

The Cope
Oxton
Surrey

4th January 1940.

Dear Harry,

Your letter of the 29th November duly
reached me and I have since
had a long talk with Lloyd of
the C.O. I cannot say more than
that he has you very much in mind
and that he recognises that a
change of scene is advisable - the
 sooner the better. In the next I
will let you that it

depends upon occasions
occurring and all sorts of
other unforeseeable events. I
should like to see you get a
short spell in Whitehall. It
would be a pleasant change
(that is, as far as London
can be regarded as a pleasant
place at all - not in my opinion
very far!) and to see the
work from the other hand is
always a valuable experience.

Also from what I know of them
the C.O. have a very good

set of seven men. Then legal
advice Robert Wray I myself
look into the legal hand of
the Ministry of Health when he
was a youngster and he has
turned out trump.

If by any accident while you are in
N.3. you come across one Oscar
Dawson do make yourself known to
him. He is somewhere in one
of the two islands having a
particular holiday after giving up
his job of legal advice to the Home

Office & my present work, with
been out from prehistoric
School days at Rugby.

My Boundary Commission are
in the throes of getting me a report
recommending some pretty drastic
changes in our local government
but I don't know whether the Government
will have either the will or the wherewithal
to tackle the subject at any rate while
I am on the active list - now a
matter of some 18 months hence.
Do we know at any time if I
can usefully do anything more
Yours sincerely,
J. J. Dr. D. D.

John [unclear],
Tavua Island,
Fiji Islands, Central Pacific,

R. D. V. "Amatika",
C/O The L.P.H.C.,
Suva, Fiji Islands November, 1947.

Dear Sir John,

Your letter of the 17th reached me in London in the throes of getting ready to embark and what with last minute packing and the Royal Wedding - we were lucky enough to get into the alley - I hadn't a hope of setting down to compose an adequate reply before we sailed.

By a rather remarkable coincidence, your kind offer to have a word with Sir Thomas about me could not have come, for reasons which I will explain, at a more fortunate time and I should be indeed grateful if you could manage to keep me in the great man's eye.

As you probably know, since first joining the service I deliberately set out to be an expert on the Pacific, ~~and~~ ^{so} it seemed the logical (indeed the only) way $\frac{3}{2}$ in which I could be of use both to the service and myself.

I think on the whole that I have succeeded in achieving this limited ambition: Sir Thomas himself

as much indicated ~~that~~ the other day. I have now lived in, or at least visited, every part of the Central and Eastern Pacific, collected what is probably the largest private library in the world on Pacific affairs and published some 14 articles and reports.

I mention these points to emphasize firstly that I have set just out down and carried out my routine work and secondly that I would not normally desire a transfer. My recent ill health, however, made me consult first my family doctor and then a Harley Street specialist both of whom laid down flat that I have been too long in the isolated environment of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony and that I must get out or suffer the consequences. ~~arrangement breakdown~~ Curiously enough, this opinion was confirmed by Dr Hawes, the senior consulting physician to the Colonial Office, on the very day your letter arrived and I understand that he gave the power that be 12 months in which to shift me.

Though I have a great affection for the Gilberts, I ^{in my heart} know that the doctors are right. Conditions in

hurry) I fear that I may have to retire

the islands are so tough - not only owing to the absence of fresh food but also all ^{to} the devastating effect on the nervous system of an isolation unique in the ~~World~~ Empire - that we endeavour to move every European officer after a maximum of eight years service. I have now been in the colony, off and on, for nearly 20 years and this is the third time that I have voluntarily returned after a breakdown in health due to service conditions. The lesson has been belatedly but finally learnt and if I do not now succeed in getting a transfer within a reasonable time (there is no immediate prospect of this) I shall have to start afresh.

The above is not a criticism of the C.O., who have always been extraordinarily generous in their treatment of me. Furthermore, I have had an interview with Sir Thomas in which he was most sympathetic and appeared ~~to be contemplating not only my transfer but also promotion.~~ He is, ^{personally} ~~personally~~ handicapped, however, ~~by~~ by the fact that my service tickets has been so specialized geographically and also by my not having experience of Legislative Council work (the posts above

me in the service nearly all entail leadership in some
Legislative Council).

I should be most grateful, therefore, if you could
remind Sir Thomas of my existence if an opportunity occurs.
He has always been most encouraging but must be so
busy that he may well be excused for forgetting the personal
affairs of one out of the 20,000 on his administrative staff. And
you know (which he doesn't) the family record in the Civil
Services, which makes it unlikely that I should let the side
down or find unable to adapt myself to new circumstances
and greater responsibilities.

As you say in your letter the number of positions
^{in the service.}
open to my present one are limited and as vacancies are
unpredictable the part of the world to which one would have
to go must be largely a matter of chance. I myself
would strongly prefer ~~to~~ a position on the staff of
the South Pacific Regional Commission, for which I have
^{acquired experience in the Pacific}
unique qualifications, and feeling that secondment to the
Colonial Office where I could be brushed up and
civilized while awaiting something to turn up. They

did this with my predecessor, Fox-Stangways, and as a result we were ^{able} eventually to find him a position for which he was ideally suited.

after these ideals (and Fiji) I must confess that my preference is ^{with} for the ~~mainland~~ island Colonies - St. Helena, Gibraltar, Hong Kong, Seychelles, ^{etc} Mauritius, ~~Bermuda~~ - but a post in a large secretariat would ~~be~~ be ^{so} thankfully received. In this connexion I should mention that Sir Thomas has never forgotten that many years ago I kicked against a transfer to Zanzibar. The circumstances, however, were very different - I was ^{then} a head of a department in the Pacific engaged in an interesting and quite important ^{lands} experiment and I naturally demurred against demotion to ^{be} a "low" Assistant District Officer ^{in Africa} or a lower colony.

I'm afraid this letter has become unreasonably long but I felt that I ought to put you au fait with the situation in case Sir Thomas asked a question or two. I know too that you will appreciate that my affairs have reached a crisis and

and that I must move forwards now or never. ^{fully} I admit
to being scared of having to speak in public
but if he get to I have no doubt ^{of} being able
to master this, or any other technique, that may
be required. after all ^{efforts} every one else in the
family has.

We arrive at Anacoo tomorrow, en route
to New Zealand where we hope to spend the
remainder of our leave; our headquarters until
the end of February being the Explorade Hotel at
a suburb of Auckland. Our son Alaine is to go to a
boarding school in Auckland for the time being,
while we are still in the islands.

We again may thank for your kind offer:
little did you imagine what an crater you were being
let in for. And I do hope that we may have
the opportunity of meeting you again in person before
too long,

Yr sincerely yours,

I myself have no desire to leave the Pacific
~~station~~ and would ~~strongly~~ vastly prefer a position on
the staff of the South Pacific Regional Commission,
(for which I have unique qualifications), or that ^{as} of Chief
Secretary to the Western Pacific High Commission. Sir
Alexandre Grobman strongly recommended me for the latter
post in 1945 ~~when I was~~ before I was appointed
Resident Commissioner of the Gullit and Ellice Islands
Colony. Now I'm afraid that the C.O. may be deterred
of putting me in either of the positions, despite ~~of~~ ~~expressed~~
~~interests and expense~~, since they are on a lower salary
scale ~~because they are lower in salary~~, they need not be, ~~since~~ as ~~you~~ ~~know~~
~~owing to their being on lower salaries~~, but I can assure
you that I am ~~not~~ interested in making money by necessity
but ^{merely} in doing what I am best fitted to do well.
Failing a post anywhere in the Pacific, ^(including Fiji) I am
earnestly ~~hoping~~ ^{hoping} for reassignment to the Colonial Office, where I
could be looked up and utilized while awaiting methods
to turn up. They ...

If, however, the C.O. feel that I must be used

(3)

As I'm willing to sacrifice ^{my} salary & dignity to

as I should ^{am} be quite willing to ^{lose} sacrifice salary & dignity to remain associated with Pacific Bell.

direct out of the Pacific (not direct) I must confess

... received. As you say ... else.

Perhaps I should rather ... there's Africa



connection I should mention that Sir Thomas has never forgotten that year ago I kicked against a transfer to Zanzibar. The circumstances, however, were very different - I was then a head of department in the Pacific engaged in an interesting and quite important land experiment and I naturally demurred against demotion to be a "bush" assistant District Officer in Africa for a lower salary.

I'm afraid this letter has become unreasonably long but I felt that I ought to put you au fait with the situation in case Sir Thomas asked a question or two. I know too that you will appreciate that my affairs have reached a crisis and that I must move forwards now or never. I fully admit to being scared stiff of having to speak in public, but if we've got to I have no doubt of being able to master this, or any other, technique that may be required. After all, every one else in the family has.

We arrive at Anzac tomorrow, en route to New Zealand where we hope to spend

circumstances and greater responsibilities.

As you say in your letter the number of positions in the service senior to my present one are limited and as vacancies are unpredictable the part of the world to which one would have to go must be largely a matter of chance. I myself would strongly prefer a position on the staff of the South Pacific Regional Commission, for which I have unique qualifications, even on a lower salary, or indeed a post anywhere in the Pacific; and failing that secondment to the Colonial Office where I could be brushed up and civilized while awaiting something to turn up. They did this with my predecessor, Fox-Strangways - and as a result were eventually able to find him a position for which he was ideally suited.

After these "ideals" (including Fiji) I must confess that my preference is rather for the island colonies - St. Helena, Hong Kong, Seychelles, Gibraltar, Mauritius, etc. - but a post in some large secretariat would be as thankfully received. In this

Sir John Mordaunt The Cape Coast Survey

May thank your letter and kind offer will write
you what our best course is. My dear Sir

17th Nov. 47.

Have 8 hours
study
with
gloss.

Dear Mary,

Your letter reached me here where I am
staying on this weekend to see my
youngest girl who is still at school.
Tomorrow I continue my tour in the
District till the end of the week.

Your doubts about exchange make me wonder
whether you have any serious hope &
wish for a transfer and if so whether
I could be of any help by having a
word with Lloyd the head permanent

Secretary of the C. O. McLeod to be writing
all department & I met him pretty often
on the lunch table. When I was staying
at Kinata Lumpur in the fall I saw a
good deal of the chief secretary (I
cannot for the moment remember his name
- something like Newman). He had been
you in the Pacific and made some most
flattering remarks about you. However for
a man of your seniority these transcripts
are, I suspect, not rarely come by and
I shall not mention the matter to any one
unless you ask me to. I do tend to
reply when you write me to do something.
I have the pleasant recollection of the
coming, particularly of Ketch & Triggance
to which I paid flying visits (in both senses of the
word) your sincerely
G. H. [unclear]

Dear Sir John,

Thank you so much for your letter received today and for your kind invitation to lunch when next in town. We should very much like to be in a position to accept but unfortunately our ship sails for New Zealand on the 21st and you say that you will be away until the 24th. So I'm afraid it looks like next time we come home.

We have had an extremely rushed visit to England and living over in Guernsey has not helped matters. Three weeks after a ten years absence is not too much, especially when the Colonial Office, ^{officially} requires a presence on official matters. Hence we have not been able to get around ~~and~~ as we should have liked.

I wonder if you still remember that lunch I had with you in 1929 when I was just going out for the first time. I was so thrilled at getting a job that I could think of little else - and I must say we've never really regretted going into the Colonial Service, though we feel a bit wistful when coming back to the family circle on leave.

I feel very envious of you getting to Malaya, where I should like to go myself now that I have now than done my stint in the Pacific. It must have such interesting problems and the very difficulty of their solution seems an added attraction.

We are both very sorry to miss seeing you and hope that we have better luck on our return.

Yours,

9th Dec 47

The Copps
Oxley
Surrey

Dear Mary

I heard recently from James of the
P.O. that you were in haste and
staying with your mother.

I should be very glad if you and
your wife when next in London
could find time to have some lunch
with me at the Oxford Cambridge.

Christ. I am out of town till the
24th but after that shall be
available on almost any day.

More remember me to Aunt Sarah
who, I hope, is well.

I was in England for a short spell
but you and all your
people who know you

Yours
J. John. Inland.

South Pacific M. Conference

3 Wales St.
Roslyn, Queensland
N.W.I.
8 Jan. 1948.

Mr. H. G. Maude,
c/o The Esplanade Hotel,
Devoanport.

Dear Mr. Maude,

Your kind letter
in reply to the questionnaire I sent
out in connection with the forthcoming
South Pacific missionary conference,
after re-direction, reached me yester-
day.

I am greatly indebted to
you for your answers, and fully
realise that they are made in a
purely private capacity. Your long
experience of residence & work in
the South Pacific gives them great value.
I am sorry that under the circumstances
it is impossible to include your com-
ments in the Report which I have already
despatched; but I shall see that your

replies are sent all with other material so that they may be available when the Conference meets in New South Wales towards the end of February. I quite understand that your official position precludes you from answering certain of the questions. We are particularly glad to have the evidence submitted by one who, not himself a missionary, is manifestly deeply sympathetic with all that makes for the true welfare of the Island peoples, & who can represent a point of view somewhat different from that of the members of the mission staff.

After I have had time to study your answers, I may avail myself of your kind invitation to address further inquiries to you, should that seem desirable.

Again, thanking you,
Yours sincerely,
Henry K. Barton.

30, Martin Avenue,
Remuera, Auckland, S.E.2,
12th February, 1948.

Dear Mrs Turbott,

I have just retrieved my files from the N.Z. Express Company store (where I had sent my heavy luggage from the ship) and find that the address of the donor of the tapa and other items I brought with me from England is :-

Mrs Sydney D. Aris,
South Hall,
Preston Candover,
Basingstoke,
England.

She was christened "Sydney" after Sydney Island in the Phoenix Group, where she was born.

The items were all obtained by Mr J.D. Arundel during his travels in the Central Pacific in the latter part of the last century or the early years of the present. They are all therefore authentic and date from "pre-fake" times.

There are several notices of Mr Arundel in Sir Albert Ellis' three books and more especially his "Mid-Pacific Outposts". He was perhaps the greatest figure the Central Pacific has ever had and the fact that the majority of islands in that region are marked red is due largely to his great efforts. Professor Davidson said recently at Oxford that a biography of him is overdue and would fill a notable gap in Pacific history and it was with a view to getting permission to undertake this work when I retire that I approached Mrs Aris in the first instance. We found her attic full of his diaries and notes - 36 volumes of them - so there is no lack of material. Curiously enough, his biography was attempted some years ago by a friend of the family, but given up after 12 chapters - why I don't know. You have a rather rare article by him on the Phoenix and Line Islands in your library.

I think you would do well to show the items to Sir Albert Ellis as he can probably identify several of them and say when and where they were obtained - he was Mr Arundel's colleague during much of his period in the Pacific. For instance, he told me the other day that the wooden doll was indeed obtained on Ocean Island and that he (Sir Albert) was responsible for getting it - in exchange for a European ditto. He was much interested to hear that it had found its way

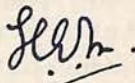
in the end to the Auckland Museum, where so much of his own material is.

I expect that you already know that young Turbott left England on the "Port Hobart" on the 30th January: I'm afraid he is coming without the girl he was to marry, despite all our efforts.

We ourselves hope to remain in New Zealand at the above address until early in April - though of course I may be recalled at any time - so if you should want we are willing to give a joint lecture on our "Experiences during an eight month residence on Pitcairn Island", or some such title, to any of your groups at any time. But probably you have many better topics (and certainly better lecturers) to choose from.

Thank you so much for sending me a copy of your "Hair Cordage in Oceania" which we have both read with much interest. Why for do you include the Ellice as part of Micronesia (p. 152)? They still make quite a lot of hair cordage for one purpose or another in the Gilberts and I well remember being interviewed by a shame-faced and weeping band of women on Maiana after the Magistrate had cut off all their hair to make himself a girdle for use with his dancing mat. On Nauru only hair is used for making "cats' cradles": indeed, the figures are so intricate that my wife found no other form of string was supple enough.

Yours sincerely,



H.E. Maude.

Box 35,
TE AWAMUTU.
27th February, 1948.

Dear Harry, (Trust this is not a presumption)

I was pleased to get your letter of the 26th and have today written to Peter Phipps to let him know that we can both start the scheme ~~be~~ discussed. Incidentally we have done nothing further in the matter, in that as far as we knew, no Gilbert & Ellie boys were coming to New Zealand. However, I know that Peter and some of the other New Zealanders who were at Funafuti with me will be happy to assist Taolipi and any others who may follow him.

I am also writing today to the Headmaster of Wesley College just to let him know that Peter and I have in mind. Apart from this, I will be going down to Auckland some time during the coming month and will call and see Taolipi. Incidentally, I still hope that Penetala may get the chance of coming to New Zealand so that if having a home and a friend out here will make any difference in influencing the Government in sending him I hope that you will remember this when you return to Tarawa.

I would be more than happy to call and see you when in Auckland and if you and Mrs Maude should be passing through Te Awamutu again my wife and I hope that you will call on us.

By the way, I attended the Registrar's wedding of Miss Anita Sai. She spoke no English and we had to obtain an Italian Interpreter to ensure that she knew what it was all about. She looked reasonably dashing and seems to be quite happy in New Zealand.

Yours,

Alan R. Lee
.....

P.S. ~~Remember~~ the ~~was~~ typing.

Our typists were all brought up on the "New Education" boy opinion - that 'it stinks'!

Mr. Alan B. Hill,
Kihikiki Road,
Te Awamutu.

30, Martin Avenue,
Remuera, Auckland, S.E.2,
26th February, 1948.

My dear Hill,

I promised to let you know the name and location of the Ellice Islander who recently arrived in New Zealand for higher education: sorry I couldn't send it before but we have only just settled down in a house where I can set to work at letter writing.

His name is Toalipi and he is at Wesley College, which I'm told by Burns, Philp is the big school on the side of the Bombay Hill overlooking Drury. I always understood myself that this school on the hill was St Stephen's and very possibly Burns, Philp are wrong in their information: I find they often are. Anyway, you'll know, or can easily find out, where Wesley College really is.

We shall be most grateful if you can find time to befriend the boy - I am afraid he must be pretty lonely at times, so far from his home and relatives. However, I understand that he has spent a portion of the holidays with some Samoans and Cook Islanders, working for a neighbouring farmer.

You mentioned to me that Commander Phipps and yourself (and possibly some others) were willing to form a sort of group to mother and father the islanders when they come down: if that is so, Toalipi is the advance guard of we hope many more and, as the first, has probably all the difficulties of the pioneer to contend with. The whole idea seems to me to be a perfectly splendid one and I should like to be able to publicize it in the local islands newspapers (which are now quite flourishing). I know it would be a great comfort to the parents if they felt their children were not utterly friendless in the land of the "white man" and that they had someone they could write to for news, particularly in the event of sickness.

We hope to be here now until about the 11th April and will go and see Toalipi as soon as we can wangle some petrol: a commodity I find much easier to get in Te Kuit than in Auckland.

I hope our friend the late Miss Sai is getting on all right and not being beaten up. If you are ever in Auckland do please look us up,

yrs. etc.,
J.L.H.

30, Martin Avenue,
Remuera, Auckland, S.E.2,
4th March, 1948.

My dear Chamberlain,

Burns, Philp have just rung up to say that you are enquiring my movements. I am so sorry not to have written before in reply to your kind letter of the 14th February, but actually I was waiting until I could give you definite news of my movements Suwards.

My first reaction, on receiving your letter, was to travel to Tarawa via Ocean Island (after first paying a flying visit to Fiji). Unfortunately, however, the British Phosphate Commissioners cannot give any idea of their April sailings until about the middle of March. Also, we hear from Roberts that there is nothing to take us across to Tarawa bar the "Margaret", which would be tantamount to a death sentence for my wife.

In view of these considerations, I have now booked passages for myself and family (consisting of my wife and niece) by the "Matua", which according to Nathan's is due to leave on or shortly after the 11th April, in the hope that you will be able to fix up a Catalina to send us to the Gilberts. If, however, the Auckland watersiders continue their usual tactics the "Matua" will be delayed and we shall have to come by Sunderland or other plane.

If these tentative arrangements are not convenient from the High Commission standpoint please let me know. Otherwise I will proceed as arranged - advising you straight away should any alteration be necessitated this end.

Would you please thank Sir Brian Freeston most sincerely for granting me this extra month. Apart from the infantile paralysis and my niece's mishaps (she had her tonsils removed yesterday) I am at long last beginning to actually enjoy my leave and the last month may make the difference between returning fit or unfit.

Yours sincerely,

J.C.M.

G.D. Chamberlain, Esquire,
Chief Secretary, Western Pacific High Commission,
Suva, Fiji Islands.



Western Pacific High Commission,
Suva, Fiji.

No. C.P.F.15.

14th February, 1948.

Very kind thanks

Thank you very much for your letter of the 3rd February. There is no difficulty about the extension of your leave for a month on urgent private affairs and a telegram is going to Burns, Philp today accordingly.

This poliomyelitis is a terrible worry. We have it in the Protectorate now and, as a result, we are cut off from air communication with Honiara: shipping, too, is also being held up. And there is no saying how long this state of affairs may continue.

We should very much like you to come up to Suva for discussions before you resume duty at Tarawa. You could either come up by Sunderland and continue by Catalina with your wife or else you could come up yourself by Sunderland, return by air to Auckland and go on thence with your wife to Ocean Island. We leave this entirely to you: I do not suppose that there will be much difference in the cost either way. Will you therefore make your own arrangements accordingly and let us know?

I am sorry that your leave was so cut into by official business: I also learn with regret that you are only returning for a limited period.

With kind regards,
Yours sincerely,

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

G. H. Maude

INTERPRETATION OF CABLE

FROM: BURNS PHILP AUCKLAND
TO: SECOMA SUVA
DATE: 5TH MARCH, 1948.

FXAOT	FOLLOWING FROM
KRIPP	MAUDE
BZAZG	BEGINS
LINUN	OWING TO
HSPAW	INDEFINITE
KREWT	NATURE
LRREU	PHOSPHATE
DCPIS	COMMISSION
OCFIO	SAILINGS
GXNIA	HAVE NOW
CEELC	BOOKED
BRUWR	APRIL
MATUA	MATUA
HNPEM	IN
HCHEP	HOPE
NBISA	PROCEEDING
LDAPS	ON
RXAPO	WARDS
CKLPT	BY
UPIHZ	SPELL WORD OF 8 LETTERS
RXXBZ	CATALINA
GTYBX	
PEULZ	STOP
OROMB	SHOULD
MATUA	MATUA
BIXGO	BE
DEICA	DELAYED
ECPOP	PROPOSE
BIILI	ARRIVING
LSUCA	PLANE
PSNZO	TENTH
PEULZ	STOP
ISEYN	LETTER
LXNCB	POSTED
APOOP	AIR MAIL
BURPHIL	BURPHIL

Telegram.

