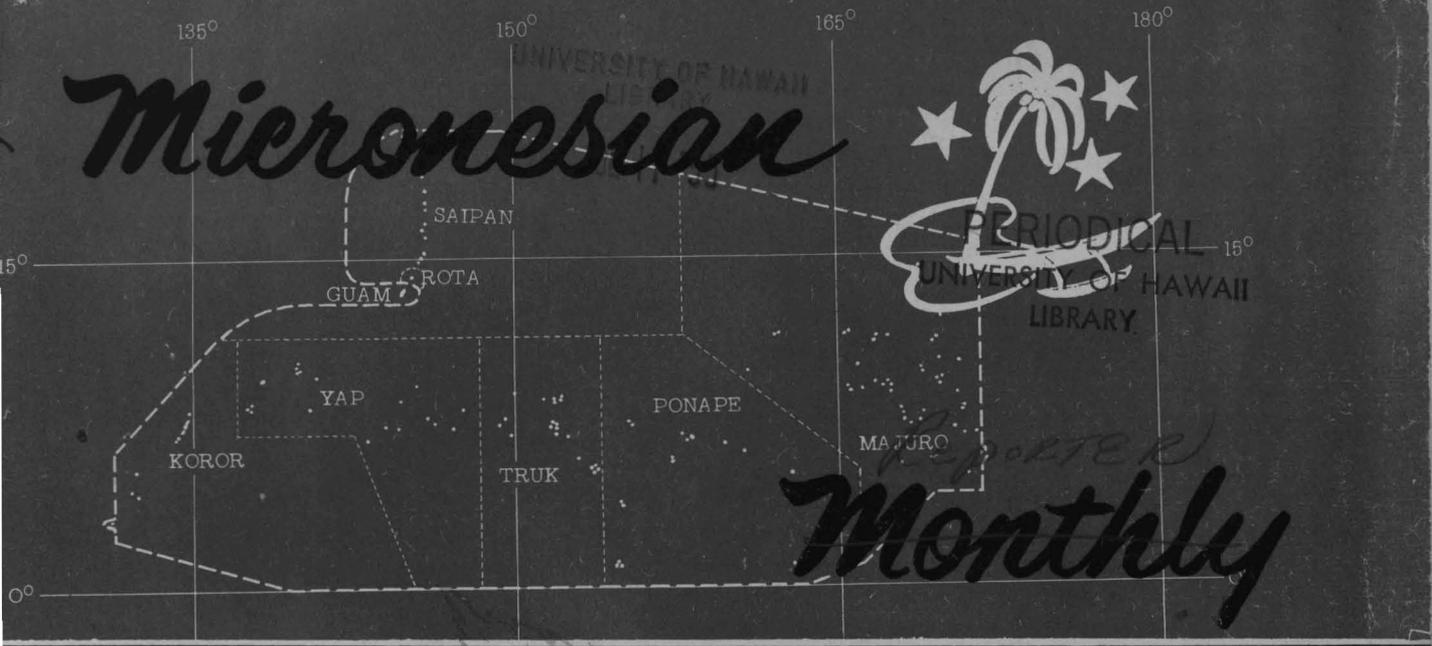


Micronesian



PERIODICAL
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII
LIBRARY



Reporter Monthly

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY HEADQUARTERS - TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

Volume III Number 6

February - March 1955

Agana, Guam



TWO MEN - AND A LIFE LINE

e.
1500
15

Miramarian

Monthly

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY HEADQUARTERS OF THE U.S. MARINE CORPS, TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

Agana, Guam

Volume III Number 6



TWO MEN — AND A LIFE LINE

BUDGET Published by Headquarters

TRUST TERRITORY

OF THE

PACIFIC ISLANDS

HERE WE ARE!!

by *Thelma Gorman*

Some of the old and many new members of the Trust Territory have winged their way from Honolulu to new Headquarters in Guam and settled down to their respective duties.

The geographical, mental and physical transformation that ensued during the hehira would stagger the imagination of a Jules Verne. The period during which the mechanics of progress were thrown into full swing and the new office building plus additional quarters were being constructed here was a dizzy montage of Public Works crews and a cacophony of hammers and saws that seem to be forever etched in noise-conscious craniums.

Gradually the dust stirred up by change has settled; the memorandum of officialdom proclaiming to all and sundry that "Headquarters of the Trust Territory will be established on Guam on arrival there Sept. 29 of the Deputy High Commissioner," is oxidizing in the files. For Mr. Nucker came on schedule. So did we. So did Christmas, New Year's, Valentine's Day and Washington's Birthday.

It looks like Guam and the Trust Territory are here to stay—for a while, anyway.

(Line sketches in this issue were drawn by Dr. Allan H. Smith, Staff Anthropologist)

Back at Headquarters after attending House Appropriations Committee hearings in January, and subsequent Senate hearings last month, Deputy High Commissioner, Delmas H. Nucker said he "feels confident" the Trust Territory will be allocated the \$5,000,000 requested for its 1956 administration, operation and construction program.

He also expressed hope that "some money" will be forthcoming to augment finances of locally-owned trading companies for expansion purposes.

Mr. Nucker said the most encouraging aspect of the budget hearings was the cooperation and direct help he had received from officials of the Department of Interior.

"William C. Strand, Director, Office of Territories, Otis Beasley, Administrative Assistant Secretary, and Orme Lewis, Assistant Secretary of Interior, were particularly helpful," he said.

The Deputy High Commissioner noted a "growing understanding and appreciation of our problems both in Interior and Congress."

"This attitude undoubtedly is influenced by the fact that several Interior officials and members of Congress have toured the Districts within the past two years and have been in actual contact with the Trust Territory and its personnel," he said.

Mr. Nucker's next trip will be in June when he will attend the United Nations Trusteeship hearings.

Established November 23, 1951

Published by Headquarters

TRUST TERRITORY
OF THE
PACIFIC ISLANDS

* * *

Fran Malloy

Editor

* * *

Editorial Assistants

Terry Schmidt Thelma Gorman
Helen Yokopovich
Appropriations Committee hearings in January, and subsequent Senate hearings last month, Deputy High Commissioner Delmas H. Nooker said he feels confident the Trust Territory will be allocated the \$5,000,000 requested for its 1956 administration, operation and construction program.

EDITORIAL

He also expressed hope that "some money" will be forthcoming to augment finances of locally-owned trading companies for expansion purposes.
"When nothing seems to help, I go and look at a stone cutter hammering away at his rock, perhaps a hundred times without as much as a crack showing in it. Yet, at the hundred and first blow it will split in two, and it was not that last blow that did it, but all that had gone before."

We borrowed this little gem from a publication called *Scuttlebutts*, published by the Overseas Craftsman's Association, Inc. We don't know who wrote it; no credit was given. The reason we're passing it along to you is that it is just what we wanted this editorial to say about the Trust Territory's job in Micronesia.

Somehow, all the things we had in mind, like the necessity for holding onto the vision of self-development of the indigenous peoples here; remembering that long range goals of self-preservation are contained in the task at hand, that it IS possible to get THERE from HERE, and it's NEVER later than we think, and that the shape of NOW will project into the future whether we are there to witness the hundred and first stroke or not—all these things were written into the little paragraph so much more simply, succinctly and wisely than we could say them.

We are devoting a lot of space in this issue to the M/V Rota disaster. First, because the tragedy involved the loss of three lives, and second, because we believe the sinking of the 20-ton motor vessel on January 14 constitutes a warning to other persons traveling in small inter-island craft. As any skipper who has sailed Trust Territory waters knows, there is no enemy more treacherous, more ruthless and more impersonal than the sea. For this reason, rules of safety cannot be tossed aside, or taken seriously only when convenient. There is an obvious reason why life rafts should be lashed to the deck, and why, in a choppy sea, they should be painted orange, not white; a reason, too, why life preservers should also be orange and why cargo hatches should be kept tightly closed and battened during a heavy sea.

It is worthy of note that this accident took place in the face of precautions by the U.S. Coast Guard and the Trust Territory Government to prevent a tragedy of this kind. Cdr. A. S. Elliot of the Coast Guard made periodic inspections of the ROTA and several months prior to the accident had listed a number of requirements to bring the vessel up to adequate safety standards. These items included the acquisition of approved type life preservers, a proper life float, the raising of hatch combings and the means of securing hatch covers to the deck with turnbuckles. These and other measures to make the ROTA a safe vessel were required of the owners by the Coast Guard and the Trust Territory Government with the alternative of tying up the vessel.

According to an investigation of the sinking, the Rota appeared to have foundered as a result of shipping water down the main cargo hatch which had been deliberately left open to ventilate fresh produce and animals being transported from Rota to Guam.

Investigators concluded that all of passengers and crew might have been saved if the life float had been properly secured, and that Fide

(Continued on Page 27)

PALAUAN CONGRESS WINS NEW CHARTER

BY FRAN MAHONEY

(Island Affairs Officer, Koror)

The granting in January of a Charter to the Olbiil Era Kelulau of Palau District marks the integration of newly acquired Democratic concepts with traditional Palauan institutions and a step in the direction of self-government toward which the Palauan people have been working for many years.

The Olbiil Era Kelulau (translated roughly as "deciding body for the people"), will be successor to the popularly elected Palau Congress which is perhaps one of the oldest advisory bodies of its kind in the Trust Territory, having been in existence since July 4, 1947. Like the Olbiil, this body was made up of representatives elected from every municipality of the district, including the two Sonsorolese speaking communities in the Southwest Islands. The new Charter is, in fact, a response to a resolution of this Congress, passed in 1953, which requested that the Palau people be given a greater measure of representation in the government of their district.

