieved.

5. The present village system, insofar as it affects the centre of Tabiteuea, was instituted by Mr. G.M.

Murdoch,

Mr. G.M. Murdoch, then District Magistrate, before the beginning of the present century. His action was taken owing to the fact that the slaughter of the pagans, mentioned above, had left this portion of the island seriously depopulated, and the population was so scattered as to prevent efficient policing, which at that time was considered necessary. We assume, from what we have heard, that the total population in those days would not have exceeded two hundred.

Under the new system introduced, the only native settlements in this portion of the island became (from north to south) Kabuna, Bangai, Aiwa and Teowai. It takes approximately nine hours to walk from Kabuna to Bangai, two hours from Bangai to Aiwa and ten from Aiwa to Teowai. These figures give a fair idea of the present virtual uselessness of this intervening part of the island.

It is our opinion that after forty years of administration the necessity for this persistent and irritating policing is long overpast, and the more general supervision such as would be provided by kaubure and police in charge of a wider area would achieve far more satisfactory and salutary results. No extra kaubure or police would be necessitated, and so no extra expenditure by Government, for we believe that the reduction in the number of kaubure in some already-established villages would not only cause no difficulty, but would also create an improvement in the efficiency of the kaubure and police as a whole.

6. Before concluding, we would take the liberty of dealing briefly with what might be described as the

ethical

ethical side of the questions dealt with above. We believe that we are right in saying that nowhere in the British Empire, except among certain tribes of hereditary criminals in India, are natives forcibly herded together into communities, divorced from their means of subsistence and from those home sites where their ancestors have lived before them and to which they are tied by all the forces of sentiment, loyalty and tradition. Yet the Gilbertese are not a tribe of hereditary criminals, they are among the most peaceable and law-abiding races in the world, being virtually free from crime as it is understood by the rest of the world. Indeed, it may be doubted whether a race less docile and peaceable would have tolerated being taken away from their lands and ancestral homes, forced into a village, made to remain inside that village from 6 o'clock every evening and finally compelled to keep inside the four walls of their tiny sleeping houses from 9 p.m. to 5:30 a.m. on every night of their lives.

7. In the hope that the privilege of the return to their own lands may be extended as soon as possible to all natives as well as those under immediate reference, we venture to enclose herewith a draft circular on this subject for His Honour's consideration.

We have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servants

C.G.F.Cartwright,

H.E.Maude

Acting Administrative Officer, Commissioner for Native Lands,
Southern Gilbert Islands District, Gilbert Islands.

Circular
Districts
No. ---.

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY,
Office of the Resident Commissioner,
Ocean Island, -- -----, 1935.

RESIDING OF NATIVES OUTSIDE VILLAGES.

I am directed by the Resident Commissioner to inform you that no legality exists for the prevalent Native Government practice of forcing natives to live within the bounds of a village community.

2. You are accordingly requested to inform all Native Governments in your District that they have no power to restrain natives from living outside their present villages should they so desire.

.....

Island of Beru,

Southern Gilbert Islands,

29th March, 1935.

Dear Mr. Barley,

When you were last on Beru you asked me to prepare a list of easily accessible works on this Colony. I have done my best, and enclose two copies of the result, but I am afraid that you will be disappointed with it as there are practically no books in existence which do more than merely mention the Colony en passant, while the main theme of the book is on something else.

Of the books which do incidentally mention the Colony there is, however, no end, but the enclosed list contains, I think, the cream of the lot in addition to those ten or fifteen works which are almost entirely on Colony affairs. Most of them are, I'm afraid, hard to purchase, but I imagine that all could be found in such a place as the Mitchell Library in Sydney.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) H. E. MAUDE

Bibliography of works on the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony,

(abridged).

A. Discovery of the Islands.

It is a tedious work tracing the various original sources for this period of the Colony's history. Fortunately, however, they are nearly all summarized in :-

1. Woodford, C. M. - "The Gilbert Islands". Journal of the Royal Geographical Society, vol. VI, 1896.
2. Hartzer, Le Pere Fernand. - "Les Iles Bleanches des Mers du Sud". Histoire du Vicariat Apostolique des Archipels Gilbert et Ellice. Paris, 1900,

is also a good authority on this period.

B. Early voyages to the Islands - to 1850.

The best accounts of early voyages to the islands are contained in:-

3. Coulter, Dr. John. - "Adventures on the Western Coast of South America, and the Interior of California". 2 vols. London, 1847. The account of his visit to the Gilbert Islands in 1835 is contained in Vol. I, pp. 189-237.
4. Printer, A. Moring. (John D. Jones). - "Life and Adventure in the South Pacific". London, 1861. An account of a visit to the Gilbert Islands in the late 1830s on board a whaling ship. pp. 99-119, 144-146, 187-221, 249.
5. Wilkes, Commodore Charles. - "Narrative of the United States Exploring Expedition, 1838-42". Philadelphia, 1845. The "Peacock" and the "Flying-Fish", two ships belonging to this expedition, visited many of the central and northern Gilbert Islands in 1841, having touched at two of the Ellice Islands on their way north.
6. Webster, John. - "The Last Cruise of the 'Wanderer'". Sydney, 1863. The account of Uveas Island is particularly good.