From: Messrs. Burns, Philp and Co., Ltd., Auckland;

To: The Chief Secretary, Western Pacific High Commission, Suva.

5th March, 1948.

Following from Maude, begins:-

Owing to indefinite nature Phosphate Commission sailings have now booked April "Matua" in hope proceeding onwards by Catalina. Should "Matua" be delayed propose arriving plane tenth. Letter posted airmail.

Burns, Philp.

-

20
FZ62 SUVA 62 3 1630 BGSETAT =

856
MAUDE CARE BURPHIL AUCKLAND =

ASB
Burns Philp

Rec'd at By

NEW ZEALAND POST OFFICE CABLEGRAM
(IN CONJUNCTION WITH CABLE AND WIRELESS LIMITED.)

For Post Office use only

DATE-STAMP

ARM No.

Sent _____

To _____

By _____

Ackgd. _____

15 MAR 48

FOLLOWING FROM CHAMBERLAIN MY LETTER FOURTEENTH
FEBRUARY PLEASE TELEGRAPH DATE OF YOUR VISIT

TO SUVA = SECOM ✱

30, Martin Avenue,
Remuera, Auckland, S.E.2,
7th March, 1948.

My dear Chamberlain,

As requested in your telegram No. 8 of the 14th January to the Colony Agents in Auckland, I proceeded to Wellington last week to interview Messrs Parker and Edge, the two remaining candidates for the position of Assistant Government Storekeeper in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony.

On arrival I discovered that Edge had recently left the New Zealand Government service and was no longer considered to be a candidate. I saw Parker, however, who proved to be an intelligent and resourceful type and very keen to obtain the position. Although at present classified as a Draughting Assistant in the Housing Department he is actually dealing with the files and records and I understand that he was in charge of the reorganization of the records system after the war.

I consider that Parker's experience of Stores work is at present insufficient to enable him to reorganize the local Department and keep it going on the right lines. With his general experience of Government work, and particularly of records, he should nevertheless be able to acquire the specialized technique of Government Stores ordering, costing and issuing with a short period of tuition in the Stores Department of the Fiji Government.

I recommend, therefore, that the New Zealand Government should be requested to offer the position to Parker and that, on his release, he should be posted for a month or two for training under the Assistant Government Storekeeper, Fiji. The actual duration of the training would naturally depend on his progress in mastering his duties.

As you are aware, it is hoped that the position of Assistant Government Storekeeper will be a temporary one, as far as overseas personnel are concerned, and that within a couple of years it will be possible for the work to be taken over by a local man. I suggest, therefore, that the

G.D. Chamberlain, Esquire,
Chief Secretary,
Western Pacific High Commission,
Suva, Fiji Islands.

New Zealand Public Service Commissioners should be asked to let us have Parker on 2 years secondment, on the same terms and conditions as Whalley (the Savings Bank Officer).

I asked P.G. Roberts, the Secretary to Government, to have a look at Parker when passing through Wellington and I attach excerpts from his letter on the subject. As you will see, his views coincide substantially with mine.

I endeavoured to explain to Parker that his main difficulty would lie in initiating the stores system in the Colony, as he would very probably find the existing methods (if any) quite hopeless - his job would therefore be very different from that of a normal Government Storekeeper, who merely carries on existing practices. I would suggest that this fact should be again emphasized to him on his arrival in Suva (assuming that it is decided to take him) and that steps should be taken to see that he takes with him to Tarawa copies of all necessary books and forms.

Yours sincerely,

J.P.M.

(1)

34 Centaurus Rd.,
Cashmere,
Christchurch,
2nd March, 1948.

Dear Mr. Maude,
I wish to report that I had a long yarn with Parker in Wellington yesterday (the 5 day week precluded an earlier interview) and, so far as I can judge, he would be able, after a course in Stores Accounting, to fill the position of Govt. Storekeeper reasonably well. I feel, too, that he would fit satisfactorily into the present set-up at colony Headquarters. It appears essential though that Parker ^{should} spend some weeks with the Storekeeper in Suva before coming to the colony for, as he frankly admits, he has had very little experience of purely Govt. Stores work. His knowledge of records should stand him in good stead and with this background he should not find it unduly difficult to cope with the position.

at Tarawa.

The present situation in the store (it has not improved in your absence) is, I think, largely due to lack of any idea as to system and clerical work generally. However Mr. Bryant was bringing pressure to bear and it is to be hoped that, if and when Parker does arrive, he will not find absolute chaos. Miller was taking over from Shullah as a temporary measure. Mr. Fuller, busy though he is, is only too happy to pass on his knowledge and Parker appears to me to be a type who could be expected to absorb instructions.

Mr. Bryant was hopeful that eventually a locally domiciled person might be trained to take over the job and possibly Kepland (present assistant) might make the grade in due course especially if the Treasury Staff were at full strength and an Officer thereof could exercise some little supervision. The circumstances are such that one is almost inclined to suggest secondment in the front instance as this would enable all aspects,

and the ability of the parties, to be fully proved. I appreciate, though, that such a suggestion might not be acceptable either to the Govt. or the proposed appointee.

I mentioned to Parker all the hardships to be endured in the colony but he was confident he could meet them all. He impresses as being keen and willing to give anything a try. He certainly is not a youngster but this may be an asset in some ways in that particular position as it may increase his standing with all.

I am afraid there is little more I can add and regret I cannot furnish a more constructive report. I do hope, though, that time will prove the choice was a wise one — of course the appointment is approved.

I may say that I took the opportunity of explaining my own position to the Superintendent of Staff Training (Public Service Commissioners' Office) and he gave me to understand that an application by the colony for further secondment

would be favourably considered. It looks as if this might be desirable if the question of appointment is going to be deferred for some time.

The weather here seems to be very settled and warm at present so I am congratulating my self. In fact it is warm enough for Tarawa

With many thanks to Mrs Maude and yourself for the kind way in which you entertained me last Sunday and with kind regards to all -

Yours Sincerely
H. Roberts

30, Martin Avenue,
Remuera, Auckland, S.E.2,
12th February, 1948.

Dear Mr Shanahan,

Thank you for your letter of the 8th February. Copies of the applications of Messrs G.F.A. Parker and J.A. Edge for the position of Assistant Government Storekeeper in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony have been duly forwarded to me by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific and I have been trying to get down to Wellington to interview them.

Unfortunately, the High Commission agents in Auckland, Messrs Burns, Philp and Company, Ltd., inform me that owing to heavy bookings, they are unable to obtain a seat for me from Auckland to Wellington either by air or train for some time ahead. While a last-minute cancellation might, of course, enable me to get down at short notice there would be no guarantee that I could get back.

I understand that the issue of Government Priorities has been discontinued by New Zealand but should it be possible to get me a seat through official channels I should be most grateful. I am ready to leave at any time now - the sooner the better - and would prefer to travel by air, leaving Auckland a.m. and returning p.m. the following day. Alternatively, I could leave Auckland by the Limited, returning the next night, as I have only one other appointment there.

Should your Department be unable to get me a seat I will try again through the Colony Agents and notify you by telegram when successful.

Yours sincerely,

H.E. Maude.

H.E. Maude.

Foss Shanahan, Esquire,
Prime Minister's Office,
WELLINGTON, N.Z.



P.M. 302-2-18

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE,
WELLINGTON.

5 February 1948

Dear Mr Maude,

We have been advised by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific that copies of applications by Messrs G.F.A. Parker and J.A. Edge for the position of Assistant Government Storekeeper in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony, have been forwarded to you direct.

The High Commissioner asks me to inform you that a new appointee is urgently required and that you have authority to confirm an appointment and arrange with the New Zealand Government for it to be effected as soon as possible.

Both the above-named applicants are stationed in Wellington and I should be glad to hear from you in due course as to whether you wish to interview them and, if so, when it will be convenient for you to do so.

Yours sincerely,

Mr H.E. Maude,

C/- Burns Philp and Co. Ltd.,

3 Albert Street,

Auckland C.1.

AIR MAIL.

OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC.

SUVA, FIJI.

No. F.25/32/14.

20th January, 1948.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to your telegram No. 2 of the 16th January, relative to vacancies in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony government service and to return herewith the original applications forwarded with your despatch No. 1 of the 13th January. Copies of the applications have been sent to Mr. H.E. Maude and we have already despatched a telegram to him, so he may get in touch with you. If Mr. Maude does not himself contact you it should be possible to get in touch with him through Messrs. Burns, Philp & Company, Limited, of Auckland.

I am,

Sir,
Your obedient servant,

(SgZ) J.A.C. HILL.

For Chief Secretary.

The Secretary of External Affairs,
Wellington, N.Z.

G.F.A. Parker

J.A. Edge

C O P Y.

Official Circular Vacancy No.
1631.

N.Z. PUBLIC SERVICE.

FORM TO BE USED BY EMPLOYEES IN APPLYING
FOR A VACANCY.

8 Sept., '47.

The Secretary, Public Service Commission.

1. I hereby apply for the position of ASST. GOVT. STOREKEEPER (GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY).
2. --
3. Name: PARKER. George Frederick Anton.
4. Position: Draughting Asst. 5. Location: Housing Dept., Wellington.
6. Department in which classified: P.W.D. (Housing Division).
7. Married or single: Single. 8. Number of children: -
9. Officer's age: 41 years. 10. Temporary service: 8 years.
From: September, 1939.
11. Classification: Salary £400. Date: 1.4.46.
12. Educational qualifications: Matric. Manchester University.
13. Military service: 6½ years. 2 NZEF - Greece, Crete, Middle East
1940-1943. Intelligence Corps
Tripolitania Police Force, British
Military Administration, Tripoli
1943-1946.
14. Special qualifications for position applied for (state fully);-
See separate sheet.

.....

GEO. F. PARKER.

COPY.

Special qualifications for position applied for.

On the occupation of Tripoli in Feb., 1943, as Officer i/c of the Port & Marine Police, The Tripolitania Police Force, I was required to find suitable buildings to accommodate my unit. As the port area of Tripoli had received extensive damage, no satisfactory buildings were available. I therefore had to construct a Police Station and Police Post, also a workshop, slipway and stores to service and supply the sea-going patrol vessels and police harbour craft under my command.

My personnel, numbering approx. 150, were mostly Arab and Jew, plus a small number of Italian Carabinieri. Having the control of my own stores, it necessitated my personal supervision of the ordering, receiving and issuing of same, which consisted of personnel clothing and uniforms, extensive marine stores, paint, oil and fuel for the launches, engines and parts, timber, etc.

I was responsible solely to the Commissioner of Police.

COPY.

Official Circular Vacancy No.
1631.

N.Z. PUBLIC SERVICE.

FORM TO BE USED BY EMPLOYEES IN APPLYING
FOR A VACANCY.

14/9/47.

The Secretary, Public Service Commission.

1. I hereby apply for the position of Assistant Government Storekeeper,
Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony.
2. --
3. Name: EDGE. James Arthur.
4. Position: Clerk.
5. Location: Wellington.
6. Department in which classified: Accounts Branch, Air Department.
7. Married or single: M.
8. Number of dependent children: -
9. Officer's age: 48 years.
10. Temporary service: 5 years 2 months.
From: 13/7/42.
11. Classification: Salary 400: Date 1.4.46.
12. Educational qualifications: Higher leaving certificate (England).
13. Military service: 1915-1919 NZEF 2 years overseas.
14. Special qualifications for position applied for (state fully): Refer
list attached. Over 20 years commercial experience.
Seven years tropical-accustomed to working of native
labour. Five year Public Service.

Jim Edge.

C O P Y.

1. Costing & store allocation on P.W.D. Railway construction
2 years.
2. Accountant & Stores Control for Sir W.G. Armstrong, Whitworth
& Co., at Arapuni - 3 years.
3. Officer in charge, Warehouse stocks and Terminal Plant for
Atlantic Oil Co., Ltd., Wellington. $1\frac{1}{2}$ years.
4. Office Manager for Colonial Motor Co., Ltd., Wellington. $1\frac{1}{2}$ years
5. Accountant & Stores Administrator for the Lower Zambesi Bridge,
Central Africa. $6\frac{1}{2}$ years.
6. Accountant for Wm. Cable & Co., Ltd., Wellington - $2\frac{1}{2}$ years.
7. Accountant for Watson Victor Ltd., Wellington X Ray Engineers.
 $1\frac{1}{2}$ years.
8. Five years temporary service on clerical duties Accounts
Branch, Air Department.

COPY.

Air Department,
Wellington.

17th September, 1947.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

MR. J. EDGE.

I understand that Mr. Edge has applied for a clerical position with the Fijian Administration and this letter is supplied at his request in support of his application.

Mr. Edge joined the Accounts Branch of Air Department on the 14th July, 1942, and since that date he has been employed on clerical work connected with the pay and allowances of the R.N.Z.A.F. During the period of five years he has conscientiously performed all duties allotted to him. Mr. Edge is of temperate habits and states that he finds tropical life agrees with him.

(Signed) P. Perkins,

Acting Director of Accounts.

Telegram.

Department of External Affairs, Wellington.

22nd January, 1948.

High Commissioner's telegram 2, Assistant Government Storekeeper.
Please advise me care Robertson ^{112 D} ~~Department~~. Te Kuiti should there
be other applicants for interviewing.

Maude.

-

INTERPRETATION OF CABLE

FROM: SUVA
TO: BURNS PHILP AUCKLAND
DATE: 14th JANUARY, 1948.

LEKDA	8
GYPID	GRATEFUL
NYRTO	PASS
GIDUB	FOLLOWING
UMPET	TO
MAUDE	MAUDE
FUKOV	EXTERNAL
AGORD	HAVE ADVISED
PYRIV	SELECTED
BOJOF	CANDIDATE
GIFOB	FOR
OGFUH	POST
MYOJK	OF
STOREKEEPER	STOREKEEPER
HELAT	HAS
ECSAV	DECLINED
MYVAS	OFFER
GUACF	FULLSTOP
UHUHL	HAVE TELEGRAPHED
FUKOV	EXTERNAL
GIDWE	AS FOLLOWS
AYHUD	BEGINS
LEAKD	2
WUSEL	YOUR
UFYVE	TELEGRAM
LAYNE	1
ARNYP	ASSISTANT
GYJWA	GOVERNMENT
STOREKEEPER	STOREKEEPER
GEIC	GEIC
GUACF	FULLSTOP
UZWIG	UNDERSTAND THAT
MAUDE	MAUDE
WERAS	WHO
APHYN	ARRIVED
WELLINGTON	WELLINGTON
IZKEH	LATE
EBTIF	DECEMBER
JYSEM	MAY
LAHZQ	NOW
AWYUZ	BE
IDVUD	IN
DIDIJ	CONSULTATION
WIVDE	WITH YOU
OWT IJ	REGARDING
AMEVG	APPOINTMENT
MYOJK	OF
PUTPA	SAVING
AVPRA	BANK
NEJET	OFFICER
VIDE	VIDE

C/o Mr J.C. Robertson,
Otamati, R.D.,
Te Kuiti,
17th January, 1948.

Dear Mr Hill,

I arrived in New Zealand a few weeks ago on a job of selecting a few officers for the islands, among them being an Assistant Government Storekeeper for the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony at Tarawa.

The New Zealand Government have given me your name as an applicant for the position and from your record you have all the necessary experience we are looking for. I should be most grateful if you would let me know if you are still interested and I could fly down and see you or, if this should not be possible, send you any particulars you may care for by post.

You probably already know all the official score about the position - the salary offered is £F300 by £20 to £F450, plus a Cost of Living Allowance of £F30 plus 10% and a Local or Duty Allowance of £A50, and in view of your experience the Government would probably not expect you to start on the minimum. On £F400 plus allowances one would get £628 in New Zealand currency, with a free partly furnished house, which is not a bad salary in the islands (where there is little to spend money on). We hope also that the Local Allowance will soon go up to £F100.

Tarawa, where you would be stationed, has a healthy dry climate, without malaria, and there are several other New Zealanders there working for the Government, the Secretary to Government being Mr Roberts from the Public Trust Office in Wellington. I think that they would all give the place a good name, as would my wife and myself - and we have lived in the Gilbert Islands for nearly 20 years.

Do please write me if there is anything you would like to know about the job or conditions in the Gilbert Islands.

Yours sincerely,

H.E. Maude.

- C/o J.C. Robertson, Esq.,
Otamati, R.D.,
Te Kuiti,
17th January, 1948.

Dear Stapledon,

I have now interviewed all three applicants for the post of Savings Bank Officer: Messrs Farr, Robertson and Whalley. I did not much like Farr and doubt whether he would settle down at Tarawa; and this despite his having lived in the Chathams, where conditions are fairly isolated and primitive. Furthermore, he has had little experience of Savings Bank work other than managing a small branch (with about 200 ledgers) for three or four years.

Either Robertson or Whalley would do, however, and of the two I prefer Whalley who seems a quiet sort with a good all round experience of the work required. He is married but would propose to travel to Tarawa without his wife in the first instance and see for himself how conditions would suit her.

I suggest therefore that the New Zealand Government should be asked to offer the post to Whalley and, should he refuse, to Robertson (who would not propose to bring his wife and family to Tarawa at any time).

Now, as regards terms, I understand that the Public Service Commissioners would probably consider favourably a request from you that the officer selected should be regarded as on secondment from the New Zealand Government for say 3 years, with the option of return to his substantive position without loss of seniority or increments.

This would appear to suit us for if, as one hopes, a native can be trained to take over the work, the officer's services can be dispensed with without difficulty. On the other hand, should we want him to stay on (and he himself be willing) we could no doubt arrange at a later date with the N.Z. Authorities for him to join us permanently.

The only other point I have concerns training. I gathered from Foss Shanahan that he could probably arrange

R. de S. Stapledon, Esquire,
Financial Secretary,
Western Pacific High Commission,
Suva, Fiji Islands.

for the selectee to have say a month's training and refresher course at Savings Bank headquarters at Wellington where he could be shown such things as methods of keeping main ledgers, balancing main accounts and investing funds, which he would scarcely learn in an ordinary office.

I recommend therefore that the appointment should be made without delay and that the N.Z. Authorities should be asked to arrange for a month at Wellington main office at our expense and that, furthermore, this should be followed by say two months at Savings Bank headquarters in Suva where the officer could learn the differences between Fiji practice (our own Ordinance and procedure being essentially based on Fiji) and that followed in New Zealand.

It seems to me that it would be preferable to start work in the islands a month or two later rather than have the officer commence things on the wrong lines through ignorance of the correct methods. As far as I can judge, both Whalley and Robertson are expert in the technique of running Savings Bank branches: they have been cogs in a large wheel, however, and have never had an opportunity of viewing Savings Bank work as a whole or the various specialist activities peculiar to the head office. One feels that this deficiency should be remedied before they take over the running of an autonomous bank such as ours must be.

Yours,
J.L.M.

INWARD TELEGRAM

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

Code

FROM WESTERN PACIFIC (High Commissioner)

D. 14th November, 1947.

R. 14th " " 07.15 hrs.

No. 321

My telegram No. 316 paragraph 1.

Treasury staff Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony.

Following are particulars of service of
A.E. Fuller:--

Third Class Clerk Fiji 13th August, 1922, to
31st December, 1926.

Second Class Clerk 1st January, 1927, to
31st December, 1937.

Assistant Accountant and Officer in Charge
of Telegraph Stores, 1st January, 1938, to 25th June, 1941.

Grade "A" Clerk Treasury 26th June, 1941, to
9th June, 1946.

Transferred to Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony
as Assistant Treasurer and Collector of Customs with
effect from 10th June, 1946.

Acting Treasurer and Collector of Customs
13th August, 1946.

2. I now recommend his appointment as Treasurer
and Collector of Customs Gilbert and Ellice Islands
Colony with effect from the date of appointment of
Assistant Treasurer referred to in my telegram No. 316.

Copy sent to:--

H.E. Maude, Esq.,
c/o Lady Maude,
Loretto, Gaudic,
St. Peter Port, Guernsey.

INWARD TELEGRAM

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

Code

FROM WESTERN PACIFIC (High Commissioner)

D. 10th November, 1947.

R. 10th " " 07.00 hrs.

No. 316.

Your telegram No. 238.

Following for Webber from Stapledon.
Begins.

Grateful if Crown Agents may proceed with selection of Assistant Treasurer, but final appointment should not be made pending submission, which I expect will be telegraphed shortly, of formal recommendation regarding promotion of present Assistant Treasurer to Treasurer.

2. As regards Savings Bank Officer, copies of two selected New Zealand applications were enclosed with my letter to Maude referred to under (1) in my telegram No. 298. Grateful to know in due course whether recruitment proceeding through the Crown Agents or to have confirmation that Maude will interview New Zealand candidates in Wellington.

3. I confirm that no further action required in U.K. regarding Assistant Storekeeper.
Copy sent to:- H.E. Maude, Esq., c/o Lady Maude,
Lorette, Gandle,
St. Peter Port, Guernsey.

6/0 Mrs. A. Turner
50 Bell Rd.
Lower Hutt.
Mar. 14th - 48.

Dear, M^{rs} Maude.

Firstly in reply to your letter dated 2/3/48. I wish to thank you for the arrangements made with Sister Bernard in having Anna cared for in Sydney, whilst on her way to N.Z.

My brother John who called on me during the past week, saw the contents of your recent letter and he is quite satisfied with the arrangements made including your telegram to the Acting Resident Commissioner. At this juncture I would like to explain my brother's non appearance in our interview at Waterloo Road. He did not meet me at the place he and I had arranged due to as I anticipated, 'Missing the Bus', & he having omitted to make a note of your Hutt address. His next best idea was to wait at where I stay for my return but left for the City just a few

minutes before my return. He expected me home much earlier. However as mentioned previously, he is quite satisfied with all the arrangements made. He has informed me that he has applied to the Court thru a solicitor for Anna's adoption. The solicitor told him that we would have to have Anna's Mother's consent legally before Anna could leave the Islands. It will all take time. However, I would in closing this letter, like to thank, both Mrs Maude + yourself, for your help in our little problem.

