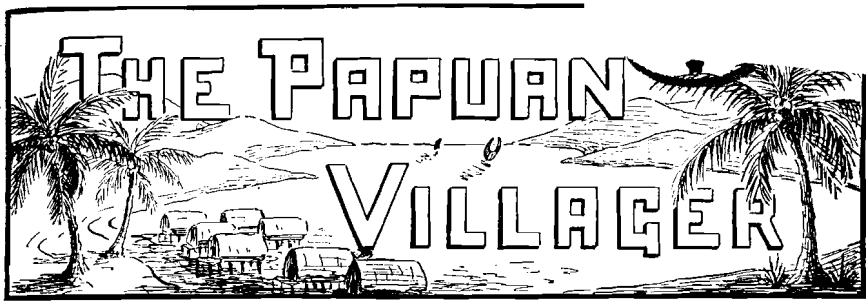


# THE PAPUAN VILLAGER



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## An Honour for Mr. Murray

Every year the King picks out some of the people who have given good service to the Empire, and he puts their names in the "New Year Honours List." Everyone in Papua will be glad to know that the name of the Hon. H. L. Murray is on this year's List. He has been made a Commander of the Order of the British Empire; for short, a C.B.E.

Some time ago we told you how Mr. Champion, the Government Secretary, had received a C.B.E. Papua will be very proud that two members of its Government have been honoured in this way.

A great many natives in the Territory know Mr. Murray. There is hardly any white man who has seen more of the natives than he has. He has been in the Government for nearly thirty years. At first he was Private Secretary to Sir Hubert Murray, the Governor (who is his uncle). Then he became "Official Secretary" and a Member of the Legislative Council. His office is at Konedobu, in the same building as the Governor's.

I dare say that many of you know that Mr. Murray is a great swimmer.



Hon. H. L. Murray, C.B.E.

Perhaps very few of you know that he can play billiards probably better than anyone else in this country.

(For those who don't know what the game of billiards is, it is played by knocking balls about on a level table. You poke them with the end of a thin stick, and if you can poke them properly they run into the right places and you make a big score. But it takes a very good eye and a steady hand to be good at billiards.)

But all of you know that Mr. Murray is captain of the *Laurabada*. And you know that the *Laurabada* is clean and smart; and that her crew are quiet and quick at their work; and that she travels from end to end of the Papuan coast and never gets stuck on reefs and mud-banks; and that she always arrives when she is supposed to arrive. This is due in large part to her captain, Mr. Murray. So many Papuans are sailors that they will be glad to hear that a Papuan sailor has been made a C.B.E.

### Death of King George V

Just as this number is being printed we hear that our King, George V, is dead.

In the next *Villager* we will tell you something about his great reign.

### The Sky Girls

(Continued from last issue)

#### He Marries them and Brings them Back to the Earth

Then the girls told their father and mother that they wanted to marry this man from the earth. The mother was very angry. She said, "It would

be far wiser to marry a sky-man. But if you must, you must." So the girls went back again to the earth, climbing down the palm with their new husband.

Down in the boy's village the people were very sad because they thought he was dead. They were making a feast as if for a dead man. But suddenly they looked up and said, "What's this?" For there was the boy coming back with two pretty girls. So instead of crying they gave presents to the girls—pots and string bags and sheets of painted bark-cloth.

The man was now married to the two sky-girls. Sometimes they stayed on earth, and sometimes they climbed the palm into the sky. For they helped to make gardens both on the earth and in the sky. They were living very happily together; and by this time each of the girls had a baby.

#### The Girls Go Back to the Sky

But once the young man was working with his two wives in a garden on the earth. The babies were hanging in string bags from a branch near by; the husband was chopping down trees; and the girls were gathering leaves and branches and burning them. The dry leaves were lifted up by the heat of the flames and fluttered in the air like birds.

The girls then thought it was time they should leave their husband for ever and go back to the sky.

