

The Corvette H.M.N.Z.S. "Arbutus" arrived at Apia on 30th October, and, after visiting the Tokelau Islands and Pago Pago with the Administrator and an official party, finally departed on the 12th November.

Mr. D. W. Amos, of the Fiji Health Department, spent a fortnight in the Territory from the 20th November to work with the Medical Officer of Health and to assist in the training of some six Native Health Inspectors in the identification and control of mosquitoes. Lectures on preventive and safety measures were also given.

Mr. F. Shanahan, Assistant Secretary of External Affairs, Wellington, attended the meeting of the *Fono* of all Samoa on the 13th November, when the trusteeship agreement for Western Samoa was under discussion. He returned to New Zealand on the 21st November.

Mr. S. W. McDonald, of the New Zealand National Broadcasting Service, was in Apia during January, 1947, when he investigated the practicability of establishing a broadcasting system in the Territory.

The Administrator left the Territory on 16th January to attend the Conference held at Canberra at which the agreement establishing the South Pacific Commission was drawn up. He returned to Apia on 20th February.

NATIVE AFFAIRS

Statutory recognition is accorded to the *Faipule*, Samoan representatives who meet in *Fono* and confer with the Administrator in an advisory capacity on Native affairs. *Faipule* are appointed in pursuance of the terms of the *Faipule* Election Ordinance 1939. For the purposes of this representation the Territory is divided into forty-one constituencies. Each constituency is invited by the Administrator to submit the name of a representative, and the person so selected is then confirmed in the appointment of *Faipule* for a term of three years. The Administrator has the benefit, also, of the advice of the three *Fautua* (Advisers), who are chiefs of the highest standing.

The Legislative Council includes four Samoan members, who are nominated every three years by the *Fono* of *Faipule*.

Native administration is carried on through representatives of the Native Affairs Department at Mulinu'u (close to Apia) and Tuasivi (in Savai'i) and through district and village Samoan officials, who are paid salaries by the Administration. The European staff of the Department has recently been augmented by the appointment of two local Europeans.

The *Pulenu'u* is the Administration representative in each village and is nominated by vote of the chiefs and orators, and confirmed in his office by the Administrator. He can be relieved of his appointment at any time by request of the village if proper reasons can be advanced, but normally he continues in office for a period of three years. The *Pulenu'u* co-operates with the ruling body of chiefs and orators in his village, and is legally responsible for the recording and notification of births and deaths and of the appointments of new *matai* (heads of families) in his village.

The unit of social organization is the family (*aiga*), which may be divided into groups or branches, at the head of each of which is the *matai*. A Samoan title is the family name to which a *matai* succeeds on assuming his position of leadership of the family group. Succession is not necessarily hereditary, it may even be bestowed on a stranger as reward for good service to the family or the preceding holder. A *matai* receives service from the members of the family, whom he controls in patriarchal style, conferring with them on matters of importance. Each *matai* has a seat on the council, or *Fono*, which directs village affairs.