I am

Yours Sincerely
V. J. Owen.

P.S. Thanks for the refund on the telegram.

V. J. O.

30, Martin Avenue,
Remuera, Auckland, S.E.2,
2nd March, 1948.

Mr Val. Owen,
50, Bell Road,
Lower Hutt, Wellington.

Dear Mr Owen,

As I promised, I have seen the Rev. Sister Bernard at Mount Albert and she is asking the Marist Convent Sisters at Woolwich, Sydney, to look after Anna Owen until such time as one of them can bring her across to Auckland.

Since everything is now satisfactorily settled, so far as we can arrange matters from here, I have sent the following telegram to the Acting Resident Commissioner of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony at Tarawa Island:-

"Owen agrees to Tiare accompanying Sisters, who should take her to Marist Convent, Woolwich, Sydney, where arrangements have been made for her care and eventual passage with Marist Sisters travelling to New Zealand. She will live with Sister Bernard at Marist Convent, Alberton Avenue, Mount Albert, Auckland, until used to European life."

While I think of it, I enclose a Postal Note for 2/-, representing the value of the "Reply Paid" portion of the telegram you sent to me. As I never managed to send you the reply, I obtained a refund of the amount you paid for it.

I must say that I admire very much the attitude which you have taken in desiring to adopt Anna, and I wish that every happiness and success to you both may come of it.

Yours sincerely,

H.E. Maude

H.E. Maude.

30, Martin Avenue,
Remuera, Auckland, S.E.2,
2nd March, 1948.

Messrs. Burns, Philp and Co., Ltd.,
3, Albert Street, Auckland, C.1.

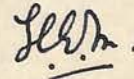
Dear Sirs,

I should be grateful if the following telegram could be sent to the Acting Resident Commissioner of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony, in reply to his telegram No.3 of the 13th February to you:-

"2nd March. Your telegram No.3. Following from Maude, begins:-

Owen agrees to Tiare accompanying Sisters who should take her to Marist Convent, Woolwich, Sydney, where arrangements have been made for her care and eventual passage with Marist Sisters travelling to New Zealand. She will live with Sister Bernard at Marist Convent, Alberton Avenue, Mount Albert, Auckland, until used to European life."

Yours faithfully,



H.E. Maude.

Mr. Burns

INTERPRETATION OF CABLE

FROM: BURNS PHILP AUCKLAND
TO: ACTING RESIDENT COMMISSIONER TARAWA
DATE: 3rd MARCH, 1948.

JYAPH 2nd MARCH
UGCEG YOUR TELEGRAM
LALYG NO. 3
GIDUB FOLLOWING
GOWTA FROM
MAUDE MAUDE
AYHUD BEGINS
OWEN OWEN
AHUPY AGREES TO
TIARE TIARE
ACWRE ACCOMPANYING
RUMOG SISTERS
WERAS WHO
ROOVL SHOULD
UPHYV TAKE
HOBOY HER TO
MARIST MARIST
CONVENT CONVENT
WOOLWICH WOOLWICH
SYDNEY SYDNEY
WEDAF WHERE
ANYOH ARRANGEMENTS
HETIG HAVE BEEN
JUJUH MADE
GIFYE FOR HER
BOVRO CARE
ALAVK AND
FINYR EVENTUAL
NYRUV PASSAGE
WISAZ WITH
MARIST MARIST
RUMOG SISTERS
UTFYM TRAVELLING
KULDO TO NEW ZEALAND
TUGNY STOP
RIDAJ SHE WILL
JOEDS LIVE
WISAZ WITH
RUMOG SISTER
BERNARD BERNARD
ARZDO AT
MARIST MARIST
CONVENT CONVENT
ALBERTON ALBERTON
AVENUE AVENUE
MOUNT MOUNT
ALBERT ALBERT
AUCKLAND AUCKLAND
VENWO UNTIL
VICAN USED TO
FILEK EUROPEAN
JINUC LIFE
BURPHIL BURPHIL

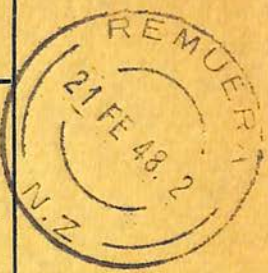
WOTJ 10a Lower Hutt
urgent reply kind of.
42/44

Mrs M G Maude
30 Martin Ave
REMUERA.

For Post Office use only

DATE-STAMP

ARM No.
Sent _____
To _____
By _____
Ackgd. _____



Rec'd at *Wairarapa* By *R.R.*

NEW ZEALAND POST OFFICE TELEGRAM

Letter received today re share
owners yes via personal interview
more satisfactory place advise
time and place in Wellington
at your convenience please make
reply urgent work to advise
brother elsewhere
Val Owen

30, Martin Avenue,
Remuera, Auckland, S.E.2,
17th February, 1948.

Dear Mr Owen,

I received a telegram yesterday from Mr Bryant, the Acting Resident Commissioner of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony, in which he mentioned that the Mission of the Sacred Heart at Teoraereke, on Tarawa Island, who are at present looking after Tiare Owen, are willing for her to accompany two Catholic Sisters shortly leaving Tarawa for Australia.

I understand that the Mission are also willing to keep Tiare with them in Australia for a year or more in order that she may be acclimitized to life under more civilized conditions and in a temperate climate. Once she reached the Commonwealth, however, you could no doubt make your own arrangements for her onward passage to New Zealand, after such length of time for acclimitization as may seem desirable by you in consultation with the Sisters who bring her down and other members of the Mission in Australia.

Would you please let me know, therefore, whether you are agreeable to the course of action suggested: I anticipate being in Wellington myself some time next week and could discuss the matter with you personally should you so desire. I should explain that I am the Resident Commissioner of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony and met Tiare when she was on Maiana Island last year. Actually, I endeavoured to arrange for my wife to bring her down to New Zealand some months ago but unfortunately matters could not be fixed up in time.

I gather from Mr Bryant's message (though the telegram is not clear on the point) that Tiare is being adopted jointly by yourself and her aunt, Mrs Byrne of Wakeman Street, Pahi-atua. I should be glad to learn if this is, in fact, the position and whether it is desirable to obtain Mrs Byrne's views regarding the proposal that Tiare should proceed to Australia.

Yours truly,



H.E. Maude.

1st March You tel No 3. Folley for Fonde, Legno :-

Owen agrees to Travel accompanying notes ~~arrangement~~ who should ~~take~~ take her to Harist Cement, Woolwich, Sydney, where arrangements have been made for her care and ^{eventual} onward passage with Harist sister & travelling to New Zealand. She will live with Sister Bernard of Harist Cement, Alberton Avenue, Hunt Albert, Auckland until ~~advised~~ ^{used} to European life.

Burns, Philp.

Love, truly,

B. B. Burns

*see re to
Minist Const,
Welland,
Sydney.*

Telegram.

From: The Acting Resident Commissioner,
Colony, Tarawa Island;

Gilbert and Ellice Islands

To: Messrs. Burns, Philp and Co., Ltd., Auckland.

13th February, 1948. Rec'd: 14th.

13th February. No. 3. Confidential. Please pass the following to Mr Maude, Esplanade Hotel, Devonport:-

Tiare Owen is at present being looked after by Teaoaraereke Mission, who are suggesting that she should accompany two sisters shortly going to Australia and ...?... thence New Zealand. Conversational remarks indicate the possibility of the Mission keeping Tiare for a year or more in Australia to be acclimatized. I am not aware whether Tiare's uncle, Mr Wall Owen, 50 Bell Road, Lower Hutt, Wellington, and her aunt, Mrs Byrne, Wakeman Street, Pahiatua, Wairarapa, are agreeable to this course. Grateful for your advice, possibly after consultation with relatives, whether to permit the sisters to take her. If there is no objection it is the most satisfactory arrangement.

We can only see all copies in Article & forward to 23.

Acting Resident Commissioner.

See Suite Bernard & get her to arrange this & arrange for Robert's passage

*Contact
Rev. Sr. Bernard
Minist Const,
Alberton Avenue,
Mt Albert,
Auckland, S.W. 2.
she will be in charge of Anna.*

*and letter
Sisters will buy her across the Article to 23
she should be debited to Minist Sister in Welland (Woodwick), Sydney,
who will look after her until real sister can buy her over to 23*

Telegram.

From: The Acting Resident Commissioner, Gilbert and Ellice Islands
Colony, Tarawa Island;

To: Messrs. Burns, Philp and Co., Ltd., Auckland.

13th February, 1948. Rec'd: 14th.

13th February. No. 3. Confidential. Please pass the
following to Mr Maude, Esplanade Hotel, Devonport:-

Tiare Owen is at present being looked after by Teaoaraereke
Mission, who are suggesting that she should accompany two
sisters shortly going to Australia and ...?... thence New
Zealand. Conversational remarks indicate the possibility
of the Mission keeping Tiare for a year or more in Australia
to be acclimatized. I am not aware whether Tiare's uncle,
Mr Wall Owen, 50 Bell Road, Lower Hutt, Wellington, and her
aunt, Mrs Byrne, Wakeman Street, Pahiatua, Wairarapa, are
agreeable to this course. Grateful for your advice, possibly
after consultation with relatives, whether to permit the
sisters to take her. If there is no objection it is the
most satisfactory arrangement.

Acting Resident Commissioner.

-

INTERPRETATION OF CABLE

FROM: TARAWA
TO: BURNS PHILP AUCKLAND
DATE: 14th FEBRUARY, 1948.

FYPAZ	13th FEBRUARY
LECVA	3
DAUGD	CONFIDENTIAL
TUGNY	STOP
ODVAD	PLEASE
NYRTO	PASS
GIDUB	FOLLOWING
UMPET	TO
KIBOJ	MR
MAUDE	MAUDE
ESPLANADE	ESPLANADE
HUBYG	HOTEL
DEVONPORT	DEVONPORT
TUGNY	STOP
TIARE	TIARE
OWEN	OWEN
IRFEL	IS
OHJUH	AT PRESENT
AYLOG	BEING
JOZNA	LOOKED AFTER
BISOK	BY
TEAORAEREKE	TEAORAEREKE
KIARV	MISSION
PERET	WHO ARE
UBEBZ	SUGGESTING THAT
REPYV	SHE
ACWEV	ACCOMPANY
LEAKD	2
SISTERS	SISTERS
ROOKY	SHORTLY
GYCUV	GOING TO
ASZOS	AUSTRALIA
ALAVK	AND
OJAVK	PRICE IS TOO HIGH
UKORK	THENCE
KUKOC	NEW ZEALAND
TUGNY	STOP
CONVERSATIONAL	CONVERSATIONAL
OZDIH	REMARKS
IGPYN	INDICATE
OGDEC	POSSIBILITY
KIARV	MISSION
IVRHO	KEEPING
TIARE	TIARE
GIFUC	FOR A
WUBAR	YEAR
NIPAF	OR
KISBO	MORE
IDVUD	IN

ASZOS	AUSTRALIA
UMPUX	TO BE
ACCLIMATISED	ACCLIMATISED
TUGNY	STOP
AKGYG	AM
KUWEM	NOT
ATWYK	AWARE
WEJEL	WHETHER
TIARES	TIARES
UNCLE	UNCLE
KIBOJ	MR
VOTME	WALL
OWEN	OWEN
LEVYV	50
BELL	BELL
POGWE	ROAD
JUEWR	LOWER
HUTT	HUTT
WELLINGTON	WELLINGTON
ALAVK	AND
HOAMG	HER
AUNT	AUNT
MRS	MRS
BYRNE	BYRNE
WAKEMAN	WAKEMAN
TURAS	STREET
PAHIATUA	PAHIATUA
WAIRARAPA	WAIRARAPA
AHLIR	AGREEABLE
ULWAG	THIS
DUHVE	COURSE
TUGNY	STOP
GYPIG	GRATEFUL
GIJBA	FOR YOUR
AGHIR	ADVICE
OGFAC	POSSIBLY
AGZYN	AFTER
DIDML	CONSULTED
OYMAS	RELATIVES
WEKEM	WHETHER TO
OCSAG	PERMIT
SISTERS	SISTERS
UMPET	TO
UPHYV	TAKE
HOAMG	HER
TUGNY	STOP
HYTEL	IF NO
MUSUC	OBJECTION
IRTYG	IT IS
KIYPZ	MOST
PUPEL	SATISFACTORY
ANYOH	ARRANGEMENT
ADSLO	ACTING
PEVID	RESIDENT
CUVTY	COMMISSIONER

30, Martin Avenue,
Remuera, Auckland, S.E.2,
15th March, 1948.

Sir,

In accordance with Your Excellency's request, I have the honour to submit the following report on various matters connected with Pitcairn Island submitted to me by the Chief Magistrate and other members of the local community during my recent brief call at the island, or subsequently in the course of interviews with islanders temporarily resident in Wellington or Auckland.

Towing Launch.

2. The Chief Magistrate stated that the Island Council was unanimously in favour of the purchase, from Island Funds, of a launch which could be used for towing the island boats to and from the shore and visiting ships. From my own practical experience of the amount of time wasted by the entire community, particularly during calm weather, in rowing the boats to and from ships, I consider that the proposal is an excellent one. As Your Excellency is aware, the larger vessels visiting the island keep at a considerable distance from Bounty Bay, often necessitating several hours rowing or tacking against an adverse wind: moreover, during recent years the length of stay of these ships has been cut to a minimum and a towing launch, by enabling the boats to be ready for boarding on a vessel's arrival, however short the notice, would save much valuable time.

3. I would recommend, therefore, that enquiries should be made by telegram to the Chief Magistrate as to the size and type of towing launch required, as well as the type of engine, and a guarantee obtained that it can be run, maintained and serviced by local personnel. Should these enquiries prove satisfactory, I suggest that arrangements should be made with the High Commission Agents in Wellington, Messrs Burns, Philp and Company, Limited, to have a suitable craft purchased (either new or second-hand) in consultation with Messrs Robert Christian, Parkins Christian and Chester

Young, who are

His Excellency,
The High Commissioner for the
Western Pacific,
Suva, Fiji Islands.

Young, who are all resident in the city and fully conversant with local requirements. It would be necessary, at the same time, to allocate an annual sum in the Island Estimates for the maintenance of the craft and provision of fuel.

Island Improvements.

13.1.48.
4. I enclose a copy of a letter from one of the leading islanders resident in Wellington, Mr Chester R. Young, in which he advocates, in addition to the launch mentioned above, the following island improvements:-

- (a) the provision of a Bulldozer, for making and improving the island roads, clearing and levelling house sites and land for cultivation, and other community uses;
- (b) the provision of a small Truck, for carting community produce from the fields, stores and other goods from the landing place, house removals and servicing the wireless station, etc.;
- (c) a piping system, to run water from the spring and storage tanks to the village houses; and
- (d) the cementing of a portion of the landing place at Bounty Bay.

5. Although I did not have time to discuss all of these suggestions in detail with the Chief Magistrate during my last visit, I gathered from him that the Island Council is now prepared to welcome increased amenities such as these. I should add that they were all, including the provision of a launch, discussed with the islanders during my extended visit to Pitcairn in 1940-41, but the community did not then possess the necessary funds to obtain such much-needed improvements nor the progressive spirit to desire them. As the request for them has now, however, come from the islanders themselves (or at any rate from the more progressive element in the community) I hope that Your Excellency may be prepared to give the matter your sympathetic consideration, in which event I would suggest that the Chief Magistrate might be requested to sound the views of the Island Council and community in general on the proposals and, should they prove favourable, that the items required by them might be purchased and shipped to the island by the High Commission Agents in New Zealand.

Mr Young's offer to work on Pitcairn.

6. It will be seen from the enclosure that Mr Young

is willing, if necessary, to proceed to Pitcairn Island in order to undertake the work of laying the pipes for the water supply, cementing the portion of the landing place and training locally resident islanders to work, maintain and service the launch, bulldozer and truck. He would, however, require to be remunerated for this work at a rate not stated but probably similar to that which he already earns. I understand that Mr Young has the necessary technical experience to perform the work required and, in view of the difficulty of persuading competent artisans to visit Pitcairn, I recommend that, should any of the schemes set out above be proceeded with, the Chief Magistrate should be advised of his offer and asked whether, in the event of competent mechanics or artisans not being available locally, the Island Council would wish to take advantage of it.

Salary of Island Secretary.

7. Your Excellency will no doubt recollect that the Chief Magistrate raised the question of the inadequate salary paid to the Island Secretary and Treasurer, Mr Andrew Young, and recommended that it should be substantially raised in view of the multifarious and steadily increasing duties performed by that officer. I stated at the time, and still feel, that such an increase would be just and expedient. Admittedly, the Island Secretary does not work full time on his official duties, but he probably works longer hours than the whole of the rest of the local Government put together; furthermore, his work is of a specialized nature which unfortunately no-one else on the island can perform and if, as was indicated to me, he decides to resign and proceed to New Zealand (where he can easily earn £10 or more a week) it will presumably be necessary to fill his place by an imported official, at a salary of £400 or £500 a year.

8. As Secretary to the Government, Mr Young holds the key post in the local administration, drafting all official letters (whether signed by him or not), keeping the island records and statistics and compiling the periodical returns, as well as acting as clerk to the Court and all other local bodies such as the Council, Committee for Internal Affairs and School Committee, which entails a considerable amount of writing up of minutes. In addition to these duties, as Island Treasurer he handles cash running into four figures (working in four currencies), keeps the Government's financial books, prepares the monthly cash statements and audits and supervises the work of the Postmaster. At the same time, as the one permanent officer in the administration, he

has acquired a knowledge of Government affairs and precedents which makes his advice sought after not only by the Chief Magistrate and other elected officers but by the islanders in general.

9. During my various visits to Pitcairn I have been much impressed by the conscientiousness, cheerfulness and ability with which Mr Young carries out his Government work: on the last occasion on which I landed, for example, he worked night and day without a break for 24 hours and was as willing at the end as at the beginning. I can, therefore, cordially recommend to Your Excellency that favourable consideration be given to a substantial increase in Mr Young's salary: it is no secret that he has continued to stay on Pitcairn from a sense of public spirit and to his own financial disadvantage and should the Government lose him before a locally resident successor has been trained they will have lost their main prop. I should add that, as the Island Secretary is (like the Wireless Officer and Postmaster) a permanent official appointed by the High Commissioner, there can be no valid objection to his being paid at a higher rate than the Chief Magistrate, who himself concurs in this view.

The Wireless Officer.

10. I should perhaps mention here that a number of islanders, including the Chief Magistrate, expressed their disappointment with the technical competence shown by the present Wireless Officer, recently appointed to succeed Mr Nelson Dyett. I am not, of course, in a position to state whether their views are well-founded but I have been informed that the local station has ceased to function on more than one occasion since his arrival and has had to be repaired by Mr Dyett himself. It is fully realized how difficult it is to persuade a competent Wireless Officer to live on Pitcairn and for this reason I would recommend that consideration should be given to the re-appointment of Mr Dyett as soon as he has had a period of leave. Mr Dyett has himself expressed to me his willingness to return to his former post, though not at his former salary which I think it will be agreed was inadequate in view of his proved ability both as an operator and a technician. In fact, should Mr Dyett be re-appointed, it is felt that it would be equitable to offer him a salary not markedly below that necessary to secure his relief by perhaps less competent personnel.

Applications to enter the Closed District.

11. Owing to the steadily increasing marriage and other contacts between Pitcairn Islanders and New Zealanders there are a number of the latter who are anxious to visit Pitcairn, usually in company with or to visit their relations. These people are, for the most part, in contact with Mr Robert Christian of 9, Roxburgh Street, Wellington, an islander who has resided in New Zealand for over 20 years and who has, for some time past, acted as a sort of unofficial local agent in the Dominion for the Pitcairn community. Mr Christian has requested that a copy of the Closed District Regulation and a supply of Application Forms to enter the Closed District might be supplied to him, in order that he may be in a position to explain the provisions of the law to the various relatives and friends of the islanders who contact him and, in proper cases, to assist them in preparing their forms correctly. I would recommend that this be done, as a means of assisting the islanders and their connexions (who, as I well know, are usually quite unable to understand the Closed District Regulation requirements without assistance) and at the same time saving an amount of unnecessary correspondence in the High Commission office. I should add that I have been informed that, owing to ignorance of the provisions of the Closed District Regulation in New Zealand, non-islanders have landed, or contemplate landing, on Pitcairn without obtaining Your Excellency's prior permission.

Marriage of Mr Sterling Warren.

12. I was recently requested by Mr Sterling Warren (or Young) to supply particulars regarding his former marriage to his Solicitor, Mr R.R. Scott of Grey Street, Wellington. There is correspondence on this matter on record in the High Commission office which will show that a marriage ceremony was performed between Mr Warren and a Mangarevan girl by Captain Johnson, Master of the American schooner "Yankee", while sailing from the Tuamotus to Pitcairn. Mr Warren has since been through a form of marriage with a New Zealand girl and is anxious to establish which of the two he is legally married to. I believe that in fact the validity of the first ceremony depends on the law of the state of Massachusetts, since the "Yankee" was registered in Rochester, and in the United States state, and not federal, law governs such matters. Full particulars of the case, so far as they are known to me, were forwarded to Mr Scott and I have since had a letter from him stating that no further action is required in the matter.

Passage for Mrs Margery Warren.

13. I received a telegraphic message in February from Pitcairn stating that Mrs Margery Warren was suffering from chronic appendicitis and requesting me to arrange for a ship to call at the island to take her to New Zealand for operation. The matter was to be dealt with during an official visit to Wellington on Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony affairs but in the interim Mrs Warren was fortunatley able to obtain a passage on a passing ship and is now in the Auckland Hospital, where she has been operated on successfully.

