

NUMBER VIII ----- SANEDI ----- 30^{eme} Octobre, 1943.

"BAFFLING CASE OF THE MISSING ORDERLY ROOM"

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SHERLUCK JONES AT HIS BEST

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"The fact is" said Sotson, "that the Orderly Room is no longer there -- someone must have taken it."

"Exactly, my dear Sotson! Sheerluck Jones uncrossed his legs and stood up. "And you, as Medical Officer, are going to help me to solve the mystery."

"But I don't see....." began Sotson, but Jones cut him short.

"You treated the Colonel for some malady this mornning, I believe?"

"Yes -- mosquito bite on the maetus of the left auditory apparatus, to be exact."

"Precisely, my dear Sotson; which would indicate that at the time the Colonel was sleeping on his right ear."

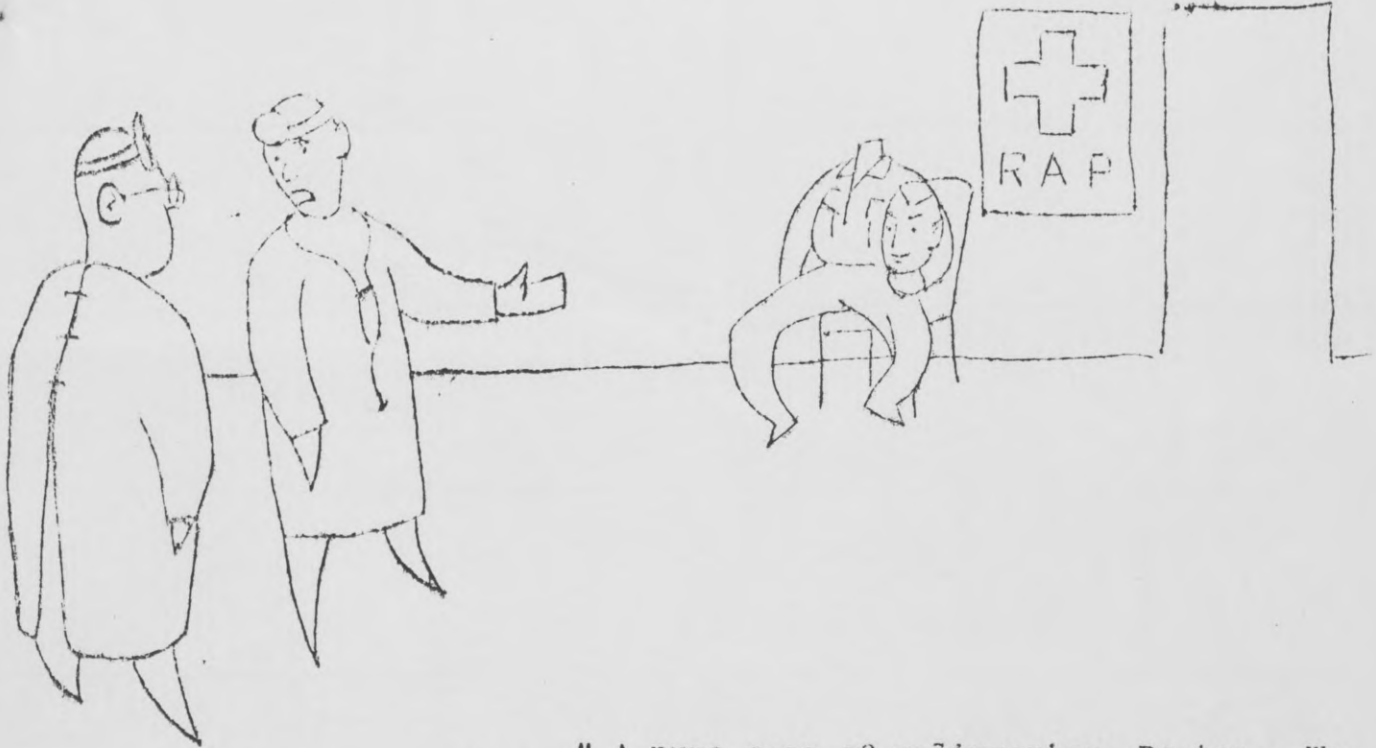
"Astounding!" breathed the Major in admiration, and a murmur ran round the mess as to what possible bearing this fact sould have upon the disappearance of the Orderly Room.

