

Sarawak Gazette

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MONDAY, MARCH 31st, 1958

Closer Association

The impact of His Excellency's speech on the closer association of the three Borneo territories has now had some time to simmer in the minds of the people and if it has not actually come to the boil, it has been discussed in most of the district councils, in association meetings, in coffee-shops and in other places where two or three had gathered together.

From newspaper reports it would appear that in general there has been a very favourable reaction to the idea even though at present it may all be rather hazy. As is only natural in such circumstances there are the cautious ones who hedge and "if and but" and there are those who are against. But up to the present we have not really heard the majority opinion nor, of course, is it necessary that the majority opinion at present will be the most satisfactory solution in the future. We have heard mainly the opinion of the most vociferous section of the population, the business section. They are in the idea of closer association fewer restrictions in travel between the territories leading to an improvement in business relationships and an increase in trade and prosperity.

The "hedge" also see this increased prosperity but are afraid that it may go to the wrong section of the people of Borneo, that is not to themselves or to the group or to the country they claim to represent. They wish to see closer association with reservations, or perhaps "restricted freedom". They also see an uneven balance developing, again, of course, with their own group on the lower side.

Those against are those who always resist any change, who wish things to remain as they are because they are afraid that they will lose that which they have. They are a loss of freedom, a loss of identity, a threat to the smaller communities and a slowing down of progress towards self government.

The majority, who are less articulate, will rely on official ruling and official ruling acting in the interests of the countries concerned will have to construct the framework which will tie the three territories more closely together. Closer association of these three territories must be to their mutual advantage and it is hoped that in bringing it about too many people will not suffer.

Notes and Comments

We agreed, with regret, the departure on leave prior to retirement of Mr. J. H. Ellis, C.M.B., the Chief Secretary of Sarawak, who left Kuching on Saturday, March 22nd, 1958.

Other departures in the near future will include Mr. I. G. Gibson, C.M.B., British Resident in Brunei, who is also to retire and Mr. G. S. Wilson, Commissioner of the Sarawak Constabulary, who is to be transferred to Tanganyika as Commissioner of Police.

The Bishop of Borneo, the Rt. Rev. Nigel Cornwell, also left Kuching on Sunday, March 23rd, 1958, for long leave in the United Kingdom and to attend the Bishops' Conference at Lambeth.

There have been a number of important visitors this month beginning with Mr. Eugene Melville, Assistant Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, who arrived for a short visit on February 28th, 1958.

Mr. J. H. Tallman, representative of the Asia Foundation stationed at Kuala Lumpur, arrived in Kuching on March 2nd, 1958, for discussions with Government officials and others. He was followed by Mr. G. M. Rodden, Deputy Agricultural Adviser to the Colonial Office.

As reported in last month's Gazette Mr. Jean Fournier the distinguished violinist accompanied by Miss Giselle Doreen visited Kuching and gave an evening of music in the St. Joseph's auditorium.

Mr. Harold Roddie visited Sarawak in order to advise on local authority procedure and Mrs. N. Nilam of the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organisation Economic Section for Asia and the Far East came on a fact finding mission.

The Kuching Presidential Chain of Office was worn in public for the first time when Mr. William Tan, the President of the Kuching Municipal Council, opened the first primary school to be built by the Council at the end of February.

The first board meeting of Borneo Airways was held in Kuching on Sunday, March 30, 1958, when it was agreed that the new company would take over the assets of Sabah Airways Limited and of the Malayan Airways Federal Services in Borneo.

Representatives from the three territories and Borneo Airways were present together with Lord Rosell of Bledl who is a director of B.O.A.C. Mr. L. C. Harding, Manager of Chartered Bank Limited in Kuching is the chairman of the new company.

In recent months there have been some strange happenings at the General Post Office in Kuching—at the stamp counter. It used to be possible to get a stamp within a minute or so of entering the door. One day an enormous queue was found. The queue appeared day after day until on investigation it was found that a man, instead of a girl, was sitting behind the grille.

The cause of the queue was the slow, laborious manner with which the man unfolded his sheet of stamps, counted them one by one and gradually, with clumsy finger and thumb, separated the perforations of the number required. Not content with this slow procedure he then calculated on a piece of paper the total cost of twenty six-cent stamps and the change necessary from a five-dollar note. The change being then obtained from a little cash box further down the counter.

Some weeks later the queue was no longer there and, of course, there were the girls behind the grille again. But alas, not for long. Again the queues and again the men.

Happily at present there are no queues and there are the girls.

Can the girls stay? They are more pleasant to look at anyway.

The annual report of the Geological Department states that the Kuching Baram area has economic possibilities for the manufacture of cement from the limestone of Batu Gading quarries and using the natural gas from the Seria area.

It took ten years or so to start the development of the Seranau Baram. How long for Baram cement?

Does Mr. A. J. N. Richards, Resident, Second Division, claim to hold a record as the only Resident ever to be struck by lightning?

We wish him a speedy recovery.

Arrivals and Departures

Between 2.1.58 and 29.3.58

Arrivals

Mr. H. Williams	By air Singapore/Kuching on 3.1.58. Returning from leave.
Dr. M. B. Watt (Newly appointed Medical Officer)	By air Singapore/Kuching on 4.1.58. On first appointment.
Miss J. M. Killey (Newly appointed Nursing Sister)	By air Singapore/Kuching on 10.1.58. On first appointment.
Mr. P. L. B. Phe (Newly appointed Attorney-General on transfer from Uganda)	By Rajah Menda arriving Kuching on 15.1.58. On first appointment.

Mr. J. K. Wardle (Newly appointed Director of Public Works, on transfer from Ghana)	By Rajah Menda arriving Kuching on 15.1.58. On first appointment.
Dr. E. Shalinski (Newly appointed Medical Officer)	By air Singapore/Kuching on 16.1.58. On first appointment.
Captain C. C. Lewis (Newly appointed Hydrographic Surveyor, Marine Department)	By air Singapore/Kuching on 16.1.58. On first appointment.
Miss I. Wilson (Newly appointed teacher Grade 1A)	By Rajah Menda arriving Kuching on 23.1.58. On first appointment.
Mr. R. Kirkwood	By air Singapore/Kuching on 25.1.58. Returning from leave.
Mr. M. F. Lether	By Rajah Menda arriving Kuching on 14.2.58. Returning from leave.
Mr. W. E. Cooper (Newly appointed Superintendent of Lands and Survey)	By air Singapore/Kuching on 26.1.58. On first appointment.
Mr. L. G. Bogan (Newly appointed Superintendent of Lands and Survey)	By air Singapore/Kuching on 26.1.58. On first appointment.
Mr. M. B. Ellis (Newly appointed Surveyor)	By air Singapore/Kuching on 26.1.58. On first appointment.
Mr. G. F. Wright	By air Singapore/Kuching on 28.1.58. Returning from leave.

Departures

Mr. H. A. L. Ferguson	By air Kuching/Singapore on 4.1.58. Proceeding on extraordinary duty in the United Kingdom.
Mr. A. R. Sedon	By air Kuching/Singapore on 14.1.58. Proceeding on leave to the United Kingdom.
Mr. G. M. Wilkinson	By Rajah Menda leaving Kuching/Singapore on 15.1.58. Proceeding on leave to the United Kingdom.
Mr. H. M. Cooke	By Rajah Menda leaving Kuching/Singapore on 15.1.58. Proceeding on leave to the United Kingdom.
Mr. D. C. Wyke	By air Singapore on 16.1.58. Proceeding on leave to the United Kingdom.
Mr. J. Smith	By air Borneo/Singapore on 16.1.58. Proceeding on leave to the United Kingdom.
Mr. J. C. B. Jackson	By air Singapore on 16.1.58. Proceeding on leave to the United Kingdom.
Mr. M. Maclean	By air Borneo/Singapore on 21.1.58. Proceeding on leave to the United Kingdom.
Mr. A. F. H. Gatten	By air Kuching/Singapore on 21.1.58. Proceeding on leave to the United Kingdom.
Mr. R. T. M. Henry	By Rajah Menda leaving Kuching/Singapore on 28.1.58. Proceeding on leave to the United Kingdom.
Mr. R. S. W. Malcolm	By Rajah Menda leaving Kuching/Singapore on 28.1.58. Proceeding on leave to the United Kingdom.

Soroh Cattle Farm*

Wild pigs gave the Tuan Cowboy many headaches—but not the wild monkeys.

The pigs were fond of small buffalo calves—the monkeys just adored milk.

And there you have two aspects of life out in the wide open spaces of North Borneo where the Tuan Cowboy chews dreams of the confined proximity of his native Kent but, more often than not, forgets his nostalgia in the sweltering, heat-shimmering busy-busy of cattle-raising in six thousand acres of mountain-studded pastures that, not so long ago, were jungle forests.

Rag Goss (Reginald Edwin) left Frog's Island Farm, Hurst, Herts, Kent, in June 1934, to become the Tuan Cowboy of Kota Belud, the nearest township—also miles away—from his rolling acres, his animals, his ranch buildings and his cowboy-cowboys.

He found the Soroh Cattle Farm a different proposition than his old agricultural pursuits in Kent.

First of all there were the monkeys—a whole troop of them living in close proximity to his ranching, Malay-style bungalow and the other farm buildings. At night, the Tuan Cowboy tunes in his battery-powered radio to the Jaxation station some 60 miles away. And, as the strains of music float over the air and across the plain, the monkeys scamper down from their trees and, sitting as quietly as any Albert Hall audience, wait close to the house to listen spellbound to some rock'n'roll or a quieter piece from the more serious programmes.

Rag is very fond of the monkeys. But he doesn't like wild pigs.

The North Borneo wild pig is a killer and there are several of these ferocious creatures roaming about his six thousand acres. Wild pigs were one reason why very few buffalo calves ever grew up. The buffalo is a gregarious animal and, as soon as calves had been dropped, mothers would leave them and join the herd. In came the wild pigs—and can want the buffalo calves. Not so today, of course. Rag grew more to the habits of Borneo buffaloes and he soon came to it that animals with calves were kept with their offspring. No wild pig ever here would dare to challenge the majestic devotion, slow to anger but a formidable opponent when roused.

And then there was the cowboy-cowboy of Soroh, Rag, the Tuan Cowboy, as he is called in Kota Belud where the Bajans, the Dusuns and the Chinese live in close harmony, is North Borneo's counterpart of the Texas, or Wyoming, ranch manager. In the United States, his hands would be called cowboys. In North Borneo, to distinguish them from the Tuan (Mister) Cowboy, they are cowboy-cowboys. And it's quite simple when you realise that distinctions are formed in the Malay language by doubling words.

Rag loves his Bajan cowboy-cowboys, who ride their small horses with the ease and grace of the old American Indians. The Bajans are Muslims and history says they were fierce warriors either on sea or land. Today, in North Borneo, they live from the sea or as in the case of the Bajans of Kota Belud, on horseback.

A finer set of companions you couldn't find anywhere. They ride the Soroh range with the Tuan Cowboy and they minister to the needs of 350 head

of cattle—hardy Zebu—300 buffaloes and a stallion-led family of 40 mares and foals. Not a large responsibility, certainly—but an important one for North Borneo's future.

The idea behind Soroh, which is a communal, commercial project launched by the Kota Belud Local Authority and run by the North Borneo Agricultural Department, of which Goss is now a member, is to form the nucleus of a large, beef-producing herd from the animals already there. From the herd, stock will be improved and market steers will be shipped all over the colony. Another aim is to improve grassland for grazing.

Already the Soroh Cattle Farm is something of a show-place in the vast coast area of North Borneo. Its methods are being copied by local farmers and its sleek, well-fed Zebu herds are a fine tribute to the care and attention that is lavished upon them.

The animals graze in the 6,000 acres, which is divided by 27 miles of fencing into 27 large paddocks. There are corrals where calves are castrated and branded with the well-known "K.B." brand—"Kabus Soroh"—on their left quarters and cheek-branded with a number. There are sprayings and drenchings in the corrals in order to enforce strict tick control. There is the feeding of molasses—not because the animals are hungry, but to get them accustomed to human beings. And, just like the Wild West of the films, there are bucking broncos and their whooping riders.

Rag Goss loves horses. After war service with the East Yorkshire Regiment, he retired the Thanes and Herne Harriers, of which he was Master in the seasons 1934-35 and 1935-36. There is no hunting pack in North Borneo, but to compensate him for his exile from Kent and the fox-hounds, there are 6,000 acres over which he can ride to his heart's content on the small, but sturdy and sure-footed North Borneo horse. And ride he does—every day the rolling grasslands of Soroh.

Mrs. Goss, who is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Hatfield, Bettings, Herts, also shares his love of horses and when she isn't catering mostly to a Red Cross meeting at Kota Belud in the form of Land-rover you'll usually find her on horseback somewhere in that 6,000 acres. Admitted, too, is rarely out of the saddle. She is the Goss's 10-year-old daughter and the came out with them from England to North Borneo.

Robin, their 11-year-old son, has been with the family on holiday from Eddington House School in Herts. He was quickly adopted by the friendly cowboy-cowboys and his most prized possession is a genuine North Borneo pony presented to him by Soroh's beekeeper-manager, Asikar bin Husein, son of the late Kota Belud Assistant District Officer, whose recent untimely death was the occasion for great mourning in the area. Young Robin is also great friends with the Mander, Sapiin bin Haji Abdullah Rashid, son of a former Native Chief, and he'll be amazed by all the range riders now that he's back at his English seaside school.

Robin has seen it all—the never-ending fight against falling, sometimes four feet in height and as tough as old box leather which is beaten down by mob grazing and trampling. He has seen his father's 100-acre demonstration plot. This is Rag Goss's attempt to show the local people that farming can be profitable. He's growing padi and is changing the type of breeder to produce an economical picture whereby a man with about fifty head of cattle may look forward to a good living. He has seen the range being stocked with finer grasses for grazing, the daily ride to tend the herd at 8.30 a.m., the coral treatment of the animals, the round-up of stray buffaloes, the drenching of small streams for a water supply, the spraying and drenching of the cattle, the feeding of molasses and salt, the everyday check on fences and, most exciting of all, the herding out of huge grass fires that sweep across the Soroh plain.

*This very interesting article by Ralph Shaw, the Press Officer of the Information Office, Jesselton, is reprinted by kind permission of the Editor of Malaya.

We regret to record that the Tuan Cowboy, Mr. Goss, died in England towards the end of January this year.

It's difficult work at Soroh: a constant fight against the mass encroachment of a tropical wilderness with its omnipresent hazards. But as the Tann Cowboys from Kant says, "There's always something new to learn and you soon find out that what's right in agriculture is right wherever you may be."

When Soroh was started in 1953 with Colonial Development and Welfare funds supplies had to be dropped by the R.A.F. Today there is a good road from Jesselton to Kota Belud and an earth track from Kota Belud out to the farm, but it is still isolated out there by the Soroh River. The Gore family at night, reading by the light of their kerosene lamps, know only the whispering quietness of a star-studded tropical night. The loneliness does not worry them a bit. They are happy as a couplet, little European community in the midst of some of the most friendly people in the world—the gay, dashing Bajaks of the farm and the nearby kampongs, the farmer Durans, always eager to visit Soroh to learn new methods, and the ubiquitous Chinese shopkeepers at Kota Belud. There are only two other Europeans within 40 miles of the farm—the District Officer at Kota Belud and a missionary on the Soroh plain.

But, as Mrs. Gore points out, there's a good piped water supply, a kerosene refrigerator, a kerosene-heated stove and even and enough food during the week to satisfy the manly appetite. There are books and the radio and happy get-togethers with the cowboy-cowboys up at the house. "A satisfying life," she says.

At weekends in spotless white uniforms you'll see Mrs. Gore in Kota Belud in her role of a Red Cross officer and she's enthusiastic over the unflagging interest of the local people whom she teaches. Up at the nearby Kant House, Ray Gore will be berating the loneliness of Soroh with a yawn or two with visitors from Jesselton. Young Adrienne will be immersed in the latest batch of girls' magazines. And young Robin, in Harro Illy, will be dreaming of the weekends he spent such a short time ago in the Kota Belud Rest House.

The Tann Cowboys look ahead to the time when Soroh's empty 4,000 acres will be the main beef provider in North Borneo. At the moment, a start—and it is only a start—has been made. But steady progress has been maintained and the Soroh methods are being copied throughout the country. In the corral there are some fine young steers and heifers born on the plains. This is the nucleus of the herds of the future—the stock cattle of the future destined to serve and feed a land of the future.

In the Footsteps of Tamerlane—III

Visitors to Tashkent should make a point of going to the Alisher Navoi Opera House. In size and magnificence it compares with the San Carlo in any of the great houses in Western capitals, but it was not this, not yet the lavishly done, which one takes for granted in Soviet opera, but the excellence of the production that struck me so forcibly. The Alisher Navoi specialists in Uzbek opera, but it also produces the normal classical repertoire. I saw "The Queen of Spades" in Russian and was astounded at the vocal virtuosity. Held in the spell of the stage, I could hardly believe that I was in the heart of Central Asia and not in Rome or Paris. But when the lights went up, I found myself with something of a shock sitting amongst an Uzbek audience very much in Asia. Striding in the foyer I reflected that some of these Russian Uzbek baronies must have relatives across the border in Afghanistan, whose lives are passed shrouded in the hideous parody. Tashkent has its Virgin Maryam: the first girls to throw off the parody after the Revolution, who were put to death by the more conservative religious elements. They are commemorated in various places.

I visited the Institute of Education at Tashkent University. Here some three thousand students were doing the course of four or five years, depending upon the subject they were studying. It corresponds to a three or four year degree course followed by a post-graduate diploma. There are ten other such institutes in Uzbekistan, though of smaller size. There are also nineteen training colleges for non-graduate teachers, which provide a two-year course. The output of teachers in the state is thus considerable.

Statistics in the Institute gave a total population of 7,000,000, of whom 1,500,000 (17 per cent) were in 1,500 schools. There were approximately 1.5 teachers per class and 19 pupils per teacher. This by English standards is staffing on a most lavish scale, and it is owing to this profusion of teachers that the Soviet education system develops its distinctive features. The pattern of education throughout the Union is broadly the same. Each republic has its own syllabus in which there are slight variations; each school has to follow the syllabus of its state, but is free to work out its own timetable.

From 1946 a ten-year course of education will be universal and compulsory. Already in towns and most rural areas ten-year education is provided, and it is only in the more remote places that the old seven-year course persists. The ten-year course ends with an examination of approximately the same standard as the School Certificate. Children going to trade schools leave at the end of the seventh year, and do the remaining three years in their new school.

The distinctive feature of the system is the lack of all selection and streaming. All children follow the same course for the ten years and no attempt is made to stream them. Owing to the large staff that the schools carry, they can run additional afternoon classes for the duller children, in which the morning's lessons are repeated and amplified. The dull arrives then labouring at his books, when the bright ones are in the workshops. One has the impression that Soviet education is designed for the brighter children; the dull ones tag along behind as best as they can. This is an interesting contrast to the English system, which provides for the dull the enormous structure of secondary modern education; a thing unassumed by both parents and children. Rather as if one went to design a special hat for the mentally defective. It would be a great comfort to the sufferer, but who would wear it?

