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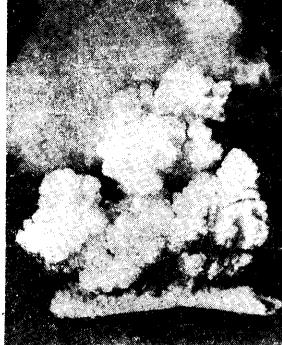
Loudest Explosion

A LONG drum-roll echoed over the Strait of Sunda on the evening of August 26, 1883, from an island off Sumatra. The warm air was suddenly punctured by a series of sharp ter-rifying detonations. Then in a mounting fury the sound of thunder and the explosions fused into a colossal and hideous uproar as Krakatoa, the island which was in reality the crater of an underwater volcano. erupted. Here was something more terrifying than any horror man could devise. Far below the ocean bed, the pressure of expanding gases heaved a mighty shoulder against hundreds of feet of solid rock that shifted, buckled, split wide open. White-hot lava boiled out of the rift in the island's crown

and hurrying down, met the sea in great clouds of super-heated steam. Next morning, against the river of lava, the ocean smashed its way to the island's volcanic centre. In the explosion that followed, 14 cubic miles of rock were hurled skywards in a blinding confusion of steam and smoke and dust that put a curtain round the sun. Where Krakatoa's mountain had stood 2500 feet high, there was now a hole 1000 feet deep and miles across. The blast sent an atmospheric pressure wave or oscillation racing round the earth at 700 miles an hour. For ten days air currents battled in the skies of Europe. A tidal wave moved out from Krakatoa that swept across the Indian Ocean, turned the Cape, veered

north into the Atlantic, and finally spent itself in the English Channel, A warship torn from her moorings on the coast of Sumatra was tossed two miles inland and dropped into jungle 30 feet above sea-level. Scores of villages dis-appeared behind the red hot debris that in some parts covered the ground to a depth of 100 feet; 36,000 people died, mostly by drowning. And for twelve months after, high in the air currents 30 miles above the earth, the dust that

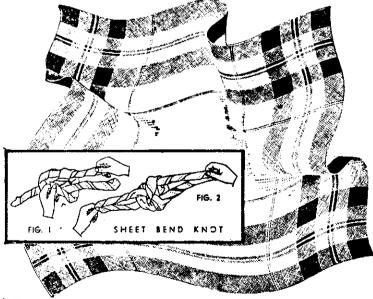
was Krakatoa travelled the globe. Next week, sixty-eight years leter, August 26 falls on a Sunday as it did then, and at 8.45 p.m., in The Moon was Green, the story of Krakatoa will be told from 3ZB.



THE crater of Krakatoa today

HANDKERCHIEF MAGIC BY "GRAFTON" No.3

How to tie the "Sheet Bend Knot" - with those strong Grafton handkerchiefs for men



Roll two "Grafton" handkerchiefs rope-wise and lay flat upon a table. The "Sheet Bend" is the seaman's method of attaching the end of one rope to the end

Fashion a loop (the shape of a horse-shoe) out of one "Grafton" handkerchief. Dip the end of the second handkerchief through this loop and pass it right around behind the two ends of the first handkerchief (Fig. 1). To complete the knot you must tuck the loose end of the second handkerchief under its own cross-over (Fig. 2).

"Graftons" keep their whiteness and boil ... and boil ... and poil. Use one for show and one for blow. Ask for "Grafton" handkerchiefs by name.

Sole Manufacturers in N.Z., Klippel Bros. (N.Z.) Ltd., Box 426, Auckland

COMMONWEALTH CHRONICLE

DESIGNED to present a picture of authorities of the other Dominions. contemporary life, and specially of social and economic development, in our sister Dominions and Great Britain, Commonwealth Chronicle will be heard from all YA and YZ stations at 9.15 p.m. on Wednesday, August 22, and at the same time every Wednesday after that. It will replace Australian Commentary, which has been on the air for some years. Contributions are expected from all of the other Dominions and Britain, though they will not be represented with equal frequency. The programmes are being supplied by broadcasting organisations throughout the Commonwealth.

Commonwealth Chronicle will start with a programme from Canada. Items will include an account of the graduation of NATO air navigators in Prince Edward Island, precautions against forest fires in Saskatchewan, a fishway to protect British Columbia salmon andfor light relief-an old woman's hillbilly band at Vancouver.

The NZBS has developed Common-wealth Chronicle in the hope that it will grow into a regular exchange of programmes between Commonwealth countries (though it is recognised that there will be language difficulties to over-come), and New Zealand productions have been offered to the broadcasting the BBC.

Special programmes have been sent overseas in the past but, apart from material for school broadcasts, they have not been sent as part of a regular scheme; and they have not been designed to present the New Zealand scene to overseas listeners in the way planned in Commonwealth Chronicle. Programmes have been sent to Canada, special news commentaries have been sent to Australia, half a dozen programmes were exchanged with South Africa at the time of the All Blacks' tour, and programmes, commissioned and otherwise, have frequently been sent to the BBC, which is specially interested in those which relate to life close to the soil.

Broadcasts to Schools already takes part in a scheme for exchange of school broadcast programmes, and a series received from other Commonwealth countries will be heard during next school term. Last year a programme prepared for exchange with Canada in the Children of the Commonwealth series won the NZBS Honourable Mention from the Institution for Education by Radio of Ohio State University-an honour which the service shared with the Australian Broadcasting Commission, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and