

Sarawak Gazette

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The Sarawak Gazette.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1st, 1949.

The Prison Service.

At the beginning of this century an American visitor left a record of his impressions of the central jail of Sarawak. The visitor, he was a Special Commissioner of the University of Chicago, wrote:— "What I saw confirms my opinion that the most cheerful and contented people in Borneo appear to be the prisoners in the jails."

It is not credible that the lot of the law-abiding citizens at that time was so miserable that they gave an impression of being more unhappy than those who were doing a spell behind bars—the expression may need a pinch of salt to make it palatable: but the Commissioner's comments do give a clearer picture of prison life than is offered by the contemporary notes in the Prison Visitors' Book, "Smells beautifully" or "everything in order." Life behind prison bars seems to have been neither harsh nor inhuman.

A disturbing legacy of the two great wars of this century has been the break up of family life on an unprecedented scale and a consequent increase in the number of criminals. In Great Britain the number of convicted persons undergoing sentence jumped by over 100% between the pre-war and post-war periods with an increased percentage of younger offenders. In Sarawak the increase during the same period was less than 8% but, again, with a high percentage of young men. (In a recent analysis of convictions in the 1st Division, 77% of convictions relate to men below the age of thirty, 29% of the total convictions relating to boys and youths).

Together with the Constabulary, the Prison Service constitutes Society's principal bulwark against anti-social activity. Upon the Prison Service falls the task of ensuring that a prisoner, on discharge, will not return for a further spell and, since harsh sentences and harsh treatment have never proved a deterrent against crime, the handling of a prisoner must be such as to induce a sense of social responsibility and dignity. Dignity is not bred in squalor and overcrowding nor does it thrive in a stultifying atmosphere; the central prison may be ugly and ill-planned but it is interesting that the Sarawak prisoner, who naturally loses weight on admission, is released a heavier and healthier man than he was on entry. Essentially, for a prisoner to regain dignity he must have employment that fosters self-respect and here the advantages of a warm climate become apparent. The man can work out of doors at productive work, a job that will usually give some degree of satisfaction and often, in an agricultural community, provide useful education. One Sarawak prison cultivates, under trained supervision, an experimental padi plot; another is working on modern methods of composting and is growing vegetables which are not indigenous to the Colony. In addition to this indirect instruction in agricultural work, prisoners also have an opportunity to learn various handicrafts which may later provide them with an honest living. Where numbers warrant it there are adult voluntary education classes in the evening.

For the unusual type who prefers a spell in jail to an honest day's work, there is little to be said.

As a result of the fortunes or misfortunes of war many men, who may have led blameless lives, found themselves behind prison bars or within barbed wire compounds. As a result there is a warmer appreciation of the appalling waste of human energy which imprisonment may involve. Malefactors are a public nuisance but to lock them up without some thought for the future is simply to shelve and probably to aggravate the problem.

Notes and Comments.

In a brief ceremony at the Main Court House, Kuching, the Honourable Mr. C. W. Dawson, C.M.G., was sworn in as Officer Administering the Government at 9 a.m. on the 28th January.

The Oath of Allegiance and Official Oath were administered by the Honourable the Chief Justice after which His Excellency inspected a Guard of Honour of the Sarawak Constabulary.

During the absence from North Borneo of the Honourable Mr. Justice Brace, the Honourable the Chief Justice of Sarawak, Dr. R. Y. Hedges, has been appointed Acting Chief Justice.

It is expected that the Chief Justice will be frequently absent from Kuching during the next eight months.

A telegram has been received from the Secretary of State on the subject of medical treatment in the United Kingdom for temporary residents. When a temporary resident applies at the National Registration Office for an identity card, a Ministry of Health leaflet is issued which describes the Health Service available to all visitors to the United Kingdom.

Chinese New Year was celebrated in Kuching with customary vigour although the absence of flags in both bazaar and residential areas was noticeable. There was very heavy rain during the eve of New Year but the weather cleared in time for a heavy barrage of fire-crackers and rip-raps.

There was a fair amount of illicit public gambling on the Saturday and Sunday.

The new Hoover Memorial Hall, Sibul, was formally opened during January.

Dr. Elizabeth Le Sueur, O.B.E., has retired after twenty-eight years' service in Sarawak. She will be long remembered here by her sincere devotion to the peoples of Sarawak and the unstinted help which she gave to them.

Bad weather during January interfered with the schedules of coastal shipping.

The weather was reported as the worst for over ten years.

We report with regret the death of Sister Maria Therese of St. Theresa's Convent whilst travelling from Dutch Borneo to Kuching on the *M.V. Sin Sin*. The vessel was wrecked some twenty miles from the coast north of Permangkat.

The old flagstaff on the top of the Clock Tower, Kuching, has been replaced by a flagstaff facing Rock Road.

Future issues of the *Sarawak Gazette* will be dated the 7th day of the month or the first subsequent working day. For some time the *Sarawak Gazette* has been published after the due date each month but with an amended date it should now be possible to publish it on time.

Since the Liberation, the Printing Office has limped along with damaged and inadequate machinery and with a vastly increased amount of printing. The changed date of publication of the

Sarawak Gazette may have the effect of easing the very heavy burden with which the Printing Office staff is faced at the end of each month.

Many readers will be sorry to learn that it will be necessary to discontinue 'News from Far and Near.'

From the beginning of this year, monthly reports from the Divisions will be replaced by quarterly reports; it is unlikely that the quarterly reports will provide any substantial amount of interest for readers since of necessity much of the news will be out of date before it can be published. It is unfortunate that, with one stone, the *Sarawak Gazette* is deprived of valuable copy and its readers deprived of outstation news.

Perhaps more important in many ways, is the fact that the *Sarawak Gazette* may tend to become more centred upon activities in Kuching. The remedy for this must, of course, ultimately lie in the hands of outstation readers and we ask them to bear in mind the constant needs of the *Sarawak Gazette* for outstation copy.

The Secretary of State's Message.

[The following is the text of a broadcast on the 9th January, 1949, by the Secretary of State for the Colonies.]

Another year of opportunity has come. I send you best wishes for 1949. Clouds still hang heavily over the world and difficulties left by the war have not all been resolved. In some places trouble, discontent and distress are still to be found. In the past year there has been plenty of cause for anxiety; in most regions economic difficulties have been severe, but the year has seen much progress and some difficult corners have been turned. We have reason to face the work before us with greater assurance. I speak from London the heart of a great group of peoples we call the Commonwealth. Britain has never been more anxious than to-day to contribute to Colonial welfare and development, to learn about your problems, to make genuine ties of friendship and understanding in this remarkable partnership of peoples.

We want your country to grow in responsibility. We desire no economic political domination. We shall work for a steady elimination of these discriminations which may hamper the growth of freedom, tolerance and fair standards of living. Don't think of the Colonial Office as an impersonal institution imposing plans and policies upon you and meticulously controlling the detailed administration of your country. We want to see you steadily developing in experience and capacity to handle your own affairs in this very difficult world. We want to help you to create social services which you need and above all to build the foundations of economic activity upon which alone the services and standards of living which you desire can be sustained and developed. We want to see democracy in your territories taking real root.

But believe me, dynamic must come from yourselves. Your welfare is largely in your own hands. Your progress should spring from your own service to one another and from your own effort in work and government. The initiative in attacking your problems must come from your own energies and sense of public service. It is our part to support

you with practical help and advice to create central services on which you can draw and to encourage conditions most suitable to advance and welfare.

I think the economic difficulties of the world afford an opportunity for helping you. Of course, we want some of the materials and food which you can produce, but you want well balanced economies, industries, improved methods of cultivation, better public works and social services. We can thus be of great mutual benefit to one another. In working for your progress all the fund of our experience and knowledge is at your disposal. It is in this spirit that development plans have been conceived. Unfortunately, it takes time to work out the changes we want; we have not always the right tools and knowledge to work with; there are tremendous natural difficulties to be overcome; materials and men for the job are not always there; nevertheless changes are steadily taking place which make for greater happiness, better conditions and higher standards of living.

I think what I have to tell you about the past year's work will show that we are trying to keep faith in the partnership. But it is your co-operation in the common life of your community that matters, and in all great tasks ahead your co-operation and goodwill is indispensable.

Perhaps my happiest memory of the past year is the African Conference when 66 delegates came from 10 African territories to talk over with each other and with us here in London their countries' problems. They came as the spokesmen of their people. It is not only that we are able to look at the affairs of Africa as a whole—but also we have got a glimpse of Africa within the Commonwealth and also inside the greater world of which we all form part. The important thing was perhaps not unanimity of the talks—delegates did not hesitate to express their doubts and differences—but the spirit of unity and friendliness which pervaded them. It was in a real sense a family gathering, tackling a problem together. I send my warm greetings to all those who attended the conference and I hope the memory of it is for them as it is for me an inspiration in the work before us all.

I hope too that in the future we here and you from overseas territories may have increasing opportunities for meeting together and pooling our ideas. There is much that we all can gain by close co-operation with one another. We will do what we can to achieve that close personal contact. Last year many of you in places as far apart as Hongkong, Singapore and Gibraltar met and talked with the Minister of State. Mr. Rees-Williams visited East and West Africa to find out for himself what your ideas and your problems are. He attended the first meeting of the Central Legislative Assembly of East African High Commission, a new body (in the field of regional organisation) to give practical effect to our wish for better organisation and public control of essential economic and certain other services in East Africa. I myself made all too hurried a visit to West Africa to preside over the West African Council and further in this region the good work of friendly co-operation between territories. I was delighted to have been able to turn the first sod on the permanent site for the new University College at Ibadan and to visit also the Gold Coast University College and to talk with teachers and students in those two institutions which like the University College now being built up in Jamaica for the West Indies, which site I

visited last year, are earnest of our unflagging efforts to see colonial peoples get the mental and cultural equipment they need for their progress.

It is in earnest desire to improve conditions of living in colonial territories that our exchanges and conferences with French, Belgian and other powers with colonial responsibilities has occurred. During 1948 representatives have come together in Paris, in London, in Brussels, in Brazzaville, in Jos and Nairobi to try to help each other in solving the many technical problems which block the way to colonial advancement. The past year has seen the first meeting of the South Pacific Commission with France, Australia, New Zealand, Netherlands and United States consulting on matters affecting social and economic development and welfare of the peoples of that region.

I am picking out a few of events of the year as they occur to me. There is pattern in all our work—our aim at planned social development in which responsible democratic societies shall grow up on the foundations of economic stability. On one side, constitutional progress goes ahead whether in Mauritius, Seychelles, Gibraltar, Falklands, Borneo, Africa (where African people are taking a place on public bodies and in services). In Malaya, the Federation agreement last January introduced new constitutional arrangements which, based on a delicate balance of all elements in the country and containing much compromise between communities, are I trust substantially acceptable to all those who regard Malaya as their home. In the West Indies, a study of means of associating territories more closely has gone ahead under the guidance of Sir Hubert Rance. In many places there have been great steps taken in the development of genuine organs of rural, urban and municipal government.

On the economic side we are painfully aware of shortages of steel and goods of all kinds. We are rapidly improving the position. The year was marked by the passing of the Overseas Resources Development Act whereby the Colonial Development Corporation began the work of providing you with the means of developing new economic enterprises and strengthening your economies. Its participation in such schemes as poultry farming in Cambodia, timber development in British Guiana and reconstruction of Castries so grievously stricken by fire last June, has already been announced and many other projects are being actively considered. The Overseas Food Corporation took over the groundnut scheme in Tanganyika and are tackling vigorously not altogether unexpected difficulties which have been met. The report of the Commission which investigated the possibilities of the settlement and development in British Honduras and British Guiana has been received and we are considering quickly what can be done about its recommendations. We have appointed Economic Liaison Officers for each colonial region to ensure that we are constantly in touch with you about your problems. Work of survey research and investigation has also gone steadily forward. Some great gains in science can be registered—such as destruction of tsetse, elimination of malaria, control of locust.

I do not close my eyes to the debit side; chill winds that now blow from certain quarters of the world and try to shrivel the sturdy plant of democratic growth in your territories; the miserable burden of violence and intimidation which peace-

able peoples in Malaya had to bear or the unhappy disturbances in the Gold Coast and the threat there of "swollen shoot" to the staple industry on which the International Commission has now reported. But even in these things there is hope and opportunity. The courage and loyalty of the Malays and the response of the peoples of Malaya has been for me one of the most heartening things of the past year. And in the Gold Coast too I look forward to greater understanding coming from the work of the committee recently set up to review the constitution.

I have touched on a few things, a few places, a few concerns and peoples near my own heart. I can only say that sitting here in London at the centre of things I am left, as day by day your affairs and problems pass under review across my desk, with evergrowing impression of a great association of people scattered perhaps far and wide but all working together for one purpose and bringing to task the vast fund of resource, knowledge, experience, enthusiasm and high ideals.

