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Mr. H. E. Maude  
c/o Western Pacific High Commission  
Suva, Fiji Islands

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IMPORTANT NOTICE

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There is an additional charge of 25¢ a year to cover the foreign postage charges due on your subscription. May we have it at your convenience? Thank you.

Both magazines are published monthly, except in July and August. A one-year subscription, therefore, includes 10 issues.

Notes for minutes on Pitcairn Island matters for High Commission files.

(1) Miss Ross.

When in Auckland I spoke to Mr. Blair, the Secretary-Treasurer of the North  
Island Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, regarding Miss Agnes Ross' case: I  
had previously written to him privately on the matter. Mr. Blair undertook  
to see that she was looked after until she succeeded in finding a home in  
New Zealand.

2. Miss Ross herself came to see me on the island and informed me that she  
intended to leave for New Zealand in two or three months time, with Mr. and  
Mrs. Ward.

(2) The Gorge family.

The Gorge family in Pitcairn consist of Mrs. Gorge, her father-in-law, and her  
two children, Keith and Revere. The father-in-law, who is now 97, is  
seriously ill and not expected to live long. On his death it is probable  
that Mrs. Gorge and Keith will leave the island and endeavor to earn a living  
in New Zealand; alternatively Keith Gorge may leave first and send for his  
mother as soon as he has a home for her and is earning regular wages.

3. Revere Gorge, who is a feckless youth of no assistance to his mother and  
a nuisance to the community, is anxious to leave Pitcairn in order to join  
the Navy in merchant service. I have encouraged him to do so as I believe  
that, in view of his lack of discipline and general bad character, he  
could not possibly take a better step.

4. Old Mr. Gorge and Revere were to have left the island some months ago.

and, as will be seen from the attached copy of a letter from the Secretary of Internal Affairs, the New Zealand Government raised no objection to their entry. The copy of a letter from Mrs George's sister, 2, 192 F 2 Road of Petone, <sup>which is also attached,</sup> shows, however, that none of the family are willing to take care of the old man and due to this fact, coupled with his recent illness, Mr George has decided to remain on the island until he dies. Until then, therefore, Mrs George must also persevere remain, in order to look after him (Both letters mentioned above were forwarded to me by the Secretary to the High Commissioner for the United Kingdom in New Zealand).

(3) Stirling Women's children ✓

While in Wellington I ascertained from Andy Wanan that his brother Stirling had recently re-married and that he had no intention of contributing anything towards the support of his three children in Pitcairn. I therefore arranged with the N.Z. P. & D. for their chartered schooner, the "Tanager", to drop the children at Mangarewa on her way from Pitcairn Island to Rarotonga. The Island Council have been instructed accordingly.

Public opinion on the island is decidedly in favour of the children being returned to their mother in Mangarewa. There is, however, a certain doubt as to whether the eldest child was ~~not~~ adopted, <sup>due to Stirling's departure from the island,</sup> by his father and mother, Archie and Dora Wanan, who have looked after all three ever since Stirling deserted them. The Island Council will

(Note:- Telegram to be sent to the British Consul, Tahiti, notifying him of approximate date of the "Tanager's" arrival at Mangarewa and requesting him to inform Naive, the mother of the three children).

(4) Investigate this point and, should the firm adoption be proved to their satisfaction, they will not insist on the removal of this child.

(4) Stirling Warren's second marriage.

At the request of the Wellington Police Department, the question of Stirling Warren's second marriage was discussed, <sup>on my last visit to 28,</sup> with Detective Police Sergeant Compton, <sup>on my last visit to 28,</sup> who informed me that he may have to face a charge of bigamy. Apparently the matter leaked out through Stirling Warren giving the names of different wives when filling in certain Government forms. Warren, of course, claims that the first marriage ceremony, performed at sea by Captain Henry Johnson of the schooner "Yankee", was null and void. The matter is being investigated by the Police Department and legal advice obtained on the rather intricate points of United States law involved.

2. I informed Sergeant Compton that in my opinion it would be better, if feasible, to let the whole matter drop. It was doubtful, in view of the difficult legal points involved, whether Warren had committed any offence at all, and even if he had technically infringed the law, morals and marriage customs were very different in Pitcairn Island and it would scarcely be fair to sentence him for a crime which he did not properly understand and certainly never intended to commit. Sergeant Compton said that this was his view also and that he had recommended accordingly in his official report.