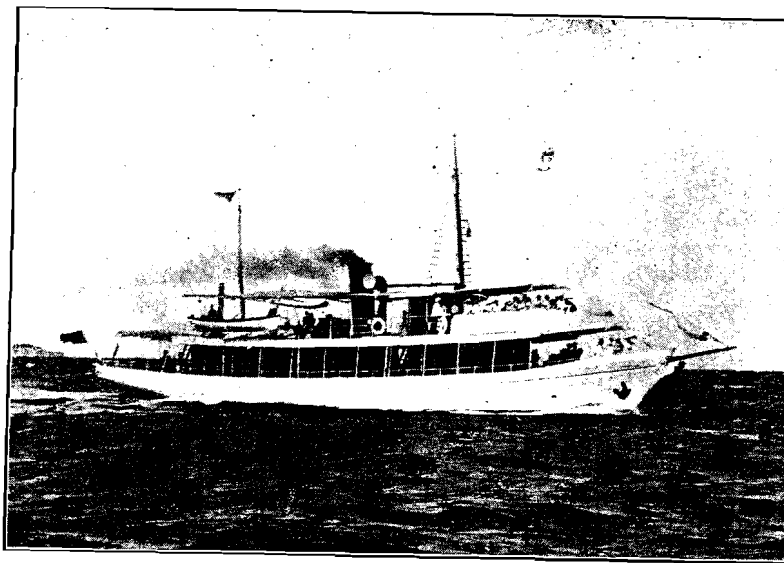
So they took some big bread-fruit leaves and tied them to their wrists and elbows and ankles and knees. They were something like wings. And then the girls went swirling up in the smoke with all the other leaves. Higher and higher they went, till they were floating right up in the sky.

### And Changed into Hawks

Underneath, the babies in the string bags began to cry for their mothers. And their mothers answered, "Mei si to!"—"My child do not cry." But they still went floating upwards, for they had changed into birds. They had changed into the broad winged hawks that fly over the burning grass or the burning gardens. And you can still hear those hawks crying "Mei si to!"

was a "Channel" boat. That is what the people in England call the boats that cross the narrow strait or channel between England and France. They go every day, in fine weather and rough, so they must be very good sea boats.

Lord Moyne uses her as a pleasure yacht and he must have a lot of fun going round the world calling at any port he likes. He has to find food and water and oil, as he goes. But



The "Laurabada"

### Lord Moyne's Yacht

The people of Port Moresby were surprised when they saw a strange boat coming into the harbour last month. She was named the *Rosaura* and belonged to Lord Moyne.

#### A Channel Steamer

She is a motor vessel, like the *Macdhui*, but only about half her size. Before Lord Moyne bought her she

he was disappointed to find he could not get enough water from Port Moresby, so he had to hurry away to Rabaul to refill his tanks. Some of the people of Port Moresby went on board and many Papuans also.

#### Komodo Dragons

There were several friends of Lord Moyne's on board. Last year they went to Komodo Island where they found some Dragons (a very large

lizard: see *Papuan Villager*, October 1935). They captured and took to England some of the lizards and gave them to the big Zoo in London. Perhaps they will find one in Papua.

### A Monkey

When they came here they had already captured a monkey and he was chained to the railing of the deck. He did not like strangers but he climbed up Lord Moyne's trouser leg and pulled at his hand to get him to take notice of him. There are no monkeys in Papua and we would not like to see them here, for though they are very clever nobody likes them, because they are very fond of destroying things.

Lord Moyne is going to walk about in the Mandated Territory and he will travel a long way up the Sepik River.

### Papuan Bark-Cloth

In this issue we give you two pictures of bark-cloth from the Northern Division.

One shows you a woman beating out the bark-cloth on a log. A great many people in Papua know how to make bark-cloth. In many places the men wear a piece of it round their middle for a dress. And it is a very good dress. No Papuan need be ashamed of it. It is just as good as a pair of trousers and much cooler. A white man would look very silly in a bark-cloth *sili*. A Papuan often looks nearly as silly in a pair of white man's trousers.