I want you to feel with me the tremendous unity of purpose and of spirit that underlies the work which all of us are doing wherever we may be and to realise the immense factor of strength and stability which this brotherhood provides in a troubled world. I want to look beyond your own boundaries and see your place in greater unity and to resolve in this New Year to strengthen unity which is one of the great bulwarks in the world for that decent liberal and peaceful way of life which we all desire. I join with you in high hopes for the future.

The Production of Gold in Sarawak.

On the 30th November, 1898, His Highness the Rajah formally opened the Borneo Company's Gold Works at Bau. This Company had previously obtained the sole rights to exploit the mineral deposits of the country (including gold under a separate and later agreement) and one of the terms was that a fixed annual payment would be made during the currency of the agreement for each mineral worked.

The Chinese had been working coarse gold for many years before. At the time of the Chinese Insurrection in 1857 the Chinese Kongsies at Bau were already of long standing, having come into Sarawak from Sambas, but much earlier than this, in fact, a matter perhaps of centuries before, Chinese and possibly others had worked coarse gold at Santubong.

By 1898 the known deposits of gold ore suitable to the crude methods of the Chinese miners were more or less worked out, but much gold remained. This gold however was chiefly to be found in so fine a form as not to lend itself to the simple process of sluicing.

The Borneo Company, realising that there were large deposits of ore, which they knew from the assays contained a high percentage of gold, if it could only be got, decided to introduce the most modern methods of extraction known at the time. They therefore installed the latest type of stamp battery and crushing mill, and adopted the cyaniding process. In order to obtain the highest possible percentage of extraction various improvements in the process were made, including the introduction

of the oil floatation process. Various technical difficulties were overcome, but not all. Certain types of ore proved to be recalcitrant and it was found impossible to extract more than what was considered an unsatisfactory percentage of the gold present in such ore.

As will be seen from the export statistics below, production fell off somewhat gravely in 1917, and whereas it improved again in 1918, from then onwards there was a steady decline.

By the year 1921 Tai Parit, Bau, the great open-cast mine worked by the Borneo Company, had been excavated to a very considerable depth roughly in the shape of a cone and the danger of flooding in the wet season was very great. As a result of abnormal rainfall and the breaking through of subterranean watercourses and an adjacent stream, the mine became totally flooded in that year, the enormous pumps there installed being unable to cope with the inflow. During the course of the excavation all high grade ore had, of course, been removed, and it was considered by certain experts that the mine was practically worked out. There was however a minority opinion about this, one of the geologists believing that the cone would open out again on the other side of the bottle-neck, although general experience had shewn that the ore bodies tended to decrease at depth.

The Borneo Company also had a plant to handle the special type of ore found at Bidi, but it must be assumed from the export statistics that together with Tai Parit, Bidi also was more or less worked out by 1921.

There were various small rich spots in the Bau area which were known to the geologists. Ore from some of these mines was trammed into Bau and Bidi plants for treatment, some of it being used as a "sweetener" for recalcitrant ore.

On the advice however of expert opinion the Borneo Company decided to give up their mineral rights altogether and to abandon all idea of conquering the technical difficulties of draining Tai Parit. The Company's geologists had made repeated surveys of the country, and the Directors now came to the conclusion, that, antimony and quicksilver being, as far as they were concerned, worked out and gold no longer worth working, it was no longer profitable to make the annual payments to keep the concession alive.

It must be borne in mind that at the time this decision was made the price of gold was only \$28 per ounce. On the other hand many small but rich deposits were known to exist in the neighbourhood of Bau, and there was always the possibility of a new "find" being made.

However, the local Chinese, some of whom had been employed on the mines, saw the possibilities of using the simple cyaniding process in a small way on the site of the richer deposits. Accordingly they applied for and obtained mining leases.

Later other enterprising persons took up mining leases at Bau and Bidi over areas on which the Borneo Company's tailings had been dumped. These tailings dumps are of very considerable magnitude as can be readily understood from a study of the production of gold, reckoning five tons of ore treated per ounce produced. An important point to consider is that these tailings dumps contained large quantities of ore which had not been completely broken, as it was found impossible to get a satisfactory extraction from certain types of ore, if too finely crushed. This ore which had a relatively

high assay value would become more amenable to treatment after some years of "weathering," and the owners of the leases no doubt had a very good idea of what was the average value per ton of the tailings under their control.

The Bukit Young Company at Bau has successfully worked the Bau tailings, and the Bidi tailings have also been worked on an economic basis, but in neither case has a completely satisfactory percentage of extraction been attained by the methods employed.

Some of the mining leases taken up proved to be very profitable and by 1930 exports of gold were resumed. The price was then about \$32 per ounce. By 1934 exports had increased to 29,380 ounces, valued at \$1,668,441 (\$56.79 per ounce).

By 1940 production had fallen again to 12,634 ounces valued at \$875,680, but the price of gold had in the meantime risen to \$69.31 per ounce.

The highest production of gold was in 1907 when 68,108 ounces were produced for a value of \$1,513,800. At the present day declared value of about \$70 per ounce, this quantity of gold would now be valued for export at nearly \$5,000,000.

For the next 10 years after 1907 production averaged approximately 40,000 ounces per annum, but by 1920 it had fallen to about 20,000 ounces. Even though the Borneo Company ceased mining in 1921 the production for that year was nevertheless 19,403 ounces, which no doubt resulted from the treatment of accumulated stocks of ore.

It is interesting to consider that in 1907, 68,108 ounces of gold were valued at \$1,513,800, but that in 1934, more than 10 years after the Borneo Company had shut down their two cyaniding plants, the small Chinese mines produced 28,380 ounces valued at approximately the same figure, i.e. \$1,668,441 (\$56.79 per ounce).

In 1908 the Borneo Company were operating two crushing mills (and cyaniding plants) the capacities of which were:—

Bau	...	10,000 tons monthly
Bidi	...	8,000 " "

and the practice was to coarse crush the stone and feed it to the cyaniding vats commingled with auriferous clays in a certain proportion. This mixture ranged in assay value from four to eight dwts. per ton and extraction ranged between 70% and 80%. ***

As mentioned above the process was improved in various ways, but the problem of treating recalcitrant ores was never properly solved, so that the tailing dumps would in all probability have contained large quantities of ore in which 30% of the gold content still remained, but accepting the figure of 70% to 80% extraction, the tailing dumps would contain gold to the value of 1.2 to 2.4 dwts. per ton.

A very rough calculation would show that in 20 years' working, the tailings from the Borneo Company's works must originally have been from 3,000,000 to 4,000,000 tons, at least 1,000,000 tons of which are said to be at Bidi.

Assuming however that only 2,000,000 tons of tailings are available at Bau and Bidi and taking an average of 6 dwts. input $(4+8 \text{ dwts.})$ at an

average extraction of 75% $(70\%+80\%)$ the amount

of gold still left would be 1.5 dwts. or 150,000 ounces.

Under the methods used on some of the tailing dumps only about 50% extraction was achieved, but accepting this very low figure, the gold which could be extracted would amount to \$5,250,000 at a round figure of \$70 per ounce.

In Australia there are Government owned crushing batteries, and there are also privately owned crushing mills and cyaniding plants, which treat ore on a contract basis. The private treatment plants receive the ore from outlying mines and pay the owners according to assays from samples taken automatically as the ore goes over a moving band. The charge for treating the ore is no doubt so much per ton input or a percentage of the gold extracted.

There is such a plant at Kalgoorlie, W. Australia, where the ore is crushed, slimed and cyanided. It also incorporates the oil floatation process to take off the coarse gold. All these processes were those which the Borneo Company eventually adopted at their two plants. It is however very probable that technical advances have since been made.

The concession formerly held by the Borneo Company had the great advantage that it permitted the ore from outlying areas to be treated at such central plants.

In the *Sarawak Gazette* of the 1st December, 1908, there is an article by Mr. J. S. Geikie, B.S.c., entitled "The Occurrence of Gold in Upper Sarawak." This paper was read before the Institute of Mining and Metallurgy in November, 1905.

Mr. J. S. Geikie, who died in 1920, was the manager of the Borneo Company's Gold Works at Bau. The article is that of an expert with both theoretical and practical knowledge, and the views expressed therein closely follow those of geologists who had gone before him, in particular those of Dr. Gröger, who wrote on very similar lines towards the end of the last century. This is recorded so that it may be known that this important paper is readily to hand for those who wish to read it.

Shortly after the commencement of the Japanese Occupation the mines in Upper Sarawak were obliged to close down. The labour force was dispersed to plant food and the equipment of the mines, particularly the rails and waggons, was commandeered by the Japanese for use on other work.

After the Liberation the mines were slow to start working again owing to the difficulties of rehabilitation, the shortage of materials and for various other economic reasons.

The cost of labour and of all the materials and equipment used in the production of gold was high, leaving the miners with very little incentive to produce the precious metal at such an unpropitious time. This applied chiefly to the mines with the richer deposits.

In the case of the poorer deposits the high cost of production and the relatively low price of gold precluded the production of gold as an economic proposition altogether.

For this reason only four or five mines were working at the end of 1948 and production is negligible.

N. A. LUCAS.

*** See J. S. Geikie, B. Sc. "The Occurrence of Gold in Upper Sarawak."

EXPORTS OF GOLD.

	Ounces	Declared Value \$	Value per Ounce
1899 ...	—	541,711	(18,984 Bongkals)
1900 ...	—	843,709	(26,575 ")
1901 ...	38,782	1,246,114	\$32.13 Per Oz.
1902 ...	36,768	1,398,360	37.21 "
1903 ...	61,198½	1,819,200	29.72 "
1904 ...	61,295	1,824,320	29.76 "
1905 ...	61,285	1,839,956	30.02 "
1906 ...	57,403	1,415,470	24.65 "
1907 ...	68,108½	1,513,800	22.22 "
1908 ...	43,142½	1,130,760	26.20 "
1909 ...	45,085	1,189,440	25.27 "
1910 ...	46,999½	951,119	20.23 "
1911 ...	40,650½	992,915	24.42 "
1912 ...	42,407½	1,070,200	25.23 "
1913 ...	41,874.9	1,077,400	25.72 "
1914 ...	39,355.6	1,078,600	27.41 "
1915 ...	47,138.4	1,250,500	26.65 "
1916 ...	51,590	1,209,050	23.43 "
1917 ...	29,236	675,600	23.10 "
1918 ...	35,982	923,100	25.65 "
1919 ...	31,008	808,100	26.06 "
1920 ...	22,922	612,200	26.70 "
1921 ...	19,403	559,100	28.82 "
1922 ...	1,662.8	40,350	24.26 "
1923 ...	2,173	37,200	17.12 "
1924 ...	857.72	32,300	37.66 "
1925 ...	709.76	24,808	34.95 "
1926 ...	249.1	6,367	25.56 "
1927 ...	—	—	—
1928 ...	—	—	—
1929 ...	972	35,200	36.21 "
1930 ...	4,025.6	127,420	31.65 "
1931 ...	10,450.92	326,062	31.29 "
1932 ...	8,359.2	408,930	48.92 "
1933 ...	17,397.66	865,640	49.75 "
1934 ...	29,380	1,668,441	56.79 "
1935 ...	28,120	1,680,466	57.98 "
1936 ...	22,628	1,319,620	58.32 "
1937 ...	19,643	1,161,006	59.10 "
1938 ...	18,486	1,113,348	60.23 "
1939 ...	17,925	1,141,155	63.66 "
1940 ...	12,634	875,680	69.31 "

(1948 = \$69 per ounce.)

(i) His Majesty's Government will not seek for any contributions from the Governments of Sarawak and Brunei towards the cost of the Military Administrations which functioned prior to Civil Government being established, but further consideration will be given to the incidence of charge of certain stores ordered for the Military Administrations which arrived after Civil Governments had been re-established.

(ii) There should be an increase of £500,000 in the existing allocation to Sarawak from Colonial Development and Welfare funds, subject to review in three years' time in the light of the Colony's ability to use its total revised allocation.

2. WAR DAMAGE COMPENSATION SCHEME.

Covering North Borneo, Sarawak and Brunei.

(a) Following the report of the War Damage Claims Commission, covering claims for war damage in North Borneo, Sarawak and Brunei, the Governments of these territories submitted to the Secretary of State and to the Commissioner-General the outlines of a scheme of compensation in respect of those claims, which would, it was hoped, alleviate hardship and assist in the rehabilitation of industries and persons concerned. It had stated in 1942 that it would be the general aim of His Majesty's Government after the war, with a view to the well-being of the people and the resumption of productive activity, that property and goods destroyed or damaged in the Colonial Empire should be replaced or repaired to such extent and over such a period of time as resources permit. It was added that if the resources of any part of the Colonial Empire were insufficient to enable this purpose to be achieved without aid, His Majesty's Government would be ready to give what assistance they could in conjunction with such common fund or organisation as could be established for post-war reconstruction. In accordance with that undertaking, His Majesty's Government have now agreed, subject to Parliamentary approval, to assist the three Governments to finance a scheme of compensation estimated to cost \$17,000,000 (about £1,983,333) in all by way of

(i) free grants to the Governments of North Borneo and Sarawak totalling \$7,000,000 (about £816,666) and

(ii) interest-free loans up to a maximum of \$10,000,000 (about £1,166,666) in all, to the extent that the Governments concerned are unable to finance from their own resources the balance of the expenditure.

