34/1966

THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY
RESEARCH SCHOOL OF PACIFIC STUDIES
DEPARTMENT OF PACIFIC HISTORY

ANNUAL REPORT 1965

Staff

Professor J.W. Davidson, M.A. (N.Z.), Ph.D. (Cantab.)
Professorial Fellow H.E. Maude, O.B.E., M.A. (Cantab.)
Professorial Fellow F.J. West, B.A., Ph.D. (Leeds), Ph.D. (Cantab.)
Fellow Emily Sadka, B.A. (Oxon.), Ph.D.
Senior Research Fellow P.W. van der Veur, M.A. (Minn.), Ph.D. (Corn.)
Visiting Senior Research Fellow H.A. Luckham, B.A. (Oxon.)
Research Fellows W.N. Gunson, M.A. (Melb.), Ph.D.
Dorothy Shineberg, B.A. (Melb.), M.A. (Smith Coll.), Ph.D. (Melb.)
C. Jack-Hinton, M.A. (Aberd.) Ph.D.
D.A. Scarr, B.A. (Exe.), Ph.D.
Research Assistants Honore Forster, B.A. (Melb.) (Part-time until October)
Susan Moore, B.A. (Melb.) (Until April)
Susan Rule, B.A. (W.A.)
Jennifer Terrell, M.A. (Oxon.)
Departmental Assistant Diane Dickson, A.L.A.A.

There were several changes in the Department during the year. Professor Wang Gungwu, who is Professor of History in the University of Malaya, was attached to the Department during the second term of the year as the University's Asian Fellow.

Mr D.J. Routledge, a Scholar in the Department, left at the end of the year after completing the writing of his thesis.

Two Research Assistants left the Department during the year - Mrs Honore Forster in October and Miss Susan Moore in April; Miss Susan Rule joined the staff as a Research Assistant and Mrs Diane Dickson as Departmental Assistant in August and June respectively.

Students and Training Activities

In 1965 there were 11 Ph.D. students attached to the Department. The Ph.D. degree was conferred on two former students, Mr W.R. Roff and Mr D.A. Scarr.

Several students were engaged in field work. Mr S. Latukefu
returned from Tonga, Fiji and New Zealand in March, after undertaking research on the influence of Methodist missionaries on the political development of Tonga. Mr D.L. Hilliard returned in May after collecting material on the history of Protestant Missions in the British Solomon Islands. Mr E.A. Polansky, who has been undertaking research in Rabaul on race relations, returned to Canberra in May. Miss Whetu Tirikatene, who took up her scholarship during the year, has returned to New Zealand to study 20th century Maori politics with particular reference to the Ratana-Labour alliance. Mr A.D. Ward has resumed his scholarship and returned in October from New Zealand, where he has been engaged in research on Maori policy and administration, 1862-1900. Mr I.D. Black took up his scholarship in September and has commenced research on the life of Sir Charles Brooke, 2nd Rajah of Sarawak. Mr C.H. Wake is now finalising the writing of his thesis on the history of Johore in the 19th century. Mr N. Rutherford continued work on his study of Shirley Baker and the Kingdom of Tonga and had virtually completed the final draft by the end of the year. He has been appointed Lecturer in History at the University of Newcastle. Mr P. France has been engaged in writing his thesis on the Land Tenure System of Fiji during the year.

Research Programme

The Department of Pacific History is concerned with the study of historical situations involving contact between Western and non-Western cultures, with a particular emphasis on contacts of a 'colonial' type in which Europeans have occupied positions of political and economic dominance. This field of research presents one particularly important problem of method. The major part of the documentary evidence consists of records made by Europeans and framed in terms of Western thought. The Department is engaged in devising and testing means to supplement the study of such documentary material in order to reach a fuller understanding of the social processes involved than is possible by conventional historical technique alone. This work makes its relations with other branches of the social sciences as close as those with other fields of history.

