



# Dozerdust

VOL. 2. NO. 15.

WORKS SERVICE ENGINEERS.

APRIL 8, 1944.

THIS IS NOT A  
HOME ISSUE.

SOME very fishy yarns are expected from the party now on a four day fishing trip.

Ron Bishop one-time member of Services Section, who is now in forward area says in a letter to Gordon Macale that "The 26th Field Coy. is a pretty good outfit! At time of writing Ron was in hospital" having various itches treated.

Bill Turner who is also with Ron says "Things are in the brown here and we are well pleased with our move this far - no kidding! He told of a parcel he received which on opening "a skull fell out". Bill says work commences at 7.30 A.M. and finishes at 12.30. The rest of the day is their own. On different occasions they have gone on "hikes" where they "have seen grim evidences of grim fighting - an education in what happened".

"Ike" Smith is doing well and has not lost weight in the tropics - much to everyone's surprise.

A. S C O O P !!!

OUR readers who regard us "as fellows of the baser sort" and those who have a slightly higher opinion of us will be interested to learn that a well known writer on international affairs, now a high ranking officer in an Allied Force, was sufficiently impressed with Dozerdust to offer a series of articles on "Supposing The Pacific Becomes N.Z.'s Major Theatre Of War" ::: Needless to say it was an offer we accepted with alacrity and thanks. Owing to military regulations the writer will not be able to write under his own name; he will, therefore, write under the nom de plume of "The Gook" and we hope to have the first article next week. ::: It may interest our readers to know that our guest writer says that Dozerdust is the only Army news paper he has seen that "has vitality enough to draw letters with the kick of 'Mug Sapper' from the ranks and at the same time give a point of view on contemporary affairs! He added that "too many Army papers are no more than a step removed from the Boy Scout magazine, or the Fraternity publications - something Dozerdust cannot be accused of!"

STOP PRESS: A report from Base Camp states that Norm Matthews topped shooting practice, and an unconfirmed report states that at one shoot a score of 101 was registered.

Bert Holt is said to be greatly perturbed over fall in Butter Fat production in North Auckland: in past the province has produced one fifth of B.F. "this must be maintained", says Bert, so "send me home!"

HOW would you like to live in a tent with three alarm clocks to waken you Sunday morning? Ernie Clarke says he has never gone to "bed with so many ticks in his life" - but what he has to say of the alarms at 6.A.M. shows he has forgotten his Sunday School lessons.

Souvenir makes are now turning out some very good photograph frames. Bert Holt has a particularly good one under way.

P.Y. Classes will recommence when instructor is discharged from hospital. He was thrown out of ring by pupil.

# Works Coy. at Dumbea shoots 2 teams in competition

## JIM CRAIG REGISTERS RECORD OF 101

**DUMBEA:** April 4. With two teams shooting in Kiwi Shooting Contest, Team A easily outshot B Team in the "shoot" this morning. The outstanding score being Jim Craig's notch of 101. Next was "Red" Brownlie who registered 94. In the snap shoot Bob Johnston topped with 43 though he dismissed his effort with a "I was too erratic!" Discussing the shooting CSM Fred Kronast said "both teams could have done better - they had put up better records the day before in the practice shoots; but I think A Team with an aggregate score of 517 will make the semi-finals where they will be hard to beat!"

Romantic life on Pacific shores not favoured.

South Pacific Daily News Art Editor says Hollywood line-up too prominent today:-

**KIWI CLUB:** (A.P.) April 1. Sgt. Alex Bowman declared today, with full knowledge of historical significance of date that he preferred Dumbea to scenic grandeur of Kiwi Club locale. Statement expected to have profound effect on Real Estate rates on Noumea Exchange. Speculators claim collusion between Bowman and Wagner who is known to be prejudiced against prefabricated buildings. Tile, Concrete and Stonemason Vested Interests set June 1 as deadline for monster meeting to agitate for substantial buildings at beaches. Well known constructional Engineer will speak on. Steel Houses X Secure Love.

**DUMBEA:** April 4. At a Works Coy. Tea Party this afternoon, Art Editor Leon Edelstein, of South Pacific Daily News, claimed that current attitude towards war dominated by air of unreality typical of Hollywood pap. He called for more solid thinking on social implications of war and a soft pedalling on word-escapism.

Epic struggle of man against EMU now told.

Further revelations on loss of memory.

