

PACIFIC MANUSCRIPTS BUREAU

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REEL LIST

PMB 1031 – THE PAPERS OF FATHER BERNARD BALDWIN MSC

Introduction

Bernard Baldwin (1907-1990) was born in Preston, England, and six months later he and his family arrived Elleher, Western Australia. As a boy, he formed a close relationship with the local King Georges Sound Aborigines learning much of their folklore and history and, above all, how to listen and absorb what was said. His family later moved to eastern Australia where, at the age of fifteen, he entered the Apostolic School, Douglas Park. He later studied philosophy and theology at the Sacred Heart Monastery, Kensington, and was ordained as a priest on November 30, 1933.

His first appointment was to Eastern Papua where he founded mission stations in Milne Bay and the Trobriand Islands as well as contributing a great deal to the islands of Sideia and Basilaki. In 1942 all the missionaries were ordered to evacuate ahead of the advancing Japanese forces. Father Baldwin got as far as Port Moresby, commandeered a small launch and returned to work, all through the war years, from the Trobriands in the north to Panaeti Island in the east. In total he spent some twenty years in the Eastern Papua Mission. Between 1937 and 1982 he wrote numerous articles, mostly on the Trobriand Islands, for the monthly publication, *Annals of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart*.

The material copied comprises translations, grammars, some autobiographical notes, vocabularies, notes on Marist missionaries on Woodlark Island, and general observations on Papuan natives. The languages or dialects appear to be mostly Kiriwinian, Boyowan and Motu.

The Bureau is grateful to father J F McMahon, MSC, for his assistance in making this material available for copying. Please see also PMB 41, 63 and 64. These reels also contain linguistic material made available for copying by Bernard Baldwin in the early 1970s.

Reel 1:

1. DOKINIKANI

Cannibal tales of the Wild Western Pacific.

A translation of two hundred pages of vernacular text incorporated in a concurrent introduction and commentary, Ts., 221pp. (There is a letter indicating that this work was returned from Oxford University Press in 1968 through a professor Davidson who apparently was a reader for O.U.P.)

Gnomes and Ghouls on Kula (pp.222-391)

Both of these are typed manuscripts, clear copy and well preserved.

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Australia: The Mitchell Library, Sydney
National Library of Australia, Canberra
The Library, Australian National University
New Zealand: The Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington
The University of Auckland Library
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Library of the University of California, San Diego
Yale University Library, New Haven

2. KEIBIGIBOGWA
Presumed to be in the Kiriwinian dialect, Ts., 167pp. A table of contents implies that there were 198pp; this table of contents is written in pencil (in Fr Baldwin's handwriting) and details the subject matter of the missing pages. In perfect condition.
3. BOYOWAN DANCE SONGS, Ts., 83pp.
 - a. Text with introduction and signature of B. Baldwin, Ts.
 - b. Text with introduction and signature of B. Baldwin, Ms.
- 4a. KIRIWINIAN GRAMMAR, Ms., pp.7-346, disordered, partly in pencil, partly in ink (faded).
- b. KIRIWINIAN GRAMMAR, by Fr Baldwin, Kensington, 1 May 1945; Ts., 85pp.
5. MANUSCRIPT CONTAINING TWO PARTS:
 - a. Kiriwinian Grammar, Ms., pp.1-28, pp.23-113
 - b. Manuscript by Fr Baldwin, 70pp. Includes comments on Malinowski and the Boyowan people and some autobiographical notes of his own experiences. This section is the most interesting document since it gives an idea of the missionary in the field at work. Some of this material is no doubt included in other writings. An occasional page is missing. The index given at the end is perhaps to works by Malinowski.

Reel 2

6. Fragments which appear to be on grammar or vocabularies in local language(s). Approximately 100 pages, in poor condition, faded ink and /or pencil, probably a draft version of other dictionaries and vocabularies Father Baldwin worked on.
7. CATHOLIC CATECHISM IN PANATINANE LANGUAGE, Ts., roneo, 73pp.
Possibly by Fr Baldwin or Fr K. Twomey, "Translated into Panatinane from Panaiyati and Basilaki: Nimoa, 20 March 1948". Fr Twomey MSC was a missionary in Nimoa for many years. There is an annotation which reads, "For use in the islands: Joannet, Nimoa, Sudest, Sabarea, Panawina, Grase, Dadahai, Panaman, Piron".
8. MAI-MAIWALENA AHI CATECHISM, Ts., 39pp., good condition.
Translated by Rev N. Earl MSC from MI-BOHILAI HAI KATEKISM by Father Baldwin, Catholic Mission, Sideia Island, 13 July 1944.
9. NOTES FROM MILNE BAY by Father Baldwin MSC. Ms., pencil in poor condition on the following topics:
 - (a.) The War comes to Milne Bay; reaction of natives, etc., 11pp.
 - (b.) Preservation and Development of Papuan Natives, 8pp.
 - (c.) Notes on Marist Fathers Foundation on Woodlark Island, 8pp.
 - (d.) Quotation from book in French about Marist Missionaries, 5pp.
10. A CATECHISM (local language ?), Ts., 11pp
11. CATECHISM (local language ?), Ts., 38pp.
12. Lister-Turner and J. B. Clarke, REVISED MOTU GRAMMAR AND VOCABUALRY, Port Moresby, 1930; battered; with annotations to the English-Motu and Motu-English vocabularies (pp.61-192) by Fr Baldwin, mainly in pencil and difficult to read.
13. A. Cappell, FOUNDATION VOCABULARIES, Honiara, South Pacific Commission Literature Production Training Centre, 1980, Ts., 19pp. with 15 pages filled in by Fr Baldwin with Kiriwinian (or Boyowan) terms.
14. VARIA. Some exercise books with local missionary items in local languages and English, etc.

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