1. On the twenty first October nineteen fifty seven
   The Horizon proceeded slowly out of haven.
   When the Spencer P. B aird followed later in the day,
   The Downwind Expedition was under way.

Chorus: Oh we were far away, day after day,
    From California where we long to stay,
    and if you want the news, then you cannot refuse
    To let us tell of the Downwind Oceanographical Cruise.

2. Now we each thought we'd like to be a movie star
    So we borrowed an Italian with a camera.
    But Maxwell's picture wasn't fit to release
    As he was making dirty gestures and was covered in grease.

3. We have a seaman called Montgomery
    Who started a textile store in Tahiti
    And since we departed out of San Diego,
    He hasn't stopped discoursing for a minute or so.

4. Tahiti is an island paradise,
    The ladies all surrounded Bunky Rice,
    and when he's been home for half an a year or more,
    He will have many more children than he had before.

Chorus:

5. We were having a party on the Spencer Baird
    When the voice of George from down below was heard,
    We thought maybe he had too many gins
    When he told us he was going to fetch the bar from Quinn's.

6. Early on in the trip we saw that it was true
    That Maxwell Silverman had nothing to do
    So the engineers tried to do all they were able
    To put kinks and birdcages and arse-holes in the cable.

7. While the Baird was steaming next to Rapa Isle,
    The Horizon was to eastward all the while,
    Till a message came (hurriedly) over the air
    That they were stranded on a coral reef that wasn't there.

Chorus: We

8. From there we started on a Southward sprint
    As they thought it would be nice to have our name in print,
    But in the roaring forties winds did blow
    And we had to go directly to Valparaiso.

9. Now down in the south it was not very warm
    and we ran into a most incredible storm
    So life was becoming just an absolute hell
    Till we got a friendly message from Roger Revelle.
10. Then Christmas time was spent in Santiago,
And Pepin won some money in the Casino.
For Christmas in midsummer can be very fine,
When you've pretty senoritas and Chilean wine.

Chorus:

11. Now Pepin, Jones and Doctor Russell Raitt
They used to run Seismic stations very late;
But, thank God, they had to stop working after dark
When their hydrophones were eaten by a squid or a shark.

12. Meanwhile Norris tried to sample the ocean floor
But the sediment all ran out of his gravity core;
Until one morning he was happy to discover
That someone had a stock of little slates of rubber.

13. From Valparaiso, Chile, the F.0. did sail,
And on January the thirteenth they found a whale.
It saw their F.0. head and took a bite,
So they had to stay in Callao extra night.

Chorus:

14. So next day we sailed into Callao, Peru
They asked a lot of questions about all the crew.
Mister Dragornvitch he was so very popular
That they took him off to prison when he landed there.

15. After Callao, Peru, the crew began to spend
A lot of time sitting on their after end
That 'twas amoebic dysentery there were grounds,
So at night they put refrigerator out of bounds.

16. Then in treating dysentery and other ills
The Doctor discovered he was out of pills
And so he decided he would make no bones
About borrowing from Porky or from Allan Jones.

Chorus:

17. Salay Gomez is a desert island
With no native women or a bar on hand,
And Fischer and Norris had to quickly embark
While Victor Vogel was having a little chat with a shark.

18. The Horizon thought it would be rather cute
To bring back a statue for the Institute
At Easter Island they found one there
But when George couldn't lift it they gave up the idea.

19. Now Junior went ashore on Easter Isle of course
And he thought it would be nice to ride a horse,
But the ladies there were really overjoyed
When they found that he could be much better employed.
Chorus:

20. When we crossed the equator we were initiated
   With a piece of paper this was certificated;
   But Porky Parker's paper could not be found,
   So he'll have to be initiated next time round.

21. Oh when the Horizon and the Spencer Baird
   Left the port of San Diego no one cared;
   But when they started sailing home once more
   There was a hell of a race between the Baird and the Hor.

22. On the twenty fourth of Febry nineteen fifty eight
    The Horizon discovered they were apt to be late
    So someone in the office sent a message on the air
    To tell Captain Phinney that it wouldn't be fair.

Chorus:

23. Then Trepani said he thought it would be grand
    To see the ships arriving hand in hand.
    So the people from the press and from the T.V. station
    would let the public think it was a two-ship operation.

Final Chorus:
   We are home again despite the stress and the strain.
   In California where we will remain;
   And now you've heard the news, you really should refuse
   To permit another South Sea island Holiday cruise.
Main Entry: Fisher, Robert Lloyd, d1925-

Title: Papers, 1957

Physical Description:
1 reel to reel audio tape recording (approximately 15 minutes)

Description:
The accession consists of one reel to reel audio tape of a song, "Downwind Calypso Song" written and performed by John Andrewes, ship's doctor on SIO Downwind Expedition in 1957-1958 to the South Pacific. The accession also includes a typescript with the words to the song.


Brief Biography/Administrative History

Scripps Institution of Oceanography
Downwind Expedition, 1957-1958
Oceanography
South Pacific Ocean
Sea songs
Scientific expeditions
Audio
Andrewes, John F.

Scripps Institution of Oceanography
Library
Archives

SIO MC#

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