In the Northern and North-Eastern Divisions many of the women wear a skirt of bark-cloth. And these skirts (as well as the big *sili* worn by the men) are very well painted in black

and red. In the second picture you see several of them hung out on the line to dry in the sun. The man standing beside them is Ihipa of Koropata who used to be an interpreter at Buna.

### New Guinea Money

The new coins are now being used in New Guinea. There are shillings, sixpences, threepennies, and pennies. All these coins have holes through them, so that they can be worn like beads on a string, if their owner wants to keep them in that way.

In New Guinea, as in Papua, the natives like to deal in shillings. They would rather have a shilling than two sixpenny bits; and much rather have a shilling than four threepenny bits. And most natives seem to dislike pennies.

But when you sell things you cannot always ask a shilling for them. If a very big watermelon is worth a shilling, then one that is a little smaller is worth something less than a shilling. It may be worth 9d. or 8d. But no native ever thinks of asking this price. He wants either sixpence or a shilling.

The Government in New Guinea hopes that the natives will learn to trade with these small coins now that they have their own.

### Wreck of the Chinese Junk

Six months ago (*Papuan Villager*, July, 1935) we told you about the Chinese Junk that was sailing round the world with Captain de Bisschop and Mr. Tatibouet. It was wrecked in the Purari Delta and stayed on the beach there for 7 months.

After fitting up the junk at Port Moresby they sailed to Samarai and then on to the Marshall Islands. At first the Japanese (who look after the Marshall Islands) wondered why they had come; and they would not let them go away. But then a missionary came to their help, and through him Captain de Bisschop

Billiards against Port Moresby at Christmas. The previous Christmas the Port Moresby teams had gone to Wau and this was a return visit.

Port Moresby had the best of the cricket match, though each side played only one innings. Wau were all out for 62 (Harris, 5 for 19;



A Northern Division Woman Beating Bark-Cloth

was able to talk to the Japanese Governor.

He was then allowed to sail, and the Governor's boat towed the junk out to sea. They sailed for Honolulu but they were wrecked on the island of Molokai.

Captain de Bisschop is determined to finish his journey round the world.

I think he will mend the junk and start again.

### Visitors from Wau

A big party of men came from Wau to play Cricket, Tennis and

Gilliland, 4 for 12). Port made 347 (Horan, 92; Wyatt, 60; Harris, 40).

### Death of one of the Wau Players

The cricket was played in very hot weather. Mr. F. Turner, who was keeping wickets very well for Wau, was knocked out by the heat. He was taken ill on the field and had to go and rest. Later he was taken to the hospital, and he died there that night. Everyone was very sorry, and of course the rest of the games were not played.

The tennis was not finished, but it looked as if Wau would win. Port Moresby beat Wau in the billiards.

### Mining in Papua

The Oroville Company has ceased work on the Upper Fly. They had a camp 550 miles up the river, and you have heard of the seaplane which belonged to them. Not long ago Captain Stuart Campbell flew it from the Upper Fly to Port Moresby. But there is not enough gold to be found on the Upper Fly, so they have given up.

Many of the claims on the Lakekamu have also been given up. There were many white men and natives working on the Lakekamu. But it is no good to go on looking for gold if it isn't there. So they have stopped.

This is a very bad thing for our country, for people make a lot of money out of gold mines—if they are good gold mines. The Mandated Territory is very lucky, because there is a lot of gold in their mountains.

But we still have some good mines on the island of Misima.

### Loss of a New Guinea Schooner

The Schooner *Hermes*, which belonged to the Government of the Mandated Territory, has been lost. The Administrator used it in a trip up the Sepik River and then left it to return to Rabaul. But there was no more news of the *Hermes*. Her wireless stopped sending messages; and, although boats were sent out to look for her, she was not found. There were three white men and seventeen natives on board.

