

# THE PAPUAN VILLAGER

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## Birds of Paradise

### "Totems"

Many "clans," or groups of people, in Papua have their "totems," some bird or animal or reptile that they call their own. They take their names from these totems, and so they are called Pigeon men, or Cockatoo men, or Cuscus men, or Wallaby men, or Crocodile men, or Snake men, or Frog men, or Lizard men—and so the list goes on.

White people do much the same. The British men are Lion men. (They have another totem called the Unicorn, a sort of horse with a sharp horn sticking out of its forehead. But there are none of these to be seen nowadays, and we think it must have been an early mistake). The French are Cock (or "Rooster") men. The Germans are Eagle men (an eagle is a great big hawk). And so on.

Australians in general have two totems, the Kangaroo and the Emu (like a cassowary). And the different states have totems of their own. (The Editor is proud of being a Magpie man).

## The Papuan Government's Totem

The Papuan Government has taken the Bird of-Paradise for its totem. In the old days there was a picture of the bird of paradise on the Papuan



The late Lahoe of Arihava  
He was the oldest man of Orokolo Bay

"crest," i.e. the Government mark put on important papers. But now we use a crest with the kangaroo and emu, because we are part of Australia.

But you will still see a picture of the bird of paradise on one of our 2d. stamps. It is our bird.

### A Beautiful Bird

Birds of paradise are perhaps the most beautiful in all the world. There are many kinds of them, and they have lovely plumes, or feathers, of red or yellow or white or blue.

You should know all about them. If you have not seen them flying in the bush, you have worn them in your head-dresses or seen others wearing them.

### A Protected Bird

But the Government has made the bird of paradise a "protected bird." This means that it is against the law to kill it.

No white man is allowed to shoot birds of paradise; no one must have the plumes in his possession; no one must sell them; no one must take them out of the country. There is a very big punishment for breaking these rules.

The reason is that the birds of paradise are so beautiful, and the Government does not want to see them all killed.

If people were allowed to sell the feathers, then they would always be shooting them, and soon there would be none left.

Nearly all the countries in the world have agreed about this. No white man or white woman can put a bird of paradise plume on his or her head and dance. So there is no reason to shoot them, and they can go on living.

### Selling Plumes to Travellers

When a big boat comes here the people of Hanuabada want to sell things to the tourists. They sell canoes and baskets and so on; that is all right.

But they must not try to sell bird of paradise plumes. This is against the law. If the white man bought them he would be punished; and if a native tries to sell them, he also is punished.

This month, when the *Strathaird* was here, a native was arrested for this and fined. This will be a lesson to all. Let nobody be so foolish as to try it again.



### Mineral Productions

#### The Stone Age

In very ancient times the savage peoples knew nothing of the use of metals. Some years ago, on the banks of the River Clyde in Scotland, when excavations were being made for the purpose of deepening the harbour of Glasgow, an ancient boat was found. It was made of oak, not planked nor built, but hewn out of the trunk of a single tree. The hollow was made with fire, as the marks still show. Within it, when found, there lay an axe head of stone. This stone axe was used to chip away the charred wood after the fire had burnt it.

In some places arrow heads, tipped with flint, have been found in such numbers as to show that there had been a savage fight there, when stone axes and stone arrow heads were the weapons used. The time when the ancient peoples of the world knew nothing of metals, and formed their tools out of stone, is called, "The Stone Age."

### Copper and Bronze

Then in the course of ages, the savage tribes found out the use of metals, and history shows that civilization made a great advance from this time. Probably the earliest metal to be discovered and used was copper. It was first found on the Island of Cyprus, in the Mediterranean Sea. Notice the likeness between the words

### Iron

The most useful of all metals is iron. This was not discovered for a long time, or, at any rate, the difficulty of smelting was too great for the early people to overcome. Iron is found in the form of ironstone in almost all parts of the world. It was first smelted with wood, and then with charcoal. This latter fuel was



Two Women and Two Sleepy Babies

Copper and Cyprus. Copper is a soft metal, and easily smelted. As wood was the only fuel then used in smelting, the forest trees of Cyprus, after many years, all disappeared.

When the ancient peoples used copper instead for their axes and spears, they found that on account of its softness it was not so suitable as a harder metal would be. After a time they discovered that by mixing tin with copper a much harder metal was produced. This is called bronze, and for another period in the world's history bronze was the metal in use, and that time is known as "The Bronze Age."

used for many hundreds of years, and as a result many forest lands were almost cleared of trees in the districts where iron was plentiful.

