

Pambu

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In this issue: Where the Whalers Went; The Catholic Church in the Western Pacific; The Contented Botanist; Thirty Years in the South Seas; Samoa 1830-1900; Papua New Guinea Research Materials; More from Papua New Guinea; Another valuable gift; Letters from Fiji; And Letters from Lifou; The Presbyterian Church in Vanuatu; The Parham family papers; Radio cocotier; Microforms mentioned; And a reminder.

Where the Whalers Went (ed. R. Langdon, 1984) is one of the most popular of the Bureau's publications. It enables one to see at a glance which American C19 whaling vessels visited a Pacific Island group on what date, and in which log microfilmed by the Bureau the visit is recorded. Because of its popularity, Where the Whalers Went is now out of print in its original hard-cover version, but we're re-printing it, at a reduced price, in spiral-backed binding.

The Catholic Church in the Western Pacific: a guide to records on microfilm (ed. R. Langdon, 1986) went out of print in 1987. Compiled for the Oceania Marist Province Archives project, under which nearly 400 reels of microfilm were produced, it contains 8 separate inventories. 7 inventories detail the contents of each reel filmed in the Marist Order archives of Tonga, Samoa and Tokelau, Rome, Wallis and Futuna, Vanuatu, New Caledonia and Suva. The 8th inventory describes material filmed by the Pacific Manuscripts Bureau in Suva in 1972.

The OMPA project microfilms and inventories have been used not only by Church and other historians, but also by genealogists, linguists, anthropologists and others interested in the socio-economic development of the Pacific Islands.

By agreement of the Bishops, the OMPA microfilms are available to researchers, but permission must be sought for the publication of entities such as diaries and complete sets of correspondence, and of material not in the public domain and less than 50 years old. The Bishops also draw the attention of researchers to the necessity for discretion regarding disclosure of information of a personal nature.

Copies of the microfilms are held by PMB Member Libraries and by the Library of the University of Papua New Guinea, the French National Archives and the Archivio Padri Maristi. They are also available for sale through the Pacific Manuscripts Bureau.

The Catholic Church in the Western Pacific is also available for reference in the above institutions, but is rare elsewhere. If you're interested in a reprint, with a spiral binding, please let us know.

The Contented Botanist: letters of W.H. Harvey about Australia and the Pacific, edited by Sophie Ducker (Melb: M.U.P. 1988) is not, of course, a PMB production, and is based chiefly on the Harvard collection of Dr Harvey's papers. There is, however, a close PMB connection. In early 1969, the Pacific Manuscripts Bureau obtained from Trinity College, Dublin, four Harvey letters from his visit to Tonga, where he described a religious revival, and to Fiji - where he saw the arrival of King George I at Lakeba, and wrote eloquently about cannibalism. He also collected algae, tree ferns, sea urchins, starfish, water cress and molluscs. It's good to see that Dr Ducker has brought together, for the benefit of botanists and historians alike, such a wide range of the correspondence of a contented botanist and enthusiastic observer of his environment.

Thirty Years in the South Seas: the Bismarck archipelago, land, natives and customs by Richard Parkinson 1907 ... translated and edited by N.C. Barry (n.d.) and Thirty Years in the South Sea - the country and the people: habits and customs in the Bismarck Archipelago and on the German Solomon Islands, by R.H. Parkinson ... 1907, (chapters 1-7), translated from the German by H.A. Thomson (1922) have been filmed on 2 35mm reels as PMB 1002.

The Menzies Library of the Australian National University holds a microfilm set of H.A. Thomson's work under the title German New Guinea: miscellaneous publications translated by H.A. Thomson 1922. These were made available by the Library of the then Australian School of Pacific Administration for microfilming by the Menzies Library in 1967. They include correspondence between H.A. Thomson and others as well as translated correspondence regarding the nationality of R.H. Parkinson's widow Clothilde Phoebe Parkinson, and texts of translations of Richard Neuhaus German New Guinea and L.S. Jina Researches into the interior of the Island of New Guinea. The National Library of Australia hold Thomson's 1922 translation of Walter Behrmann In the Sepik River basin and correspondence between Thomson and E.L. Piesse.

The N.C. Barry translation was donated in 1954 to the ASOPA Library by W.R. Robson, and the Menzies Library has an incomplete photocopy thereof, but otherwise we haven't been able to find anything about its history. We are very grateful to Peter Hopcraft, Librarian of the AIDAB Centre for Pacific Training and Development, for lending us both translations for microfilming.