Membership in the Olbiil Era Kelulau will include Chadal Olbiil (representatives) elected from each community on a population basis, together with the two high chiefs of Palau and the magistrates and paramount chiefs of each of the district's 16 municipalities. This body will annually elect a president to be known as Bedul Olbiil, who with their approval, will appoint the Tebechelel Olbiil (Palau Council) and other officers to assist him in his work between sessions.

* * * * *

While, like its predecessor, the Olbiil will serve as an advisor to the District Administrator, it is now empowered to acquire and

administer real property, levy taxes, disburse funds, and pass laws for the District. As in the past, chiefs and magistrates will participate in the deliberations of this body, although only elected Chadal Olbiil will have the power to vote on resolutions. Upon the acceptance by the District Administrator of an English translation, a resolution of the Olbiil Era Kelulau will be forwarded to the High Commissioner for approval or disapproval within 180 days. Should the High Commissioner fail to disapprove within this time limit the resolution will be considered to be approved and having the effect of law within the Palau District.

Translated in terms of the Palauan scene, these powers will for the first time permit the elected leaders of the Palauan people to draw up their own budget based upon income derived from district-wide taxation and to formulate laws with the knowledge that their words will be seriously considered by the High Commissioner and his staff.

The first regular session of the Olbiil Era Kelulau is scheduled for April of this year.

MAYO STUDY PUBLISHED

An article titled "Report on Cacao," by Harold Mayo, Staff Agriculturist, appeared in the November issue of the Hawaii Farmer, the official publication of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation.

Micronesia Monthly in the next issue will publish the study in its entirety.





(M/V Rota photos by U. S. Navy)

Four M/V Rota survivors on the deck of the rescue ship USS Whitehurst are (center left to right): Francisco Manglona, Jose San Nicholas, Maria Hicog and Fidel Mendiola. At left is Delmas H. Nucker, Acting High Commissioner. Others are Luisa Ada and Claire Young.

THERE WAS THE WIND,
AND THE SHARKS
AND THE SEA

(On January 13, a little motorvessel with eight persons aboard—one a 17-year-old girl—left the island of Rota about 11 p.m. with a cargo of vegetables, a goat, some chickens and a small pig. Five of those aboard were the crew, two were passengers, and the other was Fidel Mendiola, skipper, aged 26. The 48-foot, 20-ton "Miss Rota" was on a routine trip to Guam to pick up supplies for the local island stores, and to sell its precious vegetables to produce-hungry Guamanians. About 22 miles from Rota a squall blew up. Suddenly the little boat swamped, turned over at a 90-degree angle. Six hours later she sank. Two men lost their lives, mangled and devoured by sharks. Another swam off into the night alone and disappeared. Five of the eight were saved, among them Fidel and Maria Hocog, who spent 38 nightmarish hours in the water together while 20-foot sharks circled and nudged them like "curious dogs." This is Fidel's story, as told to Fran Malloy.)

I heard Maria scream: "Something bit me on the foot!" and I was afraid the sharks had found us.

"Do not move," I said, quickly. "Unless the bite has drawn blood they will not attack us."

Maria slumped down into her life jacket and lay quiet in the water. She made little whimpering sounds, but she did not move.

That was Friday night. We had been in the sea many hours, perhaps 15, since the "Miss Rota" had capsized and sunk. I did not know where the others were. I had called many times but my voice was drowned in the driving rain and the wind, lost in the troughs of the waves that were thrashing us about.

We had left Rota the night before about 11 p.m. The sky had been clear, no clouds. That was before the wind came up. We were going about 15 knots an hour when suddenly I could not understand what happened. The boat turned over almost bottom up. There was no chance to radio for help. I had one flashlight in my pocket. That was all. The life float, which had not been fastened to the deck, started to drift away.

Jose San Nicolas, Joaquin Gogue and Francisco Manglona saw me start for the raft and they said: "We can swim better than you. We will bring it back." Two of them reached it. Joaquin swam back to the boat. But when the two tried to paddle toward us the waves were too big and rough and we watched helplessly while our only life raft floated off into

Below: Mendiola climbs to safety aboard the USS Whitehurst after 38 harrowing hours in the sea.



Above: Crewmen give a hand to exhausted Santiago Lifoioi, the fifth survivor.



the darkness.

I dived down underneath the boat and got life jackets for the rest of us, Maria Hocog, a Rotanese girl on her way to visit an aunt in Guam, Manases Mandiola, Santiago Lifoioi, Bardobino Manglona, Joaquin, and me. The boat floated about six hours and when it started to sink everybody but me swam away from it. I stayed and watched it go down. It was half my father's boat, and we had \$3,000 worth of vegetables in the hold, besides the animals.

It was getting morning now and I called to the others and told them not to separate. I said the rescue plane would search for us and it would be much easier to find us if we formed a big circle in the water. But the four men started to swim for Guam 30 miles away. I told them: "You cannot make it to the island." But they would not pay attention, and they kept on going. The girl stayed with me.

When they had gone 20 yards I called to them again, and Manases came back, but he did

not stay. Once I turned my back and when I looked around again he was gone. I called to him. He did not answer. Probably he did not hear me because the rain was so heavy it drowned out my voice, and the wind was blowing now and the big waves were breaking and splashing over us.

By this time Maria was unconscious. I held her up by the hair and shook her and tried to talk to her. When she came to she said: "I am very sleepy."

I said: "You do not sleep because we are in a dangerous place."

It was then she screamed, about something biting her foot, and I told her, "No matter what you feel, you keep yourself still in the water."

In five minutes about 20 sharks had gathered. Once the squalls stopped; the black sky cleared and we could see the moonlight turning

(Continued on Page 14)

UNACCUSTOMED AS WE ARE . . .

By D. Kirkham

The arrival on February 6 of 20 graduates from the Suva Practitioners School caused quite a flurry at Majuro hospital. Ingenuity was at a premium, and there was lots of it. Incidentally, it was the only thing there was lots of—except good will.

These men had been traveling on the M/V Torry since January 27 with a two-day stop at Tarawa, Gilbert Islands. The winter trade winds were brisk, and seasickness was common on this small ship. The group included 11 dental and eight medical graduates, and one pharmacist, representing all the districts of the Trust Territory plus one man from Saipan. All these people from the other districts had to wait here for further transportation, and we at the Majuro hospital went into the hotel business in a big way! This was completely out of our line, as subsequent events attested.

The newcomers and their baggage were loaded on trucks at the dock and taken to their new quarters, an old broken-down quonset long ago surveyed and awaiting the wrecking crew, but still having a fairly tight roof.

When the baggage was unloaded, and the guests had taken a dubious look at the mattresses on the floor—which constituted the hut's sole furnishings—their guide offered to show them the wash house facilities nearby.

To our embarrassment, the wash-house was void of everything save holes in the wall where the pipes used to be. Some enterprising plumber had removed toilets, showers, and washbowls a few days before, unknown to us. The guests were invited to use the Hospital facilities until their own could be restored.

Another hurdle developed from the fact that the Hospital serves only two meals on Sundays, a brunch and a supper. Our guests arrived at noon and apparently recent relief from sea-

sickness had sharpened their appetites. When they were told there was no meal served till five o'clock, they wondered what kind of a welcome the Trust Territory was giving them after their four or five years of specialized training. The new crisis was overcome by a case of C-Rations.

Then we discovered there were no bulbs in their new home, and, as there are none on Majuro for sale, the Hospital was raided, leaving only one bulb in each ward for the time being.

One more crisis arose two days later, when, after heavy rains, the ancient wiring of their temporary home shorted and started to burn. An enterprising medic pulled the two wires apart and wrapped each one in the only insulating material available—a Band-Aid!

One of our dental internes, Jeton Anjain, brought with him his beautiful Fijian wife and son. They are living in a small house near the Hospital. Jeton is from Rongelap, and has been visiting and introducing his family to his people, who are staying in a temporary village on Ejit Island near the District Center.

The other Marshallese are Menassa Emil, dental interne, from Maloelap, and Ijao Kisino, medical interne, from Uterik. They have both started to work at the Hospital, and plan to visit their relatives at a later date.

Also arrived on the Torry our old friend Dr. Arobati Hicking, with his wife and three children. He left Majuro about a year ago to visit his family in the Gilbert Islands, expecting to return to the Trust Territory in a few months. But Dr. Hicking had to wait for the Torry, and consequently spent a whole year on enforced vacation. He says he is really fed up with vacation for once, and has eagerly started to work in the Hospital here.

MANILA CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION

Palauan Women

Feels They Gained

New Social Concepts

"We feel that we have learned a great deal which we will be able to pass along to our people."

That was the summing up by four Palauan women of the impressions they brought back from the seventh tri-annual conference of the Pan-Pacific Women's Association held in Manila last month.

Mrs. Enaimeli Bismark, Mrs. Sechdeui Asao, Mrs. Josepha M. Oiterong of Koror, and Mrs. Rose Makelen of Ponape, the first Micronesian delegates to attend such a conference, all agreed that they had not only had the time of their lives, but that they had returned home with a new social concept.

