



In the 1950s most expatriate Australians living in New Guinea had at least two servants—a manservant and a maid.
Photograph, 1951.

MAGAZINE PROMOTIONS

CHAPTER 29

AUSTRALIA'S OVERSEAS TERRITORIES

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THE HISTORY OF Australian trusteeship dates from just after Federation when the protectorate of British New Guinea was transferred from Britain to the Australian commonwealth. Since that time, Australia has had responsibility for administering a diversity of overseas dependencies, bringing some to independence. With the exception of Papua New Guinea, gaining entry into Australia's overseas territories has been difficult, and it has been particular issues—phosphate in the case of Nauru, tourism in the case of Norfolk Island, interest in Antarctica's natural resources—that have provoked popular interest in the more distant territories. It is not therefore surprising that a large part of the literature relevant to the relationship of Australia to its territories is government-generated.

A starting point for wider reading on the topic is found in published bibliographies. General works such as the *Annotated bibliography of select government publications on Australian territories 1951–1964* (Canberra, 1965) is a useful guide for that period. The National Library of Australia's four-volume *Guide to the collections* compiled by C.A. Burmester identifies subject collections in that institution, with explanatory notes. Works on specific areas include *World catalog of theses and dissertations relating to Papua New Guinea* by William Coppell (Boroko, PNG, Institute of Applied Social and Economic Research, 1978) and *Bibliography of Nauru, western Pacific* by N.L.H. Krauss (Honolulu, The Author, 1970).

The Australian official war histories provide additional reading. Those of World War I recount the importance of German New Guinea and the naval engagements in the waters to the north of Australia, those of World War II, the south Pacific theatre and the New Guinea campaigns.

Another approach to the literature of Australia's overseas territories is through biography and reminiscences. Francis West's biography (1968) of Hubert Murray, Roger Joyce's biographies of William MacGregor (1971) and Sir Paul Hasluck (1976), the last detailing changes in Papua New Guinea while Sir Paul was minister for territories, are of this genre. Griffin (1978) relates the impact of New Guinea on nine widely differing personalities whose occupations had taken them to that country.

AUSTRALIAN ANTARCTIC TERRITORY

By the provisions of the Australian Antarctic Acceptance Act 1933, the Australian government became responsible for the area now known as the Australian Antarctic Territory. Responsibility rested with the Antarctic Division of the Department of External Affairs until 1967, when it was

transferred to the Department of Supply. In 1972, the Territory became the responsibility of the Department of Science. Information may be found in the *Annual reports* of these departments, as well as the *Year book Australia*.

The literature of the Australian Antarctic Territory includes works concerned with exploration, such as Sir Douglas Mawson's *Home of the blizzard* (1915; facs, New York, Greenwood, 1969) which is a classic first-hand account of south polar exploration. Scientific research accounts for much activity in the Antarctic and findings are reported in the appropriate journals. References at the end of each chapter in J.P. Lovering and J.R.V. Prescott (1978) provide useful starting points for further reading of these topics. The terrain of Antarctica has proved an exciting subject for photographers, and much of the material is liberally illustrated.

CHRISTMAS ISLAND

Under the Christmas Island Act 1958–59, Australia accepted responsibility from Britain for the administration of Christmas Island which from 1900 until 1946 had been incorporated with the Straits Settlements, from 1946 to 1958 was part of the colony of Singapore and, for a few months before becoming Australian, was a British crown colony.

Information on Christmas Island is contained in the *Year book Australia* and in the *Annual reports* compiled by the Australian Department of Administrative Services until 1977, and thereafter by the Department of Home Affairs.

COCOS (KEELING) ISLANDS

Prior to 1946, the Cocos (Keeling) Islands formed part of the British Straits Settlements, and from then until 1955, part of the British crown colony of Singapore. Australia accepted the Territory by the passage of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands Act 1955.

Information on the Cocos (Keeling) Islands is contained in the *Year book Australia* and in the *Annual reports* published by the Department of External Territories until June 1973, and then by the Department of the Special Minister of State (to December 1974), the Department of Administrative Services (to December 1977) and the Department of Home Affairs. Two United Nations sponsored missions have visited the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, one in 1974 and one in 1980, and the reports of these missions supplement the literature on the Territory.

