

TAHITI

TRIP

SHAW-WALKER
*8203R Third Cut

island of all Polynesia where you can inspect the remains of the Marae, the ancient sacrificial altars and other relics of Raiatea's glorious past. Later you can shop in the quaint Chinese shops. On the little island of Tahaa, alongside Raiatea, you can watch the sailing canoes while your Tahitian feast is being prepared in the earth oven. While dining you will be entertained by native dancing. Next stop is Maupiti, an island removed from civilization and very seldom visited by tourists, and then on to Tupai, a coral ring, first western atoll of the Tuamotus archipelago. Your trip ends in Bora Bora where you will be entertained by dancing - this time on a glistening white beach. You will stay at the new Bora Bora Hotel and be whisked back to Papeete by R.A.I. flying boat. Rates: \$200 to \$250 per person. About every 3 weeks. This is truly the trip of a lifetime.

GLASS BOTTOM BOAT TRIP (any travel agent can book you)

Two boats: "MOANA" - 12 seats. Roux. Tel. 493. \$2.15 per person. Min. 8 persons.

"MANURERE" - 30 seats. \$2.75 per person with refreshments. Min. 20 per. Call Bordas at 102 or write P.O. Box 224.

The Moana business card tells the story: "The mysteries of the world of silence are revealed to you. Admire the underwater world from our specially equipped glass bottom boat. Coral gardens in the most beautiful lagoon in the world."

TOUR TO THE TUAMOTUS

RAI has a wonderful two day coral atoll tour to Rangiroa in the Tuamotu archipelago. The flight is made via Bermuda flying boats that leave Papeete harbor at 7:30 A.M. They fly directly to the Tuamotus circling the famous phosphate island of Makatea en route. You will also pass over several other atolls before you land in Rangiroa's beautiful lagoon. Here you will be met by Tuamotu natives in outrigger canoes. On shore the chief (every shore in the Pacific comes complete with a chief) will receive you. When his little speech is over the entire village puts out the welcome mat with leis, flowers and native music in the traditional style. You will be put up overnight in private homes so don't expect much in the way of room service. You can swim in the sapphire lagoon, sunbathe on a sparkling white beach, skin dive or just explore.

You will have lunch at the village and after a siesta you will be taken on an excursion of the lagoon where you can join in the fishing. That night the party really starts rocking as the whole village puts on a dance for you that is out of this world. The

still air of the South Seas will resound with drums and native guitars, nose flutes and singing. They don't see many tourists up this way and they'll really put on a whing ding for you. Next morning, you and your hangover will be free to swim, fish or sunbathe. Lunch will consist of freshly caught fish (maybe your own) barbecued over hot rocks. The Tuamotans are famous for their hospitality. You never invested (\$120) in better "escape." All inclusive, too!

Incidentally, not to influence you in any way, but the Tuamotan vahines are not plagued with bad teeth as are many Papeete girls. When they smile at you there's just one big expanse of white... like a TV spot for a tooth paste.

Rangiroa Island is 200 miles NE of Papeete and is the largest, most populous island in the Tuamotu archipelago. It is 44 miles long and about 17 miles wide and is beautifully wooded. The 700 people on the atoll live in two villages, Tiputa and Avatoru. At one time Rangiroa was one of the most productive pearl and fishing spots in the South Seas. Over-fishing of the beds by the natives almost exhausted the shell beds. The government now regulates the pearling. Fishing is great up here in the atolls. You can troll for Cavelli, still-fish for coral fish, or fly cast in the tide rips for Moi. Skin divers, it's Heaven. There are no sharks in Heaven, they tell me, but there are in the Tuamotus. So keep one eye open at all times. Use the same spinning optic you use for spotting vahines along the Quai in Papeete.

SCHOONER SERVICE TO SOME OF THE OUTER ISLANDS

Because of the scattered location of the islands and atolls of the French Polynesias, there is of a necessity, a lot of ships in service. The government has a schooner, two motor launches, a yacht and an LCT. Private shipping consists 26 schooners, 47 coastal vessels, 78 bonita fishing boats (of 65 tons each), and 5 motor launches.

Destination and fares of schooners to other islands:

"Tamari Tahiti", "Moanatae," and "Popoua" to Moorea 2 hrs.
120 fr. RT

"Benicia" to Raiatea, Huahine, Bora Bora 2 days 700-800 fr. RT. No meals,

"Manuia" to Raiatea, Huahine, Bora Bora 2 days. 100 francs a day. No meals.

"Oiseau des Iles" to Makatea 600 fr. per day. No meals.

"Tagua", "Orohena", "Suzznne", "Paraita" To the Tuamotus-Gambiers 20 days.

"Vaitapor ", "Maris Stella" to the Tuamotus-Gambiers 15-18 days

to the Marquesas-Tuamotus 1 month.
 "Tiare Taporo", "Capddes Palmes" 340-450 francs per day with
 meals.
 "Vaininiore", "Capddes Palmes" to the Australes 15 days.
 "Charlotte Donald" to the Tuamotus-Marquesas 8 days
 8000 fr. RT inc. Meals.

New Projects for Tahiti: (Hotels still in the planning stage)

At 6 1/2 km west - Bob Dupont project. At 14 3/4 km west, a French project. At 21 km west, another French project. At 42 km west, project Atimaono. One of the most interesting new developments on Tahiti. A nine hole golf course and exclusive country club located on hundreds of acres of gorgeous property. (The 9 hole course has just been completed.)

At 9 km west, a hotel project called "Paradise Falls." Construction starts soon. At 48 1/2 km west, another project. At 50 1/2 km west, an Australian project. (Tahiti is getting to be one of the favorite winter resorts of Australians. They love to come here during July, their coldest month. It is, of course, the nicest time of the year in Tahiti.)

At 2 1/2 km west on Tahiti-iti, a high class USA project. At 4 1/2 km west on Tahiti-iti another USA project and at 17 1/2 km east on Tahiti-iti, 4 new bungalows for Chez Pepe. French and local investors. At 11 km east was to have been the site of the ambitious 200 room Hotel Mahina. Cancelled. At 7 km east, near Lafayette night club, 2 pieces of property being developed by a Franco-American company.

SPORTS

Tahiti is a Garden of Eden for those tourists who like to have their palm trees with muscles. There are enough sports available to test every muscle built up by Vic Tanney or Jack La Lanne. Even in ancient times, Tahitians indulged in archery, wrestling, boxing with bare fists, surf riding, kite flying, and cock-fighting. Surf riding as an art has died out in Tahiti but it will be interesting to see if it won't be revived with the new emphasis being put in tourism. It is presumed there is no place to ride the surf. This, I don't believe is true. A good Honolulu surfing expert could find a perfect spot in one long weekend. One possible spot, they say, is along the north coast. (Don't include me in the test flight, however.)

DEEP SEA FISHING: This is a much neglected sport but one that is due for a boom as more and more sports-minded tourists flock here and start whipping the waves for some action. In the late 20's and early 30's, Zane Gray made big-game fishing history with catches from these very waters. He landed a record 63 pound

dolphin and a giant Tahitian striped marlin weighing 1,040 pounds off the southern tip of Tahiti. The marlin was 14 ft., 2 inches long and had a tail spread of over 5 feet! The fish, they say, would have weighed 200 pounds more but for the fact sharks tore off portions of the tail as it was being played. Zane Gray regarded the Tahitian swordfish as the gamest, most ferocious fish of its kind in the world. Natives swear they have seen sword fish 30 feet long. (They are the ones that got away, of course.)

Capt. Mitchell, Zane Gray's fishing partner, caught a record sail fish off Raiatea. It weighed 163 pounds. 160 pound sailfish have been taken off Tahiti. First woman to catch a marlin in Tahiti was Carrie Finch. She landed a 187 pound beauty on her first attempt!

Best big game fishing is to be had November through March although it is good all year round. According to the natives, December is "tops" for the "big boys" in Vairao Bay. (If you don't mind a little rain.)

Couple of summers back, two Americans got a double hookup, landing both fish. One marlin scaled 250 pounds. This feat speaks well for the ability of the skipper, too.

The "Keke", a 28 ft. cabin cruiser rigged for deep-sea fishing is available for charter at \$40 a day. Other fishing cruisers are being built. A one bigger than the Keke, will have a speed of 20 knots. Six berths. Rates \$80 to \$100 per day.

The "Keke" accomadates 4 or 5 persons. Arrangements can be made through Mr. P. S. Sachet of the Deep Sea Fishing Organization in Papeete. The Keke is equipt with all the necessary fishing tackle. Cool drinks are served between hookups.

Another fishing boat, "The Fiesta" has a capacity of 12 persons and rents for \$50 to \$60 a day. Ladis "Papillon" Tefana is the man to call. Tele: 560 or contact him at the Vaima Cafe.

Other cru sers: "Fetia Hoa" - \$45 per day. Tele: 17, Paea. P.O. Box 572.
 "Purotu" - \$30 per day. Michel Brun.
 "Christine Marie" - \$56 per day. Tel. 215.

Besides marlin and sailfish there are yellow-fin tuna, bonito, dogtooth tuna (vaui), albacore, giant grouper, wahoo, mahimahi, etc.

CAUTION: In some areas certain fish may be unsafe to eat if they have fed on poisonous coral. Worst offender: a small-back fish called the maito, a surgeon fish. If a native doesn't eat a certain kind of fish, don't you either.

Many pro anglers feel Tahiti will rival Florida and Mexico as a big game fish Paradise in a few years. However, like any other spot, there are "off days." Zane Grey set the record for long distance fishing without catching anything when he went 83 straight days without a single fish!

SURF FISHING: Excellent in Tahiti, Moorea and Bora Bora. Good almost any month but August and September. Types of fish found along reefs include Tarao, Roi, and Paihere. Iihi and Apai can be caught at night along the reefs, and Moi at the mouths of rivers.

SHRIMP FISHING AT NIGHT WITH SPEAR AND LANTERN: This is one of the sporting thrills peculiar to Tahiti. Small, six-pronged spear heads are attached to sticks. Under the bright light of a lantern or torch, you step to the edge of a still water pool in a mountain stream and quickly spear as many of the darting shrimp as you can before they disappear into the rocks. The only target you have are pairs of small, red, angry eyes glaring at you from the bottom of the pool. The second your spear enters the water, the shrimp start hopping around like fleas. Delicious eating.

SKIN DIVING: Absolutely tops. As good as any place in the world. Great skin diving around Tahiti but even better in Moorea. Still better in Bora Bora and for the dyed in the wool adventurer, there are the Tuamotus.

Tahiti Sports on Rue du General de Gaulle (Tel. 493), can give you full information on all skin diving activities in French Oceania. They carry a full line of masks, snorkels, scuba equipment, all at 50% savings over USA prices. Skin diving equipment rents for 100 francs (\$1 to \$3) per day. (1500 francs deposit). Air available in Papeete only.

Robin Kinhead, a public relations man with Pan-American Airways, gives these pointers on skin diving. "Best beach in the Papeete area is the Pirae black sand beach at the Royal Tahitian Hotel. Here the water is clear, visibility 40 to 50 feet. At the swimming area directly in front of the hotel there is no coral whatsoever, and a gently declining bottom. A couple of hundred yards to the right, or eastward, a small coral reef projects into the water. This is the best spot for beginning snorkelers, those who paddle about on top, without diving, wearing face masks, snorkels and fins. Depths here are from 5 to 20 feet at the edge of the coral. Here, also, other snorkelers and divers are usually to be found for company. More experienced divers can follow the reef line out to the barrier reef, going outward from a small boat dock, to deeper and more interesting waters. At the isthmus, at Faratea Hotel, all the diver has to do is insinuate himself into the shallow water next to the restaurant, fin out about 50 feet to

a channel in the coral. Here there are 16 foot depths and if the channel is followed seaward, any depth you like, with brilliant coral growths in yellows, oranges and blues all around and the usual display of gorgeous fish.

"Diving and spear fishing is pretty simple in Moorea--right off a small sandy beach in front of the Aimeo Hotel. There's a sharp break-off from waist-deep water into a deep channel, with living coral edges. The bottom goes down in steps of about 15 feet, in a series of sandy ledges. There are caves, grottos and crevices to examine for strange creatures. Around the corner from Cook's Bay are the white sand beaches of Temae, some of the clearest water in the area, possibly 60 feet visibility. There are sandy beaches and sand bottom interspersed with coral. The barrier reef here is about a half mile off shore."

"The visitor can bring his own, but Scuba tanks would cost quite a bit in overweight baggage charges. Simplest way is for the diver to bring his own regulator and rent tanks in Papeete. Tahiti Sports is in the process of setting up a full skin diving service, including information on where to go for different kinds of fish."

Ralph Varady can give you good tips on skindiving in these waters. It's a bit murky in Papeete harbor but clear and calm in most of the lagoons on the leeward side.

Water is about 72 degrees the year round.

NATO FISHING: Nato is the Tahitian trout. It is not a trout at all, but it does taste like one and fights like one. It is found only in Eastern Polynesia and at one time was found in abundance in every stream. Natives, using dynamite and dragnets almost made Nato extinct. Laws were finally passed making such fishing methods illegal.

The Nato is small, a big one weighing no more than a pound. The average is less than a half pound. "Olive Quill" is recommended as the best fly although "Red Spinner" is used when the water is churned up. No. 10 or 12 hooks are the favorites.

Although Polynesians have the legal right to fish on both sides of any stream, you don't, so better ask first before trespassing on someone's private property. Permission is usually cheerfully granted.

Zane Gray was a booster for Nato fishing. He compared it in sport to fishing for graylings in Colorado or trout fishing in the high Sierras. Try the Tautira river.

POLYNESIAN CRAYFISH OR CHEVRETTE: Found in many of Tahiti's streams. They are caught by natives and sold in Papeete

markets. This species is not to be found in any other part of the world. Natives fish for chevrette by wading upstream armed with a lantern in one hand and a six-pronged spear in the other. It's rugged going through the dark but you might want to try it once. Get a native guide, though.

VARO FISHING: One of the great Tahitian delicacies is Varo, broiled or fried in butter. Varo, which looks like a combination of lobster and scorpion lives in burrows in the floor of shallow lagoons. It is caught by lowering a hook-covered stick into the hole and snagging the trusting Varo. Varo are a rare commodity and not always available even in the markets.

HIKING: This is a sport that not many tourists indulge in (except to walk from the Vaima to Quinn's), but it is fun and a lot more rugged than you might think. Not too many white men have climbed the mountains of interior Tahiti and Tahiti-iti. You can get a guide for around \$10 a day who will not only show you the way but keep you supplied with fresh fruit, crayfish, fresh water shrimp, and shelter as well. He will also help you across tumbling streams rocky creekbeds and steep trails. You can hike through the mountainous center of Tahiti in from two to four days. A lot of people have written me asking how you can live on Tahiti for \$300 per month. This is one way; hire a native guide for \$10 per day and just keep walking.