A final allocation of the grant of \$7,000,000 (about £816,666) between North Borneo and Sarawak will have to await the completion of the scheme, but a provisional allocation is \$5,000,000 (about £583,333) for North Borneo and \$2,000,000 (about £233,333) for Sarawak; and interest-free loans up to a maximum of \$6,400,000 (about £746,666) for North Borneo \$2,700,000 (about £315,000) for Sarawak and \$900,000 (about £105,000) for Brunei.

(b) The Governments concerned propose as soon as possible to issue jointly a White Paper giving information regarding the claims received and the proposed basis of compensation.

Financial Settlements and War Damage Compensation Schemes.

The following is extracted from the text of a statement made in the House of Commons on December 14th by the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the subject of Financial Settlements between His Majesty's Government and Sarawak and Brunei, and a war damage compensation scheme in these territories and in North Borneo.

1. FINANCIAL SETTLEMENTS.

Sarawak and Brunei.

His Majesty's Government are awaiting a revised estimate of the financial position and future liabilities of the Government of Sarawak and any request for assistance beyond that referred to below will be considered on its merits in the light of that information when received. In the meantime, His Majesty's Government has agreed with the Governments of Sarawak and Brunei that

Britain and Asia.

[The following is an extract from a broadcast talk by the Commissioner-General for the United Kingdom in South East Asia, The Right Honourable Malcolm MacDonald, P.C.]

We have been engaged in Malaya during the last seven months in fighting a Communist attempt to create chaos by brutal terrorism. This outbreak must be related to wider developments of vast constructive importance in Asia, which the Communists do not like, and which they are trying to upset by their present plottings not only in Malaya but elsewhere on this side of the world.

Let us to-night stand back for a while from our local struggle, and survey the broad, vivid perspective of Asian events.

In recent years several international developments have occurred which will change the shape of human history. None is more significant than the political reawakening of Asia. A generation ago almost all the peoples in the East lived under the powerful influence or actual government of Western nations. To-day many of them have reasserted their independence. For example, during the last two years four new sovereign states have come into being—India, Pakistan, Burma and Ceylon.

There are many remarkable features about this re-birth of Asian nations. Let me mention one of them. The four nations whom I have mentioned were all created partly by the will of their own peoples, and partly by the will of the Parliament in Britain. Of course, the most compelling force working for their liberty was their own inhabitants' urge to be free. National political movements threw up national political leaders who strove for national political freedom. They were commanding contemporary figures like Jinnah in Pakistan and Gandhi and Nehru in India.

But Britain was a willing partner in the work. Indeed, the British were the tutors in political liberty of these new Asian nations. In their own island the British gave an example of the blessings of free self-government. In overseas territories which they ruled they deliberately prepared the ground for the realisation of a similar state of affairs. In the local schools they taught freedom of thought and action, in the Administration they trained local officers to run their own departments, in economic affairs they created a self-reliant structure, and in politics they formed Legislative Assemblies where local politicians learned the art of government and gained experience as responsible Ministers.

Occasionally during the transition period disagreements arose between the British authorities and the local political leaders. But they were never disagreements about the ultimate objective. Such disputes as sometimes arose were only about the pace at which that objective could be attained. The British and native peoples alike were in complete agreement that the grand climax of all their efforts was to be national freedom.

And as time passed the British transferred to the local peoples ever more responsibility and power. Eventually they withdrew Governors and Civil Servants from India and Pakistan, Burma and Ceylon, and left those lands to the unfettered government of their own chosen national leaders and public servants.

This experience of a group of Asian nations is not an isolated, unprecedented episode. They are not the only states sprung, so to speak, from Britain's political womb. By similar processes during the last generation as many as a dozen nations have achieved full sovereignty. Listen to the proud roll-call of their names: Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Eire, Egypt, Iraq, Trans-Jordan—and now India, Pakistan, Burma and Ceylon.

The fact is that through generations Britain has been a great Imperial Power; but for a long time past the first aim of her Colonial rule has been not the exploitation of dependent peoples, but their emancipation.

Almost all of the new nations, on achieving freedom, chose to remain members of the British Commonwealth. One of the most remarkable developments of our time is this evolution of the British Empire from a group of dependent countries ruled by one metropolitan Great Power into a Commonwealth of free and equal nations co-operating together for their common good. Amongst other things, this Commonwealth can now contribute mightily to human progress by bringing the peoples of the East and the West together, to discuss their mutual problems as friends meeting in the intimate circle of a family of nations.

Consider the Conferences of British Commonwealth Prime Ministers which meet from time to time. Often in the 1930s I attended those gatherings. They were interesting and fruitful. The Prime Ministers of several nations located in Europe, America, Africa and Australia met to discuss their mutual concerns. But they had one serious limitation. No Prime Minister attended from Asia.

Two months ago I went to England to attend another Commonwealth Conference. What a broadening transformation had taken place! At the conference table sat six Prime Ministers from the West—they were joined by three Prime Ministers from the East. Pandit Nehru was there, speaking for the millions in India, Liaquat Ali Khan came from the vigorous Mohammedan state of Pakistan, and Mr. Senanayaka represented the people of Ceylon. The presence of these formidable Asian statesmen made a profound difference to the discussions. They spoke for the East: They represented Asia. They expressed the ancient traditions, the continuing wisdom and the contemporary aspirations of the peoples on this side of the world, all influenced by those democratic ideas which are a contribution from the West accepted readily by the East.

It was a remarkable case of leaders of the Occident and the Orient taking council together. They met as equals; their will towards each other was good; their talk was friendly. They exchanged information, discussed frankly some different points of view, and as a result of sensible, mutual compromises found common ground and reached understandings. Such conferences will do much to promote fellowship and peace amongst all the races upon Earth.

Yes, Britain has proved herself a sincere partner and friend of Asian peoples. She will continue so. Since the war two great causes have commanded the allegiance of all Asians with progressive minds. One is the need to improve the economic standard of living of the Asian masses—peasants and small-holders and labourers everywhere. The other is the

urge of national populations to gain their political freedom. We British stoutly support both causes.

Let me consider, for example, our attitude to them in Malaya.

First there is the need to secure better standards of material well-being for the working people. At the end of the war any hope of such standards was threatened with destruction. A primary need for everyone is enough food to eat—but South-East Asia faced the danger of a rice famine. Immediately the British Government, at its own taxpayers' expense, sent Lord Killearn and a staff of experts to Singapore to help stimulate the energetic production and equitable distribution of rice throughout the area, so that the people in every country should get their fair share of the limited supplies available. This was done with the full co-operation of each Government concerned, and to the benefit of all. It was especially important for the inhabitants of territories like the Federation of Malaya and Singapore, where imported rice provides such a large part of their basic food. Lord Killearn's organisation helped tremendously to save the situation, to avert a famine, and to start the restoration of conditions in which the supply and distribution of rice might become again more regular and ample.

Let me illustrate further our policy of creating conditions which make possible a higher standard of life for the people. Rates of wages in Malaya depend largely on the economic strength—the capacity to pay wages—of industries like rubber planting and tin mining. British Administration and British private enterprise have played a big part in rehabilitating these vital activities since the war. As a result Malaya's economic recovery has been as quick and great as that of any country in Asia, and far quicker and greater than most. For example, the output of rubber last year was nearly 700,000 tons, an all-time record. And although the price of rubber is little better than it was before the war, wages are much higher than they were then.

As for the Governments—who are large employers of labour themselves—they have given a lead in this matter of wages. They have raised the pay of their workers, especially of those towards the bottom of the scale. Their lowest paid employees are now receiving three times as much as they did before the war.

Let me carry my argument a step further. Industries may be prosperous, yet the work people in them may not always secure a proper share of the yields which are partly the fruits of their labour. The Governments in the Federation and Singapore are anxious that Labour here shall reap its full reward. One way of achieving this is by the creation of Trades Unions to represent the work people's interests, to forward those interests in negotiations with employers, and to defend them by all legitimate means. The British authorities have given consistent encouragement and support to the hundreds of lawful Trades Unions which have sprung up in Malaya and Singapore since the war. We are anxious that they shall be enabled to perform fully, by peaceful and constitutional means, all the functions of Trades Unions in a democratic state.

Let me mention another aspect of this problem. In a modern state the Government can do much by a comprehensive system of social services to improve the lot of the population. In Malaya and

Singapore our plans for the development of health, education and social welfare services are far-reaching, and will be pressed forward as quickly as financial and other circumstances permit.

It has been suggested that in these straitened times the British taxpayers themselves should contribute money towards this cause of the economic uplift of the people in Malaya. They are doing so already. I could give many examples of that. Consider the case of the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund. Under it the Federation and Singapore will receive \$43,000,000 over the next few years, to be spent on schemes to help, amongst others, peasants and fishermen and labourers. That whole sum will come from the pockets of the British taxpayers. It is not a loan to be repaid, but a gift freely given.

I could quote other examples of considerable financial contributions by the British people. There is the \$850,000,000 granted by the British Parliament from revenue paid by British taxpayers as capital to finance the Colonial Development Corporation. A fair share of that large sum will come to Malaya. There is the \$250,000,000 odd offered as a free loan towards the payment of War Damage Claims. There is the \$85,000,000 offered as a gift for the same purpose. There is the \$8,500,000 given outright towards the foundation of the University of Malaya. These and other efforts all add up to mighty support for the endeavour to improve the conditions of life and the prospects of attainment of the peoples of Malaya.

Law Report.

TSAI MIN PONG *v.* KUAN AH PET (*f*)

Before His Honour Judge K. H. Digby in the First Circuit Court at Kuching.

October 20th 1948 and November 3rd 1948.

(In this case, the two parties were engaged in rearing pigs. After about eighteen months dissension arose between them and the plaintiff, having been ejected from the defendant's father's house, brought an action to recover his alleged share of the business assets.)

JUDGMENT.

In this case I must try to extract the truth from two stories which conflict at many points and neither of which I am able to accept in full. I think that the original arrangement between the plaintiff and the defendant was in the nature of a partnership whereby they agreed to combine their capital and their labour for the purpose of rearing livestock and eventually buying a garden and setting up on their own. I do not know, and do not attempt to decide, whether the plaintiff and the defendant actually lived together as man and wife, but I accept the plaintiff's evidence that they intended to be married when the new garden was bought. On the other hand I reject the plaintiff's evidence as to the value of the share which he brought into the partnership. I hold that defendant did pay to the plaintiff a certain amount of money at that time and more than he admits, in order to assist him to meet obligations which he had previously incurred. I do not consider that it is necessary for me to decide the exact values of the respective contributions of capital made by the plain-

tiff and the defendant. They agreed to combine their labour as well as their capital and I hold that it was an implied term of the partnership that the profits, if any, should be shared, and the losses, if any, borne, equally between them. In fact the partnership went on in this way for a year, the defendant acting as treasurer and housekeeper but not as far as I can gather keeping any accounts. She says that she is illiterate. The plaintiff asks that an account should be taken of all transactions which occurred during the period of the partnership. In my opinion however, it would be quite futile for the Court to make any such order. The affairs of the partnership and the affairs of the household appear to have been inextricably intermingled. I do not by any means accept plaintiff's story that all sales of the livestock were conducted by the defendant who pocketed all the money, and I would find it almost impossible to strike a balance of an account between them even if I thought it essential to do so. In my view it was a loose sort of arrangement whereby the profits of the partnership were pooled and used for the maintenance and support of the plaintiff and the defendant. There may have been some savings from those profits and these savings may have been embezzled by the defendant, but the onus is on the plaintiff to establish the existence of such savings and their amount and he is clearly quite incompetent to provide the degree of proof required for either.

The uncertainty, lapses of memory (to put it no higher) confusion, and perhaps immoral consideration which are inseparable from the plaintiff's case (though I must add that I doubt whether the sexual relations between them are really relevant) make it extremely difficult for me to refrain from dismissing the action altogether. I have formed the opinion, however, that the plaintiff has been wronged and is entitled to a remedy, even if it is not nearly so large a remedy as he has claimed. He strikes me as an earnest, well-intentioned but not very clever man. The defendant, on the other hand, strikes me as a hard, calculating, and capable business woman. When the plaintiff for some reason or other did not come up to her expectations she decided to get rid of him and had no scruples about the methods she used. Her reply of "yes" when I asked her whether the fact that the plaintiff had removed her photograph was in her view justification for setting five or six children on to him with sticks and stones gives some indication of what may be called the absence of sentimentality in her character. I do not think that she has made any attempt to treat plaintiff fairly though perhaps she had good reason for being irritated by him. I am surprised that the other members of the household have not given evidence in support of her story.