3. Sergeant Compton desires to know whether Stirling's wife Fane has remarried again in Hongkong or is living with another man, as this fact might materially affect the question of his prosecution. Mr. Lee will endeavour to find this out when he visits the island.

(5) Permits for Vakna and Tommy Warner to leave Pitcairn ✓

Vakna Warner, who is unmarried and aged 19, desires a permit to go to Wellington to work as a carpenter or in any other capacity. He has an Aunt there, Mrs James Blakemore, with whom he can stay. I am very much in favour of his leaving since he is merely loafing around in Pitcairn, losing his self-respect and doing no good to anyone.

2 Tommy Warner has a wife in need of medical attention. He plans to proceed to New Zealand and send for her ~~the~~ ~~money~~ as soon as he has earned sufficient to pay her fare and maintain a home.

3 Subject to your approval, I will arrange with Lieutenant-Lomaxde Guss for permits to be granted in both cases.

(6) Lantana parasite for Pitcairn

During my previous visit to the island, the question of sending a suitable parasite to end the Lantana pest was given into with the community. Opinion, however, was divided, a section considering that the Lantana had did more good than harm, as it bowed down the earth, thus preventing erosion, and was easily pulled up when it was desired to extend cultivation. As a consequence the matter was deferred for further investigation.

2 The bad effects of the Lantana, which is spreading rapidly, are now more apparent and the Public works are engaged in destroying areas of the bush. The main objection to it appears to come from the great owners, since it is impossible for the local grass to compete with it matted and whole sections of the island are thus becoming converted from grassland to impenetrable thickets of Lantana. The Chief Magistrate himself brought <sup>up</sup> the question of introducing a parasite and his request was, <sup>after discussion, unanimously</sup> submitted by the Council.

3. It is therefore suggested that, <sup>if possible,</sup> the necessary arrangements should be made to have a supply of the parasite flown from Suva to Aitutaki, to be placed on board the "Toga" on its final trip to Pitcairn. By this means passage through New Zealand during winter, which is apparently too severe an experience for the parasites to survive, would be avoided.

(7) Money sent by Andrew Young to the High Commission.

Andrew Young claims that he forwarded \$14.00 to the High Commission on or about the 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 1942. He wishes to know whether this sum has been received and, if so, would like it refunded to him by telegraph.

(8) Supply of Birth and Death Certificates for the Secretary.

Andrew Young requests that a further supply of Birth and Death Certificates should be forwarded as his stock is nearly exhausted.

(9) Successor for Roy Clark as Island Postmaster.

The following note should be placed on record in Roy Clark's personal file and also the file dealing with the Pitcairn Island Post Office :-

"In the event of Roy Clark retiring from the position of Island Postmaster, it is recommended that it should be offered to Bert Christian, who is Assistant School Teacher and Church Treasurer and appears the only other suitable man in the island for this type of work. It would be as well for Bert Christian to act as understudy to Roy Clark for some months in order that he may be familiar with the work in case he

has to succeed him at short notice."

a telegram to be sent to the Chief Magistrate to the above effect.

(10) Copies of Regulations for Islanders in Wellington.

10 copies of the "Pitcairn Island Regulations, 1940" to be sent to:-

M<sup>r</sup> Robert E. Christian,

9, Rosburgh Street,

Wellington, E.I. N 3;

for distribution to the Pitcairn community in New Zealand.

(11) Purchase of a Cinematograph Projector.

Examine the file in Ministry of Information cinematograph projectors and investigate the possibility of obtaining one for the islanders.

(12) Spare parts required for Delco generator. Model 2-B-12. 12 volt.

According to M<sup>r</sup> Dyett the following telegram (or letter?) was sent to the High Commissioner with any result to date:-

"I wish to thank you for your letter of 30<sup>th</sup> June, 1941. At the present time there is no satisfactory means of recharging the existing batteries, as the Delco home charging units have been out of commission for a long period. If the following list of replacements is supplied it will be possible to re-commission one Delco unit, the other being completely worn out. It would be more satisfactory if you could make available a heavy duty machine and I should be pleased to have your advice on this matter.

(Signed). Fred Christian. C.N."