HIKING TO THE BACK COUNTRY OF TAHITI: Best to start from the south through the valley of the Vaihira River, near the village of Mataeia. You cross and re-cross until you are dizzy but the long trip through the bamboo and giant ferns is one of great beauty. You should reach Lake Vaihira the afternoon of the first day. There is a permanent shelter here for your overnight stay!

Lake Vaihira, elevation over 1400 feet, is a jewel set against towering blue mountains crowned with churning clouds. Into the tiny lake pour numerous mountain streams studded with cascading waterfalls. The lake, which is a half mile long, is very deep and is the home (so say the natives) of giant eels with enormous ears (PUHI TARIA). Don't believe it? Want to see for yourself? I'll hold your shirt.

Everyone thought the fabled eel was just a nice superstition until members of a Bishop museum actually caught one of these giant un-named eels. They weren't as big as pictured but they did have ears.

The hike back: You walk up steep trails and through dense forests of plantains (Fei), to a sharp edged ridge 1500 feet above the lake, then on down a small river bed past many caves, then on through the valley of the Papenoo, largest river in Tahiti, to the beach and a welcome rum punch. That drink never looked so good!

The Tahiti Mountain Club (Moua Tahiti Club) can give you full information on hikes into the interior. Other favorite hikes are to Aorai summit, Mt. Diademe. Tahiti's highest mountain peak (Mt. Orofena, 7,300 feet) has yet to be conquered. Not many have tried to test the legend that there is a magic lake between the twin peaks that is home to red-feathered ducks, the source of the highly prized red feathers favored by early chiefs.

THROUGH LAGOON WITH OUTRIGGER AND TORCH: There are two beautiful sights on Moorea at night. One; the stars, so brilliant, so close you could pluck them like so many frangi pani blossoms. The other: the hundreds of gleaming, flickering yellow lights stabbing the inky lagoon as fishermen prove the reef for fish and lobsters. It's a real thrill to accompany a Tahitian in his pirogue and try your luck at throwing a net or a spear at an elusive fish. Your travel agent in Papeete can fix you up.

If you are leary of canoes at night, try fishing in the many lagoons of Tahiti in the morning or late in the evening. You can troll for cavalli or still fish for coral loving fish.

WILD PIGS AND GOATS: Only thing wilder than a Tahitian hula is a wild pig hunt. The mountains in back of Papeete abound in wild pigs and goats with nasty tempers. It's an exciting adventure. The pigs are tracked down by a pack of trained dogs who drive the pigs down from the upper valleys to a spot teeming with spear-carrying natives and shaky-eyed tourists, lying in wait. If you don't get gored by the pig you may get it with a spear. Keeps you on your toes.

OTHER WILD GAME: Wild ducks, wild hens, rail, and sea snipes. The wild ducks here are not migratory. They like Tahiti and stay here the year round. The duck makes its nest in the highlands and according to the natives, the mother flies the young down to the lowlands one at a time on her back. (Has Disney heard about this yet?)

Wild pigeons (Rupe) of enormous size are also found in Tahiti as well as small native doves. Wild chickens think they're pheasants and rise when approached.

Permission to bring in firearms must be obtained before you come through customs. The import duty is quite high - around 50%. This may be reclaimed upon leaving if within 90 days.

WATER SKIING: You can hire a driver and an outboard powered motorboat from Iaorana Villa Hotel for about \$6.78 an hour or \$34 a day. You can also rent water skis. Great sport in the lagoon in front of the hotel. There's a speedboat available in Papeete, too. Apply to Club Nautique. Tel. 556. Robert's U-Drive has a speedboat available for rent.

GOLF COURSE: One 9 hole golf course at Taharaa, 6 miles east of Papeete. Tourists can get guest cards for about \$5.75 a week. Clubs can be rented but caddies are scarce as igloos.

HORSEBACK RIDING: There's a nice bridle path through tropical hillsides near the race track. About \$2.25 in groups of four. Call Mirimanoff. Tel. 4, Pirae.

BICYCLE RACING: Several times a year bike clubs dash through the streets of Papeete for prizes.

TENNIS: There is one tennis club. Your travel agent or hotel can get you a card. A tennis court is planned for the Tahiti Village Hotel.

MOTOR CANOES: Tahitian canoes powered by outboard motors will take you on an excursion to the Pari from Tautira on Tahiti-iti, or you can visit the caves of Vaipoiri via motor canoe from Teahupoo, also on Tahiti-iti.

OMER DARR, famous South Seas skipper has his yacht "The Wanderer" tied up here. He's a good source of sailing information. Used to be skipper of the yacht "Vega" in these waters. The "Wanderer" was made famous some years ago when Sterling Hayden sailed her here with his children.

COCKFIGHTS: Still held on Saturdays and Sundays in the country. Spirited betting at the pits. Steel spurs are not used here.

HORSERACING: On certain festive occasions (like Bastille Day) horse races are held at the race track in Papeete. It's not Santa Anita but the horses don't know the difference. Jockeys, sometimes clad in native pareus, ride their mounts bareback with a reckless courage, I suspect, obtained from many bottles of Hinano.

Sulky races are also held. A startling sight in the heart of the South Seas.

Pari-mutuel betting - if you can get to the window.

The horses, I understand, were originally imported from New Zealand and the United States and were crossed with a local stock from Chile.

FOOTBALL: Soccer games every weekend. Tahitian's most popular sport. They turn out by the hundreds to see their favorite teams battle it out.

FLYING: Only one light plane on the island. It's owned by Andre Japy of the typewriter family. He flies fresh eggs from his ranch at the other end of the island. One bad downdraft and the Tahitian

sky would be one big omelette. Small planes should become popular here now there's an airfield on Raiatea as well as Bora Bora. Even the whirley birds are on their way. Should prove ideal for trips to Moorea and Tahiti-iti.

SPEEDBOAT RACING: This is as crazy an event as horseracing. A sort of Tahitian Hula on the Lagoons. There is at least one Regatta a year. Don't miss it if you're in town.

SO YOU'RE HUNGRY A GAIN?

CHEZ CHAPITEAU RESTAURANT

One of the best restaurants in Tahiti. Chez Chapiteau was formerly housed in a small, unimposing hole-in-the-wall on Rue du Marechal Foch but it is now located upstairs on Rue des Frenes de Ploermel, near Rue du Commerce near the waterfront. Started in 1960 by the former chef of Les Tropiques Hotel and a partner. The old cafe was very plain, a bare room with wooden chairs and tables with red tablecloths! Its only decorations were travel posters and a size 38 chested Tahitian waitres with loose shoulder straps. Many a male diner has jabbed his fork into his nose as she bounced by. (I didn't need that nostril anyway.)

The new Chapiteau is on the second floor and has a New Orleans style balcony overhang. There is a native mural at one end of the room but the real attraction is the food. Banana flambees and crepes suzette are out-of-this-world. You'll see everybody who is (or was) anybody here. Good place to have dinner before going out on the town.

Prices are reasonable.

CANTON RESTAURANT

Rue Colette off Rue Paul Gauguin. Tel. 612. Next door to Bamboo Theatre. Restaurant with adjoining bar. One side of bar is inside cafe, the other outside. Food is also served in the patio. Place is decorated in American-Chinese style. Except for the bamboo trim it looks as Tahitian as your neighborhood Chop Suey Palace. Favorite dining-out spot of the French residents when they want a night away from French cooking. Sample menu: Chicken soup with vermicelle \$1.13. (excellent). Chicken almond \$1.40. Egg Foo Yom with Fresh water shrimp \$1.40. Steamed fish Cantonese style \$1.13. Poau Fish Cantonese style \$1.13. Chow Mein \$1.40. Lychee nut ice cream 24¢. Real clean. Good service. Just because it's Cantonese food don't expect to get Don the Beach-comber drinks here, though. Order a Tahitian drink? You'll probably get a bottle of Hinano beer.

MANAVA SNACK BAR

Around the corner from the hotel with the classy name - the Ping Pong. Very nice snack bar. You have your choice of dining outside or inside. Sidewalk tables are nice if you keep your eyes peeled for friendly birds. Want a hamberger? They're not too bad here. Hamberger steak 56¢. Vegetable soup 26¢. Excellent cakes, pies, and ice cream. Also fresh lemonade. One of the few places on the island where you can order lemonade and not get orange pop.

MAEVA:

A French restaurant on Rue du General de Gaulle. Local residents seem to like this one. Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner. Run by Mme. A. Bambridge.

RENDEZVOUS RESTAURANT

Near Waikiki Restaurant. Hambergers. Snacks.

RESTAURANT DIADEME

Across the street from the postoffice on Rue du General de Gaulle. Ralph Varady, manager of the hotel Tahiti and author of one of the best books ever written about Moorea, "Many Lagoons," introduced me to this cafe. It doesn't look like much on the outside (or inside either) but the food is excellent. Chinese and French cuisine. SAMPLE PRICES: mahi mahi (caught locally) 56¢. Sweetbreads 50 francs. Ragout beef 45¢. Curry beef 50¢. Fresh water shrimp 79¢. Shrimp omelette 67¢. Ham and eggs 55¢. Fried egg 39¢. Steak 75¢. Filet mignon 79¢.

VAIMA CAFE: Tel. 560.

We've talked about the Vaima in so many other parts of this guide we'll only add here that it is an excellent place for breakfast, lunch and even dinner. Run by Phineas and Piu Bambridge who have made the Vaima the most popular club-restaurant in town.

WAIKIKI RESTAURANT: Good Chinese restaurant at intersection of Rue des Ramparts and Rue Colette and Ave. Prince Honof. Tel. 527. My favorite Chinese restaurant. One of their specialties: Chinese soup with egg that is a complete meal in itself. A huge bowl of water chesnuts, bamboo shoots, fresh water shrimp, Chinese greens, chicken, noodles, and on top--a poached egg. Everything in this soup but soup. There's about an inch of it at the bottom someplace if you can work your way down to it. Delicious, though. The Waikiki has been redone in oriental pagoda style. It was formerly housed in early ramshackle.

SO YOU WANT TO GO TO B\$D?

The hotel (hotera) situation in Tahiti is improving. There was need for improvement, too. In 1959, there were only 100 rooms in Tahiti and Moorea that could be classed as acceptable. The bungalow hotels built since then are modern, up-to-date, with good bathrooms and hot and cold running water. It has taken the Tahitian maid (tavina) a little longer to catch up with our jet age idea of service, and at times a hotel manager can get white hair answering complaints like "The maid brought a tea pot but there's no tea bag in it" or "She brought the fried eggs but no salt, pepper or fork" or "The mop and pail are sitting in the middle of the bed but the maid went swimming with the taxi driver."

Sometimes it takes the maid four trips to serve a cup of coffee, papaya, bread and jam, but don't get excited. Adopt the Tahitian philosophy of relaxing and enjoying it all. You may die of starvation but at least you won't drop dead of hyper-tension.

Actually, the girls are catching on real fast and service is getting better every month. (Can I uncross my fingers now?)

HOTELS IN THE PAPEETE AREA

HOTEL TAAONE: P.O.Box 608, Papeete. Tel. 91, Pirae. Built 1961.

One of the finest new hotels in Tahiti. 18 double bungalows on the beautiful black sand beach of Taaone, 2 1/2 km east of Papeete, just west of the Royal Tahitian Hotel. It is owned by the French corporation Societe Hoteliere de Taaone.

Hotel Taaone was designed by Cesar Copetta, architect of the French government, living in Tahiti. The bungalows are "L" shaped and contain living rooms, bedrooms, and modern bathrooms, with hot and cold running water. Telephone in every room. The units can be joined for families of four or more. 36 Polynesian-style suites completed. 60 more planned for the future. There is an excellent bar-restaurant that overlooks a tropical garden. Beautiful table settings. Wonderful food. On Fridays, Taaone serves up a French menu topped off with Tahitian dances.

The energetic business man from San Francisco, Bob Fraser is a partner in this fine project. R. Helbronner is managing director. The manager is Georges Prevel.

RATES: European plan Feb. 16 to Sept. 30.

Single \$15. Double \$18

European plan October 1 to Jan. 31

Single \$13 Double \$15

American Plan Feb. 16 to September 30

Single \$29 Double \$45

American Plan Oct. 1 to Jan. 31

Single \$29 Double \$41

Taaone Restaurant has an excellent French cuisine. Sample prices: Hors d'oeuvres \$1.40. Pamplemousse 45¢. Filet mignon \$2.30. Legumes 45¢. Cocktail de chevrettes \$1.40. Entrecote grille \$2. Jambon Froid avec salade 90¢. Crepes au Grand Marnier 90¢.

Transportation from Hotel Taaone to Papeete and other island points is available at all times.

Sports: Canoes available to guests. Swimming in lagoon. Skindiving. Sunbathing. There is a pavilion on the beach with a snack bar.

HOTEL TAHITI: P.O.Box 416. Tel. 550. First section built 1960. Second in 1961.

Hotel Tahiti is located in Auae, 2 km west of Papeete, on a beautiful, sparkling sapphire lagoon. Nine deluxe double bungalows - the kind South Sea dreams are made of, with pandanus thatch roofs, bamboo trimmed walls. Each suite is screened and has one double and one twin bed, and an electric refrigerator. Decor is Polynesian but designed for American comfort. Two new two-story plantation-type buildings, each with 24 veranda suites, were completed in '61. All rooms are screened and feature tiled showers, hot and cold running water and private bath facilities.

The shows put on at Hotel Tahiti on Tuesdays and Saturdays are excellent. There's a small combination for dancing, and if there was ever a spot in the world for lulling you into a romantic mood, it is the dining terrace. Overhead, stars sparkle like diamonds in the ink black night. Flaming torches stuck into the ground send golden, flickering lights dancing across the shadows of the waving coconut palms. Out in the lagoon, native fishermen, holding torches, search for the fish you'll see in the Public Market next morning - if you get up early enough.

The sound of guitars and native drums drifts out to you on air scented with the gay perfume of Tiare Tahiti blossoms. If all this atmosphere doesn't make your pulse run a little faster you better see your doctor. You aren't well.

The Hotel Tahiti bar is one of the most beautiful in Papeete. It is decorated in a tropical-nautical style and is fast becoming one of Papeete's favorite meeting places. Coats and ties are not required for men in the dining room. On the other hand, no one is going to

parade around with picket signs reading "Yankee go home" if you do. Restaurant is a la carte. French cuisine.

For tourists who like to travel strictly first class, this hotel of Spence Weaver's is hard to beat. Spence, married to a Tahitian girl, is owner of nine or more restaurants in Honolulu including The Airport, Tahitian Lanai (one of my favorite sandwiches is their Tahitian Lanai Sandwich, a creation of crabmeat, lettuce, bacon, etc.), Fisherman's Wharf, and the Queen's Surf.

HOTEL TAHITI RATES: Bungalows \$20 - \$25 single or double
Single rooms from \$9.50 to \$12.
Double rooms \$12.50 to \$15.
\$3 additional for extra person in room.

Each double unit may be converted into one large unit at double the rate for one suite. For full American Plan add \$11.50 a day per person. For modified American Plan (breakfast and either lunch or dinner) add \$8 per day per person. Guests are permitted to hold their rooms while on overnight trips to either Moorea or Tautira if they are not absent more than two nights, at half rate during their absence. If they are away longer, they will either have to give up their room on departure or be charged the full rate commencing the third day.