### Test Cricket

Australia won the first Test Match against South Africa. The second

was a draw (the Australians were winning, but the match was stopped by rain). Now the Australians have won the third Test by an innings and 78 runs.

In the last Test Brown made 121 and Fingleton 112. Grimmett took 5 wickets for 32. He has now taken 192 wickets in Test cricket. This is a record.

### A Race: Bird against Aeroplane

Papuans do not keep pigeons as pets. But the white men often keep these birds in a cage or house. Now and then he lets them out for a fly, and he knows that they will come back. They are called "homing pigeons," because they can always find their way home.

Not long ago some people arranged a race between some homing pigeons and a man in an aeroplane. They were taken in a closed motor car for 70 miles. Then they were let out together. An aeroplane was waiting for the man and he got in and started the engine. The birds at the same time flew up into the air.

Neither the man nor the pigeons knew where they were at first, but they both found their way home. We don't know how the pigeons did it. But the man saw a "land-mark"—perhaps a lake or a hill—that he recognized, and then he knew his way home.

The aeroplane reached home 15 minutes before the first pigeon.

### Paper from Grass

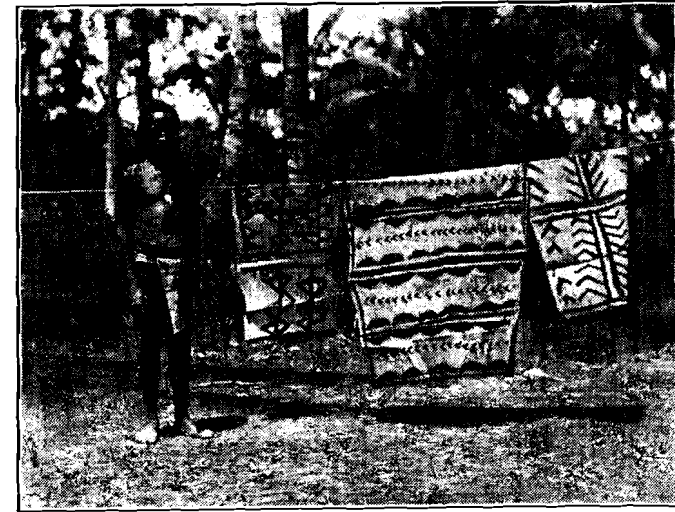
Most of our paper is made from timber. It is crushed into "wood-pulp," and this is made into thin sheets of paper.

But some kinds of grass also make good paper; and our *kurakuru* is one of these. The natives who live on the grass plains near Buna have agreed to sell some of them to a European company, and we hope that there will now be paper making in Papua.

The Poreporena team once put up 534 against Samarai.

The two Iokea teams were not used to playing on a concrete pitch. Their new pitch was only opened last November.

The Iokea people were very kind to us and made good friends with us. They supplied us with a great deal of food such as sago, banana, betel-nut. Also the mats, ramis,



Some Painted Bark-Cloth Hanging Out to Dry

### DISTRICT NEWS

(From our own Correspondents)

#### PORT MORESBY

(Correspondent, Rea Mea)

In the last issue of *The Papuan Villager* you saw news of the six *lakatoi* taking the Poreporena cricketers down to the L.M.S. at Moru.

The trip was wonderful. We spent three days on the way with a fine south-east wind to help us to get to Moru safely. We arrived on Monday and Rev. and Mrs. Nixon who left Port Moresby by the *Papuan Chief* arrived on Tuesday the 10th.

The cricket match started on Wednesday. There were two matches. I took down the two teams. The first eleven contributed a wonderful score of 526 runs. That is the second highest score in native Test Matches

bows and arrows, and many other things. All these things we brought back to our own club. Kavari Cricket Club shared out to all the members. We stayed nearly two weeks then returned home on the 23rd December.

#### Cricket

1st Match, Poreporena (1st Innings), 526 (Udu Dia, 152; Rea Mea, 119; Rarua Oala, 67; Kohu Dogodo, 47; Rarua Tau, 43). Marehari got 3 wickets for 64.

