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In this issue: Pambu goes quarterly - and asks for subscriptions; 'Were Europeans living in the eastern Pacific in the 16th Century?'; One thousand titles; 33 years of New Caledonian politics; 'Promoting the Cook Islands through music, song and dance'; 'A tremendous range of neglected sources'; 'Thirty years in the South Seas'; and other 1989 projects; Radio cocotier; List of PMB products mentioned in the text; Please address all enquiries to:

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Pambu goes quarterly (again) With this issue Pambu regains its previous quarterly status. It should be issued as follows during the year: January to March; April to June; July to September; October to December.

And asks for subscriptions This is the last free issue. A subscription fee of \$25 **Australian currency** will secure for you the remaining three issues for 1989, delivered by airmail outside Australia. If we haven't heard from you by the end of April 1989, we'll assume that you no longer wish to receive Pambu.

Except from the following:

Pambu will be airmailed free of charge to: Pacific Manuscripts Bureau Member Libraries, and Advisory and Review Committee Members.

- . Pacific Island libraries, archives and museums
- . A select band of readers who do us special favours

"Were Europeans living in the eastern Pacific in the 16th Century?"

In January 1968, Robert Langdon's article of that title appeared in Pacific Islands Monthly. In the 10 years that followed, Mr Langdon published two books: The Lost Caravel (Sydney: Pacific Publications, 1975) and The Lost Caravel re-explored (Canberra: Brolga Press, 1988) putting forward the theory that the crew of a Spanish ship, the caravel San Lesmes, lost in the eastern South Pacific in 1526, played a prominent role in the prehistory of several Polynesian islands, including the Tuamotu Archipelago, Society Islands, Austral Islands, Easter Island and New Zealand. The San Lesmes was one of the ships of the expedition of Garcia Jofre de Loaisa which left Spain in July 1525 to obtain a cargo of spices in the East Indies.

Research for these two books involved Mr Langdon in wide-ranging travel and correspondence, the early years of which (1967-1975) were recorded in PMB 551. Correspondence from 1975 to 1987, including that relating to the conservation of two C16 iron cannon retrieved in 1969 from Amanu Atoll in French Polynesia, is now recorded on PMB 999. These are complemented by papers relating to the Loaisa expedition to the Pacific and the Moluccas (PMB 135-140).

One thousand titles

Between 1968 and 1988 PMB produced nearly 1400 microfilm titles, with one thousand in the "manuscript" series of unpublished materials. PMB 1000 consists of the correspondence between Robert Langdon, the Bureau's Executive Officer from its opening in 1968 to 1986, and the hundreds of people to whom he wrote to identify, and arrange microfilming of, the manuscripts in their care. The correspondence therefore includes details of the location and physical condition of the original manuscripts, biographical information on their writers and owners, and opinions on their historical value. As this information is often not published, or even recorded, elsewhere, the correspondence should prove a valuable adjunct to research on the manuscripts themselves.

33 years of New Caledonian politics

The Avenir caledonien, organ of the Union Caledonienne, began publication under the editorship of Maurice Lenormand in 1954 and, now edited by Nicholas Pidjot, still appears in 1988. It reflects over 33 years of social, political and economic change in New Caledonia and includes many lively criticisms of, and exchanges between, local personalities. It reflects also changes in the Union Caledonienne itself from its early days as a reformist, anti-communist party with a strong Melanesian base but dominated by Europeans and deeply attached to France, to the principal element in the Front de Liberation Nationale Kanak and Socialist. Articles are usually in French, with a few issues in local New Caledonian languages, Wallisian and Tahitian. All available December 1954-December 1987 issues have been microfiched by PMB as PMB Doc.393, which includes also an incomplete set of papers relating to Union Caledonienne congresses from 1957 to 1981.

"Promoting the Cook Islands through music, song and dance" was among the first interests of Jonassen Jonassen, at present Director of Programmes and Acting Secretary General of the South Pacific Commission. His Writings, 1967-1987 (PMB 1001) begin with the history of the Betela Dance Troupe. This was formed in 1960 under Mrs Lily Jonassen's leadership, thus "beginning ... a dynamic career and exciting future for those talented young boys and girls who were later to become ambassadors for their country ... promoting the Cook Islands through music, song and dance"

The Betela troupe history is followed by "Early immigrants to the Cook Islands: Nicholas" in which Jonassen writes "what began as an amateur's personal indulgence in the genealogy of his wife Diya Moana Nicholas Taripo has led to a small manuscript recording the history and genealogical background of one of the most dynamic families in the Cook Islands. The whole history of the Cook Islands was moulded by the decision made in the Nicholas family home in Rarotonga in the 1800s to 'go British'. A British flag "was subsequently sewed by Frances Nicholas for use to 'fend off the French'".

