

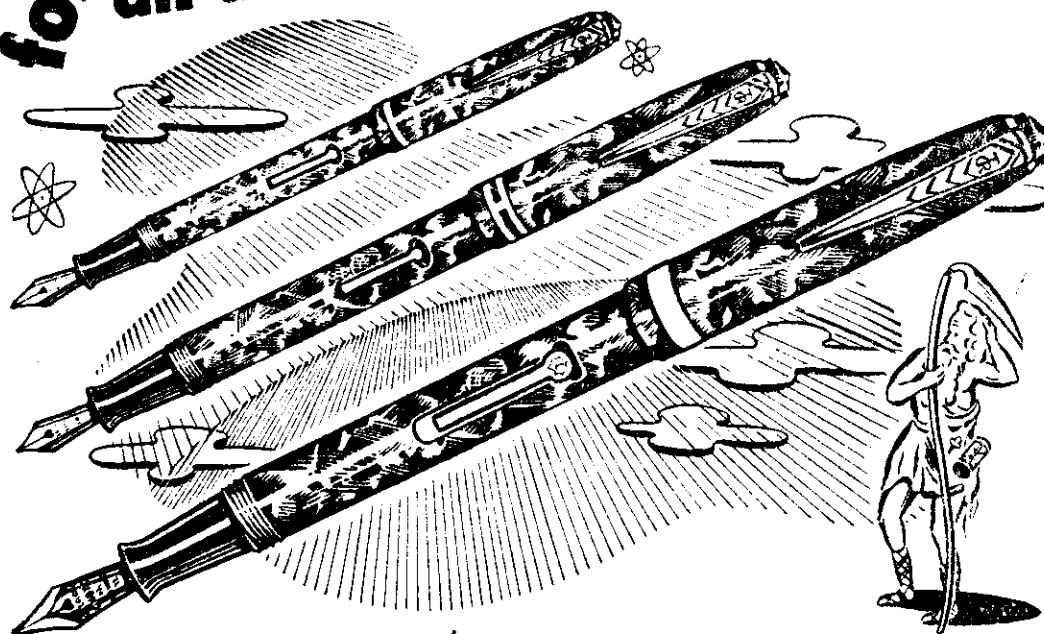


A CEREMONIAL feast of welcome in preparation on the estate of Queen Salote at Tonga

ON TO FIJI AND TONGA

WHEN the Gothic with the Royal party on board enters Suva harbour on December 17 a reigning British monarch will be visiting Fiji for the first time. As a background to this part of the Royal tour, a BBC programme, *This is Fiji and Tonga*, will be broadcast from several National stations next week. Written and produced by Philip Snow, who has served as an administrative officer in Fiji, the programme tells the stories of these two groups of islands and describes their peoples, way of life, customs and ceremonies. Contributions are made by Ratu Sir Lala Sukuna, Secretary for Fijian Affairs; Sir Harry Luke, a former Governor of Fiji; and Corporal N. Lalabalavu, a member of the Fijian force in Malaya, who was in London for the Coronation. The second part of the programme, about Tonga, includes part of the message Queen Salote broadcast to her people during her triumphant visit to London for the Coronation. A former British Agent and Consul in Tonga, J. S. Neill, describes the Queen's Palace and gives an account of the government of the country; and a New Zealand anthropologist speaks of Fijian and Tongan racial origins. The music of both countries is also heard in the programme. *This is Fiji and Tonga* will be heard from 1YA, 3YA and 4YA on December 17, and from 2YC on December 19.

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