"We met 148 women from 21 countries," said Mrs. Makelen, "and we realized for the first time that they have the same problems in their homeland as we do in ours—on a different scale perhaps, and in a different form. But basically, fundamentally, the same."

"The Philippine leaders have a hard time getting over to the populace the value of education in raising living standards just as we do," commented Mrs. Oiterong, interpreter for the other two women who do not speak English. "They told us how they are conducting a subtle campaign, putting the idea over by suggestion through the children to the parents."

Objectives of the association, the name of which was changed this session to the Pacific



Returning from the Pan-Pacific Women's Association Conference four Trust Territory Delegates are shown above with Mrs. W. C. Handy of Hawaii. Left to right: Mrs. Josepha Oiterong, Mrs. Handy, Mrs. Rose Makelen, Mrs. Sechdeui Asao and Mrs. Enaimeli Bismark.

and Southeast Women's Association, are: a) to promote peace through understanding and friendship; b) to exchange ideas and information about culture, problems and solutions to those problems; and c) to study the status of women in relation to health and welfare, social security and divisions between men and women. Theme of the 1955 conference was Social and Economic Interdependence.

Mrs. Makelen spoke over the Manila radio on the subject of woman's work in the Carolines Islands, and delivered a paper at the conference on the Island Trading Company's role in the economy of Micronesia.

Another paper on the Trust Territory titled, "A New Horizon of Public Health," was given by Mrs. Mary Lew, hospital administrator from Majuro, who also attended the conference, but not as a Trust Territory delegate.

(Continued on Page 22)

TRUST TERRITORY EYE HEALTH SURVEY REPORT

By C. E. Sayers

*(Taken from the South Pacific Commission's
Quarterly Bulletin)*

(Results of a survey on eye health in the United States Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands are incorporated in a report by Dr. Howard E. Crawford, of Hilo, Hawaii, a well-known ophthalmologist and a former chairman of the Hawaiian Medical Society.)

The survey was made in the three main centres of Truk, Ponape and Majuro between 3rd July and 7th August, 1953. Short visits were also made to several smaller islands in the Eastern Carolines and Marshall Group.

An interesting feature of this important field survey is that much of the practical work, before and during the survey, was done by a Marshallese medical practitioner, Isaac Lanwi, who was given a year's training at Hilo under Dr. Crawford, after which he was established as a full-time medical practitioner in eye medical care.

Historically the survey goes back to 1947 when Miss Eleanor Wilson, a missionary of the Marshall Islands, attended a graduate course in eye health given at the University of Hawaii summer session under the direction of the Bureau of Sight Conservation and Work with the Blind.

On her return to the Marshalls, Miss Wilson tested the visual acuity of a few adults who needed glasses for reading, weaving and other close work. In the next two years, the work increased, and the desirability was discussed of an ophthalmological survey of the native population in the Marshalls, Eastern and Western Carolines and the Palau Group.

Nothing came of the project until October, 1951, when Dr. Crawford and Mrs. Grace G. Hamman, Director of the Bureau of Sight Conservation, Territory of Hawaii, were approached, and a plan of procedure drawn up.

The plan involved the specific training in ophthalmology of medical practitioners under Dr. Crawford, in particular in refractions and minor surgical procedures.

Two were trained. The first was Dr. Juan Dela Cruz, a Saipanese, and a graduate of the U.S. Naval Hospital Guam Medical Training School. At the end of six months he was re-employed by the U.S. Navy at Saipan. The second was Dr. Isaac Lanwi, who, after a year's training, was felt to be proficient enough to do refractions and major and minor eye surgery.

It was recommended that observations of his work in the Trust Territory should be made by Dr. Crawford; the observation to include major and minor surgery and general diagnostic work.

The survey associated with this observation embraced a survey of visual acuity of a portion of the population and development of a community consciousness of problems of eye health; diagnostic and surgical eye clinics; analysis of ocular defects and recommendations.

The survey team was in addition to Dr. Crawford, Mrs. Hamman and Dr. Lanwi.

The first part of the plan was carried out by Mrs. Hamman and Dr. Lanwi. Difficult eye cases and persons with apparently healthy eyes were examined, and decision made as to selecting a limited number of persons with serious eye defects to attend diagnostic surgical eye clinics which were later attended by Dr. Crawford.

The team felt that the inhabitants of each district were very anxious for eye medical care. Often a mother or father would return with older members of the family without normal vision, or with children just to be sure they had healthy eyes.

To interest the community in an awareness of eye health, a flannel-graph play with localized eye health problems, as well as posters in the various local languages, was used. The flannel-graph was a successful interest-getting technique, and attracted several hundreds to where vision testing was being carried out, knowing that the testing would be interspersed with the play.

Reporting on ocular defects, Dr. Crawford says that the most interesting, indeed startling,

(Continued on Page 10)

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT MOVES TO TRUK

By R. E. Gibson

December 19, after a two-month leave on the mainland, Mrs. Gibson and I arrived in Truk to establish the office of the Department of Education and to make our future home.

In the two months that have elapsed, I have concluded that the location in the field of the Department of Education will yield some positive results. Already I have been able to give much more assistance, not only in the formulation of educational policy, but also in its implementation. I have never felt that it was possible to administer adequately from Honolulu a program of education for Micronesia, mainly because so much time and effort was spent communicating about details rather than getting things accomplished.

As soon as the office was in operation, I began to get acquainted with the problems of education in the Truk District and at PICS. I discussed directly with Mr. Richard King, the Educational Administrator of Truk, and his staff, salient points in their current program including problems they encountered; their plans for the future; and what was needed to accomplish their goals. I also learned first hand what goals had been contemplated in fundamental and adult education, teacher education, preparation of instructional materials locally, improvement of the elementary and the intermediate school programs, and how my office could best assist in the accomplishing of these aims.

Later, I took up with Mr. Will Muller, the District Administrator, and members of his staff, the question of how to communicate with the Trukese people and insure their participation in future plans for the Intermediate school.

Having my duty station on Truk also has enabled me to assist to a greater degree in the Pacific Island Central School. On several occasions, I conferred with Mrs. Cicely Pickerill and her staff in evaluating the school's program and clarifying its goals. With educational administrators from Truk and the Marshalls sitting on the conference, we discussed the many phases of the PICS program. The need for PICS

graduates in specialized positions throughout the districts was emphasized as was the counseling program which seeks to match the graduate with the job back in his home district. Keeping the districts informed by progress reports on all graduating students in order to assist in job placement was considered important.

Recently I spent a week at both Palau and Yap. In the Palau District, I talked with Dan Peacock, the Educational Administrator, and his staff on the educational situation in that locale, and now feel that I have a much broader conception of what is needed to round out a good educational program.

I was particularly interested in the efforts of Harry Uyehara to further the best features of development in the Community Center program which he supervises along with teacher education. One couldn't view the Saturday market conducted by the people of Ngeralong municipality, and the programs of dances and plays with which they entertained the residents of Koror, without being aware that the Community Center was beginning to function as such an enterprise should. Different municipalities, I am told, take monthly turns in using the Center.

Mr. Uyehara and Alfonso Oiterong were working on an eight-week teacher education program with several trainees. Both Palau and Yap elementary schools are handicapped because less than a fourth of their teachers are PICS graduates. This accentuates the necessity of placing major emphasis on the teacher training program.

Visits to several elementary schools away from Distad centers in both districts showed a combination of inadequately trained teachers and a paucity of instructional material. This is no criticism of the good people working in education in each district—Micronesians or Americans. It merely points up the need for constantly applying ourselves to overcoming this handicap.

(Continued on Page 15)



Trust Territory's new Public Prosecutor, Robert M. Robson, arrives with his family in Guam enroute to Truk. Little Robsons (left to right) are: Lynn, 9, Jimmie, 7, and Leslie, 3. The family comes to the Trust Territory from Grangeville, Idaho, where Robson was in private law practice. He will fill a post which has been vacant since December 1953.

EYE HEALTH

(Continued from Page 8)

condition found on Truk and the adjacent islands was choroidal degeneration. Its incidence was quite high, and had not so far been adequately described.

Dr. A. Leber, a German ophthalmologist, had described a similar condition in Samoa in 1914, but called it a retinosis. He had attributed the disease to *Filaria Bancrofti*.

A survey by Lt.-Commander Allan C. Pipkin of the USNR of filariasis in the Trust Territory

(1952) showed that its incidence was highest in the Palau and Truk Districts, and faded away to practically none in the Marshalls. That paralleled almost exactly the incidence of degenerative choroiditis found by Dr. Crawford and his team in the Truk, Ponape and Marshalls Districts; so it would appear there was a relationship.

Dr. Crawford reports that the condition is definitely an involvement of the choroidal and not the retinal layer of the eye. No filaria were seen in any of the cases examined. Fifty-nine cases were diagnosed at Truk, and there must be many more.

Dr. Crawford adds: "The condition is extremely serious from a social and economic point of view. If this eye disease is actually due to filariasis, then the disease filariasis takes on a more serious aspect in the Trust Territory than heretofore suspected, and preventive and therapeutic measures become more urgent. The condition is fully as important as elephantiasis caused by filaria elsewhere in the Pacific area."

In a note dealing with this particular aspect of the survey, Dr. E. Massal, Executive Officer for Health, South Pacific Commission, expresses the hope that the preliminary study of a degeneration of the choroid, possibly of filarial aetiology, will be followed by a detailed investigation, the results of which would be most valuable.