14. I should perhaps emphasize, in conclusion, that while several of the recommendations contained in this letter involve expenditure from Pitcairn Island funds, they are felt in every case to be proper objects for such expenditure, since they would be of direct advantage to the community as a whole, for whose benefit the fund was originally created. Furthermore, at the last meeting which I attended on Pitcairn Island affairs with Sir Alexander Grantham, it was considered to be unfortunate that, while the Fund was rapidly increasing through stamp sales, the Government had made little effort to utilize it on projects for the benefit of the islanders; this being largely due to the unavoidable preoccupation of the High Commission staff with matters of more urgent importance. As a result of this meeting, plans were drawn up for providing a school building and proper educational facilities for the community but, while this scheme will no doubt absorb a proportion of the island's financial assets, I would urge that the Government's efforts should not be confined to the educational field but extended to include projects, such as those suggested above, calculated to benefit more directly the material well-being of the islanders. The provision of items to increase the meagre amenities of the island life, particularly when requested by the islanders themselves, is perhaps more important (at least from a political point of view) on Pitcairn than on any other island under Your Excellency's jurisdiction, since calls are made there by many thousands of travellers from all over the world who never see any other part of the Colonial Empire and consequently form an unfavourable view of our efforts to further the social and economic advancement of native communities. It is for this reason that so much criticism of the alleged Governmental neglect of Pitcairn has appeared in the press, more particularly in the United States, and, while a good

deal of it is ill-informed and unjustified, it is urged that the time has come when the Government can and should undertake a larger programme of public works on the island.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your Excellency's obedient servant,

H.E. Maude.

H.E. Maude.

57 View Road
Houghton Bay
Wellington
3/1/48

Dear Mr. Maude

I was very sorry I was unable to see you, when you were in Wellington.

I happened to be on holiday at the time, but went aboard the ship to inquire about some fruit, and would certainly have looked you up had I known you were aboard.

I was pleased to hear you called at the Island.

Bob Christman told me that you would like me to ^{get} in touch with you.

As I am still keen to improve things back on the Island.

I would like to suggest a few things that I think are necessary to complete the job.

A Bulldozer a truck also a launch would be very handy in case

Emergency to help pull the boats to & from the ships.

Pipes are also needed for the water to be carried to each house.

This would probably be a big job, but once done it would stay forever, like many other jobs needed back there.

The landing place could also be improved. It would take a few bags of cement but would be well worth it.

Now as regards question of wages, what do you think would be a fair wage if a ^{man} is prepared to work solidly 8 hrs a day 6 day week, to improve the Island generally.

My wages in the waterfront are £8 for forty hours, £11 with overtime, which I do all the year round.

Of course if I left New Zealand I would have to continue the rent of my house, so that I would have a home to return to.

I would also have to take up quite

a bit of provision as I would not expect any of the Islanders to support me.

Well Mr Maude this is my side of the story and until I hear from you I will not be able to carry my plans further.

I received a letter last mail from my sister telling me that Burley Warren died, just another case of over-work, also a letter from the Magistrate Morris Young saying that the people would gladly welcome any improvements and hope that they will be carried out.

Well here's hoping you can assist me, as I am prepared to work hard and carry out a plan that would benefit the Island & Islanders permanently.

Yours faithfully,
Chester R. Young.

30 Martin Avenue,
Remuera,
AUCKLAND. S.E. 2.

15th March, 1948.

Mr. Chester R. Young,
57, View Road,
Houghton Bay,
WELLINGTON. N.Z.

Dear Mr. Young,

I am sorry not to have replied before to your letter of the 13th January. However, I have now sent a copy to the High Commissioner in Fiji, together with a full report and my recommendations on your various suggestions. I hope that he will now put them before the Council by telegram and that it will not be long before we receive a reply. Morris Young spoke to me about some of them when I saw him for a few minutes in December, and he indicated that, as you say in your letter, the Council agreed with them all.

I see that you are willing to go to the Island yourself, if necessary, and have mentioned this matter to the High Commissioner. Of course, I cannot say what he (or the Council) would think of this idea. As you know, I have no longer anything to do with Pitcairn Island affairs, though I try to help whenever I can.

Parkins Christian came in with Robert the other day, and we were glad to hear that Margery has had her operation and is doing well.

I do hope that you will now hear before long, that good is to come of your plans to benefit the Pitcairn community, and improve the Island generally,

Yours sincerely,

J.L.D.

WHOLESALE
AND
RETAIL
PHILATELISTS

J. & W. BAXTER

Members of P.T.S. & S.D.A.

64 CHAMBERLAYNE ROAD,
KENSAL RISE, N.W.10
LONDON - ENGLAND

ALBUMS AND
ACCESSORIES
—
COLLECTIONS
BOUGHT

16th March/48.

Dear Dr. Grumbridge,

With reference to the Pitcairn Island and Gilbert & Ellice Island stamps left with us for sale, we have disposed of the used stamps, but are unable to find buyers for the £100 mint Gilberts Victory issue.

Unfortunately the market was missed for the mint stamps, but we are of opinion that ready buyers will be found for these in about eighteen months to two years time.

Seventy of the First Day covers of Gilberts were returned due to the fact that the stamps were damaged in some way and we are retaining them together with the mint stamps pending your instructions.

We enclose our cheque for £12. 10. 0 made up as follows :-

Pitcairn used 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ d and 1d @ 2/- doz.	-	4. 2 ✓
" " 50 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. 1d. $1\frac{1}{2}$ d @ 4/- "	-	16. 8 ✓
" " 25 " " " 2d. 3d. @ 9/- doz.	-	18. 9 ✓
12 Last and 1st day covers @ 18/- doz.	-	18. 0 ✓
330 Gilberts' Victory 1st day covers @ 8/-	-	£11.0. 0 ✓
		<u>£13.17.7 ✓</u>
Less commission @ 10%	-	1. 7. 7 ✓
		<u>£12.10.0 ✓</u>

Thanking you for having favoured us with your instructions.

Yours faithfully,

J. W. Baxter

Dr. J.L. Grumbridge O.B.E.

30, Martin Avenue,
Remuera, Auckland, S.E.2,
21st March, 1948.

My dear Chamberlain,

Your letter of the 17th March arrived yesterday. You will have now seen, from my note of the 18th, that we still hope to arrive by the "Matua", but if it is unduly delayed we shall have to come by plane. While I think of it, would you please tell whoever fixes up plane passages that we have a cook in Suva, Teaira by name, who will need to come up with us as we are entirely dependant on her to avoid starvation. She is, I believe, at present working for the Bevingtons but is ready to leave at short notice: she came with us last time on a Catalina so is fortunately quite used to it.

As regards Bryant, I shall naturally be sorry to lose his advice on arrival, as I gather there have been a great many changes of policy during my leave and it may be difficult to get the hang of things at first. On the other hand, I feel that a period under you would be of real value to him, who naturally has his own career to think of, and were I in the same position as he is I would certainly press for it myself. Furthermore, you must have a good First Assistant and, as you say, Bryant is the best offering in the High Commission service.

So, looking at the matter from every angle, I am agreeable to the Bryants leaving by the plane which brings me up. Actually, I have often wondered what Bryant could best do in the Colony once I return and ~~pick~~ pick up the threads. He is really too senior to spend his time in charge of one of our minute districts, which a junior officer can tackle quite satisfactorily and which involves constant knocking around in horrible small boats. For this reason, and because I feel sure he is due a senior post, I have already tentatively suggested his consideration for the position of Agent and Consul, Tonga, when it becomes vacant: from what I saw of him, I suggest he would make a good successor to Trevor Johnson. As, however, I am now to leave in the near future, he may be earmarked to act until my successor arrives (or possibly be that successor?).

Yours sincerely,

G.D.C.

G.D. Chamberlain, Esq.,
Suva, Fiji Islands.

WESTERN PACIFIC HIGH COMMISSION,
SUVA, FIJI.



No. C.P.F.15.

17th March, 1948.

My dear Maude,

Thank you for your letter of the 4th March about your future movements. I take it that you will be coming up some time about mid April with your wife and niece, either by air or sea as is most convenient, and that you will give me as much notification as you can of the date of your arrival. I will then arrange for a Catalina for the onward journey.

There is one matter which I want to speak to you about when you come, but to which you may wish to turn your mind now. At present I have no First Assistant Secretary, having had to let Trench go to the Solomons last August to help them in their troubles. I cannot take him away as administratively there has been a good deal of confusion in the past in the Protectorate and quite a number of matters has still to be straightened out. In the meantime I had to pull Laxton out of the Colony - you were an officer over-strength - and make use of him here. But this improvisation cannot go on much longer, since Stapledon is due to leave in May and there are no signs of his relief. I must therefore get the rest of my office up to strength as soon as possible.

The only suitably qualified officer who might be available is Bryant and I have sounded him and find that he would like to come down here as First Assistant Secretary. This will help me and do him a lot of good because he lacks Secretariat experience. It might also not be a bad thing from your point of view. It might therefore be possible to bring him, and Mrs. Bryant, back by the Catalina that takes you up. Laxton would, of

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



- 2. -

course, then go back to the Colony.

I hope that this proposal will be agreeable to you.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen L. Linn

—

June, 1948.

Dear Thelma,

I was very glad to get your letter of the 15th May. Unfortunately I was away when it arrived here and I only returned last Wednesday.

I am afraid that I have nothing to do with Pitcairn Island any more, being now in charge of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony, so I cannot say whether you may go home with your father or not. However I have sent on your letter to Mr. G.D. Chamberlain, the Chief Secretary of the Western Pacific High Commission in Suva, Fiji, who is the man who can give you the answer and I have asked him to let you know as soon as possible whether you may return to Pitcairn before you have finished your last year's work or not. Personally I think it would be a great pity if you left the Hospital before you obtained your Certificate as a Nurse because that is what you went to Australia for and the island has spent a lot of money on having you trained. No matter how clever you are at your work, you cannot be a nurse until you get your Certificate.

My wife and I hear very good reports of yourself and Irma Warren and I am sure that, although it must I know have been very hard work and rather lonely at first at Wahroona you will always be glad all your life that you have had this training. I think of you two as really the luckiest girls in all Pitcairn's history.

We saw your mother and father when we called at Pitcairn on our way from England to New Zealand last November and they were both looking very well. They showed us some good photos of you and you were looking quite plump: not like the little girl we used to know on Pitcairn.

If we come to Sydney before you go home we will certainly come and see you: we often think and talk of you two.

The best of good luck for the future,

Yours sincerely,

H.E. Maude

H.E. Maude.

June, 1948.

Dear Chamberlain,

I enclose a letter from Miss Thelma Christian, one of the two Pitcairn girls being trained in Australia as nurses, together with a copy of my reply. Miss Christian asks for permission to return to Pitcairn with her father this year before, apparently, completing the final year of her course. If I may express an opinion on a matter which no longer concerns me, the decision would appear to hinge on whether she has yet obtained her Certificate as a Nurse or not. If she has there would appear to be no vital reason why she should stay on for a year's refresher course; but if she has not it would seem a mistake to leave at the eleventh hour and thus waste all these years of training.

You will note from my letter that I have told Miss Christian that I would request you to let her know direct what the answer to her request is.

Yours sincerely,

S.L.M.

G.D. Chamberlain, Esq.,
Chief Secretary,
Western Pacific High Commission,
Suva, Fiji.

Shepherds Road,
Keni Keni,
Bay of Islands.
5. 4. 48.

Dear Mr Maude,

I am sorry you cannot
come up here but it's probably just
as well as one of the properties I
wanted to show you went yesterday
to a bloke from Malaya however I am
must come when you return. I've
been all day planting out my garden
and I'm quite sure I do not want to
see another bull or rooted cutting as
long as I live. They will, I agree look
glorious next spring but in the meantime
they've broken my back and given me
a headache.

I had some cuttings for Mrs Maude

but with your departure so imminent (I can't spell) I will not send them however should you ever want any fruit such as oranges & lemons do let me know as it's just a matter of picking them green and packing them off G. B. P. C. Auckland and they'd arrive at Tarawa in fine condition and ripened. A much better way than getting them half rotted from a store don't you think?

I had a letter to-day from Major Deems do you remember him. He is now in New York and soon will go to Germany. I do not know why he wrote but it was quite pleasant to read his letter.

well I do hope you have a good trip and do give my regards to Mrs Maude.

Yours sincerely,
Roman McEwen

30, Martin Avenue,
Remuera, Auckland, S.E.2,
6th April, 1948.

My dear Chamberlain,

Just a note on our passages to Suva. The Union Company have finally announced that the "Matua" will sail on the 22nd: I am unofficially advised that this date is likely to be the final one and that further delay is not now anticipated.

In case you wanted me in Suva before then I have had the Colony Agents investigate air passages; but they have just reported that prospects are no longer bright as all three of the seaplanes which ran the Saturday service have now broken down and the Company have no idea when they will be able to send the next plane after the one taking the cricketers back on Friday. Apparently they have no spare parts and so have to cannabalize with the result that all planes are now knocked out. They cannot very well borrow planes from Trans-Tasman, as before, since the Sydney service is also off and all planes grounded.

I could possibly get a passage by the Skymaster leaving for Nandi on the 21st but do not propose to do so unless you want me as there would appear to be little point and it means leaving the family behind to fend for themselves.

G.D. Chamberlain, Esquire,
Chief Secretary, Western Pacific
High Commission,
Suva, Fiji.

I have, therefore, confirmed our bookings by the "Matua" and, unless I receive a telegram from you containing other instructions, I shall be on board her (with my wife, niece and Jennifer) as arranged.

After the 9th my address will be c/o Sir Carrick Robertson, "Rannock", Almorah Road, Epsom, Auckland, S.E.1.

Yours sincerely,

Copy.

Telegram.

From:- The Secretary of State.

To:- The Governor.

20th April, 1948.

Rec'd: 21st April, 1948.

No. 118. Confidential. Your telegram 142. Following from Jeffries Personal and Confidential.

.....
.....
2. Whether the post will carry a salary likely to attract person named remains to be seen. Your brief now under consideration with Treasury will probably include an instruction to endeavour to secure agreement on salary of £1600 sterling but with discretion under pressure to go up to £2250. Any salary assigned to be a fixed sum.

3. As you are aware we have already informed Australia that we should like to see an Australian Secretary General but they appear to have difficulty in finding suitable candidate and have recently enquired informally whether we are proposing to suggest anyone for the post. Before therefore you any formal proposal at Commission you should first sound Australia as to their reaction to a possible United Kingdom candidate.

4. Failing a satisfactory Australian candidate or a salary attractive to person named you will no doubt have in mind possibility of Maude who would be acceptable to New Zealand (Kimber's letter 2/251 of March 16th to Commonwealth Relations Office copy to Vaskess).

Secretary of State.

-

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
UNIVERSITY PARK
LOS ANGELES 7

April 26, 1948.

Dr. Katherine Luomala
Department of Anthropology
University of Hawaii
Honolulu, T.H.

Dear Katherine:

I believe you are scheduled to do some field work in the Gilbert Islands this summer. If so, you might be interested in looking into snoddity reported to me for Tarawa by a former marine who is a student here now. He claims to have seen some outlandish and outsized "foot prints" there. According to his story, these prints are in the interior of the next to the last islet at the southwest end of the atoll. They are in indurated material which he describes as having the appearance of rough concrete. The foot prints are six-toed and shaped somewhat like equilateral triangles with somewhat rounded sides similar to the sketch given herewith. They are about eighteen inches across the toes and an equal distance from toe to heel. Along with these large prints are some smaller ones of similar shape. According to this student, whose name is Jack Selk, the natives have a tradition that these are the foot prints of a giant aboriginal people found on the island when the ancestors of the present Tarawans first went there. Mr. Selk tells me that these prints were shown to him by a native boy now about twenty-two years old, who was called Eddie by the marines but whose native name was Erimeriki. This young man lives on an islet near the northeast end of the atoll.



This all sounds very fantastic to me, but Mr. Selk does not seem like a young man given to dillusions. Two possible explanations occur to me: one, that these markings might be the imprints of some perishable form of marine life with which I am unfamiliar. It also seems possible that they might have been faked by aboriginal priests, possibly to lend support to the mythological story of giant aborigines. At any rate, if you get to Tarawa, you might want to check up on these so-called foot prints.

Sorry I don't have anything more edifying to write to you about at the moment. If you are going out this summer, I hope you will have a very successful and very pleasant trip.

Sincerely yours,

J.E. Weckler, Chairman
Department of Anthropology.

10th September, 1948.

Dear Brother Fred,

Your letter written on the 27th June reached me last week. I certainly wish that I could help you about a passage to Australia and back and also about Thelma's passage but you know I live very far away and a letter from here takes months and months to reach anywhere in the world. We used to think of Pitcairn as being isolated, but Tarawa is much more cut off from the world than you are.

About your going to Australia. If I was you, Brother Fred, I would go to Australia and risk the chance of getting a ship back. No doubt you could stay with the Conference people at Wairoa and if you could not get a passage back from Australia you could always cross over to New Zealand, like Parkins Christian did, and get a passage from there.

It is true that the world is getting worse all the time, but we cannot tell if the end of the world will be quite yet. Even if it should happen in say 5 years to come it would still be best to have your nose fixed now.

Now about Thelma. I had a letter from her many months ago asking me to fix her passage back to Pitcairn when you returned after having your nose seen to. And I sent her letter to the Chief Secretary to the High Commissioner in Fiji and asked him to help her to get back, as I was so far away and could not help her from here.

And I also wrote to Thelma and said what I had done - and I gave her my strong advice that she must not leave Australia until she has passed her examinations and got her certificate as a nurse, as otherwise she would not be a proper nurse.

What bad luck you have in Pitcairn with your wireless. I do hope that someone has been found to take the place of Mr. Long by now.

F. Christian, Esq.,
Pitcairn Island.

We have a Seventh-day Adventist Mission started in these islands now with Pastor Howse in charge. He is a good friend of mine and came to see me today. From what he says, the Mission is going to do very well here when it is running properly.

Alaric is now at a boarding school in Auckland but my wife is here and well and we both send out very best good wishes to Flora and you, and I do hope that we may be privileged to see both you good folks again - we often think of you,

Very sincerely, your friend,

Piteairn Island - June 27/48

Mr. Maude -

Dear Brother -

It has been in my mind a long time to write a letter to you, but somehow I kept putting it off. untill to night I feel I must.

Dont know when a ship will call to take it away. as you might have known by this time that the station up at Faro Ground is all out of order, and Mr Long the operator is far on his way to England there is nothing here to charge the batteries, all the wind chargers have gone crook. so at present all the radio is out of order, cant get any news from anywhere.

I am planing to go to Australia to have an operation in my nose. I cant even breath through my nose, of course it doesnt give me any pain, but I find it hard some time to live. I have to breath through my mouth, The nurse is trying to help me. some time I thought its getting better, and again it gets bad. But another things ~~is~~ the world ^{is} getting so bad, and its getting worst every day, which I believe it is a sure signs of the end of the world, and the coming of Jesus. so dear brother I just dont know what to do.

The S. D. & Conference has promise to pay all expences. but I learned that it is hard to get a passage back home again these days

2

I dont know what is the best thing to do, I wished I can know what is your mind, and what you could advise me to do.

We find it very bad when cant send a message to get a passage. Mr Long send to the Remutaka when she was going down this time to get a passage for me, and the Captain send back and say there is no room for any passenger, so I missed that one, and then the station go on the Bunn, since then it has been out of order.

Now here, another little matter, I'll be glad if you can help us. Thelma wrote and tell us that she and Irma will finished school this year and will be ready to come home by the end of the year. We are very glad that the time has come for them to come back, and dear brother I want to thank you and the government for all what you have done for the girls, in helping them, and giving them such wonderful help in their education and now I hope that you will still help them to find a way home again.

Trusting that you & wife and Alice are all keeping well. As Flora and the two children are well.

Sincerely your true friend
Fred Christian.

17th September, 1948.

Dear Mr. Grumbridge,

I am very contrite indeed at not having replied long ago to your two letters which I duly received in New Zealand. Unfortunately, I have been up to my eyes in work ever since and am only now beginning to get straight again.

Once I got back to the Pacific there was a tremendous sheaf of Government and private communications to answer and as your letters referred chiefly to enquiries about the Gilberts I put them aside until I finally got up here.

We have had a strike on Ocean Island which kept me very busy for a time and so it was not until June that I finally got back to Tarawa, and since then I have been catching up on work which has accumulated during the year I was away.

I am sorry you have had trouble with the stamps - I know some of them had their perforations messed about and others were poorly postmarked. However, there is no hurry at all and perhaps your friend will have better luck later on. This reminds me that I recently received a Bank Credit from the Midland Bank in London showing that you had put £12. 10. 0. into it: many thanks.

I have noted your advice re purchasing sets of George VI used - I have not recovered from my leave yet. If I ever have some money before I leave here I will buy some and have them properly postmarked.

Now to answer the queries in your second letter.

Washington Island.

You're right, we have never opened a Post Office at Washington Island and do not propose to do so. The reason is that the island is the freehold property of Fanning Island Plantations, Ltd. and the only people living on it are the

Manager /

Dr. J.L. Grumbridge,
46 Fairfield Avenue,
Ruislip.

Manager and a few Gilbert and Ellice Island labourers: there is absolutely no Government official there at all. I understand that the Manager keeps a small supply of Colony stamps which are put on the letters, these being eventually taken across to Fanning and posted at the Post Office there. The arrangement works quite well as there is no communication from Washington other than to Fanning Island.

Postage Dues.

I have been stirring up the Post Office about Postage Dues recently, and they are making a real effort to put them on all unstamped letters before delivery. I believe the only Post Offices that carry stocks are Tarawa and Ocean Island and at Ocean they told me that they used 30 or 40 in the course of a year. One can purchase them unused from the Chief Postmaster but my efforts to obtain used ones have proved fruitless, as the Post Office quite rightly will not take letters from me unstamped since they know very well who has posted them. The only way I could get them would be to write from abroad and send the letters to a friend here unstamped: Goldup sent me an airmail letter unstamped the other day and alas! it was delivered to me without any Postage Due label.

Americans.

The only islands in this Colony where there are still Americans are Canton, Christmas and Butaritari, where there is a small Loran Station, and I hear that the Christmas lot will probably be leaving very shortly. I have no idea of the postmarks, if any, these people use but will endeavour to find out.

Administrative.

It was decided to change Headquarters from Ocean to Tarawa before the war, and the fact that the Japanese destroyed most of our houses there clinched the matter. The reason for the change was the importance of Headquarters being in the centre of the native population of the Colony and not right out in a back-water. Tarawa is now the main general Post Office of the Colony, there are District Post Offices at Ocean Island, Funafuti, Canton and Fanning, and all the other islands, with the exception of Niulakita, Enderbury, Birnie, Phoenix, McKean and Washington, have Island Post Offices.

Publications./

Publications.

We have had no general printed publications issued since the war with the exception of technical reports on Education, Reconstruction, etc. As long as I am here I will promise to send you any that may be issued.

Mails.