Samoa 1830-1900 is the title of the late Dr R.P. Gilson's classic work on Samoan history. His collection of manuscripts, notes and documents on C19 and early C20 Samoa, now held by the Australian National University, has also long been known to scholars. It will soon be more widely available on microfilm as PMB 1003 and PMB 1009.

PMB 1003: Samoa 1839-1900 and other research materials contains 201 files arranged by Dr Gilson under the headings Ethnology; Missions; Naval; Visitors and Residents; Residents, histories, political publications; Press (Samoan Reporter, Samoan Times); Proclamations, Samoan biographies, maps; Samoan Gov't papers; Consular and other foreign official data.

PMB 1009: Samoa 1839-1900 and research materials on the Cook Islands etc. consists partly of Dr Gilson's drafts for Samoa 1839-1900 and partly of notes and documents relating to the Cook Islands, Fiji, French Polynesia, the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, Niue and Papua New Guinea. The Cook Island material, which is more extensive than the rest, is drawn from a wide variety of sources and includes Gilson's correspondence with Lionel Trenn and a document by Lionel Trenn regarding land tenure in the Cook Islands.

Papua New Guinea research materials

Professor R.S. Parker writes:-

"My interest in Papua New Guinea began in May 1962 when the Minister for Territories, Mr Paul Hasluck, appointed me as one of two members from the Australian mainland on the Interim Council of the Administrative College he had decided to establish in the Territory for the training of indigenous public servants. I served on that Council until its reconstitution in April 1969 as a purely advisory body.

By that time I had been attracted to research on the politics and administration of the evolving new state, and had begun to collect materials for the purpose. I continued systematic (but not exhaustive) collection up to Independence in 1975, and sporadic collection thereafter, not intending ever to write about post-colonial Papua New Guinea.

During my connection with the Territory, 1962-75, I also engaged in some practical activities, such as commenting on various Administration policy and organisational proposals, helping to organise and take part in training and discussion seminars for Territory officials, representing Administration employees on the public services arbitration tribunal and giving evidence in the famous local officers' arbitration case of the 1960s. Each of these activities produced a certain amount of paper which gravitated to the collection outlined below.

Selections of the papers have been used for first, the production of articles and parts of books on specific issues and events as soon as possible after their occurrence; second, the preparation of two books reviewing the whole Papua New Guinea political-administrative experience, 1906-75.

The products of the first period are included in a list of my publications at pp. 543ff. of Understanding Public Administration, ed. G.R. Curnow & R.L. Wettenhall, Sydney: George Allen & Unwin, 1981. Of the two book projects, one is a comparison of Australian and US approaches to colonial administration from the 1870s to the 1970s, in collaboration with Professor Norman Meller of the University of Hawaii. This is nearing completion. My input to it, in typescript form, is included in the the present collection, and may be consulted but not reproduced or used in quotation. The second project is a history of aspects of the politics and administration of Australia's colonial regime in Papua New Guinea, which I hope to develop on the basis of the material prepared for the comparative study."

Professor Parker has made these materials available to PMB for microfilming. PMB 1004 covers the history of the Papua New Guinea

Administrative College to 1969 with a few additions to 1982 and includes correspondence restricted until the year 2020. PMB 1005, 1006 and 1007 contain Professor Parker's chapters for the book "Comparative colonial administration", plus his notes, correspondence (including correspondence with Dr Gilson about the Cook Islands) and collection of background documents, while PMB 1008 covers the politics and administration of Papua New Guinea until the 1970s.

File lists of Professor Parker's Papua New Guinea papers, and of Dr Gilson's Samoa and other Pacific Island collection, are available from the Bureau. Microfilms of the Gilson and Parker collections should be ready for distribution and sale by the end of June 1989.

More from Papua New Guinea or, Pacific research materials turn up in strange places. Dr Tim Huxley found, on a trash'n'treasure stall, a collection of letters written from Papua between the 1920s-1940s by Dr Walter Merish Strong and Alan de Groen to Alan de Groen's sister Gladys. Some of these letters subsequently went astray in a suitcase lost between Sydney and the UK (and will probably turn up in even stranger places) but Dr Huxley kindly presented the rest to the Bureau.