Henry Nicholas, son of Albert John Nicholas and of Maka Kiri, daughter of the Maori chief Te Whaharoa, left New Zealand in 1852 to settle in Rarotonga, where he played a leading role in Cook Islands business and politics. Genealogical tables and details of the daily lives of more than 6 generations of Nicholas family descendants - including the children of Diya and Jon Jonassen - illustrate 134 years of Cook Islands history, politics and socio-economic development.

Another of Henry Nicholas' descendants, Apiti Nicholas, is one of the best known singers in the world of Cook Island and Tahitian popular music. She and other singers like Barthelemy, Angele Ellis, Claudia Haustien and Jon Jonassen himself have recorded on audiocassette some of the songs contained in "Original Compositions, Vol. 1", the third item of PMB 1001. This handwritten songbook gives words in Cook Islands Maori, Tahitian, English and other languages; guitar chords; recording data; date and place of composition, and a title index for 100 songs composed between 1964 and 1987 in Auckland, the Cook Islands, Japan, Hawaii and Noumea.

Continuing the Cook Islands music theme is PMB Doc.394, Jon Jonassen's collection of brochures illustrating the Betela Dance Troupe's visits of Japan between 1971 and 1976. With colour photographs of Cook Island dances and dancers in Japanese settings and text, including biographical details, mostly in Japanese, these brochures celebrate some of the first visits to Pacific Island traditional and modern dancers to Japan as "ambassadors for their country ... through song and dance".

Traditional uses of Pacific plants

In 1986 Geoff Walls, Coordinator of the Commonwealth Science Council Biological Diversity Project visited the Cook Islands "to meet and set up working relationships with ... botanists, researchers, administrators and practitioners" and to identify and begin documenting the entire range of plants traditionally used for "food, fibre, medicine, fuel etc."

He identified 17 plants of particular importance in the Cook Islands and, noting that the mealy bug infestation of pandanus on

Atiu had severely reduced the availability of pandanus for weaving, recommended investigation of the pest with particular reference to biological control methods. He also recommended close liaison between researchers and the Women's Development Centre to support projects involving traditional plant use, and support for the completion of the Flora of Rarotonga. His complete Cook Islands report and a set of other documents related to the project's activities for 1986-1987 are available on microfilm as PMB Doc.395. For an update on the project write to Geoff Walls, DSIR Botany Division, Private Bag, Havelock New Zealand.

"A tremendous range of neglected sources" says David J. Jones in 'The Source' Incite 21 October 1988 p.9. He's referring to two new PMB publications

An Index to Quarterly Jottings from the New Hebrides 1893-1966
(Nos. 1-284)

and

The PMB Book of Pacific Indexes

The latter contains:

1. A Key to the Location of New Guinea Patrol Reports, 1915-1941, and Some Others. (See PMB 602, 607, 616, 918)
2. An Index to References of New Guinea Interest in Australian Newspapers and Periodicals, 1853-1940.
3. An Index to Obituaries in the 'Pacific Islands Monthly', August 1945-December 1979 (vols 16-50). (See PMB Doc.331-367)
4. An Index to the 'Journal de la Societe des Oceanistes', 1945-1979 (vols 1-35).
5. An Index to Pacific Items in the 'Annales de Notre Dame de Sacre-Coeur', 1881-1975. (See PMB Doc.330)
6. An Index to Items about Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands in 'Annales Hydrographiques', series I-IV, 1848-1968. (See PMB Doc.220-257)

The Quarterly Jottings from the New Hebrides were microfilmed by PMB as PMB Doc.34-40. All are available for consultation in PMB Member Libraries or for sale by the Bureau.

Thirty years in the South Seas

PMB's first 1989 microfilm (PMB 1002) will be two English translations of Richard Parkinson's Dreissig jahre in der Sudsee: land und leute, sitten und gebrauchte im Bismarck archipel und auf den deutschen Salomoininseln (Stuttgart: Strecker & Schroder, 1907). H.A. Thomson's 1922 translation is of the contents page, prefaces and parts I-VII of the text. The N.C. Barry translation, undated, is complete except for the prefaces and indexes listed in Thomson's contents table. More details in the next Pambu.

