



Two of the new "T" Class launches anchored off Auki.

AUKI TRAINEES BUILD FOUR TOURING LAUNCHES

In 1961, the Marine Department of the British Solomon Islands Protectorate placed an order with the SPC Boatbuilding School in Auki for the construction of four 25' "T" Class touring launches.

The plans appear on the opposite page. The basic hull design for these launches was the one used for the 25' cutters built in 1961 and operated for a while at the SPC-FAO Fisheries Training Centre at Tulagi. The internal layout and deck arrangements have, however, been modified considerably.

The new launches have two berths, a small galley and sanitary installations in a comfortable cabin forward. In addition, the roomy cockpit is fully sheltered and has been turned into an after cabin.

Two of these launches have been completed. Work on the two others had to be suspended pending arrival of the engines. They will be completed during the next Boatbuilding Course to commence at Auki in March, 1963.

Fiji Prepares For Pacific Games (Continued from page 23)

British Solomon Islands, Niue, New Caledonia, Western Samoa and American Samoa.

French Polynesia will play a prominent part, if Tahiti's enthusiasm is any criterion. It is anticipated that about forty-eight entrants will be coming from this territory to compete in most of the twenty-one men's and ten women's athletic events as well as in the men's basketball, lawn tennis and Association football.

It is expected that the British Solomon Islands will provide entries in the men's athletic and swimming events, and will also enter a team for the Association football contest.

Members of the Guadalcanal Local Government Council have agreed to include £A100 in their 1963 estimates as a contribution to the fund to send Solomon Islands athletes to the Games. It is anticipated that other local councils in the Solomons will also contribute.

Accommodation Arrangements

Athletes from the island territories will pay for their own accommodation in Fiji, which will be provided in dormitories at the Nasinu Teachers' Training College and at the Grammar School Hostel. The charge will be about 20/- to 25/- per day. This will include three good meals of Polynesian-type food each day and a light supper. Transport will be included in the charge.

Mr. L. O. Simpson, for long a leading figure in the amateur athletic sphere in Fiji and one of the prime movers in the founding and organizing of the Games, is Secretary of the South Pacific Games

Council and also Secretary of the Organizing Committee in Fiji. Though now in New Zealand, Mr. Simpson is continuing to act energetically in both his secretarial capacities. He is coming to Fiji for the Games at his own expense a few weeks before they are due to begin, and his help in that period will be of great value.

Valuable, too, are the services of Mr. W. P. Ragg, who has had experience of both Olympic and Empire Games, and whose knowledge has proved of great help¹.

Both Mr. Ragg and Mr. Common attended the Commonwealth Games held recently in Perth, the former as manager of the Fiji team, the latter as official representative from Fiji. Earlier in the year Mr. Common had been appointed an international referee and judge by the International Amateur Boxing Association, and at the Games he combined with his administrative duties, the refereeing of boxing contests, at the invitation of the Australian Amateur Boxing Association.

As Mr. Common was on the staff of the Director of Organization of the Games, he had an excellent opportunity to study closely the organization of the Games in all aspects, including the preliminary arrangements, accommodation, layout of the arena, equipment, and the reception and transport of visiting teams. His experience will be of great help to the Organizing Committee of the South Pacific Games.

¹ Mr. Ragg was Acting Chairman of the Organizing Committee until Fiji's Director of Public Works, Mr. J. H. Common, returned from leave recently and resumed the Chairmanship.

Special Issue Of Stamps

Four special stamps—3d., 9d., 1/- and 2/6d.—will be issued to commemorate the first South Pacific Games.

The threepenny stamp, which is the inland letter postage rate in Fiji, will feature the official symbol of the Games. For the ninepenny stamp, which is the airmail postage rate for letters to New Zealand, the central motif will be a discus thrower. For the one shilling stamp—the airmail letter postage rate to Australia—the design will portray two hockey players in action. For the 2/6d. stamp—the airmail letter to Britain—a female high jumper clearing the bar will be featured.

Each stamp will incorporate the Southern Cross constellation, a small palm tree and the sea, to convey the impression of the Pacific Islands background of the Games. The Royal Portrait will also appear on each stamp.

It is the intention of the Post Office to release them for sale on August 1, 1963.

SPC Economist Completes FAO Assignment In Western Samoa

Mr. V. D. Stace, the Commission's economist, recently completed a three-month assignment as agricultural economist with a technical assistance mission sent by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to Western Samoa. On completing his field work Mr. Stace left Apia for Kuala Lumpur in Malaya, where he presented his report to the United Nations regional representative there. He returned to Commission headquarters on December 13.

— 25 ft "T" CLASS TOURING LAUNCH —
 — VEDETTE DE TOURNEE CLASSE "T" 7m62 —

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|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 FRESH WATER | — EAU DOUCE |
| 2 HATCH | — ECOUILLÉ |
| 3 FOLDING WASH BASIN | — LAVABO RABATTABLE |
| 4 TOILET SEAT | — W.C. |
| 5 ENGINE | — MOTEUR |
| 6 FUEL | — COMBUSTIBLE |
| 7 BATTERIES | — BATTERIES |
| 8 TWO BURNERS STOVE | — FOURNEAU A DEUX BECS |
| 9 BUNK 68" x 24" | — COUCHETTE 2.00m x 0.65m |
| 10 EXHAUST | — ECHAPPEMENT |
| 11 SLIDING WINDOW | — LUCARNE A GLISSIERE |