From the letters, Pacific Islands Monthly and the Encyclopedia of Papua New Guinea we know that Dr Strong was Chief Medical Officer in Papua in the 1930s, Acting Lieutenant Governor for a short time in 1936, and retired in 1938 but served in ANGAU and retained his strong interest in the Papuan Medical College and in medical training for Papuans. He also, in the 1930s, bought and ran what seems to have been a not very successful tobacco plantation. His letters include 3 unnamed and undated photographs, press cuttings sent from Sydney by Gladys de Groen, and a short story possibly by Gladys de Groen.

We haven't yet been able to trace relatives of Dr W.M. Strong but are in touch with the de Groen family in Sydney. Alan de Groen's letters don't reveal his profession, though he appears to have been a Captain in ANGAU in 1941, and his letters concern mostly cricket matches, personalities, health and domestic matters.

We hope to have more news, for our next issue, from the de Groen family about their Papua New Guinea connections through Alan de Groen and W.M. Strong. If you can contribute some news, we'd be delighted to hear from you, too.

Another valuable gift Lieutenant, later Admiral, Francois Edmund Paris voyaged to the Pacific in 1826-1829 on the Astrolabe, in 1829-1832 on the Favorite and in 1837-1840 on the Artemise. His line drawings, lithographs, detailed measurements and descriptions of small craft of the Caroline and Marshall Islands, Tahiti, Hawaii, New Zealand and Asia were published in 1843 Essais sur la construction des peuples extra-europeens ou collection du navires et pirogues construits par les habitants de L'Asie, de la Malasie, du Grand Ocean et de l'Amerique A negative microfilm of this very rare work was presented to the Bureau by Professor Adrian Horridge, of the ANU Centre for Visual Sciences, and author of The prahu, traditional sailing boat of Indonesia (Kuala Lumpur: Oxford, 1981 & 1986), Sailing craft of Indonesia (Kuala Lumpur: Oxford, 1986) and Outrigger canoes of Bali and Madura, Indonesia (Honolulu: B.P. Museum Pr., 1987). Professor Horridge is now working on an English precis of Essais sur la construction des navires, which will include all the plates, some of the plans and Professor Horridge's own notes providing further explanation and background research.

Bibliophiles will know that a copy of the French original, described by such authorities as Bagnall (no 4453), Ferguson (no 4126) and O'Reilly & Reitmann (Tahiti, no 4980) was offered for sale in the United States, in 1985, for \$US7500.

Specialists in Pacific and Asian canoe and small boat design and construction will soon have access to Professor Horridge's English version and to the detailed, very technical French original reproduced in the PMB Document microfilm series.

Letters from Fiji 1933-34

"(On the Rewa River, Viti Levu, Fiji, Sept. 15, 1933) ... waiting for Ratu Sukuna's cutter to sail for Kambara in the Southern Lau Group (Undu, Kambara, October 16, 1933) ... I witnessed a real primitive exchange. The canoe carried large wooden kava bowls made on Kambara to be traded in Lakemba for fine tambua, food and tobacco. On the return journey, the canoe will stop at the uninhabited island of Wangava for sea turtles. The tambua and turtles are to be presented to Ratu Sukuna when he visits Kambara in November ... (Fulanga Island, March 18, 1934: account of the funeral on Lakemba of Ratu Finau, Roko Sau Tui Naiiau) "We arrived in Lakemba on April 17, the day before the high chief's funeral ... B and I were the only Europeans who participated in the related ceremonies and obtained photographs ... we were fortunate indeed to witness these impressive mourning ceremonies, which occur in Lau only when a great chief dies ... (Enroute to Honolulu May 13, 1934) ... "The richness of experience in Fiji during the past year does not diminish but rather increases ... we have lived among a people ... whose entire tradition is so different compared to ours that it seems like an entirely different world, another universe ...". During 1933-34, Dr Laura Thompson with her husband Bernhard J. Tueting, made an anthropological field trip to Fiji. Her work there was later published as Southern Lau, Fiji: an ethnography (Bishop Museum Bulletin 162, 1940). The letter above came from a collection of family correspondence which Dr Thompson has edited and lent to the Bureau for microfilming in the PMB manuscript series.