Soviet education lays great emphasis on science. The equipment of the school laboratories is most lavish, but what is even more impressive is the equipment of the workshops. Here one sees the most costly machines, more especially for metal work, which seems to be more favoured than wood work. The same equipment is found in the children's clubs, where one sees small machines busily engrossed with most formidable lathes. The Soviet children grow up in a scientific and mechanical atmosphere, which is reflected in the children's books and periodicals, but which is strictly practical. In one Moscow school, I was told that all tenth year students were expected to get their driving licences before leaving.

At the present time there are two examinations, one at the end of the seventh year, the other at the end of the tenth. The former, however, is due to be abolished in 1949, and thereafter there will be only the tenth year one. Promotion throughout the school is automatic, and only rarely does a pupil repeat a year.

In the schools there are committees of pupils with representatives drawn from each class. These are regarded by the principals as one of the mainstays of discipline. Disorderly and unsatisfactory pupils are reprimanded by them, and the force of public opinion is mobilized against recalcitrants. These committees have nothing to do with the running of the schools. The principals were much amused by my stories of

students' committees demanding changes in the curriculum and dismissal of staff. Such things seemed to them inaccessible.

My stay in Tashkent was all too short, but I had booked hotel accommodation in Moscow and it was too late to change. I heard, therefore, of the antiquities of Samarkand and Bokhara and the beauty of the Fergana Valley with envy, but these must wait upon my next visit. Uzbekistan is without doubt the most fascinating country I have seen. Bordered away in the heart of Central Asia, it yet has the highest standard of living of any Asian country that I know. Going from the poverty and destitution of India, the difference of standard is of course accentuated, but a comparison between Tashkent and Singapore would be to the latter's disadvantage.

From Tashkent to Moscow one can travel by train in three days or by jet airliner in four hours. I chose the latter. During their brief heyday on the London-Singapore run I had travelled on the B.O.A.C. Comet. I was therefore interested to compare them with the Tupolev 104. The latter is much larger, carrying some eighty passengers. Its speed is about 600 m.p.h. and it flies at 30,000-40,000 feet altitude. All this can be ascertained from the instrument panel at the end of the cabin. An interesting feature of the TU 104 is that it has but two jet engines (the Comet had four) and these are of small size and set close to the fuselage. Their lifting power, however, is tremendous. The plane is towed to the end of the runway and only then starts its engines. After a comparatively short run, it climbs at astonishing speed and is lost in the clouds. These planes are indeed morsels of the sky. It is regrettable that their interior decor should be so unimpressive; Soviet taste runs to heavy brass, plush curtains and china dogs. I also travelled on a TU 104 from Moscow to Prague, which takes three hours. From Prague to London one travels on a turbo-prop of a British company. The difference between this and the TU 104 is striking: one notices the intimate comfort of the British craft.

In Moscow I stayed in the Metropol, which is very conveniently situated close to the Bolshoi Theatre. Its greatly heavy decor is relieved by the extensive use of the legend of Cupid and Psyche, a theme which I always find stimulating. It is amusing when staying in a Soviet hotel to take a good look at the restaurant for two reasons: first the service is unquestionably slow, even those saluted to the rigours of the West of Ireland would have grounds for comment, secondly the orchestra is so vigorous as to preclude all outside conversation. Both Uzbeks and Russians appear to take food and music seriously. In the Hotel Tashkent as the orchestra was discussing Uzbek folk music one evening at dinner, the accordionist played with such violence that he fell over backwards amongst the other instruments, but the clientele did not appear to regard this as an untoward occurrence.

A startling change in Moscow was presented by the transport system. In place of the usual cream and red of the motor buses and the cream and blue of the trolley buses, there appeared a wild riot of colour. Vehicles of both types were painted in pastel shades, cream and lilac, emerald green and orange, and so forth. At first I thought that the colour of the vehicle must be related to the route, but this proved untrue; they were mixed up without any design whatever. Although this lack of uniformity was most unusual, after a time one came to appreciate the brightness of colour that was added to the street scene.

On my previous visit to Moscow the Bolshoi had been closed, but this time I was able to hear it in its entirety. It is indeed *en grande*, not merely for its size, this stage is as big as the auditorium nor for its cast of two hundred, plus horses, dogs, and whatnot, but for the sheer excellence of its singing and dancing. Much to my disappointment, Uzbeks was not dancing during my stay, but I saw many of the other possibilities. I would, however, utter one word of hurry if not

blasphemy: I thought that the Stanislavsky interpretation of Swan Lake was superior to that of the Bolshoi. I should be interested to know if other visitors share my opinion.

The Lenin Library in Moscow must contain copies of every book published in the world today. Its catalogue is limitless. The magazine section contains all the English and American illustrated magazines. I imagine that Soviet readers must derive much amusement from seeing the way in which they are so grotesquely misinterpreted in these journals. I thought the choice in the newspaper section somewhat odd: they had the *Singapore Free Press* but not the *Strait Times*; the *North Borneo News* but not the *Borneo Mail*. However there is no accounting for tastes.

At the races I found that a number of Finnish horses were competing. As they paraded on the course the Finnish flag was broken, the band struck up the Finnish National Anthem, and everybody rose and cheered. Unfortunately they made a poor showing against the Russian ones, but at the end of the day, one which had gained places were decorated, the horses received garlands and the jockeys bouquets from the Minister of Agriculture. Going round the stables afterwards with one of the trainers, I was surprised to learn that they fed up to a pound a day of yeast.

The Agricultural Exhibition affords a unique opportunity for studying the best specimens of livestock from all over Europe and Asia. By comparison, the "Bulls and Wens" and the "Royal" are very small indeed. A feature of the Moscow Exhibition, which might well be copied elsewhere, is that the life and achievements of every animal are fully documented, so that the visitor can readily compare one with another. Ruminating round the horse section, I came upon a group of collective farmers haggling over the purchase of a Donskoi stallion from one of the State stud farms. It is surprising how little the techniques of buying and selling horses vary from one country to another. When I left them they were talking in terms of 1,000 roubles, but I do not imagine that this was the final price.

The new Atomic Power Pavilion is interesting. Here one sees scale models of atomic power stations and other atomic installations, also various devices in which actual atoms were doing peculiar things. Not being a scientist, I could but believe and tremble.

I have over an eye for the ecclesiastical in my travels. I went in the Cathedral of the Epiphany, which in the Orthodox Cathedral of Moscow, that as the doors were closed, so they were wiped by a man using a towel steeped in disinfectant. This is certainly a hygienic substance, but it leaves unvoiced the problem of the devout, who at certain points in the liturgy kiss the ground repeatedly. I was much gratified to come upon the Old Believers. I had previously inquired about them in Leningrad, but had been told that most of them had become Baptists. This is unfortunately untrue. They exist in Great Russia and even have a cathedral in Moscow. I trust that the Department of Antiquities will ensure their survival.

Now that tourists can exchange currency at the real purchasing value of the rouble, 27.00 to the £ sterling or one rouble to thirty cents (Swiss), it is possible to have a shopping spree in Moscow. Some things are very cheap, for example, cameras, vacuum cleaners, microscopes, refrigerators, etc. Twelve-inch long-playing records cost 10 roubles (\$3.30) each. The difficulty is that the turnover of records is so fast that stocks change almost daily. I had to visit six music shops before I could secure the new recording of "Prince Igor". Once the records are purchased, it is only necessary to take them to the Central Post Office in Kirov Street where they will be parcelled and despatched.

An interesting comment on the cost of living in Moscow was made by an Italian professor working at the University. He said that foreign professors received a monthly allowance of 1,500 roubles, which enabled them to live most comfortably. It would that

appear that a professional man may live in Moscow on the equivalent of £500 per month. This is proportionate to the average graduate teacher's salary of 1,000 roubles. An interesting feature of teachers' salaries is that they increase with remoteness. Teachers in the Arctic Circle receive twice the salary of teachers in Moscow. Living well and with a good flat, the average teacher in Moscow would appear to spend about 500 roubles a month on running costs. The rural teacher is somewhat better off, for he has a two-acre small holding. In the case of married teachers, both husband and wife almost invariably work, so that the family income is quite substantial.

In one respect the face of Moscow is changing rapidly, and I was surprised to note the effect of a two-monthly appearance of its inhabitants in being transformed. The cloth cap, once an article of almost religious significance, is fast disappearing before the felt hat; indeed it is now largely confined to working wear with overalls. Striding in the lanes, one notices that the theatre audience is well dressed. What is lacking is not style and flair, but the taste to wear them. The Moscow female is of course handicapped by her massive build; she lacks the lithe beauty of her Lithuanian sister. She is as yet a novice in the art of self-adornment, and too often one sees expensive dresses which would be very becoming on somebody else. However, there is a will to learn. The real test with which the fashion magazines, both Soviet and foreign, are concerned by discriminating young women appears will test the future. We may yet see an All Union Beauty Campaign.

ROBERT NATHAN

Chinese New Year in Hong Kong

A Broadcast Talk by Austin Centre, given on Radio Sarawak on Chinese New Year's Day, 1958

The first and most obvious difference between the New Year in Sarawak and in Hong Kong is of course that in Hong Kong the weather at the time of New Year is usually cold. It is a time for wearing two winter clothes, silk coats padded with silk waste for the wealthy, cotton coats padded with cotton for those not so well off. Above all, even if parents cannot afford to look smart, the children must have the best that the family can afford; and one of the most charming sights of New Year's Day is provided by the children going out with their parents or some older relative to pay respect at the houses of all their uncles and aunts. Often their clothes are exact replicas of adult clothing, so that each child looks like a miniature grown-up, rather conscious of the importance of the occasion, answering for the first time what it is to have a place in society and in the great family hierarchy, with its complex relationships and duties.

Here it is customary to dress crackers being fired around the place for several days before the New Year, especially on the seventh day before. But in Hong Kong there are restrictions on cracker firing, and the cost of a permit to fire crackers is so high that most people are dissuaded from applying for one. Besides, there never seems to be much time for merry-making in the days leading up to the New Year, which are usually among the busiest days of the year. In the commercial world—and that goes for more or less the whole of Hong Kong—merchants are so busy putting their affairs in order that they have little time to worry about anything else. In most Chinese offices, it is a time of late working hours, an increasing pressure which results in the achievement of the final stroke of the brush, the final click of the abacus, at midnight on New Year's Eve approaches. There is no ordering for the clerks and shop assistants, nor do they worry about it, because they all know that among the financial calculations being hastily made is that magical figure,

the annual bonus, with which they will be packed off on New Year's Eve to enjoy their only holiday throughout the whole year. Most of them work for low pay, food and a bedspace in the shop. The real inducement is the annual bonus, which in a good year in a successfully-run shop may run to six thousand or even ten thousand Hong Kong dollars. Since most of them try to go home for the New Year, the bulk of these large sums goes straight into the coffers of the joint family. What should a young man need with so much money? But in fact it, instead of the bonus, the clerks and shop assistants received higher wages, the bulk of their money would still have to go to the joint family, but by small instalments and with less certainty of delivery. The bonus system is a different way of paying wages, that is all, and one that suits the joint family better.

As the evening wears on, the city is very much more alive than usual. Shops that are usually shut on the cinema empty out the last hours of the night open, with all their lights on. Every inch of coloured neon lighting that has been brought into play (street lighting in Hong Kong's main thoroughfares is superficial; the neon signs do it all for you). The streets are filled with thousands of walking people, the homeless, the unemployed, all usually dressed, wandering around, enjoying the scene. And suddenly, with a burst here, a burst there, the announcement of midnight comes, and the indescribable roar of fireworks begins that will last unabated for anything up to two hours. In the lower streets it is a breathtaking experience, and also rather hair-raising—the deafening din, the smoke, the falling cheerful crowds, the brilliant lights making the outside seem as if it were alive with different colours. But in my view the best place to be at midnight is on one of the lanes that criss-cross Hong Kong's great Peak about half-way up and overlooking the square pattern of brilliantly lit streets that make up Wanchai, the most densely populated square mile on the entire surface of this planet. From the pleasant shadows of a tree-lined lane one can look down in comfort on the staggering scene below, with none of the dangers of being hit by the tail end of a stick of crackers, and listen to the extraordinary sound, as if the earth itself were letting off a prolonged, adamant roar from within its bowels. The splutter and crackle of individual crackers is entirely submerged in the sheer weight of sound. By two o'clock the volume is beginning to lessen, and one becomes conscious again of birds here and there. There go on till about four, and continue spasmodically throughout the next two days, which is the one time during the year when the Government relaxes its restrictions and fire firing is allowed, without the expensive permit.

After enjoying the great barrage, if you are what Hong Kong calls a foreigner, and if you can sleep, you go home to sleep, and that, so far as you are concerned, is more or less another Chinese New Year gone. For this is one of the aspects in which the Hong Kong festival differs very much from that of Sarawak. Here, at nine o'clock in the morning we are just setting out to call on our Chinese friends. We all take part in Chinese New Year. In Hong Kong it is much more distinctly a Chinese family affair. If you had very close ties of friendship with a Chinese family, it would be possible to go and call on them, provided they gave you the hint that you might do so tomorrow. But, except in very informal households—and people become surprisingly formal at the New Year—one is inclined to feel one is getting in the way, and most foreigners in Hong Kong prefer to leave their Chinese friends alone until the first few days of the New Year are over.

In Chinese society the rule is that the first day is for visits to family members, the second day to friends, and on the third day no visits at all, because it will bring bad luck. These rules are gradually changing. Among the numerous number of refugees, for instance, with few relatives to visit, calling on friends goes on all through the holiday period, and I have also often been asked to see the New Year in at the homes of such

refuge families. The Hong Kong Chinese themselves, particularly the younger set, find it a nuisance going round to call on all their dozens of relatives, and I recently heard of a large family (actually they are Eurasians, but following many Chinese customs) who solved this problem in their own way. On New Year's Eve they give an enormous family party, and at midnight give Kung Hsi Fat Chai to everybody. Having done their duty in this convenient way, they then have the rest of the day free to play tennis or go to the movies. I suspect that in the years to come something of this kind is going to become more general, and calling on friends on New Year's Day looks as if it will one day be universal.

No alcoholic liquor is served to callers on New Year's Day—only Chinese tea, with melon seeds, nuts and small sweetmeats. When visiting, it is proper to wear one's best clothes, and to take small packets of sweets and hot packets of money (not more than a dollar or not for each small child in the house you are visiting). If the host wants to invite a friend or relative to a whisky, he will usually take him to his own room so that in the main reception room the polite atmosphere of family life may be maintained unimpaired by any strong breath or improper stories.

The actual family celebration, when each member of the family pays respect to the ancestors and to senior members living, is usually performed before dawn, after the children have been washed out of bed and deeply arrayed in their specially purchased new clothes. Every article from head to foot must be new. Thus the private and most important part of the New Year festival—the real meaning of its existence—is quietly accomplished before the normal day begins. This of course is the same in many Sarawak families.

One of the most cheerful public occasions—and one in which foreigners are free to join—is New Year's Day bazaar in the open streets of Wanchoi on the last three days of the old year, when most of the Chin Street antique dealers and a great many more respectable people who have something to sell, establish themselves in booths along the pavement and conduct business freely. Astonishing bargains are made. An utterly precious piece of Ming blue and white impossibly priced at \$400 is finally carried off, after every subterfuge of bargaining known to man, for \$12.25—probably a few cents above its real value. At the fair all Hong Kong's many separate world rub shoulders. Europeans proudly point out their purchases on later occasions; Chinese keep quiet about theirs. As midnight approaches, the price of everything falls, until flowers, in the last hour before dawn, are more or less given away. The price of a haircut, on the contrary, goes up steadily towards midnight, the last one being the dearest, for it is bad luck not to have a haircut before the New Year.

By tradition, if the year is to be fruitful, it should either rain or be overcast on New Year's Day. This is lucky. When Chinese New Year falls late, as it does this year, Hong Kong can usually be counted on to produce a dull day, because in South China the spring has already begun, and the spring is a grey time of year, overcast for days on end, with fine rain, and the first of the beautiful wild roses blooming in the sheltered valleys of the countryside.

I think I prefer the country version of Hong Kong's Chinese New Year to the city brand. In a village or small town of the New Territories everything is much less formal. Family observations are soon over, and calling on friends, neighbours and classmates occupies the rest of the day, with a good deal of drinking and a much more riotous good cheer than Grandmother will allow in her city mansion. Everybody is frightfully well dressed, of course. Those who have western suits, bright blue ones with blue and white shoes to match, are apt to put them on for their New Year calls, and towards the middle of the day the town's leading

citizens, usually so imposing, are seen—and heard—wandering over the hills in happy groups, talking with boisterous animation, laughing and sleeping each other on the back. Violent enemies become gaily together in a unity of understanding which shall will only last for an hour or two, till the effect of the beer wears off, after which, allowing a few days for readjustment, the town will settle down peacefully again to its noisy, invariable quarrelling.

When I was a District Officer in the New Territories, I at last found I had a place in the Chinese New Year festival, because of course at last I had a relationship. I was, as the Chinese saying is, the father and mother of the people. In my little hilltop house with its superb views of the mountains and islands of what is surely one of the world's loveliest landscapes, the first callers would start to arrive even before breakfast was over, the oldest and most senior men of the island usually first, before the pressure of alcohol warmed things up too much. My first caller was always the same, my groom, a leading personage on the island and a shrewd adviser on its troublesome affairs. Every year he would bring his usual gift. First, prodding him by five minutes, came his grandson with a basket of fruit, inside which, cunningly concealed, lay either a box of cigars or a bottle of brandy; and then the old man would come himself, wearing his most formal lincrust and carrying a huge branch of delicate pink blossoms. The correct flower for the New Year is of course plum blossoms, but in South China the tree does not bloom at this time, and so the cherry is used as a substitute with its very pale pink flowers like tiny bells. By midway through the morning, after two or three others had brought some more sprays of blossoms and my servant had handsily fixed them into the large old Chinese jars we kept specially for this annual rite, the house looked most beautiful, and thus it would stay for several days, while the petals hour by hour fall to the floor, as if the whole room were alive, in the same way as a garden is alive.

The other plant which I always associate with Chinese New Year are those dwarf orange trees that will grow and fruit in a pot which need only be exposed to the sun for about an hour a day. I usually bought mine about November, when the oranges were small dark green globes lost among the foliage of the same colour; and it was always fascinating to watch how, no matter what time the Chinese New Year occurred, late or early, in the last few days of the old year the oranges began to change from green to gold, until on New Year's Day they shed their fall heavily through my rooms, lighting up each dark corner with their delicate gold reflections of light from the windows.

There are two distinctive types of Chinese New Year which I remember from Hong Kong: the grey, gloomy city one, with a hectic night of fireworks, and the dwarf orange trees in the morning making my rooms look cheerful, while one settled down with a book or played the piano. And there is the other fresh country kind, with a pale blue sunny day, a slight mist over the mountains and islands, and my house full of branches of the cherry with its pale pink flowers, and a morning of entertaining and jolly cheer.

