

# Wage Hearings Open

The American Samoa Industry Committee will begin hearings at 1 p.m. today on minimum wage scales in American Samoa.

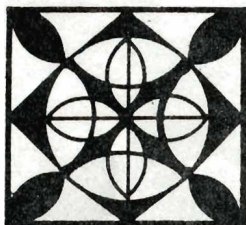
Because the foni is in session, the hearings will be held in Sadie's Corner in the Intercontinental Hotel. Written and oral testimony will be taken from employers, employees and the general public.

Chairman of the committee is the Reverend Leo C. Brown of St. Louis University. He represents the public and the local representative for that area is the Reverend John W. Soloi.

Employers are represented by Charles R. Carry of the Tuna Research Foundation in San Francisco and Joe Bogdanovich of Star Kist. Employees are represented by Adrea U. Gomez of the Seafarers International Union in San Francisco and Eselu Mauga of Van Camp.

MONDAY, APRIL 14, 1969

# NEWS



# BULLETIN

FOR THE PEOPLE OF AMERICAN SAMOA, PAGO PAGO.

## Kennedy Gets Big Reception

A delegation of Washington dignitaries got a taste of Samoan hospitality and took a look at Tutuila's natural beauties Saturday afternoon.

The group, headed by Treasury Secretary David Kennedy, was enroute from a monetary conference in Australia to Washington and made a refueling stop here.

Governor and Mrs. Owen S. Aspinall escorted Secretary and Mrs. Kennedy from the plane. The Mapusaga High School band played the National Anthem and Amerika Samoa and Secretary Kennedy left the receiving line to thank the band.

A colorful ~~kava ceremony~~ followed in the Samoa fale. Before making his welcoming remarks the Governor called on Senate President Aumoeualogo Salanoa. He told the visitors that the American Samoans are pleased to have Aspinall as Governor and urged them to ask Interior Secretary Walter Hickle to reappoint him.

Following the ceremony the visitors watched Samoan dances and received gifts. Secretary Kennedy received a fine mat and then he presented a medal to High Chief Le'iato, head of the Office of Samoan Affairs.

The visitors made a hurried trip in a motorcade to Pago Pago and then returned to the airport in time for their departure.

### CONTINENTAL LOSES SERVICE TO SAMOA

American Samoa apparently has lost the proposed service of Continental Air Lines, according to reports from Washington via United Press International.

A story carried Friday said President Nixon had sharply reduced the scope of the new Pacific air routes awarded in December by former President Johnson. The new ruling leaves Pan American, Northwest and Transworld Air Lines as the primary carriers to the exclusion of Braniff and Continental Air Lines.

The action would reduce the projected estimate of transpacific passenger traffic 21 to 31 percent below the estimates of the Civil Aeronautics Board in 1973.

Continental had plans to build a hotel here if it had been given the route.

## FIRST FALE IN SAMOAN VILLAGE IS DEDICATED

The Maota O Amouli, first fale to be completed in the Samoan Village in Pago Pago Park, was dedicated Saturday and Governor Owen S. Aspinall termed it an example of Samoan culture which should be preserved.

Invocation at the brief ceremony was given by the Reverend Taafua, F. S. Following the Governor's talk responses were given by High Chief Masoe and High Chief Utu, S., owner of the attractive fale. A benediction by the Reverend Kamu Tagaolo and a kava ceremony followed. At noon a reception marking the dedication was held in Pago Pago Intercontinental Hotel.

## L A T E B U L L E T I N

SPACE CENTER, Houston (UPI) - The Space Agency said today Neil Armstrong will probably be the first American to set foot on the moon. Armstrong, a civilian, is commander of the Apollo 11 mission, set to go to the moon in July.

FIVE FAUTASIS TO COMPETE IN FLAG DAY RACE

(By George Vaiaoga)

For years in both Samoas, the fautasi race has been the most highly regarded sports event by the people in any celebration. The reason may be due to the fact that once a village has a fautasi line up for a race, the whole village becomes involved and the interest is heightened. And this is why that in any festivities of high standard, a fautasi race is always a necessity, weather permitting.