"Ah! Gentlemen, I perveive that you are puzzled," went on Jones. "I read your thoughts. The answer to your unspoken question, gentlemen, is 'Deduction'".

Again a hushed chatter swept the gathering in which the word

(Continued on page 2)





" A pure case of malingering, Doctor. We can't possibly send him home until he's really ill !!!"

'Deduction' was heard many times. Truly, Sheerluck Jones was an amazing man.

"So now, as the plot unfolds itself, I feel sure that you gentlemen will excuse Dr. Sotson and myself. We will conduct a search of the Colonel's quarters for a possible clue. Come along, Sotson."

And the great detective went out into the night.

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For several moments, Jones stood, chin in hand, surveying the Colonel's quarters.

"Foul play?" queried Sotson.

Jones strode over to the disordered bunk. "No," he cried, "but a self-inflicted wound - observe this mosquito net -- do you not see anything strange about it?"

"Only that it is an American one."

Jones passed his magnifying glass to the Doctor. "Study it more close-

ly." He ordered.

"By Jove," said Sotson, standing up - "A cigarette burn."

"Precisely, my dear Sotson. Proving conclusively that the Colonel smokes in bed, and burned the hole himself. As you will observe, the hole is just in a position to have been burned while reading a book."

"I'd never have thought of that."

"Elementary, my dear fellow. If the Colonel smokes in bed, he must have an ash tray, or a waste-paper receptacle handy - Ah! Here we are." Jones picked up a waste paper box.

"But" ventured the doctor, "it's empty."

"Yes" agreed Jones, it's empty. And now back to the mess where we will conduct an investigation of the suspects."

Read next week of the connection between a mosquito bite, a waste-paper basket and the missing Orderly Room.

"DEHYDRATED"

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Stomach, Oh my stomach,
What a dismal life you lead;
Tell me, Pray, what could you do,
With a good old fashioned feed.

Visualise a juicy steak,
Or a plate of chips and fish,
A slice of lamb and fresh green peas,
Or some such tasty dish.

Conjure not such visions sweet,
For I know how long you've waited,
For just one feed without a veg,
That's labelled "Dehydrated".

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VISIT OUR R.A.P.

Bring your complaints to the RAP and let us cure 'em. We have just received a large supply of saws, hammers, cold chisels, screwdrivers, planes, etc., and are fully equipped for any eventuality and anxious to try our skill.

OUR SPECIALTY !

Latest pattern brace and bit, for inoculations. Guaranteed not to hurt - MUCH !!!

Roll along - we can cope with a far larger clientelle. Volunteers welcomed for experiments in di-, bi-, tri-, vivi-, section, and Grafts (skin).

R.I.E.



"Would you censor this, please, Sir? I want to send it home to my Mother-in-Law!!"

NEW CALEDONIA -- BITS AND PIECES

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CELEBRATION OF FRENCH FESTIVALS AT NOUMEA

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New Caledonia celebrates two important festivals during the year -- one on July 14 and the other on September 24. The former is the Day of the Republic and the other the anniversary of France's annexation of the island in 1853.

The eve of these occasions is marked by a torchlight procession led by the military band through the streets of Noumea, the starting point being the barracks. The next day comes a review and children's games in the Place Courbet. Government House is the scene of gaiety in the evening where Noumea society gathers. The women, it is said, are noted for their frocking in the latest parisienne styles.