**KIWI CLUB:** April 2. (Special) It can now be revealed that a Works carpenter known as "Nic" some years ago heroically saved the life of his Grandpappy's pet poodle from certain death by an Emu (Australia's fearsome bird-animal). The save was made by "Nic" flinging himself against the feathered monster while the poodle yelped to Grandpappy - with great presence of mind "Nic" remembered to take the Emu to the ground where he immediately applied a toe and body pincers hold.

**BASE CAMP:** April 2. It is reliably stated that several Sappers can no longer remember winners of races several years back. Racing Clubs are expected to hold special Conference with Govt. on question. First time in history of wars men have found loss of memory on vital question of racing winners. RAP Orderly Arthur able to give assistance to sufferers; he continues to experience loss of reason.



Works Construction Coy nearing 1st Anniversary.

**DUMBEA:** April 7. Send an extract from your Diary in to Dozerdust for Anniversary Number which is being planned. Articles & notes requested.

**DUMBEA:** April 6. Further research on Letter Writing Activities reveal that Les Lane has posted his 88th letter to "Mum" while Sgt. Foster who has been in Noval five months longer than Works men posted his 133rd on Sunday. Unconfirmed report states Harry Springer holds record. Prize of one tin of Spam stirs interest; Sensor known to fear great increase in writing during competition.



SNOOPINGS BY



up, bein' small and shy and afraid of "cuties" as "Snowy," Lord calls 'em. Good fishin', shootin' and 'untin'.

CRE STORE FACES MANPOWER SHORTAGE: GRIM OUTLOOK

BASE CAMP: P.A April 7. Reliable rumour states Lieut. D. Brooker in toils of manpower shortage. "With Sgt. Lindsay in hospital, Cpl. Burge at Con Depot, and another man on his way home hardly a pick knows where it belongs" - commented Lieut. D. Brooker. He intimated he was ready for all eventualities.

N.Z. SPECIAL.  
Manpower to raid Old Mans' Home in drive for Grade I, men. Full story next week.

\*\*\*\*\*

A LETTER FROM LIEUT. CYRIL McRAE.

VITAMIN D STILL POPULAR.

I was pleased to hear from Dozerdust again a day or two ago and many thanks for congratulations on my promotion - also copies of Dozerdust which I am always pleased to receive. I would also like to convey, through Dozerdust, my thanks to Lieut. R. Torrie for the very fine pennants he sent. I think I was a bit lucky to score the "pip" - I just happened to be the Johnny on the spot when the vacancy occurred; but I am now happily set-up in my own line on tractor repairs. Mat Hanson and Hermie Palmer are with me and they also have promotions to Sgt. coming up. Johnny Miller was slated to be with us and we are all sorry he had to go back. I believe he has returned to W.E.C.C. and we wish him all the best. I have not seen Ike Smith since you wrote, but he, Bill Charleton and all the lads are flat out on tractors with the 26th Field Coy, and I see them quite often. They are all held in high regard by their new Coy and are doing a good job up there. I shall convey Dozerdust's regards to Ike when I see him. I believe he, Bill Charleton, and Ron Bishop have started a new Vitamin D Coy. and are in a big way. RUMOURS up here are probably stronger than they are with you and if they work out we shall be pleased. I hope so, though conditions are reasonably good up here, it is as hot as hell. All the best. Cyril

WATCHIN' some of you fellas hive off to the dance at the Waacery on Wednesday night made me think you must have pretty good contacts up on the hill. Got to expect, of course, that blokes like Bill Ferguson and Keith Morton would be in the tunning', but when young "Earnest" Clarke, Ced Reid and Pat Cathcart make tracks up that way looks like hearts are throbbin' good and plenty. Then there are chaps like Jack Fingland, Maurie Corrie, "Snowy" Lord and "Padre" Cain joinin' in the calf love parade - well, there must be somthin' in the New Caledonian air that gets even old married men. Jim Taylor, Frank Harvey, Freddie Graham and Fred Broadley ain't started yet, but I 'spose they'll be makin' up the hill before long. WHAT rotates me is way these blokes rush my Sunshine. Watchin' the dancin' the other night, I was real sore the way the blokes like "Padre" Cain was breakin' their necks to dance with her. Heard him tellin' some of the fellas that she was the "best gal he'd seen on the island. Said she makes everyone feel good when she's round." "Padre" is married - or so he reckons - which ain't so bad, but that don't help me any. I don't mind her bein' the Sappers Sweetheart, but I don't want any of these chaps grabbin' her. If I could get on as well with her as "Ollie" Nairn gets on with that little Waac of his I'd be doin' pretty good. YOU know fellas, I reckon Sunshine is about as typical a Miss Kiwi as you'd get, an' I ain't just bleatin' out me calf life either. There ain't nothin' of the snob about her; she treat everybody alike; there's nothin' artificial about her - she don't try to play for effect like some dames - and I guess when she says a thing she means it. BUT I reckon I ain't got much show. Mind you I don't go up the Hill as much as Jack Fingland, an' I ain't got the line that Bill Ferguson can let loose, an' there's nothing of the tall and handsome Keith about me. I kinda got a lot to put

