

It is certainly a nice historical point, depending on where the  
~~ancestors~~ original inhabitants came from, since they had  
been there so long that they considered Ocean Island  
to be 'the first of all lands, the small of the  
universe and the line of the first ancestors', while  
the first party of <sup>is said to be</sup> invaders ~~came~~ for the next and  
not the last, since the Galletons be. But they are  
over-run ~~mainly~~ by a party from Ben who the Angimorians  
fleeing from the wars of Kaitia and Makken about  
1650, though they intermarried freely with the invaders  
and retained many privileges such as the right to lead  
all visiting crews and ships before any else.

But the point is of course, fairly academic, for the  
Huskate expects from Ocean Island as being taxed, not  
because the Baulans are, or are not, Galletons, but  
because Ocean Island is by association an integral  
part of the Galleton and Ellial Islands Colony. They  
could be subject to as much or as little taxation if  
they were the descendants of the crew of a Chinese junk  
which had been wrecked on Ocean Island.

The Johnsons landed on Ocean Island in August 1942 and at various dates between July 43 and early in 44 the Barkers were evacuated from the island - some to Koroia in the Andromas and others to Tarawa with a few going to Noumea - as the food supplies on Ocean Island were progressively depleted.

After the resumption of Ocean in October 1945 by the British the BPC funded a ship which brought them all together again at Tarawa but as all the houses in their four villages were by now flattened and there was no food on Ocean I suggested to them that the best thing would be to make Tarawa as a community to Rariki and then, if at the end of two years they wanted to return to Ocean we would take them there free of charge.

To this they agreed and three months before the two years were up I set to Rariki with a representative of the Fiji Government and for three days the whole island discussed the pros and cons of returning to Ocean or staying where they were.

Finally we held a referendum of the whole community we were the age of 18 with two ballot boxes placed in a meeting room surrounded by police so that no one could see in. One box was marked 'I wish to return to Ocean Island' and the other 'I wish to make Rariki my homeland for ever'. And one of us they took a marked slip of paper, stood the room completely <sup>underfoot</sup> and placed the

They are noble, for example, to approximate the significance of the Anglo-German  
Agreement of 1886 by which a straight line down in a reef from  
the middle of the Solomons to the south of the New Hebrides  
helped to run really between New and Ocean Island, by the  
effect of placing the power in the German and the latter in the  
British sphere of influence. Yet I suppose no act has had  
more effect on their subject history.

My inference of the Burekas is that, any as dull to their  
strict religious outlook, they are apt to define matters in despite  
in moral or ethical rather than strictly legal terms and that  
one can therefore find an analogy with the proceeds in two different  
places.

In 1967 the Burekas received 70 cents a ton in royalties while the  
G.A.E.I.C. received \$3.50, a about half of its revenue, a revenue  
which I may say is absolutely essential to the viability of these  
overpopulated and drought-stricken islands, dependent almost entirely on  
the export of copra.

I feel sure that the most serious help about Australia  
could offer the colony, and all soon become self-governing,  
is to allow some of the better educated Gallatians and  
Ellial Islanders to work in Australia where they could make  
excellent migrants readily assimilable into the best population.  
For that matter I doubt if today there is one of them who  
has not got some English blood already in their veins.

I suppose that in a sense you could say I was. I had been associated with the Baukas since 1929 and in 1931 and 32 I worked with them in settling their lands titles and boundary disputes on Ocean Island. In 1940 when I was attached to the Western Pacific High Commission in Suva the Baukas expressed a wish to buy Vabunga Island in Fiji.

III not as a replacement for Ocean Island but as a second line.

We <sup>arranged</sup> sent a couple of agricultural officers to Vabunga who reported that owing to low fertility and poor water supply it was unsuitable for the purpose the Baukas had in mind. Sir Harry Coke, the High Commissioner, accordingly advised the Baukas against its purchase and we began to look round for other more suitable islands.

Soon after Puki was offered and as it was clearly the better thing for the Baukas part of me we served a six months offer and tried to persuade them to change their <sup>but</sup> ~~business~~ <sup>as they</sup> wouldn't agree. Sir Harry very properly considered the matter closed.

It left in my opinion, however, <sup>the possibility of buying</sup> that such a useful scheme for the future as Puki, capable of containing the whole Bauka population if they ever wanted to migrate, should be let slip and as every I saw Sir Harry in his private study and pointed out that it had nearly £40,000 of the Baukas Provident Fund or Provident Deposit in Sydney at a low rate of interest and that it would command a rise to invest it in purchasing both Vabunga and Puki - and after the war the Baukas could decide what of the two was the better buy and, if they wanted,

sell the other at 1.00 a unit a considerable capital gain.

After that, it was Sir Hoy agreed to this Federal  
lay flat to the Gables, wherever they agreed too. They had  
told us really that they now realize that we had a winner.