

# Around the World

with

Stan Delaplane

MBAU, FIJI — In these warm, coconut islands, men need something for dress in the evening. The easiest and coolest is the bush jacket—a British military, belted jacket worn without a shirt. An Indian tailor will run one up for you in a couple of days, \$15 to \$20. Get it in white and another in suntan. Kaki. Better get lounge trousers. Locals often wear shorts with it, but that requires knee-length socks.

What shore dress for women with cruise stops in Tahiti, Auckland, Sydney, Melbourne, Suva? In Tahiti you can wear shorts or whatever you like, and there's not much dress at night. Auckland — city dress, day and night. Same for Melbourne and Sydney.

shopping, so French perfume and Swiss watches are duty-free priced. Not much selection. I saw better shopping in Montego Bay. Plan a half day before plane time and shop there on your way home. Bettors buys in the American Virgin Islands—at least there's more selection. From the Virgins, you can bring in \$200 worth duty free. From Jamaica, only \$200.

... what clothing will we need for London? A dressy town. Women wear city dresses at all times. Gloves are not a must, but not out of place if you like them. (Best glove buys are in Rome.) Cocktail dresses at night. Men wear jackets and ties at all times — except for the Sunday pub crawl. That's beer from 11 to 2 o'clock in your neighborhood pub when you can wear a sweater and open collar.

There is a little shopping center in Ochos Rios. I though Jamaica was overpriced, and Ochos Rios most of all. However, most of the Caribbean has gone pricey. The shops at Ochos Rios reflect this. Women's resort clothing just about the same you'd pay in smart shops at home—and nothing much unusual. Jamaica is free port

It's frustrating not to have shoes shined in England. (There are only two shoeshine men in all London, and I think they are ornamental.) The Englishman spends his weekends shining his own shoes. Wouldn't think of letting anyone else do it. English hotel guests leave their shoes in the hall outside their rooms, supposedly to be polished by the night porter. I begged my shoes with a speck of white powder. And through three of London's best hotels, I found they hadn't been touched. (It's a rum world, mates.)

"We've heard we should take water sterilizing tablets to Mexico . . ."

Not for the tourist route. The hotel maid fills your room water bottle from a 5-gallon bottle of purified water. When you get your room, empty the bottle and ask her to refill it. It hasn't been changed since the last guest—who knows when that was? Restaurant water is purified.

"A small but thoughtful

present for a friend (man) in London . . . Tip your U.S. restaurant waiter a dollar extra, and ask him for a box of their book matches. Free book matches are still unusual in Europe. And the U.S. address makes them more so. Better hand carry these in your flight bag. There might be a rule against putting them in baggage. Permanent press shirts aren't all over the world—yet. Might be a good present.

## Bank Declares 55-Cent Dividend

A regular quarterly dividend of 55 cents a share on Bank of America National Trust and Savings Association capital stock has been declared by the bank's board of directors.

The dividend, which is at the annual rate of \$2.20 per share, is payable Aug. 31 to shareholders of record Aug. 1.

In 4-H, the H's stand for Head, Heart, Hands and Health.

# Audit Program Turns Up \$63 Million for County

County Assessor Philip E. Watson announced today that \$63,885,410 in escape and penalty assessments were added to the assessment roll as a result of the 1966-67 audit of business property affidavits conducted by his audit staff.

An extra \$168,036,320 in solvent credits was also turned up in the audit findings, for a total additional tax collection of more than \$5 million for local taxing agencies, Watson said.

collected in the four years covers the total budget of the assessor's office for almost two full years, Watson said. The cost of the audit program last year was more than covered by the tax recovery in solvent credits alone. All additional tax monies represent a "bonus" to local taxing agencies.

This past year's audits involved 4,814 documents with a total of \$55,980,000 in escape assessments and \$7,905,410 in penalties. The assessor said there had been a substantial decline in penalties because of fewer instances of deliberate under-reporting and a statutory reduction in the amount of penalty that can be levied.

State law now prescribes a 50 per cent penalty for a first

offense, in instances where the assessor might have used a higher penalty, he said.

WATSON'S AUDIT program was begun in 1963, his first year in office, under state law which left auditing up to the policy of the individual assessor. Under provisions of AB 80, passed by the last session of the legislature, assessors must now audit, at least once every four years, businesses with a market value in personal property of more than \$50,000.

Headed by Los Angeles County, the seven southern counties of the state have put together a joint-county audit program to comply with the law for the coming year, in which auditors of one county will do the job for all participating counties, Watson said.

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