



A dramatic moment—the launching of the first motor fishing boat of a number being built at the fisheries station at Hollandia.

## Fisheries In Netherlands New Guinea Make Steady Progress

THE planned development of fisheries is one important way in which the authorities in Netherlands New Guinea are endeavouring to improve the protein content of the local diet.

Under the direction of experienced fisheries instructors, two fisheries stations have been established, one in Hollandia and the other in Manokwari.

The first of a number of motor fishing boats was recently built at the Hollandia station. The accompanying photographs taken during the launching show the type of craft being built. While the boats in this series will be comparatively small, it must be remembered that the step from canoe to motor boat is a considerable one for the local people to take.

### Inland Fisheries Station Established

A start has been made in the field of inland fisheries. A central inland fisheries station is being built in Jabaso, near Lake Sentani, a comparatively short distance from the capital. By July last fifteen ponds had been completed. An office has been built, and a house for the caretaker.

To date, five different species of fish have been introduced in Netherlands New Guinea. They are—

Carp—*Cyprinus carpio*.

Giant gourami—*Osphromenus goramy*.

Floating high after her launching, "Kemboong" will be down to her marks after engine, mast, and gear have been installed. (Kemboong is a species of mackerel caught in the tropics.)

Tilapia—*Tilapia mossambica*.

Sepat Siam—*Trichogaster pectoralis*.

Kissing gourami—*Helostoma temminckii*.

The last two species were released in a lake some time ago, and observations have shown that they are now well estab-

lished. Carp and tilapia have spawned, and distribution of fingerlings has begun.

The active co-operation of the territorial health service in the development of inland fisheries should contribute to the success of this programme.

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### Assistant For SPC Plant Introduction Officer

In its two years of existence the Commission's plant introduction service has shown remarkable growth. Today, practically every aircraft reaching or leaving New Caledonia carries planting material in one form or another—seeds,

cuttings, seedlings, tubers, etc.—in transit either to Commission headquarters or from the latter to territories throughout the Pacific (with, of course, rigid observance at all times of quarantine regulations).

An assistant was recently appointed to help the officer in charge of this service, Dr. Jacques Barrau, handle the greatly increased work now involved in main-

taining it. He is Mr. J. H. A. Coenen, 25, a graduate of the Deventer College of Tropical and sub-Tropical Agriculture in the Netherlands.

Mr. Coenen's last post was that of a technical adviser in the Middle East and Israel, specializing in citrus growing. He has also had experience in the South Pacific region, having been stationed for one year in Netherlands New Guinea.