The list referred to above is as follows:-

- 1 - petrol tank.
- 2 - ACY4 spark plugs.
- 2 - cylinder head gaskets.
- 1 - set valves and valve guide bushes.
- 2 - sets piston rings 5/1000 in. oversize.

Trace this letter in the relevant High Commission file and find out what has happened to the order.

(13). Future of the Kohler generators.

It is suggested that the Kohler plant at present rented from Andrew Young for wireless purposes should continue to be rented and used to light the following buildings:-

- (a) the old wireless station, now to be used as an emergency installation;
- (b) the Court House; and
- (c) the Post Office.

This will require the following apparatus:-

- (a) one "street" line 200 yards long capable of carrying 110 volts at 1,500 watts;
- (b) 50 yards cable for internal wiring; and
- (c) one Panel, complete with 2 fuse blocks, 3 10amp switches, and an earth bar.

(14) Spare parts required for Post Office Lamp.

The "Baby Coleman" pressure lamp in the Post office requires:-

- (a) a new generator;
- (B) a new component to which the mantle is attached; and
- (C) some spare brushes.

(15) Wheat Mill for community.

Trace the file from which this item was unsuccessfully ordered and re-order, as it is urgently required by the community. The family of the late Arthur Herbert Young have a suitable one marked as follows:-

"Heavy Grit Wheat Mill"

and made by:-

Bryant Corcoran, Ltd.,

31, Mark Lane,

London, E.C.;

but the Island Council state that the Farmer's Trading Company, off Auckland, either have a suitable type in stock, or can order one, at a price of about £5.

(16) Asthmader, or similar preparation for asthma sufferers.

My wife left a supply of Asthader which is now exhausted. But Christian and other asthma sufferers would appreciate a further supply, as there are several cases in the community, particularly among children, I suggest that an adequate stock be forwarded, to be issued as required by the Nurse.

(17) visit of Vessel with Passenger Accommodation

Examine the file re Pitcairn shipping and see if arrangements can be made through the Routing Authorities in Balboa for a vessel with passenger accommodation to call at the island en route to New Zealand. There are a number of passengers waiting for a chance to go, including Mr and Mrs Ward, Robert and Hilda Young and child, Reeve Cozge, Tommy Wamen, Walma Wamen, and possibly Ina Wamen, Thelma Christian, and Jim Jacobsen.

(18) set of Pitcairn Islands Stamps.

Complete set of Pitcairn Islands stamps to be sent to:-

Mr H. S. Pearce,

c/o Levin and Company,

Box 1496, Wellington, N.Z.

If more to spare at home - pay money in Sma and send a reasonable telegram to Pitcairn Island to above effect.

(19) check on the "Banque de l'Inde-Chine" received from Walma Wamen

The attached cheque for £13 (sterling) on the Banque de l'Inde-Chine was handed to me by Walma Wamen, as I was leaving the island, with a request that it be cashed in Sma and the proceeds paid to her in Pitcairn by telegraphic order. The cheque is an open one payable to Madame Marie Louise Johnston Wamen who is now "deceased", as certified by the Chief Magistrate on the back and statutory declarations or other formalities necessary before this cheque can be cashed?

(20) Copy of Chester Young's Marriage Certificate.

With reference to Chester Young's letter of the 4<sup>th</sup> instant to me, obtain a certified copy of his Marriage Certificate to Beryl Olive Clark (c. March, 1932) and forward it to him at 139, Northland Road, Wellington.

(21) Transfer of Nelson Dyett to B. A. N. S. staff.

As arranged with Mr. Steele of the New Zealand Posts and Telegraphs Department, Mr. Dyett's station on Pitcairn Island has been closed down, to be used in future only in case of emergency. Mr. Dyett himself has agreed to join the staff of the new B. A. N. S. station understation Shepherd, as from a date to be notified telegraphically to the High Commissioner by Lieut. Shepherd. He will be duly attested as a private in the New Zealand Army and will receive a salary of £260 per annum.

(22) Circular Saw and Sugar Mill required by Community.

I was asked to make enquiries as to the possibility of obtaining:-

(a) a hollow ground circular saw; and

(b) a hand operated sugar mill;

for the use of the community. An effort will be made to obtain these items in San Francisco.