C. Accounts of the Islands - from 1850 to the declaration of the Protectorate.

Among the accounts of the islands just prior to Protectorate days the best are:-

7. Stevenson, Mrs. R. L. - "The Cruise of the 'Janet Nichol' among the South Sea Islands". London, 1915. This gives a more accurate and detailed account of the islands than her husband's writings. The voyage was made in 1890, through both the Gilbert and Ellice Groups.
8. Whitsee, Rev. S.J. - "A Missionary Cruise in the South Pacific: being the Report of a voyage amongst the Tokelau, Ellice and Gilbert Islands, in the Missionary barque "John Williams", during 1870." Sydney, 1871.

9. David, Mrs. Edgeworth. - "Funafuti, or Three Months on a Coral Island: An unscientific account of a scientific expedition". Mrs. David was on Funafuti just after the declaration of the protectorate but before a European officer had been stationed in the Group.

D. Scientific Accounts of the Islanders.

For anyone who reads German the best accounts of the Gilbertese are contained in:-

10. Finckh, Dr. G. - "Ethnologische Erfahrungen und Belegstücke aus der Südpazifik". Dritte abtheilung: Mikronesien. I. Gilbert-Inseln. Vienna, 1893.
11. Krader, Prof. Dr. Augustin. - "Hawaii, Ostmikronesien und Samoa". Stuttgart, 1906.

The following are also good:-

All the works of Gribble, A. F., which are as given below -

12. "From Birth to Death in the Gilbert Islands". Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute, 1921.
13. "Canoe Crests in the Gilbert Islands". Man, 1921.
14. "The Sun and Six". Man, 1922.
15. "Creation Myths of the Gilbert Islands". Journal of the Folklore Society, 1922.
16. "Canoes in the Gilbert Islands". Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute, 1924.
17. "Gilbertese Astronomy and Astronomical Observances". Journal of the Polynesian Society, 1929.

Nos. 13 and 14 are very short specialised monographs.

18. Hale, H. - "Ethnography and Philology of the United States Exploring Expedition, 1838-42". Philadelphia, 1846. This work, while interesting, is unfortunately very scarce and hard to obtain.

Wilkes - see above, No. 5. The chapters entitled, "Ellice and Kingsmill Group" and "Manners and Customs of the Kingsmill Islanders" are the ones dealing with the Gilbertese and Ellice Islanders.

For the Ellice Islanders the best work is:-

19. Kennedy, D. G. - "Field Notes on the Culture of Vaitupu, Ellice Islands". Memoirs of the Polynesian Society, vol. 9.

The only other work of importance is:-

20. Hedley, Charles and others. - "The Atoll of Funafuti, Ellice Group: its Zoology, Botany, Ethnology, and General Structure". The general account of the Ellice Islands and the section on ethnology are both by Mr. Hedley and are very careful studies.

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E. Missionary Activities.

There is no good account of London Missionary Society work other than that contained in:-

- 21. "Progress. Being the Decennial Report 1920-1930 of the Gilbert Islands and Nauru Mission, Central Pacific". Nauru, Gilbert Islands, 1931.

The following book is meant more for boys and girls but is worth reading:-

- 22. Postman, Rev. G. H. - "Coroel Island Folk: stories and pictures from the South Sea Islands". London, 1925.

For an account of the Sacred Heart Mission one cannot do better than:-

Hartzer - see above, No. 2.

F. Language.

The following are the standard works on the Gilbertese language:-

- 23. Bingham, Dr. Hiram. - "Outlines of a Grammar of the Gilbert Islands Language". Nauru, Gilbert Islands, 1922.
- 24. Sacred Heart Mission, A member of the (Brother John). - "A Gilbertese Grammar and Vocabulary". Abaiang, Gilbert Islands, undated.
- 25. Bingham, Dr. Hiram. - "A Gilbertese-English Dictionary". Boston, U.S.A., 1908.
- 26. Sacred Heart, the Mission of the. - "Dictionary. English-Kiribati and Kiribati-English". Abaiang, Gilbert Islands, 1931. A very poor dictionary when compared with Bingham's but useful as it contains an English-Gilbertese section.

G. Lighter Literature.

The best of the lighter literature dealing with these islands are:-

- 27. Stevenson, Robert Louis. - "In the South Seas". - London, 1900. An account of a stay, during 1889, on Mataritari, forms Part IV, and on Abemama, Part V, of the book.
- 28. McClure, H. R. - "Land-travel and Seafaring. A frivolous record of twenty years' wanderings". London, 1925. A description of the Gilbert Islands and the Gilbertese by the late Resident Commissioner.
- 29. Burnett, Frank. - "Through Tropic Seas". London, 1910. An account of a visit to the Gilbert Islands when Mr. Telfer Campbell was Resident Commissioner.

Several of Louis Becke's works contain stories and articles on the Gilbert and Ellice Groups, notably:-

- 30. "Pacific Tales". London, 1897, and
- 31. "Wild Life in Southern Seas". London, 1897.

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H. Miscellaneous.

32. Brown, Prof. J. Macmillan. - "Peoples and Problems of the Pacific". 2 vols. London, 1927.
Contains several interesting chapters on the Gilbert Islands.

Of the many articles on Ocean Island, two are well worth reading.

33. Mahaffy, A. - "Ocean Island". Blackwood's Magazine, 1910.

34. Ellis, A. F. - "Newry and Ocean Islands. Story of the Phosphate Discoveries and Workings". The New Zealand Journal of Agriculture. Wellington, 1920.

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GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY.

Island of Beru,
Southern Gilbert Islands.
18th April, 1935.