Since all historical research involves the study of specific situations, the geographical limitation imposed on the Department in its title - Pacific History - does not restrict the breadth of its theoretical preoccupations. On the contrary, it gives an added coherence and compactness to the body of factual knowledge which is subjected to theoretically-directed analysis. The danger of an undesirable narrowing of perception is guarded against both by the variety of situations available for study within the Pacific area and by the previous experience in other fields possessed by all members of the Department.

Professor Davidson continued work on his book Samoa mo Samoa: The Emergence of the Independent State of Western Samoa, which at the end of the year was almost ready to go to press. Early in the year he was given access to the confidential files of the New Zealand and Samoan Governments dealing with the Mau (the Samoan nationalist movement of the 1920s and 1930s), which had not previously been worked on by historians.

Mr H.E. Maude spent the early part of the year engaged on research into aspects of the history of the Central Pacific for a proposed book. Four detailed studies were prepared on particular subjects or periods of which the first, on the Coconut Oil Trade, was published in The Journal of the Polynesian Society for December and the remainder were due to appear in various journals during 1966. Work was also done on the preparation, for publication in book form early in 1966, of a series of essays on Pacific history entitled Islands and Men.

Dr West spent the year in England and the United States on sabbatical leave, participating in lectures and seminars in universities.
both countries. In London he collected material for a comparative study of British and French colonial practice and completed work on his book 'The Justiciarship in England, 1066-1232' published at the end of the year by Cambridge University Press. Dr West also revised the final draft of his book 'Hubert Murray: The Australian Pro-Consul' which Oxford University Press are bringing out in 1966.

Dr Sadka continued work on her book on the government of the Malay States; the final stages of the work have now been reached. Dr van der Veur has continued further work on the Papua and New Guinea House of Assembly elections and has co-edited with Dr D.G. Bettison and Dr C.A. Hughes a book on The Papua-New Guinea Elections, 1964, which was published by the University during the year. He also finalized work on 'New Guinea Boundaries' which is to be published in 1966. Dr Gunson has completed an introduction to the Reminiscences of the Rev. L.E. Threlkeld, missionary, and progress has been made in editing the text. Further articles have also been completed by Dr Gunson for the Australian Dictionary of Biography. Dr Shineberg spent two months during the year in New Caledonia and the New Hebrides engaged in research and has worked on the revision of her Ph.D. thesis on the Sandalwood trade of the Southwest Pacific, 1830-1865, for publication. Dr Jack-Hinton was engaged in field work in Portu al from June as part of his research into Portuguese and Spanish activities in South-East Asia and other Iberian colonial areas during the sixteenth century. He was granted assistance by the Calouste Gulbenkian foundation of Lisbon to engage in research in the archives of Portugal for a period of six months and has also completed revision of his Ph.D. thesis on the discovery and exploration of the Solomon Islands, 1568-1850, for publication. Dr D.A. Scarr visited the New Hebrides and Fiji early in the year to collect additional material for the revision of his Ph.D. thesis. Work has continued on the revision of the thesis, with a view to publication, during the year. He has also been engaged, with Professor Davidson, in planning a volume of brief biographies of Pacific island characters, and in locating sources for his projected biography of Sir John Bates Thurston.

Other Activities

In January Professor Davidson visited Western Samoa, at the invitation of the Samoan Government, to advise on problems that had arisen in relation to the respective fields of authority of Cabinet and Parliament. On his return journey to Canberra he stopped briefly in Fiji (to discuss current political developments there) and in New Caledonia (to discuss projects of interest to the School and the South Pacific Commission) and visited the New Hebrides (to examine the scope for further research in that territory). At the end of March he paid a short visit to New Zealand. In September he visited the Cook Islands, as the guest of the New Zealand and Cook Islands governments, to attend celebrations to mark the establishment of internal self-government.