# STARTLING ADVENTURES IN 4TH GEN. HOSPITAL

## DOZER MUST BECOMES A PATIENT.

UNLIKE Comrade Joe Stalin we have not a hundred guns to discharge in salute to outstanding service; it is true we did not obtain the N.Z. Form OB4 which has to be filled in in triplicate six times when applying for guns saluting. It was not lack of initiative, but stark fear of the Q.M. that kept us from making the application; the forms are obtainable only when the Q.M. is doling out the white spirit for the Coleman Lamps which is just after dinner when he invariably lies on his bed and glares at the long line of Corporals and Sappers, who, if they hope to obtain the spirits for the lamps, dare not display one spark of what they are thinking. The other explanation for the complete absence of the guns is that the OC very wisely pointed out that should we fire the salute, as we undoubtedly would with a man like Fred Kronast as CSM in charge of weapon training, the noise would drive all the Kanakas in Necal to the hills in the belief that the Day Of Judgement had arrived (see Book Of Revelations) when kings, princes and great ones of the earth would be brought low - to say nothing of the wayward Kanakas. That would be disturbing, but much more so would be the rage of our reactionary paymaster, Ted Knowling, who, as OC of Native Labour, would have to tramp the hills in search of his pets. Under normal circumstances he spends days - sometimes weeks - "paying natives": but with an excuse such as would be handed him by the discharge of the guns we may not see him again for the duration. Moreover he would turn the whole affair to his advantage and allege some "Comrades Plot" which would certainly become an international "incident" of much greater implications than a French Governor could let loose. There is much more to say on the subject,

which is not what we are writing about so we'll leave the N.Z. Herald to handle it. :::: THE outstanding service for which we required the hundred guns was performed in a Ward of 4th N.Z. Gen. Hospital. The Ward number we dare not tell you (for war purposes it remains Security - otherwise you'd have all the Corporals and Sappers making a dash for it). :::: ON admission we were given a clean towel, told not to try to take it home, and requested to have a shower; knowing the plumbers who installed the shower system, we promptly declined the honour lest the whole of the hot water supply fell upon us. The Sister, a most charming brunette, said a shower was not essential as the sheets were clean. Once in bed, another Sister, equally charming, held our hand and gave us a glass tube to suck which we did vigorously without feeling much better. The first Sister (the Brunette) returned and after gazing at us for some time said "So you are here!" We paled. Being sick, we smiled a sickly smile and nodded feebly. Before the Sister could reply a Waac appeared from nowhere, it seemed and said "where are your clothes?" we pointed to the floor where we always hang them. Gathering them she said "they'll be washed. Only the weakness of illness prevented out telling her of what was to wash in the kit.

\*\*\*\*  
\*Watch for story of \*  
\*Gunner Norm Reid \*  
\*\*\*\*

BEFORE we had time to look round a fat man whom we took to be Charles Laughton waddled up to the bed and shook hands so vigorously with us that the foot of the bed collapsed. The man in the bed on our left immediately sprang out saying "my name is Ironloop, leave this to me. He yanked the bed up, while the fat man ate our

patriotic cake we brought with us. :::: BACK in bed once more, now my friend, Ironloop told us he had been brought to the Hospital in mistake for a pin cushion. "There were four of us" he said, "you will meet them all. I have had enough pins and needles - but I must wait until you are strong enough - maybe you will get them too!" With that he brought all four along, the fat man, known as Bobbie, who is a great believer in rabbits feet, omens, charms and plenty to eat; Jack Goodyear who looks so sedate we mistook him for a great landowner or a banker - of the other we shall have plenty to say as the adventures are related. By the time they had