(23) Employment of Mr. Edward Grant on staff of wireless station.

Mr. Edward Grant, who has resided in Pitcairn Island for a number of years but who left recently on a visit to New Zealand, was signed on in Wellington as cook to the B. A. N. S. station staff on a salary of £4 per week. He will be regarded as a local employee and not be

required to join the N 3 Military Force. Mr Grant returned to the island with the expeditionary party.

For personal action by Haver or myself.

(1) Photos for Mrs Ward

Mrs Ward states that she asked Haver to send prints of certain photographs of Petrean Island. These have not yet been received. Enquire what is the trouble.

(2) Goods for Mrs Ward

Mrs Ward claims that she asked Haver to order a list of goods which was duly handed to her, the cost to be charged to Mr and Mrs Ward's account with the Sanatorium Health Food Cafe' either in Wellington or Auckland. Nothing, however, has been received to date. Mrs Ward does not want the order filled any longer but would like to know the position and whether the cost of the goods was ever charged to the Cafe'.

(3) Flour presented by us to the community.

One ton of flour was ordered by me through Messrs Burns, Philp & Co., Ltd., as a present from Haver and me to the Petrean community. On the invoice I have been charged for 40 sacks of 50 lbs. each, as follows:-

Cost = £18.17.6

Sack cases = 12.6

Loss on flour = 1.0

Total = £19.10.1

Unfortunately, however, only 32 sacks were received by the islanders. Enquire from Burns, Philp as to fate of remainder and query payment on the 8 sacks until they are duly received in Petrean.

2 when this matter has been settled, arrange with Mr. Ambler for payment for  
convenient to be deducted from salary.

Pitcairn Island - Notes for Record

- (1) Irma Kamen - will be 17 on the 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 1944.
- (2) Thelma Christian - will be 15 on the 15<sup>th</sup> March, 1944.
- (3) Lieutenant Shepherd - full name is David Arthur Calcott Shepherd.
- (4) Jim Jacobsen - will be 15 in September, 1944.
- (5) Merchant Ships' Code - S.P. 2405 or "Meravig, Vol. II". Full title:-

"Merchant Ships' Signal Book, 1941. Vol. II: Merchant Ships' code."

The Receiving Table at present in use is No. 28.

- (6) Nurse Tranceo - in negotiations for preliminary school training it is important to establish:
  - (a) whether they may have the Sabbath Day free;
  - (b) whether they can attend a seventh-day Adventist Church; and
  - (c) whether they must sign a guarantee to return and work in Pitcairn on the completion of their training.



**CONFIDENTIAL**

OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER  
FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC,  
SUVA, FIJI.

Confidential.

No. C.P.F. 15.

4th October, 1943.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that you have been assigned for special duty in Pitcairn Island, in connexion with certain work of which you are aware, and arrangements have been made for you to proceed to New Zealand by air, leaving here on or about the 6th October.

2. On arrival in New Zealand you should proceed immediately to Wellington and get into touch with the Navy Office where you will be given full particulars regarding the date and means of your conveyance to and from Pitcairn Island. You should impress upon the Authorities in New Zealand the importance of your early return to Suva and inform me by telegraph of the expected date of your arrival in New Zealand on completion of your work.

3. The principal matters requiring your attention in New Zealand and Pitcairn Island have been discussed with you. In particular, you will be expected to make all such arrangements with the islanders as may be necessary or desirable in connexion with the work of the party, and, generally, to use your authority and influence to facilitate the work of the party. In addition it is important that the opportunity should be taken to review the working of the Constitution and legal code and to give such advice and assistance in connexion therewith as may appear to you to be necessary or as the Chief Magistrate and local Government may require.

4. It is important also that you should investigate the position with regard to stores and supplies for the island, both in respect of past shipments and the recovery of the cost, and in respect of the ordering and shipment of future supplies. You should also investigate the procedure of the local Post Office, and make an audit of the local cash and accounts. A number of points requiring advice and settlement will no doubt be referred to you by the community on your arrival.

5. The Commission appointing you to be a Deputy Commissioner for the Western Pacific with jurisdiction within the district of Pitcairn Island, issued to you on the 9th July, 1940, is still valid.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Secretary to the High Commission.

H. E. Maude, Esquire, M.B.E.,  
Suva, Fiji.