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The language of the Niue Islanders contains many words closely akin to Maori, and village life there centres round the church, which is the largest and most important building in the settlement.

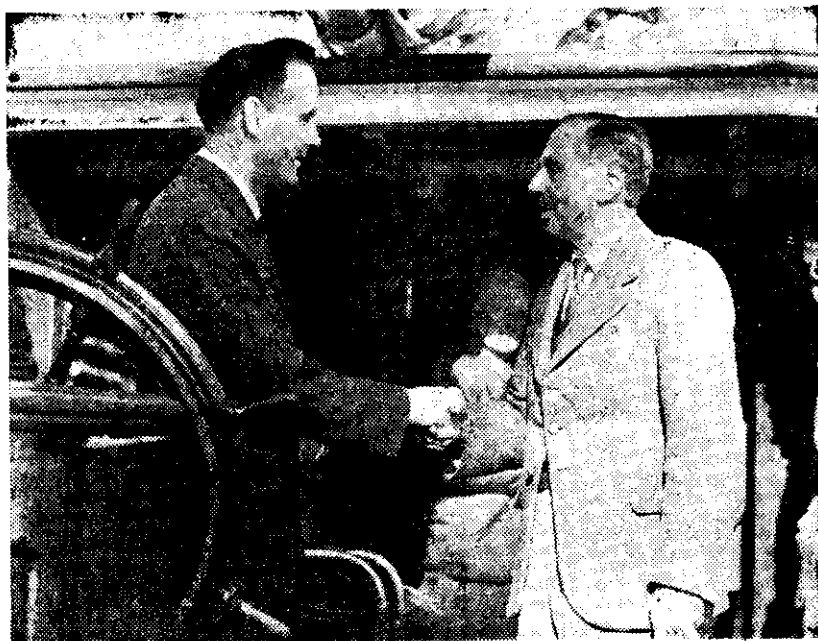
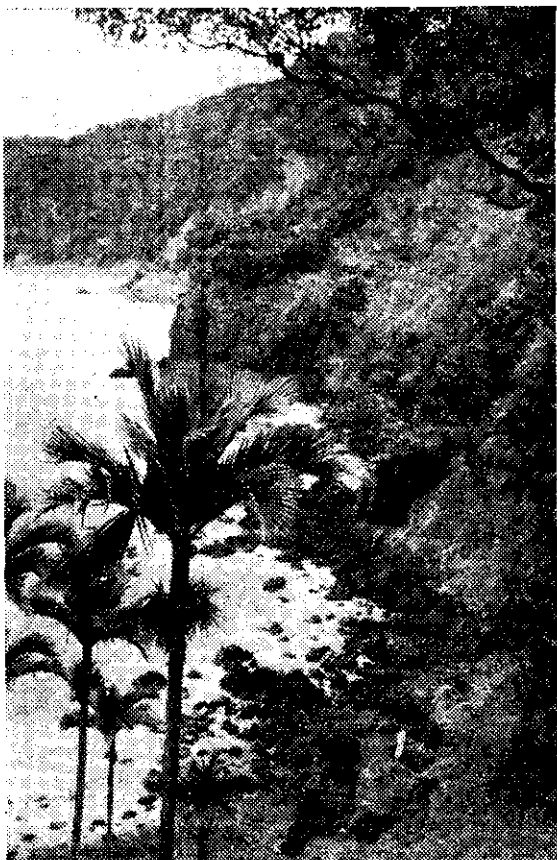
A Bad Start

Originally two members of the NZBS set sail from Auckland on May 12, in the 94ft. ketch New Golden Hind, commanded by Captain A. Cole. The ship ran into bad weather and the technician, H. H. Taylor, who was to have operated the tape-recorder, became seriously ill the day before they reached Raoul Island, in the Kermadecs. He rapidly became worse and the captain decided to radio for medical advice. An Auckland doctor set a time-limit of 24 hours to get Taylor into hospital. A Catalina flying-boat was sent from New Zealand, 600 miles away, and after circling seven or eight times, was put down near the vessel which was anchored off Raoul Island. It took 20 minutes to get the patient to the Catalina by dinghy and during the transshipping one of the flying boat's crew had to be rescued from the shark-infested sea. The swells were estimated at between four and five feet high and the Catalina had a bumpy take-off before becoming airborne. The patient reached Auckland with 10 minutes to spare and incidentally the Catalina delivered the first air-mail to New Zealand from the Kermadecs.

