

WESTERN PACIFIC HIGH COMMISSION.

Pitcairn Island,

16th December, 1940.

Sir,

I have the honour to suggest that a considerable improvement could be effected in the keeping of the local government records on Pitcairn Island if properly printed and stoutly bound books were provided for the purpose. A list of the books of record which it is necessary for the Island Secretary to keep will be found in Enclosure II to my letter of the 15th December. At present, with the exception of births, deaths, and marriages, the records are being written in various makeshift books, of a variety of sizes, obtained from the pursers of passing ships. The births, deaths, and marriages are posted in a book called the "Pitcairn Island Civil Recorder", the direct successor of the well-known "Pitcairn Island Register Book", which was printed in 1929 through the efforts of Sir Charles Lucas and Sir Everard im Thurn.

2. The "Pitcairn Island Civil Recorder" is of considerable historical interest, having been more or less regularly kept since the return of the second party of Islanders from Norfolk Island in 1864. The book is, however, in a bad state of repair and it is suggested that, should proper registers be provided for the use of the local government, His Excellency should issue instructions for it to be

The Secretary,

Western Pacific High Commission,

Suva, Fiji.



for it to be forwarded to Fiji for careful rebinding.

3. Of the twelve books of record, I recommend that the four Minute Books should contain ruled foolscap sheets, with ruled margins, and with the titles listed in Enclosure I inscribed on the front covers. Suggested specimen pages for the other books, with the exception of the Cash Book which has already been sent, form Enclosure II.

4. In view of the exceptional public interest taken in the affairs of Pitcairn Island, it is important that the records of local affairs should be properly kept and expenditure to this end would appear to be a legitimate and worth while charge on the Pitcairn Island Fund.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed). H.E. Maude.

High Commission Representative,

Pitcairn Island.



Pitcairn Island - Record Books.

List of suggested Titles.

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1. Pitcairn Island  
Register of Births
2. Pitcairn Island  
Register of Marriages
3. Pitcairn Island  
Register of Deaths
4. Pitcairn Island  
Register of Shipping
5. Pitcairn Island  
Register of Lands
6. Pitcairn Island  
Island Court Minute Book
7. Pitcairn Island  
Island Council Minute Book
8. Pitcairn Island  
Internal Committee Minute Book
9. Pitcairn Island  
Public Meetings Minute Book
10. Pitcairn Island  
Inward Correspondence Register
11. Pitcairn Island  
Outward Correspondence Register

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Government of Pitcairn Island.

List of Files.

<u>No. - 1940</u>	<u>Subject.</u>
1	- Half-yearly and other Returns - to 1934. (N.F.2/40).
2	- Half-yearly Returns to the High Commissioner - from 1935. (L.F.1/40. N.F.1/41).
3	- Births, Deaths, and Marriages.
4	- Permits to Visit the Island - to 1935. (N.F.5/40).
5	- Permits to Visit the Island - from 1936. (L.F.4/40. N.F. 2/41).
6	- The Island Laws, and other Legal Matters.
7	- Land and other property, and its Inheritance.
8	- Pitcairn Island Government Officials.
9	- Medical Affairs.
10	- Visits of Scientific and Relief Expeditions.
11	- Schooners and Boats.
12	- Henderson, Oeno, and Ducie Islands.
13	- Gifts to and from the Island Community.
14	- Appointment of High Commission officials.
15	- School Affairs.
16	- Relics of H.M.S. "Bounty".
17	- Visits of High Commission officials.
18	- Importation of Plants, Animals, and Birds.
19	- Reports and Statements regarding the Pitcairn Group.
20	- Correspondence with the British Consul, Tahiti.
21	- Movements of Shipping.
22	- Messages of Congratulation and Sympathy.
23	- Miscellaneous Correspondence.
24	- The Pitcairn Island Government Regulations, 1940.
25	- Rules made by the Island Council.
26	- Instructions to the Chief Magistrate.
27	- Instructions to the Island Secretary.

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List of Files - Cont'd.

No. - 1941

Subject.

- 1 - Half-yearly Returns to the High Commissioner - from 1941.  
(L.F.2/40).
- 2 - Permits to Visit Pitcairn Island - from 1941. (L.F.5/40).
- 3 - The Island Post Office and Postal Affairs.
- 4 - Wireless Affairs.
- 5 - Stationery and Office Supplies.

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