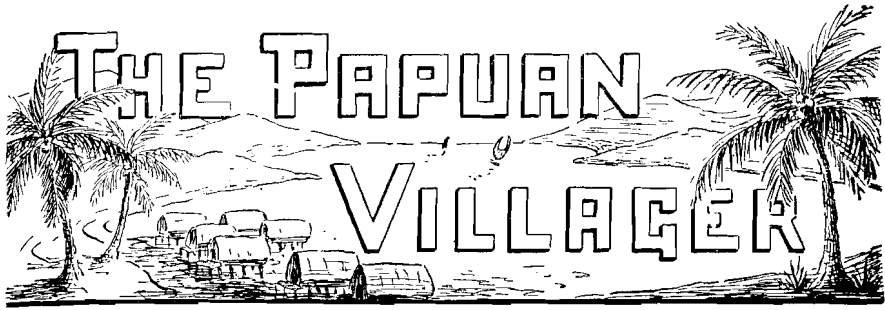


# THE PAPUAN VILLAGER



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The King and Queen

## Paying for a Wife

There are many different ways of getting wives in different parts of the world, and most of them are quite good ways.

The white people do it something like this. If a man and a woman like one another and think they will get on well together they decide to get married. They go to a Missionary or a Magistrate; they stand up in front of him; and they make their "vows" or promises. They both say aloud that they are willing and that they will look after one another. All the people present hear them, and the Missionary or Magistrate writes down their promises in a book and they sign their names to them.

Then they are tied to each other by law; and they are tied very fast. If they ever want to get untied, it is only the law that can untie them, and they have to make a big case in the Magistrate's office before it is possible.

That is the British fashion, and it is a good one. The thing to notice is that a man does not pay for his wife at all.

### Married by Exchange

There are many different Papuan ways of getting a wife. One is by exchange. If there are two men, each with a sister, then they can exchange the girls. Each will give away a sister and receive a wife. That is certainly a very fair way.

### Marriage by Payment

Another way is by paying for the girl. Sometimes the payment is nearly all given back. If a boy, A, wants to marry a girl, B, then A's father gets together a lot of ornaments and gives them to the father of B.

B's father shares them out to his relatives, and they each give him back as much as they receive. Then B's father gives the new ornaments back to A's father. That is really an exchange of presents between the two families, and shows that they hope to be good friends.

But sometimes the payment is given straight out and there is no return. This is an old Papuan fashion and *The Papuan Villager* says nothing against it.

You can get married in the white man's way if you like, or you can use any of the old Papuan customs. The Government respects these customs and says that they are true ways of getting married.

### Big Prices

But there is one thing that *The Papuan Villager* notices as rather bad, and that is that the prices paid nowadays are sometimes very big.

In the old days a man paid for his wife in arm-shells, pearl-shells or other ornaments, and pigs; and he did not have to pay so very much. But the prices have been growing bigger and bigger.

Many boys work for big wages and get a lot of money, and sometimes now they pay £100 and more, as well as a lot of ornaments. This seems too much. The other day a man in the court-room told how he had paid £160, 42 arm-shells, and a pig.

### A Correspondent's Opinion

Years ago a Correspondent of *The Papuan Villager* wrote about the bride-prices in Port Moresby. He asked his readers to "think in their brains whether it was right or wrong" and went on to say:—

I have seen people in Port Moresby. A boy wants to marry one girl. First time he

gives payment to girl's father and mother, about 250 pounds or 120 pounds. Is it good fashion that, or not? Boy work for nothing. He never got any money for himself, because he paid for his wife.

I think we got no idea for it. Look on our first Adam and Eve. Did God make Adam and then gave £100 to pay for Eve to live with him?

Oh, my dear friends, we have already seen your way and we were very surprised. We are not white staff, to earn £100 in few months, or we got plenty of money in the bank to pay for our wives. Dear friends, let us see, and stop it, or cut it out and follow our way instead of wasting and toiling for your wives. If anybody wants to receive my letter in any Division please receive it.

### Greed and Showing Off

Your good friend Mr. Chatterton wrote a letter to *The Papuan Courier* about these big prices. He said they were a bad thing for several reasons: they led to quarrels, and they kept young people from marrying early because they had to wait a long time to get the big price ready.

He said also that it was partly the fault of the bride's fathers and mothers and uncles—they were greedy; and it was partly the fault of the bridegroom's parents—they wanted to show off and make themselves look important.

*The Papuan Villager* agrees with him, and thinks it is very foolish of the people of Port Moresby and other places to keep on making the price of brides higher and higher.