The only airmail services are by occasional R.N.Z.A.F. plane from Suva to Tarawa (say three or four times a year), by regular Pan-Air and Australian National Airways to Canton and by the weekly Army plane from Honolulu to Christmas. The sea connections are by Phosphate ship to Ocean Island, by copra loading steamers from Australia to Tarawa about every two months, by occasional Government or Trade Scheme vessels from Suva to Tarawa and by chartered Union Company steamers four times a year from Australia to Fanning Island. The inter-island communications are in the hands of three Government vessels, one 70 footer and two 60 footers, two Trade Scheme copra gathering ships and Mission vessels operated by the London Missionary Society, the Catholic Mission and the Seventh Day Adventists. All sea services in the actual lagoons are by canoes or small cutters.

Niulakita.

The project for colonising Flint and Caroline Is postponed for the moment, chiefly because I have never been able to get down to it, but I promise to send you First Day Covers from any Post Office that may be opened.

Commemoratives.

I can remember the 1942 proposals to issue Commemorative Stamps for the Colony. As you say the Japanese invasion put an effective end to the idea. As far as I know, no designs were ever prepared, as the scheme did not get as far as that.

Current Designs.

There is no talk of any change in our present issue but if there is later I will let you know. The difficulty is to get authentic designs prepared and this will be increased as the artist who produced the designs for the present issues is retiring in December.

Opening of Offices.

Opening of Offices.

I have been meaning to advertise in our local Island News-Magazines to see if I can get any of the earlier postmarks that you mention. Unfortunately, the length of my stay in the Colony is so uncertain that I am afraid of embarking on any project that I can't see the end of within a week or two. I gather that if and when I leave it will be quite suddenly.

I think I have now answered all your queries; unsatisfactorily I am afraid. The way to get authentic information on dates of Post Offices, etc. is to search the old files in the Western Pacific High Commission office in Suva. All the local Colony files were destroyed by the Japanese and absolutely nothing is known here about the early postal history of the Colony. We get quite a few enquiries but they are all answered by referring to public articles in the Philatelic Press written by yourself or others. It sounds rather ridiculous.

Thank you too, for sending me that First Day Cover from the Channel Islands. I am keeping it for my son's collection.

My wife and I are very well up here although we miss Alaric, who is at school in New Zealand. We are not looking forward to leaving one little bit.

With best wishes from us both,

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) H. E. MAUDE

H. E. Maude.

46 Fairfield Avenue
Riverside

Heddx

15/12/47

Dear Mr. Hinde -

I don't suppose Mrs has a
hope in hell of reaching you by plane,
but having just got your letter, written
at sea, with a New Zealand address,
I am dashin' Mrs off to wish you.

Yours & yourself the warmest compliments
of the season, & my best wishes for
the New Year. I had get down to
pulling my "questionnaire" together & lay
it out to you before you leave N.Z.

We are having some difficulty
over the stamps. The F.D.C. are going
well at (I believe) 8d each, but we
had some columns of post that showed
put the stamps on too very careless. Some
are actually torn, but many have lost the

old perf. or the profs have been
pulled short - which I am afraid
makes them unsalable. Anyway, we
are going to see what we can rescue
of them (the value or some loves may be
O.K.) I will send you on the topics
so that you can see what I mean.

By the way, while I am on
that, the retail price of a complete
set of the George VI used is nearly £11
Hestery - unit cars than just (11/6 - 12/-).
But of course demand is not heavy as
a whole. I feel sure though if you care
to put a few pounds into such material
(or even the high values only to save
trouble - 2/- 2/6 off-) making sure the
copies are good (sound) & the postmarks
clear (not all the same day is best) before
you leave for good, you will have a valuable
commodity, which will certainly not
depreciate. But I really think if you feel
too late it you might used the market.

we are finding the market absolutely
glad for the unit volumes. A few months

ago it was different, but the chances
have advanced in the last five or six
to a snuff. Anyway, we can load or
see what happens. I am sure they
will not drop on the market as the Coronado
did. At the moment though, no dice. Anyway,
I shall give you an intermediate eye soon
or just eye in due course.

Sorry I missed you when you
phoned - that must have been the
Royal Wedding day, when I left half-dead
with a cold & found myself mixed up with
the returning crowd. We dined and then
all the way to Kewsp.

You did imply that the medals
might order you out of the Islands. I
should imagine such a change must be
viewed with very mixed feelings. I do hope
you come to London, though. I should like
very much to box you with my collections!

My very best wishes

Sincerely yours

Jack Drummond

Dear W. H. Gould

Xmas eve, I am plunging straight into my catalogue of

Quasius hookeriana Island. I believe that the N.Z. Agency has periodically opened between 1/2/21 + 30/2/34 what the G.R.B.C. have not opened since then, are most going old Fanning. Will you be opening an office there? Glenorchy, have they stamps at his postmark, or what.

Postage Due. All my researches indicate there are not used. Will you be trying to make them official, I think them or just let it go at that? If you can get me a full set used (not see the same date!) you will be doing me an immense favour, I know they would be collected, but I just cannot get them any other way.

American Presumably they have been on A.P.O.'s or. Any detail on this (with specimen postmarks or.) would be most welcome. I remember a recently presented set of P.O.'s in the Colony ^{account} from the Postmaster Tarawa includes Fanning - have you given them to the D.S.A.!!? - I show Tarawa as the main P.O. Ocean Canton & Fanning as Branch P.O.'s & the rest as sub. P.O.'s. a big change.

Administrative I gather there have been big changes in my knowledge is based on the 1937 Annual Report, the last I have. Did this H.A. go back to Tarawa because Ocean was so long occupied? I really would like some more detail on this, though my best point may cover it

Publications I would like some general publications & in particular the Annual Report - H.A.S.O. cannot help at all. Of course if you would send the postmaster making an annual report, that would be something! Personally if his first job was to write a history!! Seriously, if I could be put on appropriate mailing lists a credit - I would submit to the proper agencies when I know the score - I would be grateful.

Have a general note on the post - has postmen would be useful
a. air services e. inter-island connections
b. sea connections d. services on the islands.

Netherlands or Yes please P-De per low, Club 5
Caroline will earn my undying gratitude.
The first Caroline also previously unincubated -
I have found them, in the time Islands. Will
you have them to games with the Gulls - or even
the French - was there.

Commemorative I gather you love to have a
series in 1942 to Commemorate 50 years of
British rule, the designs being

- 2d. - HMS Curacao & map of Fincuffe
- 3d. - Royalist - Abenama
- 1/- Map of Tropic Slippy G & E.

Presumably the map invasion was paid to that - but
how far did they go? Do the designs still exist,
& are copies obtainable - they were never reproduced
so far as I know in the press. A pity there were
still born. I suppose we must wait till 1952 for them
now. Unless you copy Sarawak where 1941
Commemorative duly appeared in 1946.

Current Designs obviously the 1/- or 2/- are not of date.

Any hope of a change? Incidentally the Eastman coat
line the 1/- design was of the jolly at Nassau, which
shown me. It is accepted as being Ocean Island.

May I suggest your map stamp as we changed
designs & I liked Ellen's nature types, like the
British Solomon Id stamps, for the other?

Opening of Office I do hope you will be able to
have some local enquiries & then before you leave.
I won't enlarge on the Gops - they ask on the postmaster,
of which I will send draft when ready - will
show them well enough. But broadly I can say
we can find no real trace of any of the District

having postmarks before 1918, & the undated marks
in use under definite chronology extremely
difficult all through. Incidentally key for Oceanic
Taruana can be traced to Jan 1911. Bulantani
Fimaguti & the Muna Camp (Alapa) are all a little
later in the year.

I think that is all the specific
questioning I can think up - quite enough too,
I am sure. It is good of you to let me shoot
this stuff at you, but I feel sure you realize
what it must mean to get a "source" when
the object is so far removed in space.

A final point. The Washington
Island Postmark on New Zealand stamps,
the Union Islands (its component parts - Alapa,
Fakaofo & Nukunono) & Gebis Ellet's other
Christmas Island locals are all getting very
hard to find in England. The latter alone
appear in my collection, I may say. So if in
your wanderings round the Pacific you
meet any of them, I recommend you put
them by & bring them back. Few people are
interested, but there that are would be keen!

Hope you don't find too much work
ahead of you in your return.

My kindest regards to Mrs. Gaudin &
yourself, & send God love for 1940 &
God bless in the new that is in store

sincerely yours

Walter Peckham

J.F. 79.

MIDLAND BANK LIMITED,

POULTRY AND PRINCES STREET, LONDON, E.C.2.

All Letters
to be addressed
"The Manager."

6th April, 19 48.

Memo. of amount received for the credit of

H.E. Maude & H.C. Maude.

Jt. Account.

per Dr. J.L. Grumbridge.

12

10

-

October, 1948.

Dear Dr. Grumbridge,

I received a letter from you today enclosing a pull of the illustrations to your article, for which many thanks. It has pricked my conscience that I have been meaning to write to you for some time about Postage Due stamps.

Your article in Gibbons' Stamp Monthly for May served a useful purpose, for it enabled me to stir up action all round. The position was that up to the present Postage Due stamps had been issued by the Chief Postmaster only to the Postmasters at Tarawa and Ocean Island. The system in the other Post Offices was to mark the envelope "Tax x/-" and take the surcharge direct into revenue, crediting Head VI, subhead 4 (or Post Office: Sundries) and issuing a revenue receipt - that was the theory, anyway, but in practice I'll guarantee Head VI, subhead 4, hasn't seen much revenue from this source.

Issues of Postage Due stamps to Ocean Island and Tarawa from main stock from 1.1.47. to 30.9.48. amounted to £178. 10. 0. and £247. 10. 0. respectively. So ignoring their opening and closing balance of stocks on hand at these dates it would appear that annual receipts from Postage Due stamps are about £240. (£140 at Tarawa and £100 at Ocean Island). The Chief Postmaster informs me, however, that 96% of this total represents over-the-counter sales to private collectors and that the actual figure of "tax" gathered would not exceed £10 a year.

Adequate stocks of Postage Due stamps are now being sent to all Post Offices in the Colony which directly handle mail from outside the Colony, i.e. Funafuti, Canton, and Fanning, as well as Tarawa and Ocean Island, together with the attached Departmental Circular. So let's hope one more aspect of this Colony's administration is now on a proper footing.

Dr. J.L. Grumbridge, O.B.E.,
46, Fairfield Avenue,
Ruislip,
Middlesex, England.

I enclose a complete set of Postage Dues on an envelope in case you still haven't got one. I have a lead weight which I place in an envelope and post it in the letter box at the central post office each morning, addressed to myself of course. Then later on in the day along comes a notice - I enclose one to show what I mean - and someone goes and collects the envelope for me with the necessary cash. By this means I've amassed a dozen sets but, as you can see, the weight weighs a little more than is required for a full set of stamps: I must get it filed down a bit.

You may have heard on the air that I have been appointed Deputy Secretary-General of the South Pacific Commission, recently instituted by the Governments of Australia, France, Holland, New Zealand, the U.K. and U.S.A. so I shall be leaving Tarawa before long. We don't know where we shall set up our headquarters - probably at Noumea in New Caledonia - but in the meantime we're to work in Sydney. I gather that the work will entail travelling by plane all over the Pacific, which I like.

Yours sincerely,

J.L.M.

46 Fairfield Avenue
Riverside

Hedge

England

1/6/48

Dear Mr. Gaud

As promised, herewith the
sketches to go with the ms. article
I sent you in the middle of April.

Hope you are flourishing

My regards to your folks

Sincerely

Vladimir Shcherbakov

4th October, 1948.

Dear Alexander,

I am writing a short paper (30 minutes) for the Pacific Science Congress on the subject of the Co-operative Movement in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands. I know this is rather a presumption on my part, as I know but little about it, but my paper will be mostly historical.

I wonder if you would be so kind as to assist me by lending any papers or other data on the subject, particularly from a historic point of view. I have a hazy recollection of sending you down a memorandum on the early beginnings of the Co-operative movement in the Gilberts and also a memorandum by my wife on the Co-operative movement in Nauru, both of which I have since lost.

I see that you have registered one or two more Societies since the end of the period covered in your Annual Report. Would you please let me have the latest figures on the number of registered and unregistered Societies, members, share capital, etc.?

In fact, anything that you can let me have on the Co-operative movement and the Handicrafts Society will be most welcome.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) H. E. MAUDE

W.G. Alexander, Esquire,
Co-operative Societies Officer,
Betio.

POSTAL DEPARTMENT,

TARAWA.

9th October, 1948.

Departmental Circular.

My attention has been drawn to the fact that a number of unstamped letters have arrived in the Colony from overseas and have been delivered to the addressees without Postage Due Stamps being affixed and/or double the postage deficiency being collected, vide Regulation 19 of the Post Office Regulations 1938.

2. The need for careful scrutiny of all mail received by Postmasters for non-stamped or insufficiently stamped articles cannot be over-emphasized and, in future, Postmasters will render a return monthly to this office stating:-

- (a) Number of letters found to be unstamped or insufficiently stamped during the month;
- (b) countries of origin;
- (c) closing stock of Postage Due Stamps at the last day of the month;
- (d) total amount brought to Revenue during the month under Head VI 1 Sale of Stamps in respect of Postage Due Stamps, excluding sales over the counter to private collectors.

3. Stocks of Postage Due Stamps are being forwarded to Postmasters at Canton, Funafuti and Fanning under separate registered cover.

H.L. CUTTING

Acting Chief Postmaster.

Distribution:

Secretary to Government
Postmaster Tarawa
Postmaster Ocean Island
Postmaster Canton
Postmaster Funafuti
Postmaster Fanning

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

29th October, 1947.

C.F.25/32/7.

Dear Maude

I am sorry that I have been so long in answering your successive letters about the appointment of a successor to Protheroe. But so long as we were without definite information from External Affairs as to Mr. Eden and other New Zealand candidates, I could not send you any useful information. However the matter came to a head last week and we finally decided that the wisest course would be to offer the job to Morris, Hedstrom's Palmer.

I have to-day telegraphed you C/o Webber at the Colonial Office as follows :-

- " (i) Trade Scheme. Eden declined and after consideration other candidates including 24 from New Zealand post is being offered to Snell's nominee Palmer. Letter follows.
- (ii) Savings Bank. New Zealand Government have nominated three candidates including one probable. Pending Secretary of State's approval of Ordinance offer is being postponed provisionally against your return and interview of applicants in Wellington.
- (iii) Storekeeper. Bryant has requested early appointment and post is being offered to New Zealand officer recommended by External Affairs.
- (iv) Grateful to know
- (a) prospect you see of filling senior vacancy in Treasury
- (b) your estimated dates departure United Kingdom and arrival New Zealand."

Enclosed is a copy of the minutes on which the decision to make the offer to Morris, Hedstrom's Palmer was taken. I hope you will agree with us that we have done the right thing. One point which I have in mind and which I omitted to include in my minute to H.E. is that if and when Burns Philp's Palmer is no longer required at Fanning it would still be possible after he had had the necessary leave, to offer him the Tarawa post. I have not discussed this possibility with Snell as he has nothing to do with our Fanning and Washington plans. But I do not doubt that he would willingly fall in with such an arrangement and be glad to have his own Palmer back again.

H.E. Maude, Esq., M.B.E.,
C/o Colonial Office,
London.

Incidentally

"T-5"

Incidentally, I am sorry to say that Protheroe has again been suffering bad health. He had a devil of a time recently with a concentration of shipping including, in addition to his own two teams and the "Awahou", the "Moraybank" on which he loaded no less than 2,564 tons, though at rather a lower rate than on previous occasions. He also put up a new record the other day by buying 400 tons of copra in a week. There is no doubt that he has done a really good job and I do hope he will hang on until you get back. But if he does not we are covered with Morris, Hedstrom's Palmer standing by.

In order to keep you briefed against your return to New Zealand I also enclose a copy of our reply to External Affairs dealing with all three vacancies.

Including Shanahan's letter to us + copies of the relevant applications.

I am sorry that I haven't written to you at all to let you know how things generally have been going - but I just haven't had the time for such refinements, and I think you have probably had your leave sufficiently disturbed by Bryant & Chamberlain. There must be something in the air at Tarawa that engenders prose. Bryant, when he writes to be sitting down quietly, is worse than you - he has just received a telegram which is almost up to Blandy's standard and for which he ought to be shot.

From this you will correctly gather that the High Commission job involves a thing or two of heap - with the F.S. getting down and down.

I do hope you have had a decent time and the opportunity to enjoy the uniquely nice atmosphere. The Channel is most have been (and) the sands from us all to you + Hedstrom. I am very glad to hear of your return.

Y.E.,

Last saw this file, concerning the appointment of a successor to Mr. Protheroe as Manager of the G. & E.I.C. Trade Scheme, at page 20 where it was decided to follow Mr. Maude's recommendation and ask the N.Z. Government if they would release on secondment Mr. Eden their Manager of the N.Z. Reparation Estates in Western Samoa. At page 38 External Affairs, Wellington, state that they were prepared to release him but that Mr. Eden is not willing to take on the job. (This of course may be just a way of putting it anyway we clearly can't have him.)

2. I recently spoke Y.E. and C.S. on Mr. Maude's letter at page 29 in which he advised that the C.O. were prepared to try and find us a man in England. Y.E. agreed that this course should not be followed as it is most unlikely that a man with the necessary Pacific experience could be found in the U.K.

3. In his letter at page 26 Mr. Maude mentioned as another likely candidate Mr. Palmer, at present Manager of Fanning Island Plantations. Mr. Maude knows and likes Mr. Palmer, and considers that he might well accept the management of the G. & E.I.C. Trade Scheme if Fanning and Washington are purchased by Government. I have not followed up this suggestion, because it is not yet certain that we shall buy Fanning and Washington and I am loathe to try and crimp a good man in a key position from our own agents, Burns Philp. Also, I have it in mind that if we do buy Fanning and Washington we shall need someone to carry on running the plantations until the islands are settled and the plantations parcelled out amongst the settlers. Mr. Palmer is obviously the man for this job particularly as, vide Mr. Maude's opinion of him, he appears to be a person who could carry administrative duties.

4. Meanwhile the N.Z. Department of External Affairs, acting no doubt with the best intentions and as a result of Mr. Maude's talk with them, have caused the post of Manager to be advertised in N.Z. at a salary of £A.1,000 p.a. They have had 24 applications, four of them from Government servants. These applications are in black jacket attached. I have referred these applications to Mr. Snell who agrees with me that the best of them appears to be that of a Mr. Gunn who has worked in the Reparation Estates in Western Samoa and who is at present a clerk in the N.Z. Food Control. Mr. Snell is prepared to interview Mr. Gunn, one other N.Z. Government applicant and two N.Z. non-Government applicants, when he goes to Wellington on the next "Matua" at the end of this week.

5. There are also two local candidates, one a Mr. Christoffersen who is the accountant at Burns Philp Branch at Pa., and Mr. Palmer, Manager of M.H.'s Branch at Levuka. The latter is of course Mr. Snell's nominee. I have not precise information about Mr. Christoffersen, but I think it is very unlikely that he is up to the standard of M.H.'s Mr. Palmer.

6. In his letter at page 44 Mr. Snell, while expressing his willingness to help us in vetting the N.Z. possibilities, and whilst pointing out that they should be obtainable at a lower salary, gives some reasons why in his opinion we should do better to take M.H.'s Mr. Palmer, and of whom he writes as follows :-

"Palmer is 45 years of age. He has been in our service for 18 years and has been manager of our quite important Levuka Branch for the last 7 years. He is drawing from us in Levuka a salary of £F.750 a year with certain allowances, e.g., free quarters. He would need £F.1,000 with the other terms enjoyed by Protheroe, free quarters and so on, to induce him to go to Tarawa, but would be willing to go on those terms. He is married and has children. I understand he would certainly send his children to New Zealand and probably his wife if he himself were appointed to Tarawa.

As manager of our Levuka Branch he has probably had more experience in the running of small vessels than anyone in Fiji and has run them very well. Also he has had responsibility for overseas ordering. Also he has had responsibility for overseas shipping of copra. He has managed South Sea Island employees and South Sea Island labourers with notable success over the whole period of his work with us. He is not in any sense a highly educated man, but on the other hand has learned to express himself quite clearly and fully by letter and to a less extent by telegram.

In other words he has had practically all the experience the job requires. None of your applicants have had anything like the experience, nor do their applications suggest that they have anything like the ability.

But we do not wish to press Palmer on you. In some respects the loss of Palmer for three years would be a distinct and quite serious inconvenience to us, and if you decide to look to New Zealand for a man we from our selfish point of view would be quite content that you should do so."

I am particularly impressed by the fact that M.H.'s Palmer has exceptional experience in the running of small vessels. This part of the Tarawa job is a permanent headache and is, I know, the part of it which is getting Mr. Protheroe down. But apart from this, there is no doubt in my mind that M.H.'s Mr. Palmer is the best qualified man offering. (He is known to Mr. Main who speaks of him as a man of integrity, steady and hard working, who has over a number of years cleaned up a mess at Levuka and established an efficient branch.)

7. As I have mentioned to Y.E. before the objection to taking a Morris, Hedstrom's man is that public opinion in Tarawa and in Suva already tends to regard the Trade Scheme as Morris, Hedstroms in disguise. Thus whenever anyone has a grouse against the Trade Scheme (e.g., when they consider they have been over-charged) they tend to take the line that they have not been jewed by Government, which would be bad enough, but by M.H. hiding behind the cloak of Government. I have discussed this aspect of the matter with Mr. Main and I have no doubt that Mr. Snell is aware of it. Certainly Mr. Snell is now actively supporting the R.Cr. and myself in our efforts to get Mr. Protheroe to appreciate the fact that he must reduce his merchandise charges and direct his efforts less to making profits and more to making the Trade Scheme a public service and popular success.

8. I recommend that we should not be unduly influenced by the public opinion to which I have just referred, and

that we should accept Mr. Snell's offer of M.H.'s Mr. Palmer as being the man best fitted for the post by his experience and character. In making this recommendation I have in mind :-

- (a) that the R.Gr. and my successor might have a very difficult time with an inexperienced Trade Scheme Manager;
- (b) that the only effective way to overcome the public suspicion of the Trade Scheme is by demonstration of its efficiency and service.

9. I have dealt with this matter at some length as I think it is important, and if Y.E. approves, I should like to send copies of this minute to Mr. Maude and Mr. Bryant.

(Signed) R. de S. STAPLEDON
27.10.47.