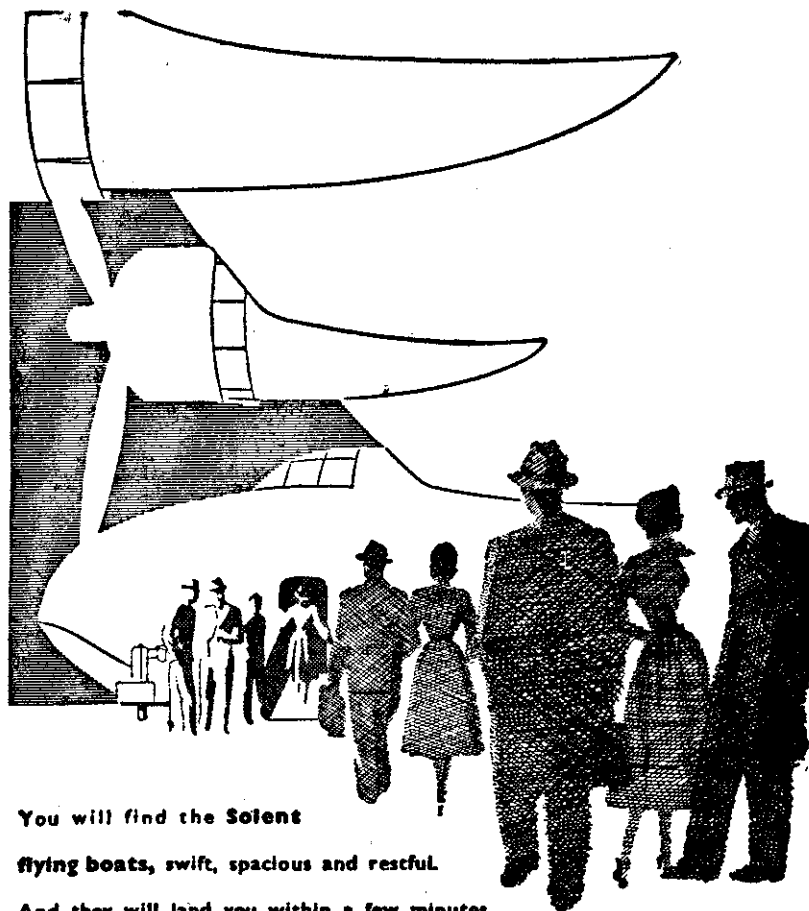
As one man could not direct the recording and work the tape-machine at the same time, Captain Cole closed down the ship's radio while she was at anchor so that the

operator, Ken Windsor, could assist. For two hours before the Catalina arrived, Taylor, though in great pain, gave Windsor tuition in operating the tape, so that it could be used throughout the stay both at Raoul Island and Niue Island.

The trip back to Auckland was just as rough as the outward journey and the New Golden Hind arrived back in port on June 3, with the ZB man 10lb. lighter in weight than when he started. All this and more, including descriptions of the flora and fauna of Niue, will be heard in the programmes which Bryan O'Brien is now preparing. The series will be called *Isles of Romance*.



BRYAN O'BRIEN (left) is welcomed on board the New Golden Hind by the Master, Captain A. Cole. Above: The steep bush-clad south coast of Raoul Island in the Kermadecs



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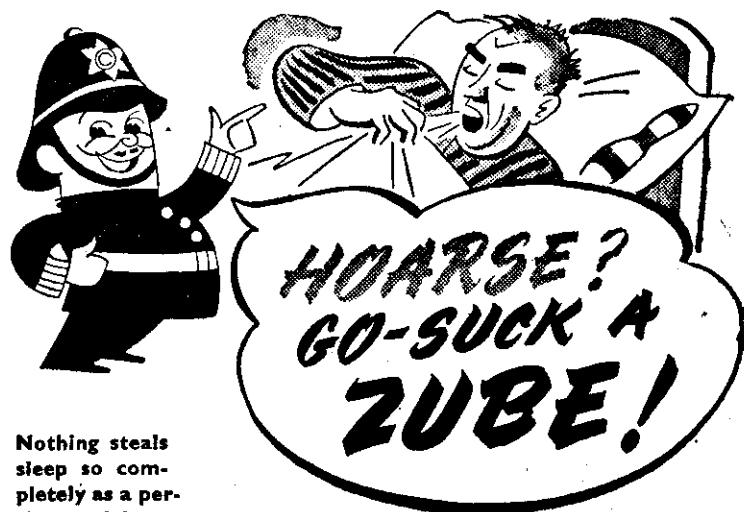
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