Dr. Crawford recommends in his report on the survey that attempts be made to study the choroidal degeneration found on Truk and adjacent islands. This, he recommends, should involve the joint efforts of an ophthalmologist, a parasitologist and the local health officer.

* * *

PERSONNEL



CHANGES

GUAM

GRACE NEEL now the secretary to the Director of Finance, replacing **HELEN J. YOKOPOVICH** who was promoted to the position of secretary to the Deputy High Commissioner. Other new employees in the Finance Department are **STANLEY KANESHIRO**, internal auditor, **ALITA TISDAIE**, fiscal accounting clerk, and **FRANK DERBY**, voucher examiner.

The Personnel Department realized it could not carry on without the services of the "weaker" sex. **JEAN TIBBETTS** is the lucky gal.

SALLY (nee **HIGASHI**) **FUJUBAYASHI**, former Finance employee, now with the new Land and Claims Administrator, **MARVIN S. PICKARD**.

MRS. JOSEFINA TOVES resumed duties as bookkeeping machine operator, a post vacated by **MRS. CHISTETA MARTINEZ**.

MRS. PAT SANTOS SISON, clerk-typist, separated by reduction in force. **MRS. MINETTE GRAY**, teletype operator, and **MRS. ANN KELLER**, clerk-typist, are new additions to the Administrative Service Division.

MR. JOHN M. SPIVEY, formerly with ITC, has been appointed to the position of Special Advisor to the Deputy High Commissioner.

TERRY SCHMIDT has been assigned as Secretary to **DR. ALLAN H. SMITH**, Staff Anthropologist.

FRAN MALLOY, former staff writer on the Times Herald at Washington, D.C., now Reports Officer and new Editor of the **Micronesia Monthly**.

EVELYN MCILHENNY clerk-typist in the Supply Division.

YAP

HAROLD L. FORESTER, formerly with FOA at Thailand, appointed as general supply assistant.

TRUK

MRS. AMY K. MCGRAIL, assigned as typist in the Education Department.

FRANK FREELAND to Truk as District Finance and Supply Officer to replace **ROBERT W. WION** who will be the Assistant General Supply Officer at Guam

MR. EDGAR G. HAMMONS new communicator at Truk to replace **JAMES PETERSON**. **MR. EARL J. JOHNSON** new electronics technician. Two new teachers at PICS: **MR. AND MRS. RAYMOND C. GOSDA**.

KOROR

DUANE CLYMER now communicator at Koror.

MAJURO

JUSTUS RECORDS reappointed to his former position as Public Works Snapper.

Subscriptions to the **Micronesia Monthly** are \$2.50 a year to persons outside of the Trust Territory.

R. CRUSOE MACKENZIE, They Call Him

If Robinson Crusoe happened to land today at Jaluit Atoll in the Marshall Islands, he probably would be able to get some tips on isolated living from James Boyd Mackenzie who's been sampling just that since the latter part of January.

At high noon Sunday, January 23, Mackenzie and Harold Mayo, Hicom Staff Agriculturist, left Majuro by Schooner *MILLEETA* for Jabor, the former Japanese administrative center for the Marshalls, approximately 120 miles away.

The *MILLEETA*, operated by the Marshall Islands Import-Export company, had waited until Sunday morning church services were over, three of its passengers being Fathers MacManus and Cantero and the Reverend Eleanor Wilson.

Mr. Mayo went with Mackenzie so as to be able to report back to Mr. Nucker, acting High Commissioner, on the problems to be solved at Jabor.

He returned on the *MILLEETA* Feb. 1. The two men had found quite a lot of activity at Jabor, Mayo said. Many Jaluit people from nearby islands came to meet them and help get temporary quarters erected.

MIECO had done considerable clearing of the war-torn island and built two warehouses. This company purchases copra which is transshipped to Majuro via the *MILLEETA* for shipment to the world market.

(Jabor has been used not only by the Japanese but also by the Germans as an administrative center. The Germans bought some of the land that is now considered public land.

The Japanese added a few acres and built concrete buildings and deep water piers. Most of the buildings were completely destroyed by American bombers in 1944-45. The Navy cleared some of the rubble away during its administration of the Marshalls, but the reopening of roads and construction of new buildings still is to be done.)

Mackenzie's principal work will be to establish a station that will aid the low island agricultural development.

Interested in the results are the South Pacific Commission and the University of Hawaii.

He also will be in a position to give some help to the ex-Bikinians now on Kili, a small coral pancake island about 26 miles from Jaluit, where the people have had difficulty in adjusting to a separated island after generations of living on an atoll with a large lagoon. These people are isolated from November to May by rough seas. Some days they cannot even fish because the waters are so turbulent.

Mackenzie will build a house, and unlike Crusoe, will be joined by Mrs. Mackenzie as soon as living facilities permit. Meanwhile, he will be the only American on the island, and without even the solace of electric lights or a radio. Both, however, are to be installed sometime in the near future.

For some time Mackenzie's sole communication with the District center at Majuro will be by Marshallese boats and the *MILLEETA*, which MIECO expects to send to Jabor twice a month.

(Continued on Page 23)



ONCE UPON A TIME THERE WAS A MOUSE . . .

This is a translation of the first of the legends now being recorded from the pictorial engravings in the Community Center building in Koror.

Mr. Santos Ngodrii was the informant of the legend, and Mr. Thomas Remengesau was responsible for translating it into English from Palauan.

I shall tell the story of the mouse of Rumkais.

The mouse of Rumkais lived at Ngerumkais in the hamlet of Ngesisich of Ngaremlengui Village. She conceived a son, and, when he was born she named him Debedebek. They lived in the woods for a long time where he grew up. His mother suggested that he go to the village and live among people. But he did not wish to separate from his mother, so they lived together in the woods for quite a while.

Sometime later, she became pregnant with a second child. When this child was born, she named her Ltlatk. Both brother and sister lived with their mother at Ngerumkais until they grew up. Then she suggested again that they leave their mother because she is a mouse; she can wander around alone eating fruits. They should go to the hamlet of Ngardiluches in Ngaremlengui where there should be people who would keep them; they could, in this way, become good people one day. They cried and continued to live with their mother until they were grown up so it was not wise for them to live with her in the jungle. They quarrelled but they finally decided to do what she had suggested.

They started out and came to a place where the road separated into two branches, one going down to Ngaremlengui and the other to Ngatpang.

The boy took the road to Aimeong Hamlet in Ngaremlengui. Later, when boys of Aimeong played during moon-lit nights, this boy played with them but all the while thinking of his sister.



Koror's Community Center

The girl journeyed on the road to Ngatpang. She arrived at the pier of Ngatpang where Chobak era Tkedesau found her. He took her to his home where she found good meals and good drinks. Nevertheless, she always remembered her brother.

The words "debedebek" and "ltlatk" mean "brother and sister who are thinking of one another." They lived for a long time.

The boy grew up and married the daughter of Ngirturong. Before each meal he thought of his sister.

Ltlatk did the same. She lived with Chobak era Tkedesau so she ate and drank well. At every meal, she would pick up a portion of each kind of food they ate, put these in a basket, and hang it as an expression of her remembrance of her brother.

(Continued on Page 24)

MANY THANKS
TO THE U.S. NAVY

Delmas H. Nucker, acting High Commissioner, expressed high praise of the Navy's rescue job which followed the M/V Rota disaster January 14, 1955. He said:

"I have the greatest admiration for the wonderful job done by the Navy. Without their assistance we in the Trust Territory would not know what happened to the survivors. In behalf of the Trust Territory people, I wish to express profound gratitude and appreciation for the rescue job."

Navy patrol planes spearheaded the search for M/V Rota victims at 10:30 a.m. Friday after being advised by Mr. Nucker that the ship was overdue. The USS Whitehurst, captained by W. R. Eaton, joined the search at 3 p.m. Friday and stayed until early Sunday morning in the search areas. Coordination of rescue work was handled by the Rescue Coordination Center (RCC) at the Naval Air Station.

(Continued from Page 5)

the shark's fins to silver as they circled around us. They moved in closer and began to nudge us and rub against us. One of them thumped me in the back three times with his snout. Maria was very quiet, but I knew she was trembling and shaking with fear. The sharks kept nuzzling her and pressing against her body like curious dogs.

When it rained again we tried to hold our heads back and catch some of the sweet water. But it was no use. The sea was too wild and the waves would slide salty down our throats and we would be sick. It was a night like a year. We did not dare to sleep. For two nights we did not sleep.

Saturday morning came at last and it was clear with a big gold sun but the water was still choppy and the sharks had stayed with us.

Some of them were about 20 feet long. Maria began to cry. She said she could not see and that she thought she was going to die. She screamed again that something was tugging at her jeans. I looked down in the water and saw a shark swimming away, but I did not tell her.

I don't know what time it was when I saw the first search plane quite far away—then a second plane which came almost over where we were but flew on without seeing us. Maria cried about that, too. I told her: "Don't cry because I know the plane saw us and is going to report some other place to pick us up." But I knew the pilot had not seen us.

The third plane buzzed us, but they didn't drop the shark medicine. A plane is a very beautiful thing when you are in the sea full of sharks and you cannot do anything about their nuzzling except wait for the plane to help you before they find out you are good to eat.

In about 15 minutes the USS Whitehurst came to pick us up. I was very happy and I felt like laughing, and Maria and I laughed together. But we were still very careful and we moved very slowly to climb the rope ladder.