-----+-----  
: No fish from Gordon :  
: Berry and Party - :  
: only excuses. :  
-----+-----

all shaken hands with us we felt like the Prince of Wales after a tour of the North Island or some other outlandish place. :::: Then came the Doctor. Around his neck hung something from a red rubber tube; from one pocket protruded a kind of Jews harp; two Sisters carried small black bags. Our friends quickly retreated. The fat man, Bobbie, tried to get under Ironloop's bed. The Dr., after looking at us "what we took to be in the best professional manner, with the speed of long practice" he pounced on the bed beside us; the bed collapsed; we paled. He clapped his instrument to our chest. "Say 99" he thundered. We tried. "Say Ah in C major" he ordered as the fat man sat on our belly. We could only reach a flat F. He strummed the Jews harp. "Hear that?" A light flashed in our eyes. "See that?" asked the Dr. Yes" we feebly answered. "You ain't seen nothin' yet" the fat man whispered. "Show your reflexes" the Dr. said. We had left them with the pay book. Then followed a terrific struggle - toe holds, were followed in quick succession by rabbit punches. "I'll find out what's wrong or die in the attempt" muttered the Dr. as sweat poured off him. The fat man danced; Ironloop waited to pick up the bed. (What happened? See next week's issue for further issue of thrilling sequel.)



**SOUTH PACIFIC  
DAILY NEWS**



ON Wednesday afternoon we had a visit from Art Editor Leon Edelstein, and "Pacific" Preston, columnist of South Pacific Daily News which is now New Caledonia's chief source of international news. :: PUBLISHED daily this mimeograph had eight page newspaper is now in Vol 2 and close on the hundredth number.. The well balanced layout and distribution of news which ranges from Jack Johnstone's opinion of modern boxers to latest Russian drive, is the work of Editor Chief Petty Officer Fred. E. Hamlin and Assoc. Editor Winthrop R. Cady, both top newspaper men from Salt Lake City (Utah, US). :: THREE main sources of news come from B.B.C. through A.B.C.; Army and Navy Monitor Radio and Associated Press Radio News Service. Other items of news are picked up paper goes o press. :: Art Editor Leon Edelstein is in charge of headlines, maps and shares illustrations with Assoc. Art Editor, Sam Retsinas and Jack Levinson. :: Circulation, based on the ratio of one copy to every twenty men in the Allied Fighting Forces in South Pacific, is handled by Jack Dougherty. The paper goes as far north as Bougainville and into all camps in South Pacific area. :: The copies are mimeographed on three electric machines which are under the control of Peter J. Kroll, ex-member of 353rd Engineers, and is staffed entirely by "Enlisted" men representing Army, Navy and Marines. :: AN indication of how the Daily News has fitted into Army life is shown by the question of "What's the news?" we all ask as we crane at the news-board before lunch when the papers are pinned up.

\*\*\*\*\*

AN APOLOGY.

We have to apologise to "Mug Sapper" for the omission of the eply to his letter in last week's issue. In the rush it was overlooked. :: We would askd him to remember that the car referred to in the article was a "command car" and that the incident took place beside a "barback" - the conclusion is obvious. Furthermore, we suggest to him that had the event occured in "our camp" we see no reason for adopting the hish hush policy he advocates. ED.

-----

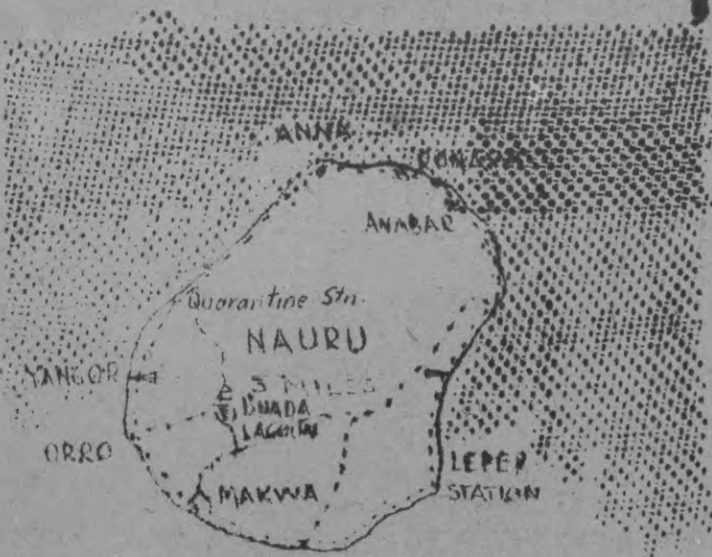
HOW many letters have you written home? Let us have the number.