And letters from Lifou

From the early 1920s to the early 1940s, French Protestant missionary Mademoiselle Eugenie Peter lived and worked on Lifou, the largest of the Loyalty Island Group near New Caledonia. She was a keen correspondent, and her niece Mademoiselle Therese Peter-Contesse has preserved in France all the letters written to her family. These, through the kindness of Mademoiselle Peter-Contesse and of Monsieur and Madame Jacques Laplagne are now in Noumea and we hope to collect all 5 kilos of them in New Caledonia in June. We haven't yet had the opportunity of reading them, but hope to have them read and ready for microfilming by our next issue.

The Presbyterian Church of Vanuatu has already made available to PMB many of its records (e.g. PMB 197, 418, 557, 561-566; PMB Doc.34-40, 217-219). Now the Revd. J. Graham Miller author of Live: a history of church planting in the New Hebrides Books 1-5 (1980-1987) and the forthcoming final Book 6, which deals with the northern islands of Malekula, Ambrym, Paama and Loperi, has offered the Bureau a great deal more material. This includes his 1947 papers prepared for the South Pacific Christian Conference regarding women's work; church, community and state; education; culture and the indigenous church. These documents, together with Dr Miller's 1981 John G. Paton Memorial Lecture, are already with the Bureau - and there is more to come.

The Parham family papers

More to come also regarding the Parham family papers. Phyllis Reeve writes from Canada that we don't yet know "how much paper is involved" but that she is "sorting, counting, removing duplicates etc." in order to produce a complete catalogue and to prepare an orderly collection for microfilming. The papers to be microfilmed contain the agricultural, botanical, artistic and literary works and correspondence of a family active in Fiji for several generations. It includes also South African material and "a tattered typescript ... eye witness account of the World War I Palestine campaign of the Wellington Mounted Rifles". We hope to begin microfilming these in late 1989.

RADIO COCOTIER

Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands

In a letter to the Director of the ANU Research School of Pacific Studies, Samuel McPhetres describes the winding up of the T.T.P.I. archival microfilming project.

"The final product is 2200 rolls of 16mm and 35mm microfilm, about 20,000 photographs, audio and video tapes and a considerable number of maps and charts ...

The earliest item is an original volume of the Wreck of the Antelope, an account of a 1782 shipwreck in Palau. There are administrative records from German times to the present. Vital statistics and related documents date from the American administration. Land records in some cases go back to the Spanish era but there is a large collection of Japanese and American documentation on land transactions in the Territory.

The political transformation from Class C mandate under the League of Nations to the United Nations trusteeship to the present existence of the 3 Freely Associated States (Palau (almost), Marshalls and the Federated States of Micronesia) and the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas is thoroughly documented including some previously classified information.

The complete collection is housed at the Hamilton Library, UoH presently under the control of the Pacific Collection, Karen Peacock, Curator. However, we were able to get the U.S. Federal Government (Interior Dept.) to fund duplication of the film and the purchase of equipment for each of the four governments. We are presently establishing four archival projects with a view to each of the new governments using the TT Archives as a base for building their own program. This should be completed in a couple of months.

The index on the computer consists of 39,000 entries at 400 bytes each organized by subject code, geography and chronologically. The U. of H. will make it available for a small charge ... The print-out takes 9 boxes of computer paper.

The unfiled materials (A/V collection) were indexed on the computer as if they were filmed so any researcher will know of their existence concurrent with the appropriate microfilmed materials being researched.

At current duplication costs, a complete set of the film can be ordered from the Pacific Collection at about \$25,000."

Write direct to Karen Peacock, Curator, Pacific Collection, Hamilton Library, University of Hawaii at Manoa, 2550 The Mall, HONOLULU HI 96822, to order films and indexes. Samuel McPhetres' address for about another year will be c/- Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Office of Transitions, SAIPAN MP 96950, Telefax (670) 322-3203, Telex 783-604.

Cook Islands Microfilming Plans

The Cook Islands Principal Archivist Kauraka Kauraka's Annual Report (December 1988) notes:

"One major plan is the microfilming of the catalogued archive records. I have already written to the National Archives of New Zealand for information. I would like to invite a person(s) from overseas, NZ or Australia ..., to do the filming. The person and equipment will be hired at a negotiated fee and finally leaving us a set of microfilms. The copyright must remain with this office. If there is a cheaper way then that would be the alternative than hiring someone. When I have the necessary information a proposal may be submitted to the Foreign Affairs Department to apply for funds from UNESCO. Their Secretary advised me that the proposal should be in early next year. I may have to submit later given the short time available. This is the long-term plan of this office."