Hotel Tahiti publishes a very interesting little "newsletter" called "The Coconut Radio" which you may be able to obtain by writing Spencecliff Corp., Ltd., Honolulu. Two recent items: "All hotel employees are taking English lessons." "Tane Roger of the dining room staff took a leave of absence during July to run his merry-go-round at the Fete."

A new swimming pool has been built at Hotel Tahiti. You can look across it to Moorea, or if you focus a little closer you may see some lovely vahines in very un-Polynesian swim suits sunbathing on the patio. Take your pick, but remember you only have one pair of eyes.

Canoes are available for rent.

HOTEL TIKI TAPU: P.O. Box 497. Tel. 570.

Seventeen thatch-roof bungalows on a hill in the quiet valley of Tipaerui, about a mile west of downtown Papeete. All bungalows are screened and come equipped with electric refrigerators and telephone. Some even have short wave sets. The bathrooms are modern with hot and cold water and showers. This hotel, built in 1960-61, has been popular with film and TV companies on location. In the past three years its guests have included officials from GM, an Italian film company, and production crews from the Dinah Shore, "Adventures in Paradise" TV shows.

Guests of Tiki Tapu share a swimming pool with Hotel Matavai next door. Dining facilities are also shared.

Breakfast is served by pretty vahines in colorful pareus who just love American cigarettes. Coffee, papaya, French bread, butter, jam, and bacon and eggs costs about \$1.50. Afternoon tea or coffee with juice and rolls will run you 55¢. So you aren't hungry. You like to look at girls, don't you?

Tiki Tapu is owned by the very active Hiro Levy Company. Leon Chung and his wife, co-owners, also manage the hotel. They will take excellent care of you. I stayed at Tiki Tapu a month and found it delightful.

Most rooms have twin beds. Some have a double bed.

RATES: Single bungalow - \$7.50 to \$18.50. European plan. 15% off season reductions - Sept. 1 - March 31.

Double bungalow - \$5.10 to \$14 per person. 15% off-season reductions Sept. 1 - March 31.

With meals (at Matavai) Single \$18.07. Double \$14.10 each.

HOTEL MATAVAI: P.O. Box 32. Tel. 715.

Another new hotel owned by the Hiro Levy Company. The Matavai is in Tipaerui Valley, next door to Tiki Tapu. Its 19 units were completed in 1961. Two types of accommodations: (1) A cottage with a living-room, bedroom and bath. (2) A suite with a separate living room, bedroom and bath. Hotel Matavai has a restaurant-bar and a swimming pool. The congenial manager, Henri Bastous can rent you a fishing cruiser or horses, depending upon which muscles you want to exercise.

RATES: Bungalows - \$6.70 to \$13.50. 20% off-season rates - Sept. 1st to March 31st. With meals - Single \$14 up. Double \$9 each. On Fridays the hotel features a Chinese meal and Tahitian dances.

LES TROPIQUES HOTEL: P.O. Box 56. Tel. 199.

This Polynesian bungalow-type hotel, 3 km west of Papeete, was the island's finest until the new Hotel Tahiti was built in 1960. Situated on a blue lagoon at the tip of the airstrip, Les Tropiques nestles in a grove of waving coconut trees and, until June 1960, boasted the bar and restaurant of the island. Here the elite of Tahiti mingled with the few tourists to sip cocktails and gaze out on the kaleidoscope of colors playing over the saw-toothed peaks of Moorea, ten miles across the channel.

Then suddenly, late at night, a fire broke out destroying the cafe, bar and office. A chef was killed, an assistant severely burned. The new hotel features 16 deluxe bungalows with a restaurant and bar.

The maids at Les Tropiques were world famous. They've been written up by hundreds of visiting authors, journalists, artists, photographers and dignitaries. Marlon Brando's leading lady in "The Mutiny on the Bounty" was a waitress at Les Tropiques when she was discovered." (She is living in Papeete now with her new baby.)

Most of the vahines speak a little English, and are good conversationalists. (After all, it is easier to talk than work.) All the maids wear native pareus or flowered dresses. During their free time they used to don bikinis and go swimming off the pier in front of the hotel. It was amazing how many male tourists took up sun-bathing. Alas, the new jet air strip has eliminated the swimming pier, but not the bikini-clad vahines, thank heavens.

RATES: \$5.70 to \$11 for a single bungalow and \$8 to \$14 for a double. Maximum occupants, 3.

ROYAL TAHITIAN HOTEL: P.O. Box 52. Tel. 13.

Another old-time favorite that's having its face lifted. On Pirae Beach, 3 1/2 km east of Papeete. Pirae is the famed "Black Beach" of Tahiti and is the only good swimming beach near Papeete. Black sand is hard to get used to and it's hot to walk on, but it's really just as clean as white sand - and it makes such a lovely background for a girl in a white bathing suit.

No seaweed or beer cans on this beach. Not many people either. If there are twenty bathers on Pirae everyone complains it's getting to be a regular Coney Island. Pirae is a favorite spot for skin-divers who love to explore the reef.

The hotel's setting in coconut palms, torch ginger and breadfruit trees is perfect for a deluxe resort. Its Pandanus Room Restaurant located right on the beach is the home of some of Tahiti's best floor shows.

Plans call for the construction of at least ten Tahitian-style bungalows and thirteen double hotel rooms. The hotel was reopened in the fall of 1962.

RATES: From \$14 single. \$16 double. Off-season \$9 up. European Plan. Manager: Jacques Anisson.

AU LAGON BLEU: (Blue Lagoon) Formerly called Bill Stone's Bungalows. Tel. 62, Pirae.

Located next door to the Royal Tahitian Hotel, these five cottages share world-famous Pirae Beach. Beautiful park-like grounds. Some cottages are new. Owned by Bill Stone, American author of "Tahiti Landfall." Outrigger canoe for use of paddle-minded guests. Tahitian houseboys and vahines are available for 200 francs per day each. They will market for you and prepare French, Tahitian and American dishes, keep your cottage immaculate, filled with native flowers, introduce you to the island's songs and dances, take you fishing in native outriggers, or skin diving in the coral gardens.

Cottages are single bedrooms or double. Each has a lanai living room, a modern kitchen and bathroom. Manager-owner is Bill Stone.

RATES: Single: from \$10. Double: from \$15. Monthly rates on request.

HOTEL PRINCESS HEIATA: p.O. Box 497. Tel 73, Pirae.

A third hotel owned by the Hiro Levy Company. Located at 3 km east of Papeete on a black beach near the Royal Tahitian Hotel, 11 bungalows. Each two room bungalow has a sitting room, bedroom and modern bathroom. Restaurant, bar, and snackbar on the premises. Completed in 1961. Telephone in every room. Canoes and water skiing equipment available. Tours arranged.

RATES: March 1 - Sept. 1 Single \$8 to \$10.50. Doubles: \$9 to \$11.50. European plan.

ALFRED POROI COTTAGES: located on a lagoon in the beautiful district of Pirae, about 2 1/2 miles north of Papeete. Several lovely cottages available for rent. Poroi is Mayor of Papeete. Also Senator to France.

ARIANA HOTEL:

A new motel-by-the-sea in town. Tel. 154.

VAIAMI STUDIOS

Located on Avenue Bruat, one of Papeete's most charming tree-canopied streets. 10 modern units that include air-conditioning, sound proofed walls, kitchenettes, studio-type living rooms, etc.

Drollet and Hallais. Tel. 208, Papeete.

LEVY BUNGALOWS:

Just east of Arahiri Hotel. 4 bungalows with kitchens. \$6.80 single or double.

HOTEL ARAHIRI: Box 483. Tel. 71. Arue.

Hotel Arahiri is located in Pirae, about 4 km east of Papeete. 10 large bungalows on the lagoon. Built in 1960. No beach. Snack bar and restaurant. Water-skiing. Canoes. Manager: Robert Wong.

RATES: Singles from \$9.20. Doubles from \$12.60. European plan. American plan: \$19.90 single. Double: \$14.80 each.

HOTELS IN THE PUNAAUIA DISTRICT

BEL AIR HOTEL: P.O. Box 354. Tel. 54. Punaauia.

This small, beautiful ten bungalow hotel, located about 7 km west of Papeete, between the airport and Iaorana Villa Hotel, is a real "dream spot." It sits right on a palm-fringed lagoon with a view of a stranded freighter aground on the reef, the surf breaking about a half mile out, and in the distance, Moorea in all its changing glory. Shaded by coconut palms and set on white sand, these bungalows are new, with pandanus-thatch roofs and bamboo trim. Each bungalow has 3 1/2 rooms, is fully screened, tastefully furnished, and has modern bathroom fixtures, hot and cold filtered running water, a kitchen with a gas stove, and a charming bedroom. All bedrooms have twin beds with foam rubber mattresses. Two day beds are in each living room. There is also a lanai area with a hedge of tropical plantings. A fresh water stream gushes up from the ground and winds its silvery way to the sea. Three Tahitian pirogues are available for paddling over the lagoon. Deep sea fishing trips can be arranged. Good swimming in the lagoon or in the beautiful fresh water swimming pool fed from live springs. There is a pandanus thatch roof snack bar serving snacks, breakfasts and dinners to registered guests and their friends. Shopping service is provided for guests desiring to prepare their own meals. Daily maid service. Tamaaraas are frequently held.

This area, they say, was the favorite playground of Puna, an ancient high-chief of Tahiti. As a honeymoon spot Bel Air makes Niagara Falls look like a mis-firing percolator. Like a honeymoon, there is a crowd. No bachelors are accepted at Bel Air.

Guide service to the best skin diving and fishing spots in the lagoon. Try the lee of the old sunken ship - it's teeming with targets (at least until you raise your spear. Then all of a sudden you have that feeling you are all alone.)

RATES:

Single: \$11.50 to \$16. Double: \$13.50 to \$18.
Weekly: Single \$75 to \$90. Double: \$100 to \$110.
Monthly: Single \$290 - \$315. Double: \$375 - \$400.

Weekly and monthly rates not applicable during month of July.
Manager: Louis Villierme.

LOTUS VILLAGE: Tel. 55, Punaauia.

Lotus Village is located 9 km west of Papeete in the beautiful Punaauia district. It was built by Ripley Gooding, one of Tahiti's most colorful hosts. Ripley formerly owned the Les Tropiques Hotel and at one time operated a restaurant in San Francisco. Lotus Village is a group of 14 thatch roof bungalows, built in 1960, set around a fresh water swimming pool. Excellent view of Moorea across the channel. The grounds are a well kept tropical park. There is an interesting totem pole at the entrance to Lotus Village that sports a real pareu tied around its mid-section. Tahitian sculptors, it seems, have never heard of fig leaves. These very graphic totems are not exportable to the United States. Uncle Sam has chisels and well-muscled customs men who know how to use them and a very masculine looking totem will arrive at your home in the States looking very neuter.

The suites are large and contain two single beds in the bedroom and two day beds in the sitting room, modern bathrooms with hot and cold running water and modern kitchens. Good swimming at the nearby beach. Native canoes for exploring the lagoon. Inland valley trips. Water skiing.

Marlon Brando stayed at Lotus Village for some time. (Big bungalow in the rear.)

Manager of Lotus Village is Mme. P. Framme.

RATES:

4 studio units each with bed/sitting room, kitchen, dinette, bath and terrace runs about \$10 May - Sept. 30 and \$8 Oct. 1 - April 30.

4 double units each with a large bedroom, living room, kitchen-dinette, bath and terrace - \$12.50 May 1 - Sept. 30. From Oct. 1 - April 30 the rate is \$10.

6 large units each with bedroom, living room, dining room, kitchen, dinette, bath and terrace - May - Sept. 30 \$15. Oct. 1 - April 30 \$12.

HOTEL MOANA NUI:

About 9 km west of Papeete.

18 deluxe bungalows built and managed by Ripley Gooding. Good beach and water skiing nearby. Restaurant and bar. Opened in 1962. Floor shows at times. Deep sea fishing trips arranged.

RATES: Single: \$11.50 up. Double \$22.50 up.

20% discount Sept.-March.

IAORANA VILLA HOTEL: P.O.Box 386. Tel. 60, Punaauia.

Situated on a lagoon, about 11 km west of Papeete, in the lush residential section of Punaauia. Hotel rooms and bungalows. Dining room and bar on the beach. Iaorana Villa features a man-made beach, a protected wading area (no Stone fish), and a swimming pier complete with a high diving platform for show-offs. I was timidly toying with the idea of jumping feet first off the low platform one morning, when a tiny five year old Tahitian girl climbed the ladder in back of me and swan-dived off the high platform. Up until that time I thought Tahitian children were real cute.

Iaorana Villa has 26 Tahitian-type bungalows, each with a patio, a bedroom (twin or double beds), and a bathroom with shower. Hotel rooms are located in a separate building. 12 twin bedded rooms with bathrooms and showers.

RATES: (minimum) Single and double bungalows \$11.50.
Single rooms \$7 to \$9
Double rooms \$8 to \$10

Free transportation to and from town. 24 hour taxi service available. Barmaid will call one for you. She will also bring you a drink while you are waiting. Very colorful restaurant-bar overlooks the beach, the lagoon and Moorea. Food is good. Dress is informal at all times. Bikini suits won't even raise an eyebrow. (Well, maybe a slight twitch from the stag tourists at the bar.)

An out board-powered speedboat is available at the pier for water skiing and sight-seeing. About \$6.50 per hour or \$32 a day with English-speaking guide and driver. Good fishing along the reef. Skin diving equipment available on request. Beautiful tropical fish can be seen off the swimming pier. Beautiful vahines on the beach. (They all begin to look good after the third or fourth rum punch, they say.)

TAHITI VILLAGE HOTEL P.O.Box 641. Tel. 61., Punaauia.

In the gorgeous Punaauia district at km 15 west. Opened in July 1961. Tahiti Village consists of 16 bungalows and 5 motel villas. Full meal service. All rooms have windows and screens and a small refrigerator. Some rooms are available with air-conditioning.

Kitchen facilities are included in the deluxe bungalows. Each bungalow has a bedroom, private bath, and a terrace. The motel villas have a living room. When fully completed Tahiti Village will have 75 rooms, an office building, 850 feet of white, sandy beach, two tennis courts, boats for water skiing and fishing, and pirogues for paddling in the lagoon. Free transportation to and from town. This hotel has become one of the favorite rendezvous of residents living in this area. You will rub elbows with some of the island's most colorful personalities. Good orchestra. The dances shake the palm fronds like Jello.

Tahiti Village Restaurant has excellent food. Sample prices: poisson cru marine \$1.40. Filet me de mahi mahi \$1.70. Tournedos garnis \$2.90. Canard aux oranges \$2.90. Legums 45-80¢. Dessert 60-70¢.

HOTEL RATES: Single and double bungalows \$11.50 to \$23
Extra person in room \$2.50.
Five attached rooms - singles from \$14.20 to \$25.
Double: \$7.10 to \$18.60.