I have already said that I cannot accede to plaintiff's request for an account to be taken of all the partnership dealings because the impossibility of obtaining any sort of accuracy in the peculiar circumstances would merely tend to bring this Court into disrepute without assisting me to reach a just decision. The partnership has now been *de facto* dissolved and it seems to me that the most to which the plaintiff is entitled is half the value of the partnership assets at the time of dissolution. I accept the plaintiff's figures in this respect and find that those assets consisted of 11 medium-sized pigs, 10 young pigs, one sow and 18 fowls to a total value of \$842. In my judgment plaintiff

is entitled to half that amount and I order that defendant shall pay to him the sum of \$421.

On the question of costs since plaintiff was permitted to sue as a poor person there is a total of Court fees amounting to \$48 outstanding. This figure is inflated because the plaintiff claimed for much more than I have awarded him. I think each party should bear their own personal costs and any payments already made. The case has taken about a day and a half to hear and I do not think it would be unjust if the parties bore the very low Court fees incurred by plaintiff in equal shares. I am taking into consideration the fact that if the damages are paid through the Court the plaintiff will have to bear the usual commission.

I therefore order that the defendant shall pay to the plaintiff the sum of \$421 by way of damages and \$24 by way of costs making \$445 in all. The Court fees amounting to \$48 shall in accordance with rule 4(2) of the Procedure (Poor Persons) Rules, 1948, be a first charge in favour of the Crown on any payment made in pursuance of this judgment by the defendant to the plaintiff.

Legend: The Golden Monkey.

(The Government Ethnologist and Curator, Sarawak Museum, (Mr. Tom Harrison) writes:

The following story was recorded from a Land Dayak, Pengarah Otoh, age 50, of Biawak, between Lundu and the Dutch border, in December, 1948. It was taken down in colloquial Malay by Alexander Bolang while on a collecting trip for the Museum, and I translated it as below. The translation is as literal as possible, consistent with clarity, but this text is provisional and subject to later corrections.

Stories of petrification are numerous in Borneo, especially in the north, and we have nearly a hundred records of these which I hope it may be possible to publish in a special study presently. Stories of animal changes into other media are scarce, and the story of the Golden Monkey has a particular fascination. We should be grateful for petrification and related stories of any sort from any area.

This is a story from the Seloko Dayaks whose country is in the Dutch territory of Sambas (as well as about Biawak near Lundu).

There were two people, a husband and his wife, of the Seloko group, making a rice-clearing well out in the jungle. At that time the ruler of this country was a Malay Rajah, the Sultan of Sambas.

Whenever Seloko Dayak people made rice clearings thereabout, there came a monkey (!), and this monkey was always spoiling the padi they had planted, and the kassava (?) of these Dayaks. So these Dayaks were always watching out and hoping to be able to kill the monkey—but they never encountered it.

Then one day, during the heat of the day while it was drizzling with rain, the monkey came into the couple's rice-clearing and started to damage the rice (?) they had planted there previously. The husband then told his wife to follow the monkey. The wife went down from the hut in the clearing, carrying a piece of wood from the fire, and she

proceeded to follow the monkey. When she got close up to the monkey, she hit it with the wood which she was carrying. The wood struck the head of the monkey heavily, and straight away the monkey died.

When the monkey was seen to be dead, she returned to the hut and told her husband to go and fetch the monkey because it was dead—as she had struck it with the fire-wood which she had carried. Hearing from his wife that the monkey was dead, the man went down from the hut in the rice-clearing and immediately set off to the place where the monkey was lying dead, intending to fetch the monkey so that they could eat it.

At the time it was raining, but the heat did not diminish (4). Presently the man arrived at the place where the monkey was, and got hold of the monkey, wishing to lift it up and carry it back to his hut. But he was unable to lift the monkey on account of the fact that this monkey was of gold, and heavy. Then he *saw* that the monkey was not an animal, but had changed—it had become a monkey of gold.

Seeing this, the man was astonished, and hurried back to his hut. Not long afterwards night came on and the two Dayaks, man and wife, slept. While they were sleeping, the man had a dream. There came to him a ghost who spoke as follows:

"If you want to fetch that monkey, you must prepare it by wrapping it in yellow cloth (5), and then you will be able to carry the monkey back."

Not long after that it was daylight; and the man thought carefully about his dream. He decided that the dream was a true one and he *could* fetch the monkey if he wrapped it up with yellow cloth. But at this time (long ago) the Dayaks had not got any yellow cloth. On the contrary, they only wore bark. There were Malays who had cloth, but they did not have any yellow cloth either, for only the Sultan was able to wear yellow cloth—ordinary people could not wear it. Only a Malay Rajah was permitted to use the colour yellow and to wear yellow cloth of the Sultan's sort.

So the man felt very sad, wanting to get some yellow cloth, thinking of the gold and how he would have to ask the Sultan. Also, the man thought, "How shall I ask for yellow cloth? Perhaps the Sultan will not give it to me, and certainly the Sultan will ask me for what reason I want such yellow cloth."

The man felt very frightened at the idea of meeting the Sultan, for at that time, long ago, everybody feared to meet the Sultan—Dayaks and Malays too (6). But as there was no other way of getting yellow cloth, the man made up his mind to be bold and to go and see the Sultan.

Having thought this out and talked it over, off he went. He set out for the house of the Sultan, intending to meet him and ask for yellow cloth. He travelled through the jungle for two or three days, eventually coming out at a Malay village, the home of the Sultan of Sambas. Here he sought out the house of the Sultan; and when he had found it and was ready to go in, he asked permission from the guards, and presently came face-to-face with the Sultan.

When he came face-to-face with the Sultan, he asked for a fathom of yellow cloth. When the Sultan heard a Dayak asking for yellow cloth, he was angry, since yellow cloth was not for ordinary people to wear. But the Dayak told the story of the

monkey that had been killed, of how it had become gold, and how he wished to carry it away but the gold was too heavy. But (he said) that if he could wrap it up in yellow cloth, he would be able to carry it away.

On hearing this story from the Dayak, the Sultan said:

"I have yellow cloth in my possession, but I cannot give it to you. However, I myself will help you and go with you, bringing the yellow cloth."

At this the Dayak was pleased, and started out for his home, followed by the Sultan.

When they arrived at the place where the monkey had died, the Sultan himself was astonished and delighted to see this golden monkey and its beautiful appearance. Then the golden monkey was wrapped up with yellow cloth and taken by the Sultan, he and the Dayak carrying it away together, the golden monkey wrapped up in the yellow cloth. They brought it to the hut in the rice-clearing where the Dayak lived. Now at that time, long ago, the Sultan had great powers and everybody else was afraid to oppose him. So he took the golden monkey for himself, leaving only one ear for the finder, the Dayak. They agreed on this, the Sultan saying to the Dayak: "The right ear from this golden monkey I am leaving with you, but the rest I must have for myself."

Further, the Sultan promised the Dayak: "From this day forward I will not take any tax from you, on to your children and grand-children, and on to all those descended from you."

And the Dayak was so afraid of his Rajah, the Sultan, that he gave the golden monkey to the Sultan, the Sultan of Sambas.

NOTES:

(1) The monkey in the story was a Brok (*Macacus nemestrinus*), the Pig-Tailed Monkey. It features in a number of stories in this area. At Lundu is the famous Batu Brok, the story of which was also recorded in December, 1948.

(2) "Ubi kayu."

(3) I think it is a nuisance to litter texts with Malay or vernacular names, not understood by all readers. The reference in general is, of course, to *padi* planting in *ladang* clearings.

(4) This reference is not clear, and probably was not so even to the teller. But such indications of unusual conditions of temperature are a regular feature of petrification and similar stories.

(5) The "royal" colour; see the Rajah's umbrella in the Museum, etc.

(6) This and other indications somewhat suggest an "alien" ruler. There is no indication of how long ago all this is supposed to have happened, but it was "long, long ago."

An Account of a Journey in the Kakus Area.

It had originally been intended to make this trip in the company of the Curator of the Sarawak Museum to inspect the little known birds' nest caves in the foothills of Gunong Lumut. The Curator also wished to collect some information as to the origin of the Punans in this district and to inspect any old heirlooms or *barang pesaka* they might still have in their possession. Unfortunately after all plans had been made the Curator was prevented through sickness from joining me.

There were other reasons for the trip beside the aforementioned and these included:—

(a) an inspection of the Forest Reserves and Protected Forests through which these two rivers ran;

(b) an investigation of the area as to the rumours of an engkabang crop;

(c) to confirm that the last of the Ibans had moved out of the ulu Kakus;

(d) to inspect the building of a new Punan house at Sungei Minah in the Lower Kakus;

(e) and finally as an administrative tour of an area which for about ten years had not been visited.

It had been planned to leave by launch on the morning of Sunday, December 5th. The previous morning it was found that the directions to the Native Officer-in-Charge, Tatau, to meet us in the Ulu Kakus had not been sent, owing to no launches proceeding to Tatau for the previous ten days. The memorandum containing the directions was sent overland with the customary matches and feathers to indicate urgency. I left therefore on the appointed morning with Forest Ranger Kambar in the M.L. "Doreen". We stopped at Sebauh to pick up Native Officer Charles Percy Majeng, and at Pendan for T.K. Berasap, Punan. The latter is the owner of some of the birds' nest caves and was taken on as guide.

Proceeding up the Pendan river it was noticeable that the water was unusually low. This was strange in view of the very high floods at Bintulu. Shortly above Nanga Binieu, the party transferred to the outboard which was in tow, and eventually reached Rumah Anja, the last Iban house in the Ulu Pendan at 5.45 p.m. Here Penghulu Jana was present to arrange for boats and coolies to take us on up the Ulu Pendan. The outboard could go no further.

After the usual night spent in a Dayak house we set off at 7 a.m. and paddled and poled until 4.15 p.m. when we stopped to build langkaus for the night. The following day we again left at 7 a.m. and made slower going due to the shallowness of the river. There were one or two brisk showers which did little to raise the level of the water and only served to drench us in our open boats. However, the pengkalan was reached at 3.50 p.m. where the boats could proceed no further. We spent the night there at the foot of Gunong Lumut.

Various maps of Sarawak differ both as to the course and name of this river. At this stage it is known as the Lalang so I am informed, not the Malang, and its source is in the foothills of Gunong Lumut.

On the 8th at the usual hour we started to climb Gunong Lumut. The track climbs straight up and over this 2,500 ft. mountain. The ascent was steep and irritating in that after climbing a fairly steep ridge the track went down and one had to start climbing once more. This occurred more than half a dozen times. The view from the heavily wooded summit was disappointing due to the cloud and mist formations. The descent on the Kakus side was steeper. We literally had to swing from tree to tree for much of the way. Fortunately the rain held off until we had nearly reached the bottom, otherwise it would have been very much more difficult. Langkaus were built at 4 p.m. close to a stream at the foot of the mountain. Numbers of

leeches were of course encountered both on the ascent and descent, but they were not as bad as in some parts that I have travelled.

The next morning we followed the course of the stream. At one point the river had tunnelled through the high limestone rock and clambering through this was not very easy. Shortly afterwards T.K. Berasap led us off at a tangent to inspect his caves, while the remainder of the party carried the *barang* on to Nanga Bekuyat, the rendezvous for the Native Officer-in-Charge, Tatau.

A short climb of half an hour took us to the rock face in which the caves were situated. This is quite a sight for it is of white limestone and rises perpendicular for more than a hundred feet. It is about 70 yards wide at the base. The first cave was entered at about ten feet from the ground. Thence one could climb up from the inside to the next cave which opened out on the rock face at about 30 feet from the ground. The only access to the higher caves in the rock face was by aid of precarious looking poles from cave to cave right to the top. There were five caves visible. These were by no means large, while the yield and grade of the nests were poor. T.K. Berasap said he usually found it difficult to organise a party to collect the nests. His usual route to the caves was via Belaga. This was an easier though longer way. He was related by birth and marriage to the Skapans and Punans of the Belaga area, and they used to make up his collecting parties. The nests when collected were sold in Belaga. The last collection made was in September 1946 when approximately ten piculs were obtained from all the caves in the area. This cave in question, known as the Bekuyat cave, was not very productive. Owing to the distance of the caves from any market it had not been considered worth while carrying the guano in for sale. We returned and continued on to Nanga Bekuyat, the pengkalan of the Ulu Kakus. Two hours later the Native Officer's party from Tatau arrived, very well timed. As they had had a hard morning dragging and poling the two boats since 5.30 a.m. it was decided to rest for the remainder of the day.