Like everything else that is Chinese, however, the New Year festival are changing. There are slight changes every year it comes around, as the Chinese adjust their ancient culture to a new order of things throughout the world.

Diary of a Sedentary Officer

Further extracts

Edited by RULL

Sunday. Up at the club for "Tombola" again tonight. How nice that it has started again! Eva and I so look forward to Sunday evenings now. Those who say Tombola is dull should just come along and see all the times expectant faces of us aficionados as we buckle down to another round. I must say, though, that with the snow-ball mounting up from week to week the tension did get a little high. I don't object to a little hazard for money, but when the stakes reach the £200 mark, that's gambling for you. We felt quite emotionally exhausted at the end of it.

Monday. Found that I had left my cigarettes at the club last night and called to retrieve them. Could not be found, however, and the boy quite off-hand. Spoke to Hon. Sec. but no satisfaction there. Nothing to do for it but to wait until the next club elections come round, then some of the committee may get a shock if they are depending on my vote.

Tuesday. Had a long and stimulating discussion at the Women's last night, on proposed Federation of the Borneo Territories. All agreed on merits of the scheme. A young man from the Agricultural Department (I think) sitting on the sofa rather spoiled things by keeping on saying "No taxation without representation" and laughing. I think he was slightly drunk. Price-Greaves showed some very nice coloured slides of Le Touquet, where they had been on leave. Too many of his wife, however, who does not look well in a bathing costume. Eva and I have many pleasant memories of *La Belle France*, and so were able to exchange reminiscences with the P-G's. Discovered that they had actually stayed in a pension in the old, same street in Le Touquet where Eva and I spent our honeymoon, and on the same site, too. We agreed that it is, indeed, a small world.

Wednesday. Spent the morning reading through a secretariat file that had been sent to me by mistake. Very dull. In the evening went with Eva to sign the books (H.E.'s and C.S.'s) at Pangkajene Bata. Don is very conscious of these social niceties as her family were "banded gentry" until they lost their estate through speculating in railway shares in the '70's. Of course, we don't move in such mixed circles, though we were once asked to cocktails with the Resident.

Thursday and Friday. Just routine.

Saturday. Went to see the EADS play *As for Mary* at the club. Rather an unfortunate choice of play, as it holds the English up to ridicule, and also our allies and fellow members of NATO, the French. Perhaps it would be all right in England, but out here I really don't think it is wise to put on such a play, so easily misunderstood. I really don't think the censor should have allowed it. Notwithstanding these reservations, Eva and I thoroughly enjoyed it. We had seats in the second row, directly behind "the nobs", which greatly added to the interest of the evening.

Sunday and Monday. Uneventful

Tuesday. A hard day at the office, working out my new allowance claim. Almost finished it.

Wednesday. Girdley did not turn up at the office this morning. I hear he was at another party at the Windsor's, and was seen exiting with a taxi driver at 7 a.m. in the open market. I can't think why the Director does not reprimand him.

Gardening, and then listened to some classical records (Mozartiano strings).

Thursday. What a shock! On picking up the Tribune this morning I found a photograph of Eva and me on the front page! We had been up at the

staple on Wednesday seeing off Miss Berkley from the hospital, when it happened that the Advisor on General Activities (who has been touring the Far East) was going too. We hadn't noticed the photographer, but there we were in the same picture as the Advisor on General Activities, the C.S., and the Commissioner of Police. Of course, it wasn't to be expected that we would be mentioned in the caption. Unfortunately I had my eyes shut, but Eva looked very well. Bought several copies of the Tribune and posted to friends and relatives.

Friday. Rested.

Sunday. A lovely motor drive out to Serian with Eva and the children. When we arrived we found, to our consternation, that the thermos had broken and tea was all over the boat. Did not fancy the coffee shops, but found some Greenop estate in the house which sufficed, though Eva rather put out. Found occasion to use my (now fairly fluent) Malay: "Tui Greenop lebih lagi makai dari Kaohing. Apa macham?" Could not understand the shopkeeper's reply, perhaps it was in Chinese.

Church tonight. Canon, help thinking that the church at Borneo was rather newish, particularly number 249, verse 2 of which goes:

"Land of the east, awake,
Soon shall your sons be free;
The sleep of ages break,
And rise to liberty."

Such sentiments are surely not suitable for this part of the world at this time, particularly as a large part of the congregation were school-children. They so easily misunderstood. I do feel that if the Cathedral authorities cannot be more careful, the government should step in and advise them. Not that I would advocate putting the *Myones Anciens* and *Molinos* on the list of subversive literature!

Next week will be a busy one, as planning a trip to Baku on Saturday. Must buy a new thermos.

Water Village*

Believe it or not, there are about fifty or sixty old people—mainly women—living in various kampongs of the Water Village in Bount Town, who have never set foot on dry land although the land is close at hand on all sides. These old people share contact with the outside world and are perhaps a link with the remote past when Malaya women spent secluded lives behind high courtyard walls.

Accompanied by Stacey Jean Scott, of the Brunei Medical Service, a reporter from the Borneo Herald recently went in search of some of the Water Village's way-at-home folk.

A number of houses in several kampongs were visited, and always Stacey Scott, who runs the Water Village Clinic, went on ahead to ask permission of the manfolk for the stranger to "boast" their houses and to talk to the old people. In cases where the manfolk were out fishing or working it was not possible to land.

Several of the old women interviewed were "border-line cases," in that early in their childhood they had lived ashore, or they had made exceptions to their way-at-home rule to attend special celebrations at the town.

But at Kampong Taseel, after the necessary permission had been obtained to land, the reporter secured an interview with Madaik Binta Juhir, aged 90. The

*This article, which is reprinted by kind permission of the Editor of the *Borneo Herald*, will be hardly credible to many people living in Sarawak, especially in these days of increasing travel facilities.

fact that Mideh was born in the kampong and had lived her ninety years exclusively in the confined space of one house, and that she had never been on land, was confirmed by Assistant Nurse Zaidah binti Osman, who was present at the time with Sister Scott.

Mideh binty Jakit, although she had to be assisted to a chair, was surprisingly alert for her age. Thirty years ago, she said, her husband died. She had five children, two of whom are living. Mideh, who is unable to read or write, said when she was young it was not the custom for womenfolk to go ashore. There was nothing, in fact, to go ashore for.

Asked how she spent her time, she said she used to make native mats, help the family to grind flour and make paper flowers. Now, however, her eyesight has become poor, and she likes to sit down and see and hear what she can of all the familiar things she has been surrounded by throughout her life.

As the visitors said their farewells and left Mideh to her memories of the past, a symbol of the modern present caught the eye. Chained across a radio speaker in large white letters was the single word "Mendak".

Excerpts from Reports of Administrative Officers for the Second Half of 1952

THIRD DIVISION

DISTRICT OFFICER, SARA
(D. C. Walker)

Law and Order

The District Court was presided over by Mr. Lee Hoo Hoo until Mr. J. W. Williams assumed office in December. The Lower Courts were presided over as before by the Sarawak Administrative Officers attached to the District Office. There continued to be a sharp rise in the number of cases dealt with by all these courts. Most of them were traffic offences and reflect on the one hand the increasing number of vehicles circulating along good roads in a confined space and, on the other, energetic action by the Police traffic branch. There were also a considerable number of opium offences and gambling offences, mostly of a minor nature.

There was no marked change in the crime situation. No major crimes were reported during the period under review but there was the usual amount of petty pilfering, particularly of bicycles. It appears to be essential to keep one's bicycle locked in Sibu if one does not wish to have it stolen. As always a very large number of assaults were reported to the Police amounting to 120 in all, of which only eight were prosecuted. With one transitory exception the lights do not appear to indicate the activity of gangs. Only one extortion case was reported and appeared to be the work of a solitary individual. Service of summonses for minor offences is still a headache and the coming into force of regulations under the recent amendment to the Traffic Ordinance will be welcomed.

The Superintendent of Constabulary, Sibu, reports that the rank and file establishment of the Police is complete. Recruiting is continuing but can afford to be very selective. Since the demise of the Prohibitionary Inspector street entry system enquiries have been received from better educated persons including Chinese.

Sibu Town and Port

There have been further conspicuous changes in the face of Sibu during the period under review. The new shophouses being built to an architect's design east of Causeway Road are now approaching completion and two large blocks of five-storey buildings are virtually finished. On the other side of the Causeway Road the

filling of the sports field area has made good progress. The Kampong Palas Nyaher settlement scheme which provided the land for these developments is completed and plans are under discussion for resurfacing a further small block opposite the Mosque. With the modification and filling of the Lake Lambungan, the development of Palas Bahi area, the filling of various small open spaces, the creation of new streets and the building of the Municipal Fire Station, new Cinema and local and institutional buildings, the deep swamp which has been such a conspicuous characteristic of Sibu Island will largely disappear. Most of the developments mentioned is likely to be put in hand this year, leaving an area behind Central Road to be dealt with later. It has been provisionally laid out for shophouses, service stations and a town hall.

On the outskirts of the town, extending into the rubber gardens which lie behind the main roads, there has been a great deal of residential building, particularly of terraced wooden houses but including also some substantial residences of brick and concrete. An indication of the scale of residential building is that 77 plans for single dwelling houses and plans for 104 units of terrace houses were passed by the SUDC during the year. Applications for sub-division of land for residential purposes are falling off in numbers while development takes place on the land already dealt with. No stipulation as to road building is usually made as a condition of sub-division but small service roads of earth and gravel are being built under private arrangement. It may be tentatively assumed that the areas now sub-divided roughly represent the limit of urban development for some years.

Water supply is now available in good quantity and quality for 24 hours. There were fairly frequent stoppages for a time after the period rationing came to an end in September but these were due to electrical stoppages and appear to have ceased. A further extension of the water supply into the new residential areas is under consideration.

The two bus companies continued to provide good services but owing to complaints from certain previous operators who were excluded, for one reason or another, from the licenses it was decided that proper franchises should be awarded. Applications were duly invited and franchises were given to the two companies now operating. An objection, however, has been made by a large new company to be formed for the purpose of operating the entire bus service of the town and there will have to be public enquiry.

The surfacing of Kampong Nyaher Road and its extension to join Causeway was completed and provides an alternative road to the airport. Preliminary work has started on the Bahi Lima Road, which is expected to form part later of a road to Simatang, but has not yet made much progress owing to bad weather. Further work has been done on Banjar bank lands. Remaining to be done this year in the town area are a short stretch of road through Kampong Hala, Upper Lanasang and Bahi Lima Roads, re-surfacing of banjar roads and the construction of roads through the new banjar extension.

In the port area the Palas Bahi dike wall was completed and tenders put out for the construction of 160 feet of launch wharf. There have been constant complaints of the dangerous state of the launch wharf which is being frequently damaged by launches jostling for position. The extension now out to tender and a further 150 feet planned for this year should radically improve the situation but launch owners have been warned that unless they are more careful in future it will be necessary to station an official on the wharf to allocate berths.

The various delivery of godown space for deep-sea cargoes is being dealt with by the construction of a new godown on the site of the old BCL building which was under demolition during the period under review. A contract has been let for the foundations of the new godown.

Construction work has continued on the airfield extension but has been delayed pending settlement of the new filling. The terminal building has been re-erected in an attractive colour scheme of grey, blue, terracotta and buff. In addition to its primary function of passenger accommodation and airport control it is a popular place of resort for crowds meeting and seeing off friends and is held over to resumed on Saturday nights to the strains of Rock and Roll.

The new FWD depot at Lintang Road has been accepted but the old buildings remain to disfigure the waterfront and are understood to be mainly occupied by old and useless equipment awaiting write-off.

There have been two shows, not the first in Sibu, consisting principally of very lightly-dressed young women performing movements of a suggestive nature. The worst qualities have been controlled up to a point by the Board of Censors and the Police but the assistance of specially appointed observers but it is difficult to draw the line between a reasonable frontier and an objectionable house. The SUDC is due to debate the matter shortly. It will be the first time that a definite opinion has been expressed by a responsible public body and no doubt the censors will be much influenced by the result of the debate.

Rural Areas

The Sibu Rural District Council invited tenders for the maintenance of 24 miles of road in 1958. These are bicycle tracks in the down-river swampy rubber areas and the Pasaal track which crosses the District at mile 27 on its way to the Oya River and hence to Belaga. The Pasaal track was completed apart from a few bridges which were delayed owing to the difficulty of finding and transporting *Melaleuca* in the remote place. Work has started on a light motor road of some 44 miles from Teluk to Pengulu Pui's house in the lower Pasaal and preliminary survey done of a light motor road of similar distance from Teluk to Ranau Parang in the Igau. Tenders have now been accepted for the building of both these roads. All minor roads and tracks are being surveyed. Where they run over filled land no further action is taken unless a dispute arises in which case a right of way is enforced as *res nullius* constituted. Where they run over unfilled land they will be taken into account in the future consideration of road reserves. When the Pasaal track was planned it was thought that the constructional problems in the extensive swamps at the rear end and the probable high costs of construction and maintenance made it advisable to build the track two sections for four-wheeled motor traffic. Subsequent experience has shown that construction costs (aided by the present economic stringency) are much less than was at first supposed and the swampy customers have stood up remarkably well through two wet seasons. The new projects have, therefore, been designed for light motor traffic in good weather and gates will be installed to ensure control. When the extensive agricultural development planned in the Ulu Pasaal gets under way the improvement of the track to light motor standard will have to be considered. The bridges have been built strong enough and just wide enough to take a Land Rover carefully driven.

The demand for new rubber land, often in the most desirable places, continues unabated.

Local Authority

(i) Sibu Urban District Council

The big excitement was the election which took place in December. An extensive coverage was given both by press and radio and the potential solitary official member began to get an uneasy feeling that the rest of the country had heard more than enough of what was going on in Sibu. The procedure adopted followed very closely that used in Kuching the previous year. The detailed report on the Kuching election was available. Making up the register was a long and

expensive business and in the later stages heavy short-circuiting produced a large crop of applications to the Returning Officer for inclusion. The register finally included 1,202 voters of which over 80 per cent voted. Only 21 ballot papers were spoiled. The supervision of polling stations on Election Day and counting of votes was done entirely by volunteers who included most of the senior Government Officers in Sibu and some fifty beautiful girls.

Since the end of the year the new Councillors have settled down to work with great enthusiasm. They are, inevitably, subjected to strong lobbying by certain local interests and it is not always easy for them at first to look at problems from the point of view of the general public interest. Fortunately, there is a substantial proportion of experienced councillors, including the Chairman himself, who are prepared to maintain continuity as far as possible and members generally are willing to listen as well as talk. Meetings tend to be rather longer than before and, since they all take place after the end of a full working day, are a heavy burden on the staff. There has been an inter-leave from the beginning on a strict observance of Standing Orders which are being loyally adhered to by all members, new and old. The Chairman is Mr. Ting Lik Hong, the Vice-Chairman Hon'ble Abang Haji Razali, and the Committee Chairmen are Messrs. Peter Jong, Chang Tsh Kang and D. C. Walker (as District Officer). These five members form the Finance and Establishment Committee and operate as a sort of Cabinet. The staff is to be strengthened by the recruitment of more senior and experienced men for key jobs.

The capital works programme, long delayed owing to the lack of an engineer, was put into the hands of architects towards the end of the year and is approaching the stage of calling for tenders. The three main works are a large primary school for Malaya, a new market in Channel Road and a new fire station with flats above. The fire station plan is a conspicuous and attractive building and it has been decided, for aesthetic as well as practical reasons, to change the site to Central Road.

The cleanliness of the town deteriorated somewhat towards the end of the year and the sweeping contractor was given provisional notice. A marked improvement resulted.

The new market extension near the Palace Cinema was completed and occupied in August. Upstairs there are 14 riding stalls, moved from the old Cross Road site which is later to become the bus station, and downstairs a spacious vegetable market using a new design of stall. The opportunity has been taken completely to re-design the lay-out of the older part of the market. A new ceiling and lighting has been installed, most of the stalls rebuilt and rearranged and a much greater accommodation has been provided for fresh fish. In order to take advantage of the extra space it has been decided that a "free for all" licensing system should be adopted in the fresh fish section. This means that anyone who can produce a reasonable quantity of fish first thing in the morning can come in and sell it. There has been strong opposition to this change on the part of the old fishermen who have an interest in keeping the numbers of licences as low as possible. The system will be reviewed by the Council in May. This is one of the many contents between the fishermen and the Council where the fishermen's interests conflict with what the Council, rightly or wrongly, regard as in the best public interest. These contents are, needless to say, a fruitful source of lobbying.

(ii) Sibu Rural District Council

Reference has been made under "Rural Areas" to the Minor Roads programme. \$20,000 of Local Authority funds has been allocated this year for construction and a further \$20,000 for maintenance.

The SRDC now runs 14 rural schools and employs 24 teachers of whom six are trained. There will be more under training in Batu Lintang this year and all the recently recruited untrained teachers have been told that their services may be terminated when trained teachers are available. Most parts of the district are covered for up to a point and the standard is improving though inevitably low at the moment and there are still some places which have no school within reasonably easy reach. The minimum acceptable standard of staffing for any rural school of four years standing is two trained teachers. This is being achieved gradually but finance will shortly be a limiting factor and the Council will have to watch their future commitments carefully when new schools are proposed. It has been decided to institute classes above primary IV standard at the Council's two oldest schools, Kampong Igan and Harau Agam.

All schools, with the exception of the Malay school at Kampong Igan, are housed in buildings put up entirely at the expense of the local communities. For the first time the Council has set aside funds this year for rebuilding school-houses, teaching quarters and boarding houses at a few selected schools. A Government grant has been approved and there will also be local contributions. The cost of these buildings was under-estimated and the Secretary is now trying to press down the standards to fit the available funds.

It is cheering to note that most of the revenue for 1957 was overcollected. Inhabited House Duty (paid by Chinese only) went up to 35,173 compared with 33,814 in 1956. The reason for this is more wasteful collection coupled with more Council activity in the rural areas in the form of truck maintenance, midwifery services and the census of incenses. This is not quite complete and further efforts will be made when the weather improves.

A new item of revenue which may be expected to increase gradually is bicycle licence. A large number have been purchased for use on the rural tracks. Unfortunately only a very rough and ready means can be used to allocate bicycle licence receipts between the Urban and the Rural District Councils. What happens is that each applicant is asked where he lives. If he gives an address outside the Urban area, he is asked to pay the SRDC collector. It would be better if all such revenue were collected by SRDC and an agreed proportion paid over. A suggestion to this effect has been made.

The Council has been busy as usual with applications for Village Shop licences. These are issued quite freely to natives in their own villages but there is a local enquiry when the concentration seems to be getting too thick. Many of the village shops are in fact run by Chinese as agents, a system approved by the Council provided local enquiry shows that the agent is acceptable to the people, that the native applicant has run or attempted to run his shop himself for a year and that no other native in the village is ready to start a shop.