(Initialled) G.D.C. 28/10.

I agree with you and the offer may be made to Mr. Palmer.


2. To answer the public criticism to which you refer, full publicity should be given to the financial side of the Scheme by way of an annual report. That is, the population of the G. & E. should be regarded as shareholders. Care should be taken to make the figures intelligible to the public.

3. You will no doubt thank N.Z. for the trouble they have taken and pay for the advertising.

(Initialled) J.N.

29/10.

100 hands


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

30th October, 1947.

No. C.F.25/32/7.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to your despatch No. 17 (P.M. 302-2-18) of the 13th October concerning the appointments of Trade Scheme Manager, Assistant Government Storekeeper and Savings Bank Officer in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony, and enclosing the original applications of persons applying for these posts.

2. I am to thank you very much for the trouble which your Department, and the Public Service Commission, have gone to in this matter on behalf of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony.

3. With regard to the post of Trade Scheme Manager, I take this opportunity of acknowledging also your despatch No. 16 (P.M. 302-2-18) of the 30th September in which you advise that Mr. D.C. Eden, Manager of the New Zealand Reparation Estates in Western Samoa, regrets that he is not able to offer his services for this post at the present time. The fact that your Government was prepared to consider the secondment to the Colony of this key officer is very much appreciated. The 24 applications from other candidates for this post have been carefully examined and were considered in relation to applications received from local candidates. As it happens an application has been received from one local candidate of outstanding ability and long experience of South Sea Islands commerce. As this candidate is by experience the best qualified for the Managership the post has been offered to him and he has accepted it. Consequently it is not desired to make an offer in respect of any of the applications for this post forwarded with your letter, and I am to ask if you will be so good as to arrange that the applicants are informed accordingly.

4. As regards the post of Assistant Government Storekeeper, it would appear that of the candidates offering from your Government Mr. D.J. Hill is the most suitable for duty in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony. It is observed that, although he had two years' territorial service he did not apparently have any war military service and that he joined the public service in 1942. It is presumed that either he was not fit for military service or was for some other reason directed to other national service. Assuming therefore that he is medically fit for duty in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony I should be grateful if he might be offered

Secretary of External Affairs,
Wellington,
New Zealand.

the

the post of which the emoluments are £F.300 x 20 - 450 with cost of living allowance amounting to £F.30 plus 10 per cent of salary and local allowance of £A.50 payable while residing in the Colony. Free partly furnished quarters will be provided whilst the above terms remain in force. Mr. Hill should however be confidentially informed that proposals for the revision of salaries and terms of service have been recently recommended and that if these proposals are adopted the one effect will be to commute the cost of living allowance into the salary and to increase the salary further by 11 per cent in order to compensate the officer for the payment of 10 per cent of his salary in rent for Government quarters. The recommendations also provide for an increase in the local allowance. It should however be made clear to Mr. Hill that these recommendations have not yet received formal approval. If Mr. Hill accepts the post I shall be glad if you will be good enough to inform the other applicants that it is regrettable that there does not remain any vacancy for which they could be considered.

5. As regards the post of Savings Bank Officer I am to say that the advice contained in your letter, and the applications for this post forwarded with it, have been carefully noted. It is not now anticipated that the vacancy will occur until next year and it is accordingly desired that, if possible, consideration of these applications should be deferred until Mr. Maude returns from the United Kingdom to New Zealand early in the New Year and is able to interview the candidates himself in New Zealand. If this proposal is not in any way convenient I shall be grateful if you will let me know.

6. All the original applications forwarded with your letter are returned herewith. I have taken the liberty of keeping for my records copies of the applications by Messrs. D.J. Hill, C.P. Whalley and W.E. Farr.

7. It is thought that your Government will have incurred certain expenses, e.g. in connexion with the advertisement of these vacancies and I take this opportunity of confirming that I shall be glad to arrange for settlement of the account when convenient to you.

8. It will be appreciated if you will be good enough to let me know as soon as possible whether Mr. Hill accepts the offer made in paragraph 4 above, and if so when he would be ready to leave New Zealand to assume duty. The Colony Government's Agents in New Zealand, Messrs. Burns, Philp & Company, Limited, would then be instructed to complete arrangements with him direct.

I am,

Sir,
Your obedient servant,

Chief Secretary,
Western Pacific High Commission.

NEW ZEALAND NO. 17.

13th October, 1947.

Sir,

I have to refer to your telegram No. 14, dated 8 October, and to connected correspondence regarding the appointments of Trade Scheme Manager, Assistant Government Storekeeper and Savings Bank Officer in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony.

Applicants for the first-named appointment include two permanent and three temporary officers of the New Zealand Public Service. There are, however, nineteen applications from outside the Service, and it would be difficult for us to make any recommendation without calling at least some of the more likely applicants to Wellington for interview.

Under the circumstances, it is suggested that you may wish to peruse the several applications (which I am forwarding under cover of this despatch) and advise us in due course as to which candidates you desire interviewed. In this case it would be appreciated if you would return the relevant applications and inform us as to any special considerations you may desire us to bear in mind in making recommendations.

It would appear expedient, under the circumstances, to forward to you simultaneously the applications that have been received in respect of the other two appointments. In these instances the applicants are all members of the New Zealand Public Service, and interviews are not considered necessary.

The Secretary, Public Service Commission, who has perused the applications, remarks that consideration might be given to the applications of Messrs. W.E. Farr and C.R. Whalley for the position of Savings Bank Officer, and to those of Messrs. J.A. Edge, D.J. Hill and G.F.A. Parker for the position of Assistant Government Storekeeper. He further remarks that of the Service applications for appointment as Trade Scheme Manager the application of Mr. K.J. Gunn appears to be the most suitable. It should be noted, however, that Messrs. Gunn and Whalley are married men with two and three children, respectively, a factor which might in your opinion prejudice their suitability.

I shall await further advice from you as to the further action you would wish us to take in the forgoing matters.

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

(Sgd.) FOSS SHANAHAN.

for Secretary of External Affairs.

The Chief Secretary,
Western Pacific High Commission,
Suva,
FIJI.

Encl. Applications.

FORM TO BE USED IN APPLYING FOR VACANCY.

17th September, 1947.

THE SECRETARY, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSIONER.

1. I hereby apply for the position of Assistant Government Storekeeper. Vacancy No. 1631.

The following are particulars of my official record:-

2. Page and No. in Classification List: -
3. Name: HILL, Donald Joseph.
4. Official postal address: P.O. Box 23, Ohai.
5. Married or Single: Single. 6. No. of dependent children: Nil.
7. Position: Senior Storeman. 8. Location: OHAI.
9. Department in which classified: MINES.
10. Age: 29 years 2 months. 11. Temp. service: From 16.3.42
5 yrs. 4 mths.
12. Military status: Two years Territorial Service.
13. Classification Div. - Salary £375. Date: 1.4.46.
14. Educational qualifications: Proficiency Cert. Two years evening classes Gore High School - Bookkeeping 1. Company Law - Continuing studying for Professional Accountancy Examination.
15. Special qualifications for position applied for (state fully).

Previous Positions held: Factory clerk - Linen Flax Section.

Stores Clerk - " "

16. 1. On joining the Public Service in 1942 I was appointed Factory Clerk at the Gore Linen Flax Factory where I was responsible for keeping all the necessary records and attending to correspondence. Preparation of wages sheets for approximately 90 men and payment of wages. Responsible for keeping a record of the bank account and all payments.
2. In April 1944 was transferred to Christchurch to the position of Stores Clerk and was responsible for the requisitioning of stores and purchase of same for the seventeen factories of the industry.
3. Have general knowledge of mines procedure and Treasury regulation in regard to payment of accounts, having acted as Certifying Officer at Ohai.
4. Present position consists of custody and issue of all stores for the State Coal Mines, requisitioning and purchase of same, keeping all the necessary records, preparation of vouchers for payment.
5. Before acceptance of any appointment I would require full information regarding commencing salary.

N.Z. PUBLIC SERVICE.

FORM TO BE USED BY EMPLOYEES IN APPLYING FOR A VACANCY.

12th September, 1947.

THE SECRETARY, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.

1. I hereby apply for the position of Savings Bank Officer,
Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony.

Particulars of my official record are:

2. Classification List: Page No. 138 Ref. No. 50.
3. Name: WHALLEY, Cecil Rutherford.
4. Position: Clerk. 5. Location: Auckland.
6. Department in which classified: Public Works.
7. Married or single: M. 8. No. of dependent children: 3.
9. Officer's age: 42 years.
Temporary service: 7 years 5 months. From 5.10.37.
10. Permanent service: 2 years 6 months from 1.3.45.
11. Classification - Div.: C. Class: VI. Salary £400.
Date: 1.4.46. Max: £400.
12. Educational qualifications: 7 subjects for Prof. Accountancy.
Sitting Book II and Auditing in Nov. 1947 Examinations.
13. Military service: 3 years 323 days (including 13 months
overseas).
14. Special qualifications for position applied for (state
fully): 10 years service in Money Order & Savings Bank
work including computation of interest and keeping of
ledger accounts. Have passed P. & T. M.O. & S.B.
Accounting Examinations.

Signature: C.R. Whalley.

C O P Y.

P & T 1947/3333

GENERAL POST OFFICE

WELLINGTON, C.1.

1st September, 1947.

MEMORANDUM for:

The Permanent Head,
Department of External Affairs,
Parliament Buildings,
WELLINGTON, C.1.

Gilbert and Ellice Islands:
appointments.

Further to the Deputy Director-General's memorandum of the 15th July, regarding certain appointments in the Gilbert and Ellice Group; it is desired to inform you that the positions of Savings-bank Officer and Assistant Government Store-keeper have been advertised throughout this Department. Only one application has been received, that being for the position of Savings-bank Officer.

The applicant referred to is Mr. W.E. Farr, Telegraphist, Wellington Railway, who is in receipt of salary at the rate of £400 per annum. Mr. Farr, whose date of birth is 4.4.1911, is unmarried. He has been in the employ of the Post Office since 5.5.26. During the period of his service Mr. Farr has occupied various positions, and between February, 1939, and July, 1945, he was a member of this Department's staff at the Chatham Islands, where he acquired some knowledge of savings-bank ledger duties. Mr. Farr is regarded as a very good officer. If he proved to be the successful applicant for the position, this Department would not oppose his release.

(Sgd) P.N. Cryer

Director-General.

The Secretary,
Public Service Commission.



GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY.

Office of the Co-operative Societies Officer,
Baito, Tarawa.

3rd November, 1948.

H. 29/47.

Your Honour,

✓ Further to my letter dated 21st October, 1948 on the subject of your paper on 'the Co-operative Movement in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands'. I now feel that I understand Your Honour's argument on page 14, lines 29 to 52. Speaking from memory, the commission is $3\frac{1}{2}\%$ on orders up to L100, about $2\frac{1}{2}\%$ on L100 to L1000 and about $1\frac{1}{2}\%$ on orders above L1000. Commission is taken on certified invoices from suppliers and the amount of goods for which the agents are both agents and suppliers is so small that there is little chance of our agents making too good a thing out of us.

✓ As our agents do not at present handle our copra, a rough estimate of their gross earnings from our agency on last year's trade would be between L5000 and L6000 which would appear to me to be most reasonable for both sides.

✓ I had not realised hitherto what a small percentage of our consumer goods were actually supplied by the agents themselves and the power we have and use to dictate to them who shall be the suppliers.

I have the honour to be,
Your Honour's obedient servant,

W. G. Alexander

Co-operative Societies Officer.

His Honour the Resident Commissioner
Bairiki, Tarawa.



GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY.

Office of the Co-operative Societies Officer,
Betio, Tarawa.

21st October, 1948.

F. 29/47.

✓ Your Honour,

Thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to read your paper on 'the Co-operative Movement in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands'.

✓ I hope that you will do me the honour to send me a copy of your final draft for filing in the records of my office.

✓ The first half of the report refers to the period unknown to myself before my arrival in the colony and is the first account that I have ever seen. The past has been a closed book for me and it has been difficult for me to give due credit to either the Europeans or the natives who pioneered the movement which I have now been asked to foster and reinstate. I therefore have nothing useful to contribute to this half of Your Honour's thesis.

✓ At page 6, Your Honour mentions the lack of trust of the people both in themselves and even in the Government. My short experience has been that the customs of these people who dwell on small islands are co-operative in principle and would partly account for the rapid development of the co-operative movement but that even now the lack of trust which you mention is one of the main limiting factors.

✓ At page 9, it is said that 'sales outside the membership of the co-operatives were never prohibited by the Government', but I think the opposition to your movement must have been stronger than you now recall, for such a prohibition was embodied in Rule 9 of the Rules published in 1940 and as I picture the situation would hardly have been inserted voluntarily by yourself.

✓ At page 11 a grant is mentioned from the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund for use as capital in the Phoenix Trading to be repaid from profits. Your Honour is no doubt familiar with the history of this grant. To me it is a mystery. That the grant should be repaid from profits to me presupposes that it is itself adequate to cover the maximum volume of trade required otherwise if profits are not to be swallowed up in development, a limit must be imposed on development and volume of trade. Failing these conditions profits will merely be seen in the books and will be unpayable in cash.

✓ Net profit will also be slow to repay loans of capital unless there is a considerable sacrifice from the people in paying high prices for consumer goods and accepting low prices for producer goods. Such sacrifices might come hardly to a colonising community. In view of these things I am puzzled to know (a) how much was the grant (b) what was the anticipated rate of repayment and (c) where is that grant now or why was it withdrawn. In the Treasury Books the Phoenix Trade is run on Advance Accounts with large debit balances. On transfer from Government to Trade Scheme this trade will immediately tie up a minimum of L5000 of the Trade Scheme capital. My ignorance of this matter is complete.

✓ At page 14, Your Honour's argument in lines 39 to 52 is not clear to me. The previous argument is clear and it is appreciated that the agents are interested in the success of the venture and in providing us



us with an efficient service. However I do not understand how volume of sales can be measured except by value and I think the commission is paid on each L100 of goods. It seems to me that high prices would increase the volume of sales until the price of an article kills the demand for that article and the community refuses to purchase.

✓ At page 20, line 25 I think there is a small misprint of L100 for L1000. After making the above notes on the paper I think that I have nothing to add in the way of questions or suggested amendments. However Your Honour has also asked for my frank comments. Perhaps I am qualified to make some of these on the second half only of the thesis on the grounds that Your Honour claims on page 19 that the paper is a factual report, whereas, at the great risk of grinding my own axe, I must say that from my angle, the worm's eye view, it is the thesis rather of an idealist, for it appears to me to minimise the difficulties to the point of skirting the truth.

✓ There are two problems which are of primary interest to me in my work and yet they are hardly mentioned in your paper. Whether they should be mentioned or not only Your Honour is in a position to judge.

✓ To state the first problem shortly is not easy. There was a co-operative movement before the war which had to struggle against difficulties. It could only exist if there were amongst its members both a desire for co-operation and a resultant co-operative energy. It derived its motive power from its members and a few European promoters and advisers. During the recent Japanese war the machinery of this movement, the societies, lay idle and rusting. In some cases it ceased to exist.

✓ After the war this movement died. Except in the Ellice Islands the new Government Trade Scheme was unable to work with a unit as small as the prewar co-operative society. The Government took up energetically, the promotion of co-operative trading throughout the colony, but was immediately faced with two insuperable difficulties. Their Trade Scheme was not equipped to cater for units as small as the old co-operatives. The necessity for the immediate rehabilitation of the civilian population had to be given priority over the slow business of building co-operative societies. The result was a trading system superimposed on the people by the Government. Except in the Ellice the agencies created by the Government for disposal of cargo and purchase of copra were in no way connected in the minds of the people with the old co-operative societies nor did they in fact resemble these societies in any way. Since the Government could not wait for societies to be built, cargoes were sent out at once to each island on credit and one agency was established on each island to trade for everyone on the island. The cash that came from selling the goods was used for buying copra and paying the staff. The people saw in this trading system a Government Trading Company at Tarawa with a branch on their island, all prices, wages and instructions coming from the Company Headquarters at Tarawa. This was precisely what was not desired by the administration and created an entirely new problem, namely that of rebuilding a cooperative movement from the bottom, from the people themselves and trying to teach them to work as island units, which apart from the Ellice were larger units than any they had managed before. Gone was the surplus cash which might have been their post-war capital for it had been given to Missions and spent on cargo. Capital must now come from copra or savings. Gone was the incentive for building a society with adequate capital because their fairy-godmother, the Government, provided cargo on credit, and the necessity for any capital or co-operative effort from the people was not appreciated. It was this problem that prompted my question at the administrative conference in 1946 and which to me, is the main problem to be tackled on every island in the colony.

The second problem is based on the first but is purely financial. We have no expert economists so far as I am aware and Your Honour



is best qualified as such. However I see another simple problem which appears to receive but scant recognition. The Trade Scheme set out to accomplish what was almost an economic impossibility. It set out to cater for about 30,000 persons grouped into about twenty seven trading units. It set out to finance the entire trading of these units, providing them with cargo on credit and accepting their copra much later in payment, by which time another cargo would be delivered and unpaid for. If these 30,000 persons had L1 worth of cargo, one tenth of a ton of copra and one shilling of cash each lying in store at one time round their islands this alone would account for L76,500 of Trade Scheme capital. It set out to do this work with a working capital of L28,500. It was imperative to increase this sum from profit or by further borrowing. Large profit margins were retained on both consumer and producer goods and then the Government increased export duty from 5% to 25% and started to talk about repaying some of the original loan. As I see this it is as though I ask my child to dig some sweets out of a tin in which they are stuck solid and tell him the sweets that he gets out will be for himself, I then give him a spoon to get them out but it is a wooden one. I then keep asking for the spoon to be returned to me piece by piece, and finally I take a quarter of the sweets off each spoonful and keep them for myself. It only remains to add that rising prices of both consumer and producer goods have made this problem a very real one. At present the Trade Scheme cannot face any real emergency without resorting to further borrowing. These two problems to me colour the whole of the second half of Your Honour's thesis and make me see it in a different light.

✓ At page 15, lines 29 and 30 for example, I should say that 'the Island Societies are being steadily reorganised' was an understatement. A new co-operative society is being formed on most islands, it is formed by the people with my guidance and assistance. On the Tangitang islands a native company is being transformed into a native co-operative society and only at Bera and in the Ellice are there already co-operative societies in existence which may simply require my assistance. ^{Even} these latter have no capital of their own and look upon themselves as satellites of the Trade Scheme at Tarawa.

✓ Reference page 16, line 32, the capital of the Tangitang Society is L15,467 and after the present reorganisation has been completed by Mr Schutz this society will undoubtedly be the show-piece of the colony, as indicated by Your Honour.

✓ Reference page 18, line 1, I am not certain of that figure of L18,194. I think it should be a little less. The shipping of L18,179 of stock to the island societies in March just before taking stock and balancing accounts was a perfectly legitimate trade though it effects a last minute increase in Profit and Debtor balances. I am thinking however of the tax copra collected before 31st March 1948, for which the Government had not been paid up to 1st October 1948 but for which no entry seems to appear under Sundry Creditors. The amount involved might substantially increase the debit balances of the Island Societies and increase the Sundry Creditors figures. For 1946 copra such entries would balance each other without affecting the profit figure, but for 1947 copra I imagine there might have to be a small decrease made from the profit figure of L18,194.

✓ At page 18, line 3, I should have felt that the words 'are at present' might better be in the future tense. In my opinion the capital requirements of the Trade Scheme are grossly underestimated and up to the present they have not proved themselves capable of making anything but a back entry to any of the funds mentioned by Your Honour. The funds act as a cloak to disguise what I feel is vital capital constantly in use as



- 4 -

the life-blood of the Trade Scheme.

✓ Finally at page 19, the last four lines, I believe that the statement would stand slight modification.

Your Honour, I have now ground my axe well and truly. I would not suggest that you complicate or clutter up your paper with the present domestic problems of the co-operative movement in the colony. Your paper is probably best exactly as it is. However, you may see from the above my burning desire to get some co-operation in a movement which on my assumption of duty in 1947 appeared to me to lack entirely and precisely that essential element.

In returning Your Honour's draft with this letter, I hope that Your Honour will find that my comments are of a helpful nature even where Your Honour's opinion differs from my own. Nothing in the above is meant to be ungrateful for the loans received and if I seem to belittle achievements made to date and to emphasize my hopefulness for the future that is not an attempt to enhance my job or my own reputation.

I have the honour to be,
Your Honour's obedient servant,

W. G. Alexander

Co-operative Societies Officer.

5th November, 1948.

Dr. J.W. Coulter, Ph.D.,
Department of Geology and Technology,
University of Cincinnati,
Cincinnati 21, Ohio, U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Coulter,

I felt so ashamed at not sending you anything after being made a member of the Land Classification and Land Utilization Committee that I have sat up at nights and at any rate produced something.

Whether it is what you want I doubt, as I must confess that I have only a hazy notion of what "land classification and utilization" means. However, I have included notes on the various points mentioned in your letter and added a few which appeared to me to be appropriate.

I have dealt with the Gilbert, Ellice, Phoenix and Line Islands, as well as Ocean Island, and I think the mss. would average out at about 1,000 words per group (counting the Northern and Southern Line as two groups), which was the length you asked for.

However, I shall not be surprised if you consider that the material is not suitable for reproduction in its present form: in that case please pick out any facts you want from the effort and burn the rest. I have never consciously read a report on land classification and utilization and realize that I may be writing along quite the wrong lines.

As I have been appointed Deputy Secretary-General of the South Pacific Commission, I expect to be attending the Pacific Science Congress at Auckland and Christchurch in February, so I shall look forward to seeing you.

Yours very sincerely,

H.E.M.

H.E. Maude.

UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI

DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY AND GEOGRAPHY
OLD TECH BUILDING

June 21, 1948

Mr. H. E. Maude,
The Residency,
Tarawa,
Gilbert & Ellice Islands Colony.

Dear Mr. Maude:

I am sorry my letters were not forwarded to you when you had more time to get up a report. But I was very glad to hear from you and to know that you can do something. What a romantic time you have in the Gilbert and Ellice Colony. I certainly hope that some day you can write an intimate account of all your work there.

I go off in two weeks to McGill University in Canada to lecture at the Summer Session. I am looking forward to getting to know something of the French Canadian country.