In England coal was not generally used in smelting iron until after the middle of the eighteenth century, and its use made the cost of smelting much less. Then came the knowledge of steam power for driving machinery. From that time the demand for iron increased enormously. Machinery for making of all kinds of materials was invented. Iron and steel were largely used in place of wood for building vessels. Those countries which contained rich deposits of iron

ore within easy reach of a coal field soon developed all kinds of manufactures. England, the United States, France, Belgium, Germany, and Japan were all well favoured in this respect, and the consequence was a great increase in wealth. The factories required many work people, and the

list includes nearly all the great manufacturing countries of the world.

#### Chief Iron Producing Countries

United States, France, Germany, Soviet Russia, Great Britain and Belgium.

—H. Bitmead.



Dancers on the Headquarters Parade Ground

manufacturing districts now carry immense populations.

You can think of many ways in which iron is used in manufactures. The motor car industry is one of the most important in the world at present, and iron and steel are largely used in this. Then, all railway lines, wire fences, and articles made of galvanized iron and tin plate require a great amount of iron and steel in their construction.

The United States produce about twice as much iron as any other country. Most of this is mined near the shores of Lake Michigan, one of the five Great Lakes. Other countries which produce large quantities of iron are France, Germany, Soviet, Russia, Great Britain and Belgium. Find the positions of these countries on your map and you will see that this

#### Killed by a Stingray

We read in *The Papuan Courier* that a girl in New Zealand has been killed by a stingray.

The stingray (*Motu, daedae*) is a big flat fish with a long tail and a sharp spike on the end of it. Many boys have been stuck in the leg with this spike, and they know how much it hurts. The stingray that killed the New Zealand girl pierced her right through the heart.



#### Submarines

Two big submarines were lost last month, one British, and one American.

A submarine is a kind of war-boat that can travel underwater like a fish. It is very useful in war, because the

ships cannot see it coming. But the men in the submarine can see the enemy ship. They do so by means of a "periscope," i.e. a pole which sticks up above the top of the water, with a looking glass on the end of it.

When the submarine comes near the enemy ship it can let off a "torpedo." This is full of explosive, like dynamite. It travels just under the surface of the water, and if it hits the enemy ship bursts and knocks a hole in the side of it. Then perhaps the enemy ship sinks.

It is a great pity that anyone ever thought of submarines and torpedoes.

#### Loss of Two Submarines

The new British submarine *Thetis* went down and did not come up again. It had 102 men inside it, and it was a big one, 1,000 tons. Four men came up out of the water, but all the rest were imprisoned and died inside the submarine. It was a very sad loss.

The American submarine was named *Squalus*. It had 59 men on board, and they managed to save 32 of them.



#### Teeth

##### A New Set of Teeth at 100

Someone has been writing it *The Pacific Islands Monthly* that an old lady of Tonga has started to get new teeth. She is said to be 100 years old.

We know that small children lose their first teeth and get new ones. But this second set has to last us the rest of our lives. We don't get a third set to grow in our heads. So the old lady of Tonga is a very strange case.

##### Dentists

Your Papuan teeth are usually much better than those of white

people. They last longer. And you are very lucky.

White people are always going to the tooth-doctor, or "dentist." He fills up the holes in their teeth; or, if the hole is too big, he gets a pair of pincers and pulls the tooth out. Some people have to get one tooth pulled out after another, until there are hardly any left. But then they get the dentist to make them some new ones.

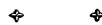
Plenty of Papuans have had their teeth pulled out. But we have not yet heard of any Papuan getting new ones made—the sort that you can take out of your head and put back.



#### Visit of H.M.A.S. "Swan"

His Majesty's Australian ship *Swan* has visited Port Moresby. On board was Admiral Sir Ragnar Colvin. He came to look at the harbour and other places round Port Moresby. For he wanted to see if it was a good place to keep warships.

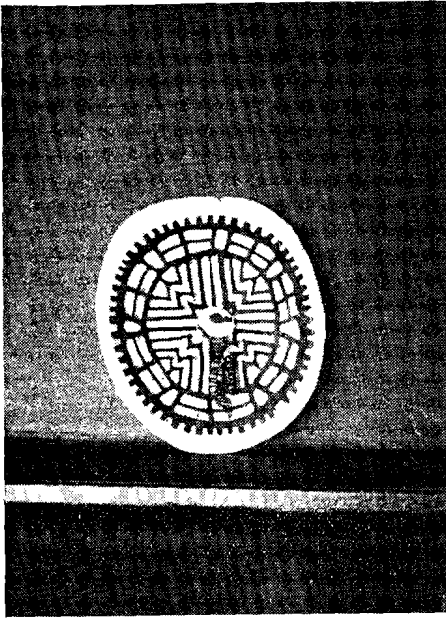
When big naval officers came to Port Moresby they go to see the Governor. Then the Governor soon after goes on board to see the naval officers. So the Governor went to see Admiral Colvin; and when he went on board they fired a salute of fifteen shots.