The growth of village shops has given rise to some complaints about boat hawkers who have for many years, with the connivance of their customers, been operating in boats too large to observe the rules about moving from one place to another. A recent case has been dealt with by a special committee of enquiry which gave the offenders a limited time in which either to change their field of operation to deeper water or to provide themselves with smaller boats. In the event they will probably be absorbed in the village shop system as "agents".

An old member of the Council, Penghulu Barisan of Sungai Asam, retired last year. He is an old man, almost blind and has not been fully capable of performing his duties for a long time. Meetings of small groups held in January with a view to nominating a successor have revealed a sharp split between the downriver and upriver groups. The downriver candidates

has a clear majority and if he is appointed will probably need a good deal of support and encouragement if he is to be effective up-river.

A set of new by-laws to control candle burning-off were introduced during the period under review and new by-laws concerning village shops, boat-hawkers, outboard boating and communal labour for river clearing were discussed.

The proposal to combine the Rural with the Urban District Council has been left in abeyance for the time being. Such an amalgamation will inevitably involve a system of rural rating and Dayak members may be expected to look askance at it for both financial and political reasons. Now that there is an elected Council in the Urban District the constituents should probably not be disturbed for three years but preliminary work will take at least that long and any changes in the taxation structure should be made with amalgamation in view.

Economics

With the continued low price of rubber there is a general impression of economic stagnancy. Money is tight and those who are fortunate enough to have cash resources are said to be making big profits by money-lending. There have been no less than five bankruptcies, four of which are still under action and one a great burden on the District Office staff which has neither the time nor capacity to deal properly with these sometimes very complicated affairs. The time has surely arrived when District Officers should be relieved of this work after the stage of issuing a Recovering Order has been reached. The work is, of course, sporadic and could probably be done by a travelling officer based on Kuching.

The bankruptcies have shown up fairly clearly the working of the credit system. The banks seem to be short-term loans at exorbitant interest and is well calculated to encourage highly speculative dealings by shady or even insolvent concerns. It is probable that most of the loans will be unenforceable as notwithstanding the recent amendment to the Money Lenders Ordinance the position under the old Ordinance is far from clear.

The paradox of tight money combined with a vast amount of private building and an inflated price for land can probably be explained by the fact that wealth accumulated during more prosperous times is still finding its outlet into the well-worn channels represented by the "shophouse" business.

The Senior Forest Officer reports that the general level of activity in the timber industry remains much the same and has been kept steady by quite control under good selling conditions. Mills are on the whole fully active, some by buying logs where coupes have been exhausted. Two of the smaller concerns were proving hard and unsuccessfully to get additional concessions by separate allocations instead of waiting for new areas to be put up to tender. There was a rash at the end of the year to extract logs for export before the new rules of ripyard came into force on 1st February this year and a recession in forest work may be anticipated later.

Labour

There has not been much activity by the Unions. The All-Employees Union, which mainly caters for shop-assistants has had little to say since a rash of activity in its early days and now seems mainly to concern itself with complaints against infractions of the Weekly Holidays Ordinance. A new union has been formed of certain street-vendors operating at Tanjung Mani and ran into difficulties at an early stage when all the organisers were dismissed for attempting to form a union. This was done on the advice of the principal shoppers and, although the Union has now been reorganised, the men have still not got their jobs back. The situation has not yet been resolved but, whatever

happens now, labour relations are not likely to be improved.

There does not seem to be any appreciable unemployment at present but it is believed that earnings of the very highly paid men such as the wharf labourers have dropped somewhat and there is a certain feeling of insecurity among labourers generally. The low prices offered for S.M.S. track construction and maintenance tend to be an indication that well paid labouring work is not so easy to get.

There were again a substantial number of workmen's compensation cases dealt with though rather less than in the previous half year. Six cases involved permanent disablement and five temporary disablement. There were no fatal accident cases (compared with nine in the previous 12 months) and the compensation paid reached the comparatively modest total of \$9,621.28. Less difficulty is now being experienced in securing payment of claims. Insurance is still not widespread but there is some tendency towards it and one interesting development is that the Wharf Labourers Union, after months of argument, have taken out their own insurance policy and charge their customers an extra sum to cover the cost premiums. There has been no case where a workman has been uncompensated because of his employer's inability to pay.

Education

The position in the rural native schools has been dealt with under the rubric "S.R.D.C." above. It may be added here that the Education Office has lately been busy encouraging the planting of coffee, fruit and oil-palm seedlings and has, with the co-operation of the Agricultural Department, already distributed considerable quantities. He has found that many Malays lose interest in vegetable planting after leaving school and hopes that tree-planting may be a more lasting habit.

The Education Department have been engaged generally in tightening up discipline and raising standards and a number of teachers have failed to pass the efficiency bar. A great deal of attention has been given to the Miri School High School where morale, discipline and academic efficiency have been at a low ebb for a long time. Preliminary action has been taken under the Grant Code and this, together with certain staff changes, an insistence on proper control of student activities and other improvements are expected to produce results. At the Chung Hua Middle school the examination results at the end of the year were most discouraging.

In Sibu Town there is a serious shortage of primary school places. This has engaged the attention of the SUDC who hope to open a primary school of their own next year mainly for Chinese pupils. There is also a proposal to convert a privately-run kindergarten into a primary school.

Loyal opinion has been much marshalled of late on the problem of children of secondary school age who either because they have been unable to complete the primary course until too old or because they have failed to pass examinations are unable to find places in the secondary school. The problem is as much social as educational; there is on the one hand the prospect of gangs of idle youths and, on the other hand, the unwillingness to accept the position that children should not be given the chance to reach a given standard however many years it takes. Mr. Ting Lik Hung, Chairman of the SUDC is at present engaged in making an unofficial survey of the precise nature and extent of the problem. The general slackening of economic activity makes the absorption of half-educated youngsters into jobs the more difficult.

Health

Mr. W. D. Smythe, WHO Sanitary Engineer, spent ten days in Sibu during November to work out a preliminary scheme for providing water-borne sewage.

His report has now been received and is being studied. It sets out an outline scheme in three stages. The first and most urgent is the house area and, subject to further study of the financial and engineering problems, seems to be both practically and economically feasible. Stage two is the fairly thickly-populated and rapidly developing area neighbouring on the house and is less urgent since all new buildings are equipped with septic tanks.

Much progress has been made on hospital building. The Outpatients Department, Maternity Ward, T.B. Ward, Dental Surgery, office and kitchen and laundry block have all been completed and plans are almost finished for two new wards and a six-door barracks. The kitchen laundry block is awaiting equipment and not yet occupied.

DISTRICT OFFICER, SARAWAK

(M. J. Forster)

Courts

Petty Court—This half-year saw a marked increase in the number of cases dealt with by this Court. More cases were brought up during this half-year than during the whole year of 1956. Fortunately this was not an indication that more crimes were committed.

High Court—During his official visit here in July the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Macgillivray sat on two days and tried a shooting case involving a Dyak, who was then sentenced to six months' imprisonment. A witness was sentenced to 14 days' imprisonment for committing perjury during the trial.

Crimes

The District continued free from crime of a serious nature. Offences against traffic laws and revenue laws predominated among the offences brought before the courts.

Native Affairs

(1) Sea Dyaks

The half year was a quiet one for the Dyaks but one of steady progress. Many houses applied for subsidies under the Rubber Scheme. More children are seeking admission to schools in 1958. Considerable interest is being shown in the possibilities of wet paddy. Less is heard of the need for new lands elsewhere.

Tanonggapi Jagan paid a visit to the district in July and stayed with Pengulu Andin and Pengulu Guman. His visit was much appreciated and discussion on migration and education took place.

(2) Malays

Surfak Kampong people paid their rates without incident. Their houses were taxed in the same way as other residential houses in the district and normal standard rates were charged. Other kampongs will be asked to pay in the future as soon as reasonable services can be provided.

The Malays here had a fairly prosperous year. The level of employment has been high and in the coastal areas the fishing season has been good. The fishermen have no difficulty in disposing of catches and receive a fair price.

His Excellency the Governor and the Data Bendah visited the coastal kampongs. This visit was clearly greatly appreciated and the people seem to have been much encouraged by it.

Chinese Affairs

The Chinese have had a moderately successful year. Rubber prices remained good but the fall at the end of the year has resulted in a decrease in income which has affected the prosperity of the farmers. There has however been no slackening in rubber replanting the results of which are now clearly visible over large

parts of the district. The replanting of pepper with high-yielding varieties is proceeding more cautiously.

Although the Chinese economy in the district lacks a solid basis—it has so far been dependent on high prices rather than well-run gardens—there is everywhere evidence of determination to remedy this situation. The more prevalent have money available and it is to be hoped that too much of this is not invested in shophouses where it will not be available if a fall in prices continues.

Three meetings of the Sarikel Chinese Advisory Board were held in this half-year. The first dealt with the minor works programme for 1958. The second led to a lively discussion on the Draft Law on Chinese Marriages. The meeting unanimously recommended the abolition of polygamy. The third meeting was called to recommend Councilors for the Sarikel District Council, the present Councilors having filled their terms of office. This meeting included a "vacation time" during which the Chairman came under heavy fire concerning the progress of development projects promised for Sarikel.

Agriculture

The rubber replanting scheme made satisfactory progress and it is regrettable that a shortage of planting material prevented the 1957 approved applications from being fully planted up by the end of the year. Nine hundred and seventy acres out of 1,411 were completed. For 1958 a further 1,160 acres have been approved.

The number of Chinese applicants is about 20 times the number of Dayak applicants but each Dayak application is for about 40 acres compared with seven acres for each Chinese. Chinese applicants are individual whereas each Dayak applicant represents a whole longhouse. For 1957 there were 72 Dayak applicants and 11 for 1958. There is one Malay group in Sarikel.

Chinese families are helping each other with new planting. A group of families take it in turn to work together on each other's gardens.

Some progress has been made in surveys of suitable land for swamp paddy and it is hoped that in 1959 Dayaks will be able to use some of these areas.

Contestables

The strength of the force was maintained at slightly below establishment but duties were carried out satisfactorily. The morale and turn-out of the force was good.

Education

The common-entrance examination served to show how far Malay and Dayak schools have to go before an acceptable standard is reached. Better results from Malay schools can be looked for in the future. The number of IHA teachers is steadily increasing. The local authority is paying attention to equipment including the provision of books, and by 1959 the Malay schools should be well staffed and properly equipped. The position of Dayak schools is still poor. The Council has lost its only trained teacher and has been unsuccessful in its attempts to recruit trained teachers. Untrained Dayak teachers of passed primary VI standard are available. The equipment of these schools is also being undertaken by the Council at a satisfactory rate.

The number of children enrolled for 1958 shows an increase of 12½ per cent over the numbers for 1957. One new Dayak school will be opened.

Chinese schools obtained good results in their examinations. The absence of a principal for the Hwa Chiao High School throughout the year has had its effect on the work done but on the whole the school has stood this strain well. Some Communist activity

occurred and this was handled firmly by the school committee.

Immigration

The number of people entering Sarawak in 1957 was above the number in 1956. There was also an increase in the numbers leaving not all of which was accounted for by the numbers leaving for China.

The second half of the year saw a big decrease in the number of students leaving for China, 19 compared with 43.

Labour

The level of employment remained unsatisfactory throughout the half-year. Towards the end of the year the fall in rubber prices for Chinese casual workers. Labour is more easily obtained than it was and wages are a little lower.

Land and Rivers

A big increase in demand for land was experienced during this half-year when 402 applications for 1,775 acres were received compared with 160 for 512 acres in the first half of the year and 197 applications for 1,140 acres during the last half of 1956. The applications included five for building sites, 341 for 1,620 acres for rubber, two for 10 acres of coconut, 20 for 47 acres of pepper, 12 for 54 acres of padi and 15 for miscellaneous agricultural purposes.

Local Authorities

The Sarikel District Council made steady progress throughout the half-year. The Malay kampong at Sarikel paid their rates without incident and more cheerfully than might have been expected.

The Council sat on occasions during the half-year. The Committee also met at regular intervals. The Councilors disposed of their business in a workmanlike manner and in spite of language difficulties controversial matters were thoroughly debated before being put to the vote.

The first Sarikel District Council has every reason to be pleased with its term of office. An honest attempt has been made to carry out the obligations entrusted to it.

The foundation of its success was the realistic valuation of Sarawak premises for rating. As a result the Council has been able to plan services and to build up funds for the construction of necessary works.

The Council has recruited a keen and able staff, one of whom was sent to England for training. The staff has much to learn but they have been well led by the Secretary and they will no doubt prove to be adequate in the future.

The Health Services provided by the Council have steadily improved. Sarikel bazaar is well maintained, and even the smaller bazaar are cleaner. The Clinic is attended by over 900 mothers each year. A sub-clinic in a Dayak area and one in a Malay kampong have been opened.

The Council's most notable success has been in the field of education. In 1955, its first year, there were only two Dayak schools with fewer than 70 children between them. At the end of 1957 there were nine Dayak schools with 460 children. Attendance in Malay schools in the same period increased by 50 per cent from 426 to 648. Also 11 Chinese children were attending the Council's schools. Permanent buildings for two schools were erected and desks provided for 800 children. Provision was made for erecting three more permanent school buildings in 1958.

At its last meeting the Council passed a well deserved vote of thanks for the retiring Secretary Mr. Siru Ah Koon whose hard work translated the Council's policy into action.

Medical and Health

The number of patients treated in Sariket Dispensary continued to increase. Approximately 50 per cent more compared with 1956. Average monthly attendance in the out-patients department for 1957 is 3,000.

Health was on the whole good. The influenza epidemic affected an estimated 80 per cent of the population and 1,881 cases were seen at the dispensary. The epidemic although widespread was not a severe one.

The Travelling Dispensary made 23 trips in the second half of the year. The number of patients treated remains fairly constant. A total of 6,663 were treated in the second half of 1957 compared with 6,892 for the second half of 1956.

The Sariket District Council's Clinic had a successful year. Five hundred and ninety-seven anti-malarial cases were on the books with 1,170 return cases so that on an average each patient was seen three times. Two sub-clinics each in charge of a midwife were started towards the end of the year. In addition to child welfare and anti-malarial work the clinic distributed 27,728 cases of milk.

Public health improved. The bunnies were cleaner and while some improvement was noticed in the small bunnies there is room for much greater cleanliness.

Posts and Telegraphs

This was the first year during which the telephone was available to the public. There are no spare lines and the service is fully used.

The telephone has materially assisted the efficiency of Government staff. Time and expense have been saved by using the telephone instead of memoranda and members of the public have benefited by having their affairs dealt with promptly, in many cases avoiding extra visits to the office.

Attempts to improve mail services using bags have been made but so far they have not been very popular. It will be some time before the public appreciates the value of these services.

Public Works

The second half of the year was a quiet one for the Public Works as most of the authorised projects were completed.

The Road Engineer arrived in October to assist in the construction of the Bintang road. The earthworks on the section to the Sungai Nyelong are well in hand and it is possible to drive to within a quarter mile of the river. Consolidation, including the installation of culverts, has progressed in a satisfactory way. While this road has been under construction considerable agricultural development has taken place. The hills on either side of the road are terraced and planted with high-yielding rubber as far as the eye can see.

Shipping

The number of ships using Tanjung Meni continued to increase and 1957 figures were higher than any previous year.

	Ships	Tonnage
1955	90	273,008
1956	114	393,571
1957	132	445,683

The quantity of goods imported via Tanjung Meni is negligible and except for timber exports are also negligible.

Trade and Commerce

The decline in the price of rubber at the end of the year only served to underline the vulnerability of the economy of the district. Sariket derives its wealth from poor-quality rubber grown on very infertile soil. Perhaps Gurney pointed out that

unless the economy of the countryside were improved the prosperity of the rest of the country could not be maintained. Pepper growing is in no better position than rubber growing. The quality of the product exported is poor and the times indifferent.

Attempts are being made to alter this state of affairs by the powers. Over 1,000 acres of high-yielding rubber have been planted under the Government scheme and probably at least an equal amount outside the scheme. Tappers are everywhere visible to anyone travelling in the district. Pepper growers too are planting higher-yielding varieties. A more efficient production is a step in the right direction but unless the quality of the product for export can be improved much of the benefit will be lost. Better marketing is also called for and it is a pity that the excellent shipping facilities available to Sariket cannot be used.

The bazaar still wears an air of prosperity and the shops are very well stocked with a variety of high class goods.

ACTING DISTRICT OFFICER, BINTANG

(D. S. Cotrell)

Cases

The number of cases brought to court continued to upward trend and during this half year has risen sharply. Criminal cases increased from 35 for the second half of 1956 to 91 for the second half of 1957, almost tripled. Fines imposed were tripled and number committed to prison rose from six to three. Reasons for this are given under "Crime".

Small Civil Cases in the Court of Small Causes and Petty Courts also increased. This appears to be due to money becoming tighter and debts being more meticulously paid for.

There were less Native Court cases, probably due to the Nians having less financial return from their rubber and thus having less leisure to indulge in a favourite pastime.

Inquests were held on three cases of death by drowning, in all of which young children were involved. This makes a total of seven deaths by drowning in this district during 1957—a high figure.

There was an interesting and rather pathetic case in which a Padohse mother sued her son for maintenance. The father had died and the property had been transferred to the son in accordance with custom. The mother was awarded 120 a month by the court which took notice of the Sarawak Chinese Custom whereby the son holds the property but is responsible for the maintenance of the mother.

There was one case in which a woman was convicted for making a false sworn declaration that a young person in China was her natural son. She was fined \$120. It would be interesting to know whether many such false declarations were being made.

Two cases of probation were undertaken by the District Officer, one an opium smoker and one a youngster convicted of theft by the District Court, Sariket. The youngster was incorrigible and was returned to the Court for sentence and the opium smoker is probably incorrigible too, but further efforts are being made.

Crime

It will be seen that crime brought to court increased by about 100 per cent on that of the first half year 1957 and 150 per cent on that of the second half year 1956. This is considered to be an indication of a right increase in crime, though the greatest factor has been increased activity by the Police, Customs, and, in some minor matters, District Councils, and an increase in reliable information on contraband and prohibited goods.

There were more opium cases, arrack cases and rice cases; there were also two cases of being in possession of prohibited literature, under the Sedition Ordinance.

Local Authorities

(1) Bintang District Council

Some interesting decisions of the Council during the half year were—

To require all IBH teachers to sit the Common Entrance Examination. Those below 25 years of age who obtained poor marks are to be sent to St. Augustine's Mission School, Bintang, on a year's scholarship in order that they should have every opportunity to make a successful career of teaching.

To open three new schools in January, 1958: two Dayak schools and one Malay-Dayak School. These schools have come up to standard and have since been opened.

To take over the Austrel Timber Company (B.C.L.) School at Simpa as a Local Authority School. This school was run for a year by the Company, and the building and desks have been supplied by the Company.

To employ a Travelling Headmaster from January, 1958.

To run Kampong Bintang. Rateable values of houses are assessed at \$50 and \$80. Ten per cent general rate only will be collected in 1958.