The Kakus river was also extremely low. The Pendan carriers returned the following morning, while the two boats were loaded and we set off down the Kakus. To reduce weight, practically all those not concerned with poling and dragging the boats walked along the river bank. At 3.15 p.m. we reached the Tatau outboard, but the engine could not be used as the river level had dropped about a foot in the last two days. Night was spent on a gravel bank which was reached at 5.15 p.m. The following day was much the same. For very short stretches only could the engine be used. We stopped for the night at 6.30 p.m. No langkaus were made and the party slept in the open. The next day the stretches during which the engine could be used became longer and longer and Punan farming huts were seen. We reached Rumah Keseng at 1.45 p.m. where lunch was taken, and we finally arrived at Tatau at 6.45 p.m., passing the new Punan house under construction at Nanga Minah. During the trip no sign of any flowering engkabang was seen nor did the Punans at Rumah Keseng report any signs of it in the side streams. No Ibans were met nor were there any traces of recent Iban habitation seen. No infringements of the Forest rules in the Reserves or Protected Forests were noticed. It had been feared that Ibans from the Ulu Anap might have crossed over to collect

belian which is in such demand at present.

The return to Bintulu was made the following day by the M.L. "Doreen" which had come round to collect us.

H. P. K. JACKS,
District Officer, Bintulu.

The Rape of the Sadong —Two Versions.

1. *Official.* (From Baring-Gould and Bamphylides' history of Sarawak).

"In the Sadong, on the Rajah's recommendation, a Malay Chief named Abang Kasim had been appointed Governor by the Bruni Government in succession to Sherip Sahap, with the title of Datu Bandar" (Page 117).

"On March 2 (1849) the Rajah received news that a large pirate fleet of 100 perahus had proceeded up the Sadong where they had put to death upwards of 100 or more Malay men, women and children, and had carried others into slavery. This expedition was led by the Laksamana, the Malay chief of the Saribas, it was checked at the town of Gedong, which was well prepared for defence." (Page 132).

2. *Unofficial.* (As told to the former District Officer, Sadong, by the eighty year old Tuan Inam Abang Hassan bin Abang Mat Japar of Serian).

"Very naturally I know the true story of the last time the Saribas Dayaks raided the Sadong. How do I know?—because my grandmother was carried into slavery, and my grandfather it was who single-handed broke the pirate horde, though it cost him his life.

All this happened not long after the first Rajah Brooke came to Sarawak. In those days there were no Malays in the coastal area, and Sadong (which some people now call Simunjan) did not exist. The only Malay kampong was Gedong, though the people from that village were used to farm down river so far as Lobok Bunting and up to Gumpeh.

There had been a shortage of food on the Saribas, and the Dayaks asked permission to come to Gedong to buy padi. After thinking it over my grandfather Datu Patinggi Ali, and Datu Bandar Kasim assented, and the Dayaks sent up a small party to do the buying. There was plenty of padi at Gedong, the Dayaks had plenty of money, and they bought and paid for some 2,000 pasu.

But here arose a difficulty. Not having expected to be able to buy so much, the Dayaks hadn't enough room in their perahus to carry the padi away. They tried to borrow extra perahus from Gedong, but nobody cared to lend. At last it was decided that the Dayaks should store the padi in the house of Datu Bandar Kasim until such time as they could bring up more perahus. So the padi was stored, and the Dayaks returned to Saribas.

May Tuan Allah forgive him, but hardly had the Dayaks left Gedong when Datu Bandar Kasim sold the padi that had been entrusted to him, and pocketed the money. In due course back came the Dayaks for their padi, only to be told by Kasim that there was none. Of course they were very angry, and demanded their money back. At first Kasim only laughed at them; when they persisted he drew his sword and told them to get out. He knew well

that a small unarmed party dare not attack him in his own village. Muttering threats for the future, the Dayaks withdrew.

The padi had been bought on behalf of all the Saribas people. When they learned how they had been cheated they straightway prepared for war. A final warning was sent to Kasim, demanding reparation unless he wished to take the consequences. Feeling secure in well-defended Gedong, Kasim returned a contemptuous reply. Then Kasim received a last ominous message—"Beware!"

From far and near, from their farms, from their gardens, from the jungle, from the fishing boats the Sadong Malays fled to Gedong. Ambushes were prepared, palisades were built, cannon were mounted, food was stored—in a word the town assumed a state of siege, and awaited the coming of the dreaded Saribas.

But a small party of sixteen Malays remained outside the town, on my grandfather's farm at Tanjung Penaga below Gedong. There was my grandfather himself, Datu Patinggi Ali, my grandmother Datu Nerati, Tuanku Serib Sahab, and thirteen others, all women and children. My grandfather had reasoned that all the Saribas people knew and respected him, and that their quarrel was with Datu Bandar Kasim alone. Alas! he forgot that in time of war the blood is hot and that the innocent suffer with the guilty.

Tanjung Penaga was attacked an hour before first light. Thousands of Saribas warriors under the brothers Penghulus Saji, Sun tong and Mingat, and guided by a treacherous Malay had paddled up on the rising tide, and they had sworn to exterminate all Malays.

My grandfather heard them approach. Instantly he reached a decision. The women and children he ordered to scatter and flee into the jungle. Tuanku Serib Sahab he ordered to carry the warning to Gedong and to bring aid—reluctantly, for Sahap was a brave warrior, Sahap obeyed. Datu Patinggi Ali himself, armed with sword and shield remained to sell his life so dearly as possible to cover the retreat of the others. How he fought! For hours could be heard the clack of sword on shield, the clang of sword on sword, the shrill war cries of the attackers, the screams and moans of the wounded and the dying. Though attacked on all sides, my grandfather must have been aided by Tuan Allah for his sword snicked a head here, severed a wrist there, smashed a skull somewhere else till the sun was high. What a fight! but alas, even Datu Patinggi Ali tired at last, and still his enemies came on. At last the Saribas overwhelmed Patinggi Ali, and took his head, but at what a cost! His headless corpse was later found surrounded by veritable mounds of enemy dead—four hundred of them by actual count!

After he was killed most of the enemy force continued upriver intending to attack Gedong, but Tuanku Serib Sahab had got through with his warning. When the pirate leaders sighted Gedong they saw at once that they were expected, and stopped for a conference. Some few wanted to attack, but one said

"How dare we attack a strong fortified village like that? These Sadong Malays fight like devils—if one man can kill 400 of us, the warriors of the village must be able to kill us all."

The majority agreed, and the pirates turned their perahus down river again, paddling hard to avoid pursuit. To this day the place where they stopped

and looked at Gedong is known as Tanjong Lihah.

It will be remembered that whilst my grandfather was fighting his last fight my grandmother Datu Nerati had run into the jungle. It was not her lucky day—she was pursued and captured, and led back to Penaga. There she was forced to enter the perahu of Saji, whose prisoner she was. My poor grandmother—right beside her in the perahu was her husband's head! But she was a strong minded woman, and instead of fainting made up her mind there and then that she would prevent the head being kept as a trophy. Two days later her chance came. The perahus were stopped at Maura Jai to await the change of tide. Just for a second she was unguarded—she seized the head and threw it far overboard into the swift Sadong tide-rip. Thus the expedition returned without a single head, with no loot, and only one slave for the loss of 400 fighting men.

Perhaps my grandmother would have lost her own head in exchange, but that Saji had fallen in love with her. He wanted her to marry him, but she steadfastly refused. After the return to Saribas she still refused him, so he sought to break her will. She was taken out into the jungle alone and left there—twice a week Saji brought a little food for her and asked her if she would change her mind.

Though half starved she never answered. Awaiting a good opportunity she ran away, and after incredible hardships reached a Malay kampong in the Ulu Lingga, where she had relatives. From there she made her way across country to Gedong, and from Gedong to Sarawak (Kuching) where she gave the first report of the happenings to His Highness.

His Highness sacked Datu Bandar Kasim, both for being the cause of all the trouble and for failing to report it. Later His Highness assembled a force to punish the Saribas, and the Sadong River's contribution was fifty perahus of warriors. They must have taught the pirates a real lesson, because the Sadong has never been raided since."

(Recorder's comment: Even after making all reasonable allowances for distortion, the two versions are widely opposed. The official version clearly regarded the raid as an act of piracy; Tuan Imam, though he has every reason to vilify the raiders, shows them as the Army of the Saribas River State carrying out acts of War against the Gedong City State, after a formal declaration. One wonders whether early Sarawak historians ever had a chance to verify their histories by hearing the opposition's point of view. Those who may object that mutilation, rapine and pillage are not legitimate acts of war should read histories of wars between "civilized nations" in the 19th century. In the 20th century these acts still occur, but are not so widely condoned.)

GORDON ROBERTS.

The Riddle of the Bearded Pig.

There occurs in Malaya a species of wild pig in direct continuation of the wild boar of India and Burma. In Borneo lives the Bearded Pig, a large whiskery animal with an almost clerical tuft of hair under its chin and a mass of side whiskers on its face. Both kinds occur in Sumatra and on the

Riau Islands but the presence of the Bearded Pig in Malaya is a riddle in the cross-word puzzle class.

Briefly, the skull of a pig shot in 1918 in Pahang was found to be that of a Bearded Pig and another was recorded in 1921, an occurrence so strange that its presence was thought to be really due to some extraordinary chance resulting in the landing of a herd from Borneo or from the Riau Archipelago. By 1939 the Bearded Pig had again turned up several times, once in Johore, remnants it was said of some introduced by the old Sultan many years ago for sporting purposes. Finally the Bearded Pig has been found in Perak and its tusks taken among bones left by neolithic cave dwellers in Perlis.

It would seem that the Bearded Pig has been in Malaya all the time but has only revealed itself on a few occasions owing to its rarity and its very local distribution, which accounts for the little known of its habits.

In Borneo the Bearded Pig is notable for its long snout, whiskery face, large fore-quarters, rounded stern and feathery tail. The legs are long and the body high off the ground, with a general air of agility. Old animals are almost white, with a dark patch of whiskers over the tusks, adults are yellowish, full grown animals slate grey with a pink nose, black muzzle and whitish whorl of hairs behind the tusks. Piglets are dark brown with three full and two broken, longitudinal yellow ochre stripes down the flanks. The greatest recorded weight is 185 lbs. but they go much larger, some feeding on the acorns of mountain tops are six inches thick in fat and must weigh all of two piculs. Dayaks tell of a monster pig, so large they take out the S.G. cartridges from their shot-guns, lest they should be tempted to fire at and only wound so great an animal.

The Bearded Pigs are found from the sea shore to the highest mountain tops, in estuarine swamps, in secondary and all kinds of old jungle, on beaches, on river banks, in all kinds of plantations and clearings, even coming into the outskirts of towns at night. They are seen most often rooting on river banks exposed at low water, when they are the more easily shot with a rifle by day or with a 12 bore S.G. and a reflector lamp at night. They are usually gregarious but often solitary in old jungle and particularly high up on mountains.

Five to seven young are born, usually between January and July, very active and most voracious, the sow and her litter are even on the move in the daytime searching for food and seldom lie up in the hottest hours. Sows are then thin, scraggy and uneatable. The young are frequently tamed, making most intelligent and amusing pets. They feed on all kinds of crops, rice, tapioca, sweet potatoes, maize, all kinds of fruit, durian, langsung, rambutan, trap, kapayang, illipe nuts, sago palms, coconuts, palm oil and rubber seeds, roots, berries, worms and African snails and any kind of carrion. Offal from pigs killed in hunting is eaten subsequently by their fellows and village piglets straying into the jungle are said to be devoured.

Their alarm note is a grunt, deeper and lower than that of domestic pigs, with a loud neigh in three or four notes when wounded or fighting. They communicate by a loud chocking of the tusks when suspicious of danger.

Hunting pigs for food and in defence of crops is the main native sport, the ordinary hunter farmer

in good localities averaging as many as fifteen annually. Few use the blowpipe and stalk game with poisoned arrows in the manner of the nomad Punan and the 12 bore shot-gun with S.G. (nine pellets) is the almost universal weapon, very deadly when used with a reflector lamp at night whilst paddling along the river banks where pigs are usually feeding. Rifles are also used but pigs do not die easily and will escape if hit in the softer parts only. They are hard to shoot in old jungle, where a short carbine is much handier than a long rifle, as pigs have keen scent and are usually running before the shot is fired. Many hunters watch fruit trees or salt licks where they are usually more successful in the evening or late at night as pigs retire to lie up before dawn. Pigs known to be raiding cultivation and lying up in near-by jungle are often driven by men and dogs along well used paths and shot by waiting hunters. They are sometimes taken in snares, small-sized overlapping rotan noses set out in a long line through the jungle and against which they are driven by men and dogs. On well used paths in secondary jungle a large conical bag-net is used but the favourite was a trigger trap with a sharpened bamboo spear, not now so much used for fear of accidents.