Bus service to town.

VAIPOOPOO Tel. 36, Punaauia

New housekeeping cottages along the west coast of Punaauia. Owner is Mr. Quesnot. RATES: \$11.50 per day.

JIM NORDHOFF BUNKLEY BUNGALOWS: Built in 1961. Punaauia.

Situated 1 1/2 km west on a black beach, these four deluxe Tahitian style bungalows feature hot and cold running water, modern bathrooms and maid service. Each bungalow has a living room, bedroom and kitchen. A car is available for rental.

RATES: Approximately \$182 per month or \$52 per week.

HOTELS IN THE TARAVALO DISTRICT

FARATEA HOTEL P.O. Box 627. Tel. 01, Taravao. Built in 1960

Faratea Hotel is located at the neck of the peninsula, about 50 km from Papeete. Owned by Tahiti Tours, this hotel sits on a breathtaking lagoon where the peninsula joins Tahiti Nui with Tahiti-iti. Quiet and peaceful. It's a complete change from hurdy-gurdy Papeete.

6 double bungalows finished. All are screened, and have electricity, hot and cold running water, and modern bathrooms. Faratea Restaurant next door is recognized as the finest outside Papeete. Titi's buffet is world famous. On Tuesdays, Faratea features a gourmet dinner. A himene group entertains with a program of ancient songs of Tahiti.

Good skin diving in the lagoon. Outrigger canoes available for outdoor lovers. Bar and dancing for lovers of the great indoors.

RATES: American plan only. Single bungalows \$23.
Double bungalows \$34.
Maximum occupancy - 2.

Manager: Jean Arbelot.

CHEZ PEPE INN 4 native style bungalows located on a beach overlooking a lagoon. 65 km from Papeete, about 15 km down the peninsula from Faratea. Open air Tahitian-type dining room.

Single or double - \$11.50 without meals.

NEW HOTEL ON TAHITI-ITI

George Rowley and the Silver Pacific Co. of Isaquah, Washington have just completed plans for a truly lush hotel with 130 rooms plus 18 deluxe apartments, 2 super deluxe apartments, 2 swimming pools, dining room, coffee shop, a branch postoffice, shops, and hold your breath - elevators! Beautiful location near best deep sea fishing grounds. Rates will probably run about \$20 per person up.

BUDGET SKIMPY? YOU MIGHT TRY THESE.

(All these hotels are in Papeete area.)

STUART HOTEL On Quai Bir Hackeim, Papeete waterfront.

The Stuart Hotel, located right on the Quai was one of the old-time favorites of visiting yachtsmen, not for its luxurious accommodations but because of the atmosphere. Hotel Stuart overlooks the waterfront, the naval wharf, the lagoon and Papeete's main street. Rundown, and shabby, it is being remodeled a few rooms at a time.

At one time, the Stuart's second floor housed the favorite meeting place of Papeete, the Cercle Polynesian. Here, authors, beachcombers, and visiting yachtsmen mingled with French officials and merchants of the town to swap stories and gossip as they looked

over the busy waterfront below. Showers were available to visiting seamen, and the whole atmosphere was most informal (understatement of the week.). The Stuart is one of the few concrete structures in Papeete. It is located near Tahiti Tours Travel Agency and the Vaima Cafe. SPAL offices are on the first floor.

RATES: Single from \$3.50 to \$4.50. Double from \$4.00 to \$4.50.

GRAND HOTEL Once called "Tahiti's most modern hotel." It isn't anymore. Rather rundown although it does boast the only elevator in town. The Grand is a 4 story concrete building. It was leased to MGM for offices during the filming of "Mutiny" and it is rumored it will house personnel assigned to the new missile testing installation in Mangareva.

36 rooms. No restaurant although at one time its roof garden was regarded as one of the best eating spots in town.

Located right in the heart of Papeete, you don't need a car or taxi to reach restaurants, movies or night clubs. Ideal for the budget-conscious. Many Americans have stayed there. Wonderful view of the harbor from some of the rooms.

RATES: \$3 to \$7.50. Double: \$4.50 to \$10.

HOTEL TEMAHANI Tel. 55. On Rue du Cot. Destremeau.

A family style hotel in Papeete (Tahiti family, that is.) Private rooms and public bath.

RATES: Single \$2.50 - \$3.50. Double - \$3 to \$4.

Special rates for long stays. Temahani offers three meals daily to guests for an additional \$50 per month. The manager is Mme. Caroline Ceran-Jerusalem. There is a bar on the premises.

PACIFIC HOTEL L# 13 rooms upstairs over the Tourist Bureau. Overlooks the harbor. That's about it.

POLYNESIAN HOTEL: On the waterfront near Quinn's. Au Col Bleu and the docks. Old and rundown. Close to everything in town. You need no car. It is not, however, the kind of hotel you send color postcards of back home reading "X is my room." You are more apt to sneak out the back door wearing a Halloween mask.

PING PONG HOTEL: 6 Rue du Commandant Destremeau. (near the

Grand Hotel). Phone 133. Ping Pong is owned by a man everyone calls "Mr. Ping Pong." He also owns the Snack Bar around the corner on Avenue Bruat. Many Americans have stayed at the Ping-Pong because its rates are low and it is close to town. You need no motor scooter or taxi. It's no Beverly Hills Hotel (I'm not even sure it's a hotel), but I met two ladies staying there. One was aged 78, the other 83, and they were having the time of their lives seeing the sights of Papeete on a modest purse. I never caught them playing ping pong but I wouldn't put it past them. They were pretty spry.

P.S.: There really is a ping pong table in the lobby

The hotel desk has a list of bungalows to rent.

ROOMS IN PRIVATE HOTELS:

The sudden influx of MGM personnel created a real room shortage in Papeete. The only solution was to open private homes to renters. If you can find a room, this is a most economical way to see Tahitian life in the raw. Check the Tourist Bureau (Syndicat d'Initiative, Quai Bir-Hackeim, Papeete), Tel. 380.

OTHER ISLANDS IN FRENCH POLYNESIAMOOREA: (The Bali Ha'i of "South Pacific")

Tahiti has been described by writers as the most beautiful island in the world. If there is any rival for that title it is Tahiti's little sister, Moorea. Even from a distance, Moorea has that mysterious, magical, exotic look of something not quite of this world. Its jagged peak soar almost perpetually crowned with churning clouds. The island is thickly wooded except for a few bare peaks. Sometimes Moorea looks dark and forbidding, at other times gay and light hearted. As you chug through the narrow channel in the reef that spreads its protective arm around Moorea, you see long stretches of white sand beaches fringed with coconut palms. The little launch plows through warm, tropical, pastel-shaded water alive with brilliantly colored fish fresh from Gauguin's palette. While you are still dizzy with awe, you round a point, and there before you is the most fabulous bay in the world - bar none. To enter Cook's Bay is like sailing into a cathedral. The sound of the diesel seems sacrilegious. All around you are towering mountain peaks shooting crazily into the sky, shapes so weird you feel you are watching an earth being born. You almost expect a dinosaur to peek out at you from behind a crag.

One mountain (Mt. Mousputa) has a hole completely through it near its summit, as though some giant had been careless with a bowling ball. Highest peak is Mt. Tohivea, 3975 feet.

Coming into Cook's Bay you pass native thatch roof bungalows, small piers alive with curious children, fishermen in pirogues, Leeteg's home, "The Velvet Villa", and finally, Hotel Aimeo itself comes into view, its pier and one of its bamboe and thatch cottages reaching out into the lagoon like welcoming hands.

HOTEL AIMEO, PAOPAO, MOOREA: PO Box 627. Tel. 325 Papeete.

Here is THE hotel of Moorea. Small, but deluxe, Aimeo consists of a main thatch roof building, a restaurant-bar, 12 hotel rooms, with hot and cold water, and 4 new bugalows built in 1961. Owned by Tahiti Tours, it is located right on Cook's Bay. In its quiet, deep, clear water you can swim without fear of coral cuts. Snorkeling is excellent. An outrigger is available to explore the bay, hunt shells or fish. Excursions by jeep or native bus can be arranged to visit Paopao Village, vanilla and coffee plantations, the colonial village of Faatoai, the island of Tiahura, the murals in the Catholic church and the sparkling white beach of Temae, near the famous "dancing village." For the more venturesome, a jeep ride around the whole island is a rough, bumpy, but exciting journey. Don't miss the short trip to Cook's Bay's only rival - Baie de Opunohu, a short distance from the hotel. This beautiful bay was the site of those striking Cole bathing suit ads

of a few years ago. Mr. Cole became so impressed with Tahiti he now has a home here.

Here, on Opunohu, you can still see the remains of the French cruiser KEARSAINT scattered on the reef. A good lesson in keeping your eyes on the road when approaching curves - the curves in this case, were shapely vahines beckoning from the shore.

Captain Omer Darr, skipper of the Wanderer has a home at one end of this bay. It was built by Ralph Varady, American author and hotel manager.

According to legend, Moorea got its name (Yellow Lizard) from a high priest of a royal family who was enchanted by a yellow lizard on the temple grounds. Population of Moorea: 3500.

One of the "tourist musts" on Moorea is a visit to the home of Tahiti's famous painter on black velvet - Leeteg. His vahine still lives in the Mel et Villa, a short distance from the hotel. Leeteg, a painter who never really made big money for his work was killed in a motorbike accident several years ago. Last year one of his paintings sold for \$30,000. The Davis' Galleries in Honolulu is the best place to buy a Leeteg original. Davies was Leeteg's agent.

If you want transportation on Moorea, you better arrange for a jeep at the hotel or bring a motorbike or scooter from Tahiti. Only one for rent on Moorea.

HOTEL AIMEO RATES: Single \$23. Double \$34. American plan only. Rates include continental breakfast (fruit, tea or coffee and toast), and luncheon and dinner. Food is excellent. Drinks are extra but not too expensive. The high-ceiling dining room with its thatch roof of pandanus was the style-setter for Tahiti. Before the hotel was built the art of weaving pandanus thatch roofs had almost died out. Now this type of roof is the most popular in the islands - and to eight years so there's a natural built-in obsolescence to keep the industry active.

If you can, make this trip when a Matson boat is in town or on a day when Aimeo puts on its spectacular native feast (tamaaraa) consisting of raw fish marinated in lime juice and coconut cream, whole suckling pig roasted in a HIMAA (firepit), papaya-flavored POE, coconut milk and punch. After the feast you will be entertained (and I mean entertained) by the pulse-quickening, grass-skirted vahines and tanes from the "dancing village" of TEMAE. It's a sight you'll long remember - an entire village dancing the native folk dances and the excitingly fast Tahitian hula by torchlight. Torch dances are sometimes held at the hotel, at other times in the village itself. If it's at the village you will be herded into the truck and bounced merrily over Moorea's corrugated highway to the site. The benches you sit on in the bus will be

removed and placed in the village square where the dances will be held. These tamaaraas cost around \$15 extra but are worth every penny.

A three day tour which includes transportation to and from Papeete, three meals daily, two night's lodging at Aimeo, will cost approximately \$60 a person for two people. \$15 extra for the tamaaraa and dance exhibition.

Manager of the Aimeo Hotel is Crista Winkelstroeter.

HOW TO REACH MOOREA: Every morning around 9 A.M. (more or less), a launch crosses the 9 mile channel between Tahiti and Moorea and comes back the following morning. This "launch" is usually overcrowded - the "le truck" of the sea. Nine times out of ten, it is piled high with oil drums, provisions, lumber, sacks of cement, bicycles, and sea-sick natives. On one rough trip I took, a motorbike broke loose from its ropes and started flopping dangerously among the passengers crowded in the cockpit. The skipper calmly solved the problem of the pitching vehicle by sitting on the saddle of the motorbike and steering the launch with his other foot.

Crossing time: 1 1/2 to 2 hours.

Recently, a larger steamer, The RROTUI, has been put into more or less regular service. In other words, if there are enough people, it sails. The ROTUI is the old "Island Queen" from Honolulu. It formely pitched and toosed between Honolulu and the outer islands. It now does the same thing between Tahiti and Moorea. Carrying 100 passengers a trip, the ROTUI makes a round trip to Moorea every Sunday. Goes over in the morning and comes back in the afternoon.

SPECIAL NOTES TO CAMERA FIENDS: A group of shutter-happies can hire the Temae Village dancers to put on a special show for them in daylight. Ask at the Aimeo Hotel. You can buy their grass skirts for around \$6. (Not while the girls are in them, of course.)

TOHIVEA INN: (Locally called PAULINE'S)

The Tohivea Inn is located at AFAREAITU VILLAGE on the other site of the island from Aimeo. Set at the base of twin mountain peaks (Moua Puta and Tohivea) this old hotel looks like something out of a Somerset Maugham novel. It is ancient but delightfully colourful, clean and friendly. The Tahitian feasts put on here are excelent. You can sunbathe on the white sand beach nearby, swim, hike in the valleys, fish, paddle a conoe or take a jeep ride around the island.

RATES: About \$11 a day-American plan. Shower and bath facilities are shared by the guests. (We told you this was a friendly hotel.)

NEW HOTEL BALI-HAI, MOOREA

A new hotel built in 1961. The three hosts at Bali-Hai were featured in Life Magazine, December, 1962. They are Hugh Kelley, Jay Carlisle, and Don McCallum. Native casualness is the order of the day here with entertainment recruited from the nearby village of Maharepa.

Complete restaurant and bar. American and European cuisine. Excellent swimming and skindiving, reef viewing, speedboat and canoe rides. Guided sightseeing tours by land or sea may be arranged. Good water skiing the year round.

Hotel Bali-Hai is one and a half miles from Cook's Bay.

Four bungalows (8 suites). Private baths and hot and cold running water.

RATES: American Plan

Double \$23.50 in bungalow. \$21.50 in room.

Single \$16.50 in bungalow. \$14 in room.

EUROPEAN PLAN

Double \$10.50 in bungalow \$8.50 in room.

Single \$9.50 in bungalow \$7.50 in room.

Meals on a European basis or a la carte may be computed at a rate of \$6.50 per day. This being complete, including American or Continental style breakfast and full course luncheons and dinners.

Tahiti Nui Travel Agency offers a one day (Sunday) excursion to Moorea for \$18 that includes a buffet lunch at the Bali Hai, a Tamaaraa complete with Temae dancers by torchlight, swimming, canoeing, sightseeing, etc. The voyage is made on the ROTUI. Leave Papeete 8:30 A.M.; return 10:00 P.M.

American representatives: Van Zandt Tours, 2043 Westcliff Drive, Newport Beach, California. Your local travel agent can book you or contact South Pacific Air Lines, T.A.I., Air France, offices in the United States.

CLUB MEDITERANEE OF FRANCE 15 miles from Hotel Aimeo on Moorea.

After many successful years of running Tahitian-type resorts on

the shores of Greece, Italy and Israel, the famous club Méditerranée of France at last came to the South Seas itself. In the summer of 1962 the Club opened a brand new resort on a beautiful palm-studded lagoon on the NW coast of Moorea. Here, tucked in between jagged, lush green peaks and a sparkling lagoon, the Club built a village of thatch-roof bungalows that is the last word in package-type vacation spots. The site is gorgeous and so is the deal the member gets for his money.