Preparations for the publication of an international annual, to be called The Journal of Pacific History, were completed during the course of the year. The format and composition of the Journal was settled, and the ten research papers commissioned, together with material for seven permanent sections on current affairs, manuscripts and publications, had been received by the end of the year, when editorial work was still proceeding with a view to publication early in 1966. With Professor J.W. Davidson and Mr H.E. Maude as co-editors, Mrs Jennifer Terrell as Assistant Editor, and an Editorial Board consisting of members of the Pacific Islands section of the Departmental staff, the Journal is being assisted by an international panel of Honorary Correspondents. The initial launching of a major venture of this character has entailed the overcoming of a great number of problems and both Mr Maude and Mrs Terrell were occupied full-time on work connected with the first issue throughout most of the latter part of the year.
Arrangements were made for the publication in book form of P.A. Snow's *Bibliography of Fili, Tonga and Rotuma*, and Mrs Terrell spent several weeks checking the entries against information known to the Department, resulting in the inclusion of several hundred additional items. Editorial work was also commenced on the first monograph in the series, an *Inventory of Manuscript Material on the Pacific Islands in the United Kingdom and New Zealand*. It is intended to publish both works during 1966. Nine books in the Pacific History Series are now under commission, of which three are in process of completion.

While in London, Dr West read a paper on the Fijian Administration at a seminar course at the Institute of Commonwealth Studies in the University of London and took part in the Conferences held by the Director, Institute of Historical Research and the Anglo-American Historical Conference held in July. After being awarded a Carnegie Commonwealth Travel Grant, Dr West attended the American Political Science Association Meeting in Washington in September.

Dr van der Veur gave papers at the Conference of the Australian Association for Cultural Freedom at Port Moresby in January and at the Conference of the Australia-Indonesia Association at Newport, N.S.W., in April. He also organised an evening course with Dr C.A. Hughes on New Guinea politics at the School of General Studies.

Dr Gunson delivered a paper, which has since been published, on missionary history at the A.N.Z.A.A.S. Conference in August.

Dr D.A. Scarr visited Vila, administrative centre of the New Hebrides Condominium, early in 1965, at the invitation of the British Office, in order to gather material for a brief history of the town. This topic, on further enquiry, proved to be too narrow to be rewarding and has, therefore, been widened to cover the history of European settlement on Efate generally.

At the invitation of the late Queen of Tonga, Mr S. Latukefu extended his field trip in New Zealand to take down from her some traditional Tongan history whilst the Queen was in Auckland.

During the third term of the academic year the Department conducted a series of Seminars. In addition, two delegates to the South Pacific Conference in New Guinea, which was held during the middle of the year, gave seminars when visiting the Department on their return journey. They were Dr Yamashita, who is the President of the College of Guam and spoke on 'Educational Development in Guam' and Mr Carlos Taitano, who spoke on the 'Political Development in Guam'. Mr Taitano is speaker of the 8th Guam Legislature and leader of the Territorial Party which now controls the legislature. Professor Wang Gungwu, Professor of History in the University of Malay, gave two seminars on China's foreign policy, while a member of the Department on an Asian Fellowship during the second term of the academic year.

The Department has continued to collect microfilms of theses relating to the Pacific area and copies of other important documents.

As the sole organization engaged in Pacific Islands historical research the Department has perhaps inevitably become the reference centre for many scholars in other countries seeking advice on documentation and related problems, and a steadily increasing number of requests have been received both by correspondence and personal visits, including several research students from American universities.
Publications


GUNSON, W.N. 'Co-operation Without Paradox: A Reply to Dr Strauss'. Historical Studies, Australia and New Zealand, XI, xlv, (April 1965), 313-34.


Theses

During the year the following theses were submitted and deposited in the Library after examination for the degree shown:

ROFF, W.R. For Ph.D. 'The Origins of Malay Nationalism, 1900-1941.'

SCARR, D.A. For Ph.D. 'Policy and Practice in the Western Pacific: A History of the Western Pacific High Commission, 1874-1913.'

* Based on work done while a member of the Department