

PRESS RELEASE



TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

Office of the High Commissioner

Saipan, Marianas Islands

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
TRUST TERRITORY HEADQUARTERS

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SICARD, COOPERATIVES OFFICER FOR TRUK, ARRIVES

SAIPAN, M.I. (June 22)...A man with considerable experience in operating consumer cooperative stores in the United States has arrived to begin his duties as Trust Territory's cooperative officer for Truk.

He is Charles M. Sicard, who left the position of second assistant manager of the University Avenue Center of the Consumer Co-operative of Berkeley, California to advise the people of Truk in strengthening their cooperative organizations.

Mr. Sicard, who attended Portland State College in Oregon and San Francisco, California State College, worked his way up from clerk in the California cooperative, which has some 34,000 members and which sells thousands of consumer items including food, pharmaceuticals and hardware.

In explaining what a consumers' cooperative in the United States does for its members, Mr. Sicard said, "One of the Berkeley co-op's mottos is 'Equal quality or better for the same price or less'. We helped all consumers by constantly urging manufacturers to 'shape up' for the benefit of buyers in such things as proper labeling, honest packaging and increase in quality. The cooperative employs a home economist to push for legislation that would guarantee the best interests of the consumer."

In connection with Mr. Sicard's arrival, Samuel Mitchell, Trust Territory Headquarters Cooperative Officer, made the following statement: (more)

COOPERATIVES OFFICER/Lst add  
thompson -----

"At the present time, there are six cooperatives in Truk District, where business totalled approximately \$350,000 during 1964. These will be under Mr. Sicard's supervision, as will four credit unions that had 953 members and total assets of \$33,101 at the end of 1964.

"Both producers and retail cooperatives, as well as credit unions, are in the broad field of cooperatives which will be under Mr. Sicard's immediate direction. Prospects are extremely favorable for considerable expansion and development in cooperatives and credit unions within the next few years. Mr. Sicard's presence in the District will undoubtedly give impetus to their development. He stands ready at any time to meet with interested groups in Truk District to explain the cooperative and credit union plans, to answer questions, and to give assistance to the starting of such organizations."

One other Trust Territory district has a cooperatives officer - Mort Colodny, who has been on Ponape for approximately a year.

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