The Genealogical Society of Utah has, we believe, plans for microfilming in the Cook Islands during 1989. Mr Napoleon Trujillo, Pacific Micrographics Manager of the Genealogical Society of Utah (PO Box 350, Carrington NSW 2118) has recently presented the Bureau with the Society's microfiche catalogues of Pacific Island microform materials filmed, or acquired, by the Society. We hope to keep in close contact with him.

Niue archives disaster

Niue Island Librarian-Archivist Mrs Ligi Sisekefu attended, in Canberra early this year, the Unesco Seminar on the Conservation and Preservation of Library and Archival Materials in a Tropical Environment. Soon after her return to Niue, the library and archives were flooded presumably by the same cyclone (not reported in the Australian press) which swept Tonga. Ligi's letter says that the staff were "still mopping up" at the time of writing.

PARBICA and PIC: PMB has submitted to the April 1989 PARBICA meeting in New Zealand, and will submit to the Pacific Information Centre Advisory Committee meeting in Tonga in June, a paper outlining ways and means of PMB-PARBICA-PIC cooperation in the microfilming projects so desperately needed in the Pacific.

Thank you very much: to all the people and institutions mentioned in this issue, and in previous issues, for their continuing help. Thank you very much also to some new supporters such as the Pacific Archives Newsletter (Canberra ACT), the Bookman's Monthly (Wayville, South Australia), the Royal Anthropological Society, Eric Dunn, the Royal Geographical Society and the Overseas Pensioner's Association (all of London UK) for publicizing Pacific Manuscripts Bureau activities and products.

MICROFORMS MENTIONED IN THIS ISSUE

(in order of mention)

Oceania Marist Province Archives microfilms

OMPA 1-25 Diocese of Tonga; OMPA 26-74 Diocese of Samoa and Tokelau; OMPA 80-100 Marist Fathers, Rome; OMPA 101-126 Diocese of Wallis and Futuna; OMPA 127-178 Diocese of Port Vila; OMPA 179-360 Archdiocese of Noumea; OMPA 361-400 Oceania Marist Province, Suva; PMB 159, 160, 428, 429, 432-468, PMB Doc.207-211 Archives of the Catholic Archdiocese of Suva.

PMB 1002 PARKINSON R.H.R., Thirty years in the South Seas: two English translations (2 reels)

PMB 1003 Samoa 1830-1900 and other research materials collected by the late Dr R.P. Gilson, 1925-1963

PMB 1004 PNG Research Materials, Administrative College Papers 1962-1969 (6 reels, reels 5 & 6 restricted until the year 2020)

PMB 1005 PNG Research Materials: Comparative colonial administration; chapters

PMB 1006 PNG Research Materials: comparative colonial administration, notes for chapters

PMB 1007 PNG Research Materials: comparative administration, background materials

PMB 1008 PNG Research materials: politics and administration, Australian colonial period

PMB 1009 Samoa 1830-1900 drafts, and research materials on the Cook Islands etc.

PMB 197 MILNE, Rev. Peter, Letters 1869-93

PMB 418 GEDDIE, Rev. John, New Hebrides diaries, 1848-1858

PMB 477 GEDDIE, Rev. John, Miscellaneous papers, 1844-47

PMB 561 New Hebrides Presbyterian Mission Synod Correspondence, 1927-48

PMB 562 New Hebrides Presbyterian Mission Council Minutes, 1949-66

PMB 563 New Hebrides Presbyterian Mission Council Reports 1950-56

PMB 564 Presbyterian Church of the New Hebrides Minutes of Executive Meetings 1951-73

PMB 565 Presbyterian Church of the New Hebrides Presbytery of Vila Minutes 1949-62

PMB 566 Presbyterian Church of the New Hebrides Miscellaneous correspondence re land, 1945-62

PMB Doc.34 - PMB Doc.40: Quarterly Jottings from the New Hebrides 1893-1951

PMB Doc. 217: New Hebrides Presbyterian Mission Synod Minutes 1900-1948

PMB Doc. 218: New Hebrides Presbyterian Mission Synod Annual Reports 1871-1901

PMB Doc.219: Presbyterian Church of the New Hebrides Minutes of the General Assembly 1950-1974.

And a reminder

We're writing this issue well before the end of April which - as you'll remember - is the deadline for 1989 subscriptions. So this may be the last issue of PABMU that you'll receive ...