S. G.
No. 13.

Sir,

With reference to Circular Districts No. 28 of the 3rd November, 1934 concerning the question of the advisability of framing Regulations under the Native Passengers Ordinance, 1929, for the control of small native-owned sailing craft plying between the various islands of the Colony, I have the honour to state that in my opinion no regulations of any nature are necessary for controlling vessels plying between the islands mentioned in His Honour's Circular or between the islands of Abaiang or Tarawa and Maiana, and Kuria or Aranuka and Abemema. All these islands are very close to each other and a boat or canoe travelling between any of the islands in the three groups would never be out of sight of land. In actual practice, small craft carrying passengers have habitually plied between these islands in the past and still do, and while I believe travelling between Maiana and Tarawa or Abaiang was forbidden some ten years ago owing to an
accident

The Secretary to Government,
Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony,
Ocean Island.

accident to a sailing boat owned by Mr. Corrie, this accident was due entirely to Mr. Corrie's gross carelessness and could not have been prevented by any conceivable regulation.

2. I would urge that there is no more danger in travelling between the various islands of these three groups than in sailing from North to South Tabiteuea and that all regulations are, therefore, unnecessary and invidious. I would suggest, accordingly, that a Regulation similar to the enclosed should be passed, stating that each of the groups in question shall be considered to be, for the purposes of the Native Passengers Ordinance, one island.

3. With regard to small native-owned sailing craft plying between the other islands of this Colony I would suggest that a simple set of regulations for their control be drawn up and that they should be based on ones which have been found to be of use in other Colonies where similar conditions obtain, for example in the Lau Group included in the Colony of Fiji, or the Seychelles Islands. I hesitate to submit any draft rules in view of the fact that tried and tested regulations for meeting a similar situation are presumably already in existence elsewhere and should form the basis of those devised to meet local requirements.

4. I presume that any regulations made under Ordinance No. 1 of 1929 will only apply to craft carrying fare-paying native passengers and I would strongly recommend that craft which do not carry passengers for profit should be immune from having to comply with the provisions of the Ordinance or any Regulations made under it.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

John

Commissioner for Native Lands,

Gilbert Islands.

Enclosure.

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY.

THE NATIVE PASSENGERS ORDINANCE

1929.

Regulations made by the High Commissioner under section 7 (1) of Ordinance No. 1 of 1929.

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Native Passengers Safety Regulations 1935.
2. For the purposes of section 2 of the Native Passengers Ordinance, 1929, each of the following groups of islands shall be deemed to be one island:-
 - (1) Little Makin and Butaritari.
 - (2) Abaiang, Tarawa and Maiana.
 - (3) Abemama, Kuria and Aranuka.

Made at Suva in the Colony of Fiji this --- day of --- ,
one thousand nine hundred and thirty five.

High Commissioner.

LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY

(ESTABLISHED 1795)

FOREIGN SECRETARIES:
~~F. H. HAWKINS, LL.B.~~
G. E. PHILLIPS, M.A.
A. M. CHIRGWIN, M.A.

LIVINGSTONE HOUSE BROADWAY, WESTMINSTER, S.W. 1

TELEPHONE:
VICTORIA 5057 (3 LINES)
TELEGRAMS:
"MISSIONARY SOWEST." LONDON.

27th June 1935.

To await arrival in this country.

H. E. Maude Esq., M.A.,
(Gilbert & Ellice Islands Colony)
c/o Colonial Office,
Downing Street,
S. W. 1.

Dear Mr. Maude,

I understand from Messrs. Sadd and Eastman of Beru that you are likely to be in this country in the very near future. I hope we shall have the pleasure of seeing you here and I shall be personally most interested to hear anything you can tell me about the Gilbert Islands. I have received communications from Mr. Eastman this week dealing with some questions concerning our Mission Lands in connection with the Lands Settlement work which you have lately initiated.

This morning I have seen Sir Murchison Fletcher and you will be glad to know that he thinks it very probable that the documents which you had to report to Mr. Eastman as having been lost have been found and received in the Gilbert Islands after your departure on leave.

There are other points, such as Mr. Grimble's ruling about twenty-one years occupation. Sir Murchison asked me to get into touch with you and talk these things over fully before writing to him officially as High Commissioner. I hope that you will do me the kindness of coming here for an unofficial conversation. As I do not know when you arrive it is of no use my suggesting dates and I can only send this letter to the Colonial Office to await arrival.

Sadd tells me that you would like to see any documents we have about the Gilbert Islands. I have not had time myself to examine them but we will gladly show you anything we possess.

Sincerely yours,

G. E. Phillips

**London Missionary
Society.
Gilbert Islands
Mission.**



**Rongorongo,
BERU,
GILBERT ISLANDS
Central Pacific.**

August 1935.

Dear Friends,

We are painfully conscious that a circular letter is long overdue. Perhaps the best excuse we can offer is to tell you of some of the work that we have been trying to do in the crowded months since last we wrote to you. Some years ago our Foreign Secretary, Rev. G. E. Phillips, M. A., wrote an excellent little monograph entitled, "The Missionary's JOB." When we read it we could not help thinking that had he worked in the Gilberts he would have added another chapter with the heading, "The Missionary's jobs." For over and above and alongside of the wide ramifications of the ordinary missionary's job, here at Rongorongo we have a multiplicity of jobs quite outside those normally associated with the idea of a missionary's work. Here then are some of the "jobs" which crowd upon us day by day, to say nothing of countless items that are continually cropping up that are not in the programme, as varied as the activities of the "professional aunt" or the "beach lawyer."