Other plans for 1989

Large microfilming projects scheduled for the first quarter of 1989 include:- Professor R.S. Parker's personal correspondence and 'grey literature' relating to the Papua New Guinea Administrative College and other aspects of the Australian administration of pre-independence Papua New Guinea; the late Dr R.P. Gilson's collection of manuscripts and rare documents on C19 and early C20 Western Samoa; and the completion of the 1947-1987 South Pacific Conference and related records; rare documents from the Australian National University's Department of Pacific and Southeast Asian History records room; a collection of political and other pamphlets on Micronesia, New Caledonia and Tahiti; C19 theses on South Pacific health and the correspondence of a modern epidemiologist are among the smaller projects. Prudence forbids us to make any further "first quarter" predictions.

RADIO COCOTIER: PACIFIC MANUSCRIPTS AND DOCUMENTATION NEWS

The September 1988 issue of Bulletin These-Pac contains updates of its list of New Caledonian theses and a new list of the theses on French Polynesia deposited in the French Polynesian Territorial Archives. A legal deposit centre for all publications appearing on French Polynesia, and the new home of the Danielsson collection, the Territorial Archives are described by Pierre-Yves Toullelan. The Archives were created in 1962 under the care of M. Felix Drollet and since 1980 have been managed by M. Pierre Morillon. The conservation microfilming and use of land title and other records relating to land tenure figure very highly among their priorities.

Microfilms of Cook Island land title and other land tenure records are held in the Auckland University Library under an agreement between Auckland University and the Cook Islands Government, which controls access to the records.

Archivists, librarians and museum workers from American Samoa, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, New Caledonia, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Vanuatu and Western Samoa gathered in Canberra in late January for a training course and seminar on the conservation of documents and artefacts. The course was offered and jointly organized by the Canberra College of Advanced Education and the Australian National University, with funding from the Australian National Commission for Unesco and AIDAB. A similar course was held in January 1988.

The Fourth Pacific Training Seminar and the Fourth Pacific Biennial General Conference of PARBICA will be held in Wellington, New Zealand, 10-23 April 1989. Contact PARBICA Secretary General Ken Scadden, c/- National Archives, PO Box 6148, Te Aro, Wellington New Zealand for further details.

Many thanks: to all our friends for Christmas and New Year wishes, to the Centre for South Pacific Studies Newsletter and the Journal of the Pacific Society for their very helpful publicity for the Bureau and its products, and to the many people who've contacted us about possible microfilming projects.

Work in progress: The Revd. J.G. Miller's Live, no. 6, is "going in instalments to the printer for publication in August".

Any more news?

If you'd like PAMBU to publish news of Pacific microfilming projects, or anything related to Pacific manuscripts, research, bibliography, forthcoming events, staff moves and gossip, please let us know.

PMB MICROFORMS MENTIONED IN THIS ISSUE

(In order of appearance)

- PMB 999 LANGDON, Robert - Correspondence re "The Lost Caravel",
1976-1982
- PMB 551 LANGDON, Robert - Correspondence re book 'The Lost
Caravel,' 1967-1975
- PMB 135 -
140 LOAISA, Garcia Jofre de - Papers relating to his
expedition to the Pacific and Moluccas, 1525-38
- PMB 1000 PACIFIC MANUSCRIPTS BUREAU - Correspondence re documents
on films PMB 1 - PMB 999
- PMB Doc.393 L'AVENIR CALEDONIEN - Political periodical, 1954-1987
- PMB 1001 JONASSEN, Jonassen Michael - Writings, 1967-1987 (includes
Nicholas family history, Betela Dance Troupe, popular
songs)
- PMB Doc.394 BETELA DANCE TROUPE - (Colour) Performances in Japan
1971-1976
- PMB Doc.395 WALLS, Geoff - Commonwealth Science Council Biological
Diversity Project (including visit to Cook Islands)
- PMB 602 WOODMAN, Harrold Eustace - Papers of, 1927-47
- PMB 607 DOWNS, I.F.G. - Patrol and Other Reports, 1936-1949
- PMB 616 McCARTHY, J.K. - Patrol Reports and Other Papers,
1926-52
- PMB 618 PAPUA NEW GUINEA - Press Clippings from Australian
Newspapers, 1968
- PMB Doc.331-
367 PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY - Vols. 1-41, August, 1930-
December, 1970
- PMB Doc.330 ANNALES DE NOTRE DAME DU SACRE-COEUR, 1866-1975
- PMB Doc.220-
257 ANNALES HYDROGRAPHIQUES - 1848-1878