### The Rule of the Road

#### Various Methods of Getting About

A great many people go from Hanuabada to Port Moresby every day, or move about the other streets of the town. There are several ways

of doing this. (1) You may walk. (2) If you are in a hurry, you may run. (3) You may ride a horse, if you have one. (4) You may ride in a motor car, if you have one. (5) You may ride a bicycle, if you have one.

Most Papuans use the first of these methods: it is a very good one. But nowadays a number of men use the last; and that also is a very good one.

#### Motorists and Cyclists

Many Europeans—more than ever before—still ride bicycles in other countries. We call them "cyclists." But very many use motor cars, for they like to buzz along the roads without doing any work. We call them "motorists."

Motorists don't like cyclists (and perhaps cyclists don't like motorists). But they would get along beautifully together if both knew the Rules of the Road and kept those rules.

Sometimes, we are afraid, the Papuan cyclists don't know the rule of the road, and then the motorists get very angry with them.

#### Keep to the Left

When you are riding your bicycle, keep along the left edge of the road. The motor car does the same thing. If you are coming towards each other, each is on its own side of the road, and there can be no accident.

If the car is coming behind you, it is also on the left side of the road. But it turns out a little bit till it has passed you; then it turns in and takes the left side of the road again. You just go on riding. The car will not run into you.

If you are a fast cyclist coming after a slow cyclist or a walker, then you do the same as the car did to you.

You leave the slow man on the left of the road; you turn aside a little till you have passed him; then you turn in to the left of the road again. If you are coming after anybody, don't try to go between him and the left edge of the road.

### The Road Belongs to All

Don't ride in the middle of the road.

You do not own it. Neither does the motorist. It is for everyone—cyclists and motorists—and do not forget the walkers. Everyone must keep the rules.

It is worth while keeping the rules. If a cyclist runs into a motorist he gets the worst of the bargain. He will get "skittled." His fine bicycle will be smashed; and he will probably be smashed himself.



## KOVAVE

In this paper we give you two pictures of the Gulf Division *Kaira-Kuku*. They are still to be seen in a good many villages along the coast of the Gulf of Papua. These pictures were taken at Orokololo, and the real name for these strange figures is *Kovave*.

They are often very beautiful as well as strange. They are brightly coloured, and they have fine cloaks, and their faces have painted patterns, and they move lightly on the sea-beach or in the village.

They are supposed to come out of the forest into the village. They stay for several weeks, visiting their village friends. They rest in the young men's house, and they come out from time to time to walk or run on the beach. Then the village people

give them pigs. They shoot the pigs with bow and arrows, and later carry them off into the forest. There they remain until the village people have some more big pigs to give them. When these big pigs are ready for killing, the *Kovave* are called once more and they pay another visit to their human friends.



"Kovave" Before House

The *Kovave* often chase the women and little children on the beach. But the women and children don't seem to mind. They think it is rather fun, and they have the good, sense to keep out of the *Kovaves'* way.

The *Kovave* nearly always carry sticks to beat the women and children with if they catch them. But it is a joke. You will see that the *Kuku-kuku Kovave* in the picture carries a bamboo knife. It is a very sharp knife meant for cutting peoples' heads off.

But no *Kovave* is meant to catch a woman on the beach, throw her down, and saw her head off with a bamboo knife. This also is a joke.

Orokolo, and some other villages on the Gulf Division coast, still have their *Kovave*. Other villages have thrown this fashion away.



Kovave-Kukuku

*The Papuan Villager* thinks it was a clever fashion, and that in the old days people liked it very much; and it therefore thinks it is a mistake to throw it away.

But you can, of course, do what you think right. Those who want to throw *Kovave* away may throw it away. Those who want to keep it may keep it. It is your own possession, to do what you like with.

## The King and Queen

Our King and Queen have had a wonderful trip in Canada and America. They went to all the big cities in Canada; and when they went across to America 3½ million people came to see them in New York.

### A Visit to Australia

It is hoped that later on the King and Queen will visit the other Dominions. They will probably come to Australia and New Zealand. But that will be later on. They will probably be glad to have a long rest after their last journey.



### The King's Brithday

On Thursday, 8th June, there was a parade on the Headquarters parade ground for the King's birthday. The soldiers of the Artillery at Port Moresby, and men of the Navy and the Air Force who are there, and the Armed Constables all fell in, and the Governor inspected them.



### Saving Life by Aeroplane

Last month a white man got very sick at Abau. He was so sick that he would have died if he had not been taken to hospital. A message was sent over the air to Port Moresby, and a plane went out with Dr. Jenkins (of the A.P.C.) on board and brought the sick man into Port Moresby.