First there is, of course, the Missionary's JOB. This has its classic divisions, Preaching, Teaching, Healing. Although in these days of specialisation these are often separated so that one missionary is labelled evangelistic, another educational, and another medical, all three come very definitely within the range of our activities at Beru.

Evangelistic. Here on our head station week by week and day by day, and as opportunity serves, in the villages of Beru, it is our joy to proclaim the glad tidings of God's Redemptive Grace, and to call men and women to the Kingdom of Life and Love. While on the visitation of the other islands twice a year by the "John Williams V," this privilege is always placed in the forefront of our activities. Light and shadow mingle in our experiences. There has been some modification of Government procedure in relation to the drinking of sour toddy, to immorality and adultery, and to the practice of pagan fetish worship and sorcery. The actual facts would appear to be that Native Government officials have been advised that as the British Law stands, it is an offence to be found drunk and disorderly, but not to drink toddy; an injured husband or wife may bring an action against a guilty spouse, but no notice is otherwise to be taken of sexual errancies; and pagan fetish worship and sorcery is not only permitted but carefully protected from interruption or contumely provided that it does not involve actual bodily harm. But these people, if given an inch, take an ell, with the result that the wildest rumours have been circulating in the islands, and there is not the slightest doubt but that in many places there have been outbreaks of intemperance, immorality, and recrudescence of pagan practices, under the impression that these things are permitted and even approved by the powers that be. Such a time of testing has led to much backsliding by the weaker brethren, and there have been sadly lengthy lists of lapses from Church membership. While it is perfectly true that you cannot make Christians by legislation, the attitude of legislators can be either helpful or harmful to the cause of the Kingdom of God to an extent that can probably be best realised only by those who have experiences similar to ours. Arising from these causes, we have been much concerned in recent months by the serious numbers of lapses in the Beru villages, and even our own Mission village has not been exempt, some having fallen victims to these temptations from outside. This burden has been upon us and upon our teachers, and we have made it a matter of united and personal prayer and effort. I rejoice that I am able to tell you that within the last few weeks, as an outcome of these efforts, there seems to have been a definite turning of the tide. In our own village and on the villages of Beru the backsliders have in a most humbling and heartening way been coming to express contrition and the desire to try again; so that the lists of lapses are beginning to give place to lists of penitents and new seekers. So we praise God and take courage.

Another difficulty that threatens very seriously to hamper our work is that Government by a complete reversal of policy is deliberately breaking up the villages and encouraging the people to go off and build shacks anywhere they like on their own lands in the bush. The result is that the attendance of the people at Sunday services and of the children at school is seriously interfered with, and our work is definitely rendered more difficult. Also we are inclined to believe from the evidence that much less effective Government and police control will ensue, with the result that law breaking will be increased.

Educational. The work of our large Training Institution here at Rongorongo goes steadily on. Our recent census showed that we have now on our Head Station a population of 313, which, although slightly below the figures for 1933-34, is well above the average of the previous decade. We have lost Miss Simmons who retired and left the Mission at the beginning of this year. Mr. & Mrs. Levett have been away since Nov. 1933; and for over a year now, our Vice Principal, Pastor Jupeli & his wife Sera, have been away on furlough in Samoa. We have been greatly disappointed that while our staff is so short, the furloughs of Mr. & Mrs. Levett and of Pastor Jupeli & Sera have both been extended some months beyond the normal time when their return was expected; as this has thrown prolonged extra strain upon those on the Field. Our new colleague Rev. A. L. Sadd, B. A., has been making good progress with the language, and is now taking a good share in the educational work for the boys and students. While we have had disappointments, as referred to above, we rejoice in the number of fine young lives seeking to follow Christ, and to prepare for the service

of His Kingdom. In the Boys' School our numbers have exceeded 100; the Girls' School has had a full complement of 70; and we have 40 students in the Theological College, many of whom are married. Recently as Principal, as an innovation, I offered two "Bayard Prizes" for the boy and girl who should be selected by their comrades as those who were the most faithful, and who by their character brought most honour to our School, and exercised the best influence over their comrades. The boys and girls took up the idea keenly, and showed excellent discrimination in their choice. The voting was by ballot taken within a few hours of the suggestion, to ensure spontaneous choice. While one pleasing feature of the voting was the fairly large number who were thought worthy to receive the suffrages of some of their companions, the boy and girl chosen came out easy leaders over all competitors; and were really admirably chosen. When the names were announced it was an added thrill to find that the two are engaged to be married. So we thank God for Taboua and his bride-to-be Kaboraua; and we look forward to fine service from them in coming years for Christ and His Kingdom.

Medical. Our Mission Dispensary maintains its daily ministry of healing. For a few months we actually had a white doctor making his headquarters at Beru, but financial stress led the Government to abandon the scheme for a central hospital for the Southern Gilberts at Beru; and our friend the doctor left to take over the duties of the Senior Medical Officer, who retired from the Colony service last year. So the Mission Dispensary is still as much needed as ever. One of our recent interesting cases was that of an R. C. boy who fell from a high coconut palm on to some rocks and injured himself badly. In addition to head and body injuries he had sustained an absolutely smashed up arm, fractured in several places, one of which was a very severe compound and complicated fracture. A messenger came to say a boy had been injured and was being brought in. As he did not arrive we sent out some of our boys with the old motor chassis which Mr. Sadd recently imported, and had the boy brought in. By that time it was night, and before we could operate we had to obtain the approval of the local Government officers, of whom two happened to be on the island at the time. They agreed with us that amputation was the only hope for the boy, so with the assistance of the Gilbertese Government Dresser we amputated the arm near the shoulder. I am glad to say the boy made an excellent recovery, and the stump has healed up splendidly. The Senior Medical Officer who visited the island recently, complimented us on the job. One of our own boys had a similar accident and fractured his arm in two places, but less severely; and we were able to save his arm, of which he has now regained normal use. In recent months we have had two cases of appendicitis to deal with. One we saved; the other we lost, though had we been able to operate, there is little doubt that this case, too, might have survived.

