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For His Excellency's Decision.

Official Nomenclature for the Phoenix Islands.

- (a) It is respectfully suggested that the European names of Sydney, Hull, and Gardner Islands should be discarded in favour of the native names of Manra, Orona, and Nikumaroro, which are universally used outside official correspondence. This would be merely carrying out the existing practice with regard to the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, where the European names (e.g. Francis Island for Beru and Drummond Island for Tabiteuea) are now quite obsolete except on charts. Probably every native in the Gilbert Islands is familiar with, and habitually uses in his conversation, the native names of Manra, Orona, and Nikumaroro, whereas it is doubtful whether one in a hundred would understand the European names. The double nomenclature in official correspondence is confusing but at the same time inevitable as long as the European names are retained, as they are unpronounceable in the Gilbertese language, which has no S, H, or G.
- (b) The change would necessitate no fresh legislation, though a notification to the Royal Geographical Society would probably be appreciated.
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