#### Television

Most of you have heard of wireless. It is a way of sending words through space. They may be tapped out in Morse code (i.e. "dot-dash") or they may be spoken by the human voice. If you turn your wireless to the right place you can hear a man speak in an ordinary voice from England.

This, you might think, is the most marvellous invention of modern times. (The Editor would explain how it is done if he could; but he does not know anything about it).



An Ornament of Tortoise-Shell

But there is a still more marvellous thing than speaking wireless. That is "Television," or seeing-wireless. Nowadays they can send pictures, even moving pictures, through space. You can sit down in front of a "screen" (the sort of thing they have in a moving picture show), and there you can see pictures of what is happening at the same moment in England.

They say you can buy a Television set for about £36.

### Home-made Rubber

Real rubber is made from trees. It comes from the milky white sap of the

rubber trees that grow in many of our plantations. It is used for all sorts of things—for motor tires, football-bladders, pencil-erasers, and so on.

Some countries have not many plantations and they have to buy their rubber. And sometimes they find it hard to buy. So they are trying to make it from other things.

The latest way is to make it from sugar. The method is as follows: Get some sugar, mix it with nitric and hydrochloric acid, and stir it for 18 hours. Then pour in some turpentine and keep on stirring. We don't suppose any Papuan will try it.



### The Strathaird

The big ship which came to Port Moresby this month had 750 passengers aboard. Probably they all saw the dance at Tanobada Village; Many of them went out on the canoes in the race; many of them drove out to see the villages; and many of them bought curios.

### ❧ Tourists Come to See Papuans

Remember that these white people from Australia come partly because they want a sea trip, and partly because they want to see Port Moresby; and in Port Moresby what they want to see is you.

So we hope that the Hanuabada natives will always dance well; will sell *good*, well-made curios (and not ask too big a price); and that they will behave well.

### Politeness

Tourists should be polite to you when they enter your village; and you should be polite to them.

If you beg for money you are disgracing yourself. And if a white man

asks to enter and see your house, or if he asks to take your photo, you might let him do it for nothing. If you do this freely, without asking for pay, he will think you are a polite person. If you ask for pay he will think you are nothing.



## Native Contributions

### Tax Patrol on Gaile Coasts

Dear fellow readers,

Here I am just arrived back again from Tax-Patrolling. While I am sitting down in my tiny little room my thoughts came together. My little fingers want to scribble a few lines as I looked out at my window. I saw the dark clouds clearing away after the heavy rain-falls. We had lovely rain here on Saturday and to-night the rays of the golden evening sun shine through—so that makes me very thoughtful.

Well, my friends this is my first patrol, since I entered this position. I've been in 6 months now, not so long, but I hope God will help me to carry on, without failure, as I am trying very hard to do my best.

And how are you all? I hope you are all in good health and making your interesting arrangements for our on-coming Christmas and Happy New Year.

On the night of Monday I went to bed early and dreamt-like of my leave. Then woke up early in the morning, rubbed my eyes and packed my swags and walked down to the wharf, hopped into H.M.C.'s launch and the driver (Saravai) started the engine and went to Konedobu to pick up Mr. Clem Rich and two A.C.'s Periava and Jaupa, and left there again at 8.30 a.m. bound for Gaile.

Oh, my friends, we had a rough and wet trip, because the small launch was unsuitable for the rough weather. One of the A.C.'s was poorly ill, and he was seasick all the way. When we reached Taurama, the waves are so dreadful at the mouth of fierce ocean and are quickly breaking; rushing winds are blowing but the little launch takes no notice of them, still forcing her way through it, till we arrived at Gaile at 1 p.m. Then the canoe came up and we got ashore and stayed for the night.

### We Commence Work

Got up in the morning, had our breakfast and commenced work at 7 a.m. Checking the census and collecting a few taxes and then giving out the Family Bonus. When we finished that we left the same day for Barakau and while our canoe was sailing down we walked about a mile and a-half to inspect the native coconut plantation. Then we called the canoe to pick us up and we went to Barakau and arrived there about 2.30 p.m. had our lunch and the same evening checked the census, collected few taxes and paid out the Family Bonus and slept there.