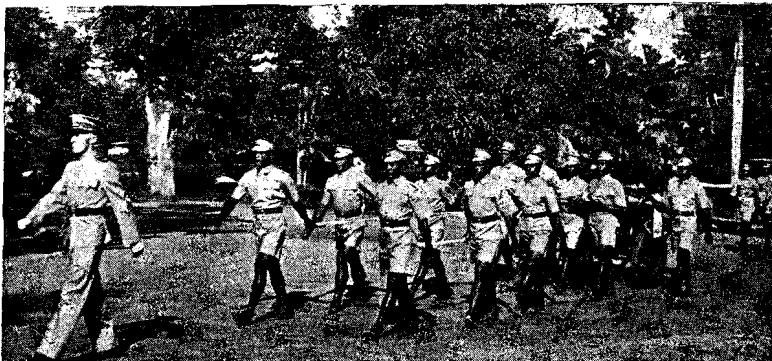
Later on another man was very ill on a boat travelling on the Upper Fly River. A wireless message came to port, and a plane was taken out by Pilot Cannon with Dr. Jenkins on board. The plane started from Port Moresby early on Sunday morning;

it stopped at Daru to get more fuel; then it went on hundreds of miles up the Fly. It came down near the boat and the sick man was put into the plane. Then it came home and got back to Port Moresby just before dark the same day.

part of our uniform, so we hope that none of our A.Cs. will want to wear them.

### A Police Band

Another thing the Rabaul Police have that we have not, and that is a "band." A number of them can play



Rabaul Police

### Rabaul Policemen

We are very proud of Armed Native Constables when they are on parade with their rifles and bayonets and their nice clean uniforms. The people of the Territory of New Guinea may also be very proud of their policemen.

Our men wear blue "serge" (a kind of woolen cloth) with red "braid." The New Guinea policemen wear khaki" (a pale-coloured cotton cloth). Khaki is the kind of cloth worn by European soldiers in hot countries; and the Rabaul police look very soldierly. We give you a picture of them at their work, with a white officer leading.

### Caps

One thing they have which our men have not: that is caps. They are very smart caps. But caps are not

brass "instruments"—trumpets, trombones, and other things.

(You may know about one kind of trombone: it is a pumpkin. You can eat it, but you can blow it till you are black in the face and it will not make a noise. A trombone in a band is something quite different. It is made of brass and you can't eat it. But if you blow it it makes a beautiful noise.)

The Rabaul Police Band have been taught how to play their brass instruments all together, and they play them very well. Some time ago they gave a concert at Rabaul. The people paid to hear them, and the money was given to help some white people in Victoria. (They needed money because they had lost their homes in the big bush-fires of last year.)

Well done the Rabaul Police Band!

## Pen-Friends

The following have asked to have their names and addresses put in *The Papuan Villager*. They want some Papuan boy or girl to write to them. If you write they will answer your letters.

Alice Coad,  
Box 18,  
Willaura,  
Victoria.

Les Dale,  
Tarnagulla,  
Victoria.

Esme Mayes,  
Kamarooka,  
Victoria.

Keith Rethus,  
"Highfield,"  
Rosewood,  
N.S.W.

Alan Martin,  
668 Olive Street,  
Albury,  
N.S.W.

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## NEW COMPETITION

♦                    ♦  
TELL US ABOUT THE MOST INTERESTING DREAM YOU HAVE EVER HAD. DO YOU THINK YOUR DREAM HAD A MEANING?

Answers must reach the Editor by 1st August

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## Native Contributions

### Visit of a Tourist Boat

(This article was written some years ago. But another tourist boat is to come on 1st July so the article is not out of date.—Ed.)

On Thursday, 9th July, there was a great dance held at Konedobu, and a very happy and joyful day we had, for the tourist boat *Orama* arrived and there were lots of people all over the streets. The great boat brought in 456 passengers to have their holiday in Papua.

### The Barracks Gate

We were very, very, busy all through that week decorating the Barracks gate. We got up very, very, early to look for the flowers to get ready before the boat comes. Mr. Hall had a good idea of doing this work. It was a lovely and a wonderful gate for every visitor

to pass under. The words were written in *Motuan* and English up above the gate for everyone to see when they passed through. A wonderful sight, and remember that this was the very first time for the Barracks gate to be flashed with lovely flowers. The words were, "*Amoale Papua Lalonai*" in *Motuan* and in English, "Welcome to Papua"; telling them to enjoy themselves and have a good time in Papua.

### The Dances on the Parade Ground

The Konedobu Barrack parade ground was full with people. There were the passengers, the dancers, and others (both Europeans and natives) who came to see the game.