LORD HOWE ISLAND

Under the State Constitution Act 1902 Lord Howe Island is part of New South Wales, and is included in the metropolitan electoral district of Elizabeth. Material on Lord Howe Island is included in that on New South Wales.

MACQUARIE ISLAND

In 1889 Macquarie Island came under the jurisdiction of the governor of Tasmania and has remained part of the Tasmanian municipality of Esperance ever since. However, material on Macquarie Island is usually included in that of the Australian Antarctic Territory.

NAURU

Until 1968 Australia was responsible for the administration of Nauru under the Trusteeship Agreement with the United Nations (1947), continuing the practice assumed under the League of Nations mandate (1921) of exercising full powers of legislation, administration and jurisdiction in and over the territory on behalf of the administering authority of Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom.

Nancy Viviani (1970) includes a comprehensive bibliography of Nauru under such headings as official publications, unpublished official sources and personal manuscripts, including material from the nineteenth century to independence.

Useful sources on Australia's administration of Nauru are the *Official year books* of the years 1923, 1929 and 1938, and the annual reports on Nauru to the League of Nations from 1921 to 1946, and to the General Assembly of the United Nations from 1948 until independence.

NORFOLK ISLAND

Norfolk Island was a British penal settlement until 1856 when it was placed under the jurisdiction of the governor of New South Wales. In 1897 it was made a dependency, and by the passage of the Norfolk Island Act 1913, became a territory of Australia.

Information on Norfolk Island may be found in the *Annual reports* presented by the Department of Territories from 1914 to 1965, the Department of External Territories from 1965 to 1971, the Department of Capital Territory from 1973 to 1975, the Department of Administrative Services from 1975 to 1977 and the Department of Home Affairs since 1978. *Year book Australia* has statistical details.

The colourful story of Norfolk Island has initiated some popular histories and anecdotes, of which Frank Clune's *The Norfolk Island story* (A & R, 1967) is one. Merval Hoare (1978) is more academically based, with a comprehensive bibliography as a starting point for wider reading.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

The proximity to Australia of Papua New Guinea and its strategic significance have promoted a greater awareness of this trust territory than of the other territories under Australian control, and this interest is reflected in both the quantity and the depth of the literature.

Australia accepted charge of British New Guinea in 1901. In 1921, Australia's authority was expanded to include German New Guinea, to be administered as a mandate under the covenant of the League of Nations. A useful source of information on those early years are the annual reports to the League of Nations for Papua from 1906, and for New Guinea from 1921, and to the United Nations from 1946; the last was reprinted as an Australian Parliamentary Paper. The works by Ian Downs (1980) and J. D. Legge (1956) contain good bibliographies. The works cited cover the history of Australia's interest in Papua New Guinea from the end of the nineteenth century until independence in 1975, and have been selected for their account of the political relationship between Australia and Papua New Guinea as long as it lasted.



Commonwealth Bank branch, Papua New Guinea. Pix, 8 September 1951.
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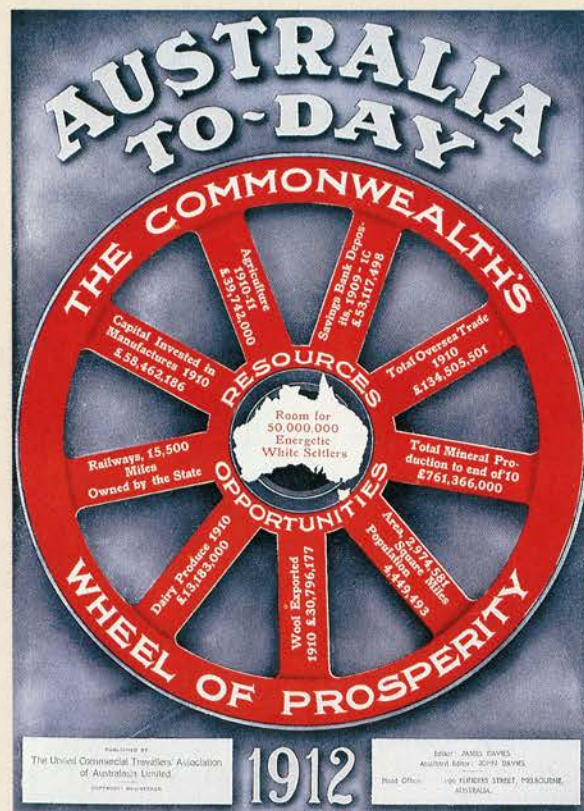
Assistant District Officer Ron Galloway, of Gollala area, Papua, also runs bank and Government store. Natives draw money to buy goods at store. Money then goes back into bank.