I was too weak to climb with Maria hanging on to my shoulders and three sailors came down and helped us. In a short time we had whiskey and food and were asleep.

When I woke up I saw Francisco and Jose in beds beside me. They had been picked up in the life raft about 10 miles from where Maria and I were found. They still had one box of bell peppers. I asked if they had seen the others and they said no.

The ship kept searching and about 4 p.m. we found Lefofoi floating in his life jacket. He told us he saw Bardobina attacked by sharks on Friday and Joaquin on Saturday afternoon. He said the two men when they saw the rescue plane took off their life jackets and splashed in the water to attract attention. It was then the sharks attack them.

Menases we have not heard of or seen again.

* * * * *

NEW BOARD OF EDUCATION APPOINTED FOR TRUK DISTRICT

By A. R. King

A Truk District Board of Education was appointed in February by District Administrator Will Muller. The Board consists of six representatives from all sections of the District who were recommended or approved by the island chiefs. Mortlock and Western Island representatives are men employed on Moen so they will be able to attend the planned monthly meeting regularly.

The Board will function as an advisory group working closely with the Administration and the Permanent Advisory Committee on all education matters in Truk District. The P.A.C. (composed of representative island chiefs) has appropriation powers, subject to District Administrator approval, over locally derived tax money. For the past year the P.A.C. has served as an advisory group on education and on all other district programs. The Board of Education, by being more intimately aware of specific

school problems, should be able to serve both the P.A.C. and the Administration well. In effect, it will be a liaison study group.

The Administration will use the Board to sound out new ideas or alternative approaches to problems. The Board will consider and weigh such proposals, in turn making their recommendations to the PICS. The process may also be reversed. If the Board of Education and the P.A.C. do not approve—or are unable to understand—a given course of action concerning the schools, that in itself will be an indication to the administration that revision or further clarification is necessary. Such active participation in school administrative policy matters should lead to a greater understanding among the island people of the true nature and value of their schools. The establishment of this Board is another step toward the long range goal of complete local control of all education.

EDUCATION

(Continued from Page 9)

One encouraging factor I noticed was the increasing interest on the part of the people as evidenced by the work of their school boards. I attended the first meeting of the Palau District Education Board, and from my observation, there is little doubt that the members will be of considerable aid in providing a continuing body of adult leaders who can offer guidance to the educational programs of Palau.

The Yap Board of Education has been functioning effectively for the past one and a half years as a liaison body between the Education Department and the adult community. Each board member tries to keep abreast of the operations of the public school system and its effect on pupils, teachers, and the community as a whole. Widening participation of Micronesians in their

own educational programs will result in developing their own system of learning.

Both Palauans and Yapese have shown interest in the broader functions of education in various Micronesian communities. This indicates an awareness that learning is more than just a school program. In Palau this interest is localizing around the Community Center. In Yap, it manifests itself in a desire to learn more about community development and what it is achieving in Trust Territory. While I was in Yap, Edmund Gilmar called a meeting of the leaders of the Yapese community at the falu in Keng where I spoke to the people on the working of the community development idea in various underdeveloped areas of the world. I described how it had worked in Ponape under Mr. Robert Halvorsen and explained some of James Milne's success in Kili. Considerable interest in the program was shown by the Yapese.

BEWARE THE IDES OF APRIL

Six months twice a year would be the ideal extension of the period for filing income taxes.

The situation this season is not ideal. April 15 is the deadline, and the Ides by another month's name are just as innocuous.

We dislike being forced to print such unpleasanties, but here are some data on this year's filing of last year's income as revealed by Jerry Vittetoe, who has to do with such things.

There are two forms for filing returns, 1040 and 1040A. The 1040A is a cardboard slip affair which can be used if you made less than \$5,000, all of which consisted only of wages reported on withholding statements (W-2's), and not more than \$100 in other wages, dividends and interest. Use this one if you want the government to compute the tax due. If you want to compute it yourself, you can use the first page (only) of form 1040. The long form 1040 consists of four pages which must be completely filled out if you make more than \$5,000.

Further information can be obtained from the instruction booklet available in the Hicom Finance Division, or in District Headquarters.

To answer the \$64 question--yes, you do have to pay tax on the 25 per cent differential. It should be included as part of your gross income. (There's a court case pending now to determine if the differential should be taxable. So far, though, it certainly is.)

Mail the completed form to Director of Inter-

nal Revenue in the District in which you reside, or to Director of Internal Revenue in Baltimore, Md., or you may continue to mail it to your home district in the States.

Income tax forms are available in Hicom and District Headquarters.

Now, before you turn the page to pleasanter things; here's a little shocker we picked up last month from the Wall Street Journal: Tax sleuths checked 703,000 tax returns during the first four months of the current year--16 per cent more than a year earlier. The Federal tax men conducted 1,698 full-scale tax fraud investigations during the July-October months and decided 967 of the cases should be prosecuted by the Justice Department.

SUDDEN DEATH TAKES CAPT. DUFFEY

CAPTAIN FLOYD DUFFEY, 49, died Feb. 12 in Guam after a sudden heart attack.

Well known throughout Micronesia as a veteran pilot, Captain Duffey had been manager of the Trust Territory division of Transocean Airlines since 1953.

He was a native of Carlock, Ill., and had started his airline career in 1932, working at that time for Pan-American's Latin-American division as a radio operator. He became a pilot and later joined American Airlines. During World War II, he flew as a civilian the South Pacific run to Australia for Air Transport Command and Consair. He joined Transocean in 1950 and came to Guam the following year.

Surviving Duffey are his wife, Juanita Reece Duffey, and a son, Floyd Lynn. Funeral services were held in Waco, Texas.

NOTES

From Koror

Something new and powder blue and shiny has been added to the Koror transportation system, a bright and bonny Volkswagen owned and operated by the Western Carolines Trading Co.

The plush German-made bus now is cruising Main Street as though born to such adventure, and taking in its stride the more widely traveled arterial roads from "Topside" to Malakal Harbor and the Arakabesen plane ramp.

WCTC installed the bus line as a public service. It seats 10 comfortably. The tariff is 10 cents, and the company hopes to make operating expenses thus.

UNPAID ADVERTISEMENTS DEPARTMENT:
The bus also is available for charter trips.

NEW SIGHTS

Becky Jenkins Giftie Shoppe at the Royal Palauan Hotel does a booming business during plane and ship visits—everything from monkey-men to giant Tridacna shells.

ARRIVALS

Billy Exley, and his charming wife, Fay, recently became Weather Bureau staffers hereMrs. "Doll" Clymer and son to join our fair-haired communicator, Red.....Another pleasant and handsome addition to our small community—Roland and Maryann Force of Palo Alto, Calif. Roland is an anthropologist sponsored by the TRIPP foundation. He plans to spend a year in the Palaus studying the native social organization, past and present, both in the "big" city of Koror and in northern Babelthaup.

DEPARTURES

"Sumi" Murray and children to Honolulu while poor lonely Jim must be content with the counter in the hotel.....Our favorite weather maker, Howard Tatum, and his family, transferred to Hilo, Hawaii.....Betty Martin and chaperone Mike Martin recently vacationed on the Chicot.....

TURN-OF-THE-YEAR IN & OUTERS

XO Al Hurt and Fran Malloy spent a week on Koror and were mighty reluctant to departDitto Dr. R. E. Gibson whose genial countenance had not been seen here for a mighty long time.....Dr. Macdonald is with us pending arrival of the District Director of Public HealthKiyo Sulial, our favorite nurse, spent her Christmas vacation here, then returned to duty in Ponape.....Air Force veterinarians Capt. Tanner and Sgt. Yoes came in to work with Bill Westerman on the Brucellosis infected pigs.....Carl Kunz, the dit dah bossman here for a week's survey and inspection.....John Spivey, ex-ITC manager, business cruising on Chicot, stopped by.....Mr. Blankenfeld brought in Mr. Curtis to wrap up the new power plant project.....Farmer Mayo and Bug-man Owen in and out over the holidays.

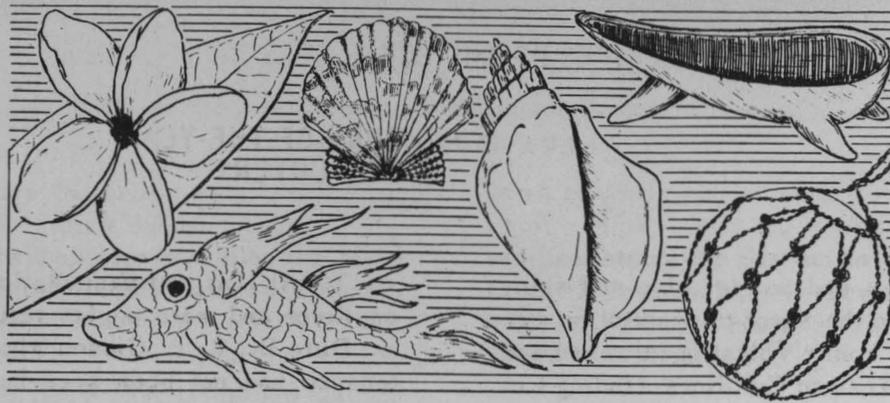
Among our next door neighbors (Yap) taking advantage of the overnight Taloa service Yap/Koror/Yap, were: Doris Holmes, an old Kororite; Weathermen Dick Hatcher, "Muni" and Nuesca, and Mrs. Evans.

