

Australian Broadcasting Commission, Brisbane.

TALK BY LEONARD J. BRASS (NEWS REVIEW)

(Introduction by announcer, giving background of 1948 Archbold Cape York Expedition, and mentioning previous work in New Guinea).

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The object of our expedition will be to collect and study mammals and plants, as well as reptiles, amphibians and insects. On various localities from the tip of Cape York Peninsula to the neighborhood of Cooktown.

The expedition is part of a continuing plan for biological exploration in the Indo-Australian region. Work started with an expedition to Mount Albert Edward, Papua, in 1933, and continued on the Fly River in 1936, and in the Snow Mountains of Dutch New Guinea in 1938. These expeditions were led by Mr. Richard Archbold, who is sponsoring, but not accompanying, the present expedition.

The Cape York work is planned to tie in with these New Guinea explorations. There'll be nothing spectacular about it --- just an ordinary trip into the bush, using regular boat transport along the coast, with motor vehicles and pack-horses available locally. We contemplate six months of field work.

The Cape York Peninsula is of special interest in the study of relationships between the fauna and flora of New Guinea and Australia. There's geological evidence of a former direct connection between the two land masses. Over this land bridge there was a sort of two-way traffic of plants and animals. Most of New Guinea's mammals are of Australian origin, and many of the plants of the vine scrubs of Eastern Australia came down through New Guinea. There are big low rainfall areas in Southern New Guinea, which look just like the open forest country of parts of Northern Australia --- open forests of gum trees, and box, and bloodwood, tea tree and swamp mahogany, white there are wallabies and bandicoots and birds that would be familiar to any Australian.

The expedition will work in close co-operation with the Queensland Museum and the Queensland Herbarium. Mr. C.T. White, Queensland Government Botanist, and Mr. George



TALK BY LEONARD J. SMITH (WINE TRAVEL)

(Introduction by announcer, giving background of 1948 Australia Wine Year Expedition, and mentioning previous work in New Guinea).

The object of our expedition will be to collect and study mammals and plants, as well as reptiles, amphibians and insects. On various localities from the tip of Cape York Peninsula to the neighbourhood of Cooktown.

The expedition is part of a continuing plan for biological exploration in the Indo-Australian region. Work started with an expedition to Mount Albert Edward, 1947, in 1951, and continues on the Fly River in 1950, and in the New Guinea Mountains of New Guinea in 1958. These expeditions were led by Mr. Richard Archibald, and is sponsored, but not accompanied, the present expedition.

The Cape York trip is planned to tie in with these New Guinea expeditions. There'll be nothing spectacular about it --- just an ordinary trip into the bush, using regular boat transport along the coast, with motor vehicles and pack-animals available locally. We expect to spend six months of field work.

The Cape York Peninsula is of special interest in the study of relationships between the fauna and flora of New Guinea and Australia. There's a geological evidence of a former direct connection between the two land masses. Over this land bridge there was a sort of two-way traffic of plants and animals. Most of New Guinea's mammals are of Australian origin, and many of the plants of the vine scrub of Eastern Australia came down through New Guinea. There are big low rainfall areas in southern New Guinea, which look just like the open forest country of parts of Northern Australia --- open forests of gum trees, and box, and bloodwood, tea tree and swamp heathery, while there are well-wooded and bushy areas and birds that would be familiar to any Australian.

The expedition will work in close co-operation with the Queensland Museum and the Queensland Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, and Mr. George



Mack, Director of the Queensland Museum, are assisting in preliminary arrangements and in planning the itinerary. I am glad to say that Mr. Mack has accepted our invitation for one of his staff to accompany us in the field. The Herbarium will share in the plant collections, and Mr. White and his assistants will undertake the identification of most of the plants collected.

We are in touch with various residents of the Peninsula, and we hope our work will add considerably to the present knowledge of the animal and plant life of those parts, and at the same time give a clearer over-all picture of the biological relationships between New Guinea and Australia.

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Jan. 7, 1948

Recorded Brisbane, 5:15 pm

Broadcast from Sydney over ABC network, 7:45 pm



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Jan. 7, 1942

Recorded Brisbane, 2:15 pm

Broadcast from Sydney over ABC network, 7:45 pm