

Fling All Your Troubles Away...And
Have A Fling At Love And Laughter!

Our Wife



starring

**MELVYN DOUGLAS
RUTH HUSSEY
ELLEN DREW**

with

CHARLES COBURN • JOHN HUBBARD

Screen play by P. J. Wolfson • Directed by JOHN M. STAHL
A JOHN M. STAHL PRODUCTION • A Columbia Picture

"A"
Cert.

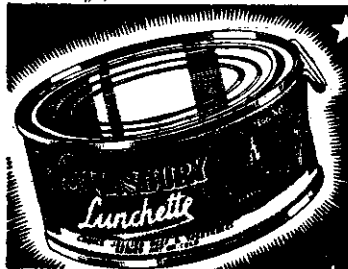
PLAZA THEATRE, AUCKLAND
Coming Shortly
OTHER CENTRES TO FOLLOW

LUNCLETTE JOINS THE HOME GUARD—

SAID JACK TO SAL 'THE HOME GUARD MARCHES
ON CARBOHYDRATES, PROTEINS, STARCHES.
SO PACK TOMORROW'S LUNCH WITH CARE,
INCLUDING SOME SUBSTANTIAL FARE'



SAL TOOK THE HINT, MADE SURE TO PACK
SOME LUNCLETTE IN HIS HAVERSACK.
JACK FOUND HIMSELF WHEN LUNCH BEGAN
THE COMPANY'S MOST ENVIED MAN.



★ JELLIED BEEF AND VEGETABLES

**SALISBURY
LUNCLETTE**

STOCK UP YOUR LARDER WITH THIS TRIO
LUNCLETTE...SALISBURY TONGUES...SALISBURY BEEF ESSENCE

BOMBERS OVER NEW GUINEA

A Land Of Contrasts And Surprises

This is the first of two
articles specially written for
"The Listener" by B. W.
COLLINS, M.Sc., F.G.S.,
who spent a year in New
Guinea prospecting for oil.



FASHIONS in head ornaments. A
native from the district of Ramu, New
Guinea

ALREADY in the news, and likely to be more so in the not so distant future, is the largest island in the world. At least that is how New Guinea is often described. The two possible exceptions are, of course, Greenland and Australia, both of which come in a sort of intermediate category between continents and islands. Three times the size of both islands of New Zealand, larger than the whole of the Japanese Empire (including Korea, Formosa, and South Sakhalin)—facts obscured by the distortion of areas on ordinary maps, on which New Zealand appears to be larger, if anything, than New Guinea—this queer-shaped island is referred to by those who ought to know as probably the richest and at the same time least developed of the territories of the South Seas. Of even greater importance at the present time than its natural resources is, however, the strategic value of the island to Australia; and Australians will be asking themselves the questions: Will Japan attempt to occupy New Guinea? Will she be able to use it as a base from which to attack Australia? How strong is the new Port Moresby air base now under construction? Will the Dutch and Australians be able to hold this sprawling, largely unknown land—the natural barrier to the northern approach to Australia?

Sorong, a settlement at the western extremity of the "Bird's Head" (Vogelkop Scherieland to the Dutch) has been bombed, but at the time of writing the landing of troops has not been officially confirmed. Canberra announces that the Australian Air Force is keeping a watchful eye on all developments, but that there has been no Japanese activity over the Australian half of the island. What kind of a land is this, that before long may be the scene of violent conflict?

Rather Like New Zealand

New Guinea, like New Zealand in some ways, may be described as a land of contrasts and surprises. In the first place it is not one country but three—each with different laws and separate administrations. Within its 300,000 square miles are only about 10,000 white people and a million and a-half natives. It boasts the highest mountains in the Southern Hemisphere with the sole exception of a few peaks in the South American Andes. Some are giants of more than 16,000 feet, which, though within four degrees of the equator, are perpetually snow-capped. On either side of the main mountain chain lie healthy and fertile upland valleys, with comparatively dense native populations. Nearer the coasts

stretch vast areas of fever-infested mangrove and sago swamps. Huge rivers, navigable by power-driven craft for more than 500 miles, penetrate the island's inner fastnesses. Tumbling mountain streams and waterfalls give New Guinea a potential hydro-electric power greater, for its size, than any other country in the world. It is a land of cannibals and missionaries; of head-hunters and first-class engineers; of stone adzes and modern gold dredges; of bows and arrows and the latest oil-drilling equipment; of birds of paradise and ten-passenger aeroplanes; of Australian and Dutch administrators, German and Polish missionaries, American company directors, and Chinese traders; of squalor and dirt and superstition, and of refrigerators, telephones and wireless sets. It possessed until a year or two ago the world's largest freight-carrying aeroplane service—now possibly overshadowed by Canada's service to the mining camps of the Northwest. Its one and only "railway" of about two miles, with open trucks for carriages—has fallen into disuse, and the whole country has probably under a hundred miles of motor roads. Although named in 1528 "Isla der Ora"—the island of gold—by a Spaniard, the first European to set eyes on the country, it was not until 1926, 400 years later, that two Englishmen discovered in what had ten years before been German territory the goldfield which has made New Guinea famous. And to conclude this catalogue of *memorabilia*, one of her territories was the only unit of the British Empire, apart from Great Britain herself, for which were designed and minted coins bearing the head of the uncrowned King Edward VIII.

Plumes of Paradise

As late as 1931, Dutch New Guinea, the western half of the island, was described by a returning Australian visitor, as largely *terra incognita*. The bulk of the country is entirely unexplored, the Dutch apparently having their attention fully occupied with the richer, more nor-

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