MISS SALLY KIMIKO HIGASHI WED IN HONOLULU

Miss Sally Kimiko Higashi, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Atsushi Higashi, of Pahala, was married to Raymond Seichi Fujibayashi, Saturday, January 15 at 4:30 p.m. at Church of the Crossroads in Honolulu by the Reverend Paul Miho. The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Shunji Fujibayashi of Makawao, Maui.

The young couple became acquainted while each was attached to the Finance Department of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands at Guam. The bride returned to visit her parents in Pahala in December after 18 months on Guam.

Mr. Fujibayashi had been with T.T. for 18 months on Guam before his recent return to Hawaii on leave. The couple now reside in the T.T. Compound at Barrigada, Guam.



The wise homemaker in Micronesia is the woman—or man—who has learned to take advantage of tropical quick tricks. Here are a few “corner cutting” tips that have been submitted to us. We hope they will be of help to you, and that you, in turn, will advise us of your shortcuts so that we may pass them along next month in this column.

Mildew Check

To keep your dampened pile of ironing from getting mildewed, put it in the refrigerator, then iron a few pieces at a time when convenient.

Beware of the Husband

If you have no bathroom curtains yet want to dress up the windows the first day you move in, just baste a hem in a pair of colorful bath towels and you're all set. They can be changed as often as you like. But watch out for groping husbands who dry their hands on the curtains!

Hem Lines

Avoid an uneven hemline when ironing a circular skirt by stroking across the material instead of up and down.

No Muss—No Fuss

You can eliminate all the messiness that goes with cooking macaroni by this simple method. Bring water to a boil, add salt and macaroni. Bring again to boil and then turn off the heat. Keep covered tightly for 30 minutes, and the paste is ready to serve.

Color Guard

Trouble with your cotton dresses not being

color fast? Here's a tip. Before washing, place them in cold water with a pinch of salt. Let stand about 20 minutes. This method is not infallible, but it works most of the time.

Cake Saver

To avoid refrigeration of freshly baked and iced cakes, we suggest the following: Fill a 2" utensil approximately 2/3 full of water and place mixing bowl inside. Place platter with cake on top. The ants can't possibly get to the cake before you do.

The Linen Blues

White linens will not turn yellow while in storage if you paint the linen closet blue, or line it with blue paper. The color absorbs harmful light waves.

Record Care

Never play a record for the first time without wiping it with a slightly damp chamois. Retard the record's tendency to collect dust by applying an anti-static spray. Wipe with barely damp chamois before each play. Never, but NEVER use a worn needle. Be sure your player is absolutely level.

Ringers

White rings on a wooden surface left by wet glasses often can be removed by placing a thick blotter over the rings and pressing with a warm iron. Camphorated oil or a blemish remover can be used for the more stubborn rings.

Blind Preservatives

Wooden Venetian blinds will live much longer if you wax the slats before putting them up.

RECIPES OF THE SOUTH SEAS

By

HERA WARE OWEN

Hera Ware Owen of Koror has given us permission to reprint from her book *Recipes from the South Seas* some of the choice delicacies for which she is noted.

In her foreword Mrs. Owen writes: "The purpose of this little book is to pass on some of the recipes of foods that I have served in Palau that people have liked. The recipes come from a wide number of sources. For Americans living in the South Seas it is often hard to know what will please the palate, as there are always some shortages of American style foods and one is forced to substitute until sometimes the recipe has entirely lost its original content. Some of the American style recipes come from cook books, others from "cook" friends. The recipe for the fresh ginger sirup I chanced upon one day, thinking how much I liked candied ginger and not having any, I thought I would experiment. This recipe was the result:

GINGER SAUCE FOR DESSERTS

Cook sirup of 1 cup water
1/2 cup sugar

When slightly thick, add 1/2 cup grated fresh ginger root

Cook about 10 minutes more. This sauce can be used over ice cream or fruit compote; it is especially pleasing with such fruits as papaya and banana. Also this sauce can be used to baste baked ham much in the same way as sweet sirups are used.

"Other recipes in the book are Palauan, sometimes completely authentic. Their good flavor, I think, is consistent with any connoisseur's taste. I serve Taro Leaf Soup and Small Mangrove Clam Soup often in my home.

TARO LEAF SOUP

Pick 24 young leaves of taro, or enough to make 2 quarts when cut up. Remove spine and chop into sections about 1/2 inch wide.

Boil in large amount of water for 30 minutes. Change water, boil again for 30 minutes. Strain and add cream of 2 coconuts, diluted with 3 cups of water. Salt and pepper to taste. Heat to boiling and serve. If desired, add a half cup of chopped green onions.

SMALL MANGROVE CLAM SOUP

To 2 dozen clams, well washed

Add 1 quart of water
6 green onions (cut up)
cream of one coconut
salt and pepper to taste

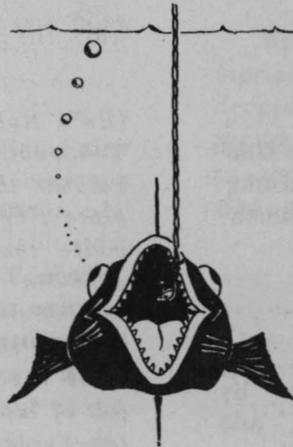
Simmer About 25 minutes

Ready to serve. Three tablespoons of soy may also be added for flavor.

There are many edible clams in Palau. The one used in this recipe is called the Small Mangrove Clam. It is found in the mangrove swamps at low tide. Women collect these. They often sink waist high in the mangrove mud, feeling the presence of the clams with their feet and then dig for them with their hands.

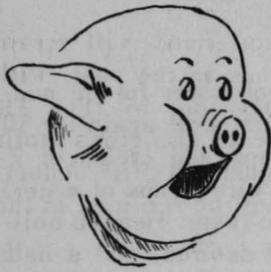
Silt often collects inside of the clam shell and although it is not harmful, it should be removed in washing the clams. A good way to clean them for cooking is first to wash them thoroughly with brush and water. Then put them in boiling water for a moment to open them, after which they should be washed again. Some cooks boil the clam with shell and all in the coconut cream and water. I would guess this might add a lot of nourishment; the difference in flavor is not apparent.

Most other shellfish are very clean.



GUAM GAZINGS

WITH HELEN



This little pig went to a luau on a recent Saturday night. The fabulous fete given at the Bamboozler honored the Ueharas and Fujibayashis, brand new-newlyweds. Piggie was not around for an interview when this story was written. Everyone else had a wonderful time!

* * * * *

Happy Anniversary to the Mike Komatsus on their 13th year of wedded bliss. May they have many more.

* * * * *

FLASH!!!! Office girls honor Sally Fujibayashi with a bridal shower. Keep that coffee pot aperiin', Sally.

* * * * *

New managers of the famous Bamboozler, the Ray Ueharas. Watch out! Talk-O-The-Town might start complaining.

* * * * *

Al Hurt and Nat Logan-Smith vieing for the title of Hi-Fi expert.

* * * * *

Koma busy preparing for a trip to Japan.

* * * * *

Luisa Ada getting to be an expert on the Can-Can. Swears she lost 10 pounds just learning. What happened to the Mambo? Rumba? Samba? Waltz!!!

* * * * *

Bowling lessons given, without charge, by Vittletoe, Yoshimasu, Arnold, Splater, and Uehara. Lessons by appointment only.

* * * * *

Greetings to Mrs. Hurt, Al's mother, who arrived February 9th, aboard the PFEL vessel, ALASKA BEAR.

* * * * *

Such energy exhibited by several members of the Compound on early (YAWN) Saturday treks to the Golf course.

* * * * *

Spectacular bowling by Strench and Splater. Vittletoe's "No comment" when questioned about his score.

* * * * *

Ceremonial rites given the Kailua pig by Yamana and Komatsu. Mrs. Smith supervising and Messrs. Smith and Putnam claiming to be con-nisseurs.

* * * * *

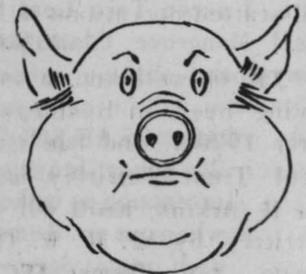
Rota's population increased. Born to Mr. and Mrs. Claire Young, a son, Claire Young, Jr., weighing 8 lbs. 6 oz. Both mother and son in excellent condition.

* * * * *

Thelma Gorman's back — hurray! Now we can get her to work on the *Monthly* again. Thelma's own brand of spicy gazings an asset to the magazine, and well — gazing at Thelma's not exactly what one would call bland — eh?

* * * * *

(Ed's Note: Helen Yokopovich did the column this month, protesting all the while that her talents in the news field were confined to piing the type. We think she did a fine job of reporting and take great pleasure in thanking her publicly.



OF ISLAND TRADING CO.

AND ITS SUCCESSOR

by John Spivey

Since 1952 Island Trading Company has acted as the selling agent for the Copra Stabilization Fund, performing the functions of collecting, warehousing, shipping and selling of all copra produced within the Trust Territory. The collection, weighing and grading and warehousing of the copra purchased at the various districts was performed by local trading companies as an agent for Island Trading Company.

As ITC was to be terminated on 31 December 1954, and it was decided that the Copra Stabilization Fund would remain in effect, it was necessary to find a private corporation in the United States which would perform the services previously performed by ITC.