While the dance proceeds at Government House, the natives perform the pilou pilou in Coconut Square. To the beats of wooden drums, manou rolled round hips, adorned with feathers and coconut leaves with bust and face striped hideously with red, blue and white paint and brandishing tomahawks, the natives hark back to the days not long ago when this dance preceeded the satisfaction of cannibal habits.

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Ile Nou is the New Caledonian headquarters of Pan-American Airways. The first trial flight from 'Hono' to San Francisco -- a round the world service brought the Clipper down on the waters of Noumea harbour on August 28, 1939. It was considered a step of great importance in the commercial life of the islands. The old penitentiary buildings on Ile Nou were pulled down to make way for Pan-American's administrative offices and workshops. The regular service which included calls at Honolulu, Canton, Pago Pago, and later Suva in late 1941, was commenced in the middle of 1940.

New Caledonia has a counterpart of the New Zealand kiwi. It is the cagou, a bird which cannot fly and is found in the forests in the south of the island. It barks like a small pup and hides its head in the ground when pursued.

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The greatest contribution to New Caledonia's domestic economy is derived from the chromite and nickel mining industries. The principal mining centres are along the coasts at Thio, Voh, Tiebaghi and Nehou. Cattle breeding is next in importance, more important than husbandry as breeders do not have to contend, as have agriculturists, with Australian supplies.

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The native tree of New Zealand the Kauri is found prolifically in the forests in the South of New Caledonia. Timber companies have realised its possibilities and are now engaged in exploiting it as a major commercial enterprise.

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A race meeting was part of any large festival celebrated in Noumea. The course is at Magenta and well laid out. Australian jockeys were attracted by the events held, while the majority of the horses were bred in the Commonwealth and imported specifically for racing. Among the most prominent local bred horses was one named Flaneur from Michael Daly's stable. The horse was from a strain commencing at the outset of the island's colonisation. Another less successful than Flaneur, but nevertheless a strong contender at the meetings was Let Him Go, a descendent of Prince Rupert, a prominent winner, of O'Donoghue-Cheval's stable.

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An essence manufactured from the leaves of the niaouli, known commercially as Gomenol, is used as a preventative against lung troubles.

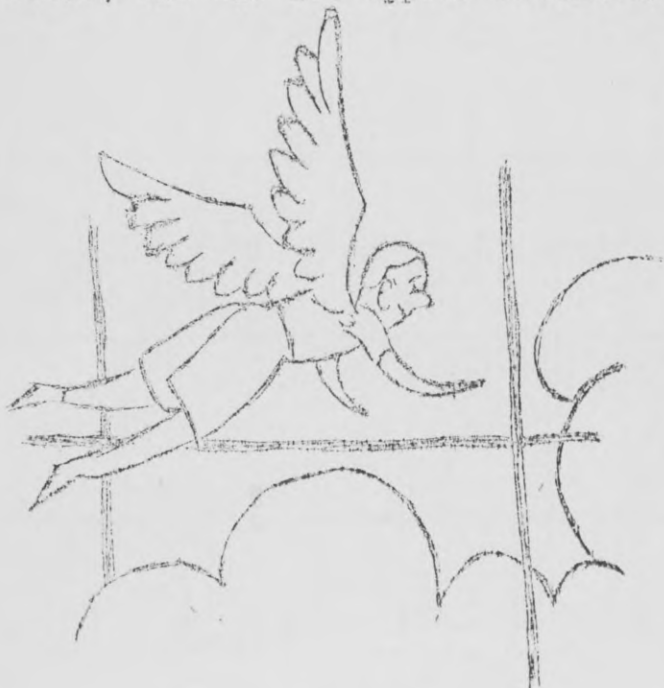
IN SPORTIVE MOOD

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MANY HIGHLIGHTS IN SATURDAY'S FIELD DAY

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Running at the high jump bar in last Saturday's athletic sports, L. Munro probably thought of the song "I wish I had the wings of a Dove". His dive-somersault style took the spectators somewhat by surprise but its effectiveness he demonstrated in keeping with the leaders until near the final jumps. With abstention from some of the earlier jumps it is quite probably he would have defeated Drew, with whom he tied for second place, although it is unlikely that he could have beaten Beard, who did not appear extended.