On the Medical side, while I use allopathy or homoeopathy as the case appears to need, my course at the Homoeopathic Hospital Medical School for Missionaries continues to prove a profitable investment, saving the L. M. S. many pounds a year, owing to the much lower cost of homoeopathic prescriptions. I get quite enough dentistry to keep my hand in. While writing this paragraph my wife called on me to extract a tooth for her which was giving her severe pain; and this is the second tooth I have had to extract for her within three weeks.

So much for the main features of the Missionary's JOB. Now for a few of the "jobs" with a small "j"!

In addition to being Preacher and Teacher, Doctor, Dispenser, and at times Nurse, there are wide ramifications to my work as Principal of this big Institution, and as professor and lecturer to the students and boys. My wife and I have always made a point of being accessible to our young people, and although we cannot give them all the time we should like, they do avail themselves freely of coming to us on all sorts of personal matters from marriage to finance, and from washing troubles to family perplexities; all of which means in the aggregate a considerable expenditure of time and strength.

There there is the care of the big village with its Church, Schoolrooms, Dwelling Houses, Store Sheds, Launch & Boat Sheds, Work Sheds, and outbuildings innumerable, involving constant repair and rebuilding; Works, Plumber — but we can leave out the "and Decorator" in most cases (!), — &c.

Allied to this is the job of Sanitary Inspector, e. g. I have just discovered a drowned rat in one of our big underground cement tanks, with the result that some thousands of gallons of valuable rain water are now being pumped away to be used for washing or garden purposes, as the water can no longer be regarded as safe for drinking. Follows an inspection of gutters, water catchments, strainers &c, the unreported breakage of one of which is probably responsible for the tragedy in the Mus family.

As Rongorongo covers 45 acres, and as we are at last having gentle rains after two years of drought, I am now unusually busy in my capacity as Plantation overseer and Horticultural Director. We recently dug a new banana pit, the plants in which are thriving well, and give promise of a better supply of bananas in future than we have ever had before. Our teachers and boys are engaged in digging an immense babai pit some 150 feet by 60 feet by ten feet deep on land near Rongorongo which has been acquired for the purpose. It is a Herculean task, but is progressing well. How we long for a steam shovel! "Babai" by the way, is a coarse root of the arun family, which can be cultivated with difficulty if a pit is dug down to water level and the individual plants are nourished with leaves and vegetable matter. Of course nothing but coconut palms and pandanus trees will thrive on the arid sand.

Then there are my responsibilities as Electrical Engineer and Engineer operator in charge of our Rongorongo Wireless Station. Our ELECTRICAL SYSTEM has been much improved by the installation of the small Diesel Plant we brought back after our last furlough. All our mains have been relaid & several extensions made, the exception being that we still have to lay mains to Mr Sadd's new house, which involves also relaying a long main from the Engine House to Mr Levett's house, past which the cable will run to Mr.

Sadd's house. This work will be put in hand as soon as the necessary material arrives. The friends who very kindly helped in the provision of the new plant will be pleased to hear that by increased efficiency in operation and extension of supply, we have just been able to cut down by 20% or in some directions more - the levy upon missionaries, teachers and scholars towards the upkeep of our Electric Light. Our WIRELESS STATION continues to prove extremely useful. It should be even more so in the future, as we have just heard - by means of our wireless - that the "John Williams V" has now been fitted with a small wireless apparatus for telegraphy - telephony. Owing to the provisions of the International Convention at Madrid, our original spark set is obsolete and may not be further used, but we are carrying on with a valve set which I had constructed in Sydney a few years ago, and with a small short wave valve set which a friend very kindly helped to construct recently at a very small cost. I fear we may have to undertake some alterations and improvements if we are to exchange telephony with the new installation on the "John Williams V" which differs in type and wave length from our own and from those of the stations with which we are now exchanging traffic. Until Mr Levett's return I cannot find time to go into this. Even as I write, in the wireless room just behind my chair sounds the Morse signal from Ocean Island "Q. T. C. 2", which means, "I have two messages for you." Fortunately one of my boys is now able to operate better than myself, so with another boy to assist him, he is carrying on, while I act as general superintendent, and attend to the financial side, repairs, &c. By the way, our wireless now earns quite a respectable little income from Government messages, which helps to pay running expenses, but which is not sufficient for capital outlay.

The Knitting Machine so kindly provided by one of you a few years back has recently taken up some days of my time, as it required a through overhaul. It is now at work again, and the boy who operates it has just come along to report having made six vests on it today. We use it chiefly to knit the vests for our Boys' Rongorongo Uniform. This also is run on business lines and pays its way.