**P R E S E N T S**

IT is believed in most reliable information - which for security reasons cannot be published - that next big job on Works schedule for completion before furlough falls due will be the completion of the new Pink House which was commenced some time ago, but owing to the exigencies of war was not completed. Rumour has it that Works personnel have been chosen for the job in view of their modest and gentlemanly behaviour - they will, it is expected, undertake their task in the right spirit. :: Without giving away military information, it may be said that original plans for new Pink House have been greatly extended and several new features included. The most novel change is the change from Blue Room, Red Room, etc, to rooms representing different N.Z. cities. There will be an Invercargill Room, A Dunedin Room and so on. There will also be rooms representing provinces. Mural paintings reminiscent of provincial beauty spots will be done by students of A.E.W.S. Art Class. There will be a library, A.E.W.S. students room and an office for a registered Bookmaker who will take bets (in Francs) on N.Z. Races. Several other novel features will be incorporated - stresses and strains now being worked out - but without more definite information we prefer not to speculate, or exaggerate. :: BASIL Murgatroyd is now working on the necessary charts, graphs, etc. Lennie Boot may have to visit prest Pink House to check up on surveying questions. Ian Pears, as chief draughtsman of the job, says this is something he can put his heart into. :: Phase one of the new project has to be completed before Div. troops return from furlough in N.Z. which enables us to say that Works will not, therefore, be likely to go on furlough until well into December, if then.

\*\*\*\*\*

"Fat Willie" Hart and Basil Murgatroyd challenge anyone in Building or Services Section to a game of Chinese Checkers. For condition of play see "Fat Willie" at Ration store. Usually awake between 10 and 10 -15 A.M. if asleep don't disturb.



## NAURU.

**DISCOVERED** - by Captain Fearn 1798. Annexed by Germany in 18-88 and up to 1914 was part of German Marshall Islands Protectorate.

**NAURU** - an oval-shaped atoll, about 12 miles in circumference, having an area of about  $8\frac{1}{2}$  square miles.

**POPULATION**- in 1939 population was 3,468 made up as follows .

Natives	1,733.
Chinese	1,512.
Europeans	171
Others	44.

**CLIMATE** - Temperature ranges between 72 and 95; average humidity between 70 and 80. Average rainfall 120 inches.

**HEALTH** - Malaria not present. Filariasis about only disease which is common, otherwise Island one of most healthy in Pacific. Two hospitals are maintained on Island.

**PHOSPHATE**- It is estimated that there is fully 100,000,000 tons of phosphate on the Island. It is estimated that supply will last for at least another hundred years before worked out. The annual demand for the phosphate is round 500,000 per year. N.Z. and Australia take practically whole output.

1914- AUSTRALIAN troops held Island until after War when representatives of British, Australian and N.Z. Governments met and agreed to jointly participate in Nauru deposits, and that Ocean Island deposits should be incorporated in scheme.

**PRICE** - The price paid by the three Govts. was \$3,500,000 in proportions of 42%, 42% and 16%.

**TERMS** - of Agreement 1919 the allotment of the phosphate produced in a year is on the following basis and is for home consumption only:

United Kingdom	42%
Australia	42%
New Zealand	16%

**BUSINESS** - is vested in a Board of Commissioners comprising of three members, one representing each Govt.

**NAURUANS** - are of the Micronesian Group; they are of fine physique, intelligent and friendly. Wrestling, in which they indulge spasmodically, is the favourite sport. They are also expert at catching and taming man-o'-war hawks and sea fowls known as "noddies".

**THE** discovery of phosphate on the Island is an interesting story of how Mr. A. F. Ellis followed up a belief that there was phosphate on the Island despite expert advice to the contrary. He was transferred to an analytical laboratory from a Pacific Islands Coy. in Queensland. He noticed a large block which was used to keep open a door of one of the offices at the laboratory. He was told that the block was a lump of petrified wood and had been recognised as such by Geologists. Not satisfied, he some months later, had a chip of the block tested which showed it to be phosphate of the highest quality. :::: THE next step was to determine how to gain access to the wealth, as the island was then held by the Germans.

**ROYALTY** - on every ton of phosphate exported a royalty is paid to the Administrator which is distributed to the natives, as owners of the land. In 1938, 803 natives had savings bank accounts totally £17,774.

**CHINESE** - are engaged under a three year contract.

Owing to shortage of water supply a huge condensing plant was installed

**ALL** power on the Island is electric; All lights on the Island being electric. There is also a refrigerating plant which supplies ice to Campaign Staff and Hospitals. Cattle and sheep are taken alive from Australia and slaughtered on the Island.

Phosphate is conveyed to drying plant by railway.