450 dancers were present, not the same dance, they were all different kinds of dancers; the Hanuabadas, Tatanas, Barunis, Kourabadas, and Kiwais. The dancers were well dressed with bird of paradise and some other sorts of feathers on their heads. The women were dressed with their red flash skirts, and their bodies were covered with oil. The Kaiva-Kuku's were present too, dancing to and fro like wild cows with ropes on their necks. On what a lovely day all the Europeans and natives had.

The motor cars were busy driving the passengers out to village and back to Konedobu Barracks, where the dancers were. There were also the guards all around the Barrack fences and roads. There was also a guard at The Governor's gate, and a guard on our gate, with fixed bayonets standing still, without one single move. Mrs. McGrath was also busy giving out drinks and some fruits.

### Flower Girls

At the Decorated gate stood two Hanuabada girls with boxes of flowers. Their names were Raka Toua and Geua Gavera. They gave the flowers to the ladies who passed through the decorated gate. Cards were written, "Gratis" that means "Free" to the ladies.

There were lots of ladies who passed through, and girls handed the flowers to them. Mavara and myself were there and when the ladies were passing we shouted out, "Flowers here free for ladies and also pins." They picked them up out of the boxes saying, "Oh what lovely flowers." Others saying, "Aren't they lovely," and others saying, "Oh what beautiful flowers"; and asking us to tell them them the names of the flowers, Others say, "Oh, the first time I'm sticking the Tropical

Flowers. Others say, "Oh, the first time I'm sticking the Tropical Flowers on my dress, What a lovely flower." The names of the flowers were frangipani and hibiscus.

### A Lively Day

Other passengers were scattered all over the parade ground buying the curios.

Mr. Gibson's boy was there too, selling the photos.

The parade ground was full: "Full," with all kinds of faces, heights, and colours, chattering everywhere.

Some other passengers went up to the Officer's house and were having a yarn up there, and about 12 o'clock they were all driven back by car. The Officer's name is Mr. A. C. Hall, I suppose a lot of you know him very well; he is one of the A.R.M.'s, and now he is Acting H.Q.O. at Konedobu Police Barracks. He is the man making all these people happy, and I suppose they all reckon they were in paradise. He decorated the gate with flowers, and nearly all the natives praised him for being so kind to let them all in, inside the Barrack fence. Once they were not allowed to enter (except the dancers); and they should thank him for doing it so.

After the great and happy pleasure was over, all the dancers who got discs came up to the office to be paid; one disc for 2/-. Also these two flowers girls got 2/-; they were lucky to get the same money as the dancers have. Soon after this was over, all the men rushed for their sports on the sea (canoe race).

I went up on board the *Orama* myself and had a good look. There is a hospital, a pool for bathing, pantry, etc.; the cleanest boat and the biggest boat I had ever seen.

I hope there will be another good time again this year, or early next year.

*Bamahuta* and the best of luck.

[By J. Patteson Farr, Police Barracks, Konedobu. This story wins the 5s. prize.]



### The British Empire

We all know that our country belongs to the British Empire and also that it is part of the Pacific Islands. Perhaps most of us are not quite sure why this is so. We are British subjects so we must learn this.

Reasons for Annexation of Papua

1. Australia and New Zealand, who were

part of the British Empire, did not want foreign countries near their shores. So they asked Britain to annex this part of the island of New Guinea.

2. They wanted to protect the native races from bad settlers.

3. Also to protect their own countrymen who were already living in the island.

4. To establish law and order.

### Loyalty to the Empire

We must be loyal to our Empire, to the King, our Officers, and all who govern us. This is the very essence of good citizenship.

Then too loyalty to our employers, our friends and those who work with us is needed. Courtesy and obedience and clean habits also make us good citizens.

I am a Fijian teacher and I think this story will be very useful to us all.

[By Nathaniel Sivo, Salamo, via Samarai.]

### Gardening

Gardening I should say was common to everbody in the wide world.

#### How to Make a Garden

Every season the people of Papua are busy with their gardens. All the local villagers I should say are farmers. When the month of June (in *Motuan*, *Divaro*) comes, we get ready to clear the land and prepare the soil for everything the plants need.

First we dig up the grass with a crowbar. When the grass is finished we make the fence of upright sticks to enclose the garden. Then after that we make a hurdle fence and tie it all together.

In the month of July we start planting yams, taro, sweet yams, sweet potatoes and bananas in the garden. Everyone must go to their garden to work. If they do not do this the gardens will be neglected and other people will have fine gardens to show.

It is very good to have these things—taro, sweet potatoes and sweet yams.

End of my story.

[By Raka Ipi, Central Court messenger, Port Moresby.]