To agree to take overall responsibility for minor roads. Government has therefore agreed that 50 per cent grants may now be paid for approved Bintang Schemes.

To organise a flower-garden competition within the Municipal area. First prize for the best garden \$20, 2nd prize \$15, 3rd prize \$10 and two consolation prizes of \$5. The competition will be held in about June.

To raise licence fees for motor licences by an average of 50 per cent. This move was overdue.

To take over the Recreation Ground from the Trust Board during 1958, when completed.

The Council has now planned where it wants mid-week stations, and is gradually recruiting girls for training from those areas.

(2) Mata-Daro District Council

This Council is progressing quite well, and the Councilmen are doing good work. The problem is now one of staff, and the council must have a clerk of its own if any progress is to be made in 1958. The present system whereby the Council pays half the salary of the two Court Writers has now begun to outgrow its usefulness.

Some interesting decisions of the Council during the half year were—

To take on a Travelling Headmaster. It looks as if it is going to be a most valuable post.

To open a new School at Brat. This school opened in January, 1958.

To buy a 45-gallon fire extinguisher for Mata in 1958. The Daro one has been bought.

To build a road in front of Daro bazaar. This road has now been built.

To clear the Mata River. \$6,956 was spent on this during the half year, \$1,381 of which was a Central Government grant. Floods still overtook Mata at the end of the half year, but subsided much quicker.

To take overall responsibility for the maintenance of minor roads schemes for which a 50 per cent Government grant is approved.

To sponsor the merging of the Chinese and Malay Schools at Daro, and to request a capital grant from Government for a new building; some additional financial assistance from Council funds has also been voted.

To recruit someone in Daro to be trained as a District Council "Dispensary Attendant" for Daro, on the lines of an "Ulu dresser".

Native Affairs

Penghulus now get \$10 a day travelling allowance, and most Dayak areas were covered by their Penghulas during the half year. This is a great improvement, it was previously most difficult to persuade a Penghulu to travel without a Government officer.

The Malaya of Bintang sub-district have been disappointingly inactive. It gives an indication that in Bintang sub-district only three applications for land were received from Malaya during the half year, while Dayaks made 28 applications and Chinese 90.

Only five valid requests in Niah Hal were received this year, as opposed to 42 last year.

A Darak and house in Bintang was completed, and opened on 19th September. It cost \$15,800, \$5,000 of which was granted by Government and the rest of which came from the funds of the defunct Lower Borneo Dayak Local Authority. It is being well patronised, since \$1 a door tax is being levied for its upkeep, which includes a caretaker's wages.

On Thursday night, 7th November, Malay and Dayak drums were beaten and Dayak *Pua Landa* blowers turned with whirling baskets to bring back to life the dying moon and blow the clouds away.

Mata was flooded as usual towards the end of the half year in spite of the expenditure of almost \$7,000 on river clearing. Flooding is right over the high Government walkway and very nearly up to the floorboards of some of the Government quarters. Rubber tapping throughout the sub-district is entirely stopped, most years for two to three months. The water is however running out to sea faster than it did before the river clearing took place, and the amount of time actually flooded looks as if it will be less this year than previous years.

Agriculture

Kampong among Dayaks for high-yielding rubber is growing, and with encouragement we should be able to get two or three hundred acres planted in 1958.

Blips and (*Englabang*): In July *Englabang* in the Simaua flowered profusely, but probably because of some long dry spells the actual harvest now expected is disappointing. In parts however there is some *Englabang*; it is estimated that about 200 piculs will come from the Bintang River if the price is reasonably good. The falling of the nuts unfortunately coincides with the padi harvest.

Pepper and rubber exports from Bintang have decreased during the half year except for white pepper for which the figures show a slight increase. The acreages of swamp and hill padi planted this season have increased over last season in Bintang sub-district by about 35 to 40 per cent. The weather has been kind and a good harvest is generally expected. The additional acreage planned on the hill land however will serve only to accelerate the land degradation which has been going on for many years now and which will not be stopped without very much more drastic action than has so far been taken. It may be of interest to note that the average yield expected by the Bintang hill-farms is four piculs per acre. Five piculs an acre is considered a good harvest. The planting cycle has reached an average of 3 to 4 years. Dr. Freeman in his "Report on the Flora of Sarawak" stated that "if shifting cultivation is to be stabilized Government policy should be directed towards achieving . . . the

ideal population-land ratio of about six *hecti-janities* per square mile". I estimate the population-land ratio on the hill land of Binting sub-district to be about 12 *hecti-janities* per square mile. To mitigate this position swamp land is plentifully available, but the than here will generally only move to swamp when he has ruined his own hill land and can no longer borrow from others.

Oranges and pineapples have had a good market throughout the year, and provide a fair living for hard working gardeners. Vegetable output during the year has increased and prices have gone down slightly.

The Junior Agricultural Assistant, Binting, informs me that his two sons of Zinc Phosphide anti-poison has killed 2,670 tails of rat during the half year!

A very great proportion of the land applications during the year were for rubber-planting on swamp-land, mostly deep peat, and almost all not recommended for rubber. Permits were however issued provided rubber-planting would not interfere with paddy. I personally have doubts as to whether this is a wise policy, but until there are other readily attractive alternatives for Chinese expansion it would create frustration and strong feeling against Government if planting permits were not issued for such land.

There has been a demand from Binting sub-district Dayaks to go on rubber planting courses at the Agricultural Department School in Kuching, and these courses have proved themselves to be most valuable.

Fishing by means of *Kilangs* Pe has taken the interest of Mata fishermen. The Malakans at Mata at first raised local objections to Chinese putting up *Kilangs* off Kuala Mata, even though they were seven miles out. The matter was amicably settled and it looks as if more *Kilangs* will be put up again this year. A request has been received from Mata and Dara Chinese (who are also it is understood in Jangut with some Sibu Chinese) to bring in Chinese type Malays to teach them more about this type of fishing, and this is receiving consideration. An objection against these *Kilangs* is that at present one-inch wire mesh is being used, and it is considered that this may catch too many very young fish.

Education

Two new Dayak schools were built during the year, and both opened in January, 1958. One was at Sg. Pili, Merinding, the other at Sg. Tili. They are well-built schools with quite good teachers' quarters and furniture, and they are indicative of the increasing kindness of the Dayaks on education. Both schools were built without outside aid of any sort and over 40 parents signed a bond for \$25 that their children would remain in school for four years.

A mixed Malay-Dayak school has now been opened at Tg. Bunchong, Binting, a Malay Kampeng graduate from Binting. It only just came up to standard in time, and compares unfavourably with the two new Dayak schools.

Medical and Health

The second doctor of Binting has visited all schools, local authority and aided, during the half year. This was made possible by loans from the District Council for fuel plus assistance with roadster wages, and these trips have been a great success.

The two midwives in the Binting District Council Clinic did 46 deliveries during the half year, 39 of which were delivered in peoples' own homes and are 448 anti-malar cases. From 5th November to 7th December Miss Wong Ching Huang went on a scholar course to Sibu Hospital. Miss Wong Ai Ngik went from 12th December to 12th January.

A total of 17,153 lbs. of UNICEF milk powder was distributed during the half year. The new packets contain better-tasting milk powder than before, and are the right size for distribution.

The Mata-Dara District Council has requested a dispensary for Dara. Although the permanent population of Dara sub-district is only about 6,000 there are also a considerable number of timber workers in the district, and will be for many years to come on present indications. In the meantime the Hospital Assistant of Mata is attempting to visit Dara twice a month at regular dates.

Attendance for 1957 at Binting Dispensary rose even more than in previous years, because a second Hospital Assistant was posted here. The grand total of cases treated in 1958 was 31,888, whereas the figure for 1957 was 40,112. This reflects considerable credit on the two hospital assistants here.

Social welfare can conveniently be placed under this heading. The Binting Benevolent Society has during the half year sent an 18-in boy of about 15 years old to the Boys' Home, Sibu, and is paying \$40 a month for his upkeep. This boy was reported to have been continuously engaged in petty theft for some years, and his character had become beyond the control of his sick father. The boy used to leave his family for weeks on end roaming the district.

The Boys' Home appears in five months to have improved him both physically and in his attitude almost beyond recognition, and he is now apprenticed to the outboard motor section of the P.W.D., Sibu, and is reported to be doing well.

A register of all blind persons in the district has been started, also a register for handicapped people, such as squatics. The Social Welfare Officer, Kuching, has supplied register cards and advice, and we are doing as much case work and follow-up work as we can.

Land

The hill-lands at the Merinding Bukung do not have enough hill land if they propose to continue as predominantly hill-rice farmers; they cannot hope even to maintain their present standard of living on the Binting hill land. Since there is no other acceptable hill land in Sarawak available to them the move to the swamp must be encouraged, in conjunction with high yielding rubber planting on the hill. This will also have the advantage of opening up a certain amount of poor hill land to Chinese who are the only people who know how to put it to good use.

Post and Telecommunications

The telephone service within the district appears to have deteriorated during this half year. The one line to Sibu becomes more difficult to get hold of, and breakdowns have become more frequent, in spite of measures that the sets are in good condition.

The public have now been connected in Mata and Dara but conversations are often bad and sometimes conversation is impossible between Binting and Dara.

The revenue from sale of postage stamps in Binting Post Office in October, the month of the new issue, was \$213.60, as opposed to a normal monthly revenue of about \$150.

Public Works

Work continues on the Binting end of the Seribel-Binting road. To date it makes available a useful motor-cycle road to the interior, and since many minor roads join up with it, it does open up the country behind Binting.

Water started coming out of the standpipes in June. It is quite pure water, and the one well off which it is being pumped by a P.W.D. engine appears to be producing most satisfactorily.

The minor road scheme came to a standstill in Binting sub-district, and no work was done, because the Binting District Council was not prepared to take over responsibility for maintenance; they have now

agreed to take this responsibility, and schemes worth over \$40,000 have now been approved for a 50 per cent Government grant. The Matu-Duro District Council has agreed to take on this overall responsibility, and walkways in three areas, Sot, Matu and Kg. Matu, received a 50 per cent Government grant, and the schemes were satisfactorily completed. The 1938 schemes have also been put up by the Council, and are now approved.

Trees have been planted extensively throughout the Baram municipal area and flowers have been planted in the bazaar. There has also been some tree-planting around Duro District Office.

Labour

The time now appears to have come when a comprehensive and reasonably simple test-work is required by Deputy Commissioners on Workmen's Compensation.

The Ben Ann Sawmill, Baram, has closed down due to a major breakdown of the driving engine. This has put about 40 Malays out of work; many of these have managed to find employment elsewhere, and those who could not were in time to plant padi.

Mainly arising from this, there has been quite a lot of woeful talk of unemployment in Baram. It is difficult to define exactly what is meant by this; it means a seasonal shortage of highly-paid casual work in Baram itself then there is unemployment. If it means a shortage of work with a living wage for a person who is able and willing to put in an honest day's work then there is as far as I can see little or no unemployment. Hand-working moment at \$5.00 a day are difficult to obtain and unskilled dogs for which \$6 a hand (roughly alive) is paid by the District Council are very much in evidence, in spite of publicity.

Local capital does not appear to be forthcoming to start up new enterprises and agriculture does not appear to be popular with the rising generation. It appears to me that the most urgent need is to popularise agriculture, and to make it a more scientific and demanding vocation so that educated young men feel they have something worthy of them to get their teeth into.

DISTRICT OFFICER, KANOWIT

(H. R. Harkon)

Courts and Crime

There has not been a lot of litigation, and Court work has been by no means arduous.

Two preliminary inquiries have been held into deaths caused by negligent use of firearms. The total number of these cases for the year is therefore three in this district alone. When it is considered that this number is in no way abnormal, it can be realised what a menace shotguns are becoming. The trouble seems to be the shortage of game. It is so rarely nowadays that the hunters see anything worth shooting that they lose all at any nascent undergrowth on the efficiency of getting something.

The Native Courts have been busy with the usual land disputes.

In the Civil Courts there have been practically nothing but debt cases, large and small.

Obituary

I regret to have to report that Pengulu Brisk died at his house in the Machan on 12nd December. He had retired only the previous March.

Health

The dispensaries at Jelan and Kanowit have been functioning well. The Kanowit Dispensary suffered by the rapid turn-over of doctors at one time.

The Travelling Dispensary has been operating well. The travelling van ran out towards the end of the year but the dispensary continued to function nevertheless. It has been of great service to the people of the Kanowit and Jelan areas. There are Local Authority midwives at Jelan and Kanowit and an Ulu Doctor in the Ngemah is lavishly reported on.

A tremendous boon to the district has been the arrival of Dr. L. F. Cooper from the United States of America to give his services free to the Mission Hospital and the public in general. Dr. Cooper has his own boat and outboard engine and any cases which cannot be treated here are sent by him to Sibu, and only occasionally is Government assistance in conveying patients to hospital there requested.

Despite the great improvements in Medical Services available in the district, there are still many people who will try every other means of curing themselves before venturing into a hospital or dispensary. T. K. Sekanja, a most progressive man in his general outlook, spent some \$400 on Malay, Iban, and Chinese medicines before being persuaded by Mr. K. B. H. Kay to visit Sibu Hospital, where he was found to be suffering from a stomach ulcer.

Native Affairs

Most things had run out of peak by the end of the year—many long before. This, combined with the low price of rubber and the very wet weather towards the end of the year, has made the financial position of the majority most precarious.

Harvest this year was successful on the whole but pests, particularly insects, have been very bad, and complaints have been received of lack of insecticides.

The land shortage is definitely becoming serious in many places—along the Baram, Bujang and the Pokan and Wuk are possibly the most acutely affected areas. Requests for work in the oilfields and for timber companies are constant, and there have been a number of requests to plant. The most popular area seems to be the Sani and Tinjar, but requests have also been made for Nuteh.

There was considerable excitement in about August and September over the possibility of a very fair rubbering crop. Most of the fruit, however, dropped early, and the outlook now is poor, though some may be obtained in isolated areas such as the Ulu Ngemah. The natural crop seems to be good, and plentiful fishing is reported.

A number of good houses are being built throughout the district, but the speed at which they progress is very slow. I think, however, that to hurry the people along will only result in lowered standards, and so long as they are obviously making an effort, plenty of time is allowed. The people who are making these substantial houses are usually those who are progressive in other ways also—such as planting high-yielding rubber, building schools and making paths, and many of these people are finding that they have taken on rather a lot at once. At Jaged, for instance, Kanah Jara have completed their school, have begun their new house, have dug some 10,000 holes for rubber, and are starting to make a path down the Kg. Kanowit to link with the next house down-stream.

The Nanga Brisk Development Scheme, led by Mr. J. K. Wilson, has started and appears to be going satisfactorily though it is as yet too early to make progress.

Pengulu Shadan retired on 31st December but no successor has yet been appointed. T. K. Jara of the Tunjung retired on the same day and has been replaced by his son Longah.

Touting of their areas by Pengulu has imposed noticeably as a result of their new terms of service.

Agriculture

The main activity of the department has been the planting of high-yielding rubber. Considerable progress has been made, but unfortunately it is confined to downriver areas. Many people in the up are very keen for help in planting according to the improved methods, but so far the Agricultural Department has been unable to help them much. With the increase in staff due shortly perhaps something can be done for them.

The fruit season has been excellent. Hardly any pepper has been produced in the district.

District Council

The electricity supply at Juluu has been installed.

In the field of education considerable progress has been made. By the end of the year, new schools had been approved and the buildings nearly completed ready for opening in January, 1959, at Machan, Kamas, Dilling, Ulu Brown, and Ulu Pis. In particular, the school at Machan is a very fine structure, and a large number of pupils is expected, this being the first school in P. Todong's area. Considerable progress has also been made in new buildings for existing schools. At Nanga Sarau an excellent building has been made, comprising two classrooms, and plans are being made for boarding accommodation. Boarding accommodation is also being provided at Nanga Lusi.

A scheme has also been put forward for the District Council to build boarding accommodation at Kanowit for children attending the Mission School. It is proposed that the building shall be at the end of the bazaar near the Mission School, and the boarders will be looked after by the Mission teachers. The cost, estimated at \$8,000, will be shared between the District Council and the funds of the old Sen Deyth Royal Authority. It has been proposed that the remaining funds of this defunct Authority be used to build an Iban club-house at Kanowit, opposite the Kee Yeng School.

A new experiment is being tried at Mahau and Pikan where requests were received to open Chinese schools. The District Council has agreed to take Chinese children into the Iban schools, and to engage a Chinese teacher at each. Chinese children will receive instruction in Chinese from the Chinese teacher, while Iban are doing Iban, but other subjects such as arithmetic will be studied together, the medium of instruction being Iban. This will need close supervision from the Education Department in the opening stages.

By-laws have been adopted by the Council, in most cases standard by-laws copied from other Councils or "models" in respect of Sanitation, Prevention of Pollution, Village Shops, Hawkers, and Road Cans. The last mentioned will be 33 and will apply, in the first instance, only to the area from Kg. Kamas to Kg. Lukan.

Chinese Affairs

Trade has been depressed by the low price of rubber, but Kanowit bazaar is a lot more lively than it was three years ago, there being only one empty shop as against about ten formerly. Trade in Juluu is very good, and an old wooden shop-house in Juluu has cut far more than a new concrete one in Kanowit. Five new three-storey concrete shops replacing old one-storey wooden ones were nearly completed by the end of the year at Juluu and five more lots have been allocated in return for the surrender of the other five old shop-houses.

Applications are being accepted for the new Juluu Mixed Zone, and it is hoped that the Mixed Zones along the Bawak-Baki Mikal track will be ready for

allocation soon. Chinese are still buying up Mixed Zone land from Dayaks and Malays as fast as they can.

Labour

Recruiting parties have visited the district taking Iban to work in the oilfields and North Borneo. A lot more go without permission or travel documents and some Ibanal and North Borneo Ibanly. They then find work and their employers (sometimes) ask approval for them to stay.

Education

Local Authority schools have already been mentioned. The Malays want to start a school but there are not enough of them to warrant it. There is always room for them in the Mission and Chinese schools.

The proposal to start a Government Secondary School has caused widespread interest and comment. The initial entry fee was waived somewhat by the news that over half the school would consist of children transferred from Batu Lintang, but it still appeared that places would be found for nearly all children from this district who wanted them. In the event, however, the number of children accepted has been disappointingly low, and people are beginning to feel that the Secondary School is merely an extension of Batu Lintang with a few local children accepted on preference.

At present it seems to be planned that the Secondary School will consist of two streams, one Native, one Chinese, there being about 30 to 35 children accepted into each stream every year. In 1959, however, at least two native streams will be required to cope with the over-increasing number of boys entering Local Authority Primary IV's, and within a few years, three or four native streams may well be required. Many Local Authority Schools have not yet been going four years, and consequently have no Primary IV at present. In a year or two they will have them, and there will be a flood of children. I do not think it is too early to start planning for them now. The Kanowit District Council will shortly be considering starting up its own Higher Primary School.