This year, five fautasis will participate in the race which is the main sports event of the Flag Day celebration commemorating the 69<sup>th</sup> anniversary since Old Glory was raised in American Samoa. The race will be on Saturday.

Included in the five participants are, the Aeto (Eagle) of Pago Pago, the longest, it is 100 feet, has 25 seats and a crew of 49. It is captained by Peter Reid Jr. The Aeto captured the last race which was sponsored by the Office of Samoan Affairs in honor of the visiting U.S. Congressional delegation in December.

Fagatogo enters its Fetūlele (Flying Star) which is 86 feet long, has 24 seats with 24 rowers. The Fetūlele won last year's Flag Day race which was held in July. It is going into Saturday's race with a new captain, H/C Te'o J. Fuavai.

Joining the list is the Utulei Televisē (Television), an 85-footer with 24 seats and 44 oarsmen. The Televisē skipper is T/C Ta'oto'oto Mautū.

The Pe'ape'avai (Cave Bat), is Afono's entry and by far the shortest, 72 feet. It has 20 seats but boasts a powerful manpower crew of 36. It may be interested to know why the Afono fautasi carries the name Pe'ape'avai. Since hundreds and hundred of cave bats inhabit a certain cave in Afono, the Afonos decided to name their fautasi after these mamals. The captain is Tui Tela of Afono.

And to complete the five entrants, is the newcomer from Western Samoa, the Matua, which is entered by Ofu, Manu'a. This is the green and yellow striped fautasi. It is 95 feet in length with 25 seats and is manned by 46 muscular rowers from Ofu. The Matua arrived from Apia last Thursday under tow by the Lady Sa'ili. The Matua belongs to the employees of the Union Steamship Company in Western Samoa and is named after the cargo-passenger Union ship the Matua which formerly was a regular monthly visitor to Pago Pago.

Oddly enough, the Matua and the Fetūlele of Fagatogo, which was then Manulele Tautala of Apolima, Western Samoa, raced against each other last year in Apia on the sixth anniversary of Western Samoa's independence and the Manulele won the first prize. They will on Saturday square off again with different crews. Up to now, all fautasi crews are really getting down to the hard business of training with their morning and evening trial runs. Now, it is difficult to make a prediction who will win, but Saturday will tell the outcome.

PELESASA STORE IS DEDICATED

The new Pelesasa Store in Leloaloa was dedicated at noon Saturday with a "blessing of the house" ceremony and a luncheon in the living quarters on the second floor.

Work on the new building began last August and was completed in stages which allowed business to be carried on in the old store. Materials and labor costs for the new building amounted to over \$51,000.

Governor Owen S. Aspinall cited the new building as an example of economic advancement in American Samoa, noting that it could serve as a general store or could be converted to specialty use if necessary.

A large number of relatives of the Pelesasa family came from Western Samoa for the dedication.

VA REPRESENTATIVE IS DUE TOMORROW

A representative from the Veterans Administration Office in Honolulu will visit American Samoa from April 15 through 21 to help veterans and dependents.

Yasuo Takata, VA contact representative, will make the visit, according to William C. Oshiro, Manager of VA's Honolulu Regional Office.

Takata will work with Faafetai Lefiti, veterans affairs officer for the Government of American Samoa. They will be in the offices of the Attorney General.

Takata will help those who are interested in disability benefits, education or training, G.I. insurance, death benefits, and other veterans' benefits. Those who visit him should take all their veterans papers with them.

ENGEL TO SPEAK

Nat Engel, management specialist who helped compile the Wolf Report, will speak tomorrow at noon to the Chamber of Commerce in Sadie's Corner of the Pago Pago Intercontinental Hotel.

WEIGH-INS SET

All boxers who are to fight on tomorrow night's card should weigh in today at the Office of Parks and Recreation.