Allied to the Knitting Machine is what I call my wife's Government Clothing Factory. We have the contract for making the Government uniforms for native Government officials and police in the Southern half of the Colony. This involves a lot of work for my wife in supervising the women and girls who make the uniform lavalavas, tunics and coats. It is a means of helping them to earn a little money for their own clothes and for milk for the babies &c. My wife's Baby clinic is doing good work. The infants are regularly weighed and their progress or otherwise recorded. Diet is a great problem out here when the weaning stage comes, and it is most difficult to find funds for even a limited supply of Glaxo or Lactogen for needy infants.

During the prolonged absence of Mr. Levett on furlough, practically the whole of his work has fallen upon me, and has involved me in extra "jobs." One of these is the running of the MISSION STORE, through which we supply the needs of our teachers, students, boys and girls. In 15 months from when I took over this work from Mr. Levett up to the end of last year the store had a turnover of £2540. This business is nearly all in small amounts from twopence upwards. There are over 500 running a/c's, most of which have to be balanced every quarter. The a/c's of the teachers throughout the islands have to be balanced every half year. Stocks have to be watched, fresh supplies ordered from overseas, - a very different matter from getting a commercial traveller to make notes in his order book - and an annual Stock-taking carried out & Balance Sheet prepared. To be Store Manager, Clerk, Book Keeper, Salesman, &c, all in one, with a turnover which would make many a shop-keeper in England jealous, would alone be enough to occupy some men, but here it has to be just one of the many "jobs" of the missionary.

Then there is the TREASURERSHIP of the whole Mission. The mere skeleton summary of the Mission's Annual Accounts for last year which I sent home a few months ago, filled 38 pages of foolscap, representing some 224 pages of a/c's in Foolscap Ledgers. Behind these are thousands of pages in subsidiary books. Again here alone is enough work to satisfy many an average book-keeper, for the figures cover thousands of pounds and many thousands of transactions; but this, too, is just one of the extra "jobs" I have had to try to fit in during the last two years. Customs work, and the making out of Import Warrants for all goods imported by the Mission and missionaries, is another odd "job" which is an extremely difficult business owing to the most complicated new Customs Ordinances with their fearsome schedules and differential tariffs, quotas and the like. Here in this trumpery little colony, with a total native population less than that of a country town in England, Government introduces all the cumbersome and complicated machinery thought necessary nowadays for controlling and half strangling the trade of an Empire.

Another "job" is the management of our MISSION PRESS. This involves finding work for and supervising a paid staff of five or six men and a number of apprentices. Stocks of paper and book-binding materials have to be kept, work sheets for the staff checked up, costing of all work done carefully worked out, hundreds of hours spent on reading and correcting reams of galley proofs &c.

One has to be Author, writing a considerable part of the needed MSS., Editor of our Mission Magazine, proof reader, publisher, clerk &c. for a Printing business doing a considerable turnover, and this all as one of the many extra "jobs." During the last few weeks we have just completed a service book in Gilbertese, containing 96 pages of orders of service for Worship, Communion, Baptism, Marriage, Burial, Ordination, Prayer Meetings &c., Readings and Prayers for the great festivals of the Christian Year, &c. This was badly wanted, and somehow, I had to make time—often late at night—to get it together. Now we are at work on some Arithmetic Books in Gilbertese, prepared by Miss Pateman in co-operation with the Government Education Department. We have also in hand an issue of our Magazine, a Calendar for 1936, and sundry general printing.

Well, have I made good my apology and earned your pardon for delay in answering your letters? Do you wonder that one sometimes gets so overtired as to be tempted to give up the endless effort to keep

pace with it all. It can only be done by hard slogging from early morn till late at night. A Govt. officer recently, who had left me late one night, was surprised to receive a lengthy business communication from me early next morning before breakfast; and made the pertinent enquiry, Do you ever sleep? And the pity of it is, you have hundreds of men at home eating their hearts out for a job, men many of whom could tackle one or other of these many "jobs" with satisfaction to themselves and relief to us; but who, owing to our un-Christian civilisation and lack of organising ability, must be supported on a dole instead of doing useful work for their brother men. When will the world learn Christ's way?

Well, I might go on to tell you of my work as Bishop of this great ocean diocese, and of our visitation of the teachers and of their work in the many villages of our scattered islands, but this letter grows too long already; and with a few more personal paragraphs I must bring it to a close.

We were all sorry to say farewell to Miss B. E. Simmons on her retirement from this Mission. She left early in January, after a quarter of a century of devoted service to the Gilbertese, more especially to the girls in the Rongorongo Girls School. to whom she has been missionary, teacher, nurse, and friend. We have been much concerned to hear that she met with a serious motor accident in Australia, and we are anxiously awaiting news of her progress to recovery.

Our new colleague, Rev. A. L. Sadd, B. A., referred to earlier in this letter, has been very busy in the absorbingly interesting task of supervising the building of his new house, which is making good progress, and which will be far and away the most substantial and the most European house on the station.

We have missed our colleagues who have been away on furlough, Mr. & Mrs. Levett, since Nov. 1933, and Pastor Iupeli and Sera since May 1934. We hope to welcome Iupeli and Sera back in a few weeks time, but we are disappointed to hear Mr. and Mrs. Levett will not return until October or November.