For one price, (just under \$1000) the club member receives the following: a round trip from Paris via jet. The food en route is French cuisine, of course, complete with French wines. The plane makes two stops - one at Montreal, the other in Los Angeles.

At Papeete the group is met and whisked across the channel to Moorea where they are shown their quarters. Three guests share each bungalow. Married couples have a bungalow to themselves.

The guests eat together in big airy dining halls. There is a restaurant-bar on the sandy beach overlooking the lagoon. Drinks are served from late morning to midnight.

Because guests spend most of the day in pareus or bikinis (anything not smaller than tiny leaf), the management has worked out a novel way of carrying money. Each guest buys a string of red, green and yellow beads which they wear around their neck. Each color represents a certain denomination and as you drink, your necklace dwindles in length. This custom should be adopted in Vegas. Beads are so much lighter than silver dollars.

All meals are included in the basic price as well as free use of outrigger canoes, skin diving equipment with instructions to show you how to dive safely, sailing cruises around the bays of Moorea, horses, fishing equipment, and special tours of the island. Native feasts are held frequently and there are instructors all over the village to teach the fast Tahitian hula, the Tamoure', how to throw a net, spear a fish, or how not to get sunburned. (You stay in the bar all day sipping Hinano.) As if this wouldn't keep you busy enough, there are extra-cost cruises to the Tuamotus, Bora Bora and the Isles sous le Vent (the Leeward group). En route you can skin dive, laze in the sun, or do whatever you feel in the mood for at the moment.

Most interesting and exciting tour: A 7 day excursion to Tahaa, Bora Bora, and then via flying boat to Rangirua in the Tuamotus, 300 miles NE of Tahiti. The whole town of Tiputa, all 200 of them, will meet you with music, dancing, leis, and kisses. You will get a similar welcome at Avatoru, where the natives will cook the fish. During the serving of the Dinner there's music to twist by. You live in native houses and your bath consists of standing in a wash tub and pouring a pitcher of rainwater over

yourself. The night life consists of visits to Tomai's Bar where, in the eerie light of a kerosene lamp, Francois will serve you his specialty on the house - made of rare rum, wine, limejuice, sugar, pineapple juice over ice. Great native sport up here is throwing a javelin at coconuts suspended on long poles.

SPORTS ON MOOREA: Excellent fishing, skin diving, swimming, wild pig hunting in the interior, good duck hunting on Lake Temae. This lake, privately owned, is a home to a variety of herring called "ava." Permission to hunt or fish here must be obtained from the owners.

HIKING ON MOOREA: Excellent. Inspiring vistas from the peaks above Cook's Bay. There's sheer beauty in the densely wooded valley of Urufara, thrilling blasts of eerie wind whistle through the ridges in the hills and there's heavy going trying to cut your way through the dense staghorn fern. A pair of gloves will be useful to grasp thorny branches that cut like razor blades. Vicious wasps sometimes hurry your trip along the hard way. Wonderful bathing in cool mountain streams. For those who long for the "primitive past" this must be the place.

TAPUAEMANU (TUBUAIMANU) (SAUNDERS) (MAIA-ITI)

This many named island lies 40 miles west of Moorea and from a distance, it looks like a ship under full sail. The island is 6 miles in length.

TETIAROA

Twenty-five miles north of Tahiti. An atoll containing numerous islets covered with the ever-loving coconut palms.

MEHETIA

60 miles east of Tahiti. 4 miles in diameter. Highest peak, 427 ft. There is a coconut grove on the eastern slope.

BORA BORA (Pora Pora)

An enchanted island dropped into a sapphire lagoon for the sole purpose of teasing us mortals. The first sight of Bora Bora's jagged peaks clutching at low hanging clouds is like taking a peek into Paradise. At the water's edge is the one-street village of VAITAPE. It nestles seductively in a garden of coconut palms, bouganvillae, hibiscus, frangi pani, breadfruit trees, mangoes and bananas. In the background is Mt. Temanu, dominating landmark of Bora Bora.

Many travelers regard Bora Bora as the world's most beautiful

island. During World War II, there were 6,000 American troops stationed there. Many fell in love with Bora Bora and the brown-skinned vahines. Michener reported that many service-men actually got down on their knees and begged their superiors not to send them back home! At war's end, when the GI's finally left, waving goodbye to them at the dock were hundreds of Polynesian beauties and 125 half-white children--some with startling red hair.

Marlon Brando selected a Bora Bora vahine for his leading lady in "Mutiny on the Bounty." Tarita was working as a maid at the Les Tropiques in Papeete at the time.

Bora Bora, approximately 140 miles from Tahiti, was discovered by Captain Cook in 1769. Completely encircled by a barrier reef, Bora Bora has many coral islets that lend a dazzling white accent to an already fabulous setting. Population: 2500.

On the west side is TUPUA, site of the air field built during World War II and used by TAI, SPAL, AND TEAL until the completion of the jet airstrip near Papeete. Between TUPUA and the main island is one of the prettiest harbors in the South Seas, TEAVANUI, the favorite anchorage of yachtsmen from all over the world. Big ships tie up at the pier.

Bora Bora's natives are friendly and hospitable. The island, once renowned for its courageous warriors and naval prowess, is now famous for its dance teams. They're atomic enough for any engagement.

The Bora Bora native derives his income from copra, drums and other percussion instruments, shells, jewelry, shell-covered cigarette cases, bookends, hula skirts, baskets and vanilla beans. The hula skirts are beautifully decorated with brown shells and make a wonderful souvenir to take home. Necklaces made of coral and shells can be picked up here very cheap.

HOTEL BORA BORA: P.O. Box 608. Tel. 643 Papeete.

This new 18 room bungalow-inn is a dream child of Bob Fraser, a San Francisco business man. Tucked away on a secluded point of land about 5 miles from the village of Vaitape, the Bora Bora boasts a 1200 foot beach of glistening white sand, deep water for yacht anchorage and a bar-restaurant that looks out over a breathtaking lagoon.

Every bungalow is completely screened, has a patio, and faces the white beach. Each unit (there are 36 of them) has an American-type double and single bed, a dressing room, and hot and cold water in the very modern bathrooms. This hotel situated on ten acres of land, should do for Bora Bora what the Hotel Aimeo

did for Moorea. A modern oasis of comfort on a primitive South Sea island. The Bora Bora is the Hana Maui of the Society islands. Put it on your "must" list.

The Bora Bora Hotel is owned jointly by Bob Fraser and the French corporation Societe Hoteliere de Taaone. It was built by the French architect Ce'sar Copetta. R. Helbronner is the general manager.

RATES: Single \$26--\$31. Double \$36.-\$41. Extra person in room \$10.

Included in the rates: Free use of bikes, a paddling canoe, shuffleboard, and skin diving equipment (masks, fins, snorkels and spear guns). Much of the beach at the Bora Bora is cleared of coral but its still advisable to wear bathing shoes or flippers while walking in the lagoon.

Also available to guests: Sailing canoe rides \$3 per person (min. 4 people). Motor trips to FAANUI and return \$10. Jet boat trip around the island, including picnic lunch \$4 per person (min. 4 persons.)

Special dance events: Groups of native dancers can be engaged for special parties at a cost of approx. \$11.20 per person. (min. 10 people).

Charter deep-sea fishing: \$35 per day. (boat is not rigged for deep-sea fishing).

Stone Fish Drive: This unusual event can be arranged for groups or tours at a cost of approx. \$300. A whole village participates. The natives don't "fish for stones" as the title might indicate but use stones tied to ropes to whip the surface of the lagoon to scare the fish into nets made of woven palm leaves. Here's how it works: The vahines do most of the work. They have to weave the 150 ft. long net used in the round-up. The men pick-up stones and tie ropes to them. Next, a parade of pirogues, 3 natives to a canoe, paddle out in the lagoon spreading out their nets to make an ever-narrowing half circle. All of a sudden a conch shell sounds, or a lusty yell, and all hell breaks loose. One native stands in the bow of each pirogue like George Washington crossing the Delaware, only this George keeps hitting the surface of the lagoon with the rock in true lariat style, yelling at the top of his

voice to boot. The startled fish swim away from the bedlam toward shore where in the shallow water the fish are speared at leisure.

Sometimes these drives net a ton or two of fish. Other times -- couple of minnows. Whatever the catch, it's a lot of fun and a most pleasant way to stay awake. They haven't sold a NODOZE tablet at a stone fish drive in years.

There is a colossal stone-fish drive scene in "Mutiny on the Bounty", if you have already seen it,

The Bora Bora Hotel will be an excellent place to headquarter for trips to MOTU TAPU, locale of the famous motion picture classic "TABU", and skin diving expeditions. Skin diving here is superb. Although I went to a skin diving school in the Virgin Islands and have dived a bit in Jamaica and the Bahamas, I am definitely in the rank amateur class. But, when I donned a mask and slipped below the surface of the lagoon near the hotel and came face to face with one of the South Seas most beautiful underwater theatres, I felt like a world's champion.

Lazily you drift through coral forests that display weird, unearthly canyons of blue and purple, spattered with spots of red, blue, yellow, strawberry pink, and purple fish. Here, is truly, the skin-diver's Paradise.

For full information on Bora Bora Hotel write to Box 608, Papeete or cable "BORHOTEL PAPEETE." Transfers to and from plane or ship are included in the room rate. Five minute jet-boat trip from pier to hotel. No tipping.

HOTEL POLYNESIA: Vaitape Valley, Bora Bora.

Three Tahitian-style bungalows. Two rooms in each bungalow. Not deluxe. Food's pretty good and there is a bar.

RATES: Single from \$8.00; Double from \$10.50.

TIARE TAHITI: This "hotel" with the pretty primitive. Common showers. No flush toilets. It is, however, located right on the beach and it's lots of fun if you don't mind "roughing it." The price is right. \$6.60 per day American plan.

PONA OFE: This inn is called a "country hotel" which give you a rough idea. Your wife won't like it but your pocketbook will. Rates are \$6.60 per person, American plan. The plan is the only thing that will remind you of America, though. \$3.00 up European plan.

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ACCOMODATIONS IN PRIVATE HOMES:

Lodging can sometimes be had in private bungalows on the island. ZIT's the rugged, but interesting, way to see Polynesian life in the raw.

RESTAURANTS: Best, of course, is the Hotel Bora Bora restaurant - bar. Others: the Hinano, Ponafoe, Meiapu, Juventin's (one of the better native restaurants), Hotel Polynesia, and Chez Mam. (5 course meal with wine at Chez Mam will run you around \$2.75.)

WHAT TO DO IN THIS GARDEN OF EDEN UNTIL THE APPLEPEDDLER COME ALONG:

DANCING: For an evening of real "escape" you can't beat dancing by torchlight to the music of a lively native band in Vaitape. There seem to be plenty of dancing partners available - if you can find them in the dark. The Bora Bora vahines are very shy and the local officials haven't heard about laws regulating the intensity of illumination in public bars and dancehalls. It's so dark in there a seeing-eye dog would feel like Mister Magoo. Gives a certain advantage to the homlier girls.

In some sections of this island the audience is lighted by torchlight while the dancers perform in semi-darkness!

If your arches are strong, your heart thoroughly checked out, your blood pressure under control, have one of the local torso twisters teach you the fast Tahitian hula, Bora Bora style. So sexy even the mynah birds give out with wolf whistles.

HIKING: There's always some smart aleck that wants to get up at dawn and go climbing a mountain peak. There's plenty of hills to scale and valleys to walk through on Bora-Bora. Just don't wake up up as you leave. (And you'd better get all your walking in before you take your dancing lessons.)

FISHING: Excellent. Sailfish have been caught here but actually, little effort has been made to develop deep sea fishing since Zane Grey was here in the 30's. The Bora Bora Hotel has a new jet propelled boat but it isn't rigged for deep sea fishing. \$35 per day.

There is good Varo fishing on Bora Bora.

SKIN DIVING: The greatest! Even better than Tahiti. (There's a mask and snorkel in every room of the Bora Bora Hotel.)

SAILING: You can rent a speedy sailing canoe and really have something to talk about when you get home. Rates are from \$6.50 to \$10.50 for a trip around the island. Sailing canoes, darting like flying fish over the green-hued lagoon, are one of the unforgettable sights of Bora Bora.

BIKES: About \$1.50 per day and up.

MOTORBIKES: \$3.50 per day and up.

TAXIS: Vaitape-Faanui....Approx. \$1.60. Vaitape-Matira....\$3.25. Vaitape-Anue \$4.25. Check the price before you go. This applies to Tahiti, too.

CURIOS: More (hula skirts), tikis, tam-tams (drums), pirogues (canoes), Coquillages (finest shell products in the South Seas), ukes, colliers (necklaces), etc. The hula skirts are elaborately decorated with beautiful brown shells. Necklaces made of these brown shells are excellent souvenirs. Less than a dollar in Bora Bora, about \$9 in the States.

CHURCHES: Protestant, Catholic and Adventistes.

VISIT TO THE ISLE OF TOOPUANUI: Toopuanui is famous in Polynesian mythology. It is claimed you can still hear Hiro's bell tolling on this island. Hiro was one of the big shots in the Tahitian god world. He was sort of the Swiss bell ringer of the tropics. An excursion to this islet, including picnic lunch, will cost about \$3.25 per person.

MARAE OF FARERUA: This ancient sacrificial alter was the place, where in ancient times, kings and queens were invested with royal mantles of yellow parakeet feathers. Ruins of this marae are still standing near the valley of Aaunui.

MOTU TAPU:

A tiny islet with beaches so dazzling white you can only marvel at them through dark glasses. Beautiful reflections of the coco palms in the emerald green sea.

MONUMENT TO ALAIN GERBAULT: A monument to the first man who sailed around the world alone. Located on a point near the church in Vaitape. Gerbault, who introduced soccer to the island, spent three years on Bora Bora. He died in 1941. Although he wanted to be buried on an islet near the entrance to the reef, the native owner, unimpressed, refused to sell.

AIR SERVICE TO BORA BORA:

Present schedule: Daily except Wednesday via DC4. Over in the

morning - back same evening, except Thursday, Friday and Saturday, when the plane turns around and flies right back to Papeete. No flights Sunday, except charter. (min. 10 pass.)

The familiar old work horse - the Bermuda flying boat - will operate between Tahiti and Bora Bora via Huahine on Wednesdays and may fly to the Tuamotos every Sunday.

The DC4 leaves Papeete at 7:30 A.M. Leaves Bora Bora at 10:30 A.M. Thursdays and 4 P.M. on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays. FARE: \$40 round trip.

The DC4 lands on the new air strip on Raiatea en route to Bora Bora. The flying boat flies to Huahine and Bora Bora on Wednesdays at 7:30 A.M. Lv. BB 2:30 P.M.

CHARTER FLYING BOATS TO BORA BORA: Available only on days there is no regular flight. About 120,000 francs round trip. Leave in morning. Back same day. 43 passengers minimum.

