

IT would be interesting to know if any expatriates can beat 61 years' residence in Papua New Guinea, and who they are.

Mr A. E. Cridland, who's been seeing Unidentified Flying Objects in the Northern District (see letter on opposite page) has been here for 61 years. He was a Resident Magistrate in the old Papuan Government Service, now operates a tourist resort with his wife at Wanigela, on the shores of Collingwood Bay, south of Tufi.

Others in the long-distance stakes include Dr Percy Chatterton, who's been here 50 years, Cecil Abel (both former MHAs), and some of the Catholic missionaries in the islands and north-west coastal districts are believed to have

are believed to have been around for quite a while.

We'd be interested to hear from any reader who knows of anyone who can beat 61 years.

★
THE big question mark in a lot of people's minds is this: Is Australia intending to leave the British Commonwealth?

Not likely. Not even bloody likely, as they said in Pygmalion. But why, then, have the words "Commonwealth of Australia" on the \$2 note been replaced on both sides with, simply, "Australia".

Serial numbers beginning with G include the Commonwealth. Serial numbers beginning with H do not.

Is it that we've got hold of a bunch of forgeries? Or is it a reflection of the Labor Government's attitude?

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★
QUOTE of the week
from the outspoken
Premier of the Cook

Islands, Sir Albert
Henry, at the South
Pacific Conference in
Rarotonga:

Comparing the territorial Governments to cripples and metropolitan aid to a wheelchair, Sir Albert warned his fellow territories not to be like the cripple who, jumping too hastily into a healing pool, found that while his wheelchair had two new tyres, he himself was still unhealed.

★
RED tabs will appear on the berets of Colonel Ted Diro and Colonel Patterson Lowa when their promotions become effective soon. Red tabs on headgear and uniform coats are worn by all Army officers above the rank of Lieut-Col.

THE BANK OF LIENT-COL.

★
THERE were two knights in the receiving line at the Bank of the South Pacific's dinner at the Papua Hotel on Wednesday night. They were the chairman, Sir James Forrest, and a director, Sir Rupert Clarke, who is also vice-chairman of CRA. Pretty plush affair it was too, and one of the biggest knife-and-fork dinners since the Royal visit.

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WHEN October comes, can Christmas be far behind? In fact, it's about 80 days — less than that if you're counting shopping days.

We're reminded of this because our first Christmas card arrived yesterday. Someone from Australia trying to beat the rise in postage rates.

P and T haven't been told officially yet.

been told officially yet, but the new airmail rate to PNG is expected to be 15 cents for 10 grams. Aerograms are likely to rise from 14 cents to 20 cents.

— *P. Engee.*