The most popular method was hunting with dogs, about which there is much luck, lore and ability. Any size shape or colour may fill some requirement as to teeth, number and arrangement of mammae or bodily proportions but really good dogs are so scarce there are seldom more than one or two in a pack. They may fetch \$80 and a professional hunter with two good dogs killed 100 pigs in three months. Both these dogs were fawn coloured animals, one faced the pig whilst the other nipped it in the pants, causing it to bay in circles. Usually the pig could be held for no more than a few minutes before moving off but eventually the hunter would catch up and bayonet the pig with an over-arm thrust and some care, since an angry boar is deadly at close quarters.

The natural enemy of the pig is the crocodile, lying concealed in the water or buried in the muddy river bank where pigs root at nightfall. Small ones are taken by the clouded leopard and by large pythons, which are no match for grown up pigs. Pigs swim very well, a family party crossing the river with just the tops of their heads sticking out of the water look just like a floating notched log. They do not sink when shot dead. Salt licks are a favourite resort and on mountain sides they dig and rub wallows beneath overhanging banks until they are completely coated with mud. They frequently stand erect on their hind legs with the forefeet against the tree trunk, apparently in the hopes of reaching or shaking down fruit or berries.

The Bearded Pig is subject to lemming-like mass migrations, quite distinct from the annual local movements damaging rice-fields, since food is not the main purpose of these changes. In seventeen years only one such migration was met with and another heard of, both in the same year but in places far apart. In the first instance for five or six weeks at points sixty to a hundred miles apart up and down the Baram river, moved a steady stream of wild pigs, a few solitary, some in family parties of seven or eight, many packs from fifteen to thirty or forty, occasional convoys estimated at two hundred, certainly sufficiently large to deter the natives from attack. Every ten minutes or quarter of an hour pigs passed by, a few large old individuals, many of medium size, none in very fat condition.

Rice fields en route were utterly destroyed but the pigs did not deviate in search of others off the line of march and food was not the main objective. Silent, not quarrelsome, almost furtive, intent on something, looking around but little, they pushed on undeterred by waiting natives who clubbed and speared them at river crossings until weary of pork. Whence came the pigs and where they went none knew but over a wide front travelled this horde of pork, not to be turned from its path by any ordinary means.

In October 1935 over 800 Dayaks from as far away as Mukah and Sarikei arrived in Kapit for a mass assault on the pigs which were migrating across the Batang Rejang, mainly below the Pelagus rapids but altogether from Nanga Balleh to Belaga. Well over 1,500 were killed and in November information was received that the great pig migration had ceased—in fact so many Dayaks had arrived it was necessary to send some of them away. Later in the month the migration recommenced and many Dayaks tried to return. The migration lasted into December, some three months in all, unprecedented even in the memory of the oldest men. Records and diaries of this eruption were lost during war-time but the events are still green in the memory of many eye witnesses, whose accounts are worth recording. Many of them stress the surprising amount of deaths consequent on a surfeit of pork, which may well have been not in the best condition.

As a source of profit such migrations are of only moderate value, too few and too inaccessible for commercial purposes. Repeated attempts by qualified and other persons have failed in the curing of hams, and the preservation of wild pork for commercial purposes has followed certain lines. Bones cannot be cured, the meat is filleted, drained of blood but on no account washed in water, cut into two inch cubes, rolled in a mixture of a large teaspoon of salt-petre to twenty pounds of salt and hung up in the shade to dry, ready for packing three weeks later.

The riddle of the Bearded Pig lies in its remaining undiscovered so long in the Malay Peninsular and even now its distribution is very local. Just what causes this remains the mystery but in Borneo it is an animal that ranks with the locust and the lemming when it decides to go somewhere. None will expect it to swim all the way from Borneo to Malaya these days but it differs from so many stay-at-home animals in such a strong desire to see life that if there ever was any way of getting to Malaya, the Bornean Bearded Pig would have headed the queue.—(Contributed).

M.V. "Subok."

The recent raising of the "Subok" from her resting place of the last four years has created certain interest in Kuching, and the following description may be of some interest to readers.

The vessel was built by the Sungei Nyok Dockyard, Penang for the Straits Steamship Co. and commissioned in 1937, being of special design for the shallow water ports in the Brunei Bay area.

She was brought down to Kuching by the Japanese and used for conveying stores. At some date in 1944 she was loaded for Labuan with a miscellaneous cargo, said to consist of medical supplies and possibly shells or bombs and, some say, currency, but she was so loaded as to make her

unstable, and the Malay Master in Command only took her out under pressure from the Japanese.

In addition to the cargo, the "Subok" is said to have carried some 200 Japanese Army personnel. The Japanese also built a heavy bridge protection which added to the weight above deck and greatly affected the vessel's stability. It was therefore no wonder the ship's personnel were nervous about taking her to sea.

Just above Lintang Signal Station the "Subok" on her way downstream capsized, with considerable loss of life.

Though the ship is being raised it cannot be decided until she is in dry-dock whether or not it will be an economical proposition to recondition her.—(Contributed.)

International Rubber Situation —October, 1948.

The following information of the world's rubber position is given by the Secretariat of the Rubber Study Group. Full details appeared in the Group's monthly "Rubber Statistical Bulletin" for December.

Natural Rubber.	October.	Jan/Oct.
	long tons.	
Production	... 125,000	1,247,500
Consumption	... 130,000	1,145,000
	Change since January 1, 1948.	
Stocks end period :		
In producing areas	... 215,000	- 15,000
In consuming areas	... 305,000+	- 75,000
Afloat	... 262,500	+ 22,500
TOTAL	... 782,500	- 67,500

†Excluding United Kingdom Government stocks and such other government stocks as are not available to industry.

Synthetic rubber.	October.	Jan/Oct.
	long tons.	
Production	... 45,000	445,000
Consumption	... 40,000	407,500
	Change since January 1, 1948.	
Stocks end period :	... 115,000	+ 37,500

Sarawak Museum.

Gifts to the Museum this month include an interesting set of "chopsticks" and spoon from T.K. Singkayut, courtesy of Mr. I. Harper (A.D.O., Limbang), as used among the Bisayas; some large beetles from Father Aichner (Bau) and Mr. I. A. Urquhart (Kapit); birdsnests from Mr. A. J. N. Richards (D.O., Bau); the "mask" or ear of an old jar washed up on the beach at Sibuti from Mr. A. C. Maxwell: an interesting jar of a type often said to be Sung, found at Sibui and presented by Mr. W. Geikie; and some interesting examples of highly corroded or worm-infested metal and wood-work out of the hull of the "Subok," from Mr. E. Harris.

Photographs of value have been presented by Mr. K. E. H. Kay, Mr. A. J. N. Richards, Mr. F. W. Tweedie and Mr. G. Allen (Singapore). Once again, the value of photographs, even of casual events, is stressed. Only thus can a record of Sarawak be built up. The commonplace of 1949 is likely to be the curiosity of 1961.

There have been some distinguished visitors to the Museum during January.

Mr. R. E. Holtttm, Director of the Botanical Gardens, Singapore, spent most of a Sunday in the Museum and Gardens, and kindly advised on the restoration and re-arrangement of our valuable and extensive plant collections. It is hoped that he may be able to help us with this work, which is scheduled for commencement in the 1949 Museum programme.

Mr. F. W. Tweedie, Director of the Raffles Museum, spent a fortnight here, during which he worked through some of the new collections made by the Curator in the Kelabit Plateau in 1948. Mr. Tweedie is an expert on reptiles and crustacea. Of the Kelabit reptiles, a lizard and a snake are probably new to science, as also a fish. These have been taken back to Singapore for further study. Another snake *Oreocalamus hanitschi*, was previously known only from two specimens taken on Mt. Kinabalu, North Borneo, above 4,000 feet.

Mr. Tweedie and the Curator made collecting trips to Matang (with the kind help of Mr. E. A. Barron) and to Bau in company with the District Officer (Mr. A. J. N. Richards) and Father Aichner of Bau. Some probably new crabs and shells were obtained, especially in the Bau caves, including the great Meraja cave in Gunong Kawa where the party had quite a trip to get out of the cave (which was rapidly flooding due to a storm) and down the precipitous mountain side.

But some of the most interesting finds were in the immediate vicinity of Kuching. For instance, in the drains along the Satok Road several specimens of *Potamoecypoda pugil*, a small and curious crab, were taken—although this animal was only previously known from swamp forest of South-east Johore. Interesting specimens were also found in the mud banks of the Kuching river, and some particularly dirty-looking, Curators were to be seen at that time!

In 1948 visitors to the Museum reached a new high at 60,934—nearly half again as many as in 1947. These figures are very unreliable, and depend a lot on the attendant on duty. But for what they are worth, they do show a big slice of popular interest in our Museum.

The main groups of the population were represented as follows:

Malay	... 42%
Chinese	... 43%
Dayak	... 14%
European	... 1%

There is urgent need for a catalogue guide and dialect labels, and these are in course of gradual preparation. But other needs are urgent, also, and this work can only proceed slowly. Voluntary help on any special sections in which anyone is interested would be most welcome.

The Sarawak Museum Journal material is all in

the editor's hands, and a part has been printed. Pressure of work on the Printing Office has caused delay, but the first of the new volumes should be out before long. As well as Sarawak and Brunei contributors there are important articles on Sarawak subjects by outside experts including Sir Roland Braddell, Mr. F. W. Tweedie, Mr. R. E. Holttum, Mr. A. Tubb and Mr. H. D. Collings. Copy is now wanted in preparation for the next issue. All those with notes, articles or ideas should write to the Curator, who will be glad to accept material or give advice and help in any way.

One of the Museum collectors has returned from a month's trip in the hills around Lundu. He was mainly recording folk-tales and collecting beads and jars. He obtained some interesting information and specimens, including beads previously known in Borneo only from the Ulu Baram—a far cry from Lundu!

For some weeks the Museum has mourned the disappearance of the fine white bats which frequent the carved pole outside. Happily, they have now returned. Their evening exodus is quite a sight. At the foot of this pole, local youth has lately made a fine mess of the fence round the large Japanese gun. It is now a bigger eyesore than ever.

The new snake pit was put into use for the first time, and is currently inhabited by three pythons of varying size. The immediate public reaction was to drop stones, sticks and even lighted cigarettes onto the wretched reptiles, who are apparently supposed to take an alert interest in all and sundry. Future offenders are liable to be caught and put in with the biggest python! —(Contributed.)

The Library.

A good lot of new books are on order or in transit and due shortly.

NOVELS

"*Cry the Beloved Country*" by Alan Paton.

A moving, if somewhat high coloured, tale of a South African negro on the vicious path of civilization.

"*King Cotton*" by Thomas Armstrong.

A huge half million word epic of the cotton trade during the Civil War, as seen from the Lancashire end. Gets away to a slow start, but becomes absorbing.

"*On the Night of the Fire*" by F. L. Green.

Same sort of theme as the author's film-famous "Odd Man Out." Very well written, and suspenseful.

SHORT STORIES

"*The Essential Hemingway*"

A meaty lot of extracts from the varied and able writing of Ernest H.

"*Tales of Asia*" by Count Gobineau.

Skilful translation of these understanding and more than somewhat cynical, rich and heady stories by a French diplomat better known as a No. 1 philosopher of the Aryan myth and thus grand uncle of the 1939-45 (& since) mess.

CRIME

"*Appointment with Death*" by Agatha Christie.

Penguin Reprint of one of her best.

"*Best American Detective Stories*"

Hardly the best, but good enough, I guess.

"*The Tongue-Tied Canary*" by Nicholas Bentley.

The well-known cartoonist tries his hand at a spy-style thriller, with conspicuous success.

"*The Benson Murder Case*" by S. S. Van Dine.

A paper reprint of his Philo Vanice semi-classic.

POLITICS AND LETTERS

"*Twelve Million Black Voices*" by Richard Wright.

A violent write-up of the American Negro's frustrations and hates. Highly partisan, but stirringly done, with the aid of numerous photographs, some of which (lynching, slums, soil erosion) are terrifying.

"*The Readers Digest Reader*"

I quite agree.

"*Why do I Write?*"

An important little book for *literati*, in which Elizabeth Bowen, Graham Greene and V. S. Pritchett, three of the most thoughtful writers of our time, discuss the duties and difficulties as between the creative writer, the state and human society generally.

"*Winged Dagger*" by Roy Farran.

In the wide sense, this autobiography is a book of politics. If I had space I'd do an article about this absorbing account by the much decorated and infinitely dashing cloak-a-dagger soldier who later successfully stood trial for the alleged murder of a Jew in Palestine. The discerning reader (and I'm sure all ours here are that!) can find in this fierce narrative the drastic dilemma of the tough and moderately educated, brave but rather short-sighted soldier exploding through a dozen patterns of death back into the superficial dreariness of peace. In various ways and in varying degree Captain Farran is re-duplicated over the whole ex-war world, and in the years ahead a lot of what happens may be generated by such "heroes" as he. Special Constables, please note.