Next day after breakfast the Councillors came from Gaile and Tupuselei and as soon as they arrived a meeting was held. Twelve Hanuabada Councillors were present with Head-Councillor Rakatani-Keke. Mr. Rich presided and took the chair and of course they had a nice meeting and everybody was very pleased to have this meeting.

When that was over we left again for Port Moresby.

### We Run Short of Money

That same day we took a canoe and 6 boys from Barakau as crew and sailed for Port because we ran short of cash to pay out the Tupuselei Family Bonus. We left our two A.Cs. there to look after and take care of our luggage that went to Tupuselei to wait for our return.

### Tupuselei and Back to Port Moresby

Early on Saturday the same little launch started her engine again, went down to Konedobu, picked up Mr. Clem Rich and just in time arrived back at the Custom's wharf. Now with Mr. S. H. Chance, the Acting R.M. C.D. and Miss M. Burley on board we were bound again for Tupuselei.

We left there at 7.30 a.m. and arrived there at 9 a.m. Went ashore, and after having their morning tea, we started our work again. Checking the census, paying out the Family Bonus, collecting a few taxes, we finished. We stayed there a little while, then moved on again. When we got in the canoe to go to the launch little drops of rain were pouring down, and as soon as we reached the launch it fell heavily, so we were all damped. On the other hand the poor little launch hasn't got any curtains, so we covered her up with the fly and pulled the anchor up and we were back at 4.30 p.m.

We had a lovely rain that day so all the tanks were full.

Well, my dear friends, I'd better say good-bye to you all and hope you will have a nice and happy on-coming Christmas.

Your sincere friend.

[By Walter G. Kakado, of Wedau, c/o. Resident Magistrate, Port Moresby. This article wins the 5s. prize.]



### The Death of Kavora Tore

Dear readers,

In one of my short articles I told you of the death of a young man who fell from a coconut tree. Well in this one I want to tell you of the death of our deacon.

In the month of January there was bad news in our village. One Saturday, in the early morning when the deacon got up he

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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 Editor by 15th August

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wanted to get to the beach to wash his face. In the middle of the village there is a bread-fruit tree standing. When he reached that place he saw some dead leaves fallen to the ground. He tried to pick them up. As he bent his body down he fell on the ground. Some of the villagers saw him and they quickly went to help him. They lifted him in their arms. They called his name many times but he did not answer and some minutes later he was dead.

All the people in the village were full of wonder and surprise because he had not been sick at all before this happened.

#### A Teacher

When he was a young man he went to work in the Mission field at Auma. During that time he did a lot of good jobs. When he finished that teaching job he came to Yokea.

#### A Deacon

After that he was a deacon in Yokea Village and now we, the people of Yokea, are very sorry to lose him.

[By Forova Hui, Yokea, L.M.S.]



#### Snakes

I would like to tell you a little about snakes. We all know that most snakes have got poison; but some have none. Some squeeze you to death.

I know that some of you have seen a little white snake one or two feet long, very smart. He can't do harm to anybody but we are very much frightened by snakes every time we see them. Some perhaps don't take any notice of them, but I do.

#### How Aroma People Kill Snakes

In Aroma when the south-east wind blows and the sea gets very rough, nobody can go out fishing. That's why everyone goes out hunting. They go to hunt for pigs and wallaby and then they can look for snakes too. You know the carpet snakes; these are the ones they kill with spears and clubs and big pieces of hardwood. I say they are very strong to kill those big snakes.

One bright morning when everybody was out hunting a man named Voita went with them too. By and by he looked up and saw two big snakes. He was very pleased to see them. So he climbed the tree and sat on a little branch. He did not take anything with him, only a little shell that in *Motu* we call *keva*. He tried to awaken the snake from his sleep, so he whistled and held out the shell. The snake saw him and came wriggling down to him. It twisted itself round the man's body right down to his feet. The man at once took the shell and cut off its head. Then down goes the snake to the ground. After that he killed the second one as he had done the first one. Voita is the only man in Aroma that can kill snakes in that way.

[By Alice Tom, L.M.S., Pelagai.]

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[ STORIES, Etc., ONLY TO BE SENT TO THE EDITOR. ALL OTHER COMMUNICATIONS TO THE GOVERNMENT PRINTER, PORT MORESBY ]

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