One result of the application of age limits for entrance to schools has been the alteration by some Chinese of the stated ages of their children. This is done by securing a new affidavit as to the child's age stating that the previous affidavit was wrong.

In District Council schools the general standards of buildings, equipment and teaching are gradually but steadily improving.

Public Works

The track from Penghulu Chendang's house in the Bawak to the Gya border was completed, except for minor improvements for which there is a balance of over a thousand dollars which it is hoped will be voted in 1958.

Chinese gardeners are also constructing a path from Kanowit to Lukan.

Encouragement is also being given to Iban along Kanowit river to build their own paths leading up longhouses. Work had started by the end of the year. Assistance with bridges may be given in due course if funds are available.

The two projects still eagerly awaited in Kanowit are the water supply and the wharf, on neither of which is any progress visible to the public, though assurances are given from time to time that Kuching is humming with activity about them.

Miscellaneous

Construction of a Recreation Club was started towards the end of the year.

DISTRICT OFFICER, MIRAM

(Abang Zeinuddin)

and approval of the District Officer, Miram.

Colour: All the following are in the same colour.

There was no serious crime came into light.

There was only one case of them causing death by a rash negligent act to his own father when out on hunting.

Apart from the drownings there was one inquest held into the deaths of two brothers, Cheong and Han and Nam, whose skeletons were found by two Ihans in the jungle near the boundary of Oya and Malak. Coroner returned an open verdict.

Health

The health of the public has been satisfactory generally. No serious epidemic occurred apart from some influenza and undifferentiated dysentery and diarrhoea.

Native Affairs

Melanau—The Melanau were still drifting to other districts to earn their living while the women were left to look after houses, etc., and do the sago-escaping and padi planting.

Melanau Melanau had good catches during the last half year. Lander, however, set in very lately, and it made not much difference on their catches. Some people from Oya came to Daku and the neighbouring villages harvesting their sago with sago and presumably with padi. Information said that a catty of sago called Man Jemah could be exchanged with one sating of sago.

A special committee on the Melanau/Lake Adak was recalled at Malak and at Daku as well to discuss the doubtful points on the said Adak on 12th—24th October.

Abau—Some Ihans of Batang Oya have followed Melanau's steps by going out from their tract homes to Seria and Kuala Belait to visit their friends and relatives, but their intentions were contrary to their requests. Instead of visiting friends they try to look for work in the Oil Company.

Many attempts were made by Ihans from Batang Oya to ask approval for pindah to other districts in a different division with the reason that the lands they now owned are "KUSI", but none of the requests was supported as the "KUSINESS" of their lands had not yet been ascertained.

Agriculture

The padi-planting of 1957-1958 was completed. It was recorded that this year padi are growing well, and so far no serious damages by pests were reported. Rancor is spreading that in the swampy area most of the padi was badly damaged by flood towards the end of the year. This rancor may be true as there were approximately 15 days of rain in December.

Engkabang is reported not very promising in the Ulu, but sufficient for local consumption only. It is rather difficult to forecast the availability for export.

Plantings of new sago and rubber, so far as can be judged from applications for land were fairly steady although they were not on a colossal scale. The remark "Not recommended but no objection if applicant incurred warning" made by the Agricultural Officer, Sibu, on the applications to plant rubber was apparently welcomed and very much appreciated by the applicants. They were pleased and prepared to ignore the warning.

Economy

The sago slump in addition to the sudden drop of rubber price continues to depress the economy of Malak district. The export duty on sago flow was

suspended for the time being as from 13th October but the situation remains unchanged and still causes hardship to the natives.

Public Works

Malak-Oya Road Reconstruction: The programme for Malak-Oya road reconstruction shows very steady progress. There is now only one mile left to be done for 1958.

[Note: This was written before the flooding—Ed.]

The construction of Malak Airstrip is still in hand.

The deepening of Kut Canal continued. The D2 tractor proved unsatisfactory for moving the earth on the banks of Kut Canal. The earth was too muddy and sticky. The Divisional Engineer, Sibu, had arranged to move the earth by manpower, but it was found that the arrangement was too expensive. Work is stopped for time being. The area for a chamber for the dam in the canal was pegged.

The construction of minor road Sibu-Malak is not quite complete.

Local Authority

It is obvious that all the three parishes have made good progress in the last half year.

It was evident that meetings have caused the Parish Councils heavy expenditure on transport and allowances. Daku and Batang have been heavily affected, as their Councils' houses are far apart and remote. Changes have been made of members of the Standing Committee in an effort to reduce cost by selecting Councils living close to the town areas.

There are now ten Melanau schools and seven Ihans schools managed by the Councils. There was a drop in the enrolment at end of year. Malak by 11 per cent and Daku-Batang only slightly. I think this was due, amongst the Melanau, no parents wanting to seek jobs in other districts, and they have brought their children with them, and amongst Ihans, probably lack of sustained interest.

On a general survey of the conditions of Ihans schools in the district, the buildings of the Batang schools are in reasonably good state. All the buildings of the Ihans schools in Malak are poorly built and are in dilapidated state, and they are no better than cow-sheds. It is hoped that planning and preparations can be completed early in 1958 for complete reconstruction of all these schools.

The Daku Awang Ulu School of Malak has made one stride ahead again by establishing a Primary VI class in 1958. It was planned that this school will absorb many students from remote Council Schools into its upper-primary classes.

All the three parishes have by the end of the year been fully provided with one clinic each, one trained midwife each and also adequate equipment.

Though many doubted that the Malak District Council's Athletic and Youth Club would be able to keep itself in existence to end of year they were mistaken. The club had carried on though at a loss, which shows that it has stamina yet to carry on, and with proper management and planning this institution will stay.

Chinese Affairs

There was no change in the general life of the Chinese in this district. Trade was not so brisk although there was some sign when taxes on imports were increased.

Communications

The installation of a 185-foot tubular tower of VHF communication was completed by Mr. C. V. D. Wallis, contract engineer of Posts and Telegraphs Department.

This tower is to replace the existing lattice mast and erected on the same site. The latter had been reserved for installation at Marik.

The installation of VHF trunk call was completed in Belaga early in July. The daily communications between Belaga and Miri are helping the administration greatly in speeding up the work. As we know, when landline was in, Belaga became a private kingdom, no water transport was possible when heavy rain appeared. Mails sometimes took one month to reach Miri from Belaga.

In view of the landline, the mails service between Miri and Miri was carried out, commencing from 1st October, with one trip weekly via the Kan Canal. But towards the beginning of December the service was increased to twice weekly.

Miscellaneous

About 4,000 people from Kuching and outstations attended the Centenary Celebrations of the establishment of Government Administration at Miri on 15th September.

At a reception held on the Centenary Celebration day, the District Officer, Miri, gave a brief history of the Government of Miri which was vested in the First Rajah of Sarawak, Sir James Brooke, 180 years ago. The celebrations which began on Saturday, included inter-schools sports and a soccer competition. There was a lantern procession in which all schools in the district took part. Other forms of entertainment had also been organized by the celebration committee.

Dalai and Oya held a three-day combined regatta commencing on November 7. In conjunction with the regatta, there were exhibitions, inter-schools and sports, film shows given by the Information Service and Malay and Dayak dances together with beauty contest also organized. All proceeds from the regatta was devoted to the Dalai Community Hall Construction Fund.

Chinese launch M.V. Shing Sen was totally sunk by heavy rain about four miles off shore Miri-Belaga on 26 October, when she made her trip to Belaga from Miri. No casualties but estimated total of goods lost approximately twenty thousand dollars.

DISTRICT OFFICER, KAPIT (HARRISON AGAR)

Courts

The court work was light as usual except in the Native Court involving offences under the Tutus Tutus. Cases were of little interest and none worthy of mention.

Crime

The only crime worth mention was at Kapit where the coffee and provisions shops' owners were robbed at night of cash and jewellery. The former reported loss of cash and cloth from his bedroom worth \$1,200 on the night of 28th August and the latter reported the loss of cash and jewellery worth \$4,500 from his safe on 17th September. The key of the safe was alleged to have been taken from his pocket while he was asleep. \$200 of the cash was deposited by anti-malaria workers. In both these cases the culprits are not traced. The Police are still investigating. The Chinese are concerned to prevent future occurrences and are demanding that every new face that comes up to Kapit by Chinese launch should be checked by the police.

Constabulary

Discipline at Kapit has been satisfactory. Riot drill has been carried out at regular intervals and patrols were undertaken as funds permit. Health has been good.

Native Affairs

The Kapiti and Long Malaya are not padi farmers, but Belaga Malays are. The main occupation of the former is doing odd jobs in the bazaar and tapping rubber. If river water is favourable they fish. The hard-working Belaga Malays expected a good harvest this year. They are always proud of their kampung.

The scheme to rehouse the present Kapit Malay crowded houses at Kampong Kapit is in progress. 29 new lots have been surveyed, 26 have been allotted and construction on the site has commenced. An agreement was reached whereby a sum of \$1,000 is to be paid to each block family to assist them to buy building materials such as sleepers, planks and struts. This sum will be paid in three instalments of \$300, \$300 and \$400 according to the progress of the work done on the building. Towards the end of the second half the workers were busy delivering materials to the new sites. Work was done by batches. With the exception of an "inland" followers all are working hard on the rebuilding of the new kampung. The six families of rubber tappers headed by Radin Sait seem to think that they are of higher class than the rest and refused to move from their present dilapidated houses. They also refused to accept the \$1,000 compensation.

Rain

As a result of a very long drought which lasted seven weeks, July/August, the burning-off of padi farms was reported everywhere very successful. The impact was finished off during the early part of November and the prospects of next harvest are said to be good. It is feared that the harvesting of exulting will coincide with padi and that if the price of the former crop is good the latter may be left to rot in favour of the collection of the former crop. The exulting at first showed great promise but due to dry weather followed by a rainstorm about 50 per cent of the flowers fell to the ground. The remainder which had set into fruit are still available in the Balak, Pelagus, Ser, Gant and Kaitum rivers. It is on this particular crop that the entire life of the district is now focused. Harvest will begin from February onwards.

It is important to note that in recent years the Iban practice of going abroad has drastically changed its character. In former days when their journeys were up-river to collect jungle products, they often lasted for about a year or two and they returned to their family with significant contribution of property (from the sale of their products) to be added to the joint estate. As the journeys were of short period, there were usually present in a longhouse sufficient adult males to undertake the tasks of man under Iban custom such as building of new house or boat. The development of wage labour at Seria, Malaya and other points on the coast has very seriously disturbed the old balance. Because of the glittering attractions of such towns, young men are going on behalf to a greater extent than ever before. The present object of labour, in so far as Iban in this area are concerned, is not primarily to make money but to make a name for himself. The attainment of wealth is secondary.

In 1940 when the writer was employed by the Rajah Timber Concessions (R.T.C.) at Pelagus and Pala Wang as a monitor supervising the Iban labourers he found that about 5 per cent of the males (35 years and over) of the Iban longhouse communities were absent throughout the year. The writer found that the overall figure has now increased to about 40 per cent. This percentage is so high as to critically threaten the stability of Iban society and of Iban subsistence economy. At Rk. Laif, Pala Wang, where the writer worked seventeen years ago, about 90 per cent of the males of the community, within the grouping age of fifteen to thirty years are away on labour mostly in Seria or in the Fourth Division. Because of that the community is not in a position to build a new longhouse and many of the young and old parents are suffering from serious hardship due to the

prolonged absence of their husbands and sons. Most young men now stay away for several years and at Rih. Iban Temenggong Koh young men have been away for about seven years. Furthermore, because of conditions at Seria, many Iban young men fail to make any savings at all—all their money being squandered on such things as cockfighting, picture theatres and possibly gambling and prostitution.

A number of these young men that have returned to their longhouses in the Balah after an absence of several years in state of rest are reluctant to join in the arduous and monotonous work of padi farming or rubber-tapping. Many of them come up to the office asking for passports to visit or fetch relatives in Seria—is ready to seek for work—abandoning their families and womenfolk for a further period. To stop these young men from going on a trip to see the world is indeed difficult. Refusing the issue of travel documents does not appear to solve the problem because they still can go by some means or other. It is, therefore, in the opinion of the writer that the problems associated with *trajid* are the most serious at present facing the Iban of Kapit District. A party consisting of 60 Ibans returned from Seria during October after completing their contract with the Brunei Shell Petroleum Company, Limited. An interview with them found that only the older people had brought some savings.

The Kapas and Ulu Bawang At Iban have close relatives in the Gant, Not and Kaitum, both the Gant and Not contain a fair number of them coming from Ulu to look for work. Young men come down to Kapit hoping to be selected for Malaya but were soon quickly pointed out by the local Iban having the same ambition.

Two large parties of Sarawak Rangan totalling 33 men arrived home during the second half. Colour Sgt. Naka was in charge of one of the parties. The Sergeant himself was the nephew of *ay-panghala* Gisingan from Kapit. He and Sgt. Gan were the first Rangan to be permitted to bring their wives with them to Malaya. All who saw these two parties were impressed by the remarkable amount of tin, thick mattresses, furniture and outboard engines they acquired in Malaya and purchased in Sibn bazaar. All were in good health. As usual a short talk was given that there must be no overstaying of leave. They, like other parties, gave no trouble at all. At the expiration of their leave all returned to Sibn on the appointed day.

Ramah Bendah of Sg. Belawan was burnt down on the night of 30th November. The fire was alleged to have started in one of the depots and eventually spread to the *asikin*. The community was rather poor and everything was destroyed. There were no casualties. Gifts were donated by Chinese. Money was donated by Social Welfare and clothing was sent by the Sarawak Branch of the British Red Cross. This was the third longhouse destroyed by fire within this year.

En-panghala Ugh who was mentioned in last half yearly report, died on 23rd of October, 1957.

Six parties of Ulu Kanyah comprising 91 men returned to Indonesian Borneo by the Tawoh Majang path. They brought stores with the money they made by working with some timber firms in Sibn. All appeared to have wrist-watches and sewing machines and other stores totalling eight shoulder loads each to carry over a seven mile distance. All these people caused no trouble.

There were only three small parties of Ulu came down from Indonesian Borneo during the second half. One party consisted of nine men and a woman, was Bading Kanyah and the other two parties were Ulu from the Mahakam who came down the Balah river to visit their relatives in the Balah. Both have no *pas* *jakas* from the Indonesian authority except

most *ketranggan* from their Kapah Kampong. It was reported that no usual *pas* *jakas* will be issued by the authority either at Long Bawang or Long Pangi on the Mahakam.

The month of October/November was chiefly remarkable for the number of *crump* *alas* travellers on the move after padi planting. Several parties comprising 69 Kanyah men, women and children came down in 15 boats to visit Kapit for shopping and visiting for work. Most of the women have never been either to Belaga or Kapit bazaar, though they have moved to Sarawak over two years ago. Fortunately work is available in Kapit because Chinese *newdays* and Iban who joined the Rubber Planting Scheme are prepared to employ these people for digging holes. The rate is at 15 to 20 cents per hole. Hard-working labourers may get 45/- to 60/- per day plus two midday meals. They returned home in December bringing with them 11 pieces of shotguns and various ornaments of life.

The Panans and Batinans living above the Pala Wong continue to work rubber for a living. They are mostly dependent on imported rice all the year round. The Chinese *newdays* in Kapit apparently had a good grip on them. There seems to be very little means to get these people out of their debt. It is to be hoped that the new system whereby timber will have to be graded above the capitals, will help them a little.

The heavy rain in the months of November and December prevented the tapping of much rubber, but some appeared in the Kapit bazaar in fair quantities. This comes mostly from Pala Wong and the Sg. Kapit. Some *chamar* also arrived from Belaga.

Tonkeys and Chinese head-hunters at Kapit and Song have had little else on their minds during the end of the half besides *expansion*. Earlier they sent several parties to investigate the Ulu to find out if the fruits have grown to such a size that one can be sure they will reach maturity. Several Chinese *newdays* from down-river also came to make enquiries.

The relations of the Chinese with other races in the district are very good. When the Dayak houses were burnt down by fire, generous donations of *gah* and *kind* were given by the Chinese. Mostly all the Chinese men, women and children can speak Iban fluently.

Agriculture

The Iban at Kapit and Song are expecting a good harvest this year as a result of good rains. Earlier there were reports of pests—stem-borers in the Balah and Kaitum areas but after distribution of *apocrite* no further unfavourable reports were received. There was no indication of wild pigs damaging the padi this year. The Kapas above the Mahakam rapids and the Kanyah in upper Belaga are expecting good crops. But the Kajang tribes under *ay-panghala* Puse around and below Belaga bazaar have as usual very little padi to harvest. The Kajang tribes which comprise Lahanan, Sian and Sakapan are miserable padi farmers. Every year they never have good harvest and spend most of their time sitting in the coffee shop at Belaga.

The Rubber Development Officer, Mr. Kay, visited Kapit and Song regularly. The high-yielding rubber planted under the Rubber Planting Scheme is growing well. More interest was shown in this scheme during the half particularly among the Chinese. Those people who did not believe that Government would pay them to plant rubber now have applied to join the scheme. But shortage of planting materials has disappointed those who have dug holes.

Pepper gardens are mostly abandoned due to the drop in price and the heavy cost of fertiliser. Livestock owners have been started. The raising of the two cows at Belaga resulted in two bulls. They are well looked after and in good health. The Government cows under Penghala Sibn's care in the Mellan are also doing

well. Temonggong Jajah has his own farm at Ng. Gant keeping pedigree pigs and cattle. The Temonggong has built himself nice quarters there. He also keeps four deer which he breeds so much that each of them has a name. The brown pedigree ones together with the others are doing well. They were a recent acquisition from Kuching.

Mission also has to be made on the Methodist Agriculture Training Centre under charge of Mr. and Mrs. Harris. The mission imported from America valuable livestock comprising dairy cattle, dairy goats and pigs. The project is watched with much interest. The Fribian goats with the exception of two losses, have made a praise-worthy record in adjusting to tropical conditions. The herd is said to be nearly double the original import. It is hoped that the dairy goat project can with little capital outlay, be easily fitted to the Borneo scheme of farming to provide both milk and meat for the family. The dairy cattle, Jerseys, are said to have had a more difficult time in adjusting to tropical conditions, but those of the offspring have given little indication of any difficulty and have remained in a satisfactory condition. The Poland-China pigs are said to have not done well. Only one male remains.

Forest

The work of foresters at Kapit was mainly collecting royalties and checking logs from the rubber firms operating in the district.

Period of high water in the months of November and December enabled fair quantities of logs to be floated out from the upriver.

Public Works

The excavation on the SMC's site has been completed. The public and particularly the Government servants are looking for the supply of electricity soon.

Medical

A fair amount of chicken pox and measles have afflicted children in many longhouses. The influenza which invaded the whole district at the end of the half year was worse in July but fell off in September. In spite of the severity of the complications not many deaths occurred except in houses above the Bakun rapids, where the case developed into pneumonia taking victims off in three or four days from the start of the illness. The hospital assistant at Belaga paid a rushed visit to houses above the rapids where people were reported to be dying and he undoubtedly did save some lives.