All-inclusive tours to Bora Bora can be arranged by your travel agent. Sample: 24 hours. Leave Papeete in the morning. Lunch at Bora Bora hotel. In the afternoon you enjoy either a jet boat ride around the island or a trip in a sailing outrigger. Dinner and night's lodging at the Hotel Bora Bora. Next morning you can swim, sun bathe or skin dive...or just plain loaf. Fly back to Papeete in the afternoon.

RATES: Single: \$78. Double \$68 each (Tahiti Nui Agency, Papeete)
48 hour trip: Single \$108. Double \$82 each.

TUPAI (MOTUITI) ISLAND (In the Leeward Islands)

Maupiti, 6 miles in circumference, is in the Leewards about 23 miles west of Bora Bora. It is completely circled by a barrier reef. A beautiful, wide lagoon runs around the island. There are no running streams. The natives get their water from springs. There is only one pass for yachts (on the south side) and it is a most dangerous one. Take no chances. Get a local pilot to take you in...and keep your eyes closed.

Maupiti's high, black cliffs boast deposits of a valuable black basaltic rock that takes a high polish. The most famous item made from this rock, they say, was the Umete (food bowl) taken to Peru in 1779 by Maxime Rodriguez, a Spanish interpreter. It was lost and then re-discovered in 1934 and is now in the National Collection Madrid. It is considered of great historical value.

Maupiti is famous for its community fish drives, in which the entire population participates. It's very colourful with its fleet

of canoes and cheering natives.

Strikingly different small crabs with a single gigantic pincer are found on a yellow beach on this island.

HUAHINE ISLAND

Huahine Island, in Leewards, is a volcanic "high" island about 20 miles in circumference, completely surrounded by a barrier reef. Highest peak is Mt. Turi, 2,230 feet. Nearest Leeward Island to Tahiti, 90 miles; Huahine is really two islands separated by two large bays connected with a narrow channel. There are two lakes on the northern island, Maheva and Fahuna-iti.

Huahine has a most picturesque native village built on wooden stilts over the lagoon. Each hut in Maeva has its own thatch roof Chic Sale alongside.

Population of Huahine is about 2700. Principal port is Farenuitea near the village of Fare. Boats tie up at the wharf in 11 feet of water.

One of the unusual sights on Huahine are the fish traps built centuries ago to entice fish into shallow pools where they could be scooped up at leisure.

Of interest to archeologists are the great stone platforms called maraes, where in ancient times, priests conducted religious ceremonies that sometimes included human sacrifices.

Tahiti has its King's tomb with a cognac bottle perched on top. Huahine has a King's tomb with a bottle embedded in it containing two of the King's teeth! A prize possession even then.

The London Missionary Society set up a printing press on Huahine and published a series of Scripture readings, grammar books and native laws and customs that are collector's items today.

Fishing is good around this little island. The lagoons are full of delicious blue crab, too, and in a little lake at the end of the lagoon, you will find giant turtles. (The turtles are going fast, however.)

Air service to Huahine is by flying boat. Usually departs from Papeete at 7:30 Wednesday morning.

Climate in Huahine is pleasantly warm and somewhat rainy. Vegetation is luxuriant. Coconuts, taro, bananas, and vegetables are raised on the coastal lowlands and pineapple and vanilla on the lower slopes of the mountains. Vanilla beans are the main

source of income. The mountains are an impenetrable tangle of Ieie and fern!

Only hotel is the very primitive Hotel Havai. Three rooms above the dining room. Common shower and toilet. You sleep under a mosquito net...or should.

RAIATEA AND TAHAA
(118 Miles NW of Tahiti)

Raiatea and Tahaa are two islands enclosed by the same reef. 23 miles long and 10 miles in width, they are the largest of the Leeward Islands. Population of Raiatea is around 5,652, Tahaa, 3,911. There are many volcanic cones popping up all over the hills--all very dead. Highest mountain is Mt. Temehani 3,388 ft. Principal village is Uturoa, second largest city in French Polynesia.

At one time, Raiatea was the center of religion and culture. In pre-Christian days it was Mecca to the whole Pacific. Near UTUROA, is the famous shrine of TAPUTAPUATEA. In 1819, visitors found the marae decorated with human skulls. Unfortunately the historical find was neglected and nothing remains today but a few coral and stone platforms and a tall pillar where the ancient Polynesian chiefs were presented to their people. Natives of Raiatea still carry on the ancient fire-walking ceremony called UMUTI. They are not as enthusiastic about this ancient form of hot-foot as they once were, however.

There are many sailing canoes in the lagoon. Jack London's favorite sailing waters. In a stiff breeze the tiny craft cut through the water like giant dragon flies. 600 years ago the great canoe Aotea left this same lagoon, they say, for the long long journey to New Zealand.

There is good fishing in the lagoon and excellent big-hunting in the interior. (You've been passing up opportunities to hunt wild pig ever since you arrived in the South Seas. Why not do it here? After all, you might as well get gored in Raiatea as any other island.)

The alluvial lowlands are very fertile. Its highest point is Mt. Ohiri, 1,936 feet. Principal port is Patio, which was the home of the wellknown French painter, Comte Octave Morillot.

If you were a Polynesian and you wanted to become a juvenile delinquent, the place to have come was Raiatea because here, prisoners were permitted complete freedom of the island. They worked for island officials as cooks or gardeners and were allowed to go to the movies. "Boating privileges" were allowed once

weekly! Trips to other islands were frowned upon, however.

HOTELS: The Hotel Hinano in Uturoa Village is a good bet. It has a restaurant-bar, guide service, laundry, etc. Rates are \$2.75 to \$6.75. American plan - \$8.4- to \$18.; The Hotel Hinano rooms are located over a pool hall, so you'll doze off with the clicking of billiard balls ringing in your ears instead of the rustle of the palm fronds.

NEW HOTEL HINA VILLA: A brand new 6 room hotel offering such culinary treats as fresh crab, lobsters, and succulent sea centipides... (Don't frown, they're delicious!) A good place for tourists who don't relish the sound of "eight ball in the side pocket," while dreaming of beautiful island vahines.

RATES: \$16.35 to \$32 American Plan:

Cheaper accomodations can be had in several small "inns" or in private cottages. The Club Mediteranee has a few cottage in Ta Haa available to its members.

RENTAL CARS ON RAIATEA: Hertz cars are now available on Raiatea. See Dave Cave in Papeete.

AIR SERVICE TO RAIATEA: New airstrip on this island was completed in 1962 and RAI is now flying DC4's here en route to Bora Bora. Leave Papeete Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at 7:30 a.m. Arrive in Raiatea one hour later. The DC4 will fly on Sunday with a minimum of ten passengers. FARE: Papeete-Raiatea, \$21.60 round trip.

STEAMER SERVICE: Etablissements Donald Tahiti. Restored service to Raiatea after 20 years. They are located in a new building on the waterfront and are using the wharf built 3 years ago.

TUBUA MANU (MAIAO)

Small, oval-shaped island about 40 miles west southwest of Moorea. Hazardous landings are made through the narrow pass in the reef at the northwest side. When the wind is offshore, landings can be made on the south side.

The maiao crabs, large and delicious, are popular in the Papeete markets. The natives are good fishermen and sometimes band together and conduct fish drives similar to the "stone fish round-ups" on Bora Bora. The event is a good excuse for a feast complete with native dances and singing. If they don't catch any fish, they sing and dance anyway.

Climate is healthy but mosquitoes thrive in the swamps. Tubuai is fertile and well wooded along the lagoon. Coffee, mangoes, guavas, alligator pears, grapes, and oranges of good quality seem to do well here but coconuts are not as prolific here as further north.

Wild ducks are plentiful in the swamp area and the lagoon teems with fish.

Mutineers from the Bounty landed at Tubuai to settle in 1789 but clashes with the natives resulted in several deaths so the mutineers returned to friendly Tahiti. Trenches and earthworks built by the mutineers may still be seen on Tubuai.

Smokey Bear never came to this island and it's a shame because great areas of the island have been ruthlessly burnt over at one time or another.

Turkey raising is one of the island's chief industries. The birds are shipped to Papeete markets Thanksgiving or no Thanksgiving.

RAPA ISLAND

Rapa is in lat. 27.36 S. and Long. 144.17 W. It is a picturesque, rugged, mountainous island 700 miles from Tahiti, a seldom visited outpost of French Oceania, too far off the steamer lanes to make it a regular port of call. It is said the natives of Rapa learned about World War I after the Armistice was signed.

Rapa, 20 miles in circumference, is a volcanic island with plenty of vegetation and water. It is cooler than most other South Pacific islands and hurricanes are common. Coconuts or papayas don't thrive here. It's too cold to produce fruit. Bananas and oranges have been introduced. The oranges have a flavor similar to those found in Tahiti.

Rapa was discovered by Vancouver in December, 1791. The natives he reported, were attractive but suspicious, savage and warlike. They had built many forts on the hills. The remains of 20 or 30 of these may still be seen. All fighting was done with spears at close quarters and, as the only access to the forts were narrow footpaths with deep pits on each side, many invaders fell into the pits and were speared at leisure.

At one time, Rapa had 5,000 to 6,000 people, but white man's diseases, wholesale kidnappings by slave traders, shrunk the population until today there are less than 300. One epidemic of dysentery carried off great numbers. As if things weren't tough enough, Peruvians used to visit Rapa and kidnap slaves to work the guano deposits of the Chinchas archipelago. The government is now trying to save Rapa with a program of sanitation, education and medical assistance.

and medical assistance.

Things were rather peaceful in Rapa until the day an American newspaper writer wrote a story describing the island as a bachelor's Paradise. There were so few men on the island, the article stated, that the women were turning handsprings waiting on the lucky males. The men became so spoiled they were being fed by hand. Women waited on the contented tanes hand and foot. This article, of course, started a rush of males to Rapa not unlike the Gold Rush of '49. From 1938 on, Europeans were permitted to make only the briefest of visits to the island. (The men of Rapa were not going to share this "strike" with anyone and can you blame them?) There was actually some truth to the story. Even today women outnumber the men greatly. Women still do the cooking, the planting and cultivation of taro, the daily pounding of "popoi" and the gathering of firewood. But bachelors, don't start packing your bags. The French government doesn't encourage foreigners to take advantage of these hard-working but lonesome girls.

Rapa is rich in lignite minerals and iron ores. Schooner service to the other Austral islands (Raivavae, Tupuai, Rurutu, and Rimatara), is very irregular. About once every three months to Rurutu, Rimatara, Raivavae and Tubuai. A bi-monthly air service is planned for the future.

Wild horses and goats roam the grass covered hills. Wild ducks and rabbits are available in limited quantities. The natives love to descend the steep cliffs and rob the nests of the Kea bird. The young keas are a great delicacy in Rapa. Large fish and crayfish are found in abundance.

There are more than a dozen bays around Rapa and one deep fiord.

The men of Rapa are regarded as the best sailors in French Oceania. This is one reason they were such favorite targets of whalers and traders looking for men to fill in their crew.

The candlenut thrives on Rapa. It's nut is used as a lamp by the natives. Oil from the crushed nut makes an excellent oil for paints. Coffee is raised to some extent and potatoes thrive like they were invented there.

RAIVAVAE (VAVITU)

Some travelers believe this island to be the most beautiful in the world. Its high, green-carpeted mountains, its multi-hued lagoon which surrounds it like a cloak, its islet dotted reef, its luxuriant vegetation and brilliant colored flowers, certainly rank it as a runner-up at least.

Rurutu natives are industrious and most independent in French Coeania. Villages are well kept and many of the houses are built of stone. The natives have their own fleet of island schooners with which they carry on trade with Papeete, Tubuai, Rimatara, and Rapa.

The natives favorite diet: canned meat and domestic fowl.

The remains of Eric de Bisschop, famous sailor and navigator of the Pacific, are buried here. They were transferred recently from Tipaeru, Cemetery in Papeete.

RIMATARA

Rimatara is 80 miles west by south from Rurutu. The coconut-lined lagoon on a circular-shaped, curving white beach is one of the most beautiful sights in the South Seas. Fabulous! Only drawback: lots of mosquitoes and the fishing is not good. The natives live on a diet of taro, sweet potatoes, bananas, coconuts, oranges, breadfruit and pork.

Highest point on Rimatara is Mt. Oromana, elevation 300 feet. Three vilages: Motuoura, Amaru and Anapoto.

ISLES MARIA (HULL ISLAND) (SANDS)

Westernmost of the Australs. Hull is 120 miles NW of Rimatrar. An uninhabited atoll, is visited occasionally by natives from Rimatara in search of young sea birds who nest here. Hull was once used as an "Alcatraz Island" for criminals from Rurutu and Rimatara.

Hull had a brief flurry of excitement a few years ago when treasure seekers swarmed over it looking for a supposedly fabulous cache. P.S: They didn't find it, but they had a lot of fun.

ILOTS de BASS (MOROTIRI) or (BASS ROCKS)

Uninhabited rock islets located about 46 miles east of Rapa. Highest islet is 346 feet. No landing place and the waters swarm with sharks of enormous size. Skindiving anyone?

You believe sharks won't bite you if you don't bite them first? Try it here but first leave the address of next of kin with the closest French administrator.

MOPELIA (MOPIHA IN THE LEEWARDS OF THE SOCIETY IS.)

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TUBUAI ISLAND

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THE MARQUESAS ISLANDS

The Marquesas are 930 miles NW of Tahiti and are divided into two groups.

Southeast group: Fatu Hiva, Tahu Ata, Motane, Hiva Oa, and Fatu Huku.

Northwest groups: Ua Pou, Ua Huka, Nuku Hiva, Eiao, Hatutu; and Coral.

The Marquesas were discovered by the Spanish navigator, Mendana in 1594. He named the islands after the lady of the Viceroy of Peru, Las Islas Marquesas de Mendoza. The islands were untouched by Europeans until 1774 when Captain Cook rediscovered the southeast group and again in 1791 when Captain Ingraham, an American, discovered the rest. The islands were annexed by France in 1842.

The lonely Marquesas are volcanic with the exception of two of the smaller coral islets in the north. There are no reefs around the Marquesas. This lack of reefs and quiet lagoons makes fishing in canoes hazardous.

The Marquesas are "high" islands. Down the steep rugged cliffs, waterfalls tumble from heights of 2000 feet.

The climate is healthy. The annual temperature is around 78 degrees. The range from the hottest to the coldest month is only 4 degrees. Humidity hovers around 80%. The islands are subject to dry and wet spells. One year it may rain 100 inches and the following year only 20.

Fauna is sparse - only 15 species of native land birds and a few lizards. No mammals, not even a bat. Pigs, cattle, horses, goats, and chickens were imported by man. Also a lot of other things. It is one of the South Seas saddest stories.

Fermented breadfruit, made in pit silos, is the staple food. Natives seem to prefer it to the fresh product. Cloth used to be made from the bark of the breadfruit.

In appearance, the Marquesans are taller and lighter than the Tahitians. In early times, the Marquesans covered themselves with colorful tattoos. Still practiced to some extent, they say, in remote sections of Fatu Hiva.