In September, 1954 invitations to bid on this service were sent to 13 well known import-export companies on the West Coast of the United States who were known to have a good knowledge of copra marketing. Five of these companies submitted bids, all unusually close together so that it was necessary to take the two low bidders and negotiate separately with them in order to find the one best suited to the needs of Micronesia.

Atkins, Kroll and Company of San Francisco, California was awarded the contract and started operations in November, 1954.

AK is well known in the Trust Territory, having been in business on Guam since the early 1900's, and has traded extensively with local Trust Territory merchants since World War II. Atkins, Kroll will be represented in the Territory by Mr. R. W. O'Brien and Mr. W. A. Payne, both former ITC employees, who are familiar with the territory and the copra industry.

The Copra Stabilization Fund will retain the same functions as it has in the past. With AK doing the work formerly done by ITC, AK will receive a percentage of the gross profit made on the copra; the amount left after deducting the selling expenses will be retained in the Copra Stabilization Fund.

* * * * *

THANKS

Heartiest thanks from the editorial staff for the fine response to the request for Micronesian Monthly material. We tried to print everything sent in to us, but there were a few pieces that had to be put over until the next issue.

If you'll send stories addressed to Editor, Micronesian Monthly, they'll not go straying into somebody else's box.

We'll welcome contributions for the next issue any time between now and April 25. the earlier the better.

Also, if you have some good pictures or line drawings, send them along.

We'd especially like some "Do-It-Yourself" stories, either for men or women, and house decoration hints, quick tricks for the tropics, recipes--you know, things that will be of help to the housewife--or to the bachelor girl or man--making a home in Micronesia.

* * * * *

The United States ended its state of war with Germany in 1951 after Britain, France and 17 other nations already had done so.

PALAUANS

(Continued from Page 7)

Mrs. W. C. Handy, librarian for the Hawaiian Historical Society, who made the original suggestion that the Trust Territory be represented at the tri-annual meet, commented on the "poise and confident manner displayed by the Micronesian women, and the interest stimulated among the other delegates concerning the Trust Territory."

The conference opened with an official luncheon at the Manila hotel on January 26, and the delegates were entertained extensively until the close of the session February 4. They were the guests of President Ramon Magaysay at the Palace, Mrs. Magaysay being one of the sponsors of the conference. Other hosts were the mayor of Quezon City, and the American Embassy. A special festival in President Park was held in their honor.

Among the representatives were women from Pakistan, Indonesia, Burma, Thailand, Tongo, Western Samoa, Vietnam, Formosa, Hong Kong and the Philippines. Some were professional women, doctors, lawyers and educators. Others specialized in the handicraft and home industries.

"We were especially interested in the handicraft displays," Mrs. Makelen observed. "Each country had one except us. We had a few things, but not enough to make an exhibit. We were happy to discover that the objects made in Micronesia do not in any way suffer by comparison with those of other countries. We were very proud of our handicraft and our artists."

She said a group of Micronesian artifacts will be assembled and sent to the Philippines to be put in the permanent exhibit there along with those of the other countries.

Another fact which left a deep impression on the Trust Territory delegates was that all of the sessions were held in English and representatives from all of the countries spoke that language. Paradoxically, though, all appeared in their native costume.

Mrs. Bismark and Mrs. Asao, prominent club women of Koror, and Mrs. Oiterong, interpreter, were chosen with Mrs. Makelen, a school teacher in Ponape, by the Department of Education to attend the conference.

In their own words: "We consider ourselves very lucky indeed to have been privileged to go to Manila. We feel that we have learned a great deal which we will be able to pass on to our people. Many men folks at home think it was a waste of money and foolish to send us to the Philippines, and we are determined to show them they are mistaken."

Following is the text of Rose Makelen's radio discussion titled, "The Work of the Women in the Carolines."

"I would like to take you all with me for a three minute bird's eye view over the Carolines. It must be a day when the women are at work.

"Palau being the nearest to one of your southern islands, perhaps we'll start from there. On Palau, they have a Women's Club. Every Saturday they have a market which is open to the public. They can easily collect \$100 for their club fund. Another project they have is planting trees along the roads. From various ways they raise their club fund which they use mostly for the benefit of hospital patients and schools. From their own contributions they bought enough materials to build their club house with the help of some of the men carpenters.

"Going to Guam by plane we board another plane which will take us to the East Carolines. We land first on Truk where we stay over night. The following day we fly to Ponape. There on one of the out islands of Ponape, the women are very busy. A big church is being built. The women have been separated into groups. One group cooks for all the workers and their families, another group or two are bringing in gravel or sand in baskets, bags, etc., from the beach; thus they continue until the work is done. They do much weaving for extra pennies for the family. In fact, I can say that the women find more ways to enlarge the family income than do men.

(Continued on Page 27)

MAJURO SERVES

AS 'WORLD PORT'

When Captain J.R. MacNaughton nosed the 10,000-ton S/S William Luckenbach up to the Majuro pier on October 12, he was making the first commercial call at a new "world port", and the Trust Territory at last had achieved a method for direct shipment from the United States and to Japan.

Thirty-six and a half hours later, this Pacific Far East Line vessel had taken on 1102 tons of bagged copra and departed for Japan. Majuro as a transshipment point for copra had become a reality.

Many of the questions which have long been points of argument about the Majuro dock and harbor were answered by the visit of the Luckenbach ship and the subsequent call of the S/S Alaska Bear, when Captain Thomas F. Whyte tied up on December 31, for a big New Year's Eve copra loading party.

According to the two P.F.E.L. skippers, the pier is "accessible with plenty of water" and the channel and harbor look like good potential harbors. Their comments on the Marshallese stevedores: "Very good!"

Using the Port of Majuro for transshipment of incoming and outgoing cargo could reduce Trust Territory transportation costs considerably.

The long haul to Guam and subsequent back haul to Truk, Ponape and Majuro could be avoided on incoming goods. Copra for export then could be shipped from the district and accumulated by local Marshallese traders.

High port fees, warehouse charges, trucking and handling costs encountered in the port of Guam could be avoided. Less handling would be involved and the yearly concern about typhoons reduced.

Of further benefit to the Trust Territory would be the fact that wages paid for stevedoring and other services would go directly into the Micronesian economy.

In the course of time, the Trust Territory could develop warehousing, cargo handling and business skills in transportation that would be of long term benefit to the Micronesian people.

At this time, the Majuro dock area is a beehive of activity. Two large warehouses previously completed by local workmen are being augmented by three more, two of which already are under construction. These facilities are expected to take the pressure off the District warehouses now in use for "World Export" cargo. The barge CHROMITE in Majuro harbor recently has been rehabilitated and also is available for bulk or package storage.

* * * * *

CRUSOE

(Continued from Page 12)

One thing is certain, Mackenzie is bound to gather some first hand information to pass on to a modern Robinson Crusoe if one should happen to come around.

(Ed's Note: Like to have a story from Mr. Mackenzie.)

* * * * *

GARY TIMMONS
HAS MORE THAN
A LITTLE TO SAY

If you've ever been 12 and a collector of important things like stamps, and known first hand the frustration of dealing with lofty-titled adults, you will understand this letter Leonard Salazar of Koror sent on to us. We thought it was wonderful, mostly because it was such a fine compliment, but also because Gary remembered to say thank you for courtesy rendered and found time to write a letter about it, even if it did take two years to muster up the courage. Here's the letter:

Dear Leonard:

I guess you won't remember me, but I wrote to the Consulate General in the Caroline Islands, two years ago, for stamps. And you took the time and trouble to write back and explain that there was no Consul General there, and added a few personal remarks, which I really appreciated.

I am now 14 years old, and was only 12 when I wrote. I now know much more about the world (at this ripe old age) than I did then.

I have kept your letter the past two years because I appreciated a personal letter. You see I, at that time, had written to about 50 consulates for stamps and always received mimeographed stuffy notes. I just now got up the courage to write and thank you.

So, thanks a lot. If there's ever anything that I can do for you please let me know.

(Signed) Gary Timmons

* * * * *

Bet Gary'd like to hear from some of the Micronesian boys and girls about his age. He lives at 3102 - 18th Street, Eureka, California.

LEGEND

(Continued from Page 13)

The time came for Debedebek's "mur." This "mur" was going to be an official announcement of his marriage.

Debedebek took a bamboo raft and pole to look for his sister. He poled the raft through the inlet of Ngeremduu into the inlet of Ngatpang, until he came to the pier where Chobak era Tkedesau was sitting, pounding coconut husks.

When Chobak era Tkedesau compared Debedebek's face with that of his wife's who was in the village, however, he could see their resemblance. Together they went to Chobak era Tkedesau's home.

When they got to the house, the brother and sister who had not seen each other for such a long time were very happy. The sister showed Debedebek all the food she had hung in remembrance of him.

Debedebek told his sister that he had come to find her because his wife's father was holding a feast. Ltelatk was glad to know this because she was married to Chobak era Tkedesau and they had plenty of money and lived comfortably. So, she told her brother that when the time of the feast is near, they should come to her home to take her to the feast.

Debedebek was very happy and returned to his home with great joy. He remained at home until the day of the feast approached. On this day, money was to be hung for the men who had prepared food for the feast. Debedebek sent for his sister and his brother-in-law, Chobak era Tkedesau, who came and hung all the money for the people who had prepared food for the occasion. All were amply rewarded. People of the house into which Debedebek had married praised him and his sister, for Debedebek and his sister were very good and they had become high-class people.