The Kapit Dispensary has been running satisfactorily under the Senior Hospital Assistant Stanley Linsay. The number of patients decreased due to the opening of the Christ Hospital. The number of tuberculosis cases does not appear to have decreased. Very few of those who have contracted T.B. attended regular treatment, particularly the natives.

The new building of Song Dispensary which was sited between the bazaar and the Kaba is the best in the district. It has been provided with proper sun beds, but the daily attendance was still low. Hospital Assistant Thomas Yong is running the Dispensary.

The large Travelling Dispensary boat was held up most of the half, being unseaworthy. The travelling hospital assistant is using the small boat and made trips in Kapit District during the half with regularity. The

Ulu Karibun and substreams were visited on three occasions during the period under review and a number of cases were treated.

The health of the district in general was fair except during July and August when continued influenza and fever were reported to be still affecting the upper river people. The general sanitation of the station was satisfactory.

The Iban and Kappan people have not realized the benefit of thorough ventilation—particularly the latter. Their houses which are of plank wall with compartments for sleeping quarters are without windows. An attempt has been made to persuade them to open up windows but does not appear to be of any success. The increase in the number of pulmonary tuberculosis cases is probably due to lack of ventilation in the longhouses.

In Belaga two young air drivers, after completion of their training in Kuching, returned to their longhouses above the Bakun rapids on 17th September. They treated quite a number of cases.

In Kapit and Belaga the Child Welfare and Maternity Clinic treated a good number of patients. Song was visited on call duties. During the latter part of the year two more midwives were added in Belaga after completion of their course at Sibu. Midwifery services proved to be a success in Belaga and Kappan mothers above the Bakun rapids and also Belaga came down for treatment. Total number of births in Belaga during the period under review was 42 including twins. It is expected that the number of anti-natal and post-natal attendances will be increased in future. Other trained midwives, two Kanyah girls from Long Iwan and three Kappan girls from houses above the Bakun rapids were sent to Sibu Hospital for training. It is hoped that after completion of their course they will return to their longhouses and help their own people.

The Third Division Unit of Anti-Malaria Project, Longhouse at Ng. Buloh proved to be a success. It is situated in the centre of the spraying operations and containing office, quarters for married and unmarried anti-malaria workers, stores and workshop for repairing boats for the unit. The inhabitants of this longhouse comprise ten different races, viz., Iban, Kayan, Kappan, Land Dayak, Malay, Melanau, Lahanan, Pottan, Tujang and German united in the fight against the common enemy, Malaria. All are working together very well. During the second half the whole district has been resprayed. Additional third spraying operation has been carried out which covered all new built farm huts.

The Christ Hospital of the Methodist church at Kapit under the charge of Dr. Brewster, has been running very well and treated a great number of cases. Patients from Karak, Bintang and a fair sprinkling from Sibu also came for treatment. 35 major operations and 130 minor operations were performed during the period under review. The Mission is also running a mobile clinic to Ng. Karak, Malinau and Sar. A number of cases (possibly repeated cases which have been treated or seen by Government Travelling Dispensary) have been treated; 195 diptheria inoculations have been given in the longhouses.

The Methodist Mission Clinic at Ng. Majong is reported to have treated an average of 400 patients monthly. This clinic is staffed by nurses from Christ

Hospital at Kapit on a three month rotational scheme. A doctor from the hospital makes weekly visits to this clinic.

Local Authority

Two more teachers were employed by the Council: one to be posted to a new school at Ng. English, Song, and the other to Ng. Merin as an assistant teacher pending the opening of the other new school in the district. Both were obtained.

The constructions of the Council's two resthouses at Ng. Majong and Belaga were completed in November and December respectively.

Land and Survey

Because of the Rubber Planting Scheme the Dayak land in the mixed zone continues to be transferred to Chinese, particularly across from Kapit Bazaar. The inhabitants of the two Han houses down-river from the bazaar who own the land were originally from Lower Rajang and are miserably poor and apparently lazy.

Survey party came from Sibu on three occasions to do work at Kapit and later at Song. Sites for the proposed new godown and District Council Office were surveyed in August.

Trade, Economics and Labour

There have mostly been deals with rubber tappers and Chinese Aliens. The Kapit, Song and Belaga bazaar are still doing fair business, though some shop owners complain of lack of trade. With the exception of Belaga, all residents are looking forward to the explosive season and are hoping this crop will fetch a good price. All local residents are hoping to make big money.

There was no labour dispute.

Education

The Local Authority schools up-river are making steady progress though some attendances have fallen off due to shortages of rice at the end of the second half year and the children are forced to return home leaving the boarding house. It is hoped that attendances will be increased again after the harvest. Some of the parents are beginning to realise the necessity of sending their children to school instead of allowing them to play in the longhouses.

The new Local Authority school at Ng. English-Karim, under Pengulu Munga's area, which was opened on 18th October, is providing. It is situated near four longhouses including the pengulu's house. The number of pupils on the roll was 40. The pengulu himself is keen about education and one of his daughters is schooling in R. C. mission school, Song.

The Methodist Mission School at Kapit under the leadership of Mr. Stanley Main continues to flourish. At the end of the year the enrolment was 154 pupils, 75 per cent of whom were children of native parents. This was a marked increase over the previous year. Attendance throughout the year was good. In 1957 primary six was taught for the first time in this school, making a complete school for six classes. Results of primary six pupils in the Common Entrance Examination were fair; six pupils out of ten were selected to continue in Form I. At present the school is housed in a temporary shed with three classrooms and in the Church building.

Work on the construction of the new eight classrooms in a reinforced concrete school building on a hill next

to the hospital hill site, has begun at the end of the year.

The Methodist school at Ng. Majong could be an interesting centre for Iban children. It gives an agricultural bias to education. More, the pupils, along with the regular curriculum have the opportunity in the school farms to receive fundamental training which it is hoped will enhance their living on the farm. It is also reported that regular adult literacy classes are being held each Sunday after church service.

The Cardinal Vaughan Mission school at Song also continued to do well. It has an enrolment of seventy pupils, the majority being Iban children.

Shipping

Apart from launches which run regularly between Sibu, Song and Kapit, another launch locally known as *Kapit Express* was added which gives direct service from Sibu/Kapit in one day's journey.

Major Road

The Malinau (Belaga) path was completed. The path is about 21 miles in length. Work on this project was done by Pengulu Hang Nyipa's people with Government subsidy.

Work on the Taseh/Majong path was also completed. This path is about seven miles in length. Two boat-sheds and a boat each, one at Nanga Taseh and the other at Nanga Majong also had been completed in September, 1957.

Dr. J. D. Freeman (an anthropologist) visited Kapit on 5th December. He intended to spend three months in Ng. Sar and Majong on follow-up work.

Other Voices

Much has been said about the Chinese and their schools in this country, but little is known among English-speaking people about their newspapers, apart from what is translated by the *Sarawak Tribune*. This article, and future ones in this series, may give the reader a few glimpses into a vast field in which may be found the reasons for many important developments here.

For example, the term "Peking nationalists" has been used more than once in public controversies in recent years. How far can one say that the local Chinese press is tainted with it. No attempt to answer this question is to be made in this short review, but the following facts may be useful reference material.

In one respectable paper, there is an article on the delicious steamed-roller ducks of Peking. The description should be the delight of connoisseurs of Chinese food, and is probably calculated to induce nostalgia. Towards the end of the report, the writer says that owing to improvements in quality and quantity, the duck is sold well in Chinese Turkestan and South-East Asia. The "Korean Democratic People's Republic" sent an official to Peking to learn the secrets of preparation.

In another paper, there is an account of the unpaid manual labour of returned overseas Chinese students in Peking. It is said to be extremely beneficial to

them, even as a cure for lagged nerves. To round off the article, the writer points out that "our country's workers" are different from those in England in their attitude towards labour, for the former are so enthusiastic that they forget themselves.

On another day, the same paper carried a long and detailed analysis of the 1953 budget of the Chinese Government on the mainland. This is the final paragraph:

"People praise the budget of the Peking Government, and look forward to its success; but they despise the budget of the White House and are sure of its failure."

The White House reminds one of another prominent feature of the Chinese press, namely its anti-American attitude. Examples could be picked up at random almost every day. The technique is sometimes subtle, because the source of the material is often American or even British. There is a translated article from the *Economist* about the American loss of confidence in the satellite race and the difficulty due to a physically weak President. A fair-minded reader may say that this is not anti-American, but it is a contribution towards an almost daily campaign to lower the prestige of a leading power in the anti-communist world.

In a particularly hostile paper, these articles appear on a single page: "American racism and monster machines," "The SA Gang in America," and "A pitiable look—some thoughts on Formosa and American aid." The first one expresses the way in which wrath has been aroused through intimate relations with the Pentagon. The second is about a murderous gang, which steals drugs from government hospitals. The third is an account of the harmful effects of American aid to Formosa, such as disturbed commodity prices.

Another characteristic of the local Chinese press is the distinctly separate section for literary and other compositions. It often reveals significant developments even to the casual observer. In some cases, even the same can tell much, for it may suggest an irreducible force, the hard work of pioneers, or the realistic appraisal of the local situation.

In one newspaper, much effort is spent on dialectic compositions on methods of learning, which are probably material for indoctrination groups. For example, this sentence appears towards the end of one such article: "The final and most important point is to learn from the masses in their labour."

Another favourite theme is the attack on the present social and economic system. All evils, such as hunger, loss of schooling, "feudalistic" families, youth's frustration, and "yellow" films and music are all due to a deformed and unhealthy society. One's "objective environment" must be re-made, and in order to do this, one must have a proper understanding of its nature. To achieve this, a correct theory is necessary as a guide.

At this point, an unthinking, credulous young reader would be quite ready to swallow any ideology that is so be offered. Marxism, however, is not taught explicitly in the local press, but there is a definite pattern in the selection of material to build up a "correct theory". This will be discussed in the next issue.

Book Reviews

"NINE DAYAK NIGHTS"

Dr. Golden's book is a welcome contribution to the understanding of the Land Dayaks. The book is in two parts, the first a general description of the Land Dayaks and their way of life, and the second a traditional story told to the author during nine nights in 1950. Dr. Golden lived for two years at Monte Tapah, in the Kuching tributary of the Sarawak, and his writings are the only contribution by a trained observer of the Land Dayaks to appear for many years.

Dr. Golden brings to his task a quality of humility and willingness to learn that is all too rare in modern scientists, and the result is a sensitive word-picture that gives the reader a close understanding of the people he describes. As important as the material culture and the social framework is the way in which people think and feel and believe, and the author has managed to balance measurable facts and imperceptibles in an admirable way. His style is popular but literary.

The Land Dayaks, being more reserved than the other peoples of Sarawak, are less well known or understood, and so a popular but scholarly account of them is timely. There are many misconceptions about them; this book will do much to dispel. For example, many people with only a casual acquaintance with the Land Dayaks, missing the endorsement of the Iban, conclude that the Land Dayaks have little sense of humour. This is untrue, as Dr. Golden points out (p. 4): "A developed awareness of the funny side of things, always visible and noted by most, extends much further. It is a quality in the people which a stranger may miss, because they are humorous rather than comical. . . . The humour is ironic, with an edge not better put defining. It deflates the great and reduces the great. Thus it is not only a protection for their extremely democratic society. It is a protection against superior outsiders." This book, of course, describes in particular the people of Monte Tapah, and their characteristics are not necessarily shared by all the Land Dayaks.

Although it is true the Land Dayaks have been much neglected, the statement (p. 3) that the "Sea Dayaks" (Ibans) are the best known people in Borneo is questionable. Very few serious studies of the Iban have been made this century, Freeman's *Iban Agriculture* being a noteworthy exception.

The second chapter on the "Countryside and Jungle", gives a picture of the relation of the Dayak to the forest and countryside. Incidentally it has always seemed to this reviewer a pity that the great forests of the Far East should be belittled by calling them "jungle", a term from India originally applied to lawless lands. Dr. Golden's statement that "the Land Dayaks know the wrong when or where to be in such numbers that their occasional killings . . . could not threaten it with extinction" is open to doubt, to say the least. I should think that most of the younger Land Dayaks in the Kuching have never seen a mafia, and that, except for occasional wanderers, the mafia is now confined, in Sarawak, to the Kuching Range and the swamy forests round Selapan.

The rest of the first part of the book is an account of the Land Dayaks. It is a sympathetic and readable account by far the best general description of the Land Dayaks written. The author writes with a quiet and self-deprecating humour, which throws a reflected light on the customs of tribes other than the Land Dayaks.

"Unlike many Europeans, the Land Dayaks do not actually share their houses with the larger domestic animals". . . . "the average Dayak is almost incapable of deceit, although usually in a subtle form, as the better-than-average European. This is a harsh comment on the Dayak. . . ." In Land Dayak society men live longer than women. The reason is that women do more work. In our society women live longer than men."

The practice of tokonyony, that is of parents taking the names of their children, being known as for example "Father of Bill", widespread in Borneo, has (we learn from Chapter IV) been brought to a fine art by the Land Dayaks, who take names not only from their own children, but unrelated children, or even dogs, or rats. Such a system, besides being pleasing in itself, has one obvious practical value when dealing with Government officials, scientists, and other interfering busy-bodies. Dr. Goddies records that one may, by a careful confusion of names, get licenses for free guns, despite all the Government's devices to ensure that he get only one. At times even Dr. Goddies seemed to despair:

"Sometimes it seemed to me as if the Land Dayaks had deliberately studied the generalisations of anthropology in order to break them."

The second part of the book, the story of Kichapi, is a legendary saga of giants, love, magic and monsters. Doubtless it will provide the anthropologists and psychoanalysts with something to chew, and, apart from that, it is a good yarn and worth recording. Whether it is of much more significance is debatable. Noteworthy are the large number of Iban and Malay words in the parts that are given in the original. Mostly they predominate over Land Dayak, and some lines are pure Iban. One example will be enough to illustrate this:

Anak liyak jangun tangkil
Orang tua jangun barok!
Manut jangun bangkarak!
Baki jangun bangkarak!
Kuching jangun mangapok!
Anak jangun bangkang!

Orang matak tatar di luar
Orang pagi chur paku chur!
Rabang tatar di atas!
Orang pagi mara-ah
Tidar pangkang!

The passages read more like an Iban poem with Land Dayak and Malay additions and translations. Iban words are, however, common in Land Dayak poems, and Monte Tapah is near the extreme east of the present Land Dayak area, and so is in contact with Iban. It would be interesting to see whether this story is known to the Melikins Iban of the Baki Ringin Area or the Bakas Iban and Undup Iban of the Simanggang District. This would throw some light on whether the poem is a true Land Dayak one with many Iban words, or an Iban poem adopted by the Land Dayaks. If the latter, then the poem cannot be regarded as throwing much light on the Land Dayak character. Dr. Goddies does not comment on this important aspect.

As one expects of an Oxford University Press publication, the book is well printed, and illustrated by some of the best of Dr. Goddies's photographs. The price is rather high, but the book should be essential reading for anyone interested in Borneo people, and certainly for all concerned in administering them.

When I was last in Monte Tapah Dr. Goddies was well remembered with affection, and fruit trees he had planted there seem near bearing. Perhaps by now he is passing into immortality by being incorporated as a white ogre in a Land Dayak saga. It is a tribute to world value.

N. S. HAILE

Recent Books

Additions to the Sarawak Library, Kuching during the month of March, 1958

AUTHOR	TITLE	AUTHOR	TITLE
Crime and Detection			
Gardner, Eric Stanley	The case of the late lover (1954)	Churchill, Sir Winston S.	A history of the English-speaking peoples: Vol. 4, The Great Democracies (1955)
McGivern, William	The darkest deep (1956)	Clay, Sir Henry	Lord Montagu (1955)
Mathews, Donald	The journey (1955)	Chubb, Hugh	The time spent about insects (1957)
Mortley, Margot	Murder in welcome bed (1955)	Davies, Reginald	The country's back garden in the rural India (1955)
Fiction			
Campbell, Margot	No wind in the trees (1957)	Dean, Frederick E.	The true book about oil (1947)
Connon, Helen	The forgotten place (1957)	Donner, Eric	French research self-defence (1947)
Cross, John Kirt, editor	Dear fellow traveler (1955)	Dugdale, Alfred	Donner's blood: the Algerian family (1957)
Gillis, Paul	Thompson (1957)	Cressler crutcher, New ed. (1947)	
Gillis, Henry	Chander at dawn (1947)	Churchill, Rosemary, Justice: the war they waged and the peace they sought (1947)	
Jallin, Philippe	Gilbert required (1957)	The diamond smugglers (1957)	
Karlin, Hays	The house of coral (1957)	Monsieur: translated by Anne Heller and edited by Jean de Colonne with C. F. Fleck (1957)	
Kelkin, C. H. B.	The Pilot Boat (1957)	The art and the novel (1957)	
Lidemann, Ferdinand	The cruise of "The Dolphin" (1957)	Glycerolformal, Almond Fruit-meat and jam (1957)	
Non-Fiction			
Mills, Sarah Gertrude	Two birds without hair and other stories (1955)	New Dayak nights (1957)	
Montagu, Elizabeth	This side of the truth (1957)	The Dayak and mixed communities of the Kuching and Kapit areas, North Borneo, Sarawak No. 2 by E. A. Stephens (1956)	
Montmarquet, Henry de	The monster (1947)	Life's adventure (1955)	
Nixon, Wilfred	The Gods are angry (1947)	Rhythms in the Japanese art bibliography (1955)	
O'Hara, John	A family party (1947)	The blue sky, 100 million Chinese under the Red Flag (1957)	
O'Meara, William	Among the Gullies (1957)	Europe: the emergence of an idea (1955)	
Thorpe, Sylvia	Regent's movement (1957)	Famous Mount species: an analytical guide for the ornithologist and amateur (1957)	
Truett, Nigel	The enduring flame (1957)	Insect life in the tropics (1957)	
Tyrene, Edmond	The pillars of midnight (1957)	Kingdom of the octopus: the life story of the cephalopoda	
Wells, James Oliver	Night on the bare mountains (1947)		
Wormerster, Margaret	Group de grace (1947)		

AUTHOR	TITLE	AUTHOR	TITLE
Lewis, John Peter	<i>Handy's "Weyland" origins, contemporary sources. (1957)</i>	Kennedy, Horatio	<i>The walls were trembling down (1957)</i>
Linnor, Ivor	<i>The living past—the great civilizations of mankind (1957)</i>	Marshall Museum	<i>The Journal Museum Journal, Vol. 7, No. 9 (1957)</i>
Macpherson, T. M.	<i>Personal handy's short introduction to the typography (1957)</i>	Marshall Museum	<i>The Journal Museum Journal, Vol. 8, No. 10 (1957)</i>
Marshall, Patrick	<i>Fast for guests on expanding Commonwealth (1957)</i>	Marshall, Peter	<i>In the shadow of the dragon: a journey through South-east Asia (1957)</i>
Mazoni, Gavin	<i>A road taken by the wind (1957)</i>	Selys, Hans	<i>The stress of life (1957)</i>
Monahan, James	<i>Pompeii: a study of the hellfire in her setting (1957)</i>	Sells, Ronald	<i>Secret servants: the story of Japanese espionage (1957)</i>
Morton, Geoffrey J.	<i>Just the job: some experiences of a Colonial policeman (1957)</i>	Shaw, Howard	<i>Learn to read music (1957)</i>
Nash, Upton	<i>You can't get there from here (1957)</i>	Shaw, Colman	<i>Activity manuals for children under eight (1957)</i>
Odham Press Ltd.	<i>New illustrated atlas of the world (1957)</i>	Sizes, John	<i>A Japanese family (1957)</i>
Osborne, John	<i>The adventures: a play (1957)</i>	Thompson, Ian	<i>The rise of modern Asia (1957)</i>
Pain, Norma	<i>Gladiolus jungle (1957)</i>	UNESCO	<i>UNESCO country book for science teaching (1957)</i>
Partridge, J. R.	<i>A heart-beat of Japanese chemistry. 2nd ed. (1957)</i>	Untermyer, Louis, et al.	<i>A treasury of studies (1957)</i>
Pipes, David	<i>The English face (1957)</i>	Wilson, G. R. L.	<i>A dictionary of fishes (1957)</i>
Polson, John, editor	<i>The land of leisure (1957)</i>	Wood, Gordon L., and McIndoe, Patrick	<i>The Pacific basin: a human and ecological geography. 2nd ed. (1957)</i>
Rishin, George Stephen	<i>"Challenges" the life of a survey ship (1957)</i>	Young, Percy Marshall	<i>Concepts (1957)</i>
		Young, Percy Marshall	<i>Emphases (1957)</i>

SARAWAK TURF CLUB

SPRING MEETING, 1958

First Day—2nd March, 1958

RACE 1. THE KAYU ARA HANDICAP

Poser Division III, 5 Furlongs

1. The Estate of the late Mr. Philip Soh P'u's	Tickets Sold
Happy Ending 8.5	Tan Ean 400
2. Koolat Prince 7.7 (7.8)	Mat II 723
3. Tanjong Ara 8.0 (8.4)	Manan 212
4. Dondang Soyang 8.9	All 212

Also ran:—

Phoenix 7.11	Liban 154
Patri Seris 8.4 (7.11)	Alek 46

1749

Scratched: Nash Sarawak 8.7, Bimbang Selatan 7.7.

