

TOKSAVE

Rit Moa Na Save Planti

Lonely Child

Men sing when they are happy
and women cry when they are sad
but when I make a sound
who will listen and understand?

Men work all day
and women cook all day
but I do nothing but
talk to the wall all day

Men enjoy the company of each other
among the women there is laughter
but I feel like wood drifting
in the harbour.

Gideon Wut
Arawa



The boat is going
Knowing what she is doing
But the plane is flying
To where there is crying

Sr. Casimira Vartakun
Kokopo

Up in the sky goes
a pair of govilos,
flying from tree to tree.
I wonder,
Maybe it means
nothing to them, but only to me.

Kieran Tamalelke
Rabaul

A Child's Feeling

Mother sings for me
Father hunts for me
What will happen if mother dies?
Who's going to sing for me?
What will happen if Father dies?
Who's going to hunt for me
Only God knows.

Mildred Maramon
Kokopo

I wish

The clock tells me
it's time to sleep
but mother tells me
I must wash dishes
and I don't know who to obey first.

Gideon Wut

The Heart Beat

In the fresh hours of a youthful day
They launched their four cars
And drove down the country side

They reached the racing place. And the boy
killed by the accident cried out in pain and died

They returned, breaking down the car.

The parents of this boy killed burned houses
And three children were killed.

So they returned the spilled blood of their
brother.

Napelye Kuri
Baiyer River

The Sun

Here comes morning!
Out comes the sun,
Bright and yellow,
Our everyday friend.

Rain comes, you hide,
Rain stops, you come.
Oh, lover of the world,
You are so clever.

Jessie Emboko
Popondetta

Voices of the Seagulls

As my mother paddled the canoe
I sat watching
Listening
And then, I heard it
I heard the voices of the seagulls.

Mother, mother,
What are they saying?
Who are they looking for?
My child,
It is the voice of the seagull
That brings you luck
That protects you
That welcomes you safely home.

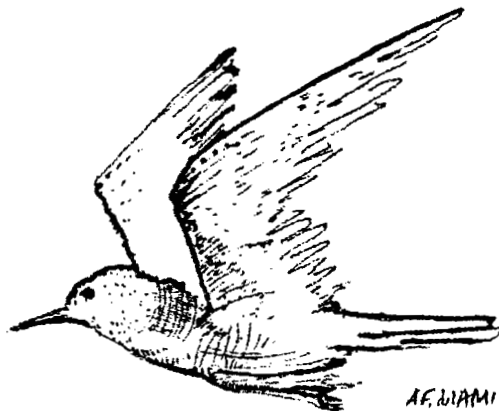
Rosa Laumaea
Malalaua (Gulf)

My friends, you know
ears receive correct
messages when mouths give
them freedom,
Like a mother feeding
her pig after her
child is well fed.

Kieran Tamalelke
Rabaul

Poverty is a sickness of the rich
I'm poor, but I'm not sick,
I'm rich, but I'm not poor.

John Lapeap
Rabaul



The Beat

Bom - Bom - Bom
The low thundering kundu drum echoed
Tut - Tut - Tut
The bamboo slit gong joined in
Bom - Tut - Bom - Tut
Men dance to the beat
Women sway grass skirts from side to side
Bom - Tut - Bom - Tut
The beat fades away.

Dibili Sakopa
Balimo

"Teacher"

teacher, oh teacher
A bully is what you are.
Come here! Do that! Do this!
But what can I do?
I'm lost in your flowing stream
of sadness, laughter and happiness.

Teacher, Oh Teacher!
You comfort me, sing to me,
protect me
Oh, how sweet!
Is there One like you?
Of course, beyond the stars, sun and moon.

John Lapeap
Rabaul

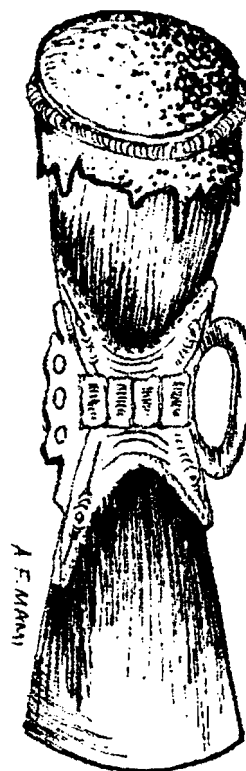
You are a precious jewel,
More precious than gold.
You have the most beautiful riches in the world,
Of more value than anything else.
Can you guess what it is?
His name is Child.