Amid pleasant surroundings and in good weather the sports were a pleasant break from camp routine. The large attendance included a number of Waacs and nurses. Keen finishes characterised many of the track events. The tote distributed a total of 600 dollars during the day, including prize money deducted from the takings on the basis of \$2.50 for first place, \$1.00 for second and 50c for third. The most

successful competitor in the 12 events for which prizes were awarded was Badland, of E Troop, while Schroder, of A Troop, did well in collecting \$6.00.

Congratulations go to E Troop in piling the highest points total to annex the Wicksteed Cup. The Troop's tally was 42½. The 204 Relay Cup for the relay championship was also won by E Troop. The Marshall Cup for the most successful individual competitor went to Gnr Badland who displayed all-round ability in both track and field competition.

One of the best races of the day proved to be the 880yds championship. B.V. Hayson appeared likely to take the honours in the early stages with a long stride at the front of the field, but those who knew Little's capabilities had little fear. Holding himself in reserve until the final 200 yds Little came at the finish with a smart turn of speed which carried him into the lead in the last 30 yds to breast the tape.

Championship winners were as follows:-

- One Mile.- E Turner (A Troop)
- Long Jump.- D.G. Crabb (A Bty)
- High Jump.- G.R. Beard (B Troop)
- Hop, step and jump.- D Hamilton (C Troop)
- 440 yds.- A Badland (E Troop)
- Shot Put.- A Badland (E Troop)
- 100 yds.- F Schroder (A Troop)
- 880 yds.- L Little (F Troop)
- 220 yds.- A Badland (E Troop)

"A" BTY WINS AGAIN

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CRICKET DEFEAT OF 29 MT COY

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Continuing its winning way, "A" Battery defeated the 29 MT Coy eleven at the Mission Ground to-day by 70 runs. "A" Bty's total of 183 included a fine 77 by Stallworthy, while Cleal hit a good 22. Tregonning carried his bat for 18. The best individual tally in 29 MT's 113 was one of 30 by Patterson.



Stallworthy's display was bright. Scintillating cuts and flashing drives were his specialty. The spectator was treated to some good cricket throughout the day. With his brilliant slip fielding "Dead" saved many runs and once himself when one would have scored him had it been missed.



Patterson's exhibition was characterised by unorthodoxy in the manner of holding the bat. As often happens with unusual methods, it was highly successful as demonstrated in his energetic performance.

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LANCASTER PARK!

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The mission Ground, where to-day's cricket match was played, was very rough, a fact which actually aided the good scoring. One proud South Islander was heard to remark that it reminded him of Lancaster Park!

North Islanders consider themselves fortunate they have seen cricket grounds and don't have to let their imagination run riot in this fashion.



COMING ATTRACTIONS AT ATD

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Monday, 1 Nov 43:

- 1800 hours: Wool class.
- 1845 hours: Art Class at Bourail. Transport leaves Depot H.Q. at 1800 hours.

Tuesday, 2 Nov 43:

- 1915 hours: Talk on "Hydatids" by Gnr. Wedderburn in the YMCA. This will be a general interest talk and should prove most instructive for all.
- 1800 hours: French class in the YMCA.

Wednesday, 3 Nov 43:

- 1900 hours: Pictures.

Thursday, 4 Nov 43:

- 1830 hours: C.F.B. tournament in the YMCA. Intending players should enter their names on the sheet on the YMCA notice board.

Saturday, 5 Nov 43:

- 1900 hours: Pictures.

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BE PREPARED

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One would think that, having been "through the mill" in the Middle East any soldier would know just what to take on manoeuvres. Yet a certain S/Sgt forgot not only his mirror and other sundries, but also his mess gear!

It is presumed Russ used his fingers when he ate with dusky Bedouins in the Desert!

Habit is a slothful thing !!!

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