I shall be pleased to have you as a member of the Land Classification and Land Utilization Committee even if you do not go to New Zealand, and I shall look forward to whatever contribution you or some of your assistants will make.

My good wishes to Mrs. Maude. You may be interested to know we had a little son come into our family two weeks ago. So with two little girls, six and two-and-a-half, and the little boy we are calling it a family.

Cordially and sincerely yours,

John Wesley Coulter
John Wesley Coulter

JWC:LS

29th May, 1948.

Dear Dr Coulter,

I have arrived from New Zealand to find two letters from you waiting for me in the High Commission office in Suva. They are, I see, dated the 3rd February and 14th April, but unfortunately no-one thought of sending them on to me in Auckland, where I was spending a few months.

I would dearly like to send you the 1,000 words you ask for on land classification and land utilization in the Central Pacific and had your letter reached me when on leave a month or two ago, and consequently a man of leisure, I should most assuredly have produced the goods.

As it is, however, I am resuming my work as Resident Commissioner of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony as from toomorrow midnight and shall, I'm very much afraid, have no time to breathe for some months ahead. Though I've now got a European staff of 60 to 70, I find that most of the important decisions have to be made by me: chiefly because I am almost the only relic left in these parts of the pre-war administration and, as the Japanese destroyed all the Colony archives and records, I am the only one who knows what was done in the past.

I cannot, therefore, promise anything, as I may not be able to fulfil it. I will, however, do my very best and, if I cannot find time myself I'll ask the Chief Lands Commissioner, Mr B.C. Cartland, whether he or one of his staff would be willing to have a try. We have 5 full-time European Lands Commissioners now (in an attempt to finish once and for all the lands settlement of both the Gilbert and Ellice Groups) and I have long since ceased to have any direct connexion with lands work myself.

The organization of the post-war administration set-up for the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony has proved to be quite a problem, thanks to the Japanese and, more recently, to the Communists. There are, however, several bright spots; notably our flourishing retail and wholesale co-operatives. I leave by air on Monday to endeavour to settle a strike of over 1,000 Gilbertese at Ocean Island, which has held up phosphate production for nearly a month; then back to Tarawa to plan out our new Colony capital; and so it goes on.

Thank you very much for your kind invitation to become a member of the Committee on Land Classification and Land Utilization of the Seventh Pacific Science Congress. I should be most honoured, but I'm afraid it seems most unlikely that I shall be able to attend the

Congress, as I had hoped, so perhaps you had better count me out. I know that you'll understand that I'm no free agent these days.

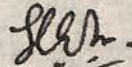
You mention my old project of coming to the United States for graduate work: alas, but I've had to abandon it, for financial reasons. I was, however, attached to the British Embassy in Washington for a time in 1946 and much enjoyed the experience. I wanted to contact you but had not got your address at the time.

Actually, the strain of life in the more isolated parts of the Pacific is beginning to tell on both my wife and myself (nearly 20 years in 12 Groups and 68 islands) and I am given only a few more months before I must change to a more civilized locality, such as Fiji or Samoa. I am terrified that ~~reasons~~ means Africa or some horrible place and have offered to go on a lower salary if I can stay in the Pacific, where my whole heart is.

Now I hear the British Government have given their blessing to my being a candidate for the posts of Secretary-General, Deputy Chairman of the Research Council, and Deputy Secretary-General on the staff of the South Pacific Commission, and I am praying that the various countries will select me for one of these jobs. Between you and me, I believe I may have the backing of both Britain and the Dominions and that everything may depend on the attitude of the U.S.A. It would break my heart to see positions like these handed to "careerists", instead of to people whose home is in the islands and whose heart and soul is in furthering the progress of the Pacific races.

I must stop, but I promise I'll do what I can to produce the data you require on arrival in Tarawa. Meanwhile, my wife joins me in sending our very best and we both wish you would look us up some time. Dr Luomala, from the University of Hawaii, is coming next month.

Yours sincerely,



H.E. Maude.

UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI

DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY AND GEOGRAPHY
OLD TECH BUILDING

April 14, 1948

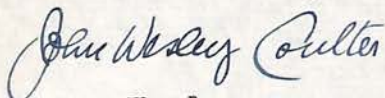
Mr. H. E. Maude
% Western Pacific High Commission
Suva, Fiji Islands

Dear Mr. Maude,

I have at my elbow a carbon copy of the letter I wrote you on February 3, 1948 regarding a report for the Committee on Land Classification and Land Utilization of the Seventh Pacific Science Congress. Since I have not heard from you, I am wondering if you received it. I would like you to be a member of that Committee and hope you will accept.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



John Wesley Coulter
Chairman Committee on Land
Classification and Land Utilization
Seventh Pacific Science Congress

JWC:MKH

UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI

DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY AND GEOGRAPHY
OLD TECH BUILDING

February 3, 1948

Mr. H. E. Maude
C/O Western Pacific High Commission
Suva, Fiji

Dear Mr. Maude,

I am writing you as Chairman of the Standing Committee on Classification and Utilization of Land of the Pacific Science Association. I had a letter from Mr. Gilbert Arcney a few weeks ago. He has been appointed by the New Zealand Government as Secretary-General of the Seventh Pacific Science Congress which will be held in Auckland and Christchurch in February, 1949, under the auspices of the Royal Society of New Zealand.

I know there is a good deal to say about land classification and utilization in the islands of the Western Pacific under the British and no one is better qualified than you to speak for most of the islands. I am also getting reports from the French in New Caledonia, and from the American Navy for Micronesia.

One of the important points in each report will have to do with land reserved for the native peoples. Other points will have to do with Land Ownership, Land Tenure, Land Used for Plantation Agriculture, etc.*

Would you be willing to write about 1000 words for each of the groups of islands you are familiar with. The reports, I have been given to understand, will be published with your signature. I would like, of course, to have something on Fiji, but don't know to whom to write there. Have you any suggestions?

I have at my elbow your letter of October 29, 1945. Indeed I have saved all the letters I have had from you during and since the war, for they help to keep one in touch with what is going on in the Pacific. I hope you are near to realizing the ambition which you mention of coming to the United States for graduate work and a PhD.

With very good wishes for yourself and Mrs. Maude.
Looking forward to hear from you.

Yours sincerely,

John Wesley Coulter

John Wesley Coulter
Chairman, Committee on Classification
and Utilization of Land, Seventh
Pacific Science Congress

* also what remains to be done in
Land Classification and Land
Utilization studies. etc.

11th November, 1948.

Dear Dr. Morrell,

I really must apologize for not having replied before to your letter of the 13th June. I have not had an easy time though, as there were a vast number of matters requiring my attention when I first got up here and, just when I was managing to clear my desk of arrears I find myself seconded to the South Pacific Commission as Deputy Secretary-General, and so have had to struggle to round off everything and get packed again.

Lack of continuity in administration, and as a consequence of any long term policies, is in my opinion the greatest curse of the Crown Colonies. It is so seldom that one finds anyone who can stay long enough in a place to identify his interests with those of the local residents: too many Civil Servants (at the top at any rate) are, in my experience, consciously or unconsciously time servers, anxious to pull off some flashing short term success as a means of moving up one.

Having got that broadside off, I will proceed to answer your questions to the best of my ability - my remarks are, of course, made in confidence and I must not be quoted by name.

The set-up of administering the High Commission Territories is, by general consent, inefficient and unnecessarily expensive. The High Commissioner and the Western Pacific High Commission Office in Suva perform three services only for this and the other High Commission Territories:-

- (1) they decide important policy matters, on the Resident Commissioner's advice;
- (2) they act as a Foreign Affairs Department, handling all but routine correspondence between the Colony and other administrations; and
- (3) they act as Fiji Agents.

Function (1) is, I am convinced, a mistake, since the High Commissioner or his staff know little or nothing of the Colony or its problems first hand: only in fact what the Resident Commissioner tells them. As a consequence they seldom do anything but agree to the Resident Commissioner's recommendations (how can they) but 80% of my day is necessarily spent drafting endless letters and telegrams to them, in order to obtain this agreement, when I should be getting on with more useful work.

Function (2) presents no difficulty and could be done just as well direct: it seems farcical that when I have to address the New Zealand Government or the Consul in Honolulu I must write to the High Commission Office, they then write to External Affairs or the Consul (usually repeating my letter word for word), External Affairs or the Consul then reply to the High Commissioner's Office which then writes to me. I have never quite been able to see what purpose the round-about arrangement serves.

Function (3) ✓ the High Commission have recently shed: we have appointed our own Government Agents in Suva, Morris, Edstrom, and they have taken over all the agency work.

An intermediary between the Colonial Office and the Resident Commissioner may have been necessary when the latter was a comparatively junior officer on £800 (as he was when I first joined the Service). Nowadays, however, he gets more than many Governors and it is ridiculous to suppose that he is incapable of, or not senior enough to, address correspondence to the Secretary of State direct.

The matter would be merely of academic importance were it not for the fact that the High Commission Office, as is the way of Government Offices responsible only to themselves, grows and grows every year. When I first worked in it there were seven of us, now there are, I understand, 34 (without any corresponding increase in the work), while the Colony's contribution to the up-keep of this enormous machine will this year be about £15,000: an expensive luxury for a Colony whose budget has to be grant-aided.

Of the special advantages of the High Commission office which you suggest:-

- (1) Advice on technical problems: this can be done by direct arrangement with the Fiji Government or, better still, with the South Pacific Commission;
- (2) Recruiting staff is almost invariably done by the territory direct, not by the W.P.H.C.; and
- (3) for the life of me I can't see what would be the use of the High Commission Office in the event of an epidemic, hurricane or political trouble, except to delay the *obtaining* of any assistance we might require from organizations able to provide it.

The solution for the High Commission Territories seems to me - it is of course a purely personal view, but based on 20 years working for the High Commission -

- (1) B.S.I.P.: This Protectorate should essentially be amalgamated with the remainder of the Solomons and taken over by Australia;
- (2) New Hebrides: let Australia take over the one or two southern islands where British interests predominate, if they must, but the rest should be handed to France, who controls virtually all the economic and commercial life: the Condominium is, of course, past praying for;
- (3) G. & E.I.C.: either an independent Colony under *the* Colonial Office or to become a province of Fiji (with a separate budget and other safeguards) or to be taken over by New Zealand and run with the Cooks and Tokelaus. I personally prefer solution 2, then 3 and lastly 1, as I don't think that the Colony is economically self-sufficient enough to stand alone;
- (4) Tonga. No difficulty. The Kingdom is semi-independent and her relations with the Colonial Office can be managed as at present by an Agent and Consul, working through the Governor of Fiji or direct, as desired; and
- (5) Pitcairn Island: from every point of view this island should be administered by New Zealand.

Now, as regards Snell's comments, his picture of the Gilberts is long out of date and I honestly don't believe that he has any conception of the amount of work done by the Government for the people of this Colony in this enlightened socialistic world. What about education, Savings Bank, co-operatives, land settlement, to mention a few. The Colony cannot be kept as an interesting museum for the amusement of visiting anthropologists; the people have got to develop, progress and learn to compete on an equal footing in the modern world, and to do this they need a vast amount of assistance.

Actually we are fast pushing the more brilliant Gilbertese and Ellice Islanders through their secondary education in Fiji and University education in New Zealand. Admittedly, when they come back, they will be able to take over the positions at present held by Europeans but the administration of a modern state (even a minute one) is quite a complex business and the European staff cannot very well leave until highly trained native personnel arrive to take over. It is only a matter of a few years now, of course, but when it comes it will apply as much to administrative and medical officers as any other departmental specialists: actually the first two natives now being trained in New Zealand are specialising in medicine and arts with a view to becoming a Medical Officer and an Administrative Officer respectively. So what does Snell mean?

As regards future developments, I have already mentioned one: the training of native students in Fiji and New Zealand and the consequent nativisation of the service. Economically I see the consolidation of the present position by which all trading and commerce is in the hands of local retail co-operatives, working through the central Colony Wholesale Co-operative at Tarawa: all under native control. Politically I see the formation of the Central Council of Representatives, comprising the elected representatives of the people of all islands in the Colony: see Section J of my Memorandum on Post-War Reconstruction and Administrative Police, a copy of which I will send to you.

And here I must close. I do hope that you will succeed in continuing your Pacific Island work and anything that I can do to assist will be a pleasure.

I thought long and hard about the anthropological job but as I have heard nothing from New Zealand about it I

presume that it has either fizzled out or has been filled. I ~~was~~ asked Parsonage to let me know when applications were being invited for the chair, and he promised to do so by telegraph. However, it was good of you to mention me to Dr. Skinner.

In the meantime I have taken over this secondment to the South Pacific Commission and am hoping that I find it a field in which I can do some useful work. Everything appears to depend on the intention of the Metropolitan countries. New Zealand, is, I am convinced, sincere in wishing to make a success of the venture, but I am not so sure of the others. I have all my life been cursed by possessing a streak of idealism in my make-up and if the South Pacific Commission does not turn out to be a new deal for the peoples of the Pacific I shall feel terribly unhappy: if, however, it is to prove of use (and not just window dressing) I shall be equally pleased at having been privileged to be in on its birth.

No chance of seeing you at the Pacific Science Congress, I suppose, either at Auckland or Christchurch? I have prepared one or two papers, which I hope to be able to read.

I am sending you Paske-Smith's "Early British Consuls in Hawaii" which I mentioned to you in Suva and which I believe you may find of considerable interest. Let me have it back in due course, there is no hurry, addressing it to me C/o South Pacific Commission, Mosman, Sydney, New South Wales.

My wife was telling me yesterday that she intends to write to you in answer to your letter which she has had. She is, however, proceeding straight from Ocean Island to New Zealand, where she will stay until I am once again able to provide her with a home, so I expect she will probably write to you during the course of her voyage. We expect to leave in about ten days from now.

Yours very sincerely,

H.E.M.

H.E. Maude.

16 Skibo Street,
Kew,
Dunedin S.O. 1,
New Zealand
13th June 1948

Dear Maude,

On my journey back from Fiji to Auckland I spent most of my time chosing over my experiences in Fiji & the notebook in which they were, so far as possible, recorded; & out of that rumination have come a few questions which I should be very grateful if you could answer at your leisure.

Does not the Western Pacific High Commission have a very diverse body of territories to co-ordinate? I can see its uses in providing you with information & advice on technical problems & recruiting staff, its usefulness in any emergency such as epidemics, hurricanes or political trouble. But in many ways it would seem a superfluous ^{organ} interposed between the man on the spot & the Colonial Office. Snell told me the staff of the W.P.H.C. had grown very much since his day & I can't quite understand what there is for this increased staff to do.

Snell also argued that travelling administrative & medical officers are all that is really required in the Gilbert & Ellice Islands. Do you agree with this?

Perhaps, however, he meant to refer to the near future rather than to the present. I remember your speaking of the progress that is being made with the co-operative schemes. What further developments do you anticipate in the economic, social, & political position of the islanders & how far do you think these depend on continuing British influence ^{on the spot}?

Now that I am back at work it once again becomes difficult to find time to carry on my Pacific work, but I am determined not to drop it & if you could give your views on these points you may be sure they would be very useful to me in due course. I need not say that as the views of a Government official they would be used with all possible caution.

Do let me know if you think I could be of any use to you in your historical work. I duly gave your message to Skinner. I think he agrees with me

that if Auckland University College has any sense it will try to persuade you to accept the Chair of Anthropology when in due course it is established. As I did not see Rutherford this time I have no information about the probable time or conditions of its establishment - I am not of course trying to persuade you that academic life is a more rewarding career than the Colonial Service.

With kind regards & pleasant recollections of our many conversations,

Yours sincerely

H.T. Morrell

No.....

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

13th November, 1948.

My dear Alexander,

I really am most indebted to you for your careful and detailed comments on my draft paper. They have enabled me to amend the last portion in an attempt to make it genuinely factual. I now enclose the result and should be again indebted if you would be so kind as to glance at it and see if it requires further alteration. I'm most anxious that it should be neither optimistic nor pessimistic, but purely matter of fact. It's only the pages from 12 onwards that require review.

To deal with your points:-

- (i) I have corrected the mistake on p.9, due to faulty memory;
- (ii) how right you are about the Phoenix Island co-operatives: it was never a C.D. & W.F. loan at all, but a cash advance from the Treasury. Actually I just bought the trade goods and left the Treasury to find a way of charging the expenditure as best they could;
- (iii) I have added some words on p.14 making it clear that by not being interested in high prices I meant those charged by the T.S. As you say in your note of the 3rd November, the Agents supply practically nothing themselves - Mr. Snell made it clear that this would be the case, as M.Hs. are not manufacturers nor are they connected with any subsidiary manufacturing concerns operating under other names;
- (iv) Your criticism on p.2 have caused me to rewrite and expand the section about your work of converting T.S. branches into co-operatives: I agree that I had not made it clear before,

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

largely because I had understood from Mr. Dickes (an optimist like myself) that his trading branches were, in effect, the pre-war co-operatives and that they were rapidly assuming co-operative principles - I should have known better;

(v) I couldn't agree too strongly with your remarks re the impossibility of the T.S. paying back the Treasury loan at a time when all their assets are purely "in the books" and every penny is needed for financing their expanding trading operations in the face of rising prices. However, after several attempts I have had to cut it out of the paper as, however worded, it looks like a criticism of the powers-that-be who consider that you and I and Mr. Palmer are all in the wrong on this point. We shall see;

(vi) the other corrections suggested by you have all been made.

Anyway do please, if you have time, have another glance through the last part of the paper and, if there is still anything wrong, let me know. Don't mince your words if you consider I'm mistaken: after all you're the expert on the subject and the only one who can advise on the matter.

Once again many thanks for your kindness,

Yours sincerely,

J.L.M.



GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY.

Office of the Co-operative Societies Officer,
Betio, Tarawa.

17th November, 1948.

F. 51/47.

Your Honour,

Thank you very much for the copy of your draft paper.

I have no criticisms to make and only one further suggestion.

Your Honour might consider it worth while to mention in your account, at page 28, of the building of the C.W.S, the ambitious nature of the plan to achieve representation among people who live their lives isolated on small islands all round the Pacific.

Without representation the C.W.S. would be an unbearable monopoly, but if we do overcome the obstacles and achieve a representative central committee, the co-operative movement, started only in 1926, may well be ahead of the administration, started in 1892, in having a central administrative body elected by their district constituents.

Yours sincerely.

W.G. Alexander

His Honour the Resident Commissioner,
Bairiki,
Tarawa.

26th November, 1948.

Dear Mrs. Aris,

I am writing not only to thank you for your letter, which was duly forwarded on to me by Sir Albert, but also to say that I have accepted a secondment from this Colony to be Deputy Secretary-General of the South Pacific Commission, which has just been formed by the six Governments of Australia, France, Holland, New Zealand, the U.S.A. and Great Britain.

It is basically a scientific research organization, covering all the Pacific Islands south of the equator, and I hope that it will enable me to enlarge my background knowledge of the South Seas as a whole before settling down to do some serious writing work.

I am delighted to see that you have not changed your mind about letting me tackle Mr. Arundel's diaries. You say that you will try to make some notes of his private life if you can find the time. I do hope that you are able to ferret records of voyages, islands and achievements, though interesting to many out here who know the region, will be merely lifeless bones unless animated by the personality of the man who first saw the possibilities, as well as the romance, of the Central Pacific Islands and then converted what might well have remained a dream into practical reality.

From the old Western Pacific High Commission records, of which I have copies, it is clear that it is due to Mr. Arundel's enterprise that the Central Pacific is part of the Empire and, indeed, we are the direct inheritors of his enterprise, for the development of the islands has continued, almost without a break, since his days.

In turn, I would like to assure you that my secondment to the South Pacific Commission does not mean that I have given up any idea of returning to England to attempt the biography: rather, I hope that it will enable me to see the islands as a whole; even as Mr. Arundel did in the days before the various Territories had become the little water-tight compartments which they are today.

Meanwhile, I am so glad that you have sorted out some of your Mother's letters of the period 1882-1884: needless to say, any material of this nature would be treated with the utmost reticence, but at the same time they might afford an invaluable insight into the background of the travels and island life in those early days.

You speak of troubles in Europe and throughout the world. We hear only the faintest echoes of them here, I am glad to say, and life is very peaceful and dreamy under the palms. It seems impossible that any events taking place in the queerly termed civilized world could affect these remote islands, but the Japanese invasion is a reminder that they can.

Alaric writes that he is well and happy at his boarding school in Auckland and Honor is to leave for there next month, via Ocean Island. It will be a comfort to her to feel that at Noumea she is only six hours away from him by plane.

We spend February in Auckland and Christchurch attending the Pacific Science Congress, at which I am to read a couple of papers on the Central Pacific.

I hope your Austrian and her husband have proved a success and are still with you: if only we could send you some of our lovely girls from here,

Yours very sincerely,

J.L.M.

South Hill. Preston Candover. Basildon. April 27, 1948

Dear Mr. Maude

A little more than a month ago I was delighted to have a letter from you (Dec 11) after passing through the Caribbeans,

last week another very nice letter came - this time from Gilbert Archer - to acknowledge the ethnological articles you so kindly took out to him from me & I am so glad that he seems really keen about them. I do hope it wasn't a trouble to you... I hope you had a pleasant pause in New Zealand -

Your visit is like a dream now - and how I wish it had been longer! I was delighted to have the gift from you both of your work on Ocean Island & I marvel at all the research you both did -

I can hardly wait for the time when you can tackle the J. T. A. Diaries - though it will be a real tussle.. I keep promising myself weeks in the attic to sort & get some order into those trunks of paper. Although

I now have a good domestic couple - a vigorous little Austrian woman & her not so vigorous old English husband - I still have many chores to do - & visitors coming & going & my good intentions are postponed. However I have sorted out a little bundle of letters written by my Mother to her people in 1882, 1883, 1884 from the 'explorer' my Father's yacht - & from Sydney Island - although these are personal letters full of homesickness there are references to my Father's journeys which may be useful. If I can have time & concentration I will make some notes of her private life which may be of use to you - tho' I know you will be more interested in the actual journeys - I can think of no one I would rather trust to read the journals of such a strange, waverish & sentimental person..