Won by: ½ length, 5 lengths, 4 lengths.

Time: 1 min. 25 secs. Total: \$3.46.

RACE 2. THE SARAWAK HANDICAP

Poser Division IIIA, 5 Furlongs

1. Mr. Ho Chien Yan's	Tickets Sold
Princess' Ewer 7.7	Ek Pak 274
2. Cabaret 8.3 (8.5)	Tan Ean 404
3. Hui Raya 8.10	Manan 223
4. Meriam Iram 7.8 (7.9)	Liban 647

Also ran:—

Bujang Bolong 7.7	All 129
Nansa Balala 8.5	Wahed 127
Ayam Bay 8.13	Soldin I 157
Bunga Beauty 8.6	Mat II 203
Karwai 9.5 (9.0)	Paid I 50

2446

Scratched: Bimbang River 9.6.

Won by: 2½ lengths, Neck, 2 lengths.

Time: 1 min. 23 ½ secs. Total: \$3.10

RACE 3. THE FLYING FOX HANDICAP

Poser Division II, 5 Furlongs

1. Mrs. Janet Ong's	Tickets Sold
Mingpai 9.9	Manan 450
2. Bay Vellum 7.7	Wahed 384
3. Tala Pioneer 9.12	Karam 197
4. Begawan 8.8	Tan Ean 221

Also ran:—

Medan 7.10	Mat II 307
Silver Star 9.2	Medin 450
Bachelor Days 8.4	Ayam 108

2377

Scratched:—

Won by: Head, 2 lengths, 5 lengths.

Time: 1 min. 23 4/5 secs. Total: \$4.20

RACE 4. THE JUBILEE HALL HANDICAP

Poser Division I, 5 Furlongs

1. Mr. Jimmy Sim's	Tickets Sold
Lochin 7.7	Liban 850
2. Sea Dragon 7.12	Mat II 912
3. Bimbang Ara 7.9 (8.0)	Medin 442
4. Barker Boy 7.7	All 624

Also ran:—

Bintang Timor 8.0 (8.2)	Manan 332
Salamat Padi 10.0 (9.12)	Seri 211

1371

Scratched: Tanjong Hija 9.6.

Won by: 6 lengths, 1 length, 3 lengths.

Time: 1 min. 22 secs. Total: \$5.10.

RACE 5. THE SPRING HANDICAP

Horns Division II, 5 Furlongs

1. Mr. Ong See Kong's	Tickets Sold
Happy Birthday 9.6	Samsudin 817
2. Lucky Lucifer 8.0 (8.3)	Karam 1353
3. Avior 8.2	Mat III 148
4. Salamet Petang 9.4	Tan Ean 204

Also ran:—

King of Fortune	8.0 (8.2)	Manan	115
Padi Field	8.8	Ek Pah	172
Miss Molly	9.2	Media	204
Milbury Court	8.2	Aving	97
Colour Scheme	8.0	Liben	130
			1440

Scratched: Jerry Boy 9.3, Elmas 9.3.

Won by: 3 lengths, 2 lengths, 1½ lengths.

Time: 1 min. 05 2/5 sec. Total: \$5.80

RACE 4. THE SERRA SERAAT

Horse Division I. 5 Furlongs

			Fictive Sold
1. Mr. Wong Yung Han's			
Sarawak Ramin	8.8	Eddie	796
2. River Moon II	8.11	Liben	799
3. Harwick	8.10	Ek Pah	260
4. Birthday Gift II	8.0	Sarawak	521
Also ran:—			
Fresh Boy	9.6	Media	1877
			4213

Scratched: Brick Queen 9.2.

Won by: ½ length, 3 lengths, 3 lengths.

Time: 1 min. 04 2/5 sec. Total: \$4.20

RACE 7. THE MARANG HANDICAP

Ponies Division III. 4 Furlongs

			Fictive Sold
1. Mr. Yoon Ah Loh's			
Motara Ham	8.8	Liben	878
2. Pinnies' Error	8.12(9.5)	Ek Pah	585
3. Tanjung Ara	8.0	Manan	627
4. Happy Ending	8.12(9.6)	Tau Ean	164
Also ran:—			
Hari Raya	9.2 (8.11)	Padi I	78
Kuala Prince	7.7	Mat II	991
Phoenix	7.12	Alk	72
			1199

Scratched: Tanjung Beking 8.7, Bintang Selatan 7.7.

Won by: Neck, 1 length, 1½ lengths.

Time: 1 min. 42 2/5 sec. Total: \$2.90

RACE 8. THE MARA HANDICAP

Ponies Division II. 4 Furlongs

			Fictive Sold
1. Messrs. Chan Choon Lay & David Lim's			
Brisbane River	7.15	Mat III	687
2. Boy Valiant	9.5	Manan	245
3. Axon Boy	8.13	Eddie	361
4. Culbert	7.7	Alk	1344

Also ran:—

Silver Star	8.13(8.6)	Media	443
			3810

Scratched: Brand Beauty 10.2, Kassar 8.0.

Won by: Neck, 2 lengths 2 lengths.

Time: 1 min. 43 1/5 sec. Total: \$3.60

RACE 9. THE ZARONG HANDICAP

Ponies Division I. 4 Furlongs

			Fictive Sold
1. Mrs. Janet Ong's			
Mengalai	7.7 (8.0)	Wahid	180
2. Lucile	7.7 (8.0)	Liben	969
3. Bintang Ara	7.12	Media	188
4. Begawan	7.10	Mat II	184
Also ran:—			
Brooks Boy	8.2	Tau Ean	468
Tanjung Hija	7.8	Alk	589
Tan Fooner	9.2 (8.8)	Sahali	115
Sea Dragon	8.12	Manan	195
Bintang Timur	8.5	Manan	91
Selamat Pagi	10.9 (10.2)	Sina	63
			3362

Scratched: —

Won by: ½ length, ½ length, 1 length.

Time: 1 min. 41 sec. Total: \$7.50.

SPRING MEETING, 1958

Second Day—Saturday, 8th March, 1958

RACE 1. THE KAYU ASA SCURRY

Ponies Division IIIB. 4 Furlongs

			Fictive Sold
1. The Estate of the late Mr. Philip Soh Peh's			
Happy Ending	9.10(8.12)(8.12)	Tau Ean	146
2. Dondang Syang	9.6 (8.8)(8.8)	Alk	120
3. Kuala Prince	8.5 (7.7)(7.8)	Mat II	788
4. Culbert	9.9 (8.11)(8.11)	Eddie	489
Also ran:—			
Nongya Buluh	9.3 (8.5)(8.5)	Manan	166
Puri Saria	8.5 (7.7)(7.12)	Alk	18
			2187

Scratched: Nanyu Sarawak 8.8, Tanjung Ara 8.8 and Bintang Selatan 7.7.

Won by: 2 lengths, 3 lengths, 4 lengths.

Time: 1 min. 09 1/5 sec. Total: \$2.00.

*Re-scaled weight.

RACE 2. THE FAMOUS HANDICAP

Ponies Division IIIA. 4 Furlongs

1. Mr. Ong Koo Hu's		Tickets Sold
Bujang Baling	7.7	All 318
2. Hari Raya	7.11(7.12)	Manan 816
3. Brisbane River	7.8 (7.9)	Mat III 940
4. Printer's Error	7.7 (7.8)	Ek Pah 850
Also ran:—		
Matian Iam	7.13	Liben 459
Silver Star	8.4 (8.5)	Media 208
Atom Boy	8.13(8.0)	Samsudin 249
*Bachelor Boy	8.8	Mat I 89

 3609

*Left at the start; took no part in the race.

Scratched: Karwai 8.8.

Won by: 2 lengths, 4 lengths, 2½ lengths.

Time: 1 min. 07 secs. Total: \$9.80.

RACE 3. THE MAINTENANCE

Ponies Division II. 4 Furlongs

1. Mrs. Janet Ong's		Tickets Sold
Boy Vasant	7.8	Wahed 840
2. Begawal	8.4	Mat II 1118
3. Twin Phoenix	9.8	Liben 731
4. Media	7.7 (7.10)	Acing 508
		3183

Scratched: Banner Boy 9.4.

Won by: 2 lengths, ½ length, Distaste.

Time: 1 min. 07 secs. Total: \$5.00.

RACE 4. THE SUTAR HULAN STAKES

Ponies Division I. 4 Furlongs

1. Mr. Annie Sim's		Tickets Sold
Lucin	7.10	Liben 1725
2. Selamat Pagi	8.3	Mat II 472
3. Tanjung Hijau	8.8	All 686
4. Menghai	7.7	Wahed 794

Also ran:—

Sia Dragon	7.8 (7.10)	Samsudin 1016
Bintang Ara	7.7 (7.9)	Mat I 491
Bachelor Days	7.7 (7.10)	Acing 164

 3348

Scratched: Bintang Timur 7.7.

Won by: 4 lengths, 4 lengths, 1½ lengths.

Time: 1 min. 05 secs. Total: \$2.40.

RACE 5. THE GRANDPOND HANDICAP

Horses Division II. 1 Mile

1. Messrs. Jong Ah Hong & Ku Guan Yau's		Tickets Sold
Pail Field	8.11	Ek Pah 486
2. Avlon	8.9	Mat III 404
3. Happy Birthday	8.13	Samsudin 1614
4. Miss Molly	8.6	Media 351

Also ran:—

Looky Lucile	8.0 (8.1)	Karam 85
King of Fortune	8.0	Manan 111
Celest Scheme	9.2 (8.9)	Sahali 87

 3138

Scratched: —

Won by: Neck, 4 lengths, 3 lengths.

Time: 1 min. 58 secs. Total: \$5.10.

RACE 6. THE SARAWAK DERBY

Horses Division I. 1½ Miles.

1. Mr. William Tan's		Tickets Sold
Hutrick	8.0	Ek Pah 1593
2. Sarawak Ramis	9.0	Edile 2703
3. Ebrutin	8.3	Liben 886
4. Birthday Gift II	9.9	Samsudin 891

Also ran:—

Selamat Pening	8.0 (8.4)	Tan Eng 420
Melbury Court	8.0 (8.7)	Media 230

 6803

Scratched: —

Won by: 1½ lengths, 2 lengths, 6 lengths.

Time: 2 min. 58 secs. Total: \$3.00.

RACE 7. THE SUN HANDICAP

Ponies Division III. 1 Mile

1. Messrs. Ong Guan Tin & Jong Ah Hong's		Tickets Sold
Kadin Prince	8.9 (7.10)(7.10)	Wahed 303
2. Matian Iam	9.2 (8.10)(8.3)	Liben 1429
3. Printer's Error	8.11(8.12)(8.12)	Ek Pah 535
4. Brisbane River	9.5 (8.6)(8.6)	Mat III 394

Also ran:—

Happy Ending	9.10(9.7)(9.7)	Tan Ben	129
Tanjong Ara	8.6 (7.7)(7.7)	All	1185
Hari Raya	9.3 (8.8)(8.9)	Park 1	55

4187

Scratched: Bintang Selatan 7.7.

Won by: 1½ lengths, 1½ lengths, 1½ lengths.

Time: 2 mins. 31 secs. Total: \$9.50.

RACE 8. TAN USTON HAMPER

Ponies Division B. 1 Mile.

			Tickets Sold
1. Mr. See Han Chen's		Mat II	788
Bugeni	8.7	All	786
2. Cabaret	7.7	Edie	523
3. Bintang Ara	8.12	Medie	324
4. Silver Star	8.4 (8.3)		

Also ran:—

Boy Valiant	9.1 (9.0)	Mutan	375
Harbinger Days	8.11(8.11)	Nani	45
Atom Boy	8.0	Wahid	415

3346

Scratched: Bintang Timur 9.4.

Won by: 4 lengths, 1½ lengths, 4 lengths.

Time: 2 mins. 29 secs. Total: \$3.40.

RACE 9. TAN PUNERIN'S PLANT

Ponies Division I. 9 Furlongs.

			Tickets Sold
1. Messrs. Morgan Chai & Annie Sim's			
Twin Pioneer	7.11	Liben	1434
2. Monzahi	7.13	Munan	1433
3. Schenat Pagi	10.0 (9.7)	Sini	1180
4. Loolin	8.4 (8.11)	Keran	480

Also ran:—

Bornes Boy	7.7 (7.11)	Mat III	725
Sun Dragon	8.11(8.4)	Alek	382

5326

Scratched: Tanjong Hija 7.9.

Won by: 3 lengths, Neck, 4 lengths.

Time: 2 mins. 49 secs. Total: \$3.00.

PUSTAKA
NEGERI
SARAWAK

Ruching Market Price List

March, 1958

RICE—(per putting)				Average
Local White Government Milling	...	...	...	1.45
Local White Milling	...	...	...	1.75
Local "A"	...	...	...	1.95
Local "B"	...	...	...	1.75
Local "C"	...	...	...	1.50
State Broken	...	...	...	1.30
Kumpang	...	...	...	—

SUGAR—(per kati)				Average
White Sugar	...	...	...	.50
Brown Sugar	...	...	...	.41
Nipah Sugar	...	...	...	.31

FLOUR AND BREAD—				Average
Whole Flour per kati	...	...	...	.30
Bread per small loaf	...	...	...	.23
Bread per large loaf	...	...	...	.43

MILK—(per tin)				Average
(a) Nestle	...	...	...	.70
Libby Brand	...	...	...	.60
Gold Medal	...	...	...	.55
Milk Maid	...	...	...	.70
(b) Local Fresh Milk per pint	...	...	...	.30

EGGS—(each)				Average
Turtle	...	...	...	.80
Dark, fresh	...	...	...	.10
Dark, salted	...	...	...	.15
Fresh	...	...	...	.10

EDIBLE FATS—(per kati)				Average
Butter per lb.	...	...	...	2.00
Coconut Oil	...	...	...	.60
Peanut Oil	...	...	...	1.00
Lard No. 1	...	...	...	1.70
Lard No. 2	...	...	...	1.20
Crude	...	...	...	1.10
Shipping	...	...	...	.80

PORK—(per kati)				Average
Lard No. 1	...	...	...	1.80
Lard with Fat No. 2	...	...	...	1.70
Pig	...	...	...	1.10
Bone	...	...	...	1.40

BEEF—(per kati)				Average
Beef, steak	...	...	...	1.00
Beef, Curry meat	...	...	...	1.00
Beef, No. 1	...	...	...	1.00
Beef, Curry meat	...	...	...	1.00
Mutton (Australian)	...	...	...	1.00
Mutton (Local)	...	...	...	1.00

POULTRY—(per kati)				Average
Cape	...	...	...	2.40
Chinese Cocks	...	...	...	1.10
Pheasant	...	...	...	2.10
Chinese Hens	...	...	...	1.80
Duck, Fresh	...	...	...	1.80
Duck	...	...	...	2.00
Muscovy	...	...	...	1.50
Corn-Bread	...	...	...	1.50
Geese	...	...	...	1.50

FISH—(per kati)				Average
Fresh Fish No. 1	...	...	...	2.00
Fresh Fish No. 2	...	...	...	1.50
Fresh Fish No. 3	...	...	...	.80
Prawn No. 1	...	...	...	1.80
Prawn No. 2	...	...	...	1.50
Crab No. 1	...	...	...	1.50
Crab No. 2	...	...	...	.80
Salted Fish No. 1	...	...	...	1.40
Salted Fish No. 2	...	...	...	1.10
Salted Fish No. 3	...	...	...	.80

SALT—(per kati)				Average
Coarse	...	...	...	.10
Fine	...	...	...	.10
Nipah	...	...	...	.20

VEGETABLES—(per kati)				Average
Bamboo Shoots (steamed)	...	...	...	.40
Bamboo Shoots (boiled)	...	...	...	.30
Bamboo Shoots (raw)	...	...	...	.30
Bamboo Shoots (dried)	...	...	...	.30
Bamboo Shoots (canned)	...	...	...	.30
Bamboo Shoots (frozen)	...	...	...	.30
Bamboo Shoots (pickled)	...	...	...	.30
Bamboo Shoots (smoked)	...	...	...	.30
Bamboo Shoots (salted)	...	...	...	.30
Bamboo Shoots (oil)	...	...	...	.30
Bamboo Shoots (vinegar)	...	...	...	.30
Bamboo Shoots (sauce)	...	...	...	.30
Bamboo Shoots (spice)	...	...	...	.30
Bamboo Shoots (herbs)	...	...	...	.30
Bamboo Shoots (fruit)	...	...	...	.30
Bamboo Shoots (nuts)	...	...	...	.30
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Bamboo Shoots (buds)	...	...	...	.30
Bamboo Shoots (stems)	...	...	...	.30
Bamboo Shoots (roots)	...	...	...	.30
Bamboo Shoots (fruit)	...	...	...	.30
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