We had an amusing experience the other day, which shows the pitfalls of using a foreign language. After fruitless efforts for several years, we recently succeeded in leasing a small strip of land badly needed for the enlargement of the Girls' School premises here. We had brought the owner, an old man, from another island especially for the purpose; and we thought it would be wise as well as friendly and in accordance with native custom, to invite him with a few members of his immediate family circle to a friendly little meal prepared by the girls to celebrate the conclusion of the agreement. One of our number wrote him an invitation inviting him to bring his "family," and expecting perhaps five or six guests. But the Gilbertese word used for "family" may also be used with the very wide connotation of "family connections," and it was so understood by our friend. Very fortunately I got an inkling that the worthy gentleman was taking the occasion to muster his clan. I managed tactfully to convey to him that it would be helpful if he would give us an idea of about how many we might have the pleasure of entertaining, with the result that, just in time to enable us to make the necessary very different preparations, he handed me a list of 114 members of his "family" whom he had invited to accompany him to the friendly little meal! So we live and learn.

We very cordially thank friends who have helped our invaluable Scholarship Fund; who have sent us magazines or books, which are passed round and greatly appreciated; or who have sent us gifts for our Schools or for our Mission Dispensary. We have used up practically all our gifts for School prizes, and our supply of lint, cotton wool, bandages & old linen for Dispensary use is running very low indeed. We hope that kind helpers have been thinking of us, and that some fresh gifts are already on the way. If those who are able to organise the collection of such things, would like to help the Gilbert Islands this coming winter, we should be extremely grateful.

We have not yet heard how the Society's financial year ended, we hope it closed with a marked improvement. We do thank you all for your loyal & splendid support by prayer and work and gift.

We are,

Yours in the Master's service,

G. H. Eastman,

W. H. Eastman.

P. S. Since the above was written, a mail has come in, not more than a third the size of our usual mails, but containing about 130 letters for me, about 100 of which require answers, and many of which are important Government communications or business letters which will some of them, involve several hours of work each. For instance, Government letters alone come from Medical Department, Education Department (2), Resident Commissioner, Secretary to the Govt. &c, and there are two letters about estimates for Government printing, which require considerable careful estimating of costs. Here is another of my "jobs" with a small "j". There are not over a dozen personal letters in the lot, but I have no typist save myself to deal with them. When the situation gets "past a joke," one has to cultivate one's sense of humour and try to see the funny side of it all.

We are delighted to hear in our mail, that our colleague, Miss Simmons, is making good progress towards recovery; and that the L.M.S., closed its financial year much better this time. Very many thanks Uncle Sam does!

We hope you will like our new Silver Jubilee issue of Postage Stamps. They will be used for a short time only, so you may possibly not receive another. Doubtless some young collector will be delighted to have the one on the envelope. Oh, and while talking of the Silver Jubilee, there was great excitement here recently when wireless news came in that your humble servant, the Principal, had been awarded one of His Majesty's Silver Jubilee Medals, one of 14 awarded in this Colony. I at once applied to the London Treasurer for an advance to purchase a larger sized hat! But of course we appreciate it as a gracious recognition of the L.M.S. work in the Group.

G. H. E.

6 Oxford Road
Peterborough
Northants
27/12/35

Dear Mr Maude

I am sorry for the delay in sending the steel. Had I was not at home when your letter with the remittance arrived. However it is no doubt just as well that I didn't send it during the X-mas rush, because I am sure it would have got damaged, & I am very particular about my steels. I am sure after a day or so you will not regret the purchase.

Dick Sackler is quite wrong when he says that the hand must be lifted from the flat to the claw position when using a round steel. You will find when you get used to it, whatever position the hand is in you will be able to manipulate it very easily & remember to hold it very loosely. The most important thing when gauging the strings in any position, is to remember to keep the third & fourth fingers well stretched apart from the two holding the steel. They must be held rigid on the strings. Move the rest of the hand freely from the wrist & you will find you will get the correct length vibrato. To remove the scraping noise on the Bax strings I would advise that you rub them up & down liberally with your steel. This will make them very much smoother & reduce the scraping noise considerably. It seems you are learning to play in the old fashioned self accompanied style. I should try to get a tutor that will teach you the correct native style. Single & Double stops in 3rd & 6th there are plenty of them about now

The "A Major High" Bass Tuning is not the tuning the
Hawaiian always use. They use several. I use three or
four myself & favour the "C Major" best of all. In
the A Major High Bass tuning your strings will be
A. C#. E. A C# E. That is your 5th string will be in the Octave
to the 2nd the 6th in the Octave & the 3rd so that
you can play on the lower ^{three} strings exactly the same as
you would play on the top three. I would advise
you keep the instrument tuned a little low because
of the extra tension on the lower strings. when tuned High
Bass.

I am pleased you liked my articles & I will endeavour
to give you some more very shortly & also a fully ~~documented~~ ^{illustrated}
page showing the correct position when holding the steel.

I hope my brief explanations will be of assistance to you
& do not hesitate to ask anything else you want to know.
I hope you will let me know how you like the steel
- a day or so. Wishing you every success with your
playing & a happy New Year.

Very sincerely yours

Bert Redstone

"Ivy Gates",
St. Peter Port,
Guernsey. C.I.

19th December, 1935.

Dear Mr. Redstone,

Thank you for your prompt reply to my letter and for your kind offer to answer any points that may be worrying me with regard to steel guitar playing. I shall certainly write to you if I am stuck at any time. I enclose a Postal Order for 7/6 for one of your steels - is Dick Sadlier right when he says in "Rhythm" that in playing angle passages with a round steel the hand must be lifted from the flat to the claw position and the steel manipulated with the tips of the fingers? If so how does one guard the strings?

