

## New Zealand Newspaper articles about L.J. Comrie

*Collated by M. Croarken. 1998.*

Re-ordered into date sequence by L J Rollo Sept 2001 [Notes in brackets added by LJR after scanning some newspapers and the NZ *Listener* at ATL. There is no indication of how so many publications became aware of Comrie's visit, but shipping company passenger lists are a possible source, although no one could claim Comrie was shy about talking about his work and the application of commercial calculating machines to scientific computing]

Anon 1948t "NZ'er prepared bombing charts for European invasion. *Wanganui Herald*, Jan. 1, 1948.

[Mis-dated: in 1948 no New Zealand newspapers were published on New Year's Day (or on Christmas Day, Anzac Day, or Good Friday)]

Anon 1948w "Noted Scientist's Return", *New Zealand Herald*, Jan. 1, 1948.

[Mis-dated: could not find any reference to Comrie on 31 Dec or 2 Jan]

Anon. 1948a "Noted Mathematician Returns to New Zealand After Long Absence" *New Zealand Free Lance*, 7.1.48.

Anon 1948b "From Pukekohe to the Nautical Almanac", *New Zealand Listener*, Jan 16, 1948, pp.24-25.

[Interview by *Listener* staff reporter. Comrie reported as stating he returned to NZ in 1918, and found then he could apply for NZEF Scholarships. Interview states he was awarded Sir George Grey and other scholarships]

Anon 1948o "Personal", *The Franklin Times*, Jan. 16, 1948.

[No references to *Franklin Times* checked: ATL holdings fragmented; only complete file is help by publishers at Pukekohe. *Later note*: copies now held by Pukekohe Public library and are being microfilmed]

Anon 1948u "Dr Comrie's Visit", *The Franklin Times*, Jan. 16, 1948.

Anon 1948p "Bombing Charts", *The Franklin Times*, Jan. 21, 1948.

Anon 1948c "Dr. Comrie Has Taken the Drudgery Out of Arithmetic". By "Sky Pilot". *The Wanganui Herald*, 31.1.48.

[Based on interview]

Anon 1948r "Former Aucklander's Feats with Figures", *New Zealand Herald* Feb. 2, 1948.

Anon 1948s " An Interview with Dr. Comrie by Sky Pilot", *Wanganui Chronicle*, Feb. 5, 1948.

[publication date confirmed]

Anon 1948d "The Fascination of Figures". Newspaper clipping unknown source dated 10.2.48.

Anon 1948e ""Brainless" Machine Solves Mathematical Problems with Ease". *The Wanganui Herald*, 11.2.48.

[Report of an address to the Rotary Club of Wanganui]

Anon 1948v "Astronomers assist market-gardener in sunshine problem".  
*Wanganui Herald* February 12, 1948

[report of public meeting apparently organised by Wanganui Astronomical Society and chaired by Mayor]

Anon 1948q "Noted Scientist", *Taranaki Herald*, Feb 13, 1948.

Anon 1948f "Personal News". *The Wanganui Herald*, 9.4.48.

[records Comrie leaving Wanganui, which he had made his base for touring the NI: at that time his sister, Grace Ruby (Mrs C M Smith) lived in Wanganui]

Anon 1948g Eminent New Zealander Disappointed At Changes During 30-Year Absence", *The Dominion*, August 3, 1948.

Anon 1948i "Smug outlook deplored", *Auckland Herald*, Aug. 3, 1948.

[based on item from NZPA correspondent, London]

Anon 1948k "Disappointment with N.Z.", *The Press*, Aug. 3, 1948.

Anon 1948n "Land of smug complacency", *The Times (New Zealand)*, Aug. 3, 1948, p.5

Anon 1948x "No Trouble with Millions", *The New Zealand Observer*, Aug. 3, 1948

Anon 1948y "Lack of Ambition", *Daily Telegraph*, Aug. 3, 1948.

Anon 1948m "Our smug complacency", *The Times (New Zealand)*, Aug. 4, 1948, p.6

Anon 1948i "After Many Years", *New Zealand Listener*, Aug. 13, 1948.

See also related letter in same publication Sept. 3, 1948 by I.L. Thomson

[Editorial (presumably by Oliver Duff who was editor at the time) commenting on the substance of a cable from London. Thomson's letter corrected an error in the editorial (about Comrie's connection with the Nautical Almanac Office) and challenging the editor's interpretation of Comrie's work]

[Oliver Duff's son Gowan Duff was head of the Forest Mensuration Section, NZ Forest Research Institute. Production of a series of species volume tables was one of my tasks as technical editor servicing FRI activities. A colleague alerted me to Comrie's statement on table typography in Chamber's *Shorter Six-figure Mathematical Tables*. His recommendations formed the basis for the presentation of the data (but not the table legends). See references to Rollo Collection, Beaglehole Room VUW else in archive.]

Anon 1948j "He thinks in Millions", *New Zealand Observer* Aug. 18, 1948.

Anon 1948h "Complacent' New Zealanders", *New Zealand News*, Sept. 7, 1948, p.11.