FUN AND GAMES

"*My World—and Welcome to It*" by James Thurber.

Reveals the cartoonist as a master writer on a wide range of subjects, grave and gay. Contains the classic true-fun story of our time—"The Secret Life of Walter Mitty." Rush for it.....

"*Past Imperfect*" by Ilka Chase.

Elegant American lady shows off daintily and laughs it off sharpish.

"William Waste" by John Symonds.

Funny peculiar rather than funny ha-ha, perhaps. Clearly the book of a clever young man who can write well and think shrewd but is still overkeen on his cleverness. He produces a rather elaborate but quite entertaining satire from which this is a passage picked at random :

Esther Finly's big blue eyes, like thrushes' eggs without the spots, protruded with pleasure. She cast a lasting look of gratitude at Antonio Gonzalez y Tibera. "Senor Waste" said Antonio, "is a visitor to Spain. He will stay to study the Spanish language and the morals." "The morals,?" said Mrs. Finly sharply. "'Morals' is not perhaps the exact English rendering of what I mean. If I were speaking French," he said elegantly.....(and so on).

Books have been presented to the Library by Mr. S. Harrop, Mr. D. A. Craig, Mr. T. Attenborough, Mr. E. A. Barron; and a very generous gift of books by Mr G. Roberts including a small but select and highly useful library of reference works on economic subjects which will be most useful. All but one of the books reviewed above have been purchased. It is intended next month to give in these columns a general account of the Library—both Public and Reference.

T.H.

Ode to an Unborn Turtle.

(REFRAIN: "I WISH I WERE A FASCINATING PL.")

While the long harsh vicious landas roll
Breaks on the beaches of this further isle
I float with my inestimably useful soul
And smile with my inscrutable turtilian smile.

Deep in my carapace 108 eggs lie
And soon upon that moonshone Talang shore
I'll aim the target where, by and by,
I'll give another 108 more.

Thrice in the year my awkward trajectory—
Laboriously I climb the shifting sand,
And with outstanding perspicacity
Place my soft eggs on perintah punya land.

Long is the climb and joyless is the way
But I, ma turtle, am no bobby sox.
Determined to deliver before day
I circumvent the mean nocturnal rocks.

Before the dawnlight publishes my shame
I clumber back into the China Sea—
A benefactor with no Christian name,
The mother with a child she'll never see.

For, after the night struggle comes faint day—
And, bitter morning, all my night-long work
Is dug up by a highly-paid Malay
And sent to feed some non-aquatic twerp.

At just 2 cents an egg I've played my part.
If man were honest as a go between
Or epicures had treasuritic hearts
My reptile credit would be two-sixteen.

Thus do I roll my way towards Natuna
Brooding upon the fate of my next brood—
Wondering whether I should have it sooner,
For sake of that kind Curator, eager for sea-food.

I can't exactly hate the way they eat it,
Except the rude rough way some tuans act—
When asked to try an egg, they quite eschew it,
Showing a vastly unchelonic tact.

I do appreciate my wiser patrons,
Whose appetites I simply can't requite.
Also the profits which (by my ministrations),
The Turtle Trust distributes, c/o D. C. White.

MYRTLE THE MOCKTITTLE.

Fifty Years Ago.

THE SARAWAK GAZETTE, FEBRUARY 1, 1899.

COMMITTEE OF ADMINISTRATION.

The President informed the members that the Singapore Chamber of Commerce had addressed the Government pointing out that the gambier now being exported from Sarawak is of very inferior quality and consequently had greatly deteriorated in price, and had acquired such a bad name in the Singapore Market that, in some cases, exporters there had refused to buy it. Some two years ago this had been made a subject of complaint by the Singapore merchants, and the Government had then issued regulations which, he was told, had the effect of improving the quality of the gambier, but apparently for a short time only. He, in conjunction with the Acting Treasurer, had lately called a meeting pointed out to them the danger that existed to such a very important industry as the planting and manufacture of gambier, the export of which in the last four years had increased to some 32,000 pikuls. Unless some remedy was found a shrinkage in the export and consequently in the production would take place. He had told the Towkays that the remedy lay with them, and that their excuse, that if they refused to receive gambier of a bad quality from their planters the planters would leave them, could not be accepted, though he admitted that as matters stood this was the case, simply because they would or could not combine to resist such an imposition. If they did the planters would be bound to submit or give up their employment altogether, which they would not be at all likely to do. As matters stood owners who wished to produce gambier of a good quality only found that they could not afford to do so for, so bad was the name Sarawak gambier was acquiring in Singapore, they could not obtain good prices for it

The President informed the members that, with respect to the Pauper Hospital, it had been arranged with the Towkays that in future the Teo Chews were to pay \$80 and the Hokiens the same amount monthly for the current year. The contribution of the Chinese, which was two thirds of the expenses, was difficult to collect, but it would be collected now by the Rate Collector as other rates were, the Chinese having themselves arranged the amounts to be paid by each Firm or individual

This Sarwak.

(WITH APOLOGIES TO THE NEW STATESMAN
AND NATION.)

Court. Does the accused wish to call any witnesses?

Accused. If the Court intends to do justice witnesses will be unnecessary; if the Court does not intend to do justice I wish to call a considerable number.—*From the Courts.*

THE BAD OLD DAYS!

Showa 18. Year 2603. Month Ku-gatsu, 2603.

Monthly Meteorological Returns. SARATOK.

Day.	Rainfall.	Remarks.
1	8½	
2	35	
9	96	NIL
10	25	
11	130	
13	66	
24	28	
	388½	

Total rainfall during the month 388½ inches.

Total wet days during the month 7 days.

Highest record of rainfall for the month 130 inches.

Lowest record of rainfall for the month 8½ inches.
—*Saratok Imu In.*

..... has an unequal knowledge of the Melanaus.—*Sarawak Tribune.*

To His Excellency,
Mayor of Mukah,
Sarawak.

Dear Sir,

Please pardon me but I am extremely anxious to receive from Sarawak few covers or envelopes

Thanking you in advance for your fine spirit of co-operation.—*A letter.*

The wild men of Porneo are cutting timber for Sydney homes..... The timber, cut by head hunting Dyaks on the unexplored Rejang River will be floated down stream, shipped to Sydney in 9,000 ton freighters.

Port at mouth of Rejang River near Kuching in Sarawak could take only small steamers. Australians had it surveyed and enlarged.—*Sunday Sun Magazine.*

..... yaws in the ulu must be in great numbers. However, they were encouraged to come down for treatment.—*A report.*

Hollywood. Film actress Susan Hayward is hailed as the most beautiful girl in the world. This announcement was made by the American Beauty Congress.....—*Sarawak Tribune.*

(The Editor is unable to follow the example of our illustrious contemporary and offer a prize for the best entry in this column. Contributions from all parts of "This Sarawak" will, however, be warmly appreciated and the most favoured will be given pride of place.)

Sibu Bowling Averages—December.

Name.	No of Rolls.	Average.
E. A. Edmeades	9	167 ff
N. Mace	15	137
J. C. H. Barcroft	7	117
G. T. Myles	7	116
W. Giekie	6	113
R. Stephen	9	109
R. E. Chater	8	105
D. C. Walker	5	99
R. Henniker-Heaton	7	93
<i>Lady Members.</i>		
Mrs. G. T. Myles	7	116
Mrs. E. A. Edmeades	4	105
Mrs. N. Mace	7	91

ff Includes one possible.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE LARGE MAMMALS OF BORNEO.

BAU,

20th January, 1949.

The Editor,
Sarawak Gazette,
Kuching.

Sir,

In your issue of 3rd January Mr. Harrison has a paragraph on the *jelu mirah*. He describes it as 'shaggy' and gives the impression that it is unlikely to be found below 4,500 feet.

In January, 1947, I saw one in the Poi and one in the Meluan, both close to the watershed between those two rivers and well below 500 feet. One had been shot and I found the hair soft like that of a cat and of a very fine colour, Titian red like the red squirrel in England. There was also a monkey called *purun*, of the same shape and size as the *jelu mirah* but rejoicing in a coat of a beautiful dove-grey.

It is probable that there are numbers of these animals in the Lanjak-Entimau Forest area. In the Lower Entabai there is a large pool with a small side-stream falling into it from about thirty feet, and this is called Wong Jelu Mirah, a name dating from at least fifty years ago.

Yours faithfully,
A. J. N. RICHARDS.

CONTRIBUTED.

KUCHING,

21st January, 1949.

The Editor,
Sarawak Gazette,
Kuching.

SIR,

Among the interesting contributions to the January Gazette some are signed and some are not. I submit for your attention the desirability of giving the name of the author where matters of fact or authoritative opinions are involved. For instance, it was, I think, quite necessary to have the articles signed by Mr. J. L. Noakes and Mr. Tom Harrison, because only then did the value of their remarks have meaning. If Mr. D. C. White's obituary of Lalang had been unsigned we should have been uncertain of its accuracy. In the same way, had you merely published the learned judgment of His Honour the Circuit Judge without indicating who he was, much of the effect would have been lost. It is not only a matter of immediate concern; it is also important for the future. The *Sarawak Gazette* is an invaluable storehouse for historians; more and more are future students in the Colony likely to turn to it for reference and information.

So it is that one is in difficulty in assessing the value of an article like the "Lost Legion." It contains some important points, such as the calculations of how much rice a man can carry—or that a native's mind is (or can be) a complete blank. One would like to know on whose authority such information (which is obviously based on wide experience) is given. Again, the article on oil loses much of its value because we do not know the strength of authority responsible for it. It is, naturally, quite a different matter where stories or witticisms are the subject. Then it is all the more fun trying to guess who wrote it. But modern standards demand that in other matters we should have what is the most important piece of information of all—information about the informant.

A welcome step in the right direction was taken last year when it was decided that in published reports from the districts the names of Government officers should be given as well as their ranks. In fact, a considerable amount of previously published information (without the names) is almost worthless for future reference, unless the painstaking researcher works with the *Government Gazette* postings constantly in the other hand.

There is no need to be falsely modest or shy about writing. Anyone who has examined the early days of the Gazette will find that the whole publication was, in fact, made up of letters by Government officers to the Rajah. These were published as received, sometimes with exceedingly odd effect. They managed to cover a considerably wider field than the present outstation news, because letters from individual officers in various departments were included, such as the managers of estates, the coal mine, etc. Some of the finest information about Sarawak is contained in those old reports.

Yours, etc.,

"NOT CONTRIBUTED."

News from Far and Near.

FIRST DIVISION.

Commenting upon a visit to Lundu, the District Officer, Kuching, (Mr. Morison) writes: "The meeting (to discuss matters concerning the proposed Local Authority) was well attended and satisfactory on the whole Four members of the Local Authority were present and T.K. Ginjang brought his wa'wa' in to attend the meeting. The wa'wa' however treated the members of the meeting with the greatest contempt and was soon fast asleep on the Tua Kampong's shoulder, where he remained for the greater part of the proceedings."

The District Officer, Bau, (Mr. Richards) reports that while nearly eight pikuls of nests were collected in November only four pikuls were collected in December for auction on the 17th. This was due to bad omens and, probably, the necessity of heavy weeding work on badly burned padi farms. Dayaks do not appear to like the auctions: they prefer to remain as bondmen to monopolists.

The District Officer, Bau, reports that illegal miners were found on Gunong Umbut at Yellow Earth Cave on 31st but they appear to have removed for the most part to richer fields unoccupied between Buso and Paku. Some were found on Sarawak Gold Mine land at Buan on 29th clearing the concrete leaching vats for use.

SECOND DIVISION.

The District Officer, Simanggang, (Mr. Morgan) reports that during November two prisoners escaped from Simanggang jail; one of them is still at large, the second took his wife, who was living in the Malay kampong, with him and during the course of their flight stole some articles from the house in which the wife was staying. They were apprehended by Dayaks in the Ulu Entulang and were prevented from reaching the Dutch border. A party of thirteen Dayaks escorted them to Simanggang, where the escapees were later tried and convicted.

The following is an extract from the November report of the District Officer, Simanggang: "During the month a number of volunteers returned from Malaya bringing with them a collection of articles ranging from suitcases to bicycles. They all said that they had enjoyed themselves immensely and the general opinion was that they had been treated very generously and had had more of a holiday than a round of hard work. Many had benefited considerably from the effects of military discipline and appeared smart and clean in their green battle dress. There was much standing to attention and right turning, and for a few moments the District Office took on the appearance of an Orderly Room instead of the usual chaotic and vociferous crowd of be-chawated Dayaks demanding passes and new farming land. Later a little less disciplined party forgathered in the Arrack shop to stage a mild celebration. The ultimate result of this was (and still is) a flood of Skrang and others who, having cannily awaited results, now demand their turn of a 'holiday' in Malaya, and show signs of acute disappointment when they are not hustled on

to an aeroplane and flown on the instant to the delights of Singapore and the Peninsular."