Cannibalism was practiced not only as a religious ritual but frankly, because they enjoyed the meat. Humans were called "long pigs" and considered great delicacies when cooked in underground ovens.

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Nearby are two white, barren islets completely covered with guano.

Scenery in the Marquesas is magnificent. If you think Moorea and Bora Bora are awesome, they are like Disneyland compared to the Marquesas.

Native dances can be arranged for around \$50 a performance. Most unusual dance routines: Flying fish, a fertility, and the sandpiper dances.

UA POU (HUA POU) (ADAMS) ISLAND

About 8 1/4 miles long and 7 miles wide, Ua Pou is high, awe-inspiring, with 13 spires, crags and pinnacles that give this island an out-of-this world appearance. There's table mountain with a tall spire at each end looking like bookends. This island of weird shapes started even Robert Louis Stevenson and you'll be no exception. The villages are on the west side of the island. The Lagoon is dotted with many sailing outriggers that buzz across the surface like dragon flies.

EIAO (MASSE) ISLAND

Six and a half miles long with mountains reaching heights of over 2,000 feet. Best anchorage is in Uai Tahu Bay.

HATUTU (CHANAL) ISLAND

Three and a half miles long, 1 mile wide. Sparse vegetation. Highest elevation, 1380 feet. An abundance of fish and sea fowl.

CORAL (COTAR) ISLAND

Tiny 130 foot long coral island 9 miles from Hatutu. Only 6 to 9 ft. high, Coral is surrounded by a shoal on which the sea breaks heavily.

HOW TO GET TO THE MARQUESAS

Five and a half hours by chartered flying boat, about 6 days by schooner. Donald's Tahiti, located on Papeete's waterfront, has two ships in the service to the Marquesas. Round trip takes from three to four weeks. Many stops are made at islands en route. Your exact itinerary is not known until you are under way. Two classes of accommodations on the ship. Three double cabins in first class. In second class you sleep in bunks, dormitory style.

One word of advice. Go first class. Seas can get rough in the South Seas and so can your stomach and the dormitories are close and stuffy. Get the picture?

Rates are reasonable enough - 450 francs a day (about \$5). Dormitory accommodations are about \$4 a day. Pay the man the extra dollar.

Meals are wholesome. Plenty of fresh meat and vegetables aboard. Breakfast is served Tahitian style, which means it consists of coffee, bread and butter. Lunch and dinners are standard European fare. As space is limited, make your reservations far in advance. Meals are included with the fare.

It's a long trip to the Marquesas but you will see islands and atolls very few tourists ever lay eyes on. It's still pretty wild up there and not the kind of place two old ladies evidently thought it was when they wrote Donald's Tahiti to get them a nice modern bungalow with hot and cold water, modern bathroom, etc., as they would like to retire there.

MANGAREVA (IN THE GAMBLERS)

Mangareva consists of four inhabited islands and several small uninhabited ones. Mangareva is 900 miles from Tahiti and has a total area of about 6 square miles. The whole group is surrounded Geogically, the Mangarevan group is an "almost" atoll, or complex island, similar to the island of Truk in the Carolines.

Captain James Wilson discovered Mangareva in 1897. France claimed a protectorate in 1844 and annexed them in 1881.

Climate is on the rainy side. Temperatures range from 72 degrees in July to 80 degrees in January and February.

Fresh water is scarce. No running streams, only springs. Rain water is collected in cisterns for drinking. Soil is rocky. Whole island is covered with a grass called Aeho. Coconuts, breadfruit, bananas, taro, sweet potatoes, pandanus are grown here. Some pigs and goats are raised. Very little bird life on the island.

Favorite food of the islands; fermented breadfruit and fish.

Mangarevan natives help their meager income by diving during the pearling season. In early days, it is said, native children played with pearls like other children play with marbles.

Mangareva Island, 4 miles long and 1 mile wide, is the largest of the group. It has a most interesting history. A "high" island

of almost indescribable beauty, Mangareva is nevertheless called "a land of the past." It is an island of ruined villages, churches and ecclesiastical buildings. The massive cathedral is a monument to a priest who has been called "mad" by some historians and "inspired" by others.

It seems Laval became obsessed with the idea of building a great religious center in the heart of the South Seas. He destroyed every single native shrine and forced the native population into virtual slave labor to build the great edifices his fellow priest designed. Unwilling workers were tossed into a windowless dungeon to think it over. On the site of every destroyed shrine, Laval erected a church. He built cathedrals larger than the one in Papeete.

When half the island's population had died from the effects of forced labor in the hot sun, the government stepped in and Laval was sent to Tahiti. But it was too late. The island never recovered. When Laval was questioned about the huge loss of life (5,000 people) he replied, "It is true they are dead, but they have gone to Heaven that much more quickly."

Today there are less than a hundred Mangarevans left out of the original 10,000! Faithful followers still keep some of the churches in repair. Also the 8 hole privies built for the nuns.

Laval was one of the great collectors of Polynesian customs and his findings are highly prized by historians today.

Mangareva is the site of a new Atomic French Missile Base.

TIMOE: (Crescent) ISLAND: SE island of the Gambiers narrow strip of coral encircling a lagoon. Three and one half miles long. One and a half miles wide and the highest islet is 6 ft. Heavy seas break spectacularly on the reef making landing impossible.

THE TUAMOTU ARCHIPELAGO

The Tuamotus are located at lat. 14 degrees to 23 degrees south, longitude 135 degrees to 140 degrees west, and consist of 76 atolls, of which only one is raised. Quiros was the discoverer in 1606. The whole group was annexed by France in 1880. The Tuamotus were once called Paumotus which could mean "conquered". This, the natives objected to, so it was changed to Tuamotu. Now everyone is happy.

In ancient times, and not too ancient at that, cannibalism was practiced on an extensive scale. An inhabitant had to keep his eyes open during famine years not to wind up the main course of

(90)
the village feast. It was considered a great disgrace to be eaten.
(Also darned inconvenient, I'd say.)

The Tuamotus are "low" islands, unlike the "high" islands of Tahiti, Moorea, Bora Bora, etc. They resemble the Florida Keys - coconut palms over thick brush and bordered by a white beach. There are treacherous reefs all around the islands and it is understandable why they are known as the "graveyard of ships."

For a successful home garden, natives are forced to bring in top soil from one of the "high islands". Vanilla, taro (grown in artificial pits dug in the sand), arrow root, manioc, papayas, and bananas are abundant.

The houses are of thatch. Some have corrugated iron roofs to catch the rain water. The islands are beautiful beyond description. The brilliant colors of the lagoons are startling. Great heads of coral mushroom up to the surface of the lagoons while gorgeously colored fish swim in and out, a constant display of white with blue tails, black with yellow tails, white with black stripes, blue with screaming yellow tails. The color of the coral heads is like a painter's palette gone crazy.... Purple, mauve, pink, light yellow, light gray, strawberry. The sea is alive with sea urchins, sea anemones, sea worms, octopi, moray eels, giant Tridacnas clams (the kind you don't play footsie with), and sharks....good sharks, and mean ones.

Chief industry in the Tuamotus is phosphates. The deposits are located on Makatea and are 40 feet thick. They have been "open-minded" since 1908. Makatea is the only island in the Tuamotus that is "raised." (El. 200 feet) Pop. is about 1800, and the climate is hot and humid but unlike most atolls, Makatea has plenty of fresh water.

The shallow lagoons of the Tuamotus make ideal pearl oyster beds. Natives wearing goggles and carrying baskets, bring the shells up in relays. The average is four shells per dive. Professional diving equipment is prohibited by law. It takes three years for a pearl to develop so lagoons have "closed" seasons when it is prohibited to dive. Favorite pearling lagoons are Hikuro, Hao, Apataki, Maronau, Maukura, Raroia, Arutua, Maniki, Makemo, Takaroa, and Takume.

What is not often realized is that pearls are really a by-product of the pearl shell industry. The income from pearls alone wouldn't even pay the cost of diving. The real income is derived from the shell. Most pearls taken in the Tuamotus are the Margaritiferi Margaritifera variety of black pearl. Another variety of pearl oyster is the "pipi", a rather rare pearl, smaller than the black pearl shell. The pipi shell produces pearls of extraordinary

size, some running 3 or 4 carats, and in shades of black, blue, yellow and pink. As the oysters don't participate in the profits they are very uncooperative about trying to produce every pearl in giant size. They get their "kicks" turning out frustrating tiny pearls, imperfect pearls or no pearls at all.

The climate of the Tuamotus is dictated by the trade winds -- mostly equable, but at times violent. In 1877, Anaa, an atoll of 13 coral islets in the Tuamotus, was the scene of one of the most destructive hurricanes in history. Anaa suffered another big blow in 1906, which leveled most of the coconut trees. Also lost: precious top soil brought from Tahiti via schooner. These wind-lashed atolls were the locale of Jack London's "Typhoon" and Nordhoff and Hall's "Hurricane."

Bougainville in 1769, while looking at an atoll, summed it all up when he said, "I admire their courage if they live without uneasiness on these strips of sand which a tempest can bury under water in the winking of an eye."

The men of the Tuamotus are handsome, the women unusually attractive. Unlike Tahiti, most of them still seem to have their teeth. Even out here, the natives like to have their palms crossed with silver before they will pose for photographers and artists. Jean Masson, a French painter, reported sadly in the Pacific Islands Monthly that even in Takapoto, a small island of only 250 people, the models insisted on fees for posing. Fees in the past year for posing in Tahiti have gone into orbit. Gauguin's son, Emile, collected 1,000 francs for posing for a photo for Time Magazine. He's probably making more money right now posing for tourists than his father did painting.

Spear throwing at a coconut suspended on a tall pole is a popular sport in the archipelago. Some "palm-tree cowboys" can put a spear through the center of a coconut suspended 35 feet in the air, from a distance of 70 feet! Could Jim Arness do better?

On some of the atolls you will find fish wiers built of blocks in the lagoon entrances. Fish swimming along in the current were trapped in this labyrinth and scooped up in nets.

The Tuamotus are ports of call on trips to and from the Marquesas. Two or three unscheduled schooners a month also put in here. Round trips usually take about 20 days. Fares are a little over \$5 a day, including meals, making it a real South Seas bargain. (One of the few left.)

AIR SERVICE TO THE TUAMOTUS: Via RAI Bermuda flying boats only. Usually every Sunday. Leave Papeete 8:30 A.M. Arrive Maniki 1:50 P.M. Lv. Manihi Tuesday 7:15 A.M. Arrive back in Papeete 1:30 P.M. Stops are sometimes made at Rangiroa, Takaroa. Check schedules in Papeete as they change frequently.

MATAIVA, (Lazareff) ISLAND: Westernmost of the Tuamotus. Five miles long and three miles wide. A densely wooded atoll. Inhabited at times by natives from TIKAHAU, 20 miles away.

TIKAHAU (Krusenstern) ISLAND: Eight miles W of Rangiroa. A fifteen mile circular atoll sporting a wooded islet in its very center. Pop. under 200. Small vessels can moor in the lagoon.

RANGIROA (Rahiroa) ISLAND: Two hundred miles NE of Papeete. Largest, most populous island in the Tuamotus. It is 44 miles long and about 17 miles wide and is beautifully wooded. The 700 people on the atoll live in two villages, Tiputa and Avatoru. At one time Rangiroa was one of the most productive pearl and fishing spots in the South Seas. Over-fishing of the beds by natives almost exhausted the shells. The government now regulates the pearling.

Fishing is great here. You can troll for cavelli, still fish for coral, fish or fly cast in the tide rips for moi.

Skin divers....it's heaven. (And if you don't keep one eye open for sharks that's just where you may wind up....depending on the life you've led, of course.)

KAUKURA ATOLL

This 25 mile long atoll was the target of one of the most terrific hurricanes in South Sea history. So violent was the force of the storm blocks of coral 30 feet high were thrown up from the sea and can be seen from a distance of 12 miles. Only two villages: are Mout Panao and Motu Ura.

AHE (Peacock) ISLAND: A wooded atoll 9 miles West of Manihi. One village of 125 natives. Good anchorage, it is said, in the lagoon. Coral heads pop up all over the lagoon near the village.

MANIHI (Wilson's) ISLAND: Near Apataki, a 13 mile long wooded atoll, pop. 150, there are two churches. Reliable pilots will bring your boat to safe anchorage.

ARUTUA ISLAND: Nine miles NW of Apataki. A sixteen mile ring of partly wooded coral. Most of the reef is submerged.

APATAKI ISLAND

A well wooded little atoll about 15 miles NW of Toau. Pop. 160.

TOAU ATOLL

A 22 mile long atoll near Aratika. Partly wooded. No permanent residents. Occasionally fishermen come over from Fakarava.

RARAKA ISLAND

A partly wooded atoll near Katiu. One small village - Matahai.

KATIU (SAKEN) ISLAND

Scenic rose-colored beaches covered with brushwood and coconut trees are part of this low atoll. Eighty inhabitants in Toini Village. Schooners enter the pass in the NE part and tie up at the wharf in the village.

MARUTEA (HOLT) ISLAND

The Boris Karloff of the archipelago. Population: 100. Vessels up to 200 tons can come through the pass on the SW side.

HAO

A seventy mile enclosed lagoon. Discovered by Bougainville in 1768 and visited by Cook in 1769. Scientists have found this atoll fascinating to explore. Several test holes have been drilled to depths of 1,000 ft. to test the formation of an atoll, but nothing was found but sand and coral. Some day some smart aleck will probably drill 1,000 feet and strike oil.

MAKEMO (PHILIPPS) ISLAND

This 40 mile length of atoll has two villages with a combined population of 220. Good anchorage, they say, in the lagoon but yachtsmen are warned that the approach is extremely dangerous at night because the slightest sea drowns out the sound of the breakers. Just to make things a little more sporting there are also numerous coral heads and reefs in the lagoon once you get in. Better stick to the milk run to Catalina.

FANGATAU (FANGATAUIEA)

Said to have the sweetest "drinking nuts" in the South Pacific.

TEKOKOTA (DOUBTFUL) ISLAND

A circular atoll with a shallow lagoon that is home to numerous birds.

HIKUERU:

Here was the scene of history's most disastrous hurricane. Only 300 survivors out of the 1200 natives gathered on this atoll for the pearl diving season.

FAKARAVA ATOLL

Second largest island in the Tuamotus, Fakarava is 32 miles long and 15 miles wide and is covered with coconut trees.

Half-abandoned, Rotoaua Village stands on the NE corner of the atoll. Tetamanu Village is located on the SE side. Most of the natives have given up and gone to sample the famed pleasures of Papeete.

FAAITE (MYLORADOWITICH) ISLAND

A partly wooded atoll a few miles west of Tahanea. Water is more plentiful here than in many of the other islands in the area.

TAHANEA (TCHITSCHAGOFF) ISLAND

This atoll located near Motu Tunga is visited at certain times of the year by natives from Katiu and Faaite to harvest the coconuts.