1st Match, Iokea (1st Innings), 58 (Hui, 17; Meara, 15; Hano, 14). Rarua Tau got 7 wickets for 14.

Iokea (2nd Innings), 95 (Evera, 16; Opa, 16; Meara, 14). Rea Mea took 5 wickets for 40; Nugini, 4 for 35.

Poreporena won by an innings and 373 runs.

2nd Match, Iokea (1st Innings), 102 (Laypa, 28 not out; Fearikor, 26). Rarua Tau took 5 wickets for 18.

2nd Match, Poreporena (1st Innings), 172 (Rea Mea, 73 not out; Udu Dia, 41). John Fearikor and Oaiva each took 3 wickets.

### Christmas and the New Year at Hanuabada

We had a very fine Christmas and New Year. We had cricket, singing, children's sports, swimming and diving under the water, running, etc. The prizes and gifts were given by the staff of the L.M.S. Mission.

A very keen and interesting game of cricket was made by the sons and the daughters of the native mission teachers on New Year's Day. We had a feast and afterwards the children took their fathers and mothers down to throw them into the sea. It was a very happy day.

### MISIMA

(Correspondent, Barton Diritanumo)

There has been very heavy rain at Misima. In November it blocked the road to the mines and did a lot of damage to Misima mill. They were hard at work putting things right, when, 5 days later, they had more than 8 inches of rain in six hours. A lot of harm was done which may cost about £3,000. There were 22.94 inches of rain in the month of November.

## Native Contributions

### Making a Garden

I will tell you about our garden. First weeding the soil with forks, we turn the soil over three times. Then we take out all the stones. When the soil is ready we make the drains. We keep these straight by measuring with string and sticks. In between the drains we leave a mound of soil.

Before we plant cabbage, lettuce, and kohlrabi we mix cow manure with the soil. For carrots and beetroot we use wood ashes. The village men make lime for our garden. We do not use manure and lime together.

To water the garden we run the water through the drains. We sow the seeds in a seed bed. When they are ready we transplant them.

The piece of garden we are not using we cover with rubbish. Later on we turn this and dig it into the soil.

In our garden we have cabbage, silver beet, carrots, lettuce, tomatoes, peanuts, and many other things.

[Romney Gunea, Anglican Mission, Taupota. This story wins 5s. prize.]

### Papuan Boy Scouts in Sydney

(See Picture in issue of last November. Ed.)

On 20th September, 1935, we joined 3,000 Boy Scouts in a march-past the Governor, Sir Alexander Hore-Ruthven. He is Chief Scout in N.S.W. This was the start of Scout week. We marched through the city and on our way we saluted the Soldiers' Memorial. Then we marched through to the Governor's garden to hear the beautiful Police Band. They had been in the march with us and we were very happy to hear this band.

After that we sat down for a few minutes and then the Chief Scout started to speak. He said he was very glad to see the Boy Scouts and Girl Guides from all these different parts of Australia. Also he told the Boy Scouts to help other people and be good friends to all.

We were very surprised to see so many Boy Scouts and Girl Guides in Australia. We were very pleased to see them and they were very pleased to see us. Afterwards we went to the Circular Quay to get a ferry to cross the harbour to our home at the Quarantine Station. That is where we live while we are in training in Sydney.

One day we went to the Zoo in Taronga Park. We saw many different kinds of animals, most of them we have never seen in Papua. We all walked round the Zoo till 4 p.m., the time for feeding the lions and tigers, also other animals. I did not know many of them. I asked our Scout Master, Mr. J. N. Walshe, where the different animals came from and he told us about them. People brought them from different parts of the world. Some were from Papua. We were all very surprised to see all these animals in such a beautiful garden.

That's all I can say.

[By Boy Scout Patrol Leader, M. Gera Kevers, Medical Student, Sydney.]

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