It is reported that the *Pulang Gana* story has filtered through to the Skrang and some individuals were thrown into confusion on hearing of this for the first time and stated that their houses would have to hold *begawai* at once.

During the tour of the District Officer, Simang-gang, in the Sebuyau district, he visited the house of Penghulu Ngumbang at Sungei Raba. The house has tended to split up into six and some odd houses; apparently this is nothing new and has been a tendency for ten to fifteen years or more and is a manifestation of the general desire of long houses to break up. In this instance the break up appears to be gradually taking something of the shape of a Malay kampong with short distances between houses and with a retention of the community spirit.

Some cotton has been planted at Rumah Bel in Sungei Mentu, but the bushes are neglected and stunted. It is reported that if they are looked after they grow well and that there are two places of a few acres or so where they grow specially well. The cotton is made into thread for the weaving of Dayak cloth.

On the 27th November at 10.30 p.m. Meladum bazaar was burnt down to the ground. The fire finished at 2.30 a.m. on the 28th. The cause of the fire is still under investigation. There were fourteen shop houses in Meladum bazaar.

The following is extracted from the November report of the District Officer, Saribas, (Mr. Bruen): "It is reported that in the Boling Area much damage has been caused to seedlings due to lack of irrigation. However, the example set by the Lempaong people with their excellent irrigation is being studied by many other areas. There is no doubt that as propaganda value this Lempaong plot is a great success and daily enquiries are being made by other farmers as to the best methods of irrigation and many people are already demanding advice and supervision for their farms next year."

The District Officer, Saribas, reports that a new road was made through the smoke house area in Betong. This is a great improvement and has helped considerably to clean up most of that area by allowing access to formerly inaccessible parts. The new road also provides an alternative, though somewhat slippery, circuit for fiends on bicycles.

Commenting upon a meeting of the Chinese Advisory Board, the District Officer, Kalaka, (Mr. Wilson) writes: "The Board showed some suspicion of the Co-operative Bill."

THIRD DIVISION.

November, 1948.

The following is extracted from the monthly report of the District Officer, Lower Rejang, (Mr. Snelus): "Pengkulu Nyambar made tremendous preparations to receive His Excellency for a night at his house in ulu Wak, pati Julau; but unfortunately His Excellency was indisposed and unable to undertake the strenuous walk. This was a great

disappointment not only to the Penghulu, at whose house four other Penghulus and many Tuai Tuai Rumah had also assembled, but to Dayak houses all along the route whose inmates had taken enormous trouble to decorate their houses more thoroughly and attractively than I had ever seen before. Cannon fire and the losing off of shot-guns were a feature of the Honourable the Resident's reception at each house."

Quarters for officers travelling to Rejang, complete with furniture, are now available in the Kubu.

The District Officer, Sibiu, (Mr. Dilks) writes that the Dayak hill padi at Sungei Durin and Sungei Naman is most miserable and contrasts with those areas cultivated under the guidance of the Department of Agriculture.

The following is extracted from the monthly report of the District Officer, Sibiu: "Whilst touring, the Cadet Officer, Mr. D. C. Walker and Native Officer William Nais had an unusual experience in Rumah Galang, Ulu Sungei Naman.

At the conclusion of a most hospitable reception, which by all accounts lasted for some time, a granddaughter of the Tuai Rumah fell ill and lapsed into unconsciousness.

The Dresser who accompanied the party was allowed to examine but not to treat the child who had taken no part in the festivities, because it was said that he did not understand how to deal with illness which was caused by an *Antu* (spirit).

This illness was put down to *Antu Tuan* and *Antu Kunsil* who were displeased at the poverty of the ceremony afforded them.

The Tuai Rumah followed by Tuan performed a *pelian suman* (waving of fowls and reciting of prayers) over the sick child.

This was followed by the *Manang* (medicine man) placing several *Pengaroh* (charms) on the child when the whole company sat down to give a *pir-ny* (offering) to the offended *Antu*.

Within a quarter of an hour of the conclusion of the ceremony the child suddenly regained consciousness, sat up and began to talk to her mother. The child appeared very little the worse for her experience."

The District Officer, Mukah, (Mr. Morris) reports that there has been a slight increase in the number of outpatients treated; this is due mainly to the fact that a very considerable number of Ibans have visited Mukah and Dalat and, consequently, the dispensaries.

The following is an extract from the report of the District Officer, Mukah: "Many Dayaks have been employed by Melanans for the purpose of clearing sago gardens and for preparing new land for planting.

There has been extraordinary activity on the part of the Liko population who have been busy planting sago in areas formerly considered too remote from waterways to justify the labour involved. The explanation is stated to be that as a result of the increased use of privately or communally owned rasping mills the menfolk have more time to spare for work in the field."

The District Officer, Kapit, (Mr. Urquhart) comments that, now there is a slack period between the planting and harvesting of padi, a flourishing trade is being carried on by natives between Long Itam and Long Nawang. It appears the natives here exchange cloth for Dutch Borneo parangs and gongs.

FIFTH DIVISION.

The Honourable the Resident, Fifth Division, (Mr. Anderson) writes in November that the Agricultural Assistant continued the detailed soil survey of the Ukong plains with a view to finding an area where a demonstration plot may be laid down in 1949 as a nucleus for settling as many Ibans as possible, in order to bring them, gradually, off the upper hills where the cycle (of cultivation) appears to have fallen, in some places, to the dangerous level of about seven to eight years.

Certain hills above the larger swamp padi areas in the Limbang and Pandaruan districts were mapped and agreed to by the District Advisory Council for block protection. The District Advisory Council has requested, very reasonably, that the areas should be marked by rentises. It may be possible to plant conspicuous trees e.g. pinang or yamani round the boundaries.

The Cadet Officer, Limbang, (Mr. Harper) reports that Penghulu Ngang has tendered his resignation on the grounds that he has had nothing but bad luck since he became Penghulu. The Penghulu is at present away in search of better luck and his resignation will be accepted on his return.

The Cadet Officer, Limbang, comments upon the benefits which result from the sailings of the M.V. "Alcyone" between Singapore and the Fifth Division. Prices of imported goods have dropped considerably; potatoes, for instance, which were eighty cents a kati in August were thirty cents a kati in November.

The following is an extract from the November report of the Cadet Officer, Limbang: "On the 21st, having received a report from the Shipping Department that the channel was incorrectly marked, I checked the position of the channel marks at Kuala Limbang and took soundings at low water. The minimum depth recorded was three feet and the marks were correctly placed. There is, however, a deep channel some six fathoms east of the outer mark caused by the current from the Pandaruan river and it is probably this channel which gave rise to the report mentioned above. The Limbang bar, therefore is just above the junction of the two channels and is presumably caused by their junction."

Kuching Market Price List.

Monthly Average Market Price from 20th December, 1948, to 20th January, 1949.

RICE—(per gan'tang)			
White milling	...	...	\$ 1.90
Local, polished Dayak	...	...	1.75
SUGAR—(per kati)			
Nipah Sugar	...	...	.19
EGGS—(each)			
Duck, fresh	...	...	.12
" salted	...	...	.15
Fowl	...	...	.11

EDIBLE FATS—(per kati)			
Coconut Oil	...	...	\$ .8
Pork Fat No. 1	...	...	1.60
" " " 2	...	...	1.40
PORK—(per kati)			
Lean No. 1	...	...	2.00
Lean with fat ,, 2	...	...	1.40
BEEF AND MUTTON—(per kati)			
Mutton (Australian)	...	...	2.00
Beef steak	...	...	2.20
Beef, curry meat	...	...	1.20
Buffalo No. 1	...	...	2.00
" curry meat	...	...	1.00
Kambing (daging)	...	...	2.00
POULTRY—(per kati)			
Capons	...	...	1.92
Duck	...	...	1.50
Fowl, Chinese breed	...	...	1.74
Fowl, Dayak breed	...	...	1.48
FISH—(per kati)			
Fresh fish No. 1	...	...	1.28
" " " 2	...	...	.78
" " " 3	...	...	.40
Prawns " 1	...	...	1.00
" " 2	...	...	.82
Crab " 1	...	...	.69
" " 2	...	...	.49
Salted fish " 1	...	...	1.40
" " " 2	...	...	.80
" " " 3	...	...	.40
" " " roe	...	...	1.00
VEGETABLES—(per kati)			
Bangkaung (Yam beans)	...	...	.05
Bayam	...	...	.30
Bean Sprouts	...	...	.20
Cabbage, imported	...	...	.70
Changkok Manis	...	...	.30
Dann Bawang	...	...	.77
Ensahi Puteh	...	...	.40
" Bunga	...	...	.28
French beans	...	...	.68
Garlic, fresh	...	...	.30
Kachang panjang	...	...	.30
Kangkong	...	...	.24
Keladi (China)	...	...	.25
Ketola	...	...	.30
Kribang	...	...	.06
Kundur	...	...	.06
Labu	...	...	.08
Ladies Fingers	...	...	.35
Lettuce (per tie)	...	...	.05
Lobak (Chinese radish)	...	...	.40
Lobak, salted, imported	...	...	.40
Onions, Bombay	...	...	.32
Onions, small	...	...	.70
Potatoes, Bengal	...	...	.30
Pria (Bitter Gourd)	...	...	.38
Bamboo shoots, salted	...	...	.20
Trong (Brinjals)	...	...	.20
Yams	...	...	.20
Cucumber (timun)	...	...	.20
Ginger	...	...	.30
Chillies (red)	...	...	.53
" (green)	...	...	.27
Sauerkrant, imported	...	...	.70
" local	...	...	.40
Tamarind	...	...	.30
Tomatoes, fresh	...	...	.80
FRUIT—			
Pisang Umbun	...	per kati	.10
Pisang Tandok	...	each	.10 to .15
Pineapples	...	per kati	.10
Papayas	...	"	.10
SUNDRIES—			
Bean Curd	...	per piece	.10
" (white)	...	"	.10
" (yellow)	...	"	.20
Kerosene Oil	...	per tin	4.25
"	...	per bottle	.20
Charcoal	...	per pkl.	5.00
" semi-converted	...	"	3.20
Sauce (kitchup)	...	bottle (local)	.68
Blachan	...	per kati	.52
Dried prawn	...	"	1.80
Coconut, fresh	...	each	.15
Bako Wood	...	per panchang	21.00

JUBILEE RECREATION GROUND FUND.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1948.

INCOME.	EXPENDITURE.
<p>1. PROPERTY REVENUE A/c:—</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Rent collected for 1948 \$1,800.00</p> <p style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black; border-bottom: 3px double black;">\$1,800.00</p>	<p>1. DEPRECIATION A/c:—</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Furniture Block ... \$ 15.15</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Office Appliance Block ... 25.60</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Electric Ltg. Installation ... 178.84</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Water Installation ... 15.90</p> <p style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black;">230.49</p> <p>2. Clerical Assistance ... 120.00</p> <p>3. Upkeep of Grounds ... 482.00</p> <p>4. Sundry Charges ... 504.05</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Balance Income over Expenditure transferred to Balance Sheet ... 518.46</p> <p style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black; border-bottom: 3px double black;">\$1,800.00</p>

BALANCE SHEET.

AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1948.

LIABILITIES.	ASSETS.
<p>1. ACCUMULATED FUNDS:—</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">as at 31.12.47 ... \$33,045.98</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Add Income transferred from Income and Expenditure Account ... 518.46</p> <p style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black;">33,564.44</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Rent for 1949 ending 31.10.49 received in advance ... 250.00</p> <p style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black; border-bottom: 3px double black;">\$33,809.44</p>	<p>1. Grounds not valued ... \$31,979.88</p> <p>2. Building A/c. ... 75.74</p> <p>3. Furniture Block A/c. ... 15.15</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;"><i>Less</i> Depreciation ... 60.59</p> <p style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black;">128.00</p> <p>4. Office Appliances Block A/c. ... 25.60</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;"><i>Less</i> Depreciation ... 102.40</p> <p style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black;">869.18</p> <p>5. Electric Lighting Installation A/c. ... 178.84</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;"><i>Less</i> Depreciation ... 695.34</p> <p style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black;">79.48</p> <p>6. Water Installation A/c. ... 15.90</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;"><i>Less</i> Depreciation ... 63.58</p> <p>7. Cash at Chartered Bank ... 907.65</p> <p style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black; border-bottom: 3px double black;">\$33,809.44</p>

JUBILEE RECREATION GROUND FUND.

I have examined the above Balance Sheet with the books and Vouchers of the Fund and am of the opinion that the same is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Fund's affairs.

DENNIS LAW,
Chairman.

E. M. MARJORIBANKS,
Hon. Secretary.

THOMAS TAI,
Hon. Auditor.

C. S. WERE,
Hon. Treasurer.

Kuching, 31st December, 1948.