We are having a glorious spring - the woods are carpeted with bluebells, primroses - & the farm is glowing with the strong young green crops - My daughter is out on her tractor till sundown & my thrill is to be getting in the grain in such kind weather.. We have a cheerful flock of new born lambs & piglets & calves - & all this makes for cheerfulness

BY AIR MAIL

AIR LETTER

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

Please forward



H. E. Mande Sr,
% Sir A. F. Ellis C.M.G.
3 Argyll Street
Ponsonby
Auckland
New Zealand.

To open cut here →

Second fold here ↔

First fold here ↔

↑ To open cut here

Sender's name and address:-

S. D. Aris

South Hill

Preston Gardens, Hants

in spite of the ominous shadow of the U.S.S.R creeping across Europe -
& the conflagration spreading in Palestine - I write of the future planning
of your research & the book on my father... but truly it is difficult now to look
ahead to anything but serious menace.

I do hope all is well for you both on your return to our much loved
Pacific & that Alan is well & happy.

With my fond wish to you all

I am yours very sincerely
Sydney D. Aris

M^{rs} English.
M^{rs} Pusinelli.

M^{rs} Morris.
M^{rs} Walcot.

I understand that there is to be a cricket match tomorrow afternoon between Bairiki & a team from the Gaerbank. I think it would be nice if we gave tea & drinks to both teams & spectators & would be very glad if you could rally round & bring a plate or two of sandwiches &, or, cakes. I suggest we might meet here about 4 o'clock or a little before 4, & that we have the refreshments on the cricket ground.

Please excuse my not sending personal notes but time is short & I have been immersed in packing.

Honor Maude.

Dear Mrs. Maude,

I will supply fikelets & scones

Joan Walcot

Yes, I can't think what at the moment, but will make something. M.E.

Dear Mrs. Maude,

I will bring the chocolate cake & some sandwiches.
Joan Pusinelli



THE RESIDENCY
TARAWA
GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS

CONFIDENTIAL.

13th December, 1948.

Dear Sir Brian,

I hope that you will excuse me writing to you, while still in your direct employment, regarding the terms of my secondment to the South Pacific Commission. It would seem fairest, however, to state my case to Your Excellency before the commencement of my service on the Commission and, in particular, before I sign any contract with that body.

Your Excellency will recollect that on receipt of your telegram No. 652 of the 10th September informing me of an offer of secondment to the Commission as Deputy Secretary-General I demurred at accepting for a variety of reasons but principally because my health had completely recovered on my return to residence and work in my own specialized field and there no longer appeared to be any particular reason why I should leave a place where I was doing good work and which had become virtually my home. From personal preference I would rather submit myself to examination by any Medical Board - which I have never had as yet and would request under Colonial Regulation 94 (d) - in confidence that the finding would be favourable to my continued service here for an indefinite period.

In reply to my telegram, however, you were kind enough to state that you very much hoped that I would accept the offer as it was essential in the interests of efficiency and prestige that one of the three principal posts on the Commission should be filled by an officer with British Colonial outlook, knowledge and experience. In my telegram No. 728 of the 18th September, therefore, I agreed, though with reluctance, that "if it was in the interests of the Colonial Service that I should accept the offer" I should be willing to do so, but only on temporary secondment.

His Excellency
Sir Brian Freeston, K.C.M.G., O.B.E.,
Government House,
Suva, Fiji.

The reason why I have felt compelled to emphasize throughout the fact of the retention of my substantive position as Resident Commissioner of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony and my acceptance of a position on the staff of the South Pacific Commission only on temporary secondment was, as I expect Your Excellency realized, my anxiety lest the Commissioners should decide to locate the headquarters of the permanent secretariat at Noumea and my earnest conviction that, if this should be done, the salary offered to me would prove quite insufficient to maintain myself and my family.

When I mentioned to Your Excellency in May that I should be willing to consider appointment to the South Pacific Commission I did so not only because of a genuine interest in the area covered by the Commission's activities and the work which it is intended to perform but because I knew, from my own experience and that of my friends, that it would be possible to maintain myself in Suva (and at the same time fulfil my financial obligations towards my family and certain relatives) on the salary offered, despite the fact that it was considerably less than that of my substantive post. I had no reason then to suppose that my financial circumstances in the event of headquarters being located in Noumea would be materially different and, as I had not seen the terms and conditions of service, I assumed that they would be at least as advantageous as I at present enjoy.

Enquiries which I have recently been able to conduct among persons who know Noumea well indicate, however, that there is no correspondence between the cost of living in Fiji and New Caledonia; that Noumea is, in actual fact, one of the most expensive places in the world (comparable only to the United States) and that the salary offered would be quite insufficient to enable me to live in anything approaching comfort. I have not yet seen the terms of the contract which it is proposed to offer me, and it may of course contain unexpectedly generous conditions, but from what I have been able to learn to date, when account is taken of lower allowances, the absence of a car, of linen, cutlery, crockery, refrigerator and numerous other similar items, the vastly inferior leave conditions, and above all the appalling expense of having to maintain

an establishment in Noumea, as well as several other factors which I need not detail, the position offered is probably worth less than that of a Grade II District Officer of say 10 years seniority or, in other words, under half the value of my present appointment.

I have already explained, in my telegram No.728 of the 18th September, the inequity of fixing the salaries of the Commission staff in terms of sterling, since the recent (in effect) devaluation of that currency in terms of the New Zealand pound and its probable forthcoming devaluation in terms of the Australian pound will automatically decrease all salaries by approximately 25%. Since then, however, I have heard that the much-publicized exemption from Income Tax is of no value whatsoever, since the Government of New Caledonia have no Income Tax, preferring to obtain their revenue by customs duties and other ways which have had the effect of raising the cost of living to its present heights. And although, as International Civil Servants, I presume that we are exempt from the payment of Customs duties on imports, this concession will not apply to numerous purchases which must, of necessity, be made locally. Furthermore, no Cost of Living Allowances have been granted, as they have in the Fiji and Western Pacific High Commission Services, despite the considerable rise in the cost of living throughout the Pacific area since salaries were fixed. It is realized, nevertheless, that these may be in contemplation.

I do hope, Sir Brian, that you will not think for a moment that I attribute my present predicament to any action of yours. I realize that you opposed the choice of Noumea as the headquarters of the Commission and that you probably still feel, as I do, that it was a mistake. Nevertheless, now that the Commission has decided on Noumea it should, in my submission, accept the necessary consequence of its action and either increase the salaries of the permanent staff or grant them a cost of living allowance payable while actually living in New Caledonia. In its briefest terms, my contention is that the salaries may be assumed to have been adequate if the headquarters of the Commission had been in Suva; the cost of living in Noumea is x per cent higher than Suva; therefore the staff should receive a cost of living allowance of x per cent while compelled to live in Noumea.

The Rules of the Commission provide for such a contingency, when they state (at p 11 of Fiji Government Council Paper No. 29) that "in determining the salaries for the several grades and for the various categories of posts, account is to be taken of the special factors affecting service in the Secretariat, and in particularthe cost of living at the seat of the South Pacific Commission", and it seems probable that the Commission had this factor in view when they placed all the full time members of the Research Council on the maximum of their salary range of £1,000 - £1,600, a contingency which could scarcely have been contemplated at the time of drawing up the salary plan and which incidentally automatically reduces my own seniority on the senior staff of the Commission from being third to being the most junior.

I am, however, naturally interested primarily in the Commission's salary offer as it affects myself, since I do not know the circumstances of the other members of the staff and it may well be that they are adequately remunerated. They are all, with the exception of myself and Mr. Forsyth, research officers of various descriptions: a type of work which, although of the greatest value, is notoriously underpaid. Dr. Davidson, for example, who is a young unmarried man of 33, was probably receiving some £500 as a lecturer at Cambridge University, a sum which is likely enough comparable (after allowance for the difference in the cost of living) with the £1,600 he is to receive while on the Commission in Noumea.

My own circumstances, however, are very different and I feel that you will agree that I cannot, in fairness to my family and obligations, sign my acceptance of any contract with the Commission, except on a temporary basis, unless that body is willing to grant me:-

- (a) an increase in salary to place me senior to the full time members of the Research Council; and
- (b) a cost of living allowance, payable while actually resident in New Caledonia, sufficient to compensate for the difference in the cost of living between Suva and Noumea.

Interested though I am in the Commission and its work I could not very well, for more than a strictly limited period, sacrifice half my real income for the sake of serving on its staff, as I have virtually no financial resources of my own.

Should the Commission refuse to consider what would seem to be a most reasonable request I would ask, Sir, that I might be granted an allowance from Colonial Service funds to compensate for the extra cost of having to live in New Caledonia - that is, if it is sufficiently in the interests of the Service that I should continue to serve on the Commission. I understand that this has been done in other and similar cases, e.g. the Caribbean Commission.

Finally, should neither of these alternatives come to fruition, I am still willing to continue serving on the Commission on a temporary basis as long as it is in the interests of the Colonial Service that I should do so. I would earnestly request, however, that this period should be made as brief as possible, taking into account the fact that I am being asked to accept a real income of say half (or under half) my present one and that my private savings will not last indefinitely.

As to my future assignment, I am still the substantive Resident Commissioner of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony and should naturally prefer to remain so, subject to a proper examination by a full Medical Board under Colonial Regulation 94 (d). Tropical born and bred, my health recovered dramatically as soon as I returned to hard work and the, to me, absorbing interests of this Colony and conversations with medical men who know both me and the locality have convinced me that my health is far better here than elsewhere - this would appear to be supported by the fact that I have never had a day off work through illness since I assumed duty in the Colony in 1945, despite a working week of anything up to 70 hours, and the equally significant fact that any ill health that I may have suffered from invariably occurs on leave.

However, if it is preferred to transfer me I would only emphasize that if there is no suitable

post available for me in the Pacific I am willing to go anywhere within reason and to do anything, subject to the provisions of Regulation 5 of the Special Regulations laid down by the Secretary of State for the Colonial Administrative Service, providing that "no officer shall be transferred without his own consent to an office which in the opinion of the Secretary of State is of less value (due regard being had to climate and other circumstances) than that which he already holds".

In conclusion I would assure Your Excellency that I have no desire to create any unnecessary trouble as regards the terms and conditions of my temporary secondment to the Commission and that if, after I reach Sydney, I find that the salaries and conditions of service of the Commission's staff have, in fact, been adequately revised to meet the altered circumstances caused by the decision to locate its headquarters in Noumea I shall, of course, sign my contract without any of the reservations mentioned above. I should also like to say how much I regret not being in a position to consult with Your Excellency, whose experience is so much greater than mine, at this time as well as the fact that, owing to the infrequency of communications with Tarawa, it has taken so long for me to ascertain conditions at Noumea.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) H. E. MAUDE

15th December, 1948.

Dear Sir Alexander,

I should have replied to your very kind letter, which arrived at Tarawa soon after I did, long before this, but to be truthful I have kept postponing my confession that I have accepted a temporary (I hope) secondment to the South Pacific Commission. I fear that you may feel that I have let you down by leaving the Colony so soon after your transfer. However, I do remember you're saying that I should not stay long, or I would be quite impossible, so perhaps you will forgive me.

My secondment is due primarily to the advice of the Medical Adviser to the C.O., whom I was foolish enough to see while on leave, that I should not spend more than 12 months more in the Colony. However, I regard his views as largely nonsense (since I am fitter in this Colony than I have ever been in my life and have not had a day off duty since I commenced acting in 1945) and would have resisted his ruling were it not that I was very browned off by the way in which the policy of the G. & E.I.C., as finally settled after exhaustive discussions with Stapledon, Vaskess and yourself, was changed by the Acting R. Cr. and H.Cr. To mention only a few major matters: lands colonization, war damage compensation, Colony headquarters, the Colony ship and the education programme were all changed within a few months, and to cap it all the new Chief Lands Commissioner wrote a long letter direct to Webber in the C.O. criticizing the Colony policies, particularly as regards lands, which was duly duplicated and circulated, thus completely negating my efforts to obtain a grant from the C.D. and W.F. for the purchase and settlement of Fanning and Washington.

Anyway, I was so depressed with it all that I encouraged the worthy M.O. and tried to get a transfer: the result secondment to the S.P.C. I feel now that I

is Excellency
Sir Alexander Grantham, K.C.M.G.,
Government House,
Hong Kong.

was probably foolish as my heart, of course, is in this Colony and in any case, once I returned, I soon got things straightened out ~~again~~ and found myself bouncing with energy again and terribly keen on the progress of the G. & E. Bryant wisely transferred to Suva as soon as I arrived and Cartland, the C.L.C., and I are now good friends. Fortunately, and to everyone's amusement, both of them discovered that their new theories were unworkable before I returned and were busy eating their earlier despatches.

You'll be glad to hear that the Colony is romping ahead: revenue estimated at £250,000 for 1949-50 and expenditure (other than war rehabilitation) well behind, so we should be clear of Treasury control before long. The staff are splendid, particularly Pusinelli (the Secretary) and a new Assistant Treasurer by the name of Cutting, from Somaliland.

Alexander is doing marvels as Co-operative Societies Officer and the Trade Scheme beating all records for exports and imports: we should touch 10,000 tons of copra this financial year. The Savings Bank has now opened and taken in its first £5,000. Altogether I'm very pleased with the progress made to date and dreadfully sorry to be leaving. However, I'm bound to admit that the volume of work has fallen off to a great extent of late and what there is seems to be largely routine, so I feel one can say that the reconstruction and policy forming days are over and from now on its a matter of carrying on along lines already established.

I find nearly everyone in the Colony (both in and out of the service) deploras the hasty and ill-considered decision to abandon Abemama as Colony headquarters. Incidentally, Betio was soon found to be quite unsuitable and there have been two changes since then.

Yam has applied for a transfer to Hong Kong and we all hope he gets it. He has been a first class officer, willing and versatile, and is I should say the most popular man in the service. But his family are in Hong Kong and I know he feels the separation, particularly since he has no educated countrymen here to keep him company. I suppose a minor matter like his transfer would not come before you, or would it?

Honor and I were rejoiced to hear from Macdonald that Ronald Garvey had been made Governor of British Honduras. He well deserves this, after five years in the B.W.I. in which he not only maintained but enhanced his reputation. Also that Stapledon was now a V.I.P. in Nairobi on £2,000 a year - how we all miss him in the Pacific.

We travelled out from England with Sir Brian Freeston and found him charming personally; and Lady Freeston is a dear. I sincerely trust he'll find time ~~some day~~ to visit the High Commission Territories before long, but the long wrangles of the South Pacific Commission keep him away in Australia for about 2 months a year: and we see Chamberlain. I must say if I were H.Cr. I'd work it the other way round.

You'll be amused to hear that the S.P.C. are starting with 38 on the staff - 25 full time and 13 part time! Shades of the one man one desk which we hoped for. And headquarters are to be in Noumea which, being horribly expensive, will add handsomely to the cost of the whole undertaking.

In view of the expense, lower salary and a general feeling that it may prove to be a useless organization, I have only agreed to join the South Pacific Commission on a strictly temporary basis while the C.O. endeavour to find a job for me in some other part of the world. If you ever hear of a secretariat or other job for me please do let me know: I can work like a slave for those towards ^{whom} I feel an instinctive loyalty and trust.

We both send our very best wishes to Lady Grantham and yourself,

Yours very sincerely,

S.L.M.

Government House.
Hong Kong.
24th. February 1948.

Dear Maude,

I sent you a letter c/o Sidebotham at the Colonial Office, just before I left England in July of last year. You probably never got it, for the C.O. is notoriously bad about forwarding letters. I hope therefore that you get this one.

And how are you both, or rather all three? I remember that you were resisting to the hilt the idea that you should spend any of your leave in the U.K. You wanted to remain either in Tahiti or New Zealand. I hope however that it hasn't been so bad, & that you have re-discovered that Europe has some things that ~~are~~ the South Seas & New Zealand have not got. At times the benefits of England Home & Beauty ~~is~~ must be difficult to appreciate, especially when there is a cold snap on. But I gather from Fox-Strangways, from whom I had a letter last week, that you are spending part of your time in the Channel Islands. I trust that they have an adequate supply of beer, to which I recollect you are partial, particularly on Saturday nights.

We have had two visitors from the G.E.I.C. in the persons of Yam & Rose. They were both in very good form. Morris, your D.P.W., has applied for transfer to the P.W.D., ^{here} as he says that he does not feel justified in staying on in the G.E.I.C., since the scheme for a new capital with fairly substantial buildings has had to be postponed indefinitely. What a pity that is, but in the present economic crisis at home, ~~it~~ is not to be wondered at. I also hear that the question of the site for the capital has been re-opened & that Abemama is now out of favour. No doubt that will be one of the first things with which Freeston will have to deal, as it was with me. I suppose that one

TELEGRAM-SAVING.

From: Resident Commissioner, Tarawa.

To : High Commissioner, Suva.

Saving No. 357.
35X46-2000

(Date) 16th December, 1948.

Leave due to Maude. In view of my impending secondment I have been endeavouring to sort out my leave position up to the 30th November and should be grateful if the resultant tabulations, as contained in Enclosures I and II, could be checked in the High Commission Office and either stated to be correct or amended.

2. I also attach, as Enclosure III, a record of my leave, etc., during 1947-48, as this is required in order to check the latter part of the computations.

3. If the attached calculations are correct, I am due 27 months and 28 days Vacation Leave and 6 months and 25 days Half Pay Leave (or 3 months and 12 days Commuted Leave), making a total of 31 months and 10 days full pay Vacation or Commuted Leave. Of this I have already had 20 months and 21 days Vacation Leave and am thus eligible for a balance of 10 months and 19 days accumulated leave (on retirement) in respect of service up to the 30th November, 1948.

Resident Commissioner.

PARTICULARS OF LEAVE TAKEN - H.E. HAUDE.

<u>Period</u> ^{1 2}	<u>Vacation</u>	<u>Half Pay</u> ³	<u>Travelling</u>	<u>Sick</u> ⁴
(1) 22. 7.32. - 10.11.32.	3m 0d	-	0m 20d	-
(2) 7. 5.35. - 4. 5.36.	3m 0d	11m 15d ⁵	0m 14d	-
(3) 5. 10.39. - 7. 2.40.	2m 23d	-	0m 3d	0m 28d
(4) 21.10.41. - 4.11.41.	0m 15d ⁶	-	-	-
(5) 16. 4.45. - 21. 8.45.	4m 0d	-	0m 7d	-
(6) 7. 6.47. - 26. 4.48.	<u>7m 13d</u>	-	3m 3d	-
Total -	<u>20m 21d</u>			

- Notes:
- ¹ Leaves (1), (2) and (3) were taken under the Leave Rules published in the Western Pacific High Commission Gazette of the 25th April, 1928.
 - ² Leaves (4), (5) and (6) were taken under the Leave and Leave Passage Regulations published as Appendix II to the High Commission Public Services Reorganization Report, 1937.
 - ³ Including Commuted Leave under Rule 15 (at double rates).
 - ⁴ Under Rule 2.
 - ⁵ Including 3 m. Commuted Leave = 6 m. Half Pay Leave and balance of Half Pay Leave under Rule 12.
 - ⁶ See Record of Service Card in High Commission Office. Remainder of period in New Zealand was on duty waiting transhipment from Tonga to Fiji.

PARTICULARS OF LEAVE DUE - H.E. BAUDE.

<u>Term of Service</u>	<u>Period</u>	<u>Vacation Leave Due</u>	<u>Half Pay Leave Due.</u>
(1) 16.11.29. - 21. 7.32.	2y 8m 6d	3m 29d	5m 11d
(2) 11.11.32. - 6. 5.32.	2y 5m 28d	3m 21d	<u>4m 29d</u> ¹
(3) 5. 5.36. - 4.10.39.	3y 5m 0d	5m 3d ²	6m 25d
(4) 8. 2.40. - 20.10.41.	1y 10m 23d	3m 20d	-
(5) 5.11.41. - 15. 4.45.	3y 5m 11d	6m 25d	-
(6) 22. 8.45. - 6. 6.47.	1y 9m 16d	3m 15d	-
(7) 27. 4.48. - 30.11.48.	0y 7m 4d	<u>1m 5d</u>	-
	Totals -	<u>27m 28d</u>	<u>6m 25d</u>

Notes: ¹ All Half Pay Leave expended to commencement of Year (3) on 5.5.36.

² Including portion due in respect of service in the Zanzibar Protectorate, chargeable to that Government.

For Record.H. S. HAUDE.Particulars of Long Leave: 1947-48.

Tarawa	dep.	5th May, 1947	Plane.
Fiji	arr.	" " "	"
Fiji	dep.	26th May, 1947	"
Auckland	arr.	" " "	"
Auckland	dep.	2nd June, 1947	"
Sydney	arr.	" " "	"
Sydney	dep.	6th June, 1947	"
Auckland	arr.	" " "	"
Wellington	dep.	1st July, 1947	m.v. "Sydney Star"
United Kingdom	arr.	2nd August, 1947	" " "
United Kingdom	dep.	21st November, 1947	R.M.S. "Rimutaka"
Wellington	arr.	29th December, 1947	" "
Auckland	dep.	23rd April, 1948	m.v. "Motus"
Fiji	arr.	27th April, 1948.	" "
Fiji	dep.	1st June, 1948.	Plane
Funafuti	arr.	" " "	"

Resume of Leave Period.

Travelling on Duty: 5.5.47. = 1 day.

On Duty in Fiji: 6.5.47. - 25.5.47. = 20 days.

Travelling on Duty: 26.5.47. = 1 day.

On Duty in New Zealand: 27.5.47. - 1.6.47. = 6 days.

Travelling on Duty: 2.6.47. = 1 day.

On Duty in Australia: 3.6.47. - 5.6.47. = 3 days.

Travelling on Duty: 6.6.47. = 1 day.

Travelling Leave: 7.6.47. - 1.8.47. = 56 days.

Vacation Leave in United Kingdom: 2.8.47. - 20.11.47. = 111 days.

Travelling Leave: 21.11.47. - 28.12.47. = 38 days.

Vacation Leave in New Zealand: 29.12.47. - 22.4.48. = 116 days.

Travelling Leave: 23.4.48. - 26.4.48. = 4 days.

On Duty in Fiji: 27.4.48. - 31.5.48. = 35 days.

Total Period of Absence = 393 days.

Resumed Duty in G. & F.I.C.: 1.6.48.

Recapitulation of Leave Period.

(1) Travelling on Duty	= 4 days.
(2) On Duty in Fiji	= 55 "
(3) On Duty in New Zealand	= 6 "
(4) On Duty in Australia	= 3 "
(5) Travelling Leave	= 98 "
(6) Vacation Leave	= 227 "

Total = 393 days