(Continued on Page 28)

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR IN REVIEW

1954 saw many changes in the Trust Territory, both in operational procedures and personnel. Chief step in streamlining efficiency of operations was the official transfer on September 29 of Headquarters from Honolulu to Guam. Purpose was to bring staff personnel into closer contact with the district requirements and programs.

One result of the move was the temporary interruption in the publication of the *Micronesian Monthly*. (Beginning with this issue, its staff hopes to resume the magazine's regular schedule. By next printing date, the bugs and kinks on the mechanical end should be ironed out so that it won't take six weeks after copy is turned over to the publishers to get the printing job done.)

On September 1, prior to the transfer, came the resignation of Frank E. Midkiff from the post of High Commissioner. Delmas H. Nucker, then Deputy High Commissioner, was placed in full charge pending the appointment of a successor to Mr. Midkiff, who, however, continued his association with the Trust Territory in a consultant capacity.

At year's end the Island Trading Company ceased operations. A copra marketing contract was executed with Atkins, Kroll (Guam), Ltd., for purchasing, warehousing and sale of copra.

A copra blower was installed in the *Chromite*, the storage barge at Majuro, to facilitate the handling of bulk copra from the Trust Territory to the United States.

Visitors in the Trust Territory included William A. Arnold, Assistant Director, Office of Territories, who made a tour of the districts, and a Congressional group which completed a survey of the Trust Territory Islands. Members of the latter group were Congressmen Aspinall, Berry, Pfoest and Miller. With them were Dr. Jack Taylor, consultant, and Mr. A. Lausi, Assistant Director, Office of Territories.

Agriculturally speaking, cacao took a big leap ahead at the Babeldaub project when 30,000 seedlings from Yap were planted in the nursery and 40,000 plants in the field.

The Department of Education headquarters was established at Truk by Education Director Robert E. Gibson.

On the democratic side, the people of Ruo (Hall Group north of Truk Atoll), and those of Fala Beguets, the least acculturated island in the Truk Atoll, deposed by popular vote their hereditary chiefs who had been in office for 20 and 36 years respectively.

IN AND OUTERS

Mrs. Burt (Margot) Tolerton, and Mrs. Stuart (Evelyn) Martin livened things up considerably during their two-week stay in the Trust Territory compound. Both young matrons from Ponape came to Guam with shopping in mind. After a week, they found themselves bumped and unable to get home. Result? More shopping—and a good firm mambo foundation under the tutelage of Luisa Ada.

Dave and Doris Holmes recently spent some time in Guam seeing the neon lights and sampling various cuisines, including the Top-O-The-Mar.

Bob and Hera Owen paid us a brief visit when Bob returned from an extended field trip and Hera came up from Koror to attend a friend's wedding.

Dr. R. E. Gibson, Robert Halvorsen, Will Muller, Marion Wilds, Jr., the Claire Youngs, Robert Robsons, and many others were on the Hotel Tropics register last month.

* * * * *

WILDS RESIGNS

Marion E. Wilds, Jr., has resigned from his post as Administrative Assistant and Distad Representative at Ebeye to take a job in Japan with the Department of Army Civilian as Administrative Officer.

Before he left for Japan, he extended an invitation to everyone in the T.T. to visit him in Tokyo. Mailing Address is Department of Army Civilian, Central Mail Delivery, APO 503, Postmaster, San Francisco.

MISS YOKOPOVICH RETURNS

Helen Yokopovich has put aside the brown wool suit that wintered with her in Washington, D.C. and Mather, Pa., and settled "permanently" into summer things, light and cool and cotton.

Helen returned in January to her position as secretary to Mr. Nucker, Acting High Commissioner, on a repeat two-year contract.

On leave, she spent some time with her family in Pennsylvania, and in renewing old acquaintances in Washington, D.C. On the return leg of the journey, she stopped in San Bernadino, Calif., and Honolulu.

* * * * *

JACK KING TO EBEEYE

New Distad Representative in Ebeye is Jack King, former insurance man and member of the Hawaiian Legislature from 1949 to 1954. King served three terms in the House of Representatives and three special sessions. His last term expired in November and he did not seek reelection.

A graduate of the University of Hawaii, King was Deputy Director for all war emergency agents under Interior Department from December, 1941, until July, 1945. As a college student in 1930 he visited Guam on a Coast Geodetic Survey. He is the father of four daughters, aged 19, 18, 17 and 15. King replaces Marion E. Wilds, Jr., who resigned to take a job in Japan.

FELIX REAPPOINTED

LEGEND

Sheriff Jetmar Felix was reappointed by the High Commissioner's office to a second term as District Sheriff on February 10, 1955. The ceremony was conducted by Judge Kabua Kabua and District Administrator Maynard Neas. A few Americans and Marshallese attended the ceremony, which was held in the Majuro Court House.

Jetmar Felix, of Taklep Island, Arno Atoll, Marshall Islands, is 37 years of age, married and has two children, one boy and one girl. He was a scout with the Military Government during the war. He also attended a Firemen's Training Course with the military officers. After Jaluit was attacked by the U.S. Navy, he joined the U.S. Insular Constabulary. He trained for the job for about two years, and attended an Investigation Training School at Truk for two months. He returned to the Marshalls and now is in charge of the Insular Constabulary.

PALAUANS

(Continued from Page 22)

"When a job needs to be done smoothly and quickly, women are always called upon to help.

"Some of you may not know that our islands were under Japanese ruled not only during the recent war, but for almost 30 years prior to that period. The status of women, as compared with that of men, therefore, reflects the oriental influence. It is extremely rare for a woman to hold an official position. After World War II the Americans made it possible for girls to train as nurses and teachers. For the first time females have had the opportunity to find interests and occupations outside the house. It is our hope that with further education and training, women of Micronesia will succeed in raising their own standard of living and that of their communities."

SERIES

Suggestion has been made that the *Micronesian Monthly* do a series of issues on the individual districts, devoting the entire magazine one month to Yap, the next month to Koror and so on. We'd like the opinion of our readers -- think it's a good idea or not?

Incidentally, we'd also welcome letters to the editors, any suggestions you'd like to make concerning the *Monthly*. It's your magazine, printed for you.

ON GUARD

(Continued from Page 2)

A. Mendiola, Santiago M. Lifofoi and Maria A. Hocog probably were saved because they were wearing approved type life preservers. (Had those who were lost also remained quiet in their approved type life preservers instead of thrashing about in water they too might have been saved.)

The Coast Guard recommends that all motorboats operating inter-island be equipped with efficient radio telephones; those operating outside of reefs and harbors be equipped with distress flares, and that small craft warnings be based on sea conditions as well as wind conditions.

The loss of the M/V Rota was another victory chalked up by the sea; another instance in which human beings underestimated the power of the elements. Its after-echo is a warning bell which tolls loudly and insistently, "On guard!"

In the third drawer he found paper, 16 sheets of each, 16 recent varieties, one sheet of each.

LAND HEARINGS

As a preliminary step toward a homesteading program to be initiated at Rota in the near future, public hearings began Feb. 25 on the island. Object of the hearings was to determine the boundaries of Government-owned land. Kan Akatani, Rota Land Title officer, said he expected the sessions to continue for about two weeks.

A PLACE FOR EVERYTHING

If you want to find something in a hurry, says Hal Mayo, look in the drawer of a Hicom desk which has recently been shipped from former headquarters in Honolulu.

Hal, who just returned from an extended field trip and is not yet quite hep to the new order, sat down at a vacant desk in the Reports Office to write quickly an overdue monthly report.

He opened the paper drawer and found the following: A short gas line for a weapons carrier; two gidgees (probably electrical); one three-pronged male electric plug; half a cardboard box — empty and more than slightly used; two galvanized 12-penny nails; one black crayon; one bolt with nut; three nuts without bolts, and three short screws.

He opened the drawer on the other side and found: One empty file folder, with cobwebs attached; two empty file folders, without cobwebs attached; several parts of plywood drawer separators; one unidentified gadget resembling the glass eye of a midget, several screws, ditto form 58's, and one typewriter brush.

In the third drawer he found paper, 16 different varieties, one sheet of each.

LEGEND

(Continued from Page 24)

Mr. Santos Ngodrii was born in 1902 in Airai Hamlet of Airai Municipality. He received two years of schooling at the Catholic Mission at Koror during the German Period. During the Japanese Period he received five years of schooling, following which he was employed as a postal clerk for 26 years. He has been teaching at the Koror Elementary School during the American Period since 1949. In addition, he is considered to be an advisor to the elders of Koror. Mr. Ngodrii is the vice-chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palau Community Center.

Mr. Ngodrii was about twelve years old when the legend of "The Mouse of Rumkais" was first related to him by his maternal grandfather, Ruluked Olodosang.

Mr. Thomas Remengesau was born on Nov. 28, 1929 at Achalap Hamlet in Ngaraard Municipality. He received five years of schooling during the Japanese Period. During the American Administration, he received two years of training at the Ngaraard Elementary School, two years at the Koror Intermediate School, two years at the Pacific Islands Teacher Training School at Truk, and two years at the George Washington High School on Guam. At present his duties include working in the translation bureau of the Island Affairs Department of the Palau District Administration, editing of the Palau News, and serving as Assistant and Acting Clerk of Court for the Palau District.

Mr. Remengesau is also a part-owner of a merchandise store. He is a member of the transportation committee of the Palau Community Center.