I have read your recent article in "B.M.G." and am trying to carry the excellent advice given there into practice. You say that one's vibrato should be an inch or so - I can manage this on the treble strings but get an awful scraping when I try it on the rougher base strings. Yet I suppose one should be able to vibrato base notes and whole chords.

Just one other point - what do you mean by a "Major High Bass" tuning in your arrangement of "Imi au ia oe"? I know I ought to know but I can't find it anywhere. Is this the tuning the Hawaiians themselves use?

Do give us some more articles in "B.M.G." some time. Your two articles are easily the most useful from a practical point of view that have appeared and the only ones that are based on really first hand experience. I find the South Sea Islander, though he may not mean to be so, is essentially secretive with regard to any special skill or trick which he may possess and I reckon you're exceptionally fortunate to have learnt so much from them.

With apologies for wasting your time,

Yours sincerely,

(Signed). H. E. Maude.

H. E. Maude.

6 Oxford Road
Peterborough
Northants
England

12/12/35

Dear Mr Maude

Your letter to hand. Regarding the round steels, I mentioned in my article in the March issue B.M.C. They are my own special design & therefore unobtainable elsewhere. I have used many types of round steels in my time, but have found that they have either been too heavy & clumsy to use, or else too small in diameter to hold comfortably. My steels are really excellent, & I am sure you will appreciate having one. I sold quite a lot at the recent B.M.C. Rally in London. They are about $3\frac{1}{4}$ " long 7/8" diameter & weigh about 3 1/2 to 4 ozs. a very very comfortable steel to use, & really make playing a pleasure. The price is 7/6. so if you care to send a P.O. for that amount I shall be pleased to forward you one right away, & avoid the X-mass rush.

I would advise that you dispense with the steels you mention in your letter, especially the 10 1/2 oz model. It is absolutely hopeless. The flat type was demanded by the natives many years ago in favour of the round one, which of course are far superior.

I was very interested to know that you came from the South Seas. I had you sure do, find it very cold & depressing over here. I have been in England about 7 years & believe me I have got over the depression yet. "Blues would be a better word". I certainly wish I was going back with you.

I do not know the "Gilbert Islands" as I spent most of my time in the "Cookian Islands" & California U.S.A.

I am very to hear that you have no teacher of the steel guitar when you live, & so if I can help you in

anyway. thro the medium of a letter. I shall only be
so pleased to do so. It is one of the most fascinating
instruments in the world. & I can quite understand the desire
to learn it. & the difficulties to do so without a teacher.
I was very fortunate myself. Living amongst the natives
I of course got first hand knowledge from the real players.
It is a pity you live so far away. because I go all over
England giving lessons & should have been very pleased
to give you a little tuition & send you off on the
right track as a man. However do not hesitate to write
to me if you ^{get} into any difficulties with your playing
I shall be very pleased to advise you to the best of my abilities
I have another article on "Tone Production in the Saxophone"
13.11.6. Probably you have read it.

Thanking you

I am yours sincerely

13 Ed Redstone

"Ivy Gates",

St. Peter Port,

Guernsey. C.I.

9th December, 1935.

Dear Mr. Redstone,

I was very interested in your remarks on round steels in the March "B.M.G." and have been meaning to write to you for some time to ask whether steels of the weight and type you mention are obtainable anywhere.

I have been endeavouring, unsuccessfully, to use a round steel $7/8$ " in diameter, nearly 4" long, and weighing $10\frac{1}{2}$ ounces - this being the lightest I have succeeded in obtaining up to date. My flat steel weighs only 4 ounces, which appears to be a comfortable weight to use.

Sorry to trouble you but as I also come from the South Seas I trust you'll forgive me. Unfortunately where I live - the Gilbert Islands - no one plays the Hawaiian Guitar so I have had to try and do my best without tuition. We hope to return in January or February via Honolulu and New Zealand as we find this country terribly cold and depressing after the islands.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed). H. E. Maude.

H. E. Maude.

Communications on this subject
should be addressed to—

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE,
COLONIAL OFFICE.
LONDON, S.W.1.

and the following
Number quoted: 35846 C.R.



Downing Street.

29 November, 1935.

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Thomas to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st of November and to inform you that, in accordance with the recommendation of the Consulting Physician to the Colonial Office who examined you on the 20th of November, he grants you an extension of your leave on half pay for four months from the 5th of January 1936 inclusive. The question whether the whole or part of this leave can be converted into leave on full pay is being referred to the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific. A further communication on this point will be addressed to you in due course.

2. It is noted that you propose to spend this leave in New Zealand, and I am to request you to notify this Office of your address there.

3. You should arrange to be medically examined in New Zealand towards the end of March.

The

H.E. MAUDE, ESQ.

The report of the examination should be sent direct to the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

4. I am also to request you to forward to Dr. Manson Bahr the letter of authority for medical examination which was enclosed in the letter from this Office of the 19th of November.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Harold Allen

Communications on this subject
should be addressed to—

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE,
COLONIAL OFFICE,
LONDON, S.W.1.

and the following
Number quoted: 35846 C.R.



Downing Street.

1st February,
~~January~~, 1936.

Sir,

With reference to the letter from this Office of the 29th of November last, I am directed by Mr. Secretary Thomas to inform you that after consultation with the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific it has been decided that three months of the four months extension of leave granted to you by the letter referred to above will count as commuted leave with full salary, and the balance as leave with half salary.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Harold Allen

H.E. MAUDE, ESQ.