ANAA (Chain) ISLAND

Another hurricane swept atoll that is regarded by many as the most beautiful in the South Pacific. It certainly has a most unusual feature. The yellow sand of its shallow lagoon reflects the green of the coconut palms into the sky creating a beautiful splash of emerald green that can be seen for 50 miles. It's truly the mirage of the South Seas....only it's real.

Recommended landing place is near the village of Tuuhora on the NE side.

MOTU TUNGA ISLAND

An atoll near Teopto that is inhabited only during part of the year. Small vessels moor near the village of Marokupenga. Many wooded islets on the reef.

HITI ISLAND: An uninhabited island 3 miles in diameter, the scene, they say, of a shipwrecked pirate ship carrying a fabulous cargo (were there ever any poor pirates?). Two survivors were picked up and taken to Sydney where they quarreled (naturally) and one killed the other. The survivor, sick and dying, gave the map to a friend who tried to locate the treasure without success. (If I had the map do you think I'd include it in this guide for \$2.00?)

TAIARO (KING'S ISLAND)

A thickly covered atoll with a lagoon not accessible by boat. No permanent residents.

TAKAPOTO

A densely wooded atoll with a lagoon hidden to view. Only boat landing that can be made is at Fakatopatere, about 1/2 mile NW of the S. point.

TAKAROA

Four and a half miles NE of Takapoto. Heavily wooded. Only entrance is through the reef fringed Tehavarua pass. Pilots available unless you want to scrape the barnacles off your bottom the hard way. Pop. 250. Small store in village can supply limited amount of canned goods. Fresh foods scarce. Fresh water available in limited amounts and then only in the rainy season.

TIKEI

A small, wooded atoll near Aratika. Population of 30.

KAUEHI (VINCENNES) ISLAND

A circular atoll with a population of 200.

MORANE (CADMUS) ISLAND

115 miles west of Mangarava. A tiny atoll with a lagoon, coconuts thrive on 3 small islets in the lagoon. The lagoon is inaccessible from the sea.

MARIA (MOERENHOUT) ISLAND

Another small atoll covered with brushwood located about 91 miles NW of Mangarava. The Lagoon is inaccessible from the sea.

REAO ISLAND

At one time one third of the island were lepers.

PINAKI ISLAND

An atoll complete with "buried treasure" story. The tale often told, never proved, is that four men, serving in the Peruvian army were digging under a floor of a church in Callao, Peru and discovered seven chests containing gold worth ten million dollars. The group spirited the treasure to Pinaki where they buried it. This was in 1859. Many have tried to find it, but without luck. Buying a "long lost" map of the treasure's hiding place is the local version of "buying the Brooklyn Bridge".

NIHIRU ISLAND

An atoll 7 miles in diameter with a population of 80. Chief and only occupation: Coconuts. They eat'em. They drink'em. They make copra of them.

TEHUATA (REKAREKA) ISLAND

An atoll of coconut palms and brush. One small village.

TAUERE (ST. SIMEON or RESOLUTION) ISLAND

An atoll about 60 miles east of Tekokota. Few inhabitants.

RAROAIA (BARCLAY de TOLLEY) ISLAND

Made famous when Thor Heyerdahl and his men cracked up their raft "Kon Tiki" on Raroia's reef. A neighbor of Takume, Raroia atoll has a small jetty in the village of Nbarumaoua where vessels up to 2 feet Craft can go alongside. Pop: 100.

FANGATAU (ARAKCHEV) ISLAND

A wooded atoll. Landing is possible near the western point of the village. There is a Roman Catholic mission here as well as a church and a school. Pop. 120.

TAKUME (WOLKONSKY) ISLAND

Forteen miles long and 4 miles wide. Many coconut groves. Two villages.

PUKA PUKA (HENUAKE, HONDEN or DOG) ISLAND

A wooded atoll made famous in the entertaining novels of the Frisbie family. This island and its neighbor Penrhyn were hit hard by Peruvian slavers in the middle previous century.

FANGAHINA (FAKAHINA) ISLAND

A coconut-lined atoll 100 miles SW of PUKA PUKA.

TEPUKA (NAPUKA) and TEPOTO

Called the Disappointment Group. (Ties du De's appointement) Sometimes referred to as "the Happy Islands." (They just can't make up their minds.) The natives, being out of civilization's path, are poor but healthy. Even a disastrous hurricane that shot houses across the atoll like flying saucers, failed to dim their optimism.

DUCIE (UNITED KINGDOM) near PITCAIRN

In the SW 1 1/2 miles long. Highest point 14 ft. Deep lagoon partially enclosed by low coral flats. Entrance blocked by sand bar, it is said. Some of the fish in this area are poisonous.

HENDERSON (UNITED KINGDOM) (ELIZABETH ISLAND)

Some 200 miles West of Ducie. Five miles long--2 3/4 miles wide. Thickly wooded. Highest elevation 100 ft., with 3 sides displaying white coral cliffs 50 ft. high. Abundant fish and lobsters of excellent quality. Numerous rats and mice in the thickets. Fresh water has been found at half ebb....not usable at high tide. Heavy seas make landing extremely dangerous.

MINERVA

(Ebrilles or Bertero Reef.) The resting place of the ship "Sir George Grey", lost here in 1865.

TATAKOTO

Want to ride a wave in a boat like a surfboard? Then sail through the rock-lined entrance to Tatakoto where the natives have to run out and pull you across the reef to keep you from being dashed to pieces. Better you should stick with the Matterhorn ride at Disneyland.

If you don't like this island, flies do. There are millions of them here....all eager and hungry.

OENO ISLAND

Sixty-five miles NW of Pitcairn. Low atoll 2 1/2 miles in diameter. Landing is extremely dangerous.

PITCAIRN ISLAND

This highly publicized island has cliffs rising to heights of 1,000 feet. Luxuriant vegetation in the rich decomposed lava and black earth.

Settled by the mutineers from the H.M.S. Bounty, Pitcairn has had a tough fight to keep alive. Residents keep leaving and no new ones arrive. Vessels en route from Panama to New Zealand put in here but they only seem to take off residents. They don't bring any new ones. Although there is plenty of fruit and poultry there is sometimes a scarcity of water. No pests or endemic diseases.

A British possession. Radio on island. Best anchorage: off

Bounty Bay or NE side of island.

Pitcairn has been hit at times with a hurricane but these blows are rare.

In the past year a new Library, Museum, Dispensary and Post-office have been built. Also, a new skidway and boat shed.

CLIPPERTON ISLAND (FRENCH)

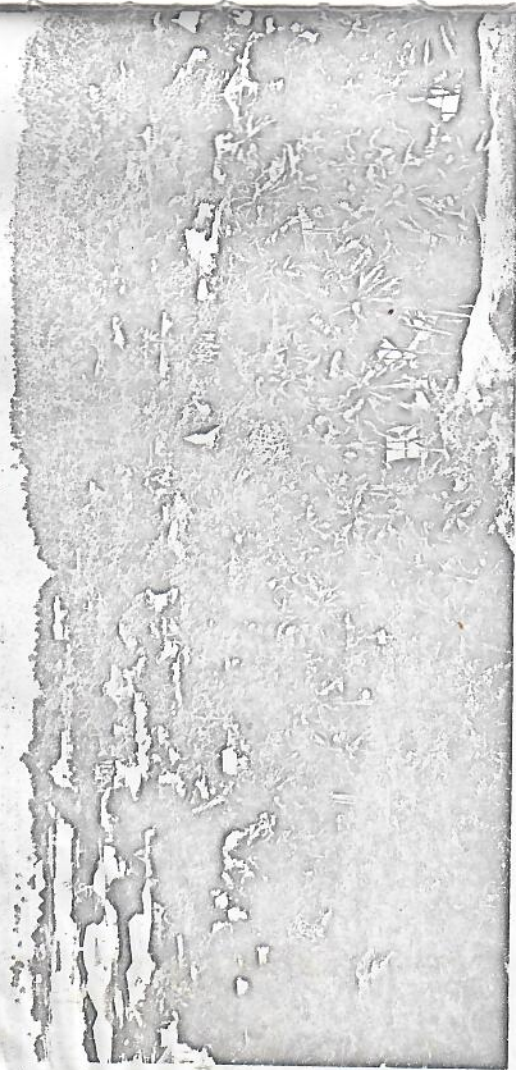
The "longely sister" of French Oceania--the most isolated of the possessions some 1800 miles west of Panama. Two miles in diameter, Clipperton is a low and circular shaped. The island got its name from Capt. John Clipperton, a pirateer who used the atoll as a base of operations. It was a seaplane base during World War II. Unattended at present.

"FRANCE IN THE PACIFIC" - NEW CALEDONIA

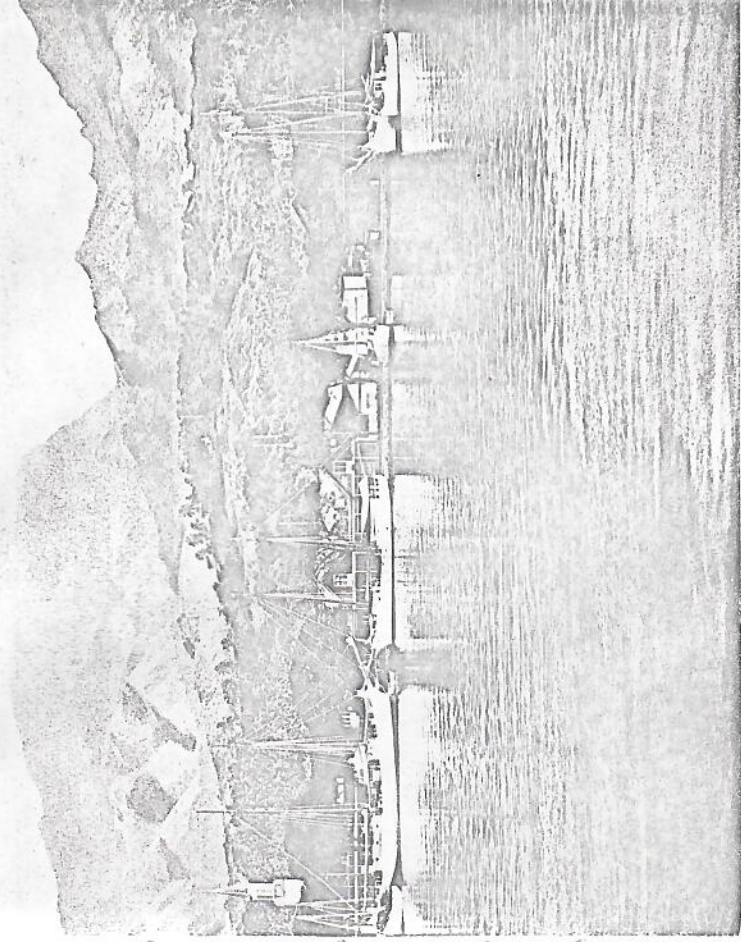
Some travelers refer to New Caledonia as "France with coconut palms" and not without reason. Of all the French possessions in the Pacific, New Caledonia has retained more of the customs of the mother land. Here in Noumea you "live French." You wear clothes freshly imported from Paris, dine on exquisite French dishes, sip wonderful French wines and brandies, but the background is strictly South Pacific. New Caledonia has one of the most pleasant, most healthy climates in the Pacific. Thousands of American servicemen who were stationed here during the war will testify to that statement. My first view of Noumea was from the porthole of an ammunition ship anchored in the harbor. My only prayer was that I could get off the ship in time to enjoy the beauties of this tropical wonderland before someone threw a cigarette but in the hold, full of aerial bombs.

New Caledonia and its dependencies include Ile of Pines, the Ooyalty Islands (Uvea, Lifou, Mare), Huon and Chesterfield Islands, and assorted islets and reefs. New Caledonia (or Grande Terre) is 279 miles long and 32 miles wide and contains 7,690 square miles. It is located half way between the East coast of Australia and the West coast of New Zealand. Population of the group is about 77,000. Twenty-seven thousand are French, 38,000 are Melanese, the rest are a mixture of Tahitians, Wallisians, Indonesians, and Vietnamese. The mainland is shaped like a cigar and along its entire length runs a chain of mountains called "Chaine Centrale" dividing the island into two distinct regions --the East coast and the West coast.

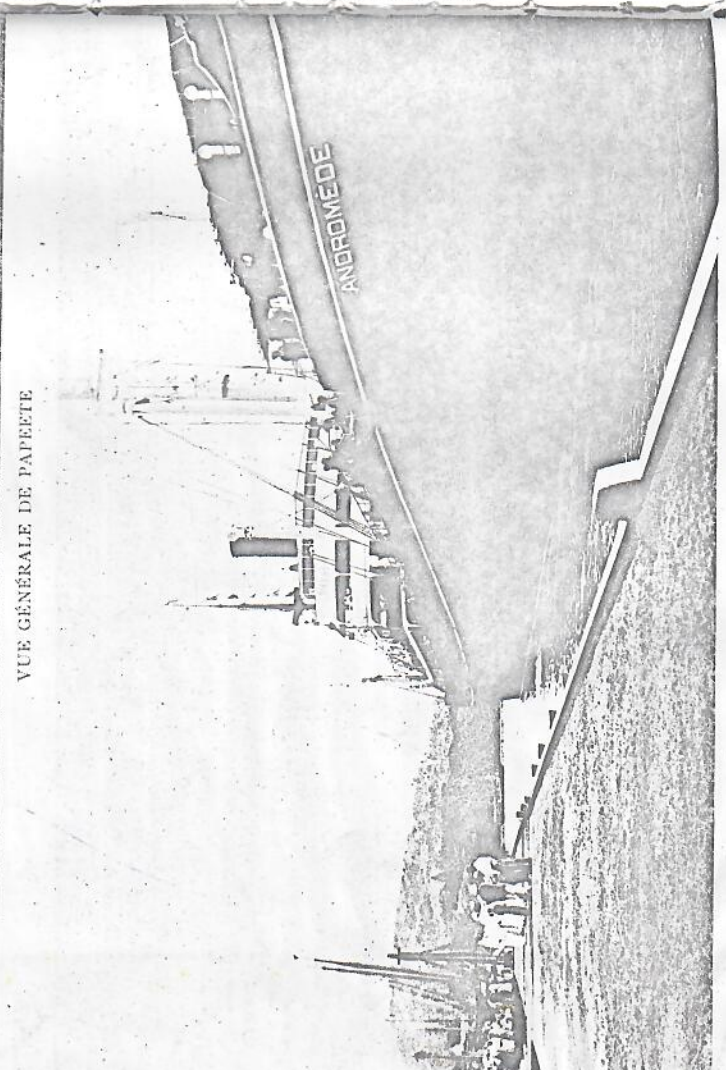
CLIMATE: Temperate, semi-tropical climate with a cool season running from June to September and a warm season from December to March. Trade winds make summer quite pleasant. Heaviest rainfall occurs from January to March. Best months are April
 Highest temperature for year 79.2. Lowest 67.8.



VUE GÉNÉRALE DE PAPEETE



PORT DE PAPEETE



PAPEETE — LES QUAIS