Alwin Jonah
Arawa

Wi tala

Wi tala gi powate laweya
Slimma-te lawe
Awa pae Slimma-te lawe
Grimma-te lawe
Awa pae Grimma-te lawe
Lalma-te lawe
Awa pae Lalma-te lawe
Kilo-te lawe
Kilo eyawo
Bom - Bom - Bom

This Gogodala poem is about children going for a swim. They all sing to identify the one who called the others to go swimming. They call each other's names and the answer is "No" until the right name is called.



Father is there
to protect me
Mother is there
to give me comfort
Brother is there
to play with me
Sister is there
to laugh with me
Who else is there?

Fred Malesa
Salamo

EDUCATION MINISTER OPENS CHILDREN'S BOOK SEMINAR

Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen. I thank you for inviting me on this occasion to give you a little address on children's books.

My department is trying to encourage teachers to write stories on any subjects that the children of East New Britain can read and understand. I want simple reading materials that our students can read and enjoy. The present reading books that are produced by our national curriculum unit, to me, may not be relevant to the life and environment of our children in East New Britain. I rather see that we produce books that will take account of the life of the people in this area.

My division this year has produced about 6,000 reading books for children in the lower grades of the community education division. I also would like to tell you that very shortly my division will put out 4 reading primers in Kuanua for children in the prep grades.

I know that my division has been purchasing some of the reading books from Malmaluan in the past. I would rather see that you consider printing of reading materials in Kuanua, Pomio, Baining and Duke of York languages. By doing this you will help promote literacy through out the island of East New Britain.

I am happy that United Church has been leading in this field and I would like you to continue providing such services to our people.

I like to support and encourage you that you continue producing such simple reading books which you may charge a minimum cost for Board of Managements and P & C. Associations to buy from you.

Once again I thank you.

JOSEPH TALAM,

Provincial Minister - Education Services.

The poems in this edition were written by members of the Seminar on Children's Books, held at Malmaluan from September 1 through 12. The illustrations are by Aloys Mami of Kristen Pres, Madang. Aloys was taking further training at Malmaluan during the Seminar.

The Reverend Oria Gemo was co-ordinator of the Seminar.

RAIN!

Rain, Rain, Rain
For one soaking week!
You make me cross
When you spoil my drying laundry.
You make me sad
When you drip, drip, drip upon my bed.
You make me complain
When my skin feels cold.

But what's the use of worrying
Over something I can't change?
Better for me to say
"Rain, Rain, Rain,
You're only a gift from God."

Doleti Charope
Milne Bay

BETELNUT

Betelnut, that's me.
How precious is my name in Tolailand!
Everywhere you go, I, Betelnut, am there.
Everywhere your eyes land, I, Betelnut, you see.

Betelnut, Betelnut, Betelnut.
First my head is cracked,
Then my flesh is torn,
Next, half of me is scattered over the ground.
People walk on me,
Tyres roll over me.

Oh, but I am still me,
Betelnut!
The mighty wanderer and destroyer.
I still fight back when I am eaten.

A. Jenny Sakail
Port Moresby

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*In our report to the Assembly Executive Meeting 1980 these studies were advertised at O5t which was a slip in the typewriter. The correct price is 10toea.

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The following cassettes are available from The Christian Education and Communication Centre of the United Church. Address your letter to: KASET, C.E.C.C., P.O. Box 90, Rabaul, East New Britain Province. Give the code number and send your money with the order. We cannot send the tapes unless the money comes with the request.

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Powerless

Dad hits me when I do wrong things
He tells me what not to do.

Mum gives me food when I cry for water
She tells me what to do.

They don't listen when I talk to them
But they tell me what is right.

Palus Waiakali
Port Moresby

Shy Little Coconut

I met a little coconut one evening
floating in the ocean.
I picked him up with both hands,
looked at him, and said,
"I wonder why you left your friends
on that island. Didn't they
look after you?"

I asked and asked
But receive no answer.
The shy little coconut.

Onsa Keon
Salamo