

Magellan ( Cont. from page 5 )

He arrived in Seville on Oct 20 - " and on that day the conquest of the Pacific began. ::: A fortunate marriage made him the son-in-law of a great Spanish sailor, the controversy whether the Spice Islands were within Spanish territory gave him the opportunity to offer to show a shorter route than known to the Spaniards and to prove that they lay within Spain's power. The intrigue that followed we must ignore. On 20th Sept. 1519 Magellan with five ships under his command crossed the Tagus and turned Southward. The voyage was marked by privation, treachery and mutiny. At the end of March they came to good anchorage and shelter in Port Julian where they made their winter quarters. With the coming of warm weather he set sail on 18th Oct., and ran south west until a cape was sighted on the third day - a bay was also sighted. The Cape was named, Cape of the Eleven Thousand Virgins. But the bay - what of it? Countless other bays had been explored to no purpose. Was this another? Two ships were sent to explore. In the terrific storm that followed there were given up for lost, but after three days returned with flags flying and all guns booming. They had sailed up the bay and found no end to it; the flood tide was stronger than the ebb. There must be a passage at last. It was the first narrow straits.... that now bears the explorer's name. " The navigation of the Straits of Magellan " says a modern historian, " is difficult beyond most tasks of like nature. He did not go astray in the numerous sounds and channels which make the Straits a maze. During the navigation the largest ship deserted. A council was called. With only three ships and not three months supply of rations with them, the return home was argued. A venture into the unknown on such terms was too much. But Magellan said " No, if they had to eat the leather on the ship's yards they would go on. " So on the 28th Nov. they passed into the Great South Sea to discover the Philippines, the Mariannes, and touch on many other islands. :: THE great age of Pacific Explorations had commenced. But Magellan, like Captain Cook, met his death on one of the islands he discovered.

Acknowledgement to  
Exploration of The Pacific.  
J.C. Beaglehole.  
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THIS IS NOT A HOME ISSUE.

JOE.

(Cont from page 5)

" Your wife ! " I replied with some astonishment. " Yah, my wife, but she's dead - committed suicide. Had two children too. Dont know why she did it ; she loved me and I loved her. But.... now I'm free, and it won't matter if I do have a woman. I wouldn't mind one of 'em New Zealand nurses. Thar not too bad, no sir! He clicked his teeth round his tongue as though about to enjoy a sweet caramel. " But it just aint easy to pick up the sonsabitches round here. No, it just 'aint easy! " He continued talking to himself as though he were trying to straighten things out. :: " SAY, what's your name ? " he asked as if just aware of my presence. Mine's Joe " he answered before I had time to reply. " I sure would like to be back in the States behind one of them wheels " he went on as the trucks continued to tear past us. He walked on, thumbing, talking, trying to straighten out the Iron Lung, the sonsabitches who were hard to get round these parts, the States and the hospital which lay before him. But he could not. He was just not made that way. ( R.M. )

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::: I saw to it that there was little sleep for the rest of the day - and that has been my policy ever since. Out of that experience I developed my Population theory.. but quietness descends upon me sometimes - as it did when I celebrated the arrival the other unday. That is why Dozerdust missed. Too bad we missed, " Tag " - we might have missed the breakfast on the Sunday morning. Best wishes on population matters and in the days to come. ::: BECAUSE all these journeys were made a long time ago, do not think Old Man Srook is on the shelf. No a bit. On Wednesday our Charlie Goffin celebrated the arrival of the Storke's first visit to the Goffin home. He carried a daughter to Charlie and wife. If the future Miss Goffin has as happy a time as Charlie did at the party she is in for a good time. Congratulation Charlie. Convey our blessing to the new arrival and good wished to her mother. You have something to look forward to at home!