- AUSTRALIA. Royal Commission into Matters Relating to Norfolk Island. Report. AGPS, 1976. 418 p, map.
The report contains a historical outline and chronological summary, as well as recommendations on the future status and constitutional relationship of Norfolk Island with Australia.
- BETTS, MS. *Australians in Antarctica*. AGPS, 1981. 39 p, illus. An illustrated account of Australia's involvement in Antarctica.
- CUMPSTON, JS. *Macquarie Island*. Canberra, Antarctica Division, Dept of External Affairs, 1968. 380 p, illus, maps.
A history of Macquarie Island by a former member of the Dept of External Affairs.
- DOWNS, I. *The Australian trusteeship, Papua New Guinea, 1945-75*. AGPS, 1980. 587 p, illus, maps.
An account of the administration of Papua New Guinea as Australia prepared the Territory, first for self-government and then for independence.
- GRIFFIN, J. *Papua New Guinea portraits: the expatriate experience*. ANUP, 1978. xxxi, p, illus.
Personal accounts of nine Australian settlers.
- HASLUCK, P.M.C. *A time for building: Australian administration in Papua and New Guinea, 1951-1963*. MUP, 1976. 452 p, illus.
A personal account of New Guinea's advance towards independence while the author was minister for territories.
- HOARE, M. *Norfolk Island: an outline of its history, 1774-1977* (2nd edn). UQP, 1978. 185 p, illus, map.
A history with many quotations from relevant documents, and bibliography. First published in 1969.
- HOSEL, J. *Antarctic Australia*. Melbourne, Currey O'Neil, 1981. 64 p, illus.
A history of Australia's involvement in the Antarctic, describing life in the south polar region, with photographs by a member of Australia's Antarctic Division.
- HUDSON, W.J. ed, *Australia and Papua New Guinea*. SUP, 1971. 198 p.
A collection of essays on Australia's administrative experience in Papua New Guinea, chronologically arranged with extracts from relevant documents.
- JOYCE, R.B. *Sir William MacGregor*. OUP, 1971. 484 p, illus.
A biography of the administrator of British New Guinea from 1888 to 1898.
- LAW, P.G. *Antarctic odyssey*. Melbourne, Heinemann, 1983. 284 p, illus, maps.
Personal account of the first leader of the party sent to establish the Australian Antarctic research station. Deals with Antarctic policies and the Australian National Antarctic Research Expedition (ANARE).
- LEGGE, JD. *Australian colonial policy: a survey of native administration and European development in Papua*. A & R, 1956. 245 p, map.
A broad outline of the administration of Papua and, since World War II, of Papua and New Guinea. Policy is discussed both chronologically and thematically.
- LOVERING, J.F. AND PRESCOTT, J.R.V. *Last of lands: Antarctica*. MUP, 1979. 212 p, illus, maps.
Popular account by two leading academics. Bibliography.
- MCCARTHY, J.K. *Patrol into yesterday: my New Guinea years*. Melbourne, Cheshire, 1963. 252 p, illus, maps.
An account of the author's time as a district officer in New Guinea from 1927 until his retirement in 1954.
- MULLEN, K. *Cocos Keeling: the islands time forgot*. A & R, 1974. 122 p, illus, map.
A history and political survey of Australia's outposts in the southern Indian Ocean and the 'reign' of John Clunies Ross.
- PRICE, A.G. *The winning of Australian Antarctica: Mawson's B.A.N.Z.A.R.E. voyages, 1929-31: based on the Mawson papers...* Sydney, A & R for the Mawson Institute for Antarctic Research, 1962. 241 p, illus, maps.
Account of the British, Australian and New Zealand Antarctic Research Expedition, 1929-31.
- ROWLEY, CD. *The Australians in German New Guinea, 1914-1921*. MUP, 1958. 371 p, maps.
An account of the Australian military administration of New Guinea between 1914 and 1921, the allocation of the mandate and the exodus of German nationals from the Territory.
- VIVIANI, N.M. *Nauru: phosphate and political progress*. ANUP, 1970. 215 p, illus, map.
An account of Nauru's progress towards independence, describing Australia's interest in the island and those of Britain, Germany and Japan.
- WEST, F.J. *Hubert Murray: the Australian pro-consul*. OUP, 1968. 296 p, illus, map.
A biography of Murray, who was lieutenant-governor of Papua from 1908 to 1940.
- WILLIAMS, R.M. *Three islands*. Melbourne, British Phosphate Commissioners, 1971. 84 p, illus, maps.
An illustrated account of life on the islands of Nauru, Christmas Island and Ocean Island, issued to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the British Phosphate Commission.



VIII

THE ECONOMY



'The commonwealth's wheel of prosperity', published by the United Commercial Travellers' Association of Australasia Ltd in Australia to-day, 1 Nov 1911.

BOOROWA PRODUCTIONS

Aborigines have occupied Australia for 30 000 to 50 000 years; whites for a mere two centuries. The white economy is well documented with written records; the blacks' with fragmentary material. The study of Aboriginal economy is still in its infancy while that of European economic development has been consciously explored from the time J.D. Bigge inquired into New South Wales in 1819.

The brevity of European economic history makes it easier to grasp as a whole. Over two centuries there has been prodigious expansion and a transformation of the economic interests of Australia. This history has been punctuated by successive booms and busts. Formed as a derivative of the British economy Australia has been dependant on flows of capital and migrants from abroad. Although exploitation of natural resources has been vital, exports have been steadily shrinking, with policy and activities turned increasingly inwards. The range of activities has concentrated more and more on urban and particularly metropolitan services and manufacturing. Convict beginnings notwithstanding, white settlers quickly established a market-oriented economy. As whites embarked on resource exploitation and urban activities after 1860, a peculiar form of mixed economy emerged, with government occupying a major role. Australia now has a modern, highly managed economic system, but its export income—particularly of raw materials and foodstuffs—is subject to rapid fluctuations on the world market.

*To
A Land of Rural Riches
and Expanding Industries*

At the present time, when production and still more production is so vitally important to the world, Australia are proud of our land. Proud because of the part it is playing in feeding and clothing peoples for all productive parts of the world. But we cannot grow or create our industries, manufacture goods unaided.

And so to a land of rural riches and expanding industries the Commonwealth Bank offers financial assistance together with expert knowledge and friendly practical advice.

To assist the primary producer and those engaged in industry or business of all types, specialised departments have been established to provide for the particular needs of a:

That the Mortgage Bank Department looks after the man on the land who buys or rents farm land which are available for the purchase of rural properties, the construction of dams and other improvements to the production of farming machinery etc.

The Industrial Finance Department arranges loans for any type of enterprise in the business or industrial undertaking. Through its Price Purchase Section, advances under the purchase agreement at the low rate of 4½ per annum are made for the purchase of cars, trucks, tractors, buses and all types of farming machinery and household tools and equipment.

The Housing Loan Department can help you with finance to build or buy a home of your own.

There are only a few of the Bank's services and you may be sure that there is one which will assist you in no matter what your business or sphere of life may be. A real signpost of the friendly cooperation offered at every branch of the

Commonwealth Bank of Australia.
Branches throughout Australia and
many Islands.

VERNON
DORRIS

Australia to-day, 26 Oct 1951. In the postwar economy 'when production and still more production is so vitally important to the world', the Commonwealth Bank of Australia offered customers its 'financial assistance', 'expert knowledge' and 'friendly practical advice' in this full-page colour advertisement. As an indication of the severity of the housing shortage that gripped Australia in the late 1940s and early 1950s, the bank placed less emphasis on helping prospective home owners than it did on financing industry, primary production and small business.